

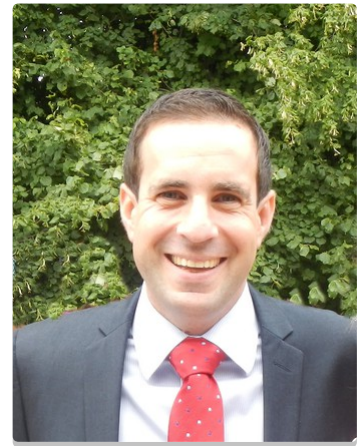
# Headteacher's Newsletter

April 2018

## *Welcome Back*

Welcome back to the new School term; I hope that you all had a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

We had a very busy and interesting last term culminating in a fabulous Dance Show, and I'd like to thank all the parents, pupils and staff who supported and participated in creating such a wonderful event. This was particularly special as it took place immediately after our most recent Ofsted Inspection. I will provide feedback regarding this Inspection as soon as the Report is released, which should be very soon, however I would like to once again thank the staff for their hard work, the pupils for their exceptional behaviour and attitudes to learning during the Inspection, our Governors who gave their time to come into School and meet with Inspectors and the parents who completed the surveys for the Inspection. We will be provided with areas to continue to work on in the Report, however I want to assure everyone that we are constantly evaluating the School ourselves, and wherever we identify an area to improve we will continue to put in place whatever is necessary to ensure we do so.



This is for many of our pupils the most important term in their School life to date. I'm sure many of you are starting to get nervous for the GCSE and A Level examinations which begin in earnest within a matter of weeks. The staff and students have been working exceptionally hard and I hope that the students took the opportunity to ramp up their revision and preparations during the Easter holidays. Please impress upon your children that preparation is key and the work they put in now will dictate the results they receive in the summer. However, please also keep in mind the stress that is put on our young people at this time and ensure there is equal balance between work and rest so that they are able to perform at their best.

I hope that the information contained within this newsletter is useful and that you enjoy reading some of the wonderful achievements by our students; thank you to those parents who have sent them into us.

Yours sincerely,

## *The School Expansion*

The building work has now begun and although in many ways the next year will be rather painful, I am so delighted that we will be able to provide our students with such exceptional facilities in the future. You will have noticed that the second entrance to the School has now been modified and I'm pleased that the building company listened to our request to complete this work during the holidays to minimise disruption to you on the roads.

A large proportion of our playground space has now been fenced off but we still have access to the fields and our netball and basketball courts. Safeguards have been put in place to ensure our pupils are safe around the areas being developed and that they will not come into contact with any workman who have not received the appropriate checks; there should be very minimal contact with any workman at all throughout the building works.

Current forecasts suggest the new sports centre and classroom block will be completed this time next year, with all internal work and additions to current buildings being completed before the start of September 2018.

I will keep you updated with their progress regularly and if you have any questions there is a standing agenda item on the Parents Voice agenda which you are all welcome to attend. The next meeting is on the 2nd May at 7pm in the library.

## *Driving into School*

A polite reminder that parents should not be driving into the School to drop off their children. The School does not currently have the capacity to allow this to happen and it causes a health and safety risk to the pupils. Please park on the road or drop your children further away from the School and allow them to walk the rest of the way. Thank you.

## *Year 7 Graduation*

This year we will be hosting our first ever annual Year 7 Graduation event where we officially welcome the Year 7's into the West Hatch family, having successfully completed their first academic year with us. This will be a family day on Saturday 7th July, (times to be confirmed), and parents are welcome to invite others along with them to the event if they wish to. We will have music, stalls, sports and activities as well as a formal presentation. Please put the date in your diary!

## *Sporting successes*



West Hatch has a long tradition of sporting achievement and this year is no exception. The Year 8 and 9 Netball teams (Year 9 pictured above) both won their District Leagues and will be playing in the District Final this Wednesday; our swimming team finished runners up in the District Gala. The U16 Basketball team (pictured above) were District Champions with our U14's finishing runners up, and our U14 Rugby team were also West Essex and Harlow Champions. The School were also winners of the West Essex and Harlow District indoor athletics finals. Well done to all our students who have competed over the course of this year. A tremendous amount of time and commitment is given by a huge number of students across all year groups. Thank you also to our fabulous PE Department for all the support and time they give to our students.



### *Students from the University of Cambridge visit West Hatch High School*

On Wednesday 21st March, three students from the University of Cambridge visited West Hatch High School to speak to students in Years 7-11, about life at their University. The students were from Emmanuel College, Cambridge and explained what studying and socialising was like for a student. Although they were from Cambridge, they also mentioned the similarities with the University of Oxford, as well as other leading Universities. The students who had been selected to take part in the talk all have the academic ability to progress onto institutions such as Oxford or Cambridge; the intention was to encourage them to consider such universities as a possibility. As one of the guest speakers mentioned, "the only guarantee that you will not get into Cambridge, is if you don't apply."

### *Inter House Art Competition*

Congratulations to all our winners and everyone that entered our animal art competition last term. We have such talented students and I'm delighted to show off our winners pictures to you below.





### *Form Entry Winner*

Mr D'Silva's form, B2,  
Brunel House



### *KS3 Results: First place*

Natalie Richards, Yr. 7,  
Brunel



### *KS3 Results:*

Second place – Goda  
Lapinskaite, Yr. 8, Austen  
Third place – Anastasia  
Obreja, Yr. 8, Brunel



### *KS4 Results: First place*

Emma Richards, Yr.11,  
Brunel



### *KS4 Results:*

Second place – Zaina  
Mirza, Yr.11, Roddick  
Third place – Methila  
Mehzabin, Yr. 11, Fiennes

## *National Crime Beat Awards*

Year 13 student Leonora Troshupa is a former Youth Councillor who helped create the MiLife roadshow for secondary and primary schools in the Epping Forest District.

MiLife has been selected as one of the three finalists for the National Crime Beat Awards in London on Wednesday 18th April. Leonora will attend the event as a guest speaker, and give a presentation with her three fellow Youth Councillors.

There are only three finalists on the day so MiLife will place either 1st, 2nd or 3rd and whatever the outcome on the day it is a great achievement. This project is commissioned by young people for young people, exploring how everyone can experience better emotional wellbeing and mental health.

A huge congratulations to Leonora for helping create a resource that will undoubtedly help a large number of young people cope with the pressures of modern life.

## *The Target Team*

The Target Team lived up to their name recently, as they took part in an archery session. This was the first time that many of the students had used a bow and arrow, but after some practice everyone was getting closer and closer to the centre and there were even a couple of bulls-eyes! The students thoroughly enjoyed the session and the opportunity to get involved in a sport which many of them hadn't experienced before.

This term the Target Team has been focusing on building up their fitness. Over the last 6 weeks the students have taken part in a variety of exercises set out in a circuit. We are extremely proud; they are trying their very best and enjoy setting mini goals for themselves. Their fitness has increased and they have really encouraged each other working in pairs.



## *The Dance Show*



The annual Dance Show was yet again another huge success with students this time taking their audiences to the 'Bright Lights of Broadway'. The dancers of West Hatch performed to three full houses over the three nights, with over 100 boys and girls from Year 7 to Year 13 dancing in a range of excellently choreographed dance routines.

The dance styles which included jazz, tap, lyrical, street, musical theatre and commercial were as varied as the costumes, all celebrating the hits from popular musicals. The talent at West Hatch is immense, all of the performers had worked incredibly hard, giving up a number of lunchtimes and after school time to prepare for the show. The standard each year is very high for school trained only dancers.

Well done again to all those involved and to everyone who supported the show.

## *The Duke of Edinburgh Award*

Sixty Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh students completed their training over a weekend this month at Lambourne End Centre in preparation for their Bronze practice and expedition in May and June next half term.



## *Spelling Bee success*

A huge congratulations to Ashwin Sureshan, who has successfully progressed to the National Finals of the Spelling Bee in French and Aaron Gelkoff who also competed in the Regional Finals.

Since September, West Hatch Year 7 students have been working prodigiously in preparation for the regional Spelling Bee competition in Spanish and French.

After competing in the first round alongside 4,625 other students in the East of England region, Aaron Gelkoff and Ashwin Sureshan topped the list of students to represent West Hatch School at the regional finals against 65 other hopefuls on Wednesday 21st March.

Both students put on a strong performance, with Ashwin successfully continuing to the National Finals at Cambridge University which will be held on the 29th June. The West Hatch community are proud of the boys and are rooting for Ashwin in the finals.





## *Medicine Carousel*

On the 10th February our students from Years 9 to 12 attended Barber Surgeons Hall in London for a medicine carousel. Students sat in small groups and were visited by professionals from a variety of different areas of medicine. They listened to them talk about their career and what was involved and were given an opportunity to ask questions.

They also spoke to medical students and were given information about the Extended Medical Degree programme at King's College London, where students can study for a degree in medicine over 6 years.

The students that attended represented the School extremely well and showed exemplary behaviour. They were all taking notes and asking interesting questions. Feedback from students was good and they said it really helped them understand more about medicine and the required study.

## *Public Examinations*

The Public Examinations start in earnest this month and students and parents should have received all relevant information regarding the exams. Please contact the Schools Exams Officer Ms Fitzgerald if you require further support.

Below are some of the key dates for your information

**GCSE examination** dates are as follows

17th – 27th April: Art, Drama and Languages speaking exams  
14th May – 21st June: all other GCSE examinations

**A level dates are:**

14th May – 22nd June

During the exam period the School will move to a new School day, although the start and end times remain the same. This is to minimise the noise for our students sitting exams.

Due to the building work and limited access around the School site we are less able to control the flow of pupils outside of the exam halls but we are taking all reasonable measures to ensure our students can perform to the best of their abilities with minimal disruption.

Good luck to all of our students and please make sure you use this time to prepare effectively so that you can perform to the best of your ability.

## *Important dates for your diary*

### *Important dates over the next term*

**Parent events**

Wednesday 2nd May - Parents Voice meeting (7 pm)

Thursday 10th May - Year 6 induction talk for new pupils (evening)

Thursday 14th June - Year 11 Aspirations Evening (invite only) (6pm)

Thursday 21st June - Lower School Awards evening (6:30pm)

Wednesday 27th June - Parents Voice meeting (7pm)

Thursday 28th June - Upper School Awards evening (6:30pm)

July (Date to be confirmed) - Summer Concert

Thursday 12th July - Sports Awards Evening (6:30pm)

Saturday 7th July - Year 7 Graduation (time to be confirmed - daytime event)

**Pupil only events** *(all during school time)*

17-18th May - Duke of Edinburgh practice

Thursday 24th May - Year 11 Leavers Day

Friday 25th May - Year 13 Leavers Day

Wednesday 4th July - Year 11 Prom

**Parents Evenings**

Thursday 19th April- Year 7 Parents Evening from 4-7pm

(Please note we are trialling a no appointment system following on from feedback from Parents Voice)

Thursday 3rd May - Year 12 Parents Evening (appointments as usual)

**Other important dates**

Work Experience - Year 10: Two weeks beginning Monday 9th July



Year 12: One week beginning Monday 16th July

Tuesday 26th June - Early finish for CPD afternoon

Friday 6th July - School closes at 12 noon in preparation for Graduation Day

Friday 20th July - last day of School before the summer break - 1:25pm finish

## *Rotary May Chigwell Fayre*

I'm delighted to promote the Rotary May Fayre which will take place on Sunday 20th May 2018 from 12 - 5pm on the Green. Entry is free. The Rotary Club are always very supportive of the School and a number of our students will be there to help. I hope to see you there.

## *Our Students' Achievements*

Thank you to all the parents who have taken the time to send in a message regarding their child's achievements outside of School. I do my best to get everyone mentioned but we have so many wonderfully talented students that it is not always possible. Anyone who is not mentioned will either be in the next newsletter or met by me personally to say well done.

### *Max Lewis - Year 8*

Following on from my last Newsletter I'm delighted to celebrate Max Lewis who has been chosen for the England U13's Ice Hockey team. This is following four trials and a gruelling selection process. The England Head Coach said: "The players who have made the final cut are to be congratulated on their selection. The process began last summer in Deeside and to get to this point is a reward for their hard work". An amazing achievement, well done Max.





### *Olivia Snell - Year 13*

I'm always delighted to receive achievements that are related to our students hard work and endeavour across all arenas. Olivia is one of our Cache students in the Sixth Form and will be leaving us this year. She has been working at Nuffield Health part time to enhance her experience in working with children. Olivia has now been offered a full time role with them once she has completed her Cache course, as a result of her efforts and application. Well done Olivia.



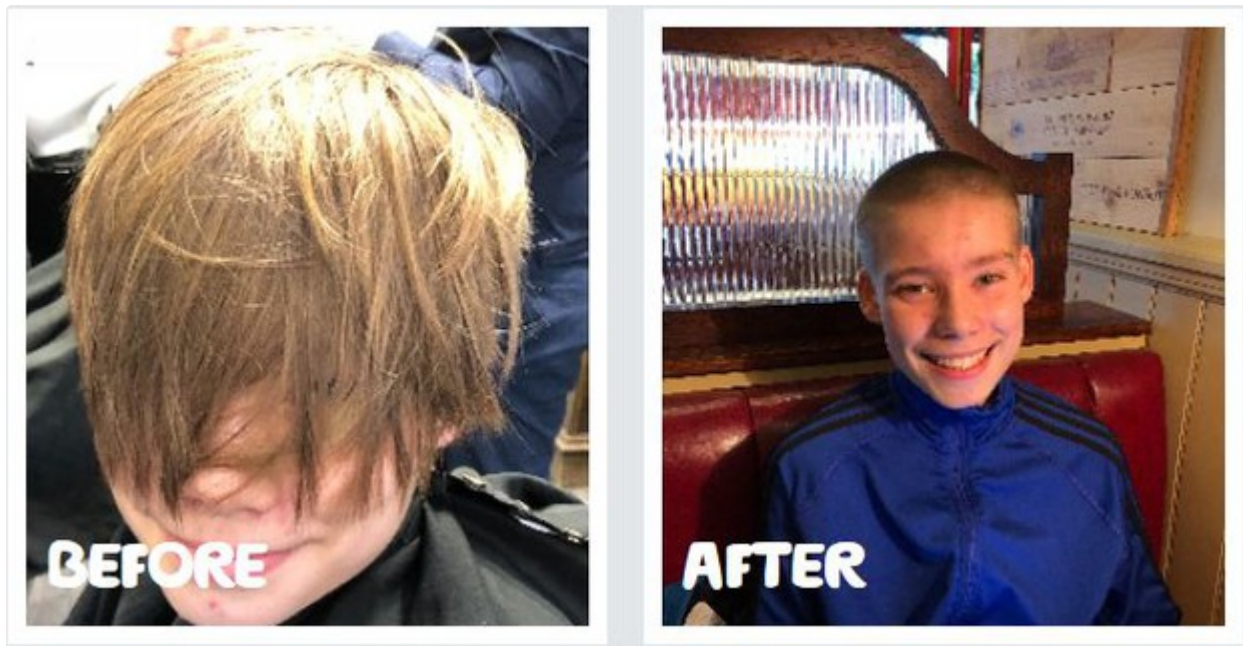
### *Harry Clark - Year 9*

Harry has only recently joined the School but we are delighted to have a student join us with such empathy and energy to support others.

At the end of last year Harry's family were hit by two separate pieces of bad news which prompted Harry to help and found Brave the Shave in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. According to Harry's parents losing his hair was no small task!

Harry shaved his hair on the 3rd February and has raised nearly £1000 and awarded a Jack Petchey award for his efforts.

A fantastic achievement and a very worthy cause, well done Harry.



### *Other achievements*

Maija Springgay-Gomes (Yr. 7) is currently taking part in the Motiv8 Dance programme. Motiv8 is an annual dance show giving groups in the District a chance to perform over two nights at the Epping Forest College in Loughton. The dancers range from the age of 5 to 18 years old and perform different style of dances. The shows took place at the end of March. Well done Maija!

Ziyad Zikrya (Yr.10) was recently awarded a Jack Petchy Award for Outstanding achievement by Wanstead Rugby Club. Ziyad recieved this award for his commitment to the team, through which he has become a popular member with his teammates and coaches. He was awarded man of the tour during the summer and is an outstanding rugby player. Well done Ziyad.

Matthew Sandy (Yr.7) has been selected for the Essex U14 golf team. Elite training consists of 5 hours per month every four weeks. This along with regular elite coaching, 1:2:1 weekly coaching, plus strength and condition weekly training. On top of this every weekend he participates in a tournament for his club and/or county. Matthew is only in Year 7 so is competing 2 years above his own age group. Well done Matthew.





*Maija Springgay-Gomes -Year 7*



*Ziyad Zikrya -Year 10*



*Matthew Sandy -Year 7*



*Georgi Fraser - Year 8*

Congratulations to Georgi who achieved a Distinction in her recent modern theatre dance exam.



*Harry Ioannou - Year 13*

Harry is a member at Chigwell Golf and was made Junior Captain of the Golf Club at the beginning of this year.



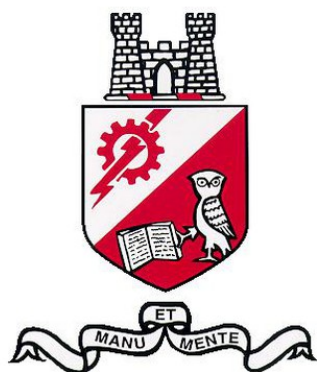
*Rachel Reid - Year 8*

Rachel is one of our most able language students and is nearly a year into learning Korean and Japanese outside of School.

## *Emma Richards - Year 11*

Emma was approached by an art collective called Xtra.art, who saw some of her art work which she had posted on Instagram. They said they were running an art exhibition called free the voiceless which is about animal rights and welfare, and suggested she submit a couple of her pieces of work. She submitted two pieces, one of which was accepted. Her picture (shown below), which also won the schools Inter House competition, is currently hanging in the exhibition which is being held at Somerset House, London. Well done Emma.





## *West Hatch High School*

 @WestHatchHigh1

 High Road, Chigwell, Essex, I...

 [admin@westhatch.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@westhatch.essex.sch.uk)

 0208 504 8216

 [westhatch.essex.sch.uk](http://westhatch.essex.sch.uk)