



Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Horncastle

NEWSLETTER 7

May 2010

Contents

- Letter from the Head
- Internal Exam Dates
- Election of Parent Governors
- Ski Trip 2010/2011
- National Volleyball honours
- UK MT Maths Challenges
- Y8 Maths Masterclass
- Sport
- Music
- Lincolnshire Talent Award
- Community Drama success
- Sailing
- GCSE Y11 PE Practical exam
- MFL e-newsletter
- East Lindsey Young People's Celebration Event
- Young Enterprise
- Spelling Bee
- Returning Textbooks and School Books
- Jon Bennett Music Award
- PA 300 Club Winners
- Host UK
- Wool for Romania
- School Council
- Forthcoming Events

Dear Parents

The Spring Music Concert and Art Exhibition was the perfect way to end the term. It was a wonderful evening and, as ever, the talent on show was breathtaking. Everyone was looking forward to a well-earned rest over Easter and we were fortunate not to be too inconvenienced by the ash from the Icelandic volcano. Many of the students have returned to school with a real focus and ready for the last big push prior to the external exams. GCSE modules are now a feature of Y10 with History, Business Studies, Biology, Chemistry and Physics taking place this summer. However, they do have work experience to look forward to later in the summer term. For Y8 the Yorkshire Dales beckons and Y7 can look forward to Normandy. On Tuesday Y9, accompanied by their Form Tutors, enjoyed an excellent team-building day at the PGL centre near Caythorpe. For Y11, Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth external exams will dominate their thinking for the next couple of months. However, the rest of the school do not escape from exams altogether; the dates for Internal Exams are in the newsletter.

Can I remind parents that we are now governed by quite strict rules about authorising absence. If you are thinking Lincolnshire Show, for example, absence can only be authorised if permission is sought at least two weeks in advance, if the student is involved in an organised event such as a display, is part of a family business enterprise or they are part of a family outing. Unfortunately, the school will not be able to authorise visits with friends or visits to the show that are last minute or where permission has not been sought. I am grateful to all those parents who take the time to write and explain their request for leave; it is really rare for any sensible request not to be authorised.

It is going to be a tense few months as our students get themselves ready for and then sit their exams. We can look forward to August when the results will no doubt demonstrate that all their hard work has paid off. We wish them well and know that they will do us proud.

Mrs H. Payne
HEADTEACHER

Internal Exam Dates

Y9 & Y10 Tuesday 8th – Tues. 15th June (inclusive)

Y7&Y8 Wednesday 9th – Tues. 15th June (inclusive)

These dates are changed from the ones published at the start of the academic year.

Election of Parent Governor

Thank you to all parents who took the time to vote in the recent election. Mandy Elmer was duly elected for a four period term commencing in June. The full results are posted in school.

Ski Trip 2010/2011

Mr Rees has once again volunteered to organise a ski trip to Nassfeld in Austria over the New Year 2010/2011. Anyone interested in going on the trip should see Mr Rees for information.

U16 National Volleyball Squad

Aaron Hoodless in Y11 headed off to Italy over Easter to represent England in the U16 match for the Businello Trophy. He not only played in every single match but, by the second day, was being selected for the starting 6; a huge achievement. This is volleyball being played at international level against fierce European competition. We are really proud of what Aaron has achieved; it is also a huge honour for our school.

UK MT Intermediate Maths Challenge

Yet again it was great to see so many getting involved in this competition. It was even better to find out that, based on their excellence, nine students were invited to take part in the next round of the competition. Josh Brown and Ose Ikhenia earned well-deserved merits in the Kangaroo Competition whilst Anurag Modi (only in Y9) was tasked with competing in the Cayley Challenge. The Challenge required Anurag to sit a two-hour paper that demanded long, written solutions. He did an amazing job and finished in the top 50 students. This earned him a medal and a book prize. His score was 49/60 – simply excellent!

UKMT Junior Maths Challenge Regional Final

In March Anurag Modi, Sarah Gosling, Fraser Dever and Alby Brennan all took part in the regional final in Peterborough. They did us proud and came third overall; we are waiting to see if their points total, a staggering 170, is sufficient to get them a place in the final.

Y8 Maths Masterclass

Mr Heathcote organised another successful series of masterclasses with the final session being held in the Chapter House at Lincoln Cathedral. Students from across the County who had an interest in Maths were invited to attend. Over forty students took part but well done to Fraser Dever, Stephanie Garner, Freddie Payne, Jamie Fixter, James Law and Daniel Young who made-up the QEGS contingent.

SPORT

Tennis and Squash Honours

Well done to Victoria Needham in Y7 who has been selected to represent Lincolnshire in the U14 County Tennis tournament taking place in Shrewsbury. Dominic Price in the Lower Sixth remains County Squash champion at U17 and 19 level and was recently runner-up for an East Lindsey Community Award for sporting achievement. Well done.

County Swimming Honours

Susannah Yielding won Gold in the 200m Butterfly and 50m Breaststroke events, earning five medals in all. She also achieved the Midland qualifying times for the 50m and 100m breaststroke which means that she will be heading off to the Midland Championships in May.

MUSIC

Music Successes

Well done to Ben Jeffrey (Alto Sax) who earned his Grade 1 with merit. Freddie Payne (singing), and Jessica Bates (piano) achieved grade 2. Grade 3 was passed by Jacob Dean, Alby Brennan and Daisy O'Neill on violin, by Mark Hurrell (with distinction) and Joanna Meng on piano. Stephanie Garner went one better and earned Grade 4 on piano. Ben Brickles (trumpet) and Rebecca Pinder (piano) both earned their Grade 5. Emily Bourn, Daisy O'Neill, Bethany Searby and Leo Williams all passed Grade 5 theory. Lucy Hibberd (flute) and Hannah Brass earned Grade 6 with Merit. Jacob Lawson (clarinet), Sophie Roberts (piano) and Sophie Brass (flute) did very well to achieve Grade 7 in their respective instruments. It is great to have two students achieve Grade 8, especially when one of them did it for two different instruments. Lydia Rycroft played her flute with composure to earn her Grade 8. Josh Brown only in Y11 took his Grade 8 piano and his Grade 8 alto sax on the same day and passed both! He excelled with the alto sax earning his Grade 8 with distinction. A fabulous set of results!

Lincolnshire Talent Award

Lucy Hibberd, Daisy Hibberd, Charlotte Richardson and James Whalley were all successful in their auditions for a Lincolnshire Talent Award. They each receive £300 towards music lessons.

Lucy Hibberd when not auditioning or passing grade exams, finds time to be selected to attend a special event at Hull University. Lucy received a consultation lesson with the university's woodwind tutor and had the opportunity to attend a masterclass and take part in a concert with second and third year degree students. Wow!

Community Drama – Les Miserables

Well done to the host of students who took part in what was an outstanding performance at the Lion Theatre. Every night was a sellout and standing ovations were routine. Fabulous! Great entertainment from Joe Ritjakis, David Neal, Lauren Williams, Demi Morrison, Gareth Bates, Andrew Neal, Harry Grau, Will Kinnon, Rose Hilton, Lydia Barber, Daisy O'Neill, Olivia Bartle, Molly Elvin, Shannon Woodley, Matthew Poole and Glyn Bates.

The Drama Department at QEGS were thrilled to receive a kind donation from the Lion Theatre Company in Horncastle as a result of the pantomime. Mrs O'Neill will use the money to help fund our next production – a big thank you.

Drama Bursary

Well done to James Law in Y8 who has won a bursary to attend a drama summer school at Uppingham.

Sailing

The sailing season has started and QEGS students have taken to the water again. A big welcome to the new recruits in Y7. Sailing club meets on a Thursday and they have already been busy getting the whole fleet of 17 boats afloat. This year a Laser 2000 has been added to the fleet; an opportunity to experience performance sailing. Hykeham Sailing Club is running race sailing sessions on a Saturday afternoon and students are welcome to attend. If any parent wants to have a go at sailing, Hykeham Sailing Club is running a taster day. More information can be found on their website: www.hykehamsailing.co.uk

Y11 GCSE PE Practical

Congratulations to the Y11 GCSE PE group who underwent assessment for the practical element of their exam last week. The practical element is worth 60% of their final grade and so it was important that

they worked at their best for the visiting external examiner. The practical took 2 days to complete and the group were a credit to the school. Well done!

MFL e-newsletter

Please take a moment to visit the Modern Languages Department pages of the school website, where we have published our first newsletter. This first edition contains reports from students on this year's exchange visits, as well as the names of those students who have been awarded Linguist of the Term so far this year.

Success in the East Lindsey Young People's Celebration Event

As well as Dominic Price, Viv Lichfield in Y11 scooped up a prize for her academic achievement but was also nominated for the work she undertakes as a young carer. A well-deserved honour.

Young Enterprise

Two Young Enterprise companies, Demeter and Streetwise, have been operating this year. In March they both attended the Lindsey Area Awards evening and came away with lots of awards. Demeter won the award for most innovative product for their *Oliver!* DVD. Streetwise took awards in three categories: Best Report, Best Presentation and, most importantly, the Young Enterprise Company of the Year Award. Streetwise will now go on to the Lincolnshire and Rutland final in May.

Spelling Bee

Well done to Dylan Moore, Jake Johnson, Ros Walden and James Haslam who all earned Bronze Awards in this national spelling challenge. A particular thanks to Holly King and Kate Green for working with the Y7s and helping them prepare.

Returning Textbooks & School Books

As students in years 11, 12, 13 complete their courses we will be collecting in their text books: this has to be a controlled exercise as the school cannot afford to lose these expensive resources. Each student has been issued with a personalised list of the books we believe have been issued to them. As books are returned the student should obtain a signature against the title on the list as proof of return. By the time the student has completed their exams we expect that books will have been handed in and the completed form should be passed to the School Administrator who will agree that everything that belongs to the school has been returned. Any book not signed for is liable to be invoiced at an average book cost of £15. It is therefore, essential to keep that book return form safe to avoid

any unnecessary charges or confusion. Thank you for your cooperation.

The Jon Bennett Music Award

Henry Bourn in the Lower Sixth has been awarded this shield for his service and commitment to community music. As well as being part of numerous County groups, Henry finds time to play with Banovallum Brass and participate in a wide-range of school music events. Jon's wife established the award following his sudden death. Jon worked at school and was a real champion and supporter of students and their music.

300 Club Winners (April)

Well done to the following people, cheques should have made their way by now!

£25: Mark Clayton, Mrs Dando, Erika Chapman; £15: Michele Duggan, Ian McMullan, Peter Davis; £10: Paula Latchem, Martin Yeldham, John Dudley.

Thank you to Sue Carroll for the organisation. The draw was made by Julie Middleton.

Host UK

Would your family enjoy introducing someone from another country to your way of life?

There are international students from all over the world at universities in the UK: they speak English and most are in their 20s. They would love to spend a weekend sharing your family life in order to understand more about the UK. You could have fun introducing them to British food, customs, your local community and area; and you could learn about their country and culture. This is an opportunity to make friends across international boundaries. Geography comes alive, and afterwards, any news bulletin about your guest's country will have much more meaning.

HOST is a national charity, backed by the Foreign Office, which has been linking students with volunteer hosts for many years. See www.hostuk.org or call Mandy Talbott, the voluntary organiser in Lincolnshire, on 01472 851084.

Wool for Romania

Mr Linke would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents and students who have sent wool to make blankets to help children in a Romanian orphanage. These simple, knitted blankets make a real difference to the quality of life of the children living there.

Now that the blankets have been delivered safely, the knitting team are ready to start again. If you have any spare wool, please send it into school or drop it off in Reception; all donations, big or small, are very welcome.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

The School Council has reported that the two Shelter Boxes that they bought have gone directly to Haiti which is great news. Well done to one and all.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Loving April

Thursday 6 May in the Main Hall; the performance begins at 5.00pm

The Oxfordshire Theatre Company is putting on this performance. The play is about a young girl, April, who lives in a small rural community. She can't hear and struggles to speak and prefers to spend her time among the wild swans on a nearby riverbank. April's life changes with the arrival of a family from London. Recommended age, 14 years +.

The performance starts at 5.00pm; entry is free.

Wed 12 May	Parents' Meeting for Normandy
Fri 21 May	Y7 Normandy Trip
Fri 28 May	End of term
Mon 7 June	Term begins
Tues 15 June	Lincoln University HE Conference
Sun 20 – Tues 22 June	8G: Yorkshire Dales Trip
Wed 23 – Fri 25 June	8A: Yorkshire Dales Trip
Sun 27 – Tues 29 June	8GK: Yorkshire Dales Trip
Wed 30 June – Fri 2 July	8M: Yorkshire Dales Trip
Wed 23 June	Commemoration Service, St Mary's Church, Horncastle, 11.45 am
24/25 June	L6 Induction Programme
Fri 25 June	Battlefields Concert, 7.30 pm
Thu 1/Fri 2 July	L6 Business Conference
Thu 1 July	Sailing Regatta
Tues 6 July	New Y7 Induction Day & Parents' Evening
Wed 7 July	L6 Ethics Conference
Thur 8 July	L6 Theatre Studies Conference
Fri 9 July	PA Party in the Park
Thu 15 July	World Challenge Team departs for Malawi
Mon 19 July	Sports Day
Wed 23 July	End of term