

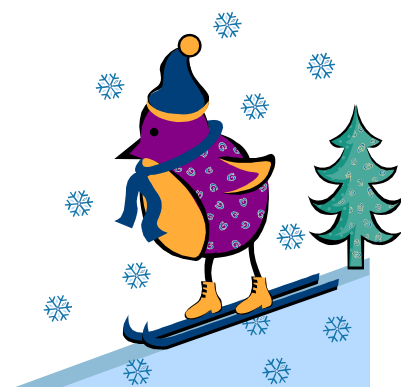
Hazlehead Academy School & Community Newsletter



CONTENTS

Page

<i>Parent Council</i>	1
<i>Attendance/Holidays</i>	1
<i>In-service Closure Day</i>	1
<i>Preliminary Exams</i>	1
<i>Hazlehead Community News</i>	2
<i>Channel Five</i>	2
<i>RMPS Developments</i>	2
<i>Norwegian Exchange</i>	2
<i>Activities Week</i>	2
<i>Science Club</i>	3
<i>PTA Christmas Fayre</i>	3
<i>Travelling Gallery</i>	3
<i>Gymnastics</i>	3
<i>Interhouse Competition</i>	3
<i>Trampolining</i>	3
<i>Dance</i>	3
<i>Football</i>	3
<i>Rowing</i>	3
<i>Black Cat Theatre Company</i>	4
<i>Stratford Trip</i>	4
<i>ECO Initiatives</i>	4
<i>Dates for Your Diary</i>	4



Parent Council

The new Parental Involvement Act came into force earlier this year. It is designed to make it easier for parents to become more actively involved in their children's education. One of the most obvious changes is the replacement of the old School Boards with the new Parent Councils. These Councils are expected to be less formal and more accessible to parents and hopefully will encourage more parents to come along and take part. All parents or carers are automatically members of the Parent Forum. All members of the Parent Forum are entitled to express their views about the Parent Council and to put themselves forward as members of the Council. A working group comprising members of the old School Board, the Parent Teacher Association and other members of the Parent Forum has drafted a constitution for our new Parent Council. There will be a meeting of the Parent Forum in the staffroom at 7.00pm on Tuesday 20 November to approve or amend this constitution. Once the constitution is accepted we can go ahead and form our first Parent Council and then get down to work. Please consider coming along to the meeting and supporting this important new initiative.

Attendance / Holidays

There appears to be an increase in the number of pupils going off on holiday during term time. While work commitments can make it difficult for parents to take time off during school holidays missing classes is never a good thing. This year we are having a major drive on raising attainment levels for all pupils. Regular attendance in class is a significant part of this. Please think very carefully before you consider arranging holidays during class time.

In-service Closure Day

Please note that Monday 19 November is an in-service closure day. School will therefore be closed to all pupils on that day.

Preliminary Exams

The timetable has been completed for the S4 Preliminary Examinations which will run between 26 November and 7 December. All S4 pupils should now have received a copy and should know exactly when their exams are due to take place.

Hazlehead Community News



Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Nurses

Local resident Mrs Mina Milne recently organised a Coffee Morning which raised over £220 in support of the Macmillan Nurses. Well done! The residents' next coffee morning will be held on 24 November in aid of the Christmas Box Fund for the elderly.



Road Safety and Snowballing

The temperature is dropping markedly and it feels as if snow is not too far away. Along with it comes all the problems associated with snowballing.

Please take time to emphasise to your children how important it is to be careful when throwing snowballs. If pupils want to throw snowballs they may do so out in the open playing fields but not in or near any buildings.

They most certainly should not be throwing snowballs at or near passing traffic. With darker evenings approaching pupils should also be particularly careful when crossing or walking alongside busy roads.

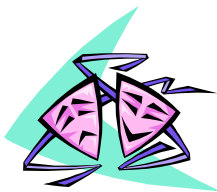


Channel Five

Yes, they're back.

After a break last year our own in-school theatre company is back with a bang! This week sees the cast and crew present

"Tommy" featuring the music of The Who. Already it's a sell-out, so if you haven't got a ticket, I'm afraid you're too late!



Norwegian Exchange



Campbell Robertson, Depute Rector, has recently returned from a brief visit to our exchange school in Norway. He has been over there arranging work placements for the S6 International Work Experience Exchange which we organise each year. Six of our S6 students will spend ten days in Norway later this month finding out what it is like to live and work in a foreign country. They will be staying with students from our partner school near Oslo. The Norwegian students will visit Aberdeen in the New Year.

RMPS Developments

Always on the lookout for new ways of presenting their courses, the Religious Moral and Philosophical Studies Department has developed a new Access level unit called "Questioning Belief". It has been developed using cutting edge educational software which allows characters (from famous people to cartoons) to speak instructions to pupils and is delivered and assessed entirely through web pages using multimedia resources and includes material recorded exclusively for us by Dons legend, Brian Irvine.

ACTIVITIES WEEK.....

It seems a long way off yet but already arrangements are well underway for Activities Week – June 2008, particularly with residential trips. If your child is involved in one of these activities please help the organising staff by ensuring that all payment instalments and return slips are handed back to school on time. A lot of energy and time is wasted in chasing up late returns.

Science Club

One of the most popular new clubs in school is the Science Club. Started this term by Biology Teacher Julia Barnes, it is attracting large numbers of pupils back to the Science Departments at lunchtimes. Pupils have been involved in a range of activities including making fireworks, slime fizz pop rockets and growing crystals.



The PTA Christmas Fayre will take place in the Drama Theatre from 7.00pm – 9.00pm on Wednesday 28 November.

Come along and crack your Christmas shopping. The Fayre is open to everyone.

Admission : Adults £2
Children free.



Travelling Gallery

This bus, housing an interactive exhibition from the City Art Centre in Edinburgh, will be at school on Wednesday 14 November. Throughout the day a wide variety of Art classes will visit the exhibition.



Gymnastics

For the first time we have a group of 12 girls competing in the Scottish Schools Gymnastics heats. Since this is a new activity for us we will be very interested to see how our girls get on.



Trampolining

A number of our girls went to the Scottish national qualifiers in October. Megan Simpson and Kimberley Middleton won gold, Stacey Robson won silver and Lynsey Morgan won Bronze. Rebecca Houston qualified at Grade 2 under 15. The final event of 2007 is the Scottish Schools competition in Perth. A squad of 14 girls will be going down to compete at different age levels.

Dance



We have been invited to take part in a "Y Dance" project in conjunction with Active Schools. Tutors will be in school every Monday through to the end of December to take classes and work with pupils on various dance projects.

This is a great opportunity for pupils to experience the expressive arts area of dance and to gain a wider understanding of the different types of modern dance. Earlier in the session we had a professional stage dancer, Mark Cameron, in school working with pupils of various ages in a dance workshop. He covered stage dance and a variety of up-to-date dance types.

InterHouse Competition

The InterHouse Competition is now well underway and after 9 of the scheduled 40 events Greyfriars have a narrow lead over Bruce, but there's still a long way to go yet! Totals so far:

Bruce	60
Craigievar	41
Dunecht	55
Greyfriars	65
Marischal	49

FOOTBALL

Our **S1 Boys' (Under 13) Football** team has got the season off to an incredible start with 9 wins from 9 games. Not only that but they have scored 87 goals and conceded nil! Take note Jimmy Calderwood. No trophies in the cabinet yet but they are now in the third round of the Scottish Cup and have to travel away to play Dingwall Academy.

Congratulations to senior boys Andrew Lawrie, Curtis Sangbarani, Ryan Dick and Matthew Reid all of whom have recently been selected to play for Aberdeen Secondary Schools Senior Football Select against other areas in the Scottish Schools Senior National Trophy.

Rowing

Iona Riley 4BN is one of Aberdeen Schools' Rowing Association's current crop of rising stars. Together with her fellow crew members, Iona won gold in the Junior 18 Coxed Fours at the National Championships of Great Britain held in July.

Black Cat Theatre Company



After a successful visit last year, The Black Cat Theatre Company once again visited the English Department and this time presented a live production of "Romeo and Juliet" to several S3 classes. The entire play was covered and the pupils had a most valuable discussion with the actors afterwards. The company is made up of young professional actors and their energy and enthusiasm made the educational event highly enjoyable.

ECO Initiatives



Our ECO and Recycling Committee under the watchful eye of Acting Depute Rector Anne Bonsall, is working hard to ensure that we achieve our third Green Flag this year. Last week the committee organised a Litter Awareness Week. 46 S1 pupils volunteered to help pick up litter for 20 minutes after lunchtime each day, but they did much more than that. They recorded the amount and type of litter collected and identified particularly bad areas, lack of bins etc. Their findings will be invaluable in helping us to tackle the litter problem in and around the school. S1 Art classes have produced some highly original eye-catching anti-litter posters which are now on display throughout the school.

Can you as parents help our efforts to improve our environment and promote a more healthy lifestyle? Encourage your children to walk or cycle to school / Use our reusing and recycling facilities for old football strips, spectacles, mobile phones, ink cartridges and garden tools / Encourage children to participate in physical activity / Encourage children to make healthy eating choices by ensuring that they have and use an Accord Card / Keep us informed of what you think the important environmental and health issues are and what we can be doing better.

Keep watching our website for more information. (www.hazleheadacy.aberdeen.sch.uk)



Dates for Your Diary

November

Tues-Fri	13-16	Channel Five "Tommy"
Wednesday	14	Travelling Gallery
Monday	19	In-service closure day
Tuesday	20	Parent Forum
Thursday	22	FP Club Social Evening – Northern Hotel
Wednesday	28	PTA Christmas Fair
Week Beg.	28	S4 Estimate Exams

December

Friday	14	S5 Leavers' Ceremony
Tuesday	18	School Concert
Thursday	20	Carol Service
Friday	21	Term Ends

January

Monday	7	Term Begins
Week Beg.	7	Health Week
Week Beg.	14	S4 Work Experience Week
Week Beg.	28	S4 Reports issued
Thursday	31	S5/6 Estimate Exams begin

February

Friday	1	S2 Reports/S3 Course Choice Info issued
Thursday	7	S2 Course Choice Meeting
Monday	18	Holiday
Tuesday	19	In-service closure day
Wednesday	20	S5/6 Course Choice Info issued
Tuesday	26	S2 Parents' Evening
Thursday	28	FP Club Social Evening – Northern Hotel



BRIAN WOOD
(Rector)

Stratford Trip

The annual residential trip to Stratford-upon-Avon for S3 and above, held by the English Department, will take place in December. This time the pupils will go to see Henry V and Noughts and Crosses which is based on Romeo and Juliet. Apart from the usual activities there will be a two hour workshop with the Royal Shakespeare Company's Education Centre. Tickets for next year's trip are already selling fast. The plays will be "Hamlet" starring David Tennant (Dr Who) and Patrick Stewart (Star Trek and the X-men) and "A Midsummer Night's Dream".