



Swaffham Hamond's High School

Summer Second Half Term

Newsletter

July 2010

Our Year

It has been an interesting and eventful year at Swaffham Hamond's High School. We draw to a close confident that we have a school where we have students that we can be proud of and a workforce of totally committed and capable staff who will ensure that we have continually rising standards and expectations as we move into a new academic year. We are anticipating a significant rise in our examination results in August. Mr Bailey will continue to lead the school for the foreseeable future as the previous head has now moved on.

We began the year with brand new classrooms and facilities, with a new uniform and vertical tutor groups. We also reintroduced parents' evenings for individual year groups. During the year we have developed our behaviour systems which have had a huge impact on the school. We will continue to raise our expectations in this area by continuing to ensure that our teachers deliver high quality lessons and by ensuring that students understand and cooperate with all of our expectations. We know that we will have your continued support with this.

Next year we will be making more use of our 'Group Call' facility. We will be using this method to text parents about important events and information. This means that we will be able to alert you to all important events. Please ensure that we have your correct number for our records.

We know that many of you are keen on us having more trips and visits for students. We will therefore be ending our Wednesday 'Enrichment' sessions and focusing more on introducing a week of activities and trips in the summer term next year together with an increase in opportunities throughout the year.

Staff Leaving

All vacant posts for next year have been filled by high quality applicants. However, the following members of staff are leaving us and we thank them for all of their work with us over the years: Mr Morton (D&T), Mr Wickes (D&T), Mr Cripps (English), Mrs Groom (French), Mrs Groom (Drama), Mrs Hicks (Business), Miss Scarrott (Science), Mr Robinson (Temp. English), Mr Worms (RS), Miss Edmeades (History), Miss Evenden (Maths), Mrs Meyer (CACHE), Mr Tarleton (SAFS), Miss Black (Cover), Miss Haynes (Cover), and Miss Randerson (Admin).

Holkham Leader

Ms Welham will be taking over as House Leader for Holkham house in September. This will allow Mr Budgett more time to focus on his Deputy Head roles.

Aaron Pitt

Aaron Pitt recently competed at the English Schools Track and Field Championships where he won the final of the 400m to become National Junior Champion. Congratulations to Aaron – a star of the future in athletics.

Prom

Crowds gathered outside the Assembly Rooms in Swaffham on Friday 25 June 2010, to see our departing Year 11 students arriving in a variety of vehicles for their Prom, ranging from a tractor and trailer to vintage and sports cars. Having the Prom in their local community made it extra special for the students and parents. This was a richly deserved celebration for a group of our students who have worked so hard to achieve what we predict may be the best set of GCSE results in our history.

Senior Student Leaders

The following students have been appointed as Senior Student Leaders from our prefects in Year 10. Congratulations to them all - they are fine role models for our students: **Mario Goncalves** (Head Boy), **Katie Maud** (Head Girl), **George Kerridge** (Deputy Head Boy), **Charlotte Williamson** (Deputy Head Girl), **Danielle Fox**, **Beth Morano** and **Ryan Smith**.

Help for Heroes

We are all proud of Ollie and Toby Johnson for writing and producing a song and video entitled 'Tears of Pride'. You can see their video on YouTube or purchase a professionally produced version from the school for £2.50. Most of the proceeds go to Help for Heroes.

MP Visit

Swaffham Hamond's High School recently welcomed our local MP, Elizabeth Truss, to the school. Mrs Truss had a discussion with some of our senior students about a range of issues and they prepared some articulate and challenging questions for their MP. Mrs Truss was full of praise for the students' questioning skills, the way that they conducted themselves and the way they spoke so highly of the improvements that they have seen in their school recently.

Keeping our School Safe

We hope to make some site alterations in the summer holidays in order to make our site more secure. We intend to separate out visitors and student access areas by creating a secure visitor reception area. We also hope to erect some fencing around the Junior School end of the school to prevent access from those not belonging to our school community.

Welcome Home Parade

Swaffham is playing host to a Welcome Home Parade for II (AC) Squadron from RAF Marham at 11:00 on Friday 6th August. We hope that as many students and parents will be able to join in this occasion in celebration of our local heroes.

Funds Available to Support Activities

Sometimes the extra money that you need so your children can join after school clubs, go on school trips, or play an instrument just isn't there. Swaffham Cluster has funds to help students take part in extra activities, sports, and the arts. Read more about this in the Swaffham Cluster Extended Schools newsletter or www.swaffhamextschools.org.uk or contact Susan Bunn by Phone: 07500604624, or Email sbunn9@blue.esinet.org.uk

Art Exhibition

We held an Art Exhibition in the Assembly Rooms in Swaffham recently. The exhibition drew a lot of local interest and celebrated some of the stunning work that is now being produced in the Art department led by Ms Lee and the Music department led by Ms Shervington.

Dates for your Diary

We hope that you have an enjoyable summer. The autumn term starts for students on Monday 6 September. Full uniform including blazers and ties is required. Please note also that we will be changing our absence reporting processes from September. We will send further information about this in the new term.

You will find a copy of this newsletter on our website at:

www.hamondshighschool.co.uk