



RAPID IMPROVEMENT

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FROM ALEC HUNTER HUMANITIES COLLEGE 11 July 2008—Issue 33 Wk B

HEADLINES from ANDREW HUTCHINSON

Dear Family

As we begin to think of the end of term, we reflect that this year has been hugely satisfying for the whole College community.



On the 25 and 26 June, we welcomed four Ofsted Inspectors led by Alan Alder, HMI, to our College. Everyone was keen to show just how much progress we had made. Please find in this edition of the Herald a complete copy of our report (those receiving the Herald by e-mail or at alechunter.com will need to look elsewhere). The report summary indicates that 69% of our work is good, as 18 of the 26 judgements had this rating. Below I have taken some quotes from the report for us all to see and read. The report includes a letter addressed to students.

OfSTED said about Alec Hunter Humanities College following their visit to us in June that...

69%

'The school is rapidly improving under the strong purposeful leadership of the headteacher and his senior team. It is now providing a satisfactory quality of education. A determination to improve is evident throughout the school. The leadership of the school has implemented a robust system of monitoring and evaluating all aspects of the school's work. There is a strong focus on improving the progress that students make in their work.'

'Students take pride both in themselves and in the school.'

'What the school should do to improve further':

- *Improve students' achievement and standards by ensuring that more teaching is of good or better quality.*
- *Ensure that leaders' observations of lessons pays due attention to how well students are learning so that means of improving this can be identified.*

The report goes on to say...

'The school makes good use of external partners to enhance students' education and care. There is a productive relationship with a neighbouring school, and local authority for example. Governors are well involved in the work of the school. Their knowledge of it is good, partly because they visit regularly and meet groups of students and staff. They have high aspirations for the school and provide a good level of challenge, direction and support.'

WELLBEING FAYRE

We are looking forward, with great excitement, to our first ever Wellbeing Fayre in memory of Wendy Morgan, this Saturday in the College grounds from 1.00 pm.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!!

FRIDAY 18 JULY 2008

COLLEGE WILL CLOSE AT

12.05 PM

ON FRIDAY 18 JULY 2008

Well Done Everyone!

KEY STAFF IN THE PASTORAL STRUCTURE

Please find below our new line management arrangements for students. The first point of call for enquiries should be your child's form tutor and then their Pastoral Manager, which all year groups now have. Our Achievement Co-ordinators focus on your child's progress in lessons. I have included the Leadership group responsibilities for each year group, to help parents in knowing who to approach for assistance.

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
FORM TUTORS				
Pastoral Leader Mrs Barnes	Pastoral Leader Mrs Porter	Pastoral Leader Mrs Porter	Pastoral Leader Mr Deeks	Pastoral Leader Mr Deeks
Achievement Co-ordinator Mr Moreno	Achievement Co-ordinator Mr Moreno	Achievement Co-ordinator Miss Jones	Achievement Co-ordinator Mr Long	Achievement Co-ordinator Mrs Ogilvie
KS3 DIRECTOR Mrs Richards			KS4 DIRECTOR Mrs Forster	
Learning Leader	Learning Leader Mr Birley	Learning Leader Mrs Richards	Learning Leader Mr Hutchinson	Learning Leaders Mr Lawn and Mrs Forster

CLASSROOM CODE OF CONDUCT

SIT SENSIBLY ON CHAIRS

MEET THE TEAM



NAME: Mr Daniel Trussler

POSITION: Teacher of PE

FAVOURITE FOOTBALL TEAM: Colchester United

BEST HOLIDAY DESTINATION: Bodrum, Turkey

FAVOURITE BAND: The Streets

FAVOURITE FOOD: Lasagne

DID YOU KNOW: Daniel dislocated his left knee cap not once, but twice

CURRICULUM AREA LEADERSHIP

We publish this grid to help parents know who to contact when help is needed with a subject specifically homework, e-portfolio or most able work. As always the first contact should normally be with the Class Teacher.

	ENGLISH	MATHS	SCIENCE	HUMS	TECH & ART	MFL	ICT	PE/ DRAMA/ MUSIC	CITIZENSHIP
HOCA	MM	KG	HS	RG	JT	LLB	JIW	GE	DH
SENIOR LEADER	LF	NJH	LR	HB	AH	TL	HB	NJH	HB

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VISION EVENING

On Wednesday 9 July a large group of parents, students, governors and staff met in the Media Centre to develop our new Mission Statement for the College.

The phrase 'committed to individual achievement' has served us very well for a number of years and the group considered a range of possible future statements to encompass our current aspirations for everyone.

HUMANITIES STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Year 11 **Adam Silvey**
Excellent Mock results in History

Year 10 **Chloe Beckett**
Excellent results in Geography

Year 9 **Ivan Shipulin**
Excellent work in Geography

Year 8 **Jordan Dobney**
Excellent work in History

2009 SKI TRIP

If your son/daughter is going on the 2009 Ski Trip could you please ensure that their next payment is in to Mr Edwards by Thursday 17 July 2008.

Also if your child has any pre-existing medical problems or dietary requirements, please inform Mr Edwards before the 18 July 2008. This includes any hospitalisation in the past 6 months and any problems that may require treatment whilst away.

Many thanks.

HEADTEACHER'S SURGERY TIMES

Monday 14 July 2008 9.30 am
Wednesday 16 July 2008 3.00 pm

LISTENING CHAMPIONS

YR 8 Danielle Sewell
YR 9 Josh Aylward

E-SAFETY FOR ALL STUDENTS AND PARENTS

As you know the internet is an integral part of school and home life in this day and age. As we are using sites like Facebook, Myspace, Bebo, more and more people are giving out personal details. **NEVER** give out your personal details such as:

Your telephone number
Age
Home Address
What school you are in

Only allow people you know and trust to view your personal pages.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

YR 8 Zoe Saward - 8U
 Sophie Graham - 8H

YR 9 Adam Pillinger - 9U

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SPORTS DAY 2008

Sports Day 2008

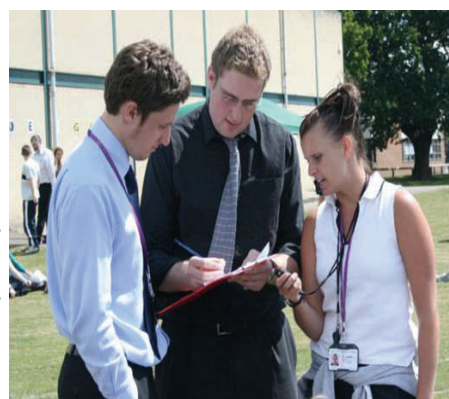
Sports day was once again upon us and this year promised to be a record breaker.



Mr Edwards pretending to Be Dirty Harry

The format of the day changed slightly (picnic blankets!!) but the events and the athletes were primed and ready to go.

There was some bad news prior to the event, Danny Jones, who is our official starter, fell down the stairs the night before. Luckily, he was generous enough to allow Mr Edwards the use of his starting pistols for the day. The runners suddenly felt very nervous at the start line! We wish Danny all the best in his recovery and thank him for the use of the pistols.



Miss Jones and Mr Box busy timekeeping, Mr Griffiths looking on confused

As the day progressed a recurring pattern seemed to be appearing. Most of the events had a full compliment of athletes. A massive well done goes to all of the students who participated and finished their events.

I also have to thank all of the staff who gave up their day to help officiate. Miss Jones, Mr Goven-der, Mr Trussler, Mr Phillips, Mr Fletcher, Mr Booth, Mr Box, Mrs Fletcher, Mrs Truscott, Mr Long and Mrs Barnes. The events wouldn't have run as smoothly if it wasn't for their help. Another thank you has to go to the JSLA students. The course they do gives them a qualification in coaching and organising sporting events. Their help meant that the officials could concentrate on the task and keep to the rigid timetable.

We had 5 new Sports Day records set and 2 equalled. Amazingly this year we also had a clean sweep from a Tutor group. 11U (Mr Edwards tutor group) won again! This is their 4th year in a row as champions. Well done 11U. Congratulations to all of the other tutor groups who won and competed. The PE staff really enjoyed the day and were glad to see the sportsmanship of the athletes as they congratulated the winners or commiserated with the losers.

Victorious 11U!

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New Records Set

Event	Tutor Group	Name	Time/Distance	Sports Day Record
Javelin	11U	Ben Johnson	40m 43cm	New
200m	11U	Ben Johnson	25.17 secs	New
Shot	10H	Joe Rush	11m 91cm	New
High	9T	Josh Aylward	1m 50cm	Equal
200m	9U	Ricardo Santos	28.22 secs	New
High	8R	Jordan Lowen	1m 25cm	Equal
Relay	8E	8E	63.34 secs	New

Score Tables

		U	N	H	R	E	A	T
Year 11	Boys	73	65	70	38	65	52	23
	Girls	53	48	32	64	35	45	72
	Total	126	113	102	102	100	97	95
Position		1st	2nd	3rd	3rd	5th	6th	7th

		H	E	T	N	R	A	U
Year 10	Boys	83	81	51	62	41	57	41
	Girls	69	44	72	61	55	36	44
	Total	152	125	123	123	96	93	85
Position		1st	2nd	3rd	3rd	5th	6th	7th

		A	U	N	R	E	T	H
Year 9	Boys	65	74	62	46	56	64	48
	Girls	72	55	64	63	50	36	43
	Total	137	129	126	109	106	100	91
Position		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th

		R	T	U	E	H	A	N	L
Year 8	Boys	60	52	68	46	56	48	63	36
	Girls	68	65	44	65	48	46	29	21
	Total	128	117	112	111	104	94	92	57
Position		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th

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SPORTS DAY CHAMPIONS

	Boys	Girls
Yr 8	Luke Wright – 8N	Jordan Lowen – 8R
Yr 9	Ricardo Santos – 9U	Suzanne Taylor – 9E
Yr 10	Lewis Hancock – 10E	Chloe Beckett – 10R
Yr 11	Ben Johnson – 11U	Danielle Anderson – 11T

RED, AMBER AND GREEN

We have just received attendance statistics from the Local Authority for the Autumn and Spring terms. I am delighted to report that Alec Hunter exceeded their attendance target, being one of only 34 schools in Essex to do so. We finished in a very creditable 34th position out of 78 secondary schools in Essex.

Can I advise parents that figures published in league tables and the press are the total rate of absence, including both authorised and unauthorised. Our total absence rate in this publication was 7.37% giving us an attendance at the college of 92.63%. Well done to all students and parents who have supported us with our Traffic Light Attendance Scheme.

I would also like to thank students and parents who have supported the new late gate scheme. Lateness for this period was down from 3.29% in 2006/07 to 1.46% in 2007/08.

Needless to say, we will not rest on our laurels and are aiming for a place in the top 25 of schools in Essex next year!

Please carry on with your support for the Traffic Light Attendance Scheme. Alec Hunter can only achieve good results if all students, regardless of their ability, attend the college on a regular basis and this can only happen with your help.

SUMMER HOLIDAY CLOSURE

Could parents please be aware that the College will be closed from the 21 July to the 25 July, due to major refurbishment taking place, this will include the College Office.

For the purchase of ties and badges, these will be available from the 28 July to the 8 August 2008 from the College Office, but you can purchase ties and badges from Townrows in Braintree.

TERM DATES

SUMMER TERM - 2ND HALF

2 June - 18 July 2008

INSET DAYS

21, 22, 23 July 2008

COLLEGE OFFICE OPENING TIMES

Visitors Reception

8.15 am - 4.15 pm Mon-Thurs

8.15 am - 3.45 pm Friday

Student Reception

8.30 am - 3.25 pm Mon-Fri

STUDENT ABSENCE HOTLINE AND E-MAIL

We would be grateful if parents reporting absence would use our new service:

Tel: 01376 559356

Email:

jackie.jackson@alechunter.essex.sch.uk

Please note this telephone number does **not** receive text messages.

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LOTTERY FUNDED



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