



HERALD

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FROM ALEC HUNTER HUMANITIES COLLEGE 10 July 2009—Issue 35 Wk B

HEADLINES from ANDREW HUTCHINSON

Dear Family

We are moving ever closer to the end of a very successful term and school year. Often towards the end of a year we celebrate our students' achievements and there was no better way to do this than to a packed assembly of parents, Governors, friends and students at our annual Awards Evening.



Our thanks for an excellent evening to all our hard working, successful students who were a credit to themselves, their parents and teachers, well done. (Details of the award winners will be in next week's Herald).

During Year 11 assembly on Monday we proudly announced the outcome of a very intense process of appointing our new Head Boy and Head Girl.

Congratulations to; Head Boy: **Elliot Boakes**, Head Girl: **Jemima Paine**, Deputy Head Boy: **Martin Lee** and Deputy Head Girl: **Chloe Beckett** on their success of being appointed, staff and students look forward to working with these students in the future. Whilst the decision was very hard, we congratulate Elliot, Jemima, Martin and Chloe (more information inside).

STUDENT NAME

TERM DATES

SUMMER TERM
20 April—17 July 2009
INSET DAYS
20 July 2009

EARLY CLOSURE

**ON FRIDAY 17 JULY 2009
COLLEGE WILL CLOSE AT
1.05 PM FOR THE SUMMER BREAK.
MORE DETAILS WILL FOLLOW**

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
jackie.jackson@alechunter.essex.sch.uk
Text: 07781474810

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SWINE FLU AND SCHOOLS – ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

Following this week's local newspaper headline regarding Swine Flu, we have received information today that a parent, who has recently travelled from the Far East, has displayed signs of Swine Flu, children of the family are also being cared for at home under the advice of local doctors.

As a precaution we are alerting all families by enclosing in this week's Herald the latest advice from the Health Protection Agency 'Swine Flu and Schools—Advice for the Public'

We have also downloaded the latest booklet about Swine Flu from the NHS called 'Swine Flu: From Containment to Treatment', which is available from the College office.



From the Health Protection Agency:

SWINE FLU AND SCHOOLS – ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

7 July 2009

Swine flu is a virus that is particularly affecting children and young adults. Children are proving to be highly efficient carriers of the swine flu (H1N1) virus and schools provide the perfect environment for it to spread.

There are lots of children with flu-like symptoms in the school. Why is the school not being advised to close?

School closures and the distribution of antiviral medicines for prevention are not recommended at this time because the virus is widespread within the community. People are likely to be repeatedly exposed to the virus in their every day lives - closing a school would not help to slow the spread of the virus as people could still be exposed outside the school.

In some special circumstances – for example, a school with children who are particularly vulnerable to infection – then school closures might still be recommended.

Isn't it better for my child to catch this now to develop some immunity in case this comes back more seriously?

This is good evidence that in the majority of swine flu patients the disease is generally mild, but it is also proving severe in a small minority of cases. It is preferable to avoid exposure to the virus if possible, which also helps to protect higher-risk groups from unnecessary risk. However, children should not be kept off school if they are well and their school is open.

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What can schools and parents do to slow the spread?

What should I do if my child has symptoms of swine flu?

If you think your child may have swine flu, you should check their symptoms on www.nhs.uk, call NHS Direct (0845 46 47) or call the Swine Flu information line on 0800 1 513 513. If you are still concerned, you should call your GP, who can provide a diagnosis over the phone.

If your child has the signs and symptoms of swine flu – fever, fatigue, lack of appetite, coughing, sore throat, pain in muscles and joints, headache and chills and in some cases vomiting and diarrhoea - you should keep your child away from school until they have recovered and are free of symptoms.

If your child is prescribed antiviral medicines for treatment, they should also stay at home until they have finished the course. This is to avoid spreading the infection as much as possible.

By practising good hygiene everyone can play their part and help to reduce transmission of all viruses, including swine flu:

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water to reduce the spread of virus from your hands to face or to other people.
- Clean hard surfaces (e.g. door handles) frequently using a normal cleaning product.
- Cover your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, using a tissue when possible.
- Dispose of dirty tissues promptly and carefully.
- Make sure children follow this advice.

If you think you may have swine flu, you should check your symptoms on www.nhs.uk, call NHS Direct (0845 46 47) or call the Swine Flu information line on 0800 1 513 513. If you are still concerned, you should call your GP, who can provide a diagnosis over the phone.



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HERALD ONLINE

If you want to receive the Herald online, visit our website:

www.alechunter.com

Then enter your email address into the box on the left, it's very simple.

CLASSROOM CODE OF CONDUCT

SIT SENSIBLY ON CHAIRS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

YEAR 8	Hayden Easter
YEAR 9	Callum Ringer

LISTENING CHAMPIONS

YEAR 8	Lauren Hockley
YEAR 9	David Aylott

HEADTEACHER'S SURGERY TIMES

Tuesday 14 July 2009	3.30 pm
Friday 17 July 2009	9.00 am

SUMMER CONCERT

This year's Summer Concert is taking place on Tuesday 14 July at 7.00 pm in the main Alec Hunter hall.

It will be an evening of Dance, Music and Art, featuring Alec Hunter's finest talented performers.

If you are interested and would like to support your fellow students, tickets will go on sale next week and can be purchased from the College office.

Please note no unaccompanied students.

£3.00 Adults, £2.00 Concessions

LINGUISTS VISIT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ten of our most able MFL Linguists (see below) visited Cressing Primary School on Wednesday 8 July 2009.

They demonstrated their high level of language skills to a group of Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils at the school. Alec Hunter students performed role plays in French, German and Spanish. We hope to continue this Primary Liaison in the next academic year:

Ellisia Usher	8T
Tom Hodgeman	8T
Kayleigh Peters	9L
Sarah Solomon	9R
Summer Thompson	9H
Molly Sherman	9H
Megan Scott	9H
Ashley Solomon	9A
Josh Aylward	10T
Shaun Whiteley	10R

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LINE MANAGEMENT

Please find below our line management arrangements for students. The first point of call for enquiries should be your child's tutor and then their Pastoral Manager. Our Achievement Co-ordinators focus on your child's progress in lessons. Also included are the Leadership Group responsibilities for each Curriculum Area to help parents in knowing who to approach for assistance.

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Form Tutors				
	Mrs Porter Pastoral Leader	Mrs Porter Pastoral Leader	Mr Deeks Pastoral Leader	Mr Deeks Pastoral Leader
	Mrs Ogilvie Achievement Co-ordinator	Mrs Stringer Achievement Co-ordinator	Miss Jones Achievement Co-ordinator	Mrs Stalker Achievement Co-ordinator
Mrs Richards Assistant Headteacher – KS3 Director			Mrs Forster Assistant Headteacher – KS4 Director	

Should you have a subject-related query, for example, homework, e-folio, the first port of contact should be with the class teacher. Listed below are the Heads of each Curriculum Area.

Subject	Head of Curriculum Area	Senior Leader
English	Mrs Mitchell	Mr Hutchinson
Maths	Mr Govender	Mrs Hills
Science	Mrs Stevens	Miss Leack
Geography/History/RE	Mr Guilford	Mrs Hills
Technology and Art	Mr Todd	Miss Leack
French/German/Spanish	Mrs Bradley	Mr Lawn
ICT	Ms Walker	Mr Birley
PE/Drama/Music	Mr Edwards	Mr Lawn
Citizenship	Mrs Hewes	Mr Birley
Personal Development	Mrs Artus (Co-ordinator)	Mrs Richards

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**JOHN FLETCHER AWARD
(FORMERLY HUMANITIES STUDENT OF THE MONTH)
JUNE**

YEAR 11	MARTIN LEE Quality of work and determination in History
YEAR 10	ABIGAIL RUGGLES Excellent work and effort in History
YEAR 9	AMBER SCHORMANS History: Good work and effort
YEAR 8	MATTHEW SELF History: Works hard, encourages others, enthusiasm

HEAD BOY / HEAD GIRL

We are pleased to announce that our Head Girl and Boy for 2009/10 are:

Jemima Paine and Elliot Boakes

Their deputies are **Chloe Beckett and Martin Lee**.

Eight students were interviewed for the post; they had to deliver a presentation, as well as answer questions at a formal interview. All eight students interviewed extremely well and gave us a very difficult decision-making task. However, we eventually made our decision, which was supported by the Leadership Group. The other candidates, who also deserve high praise, were: Jody Baxter, Lee Bingham, Declan Byrnes and Catherine Millross.

Everyone at Alec is looking forward to working with Jemima, Elliot, Chloe and Martin during the coming year and we are confident that they will represent our college with great passion and pride.



SUMMER HOLIDAYS

The College office will be closed from Friday 31 July 2009 to Friday 14 August and Friday 28 August to Tuesday 1 September 2009.

At other times, the office will be open from 9.00 am—3.00 pm.

COLLECTION OF UNIFORM ORDERS

If you have placed orders with the college office for uniform, they will be available to collect on the following dates during the Summer holidays:

Tuesday 18 August	9.00—12.00
Tuesday 25 August	9.00—12.00
Tuesday 1 September	2.00—4.00

The College uniform shop will be closed at other times during the Summer holidays and will reopen on Tuesday 8 September from 3.20—4.00 pm.

SPORTS DAY



On Friday 10 July 2009, Alec Hunter will be holding their Sports Day and parents are invited to attend from 1.00 pm.

Students should bring all their books and equipment for the day in case of bad weather.

In case of hot weather, please ensure students bring a bottle of water (two if they are competing) a hat and sun cream.

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