



HERALD

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FROM ALEC HUNTER HUMANITIES COLLEGE 16 January 2009—Issue 17 Wk A

HEADLINES *from* ANDREW HUTCHINSON

Dear Family



This week has been full of hard work and commitment to our community cohesion vision. Our assemblies have helped students to realise they can contribute to our Community via the opportunities of volunteers.

Two such volunteers have helped to get BBC recognition for our outstanding contribution to the Community in our Rest Centre Project. The project, inspired by Braintree District Council and headlined by Mrs Hewes and Mrs Artus, involved a range of students led by **Jemima Paine and Elliot Boakes**.

Elliot and Jemima, along with Mrs Hewes, were live on air on Tuesday morning this week on the BBC Essex Breakfast Show, explaining how the Rest Centre project had impacted the College and Community. You can listen to the interview by clicking on BBC Essex then clicking on Listen Again and then on the Breakfast Show for Tuesday 13 January 2009.

Later this month the BBC will return to Alec Hunter Humanities College with the television cameras as they continue their coverage of our prestigious project.

This week has seen our Governors visiting the College during one of their termly Governor Days. Governors were pleased to see the progress on our new toilets that are being developed as a result of a letter placed in the Governors' Suggestion Box in the foyer. More information about the new toilets can be found inside the Herald.

STUDENT NAME

TERM DATES

SPRING TERM

5 January 2009—3 April 2009

HALF TERM

16—20 February 2009

INSET DAY

Friday 13 February 2009

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

www.alechunter.com



The information contained in the Herald and any other communication can be made available in large print, electronically or audio format. Please simply let us know.

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 Barnes Pastoral Leader	Mrs Porter Pastoral Leader	Mrs Porter Pastoral Leader	Mr Deeks Pastoral Leader	Mr Deeks Pastoral Leader
Mr Moreno Achievement Co-ordinator	Mrs Stringer Achievement Co- ordinator	Miss Jones Achievement Co- ordinator	Mrs Stalker Achievement Co -ordinator	Mrs Ogilvie 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	Mrs Forster
Maths	Mr Govender	Mrs Hills
Science	Mrs Stevens	Mrs Richards
Geography/History/RE	Mr Guilford	Mr Birley
Technology and Art	Mr Todd	Mr Hutchinson
French/German/Spanish	Mrs Bradley	Mr Lawn
ICT	Ms Walker	Mr Birley
PE/Drama/Music	Mr Edwards	Mrs Hills
Citizenship	Mrs Hewes	Mr Birley
Personal Development	Mrs Artus (Co-ordinator)	Mrs Richards

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STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

YEAR 7	Kyle Ellis
YEAR 8	Mollie Archard
YEAR 9	Harry Bedding

ACTIVE LISTENERS

YEAR 7	Kye Anderson
YEAR 8	Danielle Quance Elysia Anthony
YEAR 9	Alexandra Card Grace Chapman

HELPING YOUR CHILD TO GET THE RIGHT GRADE REVISION TECHNIQUES

ART AND GRAPHICS

Whichever year your child is in, pencils and coloured pencils make a great present! If your child shows an interest in drawing at home, encourage them to do observational studies of things around them rather than just copying from comics. Observational studies are vital for GCSE!

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.

MEET THE TEAM



NAME: Ms Jaye Norwood

POSITION: English Teacher

FAVOURITE HOLIDAY DESTINATION: Japan

FAVOURITE FOOD: Mash Potato and Gravy

FAVOURITE ACTOR: Will Smith

FAVOURITE GROUP: Green Day

HOBBIES: Knitting

DID YOU KNOW: Ms Norwood is a professional actress and has been in many professional plays.

HEADTEACHER'S SURGERY TIMES

Mon 19 January 2009 3.30 pm

Thurs 22 January 2009 9.00 am

CLASSROOM CODE OF CONDUCT

CONCENTRATE AND STAY
ON THE TASK SET

www.alechunter.com

NEW TOILETS ON 'A' CORRIDOR

The new toilets on 'A' corridor are beginning to take shape. In previous Heralds we have shown the plans for these toilets. The toilets are individual cubicles like the toilets near Art with full doors, toilet, sink, hand dryer etc in each cubicle. There will be a new disabled toilet in the complex. Plans for water fountains for students are also in place.



Students are behaving extremely well near the building works and this was commented on recently by our Construction Contractors, Gatehouse Interiors, who have worked in partnership with us for a number of year in the construction of:

LRC, Media Centre, 7 Science Laboratories, Citizenship Rooms, New Reception Area, General Office and Library.

Many thanks Gatehouse for your high quality workmanship at our College.

COURSEWORK DUE DATES

30 January 2009	Applied Business	2A Stakeholders
30 January 2009	Food Tech	Objective 4

YEAR 11 REVISION GUIDES FOR CITIZENSHIP

Mrs Hewes has just found a really useful revision guide for Citizenship in preparation for the exam. The revision guide costs £5.50 and would be a really worthwhile purchase. If anyone is interested in purchasing one please see Mrs Hewes.

In addition to this revision guide, all Year 11 students can use the E-folio Citizenship site or SAM Learning in order to help them prepare for their exams, as there are a number of excellent revision tips and pointers.

REVISION GUIDES

Year 10 and 11 students. Please ask your science teacher for a letter showing your choices in buying revision books. Return completed letter and money to your teacher to purchase the guides.

Year 7, 8 and 9 students please see Mr Booth.

Revision guides can be used to prepare for exams and to help with your homework. Mrs Stevens

YEAR 7 STUDENTS

Do you need help with computers or e-folio, if so why not come to A5 on a Friday lunchtime—1.05-1.50.

If you can't make Friday lunchtime the Library is open after college every day from 3.20-5.00 pm.

COURSEWORK

**GCSE ENGINEERING
UNIT 1
COURSEWORK HAND IN DATE
FRIDAY 23 JANUARY 2009**

PARENT KNOW HOW

Legal advice

Helpline:

Child Law Advice Line

0845 120 2948

(Open Mon-Fri 9am-5pm)

Child and Family Law advice via telephone

Calls can cost up to 4 pence per minute peak rate, networks and mobile charges may vary)

clc@essex.ac.uk

www.childrenslegalcentre.com

www.alechunter.com



Specialist Schools and Academies Trust
EXCELLENCE AND DIVERSITY



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Please make sure you have your nominations in by 21st
January 2009 before 5pm
<http://www.alw.org.uk/nominate>

COURSEWORK CATCH UP SESSIONS

ENGLISH / MEDIA
COURSEWORK CATCH UP / REVISION SESSIONS

EVERY WEDNESDAY AFTER COLLEGE
3.20—4.00

IN A5

TEMPORARY COLLEGE CLOSURE DUE TO EXCEPTIONAL WEATHER OR OTHER EMERGENCIES

This is a reminder to parents that during some winters we have weather that can make opening the college dangerous; this is for the main reasons:

- College staff cannot drive to college safely or are advised by motoring organisations, police or environment agency not to drive. In this situation, where many of our students can get to College, we do not have enough staff to safely supervise and teach students
- The weather conditions make the access and external areas of the College too slippery for safe use. Due to parents and members of the public in other schools previously suing schools for health related injuries, due to slippery areas, the College cannot operate under these circumstances.

Should it prove necessary to close the College at short notice, a sign will be placed on the gate and local radio stations will broadcast details of our closure. These will be:

BBC Radio Essex 103.5 / 95.3 fm
Essex FM 102.6 / 96.3

On the front page of the College website

Please be assured the decision to close the college is never taken lightly.

www.alechunter.com



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HAVE A BREAK HAVE A MILKSHAKE!

Milkshake is an after-school club held at Elim Church (Manor Street), every Thursday from 3.30 pm—5.00 pm. It will be run specifically for Year 7 and 8 students from Alec Hunter, and will be a chance to escape the cold, play games, catch up on school work, chill out and drink milkshake!

50p entry with a free milkshake—run jointly with CYO who regularly come into the school. If you'd like more information, please ask Matt or Sarah when they're in school, or visit www.cyo.web.org.uk.

See you there!

INTRODUCTION OF A NEW SYSTEM FOR LATE ARRIVALS

We are proud of our improved attendance and punctuality at the College but wish to strive to improve even further. Following feedback from some parents regarding the current late policy we would like to introduce the following:

Parents to ring, text or email absence line before the start of college to inform us that their child will be late with the reason why.

If a student arrives late, without the college receiving notification from the parent, they will automatically receive a 15 minute detention in the main hall the following morning at 8.30am.

Parents will be informed via Truancy Call that their child was late and students will be issued with a detention slip.

Students who travel by the Silver End bus, taxi, or on a public bus or train will not receive a detention if the service was late.

Students who fail to attend the morning detention will be placed in a ½ hour Friday detention the following Friday. Parents will be informed by letter that the child has not attended the detention.

The normal system of missed detention procedure will be implemented should a student fail to turn up to the Friday detention.

We wish to implement this new procedure from February half term. Please contact Mrs Jackson if you have any comments about these changes by 30th January 2009.

E-FOLIO AT ALEC HUNTER

You are probably aware that E-folio is a fantastic service for our students. It is an online learning environment where students can log on (via the website) and access homework and classwork tasks, email their teachers and communicate with each other.

We will shortly be putting up a guide to E-folio on the website to help parents access the service.

Please discuss E-folio with your child and find out more.

WERE YOU A PUPIL AT ALEC HUNTER?

On our website we now have an Alumni section where you can post an account of what you are doing now and find out what others are doing.

FOR SALE

We are introducing a new section to the Herald. In this section we will be second-hand equipment / sports, all proceeds will go towards new equipment for the College.

If parents would like to donate any items to the College, please see Mr Edwards in the PE Department.

Many thanks

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