



# HERALD

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FROM ALEC HUNTER HUMANITIES COLLEGE 9 January 2009—Issue 16 Wk B

## HEADLINES from ANDREW HUTCHINSON

Dear Family

Our Spring term has started extremely well with students returning keen to learn after a well-earned rest. We have been glad that the cold weather has not interrupted college lessons, but would draw your attention to the details elsewhere in the Herald should the weather deteriorate.

### MOCK RESULTS DAY

Thursday morning saw our second MOCK RESULTS DAY where Year 11 came in at 9.00 am to collect their results for the exams taken before our Christmas break. All students were individually mentored by staff during Periods 1 and 2.

There was considerable excitement and nervousness, as students arrived to collect two envelopes, the brown one with their mock result and a white envelope with their demanding college based targets. The mentoring that then took place enabled students to reflect on their performance and plan for the future (see inside for students' reactions).

Highest achievers on Mock Results Day included: **Gabriella Adams, Rebekah Ellis, James Kelly, Rosemary Lemon, Lily Nicholas, Alexander Stanford-Eyre and Chelsea Warden**

Well done to them all.

## 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](http://www.alechunter.com)



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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
<b>Form Tutors</b>				
<b>Mrs Barnes Pastoral Leader</b>	<b>Mrs Porter Pastoral Leader</b>	<b>Mrs Porter Pastoral Leader</b>	<b>Mr Deeks Pastoral Leader</b>	<b>Mr Deeks Pastoral Leader</b>
<b>Mr Moreno Achievement Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Mrs Stringer Achievement Co- ordinator</b>	<b>Miss Jones Achievement Co- ordinator</b>	<b>Mrs Stalker Achievement Co -ordinator</b>	<b>Mrs Ogilvie Achievement Co- ordinator</b>
<b>Mrs Richards Assistant Headteacher – KS3 Director</b>			<b>Mrs Forster Assistant Headteacher – KS4 Director</b>	

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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## YEAR 9 CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

### PINK SLIP AWARDS

**Rhys Thompson** 9A  
**Luke Hammond** 9A

### UNIFORM CARD AWARDS

**Sophie Miller** 9H  
**Rosie Irons** 9N

## YEAR 11 COURSEWORK DEADLINES

The following Year 11 coursework deadlines are:

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

## HUMANITIES STUDENTS OF THE MONTH DECEMBER

YEAR 11	<b>Albert Turek</b>	History—works really hard
YEAR 10	<b>Asten King</b>	Effort in Geography
YEAR 9	<b>Bronwyn Morley</b>	Effort in Geography
YEAR 8	<b>Danielle Sewell</b>	Hard work in RE
YEAR 7	<b>Sam Cybochowski</b>	Enthusiasm & Effort—History

## HELPING YOUR CHILD TO GET THE RIGHT GRADE REVISION TECHNIQUES

### MATHS

Year 9 and year 11 students will have a workbook and a revision guide—it's important that parents encourage their children to work through the workbook every week with the revision guide next to them. They can then go along to the Maths Department to correct their work in their own time

## MEET THE TEAM



**NAME:** Mr Raymond Igoe

**POSITION:** Technology Teacher

**FAVOURITE HOLIDAY DESTINATION:** Santa Ponsa, New York

**FAVOURITE FOOD:** Chicken Curry

**FAVOURITE ACTOR:** Eric Bannagh

**FAVOURITE GROUP:** The Frames

**HOBBIES:** Golf, Snooker

**DID YOU KNOW:** Mr Igoe has met Boyzone, Westlife, the Irish Soccer Team and comes from Longford, Ireland

## HEADTEACHER'S SURGERY TIMES

Monday 12 January 2009 11.00 am

Thursday 15 January 2009 3.30 pm

## CLASSROOM CODE OF CONDUCT

COME PREPARED

[www.alechunter.com](http://www.alechunter.com)

**SCIENCE YEAR 10 AND 11 REVISION PROGRAMME  
3.20 PM—4.20 PM**

Core Unit 3 Revision sessions B3,C3,P3

Date	Topic	Teacher	Room
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Food Matters	Mrs Stalker	F2
Thurs 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Life on Earth	Mrs Richards	F7
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Radioactive Materials	Mr Lee	F4

Applied Science Revision sessions

Date	Topic	Teacher	Room
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Agriculture and Food	Mrs Stevens	F5
Thurs 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Life Care	Mrs Hoenderkamp	F2
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Scientific Detection	Mrs Stevens	F5

**CITIZENSHIP NEWS**

One of our ex students has been giving presentations in Citizenship lessons on the importance of being a good Citizen in the community. He prepared a PowerPoint presentation and a number of worksheets on the subject in order to engage all of our students to the fullest.

All students thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and commented on how nice it was to see what some of our students do when they leave Alec.

Since leaving the College in July, the student has been training to become a Police Officer and we are all very grateful that he has been able to fit us in to his busy training schedule.

**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**

**Parents concerned about children's mental health**

**Helpline:**

Young Minds Parents' Information Service

0800 0182138 (Open Mon-Fri 10am-4pm & Wed 6pm-8pm)

Mental Health Helpline

www.youngminds.org.uk

**www.alechunter.com**



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## HEALTHY SCHOOLS

As from the 2 January 2009, Bramston Sport Centre, Halstead Leisure Centre and Braintree Swimming Centre, Freeport will be offering free swimming for all for 3 months. This is a scheme funded by the local Primary Care Trust, Braintree District Council and management company DC Leisure.

On the first visit, swimmers will need to register for the scheme by handing in a completed registration form when they will receive a swipe card to use for all future visits. The registration form is available at all swimming centres, Braintree District Council offices and can be downloaded from the web for completion at home. People registering will need to provide photographic identification such as driving licence, bus pass or passport and parents/guardians will need to sign on behalf of those aged 16 and under.

Residents are advised to contact their chosen swimming centre for details of sessions, or they can contact Customer Services on 01376 552525.

## 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.

## 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.

## STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRES

Your son/daughter will be bringing home, next week, a student questionnaire on behalf of the Student Support Centre.

We would like as many parents as possible to complete these questionnaire and for students to return them to their Form tutor by Friday 16 January at the latest.

Many thanks for your cooperation with this.

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## MOCK RESULTS DAY

### HOW DID YOU FEEL COMING TO COLLEGE TODAY KNOWING THAT YOU WERE GOING TO RECEIVE YOUR MOCK RESULTS?

"I felt quite nervous but I couldn't wait to see how I'd done"  
"I was nervous, and hated the thought of failure"  
"Apprehensive, nervous, excited"  
"Nervous, but excited at the same time"

### WHAT WAS THE FEELING AS YOU OPENED THE ENVELOPE?

"Tension but happy at the same time"  
"Very pleased, excited"  
"Even more nervous"  
"Nervous but excited"

### HOW DID YOU FEEL WHEN YOU FIRST SAW THE RESULTS?

"Pleased"  
"Better than what I thought I had got, which boosted my mood a bit"  
"Very pleased, excited"  
"Very pleased especially the English grade which I was very worried about"

### WERE YOU PLEASED, DISAPPOINTED OR CONTENT?

"Pleased"  
"Very pleased"  
"I was happy I had got better than what I thought I had, but overall was disappointed, as I could of done better"  
"I was pleased, but know I could do a bit better in some subjects"

### AS A RESULT OF TODAY, ARE YOU GOING TO BE DOING ANYTHING DIFFERENT?

"I will make sure I revise more"  
"Yes, I am going to work harder with coursework and keep revising so I can get better, because if I came to school and these results were my actual results I would have died!"  
"More/extra revision in subjects where I didn't achieve my target grades"  
"Revise, talk to teachers, attend revision classes"

### WHAT CAN ALEC HUNTER DO TO HELP YOU IN THE NEXT 16 WEEKS?

"Have revision classes in all subjects. One on one with subject teachers—how to improve"  
"No, I am happy with everything"  
"Maybe teachers can help out with coursework a bit more, and more revision sessions"  
"Go through things which are likely to be in the exam in lessons. Have Saturday classes"

## 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.

## YEAR 8 GIRLS

Would parents please note that Year 8 girls will be having the second part of their HPV vaccination on Wednesday 14 January 2009.

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British Red Cross



Specialist Schools and Academies Trust  
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Essex County Council



Healthy Schools



FREEPORT  
BRAINTREE  
OUTLET SHOPPING VILLAGE