



**CHELMER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER
JULY 2011**

LAST DAY OF TERM

The final day for students will be **Friday 22nd July** with the school finishing early in order that staff can take part in a special staff meeting.

School buses have been rescheduled for 12.45 p.m. but students using public transport should check their timetables.

Students who travel by taxi should check that their taxi drivers know.

NEXT TERM

As in previous years, there will be a phased return for students at the beginning of the new school year.

The autumn term commences on **Thursday 1st September** for **Years 7 and 12 only.**

Buses have been arranged accordingly.

On **Friday 2nd September** term starts for **Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13**

(Year 11 students will start Work Experience on Monday 5th September).

SCHOOL TRANSPORT

Student bus passes expire at the end of the day on Friday 22nd July. A new pass will be issued in August.

Students travelling from Melbourne and Newlands Spring who pay for travel with Mr Lodge please note that charges for next year remain the same.

For questions regarding travel please contact Essex County Council.

Tel: 0845 603 2200 (School transport)

**Mrs P Hill
Transport Manager**

LOST PROPERTY



Lost property will be on display in the main foyer from 9am Monday 18th July until 2pm Thursday 21st July, for both parents and students to claim any lost items of clothing/PE kit etc

Anything not collected by the end of term will be given to Charity.

**Mrs V Frost
Medical Ancillary**

DEAR PARENTS

As this will be the final newsletter of this academic year and includes news of the achievements and successes of the school, I wanted to take the opportunity to express my sincere thanks to parents and students.

In particular, I would like to thank you for all the encouragement you give to your sons and daughters. Our examination results last year were yet again excellent and are just one example of how your support and the students' hard work has impacted upon our academic success.

Our Ofsted inspection last Monday and Tuesday has reaffirmed our position as a truly excellent school and when the report is officially published in September I know that you will be delighted with the outcome. Can I sincerely thank you for your support during the inspection, especially the significant response we had to the parent questionnaire.

I would also like to share with you the news that from 1st August 2011 we will be an Academy. Whilst we will still retain our name, Chelmer Valley High School, we will be in a very strong position to use the enhanced finances we receive to benefit the learning of students. As we become Academy status the Federation between us and St Peter's will come to an end and I know that the transition of students between the two schools has gone extremely well and in fact has been described by senior officials as an example of outstanding practice. This is yet another compliment to students and staff who have ensured that the children from St Peter's are being integrated and accepted as part of this wonderful educational community.

You will no doubt be aware that we are well underway with our substantial building programme. The new Technology and Sixth Form buildings are due for completion at the end of the summer break and the new performing arts building and other refurbishment work will be completed early in November.

This is clearly a wonderful time for everyone associated with Chelmer Valley. I very much look forward to another successful year starting in September.

I wish you all a restful summer break.

David Franklin

GOODBYE

At the end of this term we are saying goodbye to the following colleagues:

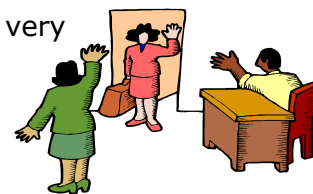
RETIREMENTS

Mr Cowling (Associate Headteacher) will be retiring after being at Chelmer Valley for 21 years. His outstanding contribution to this school is acknowledged by everyone. No doubt he will be thinking of us as he travels the world on his motor bike!

Mrs Harris (Office Manager and Cover Supervisor) is also retiring after being with us for 15 years and is looking forward to spending more time with her family.

Mrs Yewbrey (LSA) – is retiring after working Chelmer Valley for 12 years.

We wish them a very happy retirement!



LEAVERS

Mr Cunningham (Head of Vocational) has taught Business for 25 years and is leaving to explore new horizons.

Mr Hoozeer (Technology Teacher) is leaving to work in Jordan as Head of Design and Technology after working at Chelmer Valley for 9 years.

Mr Pacher (Science and Psychology Teacher) is leaving to explore career opportunities in London, expanding on personal and professional experiences as well as taking the time to experience more of what Europe has to offer.

Mrs Parker (LSA) is leaving to start a PGCE course.

A special thank you to **Mr Cheema** (Associate Headteacher of Chelmer Valley/St Peter's Federation) who has been working with us throughout the transition period and for his contribution to the success of Chelmer Valley.

And finally to **Mrs Turner** and **Mrs Corrigan**, supply teachers, who have stepped in to help us. Our thanks to them.

It has been a pleasure working with our departing colleagues and we wish them all the very best for their futures.

We have been successful in appointing staff to fill these vacancies and further details will appear in the September newsletter. In the meantime, may I say how delighted I am that Chelmer Valley remains fully staffed with high quality, qualified teachers

TRANSITION NEWS

The Transition of students from St Peter's College to Chelmer Valley High School has continued to gather pace over the last month with Year 9 students from St Peter's College visiting and joining their Year 9 tutor groups. The students have then taken part in workshops run by Miss Dennis in the Drama Department, working on skills to help them through Key Stage 4. These have been fun and a great way for the tutor groups to get to know each other. Year 8 and 9 students will be joining us in the final week of term to meet with their tutors and their teaching groups before they begin with us in September. A team building trip has also taken place organised by Mr Bradford which again involved Year 9 students from both schools. A big thank you to Mr Bradford for organising this.

The traffic from school to school has not all been one way. Students from Chelmer Valley High School have also participated in a Health and Hygiene

course run by staff at St Peter's College at the St Peter's site - the students had a great time cooking and taste testing various food items. A huge thank you to Mrs Gow at St Peter's College for her help in offering this opportunity to our students.

Mrs G Gold
Director of Transition / ECM

WORK EXPERIENCE **5th – 16th September 2011**

The majority of students have now been placed for September, however, if confirmation of an own find work placement has not been received by the end of term, HCS will forward the paperwork direct to the student's home address.

If you have a problem with contacting your work placement and you need some advice after 22nd July please contact HCS Ltd.

Contact: Jeanette Johnson
Address: Osborne House
Threshelford
Business Centre
Inworth Road
Kelvedon
Essex CO5 9SE
Telephone No.: 0845 0345 200 or
0845 0345 212

Students please make sure:

- Your parent agreements are signed and returned to the careers office before you go on work experience.
- You have made contact with your employer and arranged a meeting/interview BEFORE September.
- If your placement is in a school, nursery, preschool etc please call them NOW as they will close for the summer holidays and you may lose your placement if you do not make contact.

Thank you.

Mrs S Storer
Careers Coordinator

MFL DEPARTMENT

Year 7 visits to Le Touquet, Northern France

On Friday 17th June, four classes from Year 7 crossed the Channel and travelled to the fashionable sea-side resort of Le Touquet in the Pas-de-Calais area.

The students worked hard to complete their work booklets and almost all had a go at speaking French. They were very enthusiastic and well behaved. On the return journey on the ferry, an elderly passenger spontaneously commented that the students were a credit to us. They clearly enjoyed the trip and learnt a lot from it.

The remaining three Year 7 classes made the same trip on the 1st of July, and showed the same high standards of behaviour, commitment and enthusiasm, some even going so far as to order frogs legs in the restaurant where they had lunch.

Mr A Roy
Head of French

Year 6 Induction Day

I would like to thank the following Sixth Form French Students, who worked so hard to prepare and deliver the Year 6 French Lessons with such care, passion and enthusiasm.

Matt Bonner, Charlotte Morrison, Catherine O'Brien, Claire Harker, Clare Roche, Emily Smith, Naomi Gore, Darelle Jones and let's not forget Molly Adkins and Melody Platford.

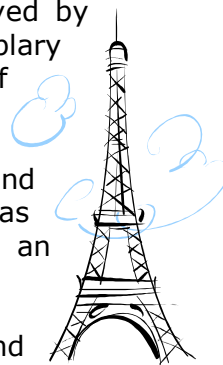
Our future Year 7 had the opportunity to see that our school is all about commitment to the Chelmer Valley Community.

Mme S Hammoudi-Thomas
French Teacher

Year 10 Paris

The Paris trip took place on Friday the 24th of June 2011. Over twenty French students came along and had the opportunity to visit and have a feel for one of the most amazing capitals in the world. From Le Louvre to the river Seine, via the Arc de Triomphe, we enjoyed some iconic sights and food.

The trip was I believe enjoyed by all thanks to the exemplary behaviour and demeanour of our students as well as the hard work and sense of humour of both Mr Hannan and Mrs Ince. Our driver was exceptional and incidentally an ex Chelmer Valley boy.



To all who took part and helped behind the scene – Mrs Lynch I would like to say thank you for making this trip worth doing year after year.

Mme S Hammoudi-Thomas
French Teacher

DANCE

Year 10 GCSE Dancer Jordan McLaren has been selected for the Dance East Youth Dance Company.

He will attend regular technique classes during weekends and perform at festivals and showcases across the South East of England.

Well done Jordan, you should be very proud of your achievement.

Dance clubs will start again after the summer break. We are hoping to welcome back DC49 Cheerleading squad for all year groups too. More details will follow in September.

Mrs L Abbott
Head of Dance

ENGINEERING NEWS

Smallpeice Trust

Year 10 student, Aidan Moore, benefited from a unique hands-on learning experience at Oxford Brookes University. He took part in a four day residential programme from 4th – 7th July organised by The Smallpeice Trust in partnership with the university.

Aidan and 34 students from other schools worked alongside engineers gaining a practical insight into the engineering principles, materials and technologies that shape the cutting edge of world professional motorsport. The 14 & 15 year olds took part in theoretical, practical and hands on workshops which helped them to develop a better understanding of the engine performance, traction, chassis dynamics and aerodynamics. They also took part in Computer Aided Design (CAD) sessions to prototype manufacture and test race car components.

An industrial visit to Prodrive gave students the opportunity to see for themselves what goes on behind the scenes at a major motorsports technology business. The social aspect of the course included a quiz night, film evening and a chance to get behind the wheel at go-karting.

Hayley Threadgold from the Smallpeice Trust said, "This course is always extremely popular amongst students. It is very encouraging to see just how much young people enjoy the course and how much they learn and develop throughout the four days. We are confident that courses like this will encourage more and more young people to choose a career in engineering."

Keith News at the University, internationally renowned for Motorsport Engineering education, said "The motorsport industry demands the rapid solution of engineering problems; requiring both technical expertise and team-working. This subject matter is therefore ideally suited to provide an insight into the challenges and rewards

of a career in engineering. We have been impressed by the enthusiasm shown by the young people whilst taking advantage of this opportunity."

"It was a fantastic experience and has given me a great insight into motorsport engineering. This programme has definitely made me realise that I want to do a degree in this field." Aidan Moore.

A special thank you to Miss Fitch for organising Aidan's experience.

Year 5 Girls in Engineering Day

We were delighted to host over 120 girls from our local primary schools recently to take part in a day of activities designed to address the misguided impression that engineering is only for boys! The girls learned that good engineers need to be creative, able to solve problems and good team workers.

The girls enjoyed designing and firing rockets, using forensic science to study a crime scene, designing & building bridges, using computers to control Lego models and exploring how new flavours of soft drinks are designed with our partners from Britvic Ltd.



News of Former Students

We are always pleased to hear about the successes of our former students and so were delighted to receive news that Nicola Lockwood has made the prestigious Dean's List at University College London at the end of her second year of her degree in Biomedical Science.

Approximately 15 of our former students visited school on Monday 18th July to share their university experiences with our current year twelve students; thanks to all who returned, your contributions were greatly appreciated.

Mrs S Mycock
Director of Engineering

Year 7 Humanities Engineering Day

The whole of Year 7 had a very successful day looking at the engineering problems of getting everyone clean water and then considering the moral questions that surround the issue.

The presentations were performed with great skill and after a narrow vote 7M were considered the winners. Special mention should also go to 7H who ran them a close second.



The students on the day also very generously raised £52.10 for Water Aid, a charity set up to help provide clean water to the villages of Africa and Asia.

Many thanks should also go to all the staff who made the day such a success.

**Mr R Irven
Head of Humanities**

Chelmsford Engineering Society Competition

Congratulations to Year 13 student Lauren Tolliday who won the Design award in the Chelmsford Engineering Society Competition.

The regional competition was held on the 1st July at the Anglia Ruskin University. Over 20 schools across Essex enter this prestigious competition as an opportunity to showcase their designs and meet representatives from national companies.

Her innovatively designed child's lamp fought off tough competition and she was presented with her award by the Mayor of Chelmsford at the awards ceremony on the 16th July.

Congratulations and well done!

**Miss J Lucking
Technology Teacher**

Big Bang Fair

On Wednesday 13th July, G&T students from Year 8 and 9 had a fantastic day of workshops, activities and competitions.

The Big Bang Fair 2011 was held at The Imperial War Museum at Duxford.

This Fair encouraged enquiry based learning and stimulated an interest in STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths), whilst also offering an insight into future careers in the local area and beyond.

Well done to you all for taking part in this year's fair.

**Mrs R Pledger
Science Teacher**

TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Independent Study results

Well done to all Year 7 students.

The standard of entries this year were once again extremely high.

Congratulations to the following runners up: Joanna Hodgson, Lucy Moore, Ben Parkhurst, Owen Thomas, Joseph Clark, Cerys Moston, Connor Boughen, Heidi Jane Sargent, Ethan Rushen, Kellie Morant, Charlotte Coleman and Ryan Boyton.

2nd prize goes to Luke Booth and the overall winner of the Independent Study project 2011 is TARA DALBY

**Miss J Lucking
Technology Teacher**

SIXTH FORM

AS/A Level Results Day - 18th August

Students can come into school to collect their results at the following times:

Year 13 – 8.00am

Year 12 – 9.30am

If you will not be able to collect your results yourself you can do one of two things:

1. Leave a stamped addressed envelope with Mrs Prestridge in the Exams Office.
2. If someone else is going to collect the results on the students' behalf they need signed authority from the student and the person coming in should have ID.

First Day of Term – September 1st 2011

The first day of term for the new Year 12 is Thursday 1st September. Students should make their way to the new 6th Form Block behind Cooper Building for 8.45am.

The first day of term for the new Year 13 is Friday 2nd September and they should meet in the 6th Form Block also at 8.45am.

Miss V Lucas
Head of Sixth Form

MEDIA DEPARTMENT



Co-op Retailer Films



Congratulations go to Year 10 Drama Talented students: Grace Collier, Amy Coster, Olivia Howard and Sam Tyler who have spent many extra curricular sessions participating in creating eight short films for Essex Trading Standards and the Co-op Retailer.

These films will be used in the Co-op to train staff across Essex. Well Done!

Year 11 School Prom DVD

The Year 11 DVD has now been created and will be ready for collection for all those who ordered them on GCSE results day at the price of £1.50 per DVD.

The DVD has 30 minutes of prom footage on it as well as the Year 11 Tutor Film.

Please ensure monies are brought in on results day.

Summer Concert DVD

The Summer Concert DVD's will be available in the Autumn term, letters will be sent out to those who ordered DVD's on the evening.

If you would like a copy and didn't fill out an order form please let Miss Peacock know.

Miss G Peacock
Head of Media

DRAMA DEPARTMENT

School Production 2012

Our School Production next year will be the musical based on the music of Madness 'Our House'.

It will be cast from Years 9 and upwards, with an ensemble choir being selected from Years 7 and 8.

We will be looking for backstage and technical support from all years.

Be sure to look out for details in the Autumn Term.

Miss J Dennis
Head of Drama
