



**CHELMER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2011**



Thank you from the PTA

Thank you to everyone who supported the fireworks event, either by helping on the night or by coming along to enjoy the fabulous fireworks.

**Mrs J Hampel
PTA**

******* DIWALI *******

Festival of Light

The Diwali week at Chelmer Valley High School was another huge success thanks to staff and students working extremely hard alongside myself.

We managed to raise **£288** to go towards the East African Appeal.

This wonderful celebration at Chelmer Valley has helped raise community cohesion awareness within the school, and I have enjoyed working with the team!

Thank you all for your support!

**Miss M Tudor
Cover Supervisor**

Community Cohesion



Jeans for Genes

On Friday 7th October CVHS raised a grand total of £1,877.55! This is an amazing achievement, well done to everyone!



Wear it pink

On Friday 21st October, students and staff came into school wearing something pink! Total raised was £619.18. Some students worked together and came up with other ideas to raise more cash on the day. Well done to everyone involved!

**Mrs R Pledger
Head of House System**

Post 16 Transport

Transport assistance is available to students between 16 and 19.

You must apply for it by completing the relevant form, however, there are conditions. The charge for this academic year is £485. You may qualify for a reduced charge in certain circumstances and ECC will give you guidance on this.

For an application form and guidance notes, please telephone Education Post 16 Transport 0845 603 2200.

**Pam Hill
Cover Manager**

Careers Department

Apprenticeship Fair

On Thursday 3rd November 25 students attended the Apprenticeship Fair at the County Cricket Ground. This was organised by the Chelmsford and Maldon Learning Partnership.

Many registered with the companies there and were given information regarding their apprenticeship ideas.

For further information on apprenticeship vacancies, students should register online at www.apprenticeships.org.uk.

Colleges

We have been sent a number of college prospectuses with application forms which are now available to students. For information on their open days students can either come to the Careers library or view the colleges online.

Year 12 Work Experience

All Year 12 students should have received a letter regarding work experience taking place from 16th – 20th July 2012. Please return your questionnaires as soon as possible. Also ensure when researching your placement that it is relevant to your current studies or future aspirations.

If there are any parents who work for a company who could offer a suitable work placement for our students, during this time, please contact Mrs Storer or Mrs Mycock.

Mrs S Storer
Careers Coordinator



'What do I want to be when I grow up?'

Next Month: Richard Willcox will be talking about his experiences working behind the scenes in the West End and on Broadway.

Wednesday 7th December at 3.30pm

Any students interested in all aspects of the theatre should come and join us!

Engineering News



Engineering

ECITB (Engineering Construction Industry Training Board)

'Be a Part of Engineering Construction'

On Friday 11th November students from Years 10 & 11 attended the ECITB Roadshow in school. This lively and interactive performance showed the type of apprenticeships that are available within the construction industry and demonstrated how they can lead to a successful career.

For further information visit their website www.ecitb.org.uk

Support for KS3 students

After the success of last year we are running our support programme for KS3 students again. The sixth form students studying STEM subjects (Science, Technology or Maths) have volunteered to support Year 7 & 8 students during lessons and with extra curricular activities.

Primary Liaison

Year 5 students from our feeder primary schools have been enjoying taster days at CVHS in Maths and Science. The Maths 'Animal Olympics' have been led by Mrs Cush and the Science 'Hydrogen Pop tests' & 'Magnesium tests' have been led by Mrs Godfrey. These challenges were great fun and we have received some letters of thanks from the students at Great Leighs Primary School.

"I visited your school for a Science and Maths day on 6th October 2011. Thank you for a great day. I really enjoyed Science because I liked making bangs with the acid and magnesium. Maths was fun because I liked watching the animal Olympics, having races and recording the information. I had a great day and hope I can come back." Olivia Year 5

"It was great for the children to experience these subjects at the local secondary school; they were very excited and thoroughly enjoyed the day. The Chemistry lesson was really captivating and engaged all of the students." Nicola Roskams, Year 5 Teacher.

Mrs S Mycock
Director of Engineering

Dance

GCSE Dance showcase Friday 9th December 3.30-5pm in the Gym for friends and family - no charge, but donations will be given to Barnardos children's charity. I look forward to celebrating the student's achievement with you.

Dance Leaders Award Update:

Well done to:

Jordan McLaren (Year 11) has been awarded the full certificate for his achievements in GCSE and Core PE Dance.

Louise Saunders (Year 11) was awarded a certificate for Unit 2.

Abbey Prior (ex student) was awarded the full certificate for her voluntary involvement in extra curricular Dance activities at Chelmer Valley.

Year 13 BTEC Performing Arts students and the remainder of the Year 11 GCSE Dancers will gain their certification before Christmas.

DC49 cheer squad will be offering free sessions to **Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 only** from January 2012. These will take place on **Mondays** after school until 4.30pm in the Gym.

Mrs L Abbott
Head of Dance

Sixth Form

Year 11 Students

We would just like to remind students that the deadline for sixth form applications is Friday 16th December. If you need any help with your subject choices or need an application form please come and see Miss Lucas or Mrs Mills in the sixth form office.

Miss Lucas
Head of Sixth Form

English Department

Below is the revision timetable for English Language. These sessions started on Monday 7th November and will continue every Monday until 5th December from 3.30 to 4.30pm. They are in addition to your own revision, not in place of it.

You should come to the session that is applicable to you and the grade you are aiming for. You are expected to arrive promptly and prepared to revise.

The GCSE English Language exam is on **Tuesday 10th January 2012**

Mrs E Endicott
Head of English

Date	Room	Title of Session	Grade Focus
07-Nov	N10	Section 1A Questions 1 and 2 <i>Targeting A*</i>	A/A*
07-Nov	N7	Section 1A Questions 1 and 2 <i>How to get a C</i>	C
14-Nov	N10	Section 1A Questions 3 and 4 <i>Targeting A*</i>	A/A*
14-Nov	N7	Section 1A Questions 3 and 4 <i>How to get a C</i>	C
21-Nov	N10	Section B Question 5 <i>Shorter writing response</i>	A/A*
21-Nov	N7	Section B Question 5 <i>Shorter writing response</i>	C
28-Nov	N10	Section B Question 6 <i>The longer response</i>	A/A*
28-Nov	N7	Section B Question 6 <i>The longer response</i>	C
05-Dec	N10	<i>A/A* Originality and Flair</i>	A/A*
05-Dec	N7	<i>C Grade Writing Skills</i>	C

Art Department



Sixth Form

We are nearing the end of our series of Life Drawing sessions for Year 12 and 13 students. They have produced a series of fantastic drawings which will be presented in their drawing portfolios.

This is a unique experience for them and their drawing skills have developed and matured as the weeks have gone by. Well done!

Year 11

The Year 11's have their mock exam on 12th and 13th December and are working hard for this. This is an important time for them to be focused and looking forward to 2 days in Art where they will paint or sculpt their final ideas.

Achievements



Two postcards were sent home to parents recently celebrating their child's achievement. One was for Hannah Greenland for her superb Art History project and the other was for Yayue Fan for her superb still life paintings.

Artists of the month were as follows; Year 9: Jack Lloyd and Hannah Greenland, Year 10: Joseph Anderson-Luck and Year 11: Sally Abel.

Items wanted

We would be grateful for any unwanted towels and empty baby jars for use in the Art department.

Mrs J Watson
Head of Creative Arts



CERTIFICATES **2011 GCSE and A LEVEL**

Certificates are now available for collection from school. It is important that students collect the certificates as employers will need to see them when interviewing for a position.

If students are unable to collect the certificate themselves, they may give a signed letter of authority which allows another person to collect the certificates on their behalf. The nominated person must also bring some form of identification, i.e. driving licence.



ST PETER'S COLLEGE **GCSE Certificates**

These are now available for collection from Chelmer Valley High School. It is important that students collect the certificates as employers will need to see them when interviewing for a position.

Students should bring photo ID (e.g. passport) when collecting their certificates. If they are unable to collect the certificate themselves, they may give a signed letter of authority which allows another person to collect the certificates on their behalf. The nominated person must also bring some form of identification, i.e. driving licence.

Mrs T Prestridge
Examinations Co-ordinator



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

This year our Christmas lunch will be held on two dates **Thursday 8th December for Years 7, 9 & 11 & Friday 9th December for Years 8, 10 & Sixth form**. This meal will comprise of roast turkey with all the trimmings (or a vegetarian alternative), followed by one of our seasonal puddings, the entire meal will cost £2.85.

Tickets for the Christmas lunch must be bought in advance and will be sold in the Foyer (outside the hall). Therefore, for this meal only, **CASH OR CHEQUES MUST BE USED**. Please make cheques payable to: Chelmer Valley High School.

Tickets will be sold during break time only and will be available each school day from Monday 28th November until Friday 2nd December.

Children in receipt of free school meals will receive the meal and will not be asked to contribute towards the extra cost, **BUT MUST STILL OBTAIN A TICKET IN ADVANCE FROM THE FOYER**.

Please note: There will be alternative hot food sold on the day for students who do not wish to purchase the Christmas lunch.



Absence Protocol

Please find below an excerpt from the absence process that is detailed in the Parent Handbook:

What Parents should do when they know their child will be absent from school

Parents should phone the school before 9.30 am to let us know that their child will be absent on that day and when they will return. We have an answer machine service so you can leave a message. Alternatively, you can email the school with your message. The absence must be confirmed in writing and this note should be given to the tutor when your child returns. If the absence is prolonged please let the school know so we may help, perhaps by sending some work.

It is imperative that the school are informed everyday of an absence by phone or email (unless medical evidence is provided).

How the school deals with absence

The following process takes place for all students that are absent without notification from parents:

1) The school is checked to ensure that the student has not missed a registration mark, this involves a student 'runner' checking lessons, which is obviously a disruption to their own education.

2) The school will then phone home or text on the first day of absence. We use this method as a way of improving attendance. If a student has poor attendance without explanation, clarification from the parents will be sought. The school works closely with the EWS (Education Welfare Service), meeting at least weekly to monitor attendance and punctuality. The EWS will investigate all cases where a student's attendance falls below expectations without good reason.

Parents who knowingly sanction their child's non-attendance are liable to prosecution.

Please use the following number to inform the school of an absence 01245 440232 or email: school@chelmer.essex.sch.uk

We appreciate your support to continue to improve the attendance at CVHS.

Vaccinations

Year 10 DTP vaccinations will be taking place in January.

Consent forms have been given to all students this month.

Please could these be returned to Mrs Frost, at the school, as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Lost Property

Lost property will be on display in the main foyer from 8.30 am Tuesday 13th December until 2pm Thursday 15th December, for both parents and students to claim any lost items of clothing/PE Kit etc.



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

**Mrs V Frost
Medical Ancillary**

Midday Assistant Vacancy

We require someone to supervise students during lunch break.

5 hours per week
38 weeks per year.
£7.19/hr and a free lunch.

If you are interested please contact Mrs Robertson at the school (01245 440232) for an application form and further information.

Extreme weather conditions

Just in case we experience severe weather conditions I would like to remind parents that information will be available in the following ways:

The school **switchboard** will have a special message regarding whether or not the school is closed.

Details will be available on our **website** www.chelmerleyhighschool.co.uk

Parents should listen to **BBC Essex or Heart FM.**

Procedures for closure or possible late start can be found under 'Plans for severe weather conditions' on our school website.

Key Diary Dates

Monday 5th December
Year 11 Academic Review Day

Friday 9th - Wednesday 14th December
Year 11 Mock Exams

Thursday 15th December
Christmas Concert

Friday 16th December
Last day of Term

All calendar entries can be found on the school website
chelmerleyhighschool.co.uk

Last Day of Term

Please note that, as in previous years, school will finish early on the last day of term. On **Friday 16th December**, school will finish at **12.45pm** and school buses have been rearranged accordingly.

Mrs Hill, our transport manager, has suggested that students who use school buses and taxis should double check with their driver as a reminder and also check the pick up time.