Headlines

On Monday afternoon a number of representatives from Hertfordshire County Council attended a meeting held at the school to set out a proposed timeline for The Hemel Hempstead School to expand. The Governing Body meeting later this month will consider the proposals to:

1. Construct a new building on the site of the caretaker's house and garden opposite South Hill School. The building will consist of five classrooms, three Science laboratories, a Music classroom, a Music Recital room and eight Music Practice rooms. There would also be office space, storage and Science preparation areas.
2. Construct a four-badminton size Sports Hall on the site of the existing Gym.
3. Provide additional canteen space.

This project would also see the demolition of the current Biology block and the sale of Heath Barn by Herts County Council in order to release capital funding towards this project. There are many hurdles still to overcome, but I hope that with good will on all sides these projects will be achieved before the arrival of an extra 30 students into Year 7 in September 2019. There may be many questions arising from these proposals, but at this stage the Governing Body will need to have approval to the different aspects. It will be sad to give up some aspects of the current provision, particularly that of Heath Barn, but this is an opportunity to significantly improve the facilities of the school for generations to come. I will let you know more once a firm agreement and timeline have been finalised.

Patrick Harty
Headteacher

Science Week

Next week marks Science Week, and every day at lunchtime there will be something for students in all year groups to get involved in. Tuesday 14th March is our House Science event, which will be held in Sc1 and Sc2 after school until 5.30 pm. This year's challenge will see the six Houses compete to design and build the best coin sorting machine. We look forward to welcoming the House teams and to see what great inventions they come up with!

Miss Taylor, Science Faculty

Carnegie Shadowing 2017

The Carnegie Medal is the most prestigious children's book prize and celebrates its 80th anniversary this year. For some years now we have shadowed the Carnegie Medal, reading the shortlisted books and deciding which one we think should be the winner. The shadowing period culminates in the Dacorum Shadowing Event which, this year, will take place at Ashlyns School in June. If you would like to take part in the shadowing please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Library. This year's shadowing will begin on Thursday 23 March.

Mrs Krajewski, Librarian

Gold Letters issue recently:
Letter 127 Year 8 Enterprise Challenge
Dates for Your Diary

MARCH

12th Year 13 Drama trip to Watford Palace Theatre, 2-6 pm

***Gold Week***

SCIENCE WEEK
13th Year 11 GCSE English Trial Exam Paper 1, 9 – 11 am
Science Week 'Tumblewings' Activity, Hall, lunchtime
14th Year 11 GCSE English Trial Exam Paper 2, 9 – 11 am
Science Week Competition, Hall, lunchtime

HOUSE SCIENCE, SC1 & SC2, 3.30 – 5.30 pm

15th Year 11 GCSE English Trial Exam Paper 1, 9 – 11 am
Year 12 PACE Personal Statements, Library, period 2
Year 13 PACE Elevate session, M9, period 2
Science Week 'Rocket Launch' Activity on school field, lunchtime
Duke of Edinburgh's Award Bronze Expedition Parents Evening, M9, 6 – 6.45 pm

16th Years 9/10 Technology Tournament, Ashlys School, 8.30 am – 3.30 pm (selected students)
Years 8/9 BBC School Report News Day, S1/2, 8.55 am – 3.30 pm (selected students)
Year 11 GCSE Maths Trial Exam Paper 1, 11.10 am – 1.25 pm

Year 8 Parents Consultation Evening, 4.30 – 7 pm

A Level Drama Practical Rehearsals, PA3/4, 7 – 9 pm

17th Science Week 'Illusion' Activity, Hall, lunchtime

19th Year 11 Drama Technical and Dress Rehearsal for GCSE Drama Practical Exams, PA3/4, 10 am – 5 pm

***Blue Week***

20th – 24th Year 12 Geography Field Trip to Yorkshire
20th GCSE Drama Practical Exam moderation, PA3/4, 2 – 8 pm
21st & 22nd Year 8 Soap Enterprise Challenge, Hall, 8.50 am – 3.30 pm
23rd Herts Schools Golf Championships, Knebworth Golf Club, 8 am – 3.30 pm (selected students)
Year 11 GCSE Maths Trial Exam Paper 2, 8.30 – 10.20 am
A Level Drama Practical Rehearsals, PA3/4, 7 – 9 pm
26th Year 13 Drama Technical and Dress Rehearsal for A2 Drama Practical Exams, PA3/4, 10 am – 5 pm

The Newsletter is blue or gold to correspond with the blue or gold timetable of the following week.

Parents’ Circle on Gender issues -
Tuesday 14 March at 7.30pm

Gender what Gender? is a project providing an opportunity for parents and carers of children who are exploring or questioning their gender identity to discuss and exchange experiences within a safe, loving, non-judgemental environment. It has been established by local parents. The next parents' circle will take place on Tuesday 14th March at 7.30 pm at the Rudolf Steiner School in Kings Langley. Please come along on the evening, or contact Annie in confidence at genderwhatgender@gmail.com if you are interested in finding out more.

You can find out more about this project on Facebook @genderwhatgender and Twitter @genderwotgenger.

Law change for using your mobile phone whilst driving

It is illegal to use a hand-held phone or similar device while driving, or riding a motorcycle - this is still the case stopped at traffic lights or queuing in traffic.

Did you know?
It is also illegal to use a hand-held mobile when supervising a learner driver or rider.
New penalties now mean that motorists and motorcyclists caught using a phone while driving and riding will receive six penalty points on their licence and a £200 fine. New drivers, within two years of passing their test, run the risk of losing their licence for a single offence.

Keep safe – put your phone away in the glove compartment.

Transport, Access & Road Safety Unit
Hertfordshire County Council, County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford SG13 8DN
**PTA News**

**Forthcoming Events:**
- 31**th** March 2017 Year 7 Easter Egg Hunt, 11.30 am – 12.30 pm (TBC) Details to follow.
- 27**th** April 2017 Dance Show, 7 – 9.30 pm Planned sale of refreshments.
- 22**nd** June 2017 Sports Day, 8.30 am – 1 pm Planned sale of refreshments.
- 6**th** July 2017 Secondary Transfer Day Afternoon sale of pre-owned school uniform.
- 7**th** July 2017 Summer Concert, 7 – 10.30 pm We will be serving ‘Pimms on the Patio’ at this event.
- 9**th** July 2017 Summer Fair & Dog Show, 11 am – 4 pm This popular event returns and, we hope, will be bigger and better than ever!
- 10**th** July 2017 House Drama and Art, 7 – 9.30 pm Planned sale of refreshments.
- 14**th** July 2017 Fun Run, 11.30 am – 2 pm The final event of the school year.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday 15**th** March 2017 in the School Library at 7 pm.

**Facebook:** Please search for ‘Hemel Hempstead School Association’ and ‘Like’ our page.

**School website, HHSA Page:**
[www.hhs.herts.sch.uk/parents/hhsa/](http://www.hhs.herts.sch.uk/parents/hhsa/) Includes minutes of meetings, information regarding second hand uniform, and ways you can help to raise funds.

**Contact:** Brian Spencer, HHSA Chair Tel: 07710 905759 Email: hhsa.chair@gmail.com

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**Careers Information**

**Year 8 STEM Event**
Cavendish School are offering places to Year 8 students and their parents/carers to attend a free STEM event after school on Wednesday 29**th** March from 5.30 – 7.30 pm. The event is sponsored by Leonardo, a high-tech business, and will be led by the Smallpeice Trust who are experts in delivering STEM activities in schools. You will learn about the importance of STEM projects in the real world and there will be a hands-on activity working in small teams where each team will build a mini loudspeaker. As numbers are limited booking is essential via this link: [https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/family-stem-event-at-Cavendish-school-tickets-32026284479](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/family-stem-event-at-Cavendish-school-tickets-32026284479)

**BAM Summer School**
There is still time for Year 10 students to apply for the BAM Summer School which takes place between 31**st** July and 4**th** August. Make the most of your summer holidays this year by joining BAM, one of the leading construction companies in the UK, and gain a CREST Bronze Award in Sustainable Communities. This is your chance to learn about the country’s biggest industry and gain work experience relating to Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) subjects.
To find out more and apply, please contact June Wilson at [SummerSchool@bam.co.uk](mailto:SummerSchool@bam.co.uk). Closing date for applications is 31**st** March.

**The National Medic Mentor Weekend**
The National Medic Mentor Weekend takes place on 18**th** and 19**th** March at various locations around the UK, including London. This is a valuable opportunity for students in Years 10 – 12 to network with a variety of healthcare professionals, including those working in Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Nursing and Midwifery, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Biomedical Sciences and Psychology. There will also be talks about work experience opportunities and how to make a successful application. Registration costs £25 for the Saturday conference and there is an optional UCAS lecture available on Sunday for each speciality. Students may register on the Medic Mentor website to find out more about the events [http://medicmentor.co.uk/about/events-2/](http://medicmentor.co.uk/about/events-2/)

**Miss Bond, Careers Co-ordinator**

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**Flyer Attached:**
- Science Week
- Gade Schools Family Support Parenting Courses April – July 2017
- Bubble Rush Event – The Hospice of St Francis
SPORT

FIXTURES
Monday 13th March
Year 8 Netball v Cavendish (A), 4 pm start

Tuesday 14th March
Year 8 Boys Rugby League Festival (at Kings Langley), 4 pm start

Wednesday 15th March
Year 10 Basketball v Longdean (A), 4 pm start
Gifted & Talented Athletics Coaching Day @ Lea Valley, 9 am – 2 pm (selected students)

Thursday 16th March
Year 7 Boys Football v Tring (A), 2.30 pm ko

Friday 17th March
Year 10 Boys Football v JFK (H), 2 pm ko
Year 9 Boys Football v Kings Langley (A), 3.45 pm ko

Saturday 18th March
Years 7, 8 & 9 Boys Rugby v Kings Langley @ Camelot RFC, 9.30 am ko

RESULTS
Year 7 Boys Basketball v Cavendish won 76-50
Year 9 Boys Football v Ashlys won 2-0
Year 8 Netball v Abbot’s Hill (postponed)
Year 9 Boys Rugby v Freeman College lost 21-12
Year 8 Boys Rugby League Festival Winners
U15 DSFA Football v Swansea lost 3-2
U18 Football v King Alfred, London drew 1-1
Year 9 Boys Basketball v JFK lost 52-32

SPORTS NEWS

U15 National Cup Football
The U15 Dacorum Schools Football team were very unlucky to lose 3-2 to Swansea in the quarter-final of the ESFA National Cup last week. After a poor start, they were by far the better team in the second half and should have won the game. It was a frustrating end to another impressive Cup run after they won the competition in Year 8. Congratulations to HHS students Mason Brand, Isaac Pitblado and Ross Gardiner.

Year 9 Boys Rugby
The Year 9 Boys Rugby team lost 21-12 to Freeman College last week in the semi-final of the Herts Schools County Trophy. There were a few players missing through illness, but we should still have won the game. This is the first game that the boys have lost this season. Congratulations to all the boys involved.

Year 8 Boys Rugby
Congratulations to the Year 8 Boys Rugby team who won the Hemel Stags Herts Schools Rugby League festival last week beating Parmiters, JFK, Astley Cooper and Kings Langley Schools. The boys are now Rugby League District and County Champions.
## Science Week

13th – 17th March

### Lunch Time Activities

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<th>Day</th>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td><strong>Tumblewings</strong></td>
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<td>Main Hall</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td><strong>Hoop Glider Competition</strong></td>
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<td><strong>with prizes</strong></td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td><strong>Big BANG Demos</strong></td>
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<td>School Field</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td><strong>Secret Writing</strong></td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td><strong>A kind of magic?</strong></td>
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<td>Sc2</td>
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Parenting Courses/Workshops April – July 2017

Booking is essential

Unless otherwise stated all of the workshops/courses will be held at:
The Gade Community Room, off of Chaulden Junior School, School Row, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, HP1 2JU

Managing Challenging Behaviours (Deadline to book is Thursday 20th April 2017)
Date: Thursday 27th April 2017
Time: 9.30am – 11.30am
What’s it about? This workshop will look at the feelings and emotions behind behaviours and gives strategies to help our children by using positive discipline, empathy, self-awareness and self-esteem and having appropriate expectations.

Autism Support – 1:1 Advice Sessions (Deadline to book is Tuesday 2nd May 2017)
Date: Tuesday 9th May 2017
Time 9.30am – 10.00am, 10.05am – 10.35am, 10.40am – 11.10am and 11.15am – 11.45am, 11.50am – 12.20pm
What’s it about? Jo Whitlock, Specialist Teacher for Autism will be holding free 30 minute 1:1 advice for parents with children who have an Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Diagnosis or suspected ASD.

Managing Anger (Deadline to book is Wednesday 17th May 2017)
Date: Wednesday 24th May 2017
Time: 9.30am – 11.30am
What’s it about? Gives strategies to help our children identify and recognise their feelings of anger and to find ways of expressing them healthily and to respect feelings of others.

Autism Support – 1:1 Advice Sessions (Deadline to book is Tuesday 13th June 2017)
Date: Tuesday 20th June 2017
Time 9.30am – 10.00am, 10.05am – 10.35am, 10.40am – 11.10am and 11.15am – 11.45am, 11.50am – 12.20pm
What’s it about? Jo Whitlock, Specialist Teacher for Autism will be holding free 30 minute 1:1 advice for parents with children who have an Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Diagnosis or suspected ASD.

Boys will be Boys (Deadline to book is Wednesday 14th June 2017)
Dates: Wednesday 21st June, 28th June, 5th July and 12th July 2017
Time: 9.30am – 11.30am
What’s it about? 4 week course that gives parents an understanding of their son's development and behaviour and strategies to help encourage and support them. Covers differences between boys and girls, motivation, emotions/transitions and positive discipline.
Managing the Transition to Secondary School (Deadline to book is Tuesday 20th June 2017)

**Date:** Tuesday 27th June 2017  
**Time:** 9.30am – 11.30am

**What’s it about?** This covers how to boost confidence, self-esteem and develop responsibility, setting age appropriate expectations and developing character and resilience, how to improve communication and the parent/teen relationship, understanding working with Secondary Schools.

Understanding Teen Behaviour (Deadline to book is Tuesday 4th July 2017)

**Date:** Tuesday 11th July 2017  
**Time:** 9.30am – 11.30am

**What’s it about?** This will provide an insight into the world of a teenager including understanding the developmental stages of a teenager, how to handle common teenage problems, how to boost confidence and self-esteem and improve the parent-teen relationship. We will provide some more detailed insight for parents into the changes that take place based on research from national experts and will provide an introduction to strategies parents can adopt to support their teenager.

Please note - If you would like to book onto our courses or to find out more information please contact Emma Christie on 01442 278793 or email: e.christie@cavendish.herts.sch.uk

There is a deadline for booking so please contact us as soon as possible to get a space!

Please be aware that if we don’t get a minimum amount of people on the above courses unfortunately we will not be able to run them.

**OUR NEXT FAMILY FUN EVENT WILL BE ON THURSDAY 1ST JUNE 2017 – MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW**
We are bursting with excitement about our fun-filled 5k Bubble Rush events, which are bubbles ahead of any other fun-run.

stfrancis.org.uk/bubblerush

The Hospice of St Francis offers care and support when it matters most to over 2,000 people every year.