

CHAUNCY NEWS

July 2011

As staff were saying goodbye to a few adult leavers someone worked out that I have been head here for nearly 11 years. I must stress that I hope to do many, more years as head at Chauncy and that we are at our strongest point in the school's history right now. Results are improving year on year, our art provision is superb, as the new gallery, Chauncy Rocks and the recent dance production showed. Financially we are in a very good state and we have plans and dreams for future development of the site. We are fully staffed in September and have admitted 161 students to the new Year 7 so we may touch the 1,000 mark on our school roll.

After months of battling girls, and a tiny number of mothers, on what staff, parents and visitors consider to be an unacceptable 12" above the knee standard we have consulted on the current girls' uniform giving 3 choices: knee length skirts, ankle length skirts or trousers only. Parents voted 170- 28 in favour of knee length. I discounted the mother who voted 33 times and the other 3 households which voted 26 times between them. Strangely these multi voters all wanted ankle length skirts and were obviously trying to corrupt the vote. Year 7 - 10 students voted 273-79 for knee length, staff voted 50-8 for knee length and governors were unanimous in supporting school action on skirt length. Kids Connection in Hertford will stock knee length skirts and our Trutex suppliers also stock the same pleated knee length skirt. Further information from Kimm Davies in our School Reception.

Goodbye with our thanks to Shirley Till, Jenny Matthews, Beth Yates and Sayde Walton who leave us as Assistant cook, Trips Organiser, Head of 6th Form and Teaching Assistant respectively.

Dennis O'Sullivan

Frogmore Paper Mill

Twenty seven Year 7 students visited the paper mill in Hemel Hempsted to see how the paper collected by the School is recycled. Their day included a tour of the mill where they were told what other things are put into speciality papers. These included, shredded bank notes, postage stamps and grass from Wembley. The other activities included using an old printing press, making some hand made paper, learning about Braille and using a Braille typewriter. The visit was both informative and very enjoyable.

Chauncy adds another online Tutor

In addition to SAMLearning.com and MyMaths.co.uk the Chauncy Mathematics Department has added another online resource to help students with their Maths studies and revision. This new service is called MathsWatch.

MathsWatch© is a collection of over 180 narrated video clips explaining all topic areas in GCSE maths. Clips are graded A* to G to match the level in the GCSE they address. There are around 140 clips each for Higher and Foundation (Grade C clips overlap). Each clip has an associated worksheet which can be downloaded and completed as a homework exercise or as part of your study and revision (see the link beneath the video clip player).

To help students decide which clips to watch when revising and

studying, a table containing downloadable Progress Trackers is available. Each progress tracker relates to a particular area in Modular Maths; students can be guided on what to watch and record what they have watched and how well they understood the clip.

This new service can be accessed by going to the Maths area of the Chauncy website via the A-Z page, and clicking on the "Maths Online" link. When asked to login the user name is **mathsonline**, and the password is **compass**.

PS: SAMLearning.com has produced a new narrated video, which is directed at parents/guardians on the use of SAMLearning. Access this via the A-Z page and click on the SAMLearning link.

Chauncy Rocks

Ah yes, the sweet strains of high amplitude rock music once again rang through the school as Chauncy Rocks 2011 took hold on the 15 July... and what a night it was. True to form, all the musicians who took part gave of their best, and everyone was a star. Thanks to the team effort of Mr Spence and Mr Hallman, the acoustic stage has gone from strength to strength and this year saw an un-precedented number of talented acoustic acts

take to the stage. On the main stage there were several stunning performances by year 7 bands, whilst *False Alarm* kick started the second half of the evening with a set of polished original material. The barbeque sizzled, the sun fell and as always, Chauncy Rocked! A big thank you to all the musicians who put in their best effort, and to the Chauncy dancers who put on such a high energy performance during the interval.

Chauncy in Brecon



Thirty students travelled to Wales during the May half term on an adventure holiday of a lifetime. Students were treated to the Acorn activity holiday as part of the Lifeskills Programme, giving students the opportunity to experience challenges and activities which are not readily available to them. Students from years 7-10 walked in the beautiful Brecon Beacons, rafted, sailed, kayaked, canoed and did bush craft in the beautiful surroundings of Tan Troed. Not only that but they climbed Jacob's ladder, took the challenge of crate stacking, trapeze, archery and zoomed along the zip wire. Team building skills were encouraged throughout the week as the students experienced new and thrilling activities and were brought together for the hilarious last night's entertainment in the *Generation Game*; all that under canvas with incredibly clear skies and in sight of Saturn!

Careers Trip to Wakes Construction Site



Representatives of Wakes Construction Ltd played host to eleven Year 9 and 10 students for a tour of their construction site based at Glaxo SmithKline in Ware. Students who are enrolled in a Multiskills Construction Course were given an insight into life on a construction site focusing on mainly Health and Safety and different aspects that students could specialise in for their future. After a tour of the new building students were given an opportunity of finding out more about career prospects in many areas of the construction business including plumbers, bricklayers and electricians and to ask any questions about the industry.

Students really enjoyed this experience and Chauncy would like to thank Wakes Construction Ltd for giving up their time and sharing their knowledge with the students to help them make choices in the future. Karen Gray, Careers Co-ordinator

Avatar Spectacular!

On Saturday 2 July pupils and Staff from Chauncy School took the Ware high street in spectacular fashion, to take part in the Ware Festival. Adorned in the magnificent, the 'Avatar warriors' were a sight to behold as they 'drummed up support' for the float's procession down the high street to the appreciation of onlookers. Thanks to the artistic endeavours of Ms Cooper, the wardrobe delights thought up by Miss Masood and the rhythmic antics of Mr Cox, the day was a total success. Well done to all those who took part!



Parenting Club

The last session of Parenting Club for this academic year was held on 5th July. It was a relaxed session with strawberries and wine. Flo Rist also made a traditional North African cous-cous dish which she shared with us all. It was delicious.

I held a meeting with Kim Nicolson and Karen Manser, regular attenders to parenting club, to talk about how we could move your Parenting Club forward.

In future rather than ring parents I will send a reminder via Parentmail. Also, we will have a longer coffee break allowing parents to talk about any parenting issues they may have at that time that are not related to the topic being discussed. The name of the club will stay the same.

The parents that attend are very friendly and supportive towards each other and new parents are always made welcome.

I look forward to seeing you in September. If you would like more details or have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me:

rosemary.hutchinson@chauncy.org.uk or 01920 411200

Dates of Parenting Club from September 2011—November 2011.

Tuesday, 20 September—Why it's tough being a teenager.

Tuesday 4th October—Help! My teenager won't wash!

Tuesday, 8th November—Dealing with teenage abuse—Helen.

Tuesday 29th November—Fun, wine and mince pies.

This programme is a guide. If you wish to make any suggestions about doing something different, at any time, please do let me know. I am always open to new ideas. Remember, this is your club.

Alice in Wonderland

Our Chauncy students took sixty reception and year ones on a magical journey through Wonderland on Tuesday 19th July. Based on the novel 'Alice' a series of workshops were delivered to the pupils in Dance and Drama, who thoroughly enjoyed themselves. This was then followed by a fantastic performance involving the year nine and Drama club students. It was a great opportunity for cross curricular as we had props made by the year eights in Art and 'eat me' cakes made for the children to take home. On the minibus ride home they couldn't identify what their favourite part of the day was, as they enjoyed it all so much, although one boy said he "loved the cake!". I just hope after eating it he didn't shrink or grow into a giant!



Pit stop for Pat Lundy

It seemed like a flying pit-stop from pro drummer Pat Lundy when he visited Chauncy School on 20 July, but it was hard not to miss him. Having just returned playing *Sonisphere* and his 3 month round the world tour supporting *Iron Maiden*, Pat took some time out to teach one to one lessons to Chauncy drummers in the Music department and impart some technical tips to students. He ran an extremely popular workshop for all those who wanted to know how to impress their future audience members with some high voltage percussion that left many pupils with a taste for drumming success. I for one will certainly be practising my 'stick trick' over the summer holidays!



Summer Dance Classes

9th – 10th August @ The Chauncy School



Daily classes in Street, Jazz, Ballet and Contemporary
£4 per class
For more information and to book classes please contact Mrs Hornblower or email sheryl.etienne@chauncy.org.uk
Limited Spaces!!!!

Age
11+

sheryl.etienne@chauncy.org.uk

Diary

July

22nd End of Term—1.30pm

September

2th Inset Day (Staff only)

5th Years 7 and 12 return

6th All Years return

27th Welcome to Chauncy Evening

October

12th Open Evening 6.15/9.15

21st Reviews Home - Year 7

24th/28th HALF TERM

November

15th 6th Form Open Evening

17th Inset Day

18th Occasional Day

25th Reviews Home Years 8 and 10

28th Reviews Home - 6th Form

28th Mock Exams (3 weeks)

December

5th Parents Evening - Year 12

9th Reviews Home - Year 9

13th Parents Evening - Year 13

16th End of Term 1.35

January 2012

3rd Spring Term Begins

5th Presentation Evening

16th Reviews Home - Year 11

17th Parents Evening Year 11

25th Reviews Home - Year 7

26th Parents Evening - Year 7

February

7th Reviews Home - Year 8

9th Parents Evening - Year 8

13th—17th HALF TERM

21st Year 9 Options Evening

www.thechauncyschool.co.uk

Charity starts at Chauncy

This term the Chauncy Music department worked hard to raise funds for both Ware Rotary and the Ware Leaside Church. On 29 June our Year 7 and 8 music students were joined by pupils and Staff from Priors Wood Primary school to deliver a lunch-time recital in aid of raising funds for Ware Rotary, which delivers an ongoing programme to eradicate polio in parts of Africa and India. Then on the 19 July Chauncy pupils put together a programme of music for a lunch time recital at the Leaside Church, which is to raise funds for renovations to the church. Both events were well supported by parents and members of the community, who gave generously of their time (and money) to make the events a success.

Girls Athletics

Girls from all years competed in an annual girls athletics competition last Wednesday. We had moved up a division as a result of some fantastic performances last year, so we knew that the competition was going to be tough! All girls tried really hard and we had some outstanding wins from the following students:- Sian Harry (Year 13) - 800 m, Senior Girls 4 X 400 m relay, Senior Girls 4 X 100 m relay. Sekani Lyons (Year 7) - 100 m. Olivia Harry (Year 11) - 400 m. Lexi Eaves (Year 9) - High Jump. Well done to everybody.

Stephen Moore Athletics Challenge

This was a successful competition for a number of Chauncy Athletes. Individual Medals were awarded to the following:

Josh Berry Year 7 100m Division 2 winner

Charlie Manning Year 9 hurdles Division 2 winner

Charles Sinclair Year 9 1500m Division 2 winner

George Pettipher Seniors 1500m Division 2 winner

Beck Grover year 7 800m Division 2 Winner

There was also team success as the Year 9 Team won their Divisional Competition scoring a total team score of 89 beating out competition from Leventhorpe (79) & Simon Balle (78). The combination of all three age groups came 2nd in the division to Simon Balle finishing ahead of St. Mary's Catholic School Bishops Stortford. A well done to all boys for competing but special congratulations must go to the Year 9 boys who have attended every practice and this has shown through their excellent team performances in all competitions.

Year 7 Cricket has had an excellent turn out this year with a large number of boys attending most sessions. If this continues in Year 8 we will continue to progress and hopefully have more success next year.

Girls Volleyball

A team of Year 10 girls took part in the County volleyball finals at Herts Sports Village in Hatfield. The girls played some amazing volleyball and managed to finish joint third. Well done to Beth Gray, Sophie Riddle, Bryony Boyles, Mollie Neal, Jess Beadles and Georgina Holtby.

SPORTS DAY RESULTS

Year 7	Birch	196
Year 8	Birch	232
Year 9	Elm	204
Year 10	Oak	133

OVERALL STANDINGS

1st	Elm	629
2nd	Oak	575
3rd	Birch	548
4th	Ash	521
5th	Pine	486
6th	Maple	448

BEST GIRL - Leah Coulter - 3 wins

BEST BOY - Lewis Gannon - 2 wins