

SPOTLIGHT

SPROWSTON COMMUNITY HIGH SPECIALIST SCHOOL FOR PERFORMING ARTS AND MEDIA



Issue 11 March 2010

"Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush." – Doug Larson

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

There is plenty to comment on in this issue of Spotlight.

The 'Eggcellence' Awards have been a great success with our Year 7 students. Year 8 had a super time at The Playhouse Theatre as part of the whole 'Enhancement' day!" My thanks go to Mrs Quigley and her 'Arts' team for making this happen.



My thanks go to the parents of Year 9 students for your excellent support in ensuring our options process was completed successfully. Year 10 students are involved in recruiting for a prefect team – great democracy in action.

The Year 11 Fashion Show was a fantastic success and our students are working hard with their coursework and revision for their public exams – not long now!

Best wishes

Andrew John
Headmaster

YEAR 7 Ends the Half Term in style!

It was a cold and wet last day of the half term, you may therefore also assume miserable.....not a chance with this Year 7, they saw out the half term in a style of their own!

Many of you reading will know what it is I am talking about, because you were there, for the Year 7 Celebration Assembly. The event was organised to replace the postponed Christmas assembly and was used as an opportunity to publicly recognise some of the fantastic achievements that the Year 7 cohort have made in the short time they have been here at the High school and to show off some of their talent.

The event comprised of awarding of certificates and prizes in recognition of some of the Year 7's pastoral and academic success interspersed with dancing and singing by some of our more talented students. The assembly also held a deeper message, making the students aware of the difficulties faced by Haiti in response to the devastating earthquake. Based around an 'X factor theme', students were invited to pay a nominal fee in order to vote for their favourite act. I would like to say a big thank you all of the students who got involved and to the parents who came in to support the event, we raised over £50. The 'X Factor' winner, I am proud to announce, with a tremendous signing voice a whole lot of new fans, receiving almost 50% of the votes was..... Norah McHugh, well done Nora.

Year 7 (continued)

.....The show goes on

But it didn't end there, two of our Year 7's, Chloe Deacon and Becky Ball arranged a special lunchtime concert for the whole school. Let me put this into perspective: not only did these two Year 7's arrange everything entirely themselves - coordinating staff and support staff and organising the event, but they put themselves on the line, standing up to sing, undaunted, in front of a audience of over 300 spectators...and it was fab!...It was a very special moment for the two girls and for all those who were there to see them perform. Between them, the girls have raised over £100 for Children in Need and the Haiti appeal and they are real credit to both themselves and to this school.



Awards for Eggcellence!

Moving onto the new half term, a new reward strategy has been launched. Focusing on students who display excellence either in terms of work, attitude or character, the 'Eggcellence' awards will be presented in each week in assembly. Nominees will receive a standing 'ova'tion and the chance to win an Easter egg.



Mr D Bidle
Head of Year 7

YEAR 8

Easter Egg Competition

Here are the results from the next stage in the Easter Competition.

Last week Year 8 were challenged to bring 4 pieces of equipment into school with them – a pen, pencil, ruler and their journal. Two forms managed to achieve 100%!

In joint 1st place receiving 12 points this week are: 8GD and 8HO.

This means that the current standings have changed and the scores are getting ever closer after 5 challenges.

In 1st position are 8DK with 51 points, in 2nd position are 8MS with 48 points and in 3rd position (a new entry) are 8GD with 45 points.

ACE Dance Event

On Wednesday 3rd March all of Year 8 were taken by coach to the Playhouse Theatre to watch a performance by ACE a contemporary dance group from Birmingham.

Check out the company at <http://www.acedanceandmusic.com/>

The students watched two 30 minute performances. The first one was looking at the interaction between components in a machine or computer and the second one was about war. The students behaved superbly and at the end of the two shows they had the opportunity to ask questions. There were some very intriguing questions such as...

- How long do you have to practice for a day? From between 8 and 10 hours a day.
- How old were you when you started dancing? From 3 years old for some up to sixteen

The artistic director also pointed out that if you want something badly enough you will have to work hard to get it.

Coffee Morning

A last reminder that if you are able to attend the coffee morning on Thursday 25th March from 9.15 – 10.15 could you please ring Julia Owen on 485266

The Year 8 Team



Anna Cook



Pete Sewell



Sue Worley

YEAR 9

It was lovely to see so many parents and students at the Year 9 Preference Day on Wednesday 3rd March 2010. The feeling amongst tutors was that it was a very positive day as many students came to appointments fully prepared having thought carefully about their educational future. Thank you for your support.

Throughout the last 3 months whilst talking about the preferences process for Key Stage 4, Year 9 have completed their part brilliantly. During our special week of assemblies and guest speakers, the students behaved very well and listened hard to make sure that they understood clearly what the expectations of each course demand.

I would like to thank parents and students in Year 9 for their support and attendance during the process. It has been a stressful time and sometimes confusing but I am happy that all students have been allowed the time and given the support they have required during this time.

I would also like to thank Year 9 tutors for their hard work and guidance that they have given our students. It is such an important decision and tutors have done their utmost to ensure students are clear on their options. In addition, thank you to Mrs Beames, Mrs Wickham, Mr Bradshaw and Mr Stocker who have worked hard to ensure the process run smoothly.

During the summer term Year 9 students will be provided with a draft timetable for Year 10. This will allow us time to check any last minute hiccups which could arise ready for a smooth start in September. That's when the real hard work starts!!

Finally thank you to Year 9 for their open minds, thought and maturity they have shown during the last term.

Now you can breath a sigh of relief as options is over. In the words of Gordon Ramsey 'Options – done!'



Miss Dawbarn
Head of Year 9

PREFECT ELECTIONS FOR YEAR 10

We introduced recently in assembly the schedule for the election of prefects from the Year group to take over from Year 11 after the Easter break. I am really pleased with the positive response and at present we have over 51 responses for the post of 30 Prefects.



Timetable of Events

Thurs 4.3.10 Prefect Assembly Mr Cordeaux

Mon 8.3.10 - 12.3.10 Nominations Forms given out to tutor groups – filled out given to Mr Cordeaux

Mon 15.3.10 – 19.3.10 Nominations put up in Hall on boards

Mon 22.3.10 – 23.3.10 Voting down in tutor groups

Thurs 25.3.10 Prefects announced in assembly

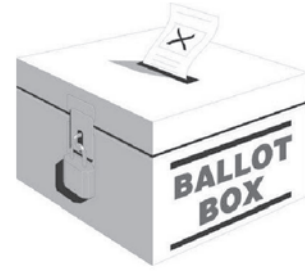
Fri 26.3.10 Prefect training

2010 ELECTIONS

Prefect Elections (continued)

Thurs: 01.04.10

Head Boy & Head Girl announced in Assembly



After Easter

Prefects, Head Boy and Girl Introduced to rest of School and take over duties from Y11

Voting procedures for students in Y10

- Students will choose to stand
- Students will need to have their nomination forms signed by one teacher, who nominates them
- Students will be nominated by one other student and seconded by another
- Any student standing should have an attendance record of at least 93% attendance except in special circumstances (e.g. authorised holidays/sickness) agreed by Mr Cordeaux
- Any student in the House during the voting procedure cannot stand (nor can any externally excluded student this year stand for election)
- Voting will be done by Y10 students and all staff (teaching and support).
- The voting papers will allow a maximum of 5 votes per voter
- Ballot boxes will be in form rooms for students and the Staff Room
- Counting will be supervised by Mr Cordeaux – School Council reps will be asked to help count

**YOU WILL EACH HAVE
5 VOTES**



PREFECT TRAINING DAY

In April I have been invited to watch a new play in the Garage in Norwich city centre, I am looking forward to see this play "The Time and the fall" and I am most looking forward to see two members of Sprowston Community High School.

Joseph Scholes who played a marvellous "Doctor" at Christmas in Miss Rea's drama GCSE course group and Catriona Lloyd will appear in this new play written by the National Theatre, Joseph will play a nasty, evil character called John who bullies Freya. Catriona is playing Marley a bully. I am looking forward to seeing our two students in the play – good luck.

The play will be shown in the Garage on the 16 & 17 of April



On Monday 8th March, Sprowston Year10 played a Netball match at Costessey High. Unfortunately we lost the toss, and they managed to score the first goal. We were able to catch up and by half time the score was 7-5 to Sprowston. In the second half we changed a few players. With Becca Knight and Emma Starling shooting we won and the overall score was 13-7 to us. The 'lady of the match' was Gemma Hawkes as she defended really well and was consistent in her movement and passing

Report by Olivia Reeve



Mr Cordeaux
Head of year 10

Year 11

Prom fashion Show

We held a very successful fashion show on Wednesday 10th March in the school hall, to raise money for our Prom. The models (all listed below) were exceptional and looked absolutely beautiful. A massive thank you to all those girls....and Miss Byles who also took part and looked spectacular in the Prom Dress she wore on the night.

I must thank all the other students involved too, including Laura Dodds and Alice Searle. Special thanks go to Chloe McEwen and Vicky Kennedy for their excellent organisation and support – well done girls you were brilliant.

An evening such as the one we had on Wednesday takes a great deal of organisation and flexibility from people in and around school. I would very much like to also thank Julia Owen for her continued help and support, Gina Brown for the invitations and posters and the teachers and staff members who supported us on the night: Avril Mallett, Sarah Copsey, Lisa Byles, Camilla Skarin, Sarah Howe, Kelly Bales, Anna Cook, Liz Wood, Carole Astley, Dawn Adams, Helen Cunningham, Carley Irving and of course Mark Cotter for the fantastic photographs

Ike Neave & Jack Wootton were brilliant on the night –providing all the lighting and sound for us. They worked really hard and really made the night special – so thank you! Thank you also to our fantastic premises staff who built the catwalk for us in very little time - it was excellent. Also to Ms Leeds and our PE department who moved classes out of the hall for us over the last few days.

We had various companies from the local community take part - Elizabeth Florists, Beauty4brides, Body & Skin and Divas Jewellery. The dresses were provided by House of Couture and Dreams Bridal.

Our models were - Georgie Meakin, Zoë Waterman, Chloe Bayton, Melissa Bartrum, Chloe White, Ellen Lowe, Georgia Cowles, Aisha Humphreys, Zoe Rushmer, Alice Bowen, Amelia Moy, Lauren Newby, Isabelle Rose, and Jasmine Edwards.

Thanks to all involved!

Year 11 (continued)

Non Uniform Day

Staying on the theme of the Prom...we are planning to have a non uniform (just for the Year 11's) on Friday 19th March. I am asking students to pay £2 on the day – all money will go towards their prom – so less to pay later on! Please can students let their tutors know if this is an issue for anybody? Non payment will mean the student is not entitled to wear non uniform on any of our other days – so students must speak up in advance!

Mock Reflection

I have recently been asking students in form time to reflect on their mock results and how they feel they are achieving against their levels currently. I have had a mixed response so far – however some students are seemingly disappointed with their current performance grades. I would ask your help and support at this time, by talking to your children about their grades and encouraging them to seek help and advice from me, their tutors and subject teachers. Year 11 students have very little time left – we must use every day effectively and work hard to achieve what they are all capable of. A key factor in achieving is revision.....

I am really pleased to invite all year 11 students and parent/carers to our Year 11 Revision Evening, being held in school on 22nd March 2010. The evening will start at 7.00pm. I will be writing to all of you outlining the evening and what is on offer – so please look out for this letter. I really hope to see as many of you there as possible – it has proved to be a very effective evening in previous years and students and parents/carers alike have got a lot out of it.

This year is flying by – and Easter is fast approaching. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your hard work and support – and I will look forward to the busy – but highly successful - next few months.



Miss K Sully
Head of Year 11

Help take the heat out of the exam period

The exam period is a stressful time not just for those taking exams, but for the rest of the family too. But don't panic... if you are looking to ease the pressure that exam stress can cause and support your son/daughter through their exams, help is at hand!

www.stressmeless.org is an online resource for young people preparing for and taking exams, developed by Connexions Norfolk for local students. Offering tips and advice from other young people, as well as useful resources like a personalised revision timetable, [stressmeless.org](http://www.stressmeless.org) should be the first stop for those gearing up for exams.

New features have been added this year, including an upgraded revision timetable tool, advice for parents on the best ways to support your teenager and a message zone where young people can share their own tips for reducing the pressure of the exam period.

Find advice, tips, videos, games and revision tools at www.stressmeless.org

Thanks

Angela Okoro
Connexions

