

ah HERALD

alec hunter
humanities college

23rd January 2012

"Be the best you can be"

Dear Family,

"No Hands Up"

Once again, over the past week, our staff have been trialling a new approach in their teaching with a view to developing their practice and improving the classroom experience for all our learners. During the week beginning 16th January, teachers were encouraged to insist on 'No Hands Up' from students when answering questions, as research shows that this can increase their engagement and enjoyment of the lesson and further their progress. The 'No Hands Up' initiative supports the expectation that all students should have an answer and whereas some classroom discussions may be dominated by a few individuals, when no hands are shown, everyone has an equal opportunity and an equal responsibility to get actively involved in all aspects of the learning.



Staff have been very ingenious in adopting alternative methods of deciding who should answer a question, ranging from lolly sticks with students' names on to rather more technical electronic random name generators. The 'No Hands Up' approach can also provide increased opportunity for valuable assessment for learning techniques to be used with students to ascertain their understanding of key points. Moreover, it can improve the attention level of students and encourage a greater level of differentiation. Students sometimes put their hands up before they have had time to think about the question being asked and their answers may therefore be less well developed. Additional thinking time gives everyone the chance to consider their response carefully.

College opening times

Visitors Reception:

8.15 am- 4.15 pm Mon-
Thurs
8.15 am- 3.45 pm Friday

Student Reception:

8.30 am - 3.25 pm

Uniform Shop:

Tuesday 3.20 pm- 4.00 pm
(Sizing and Collection
only)

Diary Dates

SPRING TERM

3rd January-30th March 2012

School Closes Friday 10 February 2012 at 3.20pm
School Opens Monday 20th February 2012 (WEEK A)

School Closed 23rd March 2012-Student Review Day

School Closes Friday 30th March 2012 at 1.05pm
School Opens Monday 16th April 2012 (WEEK A)

FEBRUARY DIARY DATES

Thursday 9th - Year 11 Parents Evening starting
@ 4.30pm

Week Commencing 30/01/12 is Week A

Student Absence

We would be grateful if parents reporting absence would use this service:

Tel: 01376 559356
jackie.jackson@
alechunter.essex.sch.uk
Text: 07598393348

Please be aware that the text number is only for texts and there is no voicemail service.

Headlines Continued....

Staff and students are sharing their thoughts and giving feedback on this experience via the forum on iAlec. We would welcome any views on this, just log on and join the debate. Special thanks go to **Mr Fox**, Assistant Headteacher, for providing the inspiration for this initiative and for enthusiastically encouraging colleagues to attempt new strategies.

Parent/Carer Surgeries

Whilst I firmly believe we have good structures in place for dealing with parental concerns, it is my intention to begin holding Parent/Carer Surgeries on **Tuesday afternoons, from 5pm-6pm, starting on 31st January**. Hence, if you have any issues which you would like to discuss with me directly, you can come along at these times, without an appointment, and drop in for a conversation. Please note that I will have to limit each meeting to a maximum of 10 minutes, in order to be fair to everyone, and the meetings will have to end at 6pm to allow the caretakers to lock up. Simply come along and wait in the reception area – parents will then be seen in order of arrival.

May I continue to urge parents to address issues to members of our pastoral or academic teams in the first instance, since I shall obviously be turning to them for information and support, so it is helpful if they are already aware of any concerns and have been given an opportunity to resolve them.

Notice of Detentions

You may be aware that the Secretary of State has recently removed the requirement for schools to give 24 hours notice about detentions. I should like to reassure parents that we remain very conscious of our responsibility to safeguard our young people, so in reality this announcement will make little difference to the standard practice of informing parents when a child is going to be detained. However, in a very small minority of cases, we have encountered resistance to our application of this sanction, so I should highlight the fact that removing the requirement sends a clear message that it is the absolute right of schools to detain children if they feel this is appropriate, and they do not need parental approval to do so.

Moreover, the message to students, as ever, is that if you behave responsibly, follow instructions and engage fully with every aspect of your learning, you will avoid getting detentions in the first place and, more importantly, you will be helping yourself to be the best you can be.

-Trevor Lawn

UNIT-2 Maths Exam Results

Well done to;

Fathema Rahman	A*
Hannah Burnitt	A*
Ashley Solomon	A*
Brett Nial	A*
Emma Norris	A*
Clayton Blackaby	A*
Shrikanth Balasubramanian	A
Thomas Bearman	A
Kathryn Bowen	A
Peter Brown	A
Kieran Easter	A
Adam Kellett	A
Joshua Lam	A
Micheal Mead	A
Jade Murrell	A
Charlie Sands	A
Lucy Stanford-Eyre	A

Year 8 News

Keep in touch with your son's/ daughter's positive achievements by clicking on the pencil pot on the iAlec homepage. Keep up-to-date with any pastoral news by clicking on the Alec Hunter coffee mug.

IAG NEWS

TIME MANAGEMENT

Time management is another important area of preparation. This is where self-discipline comes in.

Managing Distractions-

How many distractions and little habits do you find using up your valuable study time? Calling a friend on the phone, preparing food, watching TV?

Make a list of distractions so that you become more aware of what they are when you study. Identify the areas of your life that also take up a lot of your time- are you over committed? Is there anything that you can drop to give you more time to study?

Planners-

It is a good idea to write a timetable plan with all your deadlines. Create a monthly planner- you will see how exactly how much time you have to study and get course work in on time. Also use a weekly planner. Identify time in your day that is otherwise unproductive. While taking a shower, for example, you could speak aloud the details of a topic. Make use of as much "spare" time as possible. If you acknowledge such time and make use of it by assigning learning items to it into a daily planner, then for example, 20minutes a day of this time will give you an hour and a half extra study time per week! Download templates of Planners from the internet

Timelines-

- One effective way to work when you are feeling under pressure to meet deadlines is to adopt a timeline strategy.
- First create your study Timeline. List all your assignments. Break each complex assignment into simpler, smaller tasks. Consider how much time you need for each task. Assign milestones for the tasks, by placing them all on a timeline.
- Work backwards from the final deadline to the present moment and use a different colour for each subject.
- Do this carefully and honestly, so that you can convince yourself that there actually is enough time for you to finish everything you need to.

EUROPEAN
YOUTH
EXPERIENCE

- EYE- a Conservative Guide. A look at studying, working and living abroad.
- Introduction- When you leave school or university, the world should be your oyster to explore and to find that elusive pearl.
- This guide is meant to help you think about what to do, where to do it and how to get help and information.
- Available in the Careers Library.

COLLEGE

Chelmsford College

23rd January 2012, 6pm –
8.30pm

OPEN

DAYS 2012

Writtle College

1 February 2012, 5:30pm-7:00pm

The Sixth Form College Colchester

18th February 2012

Colchester Institute**The College at Braintree**

28th February 2012, 4pm – 7pm

Colchester Campus

21st March 2012, 4pm – 7pm

SCARY GUY

On Wednesday 11th January, Year 8 students were fortunate enough to experience Scary Guy (his actual name). With the lights off and the students engrossed in a video showing the impact of bullying and prejudice around the world, Scary Guy entered the hall from the back with his body covered in tattoos and piercings, standing at over 6ft tall. Physically he lives up to his name but his message is anything but scary, promoting tolerance and harmony. Using the help of both staff and students, Scary was able to show the students the impact of what we say and the prejudices we harbour. He told the students how each of them is unique and special and to celebrate that. Using a 7 day and 7 night challenge he encourages the students not to say a bad word about another person. He explains that if you do, then you need to apologise for it, and try again with the challenge. It is fantastic to see so many Year 8 students taking up the challenge. By the end the students couldn't wait to get their 16 hugs a day, and spread a positive feeling amongst the group. Students are still talking about Scary and the positive impact he had on them. It truly was a memorable experience.



Mr Box

"The Scary Guy visit was inspirational and a visit we will never forget. The Scary Guy taught us an anti-violence message against stereotyping, hate and bullying. It was a life changing experience!"

Josh Bancroft and Danny Broster 8A

"Scary Guy was very funny but still managed to put the point across! He was interesting and tried to make people feel better about themselves"

Francescca Napolitano 8C, Emily Howell 8L and Ellis Craig 8L

"I really wanted to hug Scary Guy because he looked very cuddly. He taught us a lot of good advice, like it doesn't matter what shape, size or colour you are"

Amy Hammond 8C and Cara Hammond 8A

Parliament Visit

Year 9 Citizenship are taking a short course GCSE in one year. To support their learning, we had a tour of Parliament, a workshop on the voting systems and they met their MP. They had some fantastic questions for Brooks Newmark and he was impressed at their political knowledge. We had a great day and we can't wait to return.

Mr Lawley

"It was a really interesting day. The tour of parliament was great and we had a lesson on the voting system where we had to make a party and get elected, they made us wear funny hats!"

– Sarah-Anne Austin 9L

"It was a really fun day and I think I learned a lot about MP's after meeting ours."

–Dean Anderson 9R

Science Revision Sessions

Year 11

Subject	Exam date	After school Revision dates
Additional Science	31st January	B5 – 5 th January
		C5 – 12 th January
		P5 – 19 th January
Applied Science – Agriculture and Food	31st January	5 th , 12 th , 19 th January
Chemistry	1st February	To be arranged with Mrs Stevens
Physics	2nd February	To be arranged with Mr Lee

Subject	Exam date
Core Science Unit 1	30th January
Core Science Unit 2	26th January
Additional Science Unit 1	30th January
Applied Science – Scientific Detection	30th January
Biology – Unit 1	24th January
Chemistry – Unit 1	26th January

Year 11 Resits

See your teacher for times of Revision Sessions for Resits.

Maths Revision Sessions

YEAR 10/11 UNIT 1 REVISION SESSIONS

Date	Group 1 (Target A/A*) E5	Group 2 (Target B /C) E6	Group 3 (Foundation) E4
23/01/2012	Percentages - Reverse Percentages-Compound interest	Percentages/Fractions	Percentages - Increase/Decrease /One quantity as a percentage of another
30/01/2012	Cumulative Frequency - Box Plot	Frequency table / Mean and other averages	Sharing an amount by a given ratio
06/01/2012	Histograms	Group frequency tables / Cumulative frequency and averages	All averages
20/02/2012	Probability - Combined events /Tree diagrams	Probability /Tree diagram	Drawing graphs /Correlation
27/02/2012	Standard index form /Limits	Rounding accuracy / Calculation bounds	Probability /Questionnaire

January Exams

January 2012 - GCSE Exams for Year 10 & 11									
Day	Date	Month	Start	Duration	Unit Code	Subject		Total	Year Group
Tue	10	Jan	09:00	02:15	ENG1H	English/English Language Unit 1H		23	Year 11
Thu	12	Jan	09:00	01:00	A141/01	Science A: Mdls B1, C1, P1 Wrtn Fnd		75	Year 10
Thu	12	Jan	09:00	01:00	A141/02	Science A: Mdls B1, C1, P1 Wrtn Hgh		117	Year 10
Thu	12	Jan	09:00	01:00	A161/02	Biology A: Mdls B1, B2, B3 Wrtn Hgh		28	Year 10
Wed	18	Jan	09:00	01:00	A171/02	Chemistry A: Unit 1 C1, C2, C3 Wtn Hgh		28	Year 10
Fri	20	Jan	09:00	01:00	A181/02	Physics A: Mdls P1, P2, P3 Wrtn Hgh		28	Year 10
Tue	24	Jan	09:00	00:40	A211/01	Science A: Unit 1 (B1, C1, P1) Found		2	Year 11
Tue	24	Jan	09:00	00:40	A211/02	Science A: Unit 1 (B1, C1, P1) High		2	Year 11
Tue	24	Jan	09:00	00:40	A221/02	Biology A: Unit 1 (B1, B2, B3) Hgh		2	Year 11
Wed	25	Jan	14:00	01:15	5HB033C	History War on Britain C1914-50		14	Year 11
Thu	26	Jan	09:00	00:40	A321/02	Chemistry A: Unit 1 (C1, C2, C3) Hgh		1	Year 11
Mon	30	Jan	14:00	00:40	A215/01	Add Sci A: Unit 1 B4,C4,P4 Fnd		3	Year 11
Mon	30	Jan	14:00	00:40	A215/02	Add Sci A: Unit 1 B4,C4,P4 Hgh		2	Year 11
Mon	30	Jan	14:00	00:45	A325/01	AD AP Sci A: 3 (Sci Dtctn) Fnd		2	Year 11
Tue	31	Jan	09:00	00:40	A216/01	Add Sci A: Unit 2 (B5, C5, P5) Fnd		64	Year 11
Tue	31	Jan	09:00	00:40	A216/02	Add Sci A: Unit 2 (B5, C5, P5) Hgh		76	Year 11
Tue	31	Jan	09:00	00:45	A334/01	Add AP Sci A: Unit 2 (Agr & Food) Fnd		13	Year 11
Tue	31	Jan	09:00	00:45	A334/02	Add AP Sci A: Unit 2 (Agr & Food) Hgh		10	Year 11
Wed	1	Feb	14:00	00:40	A322/02	Chemistry A: Unit 2 (C4, C5, C6) Hgh		26	Year 11
Thu	2	Feb	09:00	00:40	A332/02	Physics A: Unit 2 (P4, P5, P6) Hgh		26	Year 11

Maths Exam Timetable

2011/2012 Calendar

	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
Year 7	Baseline Assessment (05/09/2011)	Test 1 07/11/11		Test 2 12/12/12		Test 3 08/02/2012	World Maths Day 07/03/2012	Test 4 18/04/2012	Test 5 30/05/12	End of year 7 test 13/06/2012
Year 8		Test 2 07/11/11			Test 3 - 19/01/12		Test 4 - 08/03/12	UK Maths Challenge 26/04/2012	Test 5 - 31/05/12	End of year 8 test 14/06/2012
Year 9	End Of Chapter Tests									
Year 10			Mock exam (Unit-1) 16/11/2011			Mock Exam (Unit-1) 22/02/2012	Unit-1 Exam 05/03/2012			
Year 11		Mock Exam (Unit-2) 18/10/2011	Unit-2 Exam 14/11/2011					Mock exam (unit-3) 30/04/2012	Mock Exam(Unit-3) 01/05/2012	Unit-3 Exam 13/06/12

The Eco Echo

Happy New Year from the
Eco Echo Club

Alec Hunter's Eco Crew are working hard to promote an eco friendly environment at the College.

Over the last few weeks we have made a start on tidying the College gardens.

If you have an interest in gardening and the environment we are looking for new members to join.

Please contact Mrs Artus or Connor Barton if you wish to be involved.



Roll Up Roll Up ... Indoor Table Top Sale!!

- £5 a Plot • £10 a Plot for Traders
- Non sellers - Entrance FREE

Date: Saturday 28th January 2012 • Saturday 25th February 2012
• Saturday 17th March 2012 • Time: 12pm - 3pm

• Hot and Cold Refreshments on Sale

For more information contact:
Lisa Artus on **01376 321813 / 01376 559351** or email
lisa.artus@alechunter.essex.sch.uk

or
Lesley on **07986240588** or email **superted@talk21.com**

Venue: Alec Hunter Humanities College
Stubbs Lane • Braintree • Essex • CM7 3NR

Congratulations...

Students of the Week!

Well done to:
Lucy Greenaway 7R
Ria Cranfield 8A
Mitchell Roseindale 9N

Listeners of the Week

Lorna Smith 7R
Katie Thompson 8U
Molly Asplin 9E

YEAR 8 MONITORS

Well done to the following students for
their monitoring duties

9th January – 13th January

Kristyn Taylor
Guy Flitt
Charlie Cutmore
Rehannah Gullen
Chloe Daniels
Ajay Gerhartz
Lauren Downer
Daniel Hammond

Quiz Champions

7U 8E 9A

*Congratulations to the following
students who cashed in their merits
with Mrs Jackson recently.*

Elizabeth Lewis
Talia Kelo
Lucie Munn
Paige Allen
Lauren Hunter
Chloe Beard
Mollie Horne
Sophie Luxton
Jennifer Brooke
Chloe Thomas
Hannah Bradley
Chloe Sanders
Shelley Harvey
Megan Sealey
Jasmine McNally

*Special congratulations go to Connor
Barton who cashed in four pages of
merits and received his £5 Freeport
Voucher from Mrs Jackson.*

GOLDEN TICKET WINNERS:

NATASHA CARTLEDGE 7H
ZANE DUR RANMAN 8U
STEVEN & LOVER 9C

Line Management

Please find below our management arrangements for students. The first point of call for enquiries should be your child's **FORM TUTOR** and then Pastoral Leader. Our Achievement Co-ordinators focus on your child's progress in lessons. Also included are the Leadership Group responsibilities for each Curriculum Area to help parents in knowing who to approach for assistance

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Form Tutors				
Pastoral Leader <i>Mrs Barnes</i>	Pastoral Leader <i>Mrs Truscott</i>	Pastoral Leader <i>Mrs Porter</i>	Pastoral Leader <i>Mr Deeks</i>	Pastoral Leader <i>Mr Deeks</i>
Achievement Co-ordinator <i>Miss Jones</i>	Achievement Co-ordinator <i>Mr Box</i>	Achievement Co-ordinator <i>Mr Moreno</i>	Achievement Co-ordinator <i>Mrs Ogilvie</i> <i>Miss McEvoy</i>	Achievement Co-ordinator <i>Mrs Stringer</i> <i>Miss L Mclean</i>
Mr Birley Assistant Headteacher	Mrs Richards Assistant Headteacher		Miss Chamberlain Assistant Headteacher	
Miss T Leack- Child Protection				
Mrs J Jackson- Attendance Officer				

If you have a subject related query, for example homework, iAlec, the first point of contact should be with the **CLASS TEACHER**. Below are the Heads of each Curriculum Area.

Subject	Head of Curriculum Area	Senior Leader
English	Mr Ellams	Mr Birley
Maths	Mr Govender	Mr Fox
Science	Mrs Stevens	Miss Leack
Humanities	Miss Thurston/Mr Barber	Mr Lawn
Technology and Art	Mr Todd	Mr Lawn
Languages	Mrs Holmes	Mr Fox
ICT	Ms Walker	Miss Chamberlain
PE/Drama/Music	Mr Edwards	Mrs Richards
Personal Development	Mrs Artus (Co-ordinator)	Mrs Richards
Special Educational Needs	Mrs Coverdale	Miss Leack