

ah HERALD

alec hunter
humanities college

4th October 2011

"Be the best you can be"

HEADLINES by Trevor Lawn

Dear Family,

OPEN EVENING

On Thursday evening, we held our annual Open Evening, with families from right across the district coming to sample what Alec Hunter has to offer. All subject areas contributed to produce a fabulous display of student work, interesting activities, interactive experiences and exciting demonstrations. In total, nearly 200 students attended to participate in some way, from our excellent prefects, who were on hand to lead guided tours, to our Head Boy, Josh Wright, and Head Girl, Aimee Smith, who addressed parents confidently in the Main Hall and a multitude of other volunteers who helped out with the activities and answered visitors' questions. The feedback we received was overwhelmingly positive, with many parents remarking on how polite, helpful, mature, knowledgeable and smart our students were, and I know that our staff felt the same. I could not have been more proud of our College by the end of the evening, so a huge "Well done!" and "Thank you!" to everyone who gave up their time to showcase what Alec Hunter is all about.



During the coming week, we will be holding Open Mornings every day, with tours led by myself or Miss Leack, starting at 9:00am and finishing around 10:45am. If you would like to see the College at work as it is on a normal day, please contact Mrs Bootle in the College Office to book a place. Please note that places are limited as we have to keep groups to a manageable size.

Communication Protocol

In contrast to the above, it is with great regret that I have to report that there have been several instances, in the last week or so, of parents or other family members entering into aggressive, abusive or intimidating dialogue with members of the College staff, either in person or on the telephone. We display signs in our foyer warning visitors that such behaviour will not be tolerated, and I would just like to reiterate that both I and the Governing Body regard this as completely unacceptable. I understand that

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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)

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.

Diary Dates

Autumn Term:

7th September –
16th December 2011

Half Term:

24th October -
28th October 2011

3rd October:

Year 10 Parents Revision
Skills Evening 6.30pm



Anglia Ruskin
University



BritishRedCross



Headlines continued...

incidents may occur in the course of a day that can generate a whole range of responses from parents, who may be frustrated, dissatisfied, upset or confused. However, we can only attempt to explain our perspective and thereby, hopefully, resolve some of these negative feelings, if parents exercise calmness and restraint when making contact. All of my colleagues are under instruction to terminate a conversation immediately if the tone or content is making them feel uncomfortable or intimidated, so this approach is unlikely to achieve anything other than to make the situation worse.

Parents who persist in behaving in this matter may be banned from the College site and barred from making contact with us, a most unwelcome measure which goes against our ethos of collaborative partnership for the benefit of the young people in our care, and is therefore only taken with great reluctance. We cannot expect our students to grow up with a good understanding of the proprieties and expectations of polite conversation unless we model them ourselves. By a similar token, if you feel that a member of our staff has not demonstrated an appropriate level of respect in communicating with you, I would be grateful if you could bring it to my immediate attention.

Apologies for the late distribution of last week and this week's Herald. As you have probably noticed, we have been trying out some new layouts and would really appreciate your feedback on our new look Herald!

P.E. News

The Year 9 Netball team represented the College at the District Netball tournament on the 21st of September. All of the girls played extremely well, winning all games including ones against Notley and Honywood. Winning this tournament will now allow the girls into the County rounds which will be held in November. This is a great achievement for all of the girls, we would like to say a huge "Congratulations" to them all for their achievement and thank you to parents who came along to support.



U16 District Netball Champions

On Wednesday 21st September the U16 Netball team including; Our Captain **Aimee Smith, Chloe Taylor, Gemma Plank, Mollie Archard, Katie Morley, Ashley Solomon, Heather Hogan and Anna Marshall** went across to Notley for the District Netball Tournament.

There were seven local Schools competing in this age category all hungry to win the title.

Unfortunately due to an injury in training Jordan Lowen a key member of the team was unable to take part leaving us with a mid court player down. However, the girls pulled together and showed great team spirit and strength. Not only did they go on to win the tournament, they won in great style by not losing a game.

A big thank you to **Anna Marshall** our only Year 10 representative, **Mollie Archard** for playing through an injury gained in the warm up before the tournament and special mention for **Katie Morley** who was voted Player of the Tournament.

The PE team are so proud of you all!



The CILIP Carnegie & Kate Greenaway Children's Book Awards

Library News

By Kathryn Bowen Yr 11- Library Monitor

Over the last couple of months, students from year 8's to year 11's have been reading books selected from a book award called The CILIP Carnegie & Kate Greenaway Children's Book Award.

The Book titles are as follows:

1. THERESA BRESLIN, PRISONER OF THE INQUISITION

Zarita, only daughter of the town magistrate lives a life of ease. Saulo, son of a family reduced by circumstances to begging, swears vengeance, after witnessing his father wrongfully arrested and brutally killed. As the Spanish Inquisition arrives, bringing a climate of suspicion and acts of torture to the town, the fates of Zarita and Saulo intertwine, with tragic consequences.

2. GERALDINE McCAUGHREAN, THE DEATH DEFYING PEPPER ROUX

Pepper Roux awakes on his fourteenth birthday; the day he has been told he must die. He doesn't want to disappoint, but he doesn't want to die either. So he goes on the run, setting sail on a sea of adventures, courting mayhem and disaster at every turn. Can he escape his fate – for a while at least?

3. PATRICK NESS, MONSTERS OF MEN

The third and final volume in the "Chaos Walking Trilogy" finds three armies marching on New Prentisstown, each intent on destroying the others. Todd and Viola are caught in the middle with no chance of escape or, it seems, of stopping the fighting. But then a third voice enters the fray, one bent on revenge.

4. MEG ROSOFF, THE BRIDE'S FAREWELL

On the morning of her wedding, Pell Ridley creeps out of bed in the dark, kisses her sisters goodbye and flees on horseback, determined to escape a future that offers nothing but hard work, and sorrow. The road ahead is rich with encounters that lead her closer to the untold story of her past. And she meets a hunter, whose fate also seems strangely entwined with her own.

5. MARCUS SEDGWICK, WHITE CROW

Two lives, two centuries apart, but obsessed by the same question: is there life after death? When city girl Rebecca arrives in the quiet village of Winterfold one relentlessly hot summer, her uneasy friendship with strange, elfin Ferelith sets in motion a shocking chain of events.

6. JASON WALLACE, OUT OF SHADOWS

It is Zimbabwe in the 1980s. The civil war is over, independence has been won, and Robert Mugabe has come to power, offering hope, land and freedom to black Africans. For Robert Jacklin, it's all new too as he gets used to a new continent, a new country, a new school. But he is quickly forced to realise that for many of his fellow pupils, the battle for their old country rages on.

"And the winner of the 2011 Carnegie Book Award goes to"

PATRICK NESS, MONSTERS OF MEN...

Now available in the college library.

You can get involved too- don't worry there is still time to read them and post blogs on our home page on the Carnegie site. Why not join our Book award? Help nominate next year's book shortlist, or just come along and read every Wednesday in the library. Just come and see us and tell us who you think should be nominated for one of the biggest book awards.



Do you like creative writing?



Why not take part in the competition-
HOW SUPER IS YOUR PET?

To reward you for all of your ideas and sharing your creative minds, your Super Pet will be entered into a DRAW to WIN an exclusive author visit from Michael Dahl, author and creator of Dragonblood, and Library of Doom Series.

For more details contact Mrs Pipe in the library or log on to www.raintreepublishers.co.uk/content/SuperPet

All entries must be submitted before 21st October.

Well done to 7H for
100%
Attendance

Attendance Target 93.5 %

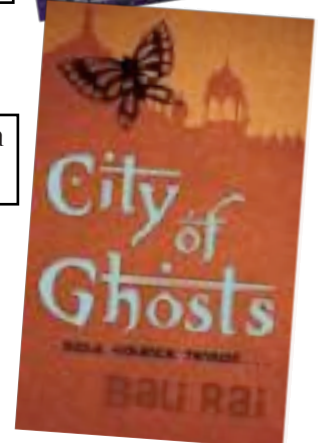
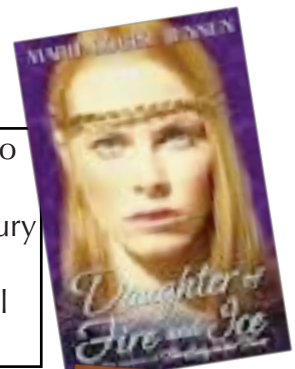
Library News

The following HISTORICAL FICTION books have recently been added to stock

These acclaimed writers bring moments in history to life. From **Daughter of Fire & Ice**, a tale of voyage and adventure in 9th Century Norway to 13th century France in Mary Hoffman's **Troubadour**; the reader gets transported to a different time in history as well as in the world.

Bali Rai's **City of Ghosts** is set in 1919 India in the lead up to the Amristar Massacre.

Katy Moran's **Spirit Hunter** is set on the Silk Road and other new titles focus on the realm of King Arthur, The Dark Ages, World Wars, Tudor and Victorian Times.



QUIZ-A-TEACHER

This is where you are going to be able to find out a bit more about your teachers!



Name: Mr Fox

How long have you been a teacher?

I have been teaching for 10 years

What School did you go to?

I went to Clacton County High School in Clacton

What was your favourite subject at school? *History of course!*

What is your favourite food?

Any Italian food

Do you have any pets?

A cat called Marmite, you either love him or hate him!

What football team do you support?

IPSWICH TOWN FC

What is your favourite place to go on holiday? *I went to the Maldives in the summer and it was by far the best place I have ever visited.*

Favourite band? *U2*

Favourite TV programme?

Spooks, I always wanted to be a spy.

What are you most excited about this year at Alec Hunter?

Working with all the different pupils and staff

Tell us something about yourself that not many people know:

At secondary school I appeared on Eastenders when they were filming in Clacton

The Eco Echo

Hello and welcome to the Eco Echo. I wanted to introduce you to the Eco team, who will be writing in the Herald every week, to give you updates and tips on gardening, recycling, arts & crafts from recycled products and much more.

Connor Barton
Reporter

Emillie Penton
Photographer

Mathew Lemon
Researcher

Chantel
Cridland
Minute Taker

Sophie Prior
Art.dept
Resources

Mrs. Artus
Leader

Mrs. Frisbee
Leader

The club is on a Tuesday 3.20pm - 4.30pm. Please see Connor Barton 9H or Mrs. Artus in E corridor, if you would like to join our group or have any queries.

Thank you!

Monday Catch-Up!

GCSE Humanities Monday catch-up Sessions (3:20 – 4:20)

All Year 10 and 11 students studying GCSE Humanities, History, Geography or AS Citizenship are welcome.

Date	Staff	Room	Activity
03/10/11	HTH	C2	Extended question practice (Geography)
10/10/11	ABR	C6	History Controlled Assessment preparation
17/10/11	AMC	C3	Humanities Controlled Assessment catch-up
31/10/11	HTH	C2	General catch-up session
7/11/11	MGI	C4	General catch-up session
14/11/11	LML	C1	Practice exam technique (Geography)
21/11/11	EDE	C7	Re-take revision (SHP History)
28/11/11	DBX	A3	General catch-up session
5/11/11	HTH	C1	Mock revision time
12/11/11	ABR	C6	Mock revision time

Congratulations...

YEAR 8 MONITORS

Well done to the following students for their monitoring duties
26 September - 29 September
Rosie Stubbs
Chloe Sanders
Jake De'ath
Charles Pratt
Chelsea Harris
Louis McIntosh
Tiffany Cain

If you would like to share any personal successes that you have achieved either inside or outside of the college please tell your tutor about what you have done!

Quiz team of the Week!

8R & 9A

Listeners of the Week

Regan Prest, 7U
Brooke Lawrence, 8C
Sophie Emmens, 9H

Students of the Week!

Well done to;
Niomi Ovel, 7E
Amy Hammond, 8C
Jasmine Ladley-Eayres, 9T

Cashless Catering

Frequently Asked Questions

How much can my child spend each day?

The college has set a spend limit for all students' of £4 per day. Parents/guardians can choose to set their own limit by informing the college in writing of the amount they require.

How quickly will my child's account be credited once I have topped up?

With online credits (ParentPay) students' accounts will be credited in time for break if top ups are carried out by 9.00am. To be in time for the lunchtime session, students' accounts will need to be credited by 11.30am. PayPoint top ups may take up to 2 days to be credited to students' accounts.

I AM... THINKING OF THEIR FUTURE

There is still time to be part of it! Register now.

8th October 2011

ExCel London(£10 on the door)

Complimentary tickets for you and your family

Register now for complimentary tickets:

worldskillslondon2011.com/visit or 0845 463 2011
WorldSkills London 2011 is open to everyone but it is particularly relevant to 14-19 year olds.



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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>
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