



SKYLIGHT

SUMMER 2011

Events

Child Soldiers

In April, the school's work to increase awareness of the problem of Child Soldiers in Africa culminated in a stunning evening performance event involving music, dance and personal testimony. Our visitors from Uganda - Martin Mapenduzi, Emmanuel Awio and Michael Okello - had spent three days in classrooms, entertaining and educating the boys, and they finished performances before the L6th and an audience of parents, pupils and friends of the school. Emmanuel Jal, a former child soldier in the Sudan, brought rap music, poetry, personal testimony and much good humour to the party. Martin Mapenduzi spoke eloquently about the tragedy of child soldiers, adding enormously to our knowledge and understanding of the problem. Acting Headmaster Mr Judd said, 'There can be few more important issues for our students, as global citizens, to understand, and it was a powerful opportunity to hear - first hand - of this compelling story of personal tragedy, fortitude and forgiveness. Our Ugandan guests were compelling, powerful and humbling - it was an evening not to be forgotten.'



Art Private View

The Art Private View in May was attended by almost 100 students, parents and staff, who all thoroughly enjoyed the varied and diverse GCSE and A Level Art work on display. Our special guest was Mrs Herbert, Head of Art in the Prep School, who spoke with real passion and enthusiasm about the Art work and selected several prize winners. These included Tim Duschenes (11J1), Ben Lockwood (11M2), Max Sinclair (11R2), Luke Minett (11C1), Nick Constantinou (U6S2) and Eden Tarn (U6H2). Mr Judd, our Acting Headmaster, presented The Headmaster's Prize to Peter Sienkowski (U6R2) for his bold, moody self-portrait.



Year 8 Healthy Eating

Year 8 enjoyed their annual visit from 'Chef' Andrew and his team from Chartwell's in June. The boys sampled a variety of exotic fruits and vegetables together with home-made ice-creams and juices.



75th Blood Donation Session at HABS

In May, the School's 75th Blood Donation session was held. Peter Greatrex, a retired member of staff, gave his 100th donation, and a certificate and gifts were presented to him by the National Blood Service. In all, 112 boys, girls, staff from both schools, plus a large contingent from Aldenham School offered to donate on the day, and 96 full donations were made. This is a wonderful result and donors can feel very proud.



Bourne Exhibition: Artist-in-Residence

Janie Tonkin has been the Art and Ceramics Intern-in-Residence at HABS since January. Janie's own work during her time at HABS has illustrated her passion for colour combination paired with contrasting surface textures. Her vessels, for example, are distinctive and original as they possess rough edges, a tapered height and pooled glazes.



Drama and Music

Junior and Middle School Plays

This term's Junior Production, *Sean and The Tiger*, brought together two plays by Ted Hughes for an exciting and visually vibrant performance. The first act took the audience on an epic journey in the quest for worldly knowledge which, like all good farces, builds towards disaster. It was directed by the Drama Department's Director-in-Residence, Mr Sayer. The second act, directed by Mr Cox, took the audience on a smaller journey using projections and subtle lighting to depict a wacky and outlandish world full of both evil and goodness. The audiences were quick to point out that this was a vintage year with some of the strongest performances from boys in Years 7 and 8 seen over the last decade. No sooner was it over than rehearsals were picking up the pace in anticipation of this summer's Middle School production, *Oliver Twist*, adapted by Neil Bartlett from the Dickens novel, and directed by Mrs Morris-Wolffe, with the assistance of Mr Sayer. Stripped of the well-known musical numbers, the play exposes the harsh reality and dark heart of this classic story.



Summer Concert

This year's Summer Concert was particularly special, not only because it was the final whole school music event of the year, but also as we bade farewell to many in the U6th who have played such a vital role in the life of the Music Department over the years. The evening included the uplifting *Raider's March* melody from the Concert Band, Percussion and Guitar ensembles, the String Ensemble's performance of Vivaldi's *Concerto in G Minor*, the award-winning Big Band's performance of three pieces by Gordon Goodwin as well as pieces by Philomusica and the Junior School treble choir.



The HABS Community



HABS celebrates 50 years at Elstree

HABS will be celebrating 50 years at its current site in Elstree during 2011-2012 and the school will be hosting a series of events to mark the occasion. These events will bring the HABS Community together to celebrate the achievements of the school in the 50 years since the move and look forward to the next 50 years of HABS at Elstree. Keep a look out for the new 50th Anniversary logo.

Calling Old Haberdashers!

Reunions: Old Boys of the school are an important part of the HABS community. In acknowledgment of this, the school will be organising reunion events to give Old Haberdashers the chance to catch up, exchange stories and network amongst old friends you may have lost touch with. Information will be sent to Old Boys regarding a 5 year, 10 year and 25 year reunion as well as a 50 year reunion as part of the 50th Anniversary Celebrations. To make sure you receive an invite, please ensure the details for you and your old school friends are up to date. Email externalrelations@habsboys.org.uk or write to External Relations, The Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School, Butterfly Lane, Elstree, Hertfordshire, WD6 3AF with any updates.

News: HABS is always keen to hear news from Old Boys. Please let us know of a particular achievement or item of interest that has involved Old Haberdashers. Stories can be sent to the External Relations department at the school or emailed to externalrelations@habsboys.org.uk

HABS on Facebook: For an easy way to stay in touch with HABS, join our Facebook page called 'The Official Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School', www.facebook.com/habsboys. Here you will find snippets of news documenting the latest successes of HABS boys, articles about Old Haberdashers and notable incidents, activities and events happening around the school.

Old Haberdashers' News

HABS boys have a tradition of doing some excellent work for charity and **Miles Kaye** (Russells, 2010) and **Josh Cowan** (Hendersons, 2010) are no exception. In December 2010, Miles and Josh, along with Josh's father Mike, climbed Africa's Mount Kilimanjaro. Their efforts raised around £10,000 for Help the Heroes, MacMillan Cancer Care, the Stroke Foundation and World Jewish Relief.



Professor **David Latchman** (Meadows, 1974) was awarded a CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours for his services to Higher Education. David is currently the Master of Birkbeck College, University of London and also holds a chair in Genetics.



Old boy **Ben Ashenden** (Meadows, 2008) returned to HABS with the Cambridge Footlights comedy theatre troupe this term. Ben joined the troupe whilst studying at Cambridge University where he is now in his final year. Footlights ran a workshop with the boys and performed their show, *Pretty Little Panic*. The show is touring the UK, including the Edinburgh Fringe Festival before heading off to America.



Award-winning documentary director, **Peter Kosminsky** (Hendersons, 1975) received a BAFTA nomination for his Channel 4 production *The Promise*, aired in February 2011. The documentary, set in Palestine during the late 1940s, follows the story of British soldiers and how their experiences have contributed to the situation in Israel and Palestine today.



Professor **Geoffrey Crossick** (Joblings, 1964) has become the new Vice-Chancellor of the University of London. After leaving HABS, he studied History at Cambridge, developing an interest in British and European urban social history. Geoffrey became a Professor of History and later Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Development) at the University of Exeter. Now he is a prominent figure in higher education policy making with a keen interest in the arts and humanities.



Obituary Col. David Sime 1920 - 2010

David was the Chair of the Haberdashers' Board of Governors when the new Prep School was opened by Princess Margaret in 1983. He studied Economics at Cambridge before embarking on a distinguished Army career in the 1940s, earning him the Military Cross. After the war, he trained as an accountant and moved to London. He became Master of The Worshipful Company of Haberdashers in 1975, 1976 and 1989 and here his links with the Elstree schools began.



Awards and Achievements

HABS Boy wins Wings of Hope Award

In April, Shivankit Hora (10C1) was the youngest member of the three-man winning team, Evolution, the Overall Winners of the 2010-2011 Wings of Hope Achievement Award. Shiv received the award at Wembley Stadium. His prize consists of a fully paid trip to India to see and work in the schools that Wings of Hope has built in Chennai, India. Other highlights include having tea with the British High Commissioner in New Delhi.

Outstanding Success in the International Chemistry Olympiad

Nick Parker (U6C2) has become the second student from HABS in three years to be selected to represent Great Britain in the International Chemistry Olympiad. As we go to press, he will be joining his three other teammates to compete in the International Chemistry Olympiad, which is held this year in Ankara, Turkey. This accolade and exciting opportunity is a fitting reward for Nick, who was Chief Editor of SCOPE magazine and Vice-Chairman of the Science Society this year; he also achieved a Gold medal in the Physics Olympiad and has been offered a place at Cambridge to read Natural Sciences.



HABS win Regional Maths Team final

In May, HABS won the Regional Final of the UKMT Team Maths Challenge. Thirty schools took part, and despite some strong opposition, the HABS team, consisting of Sajan Rajani (9S1), Mukunth Raveendran (9C2), Kripa Panchagnula (8H) and Philip Peters (8H), came through as the winners with a score of 229/240. As we go to press, HABS are participating in the National Final.



Boys on Top of the World

Jacob Whitehead (8J) and Will Withyman (8C) escaped the Royal Wedding weekend in late April to climb the fifteen highest mountains in Wales and at the same time raised £1,300 for Kidzcare Tanzania, our school charity. The Welsh 3000s are recognised as a tough challenge and involved three long days climbing the Snowdon peaks, the Glyder-Elidir range and the Carneddau: in total 13,000 feet of climbing over thirty miles.



National Level Sportsman on the HABS staff

Andrew Keenleyside, Head of Art, has recently been selected for the England Hockey Team (Vintage Seniors - over 55s). Following his success on the East of England team, the next few months see Andrew representing England at hockey around the world at the Home International Tournament in Belfast, the European Championships in Germany and the World Cup in Singapore.



London to Brighton Bike Ride

Congratulations to the fourteen Year 10 boys and two staff who took part in the London to Brighton Bike Ride in June to raise money for the British Heart Foundation. The boys are hoping to add to the £77,000 already raised by HABS over the last eighteen years for the Foundation.



Trips

U6th Düsseldorf Work Experience Exchange

In April, thirteen U6th German students embarked on work experience in Düsseldorf. Following an enjoyable weekend hosted by their exchange families, the boys started their placements with a wide range of companies including West Deutsche Landesbank, Daimler AG, the Rheinische Post as well as law firms, hospitals, advertising agencies and primary schools. Herr Donaghey and Herr Hüttermann visited all of the students and were delighted to find everybody was enjoying their placements, many saying that they were learning lots as well as being able to put their five years of studying German into good practice.



Year 9 Munich German Exchange

In April, Year 9 boys were greeted by sunny weather in Munich where they met their exchange partners and their families. This afforded them the opportunity to actively practise their German. Highlights of the trip included a tour of the Allianz-Arena, a day at the boys' exchange partners' school, a visit to Castle Neuschwanstein in the Alps, a cable-car ride to the top of the Tegelberg, as well as visits to the German Museum and the BMW-Welt. The trip would not have been possible without Miss Morgan's organisational prowess and Mr Corral's infinite knowledge of Munich.



Year 8 Chambéry French Exchange

April saw Year 8 French students flying to Lyon for the return leg of their French exchange programme. They had the opportunity to see their exchanges at school as well as going on cultural trips, including to the local towns of Grenoble, Annecy and Lyon itself in an effort to improve their French language skills and savour the delights of French cuisine.



Prep and Pre-Prep

Kingfishers' Sports Day

The Kingfishers enjoyed a successful Sports Day in June. Events included the 80m and 200m sprints, long jump, ball throwing, relay and a fun race. HABS parents also got the chance to shine, competing in a parents' fun race.



UK Chess Challenge

Earlier last term a large number of Prep boys took part in the qualifying rounds for the UK Chess Challenge. A group of Year 4 and 5 boys qualified for the next round, the Megafinal at Chancellors School in Brookmans Park. Well done to Dillan Parmar (6NB), Henry Rocha (5SL) and Zamaan Dudhia (4JM). Congratulations must go to Jamie Watkin-Rees (4BG) and Purushot Sadagopan (5CG) who both qualified in second place in their age category. These five boys have an exciting time ahead preparing for the Gigafinal which will be held in Reading as we go to press. Good luck!



Taekwondo

Dillan and Ritik have been training in Taekwondo for the last five years. In June, they both had their National Black Belt Gradings. Both boys were very pleased to have passed their gradings and are proud owners of Black Belt 1st Dan. This is the beginning of a new journey for them as they proceed to master this art further.



Judo Champion

Following on from his win in the IAPS judo championships this year, Max went on to compete in the London International Judo championships at the O2 in June. It is a hugely prestigious event and attended by more than 500 experienced judoka from all over Europe. Max did exceptionally well and won Gold, taking the title of London International Champion for his weight, U11 Under 27kg.



Kingfishers at the Gunnersbury Museum

In May, Year 1 took part in an unforgettable experience in the museum's original Victorian Kitchens, where they found dressing up as footmen and maids extremely amusing! They were kept busy pounding the sugar, beating the carpets, washing the clothes and scrubbing the floors. The boys also had fun dressing up as wounded Crimean soldiers and doctors.



Sport

Tennis

The standard of tennis played this season has been consistently high. At senior level, club captain Rishi Chotai (L6S2) has struck up an excellent doubles partnership with both James Soo (U6H1) and Joe Gold (11H2). They earned a hard fought win in the National Cup against Aldenham. At the other end of the school the potential was clear to see in a comfortable victory for Year 7 over Hitchin Boys. James O'Brien (7R) and Vishaal Patel (7S) led a talented group of individuals which bodes well for next year's U13 County and District competitions. There have been mixed fortunes in the Aegon County League but wins over Tring at U13 level and St Albans at U15 level were encouraging. The Year 9 1st VI of Andrew Gilbert (9R1), Krish Majithia (9J1), Justin Mullem (9S1) and Irfan Allana (9S1) have performed admirably in the County League. Our District teams have also performed consistently well in all three age groups, remaining unbeaten and look on course for the finals of the Nicola Mabbit Trophy. As we go to print the Inter House Tennis Competition is still in full swing. The standard of tennis in the Junior School competitions was excellent and highly competitive, with many closely fought matches.

Pre-Season Rugby

- Senior Pre-Season Rugby: Thursday 18th and Friday 19th August, 10am - 2pm on both days
- U16 / Senior Pre-Season Development Tour to Ireland: Monday 22nd August - Friday 26th August
- U13, U14, U15, U16, Senior Pre-Season Rugby: Tuesday 30th and Wednesday 31st August, 10am - 2:30pm on both days
- Senior Pre-Season Training: Friday 2nd September, 2.30pm - 5pm

Water Polo

After some tough training sessions in the pool, the HABS U16 Water Polo team travelled to Walsall Gala Baths with Mr Matthews and Mr Stiff for the ESSA National Finals in May. We quickly advanced through the group stages, beating both Bolton School and City of London School. The next game was against King Edwards School, Birmingham. A great defensive performance from the team saw HABS emerge victorious, 4-1. The final was played against defending champions, Manchester Grammar School. HABS finished triumphantly at 5-3. The victory is only the second in HABS history, the last time being in 1998. It was watched by a strong number of HABS parents and teachers whose support encouraged the team through some of the tougher moments.

Cricket

The 1st XI has been in excellent form this season, winning all six games up to the half term break in comprehensive style. Our successes include victories against a strong MCC side and Merchant Taylors', and a first away win at Bedford Modern School in over twenty years. Elsewhere, the success rate of nearly 75% stands comparison with recent seasons. The 2nd XI and 3rd XI have both lost just one game while winning on nine occasions between them. Likewise the U15A and U13A sides have lost just once and, together with the U14As have made good progress in the Hertfordshire Schools cup competitions. The U12As have also performed well, winning the Plate Competition at the St Albans Festival, while our B and C teams at each age level have enjoyed much success too. In addition the U13 squad enjoyed a very successful tour to Devon during the half term break, winning all three games. At the time of writing, we look forward to continued success in the second half of term, which will include block fixtures against Abingdon and Bancroft's, the annual Fraser Bird match and our second Cricket Week.



- Rugby Club Day: Saturday 3rd September. U13, U14 and U15 squads will train in the morning with the U16 and Senior squads training in the afternoon. Trainers and boots must be brought. Refreshments for parents who would like to watch their sons training will be available.

Athletics



Earlier in the term, three school Athletics records were broken. Max Marmor (8H) smashed the old 400m record with an outstanding run in a Herts League meeting - the new record is now 57.00. At the same meeting, Gideon Daitz (7R) broke the 30 metre Javelin barrier with a throw of 31.50. During the first round of the ESAA Track and Field Cup, Harry Kingdon (9S2) and Ben Jones (9C1) claimed the Year 9 Hammer record between them. Also in May, Darius Price (11H1) won the gold medal in the High Jump at the Middlesex County Championships. Darius jumped 1.85m to clinch the title.



Elsewhere, competing in the second round of the ESAA Track and Field Cup competition at the Watford track in June, Harry Mistry (10M2) managed to produce a lifetime best performance to not only win the competition, but also to break his own school record by 2 metres. His new record now stands at 48.35.



Golf

HABS Golfers found the going tough at the Independent Schools' Golf Association National finals day at Lingfield Park in May. HABS' lowest three handicappers, William Aldred (10S2, scratch), Harry Kovenklioglu (L6J2, 5) and Aidan Kovenklioglu (9J2, 7) travelled to their first National finals in anticipation of taking on the top independent schools, including Millfield and Loretto School. The first day's play saw windy conditions, and while Aldred performed with credit, HABS' team score saw us propping up the table. The second day saw HABS' team score improving to thirteenth out of fifteen competing schools. With all three players eligible for selection next year, HABS are hopeful for a return to the finals in Scotland and an improved showing in the overall rankings.



Team	P	W	D	L	A/C
1st XI	6	6	0	0	0
2nd XI	5	4	0	1	0
3rd XI	6	5	0	1	0
4th XI	3	1	0	2	0
5th XI	1	1	0	0	0
U15A	5	4	0	1	1
U15B	2	2	0	0	1
U15C	2	1	0	1	0
U14A	6	3	1	2	0
U14B	2	1	0	1	1
U14C	2	1	0	1	0
U13A	5	4	0	1	0
U13B	6	3	0	3	0
U13C	3	3	0	0	0
U13 Tour	3	3	0	0	0
U13/U12					
U12A	3	2	0	1	0
U12B	4	3	0	1	0
U12C	1	1	0	0	0
Staff XI	1	1	0	0	0
Totals	66	49	1	16	3

- The U15A, U14A and U13A results include HSCA County Cup matches.
- An abandoned game is one in which no ball is bowled. The list of draws includes games that started but were later abandoned.