



The Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School

# SKYLIGHT

SUMMER 2010





# Events

## Art Show

This term saw parents, boys and staff gathering in the Bourne Exhibition Hall for the Private View of the 2010 Art Show. Our special guest, the artist and painter Paul Winstanley, spoke with passion about the boys' art work and the importance of visual language, before handing out a series of prizes. The winners at GCSE Level were Saif Khan (11C1) for ceramics, Max Prais (11R2) for sculpture, Raphael Levy (11C1) and Shaneil Shah (11J2) for their paintings, Akhil Shah (11M2) for his etchings and prints, Dominic Dyett (11S1) for his life drawings and Nihull Jakharia-Shah (11H2) for portrait painting. The prizes for AS Level work went to Tim Tsung (L6R1), Nick Constantinou (L6S2), Nabil Freeborn (L6C2) and Peter Sienkowski (L6R2). The open prizes for A2 boys went to Greg Steckelmacher (U6J1) for life drawing and Nader Nurmohamed (U6M1) for his silkscreen prints.



## Blood Donation

In May, the National Blood Service visited HABS for the 73rd time. Thanks to the enthusiasm of pupils and staff alike, the final result was the best for many years: 123 blood donations were made, 53 of them by new donors. 144 people in all offered to give blood. It was a splendidly cheerful occasion.



## Economics Society

The Economics Society continued its varied and enriching programme of talks into the summer term. Along with guests from a wide range of backgrounds such as private equity firms, academia and entrepreneurs, Dr Andrew Sentance, current member of the Monetary Policy Committee, joined the society's members for lunch to discuss the global economy, before addressing the wider school community on prospects for the UK economy.

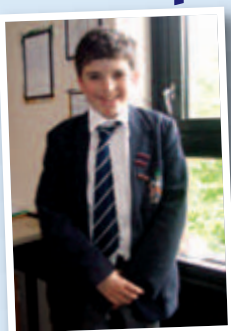


## A new Cricket Centre for HABS

Earlier in the term, Angus Fraser, former England cricketer and now Managing Director of Middlesex County Cricket Club, opened the Solai Indoor Cricket Centre at HABS in front of a gathering of sportsmen, pupils and staff. He noted that Middlesex were always looking to recruit the best players and believed that this facility would ensure that some might come from HABS.

The refurbished Cricket Centre comes courtesy of a £20,000 gift to the Foundation. The donor requested that it be named after the town of Solai, in Kenya, from which the family originated. His two sons thoroughly enjoyed their time at HABS.

# Prep & Pre-Prep



## Treading the Boards

Congratulations to Harry in Year 6 for being selected to play the lead role in *Billy Elliot* this summer. The show is being put on by the Top Hat Youth Theatre Group at the Wyllcotts Theatre in Potters Bar. The Prep School wishes Harry the best of luck with this amazing performance opportunity.



## Good luck, Ravi!

Well done to Ravi who has been invited to play in the U12 section of the World Youth Chess Championship which takes place in Greece in October.

## Fighting Spirit

Six Prep boys took part in the National IAPS Judo Championships in May.

Amongst others, Max reached the final in the U27kgs category, where he took the silver medal and Neer was the star performer in the U30kgs.

The boys were coached by Edward Almond (10M2) - himself a former National IAPS and British Schools Champion.



## Making History

As part of their History studies this term, the Year 2 Kingfishers visited the Celtic Harmony Camp near Hertford to learn about the Celts. The boys spent the day visiting the herb garden, learning how to weave, card wool and make and dye their own bracelets.



## Possum's Tails

The Prep School production this year was the part musical, part poetry *Possum's Tails*. 49 Year 6 boys wore elaborate make-up, costumes, ears and tails to portray the characters from T. S. Eliot's *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats*. They gave two performances to sell-out audiences and a good time was had by all!



## Year 4 at Windsor Castle

In May, Year 4 visited Windsor Castle. The Changing of the Guard proved entertaining and this was followed by a tour of St George's Chapel, the Dolls House and the State Apartments. An interesting talk from a resident historian on castles and how to besiege one ensued.



## SCHOOL CALENDAR – AUTUMN TERM 2010

JULY 2010				NOVEMBER 2010			
Fri	9		Summer Term Ends	Mon	1		School Deadline for advice on Oxford submitted work
Sat-Sat	10-17		CCF Army Summer Camp to Garelochhead, Scotland				
Sat-Sat	10-17		Junior German Exchange to Offenburg, Germany (Away)	Tue	2	13.15-13.55	Science Society talks - Professor Neil Bradman (Aske Hall)
Sun-Thu	11-15		Big Band and Concert Band Tour to the Rhineland, Germany			19.45	Parent Ambassadors' Forum (Old Refectory)
Sun-Mon	11-19		French Alps Cycling Trip (TBC)	Wed	3		University Admissions Tests in School (excluding UKCAT and LANAT)
							Year 7 Parents' Social Evening
				Sun	7	10.30-17.00	Senior Play rehearsal
				Mon	8	9.00	Remembrance Service - Years 7-9
AUGUST 2010						16.00-17.15	Year 8 Turner Art Club (Art Studios)
Thu	19		AS & Advanced GCE results published	Tue	9	9.00	Remembrance Service - Year 10 - U6
			University Clearing Advice in School			13.00-14.00	Fine Art Film Society Presentation (Aske Hall)
Fri	20		University Clearing Advice in School			16.00-17.15	Fine Art Film Society Presentation (Aske Hall)
Mon	23		University Clearing Advice in School	Wed	10		Deadline for Oxford submitted work
Tue	24		GCSE results published	Fri	12		<i>Tracking Grades due - All Years</i>
			University Clearing Advice in School	Sun	14	10.30-17.00	Senior Play rehearsal
Wed	25	9.00	Internal deadline: requests for priority re-mark applications and for GCE scripts	Tue	16		Blood Donation Day
			Pre Season Rugby Training (U13 - Senior)				U6 Parents' Evening
Thu	26		Pre Season Rugby Training (U13 - Senior)	Thu	18		Year 11 & L6 Careers Convention (Bourne Hall)
Fri	27		Pre Season Rugby Training (U13 - Senior)	Sun	21	10.30-17.00	Senior Play rehearsal
Mon	30		<b>Bank Holiday</b>	Mon	22	16.15-19.15	Senior Play rehearsal
Tue	31		Haberdashers' Aske's Golf Day, Aldwickbury Park Golf Club	Tue	23	13.15-13.55	Science Society talks - Professor David Norman (Aske Hall)
						16.15-19.15	Senior Play rehearsal
						16.15	Prefects' Meeting (Aske Hall)
				Wed	24	19.30	Junior Concert (Seldon Hall)
				Thu	25		L6 Parents' Evening
SEPTEMBER 2010				Sat	27	10.00-17.30	Senior Play rehearsal
Fri	3	9.15-16.00	New boys' Induction Day	Sun	28	10.00-19.30	Senior Play rehearsal
		15.00-17.00	Pre Season Rugby - Senior	Mon	29	13.30-19.00	Senior Play dress rehearsal
Sat	4		Rugby Club Day (U13 - Senior)	Mon 29 Nov - Fri 3 Dec			Design and Technology GCSE Exhibition (Old Refectory)
Mon	6		<b>Autumn Term Begins (Main School &amp; Prep School)</b>				Senior Play (Bourne Hall)
Tue	7		<b>Autumn Term Begins (Pre-Prep School)</b>	Tue	30	19.30	Design and Technology GCSE Exhibition Private View (Old Refectory)
		16.15	Prefects' Tea (Old Refectory)			19.30-21.00	
Thu	9		L6 ALIS tests				Closing date for 5+, 7+, 11+ and 13+ admissions registrations
Tue	14		MidYIS tests for Year 7 & Year 9				
			School Deadline for University Applications to Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry, Vet. Sci.				
Wed	15		Year 11 Morrisby Vocational Guidance Test				
		9.00	Internal deadline: enquiries about GCE/GCSE results				
Thu	16	13.15-13.55	Science Society talks - Dr David Adams (Aske Hall)	DECEMBER 2010			
		19.30	L6 Parents' Social Evening for Meadows, Joblings and Calverts (Old Refectory)	Wed	1	19.30	Senior Play (Bourne Hall)
Tue	21	16.15	Prefects' Meeting (Aske Hall)				Cambridge Interviews begin (3 weeks)
Mon	27	16.00-17.15	Year 8 Turner Art Club (Art Studios)	Thu	2	19.30	Senior Play (Bourne Hall)
Tue	28	19.30	L6 Parents' Social Evening for Strouts, Hendersons and Russells (Old Refectory)	Fri	3	13.15-13.55	Science Society talks - Dr Tim Bayne (Aske Hall)
			Internal deadline: requests for non-priority exam scripts			19.30	Senior Play (Bourne Hall)
Wed	29	9.00		Sun	5		Oxford Interviews begin
				Mon	6	16.00-17.15	Year 8 Turner Art Club (Art Studios)
				Fri	10		<i>Tracking Grades due - Year 8, L6, U6</i>
				Sat	11		Headmasters' Dinner Dance (Bourne Hall)
				Sun	12		Senior Citizens Tea Party (Pevett Hall, Girls' School)
				Mon	13	14.30-16.00	Carol Service (St Albans Abbey)
OCTOBER 2010							NO SCHOOL FOR PRE-PREP AND PREP BOYS
Fri	1		<i>Tracking Grades due - All Years</i>				<i>Reports due</i>
			School Deadline for Overseas University Applications	Tue	14	13.15-13.55	Science Society talks - Professor Anthony Warrens (Aske Hall)
Sun	3	13.30-17.00	GCSE and A Level Art Trip to the National Gallery and the Courtauld Institute			20.00	Senior Commendation Evening (Seldon Hall; reception in the Aske Hall)
Tue	5	13.15-13.55	Science Society talks - Professor Kevin Warwick (Aske Hall)				Junior School Disco (Bourne Hall)
		Evening	Year 11 Futurewise Parents' Meeting	Wed	15	19.00-21.00	House Singing Competition (Bourne Hall)
Wed	6	Evening	Year 11 Morrisby Parents' Meeting	Thu	16	19.30	<b>Autumn Term Ends</b>
Fri	8		FIELD DAY	Fri	17		
Fri-Sun	8-10		Millfield International Chess Tournament (Millfield School, Somerset)				
Sat	9		<b>OPEN DAY</b>	JANUARY 2011			
Mon	11		School Deadline for all university applications	Fri	7	09.00-16.00	11+ & 13+ Entrance Exams
Thu	14	9.00	Deadline: applications for GCE re-sit examinations	Mon	10		<b>Spring Term Begins (Main School &amp; Pre-Prep) - NO SCHOOL FOR PREP BOYS</b>
		19.30	Autumn Concert (Bourne Hall)				7+ Entrance Exams
Fri-Wed	15-20		Rugby Development Tour (Biarritz)				GCE examinations begin
Sat-Fri	16-22		Year 9 French Exchange with L'Alma School, Paris (Away)	Tue	11		<b>Prep School Spring Term Begins</b>
Sun-Thu	17-21		Junior Trip to Barcelona				
Sun-Thu	17-21		Art Trip to Istanbul				
Mon	18		<b>Autumn Half-Term Holiday Begins</b>				
Thu	28		Senior Play Rehearsal				
Fri	29		<b>Autumn Half-Term Holiday Ends</b>				
			Senior Play Rehearsal				
Sat	30		Senior Play Rehearsal				
Sun	31		Senior Play Rehearsal				

NB. The School Calendar is subject to change.

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Please check the fixture card and the website version of the calendar which is regularly updated



# Awards & Achievements

## International Debating Victory

In May, Hasan Dindjer (U6H2) and Edward Schwitzer (U6R2) won the International Schools' Mace Competition, held at Glasgow University.

The boys won the motion, "The UK should abandon its nuclear weapons programme". They were presented with the Mace by former Liberal Democrat leader Charles Kennedy. Both anticipate building on their debating success upon leaving HABS this summer.



## Aske Ties

May saw a number of Year 11 boys being awarded Aske Ties in recognition of their outstanding all-round contribution to the school, including charity events, Sport, Music, Debating, SCS and CCF. In a moving and heartfelt manner, the boys in turn presented the outgoing Mr Cook and Mr Boyes with Aske Ties in recognition of their outstanding commitment to the school for over thirty years and having made a personal difference to the experience of every member of the Middle School.



## Chess

Both the A and B teams have had a successful season. The B team managed to get to the last eight of the National Plate competition, beating Highgate, NLCS, UCS and St Albans along the way. The A team have reached the semis of the National Championships for the third time in the past decade and are contesting it as we go to press with Wellington, Manchester Grammar and Wilson's School. Mr Barnes would like to thank all the boys involved for their commitment and to IM Lorin De Costa for his coaching throughout the year.

## CCF in Otterburn

April saw CCF staff and boys on a Duke of Edinburgh Expedition to Otterburn. It proved a great success, with 11 cadets involved in the Gold Expedition, 56 Silver and 63 Bronze. In addition to intense and adventurous training in the Northumberland National Park, there was also the opportunity for riding, quad biking, clay pigeon shooting and mountain biking. All the cadets coped admirably with the challenges.



## Bank of England awards trophy to HABS Economists

On the tenth anniversary of the launch of its Target Two Point Zero competition, the Bank of England has commissioned a special commemorative trophy in recognition of the contribution, dedication and success of the school's Economics Department both in relation to the competition and the teaching of Economics. This recognition was due partly to the school's success in reaching the national finals on three occasions and being national runner up twice, as well as its continuous involvement in the competition every year since its launch.



## HABS Boys in National Skiathon

In May, five HABS boys took part in the National Skiathon, 666. This involved skiing for six hours and runs at an indoor ski centre. The boys completed 333 runs in 2 hours 40 minutes and have, to date, raised over £900.



## Big Band

The School's Big Band travelled to Birmingham earlier this term to compete in the national final of the Big Band competition. The boys achieved the top prize and were presented with the Platinum Award. Sam Freeman (U6M1) was also awarded the Outstanding Solo Award for his leading of the ensemble and improvised solos.

In the Open Big Band section, the adjudicators commented on the maturity of the boys playing, the quality of the soloists and the tight ensemble sound. The award places the Big Band as one of the top school ensembles in the country and completes a remarkable year.





# Trips

## Dusseldorf Exchange

Earlier this term, seven budding linguists arrived in Dusseldorf for the annual work experience exchange. The group toured Cologne, Bonn and Dusseldorf. The work placements themselves were a resounding success. The students worked in some of the finest German firms ranging from Deutsche Bank to a horse clinic; in doing so, they significantly improved their linguistic skills and gained an insight into pursuing careers outside the UK. Thanks must go to the firms, the host families and, of course, Herr Hutterman and Mr Donaghey for arranging the exchange.



## Stuttgart Exchange

This summer saw the eleventh HABS Stuttgart Exchange and it was without doubt one of the most enjoyable.

The German enthusiasts spent time in a local school and they also explored the city. This included a trip to the Aquatoll swimming complex, shopping in Heidelberg, a tour of the Ritter Sport chocolate factory and a visit to the world famous Wilhelma Zoo. The traditional sporting afternoon was as successful as ever, but despite our best efforts, the German footballers triumphed. Mr Donaghey and Frau Tebb, and Herr Metzger on the German side, invested much effort in organising the Exchange and for this they must be thanked.



## Lanzarote Warm Weather Training

The volcanic ash that brought flights to a standstill in April meant that there was an unscheduled extended stay at Club La Santa in Lanzarote as part of this year's Warm Weather Training programme. For the large part, it was without doubt one of the very best trips with the boys and staff working very hard, both on the track and in the field, developing their fitness and techniques. All boys recorded Personal Bests in many events. Beyond athletics, the boys had the opportunity to take part in different activities, including swimming, beach volleyball, diving, snorkelling, kayaking and canoeing. These activities continued once the group learned that they would be delayed in returning to the UK. The staff were impressed with the boys' maturity and outstanding attitude in coping with a rather difficult situation.



# Drama and Music

## A Dramatic Summer

Audiences in the Drama Studio were enchanted, moved and entertained by the Middle School Production of *The Tempest* performed over three evenings in May. From storms, conspiracy, rage and revenge to young love, forgiveness and resolution, a talented cast and crew worked with discipline and sensitivity to navigate a clear journey through the amazing events of an afternoon on Prospero's magical island. Congratulations to all on a wonderful show!



The end of term saw this year's Junior School Production which departed from the usual one-play format in favour of a pastiche of masked theatre entitled *Fool's Gold*. The first act, based on the great Lazzi of the Commedia dell'Arte, was performed in the gardens of Aldenham House before the audience returned to the Drama Studio for a comic masked thriller based on the 1963 film *It's a Mad Mad Mad Mad World*.

## Music Highlights

This term's Percussion Concert proved to be a big hit with performers and audience alike. The variety of ensembles and solos demonstrated the huge talent across the Department, giving individuals the opportunity to show off their virtuosity and groups to demonstrate their ensemble skills.

The Summer Concert similarly highlighted the versatility and talent throughout the school. Ensembles came together to perform, varying from Concert Band's *The Producers* to Symphony Orchestra's arrangement of the *Introduction to Act III, Lohengrin*. The concert also provided the opportunity to say farewell to the U6, many of whom have been involved in HABS concerts for several years. The concert was a wonderful culmination of another busy but successful concert season at HABS.





# Sport

## Tennis

The depth in ability throughout the school, together with the enthusiasm and commitment of our tennis players, has ensured a very successful start to the season. In the Aegon County League, the U13 team have lost just once whilst the U15s look set to make the semi-final after winning all of their fixtures to date. Felix Taljaard (10M2) has been particularly impressive, winning successive championship tie-breaks. Our District teams have also performed well and look on course for the finals of the Nicola Mabbit Trophy. Earlier in the term, HABS was fully represented at the Herts County Doubles Championships. In the U14 competition, Harry Mistry (9M2) and Ed Curtis (9S2) managed a great run but in a hotly-contested final against St Albans, our pair went down 6-4. At the time of writing, the ISTA competitions at Eton are yet to be played; HABS have also entered the senior Youll Cup, the U15 Thomas Bowl Cup and the U13 John Barrett Cup. As we go to press, the Inter House Tennis Competition is in full swing. The standard of tennis in the Year 7 and Year 8 competitions was excellent. Russells and Strouts took the honours in these competitions, respectively.



PRE-SEASON RUGBY DATES

All Rugby squads, from Year 8 to 1st XV, will be expected to train on 25th, 26th and 27th August. Further details will be sent out via email.



## Water Polo

The Water Polo club has continued to perform at the highest level of National Schools Water Polo this term. The U14s and U16s both qualified for the English Schools finals, with the U16s finishing in second to a strong Manchester Grammar School squad. In the U14 age group the team finished second on goal difference in the Schools Water Polo League and fifth in the national finals, which represents an outstanding achievement for this team, led by Joe Jackson (9M2). In the U16 finals, the team played some outstanding polo and went down valiantly in the final 6-4. The school players have also gained representative honours with Tom Dean (11M1) being selected for the Great Britain squad and Jared Baker (10C1) being called for trials in the U15 age group. The club continues to thrive and the future looks promising with a large cohort of outstanding players training hard in Year 7 under the expert tutelage of Nik Javonavic.



## Athletics

This term saw three new school Athletics records being set by some of HABS' Elite Squad athletes. Ben Jones (8C) now has the school record for the U14 Hammer with a throw of 30.86m. The Javelin record has been broken no less than four times by Joe Bamford (10M2), with the new record now standing at 46.35m. The Captain of the U16 team and the National UK Champion for the Triple Jump last year has set a new school record with a massive jump of 13.03m. Other members of the Elite Squad produced some outstanding performances in the recent ESAA Track and Field Cup, including Phillip Sadgrove (10M1) for the Shot Putt and Hurdles, Henryk Hadass (9R2) for the Discus and Hurdles and Arshia Hasemi (10M2) for the 400m.

At the time of writing, both the U14 and U16 Athletics teams lead their Herts league tables: the former by 15 points, the latter by 30. In the ESAA Track and Field Cup both teams have qualified for the regional finals with some very encouraging scores: the U16 have the fourth best score nationally and the U14 have the fifth best. Regional and national finals are due to take place as we go to press.

## Cricket

HABS Cricket Club has seen much success this term. The current Year 11 has added strength and depth to our senior sides and the 2nd XI and 3rd XI are both currently undefeated. The 1st XI has produced mixed results to date, with comfortable wins against Mill Hill and St Albans but three defeats at the hands of Harrow, Berkhamsted and Bedford Modern. Kushal Patel (L6C1) has led the way with the bat, while Shanil Patel (L6C1) and Ben Cherkas (L6R2) have been the most consistent bowlers. The U15A, U14A and U13A sides took part in the Hertfordshire County Cup Competitions and, at the time of writing, all three have reached the quarter-final stage at their respective levels. B and C teams, particularly in the U13 age group, have also performed well and mention should be made of the encouraging start to the season by our U12 sides, with thirteen victories between them.

There have been some fine individual performances: notably, maiden centuries from Hugh Brannan (L6H1), James Lawrence (10H2) and Noah Levy (10J2) and five or more wicket hauls for Arjun Popat (11S1), Paddy Sidwell (8M), Jay Purohit (8C), William Wright (9R2) and Noah Levy again.

Elsewhere, the U13 squad enjoyed a short trip to Devon and the 1st XI recently embarked on its annual tour. HABS also hosted its inaugural Cricket Week. Meanwhile, in a new venture, the U14s will be playing in the Cotswolds and we are hoping to take two development squads to South Africa next February.

Team	P	W	D	L	C
1st XI	7	2	2	3	1
2nd XI	6	6	0	0	1
3rd XI	8	8	0	0	0
4th XI	5	3	0	2	0
5th XI	1	0	1*	0	0
U15A	9	8	0	1	0
U15B	5	4	0	1	0
U15C	2	2	0	0	1
U14A	8	7	0	1	0
U14B	5	3	0	2	0
U14C	3	0	0	3	0
U13A	7	4	1	2	0
U13B	7	6	0	1	0
U13C	3	3	0	0	1
U13 Tour	3	1	0	2	0
U13/U12					
U12A	5	4	0	1	0
U12B	6	6	0	0	0
U12C	3	3	0	0	1
Staff XI	1	1	0	0	0
Totals	94	71	4	19	5

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.

