



The Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School

NHAUS

EN JAI

SKYLIGHT

AUTUMN 2009

Awards & Achievements

Duke Of Edinburgh Bronze Award



Eleven intrepid Year 11 pupils took on the challenge of completing their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award in October. The Chilterns expedition was the crescendo to a challenging year, with all pupils working together in two great teams. Despite a cold night under canvas, they even had time to take in an hour of abseiling before completing the trip. Well done to all!

Nuffield Bursary Gold Award

Branavan Rudran (U6R1), who was awarded the Nuffield Science Bursary in June, received a Gold Award this term for his report on "Reviewing and Rebuilding of the Correllis Collection".



Schrodgers' Economics Prize

Many congratulations to Parav Pandya (U6S1) who has won this year's Schrodgers' Economics Prize. He wrote an extensive piece on the credit crunch.



Bridge to Glory

Basil Letts (U6H1) has been selected to play for the England U20 in the Channel Trophy and becomes the latest in a long line of distinguished HABS Bridge players, which includes our own Mr Haring.



HABS Junior Poetry Recitation

The Final of the inaugural HABS Junior Poetry Recitation Competition took place in October, on National Poetry Day. After an entertaining and varied selection of poems in the Final, the panel of judges, chaired by HABS parent and literary agent Mr Bonomi, and assisted by Mr Norton and Mr Cook, reached their decision. Christopher Combemale (8J) took first prize for his reading of Tony Bradman's 'Fox' whilst Yashil Gudka (7M) and Yash Kejriwal (8M) took the runner-up prizes.



Debating Success

This term saw Hasan Dindjer (U6H2) and Ed Schwitzer (U6R2) being selected for the England Debate Team. They will represent England at the Worlds Schools Debating Competition, to be held in Qatar in February. Old Boy James Fox, who was part of the English winning team at Worlds in 2008, visited HABS this term to work with the seven boys who applied for the England trials.

Sixth Form French Debating



In November, Sam Heitlinger (U6J1), Ryan El-Idrissi (U6S2), Miles Coleman (U6J1) and Elan Shuker (U6C2) competed in the regional heats of the National French Debating Competition. It is no mean feat to be able to debate in a foreign language and we are very proud of the performances of all our boys.

HABS triumph at Trinity College, Cambridge

School Captain Aaron Taylor (U6J2) has won the Robson History Prize awarded by Trinity College, Cambridge. This is quite a feat in light of Trinity's expertise in this subject. Congratulations to Aaron on this splendid achievement.

Prep & Pre-Prep

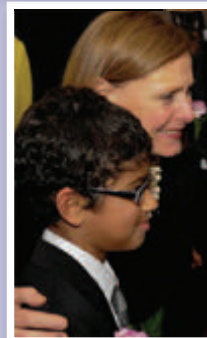
HABS Prep rated top by *The Sunday Times*

For the fourth successive year, the Prep School has achieved the distinction of being the top performing boys' school in *The Sunday Times* Top 250 Independent Preparatory Schools.



HABS Prep in Downing Street

In November, Year 4 pupil Ammar, accompanied by Prep Head, Miss Mercer, visited 11 Downing Street to commemorate the Child-to-Child Trust's thirtieth birthday. He met Sarah Brown. Ammar has visited Child-to-Child projects in Pakistan, Kenya and Lebanon.



Firefighters visit the Kingfishers

St Albans Fire Brigade visited the Kingfishers in November to explain the role of a firefighter. The boys enjoyed the opportunity to explore a fire engine.



Sport

In October, the Year 5 Soccer team were joint winners at the Berkhamsted tournament and the Year 6 team were outright winners of the District round of the ESFA 7-a-side national tournament. The Prep School also entered boys into the Judo Randori tournament at St Albans Judo Club, with some remaining undefeated throughout.



Meanwhile, Year 3 held a rugby tournament organised by Mr Matthews and Miss Morelli. They had a fantastic time and were well looked after by the staff and the SCS boys from the Main School.

SCHOOL CALENDAR - SPRING TERM 2010

JANUARY 2010

Mon-Tue 4-5

Fri 8 09.00-16.00
Mon 11

Tue 12

Fri 15

Thu-Sun 15-17

Sat-Tue 16-26

Mon-Wed 18-20

Wed 20 09.00-12.30

Thu 21 19.30

Thu-Wed 21-27

Sat-Fri 23-29

Sun 24 10.00-16.00

Mon 25 16.00

Wed 27

Thu 28

18.00

Fri 29

Fri 29 Jan - Mon 1 Feb

FEBRUARY 2010

Mon 1 12.00

12.00

Mon-Fri 1-5

Tue 2

Wed 3 18.00

Thu 4

19.30-21.00

19.30-21.00

Fri 5

Mon 8 16.00

Tue 9

Tue-Fri 9-12

Wed 10 16.00

19.30

Thu 11

8.50

Fri 12 09.30-16.00

Sat-Sat 13-20

Sun-Sun 14-21

Sun-Thu 14-18

Mon 15

Mon-Fri 15-19

Fri 19

Mon 22

Tue 23 18.00

Fri 26 13.15-14.00

16.00

Sun 28

10.00-16.00

MARCH 2010

Tue 2 19.30

Wed 3

Engineering Education Scheme Residential Workshops

11+ & 13+ Entrance Exams

Spring Term Begins (Main School & Pre-Prep)

7+ Entrance Exams -

NO SCHOOL FOR PREP BOYS

GCE Re-sit Exams start

Prep School Spring Term Begins

TSA & ELAT results available

Mountaineering Club Trip

6th Form Dusseldorf Work Experience

(Home)

7+ Interviews (Old Refectory)

Year 10 DTP Immunisations (Bourne Hall)

Orchestral Concert (Seldon Hall)

11+ Interviews

(Old Refectory, Court Room & Aske Hall)

The Hague International MUN Conference

Orchestral Day (Music School)

Year 7 Turner Art Club (Art Studios)

11+ & 13+ Music Auditions

British Mathematics Olympiad

Year 11 Parents' Evening

7+ Offers posted

SNCO Dinner at the Tower of London

13+ Interviews

(Old Refectory, Court Room & Aske Hall)

Final date for applications to make private entries for examinations in Summer 2010

Final date to make applications to re-sit GCE AS units in Summer 2010

Music School Open Week (Music School)

End of GCE and GCSE examinations

Year 9 Parents' Evening

GCE Re-sit Exams end

Intermediate Mathematics Challenge

Deadline for 7+ place acceptances

Year 3 & Year 4 Curriculum Evening

Year 5 & Year 6 Social Function

Tracking Grades due - all years

Year 7 Turner Art Club (Art Studios)

Sixth Form Politics trip to the Houses of Parliament

War Horse Theatre visit for Year 9 Drama students

5+ First Assessments

Onatti theatre company perform a play in German

(Bourne Hall)

Wind Bands' Concert (Bourne Hall)

Roman Catholic Mass (Chapel)

PRE-PREP CLOSED (5+ Assessments)

R.A. Outreach Life Drawing Workshop

PRE-PREP CLOSED (5+ Assessments)

New York and Washington DC History and Politics Trip

Senior School Ski and Snowboard Trip, Alpe d'Huez, France

Year 10 Spanish Study Visit to Valencia

Spring Half-Term Holiday Begins

School Golf Tour, La Manga Golf Resort, Spain

Spring Half-term Holiday Ends

INSET DAY - NO SCHOOL FOR MAIN, PREP & PRE-PREP BOYS

Year 8 Parents' Evening

11+ & 13+ Offers Posted

The Professor Anthony Slinn Art Lecture "The Life and Times of Modigliani" (Aske Hall)

Royal Academy Life Drawing Day for GCSE & A Level artists

Saracens Prep School Rugby Tournament

Saracens Land Rover Cup

Orchestral Day (Music School)

Closing date for 16+ admissions registrations

Keyboard Concert (Seldon Hall)

Final date for acceptance for all 11+ Bursary and Scholarship places

Final date for acceptance for all 13+ offers

Thu 4 16.30-19.30
19.45

Fri 5 11.45-17.30

Fri-Sun 5-7

Sun 7 11.00-16.00

13.30-17.00

Mon 8 16.00

Mon-Wed 8-10

Wed 10

School

Thu 11 a.m.

16.30-19.30

18.00

Fri 12 10.55-12.05

Sat 13 9.30-12.30

Mon 15 9.00

Tue 16 16.15

Wed 17 18.00

Thu 18 10.30-15.30

Thu-Sat 18-20

Fri 19

Fri-Sat 19-20

Fri-Sun 19-21

Sat 20

Sat-Mon 20-22

Tue 23 16.30-18.30

Wed 24

Thu 25 16.30-18.30

19.30

Fri 26

Fri-Sun 26-28

Mon 29 Mar - Fri 2 Apr

Wed 31

APRIL 2010

Thu-Mon 1-5

Fri 2

Sat-Sat 3-10

Mon 5

Tue-Tue 6-13

Tue-Tue 6-13

Wed-Tue 7-13

Thu 8 9.00

Thu-Thu 8-15

Fri-Sun 9-11

Fri-Sun 9-18

Sat-Tue 10-20

Sun 11

Mon 19

Tue 20

Wed 21

Prep-Parent Teacher Consultation Evening (10-18)

Parent Ambassadors' Forum (Old Refectory)

GCSE Drama - Scripted Performance - Final

Moderation

CCF Biennial General Inspection

Final date for acceptance for all 11+ fee-paying

places

Kingswood (Bath) MUN Conference

Choral Society Rehearsal (Music School)

GCSE & A Level Art Trip to Tate Britain & Tate

Modern

Year 7 Turner Art Club (Art Studios)

5+ Second Assessments (Old Refectory)

U6 Spanish Debating competition at King Alfred's

Provisional results for January GCE and GCSE examinations available

Prep-Parent Teacher Consultation Evening (1-9)

Year 7 Parents' Evening

Year 11 Physics Challenge

Design and Technology 'Make a project in a

morning' Year 7 Parents only (DT Workshops)

Final date to request photocopies of scripts

(January GCE and GCSE examinations)

Internal deadline: application for re-re-sit GCE

units

Prefects' Meeting (Aske Hall)

5+ Offers posted

16+ Assessments

Year 10 Parents Evening

16+ Entrance Assessments (Old Refectory & Aske

Hall)

5+ Offers posted

Intermediate Mathematics Olympiad and Kangaroo

German topic and activity day for AS and A2

students, London

Silver Duke of Edinburgh practice expedition

FIELD DAY

PREP OPEN WORKING MORNING

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh practice expedition

Haileybury MUN Conference

School Bridge Cup

Durham Union Debating Competition

Pre-Prep Parent Teacher Consultation Evening (10-18)

AS Drama - Scripted Performance - Final Moderation

Tracking Grades due - Years 7-11

Deadline for 5+ place acceptances

Pre-Prep Parent Teacher Consultation Evening (1-9)

Choral Concert (Bourne Hall)

Reports due - L6 & U6

RAF Bronze Expedition to Amthill

Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School MUN Conference

SAI MUN Conference

Spring Term Ends

School Football Tour to Antwerp, Belgium

Bank Holiday

Junior Ski Trip to Serre Chevalier, France

Bank Holiday

CCF Tri-Service Adventure Training Camp to

Otterburn

CCF Gold Expedition to the Cheviots

Year 8 French Exchange to Chambéry (Away)

Final date to submit enquiries about results

(January GCE and GCSE examinations)

Athletics Warm Weather Training, Club La Santa,

Lanzarote

CCF Silver Expedition to the Cheviots

6th Form Dusseldorf Work Experience Exchange

(Away)

Middle School Stuttgart Exchange (Away)

HABS Big Band, NCBF National Finals, Birmingham

Conservatoire

Middle School Play rehearsals

Middle School Play rehearsals

Summer Term Begins

NB. The School Calendar is subject to change.

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

Events

CCF Remembrance Parade

The CCF's annual Remembrance parade was led by Major Saddington in early November. This year's event was made more poignant for the 350 pupils and staff of the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force sections by the recent deaths of UK servicemen in Afghanistan.



Blood Donation Day

For the 72nd time, the National Blood Service came to HABS in November. Students from both the Boys' and Girls' Schools gave 96 donations during a delightfully cheery day. This is a wonderful result and the donations will doubtless save lives.



House Charity Bonanzas

In October, Strouts presented a cheque for £1,900 to Hayley Allen, a Rays of Sunshine representative. The charity helps grant the wishes of terminally ill children.



Also in October, Team Russells presented a cheque for £8065 to Alice Watts from the Teenage Cancer Trust, a result of the House's Ironman competition. Over the last six years, Team Russells have swum 286 miles and have raised over £42,500 for the charity. The money is used to build and equip specialist units across the UK catering for teenagers who are being treated for cancer.



HABS debate Europe

Baroness Sarah Ludford, Liberal Democrat MEP for London, addressed HABS Politics Society in October. She gave a spirited presentation on the advantages of Britain remaining at the heart of Europe and praised the attentiveness and knowledge displayed by our boys.

Science Society Talks



HABS Science Society continues to organise an unparalleled line up of fascinating speakers and this term has not disappointed. In September, best-selling popular science writer David Bodanis spoke on Einstein's life and his famous equation, $E=mc^2$. Baroness O' Neill of Bengarve addressed the Society on medical ethics and informed consent in October. More recently, David Papineau, Professor of Philosophy of Science at King's College London, addressed the theme of humans as merely physical objects. The audience was illuminated by both scientific and philosophical perspectives.



Making History: a new chapter for HABS

The Military History Library was opened this term by Lionel Leventhal. The Library owes its existence to Mr Leventhal and his son, Michael (OH), who donated 2,000 military history books to HABS. The family have published such books over many years. Thanks to the generosity of the Leventhals, the books will now be available to read for boys throughout the School.



Writer-in-Residence

In October, the English Department welcomed acclaimed fantasy fiction author, Graham Joyce, to the School as its first Writer-in-Residence. Joyce is working throughout 2009-2010 with boys in Year 9, hosting a series of creative writing workshops.



Economics Speakers

The Economics Department has once again enjoyed the company of a series of visiting speakers this term. Dr Ian Harnett from MD Absolute Strategy Research focussed on the outlook for inflation and the potential impact of Quantitative Easing. We also learnt from the inspirational Dr Meera Tiwari, a Development Economist, on the role of the IMF and World Bank and their impact on less economically developed countries. Mr Yagnish Chotai spoke on the role of private equity firms in the allocation of resources.

Booked Up

Booktrust, an independent charity which encourages reading, has recently presented every Year 7 pupil in England with a free book, from a list of specially chosen titles. Our boys had fun choosing the books in their Library lessons. Giving out the books and stickers was a splendid occasion enjoyed by all.



Physics Workshop

36 L6 boys and six guests from the Girls' school participated in this year's Physics Workshop. The engineering competition displayed the enthusiasm,



ingenuity and good humour of the AS Physics students as they attempted to build a balloon powered cart. The winning team were Joe Yarwood (L6S1), James Edgley (L6S1), Akash Alexander (L6R1) and Fennel Letts. This was followed by a lecture on cosmic rays by Professor Alan Michette of King's College London.

Trips

Alma Exchange

In October, fifteen Year 9 boys and ten girls from the Girls' School spent a week in Paris on an exchange visit to Le Collège de L'Alma, a prestigious school in the shadow of the Eiffel Tower. Participants spent the weekend with their partner's family and staff also led visits to Le Louvre, La Sainte Chapelle, Versailles, Montmartre and Le Stade de France. We look forward to the return visit of the French students in June.



Art in Vienna

The half-term Art Trip gave twenty boys the chance to explore the beauty and splendour of Vienna. A marvellous range of museums and galleries were visited. The group also visited the extraordinary 'Haus der Musik' and the 'Wiener Riesenrad'. The boys' sketchbooks offer a first hand record of their experiences, with prize winners including Max Sinclair (10R2), Dominic Dyett (11S2), Akash Mehta (11J2) and Eden Tarn (L6H2).



Year 8 at Kew

Field Day saw Year 8 treated to a visit to Kew Gardens. Those who had a head for heights managed to walk up the eighteen-metre high tree-top walkway. The boys also had a tour of the tropical plants and the opportunity to examine the various plants.

CCF Field Day

Year 10 and Sixth Form cadets from the Royal Navy and Army sections of the CCF attended the overnight camp at Amptill in October. Meanwhile, Year 11 Royal Navy cadets were treated to a day's race coaching from RYA Dinghy Race Instructor Barry Steel. An outstanding Field Day all round!



Drama and Music

The Senior School Play: *The Trial*

Over forty boys from the Sixth Form and Middle School worked tirelessly throughout the term to create Kafka's nightmarish vision of accusation, legal procrastination and overpowering guilt. Elliott Ross (U6J1) led a superb acting company in a production that both thrilled and disturbed its audience in equal measure. It ranks as what must surely be one of the most challenging pieces of physical theatre staged at HABS. Under Hugh Silver's guidance, the large technical team of boys produced a breathtaking set of whirling platforms, staircases and constantly changing corridors. It was another unqualified triumph for the Drama Department under Mr Norton's assured direction and we look forward to the next Middle School production, *The Tempest*, in the summer.



HABS teacher makes a drama out of a crisis

Mr Norton's spectacular sell-out hit from this year's Edinburgh Fringe Festival, *A Grave Situation*, is currently performing to sell-out audiences at the Pleasance Theatre in Islington. The inventive new comedy, set during the Second World War, was co-written and directed by Mr Norton and two former HABS pupils, Jack Hartnell (2004) and Danny Fisher (2004), working as Choreographer and Assistant Musical Director respectively. Other Old Boys involved include: Alex Petrides (2008), Alex Woolf (2009), Ed Sayer (2005), Joe Stolerman (2005), Spencer Hughes (2004), Josh Green (2008) and current students Sam Briggs (U6J2) and Elliott Ross (U6J1).



Autumn Concert

October's Autumn Concert delivered a varied and exciting start to the year. Highlights include a rousing start from Philomusica, the Percussion Ensembles, the Sixth Form Jazz Trio and the Concert Band's *Themes from 007*. For the entire Year 7, their medley of songs met with thunderous applause from all the proud parents. Symphony Orchestra completed the concert with a thrilling performance. It proved to be an enjoyable evening and a successful start to what is sure to be a fantastic musical year here at HABS.

Sport

Water Polo

The Water Polo club swept all opponents aside this term in a tidal wave of goal scoring. The all-conquering U15s/16s have scored over forty goals in four games. Led by Jared Baker (10C1), Ben Kohler (10R1) and Tom Dean (11M1), this group represent the elite of schoolboy water polo in the country and have an outstanding chance of winning the ESSA nationals this season at Walsall. The sport has also proven popular with the new Year 7 and the U13 boys are progressing well. The enthusiasm and ability of these young men can be attributed to the outstanding contribution made by Nic Janovik, our professional coach. As a result, many boys have gained representative honours for East Region, Hertfordshire and Middlesex. HABS players made up the bulk of the all-conquering Herts U15 team, currently undefeated in the ASA competitions this season.



Rugby

The Rugby club has developed considerably this season as a consequence of increased training and improved preparation. Currently we have won 54% of all matches played. As an example, the Year 7 squad had been training four times a week up to their first fixture against Latymer Upper. This bore fruit with a win at A team level and a draw for the Bs in their first ever matches for HABS. At the senior end, the 1st XV performance against Haileybury College ranks as one of our best efforts for some seasons. The 2nd XV's performance against Stowe reflected the virtues of hard work.

The U16 squad notched their first ever wins against Tiffin and QE Barnet. The U16 B bemoaned a lack of finishing power against Tiffin, the match finishing 3-3! The U15 squad has also worked hard with the Bs remaining undefeated. The A team have had narrow defeats against Tiffin and Haileybury College.



The U14 A team has recorded notable wins against Haileybury and Tiffin whilst the Bs were too strong for Latymer Upper. They are benefiting from the enthusiasm of coaches Kerry and Jenkins. The U13 squad are improving, with two good wins against Latymer Upper. Whilst there are difficult matches ahead, the club is confident of further successes.



U14 Rugby Development Tour

In October, the U14 Rugby Squad enjoyed their experience of the rugby culture of SW France. Two fixtures against local clubs, Anglet and Soustons, saw some great rugby and good lessons in the art of the game. The HABS squad played with credit and were very well looked after by the clubs.

We even had the national anthems played before the Soustons match! This was a fitting prelude to a game which had some inspiring passages of play from the HABS squad. The boys were fine ambassadors for school and country!

Far East Cricket Tour

During half-term, the school's Senior Cricket squad toured Malaysia and Singapore. It was a gruelling schedule for the seventeen boys who played nine matches in extremely hot and humid conditions. The third game against the Malaysian Malay U15s was a real highlight. The game was played under international Pro40 Laws in coloured kit and with a white ball: a real spectacle! Captain Tom Edrich (L6S2) led from the front with an extremely valuable innings of 48 not out and HABS recorded the first victory on tour. From then on there was no looking back and the rest of the results fell in our favour. The final stats were: played nine, won seven, lost two.



Badminton

The Badminton season has opened well with victories over our local rivals St Albans - twice - and Hitchin. The senior boys enjoyed a pleasant afternoon at Harrow where they beat the home side 10-6. During Open Day, the Junior boys had their traditional tournament, won by last year's runner up, Yash Kejriwal (8M), after a thrilling final against Archie Preston (7H). Archie has also been amongst the medals in the Hertfordshire Tournaments at Stevenage, doing well in both singles and doubles with Khush Kotecha (7H).



Orienteering

The potential for Orienteering at HABS could be seen after the first few successful practice events. At the National Schools Score Championship at Hylands Park, HABS' position of fifth overall in the senior rankings was the culmination of hard work by the team; as a first result, it bodes well for the future!



Cross Country

The term has started well under the leadership of new squad captain Ryan El-Idrissi (U6S2). New school records have been set by Tommy Almond (7M) and Elliot Reidy (8C) in the 'Ultimate Loop' competition and this success has fed into performances at the District Championships at the Royal Masonic School where Tommy also won the Year 7 District title and HABS Senior runners won the overall Senior Team title with Max Jenkins (L6M2) taking an excellent individual third place.



Swimming

There have been impressive swims in the local Panagrophic League this term. The results from the first round of the National Relay Championships mean that the Intermediates are in with a real chance of making the National Finals for the second consecutive year.