

# Harrow Way Newsletter

Community School

[www.harrowway.hants.sch.uk](http://www.harrowway.hants.sch.uk)



## Head's Corner – Summer 2015

I am now approaching the end of my third year as Headteacher of Harrow Way. I have no idea where the time has gone, but it has been a wonderful experience. I would like to thank the staff, students, governors and parents for all their support throughout the year. As you will be aware, we have received a number of accolades this year; the most notable being the letter from David Laws MP, Minister of State for Schools, congratulating Harrow Way on our exam results improvements. We were identified as one of the top 50 most improved schools in England for our GCSE performance of 5+A\*-C in English and Maths. The school has certainly made very good progress in the last 3 years.

At Harrow Way Community School, we have a simple ambition: to be the finest secondary school for miles around. The journey is well underway and all of our students, staff and governors have worked very hard to achieve these results and should be deservedly proud. The school is determined to build on its successes and we continue to work to ensure that every student achieves their own successful outcomes from their time spent here.

The Harrow Way Community School parents' survey took place in May 2015 to gauge parental satisfaction with the school and to gain feedback on subjects that are pertinent to school development. The online survey was emailed to all parents on the school database, via a web link. A total of 164 responses were received. A summary of the findings are included as a separate insert with this newsletter.

### Uniform

I continue to be very proud of our school uniform and the vast majority of our students adhere to our expectations at all times. As a result of enquiries from parents, we have put together a guideline for uniform styles, particularly trousers, which was posted home recently. A copy of the guidelines are available on the school's website: School Information/Uniform

I was particularly gratified to receive a letter recently from a member of the public who wrote in after seeing a group of our students walking to an

event and was kind enough to say: "I would like to say how smart the students were. They are a credit to your school and to themselves. I was very impressed"

### Attendance

In response to the changes in school attendance law Hampshire County Council has reviewed its 'Code of Conduct'. This code sets out for all schools what actions must be taken for any child with 10 or more sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence from September 2015. They are very clear in the code of conduct, that where a child or family requires support to achieve attendance rates above 90%, this is the first priority for schools. They are also clear that where parent/carers choose to ignore the law and are complicit in their child's absence then all schools in the Local Authority must take legal action through a penalty notice fine or prosecution in court.

### Election

In May, concurrent with the General Election, students were given the chance to vote in a mock election. The students were really enthusiastic about having their own say. The idea is to get students engaged in politics – studies have shown that 50% of 18 – 24 year olds do not vote and we want to try and address this. Lots of subjects capitalised on this by having politically themed lessons and tutors debated the issues with their tutor groups all week. The results were announced on the morning of Friday 8th May, the Conservatives won, followed by UKIP and then Labour.

### Summer Term

As often happens during the summer months, we have organised many different trips and visits, including residential trips to Calshot, Rome and Krakow. This half-term alone there have been 35 different trips!

We have also held our Year 7 and 8 and Year 9 and 10 Presentation Evenings, which gave us an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of students. Other events held this term have been the Year 10 Dance/Drama Showcase and the Year 10 BTEC Music Showcase.

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**Return to school - Wednesday 2nd September for Year 7s & Year 11 Prefects only**  
**For all other students - Thursday 3rd September - 8.45 am**

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## **Students**

We will be welcoming 180 students to Harrow Way next year and currently have a waiting list of 30! I am delighted that Harrow Way continues to be the first choice for families in our area.

## **Bullying Charter**

Our Anti Bullying Charter comes from the work of our whole school community including pupils, parents and staff. The Charter will be in the Student Diary next year and students will be asked to sign the Charter to demonstrate their respect for the values in the Charter. We will also have a copy in the classrooms.

## **Sports Day**

On Friday 3rd July we held our annual Sports Day. This year's sports day kept last year's new format, with every student in school taking part in an activity. The day started with the minute's silence for the victims of the Sousse attack. Morning activities began and students were playing for their house teams in rounders, softball, tennis and tug-of-war.

After break, the field events started which included javelin, discus, long jump and track running. After lunch the students all gathered to watch the hurdle and relay races.

The overall winner of the day with 1332 points was Hawks House, but it was very close!

## **Year 11**

On Monday 22nd May we formally said goodbye to our Year 11 students as this was the last day they would be altogether before the end of their GCSEs. We celebrated by holding a special leavers' assembly which was presented by Year Leader, Mr Reed, where all the form tutors gave a goodbye message. Students received a memento photograph of their tutor group and a Harrow Way Leaver's Cupcake. Year 11 students were then asked to go to the tennis courts to take part in a balloon release, as a celebration of their time at Harrow Way.

Year 11 Leavers were almost unrecognisable when they arrived for their Prom on the 26th June. It was a wonderful night to remember for all of them and a fitting end to a very successful and hardworking year group. We look forward to seeing them again on 20th August to celebrate their exam results.

## **Prefects**

Last term we appointed our new prefects and senior prefects. From a very competitive field we have appointed Keira Grimison and Johnathan

Ireland to the posts of Head Girl and Head Boy respectively with Emily Baulf and Harry Smallbones as their deputies.

## **Staffing changes**

We are finally saying farewell to Mr Rob Hudson, who is retiring after 35 years' service to Harrow Way Community School. I would like to personally thank him for his loyal and full support of the School, both in the PE Department and as a Head of Year.

Also leaving us this term are Mr Richard Peters, Mr Frank Richmond, one of our Site Team, Mrs Tina Hopkins and Mrs Sharon Alexander, Science Technician who are moving on to pastures new. We wish them well in their respective new roles. Mrs Helen Banyard is also leaving at the end of term and we wish her a long and happy retirement. Mrs Kumpavat, Cover Supervisor has left us to begin maternity leave, and we wish her well. We are also sorry to lose Mrs Jennifer Campbell-Wilson and Ms Rebecca Calder, who are returning to the United States and Canada respectively

I would also like to thank Mrs Jan Appleton for her services to the English Department whilst Mrs Thompson has been on maternity leave.

In September we have the following new staff joining us:

Mr Glynn Rowles and Ms Georgina Lorimer as Cover Supervisors;

Ms Christina Brown as Teacher of History and Mrs Charlotte Brown as Teacher of Geography; Ms Emma Maher as Assistant Curriculum Leader in English; Mr Mark Haysom as Curriculum Leader in PE and Mr Ben Cole as Teacher of PE; Ms Jenny Newell as Teacher of Food Technology; Mr Mick Quinn as Teacher of Humanities and Kelly Gregory as a Trainee teacher in English.

Mrs Victoria Thompson will be returning to us from maternity leave and Mrs Emma Law will be changing her role to Teacher of Design & Technology.

Mr Mark Warren will be moving to part-time, Monday to Wednesday. His strategic responsibilities remain the same.

We are looking forward to next year with lots more exciting opportunities for our students. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. I wish you an enjoyable and restful summer break.

*M J Semdige*

Headteacher - July 2015

# CALENDAR DATES

## Academic Year 2015 - 2016

Tues 01/09/15	INSET Day 1 - No students in school Uniform sales between 10 am and 4.30 pm only	15-19/02/16	Shakespeare rehearsals 10 am - 3 pm
Wed 02/09/15	8.45 am start for Year 7s and Year 11 Prefects	22-25/02/16	Shakespeare rehearsals Year 11 afterschool
Thu 03/09/15	All students in school	Fri 26/02/16	Shakespeare Show 6.30 - 8.00 pm
Thurs 10/09/15	Year 11 Parents' Information Evening 7.00 pm	Thu 3/03/16	Shakespeare Primary Shows all day - Auditorium
w/c 14/09/15	Year 7 CAT Tests	Mon 7/03/16	Spring Progress Reviews home (Yrs 7,10&11)
Mon 14/09/15	Year 8 Girls - HPV1	Thu 10/03/16	Year 9 Reports home
17-18/09/15	Geography Year 11 controlled assessment field trip - Lulworth Cove	Fri 11/03/16	Year 11 Art terminal exam Day 1 GCSE/Vcert
Tue 22/09/15	School closes at 1.30 pm for students Open Evening - 6.30 - 9.00 pm	12-13/03/16	Musical Get-in weekend
Wed 23/09/15	Open Morning - from 9.15 am	w/c 14/03/16	Musical dress rehearsals and shows
Thu 24/09/15	Open Morning - from 9.15 am	Mon 14/03/16	Year 11 Art terminal exam Day 2 GCSE/Vcert
Wed 30/09/15	INSET Day 2 - No students in school	Mon 14/03/16	Year 9 Curriculum Evening
Fri 2/10/15	Year 8 Tudor Day Year 10 Winchester Higher Education visit	16-17/03/16	Year 9 SLT/Parent appointments
Mon 5/10/15	Year 7 Settling in meetings Parents/Tutors	Thu 17/03/16	Year 8 Reports home
w/c 12/10/15	Year 11 Mock exams for 2 weeks	w/c 21/03/16	Year 10 Exams week 1
w/c 12/10/15	Musical audition week after school	Mon 21/03/16	Year 8 Parents' Evening
w/c 19/10/15	Maths assessment week - all years	Thu 24/03/16	End of Spring Term
Monday 26 - Friday 30 October - HALF TERM		Friday 25 March - Friday 8 April 2016 - Easter Holiday	
26-30/10/15	Football Tour - Spain	Tue 29/03/16	Gadget Show Year 9 Product Design & Graphics
Fri 06/11/15	Year 9 Gothic Tales periods 3 & 4 Year 10 Owen's Pocket Book 5 & 6	Mon 11/04/16	First day of Summer term
Tue 10/11/15	Year 7 Literacy Challenge	w/c 11/04/16	Year 10 exams week 2
Wed 11/11/15	Ypres visit - one day	Mon 25/04/16	Year 8 Curriculum Evening
Mon 16/11/15	Autumn Progress Review home Years 7,8,9,10	w/c 25/04/16	Year 10 Catering Practical Assessments this week
Mon 16/11/15	KS4 Leavers' Presentation Evening 7.30pm	27-28/04/16	Year 8 SLT/Parent appointments
Mon 16/11/15	National Anti-bullying Week	Mon 9/05/16	Year 7 Parents' Evening (Subject)
Thu 19/11/15	Primary Dance Showcase	Mon 16/05/16	GCSEs begin finishing 29/06/16
Fri 20/11/15	Year 11 reports home	Mon 23/05/16	Year 10 Maths Assessment week
Fri 27/11/15	Year 7 Literacy day (Harry Potter)	Monday 30 May - Friday 3 June - HALF TERM	
Mon 30/11/15	Year 10 Parents' Evening (Subject)	w/c 6/06/16	Year 8 Exam week
Wed 2/12/15	Year 8 (x half) Enterprise a.m.	w/c 13/06/16	Year 8 residential Calshot trip
Thu 3/12/15	Year 8 (y half) Enterprise a.m.	w/c 13/06/16	Year 10 Work Experience week
Fri 4/12/15	INSET Day 3 - No students in school	w/c 13/06/16	Years 7 & 9 exam week inc. Maths assessment
w/c 7/12/15	Year 9 Exams Years 7,8,10,11 Maths Assessment week	Fri 17/06/16	Year 7 Literacy Day
Fri 11/12/15	Christmas Fair 4-6 pm	Mon 20/06/16	Summer Progress Reviews home
Wed 16/12/15	Christmas Music Concert 6.30 pm	Thu 23/06/16	INSET Day 5 - No students in school
Thu 17/12/15	Drama Club Show 3.30 - 4.30 pm	Fri 24/06/16	Leavers' Prom/Buffer
Fri 18/12/15	End of Autumn Term	24&27/06/16	Year 10 Maths & English exams
Monday 21 Dec - Friday 1 Jan 2016 - Christmas Holiday		Tue 28/06/16	Year 6 Induction Day/Evening
Mon 4/01/16	First day of Spring Term	Wed 29/06/16	Year 10 Careers Day and Evening
Mon 11/01/16	Year 11 Parents' Evening (Subject)	Thu 30/06/16	Year 10 Krakow trip
w/c 18/01/16	Year 11 Catering Practicals this week	Thu 30/06/16	Year 7 and 10 Reports home
Thu 21/01/16	Year 8 Spelling Bee p 5&6	Mon 4/07/16	Years 7 & 8 Presentation Evening
Mon 25/01/16	Year 9 Parents' Evening (Subject)	Tue 5/07/16	Year 5 Activity Day 1 Year 8 Winchester Higher Education visit Year 9 Enrichment Day Year 10 College Day (tbc)
Tue 26/01/16	Dance Show dress rehearsal 3 - 5.30 pm	Wed 6/07/16	Year 5 Activity Day 2
Wed 27/01/16	Dance Show 4.00 - 5.00 pm	Thu 07/07/16	Year 9 Drama/Dance Show 6.30 pm
28-29/01/16	Dance Show 7.00 - 8.00 pm	Fri 8/07/16	Whole School Sports Day
Mon 8/02/16	Maths Assessment Week all years	Mon 11/07/16	Years 9 & 10 Presentation Evening
Tue 9/02/16	Safer Internet Day 2016	Wed 13/07/16	Music Summer Concert 6.30 pm Auditorium
Thu 11/02/16	INSET Day 4 - No students in school	Thu 14-15/07/16	Year 10 Drama/Dance Summer Shows
Thu 11/02/16	New York trip departs - returns 15/02/16	Wed 20/07/16	End of term - 1.30 pm finish
Monday 15 - Friday 19 February - HALF TERM			

## UNIFORM SALES (including to new intake)

School jackets, ties, sports tops & shorts, scarves, cooking aprons and other sundries can be purchased from the school between 9.00 am and 3.45 pm term time only.

Please pick up an order form from the office or visit the website/ School Information/Uniform to download a copy.

### New Intake Uniform Shop

**will be open on the INSET day**

**Tuesday 1st September 2015**

between 10 am and 4.30 pm

The correct school uniform should be worn at all times, including on the way to and from school.

## Councillor Vacancies

The Town Council currently has vacancies for Councillors.

Are you interested in getting more involved in your local community? Would you like to help make a big difference to Andover?

If so, come and join Andover Town Council as a co-opted member.

You will need to apply to the Town Clerk via email: [townclerk@andover-tc.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@andover-tc.gov.uk) who will send you all the relevant details and application form.

Closing date for applications is 31st August 2015.

## ☰ GCSE RESULTS ☰

GCSE results will be available from the school on  
**Thurs 20 August 2015 between 10 am and 12 midday**

If you do not intend to come to school that day to pick up your result slips, a stamped, addressed envelope should be left with Mrs Cook in the Exams office. All remaining result slips will be held at the school for collection at the beginning of the September term.

***These result slips are often requested by admissions officers for Further Education courses.***

## Are you aware that you may use credit or debit cards, via our on-line payments system?

**The online payments system enables parents to:**

- Add funds to 'Cashless Catering' accounts
- Check the current balance and view a history of their purchases at the canteen
- Pay for school trips
- Order and pay for miscellaneous items available through the school, such as uniform, text books and revision guides

We would appreciate your support in reducing the amount of cash that students bring to school and ask that if you haven't already done so you sign up for on-line payments: <http://www.harrowway.hants.sch.uk/parents/payments>

The Finance Office staff are available to answer questions and can help guide you through the set up procedure.

## SCHOOL'S EMAIL ALERT SYSTEM

If you have not received email alerts or notifications from us, this means that we do not have your email address on record.

**Please send an email to**

[adminoffice@harrowway.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@harrowway.hants.sch.uk)

with your child's name in the subject line and we will add you to our mailing list.

## CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES

It is most important that any change of mobile or landline number, or home address is reported to the school. Please ensure you notify the School Office as soon as possible of any changes to your contact details, particularly daytime telephone numbers, so that we are able to get in touch if the need arises.

## THE USE OF MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOL

If mobile phones are brought into school they are the responsibility of the student. **They must remain out of sight and switched off during school hours, including break and lunch time.**

Communication between parents and students must be via the student receptionist.

If a student is found using their mobile phone for any reason other than a legitimate educational one (e.g. ICT) the phone will be handed to the member of staff teaching the lesson and later, passed to Mrs Burton to lock away. A sticky label will then be issued to the student to place in their student diary informing parent/s that the phone has been confiscated that day.

The parent is then responsible for collecting the phone at the end of the school day. Parents should not be invited to collect the phone until 3:00 pm.

Repeated misuse of a mobile phone will be reported to a senior manager and a range of suitable sanctions will be enforced.

## [www.harrowway.hants.sch.uk](http://www.harrowway.hants.sch.uk)

Don't forget to visit the website for all the performing arts news, sports and trip reports, recent events, letters home, exam information and much more. If you can't find what you're looking for, please do not hesitate to contact the school, who will put you in touch with someone who can help provide the relevant information.