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## A Message from the Head



*As another year speedily passes by, I reflect on the magnificent achievements of our students. This edition of our newsletter demonstrates their:*

- generosity
- citizenship
- achievements both academic and sporting
- and creativity.

*Well done Heathcote and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our students, their families, staff and our supporters.*

*Zoë Cozens*

## Jack Petchey Evening

Ms Cozens attended the Jack Petchey awards evening, along with Mr McCarney and Ms Wilson. The Heathcote steel band played at the event. All the winners from last year turned up to receive their awards. Mr Monksfield was awarded the Leadership Award.

## Friends of Heathcote

We had a hugely successful Year 7 Disco on Friday 13th November, the event raised £250.00 for the Friends Association. Many thanks to the Friends of Heathcote and staff who supported the event. Spurred on by this success, our parents are keen to arrange a Summer Family Barbeque. Watch out for further information in the New Year, and contact the Friends if you would like to be involved.

<mailto:friendsofheathcote@yahoo.co.uk>

## Heathcote's Generous Students

At this time of year, it is good to look back on the generosity of spirit we have seen here at Heathcote, especially in the last few months. Our students took part in activities which involved giving their time and efforts as well as their money when asked for it.

A group of young people gave up their Saturday to help at Suntrap Open Day, making it a very successful event.



Working with the Science department, we raised £1,401.76 for Jeans for Genes Day when we wore our jeans and denims for

### "Working with the Science department, we raised £1,401.76 for Jeans for Genes Day"

this good cause. Ms Gabriel and Ms Cameron, with some year 10 students, raised £135.36 for hosting this year's Macmillan Coffee

Morning. Mr Monksfield held a Dodgeball event, raising £183.65 for the British Heart Foundation. Ms Gabriel held a cake sale, in memory of Sue Danson who worked here in the Science Department and was a Governor of the school. £62.00 was raised for St. Mark's Hospital Foundation. Ms Smith organised a Fun Run for Year 7 students which raised £659.40 for Great Ormond Street Hospital. Ms Armitage arranged a dance-a-thon and raised £80.00 for CLIC (Supporting Children With Cancer and their Families). Following our Heathcote Challenge Day, Mr Bookatz and Ms Blake had an end of day bucket collection raising £172.86 for Children in Need.

Our small change makes a big difference charity group raised £21.50 with their Black History Month Trail, a fun and challenging activity for all who took part.

These and all the events we take part in show what generous and caring young people make up our community.

## Christmas Greetings from Heathcote School



If you would like to see our special electronic Christmas message, go to:

[http://www.heathcoteschool.com/a\\_christmas\\_message\\_from\\_the\\_head.php](http://www.heathcoteschool.com/a_christmas_message_from_the_head.php)



## Dates for Your Diary

4th January	New term begins	Monday 15th-Friday 19th February	Half Term Break
18th January	Yr 10 and 11 Chemistry exams	Monday 15th-Tuesday 16th February	Study Support
20th January	Yr 10 and 11 Physics exams	22nd February	New half term begins
28th January	Yr 11 Parents Evening	23rd February	Year 9 Industry Day
29th January	Yr 11 Mock Interview Day	25th February	Options information evening
11th February	Heathcote Challenge Day	2nd March	Maths module exams Yr10 and 11
		3rd March	Science module Yr 10
		4th March	Year 9 parents
		23-24th March	GCSE Music recording
		25th March	Yr 10 Parents Evening
		1st April	Training and development day, holiday begins

## Waltham Forest Councillors visit Heathcote School

Councillor Ali and Councillor Robbins visited Heathcote on Thursday 24th September. The Leader of the council and the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People came to see Heathcote School's Olympic Rings.

These rings were made by students from Heathcote, Highams Park and Rushcroft working together during Excellence Challenge week in July. They hang proudly on our Atrium Wall and are a total of 4.5m wide 3m high. The rings are made entirely of paper, held together with metal fastenings.



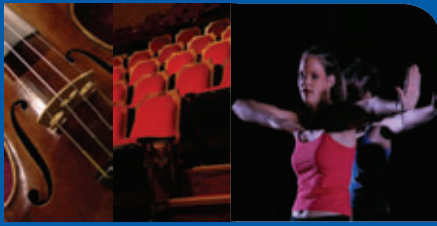
In his Children and Young People's Newsletter, Councillor Ali stated "We had a great time at the school and were delighted to see the students' work."

The Olympic Rings demonstrate:

- Our commitment to the Olympic values of "excellence, respect and friendship" and the Paralympic vision to "empower, achieve and inspire".
- The partnership between schools in North Chingford
- The importance of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) for our economic future
- That we promote London and Waltham Forest as an Olympic city and Borough



## Music/ Drama/ Art



## Samba Dancing Leytonstone Light Up Festival PE & Art Department



The year 10 GCSE dancers performed Samba dancing at the Light Up Festival in Leytonstone which took place in October. The dancers had a specialist Samba teacher who taught two Samba workshops in school in which they learnt some specialist choreography; this was then performed on the evening. The event was also linked up with the Art department who designed and made the costumes which the dancers performed in. Well done to the GCSE dancers for showing excellent performance skills and a massive thanks to the Art department and all those involved for the time and effort put into making the costumes for the event.

## Drama Evenings

A big thank you to all the students who took part in the three plays staged during the Drama evenings on 3rd and 4th December. All three were slick productions and a delight for the audience to watch. We raised £171 for Light into Europe, the Romanian Charity for young deaf children.



## World Aids Day

As part of the World Aids Day activities on 1 December, the lessons for the week in the PSHE department focussed on myths and facts about HIV, transmission of HIV and a general awareness of HIV and the situation around the world. An interesting fact: Currently there are more than 85 000 people in the UK living with HIV and a quarter of them have not been diagnosed.



Students showing their support in the Awareness of World Aids

## Too Much Punch for Judy

As part of the PSHE programme and in collaboration with the Department of Road Safety in the Borough of Waltham Forest, a play, Too Much Punch for Judy, was put on for all Year 11 students. The play is incredibly powerful in terms of showing the impact



that drink driving has on the victims; the responsibilities we have as individuals; and the consequences of getting into a car with someone who has been drinking. A Question and Answer session, which included facts and statistics, followed this incredibly emotional play. Students who were questioned, stated that the play was 'interesting', 'informative', 'sad', and 'shocking', 'Wow!', 'fantastic', 'interesting', were just

a few of the words used to describe the play.

In collaboration with the Department of Road Safety in the Borough of Waltham Forest, the PSHE department hosted a play, for all Year 10 students, about driving under the influence of drugs and not being misled about the impact drugs have on individuals and their reaction times. The play had an interactive element

where students were able to get involved to demonstrate reactions and behaviour.





# Science



## Science Club

Dr Lewis and Ms Mahmood put on two really exciting events for Science Club. They demonstrated the effects of dry ice and liquid nitrogen on different materials, and even used the dry ice to make ice cream which was shared by the students. It was a really fun event, and extremely well attended.

**They even used the dry ice to make ice cream which was shared by the students.**



## DNA day at Imperial College

Six year 9 students enjoyed the brand new facilities at Imperial College London. The students partook in activities as part of the Aim Higher scheme to give students a taste of university life. Ashley, Amy, Leon, Katie, Ismael and Mems practiced lab skills such as measuring very small quantities using micropipettes.



The students also learned about the science of DNA and the methods used to produce a DNA fingerprint.

**Imperial College London**

The students used their new found skills to discover the identity of a criminal using DNA fingerprinting.

The mentors at the university were impressed as well, commenting on the skills demonstrated by the students and their mature and pleasant manner.



# Applied Science Cohort Visits Kew Gardens



**Students were given a guided tour allowing them to collect essential information for their coursework**

Year 11 students completing the Applied Science GCSE course together with year

10 students starting the BTEC Diploma in Applied Science visited Kew Gardens. Students were given a guided tour allowing them to collect essential information for their coursework, to get to know the site and the people working there. Throughout the day there was a special focus on careers in science, especially those hands-on essential to the running of Kew.

## Transport for London Visit

Heather Doyle from Transport for London ran an interactive talk for Key Stage 3 students on September 24th. As part of the personal safety section of PSHE, students in years 7, 8 and 9 had extended assemblies to help them understand how to travel safely.



Ms Doyle spoke to each year group about the safety on buses and trains and the dangers of playing on railway lines. She also focussed on what to do in the event of an emergency, including the roles and responsibilities of individuals involved. Students were reminded of how their behaviour impacted on the lives of others who used public transport. They were also made aware of their own rights when using public transport.



The information session included explanations from Ms Doyle and role plays engaged the students and allowed them to ask a wide range of questions related to the use of public transport.

## Year 10 Natural History Museum



Year 10 students studying Triple Science had the wonderful opportunity of visiting the Natural History Museum. During their visit, students discovered 'How Science Works' by participating in an experiment to find microfossils in a sample of clay, and then use this information to date the rock. Students enjoyed identifying the microscopic fossils in a microscope and were surprised to find their rock was 'Early Cretaceous' (over 110 million years old!).



Some of the comments from the students were, 'It was interesting to discover the hidden fossils and find out their date', and 'It was brilliant to see our own fossils that we found'. Students also visited the Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition. Students were thrilled by the beauty of many of the



images, and like the idea that not all science happens in a laboratory – some scientists are armed with just a camera! Some comments from students were, 'The photographs were amazing, and the way they captured life in its most beautiful state', and 'I liked seeing all the really good photographs people had taken, and the stories about them'. As well as visiting many of the permanent displays, the students also had the opportunity to explore the brand new Darwin Centre, called the Cocoon, at the Museum. Overall, the students had a fantastic day, and it inspired them to return on their own in the future.



## Be Safe Evening

Heathcote held our "Be Safe" evening on Wednesday 23rd September, featuring presentations from a number of visitors.

Mr William Wybrew from Transport for London delivered a talk on public transport issues and informative discussions about the Oyster Card provision for young people.



Mr Joe Hipkin from Bikeworks gave detailed information about the structure of the Level 1 and 2 courses, which have since taken place.

There was information on issues around road safety presented by Ms Belle Kainth from The Road Safety Team in Waltham Forest.

### **"PC Pete Westall raised awareness about personal safety and gave advice on common sense action"**

Our Safer Schools Team officer, PC Pete Westall raised awareness about personal safety for students and adults covering: mobile phones, transport and home security. He gave advice on common sense action and approaches to dealing with a variety of scenarios which the public may encounter.

Ms Nash gave a very informative presentation on cyber safety. There was some excellent information and a guide to keeping your child safe on the internet and the world of MSN and social network sites.



## The Big Debate

At the end of November, the debating team from Heathcote School went and debated against Rushcroft and won the competition. The debate was about whether religion caused more harm than good with Heathcote being on the opposition.

We argued that religion caused more good than harm and Rushcroft spoke in favour of the motion. Rushcroft started and ended and, over the course of the debate, they brought up some good and thought provoking points, but in the end the prize went to Heathcote who won by only one point.

The debating team was made up of Harry Cockerell, Hannah Solinunte, Rosanna Brown and Henry Wisbey - Broom



Pictured here is the first group of Heathcote Key Stage 3 students receiving their certificates. They are taking part in the new "LICENCE TO COOK" scheme. This Government scheme was introduced by our school into the curriculum in September 2009.



## Chellington Centre Residential

19-23rd October

Twelve Year 7 & 8 students took part in a residential trip based in a converted church in Bedfordshire.

The residential focused on taking pupils away from the city to live in the country and see how the two differed. Activities involved team building games, a night walk, a camp fire and a visit to a local farm. All students showed outstanding behaviour and were excellent ambassadors for Heathcote School. A big thank you to the teaching staff who led the trip: Miss Armitage, Ms Smith and Mr Lapping.



## Macmillan Coffee Morning



On Friday October 9th 2009 Students raised £209 in aid of the Macmillan Nurses. The world's biggest coffee morning has been another great success at Heathcote this year. Across the country, people attended coffee mornings to raise money for people affected by cancer. Heathcote students and staff came together in

the school hall to drink coffee and orange juice and to buy cakes and croissants to raise money for this worthy cause. Thanks go to all those who supported by making cakes, selling cakes or purchasing cakes on the day.

WELL DONE HEATHCOTE!!



## Mr Monksfield is a star in the deaf world in Romania

Heathcote has new friends in Europe through the Romania project. Our project is to make a positive difference to education of deaf people in Romania



Last half term Mr Monksfield visited deaf schools in Romania. The children were delighted to meet a successful deaf person. Very few deaf adults in Romania have jobs so the children have low expectations of themselves. Mr Monksfield was a role model to the children. He met 300 deaf children and visited 6 schools.



In Romania there are very low expectations of deaf people

- Children don't start school until age 7
- The schools don't have modern equipment
- Hearing aids are not serviced so they often don't work
- Deafness is looked down on, very few deaf adults have jobs
- Parents don't believe their deaf children will get jobs
- Deaf children have low expectations of themselves

**Heathcote School is helping by**

- Raising money
- Making and selling cards at Heathcote School
- Making friends in Romania by writing letters
- Sending teaching ideas
- Inviting their teachers over here





## Sports News



Once again we are proud to celebrate some of our sporting achievements.

### Year 11: 2012 Youth Ambassador's Programme



Onoufrios Theodoulou is our School's Youth Ambassador for the 2012 London Olympics.

### Year 7



Charlie Weston won the Waltham Forest Cross Country Championship. Congratulations!

### Year 9: Basketball

Our under 14's basketball team entered the WF league and are doing very well.

Our top goal scorer for Year 7 and 8 is Christie Aristidou while Jemma Greenhalgh is top for Year 9, 10 and 11.



### Year 10: Football Team

The school has not previously entered the Essex Cup and are doing very well. They have got St Martin's in the next round before Christmas.

### Year 8 Football

Year 8 had a good run, but were knocked out of the Essex Cup on penalties.

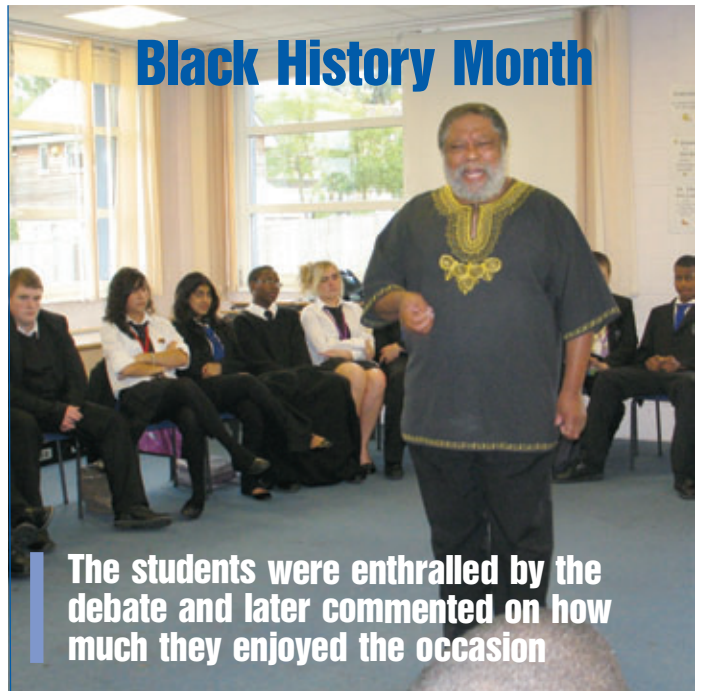


### Girls Football

Both our teams are top of their leagues;

Year 7 and 8 are undefeated.

## Black History Month



The students were enthralled by the debate and later commented on how much they enjoyed the occasion

Students from Years 9 and 11 had the opportunity this year to take part in a discussion group on the history of South Africa with Mr. Baker, a member of the ANC, who talked about issues

of apartheid and the role of Nelson Mandela.

Mr. Baker praised the quality of the students questioning, commenting that it showed great maturity

Mr. Baker was the first black South African to vote in the first democratic elections to be held in the country in 1994. The students were enthralled by the debate and

later commented on how much they enjoyed the occasion, especially the chance to question someone who had taken part in such historic events. Mr. Baker praised the quality of the students questioning, commenting that it showed great maturity.

### Heathcote's new website goes live

This term saw the start of Heathcote's **new Website**. Our new site has been designed to highlight and celebrate the successes of our students. As well as News articles there are links to the popular **MyMaths** and **SAMLearning** Websites, and to Parent Portal. You can use the site to view and download letters home or to check which House is winning the House competition. Any student with an achievement to celebrate should see Mr Bookatz with the details. Log on to [www.heathcoteschool.com](http://www.heathcoteschool.com) to see what you or your friends have been doing.

[www.heathcoteschool.com](http://www.heathcoteschool.com)



The aim of Heathcote School & Science College is to provide an excellent education in a safe, supportive learning environment, where people are valued and make positive contributions to the school community and where students go on to become responsible, independent members of society.