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Science



supporting individual excellence



Specialist Schools and Academies Trust  
EXCELLENCE AND DIVERSITY



Backing Young People!



## Cheering for Heathcote!

On Tuesday 14th March, Heathcote's cheerleading team visited Longshaw Primary School and performed several excellent cheer routines.

The cheerleading team, who have been practising hard every Wednesday afternoon, looked fantastic in their cheerleading uniforms and pom poms. They gave a really energetic and enthusiastic demonstration of their cheerleading skills to a class of Year 4 pupils.

Five Year 11 Dance Leaders, who have been working with the cheerleaders, also took part in the activities. After watching the performance, the Year 4 pupils worked with the Dance Leaders to do a warm up and then were taught some basic cheerleading moves.

The morning finished with the Year 4 students putting together and showing their own cheerleading routine.

**"Please come back and work with my class!" were the words of one impressed Longshaw teacher.**

All Heathcote pupils involved did extremely well, not only in performing, but also in teaching and encouraging the Longshaw children during the workshop. "Please come back and work with my class!" were the words of one impressed Longshaw teacher.

Indeed, the cheerleaders are due to make a second appearance at Ainsle Wood School after Easter, and hope to be cheering for Heathcote at forthcoming netball matches!

**Anyone interested in becoming a cheerleader should see Ms Wellard**



## A Message from the Head



Barry Herson,  
Headteacher

**Welcome to our new style newsletter.**

Those of you that have had children at Heathcote for a few years know that we are continually asking you and our students what you think. However, we have not been good at keeping you in touch the views of other families and what your children tell us. Just as important are the changes we make because of what you say.

We will usually publish this newsletter once each term, but there will be special editions to keep you informed of important developments in the lives of your children and the progress of the school.

In this edition you will read about some of the highlights of the last term ranging from the award of Healthy School status to Heathcote through to the fun and serious sides of Red Nose Day.

Visitors to the school will know that our new building has the potential to be a wonderful learning environment, but it remains a work in progress. I wish to assure you that we will work with Waltham Forest and the builders Kier to have the site fully operational as soon as possible.

Best wishes,

*Barry Herson*

# Healthy Schools Status



Heathcote has been given another prestigious award. We have achieved Healthy Schools Status. Visitors to the school came and looked at our work on a number of different levels: our increased PE provision, our healthy school meals, the health and nutrition education available for all our students and our involvement in all kinds of projects which promote health and well being of ourselves and our communities.

By next year, all our students will receive the recommended two hours of PE, along with our increased provision in dance and sports leadership awards. Visitors to the canteen praised our lunches, some saying they had not come across better. There were visits to lessons, and opportunities to look at our curriculum and how we educate our children to be healthy and informed.

This is a great achievement, brought about by lots of people's hard work and our commitment to raising healthy standards.

## Rotary Young Chef Contest



This year is the first time that Heathcote School has entered the Rotary Young Chef Contest. The preliminary heats were held in school on 18th January 2007 with 20 students taking part from Years 8, 9 and 10. The students worked in pairs to produce a main course meal. The preliminary heats were judged by the school Chair of Governors Ian Moyes and the Healthy Schools Link Governor Debbie Cotterill, who both enjoyed lunch with the

students before heats took place.

The preliminary heat was won by Theo Theodoulou and Scott McDonnell. Theo and Scott went on to take part in the semi-final at Beal High School along with 20 other young chefs who were all awarded certificates and professional cookery books.

The contest encouraged students to appreciate healthy eating and healthy cooking.

We hope this will be an annual event in the school calendar.

## United Kingdom Mathematics Competition.

Students from Years 9, 10 and 11 took part in the Intermediate Stage of the United Kingdom Mathematics Challenge. This is aimed at the top 30% of mathematicians in England, Wales and Scotland in this age group and 202,238 students took part. Heathcote entered 77 students and achieved our best results ever. Well done to the 9 students who achieved a Bronze certificate, Mark Dixon who achieved a Silver certificate and especially to Ashley Steward who achieved a gold certificate.

Ashley did well enough to qualify for the next stage of the tournament and will be representing Heathcote in the National competitions.

## Creative Writing

Year 11s have just come to the end of an eight week course in Creative Writing.

The sessions, part of the Year 11 Learning to Learn curriculum, were delivered by poet Meryl Pugh. Our students used a variety of images and other sources to evoke ideas, thoughts and responses. They were given the opportunity to feedback on the course and were extremely positive about their experience.

## Young Writers

Earlier this term we invited students to submit work to a competition, being run by the National Union of Teachers, for their publication. The theme was "Is this a good time to be young?" Students' writing was used in the most recent edition of the "Education Review".

Congratulations to Hira Ayub, Stanley Rawlins and Charlotte Herbert all of 9/6 who had their work published in this prestigious book.

## Red Nose Day

On Friday 16th March the Heathcote School Community took part in the 'Big One,' in aid of Comic Relief. Students and staff dug deep, made their contributions and wore something red. We are pleased to announce that the whole school worked together to raise a grand total of £925.28, for this worthy cause.

In particular, Year 7 students had the brilliant idea to raise some money by making and selling red cakes, enjoyed by those who were fortunate to sample them and sold in the space of 20 minutes.

We would like to extend our thanks to everyone who entered into the 'Spirit' of the day and made it an enjoyable and successful event.



# Sports News



*Continued from back page*

## Olympic Youth Ambassador

This academic year David Holby has been representing Heathcote as the Olympic Youth Ambassador in Waltham Forest.

He attends meetings with the Olympic Planning Committee putting forward the views of teenagers in this Olympic

Borough. David has visited the Olympic site and toured the BBC to look at the media and broadcasting incorporated in the Games.

He will leave this post when he leaves Heathcote and we will look for a new representative for the next academic year.

**Junior Sports Leader Award**  
Four Sports Leaders, Ben Stowe, Hayley Vaughan, Loretta Kamah and Emma Nicholson attended a Sports Leader conference at the David Beckham Academy in March.



This year a number of Year 11 students have completed the Junior Sports Leader Award (JSLA).

Many of them have worked in the local primary schools helping with their PE lessons and giving up their free time to assist with after school clubs.

Five students have also successfully completed the Junior Dance Leaders Award for the first time at Heathcote.

The sports leaders organised 2 Tri Golf festivals at Heathcote which were attended by over 11 local primary schools.

## Dates for Your Diary

Monday 16th April	Return to School
Friday 27th April	Practical Examinations commence
Thursday 3rd May	Year 7 Parents Evening
Tuesday 8th - Friday 11th May	SATs Examinations - Year 9
Monday 14th May	GCSE Written Examinations commence
Monday 28th May - Friday 1st June	Half Term - 1 week
Wednesday 4th July	School Closed - Training Day - Year 6 Induction
Tuesday 10th July	Sports Day
Wednesday 18th July	Industry Day
Friday 20th July	Last day of term



## Student Questionnaire

We have been finding out our students' opinions about their experiences at school and their learning. We are using an on-line poll programme, so students can log on and answer confidentially. So far about a third of our

students have taken part, from various different year groups. Hopefully all will have had a chance to voice their opinions in the near future. There are also polls on issues like bullying, and there will be a chance for parents to log on and take part too. Here is a selection of answers from the first sample.

### This is a good school to be at

Number of voters: 364

Opinion	Votes	%
Strongly agree	35	9.62
Agree	223	61.26
Disagree	40	10.99
Strongly disagree	11	3.02
Don't know	55	15.11

### I am taught well

Number of voters: 366

Opinion	Votes	%
Strongly agree	37	10.11
Agree	239	65.30
Disagree	45	12.30
Strongly disagree	5	1.37
Don't know	40	10.93

### Teachers expect me to work hard and do my best

Number of voters: 368

Opinion	Votes	%
Strongly agree	158	42.93
Agree	189	51.36
Disagree	45	12.30
Strongly disagree	5	1.37
Don't know	40	10.93

### My work is assessed helpfully so that I can see how to improve it

Number of voters: 368

Opinion	Votes	%
Strongly agree	36	9.78
Agree	191	51.90
Disagree	82	22.28
Strongly disagree	11	2.99
Don't know	48	13.04

### I feel trusted to do things on my own

Number of voters: 371

Opinion	Votes	%
Strongly agree	88	23.72
Agree	186	50.13
Disagree	33	8.89
Strongly disagree	16	4.31
Don't know	48	12.94

### Worthwhile Opinion - homework is set regularly

Number of voters: 370

Opinion	Votes	%
Strongly agree	69	18.65
Agree	178	48.11
Disagree	67	18.11
Strongly disagree	35	9.46
Don't know	21	5.68

## Science



### Science Week 2007

Schools all over the country took part in a number of activities in recognition of the importance of Science.

We were fortunate to have Peter Joyce, from the Past Present Science Company performing two shows on Galileo Galilei. In period costume, he became Galileo for the day entertaining and informing both Year 9 and Year 10 audiences.

Peter portrayed the rebellious and eccentric nature of the

Scientist, displaying all the traits of defiance, recklessness and a lack of regard for the customs and traditions of the time.

The brilliance of his questioning mind as he formulated the basic laws of falling bodies, constructed a telescope with which he studied lunar craters, and discovered four moons revolving around Jupiter were also communicated to the audience with simplicity, humour and enthusiasm.

The one hour performance started with Galileo escaping from his jailer Jesseppi, to deliver his historical recount of his struggles. The finale summarised his scientific achievements.

Peter's communication of the overwhelming joy of scientific discovery will stay with all of us for a long time.



### Congratulations to Sid Young

of 10/4 who has been selected to represent Waltham Forest in the London Youth Games.

This is an incredible achievement. Well Done.

## Sports News



### Cross Country

The school has been heavily involved in the cross country season. Students took part in the Redbridge and Waltham Forest Cross Country Leagues and also the Waltham Forest Cross Country Championship. Jessica Ward ran extremely well in the Championships picking up the gold medal in the Year 11, Jay Andrews winning silver in the Year 8 race and Jessica Beech winning bronze in the Year 7 race.

Jay Andrews finished 7th in the Essex Championships and was selected to represent Essex in the Southern Counties Championships in Southampton where the Essex team won gold.

### London Mini Marathon

Jay Andrews, Lauren Pereira, Joseph Glynn, Jake Hubbard and Bradley Rowe were all selected to represent Waltham Forest on Marathon Day.

### Netball

Heathcote was represented in all the Netball League but pride of place must go to the Year 7 and

Year 8 team, who finished strongly in the league and missed the semi finals of the Waltham Forest League by goal difference.

They are due to play in the Waltham Forest Netball rally at Holy Family School on March 29th.

These girls were extremely committed, training every week and representing the school in an excellent manner.

### Badminton

Five students are due to take part in the Borough Championships at Kelmscott Leisure Centre: Theo and Nofi Theoloudou, Grace Jones, Arron Stavri and Jack Rogers.

### Football

Heathcote had teams in every Year group both in the Waltham Forest League and Cup. The league is still currently being played, Year 9 and Year 10 teams are progressing very well.

The Year 10 team still remain in the Waltham Forest Cup and are matches are due to be completed after Easter.

The girls also took part in the Waltham Forest League organised by Leyton Orient.

The Year 7/8 team finished 7th in their league out of 13 teams and the Year 9/10/11 finished down in 10th place.

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<http://heathcote.waltham-forest.lgfl.net>



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.