THE ONLINE NEWSLETTER FROM HOCKERILL ANGLO-EUROPEAN COLLEGE

OCTOBER 2013 ISSUE 22

HOCKERILL E:NEWS

Principal's Column

Dear Parents

I am delighted to be able to pen my first Principal's column for the E:news publication. On behalf of all of the staff at the College I would like to welcome those joining Hockerill for the first time to our community.

It has been an exciting start to term and I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all those individuals who have welcomed my family and I into the community. It has quickly become evident that Hockerill is a unique school and one which all those involved with should feel very proud of. There is so much on display that is excellent, and I hope that this, and future editions of the E:news showcase these areas for friends and family of the College.

I look forward to meeting more of you over the coming months.

Mr Richard Markham

NOTICES

Saturday 5th October
Alumni Fun Day
12 noon to 4 pm

Thursday 10th October
Hockerill Parents and Friends Cheese and Wine evening including AGM 8 pm Library

Friday 18th October
Half term begins – students depart at 3.40 pm

Special Notice
College closed on Monday 4th November 2013

To view Term Dates for 2013-14 please click here.

HOW TO CONTACT US

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www.hockerill.com

Hockerill Old Students' Fun Day

We very much hope to see you at our Family Fun Day on the 5th October from 12.00 – 16.00. There are many activities for all of the family to enjoy, including Birds of Prey, fingerprinting by the local police, assault course, bungee run, barbeque, brie and wine, raffle, tombola, smash the crockery and win a BMW for a weekend! Please support us and if you are able to bring a cake on the day for our tea and cake stall, or a bottle or chocolate for the tombola, we would be very grateful.

Any queries please email me at: shellardb@hockerill.herts.sch.uk All monies raised will go towards upgrading the lighting in the Chapel.

In July we held a quiz attended by 40 people with a fish and chip supper. £193.00 was raised for the Sports Hall appeal. Our thanks to Peter Hopkins for the quiz and delivering it, and to all those who supported the event.

Mrs B Shellard

Competition Announcement:

PHOTOGRAPHIC CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITON 2013

The overall winning photograph will be printed as the Hockerill 2013 official school greeting card and go on sale for students, parents and staff to purchase. The winner will also receive one hundred points for their Equipe and everyone who enters will receive one point per student for their individual Equipe (one entry per student).

The competition will be launched to students on: Monday 7th October and closing date is Wednesday 6th November. The winner will be selected by Mr Markham and announced on Monday 11th November. The winning greeting card will go on sale in the Reception and at the Christmas market. After the winner has been announced. all profits will go to the Hockerill fund.

For further information look out for the posters or please see Ms Dalby – Art Teacher

Boarders' Equipe Problem Solving Challenge: Sunday 8th September 2013

I really liked the afternoon especially the problem solving games. My favourite was the Shepherd and the Sheep one where the sheep had to wear gas masks with the eye holes blocked out so they could not see. The Shepherd then had to get each sheep into a 'pen' by directing each sheep (forwards, to the right etc). It was a fun game. I also liked the one where we had to go across two barrels along planks and get to the other side with the planks. It was really enjoyable and a great way to meet all the new full boarders on an afternoon where the sun managed to come out (and the rain held off right until the end when Miss Davis dismissed us all)! We also played some different sports including football, rounders and a long jump challenge where Mr Jones found his own wacky way of scoring!

Thank you to Miss Davis, all the boarding staff and the other students who all helped to organise the afternoon.

Theo Hall Year 7

Date for your diary. Careers Fair

Hockerill will be hosting a Careers Fair on Thursday 7th November from 7pm-9pm in St Alban's Hall and the gym. The event will be open to students and parents in Years 9-13. There will also be the opportunity to attend smaller bookable seminars between 6pm-7pm on specialist topics such as applying to Oxbridge, student finance, studying in Scotland and a number of other topics.

If you are able to help at this event by coming along and being available for students to ask you about your career and career path, please contact Ms A.McCulloch by the 30th September.

The Careers Department would like to remind parents and students alike about the Twitter account and Blog edited by the Careers Department at Hockerill. See the following links for more information:

http://hockerillcareersdepartment.blogspot.co.uk/

https://twitter.com/HockerillColl

In Depth!

In September we have established a new club to allow groups of students from years 7 to 10 to work with like-minded 6th formers on a project of their choosing. We have called it 'In Depth!' to reflect the kind of thinking that we would like to encourage our students to develop; the actual project is without defined parameters or teacher-led guidance. Whilst this club is open to any student at Hockerill who is interested in pursuing an investigation in a group setting, we believe that it would particularly suit our Gifted and Talented cohort and encourage any student who has excess academic energy to expend it an environment where the only objective is to delight in an intellectual challenge.

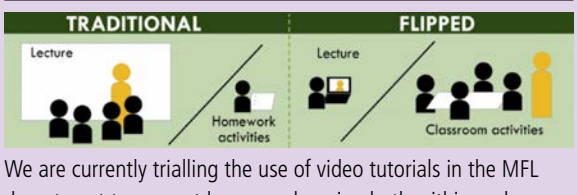
I am also attaching some links for activities and courses which your son or daughter may wish to enrol in for some extra intellectual challenge:

http://www.giftltd.co.uk./courses/students

http://www.olpoxford.org/learningplatform/

Mrs A Rajakumar

Languages – Video Tutorials and 'Flipped Learning'



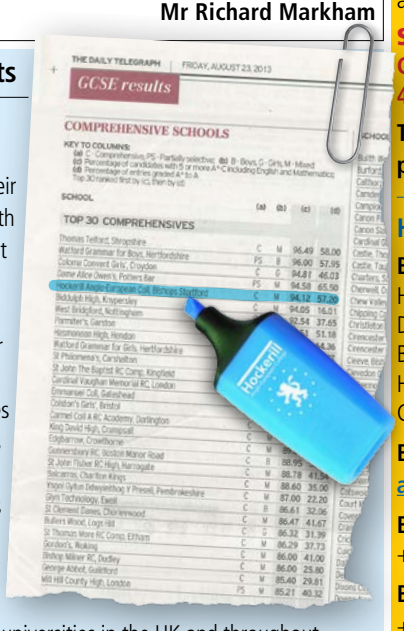
We are currently trialling the use of video tutorials in the MFL department to support language learning both within and without the confines of the classroom. This style of learning is often dubbed 'flipped learning' and you may have read about it in the media. In the 'flipped learning' classroom, students can pre-learn vocab and grammatical patterns through watching short, tightly-focussed video tutorials prior to entering the classroom; consolidate their learning through watching the video after the relevant lesson; and expand their knowledge by browsing future lessons. Importantly, students can watch the videos as often and as many times as they choose, thus allowing young people to work at a pace which is optimised for their individual learning styles. With the 'lecture' part of each lesson accessible on-line by students out of school time, the classroom is freed up as a place for experimentation and manipulation of skills and knowledge.

As well as accessing video tutorials on-line in their own time, students are also increasingly using the videos during class time. In the Art department this practice is already well-established and in Japanese, small groups are able to work with the teacher during class time, whilst others are accessing the on-line learning tools. Although in its early days, the response from the students has been most encouraging, and we are rolling out training to enable video tutorials to be produced in all faculty areas in the future.

To view a selection of Japanese video tutorials, please follow the link: http://www.screencast.com/users/ARajakumar

Mrs A Rajakumar

Academic Results



Our Year 11 and 13 students spent the summer waiting for their examination results with a mixture of excitement and trepidation. The IBDP graduates were the first to receive their results and there were many notable successes with nineteen students achieving 40 points or more: this result places those students in the top 5% worldwide. Our students secured places at the very best universities in the UK and throughout the world. The most popular university with Hockerill students this year was Edinburgh with eight starting in September. Other popular universities are as follows: Bristol (5 students), Cambridge (4), Cardiff (5), City (2), Durham (5), Exeter (4), Glasgow (3), Hague (3), King's College London (3), Lancaster (3), Leicester (2), McGill (2), Nottingham (5), Oxford (4), St Andrews (2), University College London UCL (2), UEA (2) and Warwick (3). The list is a long and prestigious one and we are extremely proud of our Diploma graduates.

In August, the long wait for GCSE results was over and the hard work our students and staff had put in was finally rewarded with a fantastic set of results. Nearly 60% of all entries were graded at A* or A which meant that Hockerill was once again one of the top-performing schools in the country. 94% of students exceeded the 5 A*-C benchmark. Very well done to all concerned!

Mr G Roberts

Hockerill Equestrian Team Trip to Burghley Horse Trials

After less than a week back at school members of the Equestrian team and other horse enthusiasts boarded the school minibus and headed to Burghley Horse Trials. This was a school trip with a difference as after an easy journey there was time to shop before the horses and riders were out on the course. Most of the day was spent walking around the 4 mile Cross Country Course, watching the horse and riders tackle each of the enormous and seriously awkward jumps. The course is really impressive and there was the odd fall with both horse and rider hitting the ground luckily not hurting themselves too badly. It was exciting to see some of the Team GB Eventers such as Tina Cooke and William Fox-Pitt who had won silver at last year's Olympics but the stars of the day were the New Zealanders led by Jock Paget, who went on to win overall.

After seeing the last horses on course there was time to Autograph Hunt (where Alice, Emma and I found Clare Balding) before the journey back to school. We would all like to say thank you to Mrs Pierrejean for organising the trip and for taking us all with her.

Katya Byng Yr 9

A new sporting year!

At the time of writing the students are in full flow of training for Rugby, Hockey, Netball and Basketball. We have also had many students taking part in running club which takes place every Friday morning before school meeting at 07:20am at the Field changing rooms. Many of these students have been preparing themselves for the recent Equipe Cross County competition or just for their general health and well-being. At Hockerill we pride ourselves on taking part in a range of sports and also in being successful. No matter what your ability there are clubs at the college for students to take part in and I am delighted we will have more A, B & C team fixtures this academic year. During the summer I was delighted that we put out A through to E team fixtures against the Bishop's Stortford College in rounders.

This year also sees us embark on more ambitious fixtures on Saturday afternoons in rugby against Culford , Felsted and Bancrofts all independent schools. I have been overwhelmed with the support from parents support in emails and discussions on the side lines at fixtures this year. We are delighted with the appointment of Miss Hyde our new Head of Girls PE who is joining us from a local independent school and also Mr Coleman and Mr George both sports coaches who also play rugby for Bishop's Stortford 1st XV.

Here are the final results from last Friday's Equipe Cross Country competition for Y7-Y10.

Total Points

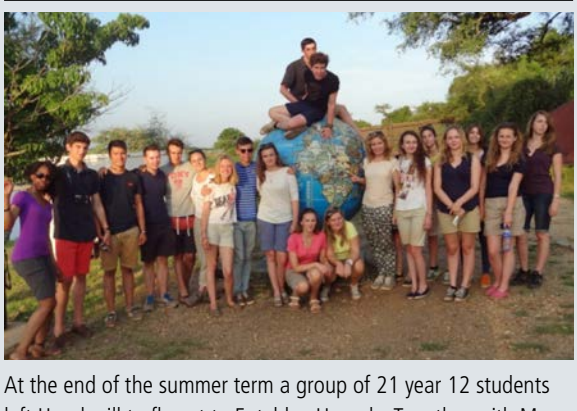
	7G	7B	8G	8B	9G	9B	10G	10B	Points	Overall
Brunel	50	25	75	75	50	75	50	50	450	4th
Da Vinci	75	50	50	50	75	25	75	100	500	2nd
Goethe	100	100	100	25	25	100	25	75	550	1st
Pascal	25	75	25	100	100	50	100	25	500	2nd

Congratulations and well done Goethe Equipe.

Well done everyone, thank you for your commitment and I very much look forward to the next Equipe competitions of Rugby and Hockey in November!!!

Mr R Loveday

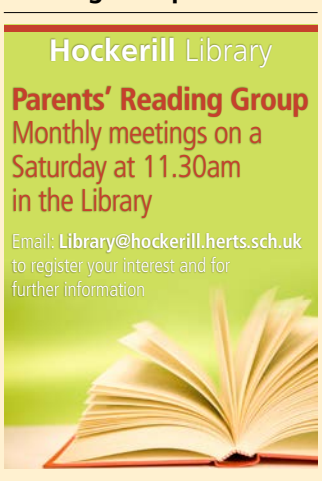
Hockerill's first trip to Uganda



At the end of the summer term a group of 21 year 12 students left Hocvkerill to fly out to Entebbe, Uganda. Together with Mr Jackson, Mrs Hodder and Miss Johnson, they spent two weeks working at Kira Farm – the flagship programme of our partner charity Amigos. At the farm our students met a group of young Ugandans (typically aged between 17 and 28) who have been sponsored by the charity to spend a year learning sustainable farming techniques and vocational skills such as carpentry, construction and tailoring. Part of the charity's work takes place in the villages surrounding Kira farm and our students helped in the construction of three gigantic water jars – making life much easier for the people in the village. In addition our students visited a number of local school children and spent a day teaching at Green Valley primary school. Keen to see more of Uganda we left Kira Farm and travelled to Jinja, the source of the River Nile. Here we spent a nerve-wracking but brilliant day rafting down the river, negotiating several rapids on the way. We also travelled to the north of Uganda, visiting Misindi and Murchison Falls National Park for an incredible land and river safari. The trip, a first for Hockerill, was a fantastic experience for all involved. As so many of our students said, it was the trip of a lifetime.

Mr L Jackson

HAEC Library - Parents' Reading Group



This is a friendly and informal group which meets approximately once a month on Saturday mornings. At the meetings we get together to read and discuss books from a wide range of genres. It is a great opportunity to meet other Hockerill parents, find out about events organised by the Library and to gain an insight into what the students are currently reading. The group is run by Mrs Ballard, the College Librarian and supported by Mrs Bruce, the Senior Library Assistant. The next meeting will be on Saturday 12th October, at 11:30 am. For further information please contact the Library at library@hockerill.herts.sch.uk.

Mrs J Ballard

Girls' Sport

Well done to all the girls who have attended clubs so far this term. We have had a great response from all year groups and I have been impressed with the commitment to date. Some new additions to clubs this year are Y7 hockey club on a Thursday morning starting at 7.45am on the Astro and early morning fitness club which will start Wednesday 2nd October at 7.45am on the Astro. I am also pleased with the mixed swimming club which runs on a Friday after school. Well done to the Senior girls Hockey team who beat Newport in their first fixture of the season 4 – 2.

Miss N Hyde

Sorry

We apologise for the error in the last edition in Mr Russell's report regarding the water sprinkler at the DT exhibition. It was made by Jenevieve Treadwell and not her sister Eleanor.

Mr A Russell

Roald Dahl Day in the Library

On Friday 13th September, 28 Year 7s took part in the Roald Dahl Day Quiz at lunch time and enjoyed some 'revolting' sweets! First prize went to Semilore Awodeyi 7P, second prize to Annie Doyle 7P and third prize to Elodie Gibby 7D. Thank you to everyone who took part.

Mrs Ballard

Mathematics

In Maths, students in Year 9 are doing a project on finding the 'Golden Ratio' in human bodies and faces. It is believed by some people that those whose faces and bodies contain the Golden Ratio are the most aesthetically pleasing and beautiful, and some people even believe that these people are divine! The Year 9s are investigating whether 'Golden or Divine People' really exist. They are also researching the Golden Ratio in nature.

Mr A Hill

India Trip

This summer, a group of 24 sixth-formers and 4 teachers went on a two week trip to Tamilnadu in India. The culture shock could not have been bigger: 35 degree heat and curry every day. We spent two weeks working in our partner school, run by the King's World Trust for Children. There, we were fully immersed into their lifestyle, as we lived with the students in the boarding houses, cared for by wondeful house mothers. During this time, the mornings were spent teaching the pupils in lessons. In the afternoons, we would work with a group of 50 children to put on a musical-theatre production of The Little Mermaid. Though hectic at times, the work was more than rewarding, with a fantastic performance by the children at the end. All in all, the trip was an amazing experience, and I would thoroughly recommend it to anyone!

Judy Kohler Yr 13