

HOCKERILLNEWS

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"That was the year that was ..."

Richard Markham, Principal

It seems only yesterday that the Michaelmas term started and with it my first year at Hockerill. Who would have imagined it would have passed so quickly? To pick out highlights is nigh on impossible as every day has brought a new experience, and the opportunity for students, staff and parents to observe my puzzlement at another 'Hockerillism'. I have come to love the phrase "only at Hockerill ..." and this year has been an absolute pleasure, even the brief flirtation with tabloid fame! With 12 months nearly under my belt there is no longer the refuge of naivety, but have no fear, I will develop an alternative strategy!



Intermediate Rotary Young Chef Award

I wish all our leavers the best of luck over the summer and beyond and hope that those returning in September have a safe and profitable break. This edition of the newsletter is in a

new format, an attempt to capture a flavour of the range of activities at the College since half-term. I hope you enjoy our reflections on an incredibly busy half-term and look forward to your summer holiday.



The World Cup

World Cup fever has swept through the College this term. Staff and students represent 20 of the 32 countries who began the tournament and Thames House alone has 11 countries represented by passionate fans.



NOTICES

Over the past few months the College has been working hard to update and revamp its website. The product of all that time is now visible. I hope you like the new version and that you find it easy to navigate. I would like to thank Mr Jacobs for his tireless work on this project.

The College is delighted to announce the election of three new Parent Governors

- Judith Braeckman
- Branimir Radukic
- Tareq Abouharb

were successful in the election earlier this year and join the Governing Body. Many thanks to all those who participated as candidates or voters.

HOW TO CONTACT US

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 Parents are invited to 'follow' the College's Twitter accounts which provide insights into areas of school life. **@HockerillCol** is the main College feed, and will feature key news. **@HockerillColl** is the Careers feed with news about Universities and careers. **@HAECBoarding** is the College's boarding account which shares the daily events for the boarding community.



Speech Day

"Instruction does much, but encouragement everything."
Goethe (Nov 9, 1768)

The fates smiled down on Hockerill for Speech Day with glorious weather for the annual event. This is a wonderful opportunity for the school community to come together and celebrate the achievements of the year.

This year the format of the day was adjusted to highlight a greater number of student achievements, and it was wonderful to see so many of the students coming up to receive their medals.

Thank you to all who made this day possible and for the many kind words which we have received from those who attended.





Hampers & Changers

The annual Hampers and Changers event was once again a roaring success with wonderful performances from students from Year 9 and above. The guests were entertained by a variety of musical styles, all expertly arranged and led by Mr Bond and his talented Music Department. This event provides the opportunity to showcase the talent of Hockerill musicians and once again they more than rose to the challenge.

Garden Party

This year saw an inaugural event on the day after Speech Day – the Hockerill Garden Party. The idea of the day was to showcase the talents of the College's younger musicians and thespians and to provide an opportunity for parents and staff to relax at the end of a busy weekend in tranquil surroundings.

Thames Orchard was re-designated a children's playground, with a range of inflatable games which saw great custom throughout the day.

Thank you to all the performers, staff and HPF helpers who made the afternoon possible.

The event was preceded by a 6-a-side cricket tournament which saw the staff side triumph over the students, parents and Alumni and Mole Green Cricket Club.



Sports Day

Sports Day provided the school with a wonderful opportunity to show the depth of athletic talent at its disposal. The event was a hard fought one and competition between the Equipes was very close.

Individual performances of note included:

Tristan Turner (10P)

Holly Davies (9D)

Abileola Soyinka (7D)

The overall Boys trophy was won by Brunel who were also successful in the Girls competition.





Yr 10 Creative Action Day



Yr 7 in Wales



Creative Action Days

This years Creative Action Days saw a range of activities and trips. Year 12 completed the Group 4 Projects and investigated a range of 'crimes'. Year 7 visited Wales and Year 10 undertook a circus of activities, individual team building and self-defence.

Trips and Exchanges

A number of trips and exchanges have taken place this term. The images below provide just a taste of the varied locations and activities undertaken on these.

Many thanks to all the staff who gave so generously of their time to accompany the trips and to the students for so admirably representing the College.



Yr 7 France (above) The walk from Mont St Michel to the mainland



Yr 8 Normandy Exchange



Yr 8 Berlin Exchange, Reichstagskuppel



Yr 10 Art Trip



Roding Colour Run

On Sunday 1st June 2014 the Senior Girls in Roding Boarding House took part in the London Colour Run. Also known as the "Happiest 5k on the Planet", this event is a unique colour race that celebrates healthiness, happiness, individuality, and giving back to the community. With the official charity partner being Save the Children, our Year 12 Girls were determined to do their part and fundraise to help change the future of millions of children world-wide. Enduring three miles of laughter-filled, colourful, running (and maybe a little bit of walking!), with paint powder being thrown over them at every kilometre, they managed to reach the Finish Line having been proud supporters of vulnerable children, both in the UK and internationally.



Duke of Edinburgh Awards

This term has been busy with various Duke of Edinburgh (D of E) Expeditions taking place. 93 students completed their Practice and Qualifying Bronze Expeditions. This was the first time that students had undertaken a challenge of this nature requiring physical and mental strength. A hardy group of students went to the Peak District along with Mr Loveday, Mr Parsons, Mr Jackson, Mrs Irish and Mrs Page to prepare for their Silver Expedition

and are now looking forward to their Qualifying Expedition.

The Gold D of E Award requires somewhere special where the walking is more challenging and the views are magnificent. 25 students completed their Practice Expedition and 8 students completed their Qualifying Expedition to Brecon Beacons from 12th – 16th June. Many congratulations to all those who have participated and to the staff who supervised these exciting expeditions.



The Year 11 Dinner & Dance

This provided an opportunity for the students to celebrate the conclusion of their GCSE/IGCSE examinations. The evening included musical performances, video link speeches, and a chance to reminisce.



MP Visits the College

The College was delighted to welcome local MP Mark Prisk to Hockerill. The occasion was a joint Interact Meeting to discuss how local Bishop's Stortford schools could help to break down the ICT literacy barriers within the community.



Junior Regional Hockey

Elizabeth Ward-Booth and Niall Trimble have both been selected for training & trials at the Junior Regional Performance Centre For Hockey.