



RECORD BREAKING NEWS!

From the Headteacher

We returned to school at the start of the new school year in very good heart. Once again we have achieved our best ever examination results at GCSE. Highlights include 79% 5 A*-C, 99% one or more GCSE passes, 30% of all grades at A*/A. KS3 SATs results were equally impressive - 90% level 5 or better in English, 88% in Mathematics and 88% in Science.

We were delighted with our first ever 'A' level results in AS - 38% of all grades at A/B, 92% pass rate and a 98% retention rate of students from Year 12 to Year 13. With the new Year 12 cohort we now have some 260 'A' level students in our 6th Form. We look forward very eagerly to our 120 Year 13 students gaining university entrance at the end of this school year. Finally, in relation to the 6th Form, a new build costing £3m plus is expected to start mid 2008 with a view to completion by May 2009. Very exciting times.

I am also very pleased to report that our new Year 8 have settled in very well in their first half term with us. Indeed all year groups are working purposefully and conducting themselves well. As ever we have the highest expectations of all our pupils and we look forward to many successes and great achievement throughout the year.

My thanks to parents/carers for your continuing support - a constructive and positive home school partnership is such a vital ingredient of high achievement and attainment.

Howard Freed.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Neeru and George for their Year 11 Head Prefect status, and to our first elected 6th Form Head Girl Holly Adams and Head Boy Charles De Lord.

Please find inside this issue names and positions of all other Year 11 prefects.



SCHOOL CALENDAR - SOME REMINDERS

Saturday 24 November 7.30pm

Tuesday 27 November 7.30pm

Autumn Term ends on Wednesday 19th December

Thursday 3rd January 2008

Friday 4th January

Monday 7th January

Thursday 14th February

Friday 15th February

Monday 18th - Friday 22nd February

Friday 21st March

Monday 24th March

Spring Term ends for pupils on Wednesday 2nd April

Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th April

Monday 21st April

Monday 5th May

Monday 26th - Friday 20th May

Summer Term ends on Wednesday 23rd July

QUIZ SUPPER Parents & Friends

Christmas Concert

Staff training day

Managed Learning Environment day

First day of Spring Term for pupils

Year 11 Ball

Staff training day

Half Term

Good Friday, school closed

Easter Monday, school closed

Staff training days

First day of Summer Term

May Day Bank Holiday, school closed

Half Term

A reminder that London local authorities (including Harrow) school holidays at half term in February 2008 and at Easter are not the same dates as some school holidays nearby e.g. Hertfordshire.



Neeru Ravi
Head Prefect



George Doel
Head Prefect



alexander watson

agents for homes, valuers
financial services and mortgages
28 -30 high street
pinner
middlesex
HAS SPW
Tel: 02088660127 Fax: 02088685159

ENGLISH NEWS

Writelines Poetry Project

The Writelines Poetry Project, aimed at developing young people's confidence in writing and performing their own poetry, is well underway for a second year running. This year's line-up features new cohort of students ranging from Year 8 -11, as well as some familiar faces from last year. Nower Hill has also been very fortunate to secure Jacob Sam Le Rose again as our poet coach and mentor. The pupils will spend the next five weeks refining their poetry before the Grand Showcase in late November at Harrow Arts Centre -everyone very welcome and details to follow.

Foyle Young Poets' Award

The Foyle Young Poets' Award is one the country's most prestigious poetry events run by the Poetry Society, whose patron is the Poet Laureate, Andrew Motion. Nower Hill was pleased to promote this competition to our students and of course was delighted upon hearing the news that **Kaja Mett** in Year 10 was a winner. Kaja's achievement is particularly outstanding when you consider that there were ten thousand entries. While Kaja attended an awards ceremony in Central London on October 4th. Nower Hill also wins a professional poet for the day in December who will work alongside other aspiring poets in the school. Congratulations Kaja for your much deserved success.

For Parents, Teachers and Friends of
Nower Hill School

Quiz Supper

from **7.30 to 10.30pm** (approx)

Saturday 24th November 2007

Please arrive from 7pm for a 7.30pm start

at Nower Hill High School Hall

Cost: £ 10 per head

Enter your own table of a team of 6 to 10; alternatively, come on your own and we'd be delighted to include you on a table, just mark your team name 'Parents & Friends'.

It's a great way to meet other parents and the 'Parents and Friends' team!. Our quiz master is expert at creating a light-hearted and entertaining atmosphere combined with an interesting and challenging quiz programme. A meal of Fish & Chips, Chicken & Chips or Vegetable Spring Roll & Chips plus Gateaux & Cream will be served. **(Please order your meal(s) on the return slip or pop into school to pick a slip up)** Please bring your own beer, wine and soft drinks.

Tickets will be issued with your child in the week before the event.

More English news...

Mini SAGAs Competition

Many congratulations to Daniel Seymour and Chinez Moneke, both in Year 10, who entered and won an English competition in which they had to write a mini SAGA in no more than twenty five words. Daniel and Chinez will have their work published in an anthology in December; copies will be available in the school library in January.

Keep an eye out for more exciting competitions run by the English Department on the notice board in the upstairs corridor in the volumetric.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL PUPILS BELOW ON GAINING PREFECT STATUS

2007 -2008 Nower Hill Prefects

Head Prefects: Neeru Ravi
George Doel

Deputy Head Prefects: Lucy Bowes
Helen O'Beirne
Zobaih Khaleqy
George McKerracher

Games Captains: Amy Reeves
(Deputy Head Prefect status) Elliott D'Cruz

Arts Captains: Alice Humble
(Deputy Head Prefect status) Charlotte Warne

Arts Prefects (Senior Prefect status):

Media: Lucy Avenell
Danielle Barratt

Music: Emily Greenwood
John Carter

Drama: Laura Cohen
Minal Tailor

Dance: Paige Ashley
Charlotte Warne

Art: Jayanta Ratanji
Philip Jones

Senior Library Prefect: Georgina Howkins-White

Senior Prefects: Brianna Barnes
Richard Franklin
Ashley Gayle
Javonne Molloy
Aaron Mordant
Myles Neary
Nikki Ravi
Jack Tipton
Maddie Todd
Chris Wright

Always follow the firework safety code
Please be careful this time of year.
www.berr.gov.uk/fireworks/



Year 8

Science Club

Mondays in S4

from 3.25pm to 4.15pm

**In the first few weeks we had :-
'Crushing Cans', 'Inside the Eyeball!' &
'Hot Crystals'**

Come and join the fun!

Celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade

As part of Harrow's celebration of Black History Month, Nower Hill was invited to attend an event being hosted by the Mayor at the Civic Centre on October 11th.

Four pupils from years nine, ten and eleven were chosen to represent the school, performing in front an audience of at least one hundred people ranging from Political Advisors, such as guest speakers Simon Woolley, Director of Operation Black Vote, and Lee Jasper, the Mayor of London's Director for Equalities and Policy, councillors and members of the public.

Rhiannon Ball and Nicola Foster, both in year nine, performed a role play impersonating a ship's captain and a slave; Kaja Mett performed a poem that she had written herself and recited work by William Blake; while Krishna Patel performed a 'one-man' role play taking on both the persona of a plantation owner and a slave. All four students' performances were of a very high quality and had the audience captivated. The event was very educational in nature and the students felt the subject matter was extremely thought provoking.

6th FORM CLASSICS THEATRE VISIT

On Wednesday 9th September, a group of AS Classical Civilisation students went to watch the Lyric Theatre's production of 'The Bacchae' starring members of the National Scottish Theatre. It was a wonderful production which stayed faithful to the traditional story of Euripides' 'The Bacchae' in which an unknown God, Dionysus, returns to his birth place of Thebes, after travelling to the Middle East to seek revenge for the slander of his mother. The story is given the name 'The Bacchae' as Dionysus is better known by his other name Bacchus, and is the god of wine and enjoyment; the excess of which is explored closely in the plot. However it also incorporated a humorous modern twist which went down very well with the audience.

(Whilst waiting for performance to begin we had a gossip in the cafe, as you do, and poor Adam in our class no knows al about girls' lives and all our relationship issues.)

In the story of 'The Bacchae' a mother is driven to madness by the divine Dionysus and tears her son into pieces with her bare hands. This was particularly well staged with the gory head of her son, carried by the actors drenched in blood. There were fantastic special effects mesmerising the audience. Particularly spectacular was when the stage was set on fire, (under controlled conditions!) you could feel the heat of the flames intensely even at the back of the theatre.

Overall, we feel this performance was amazing and was well worth watching, despite the tragic conclusion and thought provoking issue that is explored about the tragedy the may ensue when enjoyment becomes excess.

*By Kirsty L. Hall and Kathleen M. Barlow -
6th Form classics prefects.*

LETTINGS - Are you planning a Party, Quiz Night or having a special celebration?

Do you belong to a club or association that needs a regular meeting place? Have you ever thought of using Nower Hill? Why not book our Main Hall or our other facilities? It's local, there is plenty of parking **AND** you would be supporting the school! **Please phone Jane Wilkinson on 020-8861-0101 for further details.**

News from The Sixth Form



6th Form sports day –

having fun

SPORTS DAY

Nower Hill's Sixth Form decided to have an 'Inter Tutor Group Sports Day' in June, each Tutor Group adopting a different colour and wearing an item of clothing of that colour for the day. A traditional theme was decided upon and members from each Tutor Group ran in an Egg & Spoon Race, a Sack Race, with fairly useless bin liners (the urge to cheat was huge!), Piggy Back, Tug of War and Knockout Rounders. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone and Mr Kalirai's Tutor Group were the overall winners.

RESULTS

We were delighted with the AS results published in August. Our pass rate for grades A-E was 91.9% (national average 87.5%) and A-B was 37.9% (national average 37.9%) a sure sign that Nower Hill's Sixth Form students have been as successful as we'd hoped they would be.

QUIZ NIGHT

As we started the new school year, Nower Hill saw the beginnings of its first term with Years 12 and 13. Knowing the hard work that lies ahead for us all, we needed something to both ease tension and act as an 'ice-breaker' for the new students and their elders! Members of Eclipse Enterprise, a small group of 6th Form students who raise money to support school events, saw an opportunity to raise money and have fun. Between them, they organised a really successful Quiz Night for both students and teachers, with the wonderful Chris Henson acting as Grand Quiz Master. After an hour or so of intense quizzing, the victors were the 'VIP's and Alex', defeating even the tutors!!! Overall, this was a very successful event, which also raised money for the Buggy Malone production. Hopefully this will become a regular event for students and tutors, who are all coveting the Quiz Cup. *Report by Krishan Beri*

SIXTH FORM INFORMATION EVENING

On Wednesday, 17th October, we hosted an information evening for the current Year 11 students and their parents/carers. It included information about progression to Post-16 education as well as the AS curriculum offered at Nower Hill High School. Subject staff and current AS and A2 students were available to give details and to discuss possible AS level choices with students and parents. In addition, there were opportunities to browse the UCAS website and to speak to Mrs Foster our Careers adviser. Although the main focus of the evening was on AS courses, representatives of Harrow College were present to discuss alternative pathways at Post 16, including vocational courses (e.g. BTEC) or occupational courses (e.g. NVQ).

PUPIL VOICE CONFERENCE



From Left to right: Ahrnica Harikaran 10BLS, Tom Sooriyabandara 11WSB, Abi Sathiyavelle 12AS
At the Pupil Voice Conference at The Oval in Kennington.

TIME TO TALK

On Friday 12th October, myself, and the two girls above, as well as Ms Sabbagh, attended a conference in London. Despite a long journey, we arrived promptly with a little time to spare as pupils from other schools across London made their appearance. Ms Sabbagh was assigned a different group to the three of us, as she is a teacher. We were part of Group 'L' and we shared our table with pupils from Valentines High School and St. John Boys Technology College, who were incredibly good humoured. The four areas we covered in the various group activities were: "Staying safe," "Enjoying and achieving", "Being good" and "Family and Friends." They were interesting areas to comment on because they are paramount in terms of their relevance to school life.

I truly enjoyed the company and the fact that so many original ideas were manifested in such a short space of time given the enormity of the task. At the end of each topic, all the individuals in each group completed a feedback form on set topic. It was a pleasure to be there and all three of us were extremely grateful for the opportunity to represent Nower Hill and to have our ideas and thoughts taken forward to government level.

By Tom Sooriyabandara 11WSB