



Abraham Darby Academy

Haberdashers' Adams' Federation

Members of the Family of Haberdashers' Schools

Principal's News

Week 12

21st November 2008

POST 16 ANNOUNCEMENT ON PAGE 3

Senior Bands Concert at Idsall School.

The Senior Bands performed in a concert at Idsall School on Friday. A young Brass Band, conducted by David Maplestone, performed a new programme including the vibrant fanfare 'Legend in Brass' (J.Curnow), 'American Pie', and concluded with the rousing 'Conquest of Paradise' by Vangelis.

The Senior woodwind ensemble, conducted by Rachel Morton played a funky 1950's Jazz piece 'Splanky' and then an arrangement of Glenn Miller Melodies 'Miller Magic'.

The Jazz Band conducted by Doug Bill was at its best playing the same programme that it will playing at the Chepstow Festival in two weeks time – 'Impact Zone', 'The Good Life', 'Caution! Contents under Pressure', 'My Funny Valentine' and 'Green Onions. Soloists Tom Peyton, Matt Johnson, Yasmin Perks, Lauren Clarkson and Beth Harper all played with real confidence and panache.

The evening concluded with the Showband – 'Strike up the Band', 'Pastime with Good Company,' 'Nimrod' and 'Prelude to a Celebration'. They brought the house down and were encouraged to play two further encores.

It was a stunning evening but Miss Morton is not letting the pressure off; the bands were still in the next day for the Saturday Music School and in again on Sunday for further practices.

The Bands have a busy programme up until Christmas:-

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| Sunday 30th November | Showband and Jazz Band - National Concert Band Festival, Chepstow Leisure Centre 12 noon |
| Thursday 4th December | Showband – T&W Civic Carol Service at The Place, Oakengates, 7.00pm |
| Saturday 6th December | All Bands – Carols in Telford Shopping Centre |
| Friday 12th December | SMADA Christmas Fayre, with the Junior Bands performing, stalls and refreshments at the Academy 6.30pm |
| Sunday 14th December | All Bands – Carols in Telford Shopping Centre |
| Thursday 18th December | End of Term Concert |
| Wednesday 24th December | All Bands – Carols at ASDA Donnington |
| Wednesday 24th December | All Bands – Carols on the Ironbridge. 7.00pm |



'Girls Active'

Last Wednesday a group of Year 10 Girls were selected to attend 'Girls Active'. This is a new initiative run by the Madeley Sports Partnership to encourage girls to participate in different sporting activities. The first session was held at Madeley Academy and the girls got to take part in a range of activities including kick boxing, trampolining and boogie bounce. The afternoon was extremely successful and everyone is excited about the next session due to take place on Wednesday 22nd November.



Federation Governors Annual Report to Parents – 26th November 7.30pm

The Annual Report has been emailed home to parents, hard copies will be available at the meeting. Do come along and meet the Federation Governors and have the opportunity to express your views.

Brain Teaser Box!

1. What goes up and down stairs without moving?
2. Give it food and it will live; give it water and it will die?
3. What can you catch but not throw?
4. I run, yet I have no legs. What am I?

Answers on back page!

Gifted and Talented Trip

On Wednesday 12th November, Mr Hadley and Mrs Marshall took a group of 14 students to Birmingham University to attend two lectures on aspects of Micro-Biology. The first dealt with the rise of superbugs MRSA and C-Difficile in hospitals and how the NHS is attempting to combat these. The second dealt with the bacteria that exists on our skin and in our homes and how personal hygiene is crucial in combatting the proliferation of these potentially harmful little animals! All students were impressed by the facilities at Aston particularly the lecture hall that held over 700 students.

Training School News - Congratulations to Mr Thomas, Miss Duncan and Mr Fletcher who have all completed the first module of their MA (Education) by submitting a 3000 word essay on the skills of mentoring within schools.



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They have completed the first assignment of the second module in which they analysed the use of digital media by a group of students within school. On Tuesday they completed the second assignment - a presentation on the use of digital media of a designated target group outside the school context. Over Christmas they will be writing the final essay for the second module in which they will write a proposal for the use of digital media within school.

The third module of the MA - 'The Mentor Exemplifying Good practice' - will begin after Christmas. Any staff or parents interested in completing this module please email lee.hadley@adamsgs.org.uk

STOP PRESS! – Congratulations to Beech House on winning the Year 7&8 Inter-house Football.

Post 16 at Abraham Darby Academy

The long awaited decision on Post 16 provision at Abraham Darby Academy was finally granted by the Secretary of State on Tuesday this week.

Mr Hawke said "I am delighted by the decision as it forms a key part to the development of the Academy, it is something that the South Telford community has been saying is necessary for some time. We will work closely with Adams' Grammar School in Newport, our partner in the Haberdashers' Adams Federation, to provide a range of Level 2 and Level 3 academic and vocational courses that suit the needs of our students. We will continue to work with Telford and Wrekin Local Authority and other providers in establishing the vision of Campus Telford."

The Federation Office has been overwhelmed this week with the enthusiasm and excitement that this announcement has generated. We will keep you updated through the 'Principal's News' on Post 16 Developments.

Inter House and Sports Fixtures for next week

Week B year 9, 10 & 11 in the Sports Hall

Tuesday – Girls 5 a side football and Rugby all years

Wednesday – Girls Football

Thursday – Boys basketball 5-a-side and Girls Netball Yrs 7&8

Year 8 basketball Tuesday at TCAT 4pm – 5.30pm

Year 10 & 11 badminton at Phoenix on Wednesday 4pm

Year 7 & 8 netball practice Thursday 3 – 4



Artwork of the week

This week's art work of the week has been awarded to Jordan Lloyd of 11 MAB.

She produced a card relief piece for a homework task. We have photographed this for the work of the week frame. She looked at the work of 'Calder' and produced this work as a response. Well done.

Write a Better Future – Competition

Anyone aged between 11-19 years can join in this competition to use poetry or rap to say how you would change Telford to make a better future for Young People.

1st Prize £50, 2nd Prize £25 voucher from WH Smith.

Please see Mrs Moszynska for details of how to enter. Entries need to be in by 30th November.

"Some people say it is wrong to regard life as a game; I don't think so. Life to me means the greatest of all games. The danger lies in treating it as a trivial game, and a game in which rules don't matter much. The rules matter a great deal. The game has to be played fairly, or it is no game at all. And even to win the game is not the chief end. The chief end is to win honorably and splendidly. To this end, several things are necessary. Loyalty is one. Discipline is another. Unselfishness is another. Courage is another. Optimism is another."

Sir Ernest Shackleton

Gifted and Talented Trip

On Wednesday 12th November, Mr Hawkes took three Gifted and Talented Year 11 students to The Grove School, Market Drayton for an intensive Modern Languages day. Students were able to take part in sessions where they learnt about French slang and colloquialisms, French festivals and celebrations and various role play situations with native speakers. In addition they had the opportunity to have taster sessions of Chinese and Punjabi. The students really enjoyed themselves and returned to school with added confidence in their ability to communicate in other languages.

Answers to Brainteasers

1. Carpet 2. Fire 3. A cold 4. A nose

Diving with Tiger Sharks

Two Community First Responders from Telford are to jump into a tank of sharks to raise money for their scheme.



Alan and Irene Morris of the Telford Community First Response scheme are both experienced and qualified divers, but decided to make things a little more interesting. On December 6th, Alan and Irene will travel to Blue Planet Aquarium in Cheshire, where, under the supervision of aquarium staff, they will enter a tank of tiger sharks. Alan said: "Tiger sharks are ten to twelve feet long and have very big teeth! We have paid from our own pockets for the privilege of being with them so that any money raised goes straight to the scheme. We will go in our scuba-diving suits, but without the fins." He explained, adding that wearing fins on their feet would give the sharks the impression that he and his wife are more fish!

"We are hoping to raise at least £1,000 for our Community First Responder scheme. The money would go toward the new responder kits, which we will need when new volunteers are trained up. The responder kits contain a defibrillator, a device used to restart someone's heart when they've suffered a cardiac arrest.

"We just want others to have the opportunity to save lives and help the community in the way we do. We can't do it, without the kit."

Anyone wishing to make a donation, or help raise funds, is asked to contact Alan Morris via alan.morris@taw.org.uk



This issue is the final version distributed in a printed format. – Future issues will be delivered electronically. Please let your Mentor have your home e-mail address if you wish to receive a copy. The newsletters will also be viewable on www.abrahamdarbyacademy.org.uk

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With my very best wishes

Steve Hawke
Principal