



Abraham Darby Academy

Haberdashers' Adams' Federation

Members of the Family of Haberdashers' Schools

Principal's News

Spring Term Issue 1

9th January 2009

The Spring Term

Firstly may I wish you all a Happy New Year, I hope that your Christmas festivities were enjoyable. It is wonderful to see the students back in the Academy, all looking smart and tidy and ready to learn. An exciting programme of events is lined up for this term and we will keep you informed of them through the newsletter each week.



This week sees the start of the season of Epiphany which begins on January 6th, after the 12th day of Christmas. In thinking of Epiphany one thinks of the Wise Men travelling from afar. The season of Epiphany is about light and enlightenment. The Epiphany event was the arrival of the Wise Men from the East who followed the light of a great star and came to worship the child, Jesus. The Magi were given the revelation that the child born to Mary was a gift to the entire world, and thus the exotic visitors came to worship him. In this season we seek enlightenment understanding of who we are and through study, learning, and discussion.

The New Year is a good time for reassessment; that is why many people make New Year resolutions, spell out for yourself, your dreams, your immediate ambitions and how you are going to achieve them.

To Summarise – Enjoy today, but plan for the future.

Lunchtime Clubs (12.15 – 12.50pm)

<u>Mon</u>	Basketball year 9 (<i>gym</i>) Netball Shooting practice (12.30 – 12.50)
<u>Tues</u>	Badminton Girls and Boys year 7, 8 & 9 (<i>sports hall</i>)
<u>Wed</u>	Table Tennis (<i>gym</i>) Boys Basketball (<i>sports hall</i>)
<u>Thurs</u>	Girls Basketball (<i>gym</i>) Football year 9 (<i>sports hall</i>)
<u>Fri</u>	Boys Basketball 7 & 8 Badminton Year 10 & 11 (<i>sports hall</i>)

After Academy Clubs (start 2.55pm)

		(finish time)
<u>Mon</u>	Badminton Boys and Girls Table Tennis	4.00pm 4.00pm
<u>Tues</u>	Inter-house badminton (13 th & 20 th January 27 th Jan & 3 rd Feb)	4.30pm Yr 7&8 Yr 9&10
	Boys Rugby – all years	4.30pm
<u>Wed</u>	Boys Basketball club all years	4.00pm
<u>Thurs</u>	Inter-house badminton (15 th & 22 nd Jan 29 th Jan & 5 th Feb)	4.30pm Yr 7&8 Yr 9&10
	Netball Football for those not playing badminton.	Yr 7,8 & 9
<u>Fri</u>	NO CLUBS	

‘Wise sayings often fall on barren ground, but a kind word is never thrown away’

Arthur Helps (1813-1875) Writer



GCSE Photographic Work and Staff Photographic Exhibition

The Art Department is holding a photography exhibition made up of Academy staff pieces plus GCSE students work. If you have any photograph you are proud of, size doesn't matter as long as it has been printed and can be displayed, there is no particular theme; people, places, objects, weather, animals, sports etc.

Submissions by Friday 23 January - details of the exhibition opening will follow shortly.

Telford Area League – U16 Girls Badminton



The U16 Girls Badminton team have reached the semi-final of the Telford Area league.

The Semi-finals and Finals will be on Friday 16th January at TCAT starting at 4.15pm.

The squad, comprising of Tammy Muddell (cpt.), Kirsty Muddell, Lauren Clarkson, Zareena Morris and Nicole Freebury, will be competing with the teams from Thomas Telford, Charlton and Idsall Schools. We wish them every success.

Aladdin at the Academy!



On Wednesday the 7th of January, year 7 students were transported to a magical kingdom far away, where they were treated to the spectacular pantomime 'Aladdin.'

ZIP Theatre Company travelled from Wolverhampton to stage their performance in the Selwyn Hall. The colourful cast included Aladdin, Wishi-Washi, Abu and the ever-hilarious Widow Twanky. The pantomime presented the environmentally-conscious tale of what Aladdin got up to after his adventures with the genie. (Who'd have guessed that he'd be working in a laundry?)

Year 7 students got very much involved with all the usual panto shouts and sang along well to the songs. By the end all wrongs were righted and a good time was had by all. We hope to see ZIP theatre again next year.

Brain Teasers

- The more you take the more you leave behind
- Light as a feather, there is nothing in it; the strongest man can't hold it for much more than a minute.
- As I walked along the path I saw something with four fingers and one thumb, but it was not flesh, fish, bone or fowl.
- What can run but never walks, has a mouth but never talks, has a head but never weeps, has a bed but never sleeps?
- I went into the woods and got it, I sat down to seek it, I brought it home with me because I couldn't find it.

Band of the Army Air Corps

Yasmin Perks has been invited to attend a mock audition in the presence of the Bandmaster during the February half term.

She'll have to play two contrasting pieces, sight-read, play scales and answer a basic theory paper to grade 5 standard.

Fortunately Yasmin is already a grade 8!

We wish you every success that week and let us know how you get on!



Music Examination Success



The following students passed their Trinity Guildhall instrumental graded examinations in the last week of term and are to be congratulated. Some of them even took two exams on the same day with a different instrument!

Year 11 Ben Treadwell Grade 6 Clarinet

Year 10 Zara Howard-Leggio ... Grade 5 Flute (merit)
Grade 3 Alto Sax (merit)
Emily Beech Grade 3 Alto Sax (merit)

Year 9 Trystan Gifford Grade 3 Euphonium

Year 8 Hari Braim Grade 4 Flute (merit)
Shannon Davies Grade 2 Flute (merit)
Lauren Hill Grade 1 clarinet (merit)

Year 7 Holly Isherwood Grade 6 Clarinet (merit)
Grade 3 Tenor Sax (distinction)
Harry Beech Grade 3 Clarinet (merit)
Zoe Jacobs Grade 2 Clarinet

Certificates will be presented to the above students in assembly.

A total of 17 candidates were entered for the exams and all of them passed. If anyone would like to be entered for the end of this term please see Miss Morton for details.

Art Work of the Week

This week's award goes to Shayda Mason of 10 JNP.

She created this photography triptych¹ for her applied art project.

As you see it has wonderful detail and qualities of light.

Well done.



1. **triptych** A work consisting of three painted or carved panels that are hinged together. A hinged writing tablet consisting of three leaves, used in ancient Rome.

Brain Teasers**Answers**

- Footsteps
- Breath
- Glove
- River
- Splinter

Cashless Catering

A successful pilot has been carried out at Adams' Grammar School in Newport and will shortly be introduced at the Academy. Students will use a fingertip recognition system which will enable the till operators to move through the queues at a quicker pace than before. Further information will be sent home with students shortly.

The Band on the Bridge

On Christmas Eve the members of the Academy Showband performed with the Darby Singers a selection of well known and loved Christmas Carols. Over 500 people turned out on a starlit night to enjoy the wonderful music and singing. The evening was compered by Reverend Rosemary Freeman and the crowd sung energetically. Miss Morton Head of Music was overwhelmed with the size of the audience and their generosity too.

The band CD's and DVD's all cost £5 and are available at concerts or Saturday music college 9 to 11 am

CD's available are, Hymn of the Highlands 2006, End of Term, Best of Showband(2disks) Best of Jazz Band, NCBF Chepstow 2008, Summer 2007, Enginuity Concert, DVD's Showband and Jazz Band at the Royal Albert Hall School Proms 2000,2002,2003,2005, and New York 2007.

The Abraham Darby Academy Showband – CD and DVD Order form

I would like to purchase the following CD's/DVD £5.00 each and enclose a cheque for

Made payable to SMADA

Hymn of the Highlands 2006 End of Term Best of Showband (2 disks)

Best of Jazz Band NCBF Chepstow 2008 Summer 2008 Enginuity Concert

DVD's Showband and Jazz Band at the Royal Albert Hall School Proms

2000 2002 2003 2005 and New York 2007

Name:

Email Address:

Contact Phone Number:

Order forms to be handed into the Academy Reception with payment.

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With my very best wishes

Steve Hawke
Principal