



WELCOME!

We are about to enter the final week of a very long term and by now everyone's energy levels will be flagging! For students taking public examinations in 2013, it more or less marks the halfway point in their year. They will need to re-visit their learning between now and next summer, highlighting key points, condensing notes or practising past papers. A little and often is the best approach, gradually building the capacity to study independently.

Some students have exams in January but this will soon be the exception: the entire system is moving towards a linear model – final examinations rather than modules, coursework or controlled assignments. The current proposals will be familiar to anyone who was educated in the 1960's and 70's.

Dr Ennion (Assistant Headteacher) is running an Innovations Group and they are involved in several exciting pilot projects. One group is looking at the use of mobile devices as an aid to learning. Alongside our traditional values we are looking to develop the most up to date and modern techniques to improve learning.

Best wishes to you and your families for a peaceful and joyful Christmas,

Mr. Foley

STUDENTS HOST PARTY



Residents of Maiden Castle House were treated to a Christmas Party, thanks to members of the Sixth Form. Students decorated PA3 and prepared food and drinks. The guests were served mince pies on arrival. Christmas carols were sung by a small choir led by Mr Baker, with audience participation strongly encouraged. Everyone had a great time: another example of THS students doing positive things within the local community.

NEWS & VIEWS

WREATHED IN SUCCESS

THE YEAR 11 BUSINESS STUDENTS GROUP, ALSO KNOWN AS YOUNG GENERATION INNOVATIONS HAVE BEEN BUSY PLANNING, DESIGNING AND FINANCING A PROJECT WHICH WAS SET UP TO CONSOLIDATE THE TOPICS OF BREAK-EVEN AND QUALITY ASSURANCE. The plan was to produce 30 hand-made Christmas wreaths together with the Floristry students at Kingston Maurward College, who provided the tuition for our students. Two types of wreath design were conceived, costed and produced over a period of two days. The foliage used was freshly sourced, the orange segments hand-dried and the pine



cones collected from the feet of local fir trees (with permission!). The wreaths, priced at a very affordable £12, were sold out within a day of releasing promotional material and were delivered to staff by the end of the week in time for the festive period. The success of the business allowed the students to retain part of the profit and to donate a proportion to 'The Hub' in Dorchester, a charity for the homeless. See more online



KATE ADIE VISITS SCHOOL

The school was very lucky to have noted BBC journalist Kate Adie come along to talk to an assembly of Year 9 and Sixth Form History students. Famous for her reports from war-torn areas, she hopefully found the School Theatre a friendlier place! Her main subject was

the First World War and the problems journalists had at the time to report such a huge event. Kate is working on a book on the role of women in WWI at present and was able to fascinate her audience with the depth of her knowledge. Perhaps a few budding journalists may have been inspired by this excellent talk. Read more about it on the website [here](#)

NEWSFLASH!

Read about the sights visited and activities enjoyed during the Sixth Form Bayeux Exchange [here](#) — Geography students at the school have been busy taking part in the Worldwide Quiz & with seminars on river management and seismology, delivered by lecturers from University College London and Imperial College. See more on the school website [here](#) — A film crew from the Sunday Politics Show visited the school last month, looking at partnerships such as DASP which involve schools from both the state and the independent sector. See coverage in the Dorset Evening Echo [here](#)

ANSBURY ONLINE

Adviser Online is an innovative new Careers Information, Advice and Guidance tool from Ansbury designed to complement the work of our Careers Advisers in school.

Adviser Online has three main elements:

Live Web Chat with experienced and qualified Ansbury Careers Advisers with local knowledge. Students can get instant advice on the choices and issues that matter to them. The Web Chat is live 12 – 7 pm Mondays to Thursdays and 12 – 4 pm Fridays and there's a monthly prize draw.

Information Pathways with local contacts on all the issues facing students as they prepare to leave school and move on to sixth form, college, apprenticeships, work or university

Careercomp@nion, an online resource with an extensive range of links to careers information and professional bodies

Find Adviser Online at

adviseronline.ansbury.co.uk

To access the information on Adviser Online students need their own account and should talk to Mrs Morrison or to their tutor about creating one.

Contact Katherine Speed for more details, feedback or comments on Adviser Online speedk@ansbury.co.uk

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www.ansbury.co.uk
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DIWALI TALK

Year 12 and 13 CACHE students gained some insight about the important Hindu festival of Diwali from a talk and practical demonstration by Sunita Dean (see above, left). They learnt about the history and myths of Diwali and were shown examples of the jewellery and costumes that people would wear at the celebration. The group were allowed the opportunity to try on her wonderful saris. She finished by reminding the students that both boys and girls wear their best (usually brand new) outfits to Diwali and that both men and women wear bindis too. For young people embarking on a career in child care and education, the afternoon, part of the course's regular Wednesday afternoon practical sessions, was an excellent opportunity to have a 'hands on' experience of an alternative culture.

dates for your diary

FRIDAY 14TH
Drama Winter Showcase
THEATRE
7.00 PM

TUESDAY 8TH
Post Sixth Form Presentation Evening

SATURDAY 15TH
CCF Ten Tors Christmas weekend – Tor Alumni

THURSDAY 10TH
General Studies/Critical Thinking Meeting

MONDAY 17TH
Christmas Live Concerts all week
IN SPINE

FRIDAY 11TH
TH Singers to Hilfield Friary RETURNS 12TH

TUESDAY 18TH
DASP Christmas Concert
THEATRE
4.00 PM

SATURDAY 12TH
CCF Ten Tors Selection Day All cadets

THURSDAY 20TH
Carol Service
ST PETER'S CHURCH
7.00 PM

THURSDAY 17TH
GCSE Set Study Exam PA I
ALL DAY

Yr10 (P) Pathways
KINGSTON MAURWARD

Battle of the Band auditions
THEATRE
4.00 PM

FRIDAY 21ST
TERM ENDS 3.30PM
Sixth Form Trip

FRIDAY 18TH
Year 11 Drama Assessment Day PA I & 3

Year 11 Reward Trip

Sixth Form Applications Due

January
MONDAY 7TH
TERM STARTS
External A Level Exams Start

SATURDAY 19TH
Science Family Fun Day
ST MARY'S MIDDLE SCHOOL
10.00 AM - 1.00 PM



"Parental involvement has a significant effect on student achievement throughout the years of schooling" OEI research

An opportunity for all parents

How to Support your Teenager with Literacy

Wednesday 16th January
6:00 – 7:00pm
Thomas Hardye School

Speaking
Writing
Listening
Reading
Literacy

Email tennion@thomas-hardye.net or phone 01305 266064 to reserve your place

You don't have to be an expert to be able to help your teenager with this essential life skill! Come along for some practical hints and tips that will allow YOU to make the difference.

FUNDS RAISED FOR GUIDEDOG APPEAL

Inspired by Thomas Hardye Year 12 student Calum Brennan, whose guide dog Fella is a familiar sight in school, students decided to raise money for GuideDogs (formerly Guide Dogs for the Blind). Seeing Calum and Fella around school made them realise how the role of the guide dog enabled Calum to be more independent. Working with teacher Mrs. Chittenden, they undertook a sponsored Aerobathon in the school sports hall. Over 80 students and staff took part and through this they were able to raise £104.32.



maths update

Year 10 are now studying a linear Maths GCSE course. The Maths Department have decided to use the Edexcel exam board and will be doing Mathematics A. This syllabus has two exams at the end of Year 11, one calculator and one non-calculator.