

# INFORM

## The Newsletter of Jack Hunt School

A Specialist Language and Sports College

### CONGRATULATIONS!

#### Miss Quail Wins Prestigious Award

Congratulations to Teresa Quail who has been chosen as the East of England Regional "Learner of the Year" in this year's Signature Annual Awards.



This award recognises the exceptional commitment and enthusiasm made by many learners studying for the Signature qualifications which helps to break down the barriers of communication between deaf and hearing people.

Signature is a charity which promotes excellence in communication with deaf people. Their primary work is as a recognised awarding body offering nationally accredited qualifications that cover the wide range of languages and communication methods used by deaf and deafblind people.

Miss Quail is a Teacher of the Deaf, teaches Science and is also a Personal Tutor. She is currently studying in her first year of a

two year course with the Masters of Education in Cambridge researching into Science Education for Deaf Learners.

Miss Quail is also learning sign language and is studying Level 3 in Lincoln, but has set up Level 1, 2 and 3 courses at Jack Hunt in which she has supported the course tutor. These have been well attended by both deaf and hearing students as well as Teaching Assistants and external agencies and they are awaiting their results. She is hoping a Level 4 course will be possible which is equivalent to a degree course according to the National Language Standards.

Her Level 3 Tutor nominated her for the Learner of the Year Award and she was shortlisted and selected as the award winner for this region. All the regional winners have been shortlisted for the overall Learner of the Year Award which will be presented in London in November.

Miss Quail said "I am extremely pleased but shocked to be nominated for this award and I really do appreciate the support of everyone around me."

*Mrs Greaves*

#### Work Experience – Celebration Evening

Our Year 10 students have recently completed their two weeks work experience, enabling them to gain knowledge and experience through work related learning in the world of work. The 274 Year 10 students went out to 255 employers who represented 53 occupational areas. These included Sales/ Hairdressing/Sports and Leisure/Farming/Carpentry and the Armed Forces. We received huge amounts of praise and positive comments from employers who had been supporting our students. Many students had a memorable experience; some even preferred it to school!



(Photo - Joe Fitzjohn at RAF, Wittering)

On Wednesday 17 June 2009 we held a Celebration Evening to recognise our top 38 students. Also invited were the students' parents, employers and governors. The 38 highly commended students showed a positive attitude from the start and exceeded all our expectations. Whilst on placement they displayed excellent communication skills, team work and enthusiasm. Some of the comments from the employers included "The best student we have ever had", "A committed and enthusiastic student who was an excellent team player", "This student is an asset to the school – I would definitely employ them in the future".

The evening was a great success. Well done to all our Year 10 students, especially the top 38.

*Mrs Ellis*





## Headteacher's Column

As the examination season has drawn to a close the school is more actively preparing for the year ahead.

Staffing changes and timetables are nearing completion and the new school year calendar finalised. We have welcomed our new Year 7 students and parents into the school and those returning to the 6<sup>th</sup> Form have had a two day induction.

A letter, together with other useful information will be posted home to all parents before the end of term outlining arrangements for the beginning of next term.

It is important that we are able to share quickly and effectively information with parents about the increasing number of school events and activities. Many parents find 'Parentmail' a useful channel of communication. If you are interested please

contact the school. There is no cost for this service. We are also having our school website overhauled to be far more useful and informative. If you have suggestions about information you would like to see on the site please contact the school. I recommend the Extended School's link on the site if you are looking for activities for your youngsters over the summer holiday period.

Thank you for your support over the past year. The new year starts on Tuesday 8 September 2009. There will be a staggered start to the day for students and my letter to you will notify you of exact start times.

Please note that the school will finish at 1.25pm on the last day of term, Friday 17 July 2009. You will notice in this edition of INFORM that we have a number of long

standing colleagues leaving. We are thankful for their service to the school over many years.

My best wishes for a restful and enjoyable summer break.

*Roy Duncan*

### Email Communication



If you would like to receive future copies of INFORM, or indeed other general

school correspondence, by email please register for **ParentMail** by sending your child's name, Form Group and the words 'Parentmail Please' to:

[eward@jackhunt.peterborough.sch.uk](mailto:eward@jackhunt.peterborough.sch.uk).

Your request will then be actioned and further general communication will be sent to you via this method.

## Poetry Winners



British Sign Language is a language of some Deaf people. To further inclusion and equal opportunities within the UK, the project 'Life and Deaf' was set up. This is a project in which Deaf children explore their personal identity through poetry in written English and British Sign Language.

'Life and Deaf' aims to develop children's communication skills, their sense of identity and their self-esteem. It was an exciting opportunity for 'Life and Deaf' to visit the students at Jack Hunt who were then able to express their feelings about their experiences of Deafness.

Two students, Naima Suge and Tara Forkin, submitted their poems which were then accepted and published on the website. To view their poems please visit

<http://lifeanddeaf.co.uk>.

*Miss Quail*

## STOP PRESS ..... STOP PRESS .....

**Congratulations** to Raf Sadikot, Amy Simms, Charley Genever and James Mallett who went through two screen tests and finally met British Poet, Ben Zephaniah to complete a poetry reading for CBeebies and BBC Websites alongside students from Peterborough Regional College and Thomas Deacon Academy.

Also **Congratulations** to Tom Chung who has just got through the first round of the Young Apprentice selection process for the BBC's youth version of "The Apprentice". Sir Alan Sugar will put a group of ten teenagers through their paces in a new five part series which will be shown on BBC One next year. The winner will win a prize worth up to £25,000. The next step for Tom is go through the interview process.

*Miss Swannell*

## Farewell

As the school year draws to a close we begin to say "farewell and good luck" to staff who are moving on. Amongst these are several long serving members of staff who have dedicated many years to the school:

- Mrs Perkins (Leader of Learning Support) who retires after 12 years at the school;
- Mrs Davey (Head of Mandela House) who retires after 24 years at the school;
- Mr Jarman (English) retiring after 21 years at the school;
- Mr Brown (Mathematics) retiring after 25 years service.

We also have three long serving members of staff who are moving on to more senior positions elsewhere:

- Miss Stephenson (Modern Foreign Languages) who is moving on to become Curriculum Area Leader at Robert Manning School in Bourne;
- Dr Lipinski-Bartrop (Science) who is moving to a consultancy role at the Local Authority;
- Mr Kilby (Science) who will become Head of Science at Spalding Grammar School.

We wish these and every other staff member who is leaving us at the end of the school year, every success and thank them for their hard work and dedication throughout their time here.

*Mr Duncan*





### Spectacular Science Day

The Science Department recently hosted a spectacular morning for Year 9 students. All students were invited to take part in an extravaganza of bangs, whooshes and whizzes. Students watched demonstrations and were able to carry out individual practical experiments which centred around firework night which resulted in burning, exploding and some exciting visual reactions.

The 14 experiments included burning a £5 note, fire writing, invisible writing, making glow sticks and screaming Jelly babies. We also exploded bubbles of methane, cannon fire, silicon and ice. The soda snakes, chemical rainbows and bubble bath towers were quieter but just as visually attractive.

The feedback results show that students had a renewed sense of excitement and interest in Science and indicated a very positive working relationship with the staff.

Miss England



### The School Shop sells Uniform

(Blazers, blouses, ties, blazer badges, girls trousers, jumpers and coats), **PE Kit** (Shorts, t-shirts, sweatshirts, socks and drill tops) and **Stationery and Books** (calculators, pens, pencils, rulers and books related to the curriculum).

The school shop is open to students during their break and lunch, when they can try on and purchase.

School coats and jumpers will be available for sale from October 2009 and throughout the winter.

Mrs Martin

### Spring Music Concert

As usual the Spring Concert was performed to a house of excited parents. The concert began with the Jazz Band performing a swinging version of Glen Miller's *In the Mood* providing an arousing and foot-tapping opening. As by tradition, the Year 13 students performed pieces selected themselves, some of which were recently prepared for their exams. These were presented in an extremely professional manner as well as being performed truly from the heart. To conclude their performance, a vocal duet of *For Good* from the musical 'Wicked' gave us a soulful and moving introduction to what promises to be a successful musical future. The concert also saw the first ever performance of the Samba Band, which was made up entirely from classroom preparation on instruments new to the school.

The combination of new ensembles and old, as well as solos from students as young as Year 8 demonstrated the talent and dedication from the students at Jack Hunt School. One example of this was a fluent and expressive clarinet performance by Year 11 student, Matthew Morton. He later sang a song that prompted both supportive and glowing comments from members of the audience.

The evening ended with a stunning performance from the Senior Choir, who sang songs that were performed extremely successfully at the Peterborough Music Festival. Overall, the concert had a relaxed atmosphere with high quality performances and informative comments from Mr Walmsley which helped to give the evening some continuity. The concert proved an excellent vehicle to say farewell to our dedicated students who gave their final performance in the concert; Daniel Lodge, Amy Garratty, Jessica Stanley-Jones, Natalie Thatcher, Simon Henry, Charlotte McIlravia and Matthew Morton.

Miss Hardy

### Maths with Languages and PE Gifted and Talented Day

On Friday 12 June 2009 around 150 students from Years 7 and 8 as well as pupils from Year 6 feeder primary schools, enjoyed a day of puzzles and challenges.

The Happy Puzzle Company was invited with some of their puzzles, and their demonstrator Jenny Hall spent the day



introducing challenging activities to mixed groups of students. It was very interesting to watch some of the younger pupils take control and to see everybody share their ideas. Jenny's motto of 'Don't give up – nothing is impossible' was followed throughout the day and many of the students were excited to solve problems they had not been expecting to.

The Language Department provided an interesting array of activities, the most popular of which was learning to count and perform simple sums in Urdu, led by Mr Ali Hammad.

Students were encouraged to navigate their way around school by the PE Department, particularly Mrs McCormack, who set up an orienteering course which included some very challenging mathematical questions, and then gave prizes to the groups with the highest scores.

All the students seemed to enjoy the day and we hope that they have been encouraged to use their mathematical ability to solve problems and challenges outside their maths lessons.

Mrs Mashford

### The EnterPrize Crew are Team Enterprise winners for Peterborough



A group of Year 10 students have successfully completed the Team Enterprise Competition. They established their own small business and sold goods and services including henna tattoos and Valentines Day gifts.

The students had full responsibility for the creation and distribution of the products with direction and guidance from their Young Enterprise Business Advisor Bill Reilly.

They were successful in turning in a significant profit and completed a detailed and well researched company report. This combined with the presentation skills Asha Parekh and

her fellow company directors showed during the assessment tasks, ensured that they came out as winners of the Team Enterprise programme for the Peterborough area.

Asha was also nominated for the Best Managing Director Prize, no mean feat when you consider all the competition was Year 12 students from other Peterborough and district schools.

Mr Burns

### The Library Resource Centre has

run two displays accompanied with templates for students to colour in. Those students whose work was displayed on the Library Art Gallery were awarded credits. The displays were based on the legend of St George to celebrate St George's Day on 24 April with a later display supporting the BBC Springwatch programme which was accompanied by nature templates and leaflets explaining how to create wildlife habitats in the garden. The St George display was run in tandem with a display celebrating William Shakespeare's birth and death.

Mrs Keating

# Leading Parent Partnership Award



## The Four Seasons

The Jack Hunt Theatre and Dance Academy performed their production of The Four Seasons at the Cresset Theatre on Sunday 10 May 2009.

Opening with a tremendous welcome of 'Be Our Guest' from Beauty and The Beast, the audience were captivated from start to finish. The two performances had a total of over 200 dancers with an age range of 4 – 18 years, and boasted dance styles of Classical Ballet, Jazz, Irish Dancing and Musical Theatre.



Renditions of 'Teddy Bears Picnic', performed by a strong cast of four year olds and 'Ugly Bug Ball' performed by 5 – 6 year olds showed the progression that younger students make from beginners to pre-vocational level. Moving through the programme the classical ballet pieces demonstrated the technical excellence achieved by the students and the soloists performed Pointe work abilities at a standard higher than their current grade. Showcasing this year was a newly formed Jazz group and Irish Dance Troupe. Their dances were performed with style, high energy and faultless synchronicity.



The show ended with the presentation of awards. These went to Jessica Kennedy - Musicality, Jessica Lee – Junior Ballet Shield, Ashley Haberman-Lawson – Senior Ballet Shield, Emily Yong – Helpers Cup. The Sykes cup for Achievement and Improvement within a new Subject was presented to Hannah Burbridge and the Garfield Cup for the Joy of Dance was presented to Alice Irving.

Jenny Hawcroft, Head of the Theatre and Dance Academy, was delighted with the hard work and dedication of the students that made the production such a success and the proceeds from this years raffle which amounted to £377.40 is to be presented to Peterborough District Hospital.

The performances are available to purchase on DVD, and photographs will also be available. Please see Miss Hawcroft for details or email Linda Browning at [lbrowning@jackhunt.peterborough.sch.uk](mailto:lbrowning@jackhunt.peterborough.sch.uk).  
*Miss Hawcroft*



## The Jack Hunt Extended Schools Cluster

has been busy this month. All schools participated in a STUDENT VOICE activity. The target was 10% of the population of all nine schools and it was carried out as a questionnaire exercise with individuals and groups/school councils. Its aim was to gain information and feedback about: before school/breakfast clubs, after school clubs; holiday clubs; homework clubs; lunchtime clubs; other clubs/activities and family learning. The results will be analysed and fed back to

school councils and Headteachers.

A request to see Summer Sports organised has resulted in a successful appeal to the Peterborough Sports Development Team to help set up multi sports based at Jack Hunt during the summer holidays - check website for details.

Have you seen the information on Extended Schools/Community Education on the Jack Hunt website? This is being updated regularly to give the latest information on the various activities available and planned for the future.

Running a summer activity you would like the Jack Hunt Cluster to know about? A summer newsletter/flyer will be going out to the Community in July and information will be placed on the website. Send any such information to

[mstringer@jackhunt.peterborough.sch.uk](mailto:mstringer@jackhunt.peterborough.sch.uk).

The Jack Hunt Cluster includes; Jack Hunt, Gladstone Primary, Highlees Primary, Longthorpe Primary, Middleton Primary, Ravensthorpe Primary, Sacred Heart Primary and West Town Primary.

*Maureen Stringer*  
*Extended Schools Cluster Manager*

## Eco News

### Jack Hunt at the Peterborough Green Festival

The Green Festival was launched on Saturday 23 May 2009. You may have recognised your own form's recycled sculpture as many of them were on display around the Town Centre and within the Cathedral Grounds. The Festival kicked off with a vast array of exciting activities including school plays, educational games, musical performances and of course....The Jack Hunt Fashion Show! The theme of Peterborough Green Festival was "Grow it, Cook it, Eat it!" and so our Fashion Show was based on this. Students from Years 7, 9 and 10 designed and made their outfits using exclusively waste food packaging. The Jack Hunt Restaurant offered up

Olivia Riordan as a starter who represented Italian pasta with locally produced fresh vegetables. Her outfit in a previous life was a carrier bag and a bag of pasta! The main course was Kay Landells as a Saturday Night Classic: (line caught) fish and locally sauced (tee hee) chips wrapped in recycled newspaper! Kay was accompanied by her lovely healthy side salads Sophie and Charlie Swingler whose outfits used to be displays on the walls of Jack Hunt classrooms. Finally the piece de resistance was Tess Gee aka the strawberry pavlova whose spectacular outfit was created from old bubble wrap! This was all served up by our head waiter Jess Kenny who delivered a fantastic speech to the crowds who had gathered to get a taste of Jack Hunt's delicious meal!



## Eco Schools Silver Award

Thanks to the hard work of staff and students in the school who have contributed to green activities such as the Sculpture Challenge; our involvement at the Peterborough Green Festival; the Gardening Club; Eco Rep Meetings; and our action plan to make Jack Hunt a greener school, Jack Hunt School is now the proud bearer of the Eco Schools

Silver Award. We now aim to go the extra mile by introducing recycling bins around the school for staff and students to use and there will be a whole school waste campaign in the near future. Also, check out the new 'Eco Space' on the VLE where all the latest Eco news and events will be reported.

*Miss Pantling*