

News *letter*



ISSUE NUMBER 1 | 12 JULY 2011

The end of another academic year has arrived and as we move towards the summer holidays, it is appropriate to review the year and celebrate our many successes.

In September, we returned to celebrate the very best exam results in Year 11 and Year 13 that the school has ever produced, with more students than ever going on to University and every member of Year 11 moving on to something constructive, whether it was to return to our Sixth Form, go to College, or to gain employment – a fantastic achievement for all involved.

The school has again been involved in National and Local competitions giving students the opportunity to put their design and build skills to the test against other schools. As I write this, we have a group of students in the final of a Water Design Challenge Event – our second year of reaching the final.

Of course, it wouldn't be a year at Thomas Aveling without fantastic shows and performances. We saw an outstanding and amazingly moving play in March called 'Climbing Everest' about a young boy in care, as well as Dance shows and BTEC Performances. All of these events were very well attended by friends and family, creating a great atmosphere.

The facilities have continued to be improved with a new larger reception area, new classrooms and refurbished ICT rooms. We are also pleased that, as well as coping with the financial circumstances all schools find themselves in, we have managed to purchase over 160 new laptops and 85 PCs to enhance student learning ready for September.

I would like to thank those parents who were able to spare their time to come in and meet with me

and other members of the Leadership Team to let us know their opinions on a number of aspects of school life. This year, topics have included how to beat bullying, vertical tutoring and, more recently, contributing to the School Improvement Plan. Many of these suggestions have been included.

Summer is also the time when we say goodbye to colleagues who are moving on to new jobs or retiring, and when we say hello to new staff. I am pleased to inform you that we are fully staffed for September ensuring a continuation of a very high quality education for all.

Finally, I would like to wish you a dry, warm Summer break and look forward to seeing all of our smartly dressed and properly equipped students returning in September.

A blue ink handwritten signature, appearing to read 'Paul Jackson'.

Paul Jackson
Headteacher





IMPORTANT TERM DATES

TERM DATES 2011 -2012

Start of Term 1:

For Y7 & Sixth Form only	Thursday 1st Sept 2011
For Y8 – Y11	Mon 5th Sept 2011
End of Term 1:	Friday 21st October 2011
Term Break:	Mon 24th Oct – Mon 31st Oct

CPD Day	Tuesday 1st November (students and staff not in)
CPD Day	Wed 2nd November (students and staff not in)
Flexible Training Day	Thurs 3rd November (students not in - some staff not in)

CPD Day	Fri 4th November (students not in – all staff in)
---------	--

Start of Term 2:	Monday 7th November
End of Term 2:	Friday 16th December 2011

Term Break:	Mon 19th Dec – Mon 2nd Jan
-------------	----------------------------

Start of Term 3:	Tuesday 3rd January 2012
-------------------------	--------------------------

End of Term 3:	Friday 10th February 2012
----------------	---------------------------

Term Break:	Mon 13 Feb – Fri 17 Feb
-------------	-------------------------

Start of Term 4:	Monday 20th February 2012
-------------------------	---------------------------

End of Term 4:	Friday 30th March 2012
----------------	------------------------

Term Break:	Mon 2 April – Fri 13 April
-------------	----------------------------

Start of Term 5:	Monday 16th April 2012
Early May Bank Hol	Mon 7th May
End of Term 5:	Friday 1st June 2012

Term Break:	Mon 4 June – Fri 8th June (includes Queen's Jubilee)
-------------	---

Start of Term 6:	Monday 11th June 2012
CPD Day	Mon 2nd July (students not in – all staff in)

End of Term 6:	Friday 20th July 2012
----------------	-----------------------

A UNIFORM APPROACH

Many of you will no doubt be buying uniform and equipment for your children over the Summer ready for a fresh start in September. In order to avoid additional expense by buying items that are unacceptable to school, I thought a short list might help.



When buying shoes – if they look like trainers – they are trainers and so are unacceptable to be worn in school.

Skirts should be only 5-8cm above or below the knee and should not be of a design or fabric that clings and “rides up”.

We expect all students to come properly equipped; this includes a PENCIL CASE with several pencils and pens in it in addition to a ruler, rubber and pencil sharpener. All students should have a school bag that is large enough to hold an A4 folder.

Students should ensure they have the full PE kit and bring it to lessons every time!

We take the appearance of our students seriously and if unacceptable, students can expect to be sent home to change and to make up the time after school. Similarly with lack of equipment. In looking to develop independence in students, they need to understand that taking responsibility is part of this, and is certainly something expected in the wider community. Coming properly dressed and equipped is a very easy first step in this process.

Mr Jackson - Headteacher

YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE

A number of our Year 12 Advanced Level Students enjoyed a week's work placement at the end of June. Comments from employers were extremely positive, including “hard-working and conscientious”, “a good ambassador for Thomas Aveling”, “has secured a job for the summer holidays” and “acted professionally at all times”. Many of our new contacts were also happy to offer Thomas Aveling further work placements as a result - excellent news!

It was not only the employers who were impressed: students recorded words such as “eye-opening”, “fulfilling”, “super-duper great!”, “surprisingly fun!”

Congratulations to all those students who performed their tasks so well!

Mr Wintle - School Project Manager

STAFFING

After many years of service to the school, we say goodbye to the following two members of staff who will be retiring at the end of the summer term and wish them both a long and happy retirement:

Mr Jemmett – Teacher of DT
Mrs Collins – Reprographics Technician

We also say goodbye to the following members of staff at the end of the summer term and wish them well for the future:-

Mr Whelan – ICT
Mr Quenby – Assistant Headteacher
Mr Bayley – Science
Mrs Esland – English
Miss Jones – Art
Mr McEwan – Science
Miss Mount – DT
Mr Reid – ICT
Mr Willsher – ICT
Mr Williams – Science
Mrs Skinner – cover supervisor

We welcome the following new members of staff, some who joined us in July and some from September:

Mrs Mustafa – ICT
Mrs Rekhi – ICT
Mr Barnard – Science
Miss Jandu – English
Mrs Salisbury – Maths
Miss Eades – Science
Mr Ford – Site Services Officer
Ms Bingham – Assistant to DoL
Mrs Clark – Reprographics technician



TA'S GOT TALENT

This year was a brilliant year for talent at Thomas Aveling School. There were 8 acts in the final, 2 performers representing each House. After a fantastic evening of singers, dancers, musicians and circus performers the Judges decided to crown the winner to Jade Batchelor making the winning house Victory. Jade performed a fantastic version of 'Joyful Joyful' from Sister Act 2 which made her victorious and saw her win the prize of £100 Bluewater vouchers. The judges consisted of Miss Voice, Mr Cleave and Mrs Whelan. Miss Voice was very vocal in her opinions and took over the role of Simon Cowell, much to the audience's dislike. Mr Cleave was firm but fair taking the Piers Morgan approach and Mrs Whelan was very complimentary about all acts as Amanda Holden would be. I would like to thank all performers and judges that took part in the whole event.

Miss Mash



.....and the winner is Jade Batchelor!

SCHOOL WINS THROUGH TO GREEN FINAL



 Southern
Water

 Design
Council

Two schools in Medway have reached the final of an environmental competition.

The Thomas Aveling School Rochester and Fort Pitt Grammar Chatham will compete against three others in the Water Design Challenge on Thursday 14th July.

The winner and the other finalists will share a prize fund of £20,000 to build their designs.

It is run by Southern Water and the Design Council and aims to inspire youngsters to cut their water and carbon footprints.

The final will be held at the Bewl Water Reservoir, Lamberhurst.

Ten schools submitted proposals last month and they have been working on their designs since February.

Pupils at Thomas Aveling designed a computer game called Waterlogged and a futuristic sink with a dial to show how much water is saved or used and a scented hand gel so no water is used.

A female urinal which could save up to one third of the water used at the school was the brainchild of Fort Pitt pupils.



Yr7
Jack Coleman, Bradley Butler, Imogen Adams,
Matthew Venning, Hannah Waving.

Yr 8
Abigail Davis, Morgana Connor-Bennet, Sarah Daniel,
Harley Moss, Ciaran Fredericks, Stacie Swift,
Chloe le-Lanou-Scutt, Kira Chattenden

Yr 9
Jake McCall, Eli Taylor

ANNUAL DANCE SHOW 2011



On the 8th and 9th June 2011 a selection of talented dance students held another outstanding public performance, showing work that they had choreographed themselves and work that had assisted them for their exams. As anticipated the show was a great success which was largely due to the hard work and professionalism of the students concerned. My thanks go to all of them and I wish them the very best of luck for their future.

Miss J Mash

Subject Leader in Dance

IS YOUR CHILD TAKING GCSE ITALIAN?

If so, why don't you take up this opportunity to learn Italian yourself! The benefit of this will be:

- To help and support your child throughout their GCSE course
- To gain a GCSE in Italian
- To learn in a friendly and relaxed environment

This will be a 3 year course starting in September 2011 and finishing in June 2014. Lessons will take place on a Wednesday afternoon from 17.00 to 18.30

If you are interested and can commit yourself to this course, e-mail me at msimone@thomasaveling.co.uk

This course is **open to anyone** who would be interested in learning Italian and gaining a GCSE in Italian.

I would really recommend the Italian course to everyone. At school I really struggled to learn French, but learning Italian was so much easier and much more fun.

Mrs Stratford.



YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

All of our Year 10s were on work experience last week, with each and every one of them learning either a new skill, way of working or experience of a new environment. One employer exclaimed that their student was: "Outstanding - just like a real member of our staff. I could not have done without them!"

My thanks go to the various members of staff who contacted or visited students whilst out on their placements and - again - heard only great things about what the students had learned. More students than last year have opted to apply for the Excellence in Work Experience Award and I look forward to handing out the Excellence Certificates in the new school year!

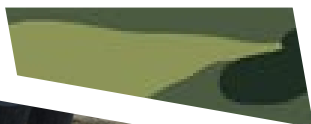
Congratulations to all students who completed their work experiences - please remember to hand in your Work Experience logbooks (you will get them back!).

YEAR 9 ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

Survival in the Wild Day

On 11th and 13th July, groups of our Enrichment programmes went to Bredhurst Campsite and took part in different team-building activities. We pretended we'd crashlanded in the middle of nowhere and had to build shelters out of plastic sheeting, bits of wood and anything else we could get our hands on! Next, we learned how to make fire and ended up cooking some delicious bacon over the newly-made fires!

We spent time learning how to do things in teams, including "posting" each other through holes in a "spider web", learning to communicate without using our voices and learning how to listen to instructions. We ended up using our new skills by playing Manhunt, which was much enjoyed - very tiring but extremely rewarding days and we were grateful to Dan and Hyekeyong from *Full Throttle UK* for their leadership!



SUMMER HOLIDAYS

We are, once again, working in partnership with Woodies Youth Centre to offer a range of Summer Activities aimed at anybody aged 8-18 years old from Monday 25th-Thursday 28th July and Monday 1st - Friday 5th August, 10am-4pm. For a bargain price of £2 per session (morning or afternoon) or a whole day session for just £4 (or £4.50 if you want lunch), a whole host of activities including art, sport, cooking, animals, dance, Manga Art and much more will be on offer! Trained sports coaches and dance tutors, hula-hoop experts and youth workers will be available during these times to ensure you have a great time!

For more information, or to book your place, call Lorraine Burford, Youth Development Worker on 01634 400592 or email: lorraine.burford@medway.gov.uk

On Friday 29th July, Woodies is hosting a 999 Community Day, which is free for the whole community between 10am and 4pm. Find out about your local community, who is your police office, learn about community safety and how you can make where you live an even safer place to be!

NEW SCHOOL - NEW IDEA??

If you would like there to be new After School Clubs and activities from September, please contact Mr Wintle with your ideas!

They can be as whacky and weird as you like (we've already had a request for a Heavy Metal group to be formed!), and your ideas don't need to be linked to your school subjects (though they can be!). For example, if you are going into Year 9 and are 14 by Easter next year, why not find out about the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme? We presently have some 6th form students working towards their Silver Award and really enjoying the programme!

Paul Wintle

School Project Manager
The Thomas Aveling School
Arethusa Road
ROCHESTER
Kent ME1 2UW

01634 844809

DESIGN & ART SHOW

The Thomas Aveling design and art show was an end of year celebration of work. The show included work from all students that have studied a KS4 or KS5 design course regardless of grade or ability and to showcase the diversity of creative subjects offered at the Thomas Aveling School. Positive responses from visitors to the show have encouraged us to make it bigger and better next year!



DISTRICT SPORTS ATHLETIC COMPETITION 2011

This is an event that the PE Department look forward to each year. It was an excellent day, with some fantastic results from students.... despite the fact that we had to drive students to and from School to the Park in order to complete exams. These were the students who came first in their events :-

District Medallists Boys:

Year 7

Davey Horgan 1500m - Silver
Bobby Norris – Shotput - Silver

Year 8

DJ Page – Discuss – Bronze

Year 9

Teejay Borrelly – 110m Hurdles – Bronze
Lewis Richards – Discuss - Gold

Year 10/11

Teddy Haysman – 110m Hurdles – Bronze
Rhys Burns - 100m – Gold
Ashley Iffy – 200m - Gold
Ashley Iffy – Discuss - Bronze
Billy Horgan – 1500m – Gold
4x100m Gold - Theo Onuhma, Matt Carlyle, Ashley Iffy, Rhys Burns

District Medallists Girls:

Year 7:

Holly Scotson – Bronze in High Jump
Lucy Goddard - Gold in 100m and Long Jump

Year 8:

Stacie Swift –Bronze in Hurdles
Libby Godfrey – Gold in 200m

Year 9:

Zoe Eleftheriou – Gold in Discus
Lucy Huggins – Gold in 800m

Year 10/11:

Jessica Murphy – Bronze in 100m, Javelin and Relay
Rebecca Stroud –Bronze in 800m and Relay
Shannon McDonnell - Bronze in Relay
Hannah Wackett –Bronze in Relay
Kiamini Martin – Silver in Discus
Victoria Jefferson – Silver in High Jump

Well done to all students who completed.

Mr Allman

Physical Education

PE PRESENTATION EVENING

Congratulations to the following pupils for their awards at the Annual Sports Presentation Evening hosted by the PE department.

Boys Hockey

Tom Welch	Hockey colours
Alex Keers	Hockey colours
Cameron Jamieson	Hockey colours
Elliot Beech	Hockey colours
Charlie Bennett	Hockey colours
William Gray-Wilson	Hockey colours
Toby Worrall	Hockey colours
Corey White	Hockey colours
Tom Edge	Hockey colours
Daniel Hudson	Hockey colours
Leo Elliot	Hockey colours
Ashley Everest-Ford	Year 7 Player of Year
Matthew Staff	Year 7 Coaches Award
Joe McIlheren	Year 8 Player of Year
Bradley Phipps	Year 8 Coaches Award
Mark Butler	Year 9 Player of Year
Tom Welch	Year 10 Player of Year
Alex Keers	Year 10 Coaches Award

Boys Football

Matt Bedwell	Football colours
Joe Gowlett	Football colours
Brendan Cocks	Football colours
Josh Robinson - Williams	Football colours
Tom Welch	Football colours
Teddy Haysman	Football colours
Alex Hendrie	Football colours
Rosul Uddin	Football colours
Matt Carlyle	Football colours
Billy Horgan	Football colours
Louis Heard	Football colours
Charlie Driscoll	Football colours
Connor Trussell	Football colours
Sam Moules	Football colours
Cameron Jamieson	Football colours
Josh Masters	Year 7 Player of Year
Jamie Daniel	Year 7 Coaches Award
Tom Whaling	Year 8 Player of Year
Jac Newman	Year 8 Coaches Award
Alex Webster	Year 9 Player of Year
Ben Kitcherside	Year 9 Coaches Award
Tom Welch	Year 10 Player of Year
Matt Carlyle	Year 10 Coaches Award

Netball Awards

Amy Colley	Netball Colours
Georgia Barratt	Netball Colours
Holly Bates	Netball Colours
Jessica Murphy	Netball Colours
Amrit Chaggar	Year 7 Player of Year
Amescia Costen	Year 7 Coaches Award
Beth Gooch	Year 8 Player of Year
Caitlin Smith	Year 8 Coaches Award
Theresa Bull	Year 9 Player of Year
Sophie Shipton	Year 9 Coaches Award
Vicky Jefferson	Year 10 Player of Year
Georgia Barratt	Year 10 Coaches Award

Cricket Awards

Toby Worrall	Cricket colours
Daniel Azzopardi	Cricket colours
Cameron Jamieson	Cricket colours
Corey White	Cricket colours
Amaron Dusanj	Cricket colours
Aranjit Mahal	Cricket colours
Tom Edge	Cricket colours
Alex Keers	Cricket colours
Emerson McFarlane	Year 7 Player of Year
Robert O'Hara	Year 7 Coaches Award
Joe McIlheren	Year 8 Player of Year
Ciaran Fredericks	Year 8 Coaches Award
Toby Worrall	Year 10 Player of Year
Daniel Azzopardi	Year 10 Coaches Award

Basketball Awards

Luke Symons	Year 9 Player of Year
Teejay Borrelly	Year 9 Coaches Award

Badminton Awards

D.J.Page	Player of Year
Jack Coleman	Coaches Award

Girls Football

Rebecca Stroud	Player of Year
Ellie Shrubsole	Coaches Award

Girls Rugby

Zoe Eleftheriou	Player of Year
-----------------	----------------

Athletics

Billy Horgan	Athletics colours
Jessica Murphy	Athletics colours
Rebecca Stroud	Athletics colours
Ryan Henderson	Year 7 Athlete of Year
Lucy Goddard	Year 7 Athlete of Year
Joseph Smith	Year 8 Athlete of Year
Stacie Swift	Year 8 Athlete of Year
Lewis Richards	Year 9 Athlete of Year
Lucy Huggins	Year 9 Athlete of Year
Billy Horgan	Year 10 Athlete of Year
Jessica Murphy	Year 10 Athlete of Year

Effort in PE

Harry Austen	Year 7
Amrit Chaggar	Year 7
Jamie May	Year 8
Caitlin Smith	Year 8
Alex Bridge	Year 9
Theresa Bull	Year 9
Billy Horgan	Year 10
Jessica Huggins	Year 10

DANNY O'DONOVAN AWARD

Kayne Haysman Year 11 – Congratulations on being offered a YTS scholarship with Gillingham FC.



AUDITIONS
SEPTEMBER 2012