

May 2016

HUGH CHRISTIE NEWS



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"an enthusiastic atmosphere for learning" - Ofsted 2014

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Our Silver and Bronze DofE Award participants took part in an Expedition Training Skills weekend on Ashdown Forest at the start of term.

They camped for two nights, cooked on Trangia stoves, learnt how to pack a ruck sack, route plan and developed navigation skills and some basic first aid, before walking approximately fifteen kilometres across Ashdown Forest to put these skills into practice.

They are now ready for their Practice and Qualifying Expeditions at the end of term.

Land of Fire & Ice 2016

The Year 10 and 11 team, who are undertaking a nine day expedition in Iceland at the start of the Summer holidays, completed a three day training expedition in the Brecon Beacons with JT Expeditions in the Easter holidays. This involved training camping and walking about 35 kilometers in two days, with full ruck sacks, over mountainous terrain.

They are definitely feeling ready for the six day trek through the Landmannalaugar and Þórsmörk National Parks in August. We are shortly launching our 2017 Iceland Expedition for those currently in Years 9 to 12.

For further details please contact Miss Jacobson at the school.



Student of the month is

Jacob Kelso

Recently Jacob Kelso (Discovery Year 10) took part in the England under 16 Spring Championship at Hawkstone Park.

Out of 140 players, Jacob finished forty second after playing 90 holes of golf over four days.



Well Done Jacob!



Forthcoming events:

Monday 16th May
 Year 7 and 8 Exams
 for three days

Wednesday 18th May
 4pm-7pm Year 9
 Consultation Event

Monday 23rd May
 Year 7 residential visit
 to Dorset for five days

Friday 27th May
 End of Term 5

Monday 6th June
 Start of Term 6

Wednesday 15th June
 REAL Review Day for
 Students in Year 7

Can you help with our annual Futures Exchange?

As part of the 'Futures Careers Programme' at Hugh Christie School, we are organising a networking event to enable our students to make informed decisions about higher education, apprenticeships, pathways and their future careers.

It takes place on Friday 8th July 2016 between 12-00pm and 1-30pm. The hall will be staffed by volunteers from as wide a range of backgrounds, occupations and careers as possible.

The overall aim is for students to interview as many volunteers as possible in a 'speed-dating' format, with a prize awarded for the student who makes the most contacts and has good quality discussions with the greatest number of adults during the event.

Students will be encouraged to record the information they find out and after the event there will be a reflective activity for students to consider their career options and set goals.

If you think you can help at this event, please contact either John Drinkwater or Lisa Homewood at the school.



www.hughchristie.kent.sch.uk



This Month's E-Safety Tip

When did you last change your computer or website passwords? It is important for your own safety and security that you change them regularly.

So make this month the time to change them all to stop others accessing your personal data and information.

Make sure you select a password that is not easy to guess. Using special characters such as \$ instead of S makes it more difficult for others to work out your passwords.





Class of the month is Mr. Barker's Year 8 Science Class.

They have done very well in learning some really challenging Science topics this year including Electromagnetism and Chemical Reactions.

A large number of them will be Studying Triple Science from June when they start their GCSEs.

Well done and good luck in your Year 8 exams in the week commencing 16th May.

The place to be.....

Dame Kelly Holmes Visits Hugh Christie

We were delighted to receive two recent visits from ex-student and double Olympic champion, Dame Kelly Holmes. Kelly, who recently ran in the London Marathon to raise money for charity, spoke to the students about her life, successes, influences and the charities she is supporting. The school has raised money for her chosen charities by holding a non-uniform day at the end of last term. In addition to Kelly, staff member Andrew Flessenden also ran in the London Marathon this year for charity in a very respectable time.



Kelly also joined some students for a training session on the school playing fields. Good Morning Britain presenter, Sean Fletcher, also accompanied the students and Kelly for tips to prepare for his own London Marathon run. The film of the visit can be www.itv.com/gmb.

Exams underway for 2016 and UCAS

After many years of hard work by students they are starting to take their final GCSE and Advanced Level exams. We are very proud of our students in Years 11, 12 and 13 who have prepared well for the challenges ahead. The exam season started on Tuesday May 3rd and runs through to the end of June this year.

Students who have been particularly recognised by staff include John Dove, Ellie Vemey, Lauren Street, Grace Crosby, Annie Basson and Courtney Luscombe in Year 11, Lucy King and Nicole Green in Year 12 and Emily Golding and Beth Hayward in Year 13.

The Science department would also like to congratulate Year 11 students who have been taking part in the weekly Master Classes since February to help them revise their Core Science content. This is a new innovation for us this year and we really hope it will help students in their exams.

We would like to send best wishes to all students taking exams.

Once again, we have seen a large number of Year 13 students apply to University for Autumn 2016. The courses applied for range from academic degrees such as Astrophysics, French and English Literature to other professional based courses such as Accounting and Marketing.

For students in Year 12 interested in applying for University in 2017, we recently ran an event to support them with the application process. The materials from this are available on the school website to download.



Well done to the Year 10 Student Leaders who have recently been trained in the skills of Peer Mentoring. They will shortly start working with some Year 7 students.



Our Year 10 students travelled to Sackville School for their first Volleyball tournament.

It was a difficult fixture with some fierce competition, but they finished with respectable positions. Well Done Boys!



Experience Days

Do you have a child considering joining Hugh Christie in 2017 (currently in Year 5)?

If so, after half term on four consecutive Friday afternoons, we are running our popular Experience Events to give them a flavour of the learning experience at Hugh Christie. Activities will include Science, Technology, Physical Education and Art.

These events are really helpful in familiarising your child with the school and our staff so they get to know us really well before starting in 2017.

If you have not yet reserved a place, please contact Mrs Riddle on 01732 353544 EXT 242.

The first one takes place on Friday 10th June between 2pm and 5pm. Parent tours are also available before collecting your child.



BBC Microbits arrive at Hugh Christie

All students in Year 7 are about to receive their BBC Microbit to help them learn about computer programming.

A group of six Year 7 students have already been trained in how to programme the Microbits and they will be sharing their expertise with the REAL teachers so they can start the project with their classes shortly.

Howard Library Book of the Month

'How to Look for a Lost Dog' by Ann M. Martin

11-year-old Rose is autistic and struggles to understand her classmates. But when her father gives her a stray dog, which she names Rain, the dog becomes her best friend, her anchor in a confusing world.

So when Rain goes missing during a storm, Rose refuses to stop looking for her.



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