

Hurst News



Senior School & Sixth Form Newsletter no 21

Lent 2011



House Drama Competition

Dear Parents

We have had an excellent first half to the Easter Term. All too often, these first few weeks of the year can be blighted by illness, bad weather and general January blues. However, this has been the best first half of an Easter Term that I can remember. Drama, Sport, Music, Activities in profusion, as well as plenty of academic study. Yes, we have had to contend with some grey days and the rest of it but, overall, there has been a superb buzz about the campus and a real sense of achievement as we ran into the half term break.

In these pages, you will get a flavour of what has been going on and, I hope, some sense of quite how busy we have been. All of this and an Inspection, too.

Yours sincerely

Tim Manly

Academic Hurst

Challenge Grade Awards

Activity Hurst

Careers Hurst
Young Enterprise
Hurst Dinghy Sailing Club

Community Hurst

The Shield Ball

Creative Hurst

Art
Drama
Music

Sporting Hurst

Boys' Hockey
Netball
Girls' Indoor Cricket

DIARY DATES:

See back pages for details of Lent Term Drama and Music events and forthcoming social events.

Lent Term Dates:

Term restarts after half term: Monday 28th February

Term ends 1 pm Wednesday 30th March

Summer Term Dates:

Term starts Tuesday 26th April

Term ends 1 pm Wednesday 6th July

Half term starts 5.45 pm Friday 27th May; Term restarts Monday 6th June

NB The Senior School will be open on Friday 29th April.

The College will be closed for the early Spring holiday on Monday 2nd May

Academic Hurst

In my half term letter, I wrote at great length about the need for serious work over this break and the next few weeks as we run into public examinations. This, of course, is a truism. There is so much that can still be done in the time available. That said, I am pleased with what has been achieved so far this year. By and large, the pupils are working extremely hard, engaging with their subjects, challenging themselves and working well with staff. If they can continue in this way, then I am very optimistic about the rewards that they will reap in the Summer. You know me well enough to know that I want to see our children achieve the very best that they can and that we will push them and encourage them to do so but, at the same time, one must give credit where it is due. The pupils have been working hard and they need a brief moment of respite. I know that they have a good sense of the seriousness of the task in hand and that they will, sometimes reluctantly, get on with what needs to be done.

In particular, I commended the following in my recent Head's assembly for their exemplary performance over the last few weeks:

Middle School Challenge Grade Awards

Shell:

Neal Abdool
Ella Blizzard-Freeman
Charlie Coker
Elise Gayler
Izzi Goodman
Horatio Gould
Oliver Mackenzie
Isadora Marriot
Noah Mason
Lottie O'Donoghue
Charlie Scates
Cara Seaton
Izzy Tunley-Lo

Remove:

Emily Brown
Suzi Glew
Rory Green
Elysia Hannaford
Hugo Healy
Tim Hulsmann-Diamond
Lucy King
Joe Vallone
Amelia Warren
Isaac Yule

Vth Form:

Conor Andrews
Megan Edwards
Lizzie Freeman
Jacob Hollebon
James Husband
Lizzie Learmonth
Benjy Mason
Kate Powell
Ben Rudling
Charlotte Thompson

Sixth Form Challenge Grade Awards

Lower Sixth:

Sophia Bexon
Becci Freestone
Issy Gibson
Rachel Hammond
Jessica Naysmith
Ben Silverstein
Lizzie Tillard
Alex Vinall
Katherine Woodlock

Upper Sixth:

Charlie Allen
Jun Chow
Jo Darnley
Sophie Ingham Clark
Sam Keating
Lucy Kings
Jazz Upton
Harry Woolgrove

Activity Hurst

Careers Hurstpierpoint College

'Careers Hurst' has got off to a flying start with speakers coming in for a series of talks on career options ranging from Accountancy, Advertising, Building Project Management, Chartered Surveying, Commercial and Military Flying, Engineering, Event Management, Gaming Programming, Insurance, Film and TV industry including Stunt Co-ordination and Management Consultancy, together with an evening for prospective medical students. Very positive feedback has been received from pupils and parents and the College thanks all who have so generously offered their time to give talks. The second half of term has an equally impressive line-up of talks arranged: 2 further medical nights, Law, Sports, Aviation, Dentistry, Exploration Geology and 'The Entrepreneur'.

Thanks too to those offering some fantastic work experience opportunities within their organisations. Details of work placements will be available on the portal after half term.

If any parents are interested in supporting the Careers initiatives, either by giving a talk or offering a work placement, please do contact Tania Fielden via email at tania.fielden@hppc.co.uk or telephone 07843 358951.

Young Enterprise by Jan Leeper



'Infinite' - one of two Young Enterprise companies running at Hurst this year - competed at the Mid Sussex Trade Fair at Burgess Hill on 29th January.

Their product was a DVD tutorial on how to set up a Facebook account and perhaps more importantly, how to establish privacy settings for it. The DVD is a live presentation with voice narration given by the students themselves.

The ingenuity and professional quality of this product made it a clear winner on the day, and the judges were extremely impressed not only by the smart appearance of the trade stand itself, but also the way in which Infinite interacted with the public and demonstrated their sales techniques.

HURST DINGHY SAILING CLUB
Team Trials Sunday 13th March
Leaving from Hurst at 10am

We are looking for sailors with some experience to represent the school at events during the summer term.

If you are interested please email Miss West by March 3rd

Community Hurst

The Shield Ball by Kate Bray



The biennial Shield Ball took place on Saturday 12th February.

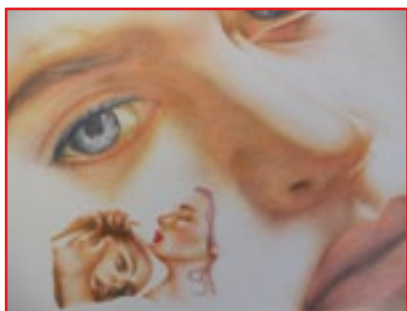
The girls chose a Masquerade theme and a small group of willing Shield parents transformed the College's dining hall in shocking pink, black and silver to reflect this. The girls, from Shell to UVI, invited a guest to join them for the evening and all entered into the spirit with energy and enthusiasm. On arrival and during the 3-course meal guests were entertained by a fabulous magician, after which some impressive moves on the dance floor were seen, particularly from members of staff!



Creative Hurst

Art by Tiffany Farrell

The start of the Lent term marks the end of the coursework units for the majority of our students in the art department doing GCSE, AS and A2 level. There are many highlights from all exam groups including work by Lauren Peters UVI, Sophia Bexon LVI and Georgie Meredith Vth form. (work pictured below)



All these year groups then embark upon the eagerly awaited final exam unit. The themes this year are Similarities and Differences for GCSE, Mystery and Imagination for AS and Exploration and Discovery for A2. To aid students' initial ideas we set up several exciting displays in the art rooms including birds loaned from the Booth Museum in Brighton and plants borrowed from Jack Duncley's nursery. Miss West and I also planned a trip to Brighton for our Sixth form artists and photographers. The trip included a visit to the Sealife centre and exploration of the local galleries and shops around Brighton. Students were able to gather source material in and around the piers and despite the blustery weather collected and captured many sketches and interesting shots.



This term several Shell classes have been working on a large painted mural and digital photography to support their 'Structures' unit. The mural has been inspired by David Hockney and Hundertwasser and has involved at least 4 classes from the Shell year group. Each Wednesday afternoon the Shell arrive and add something to the mural. This is now complete and will be displayed somewhere in the College once it has been stretched. We hope to develop this idea further.



The art scholars have also had the spotlight on them recently in the run up to their exhibition. They have been working on their ideas and pieces for the 'Chaos' project over the last term and a half and many are coming to the end of their investigations. To support them in completing final pieces we opened the Art School on a rainy Sunday and at least 20 students came in to work. The atmosphere was excellent and the work being produced both varied and creative. The final pieces along with scholars' coursework will be exhibited in the Art School at the private view on Thursday 10th March from 6 - 8 pm. The students are pictured below working hard!



Creative Hurst cont'd

Drama by Nicholas Beeby

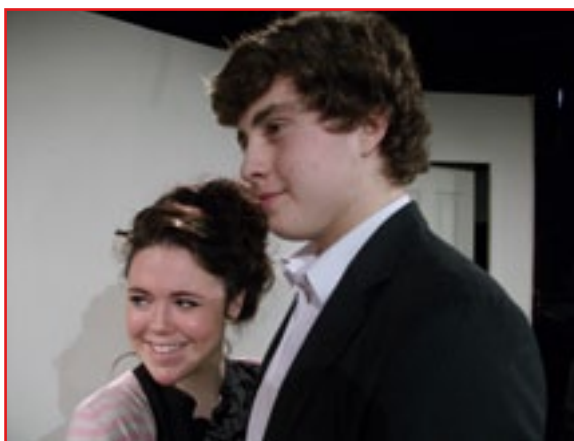
A View From The Bridge by Arthur Miller.



This was a remarkable production by any standards, directed by Sixth formers Amie Shouler and Hollie Trist. The Drama Studio lends itself well to this kind of intimate theatre, and a small, mature cast made a great job of conveying the frustration and torment inherent in Arthur Miller's great play.

Fifth form devised productions

based on *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller. Calendar clashes meant that these performances had to take place in camera, which unfortunately denied them the audience they so richly deserved. Remove and Sixth form drama students managed to see the

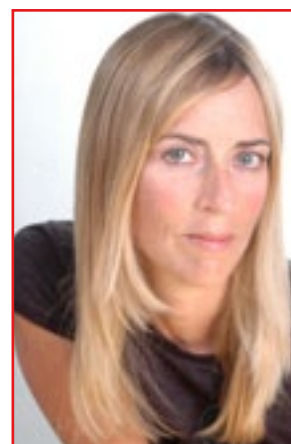


work, but parents and friends missed some very intense work which ranged in content from a family torn apart by the trials of schizophrenia to racism in the deep south among mixed race families.

Watch out for another chance to see work from the Fifth form drama students in May.

Drama Masterclass: The Theatre of Steven Berkoff.

We were fortunate to have Annie Sutton, an actress who has worked with the legendary Steven Berkoff on many occasions, help our students explore the potential of his techniques. This was a gruelling two-hour workshop where participants were truly put through their paces in an attempt to deliver hard-hitting and visceral theatre.



Drama Masterclass: Little Cauliflower Puppetry Theatre Company.

Fourth-year performance students from the University of Kent at Canterbury have formed the Little Cauliflower Theatre Company to develop puppetry-based theatre. They brought their show 'Street Dreams' to the College and followed it up



with a workshop helping our students to explore puppetry techniques. They helped us to create drama from puppets made of mugs and tea towels and also from strange beings similar to the 'tar baby' from the Br'er Rabbit tales.

Creative Hurst cont'd

Shakers by John Godber



This was a fabulous piece of theatre. John Godber's uproariously funny account of a typical evening in the Shaker's cocktail bar was expertly directed by Sixth-Former Daniel Costello and performed with energy and panache by a cast of Remove girls: Rosie Zeidler, Jess Hedges, Lizzie Beeby, Alice Manly, Kate McGoldrick and Poppy Rogers.

The House Drama competition

This year's plays, adjudicated by our playwright in Residence, Mike Carter, were all tales from the Brothers Grimm. The programme started off with Little Red Riding Hood, and took the audience of the whole school through such well-known classics as Cinderella and Snow White (although not as we know it!) to a few not-so well-known stories like The Musicians of Bremen and The Table, The Donkey, The Pixie and The Sack!

The competition was won overall by Red Cross House (The Table...) and their directors Ellie Sleep and Anna Turzynski. The Best Director was Jemima Henstridge-Blows for her Iron Hans (Chevron House); the Best Actor was Harry Spencer-Phillips as the Pixie; the Best Actress was Alice Kerrigan as Little Red Cap and the Sam Griffiths award went to Elsa Noad of the Remove, the new and young director of The Lady and The Lion for Pelican House.

See back cover for details of drama productions in the second half of the Lent Term



Music by Neil Matthews

Another busy half term draws to a close in the Music School. Hurst's musicians hit the ground running in January, preparing for the annual Scholars' Concert. This concert was a terrific vehicle for our top musicians to show their incredible talents to an appreciative audience. The College is extremely fortunate to have real depth and breadth in its Music Scholars at the moment and we were treated to a stunning, professional evening of music making with performances crossing genres and eras from Beethoven to Brubeck. Particular mention must go to Tim Moses whose performance of Pergolesi's Nina on the Cello was truly stunning.



Friday 28th January saw the Shield House concert; an initiative venture that I hope will be taken on by other houses. Red Cross gives regular performances at its Barbeque in the Summer and it is great to see music becoming a real part of house life.

Miranda Holliday (House Captain) writes about the Shield Concert: "Miss

Bray and Mr Matthews set the bar high, opening the night with a selection of impressive music for two pianos. They were followed by a variety of solo and ensemble performances from members of the house, including a range of styles from Debussy to Bob Dylan. The concert also included performances of



the previous house ensembles and the last two house songs (from the house music competition), for which the whole house got involved. The whole evening was very well received by family and friends that came along to watch, who seemed 'so excited' to finally hear our contributions."

"The evening was a great success, enjoyed by all, and we in Shield House hope that the concert will become an annual event, and will also encourage other houses to put on their own concerts as well. Thank you to those who organised the evening, came to support and of course to all those who performed. It was a truly memorable occasion."

Jon Cherry, our excellent Flute teacher, organised an informal recital for his pupils and their parents. In this, Mr Cherry gave an insight into some of the pitfalls of performing on the flute and encouraged some of his youngest performers to play in public, in some cases for the first time. The informality of the evening meant that nerves could be put to one side and this supportive environment will surely make some of our flautists' next performances much easier.

The Choir and Chamber choir remain busy, singing at our weekly services. The choir has recently given impressive performances of John Gardner's Tomorrow Shall be my Dancing Day (very tricky indeed) and Andrew Carter's For the Beauty of the Earth in our weekly Eucharist, to name only two anthems this term. The Chamber Choir gave Bob Chillcott's Little Jazz Mass as part of the Prep School service at the end of January, showing our younger pupils not only a different style of music in worship but also exposing them to some of the College's finest singers.

The main focus of the first half of the Lent Term has to be the Solo Music Competition, now in its sixth year.

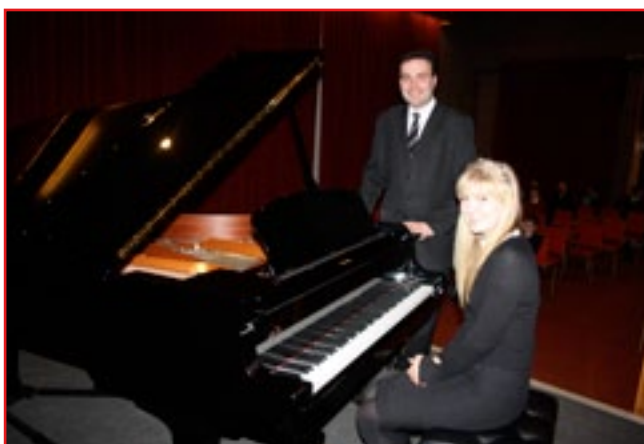
Darren Jameson writes:

Held over four evenings, pupils from the Prep and Senior schools entered in beginner, intermediate and senior classes in either instrumental or vocal categories.

Unlike any other event at Hurst, pupils from across the College and age ranges competed against each other on equal terms. As a consequence, Joseph Mosley (UVI) performed in the same category as Year 6 cellist, Jocelyn Carmichael. Surely this is what it is all about, music for everyone and for every age?

Our guest judges were impressed by the performances, summarised neatly by just one of their comments below:

“They all performed with such conviction ... playing to an impressive standard ... captured the audience ... performing with technical and musical accomplishment”.



Pictured above are Corey Wickens, who won the Advanced Piano and Advanced Strings categories. with Harriet Sykes and Zack Pinsent, winners of the Advanced Voice categories.

Solo Music Competition 2011 Winners

Senior School

Intermediate Piano	Elly Cave
Advanced Piano	Corey Wickens
Advanced Voice	Harriet Sykes
Advanced Voice	Zack Pinsent
Intermediate Woodwind	Robert Loveless
Advanced Woodwind	Elizabeth Learmonth
Advanced Sax	Martha Green
Advanced Guitar	Cameron Forster
Advanced Strings	Corey Wickens

Prep School

Beginner Piano	Claudia Thornton
Intermediate Piano	Alexander Norden
Beginner Voice	Emma Prothero
Beginner Voice	Angus Clover
Intermediate Voice	Imogen Gearing
Beginner Woodwind	Monty Graham
Beginner Brass	Jasper Anscombe
Intermediate Brass	Alexander Norden
Intermediate Sax	Angus Clover
Advanced Brass	Fraser Clover
Beginner Guitar	Ben Berrill
Beginner Strings	Max Gamblen
Beginner Strings	Katie Tuson
Intermediate Strings	Grace Savage
Intermediate Harp	Grace Savage
Intermediate Percussion	Joe Cave

The musicians will perform again at the Solo Music Competition Winners' Concert on Monday, 28th February at 7 pm in the Music School.

All are welcome.

Sporting Hurst

Boys' Hockey by Chris Wilson

The Boys Hockey Club has started off the first half of the term, really firing! There have been 5 block fixtures on Saturdays and numerous mid-week and Cup matches. With 79 matches played, the statistics are: 38 won 14 drawn 25 lost. The fixture against Epsom College, was a most successful block with some really good, hard-fought matches.

The 1st XI have started the term strongly, with some impressive performances against powerful opposition and the results have not really reflected the hard work that they have put in, although the closely contested 2-1 win over Ardingly is a real plus point for the team.

The 2nd XI have started well with some hard-fought close games played. Again, the results have not come out in their favour but the hard work is certainly paying dividends for this young team who put in a great performance against Ardingly to win 6-0. The 3rd XI remain unbeaten after playing only three matches, as unfortunately two schools had to cancel fixtures.



The U16A team have really improved and stepped up their play to win the West Sussex county qualifying tournament, which sets them up to play in the all Sussex Cup final against Lewes Old Grammar School after half term. Win or lose, they have already booked their place in the regional tournament in March at Surbiton Hockey club. The U16B's team have played some great hockey which has been rewarded with winning results. They are a very good team with great team spirit.

The most pleasing factor is the improvements within the U15's, with the U15A team improving their play and game understanding, but again the results not

quite reflecting the hard work they are putting in. The U15B's again work very hard and with a little bit of consistency will become a very organised team. The U15C's have a very good training regime and they have worked incredibly hard against some good opposition, rewarded by well earned wins against Sutton Valence and Ardingly.



The U14's are a very talented year group with the results showing only two losses between all four teams so far. The U14A team have started the term off superbly and remain unbeaten having played 10 matches, winning nine and drawing one. They became West Sussex champions at the qualifying tournament held here at Hurst and went on to win the all Sussex Cup final at Lewes Hockey Club against Eastbourne College. They go forward to the the U14 regional tournament on Tuesday 8th March at Woking Hockey Club.



The U14B's are also a very talented team and remain unbeaten in their five matches. The U14C's are certainly the fittest C team on the circuit and have played some great hockey to get some good results. Last but by no means least, the mighty U14D's also remain unbeaten after their five matches. They have played some good closely-fought matches to get the results.

Sporting Hurst cont'd

Netball by Rebecca Jutson

We have enjoyed some closely fought block fixtures putting out 15 sides against Caterham, Cranleigh, Brighton and Wellington. The girls have enjoyed weekly local fixtures against Seaford, Ardingly, Reeds, and Burgess Hill. Many of our sides have been playing up a team (ie Hurst 2nds v opponents 1sts) with Hurst still coming out the winners. This half term finished with a drawn block fixture against Wellington with 7 wins, 7 loses and 1 draw. The 1st VII, the U15B's and the U14B's are all undefeated this season thus far.

Our 1st VII, U16A's, U15A's and U14A's are all in preparation for the big SISNA tournament at the end of the first week back after half term. In addition, the 1st VII, U15A's and U14A's have secured their places in the semi finals of the Sussex Knock Out Cup, all to be played soon after half term.



Having qualified for the regional rounds of the National Schools Tournament, the 1st VII Team travelled to Southampton for the first time, finishing 9th on the day. This may not sound that impressive (and indeed the girls themselves felt that they did not really perform at their best on the day) but should be taken in the context that over 100 schools entered the competition in the south region.



Girls' Cricket by Charlotte Godwyn

Hurst played hosts to the Lady Taverners Indoor Cricket U15 competition on Friday 4th February, when our junior girls faced Moira House and Downlands School. The girls, the majority of whom are in the U14 age group, approached the tournament with admirable determination and a pro-active attitude volunteering for a further hour's training on Monday evenings in the weeks leading up to the tournament.



The nerves were really apparent but the girls played fantastically well. We first played Moira House, captained by a Sussex U15 cricketer, with the rest of the team falling into the upper end of the age group. We saw fantastic keeping from Gitanjali Khot

and top bowling from Laura Connell and Ella Gibson. The girls were chasing a score of 81 but were all out for 57. Our top scorer was Laura Connell who really found her feet and hit 5 boundaries in total across the two games. 3 of these were in the second game against the local side Downlands. We won the toss and put Downlands into bat. We chased down their total of 41 to win by 3 wickets.

We came second in our pool and the girls showed real promise. Their challenge is to top the league next year. Congratulations to all the girls who are now training hard in anticipation of the summer season.



Advance Notice Board

Hurst 'in Rep' week 7 pm each evening Drama Studio

Postponed from before half term, this is the second of the John Godber plays at Hurst this term.

Teachers - date to be announced

This is directed by new teacher, Charlotte Godwyn, this is the story of new teacher, Mr Nixon, who is struggling to teach Drama to an enormous school of pupils who would rather be anywhere else. Can he make a difference to their

UVI Devised Theatre Performances - 22nd/23rd March 7 pm each evening Drama Studio

Based upon Plato's Cave, the UVI present their Devised Theatre pieces.

Evita

by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber

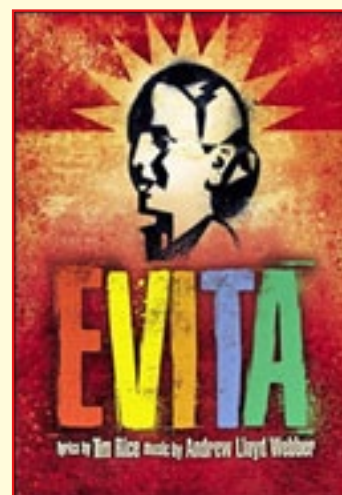
Tuesday 8th – Saturday 12th March

Evita is not very often performed in schools, which is why we are tackling it at Hurst!

The show tells of the rise and fall of Argentina's first lady, Eva Peron which is played out in this sung-through musical. The original London production in 1978 featured David Essex as Che and made Elaine Paige a star. It was filmed in 1996 with Madonna and Antonio Banderas and recently revived in London with Argentinian power-house Elena Roger. "Don't Cry for Me Argentina", "Oh What a Circus" and "Another Suitcase in Another Hall" were all hit records.

7 pm Bury Theatre

Tickets available from the Lodge after half term



START SPREADING THE NEWS ...

JOIN US AT THE HURST SUMMER BALL
ON SATURDAY, 9TH JULY 2011



TICKETS ADULT £80 UVI STUDENT £50

FOR DETAILS CONTACT GLENDA BOWDEN
ON 01273 836877 OR 890347 OR EMAIL glenda.bowden@hppe.co.uk

Hurst
Parents' Association
Senior School & Sixth Form
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**Saturday
26th March**

**Viva Las Vegas!
Joint JuSPA
and HPA
Spring Dance**

See the Lent Half Term
Notices booklet for
details of how to book
your tickets