



ENDEAVOUR HIGH SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2006

I would like to take this opportunity to inform parents and carers about important dates and events.

Year 9 and 11 Mock Exams!

Year 11 Mock examinations will take place between Monday 11th December and Friday 15th December.

Year 9 Mock SATS will be on Wednesday 6th, Thursday 7th and Friday 8th of December.

It is important that both year groups take the opportunity to prepare well for the exams and get a feel for what it will be like when the real thing comes along.

Year 10

Year 10 parents' evening is on Thursday 14th of December. It is a very important first chance to see how your child is doing in their GCSEs.

Drama productions

On a more relaxed note the school recently performed **GREASE** to two full houses. It was a great show.

We will be performing **ALADDIN** as the next staff panto. This will be performed on the evenings of Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th of December. (Details to follow),

The year 7 pupils will also be performing, dancing and displaying their art work for our local primary schools on Monday 11th of December.

The school is also fortunate to have been given the honour of performing at the **Wilberforce**

Celebrations next year. Our pupils will be seen by a world wide audience as we try to link with schools in The Gambia, in Africa; and to one in the USA. Watch this space for more information.

Term dates

Can I also give parents advanced notice about closure information for the school holidays at Christmas. **The school closes on Tuesday 19 December 2006, at 1.30pm.** On that day the school will run from 8.30am, as usual, to 1pm. The bell will then go for lunch and pupils can have a lunch before they leave the site.

Please ask your child to go straight home and not visit their old primary school as they will be busy with their own celebrations.

Pupils return to school on Thursday 4 January 2007.

Attendance

Could I also inform parents that they must **ring** the school using the telephone system and **not send texts**. Although we can send texts to you the system is not geared up to receive texts. This means that messages **you** have sent are not being received and this causes communication problems and confusion – especially when you are reporting your child's absence.

Last year, like a lot of Hull schools, many pupils did not attend for the two days, before and after the holiday. This had a negative impact on the attendance of individual pupils; and on the school's overall attendance.

Research shows that 17 days missed to school in a year is equal to a GCSE grade. Even achieving 90% attendance is not sufficient to ensure academic progress. 90% attendance in a school year is the equivalent to missing 4 whole weeks of lessons (in 5 years of secondary school it is the same as missing half a school year).

Free school meals – can you help?

Could I also ask that parents who can, complete the Free Dinner forms enclosed with this letter. Even if you don't take up a free dinner, by completing the form, the school benefits financially.

We gained £125,000 last year because of our free dinner numbers. That money was spent in the school on your child. We will be quite happy to send the forms in for you once they have been completed.

A big thanks to the PTFA

The school would like to thank the PTFA for their generosity during this year. Through their sales of refreshments and planners, and the car boot sales, they have been able to provide the school with some new microphones and £500 towards the school's bid to be a specialist college. Any parents wishing to join the PTFA should contact the school and we will pass on your details to the committee. They really do make a difference!

Art Department success

Two pupils, Tania Love and Chloe Fenwick, had their art work exhibited

in the Royal Albert Hall in London on Tuesday 17 October 2006.

They were selected by judges to be part of a group of 100 artists who had been short listed for a National Competition run by the Commission for Racial Equality. The theme of the competition was: identity – what it means to be a teenager in Britain today.

800 pupils had entered the competition, from schools across Britain. The launch of the exhibition was attended by the two pupils; 10 other pupils who had entered the competition from the school; Tania and Chloe's parents; and 4 staff.

Although the pupils were not selected as the final three winners, their work now hangs in the Royal Albert Hall and was described by Paul Riddell, Head of Equality, Commission for Racial Equality, 'As work that appeals to the eye, the heart and the mind... Pictures of truth, integrity and honesty'.

The school had entered the competition earlier this year. The workshops in the school were led by James Finch, who works in Endeavour as a Learning Support Assistant, in Art.

Mrs Kathy Mills, Head of Art said, 'It is always nice when judges outside of the school, and city, make such positive comments about our pupils' work. To have two pupils in the final 100 pieces of work selected is tremendous. Visitors from all over the globe will see the work and realise the potential of Hull's young people to make positive statements about themselves and their world.'

Yours sincerely

Mr C Straker
Head Teacher