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**HITCHIN BOYS' SCHOOL**  
*A Specialist Technology & Language College*

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**HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER - July 2012**

Dear All

As yet another busy and exciting year draws to a close I am writing to you with our final newsletter of the year.

There have been many delightful occasions for the school this half-term including the Queen's visit to Hitchin, Gail Emms' visit to the school, and Anne Dawson, TV broadcaster speaking at our Founders' Day Celebration.

We have also had outstanding sporting and musical performances and we have said goodbye to a year group and several members of staff. However, as one year ends another one begins and we intend that 2012-13 will be our most successful year ever. Not just in terms of exam results but also in sports, music, arts, drama, events around school and most importantly opportunities for the boys to grow and develop.

One important vital aspect of that success is of course the close relationship between the school and the parents. We have surveyed parent views of school at every parents' evening throughout 2010-11 and 2011-12. Included in the newsletter you will find a comparative summary of all parents' evening survey responses for both the last two years. We are pleased to note we are continuing to receive excellent feedback.

Thank you so much to all those parents who took the time to complete the surveys on Parents' Evening. We will be using GL Performance – a specialist in educational research – to carry out a more extensive survey in November 2012. Please keep a lookout for the questionnaire which will be coming home by "Boy post".

Finally, I am reminded again as I look through the details of this newsletter what an outstanding group of boys, staff and parents we are lucky enough to have at Hitchin Boys' School. Thank you all.

I wish you all a relaxing and, hopefully, sunny summer break.

Yours faithfully

M. Brown

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Head Teacher: Mr M. Brown



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## HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER - July 2012

### Art

Students have been busy painting banners for the Rhythms of the World Festival. Year 9 students have planned, designed and executed the work onto 6 foot canvases that were displayed at the Festival. The theme for their design is based on 'World Music'.

### Science

Year 7 had a visit from Glaxo enabling them to experience the experimental laboratory techniques involved in drug testing as will be happening during the Olympic Games. They also took part in a World Record 'Water Rocket Launching' attempt co-ordinated by the University of Central Lancashire. We were very pleased to welcome, as official observers, EADS Astrium and the University of Hertfordshire. We will hear later this year if we have made the Guinness Book of Records.

### Parents' Society

This is my last newsletter as Chair and I am delighted to report that we managed to raise £9,300 this year towards the new science computers, so we will be able to donate them to the school in the new year. We are aware that we are all in difficult times and so we are extremely grateful to all those parents who gave, donated or helped us to achieve this figure. Our last few events went very well, the Summer Fair raised over £2,000, and the last disco was well attended and everyone had a good time.

Our new Chair, Sharon Edwards, is enthusiastically sorting out events for the new year including the Comedy evening in September and a professional music concert in November. If you have any comments or suggestions to make please contact her on [chair.hbps@gmail.com](mailto:chair.hbps@gmail.com) or via the school office.

We wish you all an enjoyable summer.

Allison Hamilton, Chair

### 100 Club Winners

May	1 <sup>st</sup>	J Buchanan
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	M Cain
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	S Weston
June	1 <sup>st</sup>	P Turley
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	M Love
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	S Baldwin
July	1 <sup>st</sup>	K Orna-Ornstein
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	J Hedley
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	G Pelger
Aug	1 <sup>st</sup>	G Burke
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	S North
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	A Mulley

## HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER - July 2012

### SPORTS NEWS

**RUGBY - NB See September Rugby Fixture List & Sports Awards below**

#### CRICKET

Despite the wettest and most frustrating cricket season ever, we were still able to play a total of 35 matches during the season. We enjoyed a successful run in the County Cup competitions and reached two District finals (still to be played). We also became District 6-a-side Champions at Year 7.

	<b>Played</b>	<b>Won</b>	<b>Lost</b>
Year 7	11	7	4
Year 8	9	2	7
Year 9	9	8	1
Year 10	6	3	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>15</b>

#### Outstanding team performances

Seniors	District Final to be played against JHN.
Year 10	County Cup Semi-Final, lost to Richard Hale.
Year 9	County Cup Runners Up, lost to Haberdashers by 30 runs.
Year 7	6-a-side Calypso cricket District Champions.
Year 7	District final to be played against JHN.
Year 7	County Cup Semi-Final, lost to Heath Mount.

#### Individual Representative Honours

Ben Smith	Hertfordshire U17s
Sebastian Walton-Adams	Hertfordshire U15s
Ben Cowell	Hertfordshire U14s

Many thanks to Mr Dawson and Mr Offler for their support during the cricket season as scorers, umpires and coaches and also to all parents who supported the boys and the school during the cricket season and to the boys for their efforts throughout the summer.

Mr D Smith

#### Ski Racing

Four Year 10s and a Year 11 student had a Ski Racing taster session at the Ski Centre in Welwyn Garden City. The father of a new Year 7 student is a Race Coach and ran the session for us with a view to launching a Hitchin Boys' School Ski Race Team in September.

#### Athletics Report 2012 – Mr Bajak

This year has been an exceptional year for our athletics squads. They have enjoyed success at district, county, regional and national level. 11 school records have been broken many of which stood previously for more than 30 years. 7 Pupils have been selected by Hertfordshire and quite a few of our pupils now feature in the national rankings.

## **HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER - July 2012**

### **Year 7 Athletics**

2012 District League winners

2012 North Hertfordshire Athletics Champions

The following boys have been selected to represent Hertfordshire

Will Smith, Peter Keefe, Matthew Waters & Ben Wilmot

### **New Year 7 school records**

Will Smith 70 Hurdles 12.1

Peter Keefe High Jump 1.58 Ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in UK

Peter Keefe Shot 11.64 Ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in the UK

Matthew Waters Javelin 34.56 Ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in the UK

Brandon Norman Discus 24.45 Ranked 16<sup>th</sup> in the UK

### **Year 8 Athletics**

Hertfordshire County Regional League Champions 2012

Hertfordshire County League Final Winners 2012

English Schools Cup Regional 2<sup>nd</sup> place 13<sup>th</sup> in England

### **New Year 8 School records**

George Marvel - Hammer 41.38

George Marvel – Hertfordshire County Champion Ranked 25<sup>th</sup> in UK. George was also selected to represent Hertfordshire at the English Schools Championships in Gateshead where he finished 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **Year 9 Athletics**

Lee Valley indoor cup finalists 2012

3<sup>rd</sup> Place North Hertfordshire Athletics Championships

### **Year 10 Athletics**

Hertfordshire Multi-Event Champions

Hertfordshire County Regional League Champions 2012

Hertfordshire County League Final Winners 2012

English Schools Cup Regional 4<sup>th</sup> place 39<sup>th</sup> in England

North Hertfordshire Athletics Champions 2012

Max Schopp was selected to represent Hertfordshire at multi-events. Ranked 27<sup>th</sup> in UK.

Kim Sobotie was selected to represent Hertfordshire at the English Schools Championships in Gateshead and reached the Semi-final.

### **New Year 10 School Records**

Kim Sobotie 200m 22.41 Ranked 35<sup>th</sup> in the UK

Max Schopp 100m Hurdles 14.4 Ranked 59<sup>th</sup> in UK

Callum Higgins Hammer 27.31

Locce Gilmour Pole Vault 2.80m

Relay (Clifford, Schopp, Stewart, Sobotie) 46.6

### **Senior Athletics**

North Hertfordshire District Champions 2012

See September Rugby Fixture List below



**HITCHIN BOYS' SCHOOL**  
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Dear Parents / Guardians,

We are very fortunate at Hitchin Boys' School to be one of the very few remaining secondary schools in the area to organise school sports fixtures on a Saturday morning. To minimise any communication problems during the forthcoming rugby term in September, the dates for the fixtures are as follows:

DATE	OPONENT	1 <sup>st</sup> XV	2 <sup>nd</sup> XV /U16	U15	U14	U13	U'12
Sat 8 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Training	H	H	H	H	H	-
Weds 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Sir John Lawes (Cup)	H (2.30)	-	-	-	-	-
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Enfield Grammar	A	A	H (A & B)	H (A & B)	H (A & B)	-
Sat 22 <sup>nd</sup> Sept	St George's	H	H	H (A & B)	A (A & B)	A (A & B)	-
Tues 25 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Tring School	-	-	-	-	A (4.15KO)	-
Weds 26 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Samuel Whitbread (Cup)	-	-	H (4.00KO)	-	-	-
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Watford Boys'	H	H	A (A & B)	A (A & B)	-	-
Sat 6 <sup>th</sup> Oct	University College School	A	A	H	H	-	-
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Tring School	-	-	-	A (4.15KO)	-	-
Weds 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Tring School (Cup)	H (2.30)	-	-	-	-	-
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Tring School	-	-	H (4.15 KO)	-	-	-
Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Monks Walk School	-	H	-	-	-	-
Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Broxbourne	-	-	H (B team)	A (B team)	A (B team)	-
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Richard Hale	A	A	H (A & B)	H (A & B)	H (A & B)	-
Weds 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Tring School	-	H (2.30)				
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Roundwood Park	-	-	A	H	A	H
Sat 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Verulam	H	H	A (A & B)	A (A & B)	A (A & B)	-
Tues 20 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Haileybury	-	-	-	A (A & B)	-	-
Sat 24 <sup>th</sup> Nov	St Ignatius	A	A	H	H	A	-
Tues 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Bedford School	A	-	H (A & B)	A (A & B)	-	-
Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	SCC	H	H	H (A & B)	A (A & B)	A (A & B)	A (A & B)
Sat 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Haberdashers' 10.30ko	H	H	H	A (A & B)	A (A & B)	A (A & B)
Weds 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Old Boys'	H	-	-	-	-	-

To enable greater communication between the PE Department and home, and identify, at the earliest opportunity, any possible clashes or unavailability's, we will again this year be using Parent Mail to email out the respective team list to parents with all the relevant information on them. (If you haven't re-registered for Parent Mail2, please email [chope@hbs.herts.sch.uk](mailto:chope@hbs.herts.sch.uk) giving your son's name and tutor group)

Additionally, to be successful, all players must make themselves available, wherever possible for **all** fixtures and training. Where possible if there is a clash, or your son is unavailable we require at least five days notice.

I hope yourself and your son fully supports the opportunities we as a school provide to further their rugby experience and we look forward to another successful season.

Regards

A McPherson (Head of PE & Games)

Head Teacher: Mr M.Brown



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## HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER - July 2012

### SUMMER SPORTS AWARDS 2012

These awards are given to those boys who have demonstrated exceptional dedication and commitment to sport in both practices and competition and/or have performed to an exceptionally high standard for the school or representative side in their age group.

#### CRICKET AWARDS

Year 7 Most Improved Player of the Year	:	CHRIS WILLIS
Year 7 Player of the Year	:	BEN WILMOT
Year 8 Most Improved Player of the Year	:	JAY PATADIA
Year 8 Player of the Year	:	BILLY MULLEY
Year 9 Most Improved Player of the Year	:	JASON TIMM
Year 9 Player of the Year	:	BEN COWELL
Year 10 Most Improved Player of the Year	:	NIC TIMM
Year 10 Player of the Year	:	HARVEY WALTON-ADAMS

#### SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR 2012

**THE LESTER SALVER FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN SCHOOL SPORT IS:  
PETER KEEFE (Yr 7)**

- Has broken 2 school athletics records
- High Jump - 1.58 & Shot 11.63
- District High Jump Champion
- Hertfordshire Schools Shot Putt Champion
- Ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in UK for both High Jump and Shot
- Ranked 4th in the UK for Pentathlon - Multi events ( Hurdles , High Jump , Shot , Long jump, 800m)
- Selected to compete for Hertfordshire

#### YEAR 7

Runners-Up	MATTHEW WATERS
Runners-Up	MICHAEL STOCKER
Winner:	BEN WILMOT

#### YEAR 8

Runners-Up	GEORGE MARVEL
Runners-Up	AUSTIN EPHGRAVE
Winner:	BEN HILTON

#### YEAR 9

Runners-Up	COLIN BUGG
Runners-Up	DANIEL COWELL
Winner:	BEN COWELL

## HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER - July 2012

### YEAR 10

Runners-Up HARVEY WALTON-ADAMS  
Runners-Up DANIEL GRAINGER  
Winner: SEB WALTON-ADAMS / DOMINIC STEVENS

### SPORTS TEAM OF THE YEAR 2010

Winners: U' 14 BADMINTON TEAM for being placed 7<sup>th</sup> in the English Schools National Badminton Finals

### SUMMER SPORTS COLOURS 2012

#### JUNIOR ½ COLOURS

GEORGE MARVEL	Yr 8	(Athletics)
KYANN STRACHAN	Yr 9	(Athletics)
COLIN BUGG	Yr 9	(Athletics)
JOSH STALLARD	Yr 10	(Athletics)
MAX BURROWS	Yr 9	(Cricket)
ANDREW BAIRD	Yr 9	(Cricket)
NIC TIMM	Yr 10	(Cricket)
MICHAEL WILLIAMS	Yr 10	(Cricket)
TOM HILLS	Yr 10	(Cricket)
TYLER READING	Yr 10	(Tennis)

#### JUNIOR FULL COLOURS

MAX SCHOPP	Yr 10	(Athletics)
KIM SOBOTIE*	Yr 10	(Athletics)
DOMINIC STEVENS*	Yr 10	(Athletics)
TIM CLIFFORD	Yr 10	(Athletics)
HARVEY WALTON-ADAMS*	Yr 10	(Cricket)
SEB WALTON-ADAMS*	Yr 10	(Cricket)
BEN COWELL	Yr 9	(Cricket)
DAN COWELL	Yr 9	(Cricket)
TOBY NICHJOLSON	Yr 10	(Tennis)

#### SENIOR FULL COLOURS

BEN SMITH	Yr 12	(Cricket)
DAVIS NICHOLSON	Yr 13	(Basketball)



## HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER - July 2012

### MUSIC DEPARTMENT

This year's Summer Concert was one of the best ever with many groups, soloists and ensembles performing. One of the highlights was the performance of the full choir with a thrilling rendition of "This is the Day". The full orchestra also performed Giacchino's "The Glory Days" with an arrangement by our very own Tim Cranfield and we were enthralled by the brave solo performances of James Abrams, Daniel Addison, Khush Barhey. Finally a special mention must go to Michael Moscatiello who not only composed the excellent introductory Fanfare for this years' Founders' Day but has been a stalwart member of the Music department in every one of his years at HBS. Long may it continue & thank you Michael.

### ORCHESTRA

Alexander Black	Will Murray
Nicholas Black	Will Noble
Humza Chandna	Morgan Semark
Tim Cranfield	Daniel Taylor
Matthew Priestley	Freddie Robertson
Alex Evens	Peter Saville
Ben Fletcher	William Harrop
Toby Fraser-Moore	
Jonathan Taylor	Alastair Warner
Jamie Head	
Bryn Waterhouse	Max Wolstencroft
Andrew Jones	Joe Wonham
Ross Jones	Peter Woodin
Edmund Laing	

### WOODWIND

Thomas Burningham	Will Noble
Humza Chandna	Matthew Priestley
Jonathan Taylor	Curtis Vincent
Max Wolstencroft	Jamie Head

### PICCOLO STRING GROUP

Bryn Waterhouse                      Alexander Black                      Nicholas Black

### BIG BAND

Andrew Jones	10		Ross Jones	10Fn
Thomas Burningham	11Rt		Edmund Laing	10An
Adam Gore	7Nd		Jordan Lavialle	8Hn
Humza Chandna	11Rt		Thomas Livesey	7Nd
Tim Cranfield	10Ch		Daniel Taylor	11
Charley Gaidoni	9		Morgan Semark	10
Ross Embleton	10Nh		Matthew Priestley	10Ch
Ben Fletcher	10Ck		Freddie Robertson	10Ck
			Peter Saville	10

### JUNIOR STRING GROUP

Alexander Black                      Nicholas Black                      Bryn Waterhouse                      Joe Waterhouse

## JAZZ BAND

Matthew Priestley  
Peter Saville  
Tim Cranfield

Tom Burningham  
Daniel Taylor

Humza Chandna  
Andrew Jones

### SAXOPHONE GROUP :

Matthew Priestley  
Curtis Vincent

Rhys Harry  
Samuel Waterworth

Peter Saville

## FULL CHOIR

Name	Form		Name	Form	
Max Abbatt	7Cv		Robert Macdonald	7	
Adam Auld	9Fx		Sam Macer	10Ck	
Alexander Black	10Ck		James Marlow	10Nh	
Nicholas Black	10		George Marvell	8Gy	
James Burgess	8Ft		Matthew Maylin	8Gy	
Calum Buchanan	9Bt		Sahosh MCarthy	8Md	
Finlay Clark	8Gy		George McElroy	7Cv	
Elliot Colman	8Rt		Aaron Moore	8Hn	
Luke Crabtree	8Gy		Robert Morley	10Ed	
Callum Craig	7Br		Sholto Murray	8Gy	
Tim Cranfield	10Ch		Will Murray	10Ck	
Joshua Daramola	10		Alexander O'Connor	10	
Alex Diop	7Mr		Matthew Priestley	10Ch	
Robert Donald	8Gy		Joshua Pritchard	8Ft	
Josh Doocey	8Ft		Charles Rawlings	9fn	
Oscar Elliott	10Nh		Jonathan Renny	8Hn	
Ross Embleton	10Nh		Andrew Ridgeway	10Nh	
Tom Ferguson	7Mr		Freddie Robertson	10Ck	
Ben Fletcher	10Ck		Morgan Semark	10Ck	
Alex Francis	8Gy		Vithu Sivasothy	8Mt	
Toby Fraser-Moore	10Ed		Jack Smith	10Bj	
Cameron Gwinnett	8		Elliot Sprawson	7Mr	
Reiff Hayward	8Pn		Jack Stewart	8Rt	
Jamie Head	10Ck		Benjy Stobart	8Md	
Matthew Higgs	10Nh		Jonathan Taylor	9Fn	
Declan Hodges	7Mr		Alastair Warner	8Hn	
Finlay Howell	8Ft		Bryn Waterhouse	10An	
James Hunt	8Md		Joe Waterhouse	7Mr	
Oscar Ings	7Br		Charles Wheeler	8Mt	
Andrew Jones	10		Harry Wright	7Mr	
Ross Jones	10An		Humza Chandna	11	
Edmund Laing	10An		James Abrams	11	
Harry Lanyon	7Mr		Daniel Addison	11	
Patrick Lawes	10Nh		Matthew Livesey	9Tp	
Lewis Lehrfreund	10Nh		Daniel Taylor	11	
			Tom Burningham	11	



## AWARDS TO STUDENTS

Each year we present special awards from nominations open to all staff

### **The Nick Burton Award**

Nick Burton was an active and gifted student who was seriously injured while playing rugby for Hitchin Rugby Club in 1973. He was treated in Stoke Mandeville Hospital for spinal injuries but was dependent on a wheelchair for the rest of his life. Despite this he remained cheerful and full of enthusiasm for life until he died in 1995.

The award, given by his parents in memory of Nick, is made to the *Year 9 student who is considered to have made a consistent and outstanding contribution to the life of the school in his first 3 years. It is presented to the student who has achieved highly and shown commitment in several areas – sport, music, drama, academic work.*

**Winner: Ben Cowell**

### **The John Clements Trophy**

John Clements was an Old Boy of Hitchin Boys' School and a PE teacher at Sherrardswood School in Welwyn Garden City. He gave his life rescuing children from a hotel fire while on a school ski trip in Italy. For his bravery John Clements was awarded the George Cross.

The trophy, a bronze statuette of John in action as a scrum half, was commissioned by Old Boys and friends and is *awarded to a student who is thought to have shown particular courage or especial determination in the face of personal adversity.*

**Winner: Jack Waterhouse (Ht)**

### **The Sean Sadler Award**

Sean Sadler was a well-loved and respected student at Hitchin Boys' School from 1977-1984 who was tragically killed in a road accident while on holiday from his studies at Exeter University. To commemorate his success at the Boys' School his family made a gift to recognise *a student who has made a particular contribution to performing arts in the school. This is usually awarded to a student in his final year.*

**Winner: Michael Moscatiello**

The Keith Allard Award for Geography – best A-Level geographer - Jack Waterhouse

The Thinker Award to a year 7 student for progress in Art: - Adam Gore 7Nd

Horton Award for Art - a glass sculpture - goes to: Ben Chennells 10Bj

## **OTHER NEWS:**

**BASKETBALL** - Daniel Grainger (year 10) played for Hertfordshire in May at the U15's County tournament at Queens School Watford - and they won the tournament. On the back of his performance he has been selected to trial for the East Region and is now being trained over six sessions ready for matches in September.

**HERTS YOUTH GAMES** - You are probably aware that North Herts District Council recently participated in the Herts Youth Games, and won the overall event (as well as seeing the Olympic Torch which visited the event at the Sports Village). We also won the gold medal in the under 13 badminton, and a HBS pupil Hee-Li Leung was in the successful team. In addition the following young people from Hitchin Boys School represented North Herts at the Herts Youth Games in Hatfield:

L. Sugden	- Basketball
Jia Gu	- Table Tennis
David Hume	- Hockey
Robert McDonald	- Hockey
William Smith	- Hockey
Matthew Waters	- Hockey
Elliott Willoughby	- Hockey
Alex Evens	- Aquathlon

I am pleased to say that the badminton and basketball teams took the gold medal and the boys' hockey team took the silver, the aquathlon team came 4th and table tennis team 6th. North Herts came out as overall winners of the Games, and the trophy will be coming round to the school.

## **OLYMPIC SPIRIT:**

Hitchin Boys' School embraced the Olympic spirit last term with a number of sporting events on the school calendar. In June, the school enjoyed visits from two sporting stars: Harlem Globetrotter Nathan Green and badminton champion Gail Emms MBE.

Lloyds TSB National School Sport Week was a week-long Olympic-themed sporting celebration for schools across Britain. As part of the event, Gail Emms MBE, former world badminton champion and Olympic silver medallist, took part in a whole school assembly and held a badminton session for gifted and talented pupils. Also in June, Harlem Globetrotter and FIBA world basketball star Nathan Green visited HBS to hold a basketball master class with Year 7 pupils during an hour-long session.

Other events taking place at HBS during National School Sport Week included a themed whole-school Olympic day and the school Swimming Gala at Hitchin Swimming Centre.

**SUPERCOMPUTERS** – Charles Fletcher & Johnathan Pocock recently joined a group of budding engineers to help design a futuristic aircraft at University of Southampton. This involved building supercomputer nodes from scratch and was a truly challenging and interesting experience.

## CALENDAR

<b>September</b>	
03	INSET
04	Term starts, Years 7, 12 and 13
05	Term starts (Whole School)
	Yr7 and Yr10 photographs
12	Governors' Health & Safety Committee
13	Governors' Chairs Steering Group
18	Yr12 Tutors' Evening
20	Yr7 Parents Nibbles & Wine Evening (HBSPS)
20	OPRO Mouthguard Fitting
24	Governors' Main Board
25	Open Morning
25	Open Evening
26	School starts Period 2 today
27	Open Morning
<b>October</b>	
03	Yr9 Battlefields Trip
09	New Year Ski Trip meeting
10	Governors' Resources Committee
12	INSET
13	HBSPS Comedy Evening
16	Yr10 - 13 Music Opera Trip
16	Governors' Student Attainment & Curriculum Committee
19	Yr12 Music Conference
23	Yr11 Sixth Form Options Evening
24	Yr10–Yr13 Business Studies Speaker: Levi Roots
24	Governors' Health & Safety Committee
29	Half Term

## Summary of Responses to Parents' Evening Surveys

### Comparison 2010-11 with 2011-12

These data are the combined total responses from all parents' evenings over the last two years converted to percentages. In 2010-11 we had responses from 329 parents and in 2011-12 we received 345 responses from parents.

	2010-2011	2010-2011		2011-2012	2011-2012
<b>2010-11 compared with 2011-12</b>	Agree	Disagree		Agree	Disagree
My son likes the school	98	2		99	1
My son has settled in well to [this year]	98	2		99	1
My son is making good progress in the school	98	2		98	2
Behaviour in the school is good	96	4		97	3
Any difficulties have been well-managed	96	4		98	2
The teaching is good	99	1		100	0
My son knows what is expected of him at school	99	1		100	0
My son is receiving regular homework	91	9		98	2
My son is motivated to do well by his teacher	98	2		98	2
I would feel comfortable about approaching the school	98	2		99	1
The school expects my son to work hard and achieve	99	1		99	1
The school is well led and managed	97	3		100	0
The school works closely with parents	84	16		93	7
There is an interesting range of activities outside lessons	94	6		96	4
My son has been involved in activities outside lessons	77	23		84	16

In 2011 we noted some concerns around the comment: “The school works closely with parents.” As a result we have worked hard on ensuring that parents feel supported as best we can and also have tried to improve the quality of communication through our website, ParentMail, Learning Platform, this newsletter and introducing additional information evenings for parents (e.g. Meet the tutors, Cyber-safety, UCAS & Finance).

We were pleased to note that the percentage of parents who agree that we work closely with them has increased substantially from 84 to 93%. We're still working on the 7% though!

We also noted some concerns around the comment: “My son is receiving regular homework”. As a result we revised our homework timetables, reintroduced our homework policy, insisted that boys write homework down in their diaries and encouraged boys to use the homework available on the Learning Platform.

We were pleased to note an improvement in numbers in this area as well with over 98% satisfied that homework is regular.

Many thanks for completing the survey.



# Summer Cycling Workshops



Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> or Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> August

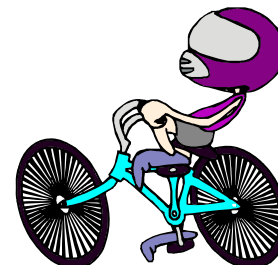
9.30am – 12pm

The Priory School, Hitchin

**Ages: 9-13 yrs**

**£5 per session**

*Bikes and Helmets supplied*



## BOOKING FORM

**I would like to book a place for my child on the Cycling Workshop on:  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> August  or Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> August  at The Priory  
School, Hitchin.**

**Name of Child:** .....

**School:** .....

**Address:** .....

..... **Postcode:** .....

**Phone: Home:** ..... **Mobile:** .....

**E-mail:** .....

Return booking form by Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> August to:  
Nicky Pedder- Strategic Development Officer  
[sdo@wilshere.herts.sch.uk](mailto:sdo@wilshere.herts.sch.uk) ~ 07817 715023

Please note: Every participant will be required to complete a parent consent form prior to the start of the session.

Consent forms will be collected together with payment at registration on the day.

CHEQUES MADE PAYABLE TO: Wilshere-Dacre Junior School

PLACES LIMITED ~ BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT