

Student Association Elections - Soon!

In the Spring Term each year, we hold elections for the Student Association Committee. The positions are open to any student (subject to the approval of the Personal Tutor) who is in the first year of a two-year course and the term of office is one year, from Easter 2007 to Easter 2008. These are significant posts, and universities and employers hold in high regard students who have held such offices.

Student President

Whilst all the posts are important, the most significant position is that of Student President, so ably carried out this year by Nick Coxon. The President acts as an important ambassador for the College and is involved in all its public functions - so public speaking is an essential element of the post.

The Student President is also a Governor of the College and will be expected to attend all Governors' meetings. Thus the role of Student President presents an excellent opportunity to develop leadership skills within the student community and to contribute to the corporate governance of a College with an annual income of approximately £14 million.

The time commitment is not excessive - but meetings need to take precedence over part-time jobs, and time-management skills need to be sufficiently well-developed to manage A-level deadlines.

Nick Coxon, current Student President writes:



Nick in Presidential jumper

"The role of the Student Association is one which, over the past year, has become increasingly high profile, and remains absolutely key to the running of the College. The challenges of being at the head of a student body of nearly 3000, and the responsibilities associated with such a position, are understandably great - but so too are the rewards. The ability to make a real and positive difference to the lives of students as part of such an important committee, whilst having a great time in

the process, means that the great moments come thick and fast. My last year has been amazing. An enjoyable, immensely rewarding, valuable year, in which I have experienced and gained so very much - and I think that's something my team would agree with. For that reason, if you're thinking of standing, I'd strongly encourage you to run in the SA elections".

Posts for Election in the new Committee:

Vice President: takes the role of the President in his or her absence; monitors equal opportunities for students; attends College Health and Safety meetings; publicises information from external welfare organisations.

Treasurer: monitors the SA funds and keeps up to date accounts.

Secretary: organises all meetings, including Student Council; records minutes.

Events Officer: organises and publicises a variety of social and other events.

RAG and Charities Officer: organises a variety of fundraising events including the students' RAG week.

Publications Editor: leads the editorial team - College Magazine and Year Book.

Teaching for Learning Officer: represents the views of the student body on the development of teaching excellence.

Environment Officer: encourages us all to place environmental issues high on the agenda, individually and collectively.

Sports Officer: represents the activities of the many sports teams in the College and encourages and organises more sport.

Performing Arts Officer: represents the activities of the many students engaged in performing arts in the College.

Community Links Officer: encourages and organises community activities by College students.

Student Association, 2006-7



Congratulations to Nick Coxon, Scott Hooker, Esther Odeleye, Hira Virdee, Abi Needham, Sam Smith, Vincent Quan, Claire Andrews, Ned Bertram, Saqib Malik, and Lucy-Rose Fribbence.

It would be helpful if parents could discuss with students the opportunities and responsibilities that the role of Student President, or any member of the Committee, presents and encourage those who would like to take on such a high profile role to stand in the elections to be held this term.

Electoral Timetable

Nomination Packs are available from Matt Woodcock - Pastoral corridor or the SA office. Nominations are accepted only if you have a good record of commitment and attendance and the approval of your Personal Tutor.

2007 Election launched by Penny Silvester HMI

Thursday 1 March 12.45 - Cafe Direct

Closing Date for nominations
Hustings: Candidates' speeches
Election (e-voting on Intranet)

Friday 15 March
Wk beginning 19 March
22 - 26 March (noon)

RESULTS

Tuesday 27 March

Dame Kelly Holmes to visit College

Dame Kelly Holmes, the double gold medal winner in the 2004 Athens Olympics, has agreed to open the College's new Sports Centre on Wednesday 25 April. Kelly acts as a mentor to College student Stephanie Twell (right) who won the gold medal in the European Junior Cross Country Championships in December 2006, held in Italy. Dame Kelly will also formally open the new Quad and sign autographs for students.



STOP PRESS: Successful Sports Tour to Cyprus

Congratulations to the sports teams who have just returned from Cyprus where they played competitive Soccer, Rugby, Hockey, Netball, and Basketball (men and women) matches.

AS and A2 Module Results

A week early - on CRISTAL Web

The official publication date for the AS and A2 module results this term is Thursday 15 March. However, the results are likely to arrive in electronic form on

Thursday, 8 March 2007.

Staff in Registry will do all they can to transfer the results to students' secure pages on CristalWeb as early as possible on that day. CristalWeb can be opened via the Internet at home or on the College Intranet.

Parents' Evenings for 1st Year Students

Parents of students studying on the first year of a two year course or on a one year course are invited to the Spring Parents' Evenings which will be held on two evenings:

Thursday 15 March 2007 5.30 - 8.00 pm

Monday 19 March 2007 5.30 - 8.00 pm

As usual, we expect students to accompany parents in order to make the discussion as helpful and fruitful as possible.

When you arrive, please come to either the main entrance to the College or the rear entrance near to Time Out where you will be given maps of the College to show you where the tutors are located.

Students will be able to make appointments nearer the time on Appointment Forms to be completed on your behalf.

Please note that:

- 1 subject tutors will be in their normal teaching locations;
- 2 the careers adviser will be in College each evening and will be pleased to make an appointment to see you;
- 3 when making appointments, students should build in walking time between locations;
- 4 if you wish to see the student's personal tutor, it is best to see him or her last;
- 5 teachers do try to keep to time - please do not assume that the interview is endless! If you wish to have an extended meeting, this should be arranged separately.

Second Year Students in need of help

The above parents' evenings will also be available to parents of second year students who are experiencing difficulty. If you have concerns, please ask your son or daughter to make appointments with their subject tutors.

Review Data

Short-hand data concerning students' progress in terms of attendance, the standard at which they are currently working, and time-management have already been sent to you. Students on AS courses will also have a January Subject Review which they should have brought home to discuss with you. Their targets will form the basis of discussions at the parents' evenings. AS and A2 module results will have been published by the time of the meetings.

MISUSE OF THE COLLEGE NETWORK

Occasionally, we have examples of misuse of the College Network. The College Network is principally for study-related activity and the storing or transmitting of inappropriate or offensive messages and images is a disciplinary matter, as it is in the workplace. In these circumstances, disciplinary measures will always be taken which could lead to suspension and/or exclusion from the College. Any students who **receive** offensive messages or images by e-mail should notify the Help Desk immediately.

Should illegal material or images be stored or transmitted, the College will not hesitate to inform the police immediately.

Summer Examinations 2007

Coursework Deadlines - all courses

Every year, some students find that they miss deadlines because they manage their time poorly. Please check with your son or daughter if deadlines are approaching and encourage them to plan ahead.

Plagiarism - don't get disqualified

A reminder to all students. Coursework must be the work of the student alone. In the past, on occasions and often in panic, work has been copied from other candidates. **This will always lead to disqualification from the examination.** If a student lends work to another student "to help him out" or "because she is a good friend and she said she wouldn't copy it directly", it is likely that his or her entry will also be disqualified.

Never lend coursework or research notes to another student - and if there is a real difficulty, always consult your subject tutor over sharing of work.

When writing an extended essay, all references must be fully acknowledged. If students find helpful paragraphs in a book or on the Internet, they must not copy and paste it into their own essays in the pretence that they have written it. It is likely that the examiner will recognise it - and the work will then be disqualified.

IN THE EXAMINATION ROOM

Mobile phones are banned

Do not take mobile phones into the examination room. Possession of mobile phones in an examination can lead to disqualification.

They should be left at home or with a friend. For a fee of £1 to cover the summer examination period, they can also be deposited at the College Finance Office for safe-keeping.

Final revision notes

Do not have final notes in your pocket during an examination. Even if there is no intention to use them, possession will result in disqualification. In the past, a student who has sneezed has pulled from a pocket a handkerchief and revision notes have fallen to the floor. The College is required to report this and disqualification will almost certainly result.

The Examination Boards do not accept lack of familiarity with their rules as an excuse.

EXAMINATION TIMETABLES

Students can access their individual examination timetables via CRISTAL Web after Easter.

Students are advised to make a significant start on their revision during the Easter break.

In August, a post examination results service is provided by the College staff together with the local careers advisers. Details of this will be included with the examination results.

College tops Southern England table

The College achieved the best results out of all colleges in the south of England, according to the league tables published by the government last month. According to the tables, the average A level points score per student of 1002.3 makes it the top college in Hampshire, Surrey, Sussex and second in the whole of England.

Last year, over 800 students moved on to universities across the country making the College one of Britain's most significant sources of undergraduates.

Presenting the A level certificates in December 2006, Dr Ken Boston, head of the Government's Qualifications and Curriculum Authority, said, "Farnborough Sixth Form College is nationally recognised for its outstanding teaching and commitment to developing innovative approaches to develop teaching and learning. There is no finer institution in the country in which you could have studied for your qualifications" (photo: back page).

Career and Future Events 2007/8

The College is proud of the careers support and guidance it provides for all students. We are working towards the Investors in Careers Award which is open to all educational institutions including schools, colleges and training providers.

Tuesday 6 March; 6.30pm and 8pm

Higher Education Finance talk for the parents of Year 2 students.

This will be held in the new sports hall. Tickets available for either session from the student services office.

Thursday 29 March; 1.15pm-4pm

The Oxbridge Experience. A talk for Year 1 students and their parents by Oxbridge representatives on the Oxford and Cambridge admissions process.

Friday 20 April

UCAS Higher Education Fair at the University of Surrey. A visit made available to all our Year 1 students.

Tuesday 24 / Wednesday 25 April; 6.30pm and 8pm

Higher Education Information Evening for parents of Year 1 students.

Thursday 26 April

Job Scene Exhibition held in Reading. A morning visit for one year students.

Thursday 26 April

Information evening for new students and their parents 5.30pm - 8.30pm. Students considering taking a new subject in their second year might find it helpful to visit Curriculum Areas in the College on Information Evening in order to speak to subject specialists.

Thursday 3 May

Presentation and Interview skills. A morning talk hosted by Index Recruitment for one year students.

Friday 6 July

Moving on Day. An exhibition and a day of careers seminars for all year one students.

Oxford & Cambridge 2008 Entry

Getting in to Oxbridge

**Thursday 29 March 2007
1.15pm, Prospect Theatre**

**Dr Alistair Beresford, Robinson College, Cambridge
Dr Anne Mullen, St Anne's College, Oxford.**

This is an annual event to which parents and students are welcome. There will be an opportunity to talk to the Oxbridge representatives and ask questions.

Visits to Colleges and Open Days

A series of visits will be organised to enable students to see some Oxbridge colleges in the summer. Further details will be available in April.

Rushmoor Youth Forum

The Rushmoor Youth Forum brings together youth organisations working in Rushmoor to promote the needs of young people, and share ideas. The forum has recently informed the College that it is able to provide limited financial help for educational trips abroad (maximum £150 per student).

For further information about the grants or forum membership visit the website: <http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=768> or call the Rushmoor Youth Forum on 01252 660378.

Parents' cars - and road safety

If you give your son or daughter a lift to College, please set them down at a safe place outside College. When picking them up, it would be helpful (and probably quicker) if the students walked along Sand Hill beyond the bus bay to meet you. Please do not obstruct neighbours' drives. Thank you.

Important Term Dates, 2007-2008

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|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Parents' evening | Thursday 15 & Monday 19 March 2007 |
| Easter Vacation | Monday 2 April - Friday 13 April 2007 |
| Information Evening | Thursday 26 April 2007 |
| May Holiday | Monday 7 May 2007 |
| Study Leave 1st Yr only | Monday 21 - Friday 25 May 2007 |
| Reading Week | Mon 28 May - Fri 1 June 2007 |
| A2 courses begin | Thursday 14 June 2007 |
| End of Summer Term | Thursday 12 July 2007 (4.15pm) |
| A and AS results | Thursday 16 August 2007 |
| GCSE results | Thursday 23 August 2007 |
| New Academic Year | Wed 29 August (enrolment begins) |
| Second Year return | Thursday 6 September 2007 |
| Full Term starts | Monday 10 September 2007 |
| Catch-up day | Friday 28 September 2007 |
| Reading Week | Mon 22 - Fri 26 October 2007 |
| Open Days | Wed 7 & Thurs 8 November 2007 |
| Christmas Vacation | 20 December 2007 - 4 January 2008 |
| Study days | Thurs 3 & Fri 4 January 2008 |
| Reading Week | Mon 18 - Fri 22 February 2008 |
| Easter Vacation | Mon 7 April - Fri 18 April 2008 |
| Reading Week | 26 May - 30 May 2008 |
| End of Summer Term | Thursday 10 July 2008 (4.15pm) |

Multi-faith dialogue

The College is hoping to establish regular contact with the different faith groups represented in the College to enable dialogue to take place. Parents who are able to assist with identifying contacts in the different faith groups are invited to contact the Principal.

A Christian group of parents already meets regularly for prayer and fellowship. The dates for the remainder of the academic year are Wednesday 14 March, Tuesday 1 May and Monday 11 June at 7.30pm.

Anyone who would like to attend is welcome. For further information please call Andrea Birkett on 01252 663349.

University admissions 2007

A record number of students have completed their UCAS applications to date and are now receiving offers. Between May and June students will be required firmly to accept their first choice university, subject to their achieving the grades required; they can also hold an insurance offer.

Amongst the many successful applicants to top universities are the following 20 students who have won Oxbridge places:

CAMBRIDGE

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|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Robert Coomber | St John's College | Computer Science |
| Rebecca Cuthbertson | Robinson College | Engineering |
| Fiona Eves | Christ's College | Social & Political Science |
| Mark Fernandes | Christ's College | Natural Sciences |
| Emma Gill | New Hall | Medicine |
| Kate Holloway | Selwyn College | Music |
| Julia Nicholls | Kings College | History |
| Deborah Stead | Selwyn College | Law |
| Marie-Claire Thomas | St Catharine's College | Spanish & German |

OXFORD

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|--|
| James Arnold | Worcester College | Economics & Management |
| James Cholerton | Keble College | Computer Science |
| Nick Coxon | Wadham College | Philosophy, Politics & Economics (PPE) |
| Emma Cuthbertson | Merton College | Biology |
| Charlotte Golunski | Oriel College | History |
| Bethan Hanton | Wycliffe Hall | Theology |
| Matthew Harman | Brasenose College | Law |
| Hayley Potheary | Pembroke College | History |
| Hira Virdee | Mansfield College | Physics |
| Joanna Williams | Mansfield College | English |
| Cecilia Wood | St Edmund Hall | Maths & Philosophy |

College Attendance and Illness

The vast majority of students attend regularly and on time - that is the College requirement. A few, however, seem to miss classes for apparently trivial reasons, often quoting medical appointments or sudden illness which smites them down for 24 hours. In these circumstances, parents will be asked to verify absences.

It is timely to point out that all references refer to attendance records and, given the demand for places at the College, those with a poor attendance will not necessarily be retained in College for a second year. Where attendance falls below 90%, the College Charter requires us to charge for examinations undertaken - some students will receive bills after reading week.

Scenes from Performing Arts Week



Finale of the Fashion Show



Tom and Greg, winners of The X-factor



Hannah Clark and Band Arthur in Battle of the Bands

Congratulations to students and their tutors who arranged a magnificent week of entertainment for charity.

College Spring Concert

Wednesday 14 March, 7.30 pm
Prospect Theatre

A light-hearted evening concert featuring
The College Big Band,
Sixth Sense Jazz,
Various instrumentalists
Choral Society.

Guaranteed to put a smile on your face and a "spring" in your step!

Tickets £6 and £4 - tickets from Resources Office

J.S. Bach: St John Passion

Saturday 24 March, 7.30pm
Malmesbury Abbey, Wiltshire

The College Chamber choir joins with the nationally acclaimed orchestra, The Emerald Ensemble, to perform Bach's great masterpiece for the Malmesbury Abbey Music Festival. This demanding and moving work tells the Easter story through a combination of choruses, recitatives and arias. Soloists include current students Helen Lewis and Sarah Crabtree (Sopranos) and past students Nathan Cox (Tenor), Matthew Stone and Steve Willey (Baritones) and Stuart McSweeney (Counter Tenor).

Tickets priced £10 and £8 available from student services after Reading Week.

Transport from the College to Malmesbury will be provided.

Exam Watchdog presents certificates



Dr Ken Boston (centre) with award winners at the Certificate Presentation Evening in December 2006.

Congratulations to:

Simon Wood, Marisa Barnard and Georgia Stilwell (right) on winning the Farnborough Round of the Rotary Public Speaking Competition.

Emily Cox who has been appointed Hampshire's Lord Lieutenant's Cadet.

Amy Brown on being awarded an Excellence Scholarship at Brunel University West London.



Emily Murrell and Clare Fenwick (left) who have been elected member and deputy respectively for Hart & Rushmoor in the UK Youth Parliament.

The men's swimming team who qualified for the National Schools Team Championship in Harrogate and were placed 11th overall. Team members **Chris Musgrove, Adam Reddings, Sean Anderson and Ash Bootham.**

Francesca Harvey selected to play Hockey for the England Elite Squad.

Laura Chatterton, Laura Clements, Clare Cooper and Emma Cottrell who have won a free activities weekend for their commitment and participation in the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme.

Domnhull MacMillan who has been selected as a student leader to the 2007 People to People Future Leaders' Summit in New York and Washington, USA.

Bryn French who has been accepted to attend the Presidential Classroom for Science and Technology in Washington D.C.

Feedback

If you have any comments about the quality of education which you feel your son or daughter is experiencing at the College, please do not hesitate to contact me.

John Guy, Principal
February 2007