



## Student Services

It has been a very exciting time in Student Services during the last term. We have moved into a compact but very practical office in our new temporary building and are pleased that students have found this transition so seamless.

Whilst being exciting, we have also found this half term tinged with sadness as we have said goodbye to our Year 11s. So many of them have come in to pay for their yearbooks and Prom tickets and we have found it quite difficult to keep saying farewell. We held a Leavers' Lunch on Friday 10 June, where we presented every student with a rosette and certificate specifically with each one in mind – some of the awards were 'Little Miss Friendly', 'Miss Lovely Hair', 'Mr Talkative', 'Mr Sporty' etc. We also presented 5 special awards to one student in every House, which ranged from awarding pairs of sunglasses to the House 'Cool Dudes', to drama masks awarded to the House 'Mr or Miss Drama Queens'. The students then enjoyed some lunch in our restaurant and finally left us after lots of photographs and tears. They have worked extremely hard to complete all their coursework and exams and we wish all of them the very best for their results and their future endeavours. Of course, those who are staying on into the sixth form will be back with us before we have noticed they have even been away and will be working harder than ever!

We also enjoyed the Year 11 Prom on Friday 1 July at the Metropolitan Police Bushey Sports Club. The students walked down the red carpet to a waiting photographer, who took their photos and printed them on the night. A disco was provided for them to dance the evening away. Most of the students attended and it was fantastic to see them all dressed up and enjoying a great night out.



## BAFTA Showcase

Thanks are expressed to all parents, teachers and friends of the academy for their support given during 2010/11 towards firmly re-establishing BAFTA as an active Association.

In addition to fundraising activity, the Association aims to provide opportunities for parents and friends to engage with the academy and to join in our vision of being proud to belong.

Following on from the successful Quiz Evening earlier in the year, BAFTA will be providing drinks and barbeque food at the end of Summer term 'Summer on the Quad' event. This event is planned as a showcase evening for a range of literature, language and music presentations by students. The event will be held on 21 July and tickets for parents and students will be available on a first come first served basis.

To get involved with BAFTA or to make sure that you receive the dates of future meetings, please email [asprengr@thebusheyacademy.org](mailto:asprengr@thebusheyacademy.org) to ensure that you are on the mailing list for regular BAFTA circulars.

We look forward to a range of varied events in support of our students and the academy in 2011/12.

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Prospective Year 7 parents are invited to attend our **OPEN EVENING** on Thursday 22 September 2011 6.45pm-9pm

## Message from the Principal

When I last wrote for the newsletter we were preparing for the move into our temporary school. Staff and students watched eagerly, if perhaps a little nervously, as they saw the new structure take shape at the back of the old school. When we moved in, there was general amazement at the high quality of our new home and everybody was pleased to realise that what we have now is far nicer than the "Blocks" we used to occupy.

Our Decant Day celebrations marked this significant step and, as I write this, heavy machinery is making short work of demolishing the old Block 2, while the clock tower is being carefully deconstructed to allow for it to move to its new location on the Quad.

Year 11 and the Sixth Form have now completed their examinations and I would like to congratulate them on all of their hard work, as well as their teachers and parents for the tireless support they have given. Meanwhile, numerous other activities have taken place over the Summer term. I hope you will enjoy reading about them in this newsletter.

**Andrew Hemmings**  
Principal



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## Zell Am See Ski Trip

This term 18 excited Bushey Academy students set off to Austria over the Easter holidays for a surprise mixture of sun and snow-filled fun.

The 18 students, on the bi-annual Bushey Academy Ski Trip, were astounded to find scorching temperatures of over 70 degrees when they arrived in the famous Zell Am See Glacier Resort. While they were layered for sub-zero temperatures, the unexpected but welcome sunshine enabled them to test out the swimming pool at the sports complex accommodation.

Within days, however, there was a 7 inch drop of snow that made the pistes perfect learning conditions, with students able to practise a range of skiing techniques including the odd bunny hop, and, of course, the inevitable tumble or two! Over the week, the 18 students developed from a mixture of mid-ability and novice learners to competent and accomplished skiers. The ski instructors were astounded by their achievements in just six days of lessons.

Off the piste too the students got to test their bowling, basketball, football and disco-dancing skills in a week of action-packed activities. They also got to sample the local sport of ice hockey by attending a close of season match.

The fun-filled week was soon brought too quickly to an end with a return journey consisting of 18 hours on coaches and ferries – and all after a day's skiing! Needless to say, the accompanying teachers, Mr Wall, Miss Williams and Miss Lucey all looked forward to some well deserved rest and relaxation for the remainder of their Easter holidays!



## 'Literally' Camping

The English Department has experimented this term with single sex teaching in Year 9. The initiative has been successful in many ways with the boys finding a new sense of competition amongst themselves. Teachers were given the freedom of choice for text selection and both *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding and *The History Boys* by Alan Bennett have enthused and entertained these young students. To increase their appreciation of such literary works, the students enjoyed a visit to Regent's Park Open Air Theatre to watch a highly acclaimed production of *Lord of the Flies*.

The students then spent two days at Tolmer's Activity Centre in Enfield where they mimicked some of the challenges faced by the characters in *Lord of the Flies*.

On arrival, the students picked out their tents, a bit too excited about it as once inside we didn't see them again for another ten minutes! They then split into two groups for the first activities, 'Rope-A-Phobia' and 'Coconut Climb'.

"Although we had safety harnesses, it was still a bit scary being so high up," confessed David Cox. Nevertheless, the boys rose to the challenge, demonstrating a strong competitive spirit. Even more impressive was the camaraderie with which everybody, regardless of ability, was supported by the rest of the team. This continued in the afternoon as the students split into groups of three for the raft building activity. They learned how to tie beach and reef knots that would, hopefully, hold the rafts together. One by one, each team set sail to triumphant cheers until... disaster! The final raft fell apart upon entering the water and took several students with it. Luckily, they had more success on the second attempt and when all three rafts were in the lake, the real competition began. "It was amazing. It was so funny, I've never laughed so much," said Sam Ball.

This experience was enjoyable and rewarding. The students also managed some good reading time around the campfire, while toasting marshmallows.



## Job Well Done!

Year 10 embarked on their Work Experience at the end of last term. Students spent five days developing their skills, learning about the world of work and discovering more about themselves in very different environments. Journals were given to students at the start of the week and these were a great tool used to record their progress.

Feedback from employers and staff visiting the students was very positive.

Typical comments included: eager, self-motivated, hard working and a team player. The academy would like to thank HCS Careers and the numerous employers for providing this opportunity to our students and congratulates Year 10 for a job well done!



## Outstanding Winners

The Bushey Academy are proud to announce two new County Champions and six new District Champions!

### County Champions

Sam O'Donohue – Boys' U13 200m  
Kadedria Miller – Girls' U15 100m  
Kadedria Miller – Girls' U15 Long Jump

### District Champions

**Year 7**  
Amara Francis – Girls' High Jump  
Sam O'Donohue - Boys' 200M  
Ashley Felix - Long Jump

**Year 9**  
Evans Andrews – Boys' Long Jump  
Kadedria Miller - Girls' 100M

**Year 10**  
George Caswell – Boys' High Jump

Both Sam O'Donohue and Kadedria Miller have been selected to run for the County and Kadedria will compete at the English Schools' Championship for Hertfordshire. Sam set a County record in his heat at the District Championship and followed this up with a new record in the final! Both won the outstanding performance awards in their respective age groups at the District championships.

## County Athletics Champions

With the sun shining and an air of anticipation, a number of The Bushey Academy staff and students gathered around the athletics track at Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead. We were honoured to be hosting the latest County Athletics League match and hoping for a home victory.

Spectators looked on eagerly as competitors took their positions to begin races, jumps and throwing events. Amongst a number of victories was a first place in the 100 meters for Kadedria Miller (Year 9), our newly crowned County Sprint Champion. "It was awesome!" she exclaimed breathlessly.

Results tables were published after each event and times and places were scrutinised by both competitors and their coaches. Following some very closely contested relay events, the final results included 1st place for our Under 14 boys' team and 3rd place for our under 16 boys' and girls' teams.

This has been our best season for many years with lots of victories along the way. More importantly, we are delighted to have so many students involved in athletics, representing the academy in true 'Proud to belong' spirit.

We will certainly be keeping a close eye on all our champions for future successes.

