

JOHN BEDDOES SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN TERM 2008



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December 2008. (Number 9)

Dear Parents/Carers

I wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

This term has once again flown by and we are all looking forward to working together to ensure another successful school year.

I was disappointed with the number of pupils who returned to our Lower 6th this year. Pupils achieved the best ever GCSE results last year and with A Levels taking less than 2 years (with exams after the first term) it is important that students settle in to a routine to ensure they achieve their potential. We offer a comprehensive range of AS and A level subjects that are taught by our own staff and via Video Conferencing as well as Vocational qualifications in partnership with Coleg Powys. I hope you will encourage your son/daughter, what ever year they are in, to stay on in the 6th Form.

I also ask for your support in ensuring pupils wear the correct uniform to school. Shoes should be worn at all times except in PE lessons or at lunchtime if pupils are playing ball games in the yard. Please also remember that multiple ear piercing / facial piercing and excessive jewellery are not allowed on health and safety grounds. The new school web site is now up and running at www.johnbeddoes.org

Exams

Year 11 have now completed their Mock Exams and in the New Year will face many coursework deadlines for their GCSE exams. It is VITAL that these deadlines are met. All information on these deadlines was issued to pupils in the Coursework booklet in November. Attendance is vital if pupils are to reach their true potential so **PLEASE** do not

arrange any holidays until after the 30th June 2009 when all the exams will be over. This also applies to **Year 10** who will have GCSE exams in Science and Design Technology this year. When we return from the Christmas holidays there are AS exams for years 12 and 13. I wish all our 6th Form students the very best in these important exams.

School Hall

The school hall is going to have a much needed face lift this academic year. Work is due to start on 1st June 2009, so the hall will be out of use from this date till September 2009 when our refurbished (and water tight) hall will reopen.

Events

- Year 5 came to John Beddoes on 25th June and had an exciting Technology day.
- On the 30th June and 1st July we hosted our Year 6 feeder primary school pupils for two taster days with a parents evening on the second day. This was the final event of our transition programme.
- Year 10 started their two week work experience programme on the 30th June.
- On 7th and 8th July we held our 6th Form taster days. This year included delivering AS Law via distance learning.
- Year 9 had their Industry Day on the 9th July. This is an annual event that is held in partnership with Careers Wales.
- On 10th July we held our first Eco Day for all the Year 7, 8, and 9 pupils. The day consisted of a walk and various workshops and activities. Many thanks to Sian Dyke for her excellent organisation of the event.



Gwobr Cynabod Ansawdd
(Gogfoddi a Chaebarth Cymru)
Recognition of Quality Award
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- Congratulations to Wayne Farmer (Yr 11) who was selected for the U17 Wales Football squad to play in a tournament in Sweden against the hosts Turkey and Norway.
- 3rd October 26 Yr 10 Drama students successfully took part in the Shakespeare Festival at the Courtyard Theatre in Hereford. The students performed very well and they showed their appreciation for the work of Mrs Bennett by presenting her with flowers at a whole school assembly.
- October 2008. Emily Davies, Izzy Dayas, Jordan Mecke all Yr 9 and Katy Gwilt and Lauren Morris both Yr 8 were selected for the U14's Powys Netball squad.
- 15th October. Year 10 had a full day of military challenges to build team spirit.
- 16th October the U16 Girls Hockey team were crowned as South Powys Champions at the tournament in Llandrindod. The team not only went undefeated but did not concede a single goal. They will now face the North Powys Champions for the title of Powys Champions.
- Year 11 had two motivational days on 16th and 17th October as part of our mentoring system leading up to GCSE examinations.
- 21st October the GCSE History Yr 11 pupils left for Berlin as part of their GCSE History course.
- 7th November U13 Girls netball team became South Powys Champions after winning the tournament at Christ College Brecon.
- Rhian Powell and Joseph Hayward won the Healthy Eating Poster competition both received £5 gift vouchers.
- 14th November students raised around £300 for Children in Need by selling cakes, a raffle, dressing up in pyjamas and taking pennies for Pusey bucket around school.
- 4th December saw 'Gigajam' organised by Dave Luke (guitar teacher) with the PTA. Bands played to a packed and appreciative audience.

Staff

I am sure you will all join me in welcoming Mrs Jenny Vaughan who joined us in September as Head of Art and Design.

In October we said goodbye to Caroline Faulder who had been a member of the learning support team. I would like to thank Caroline for all her hard work during her time at JBS.

Important Dates.

19th Dec. – Christmas Hols.

5th Jan. – PUPILS RETURN

22nd January – Yr 11 Parents Evening

13th Feb. – Half Term.

23rd Feb. – Pupils Return

25th Feb. – Yr 9 Options Evening

3rd March – Yr 8 Parents Evening

11th March – Yr 7 Parents Evening

19th March – Yr 9 Parents evening

26th March – Yr 9 Options Forms returned

3rd April – Easter Holidays.

20th April – Pupils Return

I wish everyone a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.



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