

Longhill High School

Summer Half Term Newsletter



Longhill High School - Newsletter

Letter from the Head

Summer cannot quite make its mind up and actually arrive this year. Hopefully after half term we can consider when to allow our young people to wear their school shorts, but we are not quite there yet.

Our Year 11's are now deep into their exams, which will continue until the end of June. We wish them all well. I expect our GCSE results to again show progress from the previous year – each year we get better.

**Our results last year were better than any school
in the East of Brighton.**

I expect an Ofsted inspection next year and a return to 'Good'. I am confident this will take place and thank you for your support that has made this possible.

We are looking forward to some major developments in a number of areas across the school, this year into next. These include initiatives by the school and also changes at national level by the Government. There is a link at the end of the Newsletter to access a document on the website that details all these changes, and you will also receive the document via the Information Portal.

Can I take this opportunity to remind parents/carers who do not use the portal to take another look. The portal ensures that we get information to you as quickly as possible and it is also the best way to contact staff. You can also see how your child is doing in terms of assessments, achievements, behaviour and so on.

Together with the coming developments document and this newsletter, you will get a sense of the pace and change the school is in at present. Our website describes even more activities and triumphs our students have experienced this half term and there is plenty to look forward to for the remainder of the year!

Yours sincerely

Haydn Stride
Headteacher





Longhill High School - Newsletter

Spotlight on Modern Foreign Languages

Exams

Exam fever is upon us and it has been a bumper year for languages this year with a record six languages being taken at GCSE.

As well as our usual French and Spanish candidates, we have also had students taking Arabic, Greek, German and Turkish GCSEs and we wish them all the best of luck.

A special mention must go to Ebru Yesildal who has taken both German and Turkish in the same year.

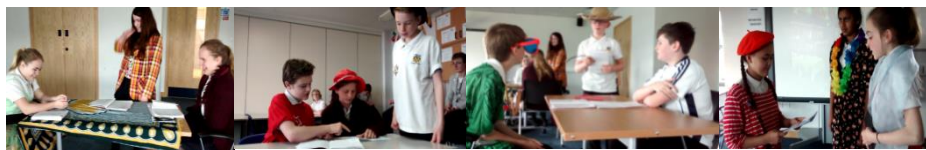
YEAR 7

7FH continue to correspond with their French school and are now writing their third letters to their pen pals. We are currently organising a trip to the Christmas Market in Amiens for December and will be sending letters out to parents as soon as this has been confirmed.

YEAR 8 ROLE PLAYS

As part of their end of module assessments, Year 8 students have been preparing role plays based on food and set in a restaurant. These have been fantastic and the standard has been very impressive.

Miss Perronno's class using their Spanish language skills 😊



YEAR 9 SPANISH TRIP TO SALOU

A huge thank you to Miss Nwokedi for organising another fantastic trip to Spain. The students had a fantastic time and came back full of stories (see full write up on the school's website). Thanks also to Miss Perronno, Mrs Pringle and Mr Jenkin for supervising the kids and being a great support on the trip.

YEAR 10

Year 10 students have now completed 30% of their final GCSE grade and have now begun to prepare for their second controlled speaking assessment. Once this is completed, they will be going in to Year 11 with 45% of their GCSE already achieved. They have worked exceptionally hard this year and have achieved some outstanding grades.

GERMAN CLUB

At the request of Year 7 students, we will be running a German club for beginners every Tuesday after school at 3.00 in B301. Everyone welcome. We hope you have a wonderful half term and look forward to seeing you soon,

BONNES VACANCES

The MFL Team

BUENAS VACACIONES

Well-being & Self Harm

There will be two days taking Year 8 off timetable on 22nd and 23rd June. We are proposing to run four workshops which Year 8 students will rotate around:

- 1) Self Harm
- 2) Reducing stress and anxiety
- 3) Counselling and signposting of support
- 4) Healthy Eating

Two of the workshops will be taken by external speakers who are specialised in the areas of self-harm and reducing stress.

Ms Siobhan McCurdy and our School Counsellor will take a third workshop and then one of the PSHE team will take the fourth workshop.

The afternoon will consist of a relevant showing of a film / clip to reinforce the importance of some/all of these topics.

Kerry and her team have also offered to attend the Yr 8 Parents evening during the week before to run a series of workshops for parents on the issue of self harm which is a concern at the moment... We will invite parents to book into these workshops.



Longhill High School - Newsletter

Peer Mentors

Woodingdean Youth Centre Training Day

At the Woodingdean Youth Centre training day, we took part in various activities in which we had to act in real life situations to give us the feel of what we would have to do next year with our year 6 mentees to help them through their transition to Longhill.

During our weekly training sessions we would talk about various issues which could possibly affect our mentees and how to resolve them. Upon talking to two other trainees, they both said they thoroughly enjoyed it, one even said "It was fantastically fun!" The other said "I enjoyed it lots and I learnt a lot"

Longhill's Peer mentors are ready to start work with their year sixes from our main feeder schools and the scheme is bigger than ever with the primary schools wanting more help for more students than ever before.



Absence Success!

Longhill's success in tackling Persistent Absence from school

As you will know, we take regular school attendance at Longhill extremely seriously and I would like to thank parents and carers for their ongoing support with this. Yet again, our overall attendance has shown a steady improvement this year, and Brighton & Hove City Council's Behaviour & Attendance Team has acknowledged our rate of "Persistent Absence" as among the lowest in the city. This is a huge credit to Longhill students, families and staff and we should all be extremely proud.

Brighton & Hove City Council have published new information on "Persistent Absence" which is a focus for the government and for Local Authorities. [Local Authority Guide to Persistent Absenteeism 2015](#) gives information to parents and carers on this.

If any parents/carers would like to discuss any concerns or questions around their child's attendance, please contact me at any time.

Jackie Storey
Education Welfare Officer



Longhill High School - Newsletter

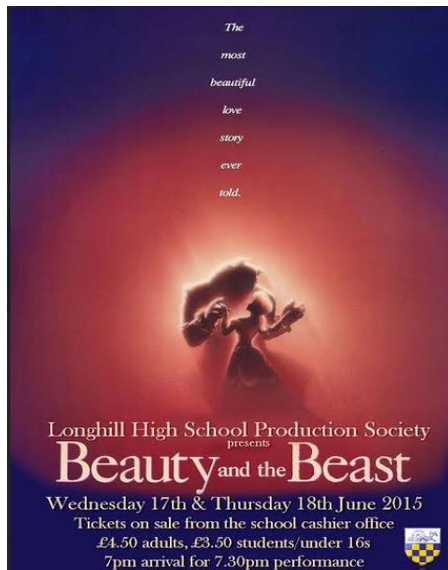
Beauty and the Beast

Longhill High School would like to welcome and invite you to 'be our guest' at this year's summer production of 'Beauty & the Beast' on Wednesday 17th / Thursday 18th June 2015.

This year Longhill's Production Society tells the most beautiful love story ever told. Belle, played by year 9 Olivia Kingswood, sacrifices her freedom to stay in the enchanted castle as the Beast's prisoner to save her father. She and the Beast, played by year 10 Josh White, form an unexpected friendship, despite their differences. Students in years 7-10 make up the cast of what will be the biggest and best show to date.

A fairytale classic, with dreams, jealousy, a little Disney magic, and a few Longhill style twists tell this 'tale as old as time'.

Tickets on sale from the school cashier office. £4.50 adults/£3.50 students/under 16s. 7pm arrival for 7.30pm performance.



Eco News

GROW WILD

Longhill has been working to plant packets of wildflower seeds which we have received from the Grow Wild project. We now wait to see the results later in the summer. This project aims to inspire communities, friends, neighbours and individuals to transform local spaces, by sowing, growing and enjoying native wild flowers. It is funded by the Big Lottery fund and led by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. If you want to find out more visit - www.growwilduk.com

Mrs Booker
Eco Team





Longhill High School - Newsletter

Community Dance Show

On Thursday 16th April numerous students took part in 'The Deans Sports Partnership Dance Show' at the Clarendon Centre in Brighton. This event included children from our local primary schools Our Lady of Lourdes, Rudyard Kipling, Saltdean, St.Margarets and Woodingdean.

The students from Longhill ranged from years 7-11 and they performed a variety of different pieces, which amazed the audience. There were performances from the gifted and talented group as well as various GCSE pieces.

One special piece featured Kai Rankin (year 11 sports leader) who performed an amazing duet with Scarlet Burnap (who left Longhill last year) with a piece entitled Longhill Past and Present.

Kai has also helped at the community dance club inspiring children from the local primary schools.

It was a fantastic afternoon with over 180 children performing from the various schools and a special thank you to Mrs Salmon for co-ordinating the Longhill pieces.

Many thanks to Mr Rolf and Mr Emmet for their help in supporting the event along with numerous year 11 sports leaders who assisted with the organisation on the day.

Mr D Hambrook
The Deans Sports Partnership Manager

PE Department

Longhill School has always promoted a vast range of opportunities in developing student confidence, competence, leadership and connection with our local community. Inspiring students to take part in sport and obtain the great benefits it can offer is, and has been, a very important principle.

We are developing a number of extremely exciting projects linking with outside clubs promoting judo, canoeing and rugby this year. I look forward to a number of students taking part. Students' participation in sports will also be used to raise money for local charities with the support of our sports leaders.

Year 11 Sports Leaders

Congratulations to the 42 Year 11 sports leaders who have passed the sports leadership level 1 course. It has been a privilege to teach them over the year, they have been outstanding in promoting sport in our local primary schools. Their energy, enthusiasm, communication skills and quality planning has inspired the students they teach. As a group they will be celebrating their achievement at a Rotary Club event at the Grand Hotel in June. Good luck teaching sport in the future we wish you every success.

Mr Hambrook, Ms Buxton and Mr Rolf

Tommy Elphick – Ambassador

Congrats to ex-Longhill student Tommy Elphick for captaining his Bournemouth team to the Premier League. See more [here](#). Good luck Tommy and send us a new Premier League Bournemouth shirt for the Deans Leisure Centre display!





Longhill High School - Newsletter

Up and coming

Year 7	11.06.15 – Year 7 Parents Evening 06.07.15 – 14.07.15 - Opening Minds Rottingdean trips
Year 8	03.06.15 – Bowling with Year 8 Peer Mentors and Whitehawk & St Mark's 09.06.15 – Bowling with Year 8 Peer Mentors and Rudyard 11.06.15 – Bowling with Year 8 Peer Mentors and Saltdean, Woodingdean & St Margaret's 16.06.15 – Parents Evening
Year 9	08.06.15 – Robogals Uni of Sussex 10.06.15 – Uni of Sussex Life Sciences Day 22.06.16 – 26.06.15 Year 9 Camp
Year 10	04.06.15 – Geography Day 09.06.15 – Health & Social Care Visits to Nurseries 22.06.15-26.06.15 – Work Experience 01.07.15 – Varndean Taster Day 03.07.15 – Lewes Taster Day 07.07.15 – BHASVIC Taster Day 09.07.15 & 10.07.15 – City College Taster Days 20.07.15 – STEM Antweight workshop x 60 pupils
Year 11	05.06.15 – Year 11 BBQ 02.07.15 – Year 11 Prom
Whole School	25.05.15- 29.05.15 – Half Term 17.06.15-18.06.15 – Beauty and the Beast Performance 09.07.15 – New Intake Evening 10.07.15 – New Intake Day 10.07.15 & 17.07.15 – School Council Election Day 14.07.15 – Celebration & Sports Awards Evening 22.07.15 – LAST DAY SUMMER TERM

Important Links

Documents

[Parent/Carers' Consultation 2015/16 – Important Information](#)

[Local Authority Guide to Persistent Absenteeism 2015](#)

Online Sites

[Longhill High School Website](#) – for more information about the school and other activities and triumphs we have had this half term

[Longhill High School on Twitter](#) – Follow us!

[Longhill Alumni on Facebook](#) – see what our past students have achieved and if you're an Alumni yourself let us know!

[Longhill Live](#) – produced and written by current students