



Alec Hunter Herald

Living for Learning, Learning for Life

Presentation Evening



On November 20th, we were delighted to welcome back the Class of 2013 to celebrate their time spent at Alec Hunter and their exam successes. The evening was hugely enjoyable with students, parents, staff, governors and sponsors joining together to applaud the outstanding achievements of our young people.

GCSE exam certificates were distributed and subject-specific awards were presented to those students nominated by staff for achievement in, or notable contribution to, their subject areas.

Sports Awards were presented to the following students:

- The Baldock Cup for All-round Boys' Attainment - *James Shackell*
- The Lindsey Cup for All-round Girls' Attainment - *Sophie Buckley*
- The McElrea Cup for Outstanding Boys' Effort - *Kieran Twin*
- The Margery Cup for Outstanding Girls' Effort – *Kanokphon Sriphumkhai*
- The Netball Cup for Outstanding Achievement - *Anna Marshall*
- The Drummond Cup for Outstanding Achievement in Athletics - *Melanie Deer*

The following students received Special Awards:

- The Wendy Morgan Award for Citizenship - *Elisha Usher*
- The Performing Arts Award - *Kieran Evans*
- The Lady Stark Cup for Languages - *Stephen Vieira*
- The Mollie Birmingham Award for Service to the Community -

School Opening Times

Visitors' Reception

Monday-Thursday: 8.15 am-4.15pm
Friday: 8.15am-3.45pm

Student Reception

8.15am—3.25pm

Student Absence

We would be grateful if parents reporting absence would use this service:

Tel: 01376 559356

Text: 07598393348

jackie.jackson@alechunter.essex.sch.uk

Please be aware that the text number is only for texts and there is no voicemail service.

Diary Dates

December Diary Dates

7th - Christmas Tea Dance
9th-20th - Y11 Mock Exams
10th - Winter Concert - 7pm
11th - Y8 HPV Vaccinations
18th/19th - Celebration Assemblies
Dec 23rd - Jan 3rd - Christmas Holiday

January Diary Dates

9th - 7pm - Options Evening
16th - Y9 Parents' Evening
17th - Y9 Options Interviews
11th - Y11 Mock Results
23rd - Y11 Parents' Evening
24th - Options Deadline
25th - TableTop Sale

Week Commencing

9/12/13 is Week B

Chloe Beckwith

- The Lord Newton Award for Progress from KS2 - *Georgie Few*
- The Stephen Wyatt Humanities College Award - *Joshua Cole*
- The Alec Hunter Award - *Connor Webb*
- The Overall Progress Award - *Laurence Childs*
- The Overall Achievement Award - *Rebecca Kooyman*
- The Andrew Hutchinson 'Be the best you can be' Award - *Andrew McArthur*

Kieran Twin was also recognised for achieving **100% Attendance Over 5 Years**, an amazing attendance record.

The celebrations were rounded off with all guests getting together to catch up with one another, admire the art exhibition assembled by Mrs Koper and share the superb food prepared and served by our Year 10 Catering students under the guidance of Miss Birrell and Mr McColl.

Congratulations to all of our Year 12 students on their successes and we wish them well as they continue the next phase of their lives.



Nexus App Showcase #1: SimpleMind

Free Mind Mapping

Mind Maps appeal particularly to students who learn visually but we can all benefit from using Mind Maps. Creating a Mind Map will give you a broad overview of your subject or study topic.

Mind Maps can help you:

- Make connections between different areas
- Create a broad overview of material being studied
- Plan your projects or subject topics
- Delve in-depth into an area

Headteacher's Surgery

Headteacher's Surgery for parents is open on Thursdays from 3:30—4:30pm.

At this time, parents are invited to come in and see Mr Lawn, if you have any issues you wish to raise. If this time is not convenient, you can of course request an appointment in the usual way, by contacting the School Office.

Listening Champions

Katie Twin 7A
George Amos 7T
Saffron Hull 8C
Alana Newton 8H
Mark Burnitt 9U
James Hardy 10T
Carita Morris 10U
Hope Dodge 11U
Katie Skingley 11N

Students of the Week

Lauren Jacob 7E
Ella Poole 7H
Antonia Constantinou 8E
Declan Easter 8L
Megan Sealey 9H
Ella Rosindale 10C
Ben Durban 10N
Ashley Byron 11C
Ben McLean 11H
Callan Bragg 11N



Mind Mapping is also perfect for planning. Create a Mind Map to plan an essay: each Mind Map node can delve deeper into one area and you can easily make connections between different areas which you may not have seen before.

We have chosen the “SimpleMind” app as the mind map app of choice. To download it, simply search for “SimpleMind” in the Google Playstore and click “Install”.

SimpleMind allows you quickly and easily to create mind maps on your android tablets. Simply drag and drop topic nodes and make connections with child topics. You are only limited by your imagination!

Maths House Quiz Challenge

Congratulations to Amy Hogan of Pine House, who won the first House Maths Challenge, and a well done also to Alice Logan, Declan Easter, Chloe Bailey, Taylor Blackwell and Abdul Mohaimin of Oak House who came second. Cedar, represented by Rebecca Underwood, Xavier Carroll and Phillip Manzano, also competed strongly, as did Elri Nel representing Beech House. All students deserve great credit for participating and the event was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Mr Wilding

Head of Oak House

Golden Ticket Winners

Connor Gilhooly 7N
Iona Ridley 8N
Bethany Marshall 8U
Chloe Smith 9A
Samuel Scott 10T
Megan Myers 10H
Danielle Lincoln 11N
Callum Mills 11U

Clean Responsibility

Card Winners

Abdul Mohaimin
Ellie Kennedy 8N
Maisie Ramsey 8H
Chloe Austin 9R
Leah Boxshall 10R
Amelia Paveley 10A
Sam Smith 10R
Callum Jones 11T
Bethan Reading 11L

Quiz Champions

7E 7T 8T 11T

Awarded Bonus VIVOS

Charlie Myers 7A
Kieran Wilson 7A
Stephen Collins 7T
Illiana Anderson 7R
Holly George 7R
Holly Roberts 7R
Johannes Möller 7R
Brooke Lawrence 10C
Amy Hammond 10C
Chloe Wood 10C
Chloe Stevens 10T
Jodie Coppin 10T
Shana Boreham 10T

French Speaking Assessment

Congratulations to Cassidy El-Fazazi 8A, Sam Crow 8R, James Cridland 8R, Ivy Shields 8R, Abigail Clarke 8L, Madison Evans 8L, Laura Hardison Taylor 8T, Emily Griffiths 8E, Matthew Stone 8E, Karsten Emordi 8N and Oliver Sproston 8U for their achievements in the recent French Speaking Assessment.

District Cross Country Event

On the 20th November, the Alec Hunter running squad went to the Discovery Centre for the District Cross Country Event. There are six races over the day ranging from a mild 1.5k to a 3.5k event. The Year 7's were first up and had to do one lap of the Centre (1.5k). Even though it was very cold the boys and girls seemed keen to run. Anyone finishing in the top twelve automatically qualifies to represent North West Essex in the County finals later in the year. Kiera Hornsby finished 4th in the girls' race and Liam Davey and Matthew Austin finished 4th and 6th respectively in the boys' race.

The Year 8/9 event (Junior race) was slightly longer, as they completed one lap and had to go up the Discovery Centre hill! Aarran Dyson came in for the boys in 8th position, claiming he shouldn't even have been picked as he is a sprinter.

The Year 10/11 (Inter race) event held another surprise as we had a fantastic 12th place finish from Luke Fawcett, who gave his all, as he fell across the line. The Year 10's and 11's have to do two laps of the Discovery Centre, including one with the hill.

A special thank you goes to Sarah-Anne Austin who pressured Mr McKenna into starting up a cross country club (she came 17th!!) and a massive well done to the students who qualified and to those who volunteered at the last minute to represent the school in this event. You all did Alec Hunter proud.

Overall results

Year 7 Boys 5th Junior Boys 5th Inter Boys 10th Out of 12 Schools

Year 7 Girls 4th Junior Girls 9th Inter Girls 7th Out of 12 Schools

Alec Hunter Netball Tour 2013

Day one: A cold, wet and windy Saturday morning greeted us when we woke up. The team members were all very nervous as we did not really know what to expect, since it was also the first time the team had gone out on court together.

Year 8 Monitors

Well done to the following students for their Monitoring duties between the 18th November and 29th November

Amelia Tisshaw
Kian Pritchard
Heather Thornhill
Honor Whymark
Paige Tisshaw
Harrison Witcomb
Menolly Cook
Ty Cripwell
Charlotte Denly
Erikas Eicas
Cassidy El-Fazazi
Charlie Few
Lewis Gardner
Emma Hobson
Jake Hammond
Eleanor Jones
Jake Kempen
Lusie Joy

After deciding on positions and getting our bibs on, the nerves were definitely setting in as well as excitement to actually be playing some netball against teams we had never played against before.

First match Alec Hunter v Lavington Comp: Unfortunately first match nerves got the better of us and the final score was Lavington 10 Alec 7. We took to the court for the second time ready to play some fluent netball. A few changes to the team saw Hannah move to Centre and Megan move to Wing Attack. This proved a successful change and brought our first win, beating Kingstone High 12-2.

Fired up after our first win we next on Abertillery Comp. We thought this was going to be our toughest competition from watching them, but after successfully turning over most of their centre passes and with some good transitions from defence to attack we saw our second win of the day Alec 16 Abertillery 7. We took to the court for the final game of the day ready to push for one last win we achieved this beating Bishops Stopfords 9-2, ending the day with 3 wins and 1 loss.

Day two: The girls were all really excited as we knew we stood a good chance of getting to the final. First match saw us play Bishops Stopfords again, comfortably winning 6-1 and gave us more confidence going into the match that possibly could take us into the final.

We knew that it was going to be tough as our opposition, North Oxfordshire, had not lost a game throughout the tournament. Some excellent netball by both defence and attack saw us win 6-2, and we were through to the final!

We took to the court for the final game of the tournament and had a shaky start with nerves getting the better of us. We went into the last quarter losing by 1, but a great start to the last period saw us turn their centre pass and score from ours. This put us up by 2, but unfortunately tired legs were starting to kick in. We conceded a goal but we had done it. The final whistle went and saw the final score as Alec 4 Ormiston Venture 3. Alec Hunter were the tournament winners.

A big thank you to Miss Ball for organising the trip!

Team: Chelsea Quaife(c), Bethan Reading, Hannah Denson, Harmony Platt, Holly Roffey, Jess Joiner, Megan Kelly.

Player of the tournament: Bethan Reading

Early Help and Advice Hub

familysolutionsmid@essex.gov.uk

www.essex.gov.uk/familysolutions

For information, advice and guidance on the most appropriate services available for children, young people and families, and to make a referral, please contact The Early Help and Advice Hub on:

Tel: 0845 603 7627

November Hockey round up.

U16 County Indoor Tournament.

The girls went into their first game of the tournament having never played a proper game of indoor hockey before! Although they have occasionally trained indoors when the weather has been too bad to go outside, they have never experienced a "real" indoor game umpired by county umpires.

They soon got used to the environment and by the second half of their last game were really starting to enjoy the experience, drawing that 15 minutes 0-0. They finished the tournament 3rd in Essex, a great achievement, especially as the majority of the Alec team were not Year 11 like their opponents. Well done to all the girls, and hopefully this experience will stand them in good stead for next year.

Squad: Lara Walker (capt), Carita Morris (Gk), Erika Manzano, Laura Borein, Louise Childs, Andrea Manzano, Dani Shingles. Carita Morris was definitely player of the tournament!

U13 Girls vs Helena Romanes

This was the first game of the year for our U13 team, and we had a mixture of Year 7 & 8 girls versus an all Year 8 Dunmow side. Being the first game on astro for some of the Alec girls, they found it tough going to be playing on a such a big pitch and HRS scored 2 goals very early on in the game. As the game went on, the Alec team started to settle and to make the ball do the work rather than trying to keep running with the ball, but still couldn't find the back of the net even though we had chances. The game got more even as it went on with both teams having chances to score, but unfortunately the final score was 4-0 to HRS.

Squad: Eloise Sheehan (capt and GK), Olivia Harris, Laura Hardison-Taylor, Emily Griffiths, Abigail Ruggles, Jasmine Pearson, Kiera Hornsby, Sarah Stevens, Katie Helliar, Hollie Foster.

U16 Girls Essex Cup Match v Hockerill

Unfortunately the Hockerill side was made up of all Year 11's and many of them were club players, proving too strong a side for the Alec team made up of 1 year 11 and the rest Year 9 & 10.

However, although Hockerill scored 9, Alec at least managed to score a goal, something they have been struggling to do in recent matches. Alec now get entered in to the Plate competition so they are not completely out of the Cup games yet.

Squad: Lara Walker (capt), Carita Morris (GK), Kellie Phillips, Erika Manzano, Chloe Daniels, Chloe Stevens, Megan Myers, Ellie Pratt, Laura Borein, Louise Childs, Andrea Manzano, Chloe Guppy, Dani Shingles.

U15 Girls v New Hall

Last Thursday on a very chilly afternoon the U15's went to play New Hall. Again Alec were playing an all Year 10 side when their team is a mixture of Years 9 & 10. They played very well, some of the best hockey they have played so far and although at half time the score was 2-0 to New Hall, the second half was a different story. New Hall managed to score another goal despite some heroic goalkeeping by Charlotte Tupper, but this did not deter a determined Alec side and they kept attacking eventually being rewarded with a goal. They then had another couple of shots on goal, but unfortunately couldn't find a way past the goalie. Thus the second half ended 1-1 with more of the attack coming from Alec. Well done, Girls!

Squad: Erika Manzano, Kellie Phillips, Chloe Stevens, Chloe Daniels, Megan Myers, Ellie Pratt, Laura Borein, Louise Childs, Andrea Manzano, Dani Shingles, Chloe Guppy, Charlotte Tupper.

Year 7 Tea Parties

We have been holding special tea parties throughout November for the Year 7 students to welcome their primary teachers into our school. They were able to showcase some of the excellent work they have produced since joining us in September and talk with great pride about how well they have settled into secondary education at Alec Hunter. They were also keen to show off their new Nexus tablets and discuss the impact they are having on their learning. Staff from the primary schools remarked that many of the young people have matured considerably since their transition, and also noted how smart they looked in their Alec Hunter uniforms.

Thank you to all our primary colleagues for making the effort to join us for this event. The students are always proud of their progress and pleased to share successes with their former teachers.

Beckers Green



Lyons Hall Primary School



Cressing & John Ray Primary Schools



Silver End Primary School



Great Bradfords Primary School



Staff Car Park

A quick reminder to all parents that it is not permitted to use the staff car park or visitors' car park for dropping off or picking up your children. This serves only to contribute to congestion in these areas and compromises the safety of students passing the entrances to the car parks at the busiest times of the day. Please park your vehicles away from the school site to reduce the risk to our students. Thank you.

Alec Hunter Christmas Raffle

Each student has been given a book of raffle tickets with a view to raising additional funds for the school. Please support this by purchasing a ticket or selling them to friends and family. If you would like additional tickets, please contact Lisa Artus.

Calling all tutor groups, parents and carers!

The FROGs, Student Council and Interact group are in need of your support. We have decided to collect a number of items to make up a small gift hamper to present to guests attending the over 60s Christmas Lunchtime Tea Dance on Saturday 7th December, 12.30pm-2.30pm (tickets £5.00 on sale now in the Learning Village).

The tutor group that brings the most items in for this event, along with their tutor, will be treated to

a hot chocolate and cookie break in the Learning Village by Mrs Artus.

*Tutor group drop off times to the Learning Village are 2.45pm - 4.30pm.

*Parents, Carers and Friends of the School drop off times are 8.15am - 4.30pm.

Items needed to make up the mini hampers are non-perishable foods and shoe boxes. A Christmas card from Alec Hunter will accompany the hampers.

Thank you for your support

Mrs. Artus

100% Attendance



7E Celebrating their first week of 100% attendance



8T Celebrating their first week of 100% attendance



7H Celebrating their first week of 100% attendance

Workskills Christmas Cards Gifts & Cakes

Students in Year 10 Workskills are once again creating and selling Christmas cards, gifts and cakes to the staff and students of Alec Hunter Academy. The students have full responsibility for the administration, production and sale of the cards and this achievement will contribute towards their completion of the Enterprise Units of work.

Starting from **Monday 16th December** and running through to the last day of term, come browse and buy our festive items. All the proceeds are going to charity. The stall is located in the Library at break and Lunch times.



*PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT
PROUDLY PRESENTS;*

THE WINTER CONCERT

7.00pm

**Tuesday 10th December
2013**

**Entrance tickets: Adults - £4.00
Children - £2.00
Under 5's go free.**

*Tickets on sale from Monday 18th November 2013
at the School Office or reserve via Parent Pay.*

Under 16's must be accompanied by an adult.