



Alec Hunter Herald

Living for Learning, Learning for Life

Have Your Say Competition 2017

On Wednesday 22nd March, 31 students from Alec Hunter competed in the first round of this year's 'Have Your Say' Competition which was held at The Gilberd School in Colchester. The competition is organised by ALL, the Association of Language Learners, and allows students from schools from all over East Anglia to take part.

Students had to perform pre-learned dialogues in French, German or Spanish in front of judges and the other competitors in their category. The contestants from Alec Hunter had practised their dialogues for months and thoroughly deserved the success they enjoyed.



We are delighted that 18 students won places in the East Anglian final of the competition, to be held in May at the Thomas Lord Audley School in Colchester. Our finalists are:

Year 7 French	Oliver Hollingsworth 7T Travis Taylor 7H
Year 8 German	Myles Blackwell 8T Amy Jarvis 8T
Year 8 Spanish	Melody Morris 8A Leanne Stone 8E
Year 9 French	Frank Carroll 9N Nathan Bancroft 9H
Year 9 Spanish	Jasmine MacGillivray 9U Lara Loureiro 9N
Year 10 French	Kaylah Johnson 10N Olivia Goddard 10U
Year 10 German	Matthew Maynard 10R Lewis Kelly 10R Charlie Truscott 10N Lucy Swandel 10R
Year 10 Spanish	Veronica Moraru 10E Inês Neves 10E

Congratulations to all the students who took part. We are very proud of you.

School Opening Times

Visitors' Reception

Monday-Thursday: 8:00am-4:30pm

Friday: 8:00am-4:00pm

Student Reception

8:30am—3:30pm

Student Absence

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

Tel: 01376 559356

Text: 07598 393348

jjackson@alechunter.com

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

April Diary Dates:

25th: SKILLS DAY

27th: Spring Concert (7pm)

May Diary Dates:

1st: Bank Holiday

4th: Y7-10 SOS+ Programme

8th – 12th: Y9 Formal Exam Week

22nd: School Council Meeting

29th: Bank Holiday

30th May – 2nd June: HALF TERM

Week Commencing
01/05/17 is Week A

Science Week

The week started early with Year 7 students participating in Arctic Live, an exciting learning experience connecting us via a Skype call with a member of the expedition team based in Svalbard, the most northerly permanent settlement in the world!

During the week itself, the technician team ran a series of lunchtime activities for students including making lava lamps, elephant's toothpaste and balloon hovercrafts, to name but a few. All week the technician team dressed up our resident (artificial) skeleton as various famous scientists and each day, one lucky student who guessed correctly, won an Easter egg.

We were also very fortunate to receive a visit from Millennium Veterinary Practice. A very interesting presentation was given to Year 10 covering such topics as careers in veterinary science and infection control. In addition to this, our Year 10 triple classes were treated to a talk from Shielding Solutions, a technology company specialising in providing EMI, environmental and thermal shielding products. Two more talks followed by ex-students of Alec Hunter; Chloe Stevens gave an inspirational presentation on cardiovascular disease and genetics and, last but not least, Danielle Lincoln visited a class to discuss with a group of Year 9 students the transition between GCSEs and A levels.

Thanks to all contributors and to the students for engaging fully in these events.

Comic Relief Fundraiser

This year's Comic Relief Day was Friday 24th March and the school supported the campaign by holding a staff vs. Year 11 basketball match, with the staff team taking victory by 16 points to 4. More importantly, the event raised £94 in entrance fees.



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, with any issues they may wish to raise. If this time is not convenient, parents can of course request an appointment in the usual way, by contacting the School Office.

Students of the Week

Ione Murray-Poulimenos 7E
William Mason 7E
Priya Rudkin-Midl 7E
Shane Apps 10E
Zach Goodman 10R
Lewis Kelly 10R
Matthew Challis 10N

Clean Responsibility Cards

Priya Rudkin-Midl 7E
Adam Everett 7E
Faye Williams 7E
Flynn Gardner 7E
Hannah Cartwright 7E
Kiera Hornsby 10R
Harry Maris 10R
William Pennington 10N
Charlie Siggins 10T
Yasmin Malek 10H
Charlie Truscott 10N
Evie Dodge 10R
Elri Nel 10H
Thomas Riggs 10T



Students paid £1 to wear non-uniform and the theme was to wear something red. We had an enjoyable day and raised the fantastic sum of £903.74. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this such a successful day. Miss Winter - Charity Co-ordinator.

A 'Wicked' Trip



A group of 46 students attended the West End smash hit musical 'Wicked' at the Victoria Apollo on Monday 27th March. The trip was attended by a range of year groups and was organised to allow Music and Performing Arts students an opportunity to complete part of their programme of study.

Students thoroughly enjoyed the performance which included the song 'Defying Gravity'. The acting and dancing were of a high quality and allowed students to see a memorable performance, to experience theatre at its best and see professionals at work.

Thanks to Mr Holland, Mrs Davies, Mrs Johnson and Mrs Pipe for supporting the trip.

University of Essex Trip

On Monday 27th March, 38 Year 7 students and 4 members of staff set off to Colchester for a taste of university life. They learnt what life is like as a student and how it can improve employment prospects. They enjoyed a campus tour and took part in university-style tutorial sessions in language and linguistics, criminology, psychology and computer science. Our students rose to the challenge, fully engaging with the sessions and asking insightful questions. They were praised for their attitude to learning and exemplary behaviour and came back to school motivated and full of aspirational ideas for learning.

Thank you to Mrs Maragkakis for organising this trip, and to Mr Moreno, Mrs Johnson and Mrs Eckersley Ambrose for also accompanying students.

Monitors

Well done to the following students for their recent monitoring duties
13th March – 21st April

Jude Aguallo 8A
 Jamie Ball 8A
 Isabelle Bambridge 8A
 Shannon Bowden 8H
 Letoyah Bray 8R
 Katie Breach 8R
 Sam Cain 8R
 Brandn Castell 8H
 Kyal Castell 8U
 Sarah Challis 8A
 Samuel Chambers 8A
 Ciara Chudasama 8H
 James Clayton 8H
 Ben Coppin 8H
 Brody Cripwell 8U
 Hayden Curtis-Arnold 8H
 Ellie Czyzewicz 8H
 Gracie-Ellen Davies 8R
 Toby Dearing 8H
 Emma Drew 8H
 Elliot Duggan 8U
 Rhys Dunleavy 8A
 Owen Dyer 8A
 Victor Falekulo 8A
 Liam Foster 8A
 Nathan Garrod 8A
 Reece Godbold 8U
 Emily Gough 8R
 Tyler Graham 8R
 Jamie Greenaway 8U
 Milly Greybrook 8A
 Elliott Griffiths 8H
 Ryan Gurteen 8R
 Kristan Harding 8H
 Jasmine Haymer 8U
 Kai Heath 8U
 William Hills 8R
 Rocco Hobson 8R
 Kyle Howard 8R
 Thomas Hull 8U
 Kacper Jednaszewski 8R
 Danyel Jones 8U
 Molly Jones 8R
 Luke Jordan 8A
 Sophie Keeble 8A
 Maja Kiedrzenska 8A
 Lauren Kouchuk 8H
 Oliver Lees 8U
 Kieran Livermore 8R

Interact Meal with the Braintree Rotary Club



On Monday 20th March the students from Interact were invited to a meeting of the Braintree Rotary Club. The meeting was held in the function room at The Green Dragon in Great Leighs and students were treated to a meal. They were able to learn all about the work of the Braintree Rotary Club and were also able to share the work of the Interact group at Alec Hunter with the Rotary group (Interact is the junior branch of the Rotary Club).

There was an interesting talk by the Deputy Leader of Braintree Council, Mrs Wendy Schmitt. The meeting was due to have been attended by Mr James Cleverly, MP for Braintree but he was unfortunately called for urgent business in the House of Commons that evening, so was unable to attend. An enjoyable evening was had by all.

The students who attended from Alec Hunter were **Shania Purcell, Sophie Mahoney, Eden Lawrence, Sara Whitman, Matthew Challis, Kaylah Johnson and Sarah Stevens.**

Racing Update - Tyrone Stansfield

Round 1 – Whilton Mill, Northamptonshire

Following his success last year, Tyrone started the new season well. He qualified in second place for the heat and, despite the wet weather, maintained this second place position. The pre-final race started with yet more rain, but the sun then appeared and the track started to dry up. Tyrone found himself struggling without his slicks and finished in 11th place, feeling distraught.

However, he started the final with a new lease of life and picked up a few places straight away, and managed to cross the line in 6th place, a great recovery, and only 1 second away from a podium finish of 3rd. Well done Tyrone!



Monitors (cont.)

Connor Locke 8A
 Emily Longhurst-Coe 8R
 Sophie Mahoney 8U
 Alex Mal 8H
 Emma McCormack 8R
 Chloe McWilliams 8R
 Ula Mills 8H
 Brooke Millward 8A
 Melody Morris 8A
 Teagan Moss 8R
 Alexandra Palade 8U
 Josh Pankhurst 8H
 Lewis Partner 8R
 Faith Paviour-La-Page 8A
 Eleanor Phillips 8H
 George Phillips 8H
 Ellena Prior 8R
 Shania Purcell 8U
 Lewis Purkiss 8U
 Kayleigh Rainey 8R
 Ram Ramadassou 8U
 Isabel Ramsey 8A
 Paige Redmond 8A
 Joshua Richardson 8H
 Harvey Roberts 8U
 Luke Robinson 8H
 Liam Rodwell 8U
 Ethan Saul 8U
 Jaylen Scott 8U
 Liam Scott 8H
 Alfie Seabrook 8A
 Dillon Sheehan 8H
 Reah Sillett 8U
 Diya Singadia 8H
 Amy Smith 8H
 Brandon Snell 8A
 Tyler Sorrell 8U
 Lewis Stark 8R
 Joe Stokes 8A
 Caitlin Thomson 8U
 Kayleigh Tomlinson 8H
 Emily Wager 8H
 Hayden Wagland 8R
 Thai Walters 8R
 Ebony Watts 8A
 Claire White 8U
 Jack Wilkins 8A
 Matthew Williams 8U
 Henry Yu 8R

Wanted – Parent Governors

What are we looking for?

Our school Governing Body is made up of Community, Parent, Staff and Saffron Academy Trust Governors. Our Governors may come to us through a variety of routes and with a range of different backgrounds, skills and experiences, but they are all volunteers who work together for the benefit of the school and are the link between the school and the community it serves. We are currently looking for new Parent Governors and would be delighted to hear from anyone who has:

- an interest in the performance of the school
- a desire to contribute to and represent the community
- an open and enquiring mind
- the ability to look at issues objectively
- the confidence to ask questions and join in the debate
- a willingness to listen and make informed judgements
- the ability to work well with others
- time to spare
- a child or children currently attending Alec Hunter Academy

If you match the above description, you may be the very person to become a Governor at Alec Hunter Academy. Everyone has something to offer and we want people from as many different backgrounds and with as wide a range of interests as possible.

What can we offer?

- A chance to develop skills in strategic management
- The opportunity to work with our team of governors and staff in improving our school
- Training to develop an understanding of specific school management issues
- A sense of achievement in making a difference to our school
- The pleasure of helping students reach their potential

What is the Governing Body's Role?

The Governing Body of our school plays a key role in:

- setting targets for raising standards of educational achievement
- monitoring progress towards meeting these targets
- finding the right balance between supporting and challenging the performance of the Headteacher and therefore the performance of his staff and the school as a whole
- deciding policy and future development plans
- upholding good governance and working towards the success of the school

The Governing Body works together as a team:

- sometimes the whole governing body is involved - there are a minimum of three meetings of the Full Governing Body each year
- sometimes Governors work in smaller working groups or monitoring pairs, looking at specific areas of the school's work in more detail
- Some Governors have specific responsibilities – for example, Special Educational Needs, Health & Safety and Governor Training
- In addition to a full and detailed induction programme, all Governors have the opportunity to undertake further training to build on existing skills or to help develop new ones

Being a governor can be enjoyable, stimulating and rewarding. Please don't be put off by thinking that you need to have specialist expertise or knowledge. Enthusiasm and interest is much more important to start with and there is comprehensive training and support available to help you throughout the term of office, and remember, you will be joining a long established governing body and will be supported by fellow governors with many years of combined experience.

If you are interested, please contact Mr Peter Whent, Chair of Governors, to find out more about the role and the appointment process. (Email: PWhent@alechunter.com, or write care of Alec Hunter Academy, Stubbs Lane, Braintree, Essex, CM7 3NR).

Top Tutor Group Attendance

	17th March	24th March	31st March	21st April
Year 7	7U – 100%	7N – 100%	7E – 100%	7H – 100%
Year 8	8R – 100%	8U – 98.26%	8E – 99.23%	8E – 100%
Year 9	9N – 100%	9U – 99.58%	9R – 97.50%	9R – 98.96%
Year 10	10N – 99.20%	10R – 99.20%	10T – 99.23%	10N – 99%
Year 11	11U – 98.40%	11E – 100%	11H – 98.33%	11N – 100%

Twitter @AlecHAcademy

In addition to our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/alechunteracademy/>), we are pleased to advise that you can now follow us on Twitter.

We will try to share stories, promote forthcoming events and celebrate success through this route, so we hope that you welcome this further extension to our communication practices. Get following today and read our latest tweets!



@AlecHAcademy

Fundraising for PARC (Essex)

One of our Parent Governors, Mr Kelly, will be facing a 100-mile bike ride as part of the Prudential Ride London event on 30th July. He will be raising funds for PARC (Essex) who provide play and recreation facilities for children with additional needs in Essex and short break care for their families and carers. The work done by PARC is especially important to Mr Kelly and his family as his son, now 7, was diagnosed with autism when he was aged 3.

If you would like to sponsor Mr Kelly, please go to his Just Giving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ABKelly>.



LINE MANAGEMENT

Please find below our line management arrangements for students from September 2016. The first point of contact for enquiries should be your child's tutor and then their Student Support Leader or Progress & Standards Leader depending on the nature of your query.

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Attendance / Wellbeing / Behaviour Out of Lessons				
Form Tutor				
Student Support Leaders 7H/N – Mrs Johnson 7U – Mrs Truscott 7T – Miss McInerney 7E/R – Mrs Porter	Mrs Truscott Student Support Leader	Mrs Porter Student Support Leader	Miss McInerney Student Support Leader	Mrs Johnson Student Support Leader
Mrs Watson Assistant Headteacher		Mrs Murray Assistant Headteacher		
Learning / Behaviour In Lessons / Academic Progress				
Class Teacher				
Head of Curriculum Area *(see below)				
Miss Jones Mr Lee Progress & Standards Leaders	Mr Holland Progress & Standards Leader	Mr Moreno Progress & Standards Leader	Miss McEvoy Progress & Standards Leader	Mr Booth Progress & Standards Leader
Mr Birley Associate Deputy Headteacher		Mr Woods Deputy Headteacher		
Mr Gilbert			SENCO	
Mrs Murray / Mr Booth			Child Protection / Safeguarding	
Mrs Jackson / Miss Morgan			Attendance Officers	

* Should you have a subject-related query, for example, regarding homework etc., the first point of contact should be the class teacher. Listed below are the Heads of each Curriculum Area, along with the member of the Leadership Group responsible for each Curriculum Area, to help parents in knowing who to approach for assistance.

Subject	Head of Curriculum Area	Senior Leader
English/Media Studies	Mr McKenna	Mr Woods
Mathematics/ICT/Computer Science	Mrs Watson	Mr Woods
Science	Mr Fernandez	Mr Lawn
Geography/History/RPE	Ms Woolnough	Mr Birley
Technology/Art/Child Development	Mr Todd	Mr Fox
French/German/Spanish	Mrs Steward	Mr Lawn
PE/Drama/Music	Mr Edwards	Mr Fox
Special Educational Needs	Mr Gilbert	Mr Birley
Learning for Life	Miss Marriott	Mr Fox
Vocational Education/Business Studies	Mr Sykes-Wood	Mr Fox