



The Gosford Times

The Weekly Newsletter of Gosford Hill School

Issue 1 – September 2016

Headteacher's Welcome and Congratulations

Welcome back to the new academic year. I trust that you've all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer. Students have returned looking exceptionally smart, they're ready for learning and there has been a really positive start to the new school year. We welcome our new Year 7 students, their parents and new colleagues that have joined the school too. I'm really proud to lead a school which is now fully staffed with dedicated and hard working professionals and I'd like to thank my staff for the work that they've done in ensuring that the new school year has got off to a flying start.

Lots happened over the summer period, and I want to start by congratulating all of our students who received their A Level, AS and GCSE results.



Elishia, Jamie and Anna

The pass rate at A Level was 100% with a quarter of all grades at A*/A and close to a half of all grades at grade B or above. Approximately 80% of students were accepted by their first choice University.

Special congratulations to Elishia Chard, Jamie Rolinski and Anna Shatz on achieving three A*/A grades. Elishia and Jamie are both going to Warwick University, Elishia to study Business Management and Jamie to study Chemistry. Anna is going to Birmingham University to study Physics.

We are delighted that 100% of students in German achieved an A grade and 83% of students in Health and Social Care achieved equivalent to two grade A's. Mathematics had the highest number of entries with 56% of students achieving A* or A grades. Among other subjects, the percentage at grade B or above was 100% in Chemistry and 60% in both History and ICT.

There were some outstanding results in Year 12. The Further Maths students completed A Level Mathematics in one year, with 50% achieving grade A* and more than 80% achieving grade A*/A.



Simon Hague, Aaron Long and Beren Wilkinson were delighted with a full set of AS grade As as well as an A* grade at A level for Simon and Beren

At GCSE level, two thirds of our Year 11 students achieved A*-C in both English and Maths with 61% achieving 5 GCSEs at grades A*-C including English and Maths. Half of our students achieved at least one grade A and over a third achieved 5 GCSEs at grades A*-B including English and Maths.



Jeremy and Rianne celebrate outstanding results

We are delighted that 75% of students achieved A*-C in English and 73% did so in Maths. There were some great results in popular options subjects including Drama, Geography, Health and Social Care, History, ICT, Music, Sports Studies and Textiles all with more than 70% of students achieving A*-C grades.

Special congratulations to Jeremy Mbararia, Yemi Akinyemi, Gemma Puleston, Chelsea Beahan and Rianne Jhutti on achieving at least 10 A*/A grades.

In addition to the examination results, our World Challenge students returned having had a really good expedition, and in excess of one hundred Year 7 students attended our Summer School led by our exceptional House Leaders.

A lot of work was carried out over the summer to improve our learning environment. Our Dining Hall has been repainted, and we have new furniture. The Site Team also painted the long Maths corridor, together with our main reception area. We were really fortunate that staff from Elsevier volunteered in teams over three days to do some painting in school too. They painted the Lecture Theatre and the Languages corridor. This work sets the trend for what the school will look like in the future. It will be a long journey as we work around the school, starting with corridors, then moving into classrooms, but I am determined that we will do all that we can to ensure that we provide the high standard of learning environment which students and staff rightly deserve to work in. Students already feel proud of the work that has been done and I hope that they continue to look after their school. I'd like to finish by thanking everyone who was involved over the summer in ensuring that the school was ready for students returning this week.

Mr N Sellars - Headteacher

Friends of Gosford Hill School (FoGHS)

Our first meeting of the school year will be on Wednesday 14th Sept at 7pm in the training room above reception.

Everyone is welcome to come along - we'll be planning for our Christmas Fair on Saturday 26th November - more details to follow.

Please see our new Facebook page for future updates: www.facebook.com/FriendsOfGosfordHillSchool/

Sarah Ewart – Friends of Gosford Hill School

Gosford Hill School
invites you to our

Open Events for September 2017 intake

Open Evening: Wednesday 21st September 6.00-8.00pm
The Headteacher's presentation will take place in the Main Hall at 7.30pm

Open Morning: Thursday 22nd September 9.15-10.45am

Open Evening Wednesday 21st September

Please note that students will finish school at **1.30pm on Wednesday 21st September** for Open Evening. Lunch will not be available on that day. Coach companies have been asked to collect students at 1.40pm.

Many students will be used as guides and faculty helpers for the open evening. Students selected will receive a letter asking for parental consent.

Thank you

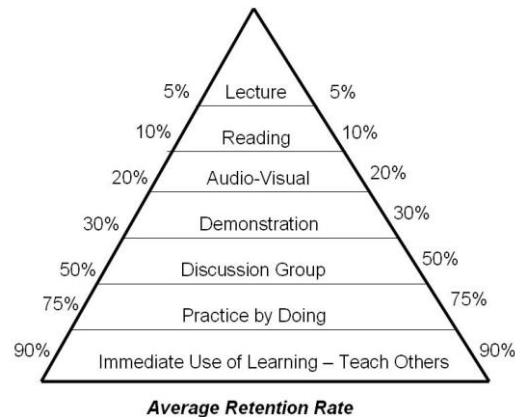
Mr R Belmont - Senior Assistant Headteacher



Gosford Language Leaders, Years 10-11

What does it do for young people?

The Modern Foreign Language Faculty is pleased to announce the arrival of the Gosford Language Leader programme, we aim to develop leadership skills and linguistic skills in students taking French and or German at KS4. Learners of all abilities gain a tremendous amount of satisfaction and confidence from sharing what they know with others. It is also known that we retain the knowledge that we teach actively to others far more effectively than that which we take on board in a more passive way.



The Gosford Language Leader programme aims to:

- reward language learning
- give students a purpose and context for their language skills
- develop communication and leadership skills
- give students a better understanding of themselves as learners
- give a better understanding of the role of the teacher
- enhance student self-esteem and confidence
- improve evaluative and analytical skills
- increase personal attainment in a foreign language

What does it involve?

- weekly lunchtime sessions
- support from a languages teacher
- working in whole group to develop techniques for teaching
- working in pairs or trios to devise your primary school lessons
- visits to teach in a local primary school
- keeping an activity log

What next?

Applying to be a Language Leader involves a commitment to representing languages for the school and taking on an ambassador-type role in languages. Language leaders will be asked to support the department on Open Evenings, Options Evening, and other special events such as the European Day of Languages.

If you are interested you should see Mrs Norman for an application form. The completed form should be handed in to Mrs Norman by **Friday 16th September**.

Mrs K Norman – Faculty Leader, Languages

Year 11 Practice Exams coming up: 10th-14th October 2016

We are running the Year 11 Practice exams earlier than usual this year, so please take note that **Year 11 students will be on 'Study Leave' from Monday 10th October until Friday 14th October 2016**. Students will be issued with an exam timetable closer to the time and will only need to be in school for their actual exams. We will make provision for students who need to stay at school before, between or after exams if that is required. Students will be required to attend their exams in full school uniform.

Year 11 teachers will be giving out revision tips in the next few weeks, so please support us in encouraging the students to prepare as much as they can for these very important exams.

Thanks

Mr J O'Regan, Assistant Headteacher



Family Film Favourites
Edward Feild Primary School,
Kidlington

Sunday
2 October 2016
2 pm

presented by
Kidlington Concert
Brass

Tickets
23 17
Adults - £5
Under 16 - Free
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Tickets available via:
www.kidlingtonconcertbrass.org.uk
KCBEnquiries@gmail.com
07756 929264

  www.kidlingtonconcertbrass.org.uk  

Head Lice

For helpful information regarding the treatment of head lice, please click on the link below.

<http://www.bad.org.uk/shared/get-file.ashx?id=207&itemtype=document>

Ms R Spencer - School Health Nurse

TERM DATES – 2016 -2017

2016-2017

Autumn Term

Monday 5th September – Friday 16th December 2016

Half Term Break – Monday 24th October – Friday 28th October 2016

INSET DAYS: Friday 7th October 2016, Friday 2nd December 2016, Friday 30th June 2017

Spring Term

Tuesday 3rd January – Friday 7th April 2017

Half Term Break – Monday 13th February – Friday 17th February 2017

Summer Term

Monday 24th April – Friday 21st July 2017

Half Term Break – Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June 2017

CONTACTING YOUR SCHOOL

Your views are very important to us, whether they're about your child, school activities or wider community issues. For all contact details telephone School Reception.

If you have a concern about your child contact:

- **The subject teacher** - if it concerns learning in a particular subject. Contact Reception to leave a message or alternatively, if you have internet access, you can ask for their email address.
- **The Head of Faculty** - if you wish to discuss any matter in greater detail.
- **Their Form Tutor** - if it is a more general issue about your child's well being.

Staff will endeavour to phone you back as soon as possible. All information is treated in the strictest of confidence. If you want to raise an issue or query about a more general area of school activity or a community matter contact a Parent Governor. (Telephone numbers available from School Reception)

SCHOOL RECEPTION: Telephone: 01865 374971

SCHOOL EMAIL: office.4060@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk

SCHOOL WEBSITE: www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk

ABSENCE LINE: Telephone: 01865 855378 (please use this number to report absences)

or

email – gabs4889@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk

The Parent Support Site has information on supporting your child(ren) in a number of curriculum areas.