



Friday 11 October 2013

Dear Parents/Carers

We are breathing a sigh of relief after our final open morning of the year. We welcomed over 60 families and, as I have come to expect, they were all very complimentary about our student guides. There were many very positive comments about HNS but the one that stands out is that there is obviously an excellent rapport between staff and students which was apparent in the lessons observed and from conversations with the students. Most were amazed that we had achieved so much in such a short time.

Well done to the guides:

Aliesha Brown

Tymon Kucharski

Mali-Ray Bah

Sid English

Tyreac Jones.....all 7EW

Alice Schwierskott

Emmanuel Oladeru

Cie-Ra Minott.....all 7MJ

Aaliyah Tellez

Elijah Smith

Theo Hinton-Hallows

Chelsea Metu-Onyeka.....all 7JH

Shakira Dixon

Jaden Stauch

Lou Audureau

Melissa Curri.....all 7SD

I am also grateful to Mr Hinton and Ms Lynch for giving up their time to answer the many questions of prospective parents.

Please remind your friends, who are parents of musical children in year 6, of the **Music Aptitude**

Test which is taking place on Saturday 23 November. The admission form is on our website.

Learning Ambassadors this week were:

7JH Guy Freeman Pow

7SD Benjamin Olandi-Harvey

7EW Mali-Ray Bah

7MJ Elaria Admassu

A very good job done by all of you this week during such a busy open morning.

Assembly this week was another joyful expression of music from all parts of the world.

Four musicians from Grand Union Orchestra took a workshop and then performed for the whole school. The instruments played were a trombone, penny whistle, djembe, tabla and berimbau. All students (and staff) sang, performed on djembes and many did an Indian dance too! The students were a credit to the school. Photographs below:



Can you spot the teachers drumming in this very arty black and white photograph taken by Mr Clemson?

Jermaine Hechhaviarria of 7MJ said “I think it was great, because we got to play on the drums with Grand Union Orchestra. It made me feel fantastic!”

Grand Union Orchestra have a concert at Hackney Empire on Saturday 26 October at 7.30pm. There are special £2 tickets available - please e-mail rachelbarnes@hackneynewschool.org by Wednesday in order to reserve these. There are also free music workshops throughout the day. See their website at www.grandunion.org.uk for details.

There is a Grand Union Youth Orchestra taster session for musicians aged 12 - 26 on Wednesday 30 October, from 10.30am until 2.30pm. This will be held at Rich Mix Arts Centre on Bethnal Green Road. If you have an interest in world music, or simply play any instrument, and wish to attend, please e-mail claire@grandunion.org.uk or call 020 7375 1122.

Curriculum News

Black History Month

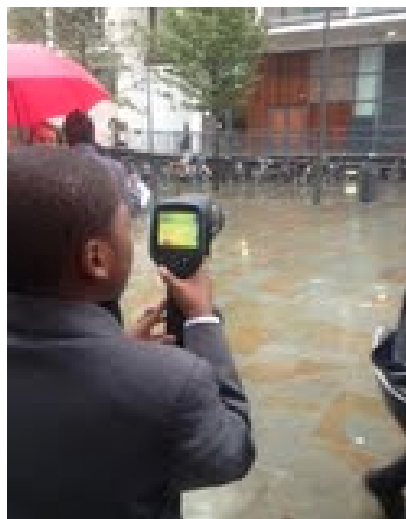
Following the wonderful performance in assembly last week and the world music performance this week entrants for the Black History month competition need to have submitted their factfile on a famous Black Britain by Monday 14th October. Lots of students have already expressed an interest so the winner will be well deserved.

Art Enrichment Group

Ms Thorpe has started the HEAT project with a workshop at the eco urban farm shop based in Dalston. They took part in a series of hands-on workshops in the aquaponic room and the polytunnel. The students used thermal imaging cameras and explored heat loss locally. It is a pity the weather couldn't have been kinder but it didn't seem to dampen their enthusiasm as shown by the photographs below:



The Farm



Walking around Hackney, measuring and visualising heat



Farm shop interior; understanding their growing system

The second and third workshops will take place at school creating model buildings and experimenting with heat lamps and insulation materials - testing and measuring heat loss and airflow.

Music

Students are working in curriculum music lessons towards their half-term assessment - skills being developed are independent learning, teamwork, problem solving, creating a vocal performance, and understanding how to structure an arrangement. The best of these will be uploaded to the music part of the school website.

Auditions were held this week for the new Chamber Choir - congratulations to the 25 students who were chosen, and commiserations to those not chosen. There will be auditions later in the year for the school production of 'The Hackney Chronicles', so please don't give up! Rehearsals for the Chamber Choir will begin after the half-term holiday.

Also starting after half-term will be a guitar band for those already playing guitar. There are 15 places - see Ms Barnes if you'd like to join in and rock out!

Modern Foreign Languages

Students have been revising French numbers and dates to say their birthdays and key cultural dates such as Bastille Day in preparation for their end of module assessment. Students remembered and sang the days and months song brilliantly to show prospective parents during Open Morning.

In Spanish this week students have been learning colours alongside their Spanish numeracy, which will help them add more detail to their animal profile. Many students have been coming up with creative strategies for learning vocabulary using visualisation and sound-spelling links.

Science

In Science, students have been working on key principles this week, making sure they have a solid foundation in cells, solutions and particles. Some groups have had a chance to work on a Chemistry rap which fuses music and Science. Using words in a new way allows students to remember things better and leads to some quite fun and impressive results. Nazell and Timi (7SD) even rapped in front

of visiting parents and received a round of applause. Here is an excerpt from a few of the other students, Dylan, Shakira and Savanna as well as Shemar.

"Solute, solute, is my powder, we can put it in our tea
and we will shout it louder."

"How is it going to dissolve? If you don't have something soluble
then it's not possible?"

If you have a few moments and want to remember the cell parts and test your children click onto this Cell Rap. If you like it it was my idea, if it is driving you mad and you cannot get it out of your head it was Mr Hesketh's idea!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-zafJKbMPA8>

Positive Points - the winners of the new certificates this week in each form:

Tashan Smith - Harley - 7MJ

Danielka Elliott - 7SD

Isaiah Robinson - Lewis - 7EW

Keion Kentebe - 7JH

Well done to all of you, this is quite an achievement.

If any of you at home have plants that have grown too large for the living room or office
we would love to give them a home in our stair wells. Please drop them off or we will
try and collect them. Many thanks.

I hope you have enjoyed reading the edited highlights for this week, just imagine all the other fantastic work that is going on if these are just the highlights!

I wish you an enjoyable week-end.

Sincerely



Lesley Falconer
Headteacher