



# William Brookes School News

## December 2010

### MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

We have just finished the first term in our great new school! Despite the early challenges of "snagging" - and dealing with the unexpected at times - we have settled in well and students and staff have adapted very positively and quickly to the new learning environment. The completion of the final phase of the project has, unfortunately, been delayed due to the amount of asbestos discovered during the demolition stages and completion is now expected in May. By then the MUGA (floodlit netball/tennis courts), outdoor play area, conservation area, external amphitheatre, car and bus parking, plus landscaping, will all be in use. This means that the formal opening of the new school has been moved from March to the end of the Summer Term 2011. Look out for further information!



**Our new Governing Body** has been meeting this term. We have a **new Chair, Ian Baker, and Vice-Chair, Steve Hall** - who is also the new Chair of the Finance & General Purposes Committee. One of their first tasks is the appointment of my replacement, now that I am retiring in April. The post has now been advertised and Governors hope to make an appointment at the end of January - they will keep you informed. In the meantime, thank you to all those of you who have sent messages since I announced my retirement. I plan to make the most of the remaining 3 months, including ensuring that all our students are well prepared for the public examinations ahead. Many Sixth Form students will be returning to exams after Christmas, so don't be surprised if they spend a lot of the holidays in revision mode.

We are sorry that we had to close the school on the last day of term, due to the icy road conditions that made the bus routes so dangerous. Thank you to everyone who helped get our students into school during the cold and snow on the other days and especially to the Campus Management Team for keeping the car park as clear as possible.

A few requests to parents now to help with the smooth and safe running of the school in its final transition phase:

- Please don't drive onto the school car park to drop off students between 08:20 and 08:50 nor to collect them between 15:15 and 16:00. It is a temporary car park, with restricted access, and is shared with the Leisure Centre (which is in use from 07:00 each day). We are very concerned about safety, particularly as there is only one entrance/exit. You are requested to use Station Road for drop-offs and collection instead. The gate into school from the Gaskell Field is open from 08:15 - 08:50 and from 15:30 - 16:00.
- Please ensure that your son/daughter wears their school lanyard with SmartCard, bus pass and locker key attached at all times when coming to school, including on non-uniform days and for school trips or special events.
- Some Sydney students have still not purchased their new style ties. If this applies, would you please send in £3.50 at the start of term to help us to ensure that everyone is wearing the correct uniform. This also applies to black shoes (with black laces, please, not brightly coloured alternatives).
- Please get in touch with your son/daughter's Tutor in the first instance if you have a concern or query. There is no need to go straight to a House Leader, unless a problem persists.
- Finally, a reminder that all students should bring a reading book to school each day.

Thank you to parents and carers for all your support throughout this busy term - you have made a big difference in ensuring the success of the move and the changes that the new school has brought with it.

*Penny Cooper*

#### Useful links to find out more about all that is happening on the school campus:

William Brookes School [www.williambrookesschool.co.uk](http://www.williambrookesschool.co.uk)  
WBS Blog, with lots of news <http://williambrookes.ethink.org.uk/>  
The Edge Arts Centre [www.edgeartscentre.co.uk](http://www.edgeartscentre.co.uk)  
Much Wenlock Leisure Centre [www.shropshire.gov.uk](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk) and follow the links for Leisure

#### Don't forget...

The J L Edwards Memorial Trust Award Scheme will be rolled out again next term. Full details will be available from the Head's Office after Christmas.

# WBS IMAGES FROM AUGUST - DECEMBER 2010



**Handover Day : 16 August**

Six OSP Student Ambassadors joined the Leadership Team and the ject Team when Phase 1 of the new school was handed over officially.



**Sixth Form and Year 11 Students celebrated their exam successes in August.**

A level students gained particularly impressive results this year with high levels of success in gaining University places.

**Catering Academy raffle prize winner, Olivia Phillips,** picked up her prize of a brand new mountain bike from Catering Development Manager Nick Lewis.



**Year 7 students held a Performing Arts curriculum evening for their parents in November**



**Sixth Form Students have taken on new roles and responsibilities this year.** President Kate Ingram and Vice-President Genny Capper lead the team in working with students across the school as well as with the local community, including fundraising and charity events.



**Apple held a national Education Conference at WBS in November** with 120 delegates using our Lecture Theatre and associated ICT facilities for 2 days.



**WBS Students have celebrated swimming competition success in our new pool!** We have also welcomed Northgate Swimming Club who use the pool for regular club sessions each week.



**Sixth Form A level students have won their heats of the national Bar Mock Competition at Cardiff Crown Court.** They will be travelling to Belfast in March for the national finals.

**And finally...the unexpected view from our new school!** Looking out from the art terrace on Floor 1, the frost and snow have been spectacular.



Do look at our School blog to see more news items as the year progresses: <http://williambrookes.ethink.org.uk/>



**The seven William Brookes School students who will be representing the UK at the International Youth Forum of Coubertin Schools in Beijing in August 2011** have now been selected, following a challenging selection process, including individual interviews.



**Sour Scrooge and the Humbugs, the Sixth Form pantomime,** played to audiences from our own students, public and parents as well as primary schools. Written and directed by Connor Nolan, Rosie Robinson and Kate Singleton, it followed closely on from our international style Celebration of Christmas held in the Parish Church on 26 December and featuring music, drama and dance performances that included French, German, Italian, Spanish, Welsh and more.....

**Season's Greetings and good wishes for 2011 from all at William Brookes School!**

# Important Information for 2011!

## Term Dates and more:

Spring Term starts for all students	Tuesday 4 January
Spring Half Term	Monday 21 - Friday 25 February (inclusive)
PD Day (school closed to students)	Thursday 24 March
Last day of Spring Term	Friday 8 April
Easter Holidays	Monday 11– Monday 25 April (inclusive)
Summer Term starts for all students	Tuesday 26 April
Bank Holiday	Friday 29 April (Royal Wedding)
Bank Holiday	Monday 2 May (May Day)
Summer Half Term	Monday 30 May - Friday 3 June (inclusive)
Y6 Parents' Induction Evening	Monday 27 June
Y6 Induction Programme	Thursday 30 June & Friday 1 July
Last day of Summer Term	Friday 22 July
Summer Holidays	Monday 25 July - Friday 2 September (inclusive)
PD Day (school closed to students)	Monday 5 September
Autumn Term starts for Y7/12/13	Tuesday 6 September

Y11/12/13 Parents will receive detailed information about public examination dates in February

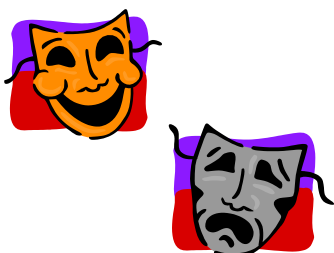
Don't forget!



Parents are asked to avoid term dates when arranging holidays as it is unlikely that requests to authorise absence will be agreed. Students miss out when their absence rate goes up - it affects their academic success and their progress.

## Non-Uniform Days:

- Thursday 10 February (J L Edwards Memorial Trust)
- Thursday 17 March (School Fund)
- Thursday 12 May (House Fund Raising)
- Thursday 12 July (School Fund)



Visit The Edge website [www.edgeartscentre.co](http://www.edgeartscentre.co) or contact the Box Office on 01952 728509 for timings and ticket prices or to find details of the weekly Monday film programme

## Edge Arts Centre Events:

- From 17 January in the Gallery
- Friday 14 January
- Saturday 29 January
- Friday 4 February

- Wednesday 9 February
- Tuesday 15 & Wednesday 16 February
- Saturday 19 February
- Saturday 26 February
- Friday 11 March
- Wednesday 9 March

- Wednesday 16 March
- Thursday 17 March
- Saturday 2 April
- Wednesday 6 - Saturday 9 April
- Friday 29 & Saturday 30 April

- Photography: Tom Foxall
- Drama: *4.48 Psychosis* (AS students)
- Jazz: Sarah Gillespie
- Dance: Workshop and *Maya/Ayam* (Chitraloka Dance Company)
- Drama: A2 Theatre Studies Previews
- Dance: Stepping Up
- Jazz: John Law's Art of Sound Trio
- Pentabus Theatre: *Tales of the Country*
- Music: Hickman & Quinn
- Jazz: Ralph Towner & Paolo Fresu
- Wenlock Olympians Live Arts Festival
- Drama: GCSE Drama Previews
- Concert: Express Club & Ensembles
- Jazz: Phronesis
- Musical: *Bugsy Malone*
- Wenlock Poetry Festival

## Much Wenlock Leisure Centre Public Opening Hours:

Monday	07.00 - 08.15 & 16.00 - 22.00
Tuesday	07.00 - 08.15 & 17.00 - 22.00
Wednesday	07.00 - 08.15 & 16.00 - 22.00
Thursday	07.00 - 08.15 & 17.00 - 22.00
Friday	07.00 - 08.15 & 17.00 - 22.00
Saturday	07.00 - 17.00
Sunday	09.00 - 17.00

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS: OPEN TUESDAY 21 - FRIDAY 24

Telephone  
01952 727629 or visit  
[www.shropshire.gov.uk](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk)  
for detailed information  
about what sessions are  
available and when

## Parents' Consultation Evenings:

- Y12 Thursday 6 January
- Y11 Thursday 27 January
- Y9 Thursday 3 March
- Y13 Thursday 7 April
- Y7 Thursday 5 May
- Y10 Thursday 7 July

