

# L H S MATTERS

LADY HAWKINS' SCHOOL NEWSLETTER  
01544 230441

## OCTOBER 2007

### **GARDENING CLUB**

Since September a number of students have been helping Mr Smith with various gardening projects around the school. They have planted alpines and wall flowers along the wall behind the rear drive and have started to dig over the raised beds ready for planting next spring. They also helped to dig holes for the trees planted on Humanities Status Launch Day and have been keeping them watered. The next job is to rake up the fallen leaves and compost them for leaf mould. We also hope to extend the vegetable beds and to clear a number of overgrown areas. We should also be receiving a number of hedging plants for planting in November.

LHSA are hoping to raise money for a greenhouse and accessories which will be used by the Gardening Club and in certain lessons.

We are always grateful for any donations of plants, especially alpines, and vegetable and bedding seedlings. We hope to become self sufficient in these when we have the greenhouse.

### **SPeAR EXPERIENCE**

The whole of Year 7 went to the Courtyard Theatre in Hereford on Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> to see a play about Sustainability. The trip was sponsored by local businesses and all Year 7 students throughout Herefordshire had the opportunity to go. The main aim of the production was to highlight certain issues relevant to young people living in this area and to show them how they can live safer and more environmentally friendly lives. Preparatory work was undertaken in various subjects and some of this was displayed at the theatre and as a video presentation. It is hoped to make this a regular event for Year 7.

## PRESS RELEASE

### **School Opens its Doors and Celebrates 375 Years Serving the Community OPEN EVENING**

Lady Hawkins 5 School was buzzing with activity as on Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> September the School opened its doors to the parents and students of the local and surrounding community for our annual Open Evening. All aspects of school life were on display and visitors saw students performing various activities, ranging from Gymnastics and Geography to Drama and Dissection, with the smell of freshly cooked cakes wafting through the corridors

### **FOUNDRESS 5 DAY**

On Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> September, Lady Hawkins 5 School reached a notable landmark when the whole school, past members of staff and guests, including the Mayoress of Kington, Mrs Elizabeth Banks and ex-pupil and Leader of Herefordshire Council, Councillor Roger Phillips, attended a Service at St. Mary 5 s Church, Kington to celebrate the 375<sup>th</sup> year of its founding. The School, founded by Lady Margaret Hawkins in 1632, is one of the oldest in the County and continues to have strong links with St. Mary 5 s Church.

The guest Preacher, the Reverend Denis Parry, addressed the School in the theme of Freedom, with Head Boy Piran Treen and Head Girl Polly Thomas leading the responses. The service also included other items of Music and Drama performed by Governors, Staff and Pupils.

Once again, the School flew the <sup>u</sup> Red Ensign 5 - the only place in the Country that has special permission from the Royal Navy to fly this flag.

After the service a number of guests joined Headmaster Mr Jon Barry for lunch with the students. This was followed by an afternoon of sport with teams of students playing a variety of sports, including netball matches against Queen Elizabeth School, Bromyard, all of which were played in true sporting spirit.

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Kington's Lady Hawkins' School, comprising staff, governors, and students, joined with business, school and community partners to celebrate the achievement of becoming the first school in Herefordshire to gain Humanities Specialist College status, with an official launch.

The school was granted specialist status by the Department of Education and Science in February 2007. The successful bid was based on three subjects - Geography, History and English - and aims to further the development of Lady Hawkins' School as a centre for

learning at the heart of the community. The status will enable the school to improve resources and raise standards in the three subjects, as well as across the whole curriculum. It will also create Lady Hawkins' School as a centre for excellence in Humanities for local schools and community groups who will benefit from a range of exciting learning projects in the three subjects. In addition, the status will enable the school to add much needed teaching space through the building of an "eco-classroom", featuring the latest environmental technologies.

The celebrations for the launch started in the morning when the Joint Directors of Humanities and the Subject Leaders took a special celebratory assembly that included an excellent play by students called 'The Power of Water'. The remainder of the morning saw all the Year 9 students taking part in various activities led by the Herefordshire based charity 'Concern Universal' and Dr. Mfon Akpaso from the GROW project in Nigeria, on the themes of 'A Water Project in Malawi' and 'The Rights of Young People and Women in Nigeria'.

At lunchtime, the Sixth Form raised money for the school's link school in Nakigo, Uganda by organising a penalty shoot-out competition.

In the afternoon, all of the specialist partners were invited into the school for a presentation and to take part in several celebratory events. These included each tutor group in the school planting a fruit tree along with representatives from the Community Partner Groups – Kington Children's Centre, Kington University of the Third Age and Kington Over 60s. The trees, which will be tended by the students and the school's 'Gardening Club', will, in time, provide fruit for the school canteen in line with their Healthy Schools status.

The sponsors and business partners, Mr Clive Richards, and representatives from Tarmac, Kingspan and Hergest Croft Gardens, then planted an oak tree to symbolise the learning at Lady Hawkins' School for many years to come.

The Primary School partner representatives, from Kington and Pembridge Primary Schools, buried a school time capsule. The capsule, contained such objects and articles as a school tie, books on the School's history, photographs of the School, staff and pupils, contributions from Kington Primary School and a local newspaper, which, when discovered and opened by future generations, will depict what Lady Hawkins' School and the local community was like in 2007.

Finally, all the Year 7 students took part in a series of photographs by forming the letters L.H.S.

To mark the end of the celebrations, there was a buffet, attended by staff, and governors together with the business, school and community partners.

**HALLOWEEN PARTY FOR YEARS 7 & 8 MONDAY, 29<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2007 6PM - 8PM**

