



STAGS LINK



www.stags.herts.sch.uk
Students Absence Line – 01727 846430

Volume 15 Issue 08

2nd November, 2009

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back after the half term break I hope it was a good one and we have all managed to shake off some of those nasty bugs which seemed to plague us before half term!

Please can I make another plea that if your daughter is unwell that you keep her at home until she is better. Apart from the fact that it will help to cull the spread of germs we only have staff that have first aid training in school and they are not fully trained nurses. They work very hard to do their own jobs and to deal with sick students but at times this can be overwhelming so anything you can do to help would be much appreciated.

The latest information for schools about swine flu is that we stay open unless we don't have enough staff to cover! I will, of course, keep you updated if things change.

Mrs C Murrell, Headteacher

A Message from the Governors

We have promised to keep you informed about the recruitment process for the new Headteacher and we will be advertising shortly. We are starting as soon as we can because it is always possible that more than one round of advertisements and interviews may be necessary to find a suitable candidate. We are planning that the first of interviews will take place over three days in the second week of December.

Success of previous student

We are delighted to learn that Katie Ferin has been awarded a BSc [2:1] in Human Sciences from University College London.
Well done Katie.

Disability Awareness Group Meeting – TUESDAY 24th NOVEMBER 3.45pm AT STAGS.

The guest speaker for this meeting will be Sally Glossop who is the county advisor for autism. Parents and staff are all very welcome.

For catering purposes, please could you confirm your attendance by contacting Jacky Jenkins (Heads PA) by **Friday 20th November**.

TO YEAR 11 PARENTS AND STUDENTS

“Moving on From Year 11” Evening – Tuesday 10 November

We hope that all members of year 11 and their parents will be attending this important meeting about opportunities available after the end of year 11. Personal programmes have been prepared for everyone who returned reply slips.

This will be a very busy evening in school and there will be visitors taking part in other activities too.

Parking will be very difficult. People are asked to arrive in good time and to park off site if at all possible. The school gates will be closed when the car park is full.

The programme for the evening is as follows:

6.30pm – sign in and collect personal programme from the entrance hall

6.55pm until 7.25pm – talk in the hall

7.40pm – subject presentations begin in different areas of the school

9.30pm – evening finishes

HPV VACCINATION CONSENT FORMS FOR Yr's 8, 10, 11, 12 & 13

If your daughter is in any of the years mentioned above she will shortly be bringing home a consent form for the HPV vaccination catch-up programme that we are going to be running in school. Could you please ensure that the completed forms are returned to the school office no later than Friday 13th November?

Thank you.

Mrs S Tyler

YEAR 7 LEARNING ACTIVITY DAYS

On Tuesday 29th Sept all Y7 students were off timetable for the morning to take part in the first of our exciting Learning Activity days. These are designed to meet cross curricular themes and encourage the students to develop and use a range of thinking and learning styles. The students will participate in a wide variety of activities during the year, working in groups and teams covering a number of skills and experiences.

For this first activity we asked the students to consider the environmental impact of dwindling resources by developing a bag from reclaimed and recycled materials. They worked in mixed teams within their forms and presented the product in 'Dragons Den' style to a team of 'experts'.

A team from Hepworth were the overall winners and each of them will receive a small prize. Here is a comment about the day from one of the team.

The activities day we had in September was really enjoyable. We had to make a bag out of recycled materials. I really enjoyed it; it was a really good opportunity to build teamwork. During the morning that we had to complete our bag, we also had to create a poster and a presentation. This was first performed in front of our form, head of house and form captains so that we could decide which bag would give us the most chance of winning.

I was in the Hepworth group that won overall and I must say that is very exciting performing in front of

the whole of year 7, Mrs Ainsworth and the head girls. Before we performed it we were all very nervous but afterwards I was very pleased when they announced that Hepworth had won because I felt that my group had contributed well to Hepworth house. This was a very good task that was set for us to do and I think that Y7 should definitely continue to do this in the future.

By Charlotte Springle 7H

YEAR 9 REPORTS

Year 9 reports will be issued via your daughter on Thursday 5th November.

Mrs G. Lacey, Assessment Co-ordinator

PTA NEWS

Notice to all parents – STAGS PTA QUIZ NIGHT – SATURDAY NOVEMBER 21st

The Stags PTA are delighted to announce a Quiz Night to be held at School on Saturday November 21st at 7.30pm. Tickets are £7.50 each to include food. There will be a licensed bar and soft drinks available. Please note that this event is for all parents and bookings are now being taken. Judging from previous years tickets will sell out fast so please return your forms duly completed to School reception as soon as possible (form included with this Stagslink and downloadable from the PTA section of the website).

***STOP PRESS *** Due to unforeseen circumstances beyond our control, the PTA has had to change the date of the Quiz from the one originally publicised. Some year 7 parents may have picked up a Quiz booking form with the wrong date on it. For any year 7 parents who have already sent in their booking form would they please contact Tessa Cook via email (tessa@pecoint.com) indicating if they still wish to attend the Quiz or if they can no longer attend.

Tessa Cook PTA

AMENDMENTS TO BEHAVIOUR POLICY

Please find attached the behaviour policy, with some additions and changes. The policy has run successfully for the last year but to further progress we have canvassed opinion and made changes that have been identified by students, staff, parents and governors so that we can best support the needs and values of our school. The document will continue to evolve and I will be seeking advice and comment from parents to keep the policy relevant to the needs of our community. If you would be interested in joining a working party to further the progress made please call me, or email admin@stags.herts.sch.uk, to register your interest.

Lastly, I would like to thank you for your continued support in helping your child achieve her/his full potential.

*Lyn Hamblin
Pastoral Manager*



Stags PTA presents..

Quiz Night

Saturday 21st November 2009

7.30 pm, for 8.00pm prompt start

Licensed bar and soft drinks available

Tickets £7.50, to include food

Teams of up to 8, if you don't have 8, please come anyway and we will make up teams on the night.

All proceeds to STAGS PTA for school funds
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I wish to purchase tickets @£7.50 each
for the STAGS PTA Quiz Night on Saturday 21st November 2009.

Name..... E-mail address.....

I enclose cash/cheques for the value of £.....(Please make cheques payable
to "Friends of Stags")

I would like Vegetarian option Non-Vegetarian option

Please return my tickets via Form

Hand completed form to Reception in an envelope marked "STAGS PTA Quiz"

**ST ALBANS GIRLS' SCHOOL
BUSINESS & ENTERPRISE COLLEGE**

Behaviour Policy

Policy implemented: Autumn 2009
Review Date: Autumn 2010
Author: Mrs L Hamblin



Specialist Schools
and Academies Trust
EXCELLENCE AND DIVERSITY

Whole School Behaviour Policy

The purpose of the behaviour policy

We at St Albans Girls' School wish to provide a safe and stimulating learning environment that allows our students to develop to their full potential academically, socially and emotionally.

We understand the importance of acknowledging and rewarding positive behaviour and also recognising and managing unacceptable behaviour.

We work in partnership with parents/carers to provide a holistic and structured support to all students attending St Albans Girls' School.

We deliver our pastoral support with a systematic and consistent approach, where rewards and sanctions have a common worth that is universally understood. A need for sensitive and sympathetic management of these systems and procedures is also recognised.

Implementation

In order to provide a consistent approach to the management of behaviour at St Albans Girls' School a code of conduct detailing acceptable and unacceptable behaviours and their consequences is implemented throughout the whole school. This is known as the "Rewards and Consequences Ladder" (Appendix 1). This is evident and visible to all students, staff, supply staff, parents/carers and volunteers.

The policy and procedures provide structure and support to staff and students when dealing with challenging behaviour and ensure students respect the right of the majority of our school community who wish to learn.

Electronic recording and tracking of behaviour facilitates a timely response to positive and challenging behaviour. It provides immediate information on individual students, classes, year groups and whole school issues.

All permanent staff, supply staff and volunteers uphold the values of the "Rewards and Consequences Ladder" to create an environment where behaviour is managed seamlessly from one learning environment to the next. Students see procedures are followed, and consistently and fairly applied. Mutual support amongst all staff in the implementation of the "Rewards and Consequences Ladder" is required.

The senior leadership team is committed to providing a visible presence around the school. This includes regular school gate attendance to ensure students arrive at school and depart from school in a timely and appropriate manner. Regular classroom visits are also conducted.

The implementation and day to day running of the behaviour policy will be the responsibility of the headteacher, the pastoral manager, the key stage co-ordinators and heads of sixth form. All incidents are investigated in a timely and consistent way. Students and staff are asked to complete written statements where necessary. The wellbeing of our students is considered at all times. Parents are contacted within 48 hours of an incident report and records of the incident will be held on the students file for the duration of his/her time at St Albans Girls' School.

Monitoring

The “Rewards and Consequences Ladder” is monitored and reviewed annually. This process is informed by recorded data, meetings, parent consultation (including Headteacher clinics), student council and tutor led discussion. The governors’ staffing and student committee reviews data, on a termly basis, and discusses future strategy.

Stakeholder Involvement

As detailed in our behaviour procedures, it is recognised that behaviour management is most effective when parents are involved at an early stage. In line with the national initiative “The Common Assessment Framework” (CAF), parents are encouraged to work with the school, their daughter/son and where necessary external agencies towards mutually agreed outcomes. Strategies for students who become disaffected with school are recorded on the “Students Needing Support” programme (see appendix 3). Names are recorded on a database that is accessible to all staff.

In accordance with the values illustrated in the Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) ethos, we expect our students to take responsibility for their own behaviour and to learn the skills of self evaluation and discipline, as part of their whole school education.

Students also have a responsibility to ensure that they report any behaviour that may cause concern to themselves, other students or members of staff.

High quality training on all aspects of behaviour management, in line with the “Rewards and Consequences Ladder” is provided to support the implementation of the policy.

LINKED policies:

This policy is linked with all school policies but especially with the following:

- Health and Safety
- Equal Opportunities
- Anti-Bullying
- High Ability
- Assessment
- Teaching and Learning
- Disability Awareness Statement

Level	Examples of behaviour	Consequence
C1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking/Preventing others from learning Arguing/Out of seat Lack of equipment Late to lesson 	Verbal warning Recorded on school report
C2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repetition of any C1 offence in the same day 	2nd Verbal warning Recorded on school report
C2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-compliance with uniform regulations Eating in corridor/Dropping litter 	Uniform/ litter/eating in the corridor (Pastoral Slip) Recorded on school report
C2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-completion of homework and classwork Homework not handed in 	Lunchtime Homework Detention
C3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repetition of any C2 offence in the same day Rudeness to a member of staff Refusal/failure to follow instructions Failure to hand in coursework Inappropriate language inc. swearing in conversation Lateness to lessons (more than 5 minutes) Inciting others to fight Being in the vicinity of smokers 2nd pastoral slip in a term Abuse of mobile phone/MP3 etc. Failure to attend homework detention Graffiti Chewing gum 	One hour after school detention
C3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persistent accrual of low level consequences 	Letter home Form tutor report card
C4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repetition of any C3 behaviour in the same day Smoking/possession of cigarettes lighters Failure to attend a C3 detention Misbehaviour during a C3 detention Removal from lesson by SLT / subject leader/ PGT Sixth form asked to withdraw from lesson Truancy from form time or individual lesson Damage to school/other's property 	Two hour Friday afternoon detention
C4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persistent poor behaviour 	Letter home Pastoral co-ordinator report card/pastoral manager report card
C5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repetition of any C4 offence in a day Swearing across a room/at another student Deliberate defiance Fighting Bullying incident Inappropriate behaviour towards a member of staff Offsite truancy Vandalism (cost of repair incurred by student) Behaviour that compromises the safety of others Poor behaviour/management on orange/red report card 	One day's isolation
C6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persistent C5 behaviour Swearing at or about a member of staff Intimidating a member of staff Possession and/or consumption of alcohol Assault, persistent bullying Racist or homophobic abuse Inappropriate use of mobile phone/computer (cyber bullying) 	Fixed term exclusion

C7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persistent C6 behaviour • Possession of offensive weapon or illegal drugs • Violence towards a member of staff. • Any criminal offence 	Permanent exclusion
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The number of individual consequences gained will not affect the total house points achieved by a house but may determine an individual's entry into house rewards or events.

The Senior Leadership Team reserves the right to remove students from events and trips, in relation to the safety and well being of other students.

HOUSE POINT AWARDS - To individual students	
	Reason, instance or example
Single House Point	Notable instance of good behaviour shown by an individual student
	Consistent punctuality
	Consistently correct uniform (form teacher)
	Supporting others
	Showing positive initiative
	Completing tasks
	Leading form events such as an assembly or tuck sale
	Consistent excellent work in lessons
	"No Consequence" marks
	Good leadership shown in the school council
	High standard of homework
	Clear improvement in work or attitude
Consistently polite towards others	
5 House Points	Award of Postcard home (HOD/PGT)
10 House Points	Award of House Certificate (HOH) – these house points do not count towards house total. - outstanding contribution to a house event/competition/charity/project
10 House Points	Award of Community Certificate (Form teacher/pastoral team) -Outstanding contribution to the form or year group.
20 House Points	Head Teacher's Commendation Certificates (end of term – up to three per form selected by staff). Winners in each year group are put into a draw and one girl will receive a prize. One prize for each year group. (This will be a music, video or clothing gift token)
	Any extra curricular activity that is worthy or mention e.g. debating, ICT, enterprise, technology, citizenship etc.
25 and 50 House Points	Award of School Colour for PE (2009/10) – Half colour and full colour (2010/11)

HOUSE POINT AWARDS – To groups of students.

These house points are awarded to the house or form not to individual students	Competition/Event/Action	
First Place 800 Second Place 600 Third Place 400 Other places 300 (Awarded by JAD)	Spring House Competition	
	Winner of House Challenge Day	
First Place 200 Second Place 150 Third Place 100 Other places 50 (Awarded by JAD)	Each of the five competitions at the Christmas Fair	
	House Winter Games Tournament (best house in all winter games: inter-house hockey, netball, football, tag rugby)	
First Place 130 Second Place 90 Third Place 60 Fourth 50 Fifth 40 Sixth 20 Seventh 10 (Awarded using form. Copies in staff room)	Any inter-house (intra-year) games event such as netball, hockey, football, athletics event etc. .	
	Any inter-house curriculum day competition (Apart from house challenge)	
100 House Points	A whole house lunchtime charity event involving multiple form groups and requires significant organisation. Points can be shared between more than one house.	
30 House Points Up to 10 House Points (Awarded using form. Copies in staff room) Usually awarded to a form group for:	House charity tuck sale (form based)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collective good behaviour. • Quietness during exam period. • Excellent effort during a lesson • Preparing well for a lesson 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any other reasonable collective achievement in work <p>Any other reasonable collective act of thoughtfulness</p>