



# STAGS LINK



[www.stags.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stags.herts.sch.uk)

Students Absence Line – 01727 846430

Volume 15 Issue 36

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Dear Parents/Carers,

## **Year 11 Leavers and those of you who have grown out of your uniform!**

At the new year 7 parents' evening the PTA 'nearly new' uniform shop did a roaring trade. We want to continue to support parents in this way and would ask that whenever you come to school next or if you are passing by or you have a sister in the school **PLEASE BRING IN ANY OF YOUR UNIFORM THAT YOU NO LONGER NEED AND IS STILL IN A REASONABLE STATE.**

The PTA will wash and press it if you haven't the time but of course if you can do that even better. There will be receptacles in the entrance hall from Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July or you can leave it at reception.

***Mrs C Murrell***  
***Headteacher***

## **MUSIC REMISSION OF FEES**

Remission of Fees is available to parents on a low income.

Hertfordshire County Council has now extended the criteria to support those children who are vulnerable or disadvantaged for reasons other than income-based, for example, children looked after, young carers, children with special needs, young travellers.

You can apply online at [www.hertsdirect.org](http://www.hertsdirect.org) by completing a How Can We Help form or by telephoning the Customer Service Centre on 01438 737370.

When applying, could you also please contact Mr Jones, Head of Music. All applications under the extended criteria will need to be supported by a letter from the Headteacher explaining why the child is eligible for help with music fees.

Please may I remind all parents/carers that you have to reapply each year. The Music Service is accepting applications now for lessons commencing in September 2010. (Please note that Free School Meals will be automatically renewed if you are still eligible BUT you must reapply for your other benefits).

If Mr Jones is not notified that you have applied, there could be a delay in Remission of Fees being granted and lessons commencing.

***Mrs Val Little***  
***Finance Assistant***

### **WEDNESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST SWIM AT STAGS**

Swim with the dawn at STAGS outdoor heated pool on Wednesday mornings. The pool will be open from 6:45 – 8:15.

- SSPA members £1
- Guests £1.50

***Steve May***

### **REPORTS:**

#### **Year 7**

Year 7 full progress reports will be sent home via your daughter on Thursday 8th July.

#### **Year 8**

Year 8 examination results will be sent home via your daughter on Wednesday 7th July.

***Mrs G Lacey***  
***Assessment Co-ordinator***

## **RYE MEADS 2010 – MEMORIES**

*As part of Activities Week most year 8 pupils went to Rye Meads Nature reserve. They learnt about how reserves are designed and run & saw some of the resident wildlife. Here are some of their memories:*

“I really enjoyed Rye Meads today, my favourite activity was the pond dipping.”

“My best memory was pond dipping with my friends, seeing what we caught in the pond.”

“My favourite part of the trip was when we went pond dipping. It was a completely new experience for me and I found it both fun and interesting looking through the water and examining the species.”

“I saw Water Buffalo – they’re cool.”

“My favourite part was when we saw a family of ducks. They were so cute.”

“Blue and green (Dragon) flies fly past you beautifully. They were really fast and unusual.”

“We saw a heron eating a fish while another bird tried to steal it from its mouth.”

“I was amused to discover that coots are so bad at mothering that their babies have bright red heads to remind the parents to feed them.”

“The whole group were very interested in the two common terns being very romantic!”

“I found it amazing that the reserve had so many volunteers who work for free.”

“The place was really nicely laid out, so that we could see lots of animals without disturbing their habitat.”

“I really liked Rye Meads because it was so peaceful and tranquil.”

“I learned a lot about what is done to ensure that visitors get as much as they can out of a visit to the reserve.”

*Finally – there’s always someone who drops something in the pond – Last year it was a mobile phone, this year...*

“My best memory was dropping my money in the pond, as odd as that seems, as the RSPB staff member with us fished it out for me which was really nice of her!”

*Thanks to the following students who win a small prize, and go into a draw for a cuddly cheeping Bird:*

**8A** Jessica Roberts + Sarah Dowsell. **8B** Lucy Hayes + Sophie Elston. **8C** Zalacha Kiani + Madeleine Geers. **8F** Amaka Ozumba + Alice Millington. **8H** Hattie Corke + Lisa Dajci. **8J** Amy Nicholas + Katie Walton Hurst. **8S** Olivia Smith + Tiffany Baker.

**Mr Blades**