

# Canons High School News

'A High Performing Specialist School' (DfES 2006)



ISSUE 17– 8th February 2008

## A message from the Headteacher

### High number of girls study Advanced Level Maths at Canons High

This has been a particularly active week for our Mathematics Department. On Thursday over 100 pupils from Years 9, 10 and 11 were in the Hall taking part in the National Maths Challenge. The results are due in about a month's time. We are hoping that a number of pupils will achieve a bronze, silver or gold award and that we have at least one pupil going through to the European Challenge, as we did last year. Thank you to Mr Mackie for organising this event.

Also, I was very pleased to receive a letter from the National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics (NCETM). We have been identified as a school with a particularly high number of pupils, especially girls, studying A Level Mathematics compared to national averages. The NCETM is interested in hearing more about our success.

Congratulations to our students and to our Maths Department.

L Rowlands

### Upper School Courses Evening

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 7.30 p.m.**

This is an important and informative meeting to help Year 9 students make the right choices for their GCSE courses. For the equivalent of 3 days a week there is no choice and the subjects are those which all students need as part of their general education.

For the equivalent of two days a week students can express a preference for subjects which they wish to study. In some cases, such as Business Studies, it may be a completely new area.

For most students the choices are straightforward but they need to be made carefully and for the right reasons. Some courses, such as Engineering or AS level ICT, are not appropriate for all students and extra advice and guidance will be given.

The meeting is not usually a long one but parents do find it useful. There will be an explanation of the upper school courses on offer followed by the opportunity to speak to teachers about what their particular subject offers and requires.

**K.Rutter**  
Deputy Head

### Graduation 2008

A reminder for all Year 11 students and their parents/guardians:

The Graduation Ceremony will take place on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May** at the Kadwa Patidar Centre, which is in Kenmore Avenue, Harrow.

The evening will start at 6.30pm with refreshments. The formal part of the evening will start at 7.15pm and is expected to end about 9pm.

This year's Graduation Package will cost £30. The package includes a ticket for the graduating student, two guest tickets and a copy of the Yearbook. If you would like to bring additional guests you can purchase extra tickets for £5 each.

**The deposit of £10 is due this Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2008.**

*The balance must be paid by Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2008.*

Spare forms are available from the Library, where all money should be paid.

**A. Franklin**  
Librarian

**Valentine’s Day Poetry Competition**

Don’t forget that next Thursday is Valentine’s Day and the winners of this year’s poetry competition will be announced. Make sure you hand in your original poems by Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February. There is a Valentine’s box in the library or you can hand in your entry directly to Ms Kavanagh (room 4). Good luck!



**Ms Kavanagh**

**Chess Tournament**

This week sees the semi final of the current Library Chess Competition. The four players still remaining in this knock out tournament are contesting the title hotly. Watch this space next week to see who won.

Anyone who would like to join the next knockout tournament or the Chess League, please come and see Miss Franklin in the Library. Games are played each Tuesday lunchtime.



**Blood on the drama room floor!**

“That was soooo much better than the cinema!” was just one of many such closing comments made by the Year 10 students who visited the West End musical Blood Brothers on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2007. The students who are studying the play as part of their GCSE drama course were taken to see the popular show in order to better appreciate the subtleties and complexities of the theatre, and to help them to develop their understanding of the show.

Many of the students were overcome with emotion as the final curtain came down on what was an exhilarating performance of the well-liked Willy Russell musical. The students clearly appreciated what was something of a roller coaster ride, in which the actors were challenged to play, not only several different roles, but also several different aged roles too. The show was indeed enjoyable but should also help to provide the pupils with some inspiration when they come to take their final acting exams later in the year.

The following quotes emphasise the success of the trip:

“The play was a success in my view because it all flowed seamlessly and the actors portrayed their characters in such a realistic manner I actually believed they were alive!” (said one confused Drama student)

“I loved it!” (said Janice in year 11)

“The ending was really touching, it really made me cry!” (said a year 11 drama student)

“It was really good. Why can’t we go to the theatre every week?!” (said one of the teachers on the trip!)

The pupils would like to thank Miss Macnamara and Mr Patterson for organising the trip.

**By Mr Morrow**



**BEST ATTENDERS**

8AA - 94.8%
9LM - 95.4%
10AS - 95.6
11JG - 96.7%

**Congratulations 11JG**

EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE + EXTRA EFFORT = SUCCESSFUL LEARNING