



The View from North

North Bromsgrove High School — www.northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk
School Drive, Stratford Road, Bromsgrove, B60 1BA



'FutureChef' Cookery Competition

Nearly 30 pupils took part in the 'FutureChef' cooking competition held in October. After three school heats the finalists all competed well for first place. Holly Brown came third with a ham and pea risotto, Ashley Goult came second with a beef stir fry and will spend a day working in the kitchen at the Hyatt Hotel. Becky Weston won the competition with a chicken, pomegranate and spinach dish. Becky will be mentored by Brett Sandland, the Executive Chef at the Birmingham Hyatt Hotel, and will now go on to compete against the winners from other Worcestershire schools.



FIRST AID PROVISION

We are no longer allowed to hold paracetamol or any other non prescribed medications in school! Neither can we apply or use steri strips.

Any medications we do keep in school MUST be prescribed by a GP and be in the original packaging with the pharmacy label intact on the box. Any student wishing to bring in paracetamol or other non prescribed medications does so at their own risk.

Y13 Information UCAS/Student Finance

UCAS and the Student Loans Company will align the process of applying for student finance with that of applying for a Higher Education Course. Once students have submitted their UCAS application and have access to TRACK, they will be invited to share their personal details and their course choices with the Student Loans Company. This process is due to start in November 2009.

Thursday Nights at North! ***Free activities for parents and students!***

Ruth Henley is running 'The Choir' in Bromsgrove—modelled on Gareth's choir on TV for non-singers. All ages are welcome—come and have fun singing.

Pete Lopeman is offering 'Art and Craft for All Generations' covering things like clay work, tea bag art, printmaking, darkroom photograms, and drawing, and Gareth Hughes offers all-age Samba drumming.

Sessions start on January 14th for 5 weeks from 4.00pm (Art and Craft); 5.00pm ('The Choir in Bromsgrove'); 5.30pm Samba drumming. We hope to have a café available as well!
Just turn up or contact r.g.henley@btinternet.com for details

Important Dates

4th January 2010
Term starts

14th January 2010
4th March 2010
22nd April 2010
17th June 2010
Parents' Surgeries

14th January
Free activities for parents and students start

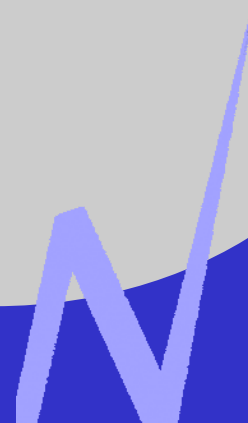
15th January
UCAS deadline

28th January
Year 11 parents' evening

Payments4Schools

We are delighted to advise parents that payments for School Trips, School Fund, Revision Guides and Uniform will be able to be made over the internet from January. A letter detailing the procedure and providing you with a Pupil Identification Number will be sent to you shortly.

This will, therefore, mean that you no longer have to scabble about for cash, or write a cheque, which may remain in the bottom of your child's bag for weeks on end!





NORTH STARS!

Three very successful evenings took place featuring music, drama and dance all compered excellently by Will Mason, Richard Harvey and Laura Brough, The Michael Jackson medley which rounded off each night featured everyone involved in the show and was a real tour de force, with a superb chorus and soloists, accompanied by a great live band. Each night featured a different 'House Song'. Murdoch did well with a great enthusiastic sound and some good moves in Slade's 'Merry Christmas Everyone'; Ealing put two songs together—starting with 'Stand by Me' and ending with a rousing 'Fight for your House!' and Pinewood had a big, warm powerful sound with 'Use Somebody'. Well done to all participants and we hope the house involvement will grow in the future.



YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

Many thanks to students who have already returned their forms. Those who have arranged their own are being processed now. For those students who have not found their own, Mrs Boardman will begin the task searching for suitable placements in January /February.

There are still many outstanding forms—the deadline is Friday, 11th December. Mrs Boardman is always available in the school office so please do not hesitate to contact her if you have any queries or problems or need new forms.

GROUP TEEN POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAMME

Children do not come with a manual and most parents do a good job most of the time. Occasionally parents feel the need for a little help and support.

Triple P (Positive Parenting Programme) is coming to North!

The programme only takes 4 two hour sessions over 4 weeks. Parents then receive phone calls at home over 3 weeks for ongoing support. Finally, parents come together for the last session to celebrate their successes.

The programme is informal, supportive, confidential and gives parents the opportunity to share their experiences and learn new skills. The programme starts on January 14th, 6.00-8.00 p.m. in the Conference Room. For more information and to book your place on the course, please contact the school on 01527 872375. Sessions will be led by Jane and Elford, Worcestershire LA's Parenting Coordinators





Uniform Dress Code

We are really pleased to see that the majority of students are taking up the option of wearing our new uniform. We think they look very smart. Now that the weather is getting colder we would remind students that:

No T-shirts to be visible underneath the shirt. Jumpers with North logo only to be worn.

Unfortunately, those students choosing to wear the 'old' uniform are letting their standards slip. Please remind your child that ties must be worn to the neck and shirts tucked in. Blazers to be worn at all times with a black v-necked jumper, if required. Students who arrive at school inappropriately dressed will be sent home to change. We are particularly concerned about girls wearing short, tight skirts and boys wearing thin, canvas pumps. Please ensure your child has a school bag big enough to fit an A4 folder.

This dress code is clearly set out in the prospectus and on the website.

PRAISE CARDS

Congratulations to all students this term who have received a praise postcard. We are proud so many students are displaying a positive approach to learning and being recognised for their hard work.

Praise cards	Sept	Oct	totals
Year 9	207	230	437
Year 10	151	136	287
Year 11	97	170	267
totals	455	536	991

REWARD TRIP

200 students in Year 9 are eligible for our rewards trip to Artrix cinema. They achieved their targets in the recent review and their behaviour and attendance has been good. Well done to those students.

HOUSE POINT TOTALS

House points are awarded for Pride, Participation, Achievement.

Totals so far are:

Murdoch 1590, Ealing 1848 and Pinewood 1905

PREFECTS

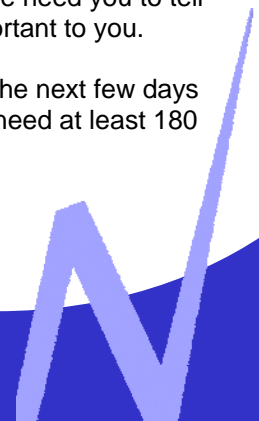
Our prefects have been doing a fantastic job helping out at lunchtimes. While they have been busy revising and sitting exams during the Mock Exam Timetable the following Year 10 students have been covering their duties:- Josh Stait, Louis Phillips, James Rivett, Jack Corby, Izzy Billau, Todd Wilkes, India Rafiqi, Nick Boyd, Abbey Jones, Sopohie Giles, Amanda Butler, Lucy Workman, Charlotte Smith, Megan Pugh, Amy Hartley, Romy Naven, Daniel Saunders, Kelsie Johnson, Sian Whittaker, Scott Tildesley, Emily Sparey, Jack Godfrey, Courtney Picken.

Well done to all of these students!

PARENTS WE NEED YOUR VIEWS!!

We constantly try to improve the education we offer the students of our school and we need you to tell us how well you think we are doing and how we can improve the things that are important to you.

Please complete the recent questionnaire that was sent home with your child within the next few days and return it to school. The independent company that is analysing your responses need at least 180 returns. If you require a survey please ring the Office. Thank you.





ATTENDANCE MATTERS

The school's attendance target is 94% and the majority of our students are meeting that target. However our overall attendance has dropped below to 93.6%. We encourage you to make sure that your child is in school learning, as every day matters.

May we remind you that if your son/daughter is ill, you should phone the Attendance Office 01527 839735 to report their absence.

A medical note should be provided for any long term illness.

PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCIES

We currently have vacancies for parent governors. A letter has been posted out, outlining the requirements to fill this post. If you would like to nominate someone please return the completed form to the school by: **Friday, 15th January 2010**

Clearly mark the envelope with Parent Governor Nominations


General Information:

The term of office is 4 years. The governing body plays a significant part in the development and management of the school and as such, parent governors play an important role as members of the governing body helping to form policy, set priorities and manage the budget.

There are 4 Full Governor meetings per academic year which all governors attend. There are 3 separate committees: Pastoral; Finance Premises and General Purposes; Curriculum/Personnel. Each committee holds 3 meetings per year. As a governor you decide which and how many committees you would like to join and you then attend these meetings.

If you require any further information please contact Governor Services on 01299 873974/5

**Free School Meals
- are you eligible?**



You will be able to claim Free School Meal eligibility for your child if you or your partner are in any one of the following circumstances: -

- In receipt of Income Support
- In receipt of Job Seekers Allowance – Income Based
- In receipt of Employment & Support Allowance – Income Related
- Receiving support under Part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999
- In receipt of Child Tax Credit – providing you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit, and have an annual income as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs that does not exceed £16,040
- In receipt of the Guarantee element of State Pension Credit


Did you know that: -

- By claiming your eligibility, you and your child can benefit even if they don't always take up the meal. You may also qualify for school transport, help with school uniforms and the cost of school trips.
- 75% of Worcestershire schools provide a hot meal service, and all schools will do so by 2011.
- By claiming your eligibility, you can help your child's school as they can get extra funding based on the number of pupils eligible for a free school meal.

Applying for Free School Meals is easy. You can: -

- Ask at your child's school office
- Call the Free School Meals team at County Hall on 01905 766182
- Call in at any Worcestershire Hub 'One Stop Shop'

Find out more online: Download an application form from www.worcestershire.gov.uk (click on the link for Free School Meals under the 'Apply for it' heading)



External Exam Information

There will be a number of external exams in January involving AS, A2, GCSE's and Functional Skills.

If your child has been entered for any exams a statement of entry will be sent home by the end of term and this will be followed by an Individual Timetable showing a seat number and venue.

Please encourage your child to bring the correct equipment to the exam and remind them that mobile phones are not allowed in the exam room.

Thankyou.





Message from: Children's Services/Services to Schools Division

We would like to inform you about a group that we are intending to run at North Bromsgrove High School during the Spring Term 2010 to support students in Year 11 who may be experiencing increased levels of anxiety due to exam pressure. We will offer an initial 'briefing' and then two further sessions using techniques derived from cognitive behaviour therapy to support students in lowering their anxiety levels. The sessions will be approximately one hour each and follow-up tasks will be provided to enable students to develop the skills covered.

We wish for the students to be able to refer themselves anonymously on receipt of information about the group. We would therefore ask you to contact Mrs Worrall at the school if you would object to your son/daughter taking part.

Sheila Warner—Senior Educational Psychologist

G4 Proudly Present Eddie Berwick's Haircut for Selly Oak Hospital



**On Tuesday 15th
December 2009, at
2.20pm (P6)**

The whole school will be able to see Eddie have his hair shaved to Grade 1 all over by

**Chapters Hair
High Street
Bromsgrove**



**Entrance Fee to
watch £1 –
being collected
in advance by
G4**

In the Sports Hall

If you would like to give a further donation please visit
Eddie's just giving page at:
<http://www.justgiving.com/uhbcharities>





Poetry Competition Success!

We are thrilled with the recent performances of the students who represented North at the Houseman Poetry competition. We achieved our first 'clean sweep' with Elizabeth Harris winning the senior section and Daniel Edwards winning the Junior section. This was against stiff opposition from teams from Haybridge, South Bromsgrove and Waseley High schools and NEW College.

Congratulations to both students!



Ski Trip 2011 to Boston USA

The PE Department are committed to providing a ski/snowboard trip to New Hampshire, USA during the February vacation 2011. The package will include:

- All skis/snowboard equipment for 6 days
- Ski pass for 6 days
- Skis/snowboard tuition for 2 sessions of 2 hours each day
- Return flights from London to Boston
- Return coach transfers between school and accommodation in USA
- 7 nights accommodation at The Beacon Resort, New Hampshire.

Further details will be provided via letter and a parents information evening during January 2010. For a taste of the 2009 USA ski trip please visit the North Bromsgrove High School YOU TUBE Channel to view the fun!

