

February 2010

Dear Parents and Students

It has been another very busy and productive period for Uxbridge High School.

### **Standards**

Year 11 students have taken their Mocks and, with early entries in subjects like English, the prognosis for the summer is good. The school is on track to achieve its 2010 targets, as well as improve on its key priorities.

Year 11 students also benefited from the very well organised and successful Year 11 Mock interviews. Revision programmes are under way and a number are planned to take place during half-term and during the Easter holidays.

### **Inclusion Quality Mark (IQM)**

I am sure by now you are all aware of our excellent IQM report which we received in December. The full report is on our website. The report states *“Uxbridge High is a fully inclusive school which champions the needs of all stakeholders and learners”*.



### **Snow**

The school has enjoyed and coped well since Christmas with the snow. A good deal of pre-planning had taken place and communications have generally worked well. There has been praise from many families and community for the way the school dealt with the situation. Thanks go to the Site Staff and Office Staff in particular, but to all staff and students for getting in to run the school with a clear “business as usual” approach. Please keep a check on our school website which is regularly updated.

### **Press Publicity**

The school has again received a good deal of positive press coverage in recent months.

### **Events / Activities**

There has been as usual a wide range of extra activities and events including Artist in Residence, House Activities, well-attended Parents’ Evenings, the Hillingdon Headteachers’ Termly Meeting at Uxbridge High, the Post 16 Evening, School Council / Student Voice events, Healthy Lifestyles Week, a collection for Haiti earthquake victims and sporting success in Rugby and Boxing.

### **Trips and Visits**

A wide range of trips and visits have taken or are due to take place this term including a Key Stage 3 day trip to Paris, a Year 7 trip to the London Eye and London Dungeons, a Year 7 Gifted and Talented event at Brunel, a Year 11 Gifted and

Talented visit to Cambridge University, a Year 12 and 13 Design and Technology visit and the Year 11 Russia trip taking place over half-term.

### **International Links**

Uxbridge High remains committed to being an international school. On 20 January a group of German teachers and students visited as part of the Comenius project. Links continue with the schools in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Students are writing to each other and five Uxbridge High staff will be spending a week working in one school over the summer holidays. Our links have been the subject of reports on national Brazilian TV and Teachers' TV. Four students and a member of staff will be attending the Commonwealth Day Celebrations with the Queen on Monday 8 March. The Deputy Head Girl has been nominated for the Prime Minister's International Ambassador Award.

### **Family Learning**

A four week Saturday family learning event is taking place after half-term building on the pre-Christmas activities. These events have been inspired by seeing family learning taking place in Brazil. The school has secured funding to support this work from the Extended Schools collaborative as well as a grant of £1,957 for the sport of fencing from the Council Local Ward. Local councillors came in to school recently to present the cheque.

### **Association of School and College Leaders (ASCL)**

The annual conference takes place between 5 and 7 March. Uxbridge High has been chosen as one of six schools in London to host delegates on school visits.

### **RAF Uxbridge**

The Chair of Governors and I will be attending the closing ceremony for the RAF Uxbridge base on Wednesday 31 March. For many years there has been a close association between the school and families on the RAF base. We would like to offer our best wishes to all concerned for the move.

### **200 years of education associated with Uxbridge High School**

Plans are under way for these celebrations in the summer term and discussions have taken place with the Friends of Uxbridge High. Planned activities include a Lancaster classroom project, a Library display, an invitation to a local historian, links with International Week, coverage in the summer UHS Express magazine and an invitation to Radio 4 Any Questions programme.

### **100 Group**

Uxbridge High School was involved again at the end of January in this prestigious event which attracted significant press coverage. Two Gifted and Talented students (a Year 9 girl and a Year 7 boy) who are very active in the school council accompanied me. As part of their visit they were taken by Tessa Sanderson for a tour of the Olympic site. There was a very eminent panel in the afternoon for questions. Six students were chosen from over 200 to ask a question – one of whom was from Uxbridge High School!



*Cedella Marshall, Year 9 student,  
meeting Tessa Sanderson*

### **School Play**

This year the production is Bugsy Malone and will be held on Wednesday 24 to Friday 26 March inclusive. Please do your best to support this event.

## Uniform

Our school uniform is an important part of the culture at Uxbridge High School. All students are expected to be in full uniform at all times. Any new uniform should conform to the school uniform list which can be found in the student's school planner and on the school's website ([www.uhs.org.uk](http://www.uhs.org.uk)).

## Attendance

Can I ask all parents and students to continue to support the school with attendance. If students are not in school, they are not learning.

## Book Week

Once again the school is celebrating reading during Book Week from 1 – 5 March. A wide range of activities are taking place including a Key Stage 3 Treasure Hunt, book sales in the library, a visit by Rap Poet Donovan Christopher and DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) on World Book Day when the whole school will all be expected to read for 20 minutes during Period 1.

The Sixth Form / Staff book club will also be held during the week and there will be competitions, including one run by the Art Department to design new book covers and photographs will be taken of students and staff who "Get Caught Reading". Please encourage your child to get involved.



*Miss Connolly gets caught reading*

## Dates for diary

Half-term holiday:	15 – 19 February
Year 9 Parents' Evening:	24 February
Book Week:	1 – 5 March
Year 8 Parents' Evening:	16 March
Year 9 Parents' Information Evening:	11 March
School Production "Bugsy Malone":	24 - 26 March
End of Spring Term:	1 April
Start of Summer Term:	19 April

I wish you all a very enjoyable half-term break. Half-term for students starts at **3.05-3.15 pm on Friday 12 February**. School starts for students on **Monday 22 February at 10.55 am**, following a staff meeting.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Lang'.

**P Lang**  
**Head Teacher**