

# U HIGH SCHOOL XBRIDGE



*Head Teacher: Peter Lang MA*

June 2009

Dear Parents and Students

This half-term is a very busy and important one for the school, with external and internal examinations and many other important events taking place.

Recent successes include those in Sport and the Arts including success in soccer, cricket, athletics and fencing, as well as our drummers, dancers and DJ Technology Club performing for the Mayor, at a prestigious school event in Central London and at local primary / special schools.

Our Year 7 students have helped win a National "Aim Higher Award" and a forensic science award at Brunel University. This week we also held our "Philosopher in Residence" event working with students in Years 7 and 8.



*Mr Lang and members of the School Council in front of the new building*

One very special event for the development of the school is the **opening of our new building**. This brand new three storey teaching block is nearing completion and will be fully operational in September. The building has been creatively designed with flexible classroom spaces, conference facilities and ICT provision. It demonstrates a combination of traditional learning spaces with innovative learning environments. The building incorporates a Sixth Form centre for 250 students, a Performing Arts and Activity Studio on the ground floor, Mathematics on the first floor and a dedicated Business suite on the third floor. In addition we have created a large agile teaching

space that provides an environment for project based activities, encourages independent study as well as supporting group learning. The area has 5 different teaching zones and we have worked with partner organisations, (e.g. RM, Google, Microsoft) to create purpose-designed furniture and state of the art technology. Environmental education is at the heart of our development programme and associated with the building are living green walls, cycle facilities for 120 bicycles and the commissioning of a wind turbine. Occupation of the new building will allow us to relocate and expand the library as an excellent learning resource for the whole school.

To celebrate this key development for the school we are holding an official opening ceremony on **Wednesday 8 July 2009**. This will be held the same afternoon as the **Key Stage 3 Celebration of Success Event** which runs from **2.15 pm until 4.00 pm**. For logistical reasons it will not be possible for all students and their families to attend the opening. All students and their families who are involved in the Key Stage 3 celebration are warmly invited to the official opening ceremony which then takes place between **4.00 pm and 5.00 pm on 8 July 2009**. Many guests have been invited to this opening ceremony and we would be delighted if those parents and students involved in the Key Stage 3 Celebration would join us. **For all other students, the school will close at 1.15 pm on 8 July in order to allow us to prepare for this important event. Lunch will be available for those students who require it.**



*Making Success Happen*

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After the official opening and in the days before the end of term **all** Uxbridge High School students will be given the opportunity to be shown around the new building and its facilities. The new building will be operating fully from September next term when parents and families will also be able to view our new facilities.

At the end of this term we will also be marking the retirements of two of our longest serving teachers, who have between them taught children in Hillingdon schools for many years. Mrs Julia James and Mr Malcolm Mason will both be retiring at the end of the summer term. We will be marking their retirements at a number of events including the opening of the new building. If you would like to send in a contribution towards a leaving gift for either Mrs James or Mr Mason or both, please send in a contribution by cash or cheque made payable to "Uxbridge High School". The gifts will be awarded at the ceremony on 8 July.

Uxbridge High School has received the International Status Silver Award. Congratulations to all involved. Some of the projects presently under way include work with schools in Germany, Brazil and Russia. A Brazil club is being set up for students and staff and will meet after school every Tuesday in the library.

Key Dates for rest of term include:

Wednesday 24 June	Year 11 Prom
Thursday 25 June	Sports Day at Brunel University Athletics Track. Parents / families are very welcome to attend from 1.15 pm
Friday 26 June	Staff Training Day. <b>School closed to students.</b>
29 June – 3 July	International Week
Wednesday 1 July	International Evening 5.30 – 8.00 pm
Tuesday 7 July	Year 6 Induction Day and Year 6 Induction Evening 5.00–7.30pm
Friday 10 July	Teachers' Day
Friday 17 July	End of Term

Much work will be taking place on the school site over the summer break and a number of summer schools will be running including the Transition Summer School, the Arts Carnival, CSI:UHS and the Sports Camp.



*Students taking part in CSI:UHS*

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

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

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

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*To: The Office Manager, Uxbridge High School, The Greenway, Uxbridge UB8 2PR*

From .....

Please find attached a contribution of £\_\_\_\_\_ towards the retirement gift(s) for Mrs Julia James \* / Mr Malcolm Mason \* / both Mrs James and Mr Mason.

\* please delete as applicable