

UHS EXPRESS



In this Issue: Teacher Interviews, Farewell To Year 11, Basketball Success and Can You Find Miss Ali ?

Summer
Edition
2009

Building Success

By Bobby Mordue, Year 11

The new building which cost £6.3 million, took one year to build and up to 70 people a day to construct, is now here. The official opening date was the 8th of July, and classes are set to start being taught in the building by September.

The new Sixth Formers have a lot to look forward to. As if a new common room was not enough, they are going to have their own cafe in it. Students from lower years are supposed to walk past the Sixth Form doors and look in and think "that's where I want to be!" The common room is going to be sectioned into areas using furniture, the different areas include the cafe area, relaxing area and working areas. It is supposed to create an environment where students can not only relax in between classes but also do further studies and coursework. In the building there is going to

In the building there is going to be a range of cutting-edge technology, like Micro-Soft surfaces, seen in the latest James Bond movie, around 400 palm top computers for students and teachers to use and of course, interactive white boards in every room.

As if the amenities that the new building is going to provide for the school weren't enough, it's also environmentally friendly. The new building is making our school one of the first environmentally friendly schools in the country. There's the green wall which uses recycled water from the roof to water itself and recycles carbon dioxide that the building makes. Then there is the solar panels on the roof which help supply electricity to the building. Not forgetting the wind turbine that can produce enough kilo watts to run the entire building's light system non-stop. Read on, page 2...



I am delighted to write a few words to support the summer issue of UHS Express and once again I would like to congratulate all students and staff involved. We did ask one of the editors, Barbara Fisher, of the Uxbridge Gazette to review the last edition and speak to the students involved. She

was full of praise and gave the group some professional advice on how to improve the newspaper still further and some top tips on getting jobs in journalism. Keep "Making Success Happen".

Building Success

Continued...

By Bobby Mordue Year 11

The building not only provides a new common room for the sixth formers, it's planned to be used by the whole school. Currently a temporary drama studio is going to be set up in the amenities' hall on the first floor. This will then be moved out when drama gets a permanent building of its own. The amenities' hall has been fitted with a brand new sound system and a soundproof screen to section it off into two areas. Maths is set to be on the second floor. Maths was chosen because it will enable all students to be able to use the new building as everyone does maths. Then, on the top floor there will be Business Studies and an experimental class room. The experimental class room is a room where teachers can take their classes to experiment with different methods of teaching and different teaching environments.

This building would never have happened, if it was not for the amazing staff who drove the project on. One of the school's governors, Elaine O'Sullivan said of the building, 'Wonderful, great asset for the school. The facilities will be excellent.' Teachers were also very excited about the new building. Head of Maths, Mr Wright said, 'Stunning, I can't believe the size of it. It's going to be so modern.' Associate Head, Miss Sheikh said, 'Amazing, Can't wait to teach in it.'



Chicken Mania

By Jordan Drinkwater Year 8

When I first heard about the chickens I asked Miss Airey if I could help with them, she said to me would I like to feed them and fill their water pots up so I said yes. A week before the Easter holidays she asked me if I would like to look after them over the term break. This was a great experience and I learnt a lot of new skills. Molly and Popcorn, the chickens' names, were a lot of fun to look after and I hope that I can keep doing this in the future.



Basketball Success

By Mr Beazley

In May this year, our year 11 basketball team (Nikki Kabamba, Daniel Tapeç, Sam Lubbock, Connor Godfrey, Sharif Kouthoofd and Rahul Sharma) wrote themselves into the history books, winning an unprecedented fourth Championship title on the trot! Despite making a relatively tentative start, the Uxbridge crowd really got behind the team and our boys went on to beat Rosedale comfortably, in what was beginning to look more like an exhibition game than a championship

final. There are rumours that some of the opponents' ankles are yet to heal, and that some are still in counselling for the damage done to their pride! Many believe that they were the greatest team Hillingdon has ever seen. Cynics say that no-one will ever beat their record. Is anybody capable of proving them wrong?

Wicked The Musical

By Hodan Egeh Year 10

Wicked is the untold tale of the witches of Oz which is the back story to a fantastic tale written by American writer Frank L Baum called, the Wizard of Oz. This amazing novel which has captured the hearts and souls of the nation as well as the extraordinary performance by Judy Garland who starred in the movie of the book, has finally made it on to the stage. Long before Dorothy drops in, the two other girls meet in the Land of Oz. One born with emerald-green skin is smart, fiery and misunderstood. The other is beautiful, ambitious and very popular. Based on the novel by Gregory Maguire, the spellbinding musical takes a look at how these two unlikely friends grow to become the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good Witch.

Wicked takes the audience back to Glenda's past and how she met Elphaba (the Wicked Witch of the West). As the story develops we see how outcast and gentle Elphaba really is but due to the differences between Glenda, OZ, the wizard and Elphaba, she soon becomes outlawed for trying to fix what is wrong. This heart-warming story will have you holding back tears, a wonderful piece of work, the sets are believable and the music is performed perfectly. With dedicated actors belting out catchy songs, amazing costumes and packed with funny scenes.

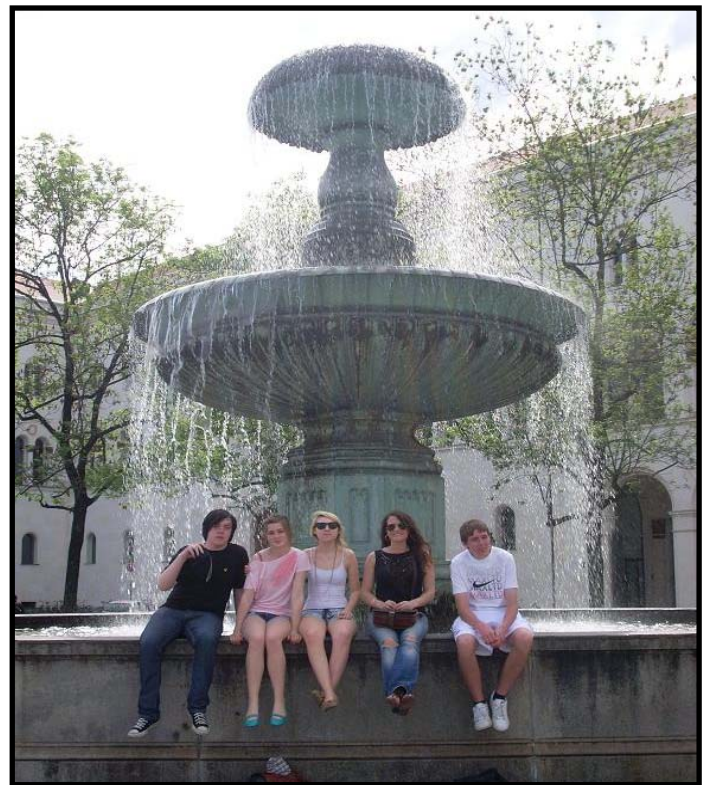
You would be crazy to miss this brilliant tale.

5 Star Rating.

Munich Report

By Mr Head

Thanks to a grant from the *Youthbridge Foundation*, a group of upper school students enjoyed three extremely busy days in München, capital of Bavaria, this May. We arrived at Heathrow airport at the crack of dawn and flew to Germany. We spent our first evening at the 60,000 all-seater *Allianz Arena*, home of Bayern Munich and witnessed a fantastic 3-3 draw. On the Saturday, our group took a guided cycle tour of the city and enjoyed our last dinner at the world-famous *Hofbräuhaus*. The trip was thoroughly enjoyed by all and the pupils are keen to return to Germany. Many thanks to the students for speaking lots and lots of German and a big thank you to *Youthbridge* for making this trip possible. Auf Wiedersehen!



Interested In Philosophy

By Mr Bradley

Are you the same person you were 10 years ago? Are you the same person you were yesterday? What makes you the person that you are? If you think these are easy questions to answer then speak to one of the 60 year 7 and 8 pupils who took part in a Philosophy workshop on Tuesday 16th June. Pupils were introduced to the Philosophical topic of Personal Identity by James Dray, an expert Philosopher from Oxford University. Our task: to find answers to questions that have baffled philosophers for thousands of years. Although everyone left not really knowing who they were any more, the day was a great success. Pupils learnt how to explain an argument, justify an opinion and criticise an opponent – skills that are highly valuable and can be used in every other subject. Mr Bradley looks forward to holding similar events in the future and look out for a lunch time Philosopher's club coming soon.

One Minute Interviews

By Georgia Curling and Kadeem Longton

Miss Cramp

What was your favourite subject at school?

HISTORY!

Where did you work before you worked at UHS?

Recruitment on the Isle of Wight.

What's the most satisfying part of your job?

It's never boring.

What's the hardest part of your job?

Keeping up to date with all the marking.

What inspired you to come to UHS?

I saw a photograph of the old building and thought it looked beautiful.

Where do you see yourself in 5 years time?

Still running a successful department (married to Keifer Sutherland!!)

What's your favourite song of all time?

Last Goodbye – Jeff Buckley

What's your favourite movie of all time?

Out of Africa

What's your favourite year group and why?

KS4 because they are funny and eager to learn

What's the most embarrassing thing you've done?

I taught my year 9 class and the buttons on my shirt came undone – no one said anything!

Dr Wenham

What was your favourite subject at school?

Physics

Where did you work before you worked at UHS?

I did a masters in education but worked in White City

What's the most satisfying part of your job?

Seeing people succeed

What's the hardest part of your job?

Getting up early

What inspired you to come to UHS?

Miss Sheikh

Where do you see yourself in 5 years time?

Uxbridge High School still!

What's your favourite song of all time?

Killing Me Softly (Fugees)

What's your favourite movie of all time?

Jackie Brown

What's your favourite year group and why?

Year 10 because my lovely form is in that year!

What's the most embarrassing thing you've done?

I managed to get a sum wrong!

Mr Ranchod

What was your favourite subject?

Maths

Where did you work before Uxbridge High School?

Preston Manor in Brent

What's the most satisfying part of your job?

Working with children and seeing students make progress .

What's the hardest part of your job?

Dealing with the paper work

What inspired you to come to Uxbridge High school?

It reminded me of the school I went to as a kid

Where do you see yourself in 5 yrs time?

Still at Uxbridge High School developing the business department

What is your favourite song of all time?

I did it my way – Frank Sinatra

What is your favourite movie of all time?

Born Free

What is your favourite year group?

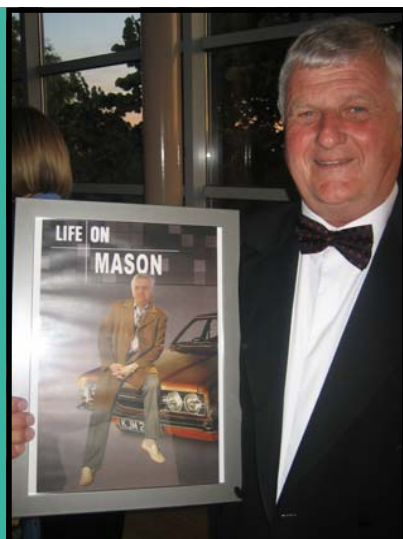
My current year 10s they are cool

What is your most embarrassing thing you've ever done?

At parents' evening I referred to a student by the wrong name whoops!



Prom Night June 2009



Mason's Message By Mr Mason Head Of Year 11

I wish all Year 11 students every success for their GCSE examinations, their future and personal life. You have been a fantastic year group, probably the best one to work with and you deserve to succeed. Thank you for making this year so rewarding working with a year group with some great characters; it's been a real pleasure. I would also like to thank students in Year 11 for their support in extra-curricular activities and supporting school productions. Sporting achievements have been excellent. Again, well done. I am pleased that so many year 11 students are staying on in the Sixth Form and will be the first cohort of students to use the excellent facilities in the new building. Finally, the Year 11 Prom. This was a fantastic event and I enjoyed seeing you all there. Once again thank you for your support and the many memories you have left me with. Go out there and succeed.

Dream World

By Haneelam Virdee Year 10

Sweet scented aromas filled the air around me. Scents of sweet candyfloss dance on the tip of my nose. Where is this luxurious smell coming from?

The sounds of the cool, calm, ocean breeze brush against my ear drums; slowly moving backwards and forwards. The sounds of magnificent, exotic birds singing high in the tree tops harmonise with the gentle crashing of the oceans waves on the golden sandy shore. My mouth is dry. The insides of my mouth screaming for a liquid texture to comfort my dry tongue; dry as the African plains.

As I slowly open my eyes I am overwhelmed by the sight and the view that I have just seen. The crystal clear, blue ocean surrounds me like a huge blanket, waiting for me to get into it. Each ripple in the water is unique and significant like a snowflake. Elegantly dolphins dive out of the water portraying their grace and beauty to the rest of the sea life. Then in one quick dive they return to the waters which contain hidden secrets.

The sea birds continuously circle the skies waiting for a delicious feast to arrive down below. As the sun smiles down at me the dark grey clouds disappear and hide away for the vibrant, clear, blue sky to brighten up the day.

The contrasting colours of the ocean and the sand brighten up the land. Creeping, crawling crabs dance along the shores in large groups, climbing amongst each other. Like the ripples in the ocean each grain of sand is significant, as it brushes along side my golden brown skin, it tickles me.

Hidden deep within the thousands of grains of sand are unique and beautiful shells. The twisting and turning of the swirls, almost like an illusion. Each colour blended in together like a painter does on its canvas. These fossils are highly symbolic to a life once known as this island and are to be kept and put back where they were found. As I bury the pretty fossils back into the grains of sand I stand and take one last look at the breathtaking view, never wanting the moment to end.

Seasons

By Abdullahi Abdullah Year 7

Sun, Sun

We can have some fun

We can play and run around

Jump up and down



Spring Spring

Such lovely things

New babies appear

Play time is here



Winter Winter

Cut some timber

Make a fire

You snuggle in your warm house

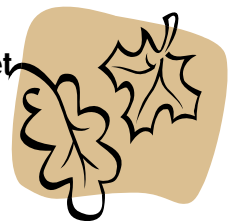
As quiet as a mouse



Autumn, Autumn

The leaves crunch under my feet

Multi leaf covered streets



Hopefully it'll end

Summer can come

Again



Year Seven Football

By Mr Bradley

The Year 7 boys made an impressive start to their footballing careers at Uxbridge High this year. The season has been far from easy. The boys have produced some fantastic results against some excellent teams in a highly competitive league. All of this has been done away from home, with building works affecting the availability of football pitches at Uxbridge. Special mention goes to those players who have played in every game and attended almost every training session – Mohamed Yusuf, Lloyd Martin, Bill Lamont and Stevie Stavers. There have been a number of squad members who have shown immense commitment and made an impressive contribution in the end of season friendly against Mellow Lane – Curtis Wooton, Shakheel Lochum, Jake Andre-Ellingham, Corey Eaton-McKnight, James Salma, Nasiem

Jake Andre-Ellingham, Corey Eaton-McKnight, James Salma, Nasiem Abdulkadir and Waqas Mohammed. Highlights of the season include skills from Stevie Stavers, Daniel Perry's crunching tackles, some stunning goals from Callum Murray, Kuran Kaul and Arthur Harris, not to mention Charlie Henshall's pink boots! Lewis Welsh made some match-changing appearances and Nick Lamprill showed real potential as a goalkeeper towards the end of the season. Charlie's several hatricks were also a joy to behold. The boys can be proud of what they have achieved so far and we will come back even stronger next season. See you at the end of year social, well done boys.

Guess The Teacher ???

Find The Answers On The Back Page

A



B



C



D



E



F



Shout Outs !

Miss Wilson- Shout out to 8YCA, you're the craziest Form Group and I love you and Lee Clark I want your media C.W.

Miss Ali- All Year 11s well done for getting through exams and working so hard.

Miss Drew- Shout out to 9B for doing so well in their SAT exams. Keep it up!

Miss Corrigan- Temi Bello in year 7 my star pupil she's a legend!

Mr Massey- Great work year 11s keep it up make sure all your coursework is in.

Mr Macan- Well done to 11A for great work and belated BTEC superstar still giving it 100% deep into June.

Mr Ranchod- To my Sixth Formers- come on get to work you cheeky monkeys .

Miss Nicholls- Well done to 8XCH for working so well in their exams.

Miss Charalambous- 9P history well done for working so well through the year.

Art Department – Thanks Kadeem for giving the art department a fantastic facility, Georgia Curling 'giggidy giggidy'

Wonderful Wizard Of Oz

By Saredo Alwed Year 13

"Do you reckon it'll be any good?" asks the person next to me. *Of course it will*, I think to myself, but I don't answer. The lights dim and the actors start their performance. Instantly the audience is captivated by the talent the students possess. The audience settle in for what they know will be a great show.

Almost everyone is familiar with the story of The Wizard of Oz. Dorothy (Natalie Venier), caught up in a Kansas tornado, is dropped into Oz, accidentally killing the Wicked Witch of the East. With the help of the Scarecrow (Andrew Springall), the Tin Man (George Harris), and the Cowardly Lion (Michael Williams), she makes her way to see the Wizard of Oz, in the hope of returning back home. With her dog Toto by her side and a strange pair of shoes on her feet, the unlikely group hit the Yellow Brick Road where adventure awaits them.

Unfortunately, the road to Emerald City isn't as smooth as they anticipated. The Wicked Witch of the West is hot on their heels, desperate for the ruby slippers Dorothy wears on her feet. They're hindered by the witch and her winged monkeys, but with the help of Glinda, the Good Witch of the North (Larhys Wilcox) and a little luck, they defeat her and continue on their quest.

When they finally make it to the wizard, they realize that he isn't a real wizard at all. Just an old man played by a young man, speaking into a microphone. To appease them, he gives each of his visitors a gift. A diploma for the Scarecrow, a medal for the cowardly Lion and a heart-shaped watch for the Tin Man. Dorothy however, is left stranded when he leaves without her for Kansas. A disheartened Dorothy is saved by Glinda who shows her the way home. Three taps of her heels and "There's no place like Home" later. Dorothy wakes to find herself



surrounded by her family, back in Kansas.

With knock-out performances from both Dorothy and the Wicked Witch of the West (Zoe Phillips), the play was an incredible show of talent and a chance for the students of Uxbridge High to show their remarkable acting and singing. But it couldn't have been the success that it was without the help of the stage crew, musicians, the set designers and teachers. A big shout out to the munchkins and the winged monkeys. Well done!



The New Learning Resources Centre

By Mrs Sims

The School Library will soon be expanding. It will also have a new name!

When the 6th Form has moved into the new building, work will begin on expanding the Library. This will include knocking down walls, moving the entrance and issue desk, resulting in a much larger Learning Resources Centre. There will be a clearly defined teaching area, together with a white board. This larger area will mean there will be more space for new book shelving and better display areas for students' work and to publicise forthcoming events throughout the school.

Connexions will also be relocating to the newly refurbished Learning Resources Centre.

Looking For Something To Do This Summer ???

If you are looking for something to do this summer holidays there is a range of events and courses that you can get involved with. The Summer Uni London Organisation have arranged a range of courses for students to get involved with, no matter what age. These courses include courses like: Digital Photography, Drama And Improvisation, Summer Action Cash 4 Graff, First Aid and many, many more. If you would like to get involved in any of these courses go to Summer Uni London's website which is www.summerunilondon.org/courses

You Can Find Miss Ali on Page 7

Guess The Teacher Answers: A- Miss Thurgood, B- Dr Wenham, C- Miss Schmidtke, D- Miss Ali, E- Mr Massey, F- Miss Wilson, F- Miss Wilson

Answers

Goodbye From Head Boy And Head Girl

Hello, Hi, Hiya, Howdy, Holla! As you know for the past year we have been head boy and head girl, but our reign has sadly come to an end. We're moving on to different things and our experiences at Uxbridge High School have been amazing. We hope that you can have just as many good memories as we've had both academically and socially.

We wish you all the best for the future. This is Elliot and Layla signing off for the last time.



Upcoming Dates For Autumn Term 2009

Term Starts for students in year 7 to year 11 on Monday 7th September
6th Form Induction Day is on the 8th of September
Term starts for students in Sixth Form on Wednesday 9th September
6th Form Team Building Residential on the 11th September
Half Term Holiday for all students from the 26th October to the 30th October 2009
Term Ends on Friday 18th December 2009

A Message From The Editorial Team !

Editor - Bobby Mordue
Sub Editor - Georgia Curling
Design and Layout - Bobby Mordue
Photography - James Hobbs + Afif Roslan
Personal Assistant - Kadeem Longton
Art Work - Mr Baines

Everyone on the UHS Express editorial team hope you enjoy the Summer Edition of the school paper. Have a great holiday and see you in September.