

December 2011



**UXBRIDGE  
HIGH SCHOOL**  
AN OUTSTANDING ACADEMY

Dear Parents and Students

I am writing to you as we come to the end of another very busy and successful term at Uxbridge High School and **I wish you a very Happy Christmas and New Year.** The students have had their Christmas lunch today and I am looking forward to this evening's Christmas Concert which starts at 6.00pm.

Year 7 Assessment Week was held in November. Results from these tests, together with other data, will be used to create new sets for Year 7 in January 2012. A very positive Progression Morning for Year 11 students took place in November, followed by a well-attended Post 16 Evening and Open Mornings. Mock Exams started on 5 December and run until the end of term.

We ran a whole school anti-bullying fortnight from 14 – 26 November to coincide with National Anti-bullying week. The fortnight aimed to raise awareness of the issue and to create a culture of support within the school. A number of events took place with special assemblies and lessons during Citizenship, competitions and the launch of a drop in centre to name a few. During the week all Year 8 students completed a survey and the results from this, along with other sources of information such as our 'bully box', will help us continue to monitor and manage bullying.

Some of the charity fund raising events which have taken place this term include: an Open Mic competition to raise money for Children in Need (see *picture on right*); sale of ribbons in recognition of World Aids Day; sale of poppies and a two minute silence on 11 November for Remembrance Day; and a non-uniform day to raise money for charities chosen by the School Council.



*Winners of the Best Group in the Open Mic Competition*

Other key events this half-term have included:

- a Post-16 RE Conference on the theme of Volunteering;
- a very lively and entertaining Dance Festival;
- the celebration of National Number Day;
- Parents' Evenings for Year 10 and Year 13;
- a visit by Dutch students and a placement of 3 Dutch staff at UHS for a week as a Schools Network initiative, with potential for further links;
- a visit to the European Parliament in Brussels and a Christmas market;
- attendance at the televised Pearson National Teaching Awards and at a reception held with the Prime Minister at 10 Downing Street to which the school was invited to recognise the success of the school, the Principal and the award winning Guidance Leader Team;
- the successful introduction of Monday night sports for Sixth Form students including Badminton, Table Tennis, Climbing Wall, Trampolining, Zumba, Football and Rugby;
- involvement of Sixth Formers in a Hillingdon assisted shopping event in Uxbridge for elderly residents; and
- UCAS applications to a wide range of universities by Year 13 students.

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PRINCIPAL PETER LANG M.A.



### 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.** Parents are reminded that they are legally required **not** to take students on holiday during term time.

### 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. A full list can be found in the student school planner or on the school website.

### Severe Weather Conditions

I would just like to remind all students and their families that, in the event of snow, students should assume school will operate as usual. Updated information is posted on the school website from 7.15 am.

### Catering / Free School Meals

You may qualify for free school meals if you receive any of the following benefits: Income Support; income based Jobseeker's Allowance; income related Employment and Support Allowance; support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; the guarantee element of State Pension Credit; or Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income that does not exceed £16,190.

Registering is really quick and easy. **If you think you qualify, please complete the form attached to this letter and return it to the school with evidence of your benefit.**

No-one will know that your child is registered and they will be entitled to a free, healthy meal at lunchtime, saving you money. In addition, the school will benefit as the Government will provide additional funding for the school to invest in education.

### Key Dates for Next Term

3 January	Training Day for Staff
<b>4 January</b>	<b>School starts for students at 8.40 am</b>
17 January	Year 11 Parents' Evening
17 January	Year 11 Mock Interviews and Post 16 Interviews
25 January	Friends of Uxbridge High School meeting at 5.30 pm
13 - 17 February	Half-term
20 February	Students return
22 February	Year 9 Parents' Evening
8 March	Year 9 Information Evening
13 March	Year 7 Parents' Evening
22 – 24 March	School Production – Romeo and Juliet
30 March	End of Term



Can I recommend the Christmas edition of UHS Express to you and congratulate all the budding journalists for their excellent work. We wish Mrs Smyth (Music) well in her promotion at another school and Ms Jones (Maths) good luck in her move overseas.

We also congratulate Kalsoom Naqvi in Year 12 who designed our Christmas card this year (*shown on the left*).

Once again, thank you for all your support. We aim to keep "Making Success Happen" in 2012 and I look forward to meeting and working with you all in the New Year.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Lang', written over a white rectangular background.

**Peter Lang**  
**Principal**