



# PARENTS' NEWSLETTER

Macclesfield High School  
Arts and Technology College



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26.2.10

## Motivated, Happy and Successful Learners

Dear Parent(s) / Carer(s)

I had hoped to be in a position to report back to you on our recent OfSTED inspection. However, we are still waiting for the report and formal notification of the outcome. I will, of course, inform all parents/carers of the results as soon as we have been advised.

It is important that your child(ren) are reminded of the following.

- The need for 100% attendance and punctuality. *I would like to remind parents that they should not request permission for students to go on holiday during term time. Such requests will not usually be granted.*
- The need always to produce work of the highest possible standard.
- The absolute need for courtesy and good manners both in school and on the way to and from school.
- The responsibilities that students have for their own development.
- The opportunities students have to participate in and contribute to the school's extensive programme of enrichment activities, be it in sport, the arts or many others.

Please also re-emphasise your own expectations, insist on the very highest of standards in all of these areas and make it clear that you, personally, will not accept poor behaviour, discourtesy or a lack of effort or commitment. Re-focusing and re-emphasising expectations will ensure that all students remain determined to make the most of their talents and of the opportunities that the school provides.

Governors have decided to cancel the two Stop the Clock Days in March and June in order to make up for the time lost when school was closed due to the snow. This is a busy term with a heavy examination schedule, and this additional time will be invaluable in assisting students to achieve their potential.

Thank you for all the support you give to Macclesfield High School.

Yours sincerely

KEVIN HARRISON  
Headteacher

### FITTER SCHOOLS UK CHALLENGE



This term sees every child in Years 7, 8 and 9 working hard as we bid to become Britain's fittest school. Students have taken 3 fitness tests and will be re-tested in 6 weeks' time in order to look for a vast improvement. To encourage your child and to help us become Britain's fittest school, we have 5 requests for your family.

1. Swap sugary drinks for water, milk or juice.
2. Eat healthy snacks.
3. Eat breakfast every day.
4. Have your 5-a-day fruit and vegetables.
5. Spend 60 minutes walking, playing or dancing each day.

With these 5 steps we can achieve our goal!

Each week we will release a family challenge for the whole family to complete. **This week's challenge is as follows:**

**Can you do 100 throws and catches with a partner each day for a week?**

### YEAR 10 EXAMS

Please note that internal exams for Y10 students will take place between Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March.

### STOP THE CLOCK DAYS

Please note that, in order to make up for lesson time lost due to school closure during the bad weather, we will not be holding our Stop the Clock Days on 16<sup>th</sup> March and 24<sup>th</sup> June. Normal lessons will take place on those days.

### JANUARY A-LEVEL EXAM RESULTS

The January A-Level exam results will be released on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March. Please see Mr Spedding in the Exams Office to collect your results slips.

### EXAMS FOR Y10 & Y11

The following are official GCSE exams which are very important. They are for all Year 10 students and those Year 11 students who have paid for re-sits

- ✓ **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**  
Maths GCSE
- ✓ **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**  
Science GCSE

Please make sure that your son/daughter is in school on time and with all the correct equipment.

## A-LEVEL RE-SITS

Please note that **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March is the last date for entries for A-Level re-sits.** Please see Mr Spedding in the Exams Office for costs. Cheques should be made payable to 'Macclesfield High School'.

## ART EXAMS

Please note the following art exams.

- **Year 11** - Groups 11A and B: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March; 11D Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March; 11A and B: Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March; 11D Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March. Each session is five hours.
- **Year 12** – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, five hours.
- **Year 13** – Tuesday – Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> April. Five hours each day.

All students are welcome and encouraged to work in the department as much as possible after school and during lunch times. Best of luck to everyone.

*Miss Forster and Mrs Underhill*

## WORLD BOOK DAY



We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March. There will be lots of activities and competitions for staff and students of all year groups to become involved in. This will include a whole school DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) event during form time.

## SURVIVING TEENAGERS/PRE-TEENS PARENTING COURSES



Would you like to know more about what to expect in the teenage years or how to cope with your teenager?

Surviving Teenagers is a 6 week course to guide you through the challenges of having a teenager or pre-teen in your household. Our courses will run on

- Wednesday afternoons from 12.30pm to 2.30pm at **Hurdsfield Children's Centre**, Hulley Road, Macclesfield, SK10 2LW.
- Wednesday evenings from 6.30pm to 8.30pm at **Tytherington High School**, Manchester Road, Macclesfield, SK10 2EE.

Course dates will be April 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

Courses have limited places, will be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis and will be open to parents of other schools in the EIP.

For more information or to book a place, please contact Pauline Holt, Family Coordinator, e-mail [pauline.holt@macchigh.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:pauline.holt@macchigh.cheshire.sch.uk) or telephone 01625 383143.

## STUDENT PLANNERS

A reminder to check and sign your child(ren)'s planner(s) each week. This is important as it ensures that you are kept informed of homework set for your child(ren).

## CONTACT DETAILS

If you have recently changed address, home telephone number, mobile telephone number, e-mail address, emergency contacts or other contact details, please inform the school office so that we can contact you in case of emergency.

## ABSENCE

If your child is going to be absent from school, please phone school on 383100 on the **first day of absence**, giving the reason for absence and expected return date. If your child is absent for more than three days a further call should be made to school. **When your child returns, they should bring a note from yourselves explaining the reason for absence. This should be given to their form tutor.** Thank you for your co-operation.

## SPEAKEASY COURSE FOR PARENTS

### DOES THE THOUGHT OF TALKING TO YOUR CHILDREN ABOUT SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS WORRY OR CONFUSE YOU?

If so, we will be running a SPEAKEASY course designed just for you! Fun – Relaxed – Informative – Useful for parents/carers with children of all ages.



talking sense about sex

Among the many topics covered on the course, we will look at:

- answering children's questions (all ages);
- sex and relationships education in schools;
- puberty and growing up;
- contraception.

**Come along and find out more!**

**Tuesday mornings 9.30 am – 11.30 am commencing 20<sup>th</sup> April 2010 at Broken Cross Community School, Parkett Heyes Road, Macclesfield.**

**For further details, please contact Pauline Holt on 01625 383143 or 07718 900157. Email: [pauline.holt@macchigh.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:pauline.holt@macchigh.cheshire.sch.uk)**

**Why not visit the Speakeasy website for further information? <http://www.fpa.org.uk/Inthecomunity/Speakeasy>**

## HOMEWORK CLUB

We hold a drop-in style Homework Club on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays after school. Students can call in to the LRC (library) to do their homework at any time between 3.00 pm and 4.30 pm. They do not have to stay for the full hour-and-a-half (unless they want to!)

## WORLD THAI BOXING CHAMPION

The UK's first female Thai Boxing World Champion, Rachael Mackenzie, visited school on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February to support the school's participation in the Sky Sports Living for Sport programme.

Sky Sports Living for Sport is a free online tool ([www.skysports.com/livingforsport](http://www.skysports.com/livingforsport)) that has been designed for young people aged 11 to 16, encouraging them to take on different activities and learn new sports to help them reach their potential. A highly respected female World Thai Boxing Champion (and the first UK female to attain the title), Rachael Mackenzie is one of 17 sports personalities visiting schools around the country to share her experiences, inspiring and motivating young people of all levels of sporting ability.

During the visit, a group of students challenged Ms Mackenzie to some Thai Boxing of their own after spending time with her hearing about her own inspiring story of struggle and success through sport.

Rachael Mackenzie said "it was a pleasure to meet the young people at Macclesfield High School and hear about their involvement in Sky Sports Living for Sport. The project can help students in so many ways and they have already used it across a number of subjects. I hope that their experience with the scheme, and hearing my own story, will give them the encouragement to be the best they can be".

David Dolman, Director of Learning at Macclesfield High School (who sustained a mild wrist injury whilst participating with his female opponent in an exhibition bout!) said: "Rachael Mackenzie's visit represents the culmination of many weeks hard work by this group of students, during which they have learnt numerous important skills".

## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2010/2011

A reminder that school holiday dates for 2009/10 and 2010/11 can be found on our website at

<http://www.macchigh.cheshire.sch.uk/calendar/termdates.aspx>

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Next Week is Week A 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> March

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| 8 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> March  | Week B |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> March | Week A |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup> March | Week B |
| Easter                                    |        |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> April | Week A |

- ✓ **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**  
LZ6 Interview Evening
- ✓ **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March**  
Y10 Parents' Evening
- ✓ **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March**
  - LZ6 Interview Evening
  - Y12 Parents' Evening
- ✓ **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March**  
School Closes for Easter
- ✓ **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April**  
School re-opens

## YOUR FEEDBACK

Thank you for all the support you give to Macclesfield High School. Please let us know if there is anything that you want to comment on. We want you to help us to improve our school all the time.