



# THE MAELOR SCHOOL

www.maelorschool.org.uk

Issue 3

March 2009

## Spring Newsletter

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am delighted to be able to inform you that the refurbishment of the school is continuing. Following the up-grading of the toilets in the 'C' block the windows on the top floor of the same block have now been replaced along with the floor covering. The work on the replacement of the slates on the science block roof has also been completed. Currently the outside of the school is being redecorated. During the summer it is likely that the other toilets will be upgraded in readiness for the autumn term.

The Welsh Assembly Government's announcement of 5 million pounds towards school refurbishment means that we should see the start of the building of the sports hall in the autumn term. Copies of the architects drawing of the sports hall are on show in the school and can be viewed on parents' evenings or any time you visit the school.

All pupils, students and staff are to be congratulated on their efforts for Red Nose Day. The money collected during the three-legged football match and for wearing something red to school resulted in us collecting a total of £628.30 for charity.

Yours sincerely,

**Eiddwyn Hall.**  
**Headteacher**

## JANE HUTT

MINISTER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION, LIFELONG LEARNING AND SKILLS FOR THE  
WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT  
VISITS THE SCHOOL, FRIDAY 6TH FEBRUARY

We were notified on Wednesday, 4th February that Jane Hutt A.M., Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills for the Welsh Assembly Government wished to come to the school on Friday 6th February to meet staff and pupils.



Although it was a whistle stop visit with her spending just over an hour at the school she enjoyed the Year 7 and 8 assembly, joined a few classes and met with pupils from each year group in the library. She viewed the plans for the new sports hall and had a chance to sign our visitors book.

I would like to share her comment with you;

**Excellent visit to a fantastic school. Look forward to seeing the new Sports Hall.**

We will be sure to invite her back to the official opening on its completion!

### *Special Points of Interest*

- ◆ Headteacher's letter
- ◆ Minister's visit
- ◆ Funding received from the LEA
- ◆ Students win scholarships to America
- ◆ Sporting Success
- ◆ Books for schools
- ◆ Tesco Vouchers
- ◆ Year 11 leaving t-shirt
- ◆ Mock Interviews
- ◆ PTA news
- ◆ Lost Property
- ◆ Mobile phones
- ◆ Exam Information
- ◆ Diary Dates

### **£8,000 Received**

The L.E.A. has helped by giving the school £8,000 to replace the boilers for the swimming pool refurbishment.

# Diary Dates

## March

Wednesday 25th Year 12 Academic Parents' Evening (4.30—6.30 pm)

## April

Wednesday 1st Maelor Music Society Concert (7.30 pm)

Thursday 2nd Year 11 & Year 13 school photographs (morning only)

Friday 3rd

**School closed—Staff training day**

**School closes for Easter Holidays**

**School closed - Staff training day**

**School re-opens for Summer term**

Monday 20th

Tuesday 21st

Tuesday 28th

Thursday 30th

Year 12 Biology practical exam

Junior Maths Challenge (top 2 sets)

## May

Monday 4th School closed—May Day Bank holiday

Tuesday 5th Year 13 Biology practical examination and Year 9 examinations week

Thursday 7th Year 11 Celebration Evening (7 pm)

Friday 8th Year 11 Leaving trip to Alton Towers (9.15—5.30 pm)

Monday 11th All external examinations begin

Friday 22nd

**School closes for half term**

## June

Monday 1st **School re-opens**

Thursday 11th Module 1 GCSE Maths Exam for all Year 10 students (afternoon only)

Friday 12th GCSE Biology Exam for all Year 10 students (morning only)

Tuesday 16th GCSE Statistics Exam for all Year 10 students (morning only)

Wednesday 17th GCSE Chemistry Exam for all Year 10 students (morning only)

Friday 19th GCSE Physics Examination for all Year 10 students (morning only)

Wednesday 24th Year 8 Health Day

Year 9 students to Glan Llyn

Thursday 25th Year 8 Parents' Evening

Friday 26th

**Staff Training Day school closed to students**

Year 11 Prom at the Ramada Hotel, Wrexham (7.30—Midnight)

Tuesday 30th

Sports Day

## July

Wednesday 1st Reserve Sports Day

Monday 6th Year 10 & Year 12 begin 2 weeks work experience placement

Tuesday 7th Year 7 Celebration Assembly

Year 6 Intake Parents' Evening (7 pm-9 pm)

Wednesday 8th Year 8 celebration Assembly

Primary Sports Day

Thursday 9th Year 6 Intake Day

Friday 10th Year 9 Celebration Assembly

Charity Fair in the afternoon

Monday 13th Activities Week

Humanities Trip leaves for France

Friday 17th

**School closes for Summer break**

## Holiday Dates

### Spring Term 2009

Easter Holidays 03.04.2009 - 20.04.2009

### Summer Term 2009

May Day 04.05.2009

Half-term 22.05.2009 - 01.06.2009

**Summer holidays 17.07.2009**

## Training Days

School will be closed on these dates for staff training.

Friday 3rd April 2009

Monday 20th April 2009

Friday 26th June 2009

Monday 20th July 2009



## Four Students from Year 13 win Scholarships to Study in Georgia, America



Four sixth form students successfully gained places to study in America next year as a result of the Rotary Scholarship Programme. Jandre Grobler, Sarah & Katie Pugh and Beth Wellsbury will be leaving Britain in August for Georgia, USA.

Students from all over the UK apply for just a few sought after places so were delighted to hear the news that all four students who applied from The Maelor School were offered places.

We wish them the very best of luck as they continue the tradition of Maelor students representing their country in America.

## BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS 2009

We have signed up for a great new collection scheme that could provide us with lots of new books for the School Library, and we would really appreciate your help.

Since January 11, *Books for Schools* tokens have appeared every day in **The Times** and **The Sunday Times**. We can exchange these tokens for free books of our choice from a catalogue of 170 titles.

There will be 12 tokens printed every week, and with books starting at only 10 tokens, you don't have to be a regular Times reader to really make a difference to our collection.



Please collect as many tokens as you can and give them to your child to bring to school. Tokens can be deposited in our special collection boxes located in the School Library and Reception.

We will be placing our first book order at the end of the Spring term, so please make sure we have all your tokens before the Easter holiday begins.

With your help we can make a real difference to our library, ensuring that pupils and students have access to some of the very best titles available to encourage them to read.

*N.B. Tokens will continue to appear next term, through to*

## TESCO VOUCHERS



*Every little helps*

This year the vouchers can be cashed in for computer equipment as well as sports, art, education, cooking and environmental equipment which covers all aspects of the school curriculum.

**Please put your vouchers in the collecting box in the Library.**

## Lost Property

We still continue to receive items of clothing in lost property which have no names in.

Could you please ensure that all clothing and equipment brought into school is clearly marked so if an item is handed into lost property we can return to the correct owner.

## Year 11 Leavers T-Shirt



Tempest the school photographers have introduced a leavers t-shirt. Each Year 11's photograph will appear on the t-shirt which can then be autographed and kept as a memento to remember their classmates by in years to come. If your child would like a T-shirt they need to order on the day (2nd April) at a cost of £8.50 (cheques only please, payable to The Maelor School).

## MEDALS FOR MAELOR GYMNASTS

Successful Maelor students took part in the Welsh Acrobatic Gymnastic Finals held at the Welsh Institute of Sport, Cardiff on Friday 27th February 2009.

Rob Evans & Cassi Adelman gained Silver medals in the Under 19 Mixed Pairs.

Dani Jones & Bethan Langley won Gold medals in the Under 13 Girls Pairs and will be representing Wales in the National Schools Finals on the 2nd & 3rd May at Fenton Manor Leisure Complex in Stoke-on-Trent.

The school team also entered the U19's Floor and Vault Competition with students from all year groups making up the team. Congratulations go to Natalie Shaw (Yr11), Cassi Adelman (Yr 10), Dani Jones, & Jasmine Allen (Yr 8) Bethan Langley, Emily Dimelow & Hannah Harding (Yr 7) for winning Silver Medals.

## YEAR 11 MOCK INTERVIEW DAY

On Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> February Year 11 students took part in a mock interview experience.

The mock interviews were organised by Mrs. Janet Binley-Jones, Mrs. Janet Cross and Mrs. Caryl Murphy. All students looked extremely smart and enjoyed this valuable experience.

Interviewers came from the Rotary Club, Careers Wales, Army, Navy and Air force, Kellogg's, Glyndwr University and AVOW. Very positive comments about the students were passed to the organisers at the end of the session.



### P.T.A. News

Last term the PTA worked hard with the fundraising for the refurbishment of the swimming pool. Several events took place and over £1,700 was raised which is an amazing start.

Bags 2 Schools donations were received from parents of pupils in years 7,8 and 9. After receiving over 100 bags we hope we have gathered enough to receive £400 towards our fundraising, thank you to all who helped.

With this success we will be collecting again from the whole school for another collection in October, further details will be sent nearer the time so please don't throw out any unwanted clothes, bedding, curtains, soft toys, belts and handbags which are still in a resale able condition until then.

***We may even double our money!***

***If anyone has any ideas for raising more funds, please phone Mrs Stewart at the school (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday's only) or attend the next PTA meeting which will be held in school on Wednesday, 18th March at 7.30 pm.***

### P.T.A. Family Quiz Night & Hot Pot Supper

This PTA event will be held at The Hanmer Arms on 27th March 2009 at 7.00 pm. £6 adults, £4 for children.

Tickets will include a hotpot supper and are available from school reception.

Each team can have up to 6 people but must include at least 1 adult. Questions to suit most ages.

### Mobile Phones

The school has a policy regarding mobile phones. Students can carry a phone in school but they are to be switched off during lessons and not used during school times. If a student urgently needs to phone a parent, they should go to the reception area where they will be allowed to use their mobile. If the school has rearranged an event that a student would need to contact their parent for they will be allowed to use the school phone at reception.

Any phones used during lessons will be confiscated and made available to collect at 3.30 pm. If this happens on more than one occasion a parent will be asked to collect the phone on the students behalf.

### Important Exam Information



The exam period is quickly approaching. All students in Years 10 and 11 have been given a provisional timetable for their exams.

Practical exams and oral exams will take place during March and April with the rest of the GCSE and GCE exams commencing from **Monday 11th May** until **Wednesday 24th June**.

Can all parents please ensure that their child attends school on these dates and arrives on time with the correct equipment i.e. pen with black ink, pencil, ruler, etc and if your child wishes to bring in a pencil case please ensure it is a see through type for the examination. May I remind all students that mobile phone, bags, ipods, mp3's etc are not allowed to be taken into the examination.

Examination results will be available to collect in August and certificate will be available January 2010, a letter will be given to all students nearer the time with exact times and dates.