

Cavendish Contact



Issue 110

11 December 2015

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Sixth Form Aim Higher Students Barrister Insight Event

As part of the Sixth Form Aim Higher Programme, on Friday 6 November I attended a Barrister Insight Event held at the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple in London. We were selected as part of an initiative to make the legal profession more accessible to talented students from less affluent backgrounds. It consisted of a variety of activities and sessions that developed my understanding of the legal profession and the skills and education required to enter this field of work. The day began with lectures from barristers, from a range of backgrounds. They worked in different sectors of law and talked about the possible paths of education one can take to enter this field. The other attendees and I were able to speak with barristers and law students about their experiences and ask questions. This first-hand information about degree

courses, grades that universities require from potential barristers, and what to expect from the profession was very informative and provided valuable advice.

My favourite part of the day was when we broke into groups to discuss actual cases and decisions. We applied some of what we had learned in the lectures to a plea in mitigation; this means that when a defendant has been found guilty you can explain the extenuating circumstances, point out that minimal harm was actually suffered as a result of the criminal act, and generally argue for leniency of sentencing.

The day was highly educational as well as enjoyable, and I have a greater understanding of what is required should I decide to follow law as a career.

Mehrزد Field, year 12

Psychology Masterclass

As set up by our learning mentors, the Aim Higher students attended either a History or a Psychology Masterclass led by a year 13 student. As part of the new linear course system we have already come to realise the struggles we will face, having to take only a single set of exams at the end of two years, and having to remember everything we have been taught over this time. The sessions proved to be of much help to all, as the older students had already completed their first year, AS course, and had some highly valuable exam tips and advice for us.

Sophie Leppard led the Psychology session, and taught us the importance of organisation. The majority of us already had a folder with separators, but Sophie showed us how to correctly divide each sub section of each topic, complete with colour codes, to ensure an easier and more efficient means of revision. Since

then we've all spent a couple of free periods sorting out our folders, making it so much more convenient in lessons when we need to refer back to a certain study.

During the session we were also advised of a different set of revision books which we'd never heard of before. After researching them, we found that there was a variety of different books that covered ALL of the topics we need for our course. Not only do they go over the information we need, but they are also very money friendly compared to the original books we were advised to buy. They also prove to have more concise information and details that we need for our exam style. Sophie was very helpful as she provided us with pre-prepared sheets defining key terms within Psychology and reviewing important studies. These have already proved to be extremely helpful as I know everyone's

sheets are now covered in colour with annotations coming from every corner.

Overall the masterclass session was very supportive for us as we learnt some new exam tips to use in the future, some which we have already put into place. Hearing this advice from a year 13 student was the best thing for us at this time of year when everyone is beginning to stress, and the hard realisation of just how difficult A levels are has kicked in. As a close sixth form, we know that the year 13s would not lie to us about the level of pressure or the amount of work we need to put in to be able to achieve our expected and aspirational grades. I can speak for all of the Aim Higher students, and many of the other students in sixth form, when I say that we would definitely benefit from and appreciate more masterclass sessions in the future on different subjects and different aspects of our courses.

Madi Chuimi, year12

100% Attendance

100% Attendance in November was achieved by:

76 students in Year 7
46 students in Year 8
63 students in Year 9
94 students in Year 10
111 students in Year 11

At Cavendish we expect a minimum of 95% attendance for the academic year. If your attendance falls below 95% you will receive a letter from your Head of Year offering support so that your attendance improves and you maximise the learning opportunities we as a school offer.

If your attendance falls below 90% our Attendance Improvement Officer will become involved and a Fixed Penalty Notice maybe issued.

Regular attendance at school is vital.

- Ten days off per school year means that a student has about 94.7% attendance.
- Twenty days off per school year means that a student has about 90% attendance
- 90% attendance means 4 whole weeks off school.
- 90% attendance in Years 7–11 means ½ a year off school.
- 17 days off school every year means that you will probably obtain a whole grade lower in your exams than you are really capable of.

Mr Woodard, Assistant Headteacher

Junior Question Time

On Thursday 19 November I accompanied a mixture of Years 12 and 13 students to St Albans Abbey to take part in a Question Time format. Types of questions asked ranged from the recent Paris terrorist attacks to tuition fees. The panel was formed of two MPs, a journalist, a CEO and a TV personality. The host was journalist Sameera Khan.

All of my Year 12 Philosophy and Ethics class attended the day as I felt this was a valuable opportunity to voice and hear students talking about a wide range of issues. I do feel this had a positive impact on the students as many said afterwards how they would have liked to be more vocal, but unfortunately the layout of the day did not allow for all to take part.

I would urge more Sixth Formers to take part in the day for future years as listening to your peers is such a worthwhile activity.

Miss Stone, Acting ACL RE

Year 7 Buddhist Meditation/Zen Gardens

On Thursday 3 December a competition for Year 7 took place with all the completed Buddhist meditation/Zen gardens on display. After having a chance to look at the gardens, Mr Hopkin had the unenviable task of deciding the winning entries. The behaviour was good overall and it was an excellent opportunity for students' hard work to be recognised.

Winners were: Kaylee Richardson, Katie Howlett and Kyle Welfare (receiving a chocolate selection box).

Runners up were: Megan Morgan, Scott Blythe and Amber Macdonald (receiving a Cavendish pen).

Miss Stone, Acting ACL RE



There has been a case of head lice identified in year 7.

Please check your child's hair and ensure your household is treated and lice free before returning to school.

Year 10 Vaccinations

You should by now have received a consent form for your child to receive the **Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio booster, and Meningococcal ACWY** vaccinations on 14 January next year.

Could you please complete the form indicating your consent and return it to Student Services by the end of term.

Please do not hesitate to contact the immunisation team on 01727 73402 if you have any concerns or questions about either of these vaccinations. Further information can also be found at www.nhs.uk/vaccinations.



Exemplary Work

Congratulations to Freya Chapman, 8Br2, for the excellent poem she wrote for her RE assessment: *If I were God for a day*. Freya receives a literacy award for her work.

*In the world I have made
Heroes like doctors are better paid,
Peace doubles suffering by far,
Pollution is limited like more electric cars,
Each to their own,
Everyone is free,
No more cutting down trees,
No animal will become extinct,
In a battle of good and evil, evil will sink.
Suffering is here,
So we can learn to put up with our peer,
People will struggle so they become their best,
Each person will rise from their nest,
No body alone,
Each person will loan
A helping hand
To save the land.
War will happen,
Otherwise we would have no free will,
A person that kills
Will face their fate,
No one can be a saint.
All of the above are in place
To help make the world a better place.
Everyone will suffer but come out better.
My world,
Rotating in the universe,
Will be a nice place to be, for you and me.*

Diary of Events

December 2015

Wednesday 9th Thursday 10th	Dance Evenings 6.30-9pm
Monday 14th - Tuesday 15th	Wacky Week
Tuesday 15th	Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 16th	Christmas Concert 6.00pm-8.30pm
Thursday 17th	KS5 Rewards Evening 6.30pm-8.30pm
Friday 18th	TERM ENDS 12.15pm

January 2016

Monday 4th	TERM STARTS 8.40am
Monday 4th - Friday 8th	Year 10 Assessment Week
Thursday 7th	Post 16 Options Evening
Monday 11th - Friday 15th	Year 12 and 13 Assessment Week
Tuesday 12th	Year 11 Parents' Consultation Evening
Thursday 14th	Year 10 Vaccinations
Thursday 21st	Year 9 KS4 Options Evening
Tuesday 26th	Year 7 Parents' Consultation Evening

Parent Governor Elections

Unfortunately, disappointing though it may seem, no one has stepped forward for election onto the Governing Body as Parent Governor. We would like to offer, therefore, a chance to meet with the Chair of Governors to discuss the role, as a way to proceed with this appointment of Parent Governor. Please email h.hardy@cavendish.herts.sch.uk by **16th December 2015** to express an interest.

Improve your wordpower



Word of the Week

Compassion (noun)

Definitions:

A strong feeling of sympathy and sadness for the suffering or bad luck of others and a wish to help them.

Examples of use:

- The victims should be treated with **compassion**.
- I was hoping she might show a little **compassion**.

Spelling tip:

Lots of sympathy -> lots of s's
com·pas·sion



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