



2009 Performance Tables

The official results from last summer's examinations were published last week, as you may have seen in the press. Our provisional figures have been confirmed so we did indeed meet our National Challenge targets and achieved a new school record with 48% of Year 11 achieving five GCSE passes as grade C or above. We received some very good press coverage from this, part of which appears below, and I was interviewed on BBC Cambridgeshire on Thursday morning. That same day a letter was received from the Secretary of State, Ed Balls, congratulating us on our results. I am putting a copy of that letter on the back of this week's newsletter so that all students and parents can see it.

More Important Dates

A reminder that **Year 11** have Parents' Evening next Tuesday, 26 January, from 4.30pm. The following week **Year 9** have their Options Evening on Tuesday at 7pm and Year 10 have internal exams all week.

Sean Hayes

*From the Peterborough Evening Telegraph,
13 January 2010*

GCSE results improve for some schools

WHILE the overall situation in the city was one of could do better, for some schools there was a marked improvement in GCSE results last year.

Leading the way was St John Fisher Catholic High School which has bounced back after a dire 2008 when it was placed in special measures by Ofsted, which found its standards "exceptionally low".

While only 18 per cent of its pupils passed five GCSEs, including English and Maths, at A*-C grades in 2008 – this had leapt up to 31 per cent in 2009.

Peterborough City Council's assistant director of learning and skills Mel Collins said she was delighted with the progress achieved by the school's new headteacher Sean Hayes.

She said: "I want to pay tribute to the schools that have done well this year especially to St John Fisher, whose results are a testament to the hard work of the teaching staff".

Midday Supervisor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a Midday Supervisor. If any parent is interested in this role please would you contact the school for more information.

Achievement in Drama

This week we are celebrating the achievement of students in the Drama department.

Students of the Month:

Progress

Yr 7	Marcelina Klupiec, Kristina-Anastazia Lackova
Yr 8	Kieran Porter, Rebecca Burgess
Yr 9	William Healy, Ahmad Moradi
Yr 10	Damien Maggs, Eloy Conde
Yr 11	Shahida Akhtar, Lauren Schwinger
Yr 12	Shannon Walker
Yr 13	Hannah Bolton

Achievement

Yr 7	Danae Larham, Sandro Fonseca
Yr 8	Aleksandra Tetnowski, Saf Nawaz
Yr 9	Dominica Ciach, Charlotte Phillips Clarke
Yr 10	Claudio Marques, Megan Ayling
Yr 11	Karolina Jaskunaite, Zain Awan
Yr 12	Shaunagh McClean
Yr 13	Jordan Kerr Gray

Congratulations and well done to all. Mrs Gwenin

Acts of Hope

As part of the Holocaust Memorial Day commemorations, our students will be amongst the schools performing at the Key Theatre on Wednesday 27 January at 7.00 pm. This is an evening of music and drama that explores the HMD theme for 2010 – Legacy of Hope. All support would be welcome.

Boys Indoor Cricket Results

Year 7 Boys:

v Thomas Deacon Academy - TDA won by 9 runs
v Sir Harry Smith- SJF won by 5 wickets

Year 9 Boys:

v Sir Harry Smith - SJF won by 2 runs
v Thomas Deacon Academy - TDA won by 44 runs
Congratulations to all who took part.

Parent Champion

In his role as Parent Champion, Father David will be available to see parents on Tuesday 26 January at 3.30 pm. Father David may be contacted by phoning him direct on 01733-562528 ext 5, or by email at frdavidallsouls@hotmail.com



Rt Hon Ed Balls MP
Secretary of State

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13 January 2010

Dear Colleague

I would like to thank and congratulate you and everyone at your school for the commitment, hard work and persistence that led to the GCSE results that your pupils achieved in 2009. I am sure that you would agree that it is important to celebrate success, which is why I am writing to each National Challenge school that has either shown outstanding improvement, exceeded the programme's benchmark this year and/or no longer needs programme support due to improved results.

The efforts to increase attainment at your school, reflected in the improved exam results, are something that you should be proud of and I would like to take this opportunity to recognise the good progress that you have clearly made. Each member of the school workforce will have contributed to this success and I would ask that you pass on my thanks to them.

First and foremost it is the pupils who have benefited from the improvements made. They have clearly absorbed the changes, studied hard and shown determination to succeed. The results that they have achieved will hold them in good stead for the future whilst also demonstrating to younger pupils what can be achieved at your school.

The National Challenge has, of course, never been about a single year's results, or even only about meeting the 30 per cent target by 2011. It is intended to support schools in creating sustainable change, so that future generations of students benefit as much from what you are doing now as your current students.

I know that you all will be committed to meeting the challenge of building on what has been achieved to sustain and continue to improve. I am confident that your school will continue to move forward in this positive direction and I look forward to celebrating with you even greater success in this year's GCSE results.

Please pass on my congratulations and best wishes to all your pupils and staff.

Rt Hon Ed Balls MP
Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families