

## Bulletin

### Michaelmas Term –September 2011

#### Welcome....

...to the first HSPA Bulletin of the 2011-12 year. For those of you not already familiar with the HSPA, our role is to help parents to enjoy their time at Highgate through opportunities to meet and socialise together at year group or whole school events. We also organise pastoral talks to give parents a chance to hear from, and quiz, expert speakers about the issues that concern parents of Y7-13 year old children and teenagers. In addition, although not a fundraising body, the HSPA makes small profits from some of its events which are used for the benefit of pupils and parents, eg subsidising the Leavers' Ball that is held for Y13 each summer.

Some of our events will occasionally feature a fundraising element, where raising money for a charity, or good cause, adds an element of fun and enjoyment for parents. We welcome all suggestions from parents for events or talks that you would like to help organise. Read on to find out about some of the HSPA activities to watch out for this term ....

#### Pastoral Evenings:

We hope you will be able to join us for the two pastoral evening planned for this term. The first, on Wednesday 21 September is a talk by Dr David Moore CBE, an educational consultant, who is also an advisor to the Parliamentary Education Select Committee. He specialises in issues affecting children and young people, such as behaviour, friendship groups, bullying and social and emotional development. All are welcome, although this talk is primarily aimed at Parents with children in years 7, 8 & 9. (Location: Dyne House Auditorium 7pm)

The second, is a presentation on "E-Safety" to be held on Tuesday 22 November at 6.30 in Dyne House Auditorium – more details to follow.

If you are interested in attending either or both of these talks, please email with your son or daughter's name and year group to: [talks@highgateschool.org.uk](mailto:talks@highgateschool.org.uk)

If you have any suggestions for future subjects or speakers, please email the HSPA Chair, Karen Stephens at: [hspachair@highgateschool.org.uk](mailto:hspachair@highgateschool.org.uk)

#### School Uniform and Ski-wear Sale:

The next second hand uniform sale will be held in the Mills Centre on Wednesday 2 November at 3.30pm. New stock is always needed for these sales, so all donations are gratefully received. We would be grateful if you could put this date in your diary - details for drop off dates and location for donations will follow.

If parents want to buy uniform or other items for sale and are unable to come to the sale, pupils can be sent with a blank cheque (made out to Highgate School Parents Association) or cash. Good quality white shirts, grey trousers and grey skirts, socks and sports clothes are available. None of the items are very expensive, for example a blazer costs £15 and sports clothing is 50p to £3. If you are donating a blazer and exchanging it for a larger size, your "new" blazer will cost only £5. HSPA Reps will be on hand to help with sizes.

We will be again selling ski wear in the sale, so please donate your second hand or unused ski wear. Any ski wear left unsold at the end of the sale will be donated to a local charity shop.

#### The Great Big Swim: (in aid of ChildLine)

This year "The Great Big Swim" will be taking place in the Mallinson Centre from 4pm on Saturday 11th to 4pm on Sunday 12 November.

The aim is to swim 240 miles over 24 hours, raising £24,000 – doubling last year's achievement! All are welcome – from those who can just manage a width to those of you who can plough up and down the lanes! Bring your family and friends for fun (and fundraising) in the pool. Please reply to [thegreatbigswim@gmail.com](mailto:thegreatbigswim@gmail.com)



### Christmas Fair:

The Highgate Junior School Christmas Fair is to be held on Friday 2 December from 7.30am in the Dining Hall – this is always a wonderful event with a huge variety of stalls and a great opportunity to purchase Christmas gifts.

### Baby-Sitting Service:

Finishing touches are being applied to the new babysitting service (following the successful schemes of Channing and North London Collegiate) which will enable Highgate School families seeking a local babysitter to be matched with an appropriate Highgate 6th Former – Mr Brunskill has spoken to the Sixth form about this at the start of term, and once we have compiled all the details the scheme will be rolled out.

### Mentoring Network:

Last year, the HSPA launched the Mentoring Network in conjunction with the school and with the Cholmeleian Society. Work is underway to develop and progress this innovative scheme for current Highgate parents and former pupils to provide career advice and mentoring (and possibly also work placements) to Highgate pupils; anyone interested in participating in the Network can email : [hspamentors@highgateschool.org.uk](mailto:hspamentors@highgateschool.org.uk). – More details will follow in the course of the term.

### Other matters:

**2011 Edinburgh Fringe:** Members of the Sixth Form took “Much Ado About Nothing” to the Edinburgh Fringe this year, which was a great success. The PA contributed £500 towards this trip – which kept the Thespians in food and drink! They wish to thank the PA for this contribution.

**A list of HSPA events** planned for the term is shown below and also available on the HSPA pages on the School website: [www.highgateschool.org.uk](http://www.highgateschool.org.uk) Invitations for these events will be sent out via the School Office with further reminders available via your Reps.

## HSPA Events – Michaelmas Term 2011

Wednesday 21 September	19.00	Pastoral Presentation by Dr David Moore – “Social Circles”	Dyne House Auditorium
Wednesday 2 November	15.30	HSPA School Uniform and Ski-Wear Sale	Mills Centre
Wednesday 9 November	20:00-	HSPA Open Meeting	Entrance Lodge
Tuesday 22 November	18.30	HSPA Pastoral Presentation – “E-Safety”	Dyne House Auditorium
Friday 2 December	07.30	Charity Christmas Fair	Dining Hall

### HSPA OFFICERS:

Chair: Karen Stephens [hspachair@highgateschool.org.uk](mailto:hspachair@highgateschool.org.uk)  
 Co Vice Chairs: Caroline Woollard & Cathy Huston [hspavicechair@highgateschool.org.uk](mailto:hspavicechair@highgateschool.org.uk)  
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