



The Caring Face of Academic Excellence



Pictured top: Mrs Buckle, Bishop Crispian & Chair of Governors, Mr Maher

Middle: Previous Headmistress Miss Thomas & Mr Whelpdale

Bottom: Design & Technology and Art staff

A bright new look... ...as facilities are extended

Our girls are looking forward to pushing creative boundaries even further following the completion of the St Anne's Art and Design Technology Centre. The centre was blessed and officially opened by the Bishop of Portsmouth, The Right Reverend Crispian Hollis, in a ceremony attended by students, staff and guests. The Grade 1 listed building has been extended and enhanced to provide a Design and Technology workshop, three art studios, a graphic design suite and dedicated Sixth Form studios. The wide range of resources in both departments will allow pupils to become involved in painting, sculpture, ceramics, textiles, glass, graphic design, photography, fashion, animation, computer generated imagery, woodwork, plastics and metalwork. The beautiful building, built in 1860, has been sympathetically restored, with many of the original features retained and highlighted.



Above: Art Studio

Left: Ceramics Studio



Chinese

It came as no surprise that the launch of the Mandarin Chinese lunchtime and afterschool clubs was such a success. Over a hundred girls have expressed an interest in the clubs: we are very fortunate that the girls here have a natural and growing curiosity about the world around them and it is a joy to hear them practise their Chinese pronunciation around the school.



We have also started to refurbish the Science laboratories. The Chemistry Lab and Prep Room were completed over the summer and the girls and staff are really enjoying using the new facilities. More work is due to be done on this area next summer.



The charity fashion show in aid of Frimley Park Hospital's Heart 2 Heart appeal was hugely entertaining for the packed audience and our students. Clothes from River Island and students' recycled 'eco' and GCSE garments were modelled. The girls looked professional and stylish with hair and make-up expertly done by students from Farnborough College of Technology whose help was very much appreciated.

Outstanding Results

A level students were delighted to have achieved their goals with outstanding results: 84% of the grades achieved were A or B grades with 93% of all grades at C or above. Bucking the trend for girls, nearly three quarters of the year group took Maths and/or Sciences and these results were particularly strong with nearly 90% of grades at A or B.



Among the top achievers were 10 girls with straight A grades, including (pictured with Head of Science, **Sue Macey**, l to r): **Jenny Orchard** (Economics at Warwick University), **Laura Amatt** (History at Royal Holloway), **Caroline Haines** (Music (Composition) at The Royal Northern College of Music), **Sue Macey**, **Joanna Belcher** (Medicine at University College London), **Sarah Wonham** (Archaeology & Ancient History at St John's College, Oxford), **Hannah Dennis** (Veterinary Science at The Royal Veterinary College) and **Marina Daoud** (Dentistry at King's College, London). Also going to Cambridge this year were **Molly Beck** (English at Churchill College), **Vinaya Srirangam Nadhamuni** (Medicine at Girton College) and **Rebecca Overton** (Latin and Greek at Selwyn College).

At GCSE, in a record year for Farnborough Hill, a total of 29 girls (one third of the year group) gained straight A/A*s in all their subjects with 63% of all results being at these grades. Particularly thrilled were **Elizabeth Edwards**, **Veena Srirangam Nadhamuni** and **Hannah Thrower** who all gained straight A*s.

The 17 candidates in Year 10 sitting their English GCSE a year early as part of our extension programme for the gifted and talented achieved 100% A*/A grades.



Pictured (l to r) are: **Sophie Astles**, **Rebecca Fisher**, **Olivia Morgan**, **Faye Henry**, **Lucy Cheetham** and **Charlotte Heffernan** who were delighted to achieve 100 marks (maximum unit points) in the three written science papers which comprise the first half of their GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Sixth Form Scholars



Sixth Form Scholars (Academic except where stated) with Mrs Buckle are (standing l to r): **Ruth Simmons**, **Rachel Cauldwell**, **Hannah Thrower**, **Sophie Griffiths**, **Kathryn Morris** (Contribution to School Life), **Sophie Fowler-Tutt** (Creative Arts), (seated l to r) **Sophie Crisp**, **Anna Nicholas** (OGA), **Helen Foster** and **Chloe Micklethwaite** (Sport).

Maths Challenge



Sophie Crisp, **Rachel Cauldwell**, **Tegwen Gabb** (l to r) and **Hannah Patel** participated in the UKMT Senior Team Challenge in Reading. They worked well together, demonstrating great team spirit and a sense of fun whilst tackling some very challenging problems.

Sixth Form at the O₂

As part of a Sixth Form ecological initiative, seven girls (**Lillian Carr**, **Grace McDougall**, **Hannah Patel**, **Hannah Sorrell**, **Charlotte Stidston**, **Hannah Thomas**, **Hannah Thrower**) gave a presentation to 500 students from all over the UK at a Student Earth Summit in the O₂ arena. Their proposal for a National Half Energy Day for Schools on 24 March 2010 was met with enthusiasm by the Earth Summit experts and the girls are now planning a powerful PR campaign to launch it.

Sharing Best Practice



We held a very successful conference entitled 'Overcoming the Barriers to Learning' which focused on dyscalculia and dyspraxia and addressed issues of diagnosis and practical strategies used in the classroom. The speakers were Dr Steve Chinn, Dr Madeleine Portwood and Kathy Contaris. The conference, attended by over 40 teachers from different schools, was rated highly by the delegates and reflects practice already in place at Farnborough Hill.

We were very pleased to host a training event for Heads of Biology in GSA schools, particularly as we were able to hold it in our newly refurbished science laboratory. Dr John Schollar visited from the National Centre for Biotechnology Education at the University of Reading to run a practical workshop on gene screening. The teachers learnt about new techniques for delivering topics connected with biotechnology and generally shared good practice.



THINK TANK TALKS

Farnborough Hill Old Girl, **Amanda Christie**, spoke with girls about the risks and rewards involved in setting up her own business. She works with TV presenter **Sarah Beeny** on the very successful **mysinglefriend.com**. Truly an inspiration!

Local farmer, **Giles Porter**, gave a talk about the changes in farming in Crondall. This was a particularly relevant and interesting talk for the GCSE Geography students as it reinforced what they had been learning in the classroom.

Women into Leadership

Year 10 and Year 11 scholars, accompanied by Mrs Brocklehurst and Mrs Nelson, went to a GSA Women into Leadership Conference at St Swithun's School Winchester. A number of high profile women from across the career spectrum gave talks, seminars and question and answer sessions on the theme 'Can women have it all?' The general consensus was yes, but at a cost and also not without a lot of help if they wanted a family life as well. It certainly provoked some lively discussion on the way home in the mini-bus!

Farnborough Hill is celebrating receiving the top standard in the safe2eat.com scheme. Chef Jon Taylor and his assistant Mrs Wendy Dobson are pictured receiving their 'excellent' food safety certificate from the Mayor of Rushmoor. This followed a food hygiene inspection from one of Rushmoor Borough Council's Environmental Health Officers.



Tom Wilkinson with members of the Sixth Form after his excellent talk on careers for women in the finance industry.



Innovation expert Paul Sloane giving the Sixth Form a thought provoking motivational talk.

Community Feast Day

We were delighted to celebrate Community Feast Day with the Sisters. The day began with Assembly in the Hall where we had the opportunity to wish some of the Sisters a 'Happy Feast Day'; later in the morning we had the privilege of witnessing the Sisters renew their vows at Mass and in the afternoon the Lower Sixth went down to Lafosse House to entertain the Sisters and to have tea with them and the teachers. We hope that the Sisters really enjoyed their special day.



Ten students, accompanied by Miss Farmer and Mrs Glover, had the great privilege of sharing a pilgrimage to visit the relics of St. Thérèse of Lisieux at St. John's Cathedral in Portsmouth. They were struck by the reverent atmosphere and the quiet buzz of voices as columns of people processed down the aisle to file past the ornate casket containing the relics. Mrs Glover says that it was very uplifting.



Public Speaking

In the Farnham Rotary competition the senior team, **Elizabeth Nash, Tegwen Gabb** and **Lucy Sparks**, went through to the area finals, bringing the shield safely back home. We have won this competition three years running! We know how hard our girls work to make our teams so successful and Mrs Winch-Johnson says 'we never take it for granted that we will get through, but it is wonderful when we do'.

Farnborough Hill's success in Rotary competitions is, undoubtedly, one of the reasons that Mrs Winch-Johnson and the senior team were invited to present to the Rotary conference in September in Jersey. They had a wonderful weekend and according to Rotary "wowed the conference".



Hampshire Book Awards

Year 9 students went with Mrs Wood and Sr Mannion to Winchester Guildhall to attend the presentation of the Hampshire Book Award. All the girls had read and voted on a shortlist of books together with other schools in Hampshire and were excited to see the winner. The winning book was 'Dogfight' by Craig Simpson – a gripping book about the resistance in Norway during World War II. The author explained how he went about writing his books and how all the events, while fictional, were based on actual happenings.

Prize Giving



Pictured: Charlotte Stidston, Mrs Buckle, Lady Ramsey and Victoria Beynon

We were delighted to welcome Lady Ramsey to Prize Giving. During her address, Lady Ramsey talked about her time as a pupil of Farnborough Hill and her work in education as a teacher and governor. She was particularly impressed by the wide variety of prizes being awarded which she felt truly reflected the school's mission of 'Educating the Whole Person'. Head Girl, Victoria Beynon gave an assured and thoughtful Vote of Thanks on behalf of the school. See our web site for the Headmistress's report for 2009.



To graphically illustrate the difference between rich and poor countries we held a Rich Man / Poor Man lunch in aid of CAFOD. Students whose raffle ticket had a cross on it were treated to a fish and chip lunch with gateau. Everybody else received bread, soup and fruit. Most students felt really embarrassed to be eating a full lunch when their friends had a bowl of soup.

Old Time Music Hall

Senior students put their heads together to present a Victorian 'Old Time Music Hall' in aid of Cancer Research. This wonderful evening included singing, dancing, monologues, comics and magic. There were guest appearances from staff and a professional actor and the evening was held together by a splendid compère. The audience declared it a massive hit!



Year 9 Independent Learning



Year 9 produced posters representing Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education during Independent Learning sessions. They had to discuss, research, co-ordinate and display their ideas and findings in co-operation with each other and meet a deadline with the results. The girls learned the meaning and application of this important element of their curriculum and its relevance to their personal growth and development.

Experience Engineering

Girls from Year 9 attended 'Engineering Experience' residential courses during their summer break to whet their appetites for future careers. The courses are sponsored by The Smallpeice Trust and the girls qualify for Bronze Crest Awards from the British Association for the Advancement of Science.



Ellen Minett, Sweksha Gurung and Lauren Enright said the experience was extremely informative and lots of fun.



Christmas CD Recording

There is something seriously surreal about singing Christmas carols in September sunshine, but our ever intrepid and enterprising Junior and Senior Choirs were definitely up for the challenge and the CD has now been released. A bargain at £10, we hope that you will enjoy it – the perfect Christmas gift!

LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

Miss Fielder organised two lunchtime concerts with over 30 girls from Years 7 – 11 involved. Performances included music for jazz recorder, solo harp, double bass and some lively singing from our GCSE music students!

Tuscany

The Senior Choir enjoyed a week of sunshine, singing and a certain amount of silliness during a tour of Tuscany this summer.

Mrs Phillips said 'the girls' singing was faultless, causing passing tourists to stop and listen and ask from whence they came.' Here's to the tour of 2011!



Sixth Form Team Building



The new Sixth Form enjoyed a bonding experience at the beginning of term when they spent the day facing challenges for the 'Diamond Maze'. Nine teams competed against each other in order to gain time in the 'vortex' reminiscent of the popular 90s TV Show 'The Crystal Maze'. The winning team showed a particular flair for catching tokens whilst blindfolded in the vortex. Well done to all girls for taking part so enthusiastically!

Pass the Popcorn

The Prince's drama studio was transformed into a cinema, complete with popcorn, sweets, crisps and drinks when Year 8 held their 'Film and Pizza' evening. They settled down on cushions and beanbags



to enjoy '17 Again' and 'She's the Man'. As well as enjoying themselves, they managed to raise an impressive £275 for their chosen year charity, the NSPCC. Who says fundraising can't be fun?

Iceland

The Geography department and 24 students were lucky enough to visit the 'Land of Fire and Ice' at half term. The trip proved a fantastic experience for all involved with the opportunity to see a varied landscape including, waterfalls, glaciers, geysers, ice caps, sea arches and even the opportunity to stand on two different tectonic plates! The highlight of the trip was the Northern Lights which proved to be a magical experience for all those brave enough to withstand the freezing temperatures!



A group from the Hampshire Gardens Trust came in the summer to hold a training day on the horticultural history of our site.



Sister Hawkins celebrating her 90th birthday at Lafosse House

Congratulations to Old Girl Anne Marie Cullen, daughter of drama teacher Mrs Cullen, who came home from Sydney with her boyfriend Athan Giannikos this summer. He proposed to her at Farnborough Hill! We send them best wishes for their marriage in Greece next year.

We welcome...



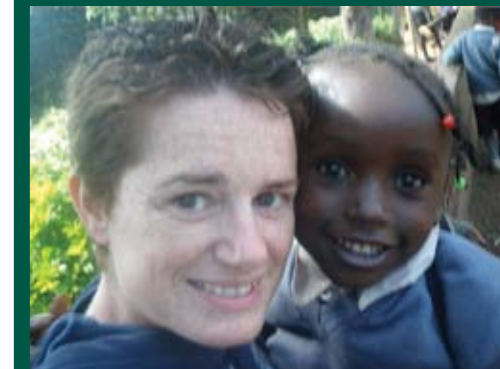
Pictured (l to r)
Mrs O'Laoire (Latin & Classics)
Mrs Holland (Design & Technology)
Mrs Hatton (Biology & Chemistry)
Mrs Ramsdale (English)
Miss Stevenson (Geography)



Dr Baker (Psychology)
Mrs Beverley (French & Spanish)
Miss Miller (Head of Economics & Business Studies)

PARENTS' DIARY 2009

5 Jan	Entrance Examination
6 Jan	School re-opens for pupils
14 Jan	Year 11 Students' and Parents' Evening
19 Jan	Pastoral Information Evening for Year 8 and Year 9 Parents
28 Jan	Year 10 Students' and Parents' Evening
5 Feb	Open Afternoon for Prospective Parents
6 Feb	Friends of Farnborough Hill Event
8 Feb	Year 11 Retreat
9 Feb	Year 10 Retreat
10 Feb	Year 9 Retreat
11 Feb	Year 8 Retreat Informal Music Evening
12 Feb	Year 7 Retreat
	Half Term begins
22 Feb	Half Term ends
25 Feb	Upper Sixth Retreat
	Introduction to GCSE Evening for Year 9 Parents
26 Feb	Upper Sixth Retreat
2 Mar	Higher Education Evening for LVI Students and Parents
4 Mar	Year 9 Parents' Evening – 9A & 9B
11 Mar	Year 9 Parents' Evening - 9α & 9ω
15 Mar	Matinée Performance of 'The Wizard of Oz'
	Evening Performance of 'The Wizard of Oz'
16 Mar	Evening Performance of 'The Wizard of Oz'
17 Mar	Evening Performance of 'The Wizard of Oz'
22 Mar	Gym and Dance Display
26 Mar	Term Ends



Volunteering

Miss Gibson spent 6 weeks during the summer holidays doing voluntary work with Bova in a school for street boys in Kenya, a nursery in the slums and alongside the Sisters of Charity, who ran a home for orphaned women with severe mental and physical disabilities. She says 'This experience will last a lifetime and fundamentally make me a different person. I hope my experience has inspired others to go to Africa.' Please do visit our web site to see the full account of her very moving story.

SPORTS ROUNDUP



Hockey Winners

Ryde 2009

An excellent start to the hockey season saw the Senior Hockey Team winning the U18 Ryde Hockey Tournament on the Isle of Wight. Farnborough Hill has a long history of playing in this 7-a-side tournament having taken part since the tournament was first established in 1987.

ISA Swimming Gala

Congratulations to all of the girls who competed in the ISA London West Swimming Gala. The standard of competition was very high and we were delighted to achieve a number of individual and team victories. In total, we won 18 medals.

The following girls came 1st in their races: Claire Gujer (50m Butterfly and 200m Individual Medley); Malka Reuben (50m Backstroke and 50m Breaststroke); Nicole Gujer (50m Butterfly); Alex Shields (100m Breaststroke).

The Year 8 team won the Frontcrawl Relay and the Medley Relay. The Senior team were runners up in the Freestyle Relay. Well done everyone!

Ison Cup



Farnborough Hill instigated a Year 10 District Versatility Netball Tournament, held in memory of Mrs Jackie Ison. We were semi finalists in a tough tournament where players have to change position at the end of every game. The picture shows the competition in sight of the tree planted in Mrs Ison's memory.

Netball County



Year 9 (U14) were winners of the County Cup Tournament in the Hampshire Schools Netball Tournament. The team were: **Louise Beynon** (captain), **Lauren Walker**, **Imogen Stone**, **Madeleine Parker**, **Jessica Granville**, **Hannah Langdon**, **Edel Fogarty**, **Olivia Parrott**, **Kloe Storrie**, **Annie Starkey** and **Laura McReynolds**.

Tennis League Winners



Last term Years 7 and 8 gained 1st place in the Under 13 District Tennis League having won every single game!

Congratulations to the following girls for playing to such a high standard: (back row l to r) **Isabelle Stokes**, **Lili Price**, **Lauren Walker**, **Edel Fogarty**, **Madeleine Parker**, **Rose Dixon** (front row) **Maria De'ath**, **Kloe Storrie**, **Emily Ellis**, **Karen Ellis**, **Anna Marks**, **Amy Baker** and (not pictured) **Claire Baker**.

Trampolining



The PE Department were delighted to receive funding from the Friends of Farnborough Hill which helped them purchase two new trampolines. The introduction of trampolining has proved very popular with the older students and has enabled us to offer an exciting new sport. Younger students and staff will have the opportunity to use the trampolines during the

extra-curricular programme next term. Many thanks to the Friends of Farnborough Hill for their generous support and fundraising.

Go, Georgia!

Georgia Peel goes from strength to strength. This term she won the School Sports Magazine 'Sporting Schoolgirl of the Year' award after taking an incredible eight seconds off the 1500m English Schools Athletics Championship record. The magazine's editor declared her 'a real talent for the future'. She was also awarded the Michael May Trophy for the most outstanding single performance by the Hampshire Schools' Sport Federation. We are very proud of you, Georgia!