

Student Association Elections 2011-12

In the Spring Term each year, we hold elections for the Student Association Committee. The positions are open to any student (subject to the approval of their Personal Tutor) who is in the first year of a two year course. The term of office is one year, from Easter 2011 to Easter 2012. These are significant posts; universities and employers hold in high regard students who have held such offices.

Student President and Vice President

Whilst all the posts are important, the most significant positions are those of Student President and Vice President, so ably undertaken this year by Richard Acton and Josie Copeland. Both act as important ambassadors for the College and are involved in all its public functions - so public speaking is essential. Both the President and the Vice President are Governors of the College and are expected to attend Governors' meetings.

Thus the roles of President and Vice President present an excellent opportunity to develop leadership skills and to contribute to the corporate governance of a College with an annual income of several million pounds - neither post can be undertaken lightly.

The time commitment is not excessive - but meetings need to take precedence over part-time jobs, and time-management skills need to be sufficiently well developed to manage A-level deadlines.

We use the Single Transferable Vote system for all posts. Students rank the candidates in order of preference and the elected officer is the first candidate to reach 50% of the available votes, after transfers if necessary. The Vice President will be the runner up in the election for the Student President.

Other Student Association Posts are:

Treasurer: monitors the SA funds and keeps up to date accounts.

Communications Officer: organises all meetings, including Student Council; records minutes.

Events Officer: organises and publicises a variety of social and other events.

Charities Officer: organises a variety of fund-raising events including the RAG week.

Publications Editor: leads the editorial team - College Magazine and Year Book.

Personalised Learning Officer: represents the views of the student body on the development of teaching excellence, and sits on the Governors' Curriculum and Quality Committee and also on the Equality and Diversity Committee.

Environment Officer: encourages us all to place environmental issues high on the agenda, individually and collectively.

Sports Officer: represents the activities of the many sports teams and organises an Inter-Tutor Group Sporting Event in 2011-12.

Performing Arts Officer: represents the activities of the many students engaged in performing arts.

Community Links Officer: encourages and organises community activities by students, in liaison with Jenny Osborne, Lead Tutor for Enrichment.



Student President Richard Acton and Vice President Josie Copeland with the Rt Hon Michael Gove MP at the opening of The John Guy Building

Student President Richard Acton says:

"SA officers are part of a supportive team of active people organising events like the Leavers' Ball and numerous charity days. In addition, the SA also works closely with College management, making changes which can have a significant impact on student life. The aim of all that the SA does is to improve on the already excellent student experience. Standing for the SA is a fantastic opportunity for personal development as well as allowing you to give something back. I strongly encourage you to participate: simply running is a learning experience and earns respect."

Thanks to the Student Association Committee 2010-2011



Parents...

It would be helpful if parents could discuss with students the opportunities and responsibilities that the roles of Student President, Vice President, or any member of the Committee, present and encourage those who would like to take on such a high profile role to stand in the elections.

Students...

Nomination Packs will be available from the Student Services office from Wednesday 16 February. Nominations are accepted only if you have a good record of commitment and attendance and the approval of your Personal Tutor.

Student Association Election Timetable 2011

2011 Election launched	Wednesday 16 February 12.15 pm - Café Direct
Closing Date for nominations	Wednesday 9 March
Hustings	Begin Monday 28 March
Election (e-voting on Intranet)	1,4,5 April (noon)
RESULTS	Wednesday 6 April 12.30 pm - Café Direct

AS and A2 Module Results

The AS and A2 module results will arrive in electronic form on:

Thursday 10 March 2011

Staff in Registry will do all they can to transfer the results to students' secure pages on CristalWeb as early as possible on that day. CristalWeb can be opened via the Internet at home or on the College Intranet.

Parents' Evenings for 1st Year Students

Parents of students studying on the first year of a 2 year course, or on a 1 year course, are invited to the Spring Parents' Evenings which will be held on two evenings:

Wednesday	16 March 2011	5.30 - 8.30 pm
Thursday	24 March 2011	5.30 - 8.30 pm

As usual, we expect students to accompany parents in order to make the discussion as helpful and fruitful as possible.

When you arrive, please go straight to your first appointment. Should you need a map showing where Tutors are located, it can be collected from either the main entrance to the College or the rear entrance near to Time Out.

Students will be able to make appointments nearer the time on Appointment Forms to be completed on your behalf.

Please note that:

- Subject Tutors will be in their normal teaching locations;
- the careers adviser will be in College each evening and will be pleased to make an appointment to see you;
- when making appointments, students should build in plenty of walking time between locations;
- if you wish to see the student's Personal Tutor, it is best to see him or her last;
- teachers do try to keep to time - please do not assume that the interview is endless! If you wish to have an extended meeting, this should be arranged separately.
- Please note that some part-time teaching staff are unable to be present at both evenings. Students should speak with their Subject Tutor to check whether this is the case. In the event that they are not in on the evening most convenient for you, other arrangements such as an alternative meeting with the teacher or a telephone consultation can be made.

Second Year Students in need of help

The above Parents' Evenings will also be available to parents of second year students who are experiencing difficulty. If you have concerns, please ask your son or daughter to make appointments with his or her subject tutor.

Review Data

AS students and students on one year courses have just completed a January Subject Review, involving discussions on progress with each of their teachers. Current data concerning students' progress can be viewed on CristalWeb at any time. A "snap-shot" of this data will be sent to parents on 2 March and this, alongside the results from the January modules (available electronically on 10 March), will form the basis for discussions at the Parents' Evenings (predominantly organised for parents of AS students) on 16 or 24 March.

College Attendance and Illness

The vast majority of students attend regularly and on time - that is the College requirement. It is timely to point out that all references refer to attendance records and, given the demand for places at the College, those with a poor attendance will not necessarily be retained in College for a second year. Where attendance falls below 90%, the College Charter makes it clear that the student's place at the College will be put in jeopardy.

Summer Examinations 2011

Coursework Deadlines - all courses

Every year, some students find that they miss deadlines because they manage their time poorly. Please check with your son or daughter if deadlines are approaching - planning ahead is very important!

Plagiarism - don't lend work; don't get disqualified

A reminder to all students that coursework must be the work of the student alone. In the past, on occasions and often in panic, work has been copied from other candidates. **This will always lead to disqualification from the examination.** If a student lends work to another student "to help him out" or "because she is a good friend and she said she wouldn't copy it directly", it is likely that his or her entry will also be disqualified.

Never lend coursework or research notes to another student - and if there is a real difficulty, always consult your Subject Tutor over sharing of work.

When writing an extended essay, all references must be fully acknowledged. If students find helpful paragraphs in a book or on the Internet, they must not copy and paste it into their own essays in the pretence that they have written it. It is likely that the examiner will recognise it - and the work will then be disqualified.

Important Term Dates 2011-2012

Parents' Evenings	Wed 16 & Thurs 24 March 2011
Easter Vacation	Mon 11 April - Mon 25 April 2011
Royal Wedding Holiday	Friday 29 April 2011
May Day Holiday	Monday 2 May 2011
Information Evening	Wednesday 4 May 2011
Study Leave L6 only	Monday 16 May 2011
Reading Week	Mon 30 May - Fri 3 June 2011
A2 courses begin	Wednesday 8 June 2011
End of Summer Term	Tuesday 12 July 2011 (4.15 pm)
A and AS results	Thursday 18 August 2011
GCSE results	Thursday 25 August 2011
New Academic Year	Wed 31 August (enrolment)
Second Year return	Wed 7 & Thurs 8 September 2011
Full Term starts	Monday 12 September 2011
Reading Week	Mon 24 - Fri 28 October 2011
Open Days	Wed 9 & Thurs 10 Nov 2011
Christmas Vacation	Mon 19 Dec 2011 - Mon 2 Jan 2012
Study days	Tues 3 & Wed 4 January 2012
Reading Week	Mon 13 - Fri 17 February 2012
Easter Vacation	Mon 2 April - Fri 13 April 2012
May Day Holiday	Monday 7 May 2012
Reading Week	Mon 4 June - Fri 8 June 2012
End of Summer Term	Tuesday 10 July 2012 (4.15 pm)

Misuse of the College Network

Occasionally, we have examples of misuse of the College Network. The College Network is principally for study-related activity and the storing or transmitting of inappropriate or offensive messages and images is a disciplinary matter, as it is in the workplace; trading from College e-mail addresses is similarly forbidden. Any students who **receive** offensive messages or images by e-mail should notify the Help Desk immediately.

Sharing Passwords

On no account should students share their passwords into the College systems with a friend, even their best friend. The College will always treat the sharing of passwords as a disciplinary offence; students' accounts are always suspended pending an investigation.

Important Meeting for First Year Parents

Higher Education Information Evening

Thursday 28 April

6 pm and 7.30 pm

What can you study? Where? How do you apply?

Admission by ticket only.

This will be held in the Prospect Theatre. Free tickets available for either session from the Student Services Office.

HE Finance for students starting university in 2011

Applications to Student Finance England for new full-time students entering university in 2011 will open on 16 March 2011. The deadline for submitting applications is 31 May 2011. There will be a tutorial lesson on student finance for Second Year students in March or for more information now visit the student finance website at www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance.

Careers Events for Students

Tuesday 1 March

Gap Year - World Challenge

Thursday 3 March

So you want to be a Pilot? - TAG Aviation (tbc)

Tuesday 8 March

Accountants and business advisers - PKF (UK) LLP

Thursday 10 March

Getting into Oxbridge (see panel on this page)

Friday 11 March

UCAS Higher Education Convention -

2011 University of Portsmouth

Thursday 17 March

'Stay local and get a degree with less debt' FCoT

Tuesday 22 March

So you want to be a Doctor? - Queen Mary, University of London

Tuesday 22 March

Index Recruitment Agency

Thursday 24 March

Gap Year - Travel safe - advice and guidance

Tuesday 29 March

So you want to be a Teacher? - Kingston University

Thursday 31 March

So you want to be a Lawyer?

Thursday 28 April

HE Talk for Parents of Year 1 students

Chris Fuller - University of Southampton at 6pm and 7.30pm

Tuesday 3 May

Making a competitive application - St John's College, Cambridge

Wednesday 4 May

Information Evening for new students and parents 5.30 pm - 8.30pm. Students considering taking a new subject in their second year might find it helpful to visit Curriculum Areas in the College on Information Evening in order to speak to subject specialists.

Friday 1 July

Moving On Day. An exhibition and a day of careers seminars for all First Year students.

Wednesday 21 September

College deadline for medicine, veterinary science and Oxbridge UCAS forms. Students applying for popular courses at oversubscribed universities should aim to meet this deadline as well.

The Learning Resource Centre - opening times

The Learning Resource Centre (Library, Careers and IT Centre) will be open during Reading Week at the following times:

Tuesday	22 February	10am - 4pm
Wednesday	23 February	10am - 4pm
Thursday	24 February	10am - 4pm

For further information or to check the status of the network, please contact the Help Desk on 01252 688271, especially if you will be travelling from a distance.

University Admissions 2011

A record number of students have completed UCAS applications and are now receiving offers. Between May and June students will be required to accept firmly their first choice university, subject to their achieving the grades required; they can also hold an insurance offer. Each student is given an individual deadline date by UCAS.

Amongst the many successful applicants to top universities are the following 29 students who have won Oxbridge places:

Cambridge 11

Louise Ashwell	Trinity Hall	History
Lawrence Billing	Downing	Natural Sciences
Somil Desai	St John's	Natural Sciences
Sarah Gregory	Homerton	Modern & Medieval Languages
Andrew Kiddey	Trinity Hall	Mathematics
Joseph Lewsey	Girton	Modern & Medieval Languages
Sam Lochead	Sidney Sussex	Geography
Rebecca McKnight	Sidney Sussex	Law
Hester Mulhall	Jesus	Veterinary Medicine
Laurence Tidy	Homerton	Modern & Medieval Languages
Rebecca Watson	St Catharine's	English

Oxford 18

Grace Blakeley	St Peter's	Philosophy, Politics & Economics
James De Mars	Somerville	Philosophy, Politics & Economics
Conor Dean	Trinity	Chemistry
Katherine Fieldgate	St John's	History of Art
Dan Ginger	Keble	Geography
Robert Greig	Magdalen	Philosophy, Politics & Economics
Katherine Grundy	Lady Margaret Hall	Spanish and Linguistics
Natasha Halligan	Mansfield	Law
Douglas Henderson	St Edmund Hall	Geography
Charlotte Jordan	Brasenose	Economics & Management
Francesca McCoy	St Hugh's	English
Isobel Priest	St John's	Chemistry
Alistair Rice	Exeter	Biochemistry
Lauren Spiceley	St John's	Music
Corinne Stuart	University	Engineering Science
Helen Walker	St Hilda's	History
William Ward	St Peter's	History
Tim Wickenden	Exeter	Theology

Studying in America...

Congratulations also to Sarah Abrams who has received an offer to study at Harvard next year.

Getting in to Oxbridge 2012

Thursday 10 March 2011, 1.15pm
Prospect Theatre

Richard Barnes
Emmanuel College, Cambridge
Lizzy Emerson
St Hugh's College, Oxford

This is an annual event to which parents and students are welcome. There will be an opportunity to talk to the Oxbridge representatives and ask questions.

Visits to Colleges and Open Days

A series of visits will be organised to enable students to see some Oxbridge Colleges in the summer. Further details will be available after Easter.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award - can you help?



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is regarded by universities and employers as one of the most valuable awards a young person can achieve. The demand from our students for this programme greatly exceeds our voluntary capacity to support them. There are several ways you could help, ranging from time supporting groups through to sponsoring expeditions or equipment. If you as an individual, or a business would consider making a contribution, please contact Paul Fortescue either via email pfortescue@farnboroughsfc.ac.uk or telephone 01252 688310.

College Spring Concerts

The Scholars' Concert

Thursday 17 March 2011, 7.30pm
South Hill Park, Bracknell

Ensemble Concert

Friday 25 March 2011, 7.30pm
Prospect Theatre

Choral Society Easter Concert

Friday 8 April 2011, 7.30pm
Dame Kelly Holmes Sports Centre

Leavers' Concert 2011

Friday 27 May 2011, 7.30pm
Prospect Theatre

Chamber Choir Concert

Friday 8 July 2011, 7.30pm
St Peter's Church, Farnborough

Tickets are free of charge and available from
College Services on 01252 688219

Summer Dance Show

Featuring A Level Dance Exam work
and Dance Company performances

Thursday 19 May 2011, 7.30pm
Tickets from College Services 01252 688219

'Music at the Prospect' Concerts

The Lorien Piano Trio

Saturday 12 March 2011, 7.30pm
Prospect Theatre

Polina Gerasimenko

Saturday 14 May 2011, 7.30pm
Prospect Theatre

Ticket prices for each concert are £10 and available from
College Services on 01252 688219

Farnborough Youth Opera Project

Present

Dido and Aeneas

Thursday 30 June and Friday 1 July 2011
Prospect Theatre

Tickets from College Services 01252 688219

Sports Roundup

College sports teams continue to go from strength to strength. The women's swimming team consisting of Kathryn Willis, Emma Tripp, Catriona McGill and Chloe Bard came third in the National Finals in Stockport this month.

The netball squad has fought off regional competition to reach the English Schools National Finals which will take place in Southampton on 19 March. Having qualified from the South East region, traditionally the strongest nationally, the girls are very confident that they will be able to compete for national honours. Congratulations and best wishes go to the nine strong squad of Heidi Delaney (Captain), Ashleigh Jay, Lauren Williamson, Rosie Stewart, Aime Stokes, Emily Kinch, Charlotte Peterson, Charlotte Burnett and Rebecca Elliott.



The women's basketball team led by Hannah Jarvis, won the South East Region British Colleges Plate in December. Basketball is an emerging sport at the College and attracts young people from every background, gender and ethnicity and stands as an example of equality and diversity.



There have been individual successes too. Katherine Colvin recently ascended to the Royal Yachting Association National Youth Squad and competed at the International 420 World Championships in

Argentina. This is clearly a magnificent achievement and all at the College wish Katherine every success in future competitions. Mike McMeeken has been selected for the England Academy Rugby League Squad and will have the opportunity to train with the best performers of his age in the country. Robyn Bignell became the national age group champion for synchronised swimming, and will probably be selected for the GB team competing in Belgrade later this year.

The Sport and PE department would like to encourage all students to participate. We try very hard to provide a broad range of activities. If you would like to make a suggestion for a new activity, please let us know – we'll do our very best to support you.

James Simms, Senior Curriculum Manager, Sport & PE

Car parking around the College

New parking arrangements have been introduced in the area around the College. There are now designated Student Parking Bays on the roads and users MUST display a permit to park there. Failure to display a permit will result in a penalty fine, between £50-£70.

Second year students driving to College thus have three possible parking places - The Brian Smith Car Park on site, the new on-road Student Bays, and Farnborough Football Club, each with different permits.

College policy states that parking is only available to first year students later in the year - we have just reached the point where they may apply for a temporary permit to use the Football Club. These students will be given first choice of permits in the second year, either on-road or on-site.

Students should not park their cars in any other places, particularly outside residential homes in more distant roads.

Dropping off students

Please do not use the College Car Parks to drop off or pick up students. An increase in car movements inevitably creates greater risks when pedestrian activity is at its height - it would be helpful to arrange a safe meeting place a little distance from the College.

Feedback

If you have any comments about the quality of education which you feel your son or daughter is experiencing at the College, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Simon Jarvis, Principal
February 2011



University Admissions - Make sensible choices

This year's admissions round will be the toughest yet after applications rose 2.5 per cent compared with the same time last year but the number of places was frozen at 2010 figures.

According to The Times (15/1/11) more than 100,000 extra candidates will be turned away from university this summer because of a cap on numbers and the increasing demand for places before fees increase. For this reason it is even more important that students think carefully about their offers before they accept places. The message from the universities is clear – applicants must get the grades they have been asked for – there will be no flexibility in August. Students are advised to be realistic and only to accept a place for which they will be able to meet the requirements. We strongly recommend waiting for the results of the January modules before making final decisions. Once all decisions have been received via UCAS, students with more than one offer have to firmly accept one (known as **Conditional Firm - CF**) and identify another as their **Insurance** offer (**CI**). If the student does not meet the CF offer but meets the CI offer, s/he will go to the **Insurance** place. **Students should choose their CI offer wisely – it should be lower than the CF choice.** Personal Tutors will be happy to discuss these matters with their tutees.

College Christmas Concert at Guildford Cathedral

Hundreds of friends and supporters of the Sixth Form College Farnborough, including the Mayor of Rushmoor, Councillor Brian Parker and the Lady Mayoress, braved the arctic conditions on Friday evening to join the College choir in an uplifting festival of lessons and carols at Guildford Cathedral. The Sub Dean of the Cathedral, the Reverend Nicholas Thistlethwaite, who had earlier led prayers, said: 'It has been my pleasure to enjoy many carol services in the Cathedral, but this evening was outstanding.' College Principal, Simon Jarvis, spoke proudly of the event: 'I genuinely don't believe that there is a student choir anywhere else in the UK which could have matched the high quality of tonight's inspirational music. This was an exceptional achievement by an astonishing group of talented young men and women.'



Stephanie Tudgey wins I-SWEEP award and a trip to Houston, Texas



During last summer, Stephanie Tudgey, a second year student, undertook a science project sponsored by the Nuffield Foundation. Stephanie, having always enjoyed Environmental Studies here at the College, decided to carry out an environmental assessment examining the biodiversity of moth species on a site of special scientific interest at QinetiQ Farnborough. Stephanie's project took four weeks to complete with three weeks of data collection and a week analysing the data. She said: 'I really enjoyed myself as I could apply what I had learnt in my lessons to my final report.'

Stephanie was invited to showcase her work at a Nuffield Celebration Event which was held at Imperial College London last October, where she was then shortlisted for an award. Towards the end of last year Stephanie was notified that she had won the I-SWEEP award, a fully funded trip in May to Houston where she will be representing the UK in a worldwide science fair, with an included field trip to the NASA space centre.

New A level qualification announced: 'Teenage Studies'!

A team of first year students has taken first prize in the first heat of this year's public speaking competition sponsored by the Rotary Club of Rushmoor.

The College team of Sally Wood, Lucy Clegg and Phillip Munn found themselves up against several other local schools, including previous winners of the competition. This was the first round of a competition and was held in the offices of Rushmoor Borough Council. Ultimately, if successful, members of the team could find themselves competing against groups from across Great Britain.

Understandably delighted at the team's success, Sally (the main speaker) said: 'We were speaking last and were really worried that our theme was too humorous for the occasion. I proposed that we should introduce a new qualification – an A level in Teenage Studies. But the judges loved it!'

Lucy, who acted as chair, said: 'The Rotary Club gave us a brilliant opportunity to develop our public speaking skills. We have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the competition.' Phillip who had to lead the vote of thanks, added: 'Now that we have won this round of the competition, we have to do it all again in the next round in February and we can't wait!'

Simon Jarvis spoke enthusiastically about the benefits of the competition: 'These busy students have invested time and imagination into their public speaking. It's a great achievement. It takes considerable courage to stand up in front of the judges to speak with confidence and assurance.'



l to r: Simon Jarvis, Sally Wood, Lucy Clegg and Phillip Munn

College student snaps first prize



Nathan Dundovic, second year student at the College, received first prize in the 2010 student photographic competition sponsored by Harman Technology Ltd. The theme of last year's prestigious competition was 'Urban Culture' for which judges considered over 500 entries by students from across the country.

Nathan's winning photograph was taken whilst on a College skiing trip to the United States,

during time off in New York city; it was taken in Times Square and captures the vibrant dynamism and energy of the Big Apple. Nathan's first prize was a new Nikon SLR camera, presented by Colin Hulley, Sales Director for Harman Technology Limited.

This latest prize was the culmination of a month in which the work of photography students at the College has been celebrated at local and national level. In December, Will Curry, Anna Huckson, Emily Bedford and Harry Morgan were all prize winners in the Farnborough Abbey Photographic Competition organised by Rushmoor's Rotary Club. Will's image which won runner-up 'best over 16' and 'over 16 Abbey' categories can be seen here on the right. Madeleine Cooper also received an award for her entry to the Southampton Solent University food photography competition.

Simon Jarvis added his congratulations to all six of the student prize winners. He said: 'This is a magnificent achievement – not only for these talented youngsters but also for the photography department, led by Hanno and Ben, who have inspired this brilliant work.'



From the Student Association - A huge THANK YOU for your generosity



The first term of the year saw hundreds of students participate in fund-raising events for Jeans for Genes, Breast Cancer Awareness, and Children in Need. Students were enthusiastically involved in pyjama parties, pillow fights, fancy dress, dodge-ball tournaments and hot chocolate sales. Some even spent a cold November night outside in the annual "Sleep Out" for local organisation Step by Step. In total, an impressive sum of £9491.16 was raised. Thank you to all who participated in raising awareness and money for these fantastic causes! This term will see fund-raising activities for all those charities benefitting from the Performing Arts Week in the College, as well as the British Heart Foundation sponsored swim and Red Nose Day,

whilst the summer term kicks off with our annual RAG week mayhem. I am sure you will continue to be just as generous! Maddy Sakakini, Charities Officer, Student Association

Performing Arts Week and what a week it was!



An 80s style school disco with the Principal's band 'Vice Squad' thrashing out the tunes from the good old days of shoulder pads and jumpsuits ended a very successful week of events at the Prospect Theatre. This involved 55 AS Performing Arts students tasked with setting up, organising and running a programme of events all supporting nominated national and local charities. Playing to an audience of over 400 people across the week the final figure raised was somewhere near £1650. Battle of the Bands, supporting the 'Make-a-wish Foundation', kicked off the week with a fiercely fought contest, the eventual winners 'Brothers of Heim' setting a very high standard for the rest of the week. Tuesday night's Just Dance - Strictly Your Way, helped highlight the work of 'The Autism Trust'; Hip Hop duo Charlotte Martin and Olivia Khan won a narrow victory over the other dancers with their comical flair, precision timing and musicality of current commercial choreography. Thursday night's thriller, Sixth Factor, raised money for the charity 'Teenage Cancer Trust'. Based on the TV show X-Factor, the contest finished with a 'deadlock'. After the deliberations of the judges, Shane Baluyos was announced as the ultimate winner. By Friday night the students were ready to party at the 80s style Disco with proceeds collected going to the 'Help for Heroes' charity.

AS Performing Arts Subject Leader Emily Burke said: 'I'm overwhelmed by the professional management of these events and would like to congratulate every Performing Arts group on the success of their planning and management of their events.' The Principal, Simon Jarvis, said: 'What a wonderful celebration of creative talent this week has been. I'm continually astonished at the brilliance of College performers who have entertained so many this week - and they have also raised a significant sum for charity!'