

CANNOCK CHASE HIGH SCHOOL



Newsletter

October 2005

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Introduction

As we approach half term the 2005-06 academic year has made an excellent start.

We returned to school in September:

- a) having gained record examination results at all levels;
- b) to buildings which have undergone major redecoration;
- c) with record numbers in our Sixth Form;
- d) having achieved record attendance levels in 2004-05;
- e) having embraced the Government's agenda to remodel the workforce so that our teachers spend their time teaching rather than carrying out administration;
- f) having received two complimentary reports from visiting HMI in Music and Science;
- g) having invested heavily in our ICT provision.

All of us are positive and up-beat. We are committed to continuing the improvements we are making.

Our Improvement plan has been rewritten and sets out how we intend to continue to improve. Developments will include:

- introducing aspirational grades for GCSE, AS and A levels students;
- introducing a new assessment, recording and reporting system;
- participating in a national project concerned with raising the achievements of boys;
- continued training in the area of teaching and learning;
- restructuring our staffing arrangements in line with all schools nationally
- developing further as a Specialist Science School;
- further building improvements.

A number of new staff have joined the school:

Teaching Staff	Mrs K Dunmore	Maths
	Mrs L Horner	Business Studies
	Miss A Kennedy	English
	Miss A Marinx	Modern Foreign Languages
	Miss A Mansell	Modern Foreign Languages
	Mrs J Newton	Science
	Mrs H Parrott	Drama
	Mr L Rickards	PE
	Mrs C Boyd	Maths
	Mr M Hastings	PE
	Miss D Meek	PE
	Mrs K Nixon	Co-ordinator of Vocational Qualifications Provision
	Mr R Sherlock	RE
	Miss H Smith	English/Drama
	Mr P Voss	Geography
Miss F Yates	English	
Mr S King	Science	
Support Staff	Mrs J Pugh	Administrative Assistant/Finance
	Mrs G Williams	Reception (Lower School)
	Mr W Palphreyman	Reprographics Officer

We wish them all a happy and productive time with us.

Examination Results 2005

For the second consecutive year, Cannock Chase High School students achieve best ever examination results!

Examination results at KS3, GCSE, AS and A level were the best ever.

GCSE Results

187 (58.3%) of Year 11 students gained 5 or more GCSEs at grades A* - C. This is an improvement of over 10% on the previous best in 2004.

The major statistics show the improvements over the last four years:

	2002	2003	2004	2005
Percentage achieving 5+ A*-C grades =	43.1	44.2	47.4	58.3
Percentage achieving 5+ A*-G grades =	84.0	88.5	95.1	95.0
Percentage achieving 1+ A*-G grades =	90.1	94.6	97.7	99.4
Percentage achieving 1+ A*-C grades =	70.3	73.2	78.4	80.7
Average points score per pupil =	33.1	36.3	37.3	43.4

The results are the best of any school in the Cannock Chase district and are a testament to the hard work of students and staff.

There were some excellent performances by individual students including:

Vicki Cantrill	6A*, 6A, 1B
Mark Clayton	6A*, 4A, 2B
Emily Lloyd	6A*, 4A, 1B
Steven Higgs	6A*, 2A, 3B
Kathryn Swift	5A*, 6A
Vicky Highfield	5A*, 4A, 2B
Danielle Parry	4A*, 5A, 2B
Christopher Bromley	3A*, 8A, 1B
Danielle Beere	4A*, 5A, 1B, 1C
Amy Stevenson	3A*, 7A, 2B

There were some excellent departmental performances. Maths continues to achieve high standards with 57.3% of students gaining grades A*-C. Science results were exceptional. The move to a new GCSE specification has suited our students and 63.9% of students gained A*-C grades. The two new GCSE Short courses in Citizenship and RE produced excellent results with 63.9% and 62.4% respectively gaining A*-C grades.

Other good performances included History (72.5%), Resistant Materials (67.3%), German (85.7%), PE (61.5%), Art (82.0%), Music (68.9%) and Textiles (69.0%).

Our boys significantly narrowed the gap on the girls from 19% in 2004 to 8% in 2005, with 52.2% of boys and 60.6% of girls gaining 5 or more A*-C grades.

We also achieved more A* and A grades in 2005. The percentage improved from 7.9% of all entries in 2004 to 12.9% in 2005.

We are delighted with these results. Our congratulations go to students and staff.

'A' Level Results

Again the highest ever pass rate was achieved with 97.5% of entries gaining a pass grade (national average 97.0%).

Again the major statistics show the improvements over the last four years:

	2002	2003	2004	2005
A – E pass rate	94.8%	96.4%	97.0%	97.5%
A – C pass rate	53.8%	56.5%	54.3%	57.5%

Individual performances include:

Rachel Dace	4As			
Lai Ying Fan	3As	1B		
Caroline Worthy	3As	1B		
Emma Thomas	3As	1C		
Amy Clayton	2As	2Bs		
Amanpreet Kaur Budesha	2As	2Bs		
Bjorn Billson	2As	1B	1C	

A level General studies was introduced for the first time in 2005 and achieved first class results.

Most Year 13 students wishing to do so have gained places at the university of their choice. We wish them every success.

AS Level Results

AS level results also showed a best ever pass rate with 89.5% of entries resulting in a pass grade.

	2002	2003	2004	2005
A – E pass rate	80.0%	86.7%	88.0%	89.5%
A – C pass rate	42.9%	46.7%	48.4%	49.6%

Individual performances include:

Jodie Jones	5As			
Rob Downes	4As	1B		
Emma Hogg	4As	1B		
Helen Hibbert	3As	2Bs		
Lauren Forbes	2As	2Bs	1C	
Manpreet Matharu	2As	2Bs	1C	
Elizabeth Healey	3As	1E		
Samantha Brant	2As	2Bs	1E	

The retention rate from Year 12 to Year 13 remains high.

Key Stage 3 Tests

In all three core subjects of English, Maths and Science, we are celebrating our best ever results at level 5 or more (2004 results in brackets):

English level 5+	=	63.5%	(63.0%)
Maths level 5+	=	73.6%	(70.7%)
Science level 5+	=	72.4%	(64.5%)

These results bode well for when this year group reaches GCSE in 2007.

**Finally – Congratulations to all students and staff involved in these achievements.
You have done brilliantly.**

Building Improvements

We continue to improve the learning environment for our students. During 2004-05 we have:

- redecorated all corridors and some external areas;
- improved the heating system at lower school;
- had extensive re-wiring;
- removed significant amounts of asbestos;
- had new ceilings in G block, H block and upper school reception;
- refurbished four more Maths rooms;
- refurbished two further Science Laboratories;
- had a new roof on A block;
- invested in more ICT and interactive white board technology.

We continue to do all we can to improve the learning environment for our students and staff.

Useful Dates for 2005-06

Autumn Half Term	Break up at the end of school on Friday 21 October School recommences on Tuesday 1 November 2005
Year 10 Parents in Partnership	Tuesday 8 November 2005
Year 11 Parents' Evening	Wednesday 16 November 2005
Year 10 Parents' Evening	Wednesday 30 November 2005
Christmas Concert	Monday 5 December 2005
Year 12 & 13 Parents' Evening	Tuesday 6 December 2005
Year 11 Mock Exams	Thursday 8 – Tuesday 20 December 2005 (inclusive)
Year 9 Careers Day	Friday 9 December 2005
Christmas Holidays	Break up at the end of school on Wednesday 21 December School recommences on Thursday 5 January 2006
Year 11 Stepping Up Evening	Thursday 19 January 2006
Year 9 Parents' Evening (9BB,9CB, 9LD, 9MF, 9AM, 9FY, 9PV)	Thursday 26 January 2006
School Closed for Staff Training	Friday 27 January 2006
Year 9 Parents' Evening (9AD, 9JR, 9JS, 9PW, 9SP, 9MH)	Wednesday 1 February 2006
Year 9 Mock SATs	Monday 6 – Friday 10 February 2006 (inclusive)
Spring Half Term	Break up at the end of school on Friday 10 February School recommences on Monday 20 February 2006
Key Stage 4 Options Evening	Wednesday 22 February 2006
Year 12&13 Fees & Loans Evening	Monday 6 March 2006
Year 10 Industry Day	Friday 24 March 2006
Year 8 Parents' Evening (8BU, 8HK, 8LH, 8NS, 8SM, 8RH)	Thursday 30 March 2006
Year 8 Parents' Evening (8JA, 8SB, 8WS, 8KB, 8MI, 8RF)	Wednesday 5 April 2006
Easter Holidays	Break up at the end of school on Friday 7 April School recommences on Monday 24 April 2006
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 1 May 2006
KS3 SATs	Tuesday 2 – Friday 5 May 2006 (inclusive)
Summer Exams	Tuesday 16 May – Friday 30 June 2006 (inclusive)
Summer Half Term	Break up at the end of school on Friday 26 May School recommences on Monday 5 June 2006
Year 7 Parents' Evening (7AG, 7BH, 7CS, 7DM, 7DR, 7HS)	Thursday 22 June 2006
Year 7 Parents' Evening (7AH, 7LA, 7LR, 7NA, 7PB, 7SA)	Thursday 29 June 2006
New Intake Evening	Tuesday 4 July 2006
PE Awards Evening	Thursday 13 July 2006
Awards Evening	Wednesday 19 July 2006
Summer Holidays	Break up at the end of school on Friday 21 July School recommences on Tuesday 5 September 2005