



# LIGHT HALL NEWS

A SPECIALIST MATHS AND COMPUTING COLLEGE

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SUMMER TERM 2011

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## EX PUPIL ROYAL MARINE RYAN SHELLEY AWARDED GEORGE MEDAL

Ex pupil of Light Hall School Ryan Shelley, has been awarded the George Medal after he climbed into the burning wreckage of a US helicopter in Afghanistan and performed emergency throat surgery on the fatally injured pilot. Lance Corporal Ryan Shelley, who is a medic with the Royal Marines, helped

rescue three members of the crew after their helicopter was shot down by a rocket-propelled Taliban grenade. Risking his own life, the 26 year old and four of his Marine colleagues, clambered into the downed helicopter as the armour-piercing ammunition and aviation fuel on board, exploded around them. Here is Ryan pictured with proud mum, Sue and brother, Dean.



## SOLIHULL FESTIVAL OF MOTORING



The Motoring Festival is a new and exciting event which is coming to Light Hall School on Sunday 11th September, from 11-4pm. Proceeds will go towards the Shirley Christmas Lights Appeal and the school. The event is being organised by our Community Development Manager, Sue Watson along with Shirley based A plan insurance and the Shirley Town Centre Partnership. The event promises to be a day for all the family with entertainment, arts and craft stalls and refreshments to accompany classic, performance and modern day cars. "We're on the look out for vintage and classic car enthusiasts to display their pride and joy for free at

the event, giving the local community a real motoring treat," said town centre manager Becki Wood. If you are interested in exhibiting your classic car, please contact us or visit our website to download the application form or email: [events@aplan.co.uk](mailto:events@aplan.co.uk).

## OPEN EVENING

Come and see what Light Hall School is all about on **14 September from 5.30—8.30pm** and speak to staff and students. This is also a great opportunity to take a look at some of our great facilities!

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## STAGING A CHILDREN'S CLASSIC

Youngsters headed off to a magical world this term, following the Light Hall School performance of 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe.'



## WALK FOR JAPAN

In April some of our Year 7 students did a challenging walk by doing the "Woodpecker trail" in the Lickey Hills to help raise money for the appeal following the Japanese earthquake.



## SPANISH TRIP



This term, the Spanish trip gave students an opportunity to see all that Valencia had to offer, following a morning in the Spanish school - exhausting but definitely worth it! Following both the lessons and the trips entirely in Spanish, students learnt a lot which has helped them improve their understanding of the language. Staying with a Spanish host was a great experience. Our host, Gloria, was more accommodating and friendly than we could ever have hoped; we didn't want to leave at the end of the week!

Overall, the trip gave us a real Spanish experience with opportunities to learn about the culture as well as learning the language, making the trip educational, enjoyable and certainly memorable. By Lucy Gregory, Year 10.

In May, 40 Light Hall students and 5 staff, left Solihull for a 10 day coach tour of Italy. The trip had links with aspects of RE, History and Geography. In Rome, they visited the Colosseum, the Vatican and climbed to the top of the dome of St Peter's. On the Bay of Naples, the students visited the ruins of Pompeii and climbed to the smoking crater of Mount Vesuvius, the volcano which destroyed Pompeii in 79AD. They also got a chance to make their own ice cream in an authentic Italian gelateria. In Venice, the students explored the streets and shops and several went for a gondola ride. At the end of the trip, students from years 7, 8 and 9, got a chance to relax on the beach on the beautiful island of Capri, before returning home, tired and suntanned.

## ITALY TRIP



## ADULT LEARNING

An extensive programme starts in September for adults at Light Hall School. We have classes in Calligraphy, Stained Glass & Mosaic, Spanish, Art, Cake Decorating, Wine Appreciation, Woodwork, Patchwork and Quilting. To join, please contact Mrs Watson, Community Development Manager or attend our enrolment evening on **Monday 12th September at 7pm**. Visit the community section of our website for an enrolment form.



### Year 10 Student Picked For UK Games!

Local cyclist Danny Fox has been chosen to represent the school and the West Midlands at the UK School Games at Sheffield in September. The event is run just like the Olympics and Danny, who is in Year 10, will be taking part in the cycling discipline which this year is mountain biking, involving 3 days of racing. He hopes to win a medal like his brother, Joe, did last year!

## SOLIHULL RUGBY PEDAL for PARIS



In July, a group of friends are cycling from Solihull to Paris in 4 days. That's an average of 80 miles per day! A group of nine, including Mr McCrainor, Mr Hayfield and Mr Hall, are taking the challenge to help raise money for HELP for HEROES. This will be in honour of Mr McCrainor's brave cousin, Lt John Sander-son, 1st Battalion, Mercian Regiment, who sadly lost his life last year after becoming injured in an incident at

Helmand Province. Friends and family of John have tried to do something positive to recognise John's spirit, but also to help those brave men and women, who will need assistance in their daily lives, for the rest of their lives, after sustaining injuries whilst on active service. To make a donation or provide sponsorship go to: [www.bmycharity.com/pedalforparis](http://www.bmycharity.com/pedalforparis)



## EASTER IN BEIJING



Over Easter whilst on a special holiday to China, Mrs Watson, Community Development Manager, dropped in to talk to students at An Hui Bei Li Middle School in Beijing. Light Hall School already has strong links with the Chinese school who are very keen for English students to go out and visit.

## FROG!

Our new Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), 'Frog' went live this term and is available to Years 7, 8, 10 and 11. This fantastic online resource, which can be accessed from home or in school and will enhance students learning and help personalise their studies. So far it gives access to: School drives, Online timetables, Topic and Revision Pages, Pastoral Information, Collaboration and Communication, Career Opportunities and Updates, Recent News and Notices, Competitions and Quizzes. Parents are encouraged to engage with their child's learning through Frog by supporting with online activities and gaining an insight into class learning through the resources teachers upload to Frog. There are many more developments in the pipeline for Frog and Year 9 students will be able to access this fantastic resource by the end of the academic year.



## BIKEABILITY



Students from Year 7 and 8 were given an opportunity by our sports co-ordinator, to receive training from bikeability. The programme aims to help develop road sense and improve the standard of children and their cycling ability, on the roads.

# SPORTS NEWS

## SOLIHULL BOROUGH FOOTBALL FINALS

This year has been a very successful year for Light Hall Boys Football teams, culminating in both the Year 10 and Year 8 teams reaching their respective Solihull Schools Football finals. The year 8 team has proved to be a very resilient team winning both the semi-final and quarter-final on penalties. Their winning run was brought to an end in the final by the past winners Lyndon School who proved to be a challenge too far for the tenacious Light Hall Team. The game was held at John Henry Newman College, Solihull. Team members are: Lewis Heard, Danny Porter, Mike Edwards, Tommy Massey (captain), Dan Kirby, Lee Chapmack, Reece Poller, James Chambers, Brandon Hague, Jeevan James, Harvey Butler, Blake Hughes, Connor Wilson and James Thorn.

The year 10 team have matured well this year and this was the first final at Light Hall they have been involved in. They reached this stage after penalties in both the semi final and quarter final just like the year 8's!! The final was against CTC a school that have beaten Light Hall on three previous occasions. However, this was not the case on this occasion! Light Hall started brightly with lots of early possession and passing.

After a nail biting last few minutes the whistle went and the boys celebrated a well deserved victory. A great final played in tremendous spirit by both teams. Team members were: Nathan Kelly (who received the man of the match award), Giovanni Deluca, Jack Humphries, Jack Taylor, Nathan Kelly, Andrew Hughes (CAPTAIN), Simon Keeves, James Stone, Will Frost, Luke Barton, Scott Price, Kron Memishi, Tom Parnaby, Elliot Cox, Ben Ratley and Kyle Furness.

## PE GIFTED & TALENTED



Students from Light Hall had the chance to attend a presentation by Howard Webb (Premiership and World Cup Final Referee) and Andre Marriner (Premiership Referee). The presentation was on how to succeed and achieve their goals and was inspirational for the students. The students got to see Howard Webb's world cup final medal and also hear how he progressed from a policeman to his current job as a professional referee. Students were selected for this privilege after demonstrating outstanding behaviour and ability in PE.

## CROSS BOROUGH TOURNAMENT

Year 10 girls participated in the first cross borough extra-curricular tournament organised by the sports partnership, which took place at Alderbrook school. On the night there was a range of sports on offer and our girls participated in cheerleading, dance and bench ball competitions. The girls in the dance competition finished second overall and the girls in the cheerleading competition won with their performance.



It was a great event where Light Hall students were outstanding and showed great determination in all they did.

## SPORTS HALL ATHLETICS

Year 7 and 8 boys and girls participated in the National Sports Hall Athletics Event just before Easter. All participants were outstanding and made a great effort for the school. At the Solihull event, four teams from the school participated against all of the other Solihull schools. The Year 7 Girls were extremely successful, winning the competition and progressing to the Midlands Finals in Coventry. They went on and performed really well in a competition that was of a very high standard and came a credible 4th overall out of 12 teams. All students performed brilliantly and were a credit to the school.

## 2011-2012 TERM DATES

### AUTUMN TERM 2011

INSET 5 & 6 September  
Y7 only 7 September  
All students  
8 September

### Term ends

Friday 16 December

### Half Term

Monday 24 October—  
Friday 28 October

### SPRING TERM 2012

Tuesday 3 January—  
Thursday 5 April

### Half Term

Monday 13 February—  
Friday 17 February

### SUMMER TERM

Monday 23rd April—  
Wednesday 25th July

**Additional closure days:** Friday 2 December,  
Thursday 5 April, Monday 7 May

[www.lighthall.co.uk](http://www.lighthall.co.uk)