



Notley High School NEWSLETTER

Issue 242: 16 March 2007

www.notleyhigh.com

Curriculum Enrichment Activities



Year 9 Magistrates Mock Trial Competition

I am always extremely proud as Headteacher of Notley High School to witness the range of activities beyond the normal classroom which staff provide for students at the school. In this edition of Headlines I would therefore like to highlight some of these extra activities which have taken place in recent weeks in the school. Further details on some of these events are provided elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Year 9 Magistrates Mock Trial Competition

Last Saturday a group of Year 9 Notley students took part in the Magistrates Mock Trial Competition held in Chelmsford. Students had to take on different roles to enact a Magistrates Trial. These roles included acting as prosecution and defence lawyers, witnesses, magistrates, clerk to the court and so on. Following many weeks of preparation they performed very well in the competition and were delighted to be named as runners up, meaning that they progress to the regional final of this competition in May. I wish them every success at the regional final and would like to thank Mr and Mrs Fincken for their tireless work in preparing the students.

Book Fair in the Library

The Book Fair took place in the Library from 28 February until 7 March with a range of activities to encourage reading, organised by our Librarian, Ms Arnold. The Book Fair was timed to coincide with World Book Day on 1 March. Ms Arnold has provided further details about World Book Day elsewhere in the Newsletter. I am very grateful to her for the excellent activities which she organised in the Library during the Book Fair and World Book Day.

In Brief...

Lost Property

We currently have a large number of unnamed items in Lost Property, some of which have been there since before Christmas. These include coats, shoes, trainers and bags. All items will be on display in the Library during the week commencing 19 March 2007. If your child has lost anything please impress upon them that they need to check Lost Property before then. Any items not claimed during that time will be disposed of.

Tesco Computers for Schools 2007



It's back! Tesco vouchers are again being issued now in all supermarkets, petrol stations and Express stores: See page 9 for more details.

Pupil Absence Lines

Year 7 01376 556347
Year 8 01376 556348
Year 9 01376 556349
Year 10 01376 556350
Year 11 01376 556351

Contact the Newsletter

If you have a piece of news you would like to be included in the School Newsletter, you can email it directly to the editors at:

lisa.perkins@notleyhigh.com

The deadline for submission is the Monday prior to publication.

Year 11 Revision Day

As GCSE exams loom closer for Year 11, they participated in a Revision Day organised by the Year 11 team on 1 March. An external speaker visited the school to provide support for students on how best to study for their forthcoming examinations. This included advice on study skills, planning a revision timetable and taking time to rest and pursue other activities. I trust that our Year 11 students found this advice helpful as they prepare for these important examinations. Please see further details later in the Newsletter.

Year 8 Global Development Days

Last Thursday and Friday all students in Year 8 took part in a Global Development Day to raise their awareness and understanding of Global Development issues. The day contained a very successful blend of activities

organised by staff in Humanities and external speakers from organisations involved in Global Development. Students were allowed the privilege of not wearing uniform for the day and in return made a contribution to a local charity and to sponsor a child in Africa. I am very grateful to Mr Higgon and Mr Tucker for organising this event and to Miss Elstone and Mr Muttock who also contributed to the day. Please see further details later in the Newsletter.

End of Term

As is customary, the term will end at **2.00 pm on Friday 30 March 2007**. Buses and taxis have been ordered for this time.

Wanted- 50 Front Gardens



carefully erect the boards so that no damage is caused during May and collected after the School Fête in June, a period of about four weeks. No work is required of the homeowner.

Please can you display a board and help us to secure this sponsorship? If so, please complete and return the attached slip to the School Office.

X-----

Wanted- 50 Front Gardens

Name

Child's Name T/G

Telephone Number.....

I would be willing to display a board in my garden.

My address, including postcode, is

.....
Signed.....

French & Spanish Theatre Visit To Notley High School



French Student at Notley



Thank you from Andréas to Mr.Thompson, all the teachers and the students of Notley High School who welcomed me in their lessons and made my experience of England so very pleasant. I loved your school.

You have all been very nice and friendly to me and I made some really good friends. I learnt some new English words and taught you some French words which was cool.

I really hope to see you all again very soon.

Love, Andréas.

N.B: Keep in touch at poke199@hotmail.com



This term the Onatti Theatre Company visited Notley High School to perform two plays entitled 'Qu'est-ce que je vais faire?' a visual comedy set in a French careers office which was performed to all of Year 9 and 'Mi padre no me entiende' a funny and fantastical play exploring the birthday wishes of one 15 year old girl – Pilar which was performed to all of our Spanish students.

Both plays were very successful and were thoroughly enjoyed by all the students. The performances are done by professional native actors and both plays have been a sold out across the country due to their popularity this year - below is a selection of photos from both events.

Many thanks to all the pupils who assisted the actors with staging the event and especially all the students in charge of the light.

Also many thanks to the Drama and PE departments for the use of their facilities.

Thank you to all MFL staff who contributed in the organisation of the events – especially to Mr Berry with his involvement in the organisation of the French play.

Miss Vella
Head of Languages

World Book Day 1 March 2007

I would like to say a big Thank You to everyone who came along to the Library on World Book Day and took part in the competitions. The winners of the competitions are as follows:

"Authors around the World" - Shannon Conlon 70

"World Book Search" - Harry Clark 8E

"Hunt the Globes" - Dionne Beckford 11C.

Congratulations to the winners and thanks once again to everyone who entered.

Miss Arnold
Librarian

Book Fair

The Book Fair was a great success and I would like to take this opportunity to say Thank You to everyone who came along and purchased a book. Every book sold at the Book Fair helps us to raise money for the School Library. You will be pleased to know that this year we sold over £750 of books during the week and as a result we will receive £450 worth of free books for the School Library. This is a fantastic achievement. The new books will be arriving throughout March and April, so come along to the Library in the next few weeks to see the fantastic new titles that you have helped purchase.

Well done and thank you!

Miss Arnold
Librarian

Science Club Welcomes White Court Primary School



As part of our primary hub initiative the Science department invited Year 6 pupils from White Court to join us for a Science Club activity on Tuesday as one of their Science week activities.

Mrs Corbett
Head of Science

On Tuesday 6 March the pupils who go to the weekly Science Club were able to host the Year 6 pupils from White Court School.

We teamed up to help the Year 6 pupils with a science experiment which involved acid, universal indicator, and Bunsen burners. In a nutshell, things that they were unlikely to have used before.

The experiment: we had to get a beaker with 60ml of water in it;

we then got some green (neutral) universal indicator and put a few drops in. We then got two tea spoons of marble chips and put them into a conical flask. Next we put the hydrochloric acid into the conical flasks (the Notley pupils did this) and we put a delivery tube into the flask and placed the end of the tube in the beaker containing the universal indicator. What we were trying to do was turn the indicator yellow, which means a substance is acidic. Afterwards we took out a Bunsen burner, a heatproof mat, a tripod and gauze. The thing we had to do next was to heat up the beaker and turn the indicator back to green again. Of course we all had to wear protective goggles throughout the experiment. The last thing we did was change the indicator back to yellow by the same method as we used as the start.

We all enjoyed it very much and so did the Year 6s.

Chris Rallis 8E

Last Tuesday after school some of the White Court children came in and took part in doing an experiment with

some of the Notley High students. We did a fizzing experiment with marble-chips, hydrochloric acid and water. We tipped some of the marble-chips into a conical flask and then we added the hydrochloric acid and water and they fizzed and made carbon dioxide. This made the universal indicator turn orange. When we heated it went back green. I worked with Abigail from White Court. We then did a quiz and Abigail got all of the questions right.

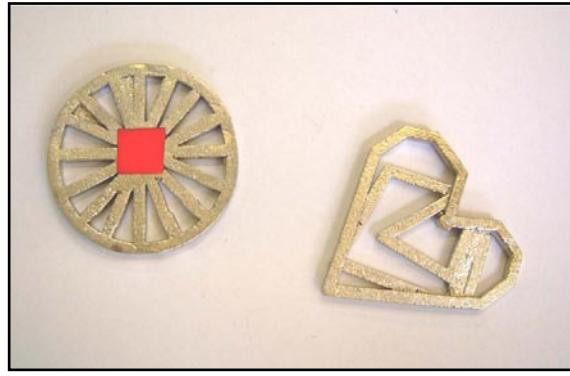
Demmi Saward 8Y

On Tuesday night 26 pupil from White Court came along to enjoy Science Club with us. We put acid with marble chips to make carbon dioxide which we bubbled into indicator. It went orangey yellow. Then we heated it on a Bunsen burner and it changed back to its normal colour which was green. We then did a quiz and watched Mrs Newell make a jelly baby scream! My little brother Daniel was in Mrs Corbett's group and I was with Mr Trumper. My little brother enjoyed it!

Charlie Goddard 8L

Year 10 Product Design

Year 10 Product Design pupils have been learning how to use 2D Design with the CNC MaxiRouter to create moulds, they then went into G5 to experience using the hearth to melt pewter and cast pendants and key fobs.



Puzzle Day

Recently all Year 8 students participated in a Puzzle Day Challenge. The event was organised to help stimulate and develop the pupil's problem solving skills although they also had to utilize teamwork and communication skills. Here is some feedback from the pupils involved.

Puzzle day was a day when we worked in groups to use our minds and work out puzzles. We did different activities, some were about skill and some were about mental use. But the last one was about concentrating on a spinning disk. The disk made things look strange when you looked up, this was really fun! I think they should do it again as it was very good and challenging.

Daniel Banks 8L



Concentration



Success!



What's so interesting?

On Tuesday we had Puzzle Day. Some good things are that I thought that it was really testing our minds and making us think more about what to do. We got to use our minds as well as it being fun at the same time. One thing I thought was bad was that it should have been longer! I think we should do this again because everyone enjoyed it.

Evie Roberts 8L



Eyes down!

Puzzle day was about working more with your mind and making your mind more suitable to work out problems. We got to do puzzles and use the waterfall effect. The good thing about it was we had a very good time and used our teamwork.

Ben Allen 8L

Year 10 Girls 'Women in Construction' Trip

On the morning of Wednesday 7 February, thirteen Year 10 girls, accompanied by Mrs Smith and Mr Chapman, went to an informal event in Colchester Leisure Centre, designed to encourage and promote feminine interest and involvement in the construction industry. There were lots of different stalls advertising many different companies, available jobs, courses and apprenticeships within the industry, varying from brick-laying to surveying to architecture. There were also opportunities for the girls to try a more hands on approach, with activities like wiring, wallpapering, plumbing and again, brick-laying!

The trip was very successful in providing well rounded and relevant information regarding possible job opportunities, but sadly also proved that a small minority of males are yet unable to support the concept of female workers within the construction industry, and believe their chauvinistic views are concrete.

I would like to show my appreciation to both Mrs Smith for organising the trip and Mr Chapman for transporting us to and from the event. It was an interesting opportunity for those who attended, and unveiled many exciting new aspects of construction. Firstly and foremost, however, it proved building is not just for boys!

Connie van Zanten 10L



Y9 Holocaust Trip



For the first time this year the History and RE departments have collaborated to teach a sequence of Year 9 lessons about the Holocaust. As part of this venture 40 students were chosen who had achieved the highest grades in their History and RE assessed work to attend a trip to the Holocaust Exhibit at the Imperial War Museum in London on Tuesday 27 February. The aim of the trip was that students could gather information and resources to use back in school when they returned.

On the day, students spent some free time looking round the exhibits in the museum itself, many being drawn to information about WW1 and WW2, which they study in History this year. Others were drawn to the shop, for once looking for resources they could use instead of overpriced novelty pencils!

When our time came to visit the Holocaust Exhibit itself, the



students were split into two smaller groups and were each given a talk by a different Holocaust Education Officer, both of whom were themselves Holocaust survivors. They then spent a couple of hours looking around inside the Exhibit, which includes many artefacts from the period, and were met outside by the education officers and given another short talk to help reflect on what they had seen.

On both the day before they left and the day after they returned from the trip, the chosen students worked hard after school in small groups to plan lessons for their tutor groups on the subject "Why should we study the Holocaust?"



Students found the whole experience to be very harrowing and yet educational and worthwhile. It is our hope that by returning to their Tutor Groups with student-led lessons then the whole year group will benefit from this small trip.

M Higgon
Head of History

Year 8 Global Development Day



This year the Citizenship and Geography departments collaborated to deliver a range of activities to Year 8 students on the themes of Global Development, Human Rights and International Aid. We invited guest speakers to visit the school and lead activities with students from the charities Save the Children, Action Aid and Amnesty International. Members of the Geography Department ran further sessions looking at the "Send My Friend to School" campaign.

The day aimed to blend both learning about global issues and taking action on them, therefore students were invited to make a donation of a £1 or more to come in non-uniform. Altogether we raised over £240 which will be divided between Year 8s chosen charity, the Little Havens Children's Hospice, and sponsoring a child in an African country through the charity Action Aid.

Furthermore students were asked to design paper chains of people to represent them and their friends for the Global Campaign for Education's annual Send My Friend to School Campaign. These paper chains will be sent to the German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who is currently head of the G8 and the European Union. The idea is to show world leaders how many children want them to increase their efforts to provide schools and 18 million teachers for the 80 million children worldwide who are currently not receiving an education. Further details are available from the website:

www.sendmyfriend.org

Our guest speakers and the staff who sat in each session complimented the students for their excellent behaviour and the intelligent and thoughtful questions they raised in each of the sessions.

We hope that students found the day rewarding and that

some of them may like to join the Amnesty Youth Group that is now being established in the school by Mr Hardwick.

Pictures of the days are now available on the school's website.

M Higgon
Citizenship Co-ordinator



KS3 Website Competition 2007

Yes, it's here again! This ICT competition is open to all KS3 students (Yrs 7-9) attending The Ramsey School, Honywood School, Tabor School, Alec Hunter School, Rickstones School and of course, Notley High School. To take part in this year's fantastic competition you need to design a fan website in FrontPage, Dreamweaver or any other html program on a favourite computer game, sports team/player or a celebrity/band of your choice. The prizes are: 1st - Sony PSP + games/accessories worth £200, 2nd - Wacom graphics tablet and pen worth £100 and 3rd - a pair of webcams worth £50. For more details and hints and tips on how to develop a great website visit:

www.notleyhigh.com/design

Your fan site needs to be exciting and as professional looking as you can make it. It should include text, images and elements of multimedia, eg, video, sound or even Flash. The fan site needs to attract attention and should keep the interest of teenagers to encourage them to want to look through the whole site.

Check out your chosen topic with your ICT teacher first! The competition is open from now and finishes at the end of May 2007. Students entering the competition will be invited to an afternoon judging session at Notley High School on Tuesday 12 June 2007, where the winners will be announced. Local business people with experience of websites will be the judges. All entrants will receive a competition certificate.

It's easy to enter, just see your ICT teacher. It'll be a fun project which you will enjoy and it will give you a chance to show off your wonderful ICT skills! Good Luck.

Mrs J Smith
Director of ICT

Tesco Computers for Schools 2007



It's back! Tesco vouchers are again being issued now in all supermarkets, petrol stations and Express stores:

- Tesco Computers for Schools 2007 runs in stores for 10 weeks between 5th March and 13th May.
- One voucher is given for every £10 spent in Tesco stores and petrol filling stations in a single transaction (excluding purchases from Concessions, Tobacco Kiosk, prescription medicines, infant formulae or the sale of National Lottery tickets and scratch cards).
- One voucher is given for every £5 spent in Tesco Express stores (subject to the above exclusions).
- Customers then donate their vouchers to schools, who exchange the vouchers for free computer equipment.

Calling all parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, staff and students; please collect and send in all your vouchers to school to help us obtain some great new resources for students to enjoy. Last year we 'banked' some 30,000 vouchers so we could add them to this year's total. This will allow us to get some serious computer or music equipment! We're looking forward to receiving as many vouchers as possible this year – just send them in with your child to hand to the ICT Technicians.

Thank you.

Design a fan site



The CHIPS Shop - Your questions answered

Please submit your anonymous problems to the front office, in an envelope labelled 'The CHIPS Shop'

Dear CHIPS shop

I have a particular problem that is a little embarrassing to talk about so I'm glad no one will know who I am. It appears that all the other boys and girls are growing hair in different parts of their bodies and I'm not!! I first started to notice in PE and then realised that everyone else has some and I only have a couple of tufts - can you help? So far I am getting round the problem by saying that I am training to be a swimmer and so I shave to get better times but I'm not sure people will believe me for long - especially as I don't go swimming!

Thanks from streamlined Year 10.

Dear Year 10

I think it is important that you realise that people develop at different rates. You most certainly won't be the only boy in your age group with very little hair. Once you do finally develop it, you will have to wash more and eventually shave on a daily basis, so although you are desperate to catch up with the other boys now, try to enjoy being hair-free while it lasts. You will have hair for the rest of your life.

Dear CHIPS shop

I am in Year 9 and so I'm not supposed to wear any make up, trouble is I don't feel very confident without it. I generally don't get into trouble but because I put so much on my uniform card is signed and if I'm not careful I am going to be doing a lot of detentions. I started with just a little make up but now tend to use quite a lot every time I go out. I think I'd be embarrassed if people I know now saw me without any.

I would really like to be more confident can you help.

Thank you from mascara addict Year 9.

Dear Year 9

Make-up does allow some girls to feel more confident, but it should not be ruling your life. Unfortunately for you, make-up is not allowed until Year 10, and then only if applied discretely. As you are already getting your card signed regularly, you need to tone it down. Ask a female family member or older friend to show you how to apply make-up so it is not as noticeable, that way, you will continue to feel confident and hopefully will not have after-school detentions for uniform infringements!

Year 11 Revision Day

Matthew McRae from Learning Performance visited our Year 11 students on Thursday 1 March, in order to help them plan and prepare for their GCSE exams.

Students learnt a variety of revision techniques, were shown how to manage their time effectively and advised to continue with sports clubs and activities as "all work and no play leads to a very dull life".

These sessions were both informative and enjoyable. Feedback from the students was very positive and included the following statements, "Good, learnt how to organise time and different ways of revising", "I now have more of an understanding about revision, "I learnt new skills to help with my revision, thanks", "Showed me how easy revision can be when you put your mind to it", "I think it was great, it's given me loads of ideas for when I revise", this has motivated me to revise and taught me new strategies".

All Year 11 students should now be planning their revision and starting to revise for their GCSE exams and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all success.

Mrs Salmon

Little Havens Children's Hospice – Update On Fundraising

Well, we did it! We sold all two hundred Harry Haven Bears raising £307 for the children's hospice. So a big thank you to everyone who bought the bears and to those of you who didn't want change of a £2 coin!! Also thank you to Yr 8 students who contributed to the Global Development Day last week, when £105 was raised for the hospice. In total we now have £449.26 in funds. However, we are not presenting a cheque to the hospice just yet, as in June, eleven brave members of staff are taking part in the Ladies' Driving Challenge in Suffolk. We'll then add what we raise from that event with the current amount. Ideally, we'd like to be able to give the hospice a cheque for £1,000 this year. There will be more news in a future edition.

Mrs J Smith
Assistant Learning Manager

Interview a Teacher

If you would like to interview a teacher for the next edition of the newsletter, please see Mrs Forster in G47.