



**OCTOBER  
2013**

# Stewards Academy

## Newsletter

**Gifted & Talented**  
Lead School

**IQM** Flagship School

**International School Award**  
2010-2013

**THE PRINCE'S TEACHING INSTITUTE**  
2013

**Cultural Diversity**  
Quality Standard

**ARTS COUNCIL**  
ARTSMARK  
GOLD  
ENGLAND

**LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME**

**Healthy Schools**

**Leading Space Education**  
Quality Mark

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Tutor Group: \_\_\_\_\_

### HEADTEACHER'S LETTER

Dear Parents and Pupils,

Stewards celebrated 50 years this half-term with an evening of song and dance through the 5 decades. The performances by over a hundred past and present students were exceptional; singers, dancers and musicians. My thanks to all the staff who gave so much of their time to prepare for and to support such a wonderful evening, not least Miss Johnson, Head of Performing Arts, who organised it. The audience had an evening of music that many said compared with a night out in a London theatre – one that will not be forgotten!

This half-term has been exceptionally busy: Year 7 have settled very well indeed and made a great start to their secondary education; Open Day was a chance for prospective parents to look round Stewards and we received very positive feedback from parents who are keen for their children to come to Stewards Academy in future; Year 11 parents enjoyed our Post-16 evening with talks from various Post-16 providers including the St Marks VI<sup>th</sup> form Partnership to which we belong and 120 Year 7

parents participated in our

Parent/Student evening for parents to have a taste of various subjects on the curriculum. We will round off the half term with a new venture – a Year 11 Music Event at The Square and our annual Cultural Food Event.

On Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September, with no notice and with immediate effect the Department for Education announced to the press a fundamental change in the rules about early entry for GCSE examinations, making schools accountable not for the final achievement of their students, but instead for their achievement at their first attempt. At Stewards we have been very successful to date in entering students early for GCSE's in English and Maths and giving them a chance to achieve a 'C' grade and the confidence to then go on to improve their grade in Year 11. Our students have appreciated and benefited from this policy and the OFSTED Inspection team were complimentary about the care we take to help prepare and support students in this way. At a stroke, the government has changed the rules. In future only the grade achieved at a first sitting of an examination will count in the



**Harrison Taylor and Kirstie Brough**



**Parents and pupils making Egyptian Jewellery Boxes**

measure of a school's achievement and success. If a student goes on to gain a higher grade in Year 11 than the one achieved in Year 10 then as far as the student is concerned it will count but as far as the measure of a school's success is concerned it will not. The effect of this will be to end early entry. Headteachers across the country have expressed their dismay at this, the latest of a series of changes that are brought into immediate effect, often with a negative impact on school morale and showing a lack of consideration for students who are already part way through their course of study. We will continue to make the best decisions we can, in the face of constant changes, in the best interests of all our students.

Stewards Academy received three very prestigious awards this term:-

- The Prince's Teaching Institute Mark (recognising the work of subject departments in providing innovative curriculum opportunities)
- The Inclusion Quality Mark – Flagship Status (an award received by just a small number of schools in the country)
- The International School Award – Ambassador Status (the top award from the British Council in recognition of our international work)

My congratulations to those subject leaders and staff who have led on each of the above to reach such a high standard and gain recognition for some of the excellent work we do.

Have a good half-term.

*Rhonda Murthar*

**Rhonda Murthar**  
Headteacher

# Inclusion Quality Mark Award

Stewards Academy celebrated the re validation of the prestigious Inclusion Quality Mark Award in October 2013 at a glittering award ceremony held in Pall Mall in London. Stewards went through a rigorous two day evaluation of ten aspects of the school's inclusive practice as linked to high quality teaching and learning opportunities. The IQM award was first achieved by Stewards in 2010 and this re validation exercise has led to an even more prestigious award with the achievement of Flagship

Academy Status. This marks Stewards out as a school of exemplary inclusive practice and was the due recognition and culmination of many years of work by the whole Stewards community. Inclusion Manager Mr Naunton and Assistant Headteacher Mrs Erwood went along to receive the two awards at the ceremony. Stewards was notable at the ceremony as being amongst only a small and select group of schools nationally which have achieved Flagship Status. Mr Naunton said *'Inclusion is at the heart of everything we do at Stewards and this was duly recognised in June 2013 by Ofsted who considered this to be an Outstanding area of school life. We are all very proud of this achievement at Stewards.'*



**Left to right; Joe McCann MD of IQM UK Ltd. Mrs Erwood and Mr Naunton**

**Mrs Erwood**  
Assistant Headteacher



# Multi-Cultural Festival

Following a successful Cultural Fashion Event last year students were invited to perform at the Black History Month Multi-cultural Festival on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2013 in Harlow Town, Market Square. With 35 students taking part from Year 7 to Year 11 with exciting, colourful costumes and a dance routine choreographed by Miss Trowsdale the event went ahead smoothly and the students were very professional throughout the day.

*"Once again Stewards Academy took the opportunity to come together with the community and celebrate the town's rich cultural diversity. Congratulations to all students who took part. We are all looking forward to the next big occasion, our 8th Cultural Food event on Thurs 24th Oct."* Ms Mohamed



*"I think the Cultural Fashion Event was an amazing experience it brought culture and happiness to everyone there"* Chloe White  
*"Being part of the event boosted my confidence and gave me the opportunity to try different cultural outfits. I also got the opportunity to model and dance as a representative of Stewards Academy"* Mia Leeson

*"I think that the Cultural Fashion experience was great and I really enjoyed it, it's one of the best things going on stage and performing in different outfits"* Abbie Leaf

*"The modelling and dancing has built my confidence so much, we faced circumstances however dealt with it in a professional way. Well done everyone"* Hollie Johnson

**Ms Mohamed**  
**Science Department**



## Dr Shakoor's Visit

Stewards welcomed back Dr Shakoor last week as a visitor to 9CH, the tutor group to which his beloved daughter Hira belonged. It is now a year since the tragic fire which killed his wife and five children and it was an opportunity to reflect on Hira's time at Stewards Academy and give the children an opportunity to



talk about Hira. The whole class took Dr Shakoor out to visit the tree which was planted and the beautiful oak bench which was built in memory of Hira, and he was very moved by the whole occasion. Dr Shakoor told the children how difficult the past year has been for him and how he would not have coped without the support of the community of Harlow and the two schools his children attended, Stewards and Abbotsweld. Next week Stewards are holding their annual Cultural Food event and all money raised will go to a charity which supports the education of girls in Pakistan. This is being done in memory of Hira and to recognise the value she placed on education.

**Mrs Erwood Assistant Headteacher**



# STEM Activities

## PICKING APPLES IN STEWARDS ANCIENT MEADOW

Stewards students and staff went out after school to harvest some of the apples in Stewards Ancient Meadow for use by the canteen to make apple desserts and Food Technology students during their lessons for making apple crumble and other apple based dishes. There are seven apple trees in the meadow and one pear tree. The 6 varieties of eating apple trees have been identified using Michael Clark's 'Apples, A Field Guide': Tydeman's Early, Millar's Seedling, Wealthy, Katy, D'Arcy Spice and Monarch and one Crab Apple tree. The most important apple tree is the Crab Apple for without that tree none of the others would be pollinated. It has been a very good year for apples and although we have picked twelve buckets full there are plenty left for the wildlife.

Students involved were: Week 1: Chelsea Townsend 11MR, Lewis Harknett 8TS and Dave Haslen 8TS. Week 2: Eleanor Fleming 8DS, Alex Betts 11JG and Nicole Wisbey 11HS. Staff: Mrs C Ellis and Mrs G Wright



**Chelsea Townsend 11MR, Mrs C Ellis, Lewis Harknett 8TS and Dave Haslen 8TS**

## MAINTAINING STEWARDS ANCIENT MEADOW

Stewards Ancient Meadow is the piece of uncultivated land stretching from Stewards car park to the cycle track. Local historians have shown that it was a meadow in the early 1800's and when Harlow was conceived and built, Stewards Ancient Meadow was identified as being an important piece of land to be conserved because of the Cow Slips and other wild flowers growing there. For several years now, Harlow Conservation Volunteers (HCV) have cut the grass and generally tidied up the meadow, cutting back bramble and general shrubs to ensure that the area continues to be a meadow. Since 2009 Stewards students have helped them with this activity. The HCV use the industrial lawn mower and instruct older students in the method of cutting grass using scythes. Harry Butler was also shown how to raise the crown of a young Oak tree. The rest of Stewards volunteers gathered up the cut grass and put it in compost heaps, picked up litter and cut back the Black Thorn thickets. At the end of the session the volunteers and students picked organic eating apples which grow on the site and took them home.

**Comment from Mr A. Tomlins (HCV):** *'The meadow cutting task on Sunday 29th September achieved our most comprehensive cut for a number of years (the excellent student turnout helped) and we even started to make small inroads into the Black Thorn thickets in the centre of the meadow.'*

### Students

**volunteers:** Alycia McLeod 7AMW, Tom Clancy 7AMW, Mason Whitmore 7GMW, Sarah-Louise Dymock 7RL, Kelsie Parfitt 7SB, Jamie Allen 8OK, Lily Stevens 8TS, Emma McAleer 9CH, Jody Bridge 9LM, Tyler Hampson 11HS, Harry Butler 11PM, Michael Whitting 11PM and Lukman Kazeem 11VG

**Staff:** Mrs G Wright

**Community:** Mr C Wright, Adam Pope and Matthew Allen

**HCV:** Mr A Tomlin and Mr C Lincoln



**Mrs G Wright**  
**Curriculum Development Technician**



# STEM Activities

## HONEY BEE TALKS

Stewards was buzzing on Tuesday 10th September when Pauline Tidmus from Harlow Bee Keepers brought one of her enclosed bee colonies into school to illustrate her talk about Honey Bees. Pauline talked to a Year 7 Science class, a Year 7 Maths class and STEM Club after school, about bees, their anatomy, how they live and breed, how they make honey etc. The students were then shown an enclosed bee colony including the Queen Bee and were provided with crackers coated with Pauline's bees' honey to taste. Sweet!



**Michael Whitting 11 PM, Jack Whitting 7SL, Emma McAleer 9CH, Alycia McLeod 7AMW, Caitlen Lee 7JFL, Harry Butler 11PH (modelling the bee suit) and Murats Seidovs 7SE**

## JEANS FOR GENES DAY

Year 11's enjoyed making t-shirts for Jeans for Genes day during their Science lesson. Following lessons learning about the charity and watching stories of people who suffer from genetic diseases, the students designed and produced t-shirts, proudly wearing them afterwards.

"It was a fun lesson and very interesting" Beau Jarvis 11THH

"We learnt a lot about the different ways that people have to live if they have a genetic disease" Aiden Kimber 11HS



**Josh Hill 11JG, Kelcey Donoghue 11PM, Hannah Reeves 11HS and Scott Beaumont 11THH**

## MAKE THEM LAUGH! INTRODUCTION TO THE IG NOBEL PRIZE

Everyone has heard of the Nobel Prizes, the most recent one for Physics being presented to Francois Englert and Peter W. Higgs in October 2013 'for the theoretical discovery of a mechanism that contributes to our understanding of the origin of mass of subatomic particles, and which recently was confirmed through the discovery of the predicted fundamental particle, by the ATLAS and CMS experiments at CERN's Large Hadron Collider.' However, have you heard of the Ig Nobel Prize?

The Ig Nobel Prizes honour achievements that first make people laugh, and then make them think. The prizes are intended to celebrate the unusual, honour the imaginative — and spur people's interest in science, medicine, and technology. For this year's winners see: <http://www.improbable.com/ig/> Hilary Summerfield presented an interactive and entertaining talk about the Ig Nobel Prizes. Members of the audience were asked to participate and prizes were won for the most accurate paper aeroplane flown at a target. Hilary looked at the best way to dunk a biscuit, why earphones always end up in a knot in your pocket and how to levitate a frog.

**Isaac Lucia 10NF:** "A fascinating insight into the lighter side of science. The talk touched on the optimal time, type and technique to dunk biscuits in black tea, the levitation of frogs, and possibly humans, and a memorable demonstration of the experimental decay of beer froth. We also had fun making and throwing paper aeroplanes, illustrating the light-heartedness of an Ig Nobel Prize Ceremony."

**Hannah Kizilcan 11DJ:** "The lecture was funny yet still educational. There were many things highlighted which I wouldn't usually even think about in terms of science."



# STEM Activities

## STEM PROJECT

The Project involving the girls, now in Year 10, continues with activities outlined in the Summer Newsletter.

### STEM Project visit to building development.

A small group were able to visit a building development in Harlow involving Denne Construction, who are a company working in partnerships in Harlow to re-develop areas of the town. We were given a tour of the site and learnt that priorities for builders these days must include sustainability and re-cycling. This includes items from water catchment, green areas, space for local amenities, to dedicated areas to park bicycles! The experience gave us a real insight into the practicalities of building development planning and will prove useful for the activities planned for the future.



## HANDOVER OF 3D PRINTER FROM AST LTD.

On the 11th September, we received the 3D printer from Applied Scintillation Technology Ltd (AST), who have funded the Project for us, and this was delivered by Mr Ray Hawkins and his team. Mr Hawkins said "We hope that one day some of these girls will come and work for us. There is a skills shortage and we are keen to attract high calibre and motivated young people". Ms Murthar expressed her appreciation of the gift of the 3D printer to Stewards and also for the support and expertise being offered by local business; "The STEM project is inspirational and motivational – an excellent opportunity for our students to have an insight to possible future careers and to develop their skills." We were joined by members of the Essex County Council Employability Skills Unit headed by Fiona Marriage, Technology subject leader Victoria Martin and members of the Senior Leadership Team of Stewards Academy.

We will now arrange for the assembly of the 3D printer by a group of the Project girls, over a planned programme, to include delivery of Employability Skills as part of the mentoring activities.

## FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES.

We now have additional mentoring schemes coming on stream including links to an engineering firm and two IT companies in Harlow.

**Mr Cooper A, G&T Mentor/Guidance Officer**



## CHEMISTRY AT WORK

This was an opportunity for our Year 11 students to take part in a chemistry based event held at the Cruise Terminal at Tilbury, a venue with a big history. It was the place that the 'Windrush' ship arrived at with the first immigrants from the Caribbean in 1948 and also the embarkation port for those UK residents in the '50's who emigrated to Australia for £10! Specialists from 6 separate employment areas talked about their own jobs and careers so we could understand the roles from someone who actually 'does the job'. The talks illustrated how Chemistry is used in real jobs and organisations and the organisers were The Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC). Those presenting included representatives from the Department of Chemical Biology in the Department of Chemistry Imperial College London, the University of Kent/Medway, Glaxo Smithkline, Genesis Oil and Gas, Anglia Water and the Pharmacy department of Chelmsford Hospital. It was mainly a day of listening to lectures which were very informative and useful for gaining an insight into careers in the Chemistry sector from people actually working in the sector. It has been a useful experience in showing our students the range of careers available in areas perhaps previously not considered. Charlotte Geddis said that *'it was very useful to learn about different ways to get into science careers'*. Lukman Kazeen said it was *'useful to learn all aspects linked to chemical engineering and knowing the opportunities available'*.





# Important Information

## Got an old unused Mobile?

Do you care about the environment and your fellow Human Beings?

Did you know that there are elements such as Gold, Silver, Copper, Aluminium and Magnesium in your mobile phones?

There are also many different compounds and mixtures essential for your phone to work

One of these compounds, Coltan, is primarily found in East Africa.



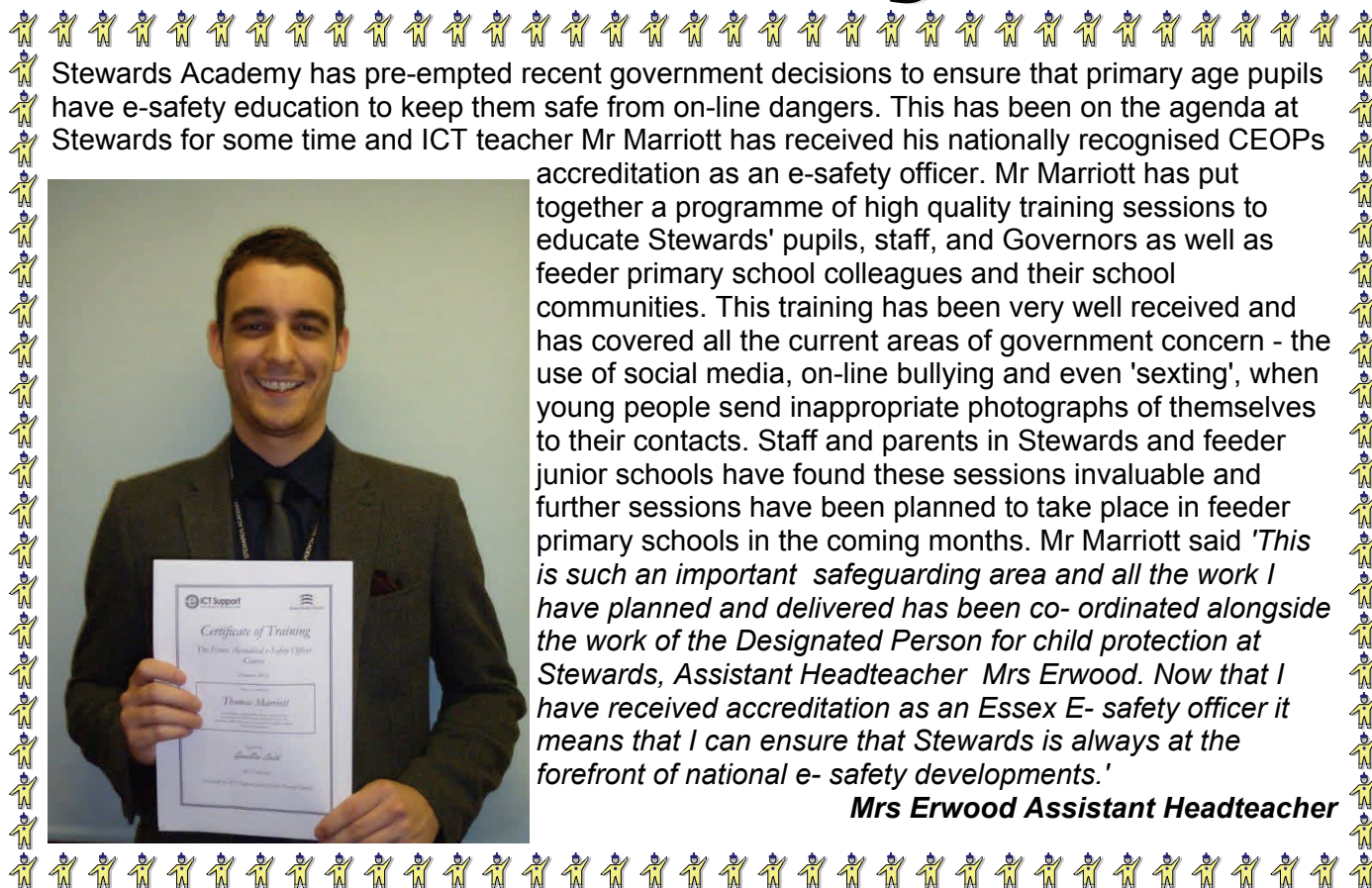
Miners in East African countries are sometimes paid as little as £10 per month. Their working conditions are extremely poor and work related deaths are very common. The people in these countries are often subjected to brutal crimes as militia (including child soldiers) fight for control over the rich mineral deposits essential for all our electronic devices.

Mr Flood's Year 10 Science class are collecting your old used or broken mobile phones for the British Red Cross. They collect and recycle the phones to provide life-saving aid for war and famine-torn countries.

You can make a difference, donate that old broken phone!




## E-Safety



Stewards Academy has pre-empted recent government decisions to ensure that primary age pupils have e-safety education to keep them safe from on-line dangers. This has been on the agenda at Stewards for some time and ICT teacher Mr Marriott has received his nationally recognised CEOPs accreditation as an e-safety officer. Mr Marriott has put together a programme of high quality training sessions to educate Stewards' pupils, staff, and Governors as well as feeder primary school colleagues and their school communities. This training has been very well received and has covered all the current areas of government concern - the use of social media, on-line bullying and even 'sexting', when young people send inappropriate photographs of themselves to their contacts. Staff and parents in Stewards and feeder junior schools have found these sessions invaluable and further sessions have been planned to take place in feeder primary schools in the coming months. Mr Marriott said *'This is such an important safeguarding area and all the work I have planned and delivered has been co-ordinated alongside the work of the Designated Person for child protection at Stewards, Assistant Headteacher Mrs Erwood. Now that I have received accreditation as an Essex E- safety officer it means that I can ensure that Stewards is always at the forefront of national e- safety developments.'*

**Mrs Erwood Assistant Headteacher**



# Performing Arts News

## 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION CONCERT

To commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Stewards Academy, we organised a concert like no other. Current Year 10 and Year 11 students were joined by staff members and 19 ex-Stewards pupils to perform a programme of music and dance celebrating the last 50 years through music.

The 1960s and 1970s were represented by songs such as 'Shout', performed by Tegan Tukana with Dance Club, 'Son of a Preacher Man' performed by ex-pupil Kirstie Brough and 'Paint It Black', performed by ex-pupil and staff member Harrison Taylor. Dance Fusion performed an '80s Medley' and '90s Medley'; these were followed by songs from the 2000s such as 'Price Tag', 'Never Ever' and 'Read All About It'. In addition, there were speeches from Roger Street (former Headteacher at Stewards), Garry Carrol (former Deputy Head) and Ms Murthar which featured

many interesting facts about the history of the school and about education through the years.



## MUSIC SCHOOL

Stewards Music School gives pupils the chance to learn a musical instrument on a one-to-one basis. We currently offer the following instruments:

Piano, Keyboard, Guitar (Acoustic & Electric), Clarinet, Trumpet, Saxophone, Flute.

Fees for lessons are:

10 x 15 minute lessons = £84.00 per term

10 x 30 minute lessons = £140.00 per term

Families eligible for Free School Meals can apply for a tuition voucher through Essex Music

Services which gives a substantial discount on the cost of lessons. Please contact Miss Tovey at the school for further information.



# Performing Arts News

## SHAKESPEARE SCHOOLS FESTIVAL

The Drama department is once again taking part in this year's Shakespeare Schools Festival, following the success of last year's 'Othello'. This year GCSE Drama students are rehearsing two Shakespeare plays, 'Julius Caesar' and 'Macbeth'. As part of their preparation, the two casts attended a workshop at Broxbourne Civic Hall where they took part in some drama exercises and developed a section of their plays with the workshop leaders.



# Religious Studies News

Over the last week, Year 8 Religious Studies classes have had the opportunity to interview Ms Mohamed about being a 21<sup>st</sup> century Muslim in the UK and what Islam means to her personally. The Year 8 curriculum allows pupils to study Islam and looks specifically at the Hajj which takes place in the twelfth month of the Muslim calendar. Students were asked to prepare a series of questions to get to the heart of what pilgrimage is about for Muslims. Ms Mohamed helped to bring the magic and spirituality of the event to life and dispelled many of the misconceptions the students had about Islam. This is a part of the wider spiritual, moral and cultural programme at Stewards Academy which is an integral aspect of our school life. Stewards is extremely proud of its multi-cultural community and this is evident both in and out of the classroom. This year's Cultural Food and Fashion events will provide further opportunities for students and parents alike to experience the diversity of many different cultures. *"It was an honour to be part of the Religious Studies Department and working with students who are so curious and want to learn about other religions. The questions asked were thought through and very interesting. I hope that I have answered their curiosity on many aspects in Islam."* Ms Mohamed  
*'We got to learn many things and about what it would be like going on the pilgrimage to Mecca'* Ryan Lynch 8SPL  
*'It made things easier to understand hearing someone talk about it from their own point of view and what it means to them personally'* Lucie Bleach 8SPL  
*'I really enjoyed Religious Studies and found it interesting learning about Hajj from a Muslim's point of view'* Manav Sharma 8SPL.

**Mr Hawk**  
**R.E./History Department**

# P.E. Department News

## SKI TRIP

There are only five months remaining for those pupils going on the Stewards Academy Ski Trip 2014 to Folgaria, Italy. The trip leaves on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February and returns on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February with pupils and staff staying at the Park Hotel Miramonti. In preparation for the trip a 'Ski fit' club will be starting in the next half term running on both Tuesdays and Thursdays run by Mr R. Tremer and Mr Sanders. All pupils attending the trip are encouraged to attend at least one session per week to ensure they are ready for the trip, which will be very physically demanding. Pupils are reminded that attendance, punctuality, attitude to learning and behaviour are all important things to consider in the final few months before the trip, as failure to maintain high standards in any of the criteria could result in the loss of your place on the trip. For those pupils who wish to get a head start on learning to Ski please look at the following links to find out more information about Ski centres that are situated nearest to Harlow.

Brentwood Ski Centre

- <http://www.brentwoodskicentre.co.uk/site/frameindex.htm>

Gosling Ski Centre Hertfordshire

- <http://www.goslingsports.co.uk/ski>

Hemel Hempstead Ski Centre

- <http://www.thesnowcentre.com>



**Mr R Tremer  
P.E. Department**



## CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

In better conditions than this time last year the District Cross Country took place at Burnt Mill Academy. With a smaller team of runners this year the Stewards Academy runners were keen to run the course as fast as they could. The new Year 7's gave a strong account of themselves with some strong runs, however again it was the Year 8 boys who took the plaudits with Lewis Harknett, Alfie Poole and Owen Harknett finishing in first, fifth and twelfth respectively for the Year 8 and 9 combined category. Rosie Pool also had an impressive run finishing closely in second place. Well done to all of the participants who took part in this year's event.



# P.E. Department News

## PRIMARY SCHOOL FESTIVAL

This year's first Primary Schools Festival was a hotly contested football tournament with eight schools competing to win a place in the regional finals to be played at Mark Hall. In less than desired weather, all participants played some fantastic football which produced some very eye catching matches. Congratulations to all of the teams that entered the festival with special mention to both Milwards and Katherines who finished winner and runner up respectively and they now progress to the regional tournament.

GROUP 1 PITCH 1	GROUP 2 PITCH 2
Water Lane v Longwood 1 - 0	Katherines v Nazeing 0 - 0
Milwards v Abbotsweld 1 - 0	Roydon v Kingsmoor 1 - 1
Longwood v Abbotsweld 1 - 0	Roydon v Katherines 0 - 1
Water Lane v Milwards 0 - 1	Nazeing v Kingsmoor 1 - 0
Milwards v Longwood 0 - 0	Roydon v Nazeing 0 - 2
Abbotsweld v Water Lane 0 - 2	Kingsmoor v Katherines 0 - 1



1 <sup>ST</sup> - 2 <sup>ND</sup> PLACE PLAYOFF	3 <sup>RD</sup> - 4 <sup>TH</sup> PLACE PLAYOFF
1 <sup>ST</sup> GROUP 1 VS 1 <sup>ST</sup> GROUP 2	2 <sup>ND</sup> GROUP 1 VS 2 <sup>ND</sup> GROUP 2
Milwards vs Nazeing 1 - 0	Water Lane vs Katherines 1 - 2



# Art Department Trip

On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October, Mr Scholtes, Mrs Warren and Miss Darling (accompanied by Ms Murthar) took a group of thirty Year 11 students to see the Moore/ Rodin exhibition at The Henry Moore Foundation, Perry Green near Much Hadham.

Pupils had the opportunity to see the work of local artist Henry Moore and the great French sculptor, Auguste Rodin, in the beautiful surroundings of Perry Green. Pupils were able to see the outside of Moore's house, Hoglands, his studio as it was left before his death in 1986 and his collection of maquettes (miniature models of sculptures he scaled up).

Woven tapestries were on display in the barn (depicting some of Moore's drawings and paintings) and the interior exhibition showed drawings and sculptures from both artists. Pupils were shown how Moore went about making his work, from scaling up of maquettes, using grids and polystyrene blocks. They also had a brief explanation of the casting process. Both sculptors' work is exhibited in the beautiful large gardens belonging to the foundation. Pupils were able to touch the sculptures in the gardens so that they had not only a visual experience of their work but a tactile one too.

Works in the exhibition included Rodin's 'Eve' (usually seen in the Water Gardens) and Moore's 'Vertebra'. Pupils have already begun to write and visually record their experience of the trip in their GCSE coursework sketchbooks.

Pupils enjoyed the experience and were complimented on their attitude and behaviour by the tour guides who took them around.

**Mrs Warren Head of Art**



# Able, Gifted & Talented News

## VISIT TO OXFORD UNIVERSITY 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER YR11 GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS.

A number of activities were taking place close to Central Oxford which was a good place to start. We located a Park and Ride that accommodated minibuses and this gave the group an idea of the surrounding area of Oxford and what a pleasant place it was. Overheard comments from students confirmed that they agreed.

The plan was to mix an experience of Oxford itself with visits to some of the University's Colleges and we were very lucky with our choices.

Our first visit was to Balliol College which was beautifully traditional and looked

fantastic in the autumn sunshine. We learned that it was the oldest of the colleges and dated back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century! The accommodation was mainly of the older kind but comfortable nonetheless. The undergraduate eating area with the heavy wooden tables, candlesticks and paintings on the wall, just emphasised the heavy traditional aspects of the University.

It had been suggested that while we were in Oxford, that we visit the Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology which was Britain's first public museum and home to the University of Oxford's world-class collections of art and archaeology. We therefore allowed the students 30 minutes to explore the museum before we had lunch outside the reception area in the sunshine.

We then went onto Jesus College where the accommodation was either very old with flooring at quaint angles, or very modern. Prices around £100-£115 per week. Tour guide Alex told us how much he



enjoyed being at Oxford and that if anyone felt they would like to go to Oxford, do the best they could at GCSE and A Level for the entry requirements and go for it. He said that the interviews are an opportunity for applicants to show their passion for their subject which was very important.

We finished with a visit to Exeter College where we looked around on our own and collected various booklets and prospectus' for our purposes back at school.

The M25 was back to its infuriating worst on the way back and we were just crawling along a stretch near to South Mimms, but it was peak time on a Friday. However, we had given parents an estimated return time of 6pm and the clock clicked over from 5:59pm as we turned into the school gate!

## BREAKFAST MEETINGS

We have re-introduced breakfast meetings for groups of invited Gifted and Talented students from years 9, 10 and 11, based on the format used 2 years ago. In view of space constraints, it has not been possible to invite the whole groups but we have split the groups from Years 9 and 10 into 3 and will see them for a term at a time. There is the possibility of Year 9 and 10 being able to take an addition to their GCSEs by way of an Extended Project through the examination provider OCR and we hope to have further news on this shortly. This would give students an advantage of an additional qualification to enhance their applications to further education organisations in the future.





# Able, Gifted & Talented News

These breakfast sessions in the past have proved extremely useful as opportunities to discuss issues, and share experiences, as well as being introduced to the options available after Year 11 and the opportunities to prepare CVs and Personal Statements. There are additional benefits of being in a group where everyone is encouraged to join in and discuss experiences and achievements as well as gain additional knowledge for future career, employment and educational options. We have also discussed role models such as Jessica Ennis Hill and we are also looking at personal career ambitions, passions, and achievements.

We are currently planning a visit to Cambridge University on the 5<sup>th</sup> November with a large group of mainly Year 10 students, so that they are able to experience what it would be like to attend such a traditional and world class university.

## VISIT TO ANGLIA RUSKIN UNIVERSITY.

Our first activity on our return after the summer break was for a visit to Anglia Ruskin University in Chelmsford. We were joined by representatives from AST Ltd and Harlow College.

On arrival we were invited to a welcome presentation and an introduction to the contents planned for the day.

We were then introduced to the Dept. of Engineering and the Built Environment by Mrs Vohmann and she showed us what this involved and how students can qualify from the Department to go into employment or onto further study to obtain Masters or Doctorate qualifications.

Next, we were split into groups to take part in activities involving Tower building, an introduction to and the operating of Surveying equipment, and then an introduction to the Computer Aided Design area. Probably the most popular activity was the Tower Building where the task asked for a covered, open sided building be assembled using only the resources provided, against the clock. An added element of excitement was that it turned out to be Stewards against Passmores and good natured competitiveness ensued with Stewards emerging winners by a whisker!

The weather was very kind to us for our campus tour which we undertook in small groups led by one of the Student Ambassadors, who looked after us very well all through the day and answered all our enquiries. Unfortunately time was against us for full comprehensive forays around the whole of the university, but we were given a good flavour of what university life is like.

After an afternoon session in one of the remaining activities, we were given a further presentation by Katerina, our host, about going to university and a summary of our day. We completed our evaluations and departed for home promptly to avoid rush hour out of Chelmsford. This was an excellent opportunity to get a feel of attending a modern university and be able to ask about anything relating to student life of the Ambassadors. They also were able to explain how they made their decisions while at school to follow their ambitions to Higher Education.

Chloe Mitchell said that the best thing for her was *"being able to find out what happens at a university."* Chanel Cook said *"the best part of the day was the university tour because we found out a lot of useful information about university from the Student Ambassadors."*



**Mr Cooper A, G&T Mentor/Guidance Officer**

# Work Related Learning News

There have been lots of opportunities, during this half term particularly, to help students with their career plans and to explore pathways for further education.

## KREATE APPRENTICESHIP POD

Year 11 and Year 10 students and their parents were invited to spend the morning learning about apprenticeships, joining the Essex County Council sponsored travelling information centre 'The Apprenticeship Pod'.

Students found the information useful and the 'Pod' an exciting visual aid.

**Dylan Dezilva 10DN** said *'the information has helped me decide on which progression routes I can explore – I like the idea of learning practically as well as using theory.'*

**Johnny Harris 10RP** learned that you can get paid at the same time as learning with an Apprenticeship.

**Matthew Golds 11 MR** still isn't sure which route he will take when he leaves Stewards Academy but was pleased he knew more now about apprenticeships.

A grandparent, accompanying his grandson, thought the information available was good especially the part about 'earning while learning'.

Other adults felt the information was well delivered with approachable staff.



## KIER WORK PLACEMENTS FOR YEAR 11 CONSTRUCTION STUDENTS

Construction students in Year 11 have been given the chance to take up an extra work placement with KIER (Harlow) during half term. They will be participating in a range of experiences in the construction industry working alongside experienced plumbers, electricians and painters and decorators learning about these trades first hand.

## YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

**Work placements will take place 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> June 2014.** Students have been given information about the programme and there will be a parents and student briefing on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November in the school hall from 6.00pm. Details to follow.

## ARMED FORCES VISIT

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Jack Richards from the Royal Marines joined Years 8, 9 and 10 students this month, to talk about the Royal Marines and in particular his career and training with the Armed Forces. Jack inspired students to focus on their studies and enjoy and take advantage of any of the opportunities offered during the next few years.



## SALON INTERNATIONAL (EXCEL, LONDON)

Year 10 and Year 11 students who took up the hairdressing option had a treat this month. They visited the Salon International Hairdressing Exhibition at Excel in London on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October.

The centre was full of hair and beauty companies displaying their products, demonstrating their innovative designs and ideas, and throughout the day there were hairdressing demonstrations from world renowned hairstylists.

Students, as well as accompanying adults, took full advantage of the freebies and had their hair curled and smoothed and conditioned – a great time was had by all. They learned lots about working in the industry too, literature and information about the products as well as pathways which could lead to employment.



# Work Related Learning News

## ENACT – DESTINATION SUCCESS

Year 11 students watched the theatre group ENACT earlier this month. The performers showed the pathways after leaving Stewards in a fun, informative way and identified where qualifications can lead. They talked about employment too and how they had reached their own present careers in performing arts.

Later, on the same theme; Parents and Students attended the POST 16 information evening.

Mr Harman (Work Related Learning Team) gave a presentation showing an overview of the opportunities available for students after leaving Stewards and the timeline of events leading up to receiving their qualifications data in August and what to do then.

Please encourage your child to familiarise themselves with the programme for Careers Information , Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) and remind them to visit Open Days and Evenings at the many Colleges and Sixth Forms in the area to learn more about the courses available. The timeline and other important information can be found on the VLE.

Mr Cooper and Mrs Hampstead are available for support about careers and pathways. Resources (College and Sixth Form prospectuses as well as careers information) can be found in the Careers Room in Block 3 (opposite the cafeteria).

**Mrs Hampstead**  
**Vocational Learning Mentor**

# Construction Department News

## GO GO GO - KART!

Two Construction student groups are locked in a dual to destruction competition with each other as to who has the best engineering skills of the term. The set task was for each team to design and produce a working Go-Kart that would be able to compete in Speed, Timed, Slalom and Distance trials. Team 'Bones' and team 'Ghost Rider' have just finished their test runs and putting the final tweaks and repairs to their chariots of Doom ready for the main event.



**Danny Smith – Team Leader checks out driver Billy Pope during team 'Ghost Rider' tests.**



**Team Leader Jake Smith and Shalinder Mathu representing team 'Bones'.**

In addition to the actual trials, points will be awarded with regard to design, engineering, workmanship and teamwork! Stay tuned for the results to be announced next edition – in the meantime it's up to you to get behind - team 'Bones' or team 'Ghost Rider' – you decide!

**Murray Mint – Stewards Academy Motoring Correspondent**

# Stewards Challenge Re-launch



YEAR	REWARD	CRITERIA
7	Trip during the Summer Term based on Autumn/Spring Terms attendance	Meet the total of Merits required for each term 96% and above attendance for each term No more than 3 late marks for each term No Seclusion Room No Fixed Term Exclusions
8		
YEAR	AUTUMN TERM	SPRING TERM
7	80	70
8	60	50

**YOU MUST MEET THE CRITERIA FOR BOTH TERMS TO QUALIFY FOR THE TRIP IN THE SUMMER**

YEAR	REWARD	CRITERIA	
9	£10 per term (Autumn, Spring and Summer) towards Leavers Day	Meet the total of Merits required for each term 96% and above attendance for each term No more than 3 late marks for each term No Seclusion Room No Fixed Term Exclusions	
10			
11			
YEAR	AUTUMN TERM	SPRING TERM	SUMMER TERM
9	50	40	40
10	40	30	30
11	30	20	20

*Mrs Erwood  
Assistant Headteacher*

## STEM Activities

<b>Tuesday 19th November 2013</b> 6.30pm until 8.30pm	 <b>Comets and Meteors</b>	<b>Leonid Meteors and Comet ISON</b>
<b>Tuesday 10th December 2013</b> 6.30pm until 8.30pm	 <b>Uranus and Perseus</b>	<b>Uranus, the Moon, and Perseus double star cluster.</b>



# Attendance Information

We would like to take this opportunity to explain our Attendance Procedures to you:

- If your child is absent you must inform the school on the number below before 9.30am for each day of absence
- Failure to do this will result in either a phone call being made to you or a visit being made to your home by the Academy's Education Welfare Officer to find out the reason for your child's absence
- Should your child be absent for any reason you must provide a note (available in the Pupil Planner) to be returned to the Attendance Office upon your child's return to school
- Should any further absence occur you will be contacted as above. Subsequent absence will result in you being called into school for a meeting so we can discuss the reasons for the persistent absence and work together so that your child attends regularly and punctually.
- Any further absence after this meeting could result in further action being taken which would involve a legal process

**IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT ALL PUPILS ARE ACCOUNTED FOR EVERY DAY AND THAT ALL ABSENCES ARE ACCOUNTED FOR**

**PLEASE NOTE** - Due to amendments in Education Regulations 2013 – the Headteacher will not grant any holiday or leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Any request for leave of absence for exceptional circumstances must be written in a letter addressed to The Attendance Manager at Stewards Academy at the earliest possible opportunity. Any holiday taken during term time could result in a Penalty Notice being issued.

## **REGISTRATION**

**8.45am** – REGISTRATION (AM) FOR ALL PUPILS

**1.55pm** – REGISTRATION (PM) FOR ALL PUPILS

**FAILURE TO ARRIVE IN TIME FOR REGISTRATION WILL RESULT IN A DETENTION BEING ISSUED**  
**ABSENCE**

**(01279) 772511** (please leave a message)

**FAILURE TO REPORT YOUR CHILD ABSENT WILL RESULT IN AN UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE BEING RECORDED AND FURTHER ACTION WILL BE TAKEN**

## **SIGNING IN OR OUT**

Please provide your child with a note explaining the reason for lateness also we cannot allow pupils out of the school without parental permission.

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION IN THESE MATTERS  
FROM THE ATTENDANCE TEAM***

# Year Group Information Year 7

Year 7 are continuing with their positive start to the year and are approaching their studies with a mature and responsible attitude. The year team regularly receive positive comments from teaching staff regarding the quality of class and homework pupils produce, their readiness to try out new ideas and experiences and the enthusiasm with which they approach both their studies and extra-curricular activities.

Organisation, however, is an area that a number of pupils need to work towards improving. An increasing number of PE kits, packed lunches and equipment for practical lessons are being handed into reception having been left at home by pupils. We would, therefore, ask that parents and carers re-iterate the importance of good organisational skills and ensure that pupils are prepared for the school day. Checking Pupil Planners and questioning children about the equipment they need for the following day will help to remind them and will, in time, result in improved organisation and greater independence.

***Mrs Ramsey Head of Year 7***

# Year Group Information

## Year 8

**'Don't be anything less than everything you can be'**

So far so good Year 8! Your attitude, your attendance and your punctuality have all been fantastic and I am hoping it will continue. The first half term is nearly complete and I am very pleased with your contributions to school life.

Many of you have come back to school with the right attitude, understanding the importance of working hard. This year is a chance to shine, proving to staff that you have the right credentials to be selected for your preferred GCSE options. You need to make sure that every piece of work stands out, you must meet your homework deadlines, and that you strive to be number one in your class. Don't settle for second best. Well done to those who have supported evening events, and who have attended extra-curricular activities. Girls rugby is one of the most popular activities to date and the girls really do have lots of fun. It's the perfect way to get fit, learn something different, and meet new friends. They can all admit that tackling Mr Ford is a great stress reliever on a Friday afternoon!

Half term is a time to relax and enjoy yourself, but you must remember that this break is a busy time. You have Halloween on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October then Bonfire Night as we return back to school. Be sensible and stay safe.

**Mr G Hughes**  
**Head of Year 8**

## Year 9

As the first half term of Year 9 comes to a close, I would like to congratulate your children on an excellent start to the year. The step up from Year 8 to Year 9 can be quite challenging initially with new subjects and greater coursework demands, but Year 9 have coped really well with the changes and have made a smooth transition into their GCSE's.

Mrs Atkinson and I have had the pleasure of visiting pupils in a number of their classes to see how they have settled in to Year 9 and we have been extremely impressed with the level of maturity, enthusiasm and dedication that we have witnessed. The feedback from staff has also been extremely positive with the words 'excellent', 'fantastic' and 'great' featuring in a number of responses. A flavour of the sort of comments I have received include:-

*'Lots of enthusiasm and a willingness to take risks'* – Drama.

*'Very focused and show determination when they find a problem difficult'* – Maths.

*'Very engaged and are already producing good quality work'* – MFL

*'I would like to compliment them on their behaviour'* – Geography.

*'I am so pleased with my triple scientists ...great homework ...great ideas and keen as mustard'* – Science.

*'They have started the course with dedication and an excellent attitude to their learning'* – BTEC PE.

*'Favourite class to teach at the moment!'* - English.

In assemblies this half term, pupils have learnt about various opportunities available to them in the local community and have been visited by the local Air Cadets and the Harlow Youth Council. The importance of hard work, dedication, commitment and resilience were also discussed at the start of this year and our final assembly at the end of this half term showcased excellent examples of work going on across the year group to model this. Additionally, Year 9 experienced a very moving assembly about Malala Yousafzai from Pakistan who was shot in the head for standing up for girls rights to an education. This was dedicated to our fellow pupil and dear friend Hira who sadly lost her life in a devastating tragedy last year and I would like to express my gratitude to Ms Mohamed and Mrs Atkinson for their sensitive input on this.

Following on from this, Stewards Academy was privileged to receive a visit from Hira's father, Dr. Shakoor in the week leading up to the anniversary of her death and I would like to thank all of the pupils from 9CH, her former and current tutors - Mr Wormald and Mr Hawk, Miss Tovey (her co-tutor) and Mrs Atkinson for making this afternoon so poignant and special in Hira's honour.

Finally, I would like you to be aware that a detailed analysis of pupil progress was undertaken at the end of Year 8 following the final Summer Data and a monitoring programme has been put in place to support pupils who were falling behind with their studies. This is an important time in your child's education as they begin their GCSE's and early intervention is key to success, so If you do have any worries with your child's progress or behaviour in a particular subject, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Mrs Atkinson and we will do our best to resolve your concerns.

**Miss Holden**  
**Head of Year 9**



# Year Group Information

## Year 10

Students in Year 10 are beginning to think seriously about their future. Work Experience is looming and I have been impressed with the number of students who have already explored work placement possibilities. Mrs Hampstead will be visiting all tutor groups to give them the initial information that they need.

Many students are also thinking about education post 16; what they will study and where they will study it. I want them to think about what they have to offer on top of their qualifications. What will make them stand out from the crowd? This may include sport, charity and voluntary work, clubs and extra-curricular activities.

Two girls who will have no problem with this are Paige Harris and Megan Jenkins. They are members of sea cadets and recently spent a week at HMS Raleigh. Here are their thoughts.

Megan Jenkins

*"Thanks to Sea Cadets I got the opportunity to spend the week at HMS Raleigh. This is where you go for your 10 week basic training when you join The Royal Navy. I had to be mentally and physically fit for this week as it included the chance to complete the RN assault course, to do fire fighting and have a tour*



*of HMS Courageous, which is a decommissioned submarine. This week gave me a greater insight into life in the navy and certainly took me outside of my comfort zone. As squad leader the pressure was on me! I have had many once in a life time experiences with Sea Cadets, but this was the best yet."*

Paige Harris

*"HMS Raleigh was amazing! Seeing how the Navy trains its recruits was a once in a life time experience. Spending a week at the Royal Navy Command with your friends is the best experience and I loved every moment of it."*

Well done to Megan and Paige. What will you write on your CV?

**Ms Batterham**  
**Head of Year 10**



## Year 11

As half term approaches time is steadily running out for Year 11. They all need to make the most of opportunities open to them, including attending twilight sessions in a variety of subjects. It is vital that they bring the correct equipment to all lessons, and write all their homework in their planners, with due by dates, and they should be signed every week.

I would like to emphasise that there is no opportunity for anybody to drop subjects at this late stage in their courses, but students should try to find out as much as possible about post 16 choices, and ask Mr Cooper or Mrs Hampstead if they have any queries about their future careers, and what qualifications they need.

Please ensure that your children get to school by 8.45 for the start of registration, so they are mentally well prepared for the whole day, and have established good routines that will help them in the future.

**Mrs Ellis**  
**Head of Year 11**

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## COMING SOON... WE WILL ROCK YOU!

We recently held auditions for our school production of 'We Will Rock You', which will take place in the Spring term. The cast list will be published shortly.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### OCTOBER

**28th-1st Nov**      **Half-Term**

### NOVEMBER

5th	Curriculum Day
14th	Graduation Evening 6.00pm
15th	BBC 'Children In Need' Day
21st	Year 7 Parents Evening 4.00pm
26th	Work Experience Parents Meeting 6.00pm
27th	Upper School Showcase 6.00pm

### DECEMBER

17th	Curriculum Day
17th	Christmas Concert 6.00pm
19th	Christmas Dinner
<b>20th</b>	<b>Term Ends - 1.00pm</b>



## ABSENCE LINE

The absence line to report pupil absence is

**01279-772511**

Please give your child's name, tutor group and reason for their absence. Please follow up the absence with a note on the **first day back** explaining why your child has been absent from school



**Mrs Barker**  
**Attendance Officer**

## FIRST AID SUPPORT FOR PUPILS

Mrs Kitchener is our First Aid & Welfare Technician. Her role is to deal with children who become ill during the day in school, and any accidents that occur. Please remember that she is not a qualified nurse and is not able to deal with illnesses that come on during the weekend or the night before that might require a visit to the doctor.

*Thank you,*  
**Mrs Jenkins, Business Manager**

## ANNUAL SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October, Years 7, 9 and 11 will have their photographs taken by Van Cols. When the photos are returned, instructions for ordering will be issued by Mrs Willson. Orders are expected to be delivered in plenty of time for Christmas.

*Thank you,*  
**Mrs Jenkins, Business Manager**