



**Christmas
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,

In this edition of the Newsletter you will read about an extensive range of pupil achievements from performing Shakespeare on the stage at Broxbourne Theatre (p11) to first hand experience of working alongside a construction company (p7). The extra-curricular programme offered by Stewards Academy is exceptional and I would like to thank all the staff who give their time to support the wide range of activities we have on offer. Recent additions include the extended project group and Latin lessons organised by Mr King and Ms Cadden respectively for able, gifted and talented students.

Year 7 parents recently attended their first parents evening. Parent questionnaire responses were overwhelmingly positive as you will see below.

Respondents who strongly agreed or agreed with the statements	
	Year 7
Number of responses	111
Attendance	91%
My child is happy at this school.	99%
My child feels safe at this school.	100%
My child makes good progress at this school.	99%
My child is well looked after at this school.	100%
My child is taught well at this school.	99%
My child receives appropriate homework for their age.	98%
This school ensures the pupils are well behaved.	100%
This school deals effectively with bullying.	100%
This school is well led and managed.	100%
This school responds well to any concern I raise.	99%
I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress.	99%
I would recommend this school to another parent.	100%

May I add my congratulations for excellent pupil attendance so far this term (see p15)

At the end of term we say farewell to Mrs Eubel (Student Support Assistant) and Mrs Jones (Cover Supervisor). We wish them well in their new roles. Congratulations go to Mr Harman (ICT/Business Studies) and Mr Naunton (Inclusion Manager) who have recently been appointed Specialist Leaders in Education in their chosen field of expertise. This role recognises the support they have given to teachers in other schools to develop exceptional practice. Congratulations also to Mr B. Ford who takes on the new role of Facilities Manager at Stewards in the Spring term.

I wish everyone associated with Stewards a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year.

Rhonda Murthar

Rhonda Murthar
Headteacher

Cultural Food Event

Stewards held its 8th Annual Cultural Food Event and hundreds of people from the local community came along to celebrate the cultural diversity of the staff and pupils. Over 30 countries were represented with an array of delicious food available. Organisers Mrs Erwood, Assistant Headteacher and Ms Mohamed, Science teacher, were delighted with the turn out. Dancers performed a traditional African dance and a Bollywood routine was very well received. Many past pupils came back to join the celebration which is now a really popular local event, and even parents of pupils who left Stewards several years ago still come along to bring dishes and be a part of an event which is valued by all who take part. Over 50 pupils wore authentic national costumes which added to the flavour of the occasion. Almost £400 was raised by this event and the money will go to a special fund that Stewards has set up in memory of Hira Shakoor, who died a year ago in a house fire with her mother, sister and brothers. This money will be used to sponsor a young girl abroad in her education, in Hiras' memory. This is one event in a calendar of events throughout the year which celebrates cultural diversity at Stewards.

Mrs Erwood Assistant Headteacher



Cultural Food Event

CULTURAL FOOD EVENT QUOTES

Paulina Serafin – *'It's an excellent event, it's very busy but you get to explore different cultures in many various aspects.'*

Miss Connaughton – *'Excellent event, great food, great dress from different cultures. It was wonderful seeing students, teachers and people from the local community enjoying the event together. Thank you!'*

Alarna Mace – *'I've attended the cultural food event for four years now and it just keeps getting better! I love the idea of sponsoring someone's education!'*

Nicolas Rogan – *'After being to previous Cultural Food events and being an EMPV member, I can say this event is still brilliant and I always look forward to next year's event.'*

Nick Richards – *'Very good event, always good to bring the community together. A good way to celebrate diversity.'*

Shakur Dixon-Chemis – *'I have had one of the best days in a long while. It was good to see so many familiar faces and try some fantastic food. Thank you.'*

Jeannette Baldwin (Megan Baldwin's Mum and Governor) – *'Brilliant! Lovely food, very well organised, lovely effort by everyone who dressed up. Lovely atmosphere, can't wait for next year!'*

Miss Dove – *'A wonderful event. I don't think I have ever eaten so many different types of food. Amazing effort from everyone. Well done!'*

Sean Criddle (Criddle family) – *'Had a really good time. Food was lovely, all pupils were very polite and helpful and looked great in their costumes. Many thanks.'*

Wendy Donnan (Donnan family) – *'We really enjoyed this event, the pupils all looked great in their costumes. Really would love to come again, thank you.'*

Miss Gilmé – *'Wonderful and enriching event!! The food was excellent, it was good to gather teachers, students and families!'*

Linda Pailing (Chairman Harlow District Council) – *'A fantastic opportunity for all. The food was wonderful and what a great way of introducing everyone to the wide differences in our community – and yet we can all come together and have fun at an event like this. Well done to all the chefs and cooks.'*

Dennis Perry – *'An event that brings the community and members of the school together. Incredibly diverse and everything that the Ethnic Pupil Voice group stands for. Something you wouldn't find anywhere else. One of many events staged by a brilliant school.'*

PARENT GOVERNOR POSITION

Mr Rogers has served on Stewards Governing Body for the past 4 years and is coming to the end of his first term of office. I am therefore writing to invite nominations for parent governor. Mr Rogers has indicated that he would be willing to serve again for a further term of office. Nomination forms are available from Mrs Wood, Assistant Clerk to the Governing Body. The deadline for nomination forms to be completed is Monday 13th January 2014.

Part Time Job Opportunity at Stewards – 52 weeks per year – Salary £7,831 per annum

Pinnacle Cleaning Contractors are advertising for a Cleaning Supervisor to work here at Stewards. The post is for 20 hours per week, involving a 6am start and covering the afternoon shift too. Precise hours would be agreed with the successful applicant.

Essential requirements are: excellent inter-personal and communication skills, punctuality, successful experience of motivating and leading a team, thorough knowledge of health and safety practices in relation to school cleaning, and an all-round "can do" approach to the job.

**All enquiries should be addressed to Mr G Hines, Senior Contracts Manager – Education
Pinnacle PSG LTD, Unit 4, Bannisters Yard, Mayes Lane, Sandon, Essex CM2 7RP**

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

History Department News

Stewards History Projects: The Romans

The History Department was very impressed with the great effort and enthusiasm that Year 7 pupils showed in completing their Roman projects over the summer. We have enjoyed reading the work produced by the pupils and looking at the pictures of artefacts they included in their projects. Many pupils took the opportunity to visit Harlow Museum where they could research their local area and dress up as a Roman.

All of the projects have been marked and pupils have received their awards. The History Department would like to give a special mention to Georgina Millsom, Zakiyat Shobowale, Zeta Evans, Alex Fairley, Christopher Meader and Charlie Neville for outstanding effort.

The students who researched their project at the museum had to use a range of different skills. They had to study artefacts in detail such as coins and pottery.

Students also had to explain whether they thought the Romans were civilised basing their conclusions on the research that they had carried out.

"I really enjoyed researching the Romans at the museum, they were interesting and gruesome people"

Ben Willis 7PH

Mr King
History Department



BBC Children in Need Charity News BBC Children in Need

Stewards Academy has excelled itself in recent weeks with the money it has raised for charity. We raised £1,184.40 for Children in Need by having a non uniform day and staff dressing as fictional book characters. Poppies were sold around school for Remembrance Day as usual. £940 has been raised from a variety of events to support 3 young girls with their education in Pakistan,



in memory of Hira Shakoor who died in a house fire in 2012. This week has seen Year 7 raise hundreds of pounds for a variety of good causes in their annual Enterprise week's activities. Assistant Headteacher Mrs Erwood said 'It never ceases to



amaze me how generous our pupils and staff are when they raise money for good causes. Young people today have a huge depth of generosity and they give selflessly when they understand the cause they are supporting.'

Mrs Erwood
Assistant Headteacher

Reading News

Renaissance Reading Scheme

The scheme has been running now for over a year and there are nearly 650 students actively using the system to improve their reading.

The programme works by initially testing a student's reading ability and assigning them a range of books that they can borrow from the library. The student then reads a book at the lower end of their range and takes a quiz on a computer which assesses their comprehension of the story. Once they score 85% or more on the quiz, they move along their range by 0.2 of a level. The intention is that by consistently scoring highly in the quiz, they improve their reading and progress along their range. Each student is tested termly to determine their progress and to assess whether any intervention is required.

Since arriving, all year 7 students have taken their computer-based reading tests and have recorded their ranges and their term targets in their planners (page 51). The majority have taken at least one quiz and the drive is now on to ensure that all year 7 pupils are reading, taking quizzes, scoring highly and progressing along their range.

Reading Week

The first of three reading weeks was held during week beginning 11th November. The intention of these weeks is to focus the attention of the whole school on the importance of reading. To this end, a number of activities took place during the week: A reading activity booklet was given to all year 7 pupils

Key stage 3 pupils took part in a "staff favourite book" competition
Departmental readings were held during lunchtime in the library and were well attended by both staff and pupils
The week culminated in staff and students dressing as their favourite literary character with money raised from this split between Children in Need and the recovery efforts in the Philippines.

The next reading week is planned for the week beginning 3rd March and activities are already being arranged, including a visit from a well-regarded children's author.



Bookbuzz

Bookbuzz is an offshoot of the charity Booktrust with the aim of providing a free book to all year 7 students. A shortlist of ten was chosen and students chose their favourite from the shortlist. These books have now been delivered and distributed.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas and prosperous New Year.

Happy reading!

Mr Ginger
Reading Manager

Work Related Learning News

YEAR 10 CURRICULUM DAY

Year 10 enjoyed an 'Instruction Day' earlier this term (in preparation for their work experience). Students practised their communication skills and identified leadership qualities useful in team building activities. They had fun building bridges using only paper and sticky tape too. In the afternoon the big challenge was to build a boat (but with wheels) which could be powered by wind and again only using paper, tape and a black bin bag. Interestingly, all the designs were different and achieved various distances during the 'big reveal' held in the hall at the end of an enjoyable, instructive day.

The winning team was from tutor group 10MH who reached a remarkable distance. Here they are with their boat.

Mrs Hampstead
Vocational Learning Mentor



ENTERPRISE IN YEAR 7

Cupcakes, Christmas cards and tags, photos, games and a hall full of excited, focused Year 7 students represented their tutor groups at an Enterprise Event this term.

Having impressed 'The Dragons' (*Mr Harman, Mr Cooper and Mrs Hampstead in disguise*) and gained an investment of £20 – each tutor group in Year 7 put their enterprising skills to work and attempted to increase their original investment.

It was amazing to see all the diverse money making ideas.

All monies collected will go to the charity nominated by the tutor group who increased their investment the most.

A written report and presentation in assembly will round up the project.

Well done Year 7.



HAIRDRESSING OPTION

Year 10 and Year 11 students who chose the hairdressing option continue to progress towards achieving their NVQ Level 1 qualification in Hairdressing.

Recently they spent their lesson in a 'real salon' and were enthusiastic, professional and worked hard to complete their allocated tasks. Their tutor added 'Stewards Academy students are a pleasure to teach'. Keep up the good work.

Work Related Learning News

WORK EXPERIENCE AT KIER FOR YEAR 11 CONSTRUCTION STUDENTS

Year 11 students who chose the construction option spent their half term working alongside our colleagues from Kier, Harlow.

Having completed their health and safety induction prior to their placements Saikouba Nije, Danny Royall, Shane Nelson, Josh Murphy, and Mason Joscelyne shadowed gas fitters, electricians, painters and decorators learning at the front line about maintenance and repair of homes in Harlow.

The students were highly commended on their attitude, enthusiasm and behaviour throughout their work placements at Kier. Equally the students, whilst gaining valuable experience into the world of paid employment, enjoyed their time too.

We hope to build on this opportunity and look forward to welcoming our colleagues from Kier to join Year 11 when they celebrate the successful completion of their construction course.

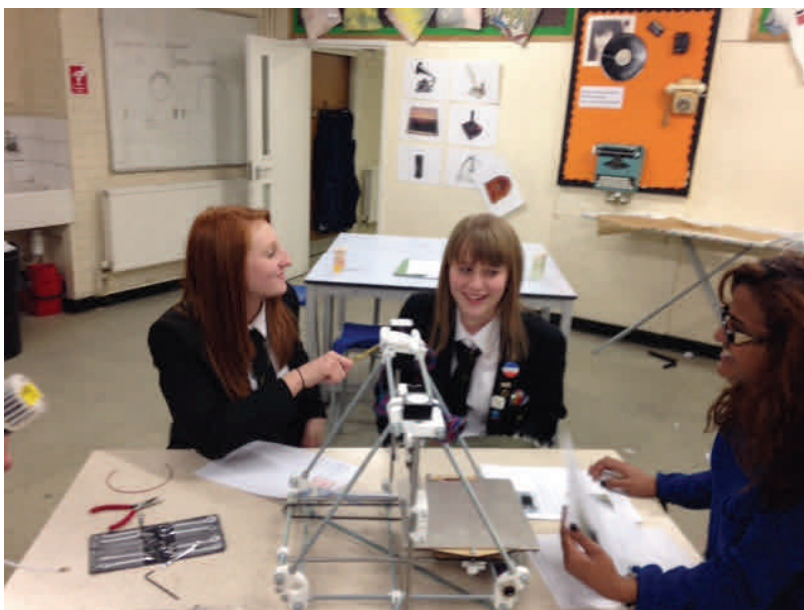
Reminder:

For those who were unable to attend the **Year 10 Work Experience Briefing** for parents and students held earlier this term, closing date for receipt of 'own placement' forms is Tuesday 17th December. Please telephone Mrs Hampstead on 01279 421951 for any clarification.

Stem Activities

STEM PROJECT

The sessions arranged to assemble our new 3D printer received from Applied Scintillation Technologies Ltd (AST), have continued with a regular slot on Mondays at 3:30pm in the Technology area. The AST team have attended and supervised the ongoing assembly by the girls, while supplying weekly challenges in the form of building a catapult from pencils, elastic bands and sellotape, which could propel a table tennis ball 10 feet, and designing a parachute in such a way that an egg would land safely. Both challenges have been completed successfully and within the allotted time, while enabling the girls to learn valuable problem solving and team working skills.



The assembly of the 3D printer has resulted in valuable 'hands on' experience involving the use of screw drivers, allen keys and soldering irons to mention a few, while programming skills are planned shortly. We have encouraged ideas for the types of things the team would like to produce once assembly and training is complete, and expect to be manufacturing before Christmas!

We are close to being able to offer further mentoring sessions for the rest of the Project group and expect to be able to release details shortly with a view to these starting in the New Year.

Mr Cooper A, G&T Mentor/Guidance Officer

STEM Activities

HOW WINGS WORK

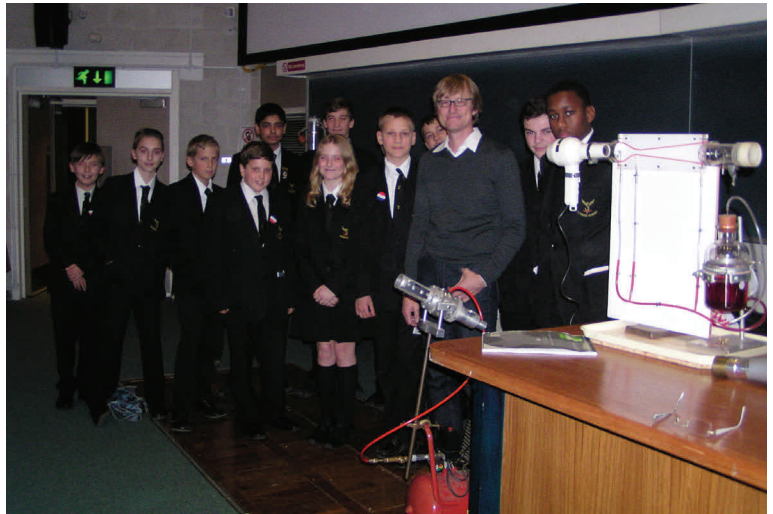
Presented by Professor Holger Babinsky at the Cavendish Laboratories, University of Cambridge Misconceptions about the 'physics behind lift' were blown away by Professor Babinsky during his talk about 'How Wings Work' at the Cavendish Laboratories. Our students learnt about high pressure, low pressure, aerofoils, streamlining and lift. He also explained the Magnus Theory and the Counda Effect so well that all of our students understood them.

Filip Kusnir (9CH): *'I have learnt a lot and found it interesting when he talked about the aerofoil. I was surprised that the most commonly taught theories about lift were wrong. The best part was when he did the demonstrations to prove the Magnus Theory and Counda Effect.'*

Artjoms Bukis 10DN: *'The best lesson in my life!'*

Olly Lucia 7JFL: *'I thoroughly enjoyed the professor's lecture. I learnt about curved streamlines and the physics behind it.'*

Mrs Wright
Curriculum Development Technician



How Wings Work: Professor Babinsky with Olly Lucia 7JFL, Abbie Weir 7JFL, Casey Jones 7RL, Bradley Walker 7RL, Alex Mosoroiu 7SB, Murats Seidovs 7SE, Filip Kusnir 9CH, William Payne 9GM, Shiv Sharma 9GM, Artjoms Bukis 10DN, Connor Godsalve 10DN, Tobias Grant 10DN.

CREATE BUG HOTELS AND PLANT BRITISH NATIVE BULBS IN MAUND'S WOOD

Other people's junk make comfortable homes for all sorts of bugs and small mammals. Stewards Conservation Group led by Ms L Block from Essex Wildlife Trust used old pallets, broken tiles, and bricks to make the Bug hotels in Maund's Wood. We also filled cardboard tubes with dry dead leaves and mud to attract a variety of creatures and filled up the gaps with old dry sticks and leaves. Creatures living in Maund's Wood this winter will truly benefit from this 5 star accommodation!



Bug Hotel with Ms Block, Eleanor Fleming, Sarah-Louise Dymock and Matthew Allen.



Toasting Marshmallows with Matthew Allen, Eleanor Fleming, Ms Block and Sarah-Louise Dymock

We also planted lots of British native bulbs including daffodils, snowdrops, wood anemones and winter aconites. Come spring, the wood will be transformed into a riot of colour. Later on in 2014 we will also plant primroses and cowslips. Hopefully all of these plants will thrive and start to populate the rest of Maund's Wood.

Stewards Conservation Team on this task: Eleanor Fleming 8DS, Caitlen Lee 7JFL, Lily Stevens 8TS, Sarah-Louise Dymock 7RL and an ex-Stewards student Matthew Allen. Staff: Mrs G Wright.

STEM Activities

COMMUNITY SKY WATCH EVENING COMETS AND METEORS

What a wonderful night for star gazing. Lab 7 was packed with 40 to 50 members of the community, all itching to get out and view the night sky, so the talks about Comets and Meteors were cut short and we went outside with the telescopes. Before we went out, Mr Young, Stewards Chief Science Technician created a comet out of water, crushed rocks, amino acids, and dry ice (solid carbon dioxide). He demonstrated how the tail of the comet forms by blowing warm air from one direction.

We viewed several objects in the sky including the craters on the Moon, Pleiades or the Seven Sisters star cluster, some galaxies and some nebulae.

Staff: Mrs G Wright and Mr A Young.

Astronomers: Mr A Gannon and Mr A Bell.

Jack Mackay from Jerounds Junior School said: *'It was a very good evening. It was lots of fun and the dry ice looked very cold. The pictures shown during the talks were really cool. Thank you for a good night'*

Jean Potter, member of the Community, said: *'A really good evening. Great to get out and use the telescopes.'*

Sean Foster from Henry Moore Primary School said: *'I learned a lot more about comets and meteors. I really enjoyed looking through the telescopes and I even spotted a shooting star (meteor)! Epic!'*

Matthew Allen from Epping Forest College said: *'I really enjoyed learning more about comets and meteors and how much damage they can cause to buildings and people.'*

Matthew Brough from Henry Moore Primary School said: *'I looked through a telescope and saw the craters on the Moon. It was great!'*



Allen Bell showing the community an object in the sky with his telescope.

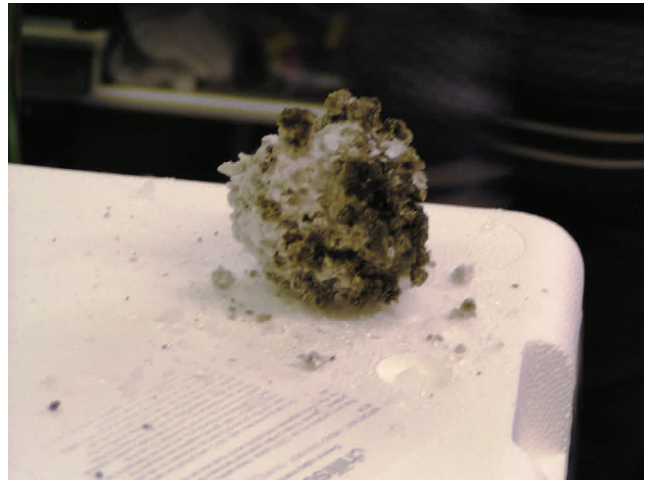


The community looking through Andy Bray's telescope.

Mrs Wright
Curriculum Development Technician



Andy Gannon explaining something about astronomy to a member of the community.



A photo of the very small comet that Mr Young created in the lab.

Performing Arts News

GCSE STUDENTS ROCK OUT AT THE SQUARE

Music students from Year 9, 10 and 11 formed their own bands and put on a gig at The Square in Harlow. The programme ranged from chilled-out 'unplugged' style songs "Love Story" and "Little Talks", to heavier pieces "Live and Let Die" and "The Pretender".

The students spent many hours rehearsing in the weeks leading to the gig, and their lively performances on the evening made for a great atmosphere. We will definitely be back next year!



HARLOW TOWN CENTRE CHRISTMAS SWITCH ON

To celebrate the start of late-night shopping in Harlow Town Centre and the switching on of Christmas lights, there was a programme of entertainment provided by schools and community groups from all over the town. Stewards Academy was represented by Dance Club led by Miss Trowsdale, and School Choir led by Mr Taylor.

Performing Arts Team



Stewards Music School

Music School gives pupils the chance to learn a musical instrument of their choice, under the one-to-one instruction of a specialist tutor.

We are currently able to offer the following instruments:

Piano, Keyboard, Guitar, 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.

The enrolment session for next term will be held on **Wednesday 8th January 2014**. Please contact Miss Tovey at the school for further information.

Performing Arts News

UPPER SCHOOL SHOWCASE

This year's showcase gave our Year 10 and Year 11 students the opportunity to present some of their work to an audience. There was a wide variety of drama featuring extracts from 'An Inspector Calls', 'The History Boys', 'Girls Like That' and our recent production of 'Macbeth'. Also included in the programme were devised pieces 'The Gossip' and 'Newsroom'. Year 10 Dance Class performed 'Candyman' and Year 11 Dance Class performed 'Why Do Fools Fall in Love'. There was also a piece of choreography created by Rebecca Pressman and Aimee-Louise Shipp. Bands from our GCSE Music classes played 'I Don't Want To Miss A Thing', 'Mr Brightside' and 'Song 2', with soloists Katerina Smyk, Caitlin Clancy, Hannah Kizilcan and Hollie-Mae Pipe singing 'Yesterday', 'Read All About It', 'Million Dollar Man' and 'The Power of Love' respectively.

It was a fantastic evening and we look forward to seeing these students perform at future events.



SHAKESPEARE SCHOOLS FESTIVAL

This year our Drama students prepared two plays for the Festival - 'Macbeth' and 'Julius Caesar'. Both casts performed at Broxbourne Civic Hall alongside two other schools who presented their own Shakespeare plays.

Feedback from the Festival Manager was that our production of Macbeth was 'slick and professional' and she also commented on the 'beautiful staging'. The cast of Julius Caesar were praised for their 'excellent focus and commitment' and for performing 'with gusto'.



Macbeth Cast Members



Julius Caesar Cast Members

P.E. Department News

STEWARDS ACADEMY HARLOW NETBALL LEAGUE RESULTS TABLE 2013-2014

	Passmores	BurntMill	St Marks	St Nicks	Total points
Seniors	Win 16-10	Lost 26-4	Lost 20-10	Win 18-5	8
Player of the Match	Molly Snow	Maisy Treacher	Shannon Andrews	Jessica Noruwa	
Year 9	Win 9-5	Win 19-11	Draw 16-16	Win 19-8	11
Player of the Match	Lauren Sykes	Sara King	Izzie Dorkin	Izzie Dorkin	
Year 8	Lost 22-3	Lost 23-6	Lost 24-2		3
Player of the Match	Tania Mamvura	Tania Mamvura	Olivia Clare		
Year 7	Win 12-5	Win 44-1	Lost 12-9		7
Player of the Match	Carmen Bingham	Alice Bryant	Amie Stingemore		

ESSEX CUP NETBALL RESULTS

Senior

1st Round Cup lost to BurntMill, 2nd Round Plate lost to Gable Hall

Year 9

1st Round Cup lost to Hockerill, 2nd Round win against Passmores.



Year 9 Netball Team

GIRLS FOOTBALL FIXTURES

Year 7

Wednesday 8 th January @ Passmores	Wednesday 29 th of January @ Passmores	Wednesday 29 th January Girls Harlow Schools Football Tournament
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Year 8/9

Wednesday 4 th December @ Passmores	Wednesday 11 th December @ Passmores	Wednesday 15 th January @ Passmores	Wednesday 22 nd January @ Passmores	Wednesday 5 th February Girls Harlow Schools Football Tournament	Wednesday 12 th February Girls Harlow Schools Football Tournament
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P.E. Department News

YEAR 7 RUGBY TOURNAMENT

Two squads from the Year 7 rugby team took part in the Harlow and Wessex Essex Junior Rugby Festival hosted at Upper Clapton Rugby Club. Both teams showed real potential and displayed some fantastic rugby skills. The two teams played really well, with one team finishing joint top of their group only losing out through try difference and the second team finishing in fifth place. A good day was had by all. Well done to those who competed.

Team One

L. Parnis-Roach
C. Martin
A. Fairley
G. Stacey
L. Agyeman
C. Hawkins
B. Smith
C. Barclay
J. De-Friend
C. Bingham
B. Exall
M. Jackson
B. Mercurio

Team Two

O. Higgins
P. King
C. Neville
J. Bertin
M. Brayne
D. Sylvester
B. Willis
O. Hunt
M. Hunt
O. Saalim
M. Elhag
N. Gorzynski
J. Furnace

Results

St Marks A – Won 5-0
West Hatch B – Won 3-0
Burnt Mill A – Won 10-5
St Johns A – Won 15-0
Passmores B – Won 20-0
Davenant A – Drew 0-0

Results

Passmores – Lost 15-0
West Hatch A – Lost 15-0
Davenant B – Lost 10-0
Debden Park – Lost 30-0
St Nicks – Lost 15-0

SKI TRIP

There are only three months remaining for those pupils going on the Stewards Academy Ski Trip 2014 to Folgaria, Italy which leaves on Friday 14th February and returns on Saturday 22nd February. In preparation for the trip a 'Ski fit' club has been running on both Tuesdays and Thursdays overseen by Mr R. Treamer 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 on 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. There is still time to get in some practice in advance of 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>

Gosling Ski Centre Hertfordshire

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

Hemel Hempstead Ski Centre

<http://www.thesnowcentre.com>

PRIMARY SCHOOL FESTIVAL

This year's Tag Rugby Festival was a fiercely contested tournament with eight schools competing to win a place in the regional finals. There was some great skills demonstrated with all participants playing some fantastic Rugby which produced some very eye catching matches. Congratulations to all of the teams that entered the festival with special mention to both Jerounds and Milwards who finished winner and runner up respectively. They now progress to the regional tournament.

	WaterLane	Longwood	Katherines	Jerounds	Milwards	Abbotsweld	Kingsmoor	Total	Position
WaterLane		3 (3)	3 (2)	1 (0)	1 (0)	3 (6)	1 (3)	12 (14)	4 th
Longwood	1 (1)		1 (2)	2 (3)	2 (1)	3 (3)	1 (3)	10 (13)	7 th
Katherines	1 (1)	3 (4)		1 (1)	1 (0)	2 (3)	3 (4)	11 (13)	5 th
Jerounds	3 (1)	2 (3)	3 (2)		3 (4)	1 (3)	3 (2)	15 (15)	1 st
Milwards	3 (2)	2 (1)	3 (1)	1 (3)		2 (3)	3 (3)	14 (13)	2 nd
Abbotsweld	1 (5)	1 (2)	2 (3)	3 (4)	2 (3)		1 (1)	10 (18)	6 th
Kingsmoor	3 (6)	3 (4)	1 (2)	1 (1)	1 (2)	3 (2)		12 (17)	3 rd

Able, Gifted and Talented News

We have continued our weekly breakfast club meetings with groups from the Able, Gifted and Talented students. The groups will be rotated within the individual year cohorts in the New Year.

We have encouraged group discussions and subjects have involved online safety, CV's, career ambitions, and things that are going well or not so well at school. A very positive outcome has been the invitation to students to participate in an Extended Project alongside their GCSE subjects. These Projects involve researching and producing a 2000 word essay on a subject of the student's choice. This could be virtually anything but would typically involve an in depth study of an aspect of a student's particular interest. Mr King will be running these weekly sessions. This opportunity will enable students to obtain an additional qualification and important experience in researching which will help immensely when it comes to applying to colleges, 6th forms and universities, who recognise the benefits these qualifications represent.

VISIT TO EMMANUEL COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY 5TH NOVEMBER.

We were able to offer a visit to Cambridge University and included an invitation to the girls of the STEM Project, with the final number of students participating totalling 25.

We travelled in two minibuses and made excellent time to arrive promptly and in readiness to be met by Lizzie who has been our contact at Emmanuel College.

Lizzie took us to the reception room where she welcomed us to Emmanuel College and explained that she is an ex student of Cambridge but had returned to work for the university in their outreach team. She gave us a description of the college and what it is like to study and live in the university environment. The University consists of 29 colleges throughout Cambridge and the buildings range from the medieval to the late twentieth century. The gardens have extensive lawns, magnificent and rare trees, and ponds separated by only a few yards from the city centre. One of the trees is reputed to be the oldest in Cambridge. Our first activity was to be shown the Museum of Classical Archaeology. We were given a tour by our guide who was very passionate and knowledgeable about everything in the museum. Our lunch was taken in one of the dedicated rooms but we could see the dining areas for the students consisting of tables in a long room with old portrait paintings on the wall and was a very traditional setting.

After lunch we assembled in a modern room to hear a presentation from Lizzie about how to get to Cambridge University and what the entry requirements were for particular degree courses and the interactive element was particularly useful in assisting our understanding and interest in the process. The university experience allows students to gain independence and to meet other students from many different places and make new friends for life. There is the opportunity to study subjects that are needed for specific careers or subjects that are really enjoyed. We were encouraged to think of questions to ask the undergraduate students who were to be with us after our tour of the college.

We split into four groups and were shown the college in more detail although we were not able to see inside the accommodation. We saw the library and the bar and social centre where activities take place regularly including fancy dress and special events during 'freshers' week at the beginning of the new year in September/October.

We were then able to ask our questions of the undergraduates and this was a very informative and enjoyable session with all of our queries were answered.

We departed from Cambridge just after 3pm and arrived back at school at 4pm.

George Catling said *"...the best part was the Question and Answer session because we found out a lot about university life"*

Alarna Mace said *"...I understand more now so it is making me push towards going to university"*.

Olivia Warnes said *"...I am more informed about university now and know I would definitely like to go..."*

Mr Cooper
A,G&T Mentor/Guidance Officer



Attendance News



TO ALL PUPILS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE FABULOUS ATTENDANCE
OF THEIR YEAR GROUP TO DATE

YEAR 7 - 97%

YEAR 8 - 97%

YEAR 9 - 97%

YEAR 10 - 96%

YEAR 11 - 96%

WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE - 96%

KEEP IT UP!

REMINDER

- Pupils should arrive at school for registration at 8.45am
- Where no reason for absence has been provided parents will be visited by our Academy EWO or telephoned to ascertain the reason for the absence
- Pupils arriving after 8.45am need to report to the Attendance Office to get their mark
- Failure to arrive in time for registration will result in a detention being issued
- Pupils must provide a note when signing in or out for whatever reason
- It is essential that all pupils are accounted for every day
- As previously stated holidays during term time are not authorised and could result in a Penalty Notice being issued

REGISTRATION

8.45am – REGISTRATION (AM) FOR ALL PUPILS

1.55pm – REGISTRATION (PM) FOR ALL PUPILS

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**

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

Congratulations

Thomas Middlehurst is signed to West Ham Academy under 12's as a goalkeeper. He recently won goalkeeper of the tournament after playing at St. Georges Park.

Here is Thomas with his trophy awarded by the F.A.



P.E. Department



Technology Department News

Book & Designer of the Term

The D&T department have purchased numerous books for our reading corner. This term the designer selected was Vivienne Westwood and next term will be Jonathan Ives, who is the Senior Vice President of Design at Apple Inc. Please come and read our books and complete the quizzes available.



4 new KS3 Clubs in Technology

The D&T department have trialled 4 new exciting clubs (Making, CAD/CAM, Construction and Textiles) and have been pleased with the response and work produced. Pupils have been making bird houses, clocks, tables and cushion covers.

This term the clubs were by invite only but next term it will be on a first come, first served basis so make sure you sign up quickly, as there are only 10 spaces per club.



Year Group Information Year 7

It has been a very exciting and productive half term for Year 7. They are now well and truly settled and continue to show a sensible and mature attitude towards their studies. The tutor team have received a number of pleasing comments from staff and this was echoed at our Parents' Evening on Thursday 21st November. I would like to thank those of you that were able to attend as communication between school and home is vital to pupil success. The event was very well supported and the feedback from parents was overwhelmingly positive.

The Year 7 Enterprise Extravaganza was a resounding success. Pupils invested a great deal of thought, time and effort in ensuring that their stalls were 'up and running' in readiness for the week. Behind the scenes they worked tirelessly and independently (under the guidance of their tutors) to produce a business proposal, source the materials needed and promote their product. Both staff and pupils enjoyed the variety of products on offer as the tutor group management teams used their persuasive skills to sell everything from cupcakes to key rings to raise money for a worthy cause.

To mark the end of a successful first term, Year 7 were invited to a performance of the pantomime '*Dick Whittington*' at the Harlow Playhouse (oh, yes they were!) A thoroughly festive time was enjoyed by all as we cheered for the hero, hissed at the villain and celebrated (one or two of us even shed a little tear...) at the happily ever after!

All that remains for me to do is to wish you all peaceful Christmas. The Year 7 team look forward to welcoming pupils back in January, refreshed and ready to face the challenges of the new term.

Mrs Ramsey
Head of Year 7

Year Group Information

Year 8

‘DON’T BE ANYTHING LESS THAN EVERYTHING YOU CAN BE’

Congratulations on completing your first full term in Year 8. Time certainly is flying and it won't be long until you are choosing your GCSE options. Your efforts won't be going unnoticed – now is the time to make the right impression in your desired choices and throughout school life. Start to think about your own interests and what you would like to study. Sitting next to your best friend is *NOT* important, your future is.

I hope you all enjoyed the recent Curriculum Day, which gave you an insight into what is on the GCSE PE Programme. Throughout the day, there was plenty of interest, enthusiasm and energy. Quite the opposite to the weather we had – cold, wet and miserable! I was particularly impressed with the students that completed the leadership tasks. Hats off to you all – it's not easy leading your friends in set tasks, so well done. Throughout the day, many of you demonstrated maturity, organisation and creativity. These are just some of the qualities you will be required to have as you progress through to Key Stage 4.

Organisation is a main priority so it is vital you practice this from here on, and using your planner on a daily basis will help you improve this. You need to write key notes in there, especially for homework. Completing homework regularly will not only improve your learning, but it also teaches you about self-discipline and the importance of time management.

IPR data – Hopefully, many of you are pleased with the recent IPR data. If you are unsure of anything, then please come and see me or ask your parents to get in contact with myself or Mr Ford.

Finally, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and healthy New Year.

Mr G Hughes
Head of Year 8

Year 9

Year 9 showed off their budding talents as actors/actresses at the Broxbourne Civic Hall in a theatrical on-stage experience of the highly acclaimed 'Julius Caesar'. 16 pupils from Year 9 gave stunning performances and interpreted their characters with confidence and sensitivity. They represented the school with pride and professionalism and demonstrated excellent dedication and commitment in their approach. Congratulations to the following year 9 pupils for their worthy and memorable acting debuts: - Kieran Miller, Alfie Babbs, Robert Kelly, Mitchell Taylor, William Johnson, Elliott Johnson, Reece Walsh, Dylan Sibanda, Erin Clancy, Katie Feaveareyear, Casey Hendricks, Chloe Davis, Liam Goward, Harry Burling, Daniel Howard, Kariss Brown.

The final half of this term saw the distribution of Year 9's first IPR data as GCSE pupils. You may have noticed that the reporting system has had a re-vamp this year to improve the quality of the information provided to you. As pupils move into KS4 they are provided with a Projected Grade for each subject rather than a current working level. This is the GCSE grade that the teacher thinks they are most likely to achieve at the end of Year 11 based on their current progress. Obviously it is very early in the course and this may be amended as the pupil progresses further into their new course. Further details of the new reporting system can be found on P35 of the pupil planner. I am pleased to report that evidence indicates good progress across the majority of the year group, with most pupils on track or exceeding their PAT targets. Pupils appear to have settled well into their GCSE courses and most pupils are displaying a positive, enthusiastic and mature learning ethos towards their studies. Well done Year 9, a great start to your GCSEs!

Finally, I would like to conclude by wishing Year 9 a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Have a well-deserved rest, stay safe and come back refreshed and focused in the new-year!

Miss Holden
Head of Year 9

Year Group Information

Year 10

'Year 10 are preparing for their work experience which takes place in June. These are some of their hopes and worries'

Ellis Barnard "I think work experience is a great opportunity to find out what work is like and if this career path is right for me."

Demi Taylor "I am looking forward to working in a school for work experience as it gives me the opportunity to see how a school works from a different perspective."

Emily-Jane Gaskin "I am looking forward to the week of work experience. It will be very different to normal."

Jay Moore "I have sent both of my letters off and I am waiting for a reply. I went to the bike shop where I could be doing my work experience and asked if they had got my letter, they said no so I'm going to hand deliver it."

Nosa Ediae "I'm looking forward to work experience because you meet new people."

Sian Curtis "I am not worried about work experience, I am looking forward to working with other people."

Sarah Goodman "I am looking forward to learning more skills. I am a bit worried that I might get lost."

Saffron Leijcs "I am hoping to do my work experience at my Auntie and Cousins florist called Elegant Stems. I am looking forward to working and helping them both as I find their job quite interesting and they let me take part a lot."



Chloe Mitchell "I was originally quite nervous about work experience but after sorting it out I am quite excited. It's a great opportunity to be in a real work place."

Jack Rust "I am worried about not achieving what I wanted to do there and I am hoping the children enjoy my company."

Riley Halson "I am hoping to do my work experience at Chelmsford court or Police offices. I am looking forward to seeing the work place in action and meeting new people in professional positions."

Becky Warwick "I am hoping to do my work experience at Dizzy Ducks Day Nursery. I am worried about messing up and not making the right impression."

Joshua Winterbotham "I am hoping to do my work experience at Astrium in Portsmouth, it is a Government site, which is an engineering place."

Katie Turrell "I am hoping to complete my work experience at Toni & Guy hair salon in London. I am looking forward to experiencing what it is like in a working salon and put the skills that I know from my hairdressing course to work."

Alex Dodd "I am looking forward to work experience as it will allow me to decide whether that career is right for me or not."

Jacob Juniper "I am a bit worried that I may mess up at a job I am given but I will correct my mistake and try again."

Year 11

Ms Batterham Head of Year 10

It hardly seems possible that Christmas is nearly here, and year 11 have such a short time to go. At present they are working very hard to put together their personal statements, which they will need for 6th form applications. They must remember that Mr Cooper, Mrs Hampstead and their tutors are all on hand if they need any help putting these together. It is always very difficult to think of their own personal selling point, but everybody has one! Mocks have started, and the vast majority of students have prepared thoroughly. It is already obvious to staff that have marked papers who has not revised thoroughly. They must address this issue before the exams in the summer. Help is always available for individuals, as long as they show willing. I hope that everybody has a lovely Christmas, and will return refreshed and ready for the challenges ahead.

Mrs Ellis Head of Year 11

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DECEMBER

17th Christmas Concert 6.00pm
19th Christmas Dinner
20th **TERM ENDS - 1.00PM**

JANUARY

TERM STARTS
6th Music School Enrolment 4.00-6.00pm
8th Music School Starts
15th Year 11 Parents Evening 4.00pm
23rd **1.00pm Closure**
30th **Inset Day**
31st

FEBRUARY

6th Year 9 Parents Evening 4.00pm
12th-16th New York Trip
13th Curriculum Day
14th-22nd Ski Trip
17th-21st **HALF TERM**

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

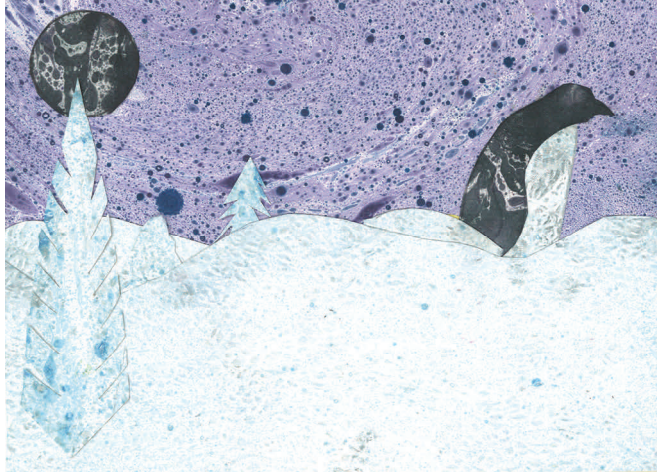


Mrs Barker
Attendance Officer

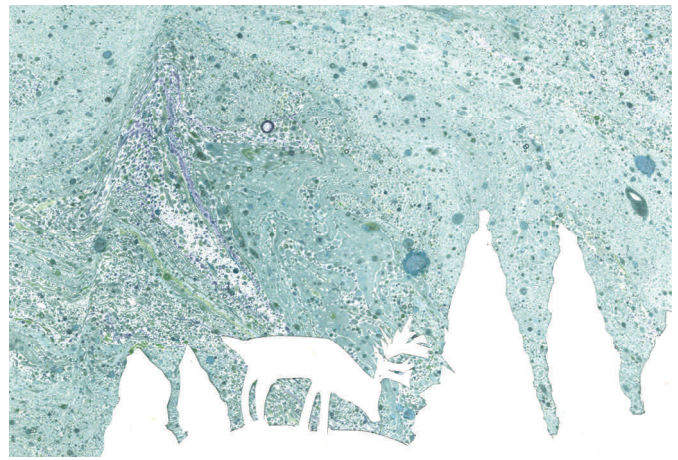


Christmas Card Competition

**1st - Gemma Charles
8CC**



2nd - Aishah Upton 8CC



3rd - Faye Clements 10DN

*Merry
Christmas*

Runners Up



Filip Kusnir 9CH



Edward Thomas 8CC



Adella Demou 8CC



Lukman Kazeem 11VG