

Year 9- PGL Trip

Recently forty students from Year 9 went on a weekend trip to Marchants Hill, Hindhead, Surrey for a PGL activity weekend. We stayed at the PGL accommodation and took part in a wide range of activities.

On the Saturday students were treated to Jacobs Ladder which involved a group of three students climbing up a large ladder helping each other along the way! Students on the ground were supervising the ropes and ensuring they got up safely. Groups displayed excellent team work, shouting advice from the ground and trying to help! Many students conquered their fear of heights and enjoyed it. Groups then moved on to quad biking and rifle shooting with Miss Rowthorn hitting a bulls eye on her first attempt! Many students went into rifle shooting confident that their PS3 skills would be enough to help them through. Unfortunately for them the real life experience was very different. Saturday night entertainment involved students engaging in Power Fan which involved students being harnessed and jumping off a very high platform!

Dates for your diary

April	Fri 3 rd	End of Spring Term
	Mon 20 th	Start of Summer Term
	Fri 24 th	Inset Day
May	Mon 4 th	Bank Holiday
	Mon 11 th	External Exams
	Mon 25 th	Bank Holiday

Once again, students were very supportive and helped each other all the way.

Sunday was spent whizzing down zip wires and abseiling down towers.



Students showed maturity throughout and were able to apply themselves very well considering their lack of sleep and early mornings!

Year 9 worked brilliantly as a team and it highlighted some potentially very successful leaders! A big thank you is needed to the PGL staff and also the staff who went on the trip, Mr Walden, Mr Anderson, Miss Rowthorn and Mr Luck.

Jenny Archer
(Head of Year 9)

SPORT

Hillingdon U16 Versatility Netball Rally

On Thursday 12th March, Queensmead Year 9 Netball Team entered the Hillingdon U16, Versatility Netball Rally at Vyners School.

The Versatility Rally involves players playing in different positions from their preferred role for each match. The positions are decided by the opponents umpires pulling bibs from a bag and handing them randomly to team players.

Whilst all the girls were anxious about playing against Year 11 teams from all the other schools in the borough, they definitely didn't show it in their team play.

When the results were read out at the end of the competition Queensmead Year 9's were ecstatic about their third position, after St. Helens and Northwood College. Well done to the Year 9 girls Danielle Anderson (Capt.), Emma Wallace, Jameela Abdul Rahim, Ceara McDonald, Amy Ridgeway, Lauren Simmons, Coral Lutheridge, Nicky Wallace

Football

Yr7 Football Team had a superb 5-0 victory over Harefield Academy with Almarn James-Downes showing some neat finishing in front of goal. The boys applied themselves very well across the whole pitch and were very much in the driving seat for the whole game. Keeper Frankie Atwell was a bystander for most of the game but ensured he kept his concentration on the rare attacks on the Queensmead goal.

Work Experience Placements Year 10

If any parents know of any companies that would be willing to accept our students then please could they contact:

Ms. Jones at the Schools Reception Office,
by telephone 02085823214
or by email: sjones31@hillingdongrid.org

The Yr8 team swept aside Harefield in an entertaining seven goal thriller game with Queensmead winning (4-3). The game was played in great spirit with new boy Jake Rawlings scoring on his debut against his former school.

The Yr11 team had two excellent wins against Harefield (11-4) and Vyners (3-1). There are some talented players in this team and we now wait to see who they will meet in the semi finals of the Hillingdon Schools football competition.

Basketball

Well done to the Yr9 team who have made it through to the semi finals of the borough competition and have been drawn at home against Harlington. Hopefully the boys can make it through to the final in what will be a tough match. Good luck boys.

Rugby

The Yr 7 Rugby team competed in a four way tournament against Vyners, Haydon and Douay Martyrs in what was their first taste of competitive rugby. The boys battled very well in the 10 minute matches and there were some good performances from the beginners to the more experienced players.

Kevin McKenna

(Head of P.E.)

TESCO Vouchers for School

Last year we collected 2376 Tesco for Schools & Clubs vouchers. Vouchers are available in all Tesco stores and petrol filling stations from Monday 2nd March to Sunday 7th June 2009, during which time customers will receive one Tesco for Schools & Clubs voucher for every £10 spent in a single transaction and for every £5 spent in Tesco Express Stores.

Please hand any vouchers you collect, to Reception.



Intermediate Maths Challenge

Congratulations to all Year 10 and Year 11 students who took part in the 2009 UKMT-Maths Challenge. A special mention to Claire Jobling for qualifying for a Gold Certificate and for getting through to the next round of the European Kangaroo Maths Challenge.

The Maths Challenge is run by the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust and is aimed at the top 35% of students across the country. Only the top 40% of these students attain a certificate.

The challenge is designed to stimulate interest in Maths with lively questions which test reasoning and mental agility.

Well done to all students that participated.

The Gold certificates were awarded to:
Claire Jobling and Tasmeen Khatra

Silver to Kerry Ward and Benjamin Witherstone

Bronze to David Grabham, Ricky Bellinie, Rhiannon Ives, Charlotte Falcon, Jessica Munday, Joe Gill, Nikhil Harsiani, Lucy Newnham, Sophie Mair, Daniel West, Helen Lucas, Kane Stone, Lindsey Price, Jodi Reid, Rebecca Fynn, Hemant Chudasama.

Congratulations to the following Year 7 students who took part in 2009 Hillingdon based 24 game competition.

Joel Clarke, Melanie Zadurian, Masoumeh Mashayekhi, Sadaf Tokhi and Inderjeet Loyal. The object of the 24 game is to make the number 24 from the four numbers on a game card.

Japleen Kaur
(Maths Teacher)

Science and Engineering Week

Science and Engineering week (9th-13th March) was celebrated at Queensmead this year with most of the school participating in activities based on 'space exploration'.

As well as all year groups attending science based assemblies and PSHCE lessons, over fifty students took part in a 'Design your own Rocket' competition. Each year group had an hour after school to design and build their 'air powered rockets' and then went out onto the playing field to launch them. Rocket based prizes were awarded for 'best design', 'furthest launched' and 'smoothest flight'.

The sessions were not only extremely competitive but were also great fun as students (and staff) were amazed to see just how far a plastic bottle projectile can be fired into the sky by water and air pressure alone.

Thanks to the science department who assisted in supervising the competitions.

Mr Barrett and Mr Vowles

Casual Employment Opportunities

We are keen to establish a pool of casual support staff that may be called upon at short notice to undertake support duties in the school, such as exam invigilation, learning support, cover supervision, lunch supervision and general administration.

If you believe you have the necessary skills for one or more of these roles and are interested in flexible working of this nature, we would like to hear from you.

Please complete an application form obtainable from our website, www.queensmeadschool.org.uk, and post or email it to Annie Coughlan acoughlan1@hillingdongrid.org).

Mrs. Coughlan
(Admin Support)

Engineering your Future

On Friday 13th of March, 20 pupils from Queensmead School went to Rosedale College. There were three different companies BP, FirstCo, and Balfour Beatty at the college, each of which have sections in particular types of engineering. They each held their own events, lasting around 60 minutes each.

At the beginning of each of the sessions, the companies showed us a presentation about their company, what areas of engineering they are involved in. They taught us about the different types of engineering. They then set us activities for the majority of the session.

With BP, we had to make an oil rig out of straws and marshmallows. Each straw and each marshmallow used would cost the equivalent of £1,000,000. They then tested the strength, by placing weights on top. We had to make it as strong as possible, but we also had to think about how much it would cost.

With FirstCo, we had to drive a remote controlled car around a track, as fast as we could, but we could only look at the computer screen. This is because there was a camera attached on the car, which was connected to the computer.

Finally, with Balfour Beatty, we had to build a bridge out of Lego. The teams would score points for the longest bridge made, the bridge that used least bricks, and the bridge that could be built in the shortest time. We had a question and answer session where you could ask different engineers questions about engineering.

The Engineering Your Future event was very helpful to us as we all learned about the different areas of engineering, what you have to do to become an engineer, what you do as an engineer, and we learnt about the non-practical side of engineering.

Joe Green
Form 10C

Year 12 Sponsors 'A Child in Ethiopia'

The students in Form 12 C are sponsoring a child from a needy background in Ethiopia, to have the opportunity to be educated. He lives in a small village with his mother and five siblings and is eight years old. We have written and received letters and are learning about life in Ethiopia and he is learning about life here at Queensmead. We have had cake sales to provide the funds and so far have been very successful. A huge thank you to all who have bought our cakes so that we can continue to support 'our' child.

Mrs. J. Glenn

School terms and holidays

2009-10 school year

Autumn term 2009 (72 days)

- Term Starts - Teacher Training Day 1 - Thursday 3 September 2009
- Teacher Training Day 2 Friday 4 September 2009
- Term Starts (Pupils) Monday 7 September 2009
- Half Term Holiday 26 October - 30 October 2009
- Term Ends Friday 18 December 2009

Spring term 2010 (59 days)

- Term Starts Monday 4 January 2010
- Half Term Holiday 15 - 19 February 2010
- Term Ends Thursday 1 April 2010

Summer term 2010 (64 days)

- Term Starts - Teacher Training Day 3 - Monday 19 April 2010
- Half Term Holiday 31 May - 4 June 2010
- Teacher Training Day 4 Thursday 22 July 2010
- Term Ends - Teacher Training Day 5 - Friday 23 July 2010

Bank holidays 2009-10

- Good Friday 2 April 2010
- Easter Monday 5 April 2010
- May Day 3 May 2010
- Spring Bank Holiday 31 May 2010