

NEWSLETTER

Issue 120 May/June 2009

Deutsche Bank Project

A team of Sixth Formers volunteered as part of the Deutsche Bank project to try to raise the participation within Physical Education for the pupils of Queensmead School.

The students had to commit themselves to the project by attending regular meetings and taking on responsibilities, all of this alongside their studies. As part of the agreement the students were given £1000 by Deutsche Bank to spend on any form of Physical Education in an attempt to improve the quality of provision at Queensmead School.

After a number of meetings the group elected for an after school "Boxercise" club for Sixth Form students and hired a local coach to lead a number of sessions at the school. The sessions were a success and students completed an activity which they had never done before.

The students still had some money left within their budget and decided to run a Rounders competition for Key Stage 3 students. They were able to buy new Rounders equipment for the school and produce certificates for the winners. The Sixth Form students have really shown great maturity within this project and the PE department would like to thank them for all of the hard work that has gone into making this project a success. The Sixth Formers involved were Adam Scott, Daniel Thompson, Ryan McDonald, Kirsti Morris, Katie Bailey, Sam Stangroom.

Kevin McKenna

School Uniform

At Queensmead we make every effort to ensure that our students are dressed appropriately and are excellent ambassadors for the school both on and off the premises.

This year the students have maintained the highest standards of uniform and we look forward to this continuing. I would like to remind parents that any new purchases over the summer must adhere to the school uniform guidelines as stated in the Students' Diary.

May I also point out that specialist suppliers of school uniform may also be found in the Students' Diary although it is the case that many of the larger supermarkets are also able to provide the standard uniform items at competitive prices.

Mr. Luck

Deputy Head teacher

Queensmead Summer Concert

The Performing Arts department would like to invite you to the Queensmead Summer Concert. The show will feature a variety of different acts, from solo classical music to contemporary dance ensembles.

Tickets will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, with front-row seats being sold first. For the best seats, please ensure you buy tickets as early as possible. The students have worked extremely hard throughout the year, and your support would be greatly appreciated. The concert takes place at 7pm on 14th July in the school hall.

Tickets will be available from Monday 29th June, in the Performing Arts Department.

Adult tickets: £3, Concessions: £2



Will Searl

School Clubs

Rock Climbing

As Year 10 students we decided to take the opportunity of attending a six week Rock Climbing course. It has not been offered at the school before, so we were really excited about attending the sessions. We have now been climbing for four weeks at Harrow Leisure Centre every Monday evening after school. We leave the school at 3:00pm and get back to school at 5:30pm. We learn how to abseil and rock climb as well as other important safety elements which are involved in the activity.

Mr Anderson supervises us and has also joined in the climbing, while the school caretaker drives us to and from the centre.



There are 15 students that attend, a mixture of boys and girls from different year groups.

We enjoy both the climbing and the abseiling, learning new skills even though some of us are scared of heights! Some of the students are also frightened to abseil back down, but it is all good fun in the end and we are glad we decided to apply to attend the sessions.

Year 10 Girls

Golf 2009

This year a number of students have taken the opportunity to participate in golf lessons for six weeks, after school on Wednesday from 3.30 to 4.30pm at the Fairway Golf Club in Ruislip. Three students from Year 8: Shivan, Garry and Tom and six students from Year 7: Joe, Sam, Stacy, Ryan, Tyler and myself Dylan have been taking part in the sessions at the Golf Club.



All students that attend enjoy the sessions and most say they have learnt many new things, including how to grip clubs and improve their stance.

Paul is the professional who teaches us and believes we are doing very well, hitting the ball much better than when we first started.

Some like Garry, Joe and Sam are doing exceptionally well and seem like they have the skills to be able to play for a golf team when they grow up. Also we have gained a lot of knowledge from Paul as we have practised many different techniques from putting on greens and then hitting good shots on the driving range. We have explored many different types of clubs from putters to irons, woods to drivers and also many more to come, although not every shot is like Tiger Woods!

Personally, I have learnt how to grip the club and new techniques on how to use the putter as well. I first started golf in Year 5 and I hope to carry golf throughout my life in Queensmead and then through my career. Perhaps one of us may win the Masters and put on the famous green jacket one day!

Dylan Nathwani

Cookery Club



The Cookery Club has attracted a large number of Year 7, 8 and 9 students since November 2008. The club is run every Thursday after school by Ms. J. Connolly.

Students have made a range of different products, sweet and savoury: pizza, pear cake, carrot cakes, chelsea buns, gingerbread, macaroni cheese etc.

All the students are keen to learn and use new skills and knowledge in food preparation.

Over the weeks their practical, creative and clearing up skills have been very much improved.

Well done to all students who have attended the cookery club.

I went to cookery club and it was really fun because I got to cook lots of different things with my friends.

Jake

I think cookery club was great because it was fun, interesting and you get to make different types of food from the booklet.

Kishun

It was fun and the food was tasty!

Margherita

I really liked it and I hope that we can do it next year as I would love to come again.

Liam

Ms. J. Connolly

Summer reading challenge - The Carnegie Medal 2009 shortlist

Growing up is hard to do...

The CILIP Carnegie Medal is the UK's oldest and most prestigious award for children's writing, and is awarded annually to the writer of an outstanding book for children. The seven titles in this year's shortlist all focus on the challenges faced by teenagers who are growing up, particularly the complicated issues faced by boys. Each book leads the reader on the road from childhood to adulthood, and deals with the moral dilemmas, ambivalent relationships and confused feelings that are all part of the business of growing up.

The books on this year's shortlist include:

Airman by Eoin Colfer. This is about a fourteen-year-old boy, Conor, who is framed for a terrible crime he didn't commit, and is flung into dungeons in the Saltee Islands. Conor has to assume a new identity in order to plan his escape.
Age range: Year 7 and above.

Cosmic by Frank Cottrell Boyce. Liam is too big for his boots, his football strip, and his school blazer. However, being super-sized has its advantages: he's the only eleven-year-old who has ever ridden the G-force defying Cosmic rollercoaster or been offered the chance to drive a Porsche and compete for the chance to go into space. Is Liam the best boy for the job? Sometimes being big isn't all about being a grown-up.
Age range: Year 7 and above.

Bog Child by Siobhan Dowd is about a young man, Fergus McCann, who finds the body of a child in a bog in Northern Ireland. It looks as if the girl has been murdered. Set in Ireland in the 1980s, Bog Child is a powerful novel that explores the life of Fergus McCann who is torn apart by his hopes and dreams, and who struggles with the beliefs of his family and country.
Age range: Yr 8 and above

Creature of the night by Kate Thompson. When Bobby's family moves into a rented house in the country, a neighbour tells him

that a child was once murdered there. Bobby doesn't care. All he wants is to get back to his old life in Dublin and race stolen cars at night. But getting back isn't so easy, and he becomes convinced that something very strange is going on.
Age range: Yr 9 and above

The knife of never letting go by Patrick Ness. Todd Hewitt, the only boy in a town of men, is just one month away from the birthday that will make him a man. Tom can hear everything they think, and knows he does not fit in with their plans ... This is a story of man's inhumanity to man.
Age range: Yr 9 and above

Ostrich boys by Keith Gray is a fast-paced, humorous and moving book about some boys who steal their best friend's ashes to give him a proper send-off. It mixes adventure with the intricacies of teenage friendships, and is a brilliant five-star read.
Age range: Yr 9 and above.



Bog child has just been declared the winner of the Carnegie Medal for 2009. You can read about the authors and view a video of the ceremony at:

<http://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/2009awards>

Mrs Sahadeo

A Request from The Textiles Department

If anyone has any of the following at home:

- Unwanted Fabric
- Next Directory or other Fashion catalogues
- Buttons
- Mannequins

The Textiles Department would be grateful to receive them.

Judy Glenn
Textiles

Librarian

Year 8 Football

The Year 8 team made it through to the Hillingdon Schools final by defeating Uxbridge High 7-3 in the semi finals with an excellent display of football in a very entertaining game.

Queensmead started well and took the lead from the penalty spot after an Uxbridge player handled the ball in the penalty area Devaughn McNamara applied a cool finish. A second goal looked to set up Queensmead for an easy victory, but credit should go to Uxbridge as they scored directly after half time to make it 2-1. A number of exchanges took place and possibly the turning point of the game was when Queensmead keeper Sean Robinson saved a spot kick at 3-2. Queensmead went on to a convincing win. The highlight of the match was Tony Richards nearly scoring from the half way line as the Uxbridge keeper scrambled back to save the ball. Queensmead Scorers were Devaughn McNamara (3), Frankie Allen (2), Sam Fishenden (1), Aran Cummins (1).

Well done to all of the team and we look forward to the final.

Year 9 Boys Basketball

Badminton success!!

Four Year 9 and Year 10 boys represented Queensmead and Hillingdon in the West London Finals of the U15 competition and were second overall.

Congratulations to:

Mark Smith
Kane Stone
Elliot Kemp
Sam Brown

Liz Grehan

Annual Awards Sponsorship

All those associated with Queensmead School will be very much aware of our commitment to celebrating student's success and our Prize giving Evening in the autumn is the summit of that process.

Students who are awarded a prize show enormous pride in seeing their achievements rewarded and the prizes have a real effect on how well the students succeed.

We would like to offer the opportunity to sponsor a school prize to local businesses and individuals and for that prize to be presented at our awards evening on 17th September 2009.

If you would like to sponsor a prize for students at Queensmead please contact :

To sponsor please contact:

Mrs. M. Jones on 020 8845 6266

Dates for your diary

July	7 th	New Year 7 intake Parents Evening
	14 th	Summer Concert
August	20 th	GCE results
	27 th	GCSE results
September	7 th	School re-opens

May Ball

This year's May Ball was held at the Bell House Hotel in Beaconsfield on the 1st of May. We had a really enjoyable evening and I speak for all those who attended when I give my thanks to Emily Groves and Miss Pitteway for organising such a joyous event, it gave us all the opportunity to say farewell to those friends we have made in Year 13 and will miss when they leave at the end of this school year.



On arriving at the Bell House, my friends and I were astonished to see how magnificent the hotel was with its indoor pool and beautiful gardens. There was a definite film-star quality to the way we entered, with two security guards on the door and teachers with tuxedos waiting to take our tickets. Everyone looked amazing; there was a photographer there to capture the moment when we all looked our best, before the dancing took its toll.



The music varied from Sean Paul to the Grease medley. Although it was slow to start, everyone was up and dancing towards the end of the night. By the time the last song played, even Mr. Brown and Miss Cogan were throwing a few shapes, for which there is an abundance of photographic evidence!

The room in which the ball was held opened out onto a scenic decking and garden area, where we were allowed to mingle and cool off between dances. The soft drinks were reasonably priced and teachers kept an eye on everybody to ensure we all had a fantastic time.

We also learned a few lessons on the evening of the May Ball: David Wood wins hands down in any form of dance-off to Beyoncé's 'single ladies'; Ms. Connolly (food technology) must be avoided at all costs when she is brandishing a camera; Glen Selway has flashy taste in tie and waistcoat combos, surprisingly, Conor Donegan has a love for hardcore reggae.



Teachers

Anybody who did not attend missed out on a truly great evening. I would like to thank all those involved in organising it once again and cannot wait for it to come around next year.

Zoe Tibbles

The ICT Department are currently offering places to parents interested in developing their ICT skills – although the workshops have started there are still a few places.

Summer Term 2009



Parental ICT Workshops



Improve your ICT skills

- We are offering the opportunity for our parents and those of our Primary Feeder schools to attend evening ICT workshops.
- The workshops are tailored to develop your ICT skills and knowledge so that you can support your children further with their education

Workshop Schedule

Date	Time	Topic
17th Jun	18.30-20.30	E-Safety / Internet searching / Using email (Part 1)
24th Jun	18.30-20.30	E-Safety / Internet searching / Using email (Part 2)
1st July	18.30-20.30	Word processing software basics (MS Word) / Presentation software basics (MS PowerPoint)
8th July	18.30-20.30	Spreadsheet software basics (MS excel)

Interested in joining our workshops?
Please register an interest with Queensmead School.



For more information contact

Phone: 020 8845 6266