

Aspire

The Shaftesbury School Magazine

April 2009 - Issue 3



Adspiramus

Oh what fun they had - read all about the drama trip to New York...
the Business Studies trip to Prague....
and many other events much closer to home



www.shaftesburyschool.com

Dates for the Diary

DATES

Spring Term 2009

Friday 3rd April

School closes for Easter Holiday
Year 10 Interim Reports issued

Summer Term 2009

Tuesday 21st April

School re-opens at 8.35am
Year 10 Parents Evening

Wednesday 29th April

Year 12 Reports issued

Monday 4th May

School closed - Bank Holiday

Friday 22nd May

School closes for Half Term

Monday 1st June

School re-opens at 8.35am

Friday 5th June

Year 8 Interim Reports issued

Tuesday 16th June

Year 8 Parents Evening

Thursday 25th June

Sports Awards Evening

Friday 26th June

Year 10 Reports issued

Friday 3rd July

Year 9 Interim Reports issued

Friday 17th July

Sports Day
Year 7 Reports Issued

School closes for Summer Holiday

Autumn Term 2009

Friday 4th September

School re-opens at 8.35am (Years 7 & 12 only)

Monday 7th September

School re-opens at 8.35am (all other years)

Friday 23rd October

School closes for Half Term

Monday 2nd November

School re-opens at 8.35am

Friday 18th December

School closes for Christmas Holiday

There may be further staff training days added to the Autumn Term calendar.

Please note that only principal events involving large numbers of students and parents are listed here. Many other events and appointments are notified closer to the date. Minor alterations may take place.

Front Cover

Alex Pearsall, Leanne Elliot, Kate Roper, Tara Watford and Sinead Neville in Times Square on the drama trip to New York at half term.

Read Ms Elden's report on page 15.

New PE Kit

See page 9 for information about the new PE kit



Letter from the Head

We have now reached the end of a very busy Spring Term which in a number of respects has been quite eventful.

The Autumn Term closed with the usual festive activities. The customary Rag Day of fun and frivolity took place, raising over £3,100 for Msaada. Our pantomime, 'Cinderella and the Seven Dwarfs' ran over two evenings and brought some welcome humour during a particularly cold spell of weather, as well as raising money for two charities.

A number of trips have taken place this term: the Sixth Form Theatre Studies visit to New York, the ski trip to Austria, Year 13 Business Studies revision day in Bristol, Year 12 theatre trip to Bath, Year 12 Maths Masterclass in Blandford, Year 9 residential to the Eden Project, a trip to the NEC for the Outdoor Activities show, and to Wembley to see England's Under 19s play Spain's Under 19s. We have also held the Year 11 mock examinations, the Sixth Form Fair, the Year 9 Choices Evening, World Book Day, which saw a number of staff and students dressing up as literary characters; and we played a full part in the Youth Parliament Elections, during which our local MP, Bob Walter, paid us a visit.

It is very sad to report the death of former A' Level student, Grace Selby, who died in a car accident just before Christmas. Grace was a model student and a delightful young person. She attended our Evenings of Achievement on many occasions, notably in recognition of her skills in Textiles and Art. I was accompanied by a number of past and present staff, and large numbers of students, to her funeral during the Christmas break. In memory of Grace, we are having one particularly excellent piece of her artwork framed, and will have it mounted with a suitable plaque at an appropriate place in the School.

Through the auspices of the State Boarding Schools Association, we have had an opportunity for an ITN film crew to spend a day at school. We have written the script around the transformation of Shaftesbury School, reflecting our close relationship with the Church, our Sports specialism, the school's international dimension through Boarding and our relentless drive to raise student aspirations. We shall have access to all the footage for our own use and the final product will be a slick, polished, three minute promotional DVD which we can use for recruitment, but will also be shown at the NEC's Education Show in the presence of Government Ministers, and a copy sent to every LA. An additional bonus was that one of our German Boarders, Karina Kirkuc, who has an interest in joining the media industry, supported the day's filming and then was invited to a day's work experience at the studios. Her account of her experience can be found in this edition of 'Aspire'.

We are saying farewell to Mr McLannahan and Mr Thrower who leave at Easter to take up new ICT posts. Miss Al-Jassar has been appointed to one of those positions from April, and we welcome Miss Hudson back for the Summer Term to cover the second post



until we have made an appointment for September.

Good progress is being made with the Barton Hill House redevelopment. Meetings have been held with the Design Team, Quantity Surveyor, Engineers and the Planning Officer, and we now have detailed drawings. A great deal has to be achieved, including Planning Permission, before the actual construction begins. We shall commence in the Summer with the reconfiguration of the existing ground floor living, dining and kitchen areas, before moving on to convert the attic space for ten new single study

rooms in the current girls' wing. The new build will then commence during the Autumn.

Having experienced the joy of three Ofsted inspections last year, we found ourselves visited again in March for an inspection of Design and Technology which is part of a national survey. I am delighted to report that the inspector's judgement of the Department's work overall was *Good* with a number of excellent features. The HMI was particularly impressed by the quality of the work being undertaken in Catering and suggested that it very may well feature in her final national Report as an example of best practice.

The beginning of February saw us trying to deal with extremely unpredictable weather. With regard to opening or closing the School we face something of a 'no win' situation. Everyone needs to understand that it is not the school per se which can't function - the heating did not let us down, and our Caretakers on duty did a remarkable job clearing paths and maintaining their condition with salt & grit.

If 400 students, who travel by bus, cannot get to school, that still leaves 500 who, in theory, can walk, including 73 Boarders. However, it is staffing which is then the issue. There are only a handful of teachers who live in Shaftesbury - the others come from Pewsey, Trowbridge and Calne to the north, Crewkerne to the west, the far side of Salisbury to the east, Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch to the south and all points in between. If the roads on which these colleagues travel are impassable because of ice, snow, jack-knifed lorries and accidents, then I simply do not have sufficient staff to manage safely this volume of students. In these eventualities, we contact the local radio stations Midwest, Spire, and 2CR, information is posted on www.snowday.co.uk and we post closure information on our own website at www.shaftesburyschool.com. This was certainly a most unusual week. The decisions we took were entirely justified in terms of balancing risk and ensuring the safety of staff and students, and nothing more could have been done to improve communication for parents.

Let us hope for a more settled Summer Term.

D. J. Booth

House News

Head of House Caption Competition

Students had a fantastic time on the inflatable reward day! Many of the students took the opportunity to challenge their peers to a sumo-style wrestle and boxing match. There was healthy competition and challenge displayed on the 'human' table football with staff also enjoying the opportunity to join in and have fun. We have captured some of the fun and excitement in the photographs (opposite).....now we need you to find appropriate captions!

Perhaps you are in one of the photographs and would like to express your thoughts at that moment! Please send in your captions with reference to the photograph to Heads of House office by April 24th. The best captions will be displayed on the plasma screens shortly afterwards. We look forward to receiving your funny captions!!

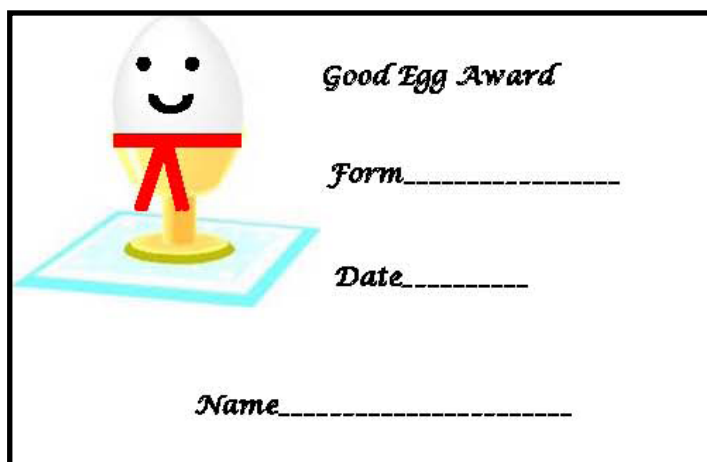
Miss Mumford

Good Egg of the Week

Tutor groups have been nominating their

"Good Egg"
student of the week.

The student will receive a certificate and an Easter Egg at registration on Fridays.



The form features a cartoon egg character with a smiling face, wearing a red bow tie, standing on a yellow pedestal on a light blue square base. To the right of the illustration, the text reads: "Good Egg Award", "Form _____", "Date _____", and "Name _____".

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT

2008 was a successful year for a group of students belonging to a club outside of school. These people are Vicky Pearce (Thompson), Thomas Card (Redgrave), Kimberley Read (Sanderson) and I, Dominic Upshall (Sanderson). This group is not well known in this school but I hope after this article it will be.

You may have experienced the carnival in Shaftesbury. We are Just Georges Carnival Club and we take part in the local carnivals and others across the South West. We had a great season because we picked up first place nearly everywhere we went. Taking part in carnivals in Somerset we came head to head with our rivals. It was fantastic to collect so many prizes - it was like a dream come true for the club; after 18 years of competing in carnivals this had never happened before. As a result we won the County Comic Cup, the highest award for a comic club in existence, proving that we are the best comic float out there. Our entry was MOO LAMB ROUGE (or as my dad would say "the best people at being stupid in the world").



This has been a great success for our club, and our mascot George has visited many places this year and is looking tired because of it. This year we have won an array of trophies to add to our growing collection. If you would like to become a member of Just Georges Carnival Club please contact me, Dominic Upshall in S3, and I will get a form to you ASAP. Alternatively check out our website at www.justgeorges.co.uk.



Dominic Upshall 9S3

House News



1

Caption



2

Caption



3

Caption



4

Caption



5

Caption



6

Caption

Business Studies

BUSINESS STUDIES CONFERENCE - BRISTOL

When I heard we were going on a Business Studies conference, my first thought was that it was going to be one of those boring lectures where you sit for hours, falling asleep – but the trip was the opposite!

We had about five sessions and each one was very important. The Head Examiner talked to us about the way to tackle exam questions, what they expect to see and how to answer questions so that we can attain all the right marks. They also showed us what high mark answers look like. I had the opportunity to listen to a young entrepreneur and all the difficulties he has with running his business. This was good because we have been studying start-up businesses in class, but it was nice to hear real life experiences.

It was also fun because we got to take part in a challenge, where we had to write a unique business idea in less

than 30 words and the winner got to spend a day with a finalist from The Apprentice.

There was also a Year 13 student who had not only beaten her teacher in the Business Studies exam, but had also scored full marks. She spoke to us about how she had managed to get such an excellent result. For me this was the best part of the day as it encouraged me to attain an excellent result in my exam.

At the end of the day, we had some time to go shopping at Cabot Castle Shopping Centre, which was amazing.

I can confidently say that the Conference was the best and most productive school trip I have been on for a long time. I will definitely be going again next year!

Oyindamola Akinterinwa, Year 12

PRAGUE TRIP

The trip to Prague was a Business and Economics trip and was very educational. We visited the Czech National Bank and Charles University, where we listened to a lecture and saw how the Czech Republic had applied what we had learnt in our lessons to their economy. This helped us to understand Economic concepts. The University building is very famous and a lot of films have been shot there e.g. Mission Impossible!

Ruckl Crystal is a glass factory, which produces football cups and glassware for the Queen. We were able to see how glass was made and what makes their products special. We also visited the Skoda factory, and saw different components being made into cars. At the Budweiser factory, we learnt how they made their beer and why it is one of the best in the world. We even got to taste it! We visited the Museum of Communism, which focuses on the totalitarian regime from the February coup in 1948 to its rapid collapse in November 1989. The museum helps you understand what the country has been through and understand how far they have come since then.

We walked across Charles Bridge - a very beautiful gothic bridge. On the bridge there is a gold part which people touch and make wishes. The Petrin Observation Tower is a sixty metre high steel framework tower which strongly resembles the Eiffel Tower in Paris. We walked to the top of it, and the view from there is the best view you would ever see. Old Town Square and Wenceslas Square are very famous places, with lots of clubs, bars, restaurants and shops. We went there in the evenings after all our work had been done.

The trip was good because we got to know people who we never got the chance to know while in school. It was a really good bonding session and even though we had a lot of work to do, we still had fun. The trip is definitely an experience I will never forget and I would highly recommend it.

Oyindamola Akinterinwa, Year 12



I had the opportunity to experience glass blowing at the Nizbor Bohemian glass factory in Prague. Although it was interesting, it was intimidating to look up at the platform where there was a large furnace and around 3-5 men blowing glass. As I stood next to a glass blower he handed me an exceedingly heavy metal pipe with molten glass on the other end. He supported most of the weight of the pipe and simply asked me to blow through it, whilst every so often he would turn the tube. At the beginning I was nervous and the glass blower signalled me to blow harder. Not long after what was a lump of molten glass had turned into a large sphere. Unfortunately, once I had turned around...he destroyed it.

Vanessa Cheung



School uniform and the appearance of students

Following my letter sent home at the end of February, students and parents will already know that my colleagues and I are taking steps to improve aspects of the students' appearance. I would like to take this opportunity to provide a few more details.

When worn with pride, our uniform makes our students look very smart, and is a sign to the community and to visitors that we are an organisation that is professional and businesslike – an organisation with which students, parents and staff are proud to be associated. The uniform is one mechanism to promote a sense of *belonging*, corporate identity. As parents you know only too well that there are high standards of expectations regarding what constitutes appropriate dress in the workplace; and there are many visitors to the school who, along with the wider community generally make judgements about the school purely on the basis of students' appearance.

As we all know, many students love to "personalise" their uniform, to either make it individual to them, or to make it as close as possible to what they like to wear outside of school. We at Shaftesbury decided that a point had unfortunately been reached where many students were doing their best to appear casual – and sometimes extremely untidy – and that the excellent reputation of the school was being damaged as a result. That is why we have begun a programme designed to improve the appearance of our students.

Part of this has been our well-publicised policy that any items which are not acceptable as part of daily uniform wear (eg scarves, gloves, hoodies, jewellery etc) will be confiscated, and will only be returned to parents, not to students. We normally ask parents to collect such items at the end of the week; however, if this is not possible, they can be released at the end of any school day.

We have also been reminding students that their shirt should be tucked in to the top of their trousers or skirt, and not allowed to hang down underneath their jumper. Facial piercings have always been banned, and continue to be so.

By far the hardest challenge facing us has been to persuade your sons and daughters to smarten their neckwear! An obvious "fashion" has grown up in the school whereby the shirt collar is worn as wide open as possible, and the tie is virtually out of sight beneath the jumper. Please do not allow your son or daughter to tell you that this is acceptable in school. It is not. We are investing a lot of effort into smartening appearances, and would greatly appreciate it if you would ensure that, when they leave home they look like this:

- The shirt should be "closed" at the neck, so that it gives the appearance of the top button being fastened
- The tie should be tied using a sensible sized knot, which covers the top button, and remains there

It follows that it will never be possible for any form of tee shirt or necklace to be visible beneath the shirt.

Some girls appear to have open-necked shirts which are not designed to be buttoned up to the top. I would ask you, if your daughter has such a shirt, to make sure that it is not worn to school, and that it is replaced with an appropriate shirt as soon as possible.

In the past few weeks we have made great strides in improving the appearance of our students, and this has already been noticed. I would ask you all to keep up these efforts, so that we can restore the pride in our appearance which plays such an important part in reflecting our best achievements.

D J Booth



How the uniform should be worn



WHO YOU'RE TALKING TO ONLINE? WHERE TO GO IF YOU'RE WORRIED?

For more information on how to stay in control of online risks, and to report abuse, visit www.thinkuknow.co.uk or www.ceop.gov.uk

If you would be happy to take part in some research with CEOP, please contact Ann Yates.

As the seasons merge and the evenings get lighter it seems a good time to reflect on what's been a busy start to the year in PE and sport. Life in a leading sports college is all about evolution, both through innovative curriculum changes and exciting new opportunities. This term has had both in abundance. Firstly, the Gifted & Talented programme has gone from strength to strength with Mr Waters doing a great job of inspiring students through bi-weekly meets, trips to Bath University and our first ever G&T climbing Aspire Academy. The G&T list is now prestigious and students pore over the lists hoping that they might earn themselves a place in this unique group!

Additional trips this term have included 44 students attending the England U19 football game vs Spain at the Fitness First Stadium in Bournemouth. England lost 3-0 to a classy Spanish side, but we secured tickets through our status as a FA Charter school - check out Elliot's article! Also, 50 students are off to the Birmingham NEC for the annual Outdoors Show, and trips to Reading Madejski Academy and Twickenham Rugby ground are planned for after Easter.

New PE Kit

We value student voice here at Shaftesbury School and when the issue of a new PE Kit was raised by the PE Prefects, we responded by surveying the student body. The feedback was overwhelming- most students wanted a modern looking kit made from high performance, breathable fabrics.

After much consultation, a predominantly black polo shirt, separated by house-coloured panels of breathable mesh microfibre fabric was the favoured design. Shorts and socks will remain the same, although girls can now order and wear a 'skort', a specialist netball skirt with shorts fitted inside.

The new polo shirt costs £12.99 and will be available from June 2009 through Get It 4 Schools. We intend to phase in the new PE kit, and new orders made after this date will be of the new stock.



We are keen to emphasise that the current white polo is still acceptable and envisage a phase-in period of 18 months. Whilst a new polo is available, we understand that many will feel that their child should outgrow the one they have. We understand the expenses associated with kit and have worked hard with Get It 4 Schools to create a competitively priced and great looking polo that will, in time, replace the current white house polo.

See the kit in house colour on the inside front cover of this magazine

The fixtures and clubs have been going strong with good results all round. The U15 boys football team deserve a special mention - they had a great County Cup run getting through to the semi-finals before being knocked out 1-0 by Porchester Boys school. A new 'Indo Boarding' club saw students styling their way to becoming surfers. The sport fuses balance skills and tricks similar to skating and surfing. An exciting development with Arsenal Football Club, led by Jeff the Chef, is also in the pipeline. More to come on this!

As the summer term draws near and the PE department get ready for a term of sun and shades (makes a change from snow and ice!) we would like to say a farewell and thank you to our two student teachers from University of Chichester. Mr Brooker and Mr Cooper have felt like members of the PE team and we wish them all the best for the future.

As you thumb through the following pages, take a little time to reflect on the great things happening here. Students at our school get opportunities other schools can only dream of!!!

Mr A More

England U19s vs Spain U19s

On Tuesday 10th February, 50 of us went to watch the England Under 19s v Spain Under 19s at AFC Bournemouth's stadium.

Kick off was at 7pm and England conceded an early goal as the ball was passed back to the goalkeeper who tried taking on the Spain striker... but failed. 1-0 Spain.

Midway through the half Spain strung together 13 passes before a cracking shot from 25 yards flew into the top corner, putting us 2-0 down.

England started the second half well but soon found themselves three down after Spain worked their way down the right to score another good goal.

To top the night off England had Andrew Tutte sent off for an horrific challenge two minutes after he had come on as a substitute.

Even though we lost, it was still a fun night.

By Elliot Bevis

Sports Awards 2009

Could you be an award winner this year?

Plans are already underway for our annual Sports Awards Evening which is taking place at the end of the summer term. On the evening we will be joined by a special guest from the world of sport who will present awards in a range of categories including:

- Commitment to Sport
- Performers of the Year (separate categories for year groups and Houses)
- Progress
- Team of the Year
- Service to sport including leadership and volunteering
- Primary Outreach

PE teachers will make their nominations early next term – so there is still time to impress!!

Mrs Hollands-Smith

Congratulations to Virginia and Elloise Cundy

Regular readers of *Aspire* may be aware that Elloise Cundy in Year 8 is a talented gymnast. In the last six months Ellie has discovered a new sport in which she excels. Just months after taking up the sport of Vaulting (an activity that involves performing gymnastics on horseback) she has been selected to train with the national squad and now trains every weekend with the national team in Warwick.

Meanwhile Ellie's equally talented sister Virginia has just heard that she has qualified for the National Dressage Championships which are due to take place at the Hartpury Arena between 8 – 12 April. Virginia, who is trained by her Mum, will be riding her horse Conor.

Everyone at Shaftesbury School wishes them the best of luck.

PE Staff Go For Glory

As well as the competitions for the pupils at Shaftesbury, there is another competition hotting up this term - that of the Manager of the Year league which the Shaftesbury PE Staff (and other kind volunteer coaches) compete for glory against one another.

A complicated point scoring system sees staff earn points for taking fixtures, with different amounts of points awarded for defeats, draws and victories and more points still for tournaments rather than single fixtures.

The season is ongoing but the league table (as of 12th March) has been put on the school website. Feel free to check it out at www.shaftesburyschool.com.

NB. The fact that Mr Parkinson updates the table and has opened up such a healthy lead could have led to cries of foul play if it weren't for his well known sportsmanship and all round incorruptibility.

North Dorset Boys Rugby Under 15s win Final

The Under 15 boys rugby team (North Dorset) beat Dorchester RFC 19-3 in the final of the County Cup earlier this month.

The lads started well, scoring a try created by Finn James, who went on to play a strong game looking dangerous every time he got on the ball. Bobby Stopps and Jason Beal played the entire game and worked hard both in attack and defence. Andy Turner came on at half time at scrum half and made some key decisions during the brief period that Dorchester looked likely to score. A try saving tackle by Beal and clever kicking from Andy edged North Dorset closer to the winners podium. Well done also to Ashley Hancock and Ollie Coombes who didn't play the final but played their part in their team getting there.

The under 16 boys came up against a strong Bournemouth side and were defeated 22-0. Prop Steffon Britton played well and Chris Roberts, Matt

Cradock and Cameron Quinn played the last 25 minutes. Better luck next year lads.

Well done to all the Shaftesbury lads who played in their club final.

Mr More



Netball Tournament

Quite a few netball matches have had to be cancelled due to bad weather. However, the year 7 and 8 Girls Netball Team travelled to Leweston on 11th February to take part in a local tournament. Both teams played a total of 6 matches; each match was 10 minutes long. All the girls played extremely well and showed great sportsmanship. Each of the teams only had one sub and therefore the girls had to display high levels of fitness and motivation. Unfortunately, neither team progressed through to the final, but we had a good afternoon out.

Miss Rogers

Year 10 Girls Netball Team

It has been a quiet term for the Year 10 Netball girls, but the games that the team have played have, once again, shown a strong team spirit. They have entered private school tournaments to develop and challenge their skills and this has helped identify our areas for improvements. Earlier in the term, the team entered the North Dorset Netball Tournament held at St Mary's School. I have to mention our brave Goal Defender Lia James, who dislocated her shoulder during the tournament. We hope you make a speedy recovery Lia!

The girls still have plenty of Netball fixtures lined up until Easter. Well done so far girls!

Miss George

Club Info

Girls Netball on a Wednesday night for Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 will change after the Easter holidays to Rounders club. There is a Dorset Rounders Tournament that teams will be entered for and, of course, friendlies with our local neighbouring schools. We hope to see students there!

Girls PE

Entrepreneurial greatness

The year 7 Girl's Netball Team decided that they would like to have team sweatshirts. They took it upon themselves to approach the local clothing companies for quotes and prices. The girls then went in to business mode and pushed for the very best deal they could get. They came away triumphant, getting individually named black hoodies at a steal. I would like to especially thank Charlotte Hall and Hannah Roberts who were the entrepreneurial geniuses and driving force behind this project. Wear your hoodies with pride girls!!!

Miss Rogers

Gifted and Talented in Physical Education

The Gifted and Talented programme for Physical Education has been running in its new format since February half term. Pupils on the register were assessed and then levelled for support depending upon their commitment to school sport and sport outside of school. Students on level 1 will receive full access to the G&T program as well as one-to-one mentoring sessions and invitations to the Gifted and Talented trips. Those on Level 2 will have limited access to the workshops, group mentoring sessions and limited opportunity to go on the trips. The levels can obviously change, but this is dependent on the participation level during after school clubs and clubs outside of school.

The students have already completed their baseline fitness measurements. These will be re-measured in the summer term and improvements are expected. The tests included the dreaded "Bleep" test and various circuit style tests.

Funding was received from the Governors for an Elite Athlete trip to Bath University. This took place on 11th March and included a tour of the Student Training Village which is a world class training centre, a lifestyle lecture, Maximum Oxygen consumption test and video analysis work. The pupils worked really hard and had a great day! Read Gabrielle's account opposite.



Future planned visits include a trip to the National Water Sports Centre at Holmepeire, a Madjeski Stadium tour with football games for Yrs 9 and 10 (boys and girls) and a day at the Go Ape high ropes course at Moors Valley Country Park.

These trips are organised to develop the students' leadership and communication skills, as well as allowing them to try new activities and to be adventurous; all key aspects of the school ethos.

Special mention must go to

Nathan Cobern - 4th place, semi-final Indoor Championships 60 metres (time: 7.29 secs)

Fred Gordon - 3rd place, Dorset Climbing Competition

Charlotte Gordon - 4th place, Dorset Climbing Competition

Abbey Card - 1st & 3rd at the Dorset Indoor Athletes Competition (High Jump and 400m)

Well done to all involved and keep up the good sporting work.

Mr Waters

G&T Bath University Trip

On the 11th March a group of gifted and talented PE students travelled to Bath University for the day. Led by Mr Waters and Mr More and accompanied by Mr Cooper and Mr Brooker, we left for Bath at 8.45am from school.

On arrival we were split into two groups. Inside we were lucky enough to see the Bath first rugby team, which really made Finn's day. Our first activity of the day was the video analysis. We learnt three badminton skills and various people were filmed performing them. They were then compared to our coach, Hannah's performance. Considering we were all beginners all the students did very well.

Next we went to the lab. This is where the students at the University come to do altitude training and VO2 testing. Some of the braver G&T students did a few of these tests. Jason Beal and Nathan Cobern did the bike test, which measures the athlete's peak power and how quickly they reached their peak. Although Nathan had higher peak power, reached at a very impressive 5 seconds, Jason reached his peak power in only 2.5 seconds. This is the same as some Olympic athletes!

Charlotte Gordon and Alex Andrews did the VO2 max test. They were hooked up to a machine that measures the air that they breathe in and out, which allows the machine to calculate how many millilitres of oxygen they have in their blood every second. Alex and Charlotte had to run on a treadmill beginning at about 8km/h, then the speed was increased steadily and they had to run to the point of physical exhaustion. Alex was running for a very long 25 minutes!



We had 15 minutes for lunch before we went on our tour. On the tour we saw the 50-metre pool, the fencing hall, the training hall for pole vaulting and other athletic events, the indoor 100m track and the indoor tennis courts, all of which were very impressive.

Our final activity for the day was a sport psychology lecture. We learnt about setting goals and all the qualities that elite athletes have to have to be at the top of their game, and how we can control our qualities.

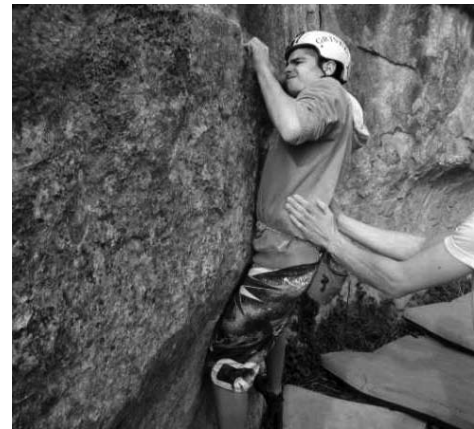
The day was a real treat for both the students and the staff who went. All of the G&T students came away from the experience with new ideas about themselves as athletes and their goals for the future. Most of the students are now considering attending Bath University in the future.

By Gabrielle Crumpler, Year 11

Aspire Academy: G & T Rock Climbing Day - Portland, Dorset

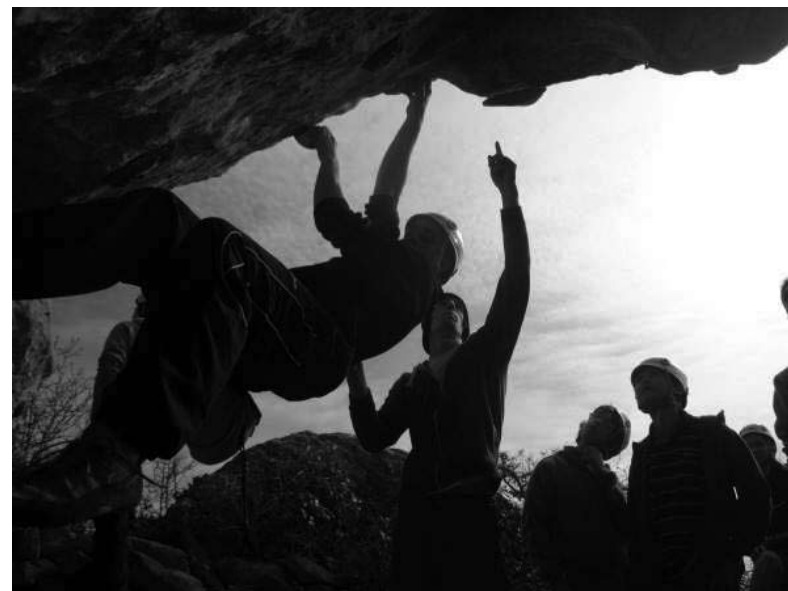
On Saturday 7th March, 14 students braved the cold for a day's rock climbing on Portland Bill, Dorset. The day was set up as a new Aspire Academy, funded by the Foundation Governors, to encourage opportunities for G&T students in PE & Sport. Of the 14 students, most were on the G&T list, with a few aspiring up and coming younger climbers in attendance.

The idea was to film their performances throughout the day and make a short film that they could take away and keep for analysis of movement studies and also so that they can show their friends and family. Dan Knight, one of the UK's strongest climbers, came along for the day to coach and encourage the young stone monkeys. Dan was very complimentary about the whole group, saying "The group have huge potential and are a lovely bunch".



The morning session involved bouldering only (climbing without ropes) on a boulder field littered with rocks. This was great for coaching as students weren't so high off the ground. The afternoon session involved ropes and even more coaching on technique. It was a great day, the group did very well and were so tired they slept most of the way back on the minibus!

Mr A More



Football Report

It has been another busy term for Shaftesbury School's football teams. Girls and boys teams of different age groups have played in competitions and friendly matches across Dorset.

The Year 10 Boys Team put together a fine run in the County Cup, getting to the semi-final before narrowly losing in an away fixture against Porchester in dreadful conditions. Howling gales and sideways rain prevented Shaftesbury, captained by Jason Beal, from playing the flowing football that had led to great wins over Royal Manor and All Saints in previous rounds. An early, scrambled goal for Porchester proved to be the winner, despite close efforts from Jack Twyford and Ade Adeniyi. Strong performances from centre-back partnership Finn James and Ross Purves kept Porchester at bay. On one occasion when they did get through, goalkeeper Bobby Stopps thwarted them, tipping one shot onto his left hand post before collecting the rebound. Shaftesbury's last chance came in the form of a free kick on the edge of the box. Beal took aim but saw his fierce drive whistle an inch over the bar. The final whistle blew and the lads showed great spirit in defeat - and rightly so, they had played fantastically well throughout their cup run and should be proud of themselves. The rest of the school are certainly proud of them.

The Sixth Form Men's team's first game was a defeat to Gryphon; the Sixth Form Second Team have one victory, a 4-2 win against Clayesmore. Goalscorers Sasha "Russian" Coombes, Dan "Ziggy" Sycklemore, Ryan "Dutch Boi" Schouten and Todd "Half Pint" Hart as well as captain Eli "Chubway" Cooper are all pushing for promotion into the first team.

SENIOR BOYS FOOTBALL TEAM DO THE DOUBLE! - OVER GILLINGHAM!

Following on from the emphatic staff football victory 8-6 over Gillingham on Friday 13th March, the 6th Form boys won 3-2 in the A Team game and 11-2 (almost a rugby score) in the B Team game. An impressive hat-trick from Eli Cooper being the talking point. 22 goals against Gillingham in 3 games - not bad going lads. Well done to all involved.

The Year 7 and 8 girls teams both entered the 7-a-side tournament held at Port Regis School and, despite the pitches deteriorating into something of a quagmire, they played extremely well and showed that they have the potential to become very good teams. The Year 8s played some lovely football but were unlucky to come up against some very strong sides and were narrowly eliminated in the group stage. The Year 7s however showed great skill and spirit to reach the semi-finals where they were unfortunately knocked out by tournament winners Millfield. Great credit goes to all the girls who represented Shaftesbury School.

The Year 9 Girls Team found Gillingham too strong for them but the Year 10 Girls came back from the local rivals with a terrific 6-0 win.

The Year 10 girls team also won 7-0 against St Mary's School. The 9-a-side game was played on astro and after not playing since their last win against Gillingham, the girls were slightly nervous. However there were some great throw-ins from Sophie Burton, great half volleys from Nikki Formby and Erin Dawe-Lane, and great midfield and defensive play from our goal keeper, Lauren Lever, not to mention a strong defence line. Special thanks to Rosie Day and Chloe Maskell from Year 9 who played. Also, special thanks and well done to Jason Beal and Finn James who were linesmen, and to Bobby Stopps for refereeing the game.

All players who have represented Shaftesbury School's football teams have done so with pride and sportsmanship and should be congratulated for their efforts. Well done everybody.

Miss George, Mr More & Mr Parkinson

ADVERTISEMENT

COME CLIMBING!



at the Sports Hall, Shaftesbury School and Sports College

A FREE 7 week course for parents/carers and their children (8-16 yrs)

Always wanted to bound up that rock face but not felt quite sure how to start? On this short course you'll learn how to use the equipment needed to make climbing safe and have the opportunity to access follow on courses which will include an outdoor trip to try out your new skills. All safety instruction and equipment is provided by a qualified and insured instructor. Only one child per adult please.

Thursday evenings 6.00 – 7:30 pm

23 April – 18 June 2009

(no sessions on 28 May and 4 June)

To book your place on the course or for further details ring Julia Markus or Margaret Whitford, Family Learning Co-ordinators, at Gillingham Adult Learning Centre on 01747 834169. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Design & Technology: Health & Social Care

“Ready or not tot” - computerised baby simulation programme

As part of their Health & Social Care lessons, students in Year 10 and 11 have the opportunity to borrow ‘babies’ to get a taste of what life with a real baby is all about. Kanlaya Barton and Tabitha Annetts, both in Year 11, report on their experience below:

We had to look after the babies for a weekend, as if we were a real parent. The baby woke up four times during the night for feeds, it also had to be burped, had its nappy changed and given attention. The babies had been programmed by Mrs Smith, and had lights on the back so that she could tell whether we had abused or tampered with the baby.

It was a tiring weekend, but also a fun experience to be a Mum. We had to take the baby out with us everywhere, either in a buggy or a baby carrier. We couldn't go out to parties as we had the responsibility of looking after a baby. The experience has put us off having babies for at least 10 years but has helped us to prepare for what it will be like with a real baby 24/7.

We unfortunately had to keep the babies for an extra three days because we got trapped in by the snow and were unable to return them to Mrs Smith - what a panic!!



Other students in the group gave their 10 reasons for taking the “baby trial”: “Good experience”, “I learnt a lot about looking after babies”, “It puts you off having a baby at a young age”, “A valuable insight into what parenting is like”, “To love something (for a weekend)”, “Teaches responsibility”.

DT Food Dept

All Year 7 pupils have been given a fantastic recipe book by the D&T Food Department. Full of tried and tested recipes, and designed especially for children, these books will give them the opportunity to be inspired and “get cooking”.

These great books are for students to use at home...enjoy!

Mrs Smith



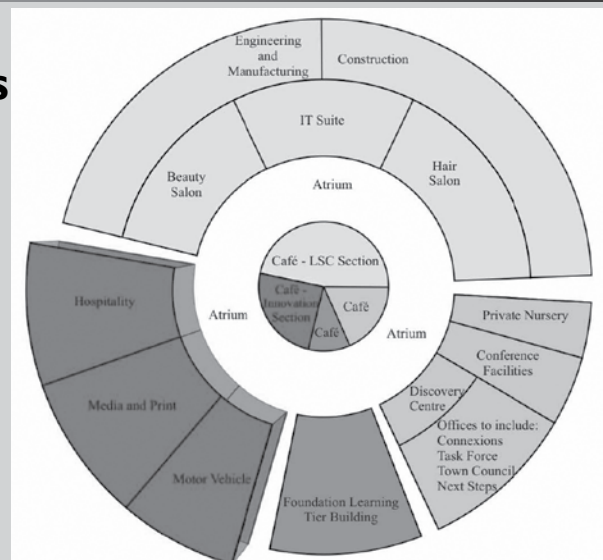
Development of Yeovil College in Shaftesbury connected to the Town's Community Hub

A display will be set up in school during the week beginning 20th April using panels from a previous presentation in Shaftesbury Town Hall, and students will be asked to complete questionnaires to indicate their views.

From 27th April – 1st May the display will be at Shaftesbury Task Force office where parents are welcome to view it and fill in written answers to some simple questions.

11am – 3pm (please ring the Task Force office in advance)

Unit 6, Plot 25c Longmead (to the left of the entrance to Homemaker), Shaftesbury SP7 8PL Tel. no. 01747 855448



Drama

Panto raises smiles and raises money

It's behind you! Oh yes it is – the panto has been and gone – and what a success it was!

'Cinderella & the Seven Dwarfs' featured the talents of over 35 students. Teachers and staff did their turn as well learning lines and a full dance routine to 'Thriller', and the two performances at the end of the



winter term played to packed houses.

As well as raising the roof with laughter, the panto also raised a good glug of money for charity. In all, the ticket sales and sales of tea and biscuits in the interval lead to a healthy total sum of £772.36.

The cast had decided on two charities - one local and one national - to which the money would be donated: Breathe-On UK and Cancer Research UK.

Many people are familiar with the work of Cancer Research, but perhaps the work of Breathe-On UK is less well known. The charity specifically helps families with children on long-term ventilation (LTV). It is estimated that 600 children in the UK have this condition and that this is growing at 15% per annum.

The charity was established by Victoria Townsend in 2004 who is now CEO of the organisation. She has a son William who has been on LTV for 7 years and kindly gave up some time to come into school and tell the cast about how their money raised would help and be used by the charity, and of course to thank them for their hard work in rehearsals and the performances that had made the work a success.

So, what's next? Well, firstly the year 11, 12 & 13 exam performances, for which parents and friends can attend dress-rehearsals (dates to be announced); then a mini-musical to be rehearsed and staged in the summer term and a play from the gifted and talented drama students (see Aspire Academy article). Auditions for the mini-musical will be coming soon and students will be given details of how they can get involved via their tutors. Information on ticket sales will follow in the summer term.



Students present a cheque to Victoria Townsend of Breathe-On UK

Aspire Academy: Making a Play

Funded by the Foundation Governors, the Drama Academy, involving 15 students from the Gifted & Talented drama list, is seeking to allow students the opportunity to devise, write, design and perform a play.

The students are currently narrowing down their ideas and work will soon begin on scripting the performance. Along the way students will be given weekend workshops on how to use stage lighting, and they will have vocal coaching, movement coaching and other workshops, all intended to develop the students' skills for this project and indeed across their work in drama.

The group will eventually have to design, build and paint the set; they will have to advertise, design the poster and programme – all the bits and pieces that normally they don't have to do as part of the process of making a play in school – these bits are normally done for them by teachers. However, doing these things for themselves will give the students skills that are valuable for them to learn, both in terms of their current development and they may use the skills learnt beyond their lives in Shaftesbury School.

It is an exciting and scary project – who knows what the work will be like at the end! What will it be about? In the first meetings over 23 ideas were put forward as possible plots for the play, and then these were narrowed down and now the task is to develop the ones left and to see which ones could work on stage. It is a complex process – it's not just turning up and suddenly the work is there on the page for the students. They have extra homework tasks where they have to shape ideas so that when they turn up each Monday the work has moved on. The aim is that the work will have as little direct teacher intervention as possible and that in the end they can truly call the work their own.

Ms Elsdon, who is leading the structure of the workshops and organizing the input of other people who will help students with ideas for the work (such as a lighting technician to help with lighting design) says of the project: 'So far the Academy is going well with lots of energy and commitment from the students who have been invited to take part. It promises to be an interesting project where I hope the students will learn about the entire workings of a performance and how hard it can be, and eventually how rewarding it is when the performances are done and they can sit back and say: we did that!'

The performance of the work will be on late in the summer term. If it can be organized it is hoped that there will be a performance both in school and at the Shaftesbury Arts Centre. Details will follow – watch this space, as they say.

Ms Elsdon

Drama Trip - New York



Drama students take a bite out of the 'Big Apple'

It's the city that never sleeps, and for four days I didn't get much sleep either as I, together with five A2 level Drama students, tried to take in every moment, every sight and sound of the city so good they named it twice: New York, New York!

I was every bit as excited as the students, having never been to 'The Big Apple' myself before, and it did not disappoint. We did all the touristy things that



you would expect: we ate breakfast in a Diner with the booths, swivel chrome bar stools and checked floor that you see on TV and films; we went up the Empire State building; we took a carriage ride through Central Park; we shopped on Fifth Avenue; we ate at Planet Hollywood in Times Square; we saw the Statue of Liberty, Ground Zero, City Hall, the Chrysler Building and Grand Central Station - we saw it and photographed it all (Sinead Neville, for example, took 500 photos in the four days). In addition, as this was a trip that was intended to further the students' skills in, and appreciation of, theatre, we also saw two Broadway shows (including a strange 'performance art show' with The Blue Man Group where I got covered in mashed banana and paint - don't ask) and we took part in two off-Broadway theatre skills workshops.



Making the trip even more exciting and useful for the students was the fact that we joined together with a College from London (Facebook is now buzzing

with the extra connections from all the friendships that were formed during the trip). As well as developing new friends, the intention of 'combining' the students was so that the students on both sides got to work in the workshops with different people, developing their performance skills and ideas as well as their social and cooperation skills, which it succeeded in doing.

I know as you read this you'll be thinking - how fantastic it all sounds, but perhaps you're wondering: were there any negatives? Well, the communal bathrooms in the dorms weren't so great (it was a very nice Hostel, but The Plaza it was not...) and the two-and-a-half hour queue for the



Empire State building wasn't much fun. However, apart from the bathrooms, the Hostel was great with TV room, games room, two lounges, a kitchen, computer access, cafe and comfy bunk beds to crash out on after a hard day's sight-seeing; and once you are up the Empire State building, the queue is quickly forgotten as you stare out with wonder at the Manhattan skyline and look down (yes down - it's a long way up) on the Chrysler building. So these 'minor' points pale into insignificance against all the positives: we all saw so much, learnt so much, laughed so much and loved it so much we didn't want to come back.

Reflecting on the trip, student Leanne Elliott said 'I expected to, and did indeed, love every minute and I can't wait to go back again'. Like many of you, having seen the city so much in films and TV shows that I love I personally felt like I knew it before I had been. However, it did surprise me: for example, New York has perhaps a reputation for being 'unsafe', but this is just a myth - I felt safer walking around it than I do in areas of London; and it was so easy to navigate - it's all straight roads; and yes the buildings were tall and it was busy, but somehow I didn't feel intimidated or out of place - people were friendly, there was a buzz to the whole city and it wasn't an assault on my senses - it was an invigoration to them!

When we got back, Tara Watford asked me 'can we come again next year?' and indeed there is a plan for a trip for sixth form Drama students next year, but sadly Tara, Leanne, Sinead, Ali P and Kate will be on their way to Uni and beyond by then, so sorry to you all - perfect though you were at all times, it's someone else's turn next time!

The plan next year is to include year 12 and 13 drama students and for us to take in even more of the cultural sites and galleries. More information on the trip will come in September, so watch this space, and trust me - you won't want to miss out on such an exciting opportunity!

Ms Elsdon

Rwanda Project 2009

At the end of the month, a group of students and staff again go out to Rwanda to learn more of the issues following the genocide and to teach in the Excel Bilingual School with which our school has formed a partnership. This partnership is not a type of exchange scheme that many schools have, but is a unique project that allows our students to actually help in educating students in a poor area of Africa. We have been contacted by other schools who wish to develop similar projects; they can see the benefit for a population ravaged by the genocide, the students that take part and the school and wider community.



The Rwandan president, Paul Kagame, has a dream to have education provision for all in Rwanda by 2015, but it is a poor country and the education will not be free. The key to a country's social and academic progress is through education and our and similar schools can provide the means to improve it through innovative projects such as this.

During our visit, we will be acting as ambassadors for Msaada, the local charity that works to improve the lives of those affected by the genocide. Although it was in 1994, the traumatic nature of the events means that many people still suffer psychological problems. Many households also do not have a breadwinner and some families have no income at all.



The school, and in particular the Sixth Form, have raised around £15,000 for Msaada; Rag Day alone this year raised a sum of £3,100. Other schools have also now recognised that this is a charity where the funds go directly to the needy and have joined in the fund-raising.

The greatest dream that we have is to build a new school in Rwamagana, as around 250 children in the region cannot be educated even though their parents



have money; there is no room for them in the old prison premises that house the existing school. By the way, if you want to help then £60 will educate a student for a year - that's just £5 per month. Please contact me if you want to sponsor a Rwandan child.

The students have gone through a rigorous process of selection; not least because they will have an experience that is emotionally demanding. They will also be uplifted by the genuine desire of the Rwandan people to go forward; the young students they meet will display a commitment and eagerness for study that will amaze them. They will see children lined up outside the school's windows trying to learn from afar as their parents cannot afford for them to be enrolled; a humbling experience for anyone to witness. We look forward to meeting our friends out in Rwanda again and seeing at first hand the effect that the money raised has had.

Last year we visited a beekeeping project for widows of the genocide set up by Msaada to provide them with an income, and the words of one of the workers there will, we are sure, mean that this project will be long lasting. She said, "Of course the money we have received is useful but it is you coming out here and showing that you care that means everything to us."

If you have helped in any way in raising funds through Msaada for this innovative and rewarding project, we thank you on behalf of all the beneficiaries in Rwanda.

Mike Hayes and Clare Davenport

L-R: Mr Hayes, Tim Hardiman, Miss Davenport, George Ridgway, Chantelle Wareham, Tom Sanger, John Welch and Eric Brice

Indo Boarding



Students at Shaftesbury School have just completed a 6 week block of Indo Board sessions, delivered by Kevin Hubble from Indoeurope, and supported by 6th form sports leaders Eric Brice & Brandon Telling. This is a lottery funded activity which has been provided by the North Dorset School Sport Partnership, and is gradually moving around the Partnership secondary schools. The boards enable students to work on their core stability whilst practising 'surf-style' moves on dry land.

25 students from Shaftesbury worked their way through skills & fitness task sheets, and by the end of the sessions were able to demonstrate a number of tricks, as well as put a sequence of moves together. The boards have also been successfully used during lessons as part of the new Key Stage 3 curriculum at Shaftesbury School.

Many thanks to Kevin Hubble and the team from Indoeurope, who we are continuing to work with in developing the potential of this activity in the curriculum and beyond.

Julia Lane, PDM

Extended Services Award

Student Aspirations Team Member and Chair of the Shaftesbury Student Pyramid Council Maisie Bent attended a celebration of Extended Schools event with Mrs Linsley at the Blandford Brewery in December.



Shaftesbury School was one of 34 primary and secondary schools across Dorset to be awarded an Extended Schools - Full Core Offer certificate for the range of services they offer to meet the needs of children, young people, their families and the local community. Maisie was proud to receive our award from Cllr. Coatsworthy on Mr Booth's behalf.

The requirements of the Full Core Offer, as stated in the government's green paper 'Every Child Matters' are that schools should offer a varied programme of extra curricular study support and enrichment activities; parenting support including providing information and advice about transition information sessions and formal parenting groups; early identification of need and swift and easy access to specialist support for children with behavioural, emotional, health or other needs; community access to appropriate school facilities and adult learning opportunities.

Maisie met the Director of Children's Service for Dorset and took part in a young person's consultation on what children in Dorset would like to do on school premises over the holiday periods so that the Extended Schools Team can look at providing such activities in the future.

Summer Exams Information

The summer examinations will be starting in May. Now that the SATs have gone, the year 9 students will be taking part in science modules as well as the chance to take part in the pilot of the ICT Functional Skills qualification.

Year 10 mocks will also be taking place. The students will be under exam conditions in preparation for the real thing. It is very important they understand the requirements to work in silence, not to distract others and remain focused for the duration of the exam (which can get difficult during a long session but must be strictly adhered to). Any malpractice will be dealt with most seriously.

All students coming in to an exam must remember to bring the equipment needed for that subject. They should always bring a BLACK ball-point pen, calculator, ruler, pencil, eraser, compass, protractor, set-square and pencil sharpener. Calculators are allowed in most exams - students will be told when they cannot use them.

This basic equipment should be in a clear case. **The school cannot guarantee having sufficient supplies for all those who fail to bring their own.**

Students must not have any electronic device on them (other than a calculator) including mp3 players, digital recorders or mobile phone. A mobile phone in a bag MUST be switched off. A ringing phone will be reported to the exam board who may decide to disqualify the student from that exam, subject or whole series.

All students will receive a personal timetable which shows their seat number for each exam. A seating plan is also displayed in the Main Hall prior to the start.

A timetable of all the exams is available on our website at <http://shaftesburyschool.com/exams-information.html>

Exam results are available on the following dates:

GCE: Thursday 20th August
GCSE Thursday 27th August

Work-Related Learning

A big thank you to members of Shaftesbury Rotary who, along with School Governors and the Parents' Aspirations Team put in a gruelling day's work interviewing year 11 students.

The Career Development Interviews are a key part of the Careers Education programme in helping students prepare for their post-16 pathways. One of the main foci is checking the students have done their research on the qualifications and routes they need to take to achieve their ambitions. The interviews also give valuable practice in interview technique ready for Further Education and job interviews, along with advice and feedback on the students' CVs and Personal Statements.

It is refreshing to see how students approach the interviews with genuine nervousness and leave with their confidence boosted, knowing what an interview can be like and how they can better prepare for the real thing. "I was terrified at first, but then I began to really enjoy it!" was a not unusual comment.

It was also pleasing to get positive feedback from the interviewers, who were impressed with the careful thought and research the majority of students had put in through their work-related lessons.

Mr Lee



Shaftesbury School is going for the Investors in Careers Award

Investors in Careers is a national award which recognises the quality of the Careers Education programme in Schools and Colleges. An important aspect of this is the impartial nature of the guidance given to students, in other words it needs to be in the students' best interests.

Careers education is crucially important in helping students to plan their future. Now so more than ever, with the increasing variety of courses available to students from Year 10 onwards, the competition for places, for work experience, and for work in a fast changing global labour market.

Currently all students benefit from some careers education, starting with awareness raising in Years 7 & 8 to full use of the careers resources from Year 9 onwards. We look at CVs, the labour market, unions, equal opportunities, progression routes, enterprise, key skills, employability skills, interview techniques, finances and work experience as well as a whole lot more. Increasingly student mentoring is focusing on next steps – which courses are most suitable, what research have students done into career choices, what grades do they need?

Having developed the Careers programme over the last few years I am now pleased to say we are in a position to go for the award. This will be in three stages and will take up to 18 months. It will involve the inevitable evidence gathering portfolio but much more interesting are the student interviews and presentation panel – allowing students themselves to show how their understanding has developed.

Mr Lee

Head of Work-Related Learning

Salisbury Cathedral Visits

Two groups of gifted and talented students visited Salisbury Cathedral recently. Led by an expert guide, they received an overview of the Cathedral's history and its life still today as an important place of worship.

The first group used relevant locations and resources around the Cathedral in order to open discussion about Christian marriage. They took part in a mock wedding and looked at the funeral service to evaluate how religious beliefs and teachings inform answers to ultimate questions such as "Is there life after death?"

The next group of students took a tour of the Cathedral to identify examples of Christian symbols and find out the meanings behind them and to see how, where and when they are used in the building through worship. The students also had special access to the Cathedral vestments, textiles and treasures.

There will be further visits to the Cathedral, one being an intriguing investigation, "*Cracking the Sarum Code*" which follows the premise that much of the magnificent medieval building at Salisbury Cathedral was constructed based on the Golden Ratio.

Mr Jackson



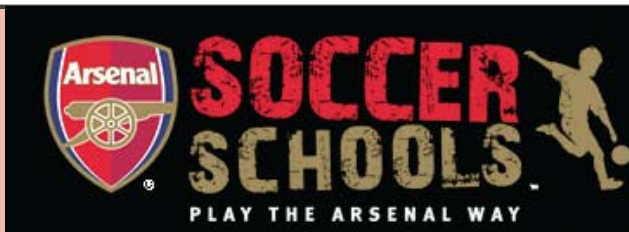
Year 11 Achievement Conference



On 12th March, Year 11 were taken off timetable for the day to enable them to prepare mentally for this summer's examination season. They spent the day at the Royal Chase Hotel at a conference that focused on 'What Makes Successful People?' The Conference was lead by nationally renowned consultant John O'Callaghan.

Throughout the day, students were challenged to consider factors that enable them to perform well and obstacles that get in the way. Each student was encouraged to set themselves aspirational goals for the future, and they were given tips on how to use positive self-talk and team support to enable them to get there.

Mrs Hollands-Smith



Some of you may be aware that Jeff the Chef is also involved with Arsenal FC - and helps to run the annual residential soccer schools.

Held at Sparsholt College in Winchester, the courses are open to boys aged 9-15 and girls aged 9-12. In 2009 they will take place during the Easter and Summer holidays. Dates are as follows:

Easter - Course One

Tue 14th - Thu 16th April Price: £170
(Daily sessions available) Price: £37.50)

Summer - Course Two

Sun 9th - Fri 14th August Price: £280

Summer - Course Three

Sun 23rd - Fri 28th Aug Price: £280

The College provides quality accommodation and first class support from the in-house staff.

For more information, visit www.playthearsenalway.com, or speak to Jeff the Chef.

Work Experience at ITN

On 25th February I was lucky to be chosen to help a film crew from ITN to film Shaftesbury School and Barton Hill House. Some of you probably saw the filming going on and are even in the actual film! But if you hope to see yourself on TV - I must disappoint you. The programme that Shaftesbury will feature in is The Education Show TV News which will be shown to thousands of delegates at the Education Show event in Birmingham and will also be hosted online. The film will also be used to promote the school.

A week after the filming, on 4th March, I was invited to do some more work experience for ITN. This time in London! This was a great opportunity for me, especially because it is my wish to set foot in the world of media.

My day began at 5.00 a.m. - the early bird catches the worm! After a train and underground journey and a bit of running around through London with a map in my hand, I finally arrived at the ITN Consulting office at 9.30 a.m., where the first thing I learned was how to edit films - yes, I was helping to edit the short film about Shaftesbury School and I was allowed to choose some funky music for it as well! The editing part wasn't only very informative, but also a lot of fun!

At 12.30pm I was taken to the big ITN station. It is an impressive, modern building and you need a special card to get inside or out of the building.

We visited a studio where the news is usually filmed, and we watched the lunchtime news with Alastair Stewart and Katie Derham going out live. Afterwards I was shown around the building and some facilities. At 2.30pm. my work experience came to an end and I left London to return to Shaftesbury.

All in all it was a very interesting, inspiring and exciting day, which I definitely got much benefit from - and it strengthened my decision to work for the media!

Karina Kirkuc 12S





Eden Project

On 5-6 February, 35 Year 9s and 15 Year 12s embarked on a Geography Gifted and Talented residential trip to the Eden project, run by Miss Belfield. Students were able to investigate the adaptations made by the plants to live in different environments, by visiting the 'Rainforest Biome' and the 'Mediterranean Biome'. Quite a contrast to the Arctic conditions that week in Shaftesbury...

Here's what one student said:

'Eden Project was *really* good! Everyone enjoyed it and even the coach trips there and back were fairly great! The Eden Project looked very impressive on the outside and even more impressive on the inside. Out of the Mediterranean and Rainforest biomes, the rainforest was my favourite! The climate in there was very realistic, and the biome came complete with lizards! We stayed in a youth hostel and we settled in quickly. We made our own beds too, and it was fun figuring out which way of a duvet cover was up, checking if they were inside out and so on but after wrestling with sheets and a very short bout of 'dressing-up-as-ghosts-with-sound-effects' we had conquered the art of bed-making. Well, sort of... The evening was jam-packed with fun and crazy laughter, complete with a made up games by Miss Belfield,... but fun all the same! After eating a very filling meal, we retired to bed and the next day we were up bright and early ready to return home (despite a panic about the snow back home!) All in all, it was a great trip and I enjoyed every minute!'

Anne-Louise Richards



AD SPIRAMUS
WE ASPIRE

**Shaftesbury School, Salisbury Road
 Shaftesbury, Dorset, SP7 8ER**

tel: 01747 854 498
fax: 01747 851208

email: office@shaftesburyschool.co.uk
website: www.shaftesburyschool.com