



Keeping  
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With  
News  
And Events

# Around Burntwood



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*SEASON'S GREETINGS*

Issue 61 - December 2010

## BURNTWOOD'S CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Burntwood's annual Christmas Concert delivered a wonderful combination of seasonal music and readings. Highlights included two superb performances by the choir and orchestra; Handel's 'Glory to God', with Year 12 student, Shayanne Campbell Williams as soloist, and Carl Orff's 'O Fortuna'. This year's concert was also attended by a very special guest, Mrs Ladi Dariya. During the late 1980s, students at Burntwood School collected money for the Commonwealth Countries' League to sponsor a girl in Nigeria through secondary education. Mrs



Dariya was that girl and she is now a successful banker with three daughters. Mrs Dariya thanked Burntwood students for their support and explained how different her life might have been without it.

She is now working for the same charity and is hoping to find a thousand schools across the UK to help sponsor more young people in the Commonwealth through school.



## BRIDGING THE GENERATION GAP

Burntwood is working to promote learning and the School's facilities in the community.

In association with the charity, 'Age Concern', a group of senior citizens took the opportunity to get some one-to-one computer tuition from Burntwood's Sixth Formers. The pilot session



was a great success and the classes will continue next term.

*Saima Mujeeb, Year 12, is one of the students sharing her IT skills.*

## CHINESE CHALLENGE

Students from Years 9 and 10 took part in a Mandarin Speaking Competition this month. The competition, organised by the British Council, was held at the London School of Economics and Political Science on Monday the 13th December. Participating in the Group Performance section of the competition,

students performed a traditional Chinese folk tale to judges who marked them on their speaking skills, dramatic interpretation and the cultural content of the piece. Competition results will be announced in the New Year.



## CHARITY WEEK

Burntwood's Sixth Form Charity Committee led by Head Student, Sarah Rhammaz, raised a magnificent £1043 during Charity Week. Fundraising activities included fashion and talent shows, a sumo wrestling competition with teachers, henna tattooing and cakes sales. The money raised will help orphans and needy children worldwide. Charity Week is an annual fundraising initiative during which students from sixth forms and universities across the country rally together to raise as much as they can. The money is distributed by the Islamic Relief Orphan Appeal to children of all faiths.

## MAYOR'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Burntwood's Chamber Choir was invited to perform at the Mayor of Wandsworth's Christmas Concert. Held on the 6th December at Wandsworth Town Hall, the concert featured a variety of festive performances from pupils and students from the Borough's primary and secondary schools. The Chamber Choir performed a traditional Catalan carol, 'El Cant Dels Ocells' and 'This Little Babe' by Benjamin Britten.

YEAR 12 STUDENT, PRISCILLA MENSAH, was invited to attend a youth forum at No 10 Downing Street. There she quizzed Deputy Prime Minister, Nick Clegg, on a number of key questions concerning higher education. As usual, Burntwood students show their determination to get to the heart of the matter.



## BURNTWOOD'S BOXING CLEVER

With the help of the NHS initiative 'Boost', that promotes health and fitness in Wandsworth, Burntwood's Sixth Formers are working hard towards a healthier lifestyle. Students have just completed a six week Boxer-cise course which, due to popular demand, will be starting up again early next year.



## FILM PREMIERE

Burntwood Year 12 students were invited to the South African High Commission to attend the premiere of 'The Opportunity'. The film, a drama focusing on issues affecting young people and set against the backdrop of the 2010 World Cup, was the result of a collaboration between schools in the UK and South Africa. It was screened as part of International Education Week, an initiative that celebrates the work done by schools to prepare children for living in a global society and working in a global economy.

## MULTI FAITH CONFERENCE

Gifted and Talented Year 11 Religious Studies students attended 'Faith Direct', at Wandsworth Town Hall on Monday 22nd November 2010. The inter-faith event used a speed-dating format to allow young people to meet representatives from major world faiths. Representatives from eight religions answered the girls' questions on a range of moral and spiritual issues such as abortion, euthanasia, the afterlife, the role of women in religion and the attitudes of different faiths to one another. Students particularly enjoyed having the opportunity to debate a wide range of moral issues with faith representatives and each other.

## TALENT SHOW SUCCESS

Burntwood Year 11 student, Diane Pearce, was a finalist in this year's Wandsworth Young Performer competition. She achieved a magnificent second place, receiving a studio recording session and a promotions consultation with the youth events company Bigga Fish, as her prize. The event, held at the Borough's Civic Suite, was hosted by former Wandsworth resident and MTV star, Richard Blackwood.

## COPE ACTIVITY DAY

Year 11 Certificate of Personal Effectiveness (CoPE) students embarked on a journey that took them beyond the classroom and completely out of their comfort zones. They travelled across London to Stubbers Outdoor Activity Centre in Essex where lessons proved to be very different. Students were faced with a range of challenges including off-road 4x4 driving and jet skiing in icy waters. They also improved their teamwork and communication skills by supporting each other as they faced their fears, climbing to extraordinary heights on the zip wire course and the trapeze. Students thoroughly enjoyed the day.

