



*Keeping  
Up To Date  
With  
News  
And Events*

# Around Burntwood

[www.burntwoodschool.com](http://www.burntwoodschool.com)

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## **SUPERB SCHOOL PRODUCTION**

### **BURNTWOOD STUDENTS GAVE TWO GRIPPING PERFORMANCES OF 'SHOOTING TRUTH',**

this year's memorable school production. Audiences were thrilled by the atmospheric drama, its outstanding cast and excellent staging. Set in Lancashire, the plot follows a group of teenagers as they make a film about a local alleged witch. The play alternates between present day and the 17<sup>th</sup> century with dramatic conclusions to both storylines, as past and present collide in a thought-provoking tale of witchcraft, prejudice and folly. The play by Mollie Davies is one of ten new plays commissioned by the National Theatre and is Burntwood's entry in the 'National Theatre Connections 2011' project, an annual festival of youth theatre that gives actors aged 13 to 19 the opportunity to perform their production on a professional stage. Burntwood students will perform 'Shooting Truth' at the Rose Theatre Kingston in April.



## **BURNTWOOD CAREERS FAIR**

The Burntwood Careers Fair held this month for students in Years 10 to 13 was a great success. Twenty seven businesses and organisations were represented at the Fair, providing information and expert advice in a wide range of fields including Law, Medicine, Accountancy, Marketing and Retail.

The Fair, organised by Burntwood's Business, Administration and Finance Diploma students, assisted by Mr Talley, Miss Matthews and Mrs Franco, was so well received that it may become an annual event.



## **YEAR 7 HELP KEEP BRITAIN TIDY**

As part of Keep Britain Tidy's Big Tidy Up, Burntwood's Year 7 students were invited by the environmental charity, Waste Watch, to take part in a peer to peer learning project on waste and recycling. Waste Watch worked with the Year 7s on a range of issues associated with litter and the environment. Over four weeks, the Year 7s worked on concerns surrounding waste and how it impacts on young people's lives. The Year 7s then created a range of

activities to help them deliver key messages on waste and recycling to pupils in Year 6. The project culminated in a visit to Beatrix Potter Primary School, where the Year 7s helped Year 6 pupils to carry out a litter pick in their school grounds.



## **MAKE A GREEN PLEDGE**

The Youth Green Pledge Scheme is an initiative to encourage young people to commit to at least one action to help the environment. Burntwood is aiming to get all its students to make a pledge by the end of next month. Wandsworth's Environmental Department will then calculate the total carbon dioxide equivalent saved from these actions and will award prizes to the schools in the Borough that have saved the most.

Students can visit

[www.wandsworth.gov.uk/](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/)

[youthgreenpledge](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/youthgreenpledge) to make a pledge.

## GREAT DEBATE

This month, students from Southfields Community College joined Burntwood students from Years 11, 12 and 13 to debate the motion, "Human remains should not be displayed publically".

Ariel Vaagen, Assistant Cultural Attaché to the US Embassy, and Stephen Wilson, Education Manager at Benjamin Franklin House, attended the debate to offer advice and guidance on the art of public speaking.

After much passionate and eloquent discussion, the final vote found in favour of the Opposition. This is the second in a series of debates that will culminate in a public speaking competition next month to be coordinated by Benjamin Franklin House and hosted by the US Embassy.

## CHOIR WORKSHOP

Burntwood's Chamber Choir and Young Singers enjoyed a workshop with soprano Patricia Sabin, who delivered a session on how to access the top range of the voice. After a varied programme of technical exercises and songs, students had a chance to ask questions on how to get the best from their voices. Now they really will be hitting the high notes!



## AUTHOR VISIT

Author Julia Golding visited Burntwood on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February. She spoke first to the FAB Reading Group, answering a variety of questions on being an author including how to get work published. She then spoke to students in Years 7 and 8 about her new book, 'The Glass Swallow' and how the initial idea for the story came from the 'credit crunch', which made her think about a world where people exist by bartering goods and skills. Julia is a prolific writer of historical fiction and author of the very popular 'Cat Royal' series of books.

## BEST AWARDS

Wandsworth Borough Council and BEST, (Business and Education Succeeding Together) hosted an event at Wandsworth's

Professional Centre to celebrate outstanding achievement in a work experience placement in 2010. Burntwood Year 11 students Kinga Moskal, Warda Heetun, Shanice McKenzie, Alina Irtaza, Kikelomo Thomas-Smith and Candice George were presented with awards for performing exceptionally well during their Year 10 work experience. Congratulations to all the students involved.



## YORKSHIRE TRIP FOR PE STUDENTS

As part of their course, Year 11 GCSE PE students set off for North Yorkshire and braved the cold, rain and mud to be assessed in two practical activities. During the week-long trip, they took part in a range of outdoor challenges, learning skills in climbing, belaying and orienteering. Students worked extremely hard to get the best out of the week and most gained 100% and an A\* in their assessments.

All the students increased their practical grades and skill levels over the course of the week, yet they still could not beat Mrs Wells and Miss Potter at pool!



## 'SPEAK OUT' CHALLENGE

Burntwood's Year 10 students took up the 'Jack Petchey "Speak Out" Challenge!' this month. Students prepared and delivered a five minute speech on a topic about which they are passionate. The standard was incredibly high and after much deliberation, the judges awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place to Hannah Siaw and 2<sup>nd</sup> place to Rosie Hailston-Dawson. They will now go on to compete in the regional final later this year. The "Speak Out" Challenge is a national competition that encourages young people to develop communication skills and build self-confidence through public speaking.

