



KEEPING UP TO DATE WITH NEWS AND EVENTS

# AROUND BURNWOOD

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Issue 24 – February 2007

## MP visits Burntwood School

Tooting MP Sadiq Khan visited Burntwood School in January. He attended a whole school and a sixth form assembly. He addressed both, saying that Parliament does not reflect society today, and that women and ethnic minorities are particularly under represented. He encouraged Burntwood students to take advantage of the many opportunities available to them in school and to get involved in the political process, to express their views and instigate change. The theme of the whole school assembly was Work and Enterprise Related Learning. Students from Years 9, 10 and 11 talked about several recent Enterprise activities at Burntwood. Mr Khan praised the students' confident and informative presentations.



## Student Council at the Foreign Office



Burntwood's Student Council was invited to take part in the European Youth Parliament Outreach Programme. This was launched in December at a special event held at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Geoff Hoon MP Minister for Europe spoke at the event, highlighting the importance of young people influencing the way Europe is being shaped for the future. This new programme aims to increase awareness of the organisation and to encourage student participation in issues that affect young Europeans. Students from 10 London schools took part and debated some of these issues including immigration, the relationship between Europe and Africa, what it means to be European and how stronger links could be made amongst European countries. Burntwood's Student Council found the experience both rewarding and thought provoking and are looking forward to the next EYP event. The Student Council

also visited the Houses of Parliament and enjoyed a guided tour during which they learned more about how Parliament works. In March students from Burntwood's Lower 6<sup>th</sup> Form will attend a conference at which they will have the opportunity to stand as a candidate for the EYP.

## Disability Equality

At Burntwood we take seriously our duty to ensure disabled people are not discriminated against.

We recognise the need to

- promote equality of opportunity
- eliminate unlawful discrimination
- eliminate disability-related harassment
- promote positive attitudes towards disabled people
- encourage disabled people's participation in public life
- take steps to take into account people's disabilities, even where that involves more favourable treatment.

Consequently, we have produced a Disability Equality Scheme and Action Plan. If you would like to comment on these, please contact Kate Raymond at Burntwood School on 020 8946 6201.

## Family Fortunes Fundraiser

On January 18<sup>th</sup> the Burntwood 'Envision' team hosted a version of the television show 'Family Fortunes'. Year 12 students

Araventy Nanthanan and Rachel Del Valle acted skilfully as comperes of the quiz in which The 6<sup>th</sup> Form Family took on The



English Department Family. The entertaining match resulted in a victory for the Sixth Form Family and raised £75 for 'War Child', a charity that provides relief and protection for children in war zones throughout the World. Envision is an organisation that supports 16 - 19 year olds in schools and colleges to develop their own social and environmental projects. Look out for more Envision events throughout the year!

## Year 7 Collects Shoes for Charity

Year 7 students took part in 'The Blue Peter Shoe Biz Appeal'. Raye Douglas-Gillatt, assisted by friends in her tutor group, asked every student in Year 7 to bring in a pair of old shoes for the Appeal. The response was amazing with Burntwood collecting 338 pairs that will be recycled and sold to provide food, books and medicines for orphaned children in Malawi. In fact, Burntwood has collected enough pairs of shoes to buy a bicycle for a Community Care Worker. By taking part in the Appeal, students are not only helping to provide support for Malawi children whose lives are affected by AIDS, but are also helping the environment as these shoes will now not end up in landfill sites in the UK.



## Geographical Information Systems



Year 10 and Year 12 Geography students have recently taken part in activities using Geographical Information Systems or GIS. This computer technology is an important tool for mapping and understanding the environments in which we live. It is used widely in society from organisations involved in conservation and environmental management to supermarkets to track customer loyalty. MI5, national security and local authorities use the technology in planning issues and emergency service planning. Year 12 mapped data from their field work in Abergavenny at a workshop at the Royal Geographical Society and Year 10 students attended a masterclass at Kingston University. It is hoped that GIS software can be introduced at Burntwood in the near future.

## Geography Ambassadors visit Year 9

There is a national Action Plan for Geography to raise the profile of the subject in schools. The government has committed £2million to this project. As part of the Plan, Burntwood Year 9 students have taken part in the Ambassadors Scheme in which visitors from universities and the world of work come and talk to students about the importance and relevance of the subject. The Geography department was pleased to welcome an undergraduate student from Queen Mary University and a member of the British Schools Exploring Society.

## The History of Medicine Show

YEAR 10 GCSE HISTORY STUDENTS study the History of Medicine as part of their course. In February they went to the Players' Theatre to see the 'Doctors' Show'. The first part of the performance was an exam busting workshop where students were asked to grade model answers and were thus able to understand more about the marking process. The second part was a dramatic presentation based on the idea of a time-travelling TV show in which key figures from the history of medicine were interviewed about their achievements. At the end of the performance students voted for the doctor they considered the most influential. They chose Louis Pasteur for his pioneering work on the germ theory.

## GCSE Poetry Conference

Year 11 attended a GCSE Poetry Live! conference at Westminster Central Hall this month.

The event featured six distinguished poets whose work is included in the AQA syllabus. Carol Ann Duffy, Simon Armitage, Imtiaz Dharker, Gillian Clarke, Grace Nichols and John Agard performed their poetry and talked about their sources of inspiration and the ideas that shape their work. GCSE Poetry Live! is an entertaining yet informative way for students to gain a greater understanding of the poetry they are studying. It also provides useful information on exam techniques. During the day, Chief Examiner, Tony Curtis, gave two short talks on the importance of reading and answering exam questions properly and planning what to write before attempting an answer. He illustrated how students could raise their grades by comparing past exam answers. The conference provided an excellent opportunity for revision and clarification prior to the summer exams and students enjoyed hearing the poets perform live.



## LionHeart Challenge for Year 10

Year 10 took part in the LionHeart Challenge in January. This is an all-day workshop that gives students the opportunity to



develop their entrepreneurial skills with a variety of work related activities. Students worked on their own and as part of a team to create a viable business plan for a health product. Year 10 rose to the challenge and produced some excellent plans. The two winning teams will now compete in the regional final later this term.

## Calling All Vexillologists!



Burntwood is very proud of its first vexillology prefect, Paul Soteriou. Paul is the first student to be appointed as Senior Prefect in charge of the Burntwood flag collection, which now includes 80 flags representing different countries and groups. Burntwood also has its own specially commissioned flags and the 81st flag, on order now, will celebrate the 'Double Decade'. Paul is seen here with his favourite flag from New Zealand, which was flown on February 6th to celebrate Watangi Day. If any member of the Burntwood community would like a flag flown for any reason, they can request it in writing from Mrs Brookes, Deputy Principal and Chief Vexillologist.

World Book Day

Thursday 1st March 2007

On World Book Day, every student will receive a £1.00 book token. This can be used as part payment for a book or may be exchanged for one of the 10 titles published exclusively for World Book Day.

To celebrate the day, the Library will be holding a book fair every lunchtime from Wednesday 28th February to Tuesday 6th March. There will also be competitions for students to enter with three prizes of signed copies of books by Cathy Hopkins, author of the Mates, Dates series.



## Hyperactive Children's Support Group

Red Cross Centre  
28 Worple Road, Wimbledon  
SW19 4EE

[www.hacsg.org.uk](http://www.hacsg.org.uk)

020 8544 1100

5 workshops in March/April

£45 donation per session

For information call

020 8544 1100

or email

[workshophacsg@aol.com](mailto:workshophacsg@aol.com)

Reg. Charity No. 277643

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## Budget Information

The Budget Summary for 2005/2006 can now be viewed on the Burntwood website. Visit [www.burntwood.school.com](http://www.burntwood.school.com) and go to the Performance link on the Home Page.

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## Fitness Club Discount

The Rosemary Conley Diet and Fitness Club is holding sessions at Burntwood on Monday evenings during term time. The club is offering a 25% discount to Burntwood parents interested in attending. For details please contact Julie Panthin on 020 7871 5097 or 07886 486577.

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## Success for Former Burntwood Students

Former Burntwood students who now study at Richmond upon Thames College achieved outstanding success in 2006. Concepta Cassar came in the top ten in the country for GCSE Italian. Harriet Swann achieved A grades in English Literature, Politics and Sociology, and Kate Holyfield achieved points equivalent to 3 grade A's at AS/A2 level.

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## Immunisation Notice

Please note that Year 10 Immunisations will now take place on Monday 19th March.

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## Choir News

The Auction of Promises raised a magnificent £2,800 which means that the Chamber Choir are well on the way to raising the amount needed for their return visit to the International Eisteddfod. Some of the credit for this achievement must go to the auctioneer, Mrs Brookes, but parents were generous in their promises, and many lots were hotly contested. There was a huge range of promises on offer, from the domestic (2 hours of ironing) to the exotic (tickets to the Julien Macdonald catwalk show during London Fashion Week). Many thanks to all who took part.

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## Cheer Leading at Burntwood

Cheerleading at Burntwood started in May 2006 as part of the 'Active Girls in Wandsworth' programme. The project, funded by Nick Miller, Wandsworth Partnership Development Manager, is run by Paul Butler from Dance 49. Students from Years 7-10 make up



the squad that will compete in the International Cheerleading Championships to be held in Nottingham in July. The Burntwood Squad prefers not use pom poms in its competition routine, but does use an exciting combination of dance, tumbling, stunting and cheering. Between now and the Championships, as well as perfecting their routine, the girls will be putting on a number of events to raise money to fund the trip to Nottingham.

## Athletics Results

On 17<sup>th</sup> January teams from Years 7 and 8 took part in a Wandsworth Schools' Cross Country event at Barn Elms. The distance for both age groups was 2000m and again Burntwood students produced some excellent results. Year 7 student, Karin Muya, won Burntwood's first individual gold medal with an impressive performance. She will now go through to represent Wandsworth Borough at the London Cross Country competition on March 6<sup>th</sup>. All athletes completed their 2000m and the following students managed to improve their times and now have new Personal Bests (PB) to their credit.

Year 7	PB		PB
Karin Muya	6.39s	Priscilla Wilson	8.12s
Megan Beecroft	8.58s	Zouina Assassi	9.00s
Year 8	PB		PB
Bella Hull	7.12s	Rebecca Christie	7.18s
Kathleen Fisher	7.26s	Julia Dunn	7.46s
Hannah Young McHugh	8.22s	India Roche	8.41s

## Rowing Results

Burntwood students achieved great success in the Wandsworth Schools' Rowing Challenge that took place at end of last term. The Challenge required students to row for two minutes in timed heats. Burntwood students took 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in both the Year 8 Girls and the Year 9 Girls categories. Congratulations to Julia Dunn, Scarlett Mpamugo and Nancy Potts in Year 8 and Rhyarna Little, Tianna Charles and Jamielee Smalldon in Year 9.

## Knitting Club

The Knitting Club, run by Miss Coe and Mrs Cavanagh, meets on Mondays at lunchtime. Afshan Bibi is the Club's first success. Afshan only started knitting a few months ago and has just finished her first jumper. The Knitting Club is part of the enrichment programme for Years 12 and 13, and includes a range of lunchtime and after school clubs. Details of these are available from Mrs Cavanagh in the 6th Form.

