



KEEPING UP TO DATE WITH NEWS AND EVENTS

# AROUND BURNWOOD

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

Issue 22 – November 2006

## Burntwood's Double Decade Reunion

**Burntwood School held a reunion on Saturday 7th October to celebrate reaching its Double Decade.**

Former students of Burntwood, Garratt Green and Mayfield attended as did several members of staff who have worked at Burntwood for the whole of its twenty year existence. On display were old photographs charting Burntwood's history and many memories were recalled as visitors spotted faces that they recognised. Deputy Principal Mr Harper said of the day, 'It was so wonderful to see pupils and staff both past and present sharing their experiences of Burntwood that we shall have another reunion next year to round off our Double Decade celebrations'.

### Linda Weyer

Burntwood School is sad to announce the death of Linda Weyer.

A long serving and much respected teacher, Linda worked first at Garratt Green and then at Burntwood from its outset in 1986. She held many posts, including Head of Careers and Head of Art, but most recently was Head of Ethnic Minorities Achievement and Deputy Head of Learning Support. Linda Weyer had a long and happy association with Burntwood and she will be greatly missed by staff and students alike.

A memorial service celebrating Linda's life will be held on Wednesday 13th December. Anyone who would like to attend should contact Kate Raymond at Burntwood School.

### 'STOP THE CLOCK'

This year, Burntwood's Annual Dance Show explored the theme of time travel, inviting audiences to 'Stop the Clock' and enjoy a variety of dance

styles from times gone by. The vibrant and dynamic show gave students from all years the opportunity to show off their dancing talents in a range of pieces as diverse as Ragtime and Disco. The hard work behind the scenes as well as from the performers ensured that the show was a triumphant success.

### *A Dance Performance*



## Work Experience Awards

Burntwood students attended the 'Business and Education Succeed Together' awards evening at the Wandsworth Professional Centre this month to collect their awards for outstanding achievement in a Year 10 Work Experience placement.

Year 12 student, Rebecca Bull, also received an award for outstanding achievement in a Vocational Work Experience placement.

*Tooting MP Sadiq Khan congratulates Burntwood students, Hidigo Dulane, Samia Hussain-Hamid, Preena Vaghela, Priscilla Yeboah and Rebecca Bull on receiving their 'Best' awards.*

*Clare Davis received an award but was unable to attend the event.*



## Science Status Celebration

To mark the anniversary of Burntwood's Science Specialist Status, teachers were matched against staff from St George's, University of London in the St George Burntwood Challenge. Students thoroughly enjoyed the quiz even though Burntwood lost by one point to St George's for the first time in the event's four year history. The quiz also raised an amazing £140 which has been donated to the campaign to eradicate obstetric fistula. This is Burntwood's chosen charity for its Double Decade Year 2006-7. For more information on the campaign visit [www.endfistula.org](http://www.endfistula.org).

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## Important Notice Safe Travel to School

Please remember **not** to stop near the School's entrances when dropping off or collecting students. This is potentially dangerous for both cyclists and pedestrians. Parents must **not** drive onto the School site to drop off students but should stop at least 200 metres away from the entrances. Cycle training at school is well under way and with the increased numbers of staff and students cycling to school entrances must be kept clear for those on foot or bikes.

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## Careers at London Zoo

Year 11 students got a taste of the wide range of careers on offer at London Zoo last month when they attended a 'Careers with Animals' event. As well as hearing talks from professionals employed in animal care, animal training and college education, students also experienced a Working with Animals workshop and even had time to explore the Zoo.

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## Crime Solving Day for Year 11

**Burntwood Year 11 students** had the opportunity to act as forensic scientists in November when a Crime Scene Investigation Workshop visited the School. These scientific workshops provide an innovative way of team building and problem solving through crime scene scenarios, giving participants an exciting taste of the forensic science techniques used in solving real crime. Burntwood's crime scene scenario had students investigating a grisly murder in the School's grounds. Using finger-printing, fibre analysis and blood-spattering techniques they solved the crime within a day! Students found the experience fascinating and



many are looking into how they can pursue a career in forensic science.

## Burntwood Celebrates Children's Book Week with a Sleepover

National Children's Book Week was celebrated at Burntwood School in October and featured a number of events including lunchtime story readings for students by the School's English teachers and was rounded off with a 'sleepover' in Burntwood's School Library. Sixty Year 7 students accompanied by fifteen 6<sup>th</sup> formers, English teachers and the School's Librarian, enjoyed games, activities and competitions with a literary flavour. Prizes were also awarded to students with the funniest pyjamas and the most unusual slippers.

The sleepover was a huge success with the students who now think of the Library as a fun place to visit during the school day. All the other year groups in the School are now asking if they can have a sleepover too!

## Author Anne Cassidy talks to Burntwood students

Popular teenage fiction writer, Anne Cassidy visited Burntwood School this month to talk about her work. Her novels often deal with the darker side of life, exploring the difficult themes of child abduction, teenage pregnancy and murder. Her most successful book to date is 'Looking for JJ', a fictional novel about the murder of a child by another



child of the same age. It won the Booktrust Teenage Prize and was shortlisted for the Carnegie Children's Book Award. Anne Cassidy talked to students at length about her change of career from teacher to author, about where she looks for inspiration and how she researches her novels. She explained why she likes to incorporate difficult issues into her work and as well as reading extracts from her books, Ms Cassidy answered a host of students' questions. The visit was particularly successful as students relished the chance to discuss some of the difficult issues that affect young people.