



KEEPING UP TO DATE WITH NEWS AND EVENTS

AROUND BURNWOOD

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Burntwood Students perform at the Commonwealth Observance

Burntwood School Steel Band performed at Westminster Abbey on Monday 13 March. The Band was invited to take part in the Commonwealth Observance, a day celebrating the richness and diversity of the Commonwealth countries, with His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall in attendance. The girls played a selection of traditional and contemporary music including 'Yellow Bird' a Jamaican song that Prince Charles had requested personally. After the Observance, Burntwood students were presented to the Prince and the Duchess, exchanging a few words with them on how much they had enjoyed taking part in the Commonwealth Day celebrations. The theme for Commonwealth Day 2006 is 'Health and Vitality: The Commonwealth Challenge' which will see the Commonwealth countries working together to ensure everyone can enjoy good health.



Burntwood's charity donation

Teenage Cancer Trust spokesperson Nigel Revell visited Burntwood this month to receive a cheque for the magnificent sum of £771.53 on behalf of the Charity. In a very emotive Whole School Assembly, he spoke about where the donation would go and who would benefit from the money raised by Burntwood students over the last few months. The Charity focuses on the needs of teenagers and young adults with cancer, leukaemia, Hodgkin's and related diseases by providing specialist teenage units in NHS hospitals. At the students' request, there will be a 'Mufti' Day on the last day of term to raise more money for the Charity.

Mrs Dorfman, Holly James (6th Form Charity Committee) and Nigel Revell

John Bird MBE Visits Burntwood

Burntwood's Year 10 Sociology students enjoyed an enlightening talk from John Bird MBE, founder of The Big Issue, the magazine dedicated towards helping homeless people rebuild self confidence through creative work. He spoke about his life and discussed many of the issues surrounding poverty and homelessness. Students quizzed him at length about his thoughts on how poverty can be tackled and sustainable employment opportunities increased and heard about the reasons that led him to set up The Big Issue. Following his visit, John Bird mentioned Burntwood students in his column, 'A Bird's Eye View' complementing them on their 'energy, enthusiasm and attentiveness' and was 'impressed by many of the sensible questions' asked about homelessness.





The Last Resort

Burntwood's most recent drama production brought warmth and sunshine to a bitterly cold February. Students gave two sold-out performances of 'The Last Resort', an exciting new play by Chris Owen that depicts 24 hours in the life of a fictional resort, "Ferryton-on-Sea". The comedy is an affectionate picture of life in a contemporary British seaside town, but there is a dark undercurrent to the play, reflected in the character of a young pregnant girl. The high quality of the production was due to the outstanding performances and the hard work of both students and staff behind the scenes.



Year 13 Product Design and Textiles Visit

Year 13 students studying Product Design and Textiles enjoyed a very informative industry visit to dancewear manufacturers 'Chrisanne Ltd', to study their design and production methods. The company specialises in 'couture' dancewear, particularly for Japan and the USA. They also create costumes for theatre and television shows including 'Strictly Come Dancing' and 'Dancing on Ice'. Students found the visit invaluable as the information gathered supports their work on the global nature of the Textiles Industry. Furthermore, former Burntwood student Sheena Isokariari (1992-1997), works for the company and was able to act as a guide throughout the visit, adding an inspirational element to the trip.



UK Maths Challenge Regional Final

Year 9 students Yalini Naguleashwaran and Jenetha Rajendram and Saoirse Brennan and Saraniga Gugathas from Year 8 took part in the Regional Final of the UK Maths Challenge in March. The Challenge took place at Trinity School, Croydon with over 30 schools from South London participating. Working in pairs and as a team, students had to do all their calculations without a calculator under timed conditions, and were even involved in a maths relay race! The girls found the tasks enjoyable and represented Burntwood very well.

Try this Challenge question: My teacher's age is a prime number. Two years ago it was also prime. Six years ago it was an odd square number. How old is my teacher?

National Science Week at Burntwood

As a Specialist Science School, Burntwood celebrated National Science Week in spectacular fashion with a host of special events and activities. Students took part in science competitions, rocket launches, and participated in National Science Week's 'Click for the climate', pledging to make small changes in their daily lives to help cut carbon emissions.



The week's highlights included visits from St George's University of London medical students with their Experiments Roadshows in Prosthetics and Nursing and an amazing Chemistry demonstration from Burntwood's Head of Science, Mr Tedd, and Science teacher Miss Tucker, who showed students with a variety of mind boggling experiments, including setting 'fire' to Mr Harper's £20 note, just how exciting Science can be.

Making fingers in the Prosthetics Roadshow



Practising clinical skills in the Nursing Roadshow



Year 7 student Anisha Seeboruth launches a rocket



Burntwood students are first to visit Tube Lines

Year 11 Applied Science students were privileged to be the first students ever to visit Tube Lines high-tech control centre at Canary Wharf and a state-of-the-art Skills Training Centre at its depot in Stratford. The group were shown around Tube Lines' world class Fault Report Centre through which London Underground reports faults on the network. They also visited



the new Skills Training Centre

where school leavers are trained to become leading signal and track engineers on the Underground. Tube Lines is keen to encourage young people to consider careers in engineering and hopes that by inviting them to view the world of engineering on the Tube network, they will become aware of the range of exciting opportunities available within the engineering industry. Mrs Colgan, Burntwood's Lead Practitioner in Applied Science said of the visit, 'This was a great experience, allowing the girls to see the complexities involved in keeping London moving and the wide range of careers in which they can use their Science knowledge.'



Year 10 Maths Challenge - Results

In February, the two top Mathematics sets in Year 10 took part in the UK Mathematics Trust Challenge, 25 multiple choice questions testing reasoning and mental agility. All the students who entered achieved pleasing results, in particular Mercy Dennis-Smith who gained the best result in the School and a Gold Level Certificate. The following students achieved Silver Level Certificates; Surayya Cheema, Chiara Barrett, Lydia Brooker, Philippa Jones, Jade Anatole, Emma Atakpa, Samaah Haque, Sakaina Lakha and Zaynab Suleman. Thirteen students achieved a Bronze Level Certificate. Congratulations to all those who took part.

Prize Winning Poetry

Year 8 student Amnah Rehman has had a poem published in the anthology 'My Favourite Person', a collection of poetry written by young people. Amnah's poem was chosen from 100s of entries in a competition organised by the Young Writers scheme which encourages 7 - 18 year-olds across the UK to take part in poetry and creative writing challenges. Details of other Young Writers projects can be found on the website www.youngwriters.co.uk

WW1 Experience at Army Museum

In February Year 9 visited the National Army Museum in Chelsea. They enjoyed an interactive talk from museum staff, with some students given the opportunity to dress in the uniform of a WW1 soldier. Students also looked at the First World War displays which include a reconstruction of a trench, with authentic sounds and smells. Follow up work from Year 9 has shown what an exciting and valuable learning experience the visit was.

Burntwood's Double Decade

In September 2006 Burntwood School will celebrate its Double Decade. There are a number of celebratory events planned and students from Years 7, 8 and 9 are writing a book which charts the history of both the School and the Burntwood Lane site. Students would love to hear from anyone who has a past connection with the School, be it as a pupil, a member of staff or a parent. If you have any memories of Burntwood in 1986 or Garratt Green School that you could share with the students, please contact Sarah Brack on 020 8378 4041 or email press@burntwood.wandsworth.sch.uk

East End Field Trip

Year 10 Geography students took part in a new field trip to the Spitalfields and Brick Lane in East London to investigate the changing character and provision of services in this inner city area. Spitalfields Market is undergoing a major regeneration programme which caters for those working in the City. The area also has a thriving Bangladeshi community. Students carried out a land use survey of Brick Lane, interviewing stall-holders about how the changes are affecting the area and were complemented on their positive interest and polite manner. The trip proved extremely worthwhile in spite of the poor weather.



Exchange of History Work for Year 9

Year 9 History students had some special visitors in their class this month. Year 3 pupils from Beatrix Potter Primary School were invited to join the lesson to look at the Year 9 students' projects on the role of non-white soldiers in the First World War. The projects had been written with the aim of being accessible to younger readers. The Year 3 pupils then showed the Burntwood girls their projects on Henry VIII which were very informative and well presented. An enjoyable time was had by all, and another visit from the Beatrix Potter pupils is planned for later this year.



6th Form Football Enterprising 6th Formers raised funds to enable the production of their Year Book by organising a pay-to-view football match against the teachers. Both sides entertained spectators with some imaginative play, the final score being 1-1.

Oxford University Visit



In early March a group of high achieving Burntwood Year 12 students spent the day at Worcester College, Oxford finding out about university life. They talked to tutors from various disciplines and also went on a tour with second year students around several of the Colleges. Overall it was a very educational experience.