



Ahoy Shipmates!

Yes, it was the annual pirate themed Innovation day last Friday at Burnt Mill! Students were given the opportunity to develop their collaborative learning and independent learning skills through a variety of engaging and stimulating activities. As can be seen below, many students came dressed for the occasion!



Lift Off For Year 8

In Year 8's innovation day, the students were divided into their 10 Technology groups. Nine groups focused on designing and building rockets whilst one group made cakes based around a space and rocket theme. Students received input into how rockets fly and basic rocket design, they then designed them and finally tested them between the Technology and Art departments. The picture below shows some of the action on the launch pad!



We had fifty 1 litre bottles donated by Tesco to help with the rocket project and Mr Laing is proud to report that it was the department's most successful innovation day ever. This was echoed by feedback from the students involved. Prizes were also given for the fastest and the most innovative design.

In line with the Technology 'Space/ Rocket' theme Miss Walsh's 8x1 Food Technology class had to design, prepare, bake, decorate and serve a party cake based on a 'Space Eggsploration' theme. They worked in pairs throughout the day, making and decorating the cake and designing and compiling presentation boards to accompany the cake. Look at the wonderful example below!



The overall Food Technology winners on the day were Emily Ward 8 Cockcroft and Courtney O'Connor 8 Eliot. Prizes also went to Rachel Hedger 8 Eliot, Sky Sapsford 8 Eliot and Darren Chesterton 8 Sheppard for their fabulous creations!

Heading for Exam Success

Innovation day for Year 11 pupils was focused on examination skills and preparing for their GCSEs. Some pupils headed off to Cambridge for the Poetry Live Conference and had an interesting and informative day spent listening to the poets they have studied in class as well as the AQA examiner. Whilst the rest of year 11 worked hard on improving their exam technique and skills by being involved in a carousel of activities led by the English Department.

Mock Exam Results

Last Friday year 11 students received their Mock Exam Results in a special ceremony led by new Acting Assistant Head Mr. Carter. It was a time for students to reflect on their performance and to sign up for extra support classes in the run up to the summer. The mock exams are an extremely important period in the Year 11 calendar which allows students to judge themselves against the demands of controlled exam conditions and examinations which follow closely on from each other. We look forward to the results being a spring board for great success in the summer!



Oliver with his Mock exam result statement

Paper Clips

PAPER CLIPS is the moving and inspiring documentary film that captures how students from a small American town responded to lessons about the Holocaust-with a promise to honour every lost soul by collecting one paper clip for each individual



exterminated by the Nazis. Despite the fact that they had previously been unaware of and unfamiliar with the Holocaust, their dedication was absolute. Their plan was simple but profound. The amazing result, a memorial railcar filled with 11 million paper clips (representing 6 million

Jews and 5 million gypsies, homosexuals and other victims of the Holocaust) which stands permanently in their schoolyard, is an unforgettable lesson of how a committed group of children and educators can change the world one classroom at a time.

Last week over eighty students from our Year 9 took part in a special screening of this film, linking to International Holocaust Memorial Day. Thank you to Mrs Barrett for organising the event to mark this important day in the calendar.

Sports Desk

Year 7 basketball vs. Stewards: Mr. Ellard's team made it two victories from two with an impressive win over Stewards. Despite some questionable shooting at times the victory was well earned.

Year 9 basketball vs. Stewards: The experienced year 9 boys whitewashed Stewards in a totally one sided affair which ended in a 52-6 victory for the home side. Impressive displays from George Harrington and Rhys Shiels with the ball allowed everyone to get on the score sheet. George Harrington and Matt Young finished top scorers again.

Attendance Matters

Here are the top attendance figures as they stand since September and the latest figures from January. They reveal more success for some familiar tutor groups who regularly feature at the top of the pile. Come on everyone else – don't let them dominate!

02.09.09 – 29.01.10

7EL2	96.2%
8EL	95.4%

18.01.10 – 22.01.10

7EL2	97.1%
8SH1	98.2%
9HU	98.3%

Rugby Winner

Mrs Angela Hoy is pictured below. Mrs Hoy has won tickets to see England play Wales at Twickenham this coming Saturday in the Six Nations Championship and is seen receiving her prize from Assistant Head Mrs Laing. The winning ticket was sold by Kylan Adams. We hope Mrs Hoy has an enjoyable afternoon and thank her for her continued support of the school.

