

THE STONEHENGE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue 6 2013/2014

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The **co-operative** membership **b**

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ATTENDANCE LINE 676650 (24 hours)



4th April 2014

Or alternatively e-mail

admin@stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk

HEADTEACHER'S NEWS

Year 11 Easter revision sessions

Year 11 are about to enter their final term at school. With a very late Easter the first half of summer term provides only a short run in before GCSE exams begin. Mrs Fletcher and Mr Briggs, with the support of subject leaders, have organised a programme of revision sessions in school over the holiday period and all students received details of these on Thursday. For the vast majority of students normal timetabled lessons continue throughout the remainder of April and during May. The small number of students to whom this does not apply have been given individual guidance. Given that many GCSE exams fall in June after the Whitsun half term holiday it is important to use all the available time for revision, putting social activities and part time jobs to one side for the time being.

Amesbury Community Campus

A lot of parents and students have responded to the Wiltshire Council consultation exercise on proposals for a community campus in Amesbury. Education is not specifically included in the consultation but it will be if enough local community members request this. Many students and parents have suggested the exercise provides an opportunity to raise the urgent need for a rebuild and relocation of The Stonehenge School. As this is an issue I have been pursuing for several years, it won't surprise you when I say that I would be very grateful for your support in this respect, if like me, you feel strongly this is an urgent priority.

Hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable Easter break.



The Importance of Being Earnest 27

<u>The Stonehenge Ski Club</u>

Schladming 2014

Love was in the air on February 14th, and so was ski fever. After loading the bags onto the coach and working hard in lesson one, we set off at around 11am - a smooth but blustery drive took us to Dover. We were lucky to get on an early ferry and thanks to the engineering marvel of stabilisers on the boat we didn't even feel the force 6 gale outside!

We were so lucky. Other schools that had set off later than us had delays on the M25 only then to find that evening ferry crossings had been cancelled due to the storm; their journeys varied from 35 to 40 hours, whilst we were able to have extended breaks and still arrive within 24 hours.

After this smooth journey we arrived in Schladming, no sooner had we arrived than a service bus picked us up to collect boots, skis, poles and helmets in Radstadt – the service and speed of the staff in the ski shop was excellent – Mrs Busby and Mr Monk claimed it was the quickest ski fit in Stonehenge Ski Club history.

Day 1 of skiing saw grey skies but happy faces, the beginners groups began with the basics and soon mastered stopping and were ready to start gliding - helped by their experience on the dry slopes before the trip and their excellent efforts to get 'ski fit'. Day 2 saw some very challenging conditions, with visibility very poor some schools called off lessons but Stonehenge persevered and were better for it as day 3 was glorious and pupils were able to make the most of it. The final 3 days saw all groups taking on more challenging slopes, with the skiers group enjoying the view from the top of the mountain and skiing past 'the yellow cow' on several occasions. Everyone's skiing made good progress, once again due to the tenacity of the students to 'stick at it' however challenging the slopes were. All groups also made preparation for the slalom races which took place on Thursday.

Whilst the skiing got better, the après-ski highlights included bowling, swimming at a pool with a 'loop-the-loop' flume and tobogganing down a lumpy and bumpy 6km course at speed! We also en-

joyed a spectacular ski show, the teachers got royally beaten at bowling by the students and an evening of dancing rounded the week off in style.

The week was a huge success with no hospital visits or serious injuries (some amazing bruises though!) The students entered into every activity with a positive and upbeat attitude, this was noticed by all staff, instructors and the Austrian hoteliers who were the friendliest the ski club have met in a long time. Huge thanks to the pupils for this - they 'made' the trip.





As always none of this would have been possible without the tireless efforts of all the staff involved; many thanks to them.

And next Year ...

Saalbach 2015

Next Year's ski trip to Austria is already underway. Year 9 and 10 students, if you have a good behaviour record, if you are fit or are prepared to work on your fitness, if you are up for a none stop adventure, in other words - if you are interested about skiing next Year, pop in and see Mr Busby! Currently there are only a couple of places left for complete novices - so go on - try something new!!



YEAR 7 NEWS

Good times

We have been really impressed with the academic achievement in Year 7 so far. 87% of Year 7 students are on or above target and our attendance figure is 97%, which is above the national average. The impact of attendance on academic progress is very significant so I thank you for all of your efforts on this front. Of course, our aim is for 100% of students to meet their target by the end of the school Year and I am confident that we will improve towards this target.

On Monday 31st March we held our termly awards assembly. The awards recognise academic and sporting achievement primarily. In addition, there are several awards for important social skills like organisation, punctuality and kindness. We would like to congratulate all those who received a certificate.



The Subject Award Winners were selected by the teaching staff and were:-

Homework Packs

I trust that all of our Year 7 parents have received the homework pack (if not please contact us and we can supply another).

We regularly monitor the amount of homework that students have in their planners. For a variety of reasons it become apparent that some groups were receiving inconsistent levels of homework. My feeling is that students should be completing an average of 45 minutes each school night and so the idea of the homework booklet was to offer some open ended tasks that could be completed by students of all abilities. This booklet should be seen as a supplement to homework that the subject teachers set. For each task that is completed, to a satisfactory standard, the student will receive a commendation which will count towards the Year 7 rewards trip. There will be no punitive school action for those who don't complete the work.

Mr Edmunds Progress Leader Year 7 edmundsm@stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk

YEAR 8 NEWS

A very successful term for Year 8. We have worked really on hard on attendance this term and the whole Year group have upped their game showing an increase in all 5 tutor groups and a number of tutor groups achieving 100% attendance over several weeks. Next term the focus will be on 'Homework' which has been an issue that all the teaching sets are struggling to address.

Winners of prizes

Top PARS points winner - Emily Hunter

Attendance winner - Feb Half Term - Charlie Risdale and Chloe Hayes

100% attendance since September – Easter Egg – Cian Quayle

Tutor Group winners

8AEL - Victoria Cornwell and Skye Hills

8EVJ - Cian Quayle and Caitlin Lopich

8JMG - Jacob Berry and Luke Taylor

8NMC - Tom Jones and Cydney Wilson harris

8SRO - Lucy Griffin and Olivia Davis

Welcome to



Parents Evening April 24th - please use Insight or contact the school office to make appointments for

ENGISTBURY

Parents Evening April 24th - please use Insight or contact the school office to make appointments for you. Try to see as many staff as possible, not just the core.

Miss G Harris Progress Leader Year 8 harrisg@stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk



YEAR 9 NEWS

Year 9 End of Term Rewards

Top 10 PARS

Rachel Moody, Liam Pardoe, Celina Miller, Joshua Sommerton, Amy Mowle, Rosie Parrett, Courtney Martin McKellar, Thomas Mearns, Bethan Ellis, Tom Evison.





<u>Year 9 Tutor Awards</u>

	Use of Planner	Participation in PSHE	Most Organised	Correct Uniform
DJA	Ellie Sommerton	Courtney Martin McKellar	Rachel Moody	Miri Lagilagi
РМЈ	Callum Presswell	Isobel Pike	Abigail Wyles	Oliver Cranham
JAR	Fraser Adams	Tom Brown	Olivia Worrall	Tom Evison
NJH	Laura Evans	/	Grace Meadow	Aaron Stewart

Year 9 pupils have had a lot to think about this term with choosing their GCSE options. All options forms are currently being reviewed and pupils will receive confirmation of their options in May.

Year 9 have received a high number of commendations and as a result I have been able to send lots of praise letters/ postcards home and issue rewards and certificates in assembly.

My one concern is with pupils failing to hand in homework on time. It is important that pupils write down their homework accurately in their planners and organise their time. In year 10 pupils will be required to complete coursework so it is good to get in the routine *now* of meeting deadlines.

If you have any concerns or comments about this term please feel free to contact me,

Thank you for your continued support,

Miss Reeves

Progress Leader Year 9

reevesn@stonehenge.wilts,sch.uk

YEAR 10 NEWS

Celebrating Success

As the 4th term draws to a close, Year 10 are continuing to impress with their efforts to achieve. The latest tracking data suggests that Year 10 are still on track to do well in the 2015 examinations and I wanted to use the opportunity of this Newsletter to highlight a few names.

PARS

An extra special mention has got to go to CHLOE WATERS who has consistently been at the top of the PARS leader board this Year and although she lost out once again in the Kindle draw her efforts have definitely impressed the teachers.

Top 10 PARS Scorers so far this Year: Chloe Waters, Holly Sherburne, Ellie Maple, Nicole Bills, Elizabeth Capp, Emily Gillett, Daniel Collins, Corina Begley, Pooja Hari and Steven Hawkins.

Attitude to Learning

Annabel Fewing currently holds the topspot in the termly attitude to learning table. She is closely followed by Holly Sherburne ,Corrina Begley, Emily Gillett, Euan Mauchline ,Rosemary Richards, Chloe Waters, Hannah Bulpitt, Kyra Hanson, Pooja Hari, Steven Hawkins, Jodie Hill,Oliver Ivemy and Katie Miller.

Special Mention to

Alice Zowah (up 54 spaces) Jake Burroughs (up 43 spaces) and Kieran Edgington (up 38 spaces)

Exceeding Expectations

As mentioned earlier most of the students are really pushing themselves to exceed their target grades. Student's whose tracking shows them to be doing particularly well are: Sam Hills, Adrianna Ruminska, Amy May, Tony Phiri, Nico Ardani and Gemma Hammond. Keep it up!

<u>Attendance</u>

Still on 100% attendance are: Thomas Badger, Hannah Bridewell, Daniel Collins, Gemma Hammond, Steven Hawkins, Jodie Hill, Euan Mauchline, Ellie Standidge and Chloe Waters and Nicole Young.

Do you have what it takes to be a Prefect?

If you've seen your name mentioned then possibly the answer is yes. Our prefect teams always do a fantastic job and the role comes with a certain amount of responsibility. Certainly the Year 11 team will leave some big shoes to fill. After Easter we will begin the process of prefect selection so maybe take the Easter break to consider whether you are up for the challenge.

Have a Lovely Easter Break Everyone!

Mrs F Staker Year 10 Progress Leader stakerf@stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk



YEAR 11 NEWS

The end of term is in sight and this represents the beginning of what will be a particularly busy and stressful time for Year 11. You will all have had a letter setting out the key dates for your remaining time at the Stonehenge School but just for clarity I will recap them.

Easter revision classes run between 9.00am and 2.00pm most days over the Easter holidays and your class teachers should have informed you which classes you need to attend. If you are in any doubt ask you class teachers.

The official leaver's photographs are on Wednesday 23rd April 2014. You must be in full school uniform. If you are not then you will not be allowed in the photograph.

On Friday 25th April 2014 we have a special extended assembly where you will receive your exam timetable. It goes without saying that it is imperative that you are in assembly and on time. Late comers will not be allowed entry once the assembly has started.

Finally, Thursday 8th May 2014 is leaver's day and the details for this are in the letter. This is a wonderful day but please ensure that your costumes are appropriate for school.

A copy of the letter which describes all of these events in more detail is on the website should you need any further details.

The exam season will soon be upon us and if you haven't already started revising then it is imperative that you do so. Research proves that the more revision that you do the better your exam results will be.

Year 11 are facing their biggest test to date. I believe that they will rise to the challenge and secure an excellent set of results. This will not happen by chance, it will happen by sheer hard work and determination. Enjoy your last few weeks of school but continue to work hard.

I am already looking forward to celebrating the excellent achievement in the exams on results day which is on the 21st August 2014.

If you have any queries please feel free to contact me.

Mr J Briggs Year 11 Progress Leader briggsj@stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk

WILTSHIRE PATHWAYS

On Thursday 13th, students attended a Wiltshire Pathways meeting in Trowbridge. The meeting was around emotional health and wellbeing and along with two other young people I presented the three key priorities for young people in Wiltshire they are; More activities and clubs for young people to attend, schools and teachers with more knowledge and better overall education. The afternoon was interesting and informative.



Sam Gallacher 9JAR

UKMT MATHS CHALLENGE

The UKMT Maths Challenge is a national competition run by the University of Leeds Maths Department, and open to students in Year 9 and Year 10. It is an hour long multiple choice paper, which students must complete without a calculator.

This was sat by top set Year 9 and Year 10 in February. We are very pleased to congratulate the following pupils on their excellent results. A special mention must go to Tom Mearns in Year 9 for his outstanding performance and we wish him every success with the next stage.

Here's a couple of questions from this Year's paper.

What is 25% of 3/4?				
A 3/16	B 1/4	C 1/3	D 1	E 3

How many weeks are there in $8 \times 7 \times 6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1$ minutes?

A1 B2 C3 D4 E5"

A number of Year 9 and Year 10 pupils sat the UKMT Intermediate Challenge in February.

YEAR 9

Tom Mearns achieved Best in School/Best in Year/Silver/ and entry to the next stage

Aaron Stewart - Silver

Liam Pardoe, Oliver Cranham, Jordan Padley, Olivia Worrall, Theo Card - Bronze

YEAR 10

Daniel Collins Best in Year/Silver

Aaron Markham - Silver

Oliver Ivemy, Steven Hawkins, Asa Wilman, Hannah Bridewell, Katie Miller, Annabel Fewing and Megan Townsend - Bronze

Well done to all the students on their excellent results.

PLEASE NOTE:

The Intermediate Challenge is aimed at pupils in Year 11 or below in England and Wales, Year 12 or below in Northern Ireland and S4 or below in Scotland. The challenge involves answering 25 multiple choice questions in one hour and is sat in school under normal exam conditions.

Questions from the Intermediate Challenge can be used as enrichment material in the classroom across the ability range.

High performers

The top 40% of students nationally receive a gold, silver or bronze certificate in the ratio 1:2:3 and each institution receives a Best in School certificate. Around 500 of the highest scorers in each school Year are invited to take part in the Intermediate Mathematical Olympiad papers: Cayley, Hamilton and Maclaurin for Year 9, 10 and 11 and equivalent. A further 5,500 pupils from across all three Year groups are invited to sit either the grey or pink European Kangaroo papers. These are one-hour papers with 25 multiple choice questions, taken by pupils from over 30 countries worldwide.

Mr Cornelius

Head of Mathematics

YEAR 9 PUBLIC SPEAKING

On the 5th of March, Louis McGrail, Liam Pardoe and Tom Brown took part in the Youth Speaks Competition organised by the Rotary Club. The competition took place at Test Valley School in Stockbridge and a number of other local schools attended to take part. The topic we chose to discuss was the Surveillance State and the increasing amount of CCTV cameras and other observation equipment. Other teams chose topics such as "Monopoly" and "The Commercialisation of British Traditions". The winning team from Romsey School won with the topic of "What's in a Name?"

The competition was fierce and despite prasticing for over 6 months they couldn't help but feel a

little nervous. Louis began the presentation by outlining the topic followed by Liam who went into further detail and finally Tom who concluded the speech. Then began the nerve racking wait for the judges to make their decision which was accompanied by some very nice cake. Our overall place was second with which we were satisfied.

By from left to right Tom Brown (Proposer to the Vote of Thanks), Liam Pardoe (Main Speaker) and Louis McGrail (Chairperson),



Ever thought of playing an instrument or having a go at Singing?

From Easter 2014, the music department has vacancies for the following lessons -Piano, Clarinet, Saxophone, Brass, Guitar, Drums, Strings and Singing.

What are the Benefits? There is a strong link between studying music and academic success.

Spending time practising an instrument improves focus and attention span. Helps to make brain connections and has been proved to develop maths and language skills. Improves coordination and Motor Skills.

How much? The fees are paid termly or you can pay Monthly by direct debit. Strings, Brass - £15.75 for $\frac{1}{2}$ hr individual or £8.00 for $\frac{1}{2}$ shared/ 15mins individual.

Drums, Piano, Guitar, Singing, Clarinet/Saxophone - £10 for $\frac{1}{2}$ hr individual or £6 for $\frac{1}{2}$ hr shared / individual.

Please see Mr Rogers in Music Department for more information or to collect a form.

Musical activities / clubs.

Monday 3-4pm	Concert band
Wednesday lunchtime	Theory forum
Friday 3-4pm	Rock Band
	Singing group

E-Cigarettes

We have regrettably had a couple of incidents bring e-cigarettes and flavoured Shisha pens into school. These are absolutely forbidden under all circumstances. Any student found to be in possession of one will have it confiscated and will be sanctioned. We appreciate your support in this.

HEALTHY EATING

Year 8 have been looking into healthy eating all term. This week they researched into healthy Asian stir fries. They were keen to know more about octopus and squid as a food in particular so Mrs Iselin cooked them up a treat and here they all are eating the demonstrated dish. Next week they are all designing and making their own ideas and sharing them in a whole class meal.

Mrs Iselin



Do you want to help this school continue to improve for the benefit of all its

<u>pupils?</u>

BECOME INVOLVED as a member of our GOVERNING BODY

We currently have parent governor vacancies.

Our governors work together to:

- work strategically to help raise standards
- ✓ monitor and evaluate progress toward the school priorities and targets
- $\sqrt{}$ support the head and staff as well as challenging the expectation
- accounting to all stakeholders for the school's overall performance and for the decisions they have made

Our governing body is responsible for planning the school's future direction and makes decisions on the school's budget and staffing. It meets at least once a term. Small groups of governors meet more often to discuss particular aspects of the school.

We are committed to supporting new governors who join us.

As a new governor you will:

- ✓ be supported by an experienced fellow governor
- ✓ receive induction training at no cost to yourself
- have your contribution valued

Please contact the clerk to our governing body for more information:

Mrs Elizabeth England, lizengland@hotmail.co.uk telephone 01722 503901



Year 8 Monsters!

Year 8 have been especially monstrous in Textiles! For their extended homework project Year 8 students are asked to design and make their own monster. These can be made using recycled fabrics with features added using buttons or stitching. Year 8 certainly rose to the challenge before Easter with these crazy characters! Well done to Jack Rayfield for his familiar looking character and Jacob Berry for this brainy creature. Mrs Hillier would like to thank parents for their help and support in this fun homework task that encourages creativity, independent learning and improved motor skills.

2723

Mrs Hillier

Start collecting now!



Students with most commendations this term ...

Staff have issued thousands of commendations this term. The top 70 students in each Year group have been rewarded with a prize ranging from a quality pen to a free lunch to a hot drink mug. The top student for all Year groups has a chance of winning a Kindle too. Emily Hunter in Year 8 won this term's big prize.

At Stonehenge we like to praise our students for their success and hope it enriches their enjoyment of school.

The following students have received most praise points in their respective Year groups this term.

Yr 7 - Ellen Stokes Yr 8 - Emily Hunter Yr 9 = Liam Pardoe Yr 10 - Chloe Waters (second term at top) Yr 11 - Robben Sherburne

Mr Langley Senior Teacher Head of Enterprise

Make your mark with a Tenner ...

For all of the month of March thirty students have been running their own business' to try and make a profit. Students have organised activities including car washing, jewellery making, finding the correct key to the money box, snack stalls, an inter Year football match, odd job services and face painting. Some business' were failures, but others generated profits of nearly £200.

Participants have learnt a lot about running a business and have in some cases been inspired by the opportunity.

As March goes by all the young entrepreneurs are paying back the £10 they borrowed to get their business started.

Mr Langley Senior Teacher Head of Enterprise



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As part of the preparation for this summer's GCSE exams, Year 11 students at The Stonehenge School took part in a motivational day delivered by the Fixup team on Wednesday 26th March.

The day included a two hour training session, sat at exam desks to provide practical skills in terms of setting realistic goals, revision and exam techniques, and strategies to manage exam stress.

Acknowledging that they are faced with various

pressures both personal and academic, the Fixup Team have designed The 'GCSE Champion' program to motivate and inspire students to rise above their challenges and come out on-top in their exams. They provided the students with motivation, self-belief, and built their confidence in terms of tackling the challenges they face.



Students showed their thanks to Bola and Rianna from the Fixup Team via the social media network Twitter saying how well it had been presented, and that they were motivated to do well and get revising even more

Mrs Dean Assistant Headteacher/Head of English





Attendance Reminder – Please notify the school immediately if your child is absent from school via the absence line on 01980 676650 or email <u>admin@stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk</u>

Medical appointments should be made out of school hours where possible. In the case that an urgent appointment has to be attended, the appointment letter/card needs to be handed into the school office to enable the absence to be authorised.

Miss Wrighton

Attendance Officer

Bits and Pieces ... Raise funds for your school!

Mobile phone collection – if you have any old mobile phones that you no longer require could you please bring them into school reception. We are raising funds through 'forgotten mobile.com'

Uniform Labels - Visit <u>www.SimplyStuck.com</u> For all your labelling needs and the school receives a donation for each order.



If you would like any further information on any of the above, please contact Claire Busby on 01980 676655 <u>busbyc@stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk</u>

February Draw

1st & 2nd Mrs Ardani £27.00 3rd - Mrs Pritchard £3.00

If you would like to join please visit our website http://www.stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk/news/100-club





BOYS FOOTBALL FIXTURES AND RESULTS 2013/2014



	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10
AVON VALLEY COLLEGE	07/03/14 (Home) Drew 1-1	27/01/14 (Away) Won 2-3	03/03/14 Lost 0-1	11/03/14 (Away) Won 1-3
John Hanson School	26/11/13 (Home) Lost 0-5	25/02/14 (Home) Lost 2-4	31/03/14 (Away) Lost 2-1	05/02/14 (Away) Won 2-4
WELLINGTON ACADEMY	13/02/14 (Home) Lost 0-4	16/01/14 (Away) Won 4-2	Not played	15/01/14 (Away) Won 3-4
PEWSEY VALE	19/03/14 (Home) Lost 2-3	27/03/14 (Away) Won 1-7	(Home) Won 6-3	02/04/14 (Home) Won 3-2

TBC = To be confirmed.

Year 9 2-6 Sheldon Away (County Cup) = Thursday 13th March

<u>Year 11</u>

Salisbury Cup - Sarum Academy 2-1 Stonehenge (Home) 06/03/14

LEAGUE RULES

- Years 7-10: Teams who finish first or second in their group progress into the knockout stages.
- **Year 11**: Enter knock out tournaments only. So if they win, the team progress if they lose the team is out.

Semi Finals

<u>Year 8</u>

Bishops	VS	Stonehenge	(Away	/) 29/04/14
Stonehenge	VS	St Josephs	(Away)	ТВА
	Bishops Stonehenge	•		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,

FREE Books for Stonehenge School

After 15 Years of the **Box Tops for Books Scheme**, Nestlé have announced that 2013-14 will be the last Year of the scheme. So, let's make our last collection a bumper one!

Collect the tokens from the tops of the Nestlé cereal packets, bring them in to the LRC and hopefully, we can get lots of **free** books. So please get collecting now. Ask whoever does the shopping in your house to buy Nestlé cereals with the tokens on the top and keep collecting. Don't forget to tell all your relatives to collect for you too.

http://www.boxtops4education.co.uk/basics/default.aspx

Accelerated Reader Student App Now Available for the iPh-

one, iPad or iPod Touch

Download it for free from the App Store[™] or iTunes[®].

Take Reading Practice Quizzes on your device (RP ID: SS 81 IK)













BAKER STREET WI

Book News

World Book Day 2014

To help celebrate World Book Day, all students were given a $\pounds 1$ book token to 'buy' a specially-created WBD book for free, or to put towards the

purchase of a book of their choice.

Meanwhile, the staff were encouraged to decorate their classroom doors with a book-related theme, in an attempt to win chocolate! A special guest judge was invited in and scored each door on three aspects: how clear the book choice was to students, how creative the door was, and how much effort had been put in. First place went to Miss Bowie's 'Doors of Durin' from *Lord of the Rings*, Second place to Mrs Gane's transformation of the library doors into *The Secret Garden*, and third place to Miss Roberts' *Peter Pan and Wendy*-inspired door. Can you spot them?

Shakespeare Week

On Wednesday 23rd April, we will be celebrating William Shakespeare's 450th Birthday with a party in the library – pick up an invitation from Mrs Gane or the student librarians if you'd like to attend.

The following week, students in Key Stage 3 will take part in Shakespeare-themed English lessons, completing a 'Passport to Shakespeare' and entering a national competition, which could see their own designs being sold as postcards in Paperchase stores throughout the UK!

Readathon



Next term, we will be launching *Readathon* – a sponsored reading challenge to encourage Reading for Pleasure. It's not only the young readers who benefit from Readathon. Readathon also provide free books for participating schools and raises funds to help seriously ill children throughout the UK.



Mrs Clark and Mrs Gane



WORLD BOOK

DAY

6 MARCH 2014











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YEAR 8 AND 9 TRIP TO PENCELLI OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE.

On 9th March a group of around 30 students from Years 8 and 9 set off to Plas Pencelli, on outdoor activity centre in South Wales. The Plas was a big, old converted house with rural surroundings. We were very lucky as the weather was fantastic, sunny and not a raincloud in sight.

Our day would start with breakfast at 8:15, then we would move on to our duties which were things such as sweeping the mini buses or tidying up the equipment stores. After that we would be told what activity we were doing and what clothing and equipment we needed on that particular day. When we were all packed and ready we would go off to our activities.

Daytime Activities:

Caving

We went caving in Porth Yr Ogof. We had to wear a helmet, wellies, a belt and a caving suit. This activity was

physically challenging and helped us discover new strengths and what we could achieve. Everyone was nervous and there was some very small gaps and some very cold places. It was a brilliant activity that helped the group bond.

Canoeing

Our day at the River Wye was fantastic but canoeing is a lot harder than it looks!! We were wearing 3 layers of clothing, some very flattering helmets and buoyancy aids. The teamwork shown was outstanding and everyone was able to laugh,



even if they were soaking wet and freezing cold.

Mountain Walk

It was a very proud moment when we reached the top of the highest mountain in the southern UK, Pen Y Fan which

dd.

stands at 886m. There were different stages of the walk where we had mixed emotions, but when we got to the top we were relieved and happy to accomplish Pen Y Fan.

Climbing

Our climb was at Morlais Quarry. This activity was physically and mentally challenging for us as a team and as individuals. It involved a lot of trust as the only thing stopping you from falling was the two people below you holding the ropes.

Gorge Walk

The Gorge walk started off with a 500m walk in a pitch black tunnel. Then it was a blur of rocks, trees and water. At one point there was a waterfall which most of us we able to slide down which was amazing!!

Throughout the week there were also evening activities that included Orienteering, where we had to go in boygirl pairs and, using a map of the Plas to guide us we got to where we needed to go, Dingle Decent, where we were all tied together with only two lights, one for the person at the front and one for the person at the back, and had to make our way down a river gorge, it involved a lot of communication so that everyone knew what was up ahead, and Problem Solving, where we had to work has a team to complete challenges and win points.

We would like to offer a huge thank you to Mr Grainger, Mrs Jackson, Mrs Blythe, Miss Burt and all the staff at Plas Pencelli for making it a truly memorable week for us all.



By Rebecca Lewis and Emily Hibbs

WHERE'S WALLY ???

On Friday 7th March 25 staff took part in a 5km walk/jog/run around Amesbury dressed as Where's Wally to raise money for The Literacy Trust.

The 25 of us set off from the school grounds at half 3 at a startling pace with the group currently as one.

By London road, the group had split and Mr. Cotterell, Mr Edmunds, Miss Bugler, Mr Cooper, Mrs Busby and Mr Shipsey were flying down the road towards the centre. Mr Cotterell and Mr Edmunds had clearly been preparing for the run and took an early lead.

At Boscombe hill, Mr Cotterell had proved he was not to be beaten and flew up the hill in the style of a pro despite Mrs Jackson, Miss Lawler and Mrs Clark trying their upmost to close the gap.

The 'Hill of Doom' lived up to its name and a few called it a day at that point (Mrs Blyth, Mrs Smith and Mrs Skinner). The race continued and the various students dotted around the course made each staff member run a little harder. A pivotal point being Olivia and Oliver playing 'Eye of the Tiger' to spur us on!

Various cars shouted words of encouragement and Wally related shouts were heard across Amesbury that afternoon. The end was in sight and only a few downhill sections and we were home!

Mr Cotterell gained himself the prize of 1st place Wally with Mr Edmunds a close 2nd.

It was a fantastic event and one that has raised over £200 for The Literacy Trust so far!

Well done to all who took part and watch out for next Year when the Wally will be out in force again.

Miss Bugler



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THE STONEHENGE SCHOOL IS PROUD TO PRESENT FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY! THURSDAY 1ST MAY AT 7.00 PM TICKETS £2 TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM RECEPTION

Would you enjoy making friends with someone from another part of the world?

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