



In Touch

Easter 2012

WATH COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL: A LANGUAGE COLLEGE

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

As Easter is almost upon us, we can reflect upon another very busy and successful term.

At the Governors' Meeting this week, I presented my termly report, which included many contributions from faculties and year groups detailing the wide variety of activities and events undertaken this term. Reading these reports reinforces just how many exciting activities and opportunities are available to our students who benefit greatly from them. There really is something for everyone.

Amongst the many events this year, we have had residential visits to Malham (Biology), Blencathra (Geography), Valloire France (skiing) and language visits to Seville and Barcelona in Spain, day visits to JCB at Rochester (Business Studies), the Peak District (PE) and London (ICT/Art) and theatre trips to see *King Lear*, *The Haunted Bride*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Annie*, plus visits to the Royal Ballet and the Phoenix Dance Company. In addition, last week we enjoyed our own Rock Night, which was a fantastic showcase for the musical talents of a number of our students.

Extra-curricular support continues to be a major strength of our school with many fixtures played every week by a variety of teams. In the last two weeks alone, we have enjoyed success at: rugby in the Hall Cross 10-a-side tournament, where the Year 7 and Year 8 teams were the winners in their respective competitions; at football, where Year 10 beat Oakwood 5-3 in the Rotherham Plate Final and in netball, where every year group were represented at the Rotherham Schools' finals day held at Wickersley School. Two of our teams reached their respective finals and congratulations go to the Sixth Form, who lost to a very strong Wickersley team, and to Year 11, who beat Aston 10-9 in a very exciting, hard fought match to become Rotherham champions.

Congratulations also go to Holly Brookes (Y9) and Ryan McMahon (Y12) who have been selected for the South Yorkshire Cross Country Team.

Finally, I would like to make a special mention of the outstanding fund raising efforts of 9EV, who with the help of their tutor Mr Evans and participation of several staff, held a sponsored cycle ride covering the 283 miles from Wath to the Olympic Park in London – in our fitness suite! Every participant cycled 10k, which is certainly not easy. To date, they have raised £250 and this will go to Sport Relief and Sheffield Children's Hospital. Well done to everyone who took part.

Yours sincerely

**P Ward
Headteacher**

Duke Of Edinburgh Expedition

The Duke of Edinburgh is an award in which students participate in a program which covers a duration of 6 months. The program is split up into four different sections:

- Skill – students practice/learn a new skill to improve upon the task they have chosen or to enable students to find new interests/hobbies such as playing an instrument.
- Physical – students are to take on a fitness regime to try and encourage themselves to do more exercise and become healthier.
- Volunteering – students are encouraged to give up a little bit of their spare time to help the community. This is to help promote community cohesion in a town/city.
- Expedition – students participate in a hike over rocky terrain and are left to their own devices to hone their survival skills.

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The Skill, Physical and Volunteering sections of the award last for a compulsory duration of at least 3 months, one of which can be opted to last for a further 3 months. The Expedition lasts for 2 days in the Peak District and students must walk at least 7 – 8 miles before sleeping overnight and continue walking another devastating 8 miles the next day.

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Before the examined Expedition, students must undertake several practice walks to prepare for it. This enables them to understand how to use their equipment, such as map reading and compass orientating. Last week, a hardy group of Y10 students undertook their first practice walk in Monsal Dale. On both mornings, it started off extremely foggy; not good for map reading and spotting landmarks! However, all students did extremely well, completing the walk in good time and working as a team. We look forward to seeing them complete their Bronze Award this year.

Samuel Johnson & James Liu
Y10 Student Journalist Co-ordinators

Science Trip To Liquid

On 23rd February, a selection of Year 8 students were taken on a brilliant science trip to Liquid Nightclub in Rotherham, because they had a very good motivation level.

We were driven to Liquid in around half an hour by Mr Avill. We hopped off the mini-van and made our way inside the vast building, where we inspected our surroundings. We were taken into a large room, adorned with bar stools, leather sofas, display cabinets, bars and a dance floor. It looked fantastic! There were a handful of other schools there too, with a variety of different age groups.

After waiting around for a while, a big megaphone boomed its orders, telling us where to go. Each of the schools had a schedule, telling us which workshop to go to. We had six workshops in total, which were all, in my opinion, fantastic and educational.

Our first stop was “Seeing the Lights”, a small workshop which showed us how the lights worked and what their purpose was. We had to run around like little children, chasing lights, which I have to admit, even though childish, I quite enjoyed! This was followed by “Let’s Dance”, where we did a series of slow, medium and fast dances and tested to see how our heart rates changed and why.

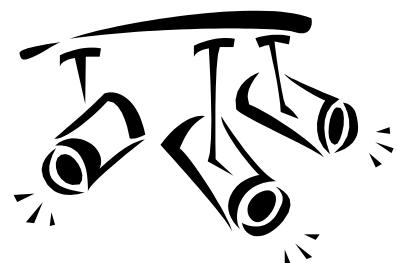
We had a break, munched on our snacks, then scurried off to our next location. We slid through large black curtains into a darkened room. First-aid dummies were scattered on the floor and we picked our way through them to a small booth, where we learnt about drugs and their effects. It was very interesting and my favourite workshop so far.

The day passed quickly, too quickly! We also had workshops on alcohol, how to be a DJ and right at the end, we just danced our socks off for an hour.

We returned to the mini-van, breathless, our voices croaky from having to scream over the music to talk. We were very warm and tired from dancing as we clambered into the vehicle. Even though we were so tired, we managed to have one last rave in the bus!

In conclusion, I thought that the experience was great and thrilling. I would recommend it to anyone. I learned a lot and I wish that I could go again!

By Courtney Ward
Y8 Student Journalist



Science Week in English

This half term, we celebrated Science Week. This involved lots of exciting experiments, competitions and expert lecturers visiting to share their knowledge.

In English, Y7 have been writing poems after being inspired by their Science lessons. Below are a selection for you to enjoy!

**Wary was Mr. Squires as he poured the ethanol
Handling the bottle with great care
Over and over again he shook the bottle
Optimistic was his class
Shooting out came sparks of joy
Happy was his class, watching from afar.**



**Beautiful were the bright orange flames
Orange fire filled the bottle
To our dismay, it had stopped
Time had passed
Lightning had struck
Everyone was happy and couldn't wait for tomorrow**

**Bubble, bubble
Glug, glug
Methane bubbles
In a jug**



**Hold your hand out if you dare
Watch the fire doesn't burn your hair.**

**Toxic fumes
From an expanding tower,
A long black mess
Growing steadily by the hour.**

**Beware of the elephant's toothpaste
For it has a terrible taste.**

**Flames flying in my face
Lighting up the room
All the children screaming
My heart pounding
Everyone lining up for their turn.**



Well done to all Y7s who wrote poems—come and see if your one has made it onto the Wall of Fame on the English corridor! A selection of students also visited Science staff to read their poems out to the experts; again, very well done to all those involved.

The English Department

Year 10 Enterprise Week

Earlier this term, Year 10 students took part in an Enterprise day at the Consort hotel. Each tutor group was broken up into smaller working groups and allocated roles within their teams, such as project manager, designer or market researcher.

We had guest speakers who do these jobs for a living. After hearing their talks, it was time to make our own products with an Olympic theme. We then had to prepare presentations to compete in the battle of the tutor groups! One group was selected to represent their whole tutor group and impress the judges. The judges gave scores out of 10 on different categories.

One Year 10 student said "It was a fun and enjoyable day for everyone and I learned lots of new things about each role in business. It was fun to make the prototype and the best thing was to know that we were not damaging the environment and it cost so little to make."



**Written by Jamie Smith
Year 10**

World Book Day 2012

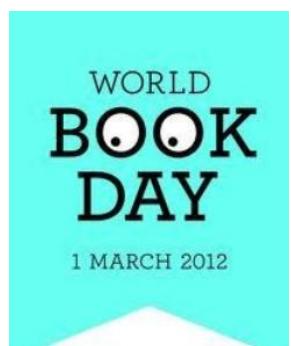
On March 1st, the English Department participated in the annual celebration of reading: World Book Day.

Specially-selected Year Seven pupils were given the opportunity to dress up as their favourite book characters and take part in reading activities in the library. This included: making bookmarks, private reading time and decorating biscuits as their favourite characters. Prizes were given for the best-dressed students. Well done to all those involved for your fantastic behaviour.

Inspired by this year's Olympic Games, the English department chose to dress up as characters from Greek myths and legends.

Pupils across the school were encouraged to participate in the Staff Book Quiz and all were given book vouchers to spend on their choice of reading material.

Thanks to all involved, we hope you enjoyed the day and are looking forward to next year.



Sports News

9EV cycle to the Olympics

Well done to 9EV, who completed their cycling challenge last weekend. They achieved their target easily with each participant cycling 10km in a bid to cycle the total distance between Wath and London. Many teachers were also involved and all money raised will go to Sport Relief and Sheffield Children's Hospital.



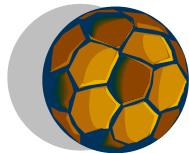
Netball success

This month, Wath competed in the Rotherham Netball Tournament. All years did a fantastic job, playing well enough to enter a team, with both the Year Eleven and Sixth-Form teams reaching the finals. After a tough match, the Year Eleven team claimed their fourth victory in the last five years. Unfortunately, the Sixth-Form team missed out on the winning spot, but congratulations are due to them for making it to the final stages. These results are a credit to all those who willingly participate after school and thanks should be extended to the P.E. Department for all their hard work.

Year Ten House Football

Congratulations to Carthage's Year Ten team for winning the recent house football tournament. The final positions are as follows:

- 2nd - Thebes
- 3rd- Sparta
- 4th -Troy
- 5th - Rome
- 6th - Athens



Fascinating Facts

When eating a chocolate rabbit at Easter, 76% of people bite off the chocolate bunny ears first, while 5% bite the feet first and 4% eat the tail first.

I wonder what the other 15% do?

Dates for your diaries:

Monday 30th April: Y7 Review Day

Tuesday 1st May: Y8 Review Day

Wednesday 2nd May: Y9 Review Day

Thursday 3rd May: Y10 Review Day

Monday 7th May: May Bank Holiday (School closed)

Thursday 10th May: Language Award Evening, 7pm



Easter wordsearch

Can you find ten words in our Easter wordsearch?

EASTER EYSCRYTQA
PGEWXFZEEPQASJQ
N XAJIDVLHURDEMA
DMHLOZOLELUINYB
CEWELCBOCZKLNIQ
EENSZCMWDVEOMGM
NTSZHDQJADSHKMJ
FIAILGEGGJRBJSR
VUCLOALLFLMDMCA
TKCZOZJSABBFX
HNYYZCRHLVROYEW
SSEM NKOYNNUBVTB
VVELQRSHRAACBLR
AESEONXWCACWKFC
GGCOSSPQGXNKFFK

BUNNY
EASTER
LAMB
NEW LIFE

CHICK
EGG
LENT
SPRING

CHOCOLATE
HOLIDAY
NEST
YELLOW

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Comedy Corner!

How do you catch the Easter Bunny?

Hide in a bush and make a noise like a carrot!