

Court Fields Newsletter

Recent News and Updates

This is a very full Spring newsletter. I hope you will find all of the information useful. Many of the items have further information on our school web-site. If you do not have access to the internet to get this additional information then please do not hesitate to contact the School Office and we will send home a printed copy.

Staffing Update

Before half-term we said farewell to Miss Alcock who had been our Flexible Learning Co-ordinator for the last 3 years. Miss Alcock, who was a previous student at the school, has left in order to enjoy travelling before taking up a teacher training post in the Autumn. We are grateful for all she has done within the Learning Support team and in establishing our allotment.

At the end of the month we will welcome back Mrs Brown who left last year in order to commence her maternity leave.

Next week we welcome Mrs Rhonda Lovell to Court Fields as the School Counsellor. Mrs Lovell who has previously been at Robert Blake School in Bridgwater will work on 3 days a week.

Policies

We are currently revising many of our policies - Equal Opportunities, Anti-Racism, Gender Equality and Safeguarding. After these policies have been ratified by governors at the end of term a revised copy will be placed on the school website. As part of our changes we have included recent publication and support. With this in mind I have attached a copy of a leaflet issued by the Local Authority for children and young people. Further information for parents is available on the web-site.

Parent Information on Mephedrone

All schools with secondary aged children at KS4 and 5 have agreed to circulate the attached briefing paper on behalf of the Somerset Drugs and Alcohol Action Team.

Our decision to do so is in recognition of the risks associated with substances of this kind and the fact that young people are often a good deal better informed about these matters than the adults responsible for their wellbeing.

It is not meant to cause alarm but to help you understand something of the risks involved so that you can best protect your children from a substance that is currently freely and legally available on the internet.

If you would like to discuss this matter then please contact Stuart Coleman from the Localities Team.

I would like to remind you that according to our Drugs policy all legal medical drugs should be handed into the School Office for distribution. All other drugs including alcohol should not be brought into school. Students bringing drugs/alcohol onto the school site, consuming drugs or alcohol, being under the influence of drugs/alcohol or selling drugs or alcohol will be treated as a serious offence and will almost certainly result in exclusion.



**Court Fields
Community
School**

Volume 9, Issue 6

**Wednesday 3rd March
2010**

Key Dates in March

Year 9/10 Maths Module	2/3
Year 10 Science Modules	3/3
Year 9 Parents Evening 4-8pm	11/3
School Play— Joseph	16-17-18/3
Year 10 Exams	Wb 22/3
Year 11 HPV Vaccinations	29/3 30/3

2012 Student Leadership Event	29-30-31/3
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Items of interest:

- Talent Olympic Games
- Fronter
- Communication
- Privacy Notice
- Exam News

A copy of the latest newsletter is published on our website
Phone: 01823 664201
E-mail: sch.552@educ.somerset.gov.uk
Website: www.courtfieldsschool.co.uk

Congratulations to our Students

UKYP Representative

Well done to **Jonathan Atyeo Ruby 5 (Yr 10)**, who has been elected as the United Kingdom Youth Parliament Deputy for Taunton & West Somerset in the recent election. Jonathan would like to thank everyone who voted for him and says:

"In my first year of campaigning I have been elected as the Deputy UKYP for Taunton Deane and West Somerset. If anyone has any important issues they would like raised at our meetings, please come and talk to me."

Response to Haiti

In response to the Rotary Club appeal Miss Leaver and Mr Alfano organised a sponsored walk to the Monument on Sunday 31st January. Staff, students and parents turned out for the walk and £401.80 was raised for this worthy cause. Well done to everyone who took part and raised money. Particular congratulations go to Rebecca Ensor To6 (Yr7) who raised £81.70.

Non-Uniform Day

Our next fund-raising event will be a Non-Uniform Day on **Friday 19th March**. Each House will choose a charity to benefit from the monies raised.

Get Set for TOG (Talent Olympic Games)

On Tuesday 2nd February 2010, EMMA LANE (Sa3), EMILY SAGE (Em5), ZAK MAYNARD (Rb7) and HARVEY AUSTIN (To7) visited Hanham High School in Bristol to attend the SSAT LONDON 2012 GAMES STUDENT LEADERSHIP EVENT. The aim of the conference was to engage young people in the London 2012 Games and, with their teachers and others in school consider some initial plans for using the Olympic and Paralympic Games values to develop activities to raise student attainment, foster students' personal and social development. During the day a speech was given by Graham Edmunds, a double gold medal winning Paralympic swimmer.



Along with 4 of the student leaders the Court Fields Talent Olympic Games Organising Group, TOGOG, for short has been developed. They will be responsible for developing TOG over the next few years.

It will start this year and will be launched to all students and staff during the week beginning 8th March. The aim is to develop an annual inter-house competition that will be accessible to all students. The competition will comprise of a number of smaller challenges. Each challenge will be judged / completed between the 29th and 31st of March with every entry will be worth a point, 1st, 2nd and 3rd place will gain more points, 10, 7 and 5, plus Gold, Silver and Bronze badges, challenges may be run in school or be completed at home and brought into school for judging.

Enrichment Day Reports

Students enjoyed an exciting Enrichment Day on 24th February. Students from Year 10 and Year 11 have written reports on their events:

YEAR 10—Dragons' Den

On Wednesday 24th February, Court Fields Community School held an inspiring Enrichment Day for Year 10s. What we did was really fun but quite challenging. At the start of the day we had an assembly to introduce the day and what we had to do. We had to come up with an event and we came up with the idea of mini Olympics to get the family fit and have a good family day.

We were all assigned roles within the project; Melissa Morrison was the Project Manager, Ben Hayman was the Researcher as well as Tobi Jenkins, Samantha Poore was the Marketing Manager, and Danny Lee was the Finance Manager. We all came up with ideas, and finally decided on Mini Olympics.

Throughout the day we had to fill in a sheet which had the marketing and finance details, which Danny figured out.

Within the class we had to present our group ideas and fortunately, our group went through to the final presentations. The class presentation went well; Ben read what he had written with Karen.



The final presentation obviously

went well considering we won and all! Ben and Samantha read what Ben had written previously for the first presentation, while Melissa, Tobi and Danny held up the team name "Sport for Life" (a spin-off of the charity "Change for Life").

After all the groups had presented their ideas, the judges left and chose the winning team.

The next day we were all told that we had won, we chose our prize (a £10 voucher for a chosen place), and now our event is going to happen in September.

Ben Hayman (Emerald8)
Tobi Jenkins (Emerald8)
Daniel Lee (Ruby9)
Samantha Poore (Emerald7)
Melissa Morrison (Emerald7)

Next Enrichment Day—24th May

The Enrichment Day scheduled for Wednesday 16th March has been moved to Monday 24th May due to the disruption caused by the recent bad weather. Therefore 16th March will be a normal school day

YEAR 11—Poetry Live Trip

On a grey, despondent day, we set off to Bristol for Poetry Live, the most anticipated event of the year. We arrived at Bristol with high expectations. Colston Hall was filled with highly enthusiastic young people.

The poets themselves were great. Simon Armitage entertained us with his anecdotes and life stories; John Agard inspired us with his powerful words and audience participation,

while Imtiaz Dharker calmed us with her soothing voice. The poets answered questions from the audience and gave us alternate meanings to the lifeless words on the page, showing us things that we had not really picked up on before.

Chief Examiner, Tony Childs (Adrian Chiles look-alike) gave us valuable advice on how to obtain marks in our exam and also served as the "host" to the event.

A banner was made for Grace Nichols, but unfortunately, she was not at the event.

After an intense (but enjoyable) day we had to - very groggily—return home.

Overall it was a great experience and unfortunately next year will be the last, so Year 10s, have fun!

Charlotte Milton (Emerald9)
Shervin Cheung (Sapphire9)

Student access to revision materials/homework

Last week all Year 11 students were introduced to Fronter, a virtual learning environment, to enable them to access revision materials, video clips, podcasts, past papers and model answers from home. All departments are currently adding such materials to Fronter with a view to extending access to all other Year groups over the next few weeks. Each student will have a username and password and will be able to log on anywhere there is internet access. It is envisaged many departments will use Fronter to set homework and coursework allowing students to work more independently with exam students enjoying particular benefits with access to revision materials. Parents may wish to get their child to show them the contents of Fronter, so they can see for themselves the materials that are available. Following academic monitoring day many students will have had a target of practising exam questions, which are now available in many subject areas.

Mr Thomas—Deputy Head

Improved communication with parents

We have recently invested in an improved communication system with parents. This will have many uses from informing parents of their child's absence and allowing them to text a reply, to allowing us to send messages to all parents quickly, for example to inform you of a school closure due to snow. It is also hoped that larger, less urgent messages can be e-mailed to parents so that we can be sure that letters, newsletters etc arrive home safely. Parents were sent a text message yesterday (Tuesday) checking that it is the correct contact number. If you have not received a text or would prefer us to use a different number, then please complete the slip at the back of the Newsletter and return it to your child's form tutor as soon as possible. It is vital that mobile numbers and e-mails are correct so that all communication is as efficient as possible.

Mr Thomas—Deputy Head

Privacy Notice

In previous years we were required to issue Fair Processing Notices each year to inform parents and students on personal information collected and shared with other parties. This year, the DCSF have issued a Privacy Notice, which is attached to this newsletter. This is a legal requirement for us to inform all parents, carers and students about what data we keep and how it is used and shared with local and national agencies. This information is also available on our school website, with a link to the DCSF notices on what they do with pupils' and children's data.

This information should be read by the following groups of people:

- 1. All parents of current Court Fields' students**
- 2. All students aged between 12 and 15** (because you are required to be informed of your legal rights under the provisions of the Data Protection Act 1998)
- 3. All Court Fields students who have reached their 16th birthday** (because of the above reason and also because at 16 you are legally entitled to prevent the school passing on more than basic information about you to the Connexions service if you so wish)

I hope the information is self explanatory, but if you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Joseph—Our School Play

We are all looking forward to our first school play for a number of years - Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat. Miss Moore, Mrs Chidgey and students have been working hard on this exciting venture and I hope that you will support this by coming to see the performance. Ticket are available from the Finance Office

Exam News and Information

Year 11s Revision Sessions

There are now just a few weeks left before Year 11 students start their exams. In order to support students as much as possible, staff have arranged revision sessions after school as follows:

DANCE: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 3.30-5.30 for next 3 weeks
Exam date: 15th March

IT/ART /

ART & DESIGN The department is open for students on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school

DT Catch up sessions after school every Thursday, or any night by negotiation with their teacher

MATHS See attached schedule

ENGLISH See attached schedule

RE Every Friday—coursework catch-up and help with revision

Students are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the extra time for revision, finishing coursework and help from staff.

Year 10 Examinations

Exams will be held during the week beginning **22 March** for all Year 10 and a timetable will be issued shortly to the students. Most of these exams will be held in the Gym/Hall and all under strict exam conditions in preparation for GCSE exams next year. PLEASE ENSURE YOUR SON/DAUGHTER COMES TO ALL EXAMS WITH THE CORRECT EQUIPMENT.

Reply Slip—Parent/Carer Contact Information

Student Name: _____ Tutor Group: _____

Priority 1 Parent/Carer mobile no: _____

Priority 2 Parent/Carer mobile no: _____

Parent/Carer e-mail: _____

Signed: _____ (Parent/Carer) Date: _____

March Newsletter—REPLY SLIP

Name: _____ Tutor Group: _____

I/We have received the March Newsletter

Signed: _____ Parent/Carer Date: _____

Please sign and return to your child's Form Tutor by Friday 5th March 2010