



FUNDRAISING FRIDAY

A Non-uniform Day, a Big Breakfast and a Bootcamp were all on the agenda for Queen's Park High School's fundraising day on Friday 18 March. The aim was to raise as much money as possible to divide equally between two charities, Sport Relief and Cancer Research.

Students spent the week planning their menus for their 'Big Breakfast' and brought in items to eat with their Tutor Group whilst also paying £1 to come to school in their own clothes. Staff joined in Britain's Biggest Breakfast at break time making donations to eat irresistible bacon butties and croissants.



At lunchtime Judith Gilmour provided two of her motivating staff members to run a Bootcamp in the Main Hall for all students and staff to take part in. After half an hour of relentless, press-ups, sit-ups jumping jacks, and jogging many looked exhausted (particularly the staff), but happy in the



knowledge they were all raising money to donate to a great cause.

Thanks to the efforts of all involved, we are proud to say the day raised over £500.



BBC SCHOOL REPORT

QPHS Year 9 students made the news for real on 10 March as they took on the challenge of BBC School Report.

Students had already decided to report on a co-construction project which has been part of their Art & Design lessons. The exciting project will rejuvenate the old and run down East End Snack Bar, turning the dull and uninspiring interior into a work of art! Students will enjoy their lunches so much more as the eclectic collection of objects and artefacts transforms the space and will whet their appetites for years to come!



The project idea was instigated by Leader of Learning for Art & Design, Mr Parker, who handed the reins over to the students in January.

David Atkinson, freelance travel writer and blogger started the day with a brain storming session so students were prepped on interview techniques and how to write professionally. Filming and editing followed; all to be done before the 2pm deadline-quite some challenge!

If you want to learn more about the project and watch the video, go to the BBC School Report page on the school website www.qphs.cheshire.sch.uk

Written by Jake Edwards-Try, Evie Newbould & Sophie Crawford; Year 10

COLLABORATION PORTRAIT PROJECT WITH CCHS

The idea of collaborating with Chester Catholic High School came from a joint INSET day held at QPHS, where we explored the notion of 'Building Learning Power'. From our discussions, the two Art Departments felt it would be right to let the students take ownership of the project and allow them to build their learning power through the students working together. Their only starting point was a slide show of artists who used portraiture in their work.

Over 30 students worked together from both schools, in small teams to develop their own ideas and ways of working. They decided what they wanted to do and how they would do it. The teachers involved acted purely as facilitators to

the students.

Two full day workshops followed in February, at each school. Students displayed their co-operation, resilience and perseverance over the two days and demonstrated the importance of working together and sharing ideas. An exhibition of the work was showcased in the hall at CCHS for the Teachers Inset Day in March.



ACCELERATED READER

Up to 80 lucky students in Year 7 and 8 are going to be joining the new and improved Accelerated Reader programme over the next few weeks.

To sum up the programme, a student reads a book, takes an online quiz, and gets immediate feedback. Students respond to regular feedback and are motivated to make progress with their reading skills. Miss Goode, Miss Whitford-Stark and Miss Jones will be leading the re-launch with the help of six students from their Year 7 tutor groups who have been chosen to be Accelerated Reader Ambassadors.

The challenge is on to see who will be the first student to read a million words!



HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR VILLIANS?

QPHS was in full swing celebrating World Book Day this month with the focus this year being Heroes, Heroines and Villains. The results were taken from National Book Tokens poll of the Top 10 Greatest Heroes, Most Evil Villains and Future Classics in Children's Books. (Check out the National Book Tokens website for the full results but Harry Potter was well represented!).

In the Art Department book tokens were being designed whilst in the LLC a quiz was held for Year 7 where the students had to answer questions on famous literary villains. They also had to name their own favourite literary villain, with a reason for their choice. Juliette Gilchrist

the winner, won a signed copy of David Walliam's Billionaire Boy with Dylan Howard collecting the runner up prize, a copy of Glen Murphy's Space: The Whole Whizz-Bang Story.



BASSETT

There were some incredibly tense scenes played out earlier this term when Year 10 and 12 students performed their production of the National Theatre's 'Bassett'. With an incredible set designed by Mr Dawber, DR1 played host to a 'Citizenship' classroom in a suburban High School in Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire.

Performed over three nights, the production took the audience on a roller-coaster ride of emotions as the characters, who were all trapped inside a classroom against the backdrop of the repatriation ceremony outside, dealt with issues of race, religion, politics sexuality and social injustice.

The audiences were left in tears and moved by the work of the students in a truly thrilling and gripping set of

performances. One of the Directors from the National Theatre came to make notes on the production and commented that it was a, "really strong, tense, ensemble piece" and that, "the climax of the play was bold and harrowing".

The cast will be performing the production again on 19 April for students from Bishop's Bluecoat CE High School before taking it on tour to the HOME theatre, Manchester on 29 April.



WE WANT YOU!

Adult rowing coaches or helpers on a volunteer basis are needed to help at the Rowing Club during weekdays after school. Rowing experience preferred but not essential. Please Email Richardcox54@talktalk.net if you can help.

THE POETRY TRIALS

A few weeks ago, we were very excited to report that 50 students from Year 7, 8 and 9 had their work chosen for publication in the Poetry Trials poetry book. We now have some even more exciting news as our very own Frank Riding from 9FSN has been chosen as the finalist out of all the schools who entered the competition in Cheshire West and Chester. This is an amazing achievement and we eagerly await the next stage of the competition, when the top five poets are decided and invited to create a video for their poem. The videos will go up for a public vote and the highest score will win. The prize for The Poetry Trials Champion is a fantastic Apple bundle.

SLEEP by Frank Riding age 13

*Go to sleep my son, forget the limit of the day
Go to sleep my son, I fluffed the pillow where
your head can lay
Go to sleep my son, let darkness fall upon your
night
For when you sleep my darling, dreams can
keep away the fright
Reality is not for me
So the dreamscape is a place to flee
Reality is not for you
For reality leaves you feeling blue
But don't simply slumber without a care
Subconscious darkness can cause a nightmare
Where deepest, darkest fears are found
Nothing comforting for miles around
But I'll be with you at the setting of the sun
So go and dream and have some fun
You could run and play or fly like a kite
But the unknown is out there, so be prepared
to fight
Go to sleep my son and go back into your shell
For when you sleep my son, I shall sleep as
well
Dream of anything: a castle, town or lake
You could be whatever you want, until the
moment that you wake
Don't stay up much longer, it's time to rest your
head
Allow sleep to envelop you as you lay down in
your bed
Close your eyes, stop lingering
And don't you worry about a thing
Go to sleep my son, I'll be here in the morning.*

PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS SKYPE

A level Philosophy and Ethics students were able to speak directly through Skype to leading Philosopher Dr. David Webster at the University of Gloucestershire. The Q&A session was an exciting chance for Sixth Form students to engage directly with a published Philosopher on subjects of their choice and listen to Dr Webster's enthusiastic delivery of 'Life after death in Buddhism' - a topic for their synopsis writing in this Summer's exams. With a fast internet connection and projector screen viewing the Sixth Form received top quality advice and information, live!

music education expo 25 & 26 Feb

I went down to London on Wednesday 24 February. The Expo was the next day but we went a day earlier so that we would be at the



Expo on time. It also gave us an excuse to go and watch a show in the West End. We saw Mama Mia and it was great especially since we had seats on the third row! On Thursday morning we left the hotel and walked to the Expo. When we got there we

were given lanyards and we started to prepare as we were the first speakers.

Mr Yeoman presented his speech on 'How to produce an outstanding production' and then Liam and I sang a song from our last show, Little Shop of Horrors. We got a standing ovation!

My favourite part of the Expo was performing 'Feed Me' and seeing the collection of different musical companies and instruments was amazing. I really enjoyed my time in London.

Written by Jake Cross



ART & DESIGN TRIP TO PARIS

In February half term the Art & Design and Photography classes went on a study tour to Paris. Regardless of the wet weather we saw so much of city from the beautiful Parisian architecture to famous artworks such as the Mona Lisa.

We were able to see a wide range of art, the more traditional styles in the Louvre, as well as contemporary pieces in the Pompidou. The buildings themselves were pieces of art, especially the Sacre Coeur which also provided an incredible view of the city. Other landmarks we visited included Pere Lachaise Crematorium, Notre Dame and the Arc de Triomphe. We also had a meal at the Hard Rock

Café which was interesting and it even had its own gift shop downstairs.

Seeing Paris from many different viewpoints, especially from the Montparnasse Tower at night was such a memorable experience which I'm sure will influence the creativity of all students that went on the trip.

Written by Mari Inns, & Neve Holland



A-LEVEL BUSINESS REVISION WORKSHOP

Year 13 Business Studies students were given the opportunity to attend a full day revision workshop in preparation for their BUSS4 examination in June. The workshop event, run by Tutor2u saw Business Studies students from across the country participating in an interactive



and intense revision day with leading examiners and Industry experts.

Year 13 Students attended the Business Environment and Managing Change workshop where they consolidated their knowledge and understanding of the themes and topics covered during lesson time. Stimulating case study materials and video clips were used to bring the theory to life. As part of the day, the presenters focused on examination techniques and how to write a detailed response to A level style questions.

Lucy Stenhouse said it was "a great experience to work with my peers from across the North West"

LORD OF THE FLIES TRIP

In February 150 students from Year 10 and 11, along with staff and Sixth Form helpers were lucky enough to visit Liverpool Playhouse to watch a theatre adaptation of William Golding's, Lord of the Flies.

Year 10 and 11 students are studying the novel for their English Literature GCSE, so they were very excited to be given the chance to see a live performance of the famous allegory, which tells the story of a group of young boys deserted on an island and left to fend for themselves.

Students thoroughly enjoyed the chilling and enthralling adaptation – although one or two weren't sure about the modern references added in an attempt to bring the story into the 21st century! This, along with dramatic portrayal of the boys' descent into savagery, has given students a much deeper insight into the key themes, issues and characters which will undoubtedly enrich their lessons studying the novel. All students behaved in an exemplary way and were a credit to the school for the duration of the trip.



CHESTER ZOO

Earlier this term Year 12 Travel and Tourism and Year 10 Leisure and Tourism groups went on a study trip to Chester Zoo.

Year 12 are studying a customer service unit as part of their BTEC, so their workshop was focused on how the Zoo staff are trained to deliver outstanding customer service. The students looked at a range of customer feedback and learned how the Zoo responds to complaints. Year 10 are studying



marketing as part of their GCSE, so their workshop was focused on the Zoo's target market and how the Zoo use the marketing mix to attract certain visitors. A highlight for Year 10 was that we arrived early enough to see all

Jaguars quite lively and roaming around their enclosure. The keepers say they usually like to remain hidden!

SCHOOL GAMES INDOOR ROWING FINALS



Smith, Henry Doherty, Aiden Farrelly won the team relay plus Harrison & Charlie came 1st & 2nd in their individual races! The other teams just missed out on medals finishing in 4th, 5th and 6th places. One of the most impressive efforts was the Year 9 girls Kiera Burke, Zara Gautier-Price, Charlotte Carswell and Bethan Curtis who competed in the Year 10 event and narrowly missed out on a medal!

Earlier in March Mr Bearcroft took 24 students from across the year groups to compete in Level 3 School Games Indoor Rowing Finals at Ellesmere Port Sports Village. We were amongst other High Schools across Cheshire East & Cheshire West and Chester and was proud to return with a new trophy to add to our collection!

Congratulations to our Year 10 Boys Indoor Rowing Team who won the County Championship. The team that included Charlie Birchall Jones, Harrison Kendall



ENGLISH INDOOR ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS

QPHS gained several medals during the English Indoor Rowing Championships, where rowers of all ages competed against each other on rowing machines at the Velodrome in



Manchester.

The rowing club entered 36 athletes across all year groups, our biggest entry to date, which included a team of four year six students - Luke Harris, Alfie Dougherty, Mcenzie Stark and James Greenwood from Belgrave Primary school who will all be QPHS students in September and future rowers. All athletes competed in individual races and team events, with most gaining personal best times. James Cox competed in the Year 7 single event rowing for two minutes

and achieved a bronze medal. The Year 7 team including, Joe Bamber, James Cox, Dylan Howard and Iestyn Burke put in some extreme effort to take 3rd place and a bronze medal. Whilst our Year 10 boys team comprising Harrison Kendall-Smith, Charlie Birchall-Jones, Max Harvey and Henry Dougherty were just seven seconds behind third place and were racing against ten Year 11 teams.

Leading from the front and first race of the day was QPH coach Mike Harris (former Olympian) who returned to competition after a break of 20 years and completed his 2000m race in 6.39mins. A great fun filled day with lots of determination, hard-work and teamwork across all years.



MURDER MYSTERY EVENING

QPHS became a crime scene on Friday 4 March as 80 parents and guests bore witness to the murder of television celebrity Mr Fred Kellett whilst enjoying a delicious curry supper at the PTA's annual Murder Mystery evening!

The audience and PTA would like to thank the cast of characters giving up their free time to provide a great evening's entertainment. We raised a whopping £800 for the

school which will be put to good use improving the learning environment for all the pupils at QPHS.

Mr Yeoman led an enthusiastic cast who delivered a peerless production entitled 'Who killed the Soapstar?'

The audience were treated to a magnificent evening that showcased the acting talents of the staff as they pulled off another event that will live long in the memory of those that attended!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Event	Date	Time
Spring Break School Closes School Re-opens	1 April 2016 18 April 2016	3.00pm 8.40am
Manchester Actor's Company performing Macbeth to Year 10	18 April 2016	2 – 3.00pm
Future First Programme Chester University	20 April 2016	10am - 2:30pm
E-Safety workshops	26 April 2016	5.30 - 7.30pm
Year 8 Parents' Evening	27 April 2016	4.30 - 7.30pm
'Basset' Performance Manchester HOME Theatre	29 April 2016	7.00pm
May Day School Closes School Re-opens	29 April 2016 3 May 2016	3.00pm 8.40am
Year 6 Induction Evening	4 May 2016	6.00pm
Future First Programme Kingsway Campus	19 May 2016	10am - 2:30pm
Official opening of Snack Bar Co-construction Art Project	11 May 2016	12.25 – 1.00pm
E-Safety workshops	21 May 2016	9.30 - 11.30am
Summer Half Term School Closes School Re-opens	27 May 2016 6 June 2016	3.00pm 8.40am