



HUNTERS HILL TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

ACADEMIC YEAR 2007/2008

MARCH 2008

TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE

Message from Mr Lewis

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- RE DAY
- SPORT RELIEF
- MANCHESTER CINEMA TRIP
- FIELD TRIP
- WORK EXPERIENCE
- ACHIEVEMENTS

As Easter Terms go this one is so much shorter than usual. Apparently, Easter can actually fall anytime between 18th March and the 25th April. Being this early it means that the Summer Term will be longer which will, at least, give us time to make the most of hopefully better weather. This is when our location really comes into its own and we are able to maximise the benefits for our children. There is much planned, including visits, activities and camps. So, with any luck we can put the winter behind us and look forward to a long, warm productive summer.

As usual, please find enclosed your child's attendance for this Term and thank you for your continued support in helping to maintain regular school attendance.

CURRICULUM AWARDS

Mrs Jones, Deputy Head, is delighted to report that 56% of our pupils have achieved a Curriculum Award this Term. CONGRATULATIONS to all pupils concerned for this splendid achievement! There are 6 categories of Award and one of our pupils, **RYAN COLEMAN**, did extremely well by achieving an Award in 5 categories which is fantastic and a clear indication of how well this young man is doing in School. **WELL DONE Ryan!**

SCHOOL CLOSURE DATES

SCHOOL CLOSURES	SCHOOL RE-OPENS	
	Monday 07 April 2008 Pupils in at 9.45am	EASTER HOLIDAY
Monday 05 May 2008 CLOSED ALL DAY	Tuesday 06 May 2008 9.00am	MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY
Friday 23 May 2008 School closes at normal time	Monday 02 June 2008 9.00am	HALF TERM
Thursday 26 June 2008 & Friday 27 June 2008 CLOSED BOTH DAYS	Monday 30 June 2008 9.00am	STAFF TRAINING
Friday 18 July 2008	Wednesday 03 September 2008	SUMMER HOLIDAY

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RE DAY 13 March 2008



**Feed the World.
Where Does our Food
Come From?**

A very special RE DAY was held with the theme of **FEED THE WORLD: WHERE DOES OUR FOOD COME FROM?**

The children were engaged in a variety of activities including cooking, crafts and looking at various issues arising from transporting animals and keeping animals for food.

The highlight of the day was a FARM ANIMAL ROADSHOW. Sheep, pigs and piglets, a calf, goats and chicks were brought into School and all the children had a chance to hold, stroke, feed and care for the animals.

It was a very successful day and the children were very well behaved around the animals.

Mrs Hussey



SPECIAL THANKS to **Paul Milton, Declan Lynch and Jack Pickering** who have made a tremendous effort with staff in completing the erection of a greenhouse. The greenhouse will provide a very valuable resource to our **Horticultural Studies Department.**

Visit to GKN



A factory visit was arranged for 10 students to GKN. This Company manufactures components for the motor industry. Students observed the process from raw materials through to the finished product plus aspects of marketing and sales. The visit concluded with an excellent buffet lunch and some freebies for the students. The group were very well looked after and the students had a very interesting day thanks to Dave Bradshaw and his Team at GKN.

"The documentary film was spiritually uplifting and very moving!"



"WE ARE TOGETHER" MEDIA STUDIES VISIT

On Monday 10 March 2008 pupils from Year 9 went on an educational visit to the Odeon Cinema in Manchester. The purpose of the visit was to see a documentary film called "We Are Together" which is about the lives of the children of the Agape Orphanage in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. The Orphanage provides a roof, bed and a surrogate family for children who have lost their parents to Aids. Most of the children are also part of the "Children of Agape Choir" singing their way through the bleakest of times. Despite the shadow of sickness that invades the children's lives the Orphanage is full of song and laughter. The film is spiritually uplifting and tells the story of the children's incredible journey and their determination to follow their dreams and make a music CD in order to raise funds to keep the Orphanage up and running. This determination culminated with a concert in New York. Copies of the CD (We Are Together) can be obtained via www.wearetogether.org—all proceeds go to the Agape Orphanage. Both staff and pupils were moved yet uplifted by the film and highly recommend it.



SCHOOL FUND

Most of the income to School Fund is donated from various fundraising activities undertaken by staff and pupils throughout the year — during the last financial year this amounted to over £4000! Together with parental donations totalling £336.00 we purchased a range of items for the children including a Drum Kit and Guitar, Boxing and Urban Art Equipment, Trainers and Exercise Bikes, Dressing Gowns and Slippers and Christmas Gifts.

It has been decided to increase weekly donations from 30p to 40p and this will be the **first increase for over 20 years!** If parents/carers prefer we are happy to accept termly payments of £5.00 or annual payments of £15.00.

Cheques should be made payable to **Hunters Hill School Fund** please. Thank you to all those parents/carers that regularly send in School Fund.



On Friday 14 March 2008 pupils and staff set up a mile long course and participated in any way they wished by running, walking or kicking a ball along the course. Pupils were also asked to take part in a rowing competition. They competed on the rowing machines and tried to row 500 metres in the shortest possible time! Thank you to those pupils who kindly brought in lots of Sport Relief resources for use in School.

One of our Year 9 pupils, **CHRISTOPHER THOMAS**, also took part in Birmingham's Sport Relief Race on Sunday 17 March 2008. He chose to do this himself and many staff sponsored him. **Well Done Christopher!**

Pupils rise to the challenge and get involved in Sport Relief

WORK EXPERIENCE

We have an incredible 23 students currently attending various work experience placements and/or training providers.

Placements range from Children's Nurseries in Yardley and Malvern to Hospitality in Jury's Inn, Birmingham to Retail in Kidderminster to Chef Experience at the College of Food. All the students are doing extremely well with some promises of future part-time employment which is fantastic. **CONGRATULATIONS!**



Akeem Edwards stocking up and **Mark Harris** the Butcher!



PUPIL'S HEALTH

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's health, please contact the School Office and we will ask the School Health Service to contact you if we cannot help you directly.

MEDICATION

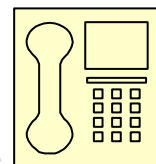
If your child's is prescribed medication and this is changed at any time, it is essential for you to complete an **Updated Medical Consent Form**—we have posted out some blank Forms to all parents/carers— if you need further Forms please telephone the School Reception.

REVIEW MEETINGS



Annual Review invitations are being sent out to all parents/carers of **YEAR 10** pupils. These will shortly be followed with invitations to the parents/carers of pupils in **YEARS 7, 8 and 9**. These Reviews offer a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress and we are always very appreciative to those parents/carers who attend.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS



It is **vital** for us to be able to contact all parents/carers in the event of an emergency regarding your child. In order to do that the School Office must hold up to date contact telephone numbers for all pupils. Please, therefore, make sure that you notify all contact changes to the School Office. Many thanks.

We currently have a vacancy on the **Governing Body for a Parent Governor**. If you are interested please do not hesitate to contact **Nicole Smith, Clerk to the Governing Body**, for further details.

Parent

Governor

Vacancy!

GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP

OUR ENVIRONMENT

As part of our topic, Our Environment, some of the Year 8 students visited Arrow Valley Country Park. The group looked at the habitat of the wild animals there and also noticed the geese, birds, ducks and swans (which were fed with left over sandwiches!).

In preparation for the Visit pupils made posters and these were taken to the Park and will be displayed in the Visitors' Centre.

The afternoon ended with a visit to the Park's Play Area where even Mr Drummond enjoyed playing on the swings and roundabouts!

The students were excellent and enjoyed the visit.

SNOOKER TOURNAMENT 2008

This term has seen the re-launch of the highly competitive **Snooker Tournament**, played out in Cropwood House. 54 pupils entered the competition at the First Round stage; Round Two saw 16 competitive games being played.

16 pupils were then left to battle it out for a place in the Quarter Finals. The Semi-Finals followed and then the **FINAL** contested by **Jake Goode**, a Year 10 pupil and **Andrew Bash** from Year 9.

Mr Lewis was on hand to oversee proceedings in the **FINAL** and after a highly competitive match, **JAKE GOODE** was triumphant, scoring a total of 60 points to secure his title of **Hunters Hill Technology College Snooker Champion 2008**.

Andrew Bash showed his potential and was unlucky with a number of shots that prevented him putting more points on the board. Both pupils played the game in an excellent spirit, showing compassion, determination, skill and endeavour to achieve success.

A big thank you to all the pupils who took part and to all the staff involved in organising the competition and helping pupils to practice, ensuring the high success of the Tournament.

Chris Bird, Cropwood

