

# Mangotsfield Newsletter



Issue 14

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## Special points of interest:

Mangotsfield school **does not** allow any facial piercing, non-school uniform jumpers, jeans, Ugg boots, white trainers or wide fashion belts. Please help us by ensuring your child is suitably attired for school

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## Girls in Motion

From September to Christmas, half of Year 8 took part in the Rolls-Royce Fantastic Engineering/Science Challenge. They got stuck into designing and building fan-powered buggies to race against each other. Students practised their teamwork skills and learned about how engineering projects work. Some teams found working together harder than others, but every team successfully built and raced a buggy. At Christmas, all the students gathered in the hall to race the best buggy in each class. The proud winners were 'Girls in Motion' who were well supported by their class with banners and lots of cheering. On 6<sup>th</sup> March, 'Girls in Motion' went to @Bristol to compete against other schools.

*The Fantastic Challenge was a fun experience. We came third out of eight groups. We had to build our buggy from scratch because we didn't have it with us. We took part in three events; first we raced our buggies, then we had to build bridges out of cardboard, newspaper, tapes and string and third was just having fun, going round the place blowing giant bubbles and playing in people-size hamster wheels. We had two members from the Rolls-Royce company come and help us with our buggies. We had to go separately to tell them about our buggies and, after the whole day, they gave us a presentation about their company and what they do.*

Jess Kent, Jess Goddard, Nina Grills and Ellie Walkley

Congratulations to 'Girls in Motion' for such a great engineering achievement. We are looking forward to finding the Easter winner.

## Year 10 Unbeaten Hockey Team—by Matt Vicker

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March was the day that Mangotsfield School boys' Year 10 Hockey Team had their first competitive match. With a squad of over 20 committed and talented students to choose from, we had been born ready for the challenge! The conditions could not have been worse: wet and slippery. Typical springtime weather in England! Mr Robinson prepared us mentally with a pre-match pep talk in the changing rooms. We even had new sticks to give us an added edge. Our opponents were from Gordano School in Portishead, a truly talented hockey school that can boast of producing a number of young England players. We had double the required number of players so, when we got tired, we just substituted and carried on wearing our opponents down. These "fresh legs" would prove to be significant in the later parts of the game.

Gordano started brightly but struggled to break through our tight defence and, on the rare occasion that they did, our keeper Charlie Simpson was equal to the task, stopping server shots with both his feet and his stick. They failed to take any of their chances and late on in the game we received a lucky break when Scott Lovell dribbled through the tiring defence to slot home the ball past the onrushing keeper. The celebrations proved that we were a united team that can go far in the future. Despite attempts to equalise, the end result was 1-0 to Mangotsfield and we were ecstatic with the accomplishment. I would like to take a moment to thank Mr Robinson, on behalf of the team, for organising the match and practices after school. We have more matches coming up in the next couple of weeks and I have the feeling we will do well in them.

## Year 12s get stuck in the Mud!



On the 16<sup>th</sup> March, seven Year 12 students boarded the minibus bound for Slapton Ley Field Studies Centre, Devon. Although only a small group, I have never seen such big bags from the boys! After my fantastic driving skills and a short break, where Jack Rogers heroically won the Jackpot in the services, we'd made it to Devon. The sun was shining brightly, so we headed straight to the beach.

Over the week, students studied river characteristics and processes and coastal environments in preparation for their field studies exam in May. While working along the river, students fully appreciated the characteristics of the flood plain as they became stuck knee-deep in mud!! It was hilarious watching. As one student got pulled out, the next one became wedged in the bog, nearly losing wellies along the way.

It was a fantastic week, with the students being an asset to the school. Students are already looking forward to our next adventure in Year 13, and I wish them all the best of luck with their exams in May.

**Mr Emery**

**Acting Head of Geography**

## NEW ADULT EDUCATION COURSES!

Would you like to spend a couple of hours a week brushing up your Maths or ICT skills so you can help your child with their school work? As part of our community programme and with the help of the Family Learning Service we are running some more free courses to help parents of Year 7 students keep one step ahead. If you do not have a GCSE at Grade C or above (or the equivalent of a GCSE) in Maths or ICT, these courses could be for you.

**"Great course!"**

We have nearly completed the first ICT course and we've had some great feedback from our current students.

### **Skills and Confidence**

The new 10 week courses for parents only will look at the skills your child should have in order to keep up with secondary school Maths or ICT. It will give you suggestions of ways to help them whilst improving your own skills and confidence. We are hoping to run lots more courses in the future from Literacy to Science and Engineering which could lead to better qualifications and better jobs. If you'd like more information please ring Teresa on 01454 864619.

### **Maths and ICT courses at Mangotsfield School**

Time Thursday evenings 6.30 pm to 8.30pm.

Date Starting on 30th April 2009.

"I found the course extremely useful and enjoyable. I learnt lots of new things."

"I feel much more confident on the computer."

"A very informative course for beginners."

"Great course! Learnt loads. Very clear guidelines and teacher very helpful."

## 'Creative thinking is an ability, an attitude and a process' - A PDC Lesson

During this term in PDC, students will be developing and acquiring the skills needed to become a creative thinker. A simple definition is that creativity is the ability to imagine or invent something new as well as the ability to generate new ideas by combining, changing, or reapplying existing ideas.

Creativity is also an **attitude**: the ability to accept change and newness, a willingness to play with ideas and possibilities, a flexibility of outlook, the habit of enjoying the good, while looking for ways to improve it.

Creativity is also a **process**: creative people work hard and continually to improve ideas and solutions, by making gradual alterations and refinements to their works. The creative thinker also knows there is also room for improvement.

Students will be adopting the three-step plan to become creative thinkers within PDC. They will be encouraged to 'think outside the box', challenge their own thinking and consider alternative pathways to reach a conclusion. Creative thinkers are encouraged to think

freely, suspend judgement, to look at things subjectively and must concentrate on generating a large quantity of ideas that can be sifted through later.

The overall aim is for all students in PDC to become creative thinkers and think fluidly and flexibly, showing elements of originality and being able to elaborate on already complex ideas.



### 10 4 10—The Success of Year 10 Students

Congratulations to Sam Douglas who is now a black belt in Judo. She coaches 5-12 year olds and will be competing in the upcoming National Championships. Good Luck!

**George Boulton continues in his sporting success by recently playing for Somerset under 15s.**

Well done to Georgina Murch for passing her grade 4 Drum exam with a merit.

**Joanne West again impresses on ice with a fantastic performance**

**and a third place at the Cardiff National Open skating competition.**

Louis Elliot is currently training for the TenTors event, held later this term. The orienteering event takes place on Dartmoor in Devon and attracts hundreds of like-minded people. In past years the weather has been so bad people have had to be airlifted off the moor!

**Good luck to the 30 Year 10 students who are off on their Duke of Edinburgh expedition at the start of June (a list of names**

**are on the back of the newsletter).**

Congratulations to Chris Williams who recently ran in the Bath Half Marathon. His time was an impressive 2hrs and 8mins.

**A fantastic performance by the Year 10 Girls' netball team who took part in the PGL Netball competition at Barton Hall in Torquay and came 2nd.**

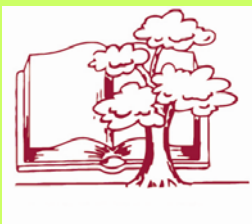
And finally congratulations to the new Year 10 Hockey team who are currently unbeaten!

### SAFETY BOOTS AND OVERALLS APPEAL

If your son, daughter or any other family member has outgrown, or no longer has any use for, safety boots or overalls, please consider donating them to Mangotsfield School/ The Kingswood Partnership so that we may use them for loan purposes for diploma courses. This would be a big help in difficult economic times. If you can support us in this way please send clean boots and overalls to School Reception in a bag marked for my attention. Thank you for any support you can give. It is greatly appreciated.



Mrs Bates, Off Site Education Keyworker



**MANGOTSFIELD  
SCHOOL  
AN ENGINEERING AND  
SCIENCE COLLEGE**

Please give any feedback or  
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**We're on the Web**

[www.mangotsfieldschool.org.uk](http://www.mangotsfieldschool.org.uk)

**Duke of Edinburgh  
Students**

Alex Reason  
Sophie Burrows  
Charlie Stargatt  
Scott Cockle  
Jess Parker  
Ben Scragg  
Charlie Simpson  
Liam Riddle  
Jack Hubbard  
Ashley O'Hara  
Scott Lovell  
Alice Arbury  
Beth Amos  
Danielle Batten  
Gabby Rodda  
Jack Blanchard  
Laura Peacock  
Nick Kembrey  
Jack Moran  
Sam Hocking  
Jordan Luke  
Stefan Willcox  
Dan Burgan  
Tim Tamimi  
Sam Douglas  
Callum Carter  
Russell Peters  
Sawan Patel  
Alex Bryant  
Oscar Reed

## Important Dates for your Diary

28th April	Year 6 Uniform Evening
4th May	Bank Holiday, School Closed
5th—8th May	Year 10 Mock Exams (no study Leave)
13th May	Year 8 Subject Evening
13th May	South Glos Athletics Trials
14th May	Year 10 Aim Higher Day
25th-29th May	School Holiday
3rd June	Year 7 Humanities Trip
6th & 7th June	Duke Of Edinburgh Expedition
9th June	Year 10 Subject Evening
9th & 11th June	Year 7 Humanities Trip
18th June	Year 10 Field Trip
24th June	Summer Concert
26th & 29th June	Year 5 Taster Day
1st July	Year 6 Transfer Day and Parents' Evening
13th-17th July	Year 10 Work Experience Week
16th & 17th July	Enrichment Days
24th July	INSET day, School Closed
4th September	School re-opens to students

## GCSE EXAM TIMETABLE

Dates	Subject	Dates	Subject
24 Apr	Art (5 hour practical)	1 Jun	D&T Resistant Materials 1.20pm
27 Apr	Art (5 hour practical)	2 Jun	English Language 1 8.50am
29 Apr	French Orals	2 Jun	Geography 1 1.20pm
5 May	French Orals	3 Jun	History – full course (medicine) 8.50am
6 May	Music (Assignment) 8.50am	3 Jun	French 1.20pm
6 May	German Orals	4 Jun	Applied Science (retakes) 8.50am
7 May	German Orals	4 Jun	Chemistry paper 2 & 3 8.50am
12 May	RS (Short and Long) 1.20pm	4 Jun	English Language 2 1.20pm
13 May	Music (Listening) 1.20pm	5 Jun	RS 1.20pm
14 May	Physical Education 8.50am	8 Jun	D&T Graphics 1.20pm
18 May	Maths (non Calculator) 1.20pm	9 Jun	Geography 2 8.50am
19 May	English Literature 8.50am	10 Jun	Physics paper 2&3 1.20pm
19 May	ICT 1.20pm	11 Jun	History – full and short course (American West) 1.20pm
20 May	Biology Paper 2 & 3 1.20pm	16 Jun	Statistics 8.50am
21 May	D&T Food Tech 8.50am	16 Jun	Media 1.20pm
22 May	German 8.50am	18 Jun	D&T Textiles 1.20pm
22 May	Business Studies 8.50am	22 Jun	Single Science + Retakes
1 Jun	Maths (Calculator) 8.50 am		