



Special points of interest:

Please look at the back page for the latest Sporting News

Inside this issue:

Berlin Trip continued 2

Police crack down on attendance 2

NEAT 2

The Apprentice 3

Engineer your Future 3

Sports News 4

Issue 6

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TRIP TO BERLIN by Rosie Say, 10.6

From the 19–25 of October, 40 Year 10, 11 and 13 students visited the capital of Germany; Berlin. It was a jam-packed week, full of fun and exciting activities! After setting off at 8 pm on the Tuesday evening, we made great progress by first passing through the Euro Tunnel at the estimated time. We then continued to pass through France, Belgium and Holland until we hit a large traffic jam just before Hannover, Germany. It took a whopping 23 hours to finally reach Berlin; but it was well worth it! After sitting down to dinner and recovering from the journey, it felt like no time at all before we were up and raring to go for the day ahead of us.



On Thursday, we began by visiting Checkpoint Charlie. This was one of the border control points where people from the West could enter the East or vice versa, but only with permission. It was really interesting to see all the photos and read the stories of how some people tried to escape across from one side to the other. There were stories and pictures of how people tried to smuggle themselves in suitcases, car boots and all sorts of other things! Some people even escaped using a huge catapult to launch themselves over the wall. After this it was time for sight-seeing at the famous Brandenburg Gate and the Reichstag; the famous German Parliament building and Unter den Linden (under the Lime Trees), an avenue of trees along the road facing the Brandenburg Gate. After that, we went on a cruise on the River Spree which went right through the city centre. On the evening, a disco was organised in the Dlight Club. This was a real disco club designed for school groups and it was great to meet students from other schools and to practise our German! On behalf of everyone I think I can say we thoroughly enjoyed it!



On Friday we visited the Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp. I have to say; I don't think many people were looking forward to it very much although it was very educational and much was learnt from it. It was overwhelming to experience this part of history and when we left we couldn't help feeling how lucky we were and how awful the conditions must have been. After this it was time for some sightseeing. (continued on page 2) ►

We went to the famous street, the Ku'Damm, right in the centre of Berlin. We all enjoyed spending our money and trying to work out all the prices in Euros!!

On the Saturday morning, we visited the DDR museum. (DDR was name of East Germany when the wall divided East and West). This was a hands-on and interactive museum full of surprises! There were cars to sit in, waterfalls of mist to walk through and quizzes to answer; this museum really didn't get boring! It was really interesting to see what life was like in East Germany during the Communist period before the Berlin wall came down. We then went to the multi-media ultra- modern complex called the 'Potsdamer Platz'. This also included the massive 'Sony Centre', and some students even went to the cinema! On the way back to the hostel, we were driven past 1.3km of the Berlin Wall that was still standing called 'The East Side Gallery'. Here, different sections of the wall had been painted by artists to create artwork, some in the style of Banksy. In the evening we challenged each other to a game of bowling and even the coach drivers joined in. It was great fun to socialise with other year groups and to get to know people.

On the final day of the trip, an all day ticket to a theme park had been arranged for us. This was to 'Belantis Theme Park'. There was a log flume, roller coasters, boat rides, flying rides and many more; not forgetting the gift shop and café. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed that day even if the weather wasn't great!

After a short night's sleep, we were soon on our way in the morning; an early start for everyone at 5 am! No-one seemed to mind as it had been such a great trip. It was such a good combination of educational and social activities that there was no time to be tired! Not once did I see someone that looked unhappy or left out. Everyone was friendly to others and made the most of this superb experience! I think we will all remember this trip for a long time to come, and I think I speak on behalf of everyone when I say it was a thoroughly enjoyable and interesting trip!



Police crack down on unauthorised absence

During this year we will be working with the police on a scheme that is set to reduce unauthorised absence in schools.

On one day the Police and Education Welfare Officers will visit all parents who have not notified the school of the reason for their son/daughter's absence. To ensure that you do not get a home visit, please contact the school's absence line on 01454-862777 if your child is unable to attend.

NEAT!

On Monday 15 November the English team released their first magazine 'Neat'. The TAG team walked around every classroom selling the magazine at a minimum donation of just 20p, with all proceeds going to Children In Need. Many generous people made great donations and bought the magazine which the English team had been working on for weeks, supported by the Miss Smith. On the day we made a fantastic £53 for our chosen charity.

Children In Need is a very well known charity that has raised millions in the past by hosting spectacular shows on BBC1. The charity helps children around the world with all sorts of difficulties such as leukaemia, brain damage and cancer, as well as children who are in need of food, water and other things that we take for granted. We know our donation will be greatly appreciated and we are glad to be able to help.



By Ellie Simmons and Robyn Kelley

The APPRENTICE at Mangotsfield

You're
fired!



Our version of the BBC's The Apprentice is already well under way with one challenge complete and the next about to start. One of the teams has already lost a team member and after allegations of cheating were unproven, the two teams ended the first challenge with a margin of just £1.85 between them.

Cake sale

The first challenge saw 16 students split into two teams, the A-Team and The Super Seven. Both teams were very enthusiastic and got stuck in right away with meetings and one group spent lots of time baking their own cakes in the school kitchens. On challenge day both teams ran their own separate cake sale and one group sold raffle tickets (allegedly before challenge day!). However, despite all these efforts, Emily's team lost by just £1.85 and Jack was fired after receiving the most votes and not turning up for the board room meeting. Their team captain, away sick on the day, was not able to defend herself so continues to the next challenge.

30 second advert

The challenge for term two is to create a 30 second advert for Mangotsfield Sixth Form with a pair of media students as their camera crew and technical support. They will film and edit on Challenge day which is Wednesday 17th November. They have a media brief and have to submit their story board on Wednesday 10th November. We will wait and see what this brings!

Moving images

This challenge asks the apprentices to use moving images to represent a key idea or concept - in this case the Sixth Form at Mangotsfield. They will need to think about what they are filming and also how they wish to film it, so that their finished product has the desired effect on the viewer. This is very similar to what GCSE students will be doing over their two year course. KS4 Media Studies asks students to analyse how media texts - from TV adverts to comic books - are created to appeal to audiences. They also apply these ideas to their own productions.

Fired!

The second challenge will be followed up by another boardroom meeting at the end of term where three members of the losing team will be fired!

Engineer your Future

Year 8 students recently watched a drama presentation called "Engineer Your Future" that highlighted the interesting and varied careers that are available within the engineering sector of the jobs market. The energetic performers used wigs, props and impersonation to talk about all sorts of engineering roles in many different areas such as computing, building design and electrical installation to name just a few. They told the Year 8's that we are surrounded by the work done by engineers; designs and finished products of all sorts from roads, bridges and cars to houses, aeroplanes and mobile phones. They also emphasised the fact that engineering could lead to a highly paid and interesting career that suited women just as well as men.

Engineers work in computing, food, transport, medicine, fashion, television, electrical design, sports, safety, town planning, the space industry, renewable energy, aeronautics, textiles and many more.

Check out engineering as a career at

www.tomorrowsengineers.org.uk





**MANGOTSFIELD
SCHOOL
AN ENGINEERING AND
SCIENCE COLLEGE**

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**We would like to
remind you not to
drive into the
school car park
when dropping off
or collecting your
children, due to
health & safety
reasons.
Thank you.**

SPORTS NEWS

Boys' Rugby

Year 7 - Well done to the Y7 rugby team that came second in the County 12 a side tournament. The squad all played brilliantly in their first tournament, with many of the team playing in a competitive rugby match for the first time.

Year 8 - A very successful season. The team came third in the opening county festival, and then improved on this by gaining second place in the end of term County 12 a side tournament, narrowly missing out to Winterbourne International Academy.

Year 9 - The team coached by Mr John were unlucky not to win the County 12 a side tournament, they came a close second.

Year 10 - Huge congratulations to the Y10 team that recently won the County 12 a side tournament. They are currently playing the national Daily Mail Plate competition after losing to Sheldon School in the main cup competition. Well Done to Max Evans who has also been selected for the County rugby squad.

Year 11 - Many congratulations to the following Y11 boys who have been selected for the County squads: Adam Lambert, Sam Earnshaw, Ryan Roach, Jacob Perry and Monty Reed.



Girls' Rugby

Many congratulations to Ellie Paige Evans who becomes the first girl in the school to be selected for the Girls' Year 8 County rugby squad.

Football

The Year 8's got through to the third round of the National Cup. They beat Bradley Stoke School by 7-1 in Round 2 but unfortunately lost to Kingsdown School from Swindon this week!!

The Year 9 football team are also on good form. They are through to the last 64 schools in the country in the national cup with some great results on the way, in particular a thrashing of Castle School by 7 goals and then a solid win over Chippenham School Sheldon 3-0. They beat Grange School, the losing finalist from last year, 3-2 last week with a last gasp goal from Jack Howe who hit a 30 yard free kick in to the bottom corner!

Cross Country

All runners performed well during the short cross-country season. Elliott Morris (Year 7) opened the season with a third place finish at Downend. The Year 8/9 team had some very strong performances from Luke Nash, Harvey Baker, Ben Case, Cameron Brooks and particularly Jake Bevan (3rd and 4th place finishes), which meant the team came second overall in the first race.

Ebony Chapman ran very well in the Year 10/11 races coming 2nd and 4th in her two races, which bodes well for next year as she is still in Year 10.

Leadership in PE

There has been a huge amount of leadership going on in term 1. Many students in PE have been giving up their free time to lead sporting activities for Mangotsfield students as well as local Primary school students. Students in the Year 11 BTEC group as part of their course work have been running various after school sports activities for Year 7 students including football, basketball, dodgeball and dance.

Mr Solomons' Year 10 Girls group have been working on leadership in their lessons. This led to the class leading a Boccia/New Age Curling festival for local Primary schools. The students welcomed the primary schools to Mangotsfield by meeting them at reception and then proceeded to run the entire afternoon themselves by organising over 60 Year 2 students and guiding them through playing the two sports. This was an excellently run event and the girls were great ambassadors for Mangotsfield School.