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Issue 13

Newsletter Date: 6th May 2011

Go4SET Trip to Defence Academy



On Thursday 3rd March, a group of 21 Year 8 students visited the UK Defence Academy of the MOD at Shrivenham, Swindon. The Academy is the MOD's higher education training centre for all forces in the UK. The purpose of the visit was for students to find out about real-life engineering projects and inspire them to consider a career in Science and Engineering.

During the day, the group worked as a team on tank simulators as driver and gunner battling against an enemy target, learnt about the way artillery has changed over time and how Russian tanks could survive underwater. During this last part, students could actually climb onto, over and inside a range of British tanks.

"The best bit was climbing on the tanks, finding out how to load a gun and finding out about missiles" David Kiddle.

"I really enjoyed climbing into the tanks and was surprised how little room there is" Jamie Ellis.

MFL COMMUNICATIONS!

The theme for the recent Science and Engineering Week was "Communication" and the MFL Department decided to try out some walkie-talkies to communicate with students in a foreign language and to test out their real ability to communicate!

The walkie-talkies were given to various subject teachers in their classes and Mrs Aldous and Mrs Royall, who were sitting in their "Radio Station" in the Foyer, would call up the teacher and ask to speak to a student. They would then ask the selected student some questions in French or German. The walkie-talkie would then be passed to another student in the class and then a volunteer runner would take it to a different subject teacher and further students would be questioned. It was all very fast moving and the students did not know who was going to be asked next!

When interviewed the next day, the students said they really enjoyed the activity and that it was an exciting way to practise their French and German. One student said " I thought it was good that we didn't know who the walkie-talkies were going to and it really made you think carefully about how you answered the questions. It was quite strange speaking a foreign language in a technology or geography lesson!"

The fact that the students were not in their MFL lessons at the time made them think out of context and it really tested their initiative. Prizes were given to the students who asked the most questions correctly.

Mrs Royall and Mrs Aldous would like to thank all staff and students who took part in this activity.

Merci beaucoup and Vielen Dank !!



Gabblers Success Again for 2011!

On Monday 28th March, Christopher Williams of Year 12 won Second Prize (out of 18 competing schools) at the 24th Gabblers Grand Final. Chris has been taking part in the Gabblers Club for the last 6 months and, at the Grand Final of 2011, he presented an after-dinner speech on the selected title "*Simply The Best*" to around 200 people at The Bristol Hotel. Jade Saunders, Gabbler of 2009-2010 and winner of 'Most Improved Gabbler', Mrs Blackmore and I went along to the Final and supported Chris in monthly meetings where we were all over-whelmed by the standard of speeches.

The Grand Finale was a night to remember with speech topics ranging from "*Round The Bend*" to "*The Importance of Being Ernest*", a beautiful three-course dinner and not forgetting reverse bingo which is played every year to help raise money for the club - a fantastic evening was had by all!

The Gabblers Club was formed back in 1987 (I was actually a Gabbler for my Sixth Form back in 2001!) with the aim of giving young people the skill and confidence to speak clearly and effectively in public. Each year, a number of Bristol Secondary Schools select a representative from their lower Sixth Form. The year starts with a teatime introductory meeting in October, followed by six monthly meetings and the Grand Final takes the form of a banquet attended by the Lord Mayor of Bristol and other distinguished guests. Half the marks for the each Gabbler are awarded across the six months; the other half at The Grand Final. Points are awarded for the content, delivery and timing of the speeches. Prizes are for Gabbler of the Year, Most Improved Gabbler, the Best Speech 'on the night', plus several others.

The English Department would like to thank Chris for the hard work he has put in this year and we hope he will also help us to choose the new Gabbler for next year. We would also like to thank Jade for her support, not only was she an excellent Gabbler last year but she has also continued to support the competition this year.

I will shortly be looking for a member of the current Year 11 group (soon to be Year 12) who would be interested in representing the school for this year's competition starting in October. Do you have what it takes? Please look out for information on the school television screens from this September for more information.

Miss S. Smith, English Teacher i/c KS3 intervention and Gifted and Talented.

PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCIES

There are currently 2 Parent Governor vacancies at this school.

If you wish to know more about being a School Governor you may approach your child's school, talk to someone you know who has been a School Governor or contact Governor Development Services by ringing 01454 863182.



**MANGOTSFIELD
SCHOOL
AN ENGINEERING AND
SCIENCE COLLEGE**

Please give any feedback or
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EXAMS HELP!!

Revision will help you pass and get higher grades!

Check out the great revision resources on our own website at
www.mangotsfieldschool.org.uk

Just Google *Mangotsfield revision* and it's top of the list!
You'll find Mr Emery's revision guide, revision timetabling help, a revision tip
mind-map and links to lots of other helpful sites.

Good Luck!

Results:

AS and A Level results are due on **Thursday 18 August 2011** -
the school will be open between 9.00 am – 11.00 am for their collection.

Please Note:-

Year 13 results can be collected at 9.00 am

Year 12 results can be collected at 10.00 am

GCSE results are due on **Thursday 25th August 2011** – The school
will be open between 10.00 am and 12 noon on that day for their collection.

Posted Results:

Results will be posted to any student who leaves a **stamped, self-
addressed A5 envelope with Mrs Bennett**, the Exams Officer.

For Year 12 and Year 13 students:

Staff will be available between 11.00 am and 1.00 pm on **Thursday 18
August** to help you.

For Year 11 students:

Staff will give help and advice (whether you are returning to the Sixth Form
or not). Final Interviews for Year 12 may be booked on **Thursday 25
August** and will take place before the start of Term 1 (September 2011: to
be advised). There will also be a results clinic running from 10.00 am to
12.00 noon on **Friday 26 August**. You can receive advice on options
following on from any unexpected GCSE results.