

Special points of interest:

Make sure you see
the new reward
system being
piloted in Year 10

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Mangotsfield Newsletter



Issue 15

Newsletter Date: 8th May 2009

Healthy Schools

Being healthy is all about making the right choices. This might involve

- what goes in a lunchbox (or what doesn't go in!)
- whether or not to smoke
- how we look after one another in school
- how we travel to school and what exercise we take

Mangotsfield School is applying for Healthy School Status and we have had to ask ourselves about how we support students and staff in making healthy choices. This is a government scheme to encourage us to become more healthy as a community. The PTA and School Council will be involved in reviewing some of our health-related policies, and we will be keeping you informed about health issues through the newsletter.

In the meantime, have a think about what goes into lunchboxes and the snacks that you choose. You might want to think about reducing packaging also. Please remember that we don't allow drink cans in school at all because of the risk presented to students when these are left on the playground or field, but cans often contain sugary drinks too! A very small change in what goes into lunchboxes can be a step in changing our lifestyles for the better.

Year 9 SATs tests

Year 9 students usually take Standard Assessment Task examinations, or SATs, at this time of year and they appear on your school calendar for the first week in May. The Government has stopped these tests for 14-year olds this year, but we are expected to make an accurate assessment of students using SATs levels. You will see the current level of student work on the Interim Reviews, which went home last Friday.

In order to support an accurate assessment of our students and to help us in setting them when they start in Year 10, students will be taking the 2009 SATs papers for English, Mathematics and Science. These examinations will take place on Wednesday 17th, Thursday 18th and Friday 19th June. Students will be given information from subject teachers on the requirements of the tests and they will receive feedback afterwards.

We hope that this will be an opportunity for students to show what they can achieve!

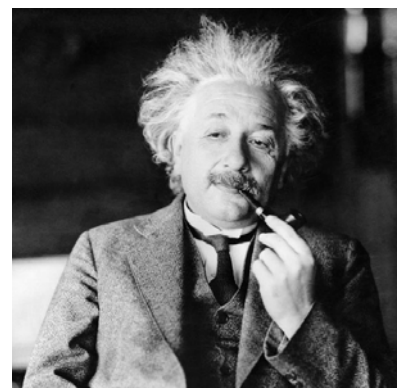
Creative Thinkers — A PDC lesson

Thinking Creatively!

In reality it is creative thinkers who often exhibit the ideas that others deem 'wild' or 'silly', however this overflowing of new ideas is often essential when finding new solutions to old problems. Within PDC this term all students have been experiencing creative thinking tools with the ambition of developing their own original and innovative ideas. They have questioned age-old traditions and examined products from new angles, all with the aim of enhancing their own creativity. As an inventor and idea generator, students will possess a vital tool they can use within their future learning and work.

Year 8 students were asked to review the skills they have experienced and developed and use these to construct an acrostic poem that displays the skills of creativity. Below is the result of one group's efforts, which exhibits originality and teamwork:

Creative thinkers examine old problems to find new solutions,
Redesigning old products to improve their efficiency,
Examining ideas from different angles,
Achieving the impossible,
Thinking 'outside the box',
Innovative and original ideas,
Visionaries of the future,
Evaluating strengths and weaknesses.



SS Great Britain Visit Students Float Through Workshop

Before half term the Engineering Level 1 Diploma group visited the SS Great Britain for a workshop on floating and density as part of their course unit on materials. The workshop, 'Salvaged!', is inspired by the SS Great Britain's rescue from the Falkland Islands and epic return to Bristol in 1970. The students worked in teams to see who could build the boat which carried the most cargo.

Cow on Board

The students had a great day. As well as learning about the science of floating and sinking boats they enjoyed sunning themselves on the deck, looking out over the River Avon and the Clifton Suspension Bridge and wondering why there was a plastic cow on board! They were amazed by the cramped conditions on board ship, even for first

class passengers, and impressed by the ship's huge propeller. It was interesting to see what an awful state the ship was in when they brought her home to Bristol and how she has been repaired and preserved. They all said what a great day it was.

Many thanks to Brunel Ford for sponsoring the visit and to Helen Horler, at SS Great Britain, who has been supporting our diploma course and belongs to our employer forum.

Brunel's SS Great Britain recently became the first museum in the south west to receive the Quality Badge awarded by the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom. It follows the Sandford Award for Heritage Education, presented in 2008.



The picture shows our students at the stern of Brunel's SS Great Britain, under the glass 'sea', with SS Great Britain Trust's Education and Access Officer Helen Horler, and Lamin Jammeh of Brunel Ford which supports the SS Great Britain Trust's educational work.

SAM LEARNING: A Great Internet Revision Tool

It has been proved that by spending ten hours on one subject on SAM learning you could increase your marks by one grade. Why not give it a go? It's a fun way of revising where you can test your knowledge and find areas that you need to spend more hours studying.

It is easy to use, just go onto www.samlearning.com. Our Centre ID is BSI6MS, then when asked for your user ID and Password, it is your date of birth followed by your initials eg 28/07/94TC

New Reward Scheme in Year 10

Year 10 are the lucky recipients of a new reward scheme. This is a pilot scheme which was the brainchild of the newly formed SEAL group.

The scheme will work in two ways. Firstly, teachers will send postcards to students who they think should be rewarded. Students collect these postcards and when they have ten they can trade them in at reception for a £10 Mall Gift Card.

We hope that this scheme will reward those students who always do the right

thing, who try their hardest and work well in lessons. It should also motivate other students.

We asked the Year 10s themselves what they would like as a reward and they unanimously said "Mall" gift cards.

If this scheme is a success, it is hoped that we will use it with both Year groups in Years 10 and 11. The younger students will continue with reward stamps.





**MANGOTSFIELD
SCHOOL
AN ENGINEERING AND
SCIENCE COLLEGE**

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**REMEMBER
BREAKFAST
CLUB.**

**BREAKFAST
=BRAIN FOOD**

GIRLS' SUMMER 2009 FIXTURE LIST

Date	Activity	Teams	Venue	Opposition
Wed 6 May	Rounders	7 8 9 10	Away	Grange
Wed 13 May	S. Glos. Athletics Trials	U13 (Yr 7 + 8) U15 (Yr 9 + 10)	Yate Outdoor Centre (BGS)	All S. Glos. Schools
Thur 14 May	Rounders	7 8 9 10	Home	John Cabot Academy
Tues 19 May	Rounders Tournament	8	Downend	All S. Glos. Schools
Wed 3 June	Rounders	7 8 9 10	Away	Hanham
Wed 10 June	S. Glos. Athletics Championships	7 8 9 10	Yate Outdoor Centre (BGS)	All S. Glos. Schools
Tues 16 June	Rounders Tournament	9	John Cabot	All S. Glos. Schools
Wed 17 June	Rounders	7 8 9	Away	Filton
Tues 23 June	Rounders Tournament	7	Grange	All S. Glos. Schools
Wed 24 June	Rounders	7	Home	Sir Bernard Lovell
Tues 7 th July	SCHOOL SPORTS DAY	Inter-Tutor Group	Mangotsfield	All tutor groups
Wed 8 July	Rounders	7 8 9 10	Away	Kingsfield
Tues 19 July	Rounders Tournament	10	Castle	All S. Glos. Schools
Wed 15 July	Rounders	7 8 9	Away	Downend

Concorde Book Group

For the past couple of Thursdays a group of Year 7s have been going to the LRC after school to read five books for the Concorde Book Award then, after a few sessions, they vote on the book they think should win.

The highest number of votes in our group went to 'Ways to Live Forever' by Sally Nicholls.

Here is what one of our group had to say about it: *"I think 'Ways to Live Forever' is a very moving and addictive book. It is a 'must read'. I give it ten out of ten."*

The Concorde Book Club doesn't end there as the final decision will be made at the Awards Ceremony at Bradley Stoke Community School in a few weeks' time.

Lily Brabham 7.6