

**Special points of
interest:**

Remember Year 9
Information
Evening on 2nd
December

Coming soon:
Results from the
parental survey
undertaken last
year

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Mangotsfield Newsletter



Issue 6

Newsletter Date: 27 November

You're Fired!

The Apprentice – Round 1

- Two teams of 8 students!
- £10 starting cash per team!
- Elect a group leader!
- Make as much money as you can in one day in ways that are legal and healthy!
- Count the money and see which team won!
- Two students fired at the end of the round!



You may remember that last term a group of twelve Year 9 students took up the challenge to make as much money as they could in one day starting with a £10 investment. At the end of the exercise the winning team escaped to victory with £10 profit share, whilst the losing team battled it out in the boardroom and two students were fired!

The Apprentice – Round 2

This term the remaining contestants have been sorted into 2 new teams and have been given a creative thinking challenge. Each team must come up with a TV advertisement which will attract prospective students and their parents to Mangotsfield School.

Each team will have 2 technical assistants to help them film and edit the advertisement. They have from now until the 18th November to plan everything, but all the filming and editing can only be done on the challenge day! Wednesday 18th November will see the teams perform as film producers and directors in business dress and the resulting advertisements will be judged by students, parents, staff and media experts to make sure the best team wins.

As in the last round, 3 members of the losing team will be brought into the boardroom with their team leader and will fight to defend their place in the running. The remaining 8 students will go on to Round 3 next term!

Watch this space for more news!



PSHE becomes Statutory... What does that mean for PDC at Mangotsfield School?

It was announced on 6th November 2009 that Personal, Social, Health and Economic education is to become a statutory subject in schools. Ed Balls (from the DCSF) confirmed that, building on the recommendations of an independent review by Sir Alasdair Macdonald and following extensive public consultations, PSHE will become a statutory part of the national curriculum at primary and secondary level for all young people for the first time in September 2010.

PSHE gives young people the information they need to make the right choices about their future. It covers a range of issues young people growing up today face such as:

- Leading healthier lifestyles
- Body image and health issues
- Managing personal finance
- Careers education
- Avoiding harm from alcohol and drugs
- Sex and relationships

The implications for PDC at Mangotsfield are fantastic. The curriculum already covers important elements of the local authority recommended PSHE curriculum, alongside the PLTs (Personal, Learning, Thinking Skills). However, next year there will be increased guidance from government organisations about assessment and delivery of this valuable and complex subject. This will allow each student at Mangotsfield to develop and recognise how they've progressed within this subject area.

Presently, Mangotsfield is one of 4 schools across the UK who are working with QCDA (Qualifications and Curriculum Development Agency) to develop techniques for assessing student progress in PSHE. This is a prestigious project to be involved in and will allow the school to pioneer assessment procedures when PSHE becomes statutory in the next academic year. Many thanks to the following students for their hard work so far with this project - Matt Freeman (7.3), Sorsha Johnson (7.3), Elliot Lattuca (8.5), Jade Wells (8.6), Jess Hocking (9.3) and Owain Shaw (9.1).

Year 10 Work Experience

Year 10 students should by now (we hope!) be well on the way to securing their one week work experience placement for next year, the **12th - 16th of July**. Our Health & Social Care and Integrated Studies students also need to secure an additional one week placement in both January and February next year.

The deadline dates for company health & safety checks are fast looming. Without these checks, the students will not be able to attend the placement and there are very expensive charges incurred if we miss the deadlines in the New Year.

Work experience is a brilliant week for students to learn new skills and grow in confidence. Things are more challenging this year given the economic pressure, but we know everybody is working hard with applications... it will be worth all the effort next summer! If your son or daughter has not yet secured a placement, please do all you can to help them in their search. Miss Phillips and Mrs Bates in the Vocational Education Office are also on hand to help with tips and suggestions!

For any help, please call 01454 862731.

NON UNIFORM DAY — Wednesday 4th December.

£1 donation for the Great Western Ambulance Service and Oxfam.

Solar Panels in Science Lessons

Mr Seagrave, a school governor, joined a Year 10 Science class to talk about the recently fitted Solar Panels. Mr Seagrave has been focusing on the subject of Eco Schools and has also been in charge of the Fair Trade alliance in the school council.

Mr Eadie and Mr Seagrave talked to the class about the importance of Eco Green energy for the earth and the environment. The focus of the talk was Mangotsfield's participation towards a Green society. Mr Seagrave also highlighted the fact that Mangotsfield had proposed fitting a wind turbine on the school premises which was later developed into solar voltaic panels for aesthetic reasons, as the panels fit on the D&T Block platform roof neatly in 52 cells without affecting the general view. He also mentioned that the panels which the school acquired are Photovoltaic, which means they work on converting light radiation into electrical energy via semi-conductivity rather than having to process it through water and heat as would occur in a traditional solar panel.

Mr Seagrave said "We would like to work towards co-operating with other schools for expanding the project to create a wider green society in the South Gloucestershire community". He explained the council's future plans, adding that the purpose of the class visit was a "trial" in order to experience the feasibility of engaging students with the Eco Schools scheme.

"The government is currently proceeding with plans to make solar voltaic panels available (recommended) for household usage, and I hope the school will qualify for another fund to deploy further cells in the near future" said Mr Seagrave. He explained that the benefit of these panels is not solely for Mangotsfield School nor for South Gloucestershire, the project promotes a whole new perspective of energy sourcing, as the panels create 100% green energy with no side effects on the environment (excluding the actual manufacturing of the panels).



The Kingswood Partnership Environment and Land Based Diploma

As Business Links Manager for The Kingswood Partnership, one of my responsibilities is to strategically manage Diploma employer engagement. We are currently delivering all 10 Diploma lines and I had anticipated that the Environment and Land Based Diploma would be the most challenging. However, events have proved to the contrary. The establishment of collaboration with Wiltshire College, Lackham, to deliver this Diploma has been very successful and many key organisations from Westonbirt, The National Arboretum and the RSPCA through to Magnoxnorthsites and Bristol Airport have been keen to work with us via our Employer Consultative Forum.

This September, 31 Year 10 students started the Environment and Land based Diploma programme. I recently visited Lackham to meet the College staff, some of the local employers who are supporting the Diploma, and gain an insight into the student experience. I met the Kingswood Partnership students and teacher on their arrival at the College and started the first session of the day entitled "Why is milk white?". I left the students to their investigations and was given a tour of the site; as well as the facilities you might expect Lackham is home to a number of animals not normally associated with Wiltshire – Spider Monkeys and Hognosed Vipers to name but two!

I rejoined the students for a visit to the Home Farm where we were introduced to the Senior Herdsman in his office overlooking the milking bays. He gave us an insight into the paperwork that has to be in place to ensure the animals are correctly fed. He also described his career pathway to the students and explained how his work has taken him to many different regions including Libya, Dubai and the Middle East.

We then toured the livestock facilities and saw many fine specimens from the Holstein dairy herd and the Limousin beef herd. Students were amazed to hear that one dairy cow is worth about £20,000, a female calf £300 and a male calf a mere £5 - £10. Despite competition from the exotic fauna, it was definitely the cattle that stole the show as, with perfect timing, a cow gave birth just after our arrival at the calving shed. The students lost no time in suggesting names for the new arrival but soon learnt that she would follow in the family tradition and inherit the pedigree name together with the identity tag that was quickly attached to her. This concluded the morning sessions and, after washing their hands and disinfecting their boots, the students left Home Farm for the main College campus.

I came away with a real buzz. The quality of the experience the students received both in and out of the classroom was impressive. The College tutor had already established an excellent rapport with both The Kingswood Partnership's students and member of staff and altogether the visit underlined what a positive learning environment this is for our students.



Ronnie Ward



**MANGOTSFIELD
SCHOOL
AN ENGINEERING AND
SCIENCE COLLEGE**

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Proposed Development of Land Next to the School

Have you read
the Governors'
full formal re-
sponse on the
school website?

If you would like
the opportunity
to respond,
please see the
school website
for further
details

Masterchef of the Future?

Congratulations to Chris Williams of 11.1 who entered the Bristol Junior Chef competition during half term and came second out of the 11 finalists (from 180 entries). It involved a 4 day cookery course with chefs at College Green, followed by the competition. Chris cooked seared salmon on beetroot puree with a pineapple and red onion salsa for the main course. For dessert he made a chocolate mousse with Chantilly cream, autumn berry coulis and spun sugar. The competition section was run in a Masterchef style contest with stock ingredients and a time limit. Chris also worked in the pastry section of the Harvey Nichols restaurant during Wednesday lunchtime and was subsequently offered the chance of some apprenticeships. Well done Chris!



THE KINGSWOOD PARTNERSHIP EPQ LAUNCH - October 2009

The Post 16 Extended Project Qualification was launched at UWE in October. The Kingswood Partnership students and staff "took over" a very small corner of the old Hewlett Packard facility which has been acquired as a conference venue by UWE.

Following a general introduction and specifics about the potential of a university library to empower research, the students were split into 4 groups which were rotated through 3 of the 4 workshops on offer during the morning. There were a variety of activities on offer and the students willingly took part – even in activities that didn't involve sitting on a chair and meant moving about!

We are looking forward to putting on an even bigger and better event next year.



PARENT GOVERNORS

We currently have 3 vacancies for Parent Governors. Please ring the Head's PA on 01454-862703 for more information.