



Photo from ECM DAY 23rd June
Full report overleaf

Aim Higher

On Tuesday June 16th eight Year 10 students took the opportunity to visit one of Britain's top universities, Oxford, with other Year 10 students from both Erith and Welling school.

We spent the day finding out about University life generally and what we need to be prepared for. We were taken around one of Oxford's 30 colleges, Merton College, where some of "Harry Potter" was filmed and Queen Henrietta Maria stayed. We were able to eat in the ancient wood beamed and panelled refectory and walk in the beautiful grounds by the river. Throughout the entire day there, we were accompanied by a former under graduate of the University, who encouraged anybody, who was interested, to apply for Uni later in the future. We discussed accommodation, finance, academic work and the social life of Oxford students. We also had the chance to visit the Pitt Rivers Natural History museum where we were able to explore and find out about a variety of different species and specimens. Some interesting things were the Amazonian shrunken heads, touchable stuffed animals and the reconstructed skeletons of dinosaurs. In groups, a curator demonstrated a range of exhibits and we got to hold Madagascan Hissing Cockroaches and fossilized Dinosaur poo. Overall, it was a sunny and enjoyable day. We are now much

Forthcoming Events

Friday 10th July ~ Summer Concert
Monday 13th July ~ Speech Day **early closure 2.20pm**
Thursday 16th July ~ Last day of Term

more sure about our ideas and future opportunities at University.

Thank you to Mr Johnson who accompanied us and Mrs Longman for arranging the visit!

Ngocmai Dinh (10RJS) & Emily Riseley (10JLG)

Carnegie Book Award

Last Thursday Mr Baker and I accompanied 10 Year 7 students to Townley Grammar School for the annual Carnegie Book award for the best children's book of the last 12 months.

The students had been busily reading the seven books on the shortlist since April. Many of the schools in the Borough were there and each school spoke about the merits of their favourite book. The students then voted for their favourite. Bexley Borough chose "Black Rabbit Summer" by Kevin Brooks. The National winner was "Bog Child" by Siobhan Dowd. The other short listed books were "Airman" by Eoin Colfer, "Cosmic" by Frank Cottrell Boyce, "Ostrich Boys" by Keith Gray, "The Knife of Never Letting Go" by Patrick Ness and "Creature of the Night" by Kate Thompson. Any of the books would make a great summer read!

Mrs McAllister (Librarian)

Romeo and Juliet DVD sets

A 2-disc DVD set of the Romeo and Juliet production performed earlier this year is now available. The production was filmed in widescreen using two cameras and is attractively presented. Parents of children who were in the production might be particularly interested in having this record of their child's achievement. Please send in to the school a cheque for £15 made payable to Bexley Grammar School before Friday 10th July 2009, together with your child's name and form.

Mr Otley

Merits

Congratulations to Kamil Bhagwathpersad, Felix Mackow, and Celine Dodd who have achieved 50 merits and to Ashleigh Hunt who has achieved 100 merits.

Their name will be added to the draw for an iPod.

Year 7 Cricket

Congratulations to the boys' Year 7 Cricket Team who put up an excellent display against Skinners School in the ¼ final of the Kent Cup, however, the opposition came through with 1½ overs to spare clinching the semi-final place. Some aggressive batting and competent bowling makes next season already look favourable. The boys are still in the North Kent Cup so there is still chance of silverware. Mr Boyle

ECM day – 23rd June

Last Wednesday saw the school's fifth Every Child Matters day, with pupils again off timetable and working on a variety of tasks that enhance their personal skills and independent learning. The day went very well with pupils enjoying a huge variety of events.

Su Morris of the PA took some excellent photos, which show a lot of the events that were going on. These will again be available at the ECM gallery on the website.

Year 7 and 8 worked together in 'House' classes, following the theme of 'international animals', which was chosen by the school council. Pupils really enjoyed the chance to work across year groups and found the variety of lessons exciting, often challenging preconceived ideas and teaching new skills.

The 'house' organised break and lunch events were a great success with donut eating etc enjoyed by all who took part. The money raised by Kirkman House will be sent to the charity Born Free and the School Council will choose a recipient for the other funds. The 'house' scores for the day will be published soon.

Year 9 spent the day working on a holocaust themed day of History, Drama, English and the DVD of the Boy in the Striped Pyjamas; an English study text. The work gave the pupils a chance to look at a very interesting period in History, improve their depth of knowledge and understanding of the texts and characters.

Year 10 ~ GCSE ~ Careers day

All Year 10 pupils spent the day working on aspects of their future. Working on a 7 period day, they had guest speakers from a variety of careers, talks on health and safety in the workplace and a visit to the Careers Fair in the hall, where there were representatives of various universities and career paths.

Year 12 pupils spent some time working in ICT on their UCAS entries, but also enjoyed using the Careers Fair in the hall, where they could talk to university and career representatives.

Over the day pupils achieved a great deal, investigating issues, learning new skills and finding information about possible future study and career paths.

But, none of this would happen without the goodwill and hard work of all staff, so a very big thank you to everyone involved.

Ms Rock



Year 10 Careers and 6th Form UCAS



Swimming Notice

We are currently recruiting competitive swimmers for the Bexley Grammar School Swimming team to compete in next year's Kent Secondary Schools Championships.

There are four sessions held at the Black Lion Leisure Centre in Gillingham on two consecutive Saturdays in January. These are usually the last two in the month but dates are yet to be confirmed by the Kent ASA.

The age groups are Junior Yr 7/8/9, Intermediate Yr 10/11 and Senior Yr 12/13. Individual races are 100m with 200m Individual Medley and 50m Freestyle and Medley relays. Individual races are not compulsory but it would be nice to compete in the team relays.

Due to championships being held under A.S.A Laws and Technical Rules of Swimming all competitors **must be Club swimmers.**

If interested please see Mr Boyle, Head of PE ASAP. For further details on the competition I am always available early morning or every lunchtime.

Mrs D Green Team Manager