



Peer Mentors

Last Wednesday 27th April, the newly-elected Year 12 Peer Mentor team took part in a special training regime at Barnehurst Golf Course. Organised by Mrs Haslam, Mrs Prescott and Mr Lines, the day consisted of a whole range of interesting activities, accompanied by coffee and biscuits throughout and a delicious cooked meal for lunch!

The purpose of the day was to explore what it meant to be a good mentor, to inform us of the different situations, duties and roles we were expected to meet and fill and ultimately tested our skills as listeners and advisers. Each task was met with great enthusiasm and passion by the group, which was great to be a part of. Everyone got really involved and engaged and there were even a few tears at times, but all in all it was a heart-warming experience and we all cannot wait to get started!

I would like to offer thanks to Mrs Haslam, Mrs Prescott and Mr Lines on behalf of the Peer Mentor team for a thoroughly well organised and enjoyable day!

Tanyel Kazim 12GC

Forthcoming Events

Friday 27th May ~ Year 9 & Year 10 Reports issued

Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June ~ Half Term

Tuesday 14th June ~ UCAS information evening for Year 12

Saturday 18th June ~ Sports Day and Summer Fayre

Monday 20th June ~ Day off in lieu of Sports Day




CAS congratulations to Year 13 IB students!

With the Year 13 IB cohort sitting their exams, final CAS (Creativity, Action and most importantly, Service) reflections have been submitted. IB students are required to undertake at least 150 hours of CAS and our students have been amazing in their commitment and enthusiasm and it's been an absolute delight to read about their achievements.

Of particular merit was the amount of volunteering students undertook at a local hospital, helping to make the patients stay a little more comfortable. Diana Matthews summed up her time at Queen Elizabeth Hospital; "It was amazing to see the impact that something as simple as listening to someone over a cup of tea had on the patients' stay in hospital".

Once again, our students supported many Bexley and Greenwich primary schools as reading mentors and through the Language Leader Award, where a number of foreign languages were taught. Laura Yardley and Amina Mekharef received The Jack Petchey Award following their commitment to community volunteering, with Comfort Ahanmisi being one of just thirteen young people across the UK to be selected to join Oxfam's Youth Board.

A number of students volunteered during their summer holiday supporting Bexley's Summer Reading Challenge, which encouraged young children to develop a love of reading. Many clubs and departments in the school were assisted by students in a range of activities and projects. The painting of a bedroom at a local respite centre for disabled children was



Just look for the white Peer Mentor badge!

Bullying? Homework?
Trouble at home?

School worries? Pressure?

Need help?.. Any problems?

Then come and speak to our friendly Peer Mentors because they are here to help you!

Or you could email them confidentially at:
BGSPeerMentor@bexleygs.co.uk

undertaken and local charity shops were assisted by students at the weekends. Many Scout and Girl Guide groups were supported with a number of students making the transition from volunteer to Leader. The Wingsofhope, a charity supporting the free education of orphaned children in Africa and India, benefitted by our students' creativity in coming up with their own ideas for fundraising events and making them happen and raising much needed funds. The Race for Life was run by many of the IB girls and a bike ride to London in aid of comic relief was a great success. The list goes on.

I, along with all the service recipients, would like to congratulate every IB student who willingly and generously committed their time in between the pressures of the rigorous academic side of the Diploma to make a difference in the school, local and wider community.

Vickie Hobbs' reflection finally sums up her experience of CAS. "The CAS element of the IB Diploma has allowed me to step outside of my safety zone and I truly feel that I have made a positive contribution to others' lives whilst being fortunate enough to form friendships with some very inspiring people".

Mrs Leffen, CAS Co-ordinator



Year 10

Examinations ~ Just a reminder to all Year 10 students that some of you will be sitting GCSE exams in May / June and need to ensure that you are prepared and that revision has commenced. Well done to the majority of students who conducted themselves well throughout the mock examinations, this will ensure that you will be fully prepared for your final examinations.

Work experience ~ Work experience placements should be secured by now and forms sent to employers to complete. Miss Skinner will be distributing forms. Any student who has not begun the process will be kept after school for sessions to complete it. Deadline for finding a placement and sending the form off is the 27th May.

Miss Squires, Director of Studies

Notices

Sixth Form ~ Culture club returns

We have booked tickets for *Much Ado about Nothing* at The Globe Theatre on Wednesday 25th May. If you'd like to join us for our first Globe trip, please collect a letter from the English office. We've also booked tickets for *The School for Scandal* at The Barbican on Tuesday 14th June - have a look at the website, it looks like great fun! Collect a letter from the English office from Monday.

Ms Hanington & Ms Stoddard

Merits

Well done to Marco Bernard-Brown, Natasha Thomas, Owain McLean, Alex Robertson, Matthew Robertson, Lewis Cefai (7CMS), David Kirk (7EP) and Thomas Price (7KLB) on reaching 50 merits.

Congratulations also to Olivia Reynolds (7CMS), Aanabaiyan Bavanandam (7SMB) and Lucy Ballard 7EP on successfully reaching 100 merits. Keep up the good work!

Mr Crawford

British Sign Language ~ For any students who wish to take their British Sign Language unit 102, classes will commence again on Monday 9th May 2011 from 15:30 till 17:30.

Miss G Bobin, Sign Language Tutor

Residential activities at Stoke Mandeville Stadium

In the Easter holidays two of our students, Deborah Adom 9 JMP and Tom Barton 8PEB, attended a residential activity course sponsored by Wheelpower called "Time to Shine" at the Stoke Mandeville Stadium in Aylesbury, Bucks. Mrs Haslam and I went up for a day during their stay to see how they were getting along and were extremely impressed with their enthusiasm and the number of activities that they took part in. Some words from Tom Barton:

"During the Easter break Deborah and I went to Stoke Mandeville Stadium amongst a group of 12 children from Bexley Borough. The event was sponsored by contractors involved in the 2012 Olympics. We participated in the sporting activities which are included in the Paralympics programme. During this time we had two days of sporting activities, it was a very busy schedule! All the sports we took part in were adapted to fit everyone's needs, like seated volleyball and wheelchair basketball. My favourite sport was athletics because I discovered I'm good at sports that I had not tried before, like javelin and discus. Also in the evening there were activities including wheelchair rugby and a disco. Overall the event was really good and I thoroughly enjoyed it!"

Ms H Taylor, SEIAN Department

