



Maths & Computing

Gosford Times



Weekly Newsletter of Gosford Hill School

Learn Lead Inspire

November 2011 / Issue 11

THE POWER OF THE PENNY

For many years now it has been a tradition at Gosford Hill School for the Year 7 students to bring coins into school in order to create a line of coins as part of the school's commitment to raise money for Children in Need.

This year in particular there was an incredible response from the current Year 7 students. In total 32,150 coins were collected – this included 18,872 1p coins. The total money raised was an amazing £901.09.



This fundraising event was part of a House Competition and the winning house was Cherwell who managed to raise £299.41.

This is a fantastic reflection on our Year 7 students and shows the general commitment and enthusiasm of each house to raise money for charities. It also emphasises that great results can be achieved when everybody pulls together as a team and that every contribution, no matter how large or small, really does count!

Year 7 Coins for Children in Need

House competition for the total money collected

1st Cherwell	£299.41
2nd Evenlode	£242.62
3rd Windrush	£207.01
4th Thames	£152.05

House competition for the number of coins collected

1st Cherwell	10680
2nd Evenlode	8143
3rd Thames	6732
4th Windrush	6595

The total number of coins collected by Year 7 is **32,150**

The total raised for Children In Need is **£901.09**

This was an incredible effort. Thank you to all staff, parents and students who supported this event.

Richard Belmont – Assistant Headteacher

CHILDREN IN NEED APPEAL

The sixth form raised an **amazing** total of £200.19 in 30 minutes on Tuesday 15th November when they made their traditional sculptures. A fantastic effort, so all credit to Evenlode House (Miss Keen and Miss Twomey's form) who contributed £96.91 and Thames who collected £45.95 led by Miss Green's form.

Best sculpture was judged this year by Miss Wallis and she awarded the impressive sculpture of a bee by Evenlode as top creative design. There were also commendations for the Apple logo design by Thames created by Miss Green's form and the Jolly Roger creation of Cherwell.

Windrush	£36.24
Cherwell	£21.09
Evenlode	£96.91
Thames	£45.95
TOTAL	£200.19

Check out the photographs below to see all the entries!
Congratulations to all the Year 12 and 13 students who contributed.



Thames



Windrush



Cherwell



The Winning Sculpture: Evenlode

Paul Catling and Cereta Drewett



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GOSFORD HILL AWARDS EVENING

On Thursday 17th November Gosford Hill School held a new awards evening. The awards were based on our core purpose of **Fostering Ambition and Inspiring Success**.

The ambition award was for those students who have made the most effort or progress so far during the year, thus showing their ambition. The Success Award was for those students who have achieved academically. Students from Years 7 to 13 who won an award will be named in our next newsletter.

The evening itself was well attended with live music from Oliver Farley, Jake Milburn, Jake Farrow, Andy Miller, and Will Mason. PC Brent Jackson gave the keynote speech and 50 awards were presented. Feedback from parents and students alike was very positive, one parent remarking: "It was a lovely evening. It's great to celebrate the success of our children at school. Thank you."

We have already started planning for next year, when the awards evening will be even better.....

Mr Chris Hall – Assistant Headteacher



Brent Jackson – Schools' Police Liason Officer, presenting an award



Brent Jackson with his gift presented by Head Boy – Ben Buckeldee



TABLE TENNIS CLUB

Funding from our successful 'Sportivate' application has allowed us to team up with **Forum Table Tennis Club** from Kidlington to provide after school table tennis sessions for pupils from Gosford Hill School. Karl Bushell, Head Coach from The Forum Club runs the sessions every Tuesday evening.

The club is proving to be very popular, with 20 students attending on a regular basis. It is hoped that many of these students will go on to join The Forum Club and continue to play table tennis well into the future.

Pam Selby - School Sports Co-ordinator



OFF BY HEART BBC SHAKESPEARE

On Monday the 21st of November I had the privilege of accompanying three of our students to The Lowry Arts Centre in Salford. The three boys, Tom Hooper (Year 11), Tom Brown (Year 10) and Pouyan Lotfi (Year 10), were the Gosford Hill Winners of the BBC Off By Heart Shakespeare competition and as such earned a place at the audition for the next round and ultimately the television programme.

We arrived early for the afternoon having caught a 9.00am train from Oxford just in case of travel mishaps! On the journey the boys in their smart uniform were an absolute credit to the school, talking excitedly about theatre, film, politics and their life experiences both real and computer based! There were about 60 other students there from schools mainly in the north west of England and all of them looked just as nervous as the Gosford boys. The students were all put into separate groups to complete a series of workshops designed to deepen the students understanding of Shakespeare's writing and giving them further skills as actors to interpret and perform the texts. They were then withdrawn in small groups to perform their chosen extracts from the plays.

Tom Hooper – Mark Anthony from Julius Caesar, "Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears!"

Tom Brown – Lord Capulet from Romeo and Juliet, "Hang thee, young baggage, disobedient wretch!"

Pouyan – Hamlet, "Now might I do it pat, now he is a-praying,"



The boys had to perform these in front of judges from the BBC and other young people from their groups and all of them did really well, getting very good feedback from the judges. Unfortunately only one student would be put forward for the next round from this audition and disappointingly the Gosford students were not selected. However all three of the boys said that they felt that they had more than held their own against the students they had seen perform and that they just missed out on a place in the next round. Their passion for Shakespeare and his writing has only grown as they rehearsed at home and at school for this audition and I know that the experience will develop them further as actors and drive their enthusiasm for the future.

Dr Bizley, when he met with them on Tuesday, expressed his pride in their achievements and thanked them for representing the school in such a positive manner. I am incredibly proud of Tom, Tom and Pouyan and all the other students at Gosford who just missed out on the experience this year. Well done and long may we continue to be excited and passionate about the writing of William Shakespeare.

Ellen Woodrow
Faculty Leader, Creative Arts and Physical Education

NEWS FROM THE BUNGALOW




I have just received a letter from Crohn's and Colitis UK thanking the students for the cake sale that helped raise funds for the charity. Below is an extract from the letter.

'We would like to thank Gosford Hill School so much for fundraising in aid of our charity by holding a cake sale to raise a wonder £50.00. Would you please pass on our thanks to the students who arranged this event. We have enclosed certificates for them all as well as one for the school to display.

As you may know, we depend heavily on donations to enable us to support people who are affected by Crohn's and Colitis, and to fund vital research.'

Mrs F Soleilhac – Deputy SENCO



**On behalf of children, teenagers and adults who are affected by Colitis & Crohn's
the Directors & Staff of **Crohn's and Colitis UK**
would like to thank**

*Stephanie Bowliakas, Brandon Elliott-Wheeler, Areeba Kihalid,
Kyron Singh, Jessica Quinn, Sophie Rooke, Bradley Towe and
Georgia Underwood*

FOR RAISING
£50.00
through a
Cake Sale at Gosford Hill School

This is a welcomed contribution towards the funds we need to raise this year to continue our work

Crohn's and Colitis UK
is the working title for
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR COLITIS & CROHN'S (NACC)
4 Beaumont House, Sutton Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 5HH
Tel: 01727 830038 Fax: 01727 862550 Website: www.crohnsandcolitis.org.uk
Charity Registered Nos: England & Wales 1117148 Scotland SC038632

A copy of the certificate which was presented to the school.

Questionnaire for Parents and Carers - Year 7 November 2011

Statement 1 - My child is happy at this school

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
60	43	1	0	104
57.69%	41.35%	0.96%	0.00%	100.00%
% Positive		99.04%		

Statement 2 - My child feels safe at this school

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
48	54	2	0	104
46.15%	51.92%	1.92%	0.00%	100.00%
% Positive		98.08%		

Statement 3 - My child makes good progress at this school

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
49	48	1	0	98
50.00%	48.98%	1.02%	0.00%	100.00%
% Positive		98.98%		

Statement 4 - My child is well looked after at this school

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
50	54	0	0	104
48.08%	51.92%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
% Positive		100.00%		

Statement 5 - My child is taught well at this school

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
44	58	0	0	102
43.14%	56.86%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
% Positive		100.00%		

Statement 6 - My child receives appropriate homework for their age

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
32	64	8	0	104
30.77%	61.54%	7.69%	0.00%	100.00%
% Positive		92.31%		

Statement 7 - This school ensures the students are well behaved

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
37	56	7	1	101
36.63%	55.45%	6.93%	0.99%	100.00%
% Positive		92.08%		

Statement 8 - This school deals effectively with bullying

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
31	42	7	1	81
38.27%	51.85%	8.64%	1.23%	100.00%
% Positive		90.12%		

Statement 9 - This school is well led and managed

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
36	60	2	0	98
36.73%	61.22%	2.04%	0.00%	100.00%
% Positive		97.96%		

Statement 10 - This school responds well to any concern I raise

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
42	46	1	1	90
46.67%	51.11%	1.11%	1.11%	100.00%
% Positive		97.78%		

Statement 11 - I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
47	53	0	0	100
47.00%	53.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
% Positive		100.00%		

Statement 12 - I would recommend this school to another parent

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
40	60	2	0	102
39.22%	58.82%	1.96%	0.00%	100.00%
% Positive		98.04%		

Statement 13 - Overall, I am happy with my child's experience at this school

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
46	57	0	0	103
44.66%	55.34%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
% Positive		100.00%		

Statement 14 - The Transfer Programme helped my child settle into school

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
68	28	1	0	97
70.10%	28.87%	1.03%	0.00%	100.00%
% Positive		98.97%		

Please Note: 68.4% of parents (104/152) took part in this survey