

October 2011 / Issue 7

Gosford Hill School Community Fair (13.10.11)

Last week Gosford Hill School had its first ever Community Fair. There was a huge response from students, staff and the public. Entries ranged from imaginative vegetable characters to chrysanthemums and dahlias, to themed cakes and craft entries.



Prize winning vegetable character

Megan Parker gave us the excellent gourd/pumpkin/ carrot combo whilst Sam Jones made the "Mr Man-tato-thorpe". In the photographic section, there were photos of Family, Friends, Pets, Nature, Sports, Transport and My Village or Oxford.

Students of all ages and staff submitted a wealth of high quality photographic entries.

Chris Hall, the organiser said: "This has been a fantastic day. I'm absolutely overwhelmed by the response. The whole school and community has done us very proud indeed."



Prize winning vegetable character

Gosford Hill Sixth Form students made a magnificent contribution to the day collecting and processing hundreds of entries and then helping to set up the exhibition. Judging was carried out by members of the Kidlington Gardening Society and the Kidlington Camera Club and special thanks must go to Sue Laverty, John Alcock, Frank Malone, Joy Rawlins and Terry Pollard for their judging. Seasoned participants, newcomers and judges alike were bowled over by both the large numbers and the high standard of entries.

The Headteacher, Dr. Bizley said: "This has been a brilliant first Community Fair. We are looking forward to the next one". The school would like to thank everyone who took part. Watch this space for the next one...



A student with her prize winning entry



Prize winning themed cake



Scenes from the Fair

The Bungalow, term 1



Two groups of Year 7 students have been working with us over the past 6 weeks. Both were involved in a variety of challenging activities, based in the Bungalow. One group had the chance to meet with Peter Rhodes-Brown, better known to some of you as Rosie. He is the Community Development Officer at Oxford United and came to deliver a session on respect and communication through football and sport in general. The students participated fully in all activities and left the Bungalow looking forward to a follow up session in January.

The other group was given the task to choose a charity and set up a cake sale to raise funds. This was part of a programme designed to help students with the transition from primary to secondary school. That particular task gave them the opportunity to gain confidence whilst working with the whole school community. The charity they chose is Crohn's and Colitis UK. The students wanted to raise awareness of this condition as one of them is a sufferer. They all took part in creating posters for the advertising campaign, in baking the cakes and selling them. They raised £50 which is a fantastic achievement as this was done in 15 minutes at break time!



YEAR 8 BOYS RUGBY UNION FESTIVAL HELD AT BANBURY RUGBY CLUB SCHOOL GAMES LEVEL 2 (INTER SCHOOL COMPETITION)



In an attempt to encourage more boys to play rugby and join a local Club, Gary Morris, on behalf of the School Sport Partnership, organized a rugby festival at Banbury Rugby Club. The festival was predominantly for boys who do not play for a Club although each team was allowed to field two existing Club players. After practising a few drills our students enjoyed the experience of playing matches against The Warriner School and North Oxfordshire Academy.



See Inside Manufacturing

Automotive companies across the UK have signed up to 'See Inside Manufacturing', an initiative which aims to inspire young people to consider careers in advanced manufacturing and engineering within the UK automotive industry.

As part of this initiative our school was invited to visit BMW Plant Oxford, the home of the Mini. Students from our Year 10 BTEC Engineering groups visited BMW last week. They were given a tour of the Mini assembly line, the product testing and development areas and the Mini museum. The students were amazed to see how many of the assembly tasks are undertaken by specialist robots. It was emphasised at several points during the tour how important it is to have a good knowledge of science and mathematics.

Some of the BMW apprentices talked about their training at various points on the tour and then came to help our students with the 'Pen Game'. This game is a manufacturing activity game in which all new recruits participate in during their initial training, gaining an understanding of the factors affecting the productivity. There was fierce competition between the teams during the game our students played; all teams were striving to improve their output of perfect goods whilst controlling costs.

A very informative and enjoyable visit for students and staff.

Mrs E Hounsell
Careers and Work Experience
Manager



Parent Forum.....

Due to the number of articles in this week's newsletter, the summary of our Parent Forum questionnaire will be published after half term.

Dr S Bizley
Headteacher