

January 2012 / Issue 15

YEAR 8 HISTORY VISIT TO YPRES

42 Year 8 students and 5 teachers braved windy Channel crossings and cold wet weather to experience life in First World War trenches near Ypres in the last week of term.

This is an invaluable field visit that brings the rigours of the war to life, as well as being a chance to experience a little of what Belgium has to offer. Students visited contrasting cemeteries at Langemark and Tyne Cot, seeing the differences between the German and Commonwealth Graves. We placed a wreath at the Menim Gate after the Last Post, following supper in a nice restaurant in festive Ypres.

The highlight of the field visit was again the mud and water filled trenches at Hill 62. Many students braved the pitch black tunnels between the trenches, others waded round the zigzagged lines imagining life for days on end in these places at the height of the war. The students who went will now be "experts" in the classroom and will be able to bring their memories to their class during terms 3 and 4 as the History Department embarks on its study of war and conflict through the ages. As ever, the students behaved impeccably.

My thanks to Miss Stephens for organising the visit and to Mr Beard, Mr Manthorpe and Miss Jones as well.

Mrs Alison Driscoll – Humanities Faculty Leader



GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP

On 5th December Year 10 GCSE Geography students went on a 5 day residential trip. They stayed in Nettlecombe Court Field Studies Centre in Somerset, a beautiful manor house at the eastern edge of Exmoor National Park. They collected primary data and completed their controlled assessment.



It was a very cold week and all students worked hard at measuring river widths, depth, flow velocity, material size and drawing sketches at the different stages of the river.

By the end of the week the group, whilst tired, had completed their controlled assessment (25% of their final grade), had a much clearer understanding of the processes at work in rivers and had a fun time!

Miss Rebecca Lopez – Humanities Faculty



KEY STAGE 4 NATIONAL CENTER PARCS BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND ONE SCHOOL GAMES LEVEL 2 (INTER SCHOOL COMPETITION)

The above Key Stage 4 badminton competition was held at The Cooper School this year. Ryan Whitehead, Max Jones, Travis Gordon, Kevin Njoroge and Charlie Nutt made up the team for Gosford. The first stage of the competition was played in pools of three. In our pool each school won one match and lost one and the positions were equal. Unfortunately on count back of games we found ourselves in third place and in the third pool. The boys went on to win both of their next two matches convincingly, only dropping one game out of ten.



Mrs Pam Selby – School Sports Co-ordinator

YEAR 7 & 8 LEARNING THEMES/TOPICS

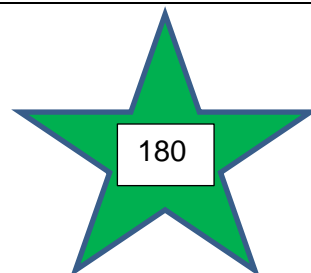
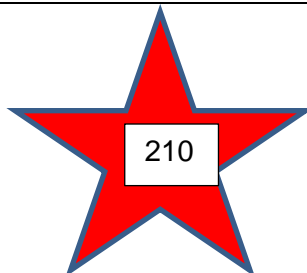
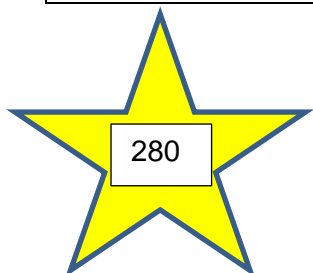
On Monday next week I will be sending home with students in Year 7 & 8 the Learning Themes/Topics they will be studying in terms 3 & 4. I do hope you find this information useful as the booklets have been designed following consultation with parents as to how we can help them to understand more clearly what their sons/daughters are studying. I would appreciate any feedback you might have on this initiative.

If for some reason you have not seen the booklet/pamphlet (yellow for year 7 and green for year 8) please ask your child as to the whereabouts of it, i.e. 'bottom of bag', 'inside blazer pocket'!

Mr Dom Ward – Deputy Headteacher

HOUSE POINTS

WEEK ENDING FRIDAY 16 DECEMBER 2011



**BAKING
BISCUITS
AND
RAISING £58
FOR
MACMILLAN
CANCER
RESEARCH**



Secret students revealed

The first students selected by random and in secret can now be revealed as;

Cherwell – Tom Bagnall CRRN

Evenlode – Sajina Asokakumar EDEN

Thames – Connor Beecham TSWR

Each student completed a week with a positive record for attendance, punctuality and behaviour.

Unfortunately the student selected for Windrush obtained a blemish to their behaviour record on the Friday. **10 points each.**



DID YOU KNOW THAT THE FORMS WITH THE HIGHEST WEEKLY ATTENDANCE GAIN POINTS FOR THEIR HOUSE?



Mrs Gable's Year 9 and 10 class baked biscuits and her form made badges and sold the biscuits to hungry students making a staggering £58.21 for Macmillan Cancer Research. Well done to all who will gain points for their house.
EVENLODE

**ANTI-BULLYING POSTER
COMPETITION**
The winning form was **EDEN**
25 points to Evenlode

INTER-HOUSE SPORTS COMPETITION



YEAR 7 BOYS-1ST CHERWELL, 2ND EVENLODE, 3RD WINDRUSH, 4TH THAMES

YEAR 7 GIRLS-1ST CHERWELL, 2ND EVENLODE, 3RD WINDRUSH, 4TH THAMES

YEAR 8 BOYS-1ST THAMES, 2ND CHERWELL, 3RD WINDRUSH, 4TH EVENLODE

YEAR 8 GIRLS-1ST CHERWELL, 2ND THAMES, 3RD WINDRUSH, 4TH EVENLODE

YEAR 9 BOYS- 1ST CHERWELL, =2ND WINDRUSH & EVENLODE, 4TH THAMES

YEAR 9 GIRLS-1ST EVENLODE, =2ND CHERWELL, =3RD CHERWELL

There were also individuals winners which cannot fit into this space. Well done to all who took part, PE staff for organising the event and all supporters.