



Maths & Computing

Gosford Times



Weekly Newsletter of Gosford Hill School
Learn Lead Inspire

October 2012 / Issue 8

Piano Marathon – Sainsbury’s

On Friday 19th October from 8.00am-4.30pm selected students made their way to Sainsbury’s. This was to play the piano for shoppers to raise money for a new piano. During the day each person had a chance to show off their skills by playing five or six pieces on the piano.

I was playing between 10:00-11:20am. I played many pieces including three pieces from my grade two exam. They were called Bouree, The Sandman and Baa-Ba-Do-Ba. I also played a grade one piece and a few others. I enjoyed playing the piano in Sainsbury’s because it was for a good cause. I saw a few people I knew which was nice as they made a donation because they knew me. Everyone did really well and everyone enjoyed themselves. Overall we raised £1080.31 which is just over a quarter of the total we need to get a new piano!

Anna Heaven Year 8



The Piano Marathon is a Winner! – We raised an amazing £1080.31

What a fantastic week for the music department. We set ourselves a target of £4000 to buy a new piano and carry out some much needed repairs. On our very first event we had an amazing response.



Sainsbury’s in Kidlington kindly allowed us to serenade the staff and customers for the whole day starting at 8.00am in the morning.

This event could not have happened without the help and support of many people and I would like to thank the staff and management of Sainsbury’s, David Cooper from One Man Band Music Shop in Banbury for the loan of their lovely electric piano. Thanks to both our Sixth Form helpers, Mrs Henderson (piano teacher), Mrs Hounsell, Mrs Underwood and of course the students who took part:

Yemi Akinyemi
Chelsea Beahan
Rosalind Chaston
Hannah Garcia
Holly Hall

Anna Heaven
Katherine Hill
Keanan McClosky
Alberic Lemmens-Chapdelaine
Ruth Nousiainen

Kevin Njoroge
Helen Phipps
James Prothero
Esther Schmidtpott
Katie Smith

Marcus Tranter
Lauren Underwood
Harvey Williams
Emily Young
Ariwan Zering

And who could forget Mr. Belmont and Miss Campbell rounding up a fabulous day! Thank you to everyone who made a donation. You have made such difference!

Mrs R Frankcom – Team Leader, Creative Arts Faculty



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Poetry Reading Session

The poetry reading was absolutely fantastic. Many people came to the Library including teachers, students, parents and grandparents preparing their ears for some seriously good poetry. Dr Bizley also attended and, after an introduction by Miss Marin, we were entertained by a variety of both joyful and more melancholic poems written by some very talented students.

I thought all the published poems were fantastic and I am sure everyone who attended felt it was a very enriching experience and celebration of poems. We all discussed our favourite poems with the various people who attended as it followed World Poetry Day. I really enjoyed the event!



Genevieve Tomes - Year 11



Parent Forum – Wednesday 7 November, 6.00-7.00pm in the Main Hall

You are cordially invited to attend our Parent Forum which will look at **Raising Participation Age (R.P.A.) and Post 16 opportunities** for our Young People. There will be a brief talk followed by an opportunity to ask questions. All parents welcome.

Mr D Ward - Deputy Headteacher (Curriculum)

Gosford Hill Rewards– First Cume Count

Gosford Hill's new rewards system – The Cume is proving to be a huge success. Staff and students have responded brilliantly and competition between the houses is intense. Cumes given to students are collected during house assembly every week and then put into our large Cume display in the Hall. Last Friday we had our first Cume count. The results were as follows:

Evenlode	1157
Cherwell	1265
Windrush	1570
Thames	2035

This is a total of just over 6,000 rewards given out in the first term. We will have another count during Term 2.

Mr C Hall – Assistant Headteacher (School Community & Systems)



BBC News report project

Gosford Hill School is glad to announce the launch of an amazing new project in collaboration with the BBC. BBC News School Report gives 11-16 year-old students in the UK the chance to make their own news reports for a real audience.

We are looking for a team of 15 enthusiastic students from years 7 to 11 who would like to be part of the GHS team reporting on news that matter to us and our community. We will be working on newspaper articles, radio news and video news in preparation for the next News Day which is on Thursday 21 March 2013. For more information about News report: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schoolreport/16223788>

If you want to take part, please see Miss Marin in E7 for an application form.

Looking forward to working with you!

Miss C. Marin - Assistant Faculty Leader for English and Languages

Half -Term Homework

I am delighted to inform you that Gosford Hill has recently purchased SAM Learning for all of our students. They now have access to all of the Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 materials for English, Maths and Science. There is a huge range of online activities and resources for these subjects many of which are self-marking. Once logged in, students should click on “Activities”, choose their Key Stage, choose a subject out of English, Maths and Science, and then try the activities. Students can see how they are doing in the online progress reports.

Students will have received the log-in details from their form tutors. However, the login details are of a standard format and should be easy to work out. The user ID is your son or daughter’s date of birth (six digit format *ddmmyy*) followed by his or her first and last initial – all together. So for example, mine would be 230962CH. The password is then the same. The centre ID for our school is OX5GH.



Students can log in at www.samlearning.com. During the first log-in they will be prompted to change their password. Please could students record this in their planners.

The Challenge

This half term holiday, we would like all students in Year 7 – 11 to log in, change and record their passwords and then see how many activities they can complete. There will be House points for the person who completes the most activities.

Mr C Hall - Assistant Headteacher

Message from the Headteacher

It’s been a very successful first term at Gosford Hill School. On 1st November we will convert to an academy. It will be business as usual.

We continue to listen to our parents. I hope you have enjoyed seeing the very positive feedback we have had from our Parent Consultation Evenings. In response to our most recent Year 9 feedback we have upgraded our ‘Show My Homework’ tab on our website.

Included in this newsletter is a letter recently sent to parents outside of the Kidlington area. We are attracting students from beyond our traditional community and in response to requests have given guidance to answer questions about transport.

Wishing you a relaxing half term break.

Steve Bizley - Headteacher

Questionnaire for Parents and Carers - Year 9 October 2012

Statement 1 - My child is happy at this school

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
35	52	2	0	89
39.33%	58.43%	2.25%	0.00%	100.00%
% positive		97.75%		

Statement 2 - My child feels safe at this school

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
35	52	2	0	89
39.33%	58.43%	2.25%	0.00%	100.00%
% positive		97.75%		

Statement 3 - My child makes good progress at this school

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
23	62	3	0	88
26.14%	70.45%	3.41%	0.00%	100.00%
% positive		96.59%		

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

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
29	57	3	0	89
32.58%	64.04%	3.37%	0.00%	100.00%
% positive		96.63%		

Statement 5 - My child is taught well at this school

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
22	63	3	0	88
25.00%	71.59%	3.41%	0.00%	100.00%
% positive		96.59%		

Statement 6 - My child receives the appropriate homework for their age

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
20	48	14	3	85
23.53%	56.47%	16.47%	3.53%	100.00%
% positive		80.00%		

Statement 7 - This school ensures the students are well behaved

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
21	61	6	1	89
23.60%	68.54%	6.74%	1.12%	100.00%
% positive		92.13%		

Statement 8 - This school deals effectively with bullying

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
22	55	8	2	87
25.29%	63.22%	9.20%	2.30%	100.00%
% positive		88.51%		

Statement 9 - This school is well led and managed

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
28	57	2	0	87
32.18%	65.52%	2.30%	0.00%	100.00%
% positive		97.70%		

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

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
21	58	5	0	84
25.00%	69.05%	5.95%	0.00%	100.00%
% positive		94.05%		

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

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
25 28.74%	54 62.07%	7 8.05%	1 1.15%	87 100.00%
% positive		90.80%		

Statement 12 - I would recommend this school to another parent

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
31 35.63%	49 56.32%	7 8.05%	0 0.00%	87 100.00%
% positive		91.95%		

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

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
31 35.63%	54 62.07%	3 3.45%	0 0.00%	87 101.15%
% positive		97.70%		

Statement 14 - My Child Studies regularly at home

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
24 27.59%	36 41.38%	24 27.59%	3 3.45%	87 100.00%
% positive		68.97%		

Year 7 & 8 Learning Themes/Topics

Last week students in Year 7 & 8 were given the Learning Themes/Topics they are studying in terms 1 & 2. The booklets have been designed following consultation with parents as to how we can help you to understand more clearly what your sons/daughters are studying.

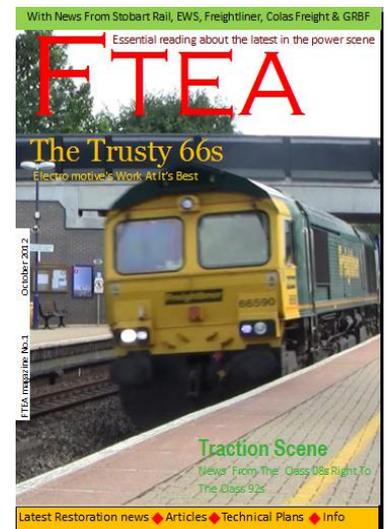
If for some reason you have not seen the booklet (yellow for Year 7 and green for Year 8) please ask your child as to the whereabouts of it, i.e. 'bottom of bag', 'inside blazer pocket'! Both booklets are also available on the GHS website in the 'Curriculum' area

Mr D Ward – Deputy Headteacher (Curriculum)

Freight Trains Enthusiast Association

Wilfred Howes in Year 9 is the sole editor of a new Magazine available in Gosford Hill School titled 'FTEA', Freight Trains Enthusiast Association. This magazine includes all the latest and updated news about Freight trains from all around the UK. For a free copy of the magazine go to reception and just ask.

Miss C Rees – Geography Faculty





Friends of Gosford Hill School

present a fundraising

Quiz Night

With prizes for the winning team

Friday 23rd November 2012

Gosford Hill School – Main Hall – 7pm



Ploughman's Supper included – Bar available

Desserts for sale by the World Challenge Team

£30 per team (maximum of six)

£18 for a student's only team

Smaller teams are welcome to join together on the night

Advanced booking essential

Please register by Monday 19th November by

emailing finance@gosford-hill.ocnmail.net

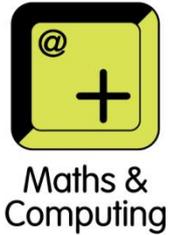
or by calling 01865 374971



GOSFORD HILL SCHOOL

Learn Lead Inspire

A Specialist College for Mathematics & Computing
Headteacher: Dr Stephen Bizley



Re: Open Evening and Transport Evening

Thank you for attending our recent Open Evening which included a significant number of families from Bicester, Ambrosden and Arncott. A subsequent meeting was arranged to discuss transport links to Gosford Hill for your child. For those that were able to attend I very much hope that you found the meeting useful. As a result of the discussions at the meeting I am pleased to offer the following:

Students from Charlton on Otmoor and Merton areas: Neil Darlington from the Local Authority has outlined a change in catchment area and potential free transport to Gosford Hill after consultation.

Students from Ambrosden and Arncott areas: There are direct Stagecoach buses that drop off at the King's Arms in Gosford or students can get on the 'JR' bus from Bicester (please find enclosed details of the bus routes and timetables). There is also a route operated by Charlton on Otmoor Services (01865 331249). Most of their services pick up and drop off in Oxford Road with an after school bus picking up at the school itself.

Students from the Bicester area: There is a bus that can drop students outside the school. This is the 'JR' bus. We are going to arrange to meet the Stagecoach Bus Company to discuss with them reduced bus passes for young people travelling from Bicester. We hope they respond positively to the large numbers already coming from Bicester (around 100 with 50% coming by car and 50% by bus) and those planning to travel from this area in the future. Neil Darlington will support us in these discussions and negotiation.

Students from Service families: Governors have agreed to look at the funding connected with the services to be used to compensate costs of transport. The Governor's Finance and Premises Committee are certainly looking at this favourably.

I hope the details above demonstrate our commitment to supporting our students who travel beyond the Kidlington area. I will of course keep you updated as things develop.

Yours sincerely

Dr Stephen Bizley
Headteacher



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