

October 2013 / Issue 6

## Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, London Year 13 Geography Field Trip Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2013.

With great apprehension in the air, the Year 13 Geography class embarked on their annual trip to the recently redeveloped Stratford along the London Paddington line. Having crossed over to the circle and central lines on the underground, we finally reached Stratford Station and Westfield shopping mall in reasonably good time for London transport. The aim of the trip was to investigate, analyse and evaluate the redevelopment of Stratford and the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

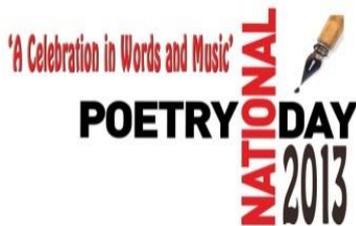
After a successful 2012 games, we were lucky enough to witness the Olympic Park in all its glory. The development of the Olympics brought £26 billion to the area's economy and local services. Some believed it to be bad for the UK, but many have benefited from it. In Stratford there is a definite contrast in wealth, as well as culture. It helped us learn a lot by visiting the area and seeing the redevelopment of an area so close to us. Meeting with our contact, Kevin, the Managing Director from Cofely Energy, we discussed the impacts of the redevelopment of the area and the sustainability of the community. Kevin explained the long-term benefits of biomass and low carbon (CHP) energy production, coinciding with the long-term uses of the Olympic park and stadium. He then gave us a tour of the energy production facility, and explained the process of creating energy for over 14,000 homes.

After a picnic in the Olympic Park Nature Reserve, we headed back to the station via the Westfield shopping centre and hopped on the underground to Paddington station. We arrived at the station at 4.21pm, we weaved in and out of the London commuters, finally sprinting in Top Gear fashion to the waiting train, which pulled away 10 seconds after we jumped on it!

**Max Jones (Head Boy), Ryan Whitehead (Deputy HeadBoy ),  
Curtis Geddes (Treasurer) and Suzanne Hill.**



## National Poetry Day



On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2013, Gosford Hill celebrated National Poetry Day. Everyone in Years 7 and 8 was asked to write a poem about water. You could base it on anything you wanted for example: tears, waterfalls, rivers, oceans and many more.

Students were invited to the Learning Centre at lunch time to read their poems and send them up in to the sky attached to a helium balloon. Approximately fifty different coloured balloons were sent soaring into the skies of Kidlington. It also happened to be raining that day, so even the weather matched the theme of our poems. Hopefully many people will treasure the magical moment.

Well done to everyone who wrote their fantastic poems and thank you for participating. We are all very proud of you.  
**Luanna Dias and Hannah Jones - 7EFG.**



## University IS for everyone...

It's September, which not only means back to school for students, but also the month for all of the 'freshers' to start their first thrilling year at university. Although having already written an article about how great university seems, after visiting Bournemouth University's Open Day just this weekend, I felt an urge to share my thoughts on what I came across. If you've ever had the feeling that university just isn't for you, perhaps you have considered a course in a subject more creative rather than completely academic, then Bournemouth is perfect for you.

The amazing thing about BU is its universality. When sitting in the English Degree lecture, I wasn't over-thrown with Shakespeare and Jane Austen, as Bournemouth is renowned for its approach on media. Nevertheless, a degree is still a degree, so this is not to say that classic literature isn't involved. As BU was founded only in 1992 it has a much more modern approach, ranging from more academic degrees such as law and biological sciences, to slightly more creative degrees such as event management and hospitality.

Due to Bournemouth's popularity, the bus tour that visits the accommodation was full for the day, so my mother and I took on the duty of exploring the accommodation ourselves. Much to my embarrassment, as my mother approached two 'brand new' first years, they kindly let us have a snoop around their new halls.

Dorchester House is just one of many halls of residence at Bournemouth, and is situated around ten minutes from the university, five minutes from Bournemouth town centre, and practically next door to the train station. The accommodation is formed in a five-bedroom cluster flat, and as Dorchester House was only built last year, it was full of modernity, not to mention the sheer size of the common living area and kitchen. The smell of a chicken korma being cooked by one of the flat mates made me thoroughly excited for my time to start university next September. When leaving the hotel-like flats, it was handy to see that there is an Asda right on their doorstep – in case of any urgent need of vegetables before a night out, as most freshers would agree!

So, if you're currently in the midst of finding the perfect university for you to start in September 2014, take a look at what BU has to offer. Not only does this university have outstanding facilities, a great employment rate and an extremely fresh outlook, it's also located in a wonderful town – not to mention being two minutes away from a walk along the sea. However, please don't be too worried if you're interested elsewhere, as it'll increase my chances of gaining a place next year!

**Daisy Carling-Rose – Year 13 Student**