

The Gosford Times



Weekly Newsletter of Gosford Hill School
Learn Lead Inspire

Issue 31 May 2014

Karaoke for Sobell House by WKCR

On Thursday 8th May, teachers karaoked the lunch away for charity, aiming to raise money for the Sobell House Hospice. There were several exciting acts including:

- The Humanities Team
- Mr James and Mrs Frankcom
- Mr Ward
- Miss Webb
- The English Team (with special guest star Dr Bizley)
- Mrs De Bruyn and Sixth Form backing singers

Humanities opened the show with 'Dancing Queen', Miss Campbell led the way! Then it was Mr James and Mrs Frankcom who got the whole Hall joining in with 'Don't Stop Me Now'. Mr Ward took to the stage in his trademark hat singing 'Sweet Caroline'. After his amazing performance, Miss Webb followed with 'One'. The English Faculty was next with an unforgettable performance of 'Bohemian Rhapsody' which had everyone singing along. Miss De Bruyn and the Sixth Formers closed the show with 'Walking on Sunshine'.



Sobell House

Windrush House supports Sobell House and has done so since a member of Windrush lost their mother to cancer. She spent her final days being cared for at the hospice. The generosity of the students and staff attending this event raised an impressive £131. Miss Cooper and her tutor group (WKCR) worked very hard to put on a well organised, impressive event.

Baylee Ridgeway (WKCR), Lucy Parsons (WKCR) and Mr James (Windrush House Leader)



Miss Webb singing U2's classic 'One'.



Chess Champs Represent Gosford Hill at Megafinal

Congratulations to a talented group of Gosford Hill students who attended the Delancey UK Schools Chess Challenge Megafinal 2014 over the bank holiday at Oxford Spires Academy. The qualifying rounds took place in The Learning Centre over the course of seven weeks with each student having to gain 15 or more points to qualify for the Megafinal.

Each student played 6 rounds against students from other schools in Oxfordshire in their age group. They competed admirably, with all players winning two or more of their matches. Our in-school Delancey Champion, Jack Smith, missed out on qualifying for the next round, the Southern Gigafinal, by just one point.

A fantastic achievement for all of you and a massive thanks to your parents and carers for their support with transport to this event. Here's to Delancey UK Schools Chess Challenge 2015!

L > R: Sam Gauld, Sylvester Howes, Aamer Dib, Jack Smith, Stephanie Bourliakas and Joe Mimpres.



Winning Letters

Our visit from author Deborah Ellis in March was followed by some informative lessons about life in Afghan refugee camps in Pakistan under Taliban rule. Mr Whittaker's group of year 8 English students wrote letters to Deborah thanking her for her visit. They expressed how Deborah's message about differences for boys and girls in Pakistani schools contrasts so dramatically with that of children in British schools.

Levi Sollis, Tia Silvester and Dylan Rampton all win a signed copy of one of Deborah's books, *The Breadwinner* or *My Name is Parvanna*, for their excellent letter construction and showing an understanding of life in a different culture.

The following quotes are taken from their letters:

'They are giving up their lives every day to go to school when we can come to school and learn without it costing our life. Boys and girls must work separately.' Tia Silvester

'The Taliban blew up schools and shot Malala because she stood up for her education.' Dylan Rampton
'I'm lucky. Our school has a lot of money. We sit on chairs and have whiteboards. In Pakistan, children sit on the floor.' Levi Sollis



Mrs Hedges, Learning Centre Manager