

The Gosford Times



Weekly Newsletter of Gosford Hill School
Learn Lead Inspire

Issue 18 January 2015

Visit by Mr Tom Birch- Richardson, High Sheriff of Oxfordshire

On Wednesday 21st January, Tom Birch Richardson toured the school. In addition to talking to students and staff, he is working with the school to set up links that will help students increase their understanding of how Crown Courts operate.

An exciting initiative that builds upon our already extensive links with the community.

Mr R Belmont - Assistant Headteacher, Student Support



Oxford Brookes University - Year 12 Visit.

On Wednesday 14th January 2015, Gosford Hill Sixth Form visited Oxford Brookes University for an insight into what Year 12 students should expect from a future at university. On arrival, timetables were distributed, printed with the individuals previously selected classes. The classes, selected online, provided the students with a wide variety of choice from English Literature to International Relations in order to offer examples of what possible courses you could study. Along with the classes, the timetables also included two group talks: one offering information on how to write a perfect Personal Statement, the other an insider's perspective of Student Life from two Third Year students at Brookes. The day was well organised, with a clearly labelled schedule, student ambassadors from Brookes on hand to help and most importantly a sense of freedom to navigate the campus and attend inspirational classes.

Some students from Year 12 offered their opinion of the experience they received from Oxford Brookes University:

Sam Butler: "Hugely informative day, provided me with a realistic experience of university life."
(Airline Management and Tourism, Engineering)

Natasha Owen: "provided me with the opportunity to experience subjects I would not have considered as an option."
(International Relations, History)

Melissa Fry: "The day helped me understand what university is like."
(English Literature, Animation, Film and TV production)

Albert Dodson: "I found the students on campus inspirational and they have compelled me to aspire to university."
(English Literature, Psychology)

Helen Dandridge – Year 12 Student



CALL PUSH RESCUE

HELP CREATE A NATION OF LIFESAVERS



The school has been very fortunate in receiving some amazing resources and a training kit from the British Heart Foundation.

The training kit covers how and when to perform CPR on an adult or child, how to put someone in the recovery position and how to use a public access defibrillator. The kit contains an educational DVD demonstrating how to do CPR while students practise alongside using the inflatable manikins.

If someone has had a cardiac arrest, they'll be unconscious, not breathing or not breathing normally. The person will die within minutes without immediate help. Call, Push, Rescue - three simple steps that could mean the difference between life and death. Know it and one day you could help save a life.

Act quickly and Call Push Rescue.

CALL 999 immediately.

PUSH hard and fast on the centre of the chest 30 times.

Give two **RESCUE** breaths.

Keep going until the emergency medical services arrive. If you'd rather not give rescue breaths then call 999 and deliver Hands-only CPR. That's better than doing nothing !



The Sixth form Duke of Edinburgh group can be seen here using the manikins.

Mrs N Heydon – Teaching Assistant

Oxfordshire Book Awards 2014



Stephi, Lauren, Beth, Jeremy, Zahria & Megan enjoy the awards.



Last year around 10, at the time, Year 9 students started reading and reviewing the shortlist for The Oxfordshire Book Awards. Some of the books we read were; *Ketchup Clouds*, *The Ocean at the End of the Lane*, *5th Wave* and the winner that we decided, *Noble Conflict*.

We were meant to go to the awards late last year, however, the date was changed to 16th January, so that Friday we set off to Abingdon School to attend the Book Awards.

At about 1:20pm we took our seats along with other secondary and primary schools from the Oxfordshire area. The head of the school, Felicity Lusk, greeted us and welcomed the first special guests Kate Sayer. She was representing the Story Museum in Oxford; we were told a short story about Anansi the Spider. Afterwards, Sue Hendra recited her picture book "Supertato" ("Some vegetables are frozen for a reason"). Finally, Andy Mulligan, winner of the highly commended book 'The Boy with Two Heads', answered some questions. We also got an exclusive sneak peak at this year's long list...

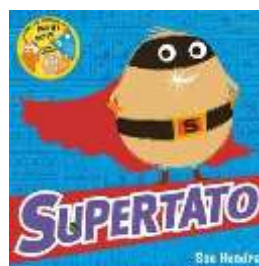
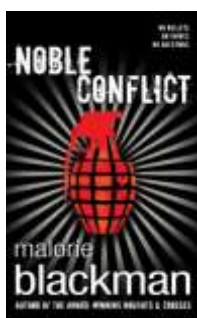
After the presentation we were led to another room. We were greeted with a gift bag and a selection of free souvenirs. The authors were also there and were signing their books; you could buy a huge range of books from the primary school winner, Sue Hendra's book, to Malorie Blackman's *Noble Conflict*.

A unique experience that will stick in our minds for a while to come. The special guests and efforts of Abingdon School and Gosford Hill made the whole thing exceptional, with the help of cake!

Bethany Crook, Lauren Eames and Stephi Bourliakas – all WJCX



Children's Laureate, Malorie Blackman gave a pre-recorded acceptance speech as winner of the Best Secondary School Book – Noble Conflict.



Sue Hendra reciting 'Supertato'.



Meeting Andy Mulligan

"Hi, nice to meet you."

"Hi."

"What's your favourite book?"

"It's so hard to choose, there's so many."

"Well, what's a book that you would read over and over again?"

"It would either be 'The Hound of the Baskervilles' or 'The Yard' series by Alex Grecian."

"Well, Trash may be a bit young for you. You may prefer The Boy with Two Heads."

"I thought it sounded like a good book, it might interest me."

"Hope you enjoy Trash!"

"Thanks, bye."

Lauren Eames - WJCX

Visitors from Poland

On Wednesday 2nd January 2015 we welcomed two English teachers from Poland.

The tour of Gosford Hill School was part of their professional development course at the Lake School of English.

They were surprised by the opportunities given to the students to study such a wide range of subjects. They were impressed by the smartness of our students in their school uniforms.

The tour finished with tea and homemade biscuits in the Learning Centre.

**Mrs J Humphreys, Teaching Assistant
and Mrs A Hedges, Learning Centre Manager**

