The Gosford Times

Weekly Newsletter of Gosford Hill School
Learn Lead Inspire

Issue 21 February 2015

Former Student Inspiring Others

Over the last three weeks we have been very lucky to have a former student come in to teach the Year 8 boys football. Callum O'Dowda was a former student at this school and is now a professional footballer with Oxford United.

He graduated through the Oxford United Centre of Excellence before being awarded his first professional contract at the start of the 2013-14 season. He can play either wide left or up front. Callum has been in a rich vein of form this season scoring three goals and in his game against Stevenage he was voted Man of the Match.

Callum will be working with various year groups over the next coming weeks and passing on his skills and knowledge to our football teams. We have already seen the benefits this season with the Year 8 team as they are currently unbeaten.

Mr R Goldring - P.E Teacher

Table Tennis Tournament Oxfordshire - Under 16s

Three of us from Gosford Hill School, Ryan Hambridge, Jack Smith and Joe McKenna-Jones took part in the county singles under 16 Table Tennis Tournament at the Forum Centre in Kidlington.

The tournament started at 2.00pm and finished at 4.00pm. First of all we took part in the group stages where we each had to play 5 other players from other schools. We all won our individual group and beat all 5 other players. After this we all played in the quarter finals and all 3 of us won 2-0 in sets to go through. In the last 4 it was destined that two of us would have to face each other. The draw saw Jack and Joe having to play each other and Joe won a close game 2-0 to reach the final. Ryan had to play a 16 year old called Cameron from a different school and lost 2-1 in a very close match and lost 11-9 in the third.

However this meant there was not a definite win for Gosford as Joe had to play Cameron in the final. In a thrilling contest Joe won 2-1 taking him to the national finals at a later date. We all enjoyed the tournament and enjoyed home advantage as all of us play at this ground in our league matches. We all enjoy our table tennis and play weekly at the Forum, Kidlington.

Ryan Hambridge, Jack Smith and Joe McKenna – Year 9 and 10 students

Careers and Work Experience News

Aged 14-18 and interested in a career in aviation? William Sharp Memorial Scholarship sponsor a course during the Easter Holiday at Oxford Airport. Further details from Careers notice board (outside E9), Mrs Hounsell, Sixth Form office or www.fly2help.org Applications close 28th February

Confident Babysitting Course for young people 13+. One day course, Saturday 7th March. Further details from Careers notice board (outside E9), Mrs Hounsell, Sixth Form office or email info@oxfordsfirstaidtraining.co.uk

Year 10 Work Experience 9th -13th March. The majority of students have received their placement information. The holiday week is a great opportunity for students to get in touch, visit the placement and work out how long the journey may take.

Mrs E Hounsell – 14-19 Pathway Manager

My Maths – App for Smartphones, iPhones & iPads

MyMaths now accessible via the Puffin Academy flash browser
We are delighted to announce that *MyMaths* has been made available through Puffin Academy, allowing students to easily access *MyMaths* on most tablet and mobile devices, including iPads.

What is Puffin Academy?
Puffin Academy is a free, mobile and tablet Flash browser. It is specifically designed for students, teachers and parents, as it always enforces site filtering by only allowing whitelisted educational websites to be accessed. It's only for educational websites and fully supports Flash content, as well as videos on iPhone and iPad.

How do I access MyMaths through Puffin Academy?
To access *MyMaths* on your phone, tablet or iPad, simply download the Puffin Academy App from the Apple or Android store to your device. Once downloaded, the quickest way to access *MyMaths* is to open the Puffin Academy browser and search for *MyMaths* in the search bar. You can also bookmark *MyMaths*.

Visit www.flashbrowser.com/PuffinAcademy/portal for more information or visit the itunes or google play stores at the following addresses to download the apps:

(itunes) https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/puffin-academy/id716707933?mt=8
(google) https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.cloudmosa.puffinAcademy
Don't forget the school's login and password, which are **gosford** and **inspire**. Ask your teacher for your individual details to access your portal.

Mr S Williams – Assistant Subject Leader, Maths

Are you looking for space for a meeting, activity or function?

Ideally located close to Oxford and A34, we can offer a number of our school spaces for hire by private individuals, community groups or corporate clients to use for functions.

From dance classes, martial arts, gym clubs to concerts, drama productions or meetings and conferences, we have a wide variety of rooms of different sizes and functions to choose from. For example, our gym, hall, dining room, lecture theatre, drama studio, classrooms or meeting rooms may meet your needs. Many of these spaces are double height with plenty of natural light. Catering can also be provided in certain circumstances.

Viewing is by appointment only. If you are interested in visiting us, in the first instance please contact Steve Bolam, Site Manager, on 01865 855376.

Ms P Challans – Business Manager

Friends of Gosford Hill School

Quiz Night

Friday 6 March 2015

7pm Gosford Hill School Hall

Ploughman's Supper included

Tickets £5 per person

Advanced booking essential

Please register by Monday 2 March

Emailing: gfin3209@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk

Phone: 01865 855373

Year 10 and Year 11 Practice Exams – Monday 2nd to Friday 6th March

A timetable for the Practice Exams taking place in the Gym/Hall next term is attached, and individual students' timetables will be distributed to students next term via form tutors. For Year 11, other assessments will take place in normal lessons.

Advice for parents and students has been distributed to Year 11 at the recent PCE. It will be sent home to Year 10 students in a covering letter with their individual timetables.

There is no study leave; therefore, when students are not taking exams, they will be attending all timetabled lessons as normal.

Thank you for your vital support in helping to prepare our students for these examinations. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Alison Sumner - Examinations & Assessment Data Officer

PRACTICE EXAMINATIONS YEARS 10 & 11

MONDAY 2ND TO FRIDAY 6TH MARCH 2015

TIMETABLE

For Year 11, assessments in other subjects will take place during normal lessons.

WEEK B DATE	SUBJECT	ARRIVAL TIME	START TIME	DURATION	VENUE
Mon 2 Mar	YR 10 BIOLOGY	8:45 – **No AM Reg**	9:00	1hr	Gym
Mon 2 Mar	YR 11 MATHS NON-CALCULATOR	11:15	11:30	1hr 45	Gym/Hall
Tue 3 Mar	YR 11 ENGLISH LANGUAGE	8:45 - **No AM Reg**	9:00	2hrs	Gym/Hall
Tue 3 Mar	YR 10 CHEMISTRY	1:45	2:00	1hr	Gym
Wed 4 Mar	YR 11 BIOLOGY	**12:05**	12:20	1hr	Gym/Hall
Thur 5 Mar	YR 11 CHEMISTRY	8:45 – **No AM Reg**	9:00	1hr	Gym/Hall
Thur 5 Mar	YR 10 ENGLISH LIT YR 11 ENGLISH LIT RE-SITS	11:15	11:30	45m	Gym/Hall
Thur 5 Mar	YR 11 PHYSICS	1:45	2:00	1hr	Gym/Hall
Fri 6 Mar	YR 10 PHYSICS	8:45 – **No AM Reg**	9:00	1hr	Gym
Fri 6 Mar	YR 11 MATHS CALCULATOR	11:15	11:30	1hr 45	Gym/Hall

When exams finish during a lesson, students will be instructed to return to their timetabled subjects to complete that lesson.