



# The Gosford Times

The Weekly Newsletter of Gosford Hill School

Issue 5 September 2015

## World Cup Rugby Trip

Following a lottery draw, 30 lucky students enjoyed the experience of a lifetime! Students visited the millennium stadium in Cardiff to watch Australia play their opening rugby World Cup fixture against Fiji in Pool A, also including England. As England had already tasted victory over Fiji and had Australia as a major rival for the group, the students got behind the Fijians. Albeit in defeat the Fijians still restricted the Wallabies to three tries which crucially means no bonus point in the group, which handed England the advantage.

The trip was a great experience for those who had represented the school at rugby and we are all thankful to Mr Goldring for getting the tickets and organising a great trip!

**Jonah Clarke – 10EACL**



## Trip to Oxford Castle



*Items used for punishment*

On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September, Year 11 history students visited Oxford Castle as part of their controlled assessment for their GCSE.

Throughout the day, each group took part in different activities. We had a tour around the old gaol with a character from the past. We saw the inside of the tower and retraced the steps of the prisoners who had to carry water up and down the stairs as part of their punishment. We saw inside the cells and saw how at different points in time changes had been made to the gaol. We got to see inside Malmaison, as it is built inside the Pentonville style A-wing of the prison. We also went round the grounds to see the different buildings such as the laundry room, the treadwheel house and the punishment cells, which were pitch black.

We also had a workshop where we got to handle relics from the prison as we tried to evaluate how harsh the gaol was.

The things we learned will really help us in our controlled assessment. Thank you to the staff who organised the trip.

**Rhiannon Tomes - 11CCNL**

**Learn \* Lead \* Inspire**

***Year 3 Targeted Team Building Event – Gosford Sports Centre  
Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2015***



Primary schools from across the Kidlington partnership took part in the Year 3 Team Building Festival. They tackled some hugely difficult challenges and obstacles including cone codes, secret paths, bench relays, targets and knot – but working together and by communicating with each other they not only tackled the challenges but completed the challenges!

Over 70 children took part and they were expertly led by our leaders from Gosford Hill School who instructed them, led the stations and kept track and revealed the end scores.

Our Gosford Hill leaders were also assisted by some fantastic young leaders in Year 6 from Edward Feild Primary School who helped keep everyone organised and allowed the event to go smoothly. A big thanks to all that took part and congratulations to Edward Feild who were the winners of our first festival.

Thank you to the primary schools of North Kidlington, Dr Souths, Edward Feild, St Thomas More and West Kidlington for attending and performing so well at this event.

Thanks also to our Gosford Hill Leaders who did such a terrific job: Harley Firkin, Paige Cooke, Emily Kyle, Matthew Bedwell, Hamish Hall, Ella Baskerville, Erin Corness, Maria Roberts, Molly Wiggins, Jamie Hudson, Malieta Fisilau, Christy Llewellyn, Luca Sykes and Karl Grossman.



**Kevin Peake - School Sports Coordinator  
North Oxfordshire School Sport Partnership**

## Visit from Lord Borwick

On Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September, a number of Sixth Form students had the privilege to attend a presentation by Lord Borwick, a member of the House of Lords. Beforehand Hannah Corness, Natasha Owen and I had the opportunity to speak to him in the presence of Dr Bizley and Mr O'Regan.

Lord Borwick stated 'The House of Lords are able to represent the public possibly better than the House of Commons, as members of the Commons devote their lives to politics rather than public interest.' The House of Lords represents a variety of ethnicities and backgrounds, including a man who is an escapee from Africa. I was surprised to learn that anyone can apply to be a member of the House of Lords.

Lord Borwick worked as a bricklayer for a short period of time, he then became a businessman for a taxi company in London. His aim was to make transport a better and safer facility for the public. Lord Borwick later became the chief executive of that same firm, at the young age of thirty-one. After working in the taxi business for fifteen years, he sold the firm and built his own empire in a different area.

Lord Borwick is one of the 92 members that were elected to be part of the House of Lords. He is currently working on the Kingsmere housing development in Bicester and spends most of his time working in his own business and being the trustee of five charities.

**Thamyris De Souza – 12TDGN**



**Hannah Corness, Lord Borwick, Natasha Owen and Thamyris De Souza**



## GIRLS GO TECHNICAL.

Are you between the ages of 15 and 24, and considering a technical apprenticeship within the manufacturing industry to commence in September 2016? If so, this programme is for you. Experience the day-to-day challenges encountered by our engineers and technical apprentices in our fascinating world-class factories through this exciting and unique opportunity.

A limited number of places are available on the scheme which will run during half-term from **Monday 26 October 2015**.

Those attending will be taken on a tour around two of the three manufacturing sites; Plant Oxford where MINI is built, Plant Hams Hall where engines are assembled and Plant Swindon, the body and pressings plant. You will spend four days at the heart of our operations, two at the site closest to your home region for in-depth work experience, and two at Plant Oxford. Participants based at the Oxford plant will be offered an optional tour of Plant Swindon on Friday 30 October.

### **On completion of the programme, participants will have gained:**

- An in-depth awareness of manufacturing and engineering processes
- An insight into the range of careers available – including technical roles
- Enhanced interview and job application skills.

### **To apply for a place on the scheme in October 2015, please visit:**

<https://www.facebook.com/BmwCareersUK>

Entry criteria – 4 GCSEs at grade A-C to include Maths, English and one science subject (predicted grades accepted).

**The closing date is Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October**

**BMW  
GROUP**

United Kingdom



The new Three Weekly Menu from Chartwells - our school caterers - is now available on our website.

## *Is your child entitled to additional funding?*

School meals will give your child a real appetite for learning and help them to achieve their full potential.

If your child is eligible for free school meals it means they can enjoy delicious, healthy meals without the bills and the fuss of making packed lunches. Many students at our school are already entitled to free school meals, and your child may be able to have them too.

Also, for every student registered for a free school meal, the school receives additional money from the Government to spend on extra school resources.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

Please note that you do not normally need to provide evidence of your income, only your National Insurance Number and Date of Birth.

If you think your children may be entitled to free school meals, please contact Reception for an application form or download one from our Gosford Hill School website.

**Ms P Challans – Business Manager**

## CONTACTING YOUR SCHOOL

Your views are very important to us, whether they're about your child, school activities or wider community issues. For all contact details telephone School Reception.

**If you have a concern about your child contact:**

- **The subject teacher** - if it concerns learning in a particular subject. Contact Reception to leave a message or alternatively, if you have internet access, you can ask for their email address.
- **The Head of Faculty** - if you wish to discuss any matter in greater detail.
- **Their Form Tutor** - if it is a more general issue about your child's well being.

Staff will endeavour to phone you back as soon as possible. All information is treated in the strictest of confidence. If you want to raise an issue or query about a more general area of school activity or a community matter contact a Parent Governor. (Telephone numbers available from School Reception)

**SCHOOL RECEPTION:** Telephone: 01865 374971

**SCHOOL EMAIL:** [office.4060@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.4060@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk)

**SCHOOL WEBSITE:** [www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk)

**ABSENCE LINE:** Telephone: 01865 855378 (please use this number to report absences)

or

email – [gabs4889@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:gabs4889@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk)

The Parent Support Site has information on supporting your child(ren) in a number of curriculum areas.