



The Gosford Times

The Weekly Newsletter of Gosford Hill School

Issue 10 November 2015

Remembrance Day

The Gosford Hill School community came together for Remembrance Day by holding two very moving assemblies led by Mrs Driscoll on Monday and Tuesday, and gathering for two minutes silence on Wednesday.

Many students attended school wearing cadet, scout and guide uniforms and wreaths were laid by representatives from each House as the last post was played.

The respectful manner in which students and staff marked Remembrance Day is something that we can be very proud of indeed

Mr R Belmont - Senior Assistant Headteacher



Learn * Lead * Inspire

Bloodhound SSC

The Bloodhound SSC is a supersonic car that will be attempting to break the World Land Speed record in October next year. It will be driven by the present record holder Andy Green in Hakskeen Pan, South Africa. With over 110 man years invested into this design, it is a mix of car and aircraft technology powered by both a jet engine and a rocket. It is approximately 13.4m long and weighs 7.5 tonnes. Designed to cover a mile in 3.6 seconds, it will travel faster than a bullet.

As well as our school, there were quite a few other schools that joined us for the event! After an introduction assembly to the Bloodhound project, we were divided into three groups and began one of the three rotational workshops. The first workshop we took part in was a tour of the Bloodhound car, which included the many adaptations of the car and how they team together to enable the car to reach 1000mph! For the second activity, we had a dynacar connected to our computers. Via a clever piece of software, we were able to analyse the direction, speed and distance of the dynacar as we moved it. We were then informed this is the system being used to analyse the Bloodhound car during its run as well as being used in the cockpits in motorsport such as Formula 1. The final workshop was to build a model car that would move by itself after being launched. The car that travelled the furthest in the quickest time would be crowned the winner. The challenge was only having one material to build this with – K'nex! We also had to connect a tube, which would act as our engine after being filled with air pressure, to the car with no other materials. The day was wrapped up with a final assembly.

Throughout the day's activities, we learnt about the car itself, physics and teamwork. We learnt what impacts on a car's performance in terms of aerodynamics and all the planning that went into the design of the car. Did you know that small amount of air resistance is needed on the nose of the car to keep it balanced? The team who ran the activities were great at explaining every aspect of 'Bloodhound SSC' and what will allow it to run at such a high speed. They also included what we knew already about physics and mathematics and applied it to a real life situation, for example in the dyanacar's activity we learnt how to interpret information from Formula 1 cars and their engineers. The final thing that we took from our wonderful day was something very special! We won the K'nex car competition and will have our team name 'Gosford Goose' put onto the tail of the actual car that will break the land speed record! We are very grateful to everyone who helped run the trip because they organised such a brilliant day. Thank you to Mrs Hounsell and the team at Bloodhound SSC.

Binderiya Batsaikhan, Imogen Hunt and Jemma Davies – Year 9 Students

A group of Year 12 students also attended this activity on another day, taking part in similar activities.

Mrs E Hounsell – 14-19 Pathway Manager



Year 9 Telemetry



Reaction Times!

STEM Activity Day

'Build a water filtration system' was the instruction given to sixty Year 8 & 9 students earlier this week. The students were working with staff from the Smallpeice Trust, an organisation that brings science and engineering to life for young people. Working in small teams, the students were given an introduction to the project. They had to design and make a small water filter, reservoir, pump and moisture detector using the specification and materials available from the 'shop'. The greatest challenge for all of the teams was to construct a leak-proof reservoir using only corrugated plastic board, glue guns and duct tape all of which had to be included in their final costing.



The students worked really well together in their teams, with other students in both year groups that they were not necessarily familiar with. At the end of the day all teams made a brief presentation about their product, how much it had cost to build and how they would improve another model. Their filtration system was then tested to see how much water leaked from it in ten seconds. Needless to say the Learning Centre was quite damp when they had all been tested! The team whose reservoir leaked the smallest amount of water in this time was Team Two (Rhianne Heaton, Lexie Horn, Georgia Sanderson from Year 8, and Alix White, May Carter and Lucy Hooper from Year 9.)

Mrs E Hounsell – 14 – 19 Pathway Manager

'Safe Drive Stay Alive'

On Wednesday 11th of November, Year 13 attended the 'Safe Drive Stay Alive' event held in Botley. It was a moving and insightful visit that made each and every one of us think again about how we drive and how we could improve. As many of the Year 13's are currently driving or learning to drive, it proved most effective in illustrating how young drivers like ourselves are much more likely to be involved in a crash due to inexperience and a lack of knowledge of the risks.

We heard many heart-breaking real life stories from emergency services personnel and (most movingly) a father who had lost his daughter tragically to a car crash. Hearing this heart-rending tale really moved many of us and made us question the risks of our own driving.

Although the experience was an emotional one, overall the trip was a success. The 'Safe Drive Stay Alive' campaign affected us all in an emotive and hard-hitting way, hopefully influencing our behaviour and attitude on the roads.



Charlotte Williams – Year 13

Gosford Hill School

Sixth Form Open Evening

**All current Year 11 students
and**

parents welcome on

Wednesday 18th November

6 – 8 pm

For further information:

Email: sixthform@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk

Tel: 01865 374971 ext 702

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

TERM DATES – 2015 -2016

Term 2

Monday 2nd November – Friday 18th December 2015

Term 3

Monday 4th January – Friday 12th February 2016

Term 4

Tuesday 23rd February – Thursday 24th March 2016

Term 5

Monday 11th April – Friday 27th May 2016

Term 6

Monday 6th June – Wednesday 20th July 2016

INSET DAYS: 4th December 2015, 22nd February, 1st July 2016