



The Gosford Times

The Weekly Newsletter of Gosford Hill School

Issue 28 – April 2016

The Duke of Edinburgh Award

On Friday 15th April seven groups of students set off on their Duke of Edinburgh practice expedition. The sun was still shining and everyone was in good spirits excited by the forthcoming adventure. When they arrived at the camp site they pitched tents and cooked themselves a hot meal on expedition lightweight stoves.



The rain which had fallen over the last few days made the camping area rather muddy, which meant that most personal kit, tents, staff and students were also rather muddy! Friday night was cold, and early Saturday morning was colder. Then to make matters worse it SNOWED for 45 minutes making the ground conditions even worse and the tents even wetter! Ironically this seemed to lift everyone's spirits.



Cont...d

Learn * Lead * Inspire

After a bowl of porridge we were all fortified and set off for the second day's hiking. Through sheer grit and determination everyone reached the finishing point. If this group of students can manage in the appalling weather conditions, then their assessed expedition in the summer should be easy for them!



I would like to thank the staff who gave up their Friday evening and Saturday to support the students.

Mrs N Heydon - D of E Manager

Sainsbury - Active Kids Vouchers - "Eat well, Move well, Live well"!

Sainsburys are currently issuing Active Kids Vouchers – at a rate of 1 voucher for every £10 spent in store. These vouchers can then be donated to schools and kids' club to purchase sporting or cooking equipment. Last year Sainsburys donated a massive £11 million worth of equipment and experiences to UK schools and kids' clubs !

Gosford Hill School is registered as a beneficiary of Active Kids Vouchers and we would greatly benefit from your donations of Active Kids Vouchers. The closing date for donations is 3 May 2016. A collection box is located at Reception or you can find out more and donate on-line at <https://activekids.sainsburys.co.uk/>

We will let you know how many vouchers we collect !



Ms P Challans - Business Manager

Chess Treat for Delancey Tournament Winners



Gosford's entry into its third year of the Delancey UK Schools Chess Challenge brought about some exceptional match play from old hands and new alike. The seven week tournament has seen 15 out of the 31 entrants in Years 7 to 11 qualify for the next round, the Megafinal, to be played at The Marlborough School on 30th April. The overall tournament winner for the second year running is Sidharth Panicker, scoring the maximum 21 points. Congratulations Sidharth. All students who took part in the Delancey tournament were rewarded with a simultaneous chess demonstration from chess master Carl Portman at the end of March.

Mrs A Hedges, Learning Centre Manager

"I have been playing chess for 4 years now, but I never knew that I would win the prestigious Delancey Chess Tournament at this school for two years in a row! In Delancey there are seven rounds and you get three points for a win, two for a draw and one for a loss. You always play against someone of a similar calibre. For every win you are also rewarded with a gold star on your Delancey badge. If you get 15 points or more you qualify for the megafinal. Here you play against other players who qualified from other schools. In this school, Chess Master Carl Portman played against all the best chess players at the same time and presented me with the school champion's award, chess book and a chess magazine."

Sidharth Panicker, Year 8 CMFE.

May half term opportunity open to all students at TRAX

The courses are as follows:

Off-road motorbikes – 10am – 3pm

Tuesday 31st May – Thursday 2nd June (£100)

Learn basic servicing and maintenance of off-road motorbikes and learn to ride on our track!

Build a Bike – 10am – 3pm

Tuesday 31st May – Friday 3rd June (£100)

Learn to service, maintain and repair a push bike – keep the bike at the end of the course!

All food, refreshments and equipment is provided.

Contact Helen Bates, Schools Co-ordinator helen@traxonline.co.uk

Apprenticeship Opportunity

Oxford University Hospitals is looking to recruit Young Apprentices aged 16-18 to start in September 2016. Come along at 4pm to the Tingewick Hall, John Radcliffe Hospital
4 May 2016 - 4:00pm to 6:00pm

Email:
apprenticeships@ouh.nhs.uk

Website:
[OUH Apprenticeships](#)

What's in it for you? An Oxford University Hospitals apprenticeship opens the door to a career with Oxford University Hospitals. We offer a range of apprenticeships to young people, in both clinical and non-clinical areas.

See more at: <http://oxme.info/cms/events/oxford-university-hospitals-young-apprenticeship-recruitment-event#comment-301>

Mrs E Hounsell – 14-19 Pathway Manager

New BBC Bitesize Revision App

The BBC have launched a new app aimed at 14-16 year olds. It is designed specifically for GCSE exams and contains most of their material from the bitesize website, including Revision flashcards for English, Maths and Science. It is designed specifically for mobile phones (not tablets) and works with Android (Samsung for example) and iOS (Apple). Please go to this page and encourage our Year 10 and 11 students to download it and get revising!



For more information go to <http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/zgd682p>

Mr J O'Regan – Assistant Headteacher

Link for Annie Photos

The link printed in last week's Newsletter was incorrect and it should have read

<http://bit.ly1U1BWuw>

Apologies for any inconvenience caused.