



The Gosford Times

The Weekly Newsletter of Gosford Hill School

Issue 17 - 25th January 2018

www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk

Andrea Leadsom, Leader of the House of Commons, visits the Sixth Form

On Friday 19th January, the school received a very special visit from Andrea Leadsom, Leader of the House of Commons. Mrs Leadsom visited the Sixth Form Centre to talk to our Year 12 & 13 students about the importance of democracy, and to give an insight into her important role within the UK government. Afterwards, students were given the opportunity to ask questions before Mrs Leadsom was led on a tour of our school.

Local district councillors Sarah Rhodes, Nigel Simpson and Helen Kingsley were also in attendance, as well as Lucia Hodgson and Marc Pooler from the cabinet office.

Tommy Birchall,

Marketing, Digital Media & Communications Assistant



Sixth Form Public Speaking Team Come Second In Local Competition



ROTARY **YOUTH** **SPEAKS** **COMPETITION**

Emma Davies, Alex Davies and Sofia Innocenzi represented Gosford Hill School at the annual Rotary Youth Speaks competition at senior level on Thursday 18th January. The team roles include Chairperson, Speaker and Vote of Thanks.

The team's speech, about the Ugandan Education system won them praise for its authenticity and personal passion. The speech was linked with the experiences of the Emma and Alex from their World Challenge expedition last summer.

The team faced stiff competition from local private schools Rye St Anthony, Headington Girls and D'Overbroecks, but they spoke clearly and purposefully, earning them second place. Well done!

Alison Driscoll,

Assistant Headteacher

Year 9 Oxford University Trip

On Wednesday 13th of December, from morning to the afternoon, Year 9 students in Gosford Hill School were invited to participate in two informative lectures in Oxford University of Natural History. Within these two lectures, students were given insights about radiotherapy and how technology in the 21st century uses high energy rays to treat diseases with a brief representation of molecular biophysics and how we see colour.

The first lecture was given in morning; this was based on the topic radiotherapy. The lecture consisted of ways how diseases are treated in hospitals and how they work. Typically diseases such as tumours and cancer are treated with a large machine often called the linear accelerator, or linac for short. All linacs generate high energy x-rays (photons) which are then carefully aimed at the area the Consultant Oncologist wishes to treat. They use this machine to treat all areas of the body from head to toe. The students also learnt about strategies that Oncologists use to avoid radiation on patients as much as possible. This consisted a variety of strategies such as using multiple rays at different angles instead of just one.

The next lecture was right after the students had the opportunity to discover the Oxford University of Natural History. This was about biophysics and how we see colour today. Students learned about information on the basic structure and anatomy of the human eye – rod cells and cone cells, how carrots colour has changed over the centuries and the light spectrum in detail. Volunteer students from Gosford Hill and two other schools also had the opportunity to try “rainbow carrots” and taste test them.

Overall, students gained ideas on how these two fields of sciences were about and how they affected life right now making it a major success for the students. It had opened a brand new idea for their future careers and possible work experience ideas.

Arta Preteni, 9CKBE



Examination Invigilators

Gosford Hill School would like to expand its team of Exam Invigilators to cover internal and external exam seasons in March, May and June. Occasional days throughout the rest of the year are available, including results days in August.

Working hours are flexible but a minimum availability of 3 days per week is required. The rate of pay is £8.19 per hour.

Training is provided, and successful applicants will be subject to an enhanced DBS check.

Further details and an application form can be obtained from the Personnel Assistant, Kerry Parker, at the School (01865 374971) or from the GHS Website:

www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk

Past Student Dissertation Parents, Teachers and Students Survey

Emily Hurdley is a past student studying for her Bachelor's Degree in Sociology at Warwick University. Emily is about to embark on her dissertation based on the idea that 'Terrorism in the UK affects how parents feels about parenting their children, linking to ideas of routine, restriction and fear.'

Emily will need to interview parents of children of all ages through a focus group of possibly around 10 parents and then 5 separate interviews as well. Official information including ethics and consent forms will be shared with the group before the focus group. All data collated will be confidential.

If you'd like to help Emily gather information for her dissertation, please contact Ms Webb by email to:

swebb@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk

Thank you.

Ms Webb,
Assistant Faculty Leader – Computing, Business and Languages

Intermediate Maths Challenge

On Thursday 1st February, some of our most able mathematicians in Years 9, 10 and 11 are taking the Intermediate Maths Challenge. This allows students the opportunity to compete against the top mathematicians in the county. Certificates are awarded for Bronze, Silver and Gold standards. This challenge is important for these students because it promotes mathematical thinking.

Pam Davys,
Faculty Leader – Mathematics

Residential Trip Payments

Residential Trip Payments now due are –

- Creative Arts £100 due on 12th January
- Creative Arts £100 due on 9th February

Thank you in advance.

The Finance Team

Attendance Figures: 15th - 19th January 2018

Well done to Cherwell House for outstanding attendance during the week ending 19th January 2018.

The tutor group with the highest overall attendance was CTTS with 97.9%. Great job!

Paula Drinkwater,
Attendance Officer

BMW CAREERS FEST

Don't forget a fantastic opportunity for Year 10 students has been planned for the 6th and 7th February. BMW are holding their annual Careers Festival where students will have the opportunity to meet employers from various industry sectors, find out about local colleges and get a real insight into what opportunities are out there. We have been allocated a number of places and plan to take as many Year 10 students as possible. Students have been given a parental consent form which must be returned to school by Monday 29th January.

WORK EXPERIENCE – YEAR 10

Calling all Year 12 and 13 students - Do you have a passion for science? Would you love to get a job in the science field and still continue to study?

If so, please follow the link where you will find advertised a Level 3 Apprenticeship with Oxford Immunotec, including all relevant details

<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/-225169>

Good Luck!

EXTERNAL CAREERS EVENTS

The school is often provided with information about external careers events that may be of interest to our students. Epoc Careers organises high quality careers events, and they have 2 conferences running next month:

Improve Your Chances of Becoming a Doctor, Saturday 3 February 2018

Improve Your Chances of Becoming a Lawyer, Sunday 4 February 2018

They are principally designed for students in Years 11 and 12, however some Year 10 students, and parents of Year's 10, 11 and 12 students, may be interested.

These one-day careers conferences run from 10:00am to 4:30pm, at University College London.

For full details, including costs and to book places, see: www.epoc.org.uk

BMW APPRENTICESHIPS

For any students who may be interested, BMW apprenticeship applications have now opened. Please follow the link for full details.

<https://www.bmwgroup.jobs/gb/en/jobs.html#jobType=APPRENTICESHIP&&location=GB>

There is also more general careers information which can be found using the link - www.bmwgroup.jobs/uk

Vikki Franklin,
Careers Education Co-ordinator



Invitation to Careers Fest 2018

6th February from 4pm, MINI Plant Oxford

Is your son or daughter looking for ideas and inspiration for what to do when they leave school? Would you like to know more about opportunities available locally?

Come to Careers Fest on 6th February from 4pm at MINI Plant Oxford! For the first time this year, there will be an open session for parents, carers, families and students who aren't attending with their school, or who would like to come back with their family. You will have the opportunity to:

- Talk to over 50 employers, further education colleges, universities and training organisations
- Meet Apprentices and other employees and ask all your questions about starting out in the world of work
- Get information and advice on future paths and careers from a varied range of sectors
- Have a go at practical activities relating to different roles to get a feel for what a job entails
- Find out about the sorts of jobs and careers available locally



How to book

Booking is essential. Please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/careersfest>. Click on 'Register' and scroll down to choose your time slot – 4pm, 5pm or 6pm.

Get in touch

If you have any questions, please contact Clare McLening on 07769 742295 or clare.mclening@oxfordshirelep.com.

MINI
Plant Oxford



OxLEP
Skills

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
SCHOOL WEBSITE:	www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk
ABSENCE LINE:	Telephone: 01865 855378 (please use this number to report absences) Email: gabs4889@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk

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

TERM DATES: 2017 - 2018

Spring Term:	Monday 8 th January – Thursday 29 th March 2018 <i>Half Term Break: Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February 2018</i>
Summer Term:	Monday 16 th April – Wednesday 25 th July 2018 <i>Half Term Break: Monday 28th May – June 1st 2018</i>
INSET DAYS:	Friday 29 th June 2018

TERM DATES: 2018 - 2019

Autumn Term:	Wednesday 5 th September – Friday 21 st December 2018 <i>Half Term Break: Monday 22nd October – Friday 26th October 2018</i>
Spring Term:	Monday 7 th January – Friday 5 th April 2019 <i>Half Term Break: Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February 2019</i>
Summer Term:	Monday 23 rd April – Wednesday 24 th July 2019 <i>Half Term Break: Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May 2019</i>
INSET DAYS:	Tuesday 4 th September 2018, 5 th October, 26 th November, 15 th February, 28 th June