



Head's Newsletter

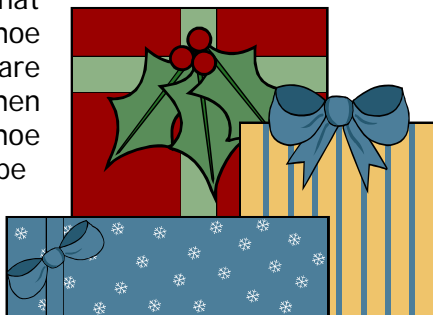
Dear Reader

EVENING TO CELEBRATE ACHIEVEMENT

What a wonderful evening! I would go so far to say that it was our best one yet! I would like to begin with a huge thank you to Clare Molyneux, OBE, Chief Executive of Open The Door Theatre In Education, who we were delighted to have as our guest speaker. Clare gave a truly wonderful and inspirational speech in which she encouraged our students to work hard to achieve their dreams. She is an excellent role model for young people. Thank you also to the Music Department, the Orchestra and Singers for their beautiful contribution to the evening and to those staff whose hard work made the evening such a success. It was an encouragement to see so many parents and friends in the audience. Thank you!

SHOE BOX APPEAL

We have now launched our annual 'Operation Christmas Child' appeal. Every year we have a tremendous response from the pupils and staff and the record so far is a fabulous 302 shoe boxes. Boxes will be collected from school at the very beginning of December. After collection the boxes will be taken to warehouses for shipment overseas. We always have such a tremendous response from our school community for this worthy cause, which brings untold pleasure to millions of needy children each year. For many this will be the only Christmas present they will receive. Leaflets giving details on what to put in the shoe boxes are available. When ready, the shoe boxes should be brought to Mrs McElhinney-Samson's office in the reception area.



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Charlotte Smith in 7CG who collected the Lord Mayor's award, which she achieved at her Primary School, at an awards ceremony held at the Huyton Suite yesterday.

Congratulations also go to Ruth West (8BF) who is one of only 11 finalists chosen from three categories in Year 7, Year 8 and North Wales in the North West Schools Science Competition. The "Cup Final" play-off is being held next Wednesday at the Catalyst Science and Discovery Centre and we would like to wish Ruth the best of luck.

Liverpool City Council recently asked us to nominate two Year 10 pupils to represent Liverpool at the Liverpool Shanghai Partnership, Shanghai Expo 2010. Over sixty young people from all over the city have been chosen to participate in a week long trip to Shanghai from May to October next year. Year 10 pupils were asked to nominate themselves for this all expenses paid trip of a lifetime. The draw was held on Wednesday afternoon and the lucky winners are Rachel Hill and Dorine Ndongozi. Congratulations to them both.

ENTERPRISING WINNERS!

Congratulations go to our Year 10 Young Enterprise Team, supported by Mrs Addy, who have won the 2009 Liverpool Schools' Enterprise Challenge. The competition, run by Liverpool Compact, was held on 3 November at the Liner Hotel in the City Centre.

Gabrielle Bowker, Anna Helsby, Danielle Lucass, Jessica Mock, Rebecca Madigan and Rebecca Reid were worthy winners, beating off strong competition from secondary schools throughout Liverpool, with their theme of organising a wedding. The girls had to act as facilitators, offering a complete wedding package service from working out the finances to decorating the tables.

ENTERPRISE WEEK

Year 10 Enterprise group and Year 11 Young Enterprise 'Elephant Enterprises' will be attending a Train 2000 'Women in Business awards' event at Aintree Racecourse on Wednesday, 18 November from 11.15 am. They will be accompanied by Miss Deaves and Mrs Addy.

'MAKE IT ENTERPRISING' CHALLENGE

Fourteen pupils from year 10 were involved in a Compact Challenge day before half term and the Make It Enterprising Challenge at the PFL centre at Jaguar Landrover on 5 November. The girls produced some excellent design work and came close to winning both competitions. All of the girls involved developed good presentation techniques and their communication skills working as a team on difficult challenges.

SCHOOL FUND

Thank you to those parents who have already returned contributions for the School Fund. I realise that in the present financial climate, many families may not currently be able to support school financially in this way. However, I would ask that if you have not contributed because this request has slipped your mind, contributions of any amount would still be much appreciated. If you need a further copy of the letter/envelope please contact the Finance Office.

SAFEGUARDING

Parents may have noticed an increased security presence on the school car park gates. This is in line with new Safeguarding Regulations to protect the school community. We are awaiting the installation of electronic gates and in the interim period all visitors will have to report to the Security Guard on duty before entering the school grounds.

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

Welcome to Mrs Julie Graham, who has joined us this week as our new Receptionist and to Ms Stephanie Cully who has joined the Learning Support Department.

FREE BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS

Please continue to send in your tokens on the top of Nestlé cereal boxes; collection boxes for which are placed around school.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

Mr Moss writes... "I would like to thank the staff, parents and pupils for their support and encouragement with the music for the Prize Night. As always, this is very much appreciated and we look forward to producing more music for the Christmas Concert at the Anglican Cathedral.

Can I also say a big thanks to the parents for their patience whilst we have been interviewing for a new Music Administrator. This is especially the case with students waiting to start new instrumental lessons last half term, which in some cases have been delayed. We have now appointed Mr Per Nielsen as Music Administrator and he will be dealing with all matters regarding billing and organisation of the instrumental lessons in school.

I would like to congratulate all the girls who auditioned for the Year 7 Choir. Miss Callanan and her helpers auditioned 105 girls for 75 places last half term. We have been overwhelmed by the incredibly high standard of singing by Year 7 pupils and will have a waiting list for the 30 girls who weren't chosen this time in case places become available during the year.

Lastly, can I advertise that we do still have some availability for lessons on some instruments for pupils in any Year Group who wish to start in the New Year. Please see Mr Nielsen if you would like any information about how to start."

FRIENDS OF ABS

The recent FABS raffle, with help from matched funding from Barclays Bank Plc, raised the sum of £388. We would like to thank our Sponsors who donated the prizes and those who supported this event. All proceeds will benefit the students of the school.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

ADVANCE NOTICE: The next PA meeting will be held on Monday, 4 January 2010 and not 7 December as stated previously in the Calendar. Also, the Disco for Years 7-9 on 3 December will have a Christmas theme.