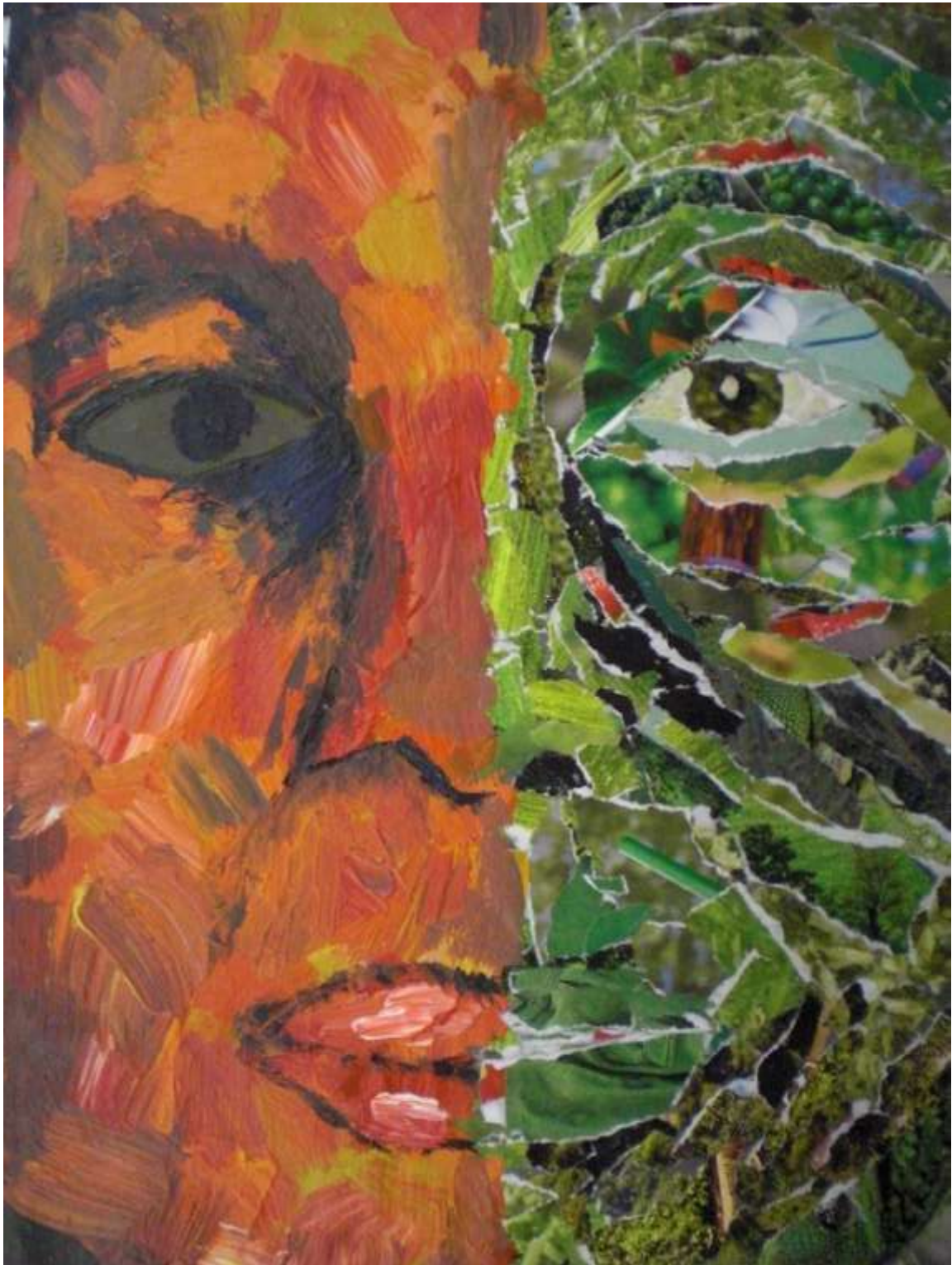




MAGNUS



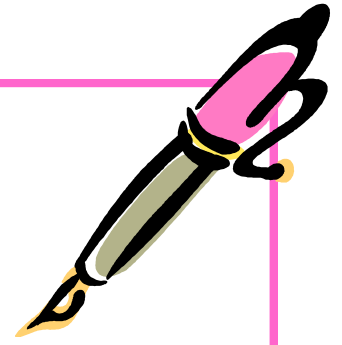
April 2011



The Newsletter of Great Baddow High School



Headteacher's Letter



Dear Parent

Welcome to the Spring Term edition of Magnus and to our opportunity to remind you of all of the achievements of your sons and daughters in curricular and extra-curricular activities.

Highlights for me this term included supporting our U16 netball team at the National Finals in Southampton. Unfortunately, two players were injured in early games and as a result – despite an immense team effort to fight on without them – the girls did not reach the semi-finals this time. However, it was a great day and very well supported by their families who had also travelled down. I also thoroughly enjoyed watching our students perform gymnastics, trampoline and dance sequences in a packed sports hall at the Gym and Dance Display on 22 March. They were joined by a number of groups including Chelmsford Gymnastics Club with children aged from four years upwards, young people from Essex Dance, our all-**male dance group 'Fluid' and junior school pupils from the School Sports Partnership** gym teams. In the same week Year 12 and 13 Theatre Studies students showcased their exam pieces and the quality of these group performances certainly bodes well for some excellent AS and A2 results this summer.

Last week we were again joined by primary pupils who come to our Junior Music School as they **performed in the music department's** Spring Concert. This was another fantastic night with **performances from our junior and senior choirs, the orchestra, our prize winning band 'Chase the Enemy'** and several solo instrumentalist and singers.

I would like to thank all of the staff who give up so much of their time to provide these opportunities and the many others that have taken place this term and all the parents and families who support these events.

Our recent Parent Governor election received a very good response and, on behalf of Mrs Sally Clifford, Chair of Governors, I am delighted to welcome Mrs Tracey Metson to the Governing Body and to congratulate Mr Mark Cordell who was re-elected for a further term of office. We are very grateful to all five candidates who volunteered to make the not inconsiderable commitment to become a governor of such a busy school.

As you will be aware, we are in the consultation stage for the new style Academy conversion. Meetings have been held for staff and for parents, students have been informed through assemblies and via the school council and feedback from all stakeholders is welcomed via letter or by email to academyconsultation@gbhs.co.uk

Year 11, 12 and 13 students are preparing for summer exams. There are a number of additional revision classes taking place after school and over the Easter holidays for Year 11 in particular; please encourage your sons and daughters to attend if their teachers have invited them. The exams are approaching rapidly and, because of the late Easter and additional Bank Holiday there are now only twelve school days remaining before the first GCSE exam!

On a number of occasions I have mentioned that we will be surveying parents, students and staff to find out their opinions of different aspects of school life. We have commissioned a well known company, Kirkland Rowell, to devise the surveys and to analyse all of the results. Student surveys will be completed in school and parent surveys will be sent home in early May. I hope that you will support this process by completing and returning the survey and we look forward to receiving your views which will then be reported back next term.

With best wishes for a happy Easter break,

Mrs C Lynch

Attendance and Lateness

These are figures provided by the Education Welfare Service.

Attendance

If your child is missing school, do you know how much learning he or she misses out on?

85% attendance	= 5 weeks and 3 days of learning missed
80% attendance	= 7 weeks and 3 days of learning missed
75% attendance	= 9 weeks and one day of learning missed

Lateness

<u>Minutes late per day</u> <u>during the school year</u>	<u>= days worth of learning</u> <u>lost in a year</u>
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5 minutes	3.4 days
10 minutes	6.9 days
15 minutes	10.3 days
20 minutes	13.8 days
30 minutes	20.7 days



Holiday Requests

Requests for holidays are still being received. The school has a strict policy of not authorising holidays in term time except in exceptional circumstances. Please do not put the school in the uncomfortable **position of having to say "No"**. We greatly value the positive relationship between parents and the school and we do not want the issue of holidays to create a conflict in this relationship.

All schools are set statutory targets for levels of attendance and we work in partnership with families to achieve these targets. Please note; parents have received fines from the Education Welfare Service for unauthorised absence due to term-time holidays.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Healthy Eating Rewards

Congratulations to Olivia Seymour of 8W1 who is this term's Healthy Eating Awards winner with 14,055 points. **Olivia's prize is a £50 voucher.** The following are the winners in their year groups and will receive a £15 credit on their dining card.

Year 7	Brook Johnson 7W2	11050 points
Year 9	Harry Robinson 9S2	10500 points
Year 10	Samuel Clements 10E1	8,805 points
Year 11	Thomas Stanway 11N1	9,825 points



Gold Club



The Gold Club Spring Term draw was made in school on Friday, 1st April by Mrs Bowring, Gold Club Treasurer and Mrs P Bonner, Office Manager. Congratulations to our winners.

	Prize	Share No.	Winner
1st	£110	108	Ms K Woolmer
2nd	£50	226	Mrs S Crampton
3rd	£50	179	Mr and Mrs M Freedman
4th	£50	93	Ms C E Hamilton-Jones
5th	£50	214	Mr S Bowring

If you would like to find out how you can join the Gold Club to help raise funds for the school, please contact Mrs Bonner on 01245 265821 or Email admin@gbhs.co.uk. Thank you.

Physics Trip to University College London Hospital

On Tuesday 1st March AS Physics students visited the radiotherapy physics department at University College London Hospital at Euston. Hospital staff provided a very comprehensive programme for the day which enabled us to see many different aspects of radiotherapy. A large multi-disciplined team is involved in the treatment of cancer patients.



Students gained an insight of the varying roles of different staff such as physicists, radiotherapists, engineers, doctors, dosimetrists and technicians.



We used a 3-D training system to align patients and equipment accurately so that radiation is targeted at the correct location.



The exact location of a tumour may be determined by using a CT scanner like the one shown. Once this location is determined, precise **positioning of patients is vital for every fraction of a patient's radiotherapy treatment.** We saw how thermosetting plastics are used to make moulds for patient immobilisation. An example of this can be seen in the facial mask used for treatment of head and neck tumours.





We were shown how brachytherapy is used to place radioactive sources directly inside the body to treat certain cancers such as those of the cervix and prostate.

The chief engineer showed us the **hospital's brand new Varian Clinac** machine which is currently undergoing extensive testing before clinical use.

We were able to conduct our own Inverse Square Law experiment using X-rays and a very sensitive ionisation chamber.



Thanks are extended to all the staff involved at the hospital for making this a thoroughly fascinating look at physics in action.

Dr T Ghoneim and Dr G White



Modern Languages Faculty
Gifted and Talented Day - 24th March 2011
Kenya - Swahili Language and Culture



The theme of this year's MFL Faculty Gifted and Talented Day was Kenya. The aim of the day was for our gifted and talented linguists to gain an insight and to embrace and experience a language and culture vastly different to their own with a view to enriching their own learning skills. Twenty seven students ranging from Years 8 to 10 took part and were involved in a variety of interactive tasks during the course of the day.

Our Kenyan adventure began with an in-depth presentation of Kenyan culture and in particular, their education system, by Mrs Neale (SEN department) who was able to recount her own experiences in a Kenyan school. Students then had the opportunity to view authentic artefacts. They were amazed at the craftsmanship and creativity, in particular the dolls made out of banana leaves.

We were then joined by a group of enchanting and adorable Year 1 pupils from Woodham Walter Primary School, accompanied by their teacher Mrs Dodd, who performed three traditional Kenyan songs and then taught these to our students. It was a very rewarding, humbling and moving experience for our students to learn from and to perform with their younger peers.

At break, students got to sample "Mandazi" (traditional Kenyan doughnuts) and drink Kenyan sweet tea. Delicious! Everyone went back for more.

We were joined by Mrs Marina Gardiner who taught our students how to converse in basic Swahili and she was amazed at how quickly and accurately they picked it up and used it. She was also moved by the warm welcome and the courtesy extended by our students.



Mrs Holland had transformed the library into a flavour of Kenya with artefacts, food and **drink, resources and music and she introduced our students to "Jambo Bwana", probably the most cheerful and catchy song on the planet.** Students were singing and humming it all day long... **"Jambo, jambo bwana, habari gani, mzuri sana, wageni, wakaribishwa, Kenya yetu, Hakuna Matata..."**

During the afternoon, students engaged in a variety of tasks to consolidate and widen their Swahili and produced some amazing poems, songs, guides and brochures in Swahili all evoking memories of Kenya. Our wonderful adventure finally culminated in students performing role plays that they had produced in Swahili.

Here are some of the things our students had to say about our Kenya Day...

"It has been rewarding as well as just learning." – Jack Bennett 8N1

"It inspires you to learn about a new language and culture and gives us a chance to push ourselves." – Lucy Gardner 9S1

"I really enjoyed learning from the primary school children." – Charlotte Bennett 8S2

"I would make the day longer – I wouldn't change any of the activities because I thought it was a good balance between active and passive activities." – Paige Knights 8W1

"The whole day was memorable – everything was amazing." Lulu Payne 8N1

"It has been an unforgettable experience." – Lucinda Strutt 8N1

"I wish we had more hours in the day." – Beth Braine 9S2

"The presentation was informative and the day was perfect." – Pritika Thirumal Raj 8W1

"It was fun and insightful." – Alex Hemming 10E2

"Jambo Bwana is an awesome song and I learnt that languages are learnt in many different ways." – Max Holland 9N1

"It was a good way to learn about another culture and language. It was interesting to see that there were words in Swahili similar to ours. Also it has made me more confident in my speaking skills" – Abi Whitby 9C

Many thanks to all the staff who made the day possible: Mrs Neale, Mrs Holland, Mr Culver and Mr Butcher and to our students whose enthusiasm and commitment shone through. We hope to continue our Gifted and Talented Days in the future as days like these greatly enrich students' learning experience as is clearly evident from their testimonies.

And finally.... "Hakuna Matata and Kwaheri".

Miss Mookherjee (MFL Faculty)

MATHS DEPARTMENT NEWS

It has been a busy term for the Mathematics Department. Firstly, some Year 9 and 10 students took part in the UKMT intermediate maths challenge with some fabulous results. Students achieving certificates are featured in the table below:



GOLD AWARDS	SILVER AWARDS	BRONZE AWARDS	
Nicholas Goodwin Y10	Alex Hemming Y10	Ben Cove Y10	Flora Campoccio Y9
Benjamin Taylor Y10	Ben Smith Y10	Callum Hobrough Y10	Nathan Smith Y9
	Matthew Metson Y10	Ben Caleno Y10	Allia Ruggiero Y9
	Sian Dudley Y9	Rory Hammond Y10	Louise Corfield Y9
		Brogan Lambert Y10	Andrea Bunce Y9
		Georgina Reardon Y10	Joshua Limbachia Y9
		Marc Bentley Y10	Alice Cocklin Y9
		Sophie Wander Y10	Sam Yates Y9
		Adam Silk Y10	Josh Cormack-Butler Y9



Some of the teachers have been visiting the local primary schools to work with some Gifted and Talented students. As a follow up to this, Mr Mills organised a competition for the students. This took place on 15th March. The students completed a Jaguar Maths in Motion race with Meadgate School becoming the winners. As a reward, their effort was put forward as our Key Stage 2 representation in the Essex round of the Jaguar Competition. We also had students from Key Stages 3 and 4 prepare and plan cars using a piece of software to run a simulated race. The Essex round was completed on 23rd March and

we are proud to announce that our Key Stage 3 and 4 cars have won through to the regional round but the Key Stage 2 car came a very close second place. I am sure you will all join us in wishing the students the best of luck for the next round in May.

Two Year 8 and two Year 9 students were selected from an extremely strong field to represent the school in the Essex round of the UKMT Team Maths Challenge. This was held at **Bancroft's school in Woodford Green. The competition was very stiff, with all the local grammar and public schools entering teams.** Despite leading after the first of four rounds, the team struggled to keep up the pace and finished a very creditable eleventh place out of the thirty teams there on the day. A very well done to the team: Year 8s Luke Baharie and Leon Ruggiero and from Year 9 Louise Corfield and Sian Dudley.



Team Challenge

Finally, the Mathematics Department would like to wish all students the very best of luck for their examinations next term. We know they will all be doing their best to prepare at home but any student who needs help or support only needs to ask any maths teacher. There are also a **series of revision sessions on offer. Details of these will be placed on the school's website.**

Enjoy the Easter break.

Mr P Dexter - Head of Mathematics Faculty



ART DEPARTMENT

National Portrait Gallery

On Tuesday 15th March, Miss Mitchell and I took the Year 10 BTEC First Diploma in Art

and Design group to visit the National Portrait Gallery, London.

The purpose of the trip was to study and draw at first hand from exhibits. The work produced will contribute to their current project entitled 'Me, Myself and I' and a future issue of Magnus will show the final outcomes. Teachers, support staff and all pupils had a lovely day; Josh particularly enjoyed trying to avoid the pigeons in Trafalgar square at lunchtime! On this page and the next are pupil comments and photographs.

Mrs Carlton



The part of the trip that I enjoyed was seeing **Andy Warhol's work**. I enjoyed this because we had been studying this in class and it was interesting to see the real thing instead of an image on a computer.

Ella Terry

I really enjoyed the day. The National Portrait Gallery was big and full of important stuff. I liked the 3D head made of blood the best. It was really quiet in there.

Sifar Wannaso



When we arrived at the gallery we spent the morning looking at 2D work. We then had a picnic lunch in Trafalgar Square in the sunshine! We returned to the gallery in the afternoon and looked at 3d heads.

Miss A Sudnik (RBHS)





I was expecting it to be boring but it was actually really fun and exciting. Very quiet though.

Amber Marshall

It was a great journey to a place that held so many famous pieces of art. It was interesting and enjoyable to study the art. The journey was a hilarious experience. **I'd like to go back there** again. London and everything in it is a great place itself.

Hayley Joy



CHARITY CAKE SALE

The SEN department staff made and sold cakes recently in aid of



Great Ormond Street Hospital

which has treated and supported a number of our students. The sale raised £144 and the cakes were enjoyed by many of the students and staff.



Linda Williams - SEN Department



Library News



Reading into the Future

Did you know ...

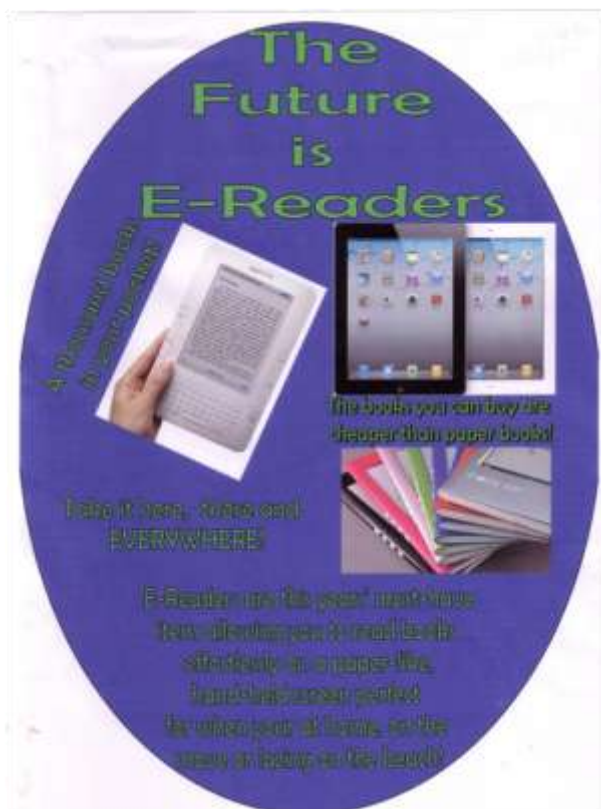
In January 2011, e-books outsold paperback books on Amazon? Currently, e-books account for 8 to 10% of overall book sales but are predicted to account for half all of books sold by 2014.

At GBHS library we like to keep up with the trends and wanted our Year 7s to think about how reading was developing and could change in the future. So, together with the IT department, we gave them some facts about e-readers, thought of their advantages and disadvantages and then set the Year 7s a challenge: to design a poster advertising e-readers and e-books.

Some of our winning posters have been designed by:

Georgia Collins, 7C	Alice Hobbs, 7C
Beth Macdonald, 7E1	Yasmin Limbachia, 7S2
Tom Kent, 7W1	Amelia Plester, 7W2
Jordan Howard, 7W2	Jasmine Smail, 7N1
Hannah Newsome, 7E2	Lili Barkway, 7S2

These students will be invited to a special session in the library with Waterstones, who will be demonstrating their e-readers and ipads. The winning posters will be displayed in Waterstones in Chelmsford and the best overall poster will be chosen by the store and will receive an additional prize.



by Hannah Newsome 7E2



by Beth Macdonald 7E1

World Book Day

Guess the Mystery Reader Competition

How well do GBHS students know their teachers? To celebrate this year's World Book Day the librarians displayed posters around the school of members of staff reading their favourite books and asked students to guess who was reading. There were some surprising answers. How well would you do? Here is a sample:



www.worldbookday.com



Congratulations to the winners:

Year 7
Eda Bayram 7S2
Elona Woodford 7N2
Year 10
Bethany Bushby 10S2

Year 8
Scott Martin 8C
Jack Gair 8C
Staff
Miss Wheeler/Mrs Burdon/Mr Wood

Answers clockwise from top left:

Mr Braniff, Mrs Lynch, Mrs Royall, Mr Royall, Mr Lynch, Mrs Lynch, Mrs Burdon, Mr Wood, Mr Conway

GCSE CATERING

Year 11 GCSE catering students have just completed Practical Test 2 which accounts for the final 40% of their controlled assessment marks. They have spent thirty hours researching, planning, practising dishes and evaluating their ideas. Under examination conditions students have to plan a two course meal, with accompaniments, which would be suitable for healthy school meals. They are assessed on their choice of dishes, kitchen hygiene, personal hygiene, skills shown, flavour, colour, texture of the dishes made and how they are presented at the end of the exam. Some students chose to make dishes for a theme day which allows them more flexibility with choice of ingredients.

Here are some of the dishes made:



Kirsty made:

Chicken Pasta Penne
with
Garlic Bread

Individual Apple Pie
with
Cinnamon Cream and a Rich Caramel
Sauce



Abigail made:

Fish Pie
with
Dauphinoise Potato Topping
Carrots and Broccoli

Lemon Meringue Pie
with
Chantilly Cream



Tom made:

Baked Salmon Fillet on a Watercress Sauce
Roasted Sweet Potatoes and Asparagus

Orange Chocolate Pots

Continued...



Zac made:

Hearty Chicken and Leek soup
with
Homemade Plaited Loaf

Normandy Apple Flan
with
Raspberry Coulis



Richard made:

Beef Lasagne
with
Chef's Salad

Oaty Blackberry Crumble
with
Crème Anglaise

As ever, the standard of work has been very high and it has been very rewarding for all the catering teachers to see that the students can put into practice all of the skills they have learnt over the past five terms.

Mrs J Cunning
Head of Food Technology



Year 12 Students Third in Chartered Accountants Competition

Year 12 students came third in the regional finals of the Institute of Chartered Accountants Business Skills competition held at Anglia Ruskin University on 1st March 2011.

The following Year 12 students attended Bradley Cooke, Karl Harris, Emily Bolton, Paris Bone, Lucy Cox, Alex Cave, Luke Withers, Alice Hiluta, Abigail Williams, Becky Skeoch, Zachary Turner-Thorne and George Sanders.

Mr K Davis
Business Studies



ifs Student Investor Challenge

On Thursday 10th March I took four of our Year 11 GCSE business students to the regional finals of the IFS Student Investor Challenge (www.studentinvestor.org). Over eight thousand teams from schools across the UK took part in the challenge to invest £100,000 between November and February to see how much money could be made from their initial investment in stocks and shares. The students, who performed brilliantly as a team saw their initial investment grow by £30,000 in the allotted time.

The team comprised Sam Davis 11W1, Rebecca Summers 11W2, Chloe Hawker 11N1 and Joshua Ati-Tay 11W2.



Despite hiccups with transport, we managed to get to the venue on time before starting the quiz. It involved answering questions about finance, money and investing in the first round at the regional heats against many other top private and grammar schools. Sadly our team did not finish in the top three places to go forward to the national final. However, in pitting themselves against Year 12 and 13 students from across the south-east I was very proud of the way our Year 11s conducted themselves and how well they performed on the day.

We will back for another attempt next year!



Mr J Beadle

Head of Business Studies/Enterprise Coordinator



Members of the Computer Club for Girls (CC4G) have been busy so far this year creating lots of fantastic creative material using a variety of skills and new software, including:

Interactive presentations with multimedia and hyperlinks
Flash animations
Websites in Dreamweaver



Mr A Mills - ICT Department

CC4G is held in M17 on Mondays after school (3:20 to 4:20pm) and is open to all Year 7 and 8 girls. If you are interested in joining CC4G to learn new ICT skills and try out new software, please see Mr Mills in M17 or contact him by email at mla@gbhs.co.uk

Sports College News

We are now reaching the end of a very hectic, yet very enjoyable and successful half term. We have now completed our Year 11 GCSE PE practical exams with our students performing exceptionally well and we look forward to our A Level students doing the same in the beginning of April. We are still involved in the final stages of the national basketball competition and have been crowned County Champions in two age groups while being runners up in another three.

We have played three district rugby finals, with our Year 10 team taking away the trophy. Football continues, with several sides awaiting their semi-final games while our U13 girls side were narrowly beaten 4-2 in the Essex Cup final. Also, one of our Netball teams has now been crowned district champions.



You can find more details of these events in the articles which follow.

Having recently attended the Essex Chronicle Awards dinner we are proud that Louise Corfield of Year 9 finished third in the individual competition and our Year 8 (now Year 9) boys finished as winners of the Young Team of the Year award. Our congratulations go to them all.

We look forward to the start of next term when our summer sports begin. Please look out for a totally new clubs timetable on our return to school after Easter.

Mr P Shears (Acting Head of PE Faculty)

Girls' PE

As we draw to the end of term we look back at the successes of 2011 so far. Girls' PE has been full of exciting fixtures and results against other schools locally and nationally and once again our pupils have competed fairly and competitively.



The netball season draws to an end this half term. The Year 11 netball team successfully competed at the national finals on 19th March in Southampton. The sun was shining and the girls were in good spirits. They fought hard against tough competition, but unfortunately lost two players through injury on the day. The team finished seventh in their pool which was a fantastic achievement and we are very proud of them. At the district rallies we were very pleased with all age groups. Year 7 made the finals, narrowly losing out to New Hall School in the closing minute and the Year 8 team had an exciting semi final which went to extra time. They narrowly missed out to CCHS. The Year 11 team came back with revenge in mind after the national final weekend and successfully beat all teams to make them district champions.

On the basketball court we are still competing strongly in the U17 and U19 age groups in the national competitions. We are hoping to secure a national finals place in May. The Essex Cup competitions have been very exciting this year with Years 10,11 and Sixth Form competing in the final. The Year 10 team played Shenfield School in the final, losing by only fifteen points; the final score being 61 to 77. The Year 11 team fought back against Shenfield in their final, beating them 72 to 63. The Sixth Form team were on fire in their final, successfully becoming champions over SEEVIC College, beating them 94 to 54.

The gymnastics and dance competition was another successful event led by Mr Butcher in the department. The high level of talent among our pupils was incredible to watch. We thank everyone for their support on the evening.

The U13 girls' football team played their Essex Cup final against St Martin's School. The match was exciting and nerve wracking and with the thought of extra time, nerves were very high on both teams. Unfortunately St Martin's had two very quick counter-attacks and the final score was Great Baddow 2 - St Martin's 4. We are very proud of this team as this is the first time we have had a girls' team in the Essex Cup final.

At the district cross country championships we once again saw outstanding performances from our girls. Elona Woodford in Year 7 triumphed over the entire field, winning the Year 7 race. From this Elona then went on to compete in the schools' inter county competition where she finished twenty-fifth overall. Rosie Osborn, also of Year 7, finished sixth in the district race. In the Year 8 competition, Emily Ley came third overall. These are fantastic achievements from these young ladies.

On Friday 25th March, we took the Year 7 netball team to watch the Hertfordshire Mavericks Super League team play against the Celtic Dragons. This was the second trip to watch this team and is proving to be a popular event. This is a great opportunity for the girls to watch high quality netball and inspire them to move up to the next playing level.

We are very proud of the achievements of a group of pupils who auditioned for a dance event which is part of the St George's Day celebrations at Twickenham. Ten pupils went through vigorous auditions and showed their skills to make ours the only school in Essex to have all pupils go through successfully. The girls will now undertake training during the Easter holidays to perfect their performance for the big show. They will be performing before the match and during half-time at the London Wasps versus Bath game on Saturday 23rd April.



The athletics season starts after Easter and this is always a very enjoyable and busy period in the PE department. Pupils will be competing in local and national competitions and will also have the opportunity of representing Essex in the schools' competitions. Already this year some pupils have been competing in athletics. Special mention must go to Moesha Howard who has achieved a number of podium places in the early season.

We thank you for your continued support.

Miss Nicholson - **Head of Girls' PE**

Boys' PE

In what is, as usual, a very busy half term leading to the final stages of most of our winter sports, a very tiring but rewarding time has been had. Credit for this must go to the efforts of our boys who have spent many hours with us, but also the time and effort of our staff, for which I must thank them.

On the rugby field our Year 7 side has completed their season in the district semi-final, unfortunately losing by the odd point. It was disappointing to lose so narrowly in a game we should have won with our opponents going on to win the final comfortably. I am sure next season will bring about a different result. However, our Year 8, 9 and 10 teams all made their respective finals. Our Year 8s, although comfortably beaten, were unlucky with the opposition scoring four tries that were breakaways from virtually their own try line. Oh for a little bit more pace! That will however be improved over the next few years as we develop our team concept. Our Year 9s lost by seventeen in a competitive effort, but again struggled against some big quick lads. A little work on tackling should put that right for next season.

The highlight for us was our Year 10 effort. Coming to a final against Brentwood County High, the side that knocked us out 37-0 last season, nobody gave us a hope. Our boys had a different plan. With a big, quick opposition, who are in the national final at rugby league, against us, impact at the start was paramount. As their first player tried to run over Jamie Ash and was smashed to the floor, the trend for the game was set. Early on they tried to run over us and were nailed every time we took control. Led by

Continued...

a half fit captain Ben Howard, and a tireless display from Callum Trendell, to mention just two, we dominated the game. Pressure eventually told as Ricky Sims went over to score the first try. We managed to squander a number of other chances but led 5-0 at the half. A second half try from Callum, converted by Jamie left us 12-0 up. With the game all but over their quickest lad broke out of his own twenty-two with just George Welch, our full back, to beat. As George caught him with a flying tackle, we thought the game was over. With seven minutes to go they scored from a penalty we all thought was ours and converted it to make it 12-7, game on. Fired on by that Brentwood tried in vain to cross our line but were knocked back continuously. With the last desperate play of the game they managed to score in the corner, meaning a conversion would win the game for them. Fortunately the effort fell short with the score at 12-12. However competition rules left us deservedly winners having scored the first try. Our sixth formers have retained their district 7s title and look forward to their Essex Cup semi-final to come.



On the football field we have moved to the final stages of district competitions. Our Year 7 side await the semi final against Shenfield School, while our Year 8 side was beaten in extra-time in the **semi final. Our Year 9 side play their semi final this week, while our Year 11's lost their semi on penalties. We won't mention who missed!**

In basketball, on the county scene our Year 7 side showed how much improvement they had made over the year by sneaking into the Essex Cup final with an overtime win over Shenfield. We lost narrowly in the final to a well drilled Fitzwimarc side. However, with the numbers we work with at our sessions our boys have done brilliantly to get to this stage. Next year the result will be different. Our Year 8 squad have really moved on this year. With a fair number now playing National League basketball at Baddow Eagles, along with the collective efforts at training and a number of the squad visiting the USA on a club run basketball trip, we made the county final. After a disappointing first half that left us sixteen points down our boys really stepped up and won both of the final quarters then went on to eventually lose by ten. Our Year 9 side lost the semi final by six to a poor St **Martin's side with a very disappointing performance. Our Year 10s showed they have got what it takes while losing a low scoring semi-final by two. What would the result have been had we trained hard?**



Athletics/Cricket

Please check the new clubs timetable as athletics and cricket will be starting after Easter.

As you can see, there has been a lot happening and I would like to thank the staff and boys for all their efforts, and of course the parents for their great support.

Mr P Shears (Acting Head of Physical Education Faculty)

PE KIT

A reminder to parents that PE Kit must be brought to all lessons irrespective of whether your son or daughter is participating. On cold days a tracksuit and wet top, etc. is appropriate for non-participants. Also, as per the school prospectus, a towel is part of our PE kit requirements. A change of clothing might also be useful in inclement weather.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Girls from the Year 7 and 8 netball teams are fundraising for a tour to Barbados to help enhance their netball skills. The visit will take place in February 2012 and twenty-two girls are currently involved.

Their plan at the moment is to raise as much money as possible to fund the trip. The fundraising kicked-off on 1st April with a quiz night which raised almost £800. The following day the girls collected money by packing bags for shoppers in Asda, which raised just over £700. We are sure you will agree, this is a fantastic achievement. However, there is still much more to be done...

The next planned event is for Saturday 7th May when the girls will be bag packing at the Tesco store in Princes Road, Chelmsford.

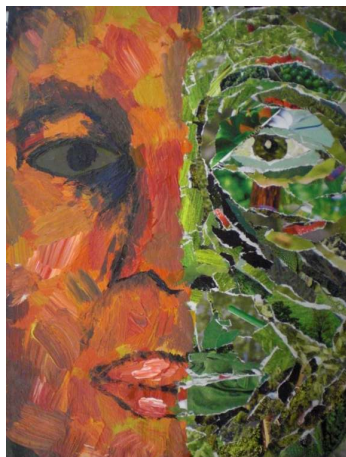
The tour to Barbados will see the girls play matches against teams from the host country. It is also hoped that over the next six months links can be made with schools in Barbados and that when the girls go on tour they will be able to spend one day in a school to compare our school and theirs.



This is a fantastic opportunity for the girls and they are looking forward to playing at a high standard. Miss Nicholson is looking for anyone who is prepared to support the girls with, for example, kit or money towards the visit. If you would be interested in sponsoring this event then please contact Miss Nicholson, either by telephone (01245 265821) or email nch@gbhs.co.uk.



Thank you.



Cover Artwork

by

Rosy Stanton 10S2

The picture is a Year 10 BTEC First Diploma in Art and Design portrait project. In this piece of work Rosy has experimented with mark-making techniques in acrylic paint and torn magazine collage, working in the style of Andre Derrain, a Fauvist artist, on a portrait drawing of herself.

PARENTS' CALENDAR ACADEMIC YEAR 2010 – 2011

This is an update to the calendar issued to parents in September. Additions and amendments made since the February edition of Magnus, are listed in red. Shaded areas denote events at weekends and during school holiday periods.

SUMMER TERM 2011

Tuesday	26 April	First Day of Summer Term	ALL
Wednesday	27 April	PASTORAL DAY 5	ALL
Friday	29 April	Royal Wedding Bank Holiday	ALL
Monday	2 May	May Bank Holiday	ALL
Tuesday	3 May	Year 10 Swanage residential geography trip departs	10
Wednesday	4 May	Phase 3 – HPV vaccinations for girls in Year 8 Year 7 Parent/Teacher Evening (originally 28 April)	8 7
Thursday	5 May	Inter house triathlon	Various
Friday	6 May	Year 10 Swanage residential geography trip departs Year 11 Leavers' Assembly and Lunch (prov)	10 11
Monday	9 May	AS/A2 and GCSE Examinations begin Inter house cricket Years 7/8	11 to 13 7 and 8
Wednesday	11 May	Springtime in Paris trip	10
Thursday	12 May	Springtime in Paris trip Junior/inter trials for Essex athletics championships	10 Various
Friday	13 May	Whole School Council meeting Springtime in Paris trip (prov)	Various 10
Monday	16 May	Year 8 end of year assessments begin (finish 20 May) First round of national athletics	8 Various
Wednesday	18 May	Year 9 Music theatre trip all day	9
Thursday	19 May	Year 7 athletics trials for Essex Championships	7
Friday	20 May	MFL trip to Lille	9
Monday	23 May	Year 7 end of year assessments begin (finish 27 May) Year 12 study programme begins	7 12
Tuesday	24 May	PE Gifted and Talented students as Essex University (prov)	Various
Wednesday	24 May	PE Gifted and Talented students as Essex University (prov) Year 10 reports to parents	Various 10
Thursday	26 May	Year 11 Leavers' Lunch 1.30pm	11
Friday	27 May	Last day of first half term	ALL
Saturday	28 May	Bronze D of E final assessed expedition	Various
Sunday	29 May	Bronze D of E expedition	Various
Monday	6 June	First day of second half term	ALL
Thursday	9 June	Year 10 Parent/Teacher Evening	10
Friday	10 June	Year 12 study programme ends	12
Saturday	11 June	Essex athletics championships	Various
Monday	13 June	Regional round of national schools athletics	Various
Wednesday	15 June	Years 7 to 9 girls' inter house rounders	7 to 9
Friday	17 June	SPORTS DAY	ALL
Tuesday	21 June	AS Product Design students to Design Museum	Various
Wednesday	22 June	District athletics at Melbourne Stadium BTEC Art Vocational Day	Various 10/11
Thursday	23 June	13:15 to 15:15 Year 11 Clearance Day	11
Friday	24 June	INSET DAY 3	ALL
Monday	27 June	Year 11 Sixth form induction at Mersea Sixth form art gallery visit	11 Sixth Form

Tuesday	28 June	Year 11 induction to Sixth Form at Mersea Year 8 reports to parents	11 8
Wednesday	29 June	Year 11 induction to Sixth Form at Mersea	11
Thursday	30 June	Year 11 induction to Sixth Form in school Year 9 Rewards Trip (prov)	11 9
Friday	1 July	All day technical rehearsal of School Production 13:15 to 15:15 Year 13 Clearance Day Year 13 Prom at Three Rivers Year 11 Prom (moved from 8 July)	Various 13 13 11
Monday	4 July	German Exchange departs – returns 11 July School Production rehearsal RBHIS "Together Day" (actual date to be confirmed)	Various Various RBHIS pupils
Friday	5 July	School Production rehearsal Year 7 reports to parents Year 9 SATs reports issued	Various 7 9
Wednesday	6 July	German Exchange visit departs School Production 19:30	Various Various
Thursday	7 July	Year 10 Business trip (prov) School Production 19:30	10 Various
Friday	8 July	PASTORAL DAY 6 School Production 19:30 Year 12 Business Studies residential trip departs	ALL Various 12
Monday	11 July	Year 12 Business Studies residential trip returns Concert Band and Senior Choir depart for tour to Austria (returns 18 July)	12 Various
Wednesday	13 July	German Exchange visit returns	Various
Thursday	14 July	Year 10 Business visit (prov) Years 8 and 12 progress reviews to parents	10 8 and 12
Friday	15 July	Year 8 rewards trip	8
Wednesday	20 July	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL YEAR	ALL

EXAMINATION RESULTS

Thursday	18 August	AS/A2 Results Day - Year 13 (A2) from 09:00 and Year 12 (AS) from 10:00
Thursday	25 August	GCSE Results Day - from 09:00