



Christmas 2009



The Gazette



Year 12 English Literature Visit to Bronte Country

At 6.00 on a cold November morning 18 members of year 12 set off 'up north' to visit the Brontë Parsonage and the moors that inspired the Brontë sisters to write. Upon arriving in Yorkshire we set off into the wilderness of Haworth moor walking five miles to visit the ruined farmhouse, 'Top Withens', believed to have been the inspiration for *Wuthering Heights* and the Brontë waterfall. The moors were muddy and bleak and gave a very good flavour of the 'Wuthering' atmosphere created in the Brontë sisters' novels. After lunch in Haworth, we were given a very informative talk and slide show by the education team at the Brontë Parsonage followed by a guided walk around Haworth looking at places connected with the Brontës and studying the environment.

Learning Resource Centre

To celebrate Children's Book Week, 5 – 11 October, we held a competition asking students in Year 9 to describe how they would design the cover of a book they have enjoyed, and why they chose that book.

Three quarters of the year group entered the competition and there were so many excellent entries that 3 winners were chosen, who all received book token prizes. In first place was Georgina Carter 9L, in second place was Charlotte Rimell 9W, and Edmund Jordan 9Z came third. The prizes were presented in assembly.

The Reading Buddies scheme began again at the beginning of November, with 13 Year 12 students paired with 13 Year 9 students, who then practice reading aloud in the LRC at registration on Wednesdays. This is to give the Year 9 students more confidence in their reading skills and has been progressing very well. Mrs Bennington December 2009



Year 13 English Literature Visit to Stratford.

Members of the Year 13 English Literature groups participated in an excellent day of practical workshops in Stratford exploring the language and themes of 'The Winter's Tale'. The workshops were led by actors and directors from the RSC and provided an excellent insight into the ways in which Shakespeare communicates with his audience. In the evening the students watched the production of the play at the Courtyard Theatre which was made more interesting by the fact that the students had discussed production and directorial choices with some of the cast and production team during the day.



Morgan cars visit and competition

James Lolley, Bridie O'Brien, Shanti Daffern, Sam Payne Cheney, Paul Retallick and Nick Stanley were the team who won the Morgan Cars challenge held on the 19th October 2009. The event organised by the Young Chamber an offshoot of the Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by Rabjohns was an opportunity for students from 12 schools from across the county to compete in a marketing challenge set by Morgan cars. The team had the opportunity to tour the factory and based on the information gleaned put together a convincing strategy aimed precisely at Morgan's potential market. The team's presentation to the judges in front of the other schools was confident and assured. A highly successful day for these budding entrepreneurs. Congratulations. Mrs Tozer

What's the point in Philosophy?

Obviously as an RE teacher I find the subject fascinating and I am never happier than I am when I take sixth formers to our annual philosophy conference to listen to Dr Peter Vardy in Oxford. However, I am often asked 'what's the point of RE' or 'Hmm ...yes, interesting, but how is that going to help you in the real world?'

A group of 11 year 13s accompanied Miss Thomas and I to listen to 4 lectures. It is always reassuring when the lecturer pronounces that they don't really care what grades everyone gets but philosophy is about LIFE! We were treated to lectures on questions to do with Body and Soul and whether it was reasonable to believe in anything spiritual about humans now we know such a lot about our complex physiology. We thought about how Atheism has developed over the centuries and whether the rather evangelical atheism expressed by Richard Dawkins constituted a form of belief itself?

It's good to be reminded that despite our attention on ordinary day to day things most of the time, human life can be about more. Thank you Dr Vardy for reminding us of the crucial questions we should all think about concerning the purpose and meaning of our existence. Philosophy isn't just about learning about what some bearded ancient blokes said hundreds of years ago – its living questions that challenge us to think about our place in the Universe, the purpose of our lives and how we should treat others that share our planet – be they human, animal or plant. What could be more fun!! *No really!!*

Thank you to Year 13 who were such brilliant company. Mrs Short

Year 12 Theatre Visit

On 20th November the Year 12 Theatre Studies group and several Year 11s were involved in a performance and workshop of Bertolt Brecht's "Mother Courage". Firstly we watched the Friction Theatre Company perform a condensed version of the 3 hour show. This was very well received by confusing in the beginning. Everything became clear through the workshop though. We learnt about techniques used in Brecht theatre, clearing up many uncertainties. In the workshop we split into groups and each took a technique and were told to show this using a theme. We enjoyed some very individual performances. We then got to clear up any remaining questions with a Q&A session with the cast. We would like to thank Kerry Murdock (Director) for the workshop which will help Yr12 greatly when we take on the play as our practical exam. Harry Organ



Battle of the Bands

My congratulations to the management team who did a fantastic job with the Battle of the Bands this year. My further congratulations go to the performers. The standard of music this year was exceptionally high as was commented on by the celebrity judge Nigel Clarke former bass player of the band Dodgy. It was a difficult decision but based on originality and cohesion in the band and by the narrowest of margins (1 vote) the event was won by the year 10 band Reborn Heroes. I am already looking forward to next year, let the battle recommence!! Mrs Tozer

The superb Battle of The Bands winners trophy designed by Lauren Cother in Year 10



Young Enterprise – Sales begin

I'm James from one of the two young enterprise groups in year 12. The young enterprise company that I am part of is called Air Ltd and the other company is called Fresh Innovations. On the 28th November both groups took part in the Worcester Cathedral Cloisters Christmas Trade Fair. I'm glad to say that both teams had a successful day and learnt a lot from our first trade fair. We were tucked away with the other twenty or so groups in a smallish cloister room and it was fairly busy all day. Air Ltd were selling handbags and jewellery and Fresh Innovations were selling personalised Christmas cards and craft kits. So overall both groups did well, made some money and learnt a lot from the experience and I think everyone who was there enjoyed it and is looking forward to our next fair. So bring it on.



Music Department News

Voices of the Vale A joint event with Prince Henry's Barbershop Boys Singers and the Vale Harmony Barbershop at No. 8 in Pershore.

Middle Littleton Jazz Evening Organised in Aid of Acorns Charity. The Jazz Band and Vocalists provided the music for the evening from older classics to modern Jazz. Acorns Charity raise a large sum of money and we raised approximately £300 through donations in aid of the next Music Tour.

Chamber Choir and Brass Group Carolling Both groups have been out around Evesham providing festive delights.

Forthcoming Events

Christmas Concert – 15th December and All Saints Christmas Carol Service – 18th December.



Three Counties Language Festival

Monday the 30th November saw the dawning of the 4th "Three Counties Language Festival" to be hosted at Prince Henry's High School.

High Schools, Middle Schools and Language Colleges from Three Counties were invited to take part in what has become a prestigious annual event on the School Calendar.

Groups of enthusiastic 12-14 year olds discarded their school uniforms and donned thespian attire to celebrate (and compete with each other) their linguistic achievements in Modern Foreign Language learning. Plays and songs were performed in French German and Spanish, with a great effort from one of Prince Henry's year 10 Spanish groups.

The performances were presided over by our International panel of judges from France ,Austria and Colombia -first place went to Chipping Campden High School with Bredon Middle and Pershore High coming 2nd and 3rd respectively. Well done everybody!

Goals galore at county final!!

The U16 girls' football team took part in one of the most exciting County Cup Finals, Worcestershire has ever seen!!! It was full of drama from start to finish with the girls unlucky to finish on the losing team. The fixture was against Trinity in Redditch a physical and powerful unit. Our girls took a while to settle and went 2-0 down in the first ten minutes!!! Eventually the girls settled and played some good football. They pulled one back and then equalised in the first half – they were back in the game! Possibly guilty of a lack of concentration, they went 3-2 behind with the last kick of the first half!

The second half was just as tense, we went 4-2 behind and the game seemed lost. Here comes the fight back!!! A penalty for hand ball gave us a chance at 4-3. This was closely followed by a superb strike by Rosie Johns from outside the box to make it 4-4. We were on top now and fully deserved to go 5-4 up. With just 3 minutes to go, Rosie Johns got injured in a 50/50 tackle, the game stopped and she went off to hospital in an ambulance with a suspected broken ankle. So, we had 3 minutes to hang on....could we do it??!! No, they equalised! One minute later the full time whistle went and 14 minutes of extra-time (7 minutes each way) was to be played. The girls were clearly disappointed, down to 10 players and worried about their team mate. They fought on but with 2 minutes of the game left, the opposition scored and that was it, 6-5!! The girls unable to believe what had happened were inconsolable, it had meant so much to them and victory was so close. Their effort levels were incredible and they played with pride and were a credit to the school. The girls did so well to get to the final and I'm sure will always remember their county cup final even if the wrong team won. Well done girls.

Children in Need 2009

Congratulations to the sixth form who this year raised a total of £289.51 for Children In Need. This figure was made up of the profits from the Battle of the Bands event, plus a small change collection. Thank you to everyone who donated.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Start of the Term	4.1.10
Yr 10 Parents' Evening	12.1.10
Entry to Sixth Form	
Parents' Evening	26.1.10
Year 11 Parents' Evening	3.2.10
Teacher Education Day	12.2.10
(School closed to pupils)	
Half Term	15.2.10—9.2.10
Year 9 Parents' Evening	11.3.10
Higher Education Evening for Year 13 Parents	25.3.10
Year 13 Parents' Evening	30.3.10
End of Term	1.4.10

