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KATHARINE LADY BERKELEY'S
SCHOOL

non palma sine pulvere



A DCSF Designated
Language College and
Training School

Newsletter – 19 January 2010

'Bella Firenze'

Florence Exhibition at Fusion Gallery
19 – 30 January 2010

Below are two images which will give you a preview of the quality of work achieved by our talented AS and A level students for this exciting exhibition.



'Duomo – detail' by Emily Kettle



'Postcards from Florence' by Izzy Penaliggon

School Council action

The school Council met in November to discuss a number of issues raised by the pupils, one of which was health and the environment.

As a result the council are currently involved with staff in developing a School Travel Plan as part of our drive for increased sustainability and our Healthy Schools program.

To date we have gathered data from the staff and a representative sample of over 40% of pupils across all the age ranges.

A working group of pupils have been looking at the findings together with a representative from Gloucestershire County Council and are discussing with the rest of the school community how we can develop the plan for the future.

Some of the ideas raised to date include, developing a safer bus park area, encouraging cycling, car sharing and more walking to and from school.

Safety first

Pupils travelling to and from school on foot are regularly reminded as to why the footpath up to Wotton is called the 'OK' path. The extra pathway was created after a pupil was tragically killed walking next to the road.

While the majority of pupils use the safe route and the crossing, we have recently had a number of reports of children stepping into the path of vehicles. We ask that parents and carers support us in reminding children to stay away from the path by the side of the road and use the OK path. If cycling, they must follow the traffic code, wear a helmet and ensure their bike is in a safe roadworthy condition.

'Breakfast is served!'

The School Council recently put forward the idea of breakfast being made available to pupils and staff before school, helping those who have not had time to fuel up for the day or who have arrived early and want to have something hot to drink or eat.

As a result the canteen is now serving breakfast from 7.45am - 8.10am and we hope that there will be enough interest for this to become sustainable in the long term.

Environment matters

Pupils and staff alike have expressed concern at anti-social littering which continues by a few individuals but affects us all as a community. Pupils in the Eco Group have been helping clear litter after lunchtimes but they have other initiatives on which they wish to be focussing and all agree that it is the responsibility of every individual not to drop litter.

Therefore any pupil seen deliberately throwing or dropping waste will be issued with an after school detention in future.

Careers Convention 2009



The biennial Careers Convention took place on a stormy and wet evening last November. We were delighted to have the support of so many business organisations (ranging from small and medium sized local enterprises to multinational organisations) as well as colleges, universities, training providers, the armed forces and a range of professionals representing health care. Feedback from the event has been very positive – many of the representatives commented on the sensible and mature discussions they had held with many of our students, across all ages (Years 9-13). It was also rewarding to see that so many of our students turned up – many with their parents.



One-off events like the convention are a good opportunity for students to think about the next steps in their career plans. However, it is important to follow up such events with discussion in school about taking the practical steps to achieve such goals. The Careers Centre is located in the corner of the main school library and students in all years are welcome to

drop in to talk about their plans or to undertake research. Mr Newall is available during afternoon registration on most days. Students can also make appointments to see our Connexions Advisor (Alison Barker) by completing a slip and posting it in the Connexions boxes (one is at reception; the other is outside the Careers Centre).

Thank you to all who helped out and supported the Careers Convention – we look forward to seeing you again in 2011!

Work Experience

Year 10 work experience takes place in the week commencing 5 July 2010. It is good to see that a significant number in the year group have found placements **and** completed the necessary paperwork. There are, however, a number of pupils who have not yet sorted out a work experience placement (or have not submitted the forms). Please make this a priority for the coming weeks to avoid rushing the process later in the spring.




Mr Newall

Business Education - Target 2.0 Competition

On February 25, a team of Year 13 economists will be competing with other teams from the South West and West Midlands in giving advice to the Bank of England. The team, consisting of Rob Hunt, Chris Quarton, Pippa Law and Mike Pink recently won the Gloucestershire heat in which they had to explain the current economic situation and advise the panel of judges on what they thought the Bank of England should do with interest rates and the controversial quantitative easing. The judges' decision was unanimous and one judge even commented that their conclusion was 'one of the best he'd ever seen.' If the team wins the next round they will get to go to London for the final, and will meet Mervyn King, the Governor of the Bank of England.

Chris Quarton

Film Club in January/February 2010!

- ❖ 20th January – Year One 
- ❖ 27th January – The Others 
- ❖ 3rd February - Ghostbusters 

All films being shown are rated PG or 12 so everyone is welcome from Years 7-13!



Hope to see you all there!
Miss Turner



Festive fun raises a lot of laughs and a lot of money!

Pupils realised that Christmas was fast approaching when the posters started going up to advertise the latest pantomime to come to KLB.

18 members of staff took to the stage in the KLB Staff Christmas Panto 2009 'Aladdin' which was written by Izzy Davis, Year 13. The pupils and teachers who came to watch the pantomime were treated to a guest appearance by Father Christmas, Mr McRitchie as Widow Mankey, Ms Clare-Hudson as the evil villain Abanana, and the star of the show, Mr Coles, as the young and naive hero, Aladdin.



The two performances took place during lunch time over the last two days of term and ticket sales raised £403. The money will be donated to Cancer Research, the charity nominated by Izzy Davis, the budding scriptwriter.

Badminton Club

Most league games have been finished and at the moment I think that the U14 boys' team must be through to the county finals as they haven't lost a match. Well done boys.

The U16 girls have one more school to play and if they win then they will also go through to the county finals.

Girls PE – Kit / Uniform

Could all parents/carers please try, if possible, to send their daughters in with plain navy jumpers and track suit bottom, gloves and hats alongside their usual PE kit. Those that have to go outside for PE lessons are really going to suffer if they are not dressed properly. If you are struggling to find the correct kit, the school shop provides it all. Many thanks for your support in this matter

Mrs Chevin

Japanese Exchange

The Japanese Exchange visitors will be at KLB from Friday 12 March until Sunday 21 March. We still require host families for 11 Japanese pupils. If your son/daughter is in Years 9, 10, 11, 12, or 13 and is interested in hosting a Japanese pupil regardless of whether they study Japanese or not, then please contact Miss Revie by phone or by email: srevie@klbschool.org.uk Priority will go to pupils who study Japanese, but I would like to hear from any pupils interested.

School Governor Vacancy

Could you be a school governor?

Applications are invited from parents/carers of pupils at the school to serve as a Parent Governor. If you are interested, please write a statement on no more than a single side of A4 paper describing the relevant experience that you could bring to the Governing Body and your involvement with the school to date.

Governors meet 5 times per year in September, December, March, May and July on Wednesdays at 4:30pm for approximately 2 hours. Two further planning meetings take place in October and January. Each Governor is also allocated to one of the school's subject areas.

Applications should be sent to G Keen, Clerk to the Governors at the school address or email gkeen@klbschool.org.uk from whom further information can be obtained.

Dates for your diary

2010

21 Jan	Year 9 Parents' Evening
28 Jan	Year 11 Parents' Evening
3 Feb	Options Evening for Year 9
	(NB change of date)
11 Feb	Year 8 Parents' Evening
12 Feb	Last day of term 3
22 Feb	First day of term 4
16 Mar	Year 12 Parents' Evening
23 Mar	Year 13 Parents' Evening
24 Mar	Year 11 GCSE Parent Support Evening (1)
24 Mar	Year 11 GCSE Parent Support Evening (2)
31 Mar	Year 10 Parents' Evening
1 April	Last day of term 4
19 April	First day of term 5
3 May	May Day bank holiday
28 May	Last day of term 5
7 June	First day of term 6
21 July	Last day of term 6

Academic Year 2010/2011

1 Sept	First day of term 1 – Staff Training Day
2 Sept	First day of term 1 for pupils