

STAFFING NEWS

Congratulations to Jade Lunt, Teaching Assistant in Year 7, who is expecting her second baby. Jade's little one is due in August and will therefore go on maternity leave at the end of the summer term.

Ms Shaw, Food Technology Teacher, is hoping to return after the Easter break. This will initially be on a phased return and we look forward to welcoming Ms Shaw back.

Congratulations to Mr Damms, Year 8a teacher, who successfully completed a week's training course and is now a qualified Team Teach Instructor. Mr Damms was soon in demand training at a local primary school alongside Mr Hawkes on his return—very well done Mr Damms on this achievement.

Our best wishes go to Mr Webb who is currently off work, we hope that he is well enough to return to work in the very near future.

We will be saying goodbye at the end of term to Shaun Burke, teaching assistant in Year 9c, who has been working on supply for some time. We send Shaun our best wishes.

FUN IN FOOD TECHNOLOGY



Students in Year 8a have been enjoying their food technology lessons with Bal Shibber and recently made some very tasty marbled pear cake. Looking at the group picture it would seem the mixture was too good to waste and a little sampling was enjoyed by all.



FRIDAY ACTIVITIES



As you are aware students have the opportunity to enjoy Friday afternoon activities as part of our points reward system. This term this has included visits to Wolf Mountain near Wolverhampton which offers indoor climbing wall facilities and caving. As you can imagine these are popular sessions and are offered in the first instance to the top point scorers.



In addition Daniel Pheasant (Phez) who has previously worked with our young people on art projects is also facilitating one to one private music lessons with two students after School on a Friday which are proving very popular too.

TRAINING DAY REMINDER

A reminder that School is closed to pupils on Monday 11th April as it is a staff training day—School re opens on Tuesday 12th April.

Progress and Achievement Afternoon

Thank you to the Parents and Carers who were able to come along to the Progress and Achievement afternoon on Wednesday 16th March. The overall percentage of appointments made was 53% which was a little disappointing. Feedback from parents and carers however who did attend was very positive. Also on hand were other Professionals offering advice on the range of Post 16 options including job opportunities/FE courses and training provisions that may be available. A big thank you to Harrison Bickley in Year 9 and Marcus Rose in Year 11 who helped Bal Shibber, Food Technology Teacher, make some stunning cakes for Sports Relief during the afternoon.—well done to both.

YEAR 9 LEADERSHIP EVENT



Six Year 9 pupils represented the school as sports leaders in a leadership event at Manor Farm Sports Centre on the 4th March. The pupils who were involved were Thomas Carter, George Cocking, Ethan McKenzie, Carl French, Harrison Bickley and Fahed Matter. The pupils had to plan and lead their 15 minute sports session to a small group of Year 5 pupils from Rushall JMI Primary School. Can I say how proud I was to see each pupil being able to stand confidently in front of these primary children and lead a sports session. The Rushall JMI pupils went home ecstatic and were asking our pupils when they could come again. Well done to all pupils who were involved and a big thanks to Mr



Middleton and Mr Wood who helped to organise the event.

If your child is interested in sports coaching or leadership, there will be a similar event being run in the summer term. Please let Mr Hawkes know if you're interested.

Report by Mr Hawkes, PE Teacher

GOVERNOR POSTS

Following the forthcoming vacancy for a staff governor, two members of staff put themselves forward for election—Emily Carter, Teaching Assistant and Ashley Holmes, Teacher. A ballot took place and the successful applicant was Mr Holmes who will take up his appointment on 29.3.16. A big thank you and commiserations to Emily Carter for her interest and support and to Lynn Maritza for her time as Staff Governor.

A vacancy is still open for a parent governor, with a further post becoming available in April. Mr Adey, who recently ended his time as Parent Governor, said how much he had enjoyed the experience and that he had wanted to give something back to the School for everything they had done for his son. Please contact Dawn Canham in the School Office if you would like further details of becoming a parent governor.

MORE FREE TREES

Thanks to the Woodland Trust, we have once again received a pack of free trees for planting around School. Mr Whittaker will soon put these to good use during out and about lessons and we look forward to seeing them grow and enhance our surroundings.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to Di Cadman, teaching assistant in Year 8, who recently purchased some lovely daffodils for the reception area. The flowers looked and smelled lovely making the area much brighter and appealing. Thank you once again Di for this kind thought.

SAFARI PARK VISIT

As part of 10a's environmental and land based GCSE they have to complete a work related report. On the 14th March we went on a fact finding mission to West Midlands Safari Park. Tanks to School Fund for funding this visit. They followed the safari to find all the science and technology used for keeping the animals and the public safe. As well as seeing the fantastic creatures there they were able to witness how the rangers interacted with the animals, including one group that just didn't want to stay in their enclosure!!

After that, the pupils had the great opportunity to speak with one of the hard working reptile keepers. They were able to ask Phil Turner a number of well thought and interesting questions about the Safari Park as a business and its wider role in the community. It was a very busy day but everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. Report by R Reese, Science Teacher.



RAISING MONEY FOR SPORTS RELIEF

The four school house teams of Wiggins, Ennis, Murray and Ainsley competed in football, rugby, hockey and basketball tournaments on Thursday 17th March as part of our Sports Relief Programme. The team



that worked together the best was the Murray B Team consisting of Steven Clark, Shani Scott, Luke Morgan-Fryer, Thomas Carter and Rico Maritza-Yates but the overall winning team was WIGGINS who include Beth Read, Levi Dingley, Jamie Ashford, Reece Rudd, Reace Phipps, Jordan Hathaway, Callum Groom, George

Cocking, Carl French, Darren Peck and Lee Price. Stand out players in each sport were Jamie Lockley-Campbell for football, Simon Farrington for rugby, Reace Phipps for hockey and Marcus Rose for basketball.



A number of students helped with making cakes as part of our fundraising so special thanks to Jamie Ashford, Carl French, Ethan McKenzie, Harrison Bickley, Marcus Rose and Bradley Ravenscroft. Bradley's cake was a raffle prize which was won by Helen Osborne, Carer for a Year 9 pupil, and which helped towards the total raised of £51.82 in cake sales. It was nice to see parents and carers who

were able to come along to support their child and spend money!



A staff sweepstake poster competition was held and won by Lisa Pugh, teaching assistant, who won £16 with a further £16 added to the grand total raised

which amounted to £106.12.



Thank you to everyone who joined in and supported this worthwhile Charity and special thanks to Charlie Butler, PE Student and Mr Hawkes, PE Teacher, for organising the day. Also Mr Middleton, teaching assistant, did a fantastic job capturing the day and a selection of photographs are available on the School website.