

Batchwood School

make every day count



Newsletter
Spring 2015



Message From The Headteacher

Dear All,

The Spring Term has been very successful and it never ceases to amaze us what talented individuals we have at Batchwood.

As you can see from the newsletter, there have been a number of successful events. We will continue to work together with you to develop your child's enthusiasm for learning as well as the resilience and ability to embrace new challenges.

A very Happy Easter to you all.

Anne J. Spencer



Year 11 Success at Oaklands College

One of our Year 11 students has recently completed an assessment for his Level 1 Catering and Hospitality course at Oaklands College. He attends college one afternoon a week and the qualification he gains there will help him apply for a higher level course at college when he leaves Batchwood in July.

Omar planned and prepared a three course meal of leek, onion and potato soup to start, gammon steak, green beans and sautéed potatoes for the main course, with apple crumble and cream to finish. We are extremely proud of all his hard work and achievements.



Christmas Show 2015

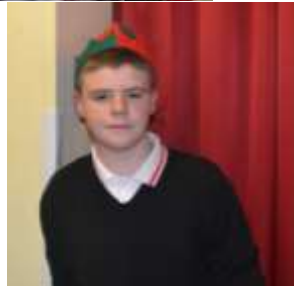
At the end of the autumn term Batchwood celebrated with a Christmas show.

Performances included a gym display organised by the PE department, a song **from Disney's Frozen by the Year 7s and a** street dance performance. There were also two plays that were written and performed by the students. These plays were devised during their Performing Arts lessons throughout the autumn term. The show culminated with a musical performance of *Merry Christmas Everybody* by the ensemble.

Many Thanks to Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Wheeldon, Miss Graham and Miss Matthews for organising the show, as well as all the other staff and students who helped create such an enjoyable evening.



Batchwood News



Visit from Rabbi Rafi

As part of our Religious Studies curriculum, Rabbi Rafi, from the St. Albans Masorti Synagogue, visited our school in February and spoke with the students.

He gave them an insight into the culture and beliefs of the Jewish faith. The students were very interested to hear how his work as a rabbi had taken him all around the world. The students asked thought provoking questions and later expressed how much **they had enjoyed Rabbi Rafi's presentation.**

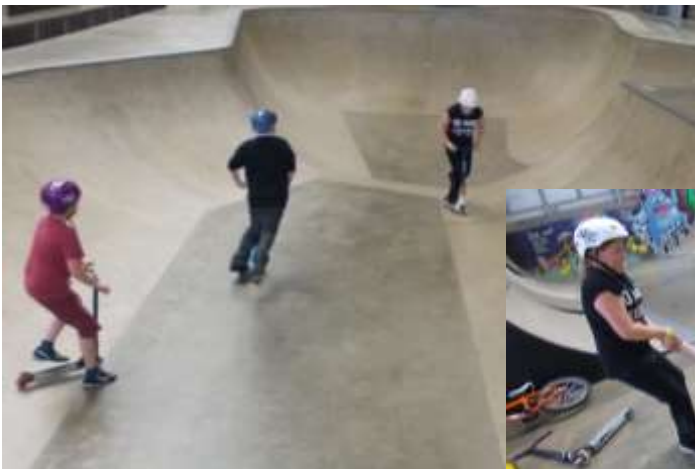


XC Skate Park

Every Friday afternoon, as part of our enrichment program, a small group of students are rewarded for good behaviour with a trip to the XC Skate Park in Hemel Hempstead.



Students have been learning to use a mixture of skate related equipment from scooters and Ripstiks to bikes and skateboards. All students thoroughly enjoy this activity and have been working hard to earn enough points to go every Friday. Pupils are making good progress in the skills and safety techniques required to ride their choice of equipment.



Year 11 Parent's Evening

In February, Batchwood invited the Year 11 students, their parents and their carers into school to speak with all their subject teachers and form tutors.



This was an important opportunity to keep students and their families updated with their progress and to help prepare our year 11s for their upcoming assessments and exams.

Representatives from Oaklands College were also on hand to provide information and advice for those students considering their ongoing studies at college when they leave Batchwood in July.



Year 10 at Oaklands College

Our year 10 students have been working towards qualifications in Construction, Catering and Animal Care at Oaklands College, where they attend every Tuesday afternoon.

This term has been quite busy; there have had lambs born and students have taken ferrets for walks, built planters and replaced engine parts.



Comic Relief 2015

On Friday 13th March, Batchwood students joined in with the nationwide festivities to raise money for Comic Relief. Students and staff volunteered to be custard-pied for the charity. The privilege of administering the custard pies was auctioned the day before, with students bidding for members of staff, and staff bidding to pie students. For certain volunteers quite a bidding war took place! Overall £846 was raised, which is a significant sum for a school of our size.





Safer Internet Day

In November, the whole school took part in the national Safer Internet Day, which promotes the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people. Students participated in a number of activities where they discussed how to keep themselves and their friends safe online. Police officers from Hertfordshire Constabulary also came in to **talk with all the students about the students'** safe conduct whilst online. Students designed posters and leaflets to promote e safety, as part of a house competition, and these have been displayed all around the school.





Wear It Red Day

On Friday 6th February, staff and students at Batchwood took part in the Wear It, Beat It day to raise money for the British Heart Foundation. Money was raised from non-uniform donations, with many students choosing to wear red in support.

Students baked and decorated cookies in their Food Technology lessons and these were sold at break time to raise further funds. Over £100 was raised to help fund life-saving research for people living with heart and circulatory conditions.





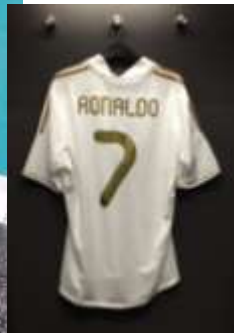
Wembley Stadium Tour

On Tuesday 10th March, one of our student mentors, Peter Moxham, very kindly took two of our Year 8 students to Wembley Stadium for a tour.

The students were able to get a pitch side view **of the stadium and walk through the players' tunnel**. They also were able to explore the **changing rooms and sit in Roy Hodgson's seat in the Press Room**. A highlight was a chance to hold a replica of the FA Cup which was worth £70,000.

Both students enjoyed and appreciated the experience Peter had given them.





Food Technology

Bento Box Project

The Year 8s were asked to adapt a traditional lunchbox meal into something more healthy and interesting. The students researched Japanese style bento boxes, and then designed and made their own.



Both projects asked the students to create dishes that represented proportions of the eatwell plate, so that they each included a vegetable, a carbohydrate and a protein.



Healthy Eating at Batchwood

Street Food

Year 9 students were asked to create a street food that is healthier than a traditional takeaway. The brief specified that their street food must be eaten with either hands or only one piece of cutlery and must be both colourful and creative.



Szymon created a healthy version of Kentucky Fried Chicken, served with a side salad.

Grant designed and made a dish of a stuffed pepper with spicy chicken rice.



Notices

We have welcomed two new members of staff this term and a new student into year 8.

Welcome back to Ms. Wallace. We have missed her and the students are delighted to see her again.

Dates For Your Diary

Summer Term 2015	
Thursday 2 nd April	End of Spring Term 12.30pm
Friday 3 rd April- Friday 17 th April	Easter Break
Monday 20 th April	Term begins for all students
Monday 4 th May	Bank Holiday
Monday 25 th May- Friday 29 th May	Half Term
Monday 1 st June	Students return to school
Friday 17 th July	End of Term 12.30pm
Monday 20 th July- Wednesday 22 nd July	Inset Days (school closed to students)

For the most recent news and information please visit our school website:

www.batchwood.herts.sch.uk

