

Batchwood School

make every day count



Newsletter
Summer 2014



Message From The Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very successful year. We are all very proud to see how enthusiastic, responsive and receptive the students are in engaging in the learning process. All students are aware of their targets in each subject to ensure they meet or exceed them, so that they can make as much progress as possible. Undoubtedly, this will prepare them for Post-16 study when they leave Batchwood.

On the above note, we are very sad to be **saying goodbye to the year 11's but also very pleased** that they have all gained college places. We look forward to keeping in touch with them.

We wish you all a very happy summer holiday and look forward to seeing you all in the Autumn term.

Anne J. Spencer



Batchwood School Judged “Outstanding”

by Ofsted

Ofsted visited our school for two days at the end of March. They saw “outstanding” teaching and “highly effective teamwork” during their time here. They reported that “students take pride in the school and their achievements and treat adults and each other with courtesy and respect. As a result, behaviour in lessons and around the school is outstanding.” They also recognised that our students “make remarkable progress in improving and managing their own behaviour.”

We are extremely pleased and proud that Ofsted have recognised all the hard work made by the staff, students and volunteers at Batchwood.



Batchwood Students' FIFA Visit

On the 14th May, Alan Smith, the ex-footballer and commentator, who is also a volunteer mentor at Batchwood, took two of our students into London for a very special visit. They met Martin Tyler, the football commentator, and watched both him and Alan record voiceovers for the new FIFA 15 video game. The boys were also given the opportunity to get their hands on the Video Games BAFTA won for the FIFA 14 game.



Charity Daffodil and Cake Sale

Earlier this term, as part of their science lessons, students planted and grew daffodils. Once grown, the students sold them to raise money for Marie Curie Cancer Care; daffodils being **the charity's logo**. In addition, students also baked cakes to sell. £100 was raised for the charity.



X Adventure Day

In April, the X Adventure team visited Batchwood and the whole school took part in a series of team building adventure activities.



Archery





Trebuchet Building



Students built a type of catapult called a trebuchet and were then able to aim and fire water balloons at targets.



X Adventure Day



Team Building
and Problem
Solving





Bushcraft and
Survival Skills



Science Museum Visit

As a reward for excellent behaviour and effort in science lessons, a group of students were taken on a trip to the Science Museum in London. Students visited many exhibitions including the Energy Hall, the Launchpad and Atmosphere: Exploring Climate Science where students learned about climate change, pollution and how it affects our world.



Planetarium Visits Batchwood

Earlier this term a mobile planetarium came to visit Batchwood. A blacked-out purpose built mobile dome with a 360° screen was set up in the school hall and all students had an opportunity to enjoy a planetarium and natural history show. They were also able to handle rocks and fossils which were thousands of years old.



Sports Day

At the end of the summer term students took part in an inter-house sports day. Events included welly wanging and obstacle, space-hopper, dress up, three-legged, egg & spoon, and 100 metre races. The afternoon culminated with the staff three-legged, dress up, egg & spoon race. Everyone who took part, and even those who spectated, showed amazing team spirit by cheering for their houses and supporting all the students competing.

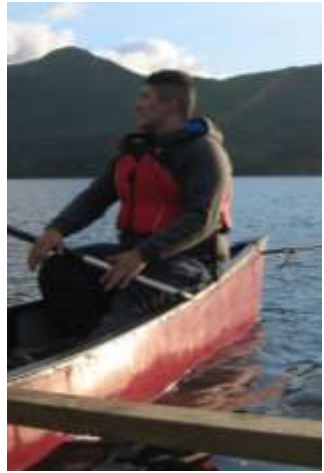




Lake District Trip

In July, Mr. Tansey and Mr. Billingham took a small group of students on a three day trip to the Lake District. On their first day, they canoed to an island and while some swam in the lake, others set up camp and lit campfires. The second day was filled with hiking and rock climbing before spending the night in a camping barn. They finished their trip with gully jumping before heading back to school. The students found the trip extremely rewarding and learned many new skills.





Osmington Bay PGL Trip

During the summer term, staff took a group of fifteen students to the Osmington Bay PGL Centre in Dorset, as a reward trip for excellent attendance and behaviour throughout the year. During the three day residential trip, students took part in many exciting activities including sailing, abseiling, Aeroball, zip wire and the giant swing. The students all had an amazing time and showed excellent team-work.







Totem Poles

Year 8



Luke A
Year 10



Rebecca
Year 10



Structures

Observational
pieces using
a range of media



Sean R
Year 8

Wooden truck
project



Screen print
on a t-shirt

Luke D
Year 11



Notices

YEAR 7 GIRLS

If your daughter is starting Year 8 in September, they will be offered the HPV vaccine. If you would like to research this during the summer break please visit www.123againsthpv.co.uk

If you have any further questions please contact your school nurse on 01727 891301

Dates For Your Diary

Autumn Term 2014	
Monday 1 st September	Staff Training Day (school closed to students)
Tuesday 2 nd September	Year 7 students only (9am-12pm)
Wednesday 3 rd September	Year 7 students only (9am-3pm)
Thursday 4 th September	Term begins for all students
Monday 27 th October- Friday 31 st October	Half Term
Monday 1 st December	Occasional Day (school closed to students)
Friday 19 th December	End of Autumn Term 12pm
Monday 22 nd December- Friday 2 nd January	Christmas Break

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

www.batchwood.herts.sch.uk

