

Keeping parents and students informed

Year 8 Pathways Evening

A reminder to all Year 8 parents that this important evening takes place on Tuesday 7 March from 6-8pm in the Auditorium and surrounding walkways. There will be short presentations to introduce you to the process and display areas representing the courses on offer at KS4 in September 2017.

Staff will also be available for you to speak with and find out more about the subjects your son/daughter is particularly interested in taking at GCSE level or at the reintroduced BTEC level. A Pathways Booklet outlining the course contents of all subjects will be available for parents to take away and read more thoroughly. As they near their entrance to KS4 it is vital that your son/daughter thinks very carefully about the courses they choose in conjunction with their future aspirations and career paths. Students will be receiving more input in school through assemblies.

A preference form will also be issued for completion and must be handed in to form tutors by Wednesday 22 March at the latest. The Pathways booklet and form will also be available on our website after the event.

Get Ready for Science Week



A plethora of mind boggling events for students will take place during British Science Week 2017 starting on Friday 10 March until 17 March. The Science team have put together a dynamic events programme to engage all year groups such as a Bubbles Talk/ Workshop for Years 10 and 11 where they will see penguins communicating via bubble physics with

Helen Czerski, Sixth Form Busking event where Year 7 students will be thrilled by a range of different interactive Science activities and able to vote for their favourite.

The week will end with the very popular 'Ever Wondered Why?' Show where Science staff will demonstrate dramatic experiments with whizz, bangs and mini explosions.

Nike Girls Fitness Club

Well done to the following students who have shown such commitment to the lunchtime Nike Fitness Club run by Mrs Ward. Through their dedication they have earned their first award - a Nike T Shirt. Not only are they getting fit but they are being rewarded too.

Hanan Mahamoud 7T4, Jessica King 7T1, Serena Likayi Mompondele 8T7, Amanda McFarlane 8T6, Kazia Boteng 8T6, Atinuke Okesola 8T6, Alicia Pascoe 8T6, Hannah Colwell 8T2, Louise Barnett 8T4, Harriet Mensah 8T6, Zayton Abshir 8T4, Finda Sam-Sumana 8T7, Aundre Fraser 8T7, Aminah Riamah 9T4, Abigail Lane 13IB, Christina Fairhurst 13T3



Globe Theatre Workshop



as part of Deutsche Bank's playing Shakespeare season. During the morning's activities they immersed themselves in the world

a range of activities, all aimed at improving their understanding of characters' motivations and emotions at key points in the play. They learned about how

actors can use their voice and body to enhance the language of Shakespeare's text, creating powerful characters for the audience with everyone engaging in a number of entertaining roles to develop their understanding. We look forward to seeing the play in full soon.

Term 4 Letter 1 Friday 24 February 2017

World Book Day

This year is the 20th World Book Day (WBD) and will be celebrated across the UK on Thursday 2 March, The LRC will be running competitions to celebrate this national event with book quizzes and a 'Design a Bookmark' competition. There will also be entry forms for the National competition to Design a Book Token.

Students will also be able to collect a free £1 book token from the Library. Students will be able to exchange their token for one of five titles, or their book token can be used in participating bookshops to get one of the other WBD £1 books or it can be used towards buying a book that costs £2.99 or more.

The Book titles that will be available from the LRCs are Blob by David Walliams, Butterfly Beach by Jaqueline Wilson, Island by David Almond, Dead of Night by Michael Grant and Horrid Henry Funny Fact Files by Francessca Simion. More information is on display in the LRCs.

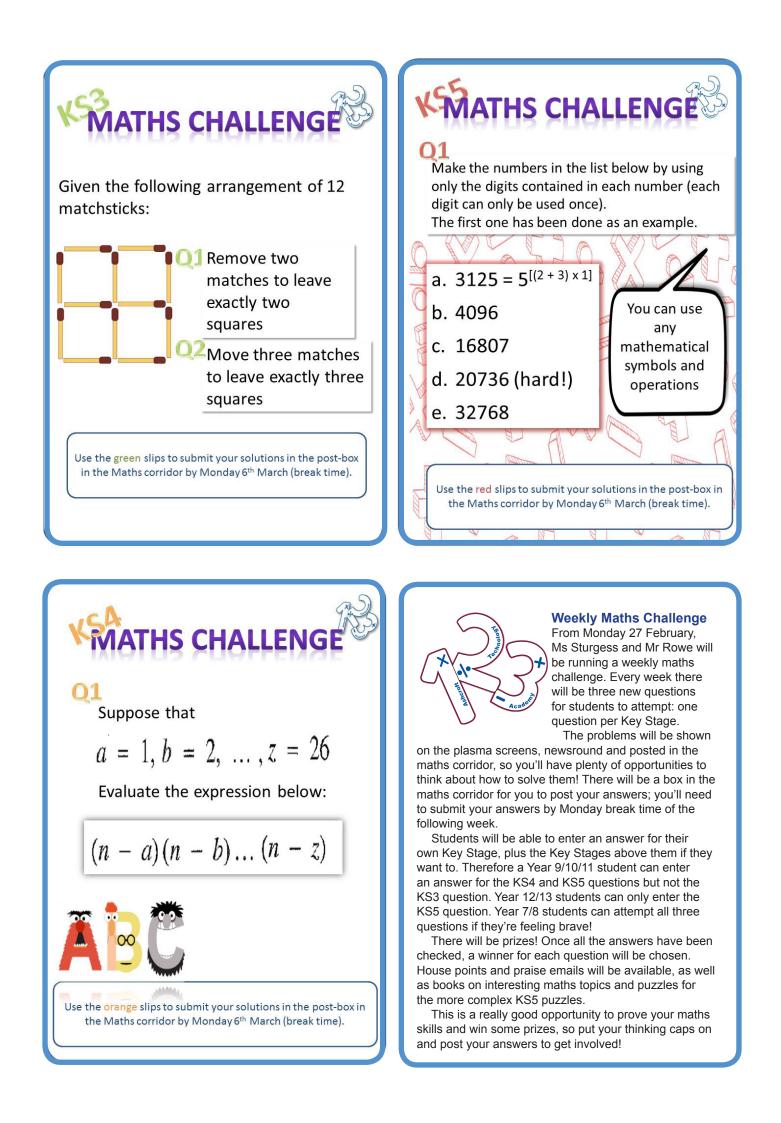


9 students enjoyed a series of workshops run by a professional actor from Shakespeare's Globe Theatre. This was in preparation for their visit in March to see The Taming of the Shrew as part of Deutsche Bank's playing Shakespeare season.

This Thursday a group of 100 Year

During the morning's activities the immersed themselves in the world of the play's key characters through

website www.ashcroftacademy.org.uk





Tournament of Minds

STEAM are well underway with their exciting Tournament of Minds (ToM) house competition with Ms Khan and Ms Dowson.

The challenge brief:

It is the year 2050 and Earth is overpopulated with restricted living space. Families are confined to small houses and possessions are few. As a result of the lack of natural resources and with problems caused by pollution, toy manufacturers must be more inventive and resourceful by using recycled materials. Your brief is to create a Pack-Away toy that must be entertaining and consist of at least 5 independent pieces when fitted together. Your toy may be powered by a battery but this may not exceed 9 volts.

The various STEAM-ToM house teams have all drawn up their plans:

- One of the Discovery teams has already started building their toy, •
- One of the Challenger teams has organised their diagrams and concept inspiration pictures into a presentation folder.
- The Endeavour teams have created a lot of buzz, offering helpful design advice to each other, and creating interesting design briefs
- The Voyager team has come up with a very unique solution to the challenge, which they have started to assemble.

ToM will run for this term and we look forward to seeing which STEAM house team will prevail with their innovative toy design to win the competition.

The STEAM-ToM scoreboard currently looks like this, with house points being awarded for attendance to ToM and upon successful completion of each stage of the challenge as the weeks progress:

Elsewhere in STEAM this week STEAM Cooking:



In Ms Josephs and Ms Niklekai's Cooking Club, the Year 7 **STEAMies** made savourv muffins and

proved to be wonderful chefs, mixing the ingredients together, pouring the mixing into the muffin trays and cleaning after. Impressive! Staff got to taste the muffins too and of course the feedback was excellent!

In Mrs Aldred-Hall's Textiles Rocket Club. the Year 8 **STEAMies** completed a

hand stitched

LED's and a

rockets key

switch in their

rings. Hannah

soft circuit with



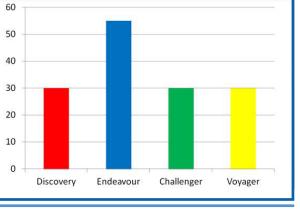
Colwell was super speedy and got it done in just 15 minutes! Well done, Hannah!

In Mr Morrissey's Rocket Car Club, the Year 8 STEAMies continued with their rocket cars, marking out their designs and then after they had been cut out, they used abrasive paper to make the cars as aerodynamic as possible.



STEAM Language:

In Mr Revelant's Maths of Language Club, the Year 7 STEAMies were posed with the question "what if aliens communicated in a language using on-off tones or lights that could be directly understood by a skilled listener or observer?" Our STEAMies then set about to work on Morse Code and



STEAM House Competition – Tournament of Minds Week 1



developed the listening skills necessarv to understand basic letters and words communicated through this

complex and fascinating code. Three teams competed against each other (Pakistani intelligence, Australian intelligence and Belgian-British intelligence) trying to decode the secret messages before the others.

STEAM Science:

In Mr Mensah's Explaining Mysteries with Science Club, Year 9 STEAMies looked at how aurora borealis (Northern lights) happen. They learned how electrons in atoms of cooled gas get excited and de-excite giving off a different range of coloured light when they absorb photons from the sun.



P.E. DEPARIMENT

TERM 4 CLUBS

	Before School	Lunchtime	After School	
Mon	Fitness Session – Miss Despins Basketball	Cardio/Weights Fitness Suite – Mr Dooley Cricket –Mr Rowe Trampolining- Mr Keith	Football – Mr Keith/Mr Carroll Netball – Mrs Ward Basketball- Miss Despins Duke of Edinburgh- Mr Dooley	
Tues	Fitness Session – Mr Keith Basketball	Badminton – Miss Despins Trampolining – Mr Dooley Dodgeball- Mrs Ward GCSE catch-up/Cardio/Weights room- Mr Keith	Rowing – Ms Dowson All Years Girls Football- Ms Godfrey/Mr Moody Jiujitsu – Mr Wandi	
Wed	Fitness Session – Mr Dooley Basketball	Year 9+ Basketball – Mr Keith Table Tennis – Mr Mensah/Mr Stenning Cardio/Weights Fitness Suite – Miss Despins Girls Nike Training Club- Mrs Ward		
Thurs	Fitness Session – Mrs Ward Basketball- Mr Dooley	Cardio/Weights Fitness Suite – Mrs Ward Boys Basketball- Mr Dooley Girls Football- Miss Despins	Fitness – Mrs Ward GCSE Catch-up- Mrs Ward	
Fri	Fitness Session – Mrs Ward Basketball – Mr Dooley Table Tennis	Cardio/Weights Fitness Suite – Mrs Ward Volleyball- Mr Keith Basketball- Miss Despins Trampolining – Mr Dooley		



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	Multi-choice menu
1	Chicken Jalfrezi Vegetable Moussaka	Sausages and Mash Vegetable Quiche	Pasta Bolognese with Garlic Bread Vegetable Chilli	Roast Chicken and Roast Potatoes Vegetable Shepherd's Pie	Fish Cake with Potato Wedges Macaroni Cheese	MEAL DEAL Choose a hot meal from Option 1 plus something from Options 2 or 5
	Pasta King Jacket Potato	Stone Baked Pizza Jacket Potato	Chicken Joe's Wrap Jacket Potato	Pasta King Jacket Potato	Chicken Joe's Wrap Jacket Potato	Choose a soup from
	Sweetcorn and Carrots	Green Beans and Peas	Broccoli and Macedoine	Carrots and Cabbage	Salad and Peas/Sweetcorn	Option 2 plus something from
2	Carrot and Coriander Soup	Vegetable and Watercress Soup	Minestrone Soup	Lentil Soup	Vegetable Soup	Options 3 or 4 or 5 Choose a sandwich from Option 4 plus
3	Salad Bar (small bowl with multi choice)	Salad Bar (small bowl with multi choice)	something from Options 2 or 5			
4	Any sandwich (max price £1.50)	Any sandwich (max price £1.50)	Choose the Salad Bar option plus something			
5	Oaty Apple Crumble and Custard	Marble Sponge with Chocolate Sauce	Jam & Coconut Sponge and Custard	Pineapple Upside Down Sponge with Custard	Eve's Pudding and Custard	from Options 2 or 5
	Fresh Fruit Selection of small cold Desserts Selection of Cakes and Biscuits	Fresh Fruit Selection of small cold Desserts Selection of Cakes and Biscuits	Fresh Fruit Selection of small cold Desserts Selection of Cakes and Biscuits	Fresh Fruit Selection of small cold Desserts Selection of Cakes and Biscuits	Fresh Fruit Selection of Cakes and Biscuits	DELI BAR Freshly made to order each day

Meal Deal (Option 1 + 2 or 5) £2.15 students/£2.36 staff Main Meal only £1.83 students/£2 staff

Lunch rota for next week 1st sitting Year 11/7 — 1.05 2nd sitting Year 8 — 1.15 3rd sitting Year 9 — 1.25