



STAGS LINK



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Students Absence Line – 01727 846430

Volume 15 Issue 24

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Every year a number of our students in years 10 and 11 enter the Maths National challenge. The results are always good but this year the results were particularly noteworthy. Overall 7% achieved gold, 31% silver and 32% bronze. This compares very well with the national figures of 6%, 14% and 20%.

YEAR 11 - 10%, 38% and 38%.

YEAR 10 - 12%, 44% and 40%.

YEAR 9 - 4%, 12% and 20%.

Two girls who did exceptionally well were Rachel Exact and Emily Fox who have both done so well that they have been placed straight into the top test of the European Olympiad. We wish them the very best of luck with this and look forward to hearing how they fared.

Mrs C Murrell, Headteacher

TEXT MESSAGING TO PARENTS

Please ensure you telephone the absence line 01727 846430 **before 9.00am** to report your daughter's absence. Please be aware that you may receive a text from the automated system if you have not rung in by this time.

You may also receive a text if your daughter has missed registration or is late into school, but has not signed in at Reception.

Thank you for your help in ensuring that we do not worry you unnecessarily. Please send a note in when your child returns to school explaining her absence.

Also, if you have changed your mobile number recently, please let us know so that we can keep our records up to date.

HOLIDAYS / REQUEST FOR ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Just a reminder to parents that requests for holiday absence or other absences/appointments is to use a form which can be downloaded from the website or collected from Reception.

This needs to be filled in and a request put into Mrs Murrell for authorisation. You will then receive notification back from Mrs Murrell as to whether it is authorised or not.

Thank you.

Helen Crossey, Attendance Officer

KS3 FORM TIME DISCUSSIONS

This half term we are looking at the theme of “Goals and Reaching Them” and have encouraged our students to think about their own goals, both in and out of school. At the moment, we are considering how to overcome setbacks, and this will be the topic for form time activity over this week. Finally, over the last two weeks of this term we are asking our students to sign up for a two week challenge, where they will each set themselves a target to reach over that time. Hopefully at the end of term everyone can celebrate achieving their personal goal! It would be lovely if you as parents and carers could continue the discussions at home and help our girls to understand the importance of both having something to aim for, and not to be put off by setbacks along the way.

Jo Swanston and Catherine Levy, KS3 Pastoral Co-ordinators



YEAR 7 DO THE RSPB BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH

On the weekend of Jan 30th – Jan 31st all of year 7 students spent an hour peering out of their windows tallying the birds that visited their gardens. At home, or at school results were uploaded to RSPB website. Back at school results were shared with peers to collect enough data to analyse. Over the next two weeks students were busy using the data to complete a maths task + working on a poem or prose focused on birds or the bird watching experience. There was also an optional art task to complete.

By half term most work was in and then processed ready for the awards ceremony on Tuesday 8th March.

Maths tasks featured a variety of bar and pie charts to display the top ten bird species to good effect. There were three prize groupings for sets A / A* + B / C / D + E / F / G. Certificates and prizes were presented by Mrs Newman.

Winners became the proud owner of a supply of seed and a small feeder to dispense it. They were. **Lucy Kerley 7H – Ines Garreau 7A – Sophie Henson 7J.**

Highly commended were: Cristina Atkinson 7B – Adura Segun–Akintayo 7S – Emily Philips 7J – Amy Farebrother 7H - Yasmin Howell 7J.

English tasks were produced to a high standard, and shortlists were whittled down to two winners per form with the assistance of each form’s English teacher.

The two **overall winners** were **Emma Townsend 7F** [best poem] and **Megan O’Malley 7S** (best prose). They both earned a peanut feeder for their efforts.

Highly commended were: Sahsa Stern and Ellie Lowry of 7A, Cristina Atkinson and Nuwaira Pathan of 7B, Lucy Nicholl and Jessica Hearn of 7C, Olivia Goff 7F, Mai An Dang and Rebecca Franklin of 7H, Shannon Byron Cooper and Simone Hathaway of 7J and finally Rhianna Kerr of 7S

Art tasks may have been optional, but lots of students submitted an entry. Many thanks to Miss Bowman for helping me to select the winners from a mountain of entries.

Best overall effort was from **Cristina Atkinson** of 7B. She became the proud owner of an RSPB cuddly woodpecker for her excellent depiction of a Green Woodpecker. **Runners up** were **Bronia Greening** [7J] for her Robin collage, and **Alex Cook** [7C] for a simple but stunning depiction of a Goldfinch.

Highly commended were: Marium Kenner [7C], Emma Skarzynski [7B], Nuwaira Pathan [7B], Evelyn Hayes [7B] and Chloe Lambert [7J].

Participation certificates and a large supply of house points will be coming soon to all participants via their form tutors. There was also a lucky dip for one participant from each form who hadn't won one of the other prizes.

Lucky students winning a mini seed feeder were: Jessica Rose [7A], Jessica Moreton [7B], Elinor Tyson [7C], Ella Underhill [7F], Ellie Silverman [7H], Daisy Heath [7J] and Foreedha Uddin [7S].

One overall lucky dip from all 7 forms won Victoria Tomblin of 7J a flat pack bird box to build at home.

Special thanks go to all of the form tutors who helped immensely to administer the survey, and to all the staff involved in the judging process.

John Blades – Science dept.



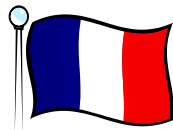
HELP – GET SOME NEW EQUIPMENT FOR FOOD TECH.

Simply enter the code from FLORA margarine packs at the website shown on the label and enter the schools name.

3 tokens = 1 wooden spoon, 5 tokens = 1 tablespoon, 12 tokens = 1 mixing bowl.

Thank you.

Mrs H Fowler



LE TOUQUET 2010

On Friday 12th March 2010, a group from Year 8 set off for Le Touquet, France. We took a coach to Dover and a ferry to Calais. Once in Calais, we had a picnic in Boulogne. Then we visited Chocolaterie de Beussent, where we witnessed the journey from cocoa bean to chocolate bar. After that, we went to the Hippotel where we were staying. We had an evening meal, followed by a choice of swimming or bowling at Agora leisure centre.

The next day, after an early start, we took the coach into Le Touquet town centre. While some of us had a blast at the market, other were interviewing French passers-by, then swapping. We went to Auchan hypermarket for lunch. A few hours later it was time to get our disco clothes on and PARTY! The disco at Chatham nightclub was great, even though the teachers started dancing some of the time!

On Sunday morning we woke up early and packed our bags. We were leaving that day 😞. We went to Nausicaa sea life centre on the way back to Calais. Then, we caught the ferry back to Dover, and soon we were back home.

The trip was brilliant in every way, and I'm sure no-one would say otherwise. One thing's for sure, it was definitely a trip to remember!

By Alice Millington, Genevieve Williams and Alicia O'Donnell 8F

Appeal from the PTA

We are looking for a volunteer(s), ideally with a professional decorating/handyman background but as a minimum need someone with good capability to fix some batons fitted with hooks around the school hall from which we can hang bunting/drapes at our next (and subsequent) events. The batons would require cavity fixings. A scaffold tower could be provided, but the job could equally well be done from a ladder. We would arrange for you to talk to the school premises manager before you start.

It would be great if someone could provide the batons and hooks and fixings as well (about 120 ft total length).

We are hoping to get this done early in the week of 12th – 17th April, so we can get round to painting them too during the Easter break.

We are planning to decorate the whole school hall in time with new blinds and curtains but we need to hold more events to raise the money. These batons are a small but much needed step in the right direction that will enable us to make these events really successful and fun for everyone and make transforming the hall for occasions much easier.

If you could offer any help at all, please call Laura Hill on 01438 832527.