

We have given up on trying to hold a whole school Sports Day this year but will be trying a Year 7 & 8 set of races this week. Even the rain will not prevent me from taking our top Rise & Read attenders to Southend as a reward because I will walk that pier in hail or snow. Chauncy Rocks attracted around 600 to hear the 46 acts; The Gallery featured another dozen musicians alongside the stunning Art Exhibition and the now famous Walton Community Day was amazingly successful and dry. Our students will be setting new records this summer: at A Level at GCSE and in our BTec courses; over 70,042 positive comments this year on Behaviour Watch, 650 Gold Awards, over 99.5% of all grades on student reviews class their behaviour as good or excellent and we will almost certainly welcome our 1,000th student.

We say goodbye to Shirley Parker (Textiles) Elissa Jones (Food) and Sara Mead (Academic Coaching), and Pat Clegg (Science) who are retiring to take up residence, possibly, in post office queues on Mondays, shopping with others on a Tuesday to talk about post office queues, babysitting and daytime TV, gardening and, probably, many raucous late night parties. Angela Meyer (Music), Miranda Hinde (Art), Connie Ingrao (Maths) and Katharine Lovell (Geography) are all expecting children in the Autumn and return later in 2013. So we welcome a number of young, energetic, soberly dressed staff to continue the drive to further improve standards and opportunities for a well deserving, generally happy and successful student population.

You may be aware that most Year 7 students will be starting their day in various activities - Rise & Read, Lexia, Advanced Maths Games, ICT, Homework and Times Tables - from 8.15. Older students are welcome to attend and you may be aware that we welcome students from 7.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. every day of the school year.

Dennis O'Sullivan

UK's Fine Artists

During December ten Year 9 students took part in a renowned fine art competition and stole the show! The International Children's Exhibition of Fine Art Lidice takes place in over 70 countries and was established to commemorate the children victims from the Czech village Lidice who died during World War II. This is the 40th year the competition has been running and the first year that Chauncy students have taken part. Over 600 entries were submitted for the regional and national heats from schools throughout the UK. The long awaited results were published this month and the judges praised Chauncy students for submitting "some of the finest examples they had seen." Teachers and students alike were overjoyed to discover that four prizes had been awarded to students from the school, including a first prize at National level! Regional runners up were Louis Shropshire and Jacob Murley, with art works based on Les Miserables and Alice in Wonderland respectively. The regional winner was Laura Button who then went on to take the first prize at a National level for her representation of Shakespeare's Globe theatre as a three dimensional book. During June the artworks were judged globally in the Czech republic where Chauncy received further recognition. Laura Button had been highly commended and given a honourable mention. As this is the 40th anniversary there will be a special award ceremony in September where lucky UK winners will get to travel to the Art Venue in Stoke-on-Trent to receive trophies from the Ambassador of the Czech Republic. To view the artwork please visit www.ukchildrensartcompetition.org.uk



Maths in Sports Roadshow by Cambridge University

On Tuesday 10th July, we took 15 of our Gifted and Talented Year 9 and Year 10 Mathematicians to Hertfordshire University to partake in a Mathematics Pentathlon. In an event put together by the Millenium Mathematics Project, the pupils considered some of the mathematics behind the olympics and then competed in 5 challenging tasks. Year 9 students Sarah Slatford, Lucy Spence, George Napier, Jordan Scrogie and Lauren Murray - otherwise known as "the fangerlangers" - were the victors, with fantastic team-work, great logic skills and a contagious enthusiasm. Very well done!

Year 10 Media Studies Trip to BBC TV Centre

This annual event in the Media Studies calendar took place on June 28th when 22 pupils accompanied by Mrs Allison and Mrs Silver visited the iconic BBC building in Shepherds Bush. The tour started in the news centre where we eavesdropped on the presenters in the News 24 studio. Pupils also discovered how weather forecasters make use of the magic of green screen. Several studios were included on the tour; pupils watched the filming of an episode of Pointless from the gallery and then sat on the sofa on the Match of the Day set. There was a lot of walking on a rare hot day but worth it for the valuable insight into the world of broadcasting.





Santillana del Mar 2012

The first study tour to Spain took place in June. 38 students from years 8-10 and 4 members of staff waved 'Adiós' to parents, excited to go but not looking forward to the 22 hour coach journey!

We stayed in the picturesque, medieval village of Santillana del Mar, not far from the city of Santander. Although small, the village attracts many tourists and our students enjoyed wandering the cobbled streets stopping to practise their Spanish whilst buying souvenirs and ice-creams.

The main aim of the trip was to encourage the students to use Spanish and they had 2 x 3hr Spanish lessons in a language academy in Santander. The students found these lessons really enjoyable and as the native speakers only used Spanish, it really tested their comprehension skills. Students also completed a town

trail in Santander, following clues to find their way around the centre. A real highlight of the trip for all was the day trip to the Picos de Europa mountains and taking the cable car from Fuente Dé. The scenery was stunning and for the first time that week the sun came out! All students were a credit to the school and took the opportunity to improve their Spanish as well as learn about Spanish culture (we visited the world famous caves at Altamira), try Spanish food (we especially liked 'chocolate con churros') and have fun (the brief time spent on a grey, windswept beach was spent playing a variety of games and activities). We returned tired but happy and I look forward to planning the next trip to Spain!

Careers

6th Form "Working in the City" Trip - 30th April 2012 - 7 students enjoyed a whirlwind trip to London, visiting West of England Ship Owners Mutual Insurance Association where a talk was given by the Managing Director Peter Spendlove. Students then visited Trinity House. It is steeped in history from 1514 when Henry VIII granted the charitable guild of mariners a Royal Charter to regulate the water traffic on the River Thames. Finally, students attended a talk at Michael Else and Company Ltd by various members of staff.

Careers Day - 26th April 2012 - Year 7 enjoyed a carousel of activities based on scientific engineering tasks. Students were able to use their maths skills to find out how to build the tallest tower, they became creative by building their own bacteria models, mouldy mugs and marble mazes and their expert skills by designing different products by using K'nex.

Anger Management sessions were also on hand for students too. - **Year 8** enjoyed "The Apprentice". Working in teams they had to find out their strengths for various company positions and hold formal meetings to discuss the day's plan. The Marketing Manager, Quality Control Manager and the Finance Officer attended workshops to establish what the job entails to help them produce products of good quality and eventually bringing their team and products to the hall and getting ready to pitch. As Sir Alan Sugar was unfortunately not available Mr Dennis O'Sullivan was keen to step in to do the hiring and firing. Products that were pitched to the panel included Top Trumps, Jewellery, Souvenir Boutique and medals to name but a few. All products reflected 2012 and celebrating the Olympics and Chauncy. The final was between two teams and eventually the Cup Cake team were hired. Their prize is a trip to Disney Headquarters in London for an Enterprise Day. Students then held a bazaar to sell their products the next day. Well done to all Year 8 students as so far they have raised £300 for charity and products are on display in the reception area and still for sale.

Year 9 and 10 Year 9's had an introductory day for the Duke of Edinburgh Award, orienteering around the Ware area following maps and having designated check points while the other half of the day was spent at Harlow Outdoor Centre taking part in activities such as raft building, dragon boat racing, mountain boarding, archery and the climbing wall. All enjoyed a fantastic day even the staff had a go and it taught the students about team work and learning new skills. - Finally, Year 10's attended the Armed Forces Day at Bassingbourn Barracks. The Army, RAF and Navy rewarded the students with a fun and entertaining day. The weather didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the students who took part in assault courses, tug of war competitions, cookery competitions and even music workshops. For images of the days events, please visit the school website, A-Z and Careers KS3 and KS4.

Philosophy Conference 2012

This term has seen the establishment of the Chauncy Philosophy Society, a group of Year 10 - 13s who have an interest in debating philosophical issues. This month we took a trip to the University of Hertfordshire to attend their annual Philosophy conference. Here students listened to leading thinkers on such topics as Time and Possibility and the Theory of Mind. Everyone agreed that it was a fascinating day and it certainly prompted more questions than it answered...

London College of Fashion Competition

15 Year 9 students took part in a competition set by the London College of Fashion. The brief challenged the students to design and make a bag that was eco friendly. Using recyclable materials the students manipulated what they had sourced in an exciting and original way. Materials ranged from bottle top lids to scrabble letters. During a workshop with accessories designer Anna Figgins, the students developed sustainable ideas and brought them to life. The results were revealed in June. Chauncy students had received five commendations, an overall winner and best school overall. Roisin Perry, Aprill Wall, Emily Nicos, Charlotte Quickenden and Laura Button received commendations for their entries. Hannah Chambers took first prize out of nearly 70 entries from schools around the country. As a reward the girls were invited to London to watch the London College of Fashion graduate catwalk and to take part in an accessories design workshop with one of their tutors.



Music

Chauncy pupils celebrated the Queen's Jubilee bringing music to the wider community. Also, GCSE pupils were invited to perform at a Jubilee Tea Party, where their acoustic music was warmly received by members of the Hertford Community and Rivers ESC. Well done to Emma Custis; Marcus Caisey; Storm Kingston; Stevie Gregg and Alex Barton for their efforts. The celebrations then headed to Hatfield House. Our students put on a great performance and were a credit to themselves and the school. A large number of Chauncy students turned out to support our Music Showcase event. Our students' enthusiasm for performing has made these events both interesting and enjoyable. Finally, Chauncy hosted pupils from Priors Wood and parents and pupils were treated to some exciting performances. Well done to all.



A particular well done, to all students who have taken their external music exams. Results available on the website.

Creative Writing Masterclass with Michael Morpurgo

Two of our Gifted and Talented Year 7 students were offered an amazing opportunity to attend a two day creative writing masterclass with Michael Morpurgo, which allowed the students to learn and apply new writing skills. During the class, Michael shared his inspiration for writing and, using extracts from his work, explored how experience shaped his fiction. The students were then able to partake in teacher-led sessions where they explored extracts from text that was also used as a stimulus for their own creative writing.

Oxford Success

Former student Jenny Davies spent seven high flying years here at Chauncy before going on to study Mathematics at University College Oxford in 2008. We have recently received a letter from her Senior Tutor lauding praise on Jenny, and giving details of the Scholarship she earned from her first public examination and kept throughout her time at Oxford. "It has been a pleasure to have Jennifer as a member of our community, to which she has contributed in many ways.", such as being a Student Ambassador and taking charge of the Junior Common Room's contribution to the undergraduate admissions exercise. "I wanted to share Jennifer's success with you and to thank you for the very good preparation she clearly received before coming to us.", Dr A M Knowland. We hope to send many more mathematicians to Oxbridge in the coming years... Mr I Rooke, Head of Maths

Year 7 Maths Day

On Tuesday 3rd July, Year 7 spent the day doing a carousel of interactive, fun, mathematical activities. Pupils competed in small groups within their forms on tasks including a mathematical code breaking trail, rocket building, puzzle relay and flash games. The maths department were joined by some fantastic Year 8 and 10 students who worked tirelessly throughout to ensure the activities all ran smoothly and the Year 7's had a great time. Marcus Caisey and George Reeves-Williams were particularly wonderful with the rocket making, while Will Turner did not stop smiling at his post on the maths trail all day long. The Year 7's were all brilliant - enthusiastic, excellent team-work and impeccably well behaved. Congratulations to the winning team - the "Tigers" from Elm, made up of Tahlia Bew-Stanley, Bailey Wasylczyn, Adam Callery and Connie Wright.

Maths Trip to Duxford

On Wednesday 4th July, the top maths set in Year 9 went to Duxford Imperial War Museum for "The Big Bang 2012" - a STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) fair. With over 20 exhibitors, some fascinating shows and plenty of activities to take part in, the class enjoyed a fun-filled day out. Highlights included seeing the look on Lucy Spence's face when holding a giant millipede, Lance and Andrew competing for the best time with the robots and Lauren Murray and friends solving a giant puzzle super quickly, putting some of the other schools to shame.



Euro 2012

We had our very own Euro's at Chauncy. 20 teams took part in the 2 week tournament. The final was contested between the Year 12 England team and the Year 10 Spain team. In a fiercely contested final, the score ended 0-0. Spain went on to win the shoot out and claim the trophy. This tournament normally runs every 2 years, so the next opportunity will be Chauncy World Cup 2014. Get training early!! A big thank you to all 6th Form students studying Btec PE for their help in running the event.

Diary

September

3th Inset Day (Staff only)

4th Year 7 and 12 In School

5th All school return

25th Welcome to Chauncy Evening

October

10th Open Evening 6.15/9.15 pm

23th Year 7 Reviews home

29th Half Term week

November

20th 6th Form Open Evening

22nd Inset Day

23rd Occasional Day

26th Years 9 and 10 Reviews home

December

11th 6th Form Reviews Home

12th Year 12 Parents' Evening

14th Year 8 Reviews home

18th Year 13 Parents' Evening

21st End of Term (1.30 pm)

January 2013

7th New Term

21st Year 11 Reviews home

22nd Year 11 Parents' Evening

30th Year 7 Reviews home

31st Year 7 Parents' Evening

February

8th Inset Day (Staff conference)

12th Year 9 Reviews home

13th Year 9 Options Evening

18th Half Term week

26th Year 9 Parents' Evening

March

1st Mock Interview Day

11th Year 8 Reviews home

12th Year 8 Parents' Evening

18th Year 10 Reviews home

20th Year 10 Parents' Evening

27th 6th Form Reviews home

28th End of Term (1.30 pm)

April

15th New Term

May

6th May Bank Holiday

23rd Year 9 Achievement Assembly (to be confirmed)

27th Half Term week

July

2nd Year 7 Achievement Assembly

9th Year 8 Achievement Assembly

11th Year 6 Induction Day

12th Chauncy Rocks/Community Day

17th Year 10 Reviews home

19th End of Term (1.35 pm)

July 22nd, 23rd, 24th are Inset Days

You can find all the latest information at www.chauncy.org.uk

District Rounders Report

On Thursday 3rd May Chauncy senior rounders team attended the annual senior rounders tournament at Presdales school, Ware. Chauncy went to the tournament as Champions, winning their last 5 annual tournaments.

It was a round robin competition in which 6 teams had entered. We started the tournament off playing St Marys School, Cheshunt. We got off to a flying start winning 7 - 3 with some fantastic bowling from Cathy Ruddock and some great fielding from the fielding duo Courtney Arberry and Sarah Hitch. We then went on to beat both Presdales A and Presdales B teams with ease. Our next game was against John Warner and was set to be our toughest game. With some excellent batting from Bethany Kendall we won 10-5. Our final game was against Simon Balle School, Hertford in which we batted first. We scored a terrific 11 rounders. We knew we would have to communicate with one another and field like never before if we were to hold onto our title. The final score was 11 - 5 and a half, securing us the trophy and the title 'District Senior Rounders Champions' for a 6th year in a row.

Torquay Netball Tournament 2012

On 27th - 29th April 56 Chauncy girls visited Barton Hall PGL site in Torquay to take part in the annual netball tournament. Team from years 7 through to 11 competed throughout the weekend hoping to become this year's tournament champions.

The Year 7 and 8 teams started their tournaments off with 3 wins in a row each, with some excellent defending from Ellie Hackney and Eloise Bishop in Year 7 and some fantastic shooting from Ajaya Roberts in Year 8. The Year 7 A team went on to win their next match and then lose their last one, claiming second place. The Year 8 A team lost their 4th game but won their last game, again claiming second place.

Our Year 10 and 11 teams went there to win, attending Torquay for 4 years in a row and coming runners up each year. Both teams played a total of 5 games in a round robin competition. The Year 10's tournament went off to a great start, beating Petersfield School 14 - 1 with some fantastic teamwork from Bridie Lowe and Morgan Ward. They then went on to win with ease against Red Maids School and Siddal Moore School. They continued to win their games up until the last game in which they lost 6-5, claiming runners up for the third year in a row.

The Year 11's had a fantastic tournament beating all their teams by at least 5 goals in every game. On the Sunday morning they were crowned 2012 tournament champions! An excellent weekend with some superb netball played by all teams.

Golf

On 11th July, 21 golfers took part in the 4th Annual Chauncy Open at 3 Lakes. After a heavy shower on the first hole, the sun came out and some glorious golf ensued. Luke Head became the first player to defend his title while Matt Widcombe claimed the nearest the pin title. Well done to all participants on making it a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon.

CONGRATULATIONS TO Brendon Kawondera who ran 23.4s in the 200m final at the Stephen Moore Athletics competition, beating the school record that has been held for 31 years.