

# SAMUEL WHITBREAD COMMUNITY COLLEGE



## Newsletter November 2009 No 1

### Applied Learning Week

#### REPORTS FROM YEAR 9 STUDENTS

Sam Whit is, as always, packed full of exciting opportunities. Recently, we had 'Applied Learning Week', which allows pupils a chance to try out new subjects that can't be fitted into the regular timetable. The last hour of each day was spent working in the same vertical group of about 20 students on a challenge. Different challenges were completed each day, including Social Science, PE, Science, Maths, Performing Arts and more.

Billy Schwer, the world champion boxer, spent a few hours here to give inspirational talks to all Year nine pupils. He covered subjects like 'The Three Ds' (desire, determination and discipline.) He also talked about mental boxing, which is making the impossible possible. Billy, who was born in Luton, talked about his career as a professional boxer as well.



Performing the Geography rap

Q1) So, have you enjoyed Applied Learning week?

A1) Yes, it has been quite interesting as we had a lot of lesson tasters of what we could do when we get into Years 10 and 11.

Q2) Have you enjoyed the Challenge Hour at the end of the day?

A2) Yes as it does challenge you, plus we worked with students that were in upper years, which I found really useful.

Q3) What has your favourite subject been?

A3) Art because we had to paint pictures, but instead of paint brushes and what you would usually use, we had to use twigs, polystyrene foam block and two pieces of cardboard.

Q4) Did you enjoy the Billy Schwer talk and why?

A4) Yes, because Billy was talking to us about our futures which seem not so far away.

We learned about working in teams and talking in front of huge numbers of people.

We have done many pieces of work during the week such as Social Science, Science, Drama, Media and Football. In Drama we did 'Stereotyping'; in Social Science we prepared a speech to talk to the whole of our year about Britain and what it means to be British; in

Science we made paper aeroplanes, then flew them to see whose plane went the furthest. In Media we made a newsletter explaining all about the week and when we did Football we played football against all the Year 9 classes.



### Engineering News 1

#### A VISIT FROM THE PRESIDENT

On Friday 9th October we had the pleasure of receiving representatives from the Institute of Mechanical Engineers to introduce their new President, Keith Millard, to the Engineering work that is happening at Samuel Whitbread.

During their visit they met 6th formers studying Product Design as well as students that are studying the Level 2 Higher Engineering Diploma. Under the guidance of Mr Ray Ireson, Engineering Coordinator, the students were carrying out aluminium castings, having previously made their designs using Techsoft 2D, and cut the design out on the laser cutter.

The representatives from the IMechE were very impressed by the work that we are doing at the College and that we actively encourage students to engage in the various aspects of Engineering. This visit has now led the institute to forge stronger links with the College and we look forward to working closely with them over the coming months and years on various projects within Engineering.

*Mrs D Hill*

#### PARENT MEETINGS

**Year 9 Transition Afternoon**

Friday 13th November

**Year 11 Progress Review**

Wednesday 18th November

**6th Form Progress Review**

Tuesday 1st December

## Engineering News 2

### THEATRE AND

On Thursday 15th October Year 9 students were treated to a lively production by 'Theatre And' about Engineering and Construction



from the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board (ECITB).

Students were given information about the life

and career opportunities that Engineering and Construction can offer and learned that Engineering is not about people with oily rags: on the contrary, it is an exciting career for both men and women, and can be accessed through many of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematical (STEM) subjects that are offered here at Samuel Whitbread. Students in Year 10 have the opportunity to take the Engineering Diploma at Level 2 which can lead to entry into Level 3, University, Apprenticeships and so on.

This production taught the students that Engineering and Construction can be interesting, fun, and



exciting and that it affects everything that we do. It was a good starting point for students starting to think about their options for Year 10 and will be followed up with assemblies and further talks in the very near future. For full information about the ECITB please visit [www.ecitb.org.uk](http://www.ecitb.org.uk) . Full diploma information is at <http://yp.direct.gov.uk/diplomas>

*Mrs D Hill*

### HPV Immunisations

Year 10 & Year 11 girls who have not had 1<sup>st</sup> and/ or 2<sup>nd</sup> HPV immunisations - there will be a catch-up session on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November from 9:30 am.

*Mrs S Ward*

## Gardening Vouchers

The promotion for Morrison's vouchers has finished, but we have until the 27th of this month to get our order in. If you have any vouchers lying around or still in your purse or wallet please could we have them? Just leave them at Reception.



Thank you for all the people that have collected them. I will inform you as to what we get.

*Mrs T Lund*

### CHEERLEADING FOR CHILDREN

Cheerleaders from Samuel Whitbread, Etonbury, Robert Bloomfield and Henlow schools came together through the BEST partnership to help raise £10,000 for Children in Need. On Sunday November 1st we were asked to open the performance at the Grove Theatre in Dunstable to a packed audience. Radio presenters from BBC 3 Counties sang in an attempt to mirror *The X-factor*, with featured guests such as Faye Tozer from Steps. The entire event was filmed by BBC and will be aired in the near future; meanwhile there is a short video [here](#) and pictures [here](#) .



Students practised their routine hard over the half term holiday and were heard to say it was worth all the effort.

*Ms C Cooper*

## U15 Girls' Football

Samuel Whitbread hosted the second round game of the U15 Girls' National Cup against Priory School, Hitchin. We conceded the first goal of the game when Priory sneaked in behind our defence, but Alex and Hannah worked really hard at the back, linking with Fleur who got Sam Whit's first goal. After a half-time change of our goalkeeper due to injury, both teams took their chances and ended 3-3. Both teams showed their nerves as we decided the game on penalties: Jade, Fleur and Charley all scored, Alex hit the bar but Sam Whit went on to win 3-2 on penalties. Well done, girls - and on to the next round.

*The Team:* Charlie Spragg, Penny Eaton, Hayley Watson, Catrina Roxburgh, Alex Fraser, Leanna Simmons, Eleanor Hadfield, Hannah Marshall, Fleur Dobler, Sorcha Quirke, Jade Anglum, Georgina Morris. Special thanks to Max Masters (referee) and Chloe Walsh and Amelia Wood (linesmen).

*Mrs C West & Miss E Foley*

## Engineering News 3

### ENGINEERING EDUCATION SCHEME / GOLD CREST AWARD.

This year, under the guidance of Mr Rik Lowry, four Year 12 students (Kieran Lloyd, Daniel Panico, Rob Plummer and James Wheeler) have succeeded in being chosen to take part in a 6-month project with Lockheed Martin. This is a prestigious scheme to be part of, which on completion will give them the equivalent of an AS Level. The scheme is in addition to their normal studies. More information will follow as the project progresses.

*Mrs D Hill*

## YEAR 10 ART TRIPS TO THE BRITISH MUSEUM

The Art Department took year 10 Art students to the British Museum during Applied Learning Week, as part of their work for a project on other cultures. Students spent the day drawing artefacts from countries such as China, Japan, India, Mexico, Native North America and



Africa. The museum displays an amazing selection of objects, giving the students plenty of choice. They all produced some fantastic work in their sketchbooks, which they will be using to develop ideas for both 2D and 3D outcomes.



## SIXTH FORM ART TRIP TO TATE BRITAIN

Tate Britain is an excellent gallery to visit as it displays a variety of art work representing different periods and art movements. The sixth form students worked independently, selecting art work to sketch and analyse that related to their own personal ideas. They found some of the contemporary work quite challenging in concept, and this certainly led to some interesting discussions. As the study of 'live art' is a compulsory part of the exam specification, this trip was very valuable and the students enjoyed the experience. We also noted some interesting sculptures on display outdoors as we drove through the London streets.

*Mrs A Hill*

## Tutu Much

SWCC's own dance company, Tutu Much Dance, have won a place in the Youth Dance



England regional competition for choreography. Rhiannon Wheeler, Ellen Ferris, Anneka Chana, Sophie Hilditch, Lottie Kirwan, Laura Smith, Carly Davis, Jamie Marshall, Katherine Godfrey and Georgia Lumley will be performing on the 14th November in the theatre at Sharnbrook Upper School. Winners will go through to the National final next year.

*Miss E Major*

## Cake Sale

Thank you to all who bought or contributed to 12TSL's cake sale, which raised £104. 32. Half the money went to breast cancer charities and the rest went open an account for the allotment.

*12TSL and Mrs Lund*

## Out and About with Geography

During Applied Learning Week five different groups of Year 12 Geographers undertook local fieldwork comparing the housing type and service provision of two nearby settlements. The first place they visited was the Grange Estate in Letchworth where they conducted a service provision count, an environmental quality survey and a questionnaire to locals on their quality of life. The students discovered that people liked living on the estate, but felt there was a need for more leisure facilities and activities for younger people.

The second place visited was the new Fairfield Park complex near Stotfold. Students carried out the same three tasks and a useful comparison could be made. At Fairfield Park the leisure facilities were rated as excellent, but there was dissatisfaction amongst the locals at the lack of shops and other services. Although a trip to Fairfield Park and the Grange Estate may not possess the allure of Sicily, the trip provided an excellent opportunity to get out of the classroom and first-hand experience of the case study, which we hope will come up in next summer's exam.



*Mr A Chalkley*