

# Woodham

Community Technology College



PARENTS'  
MAGAZINE

**Achievement for All**

**March 2010**



**Principal: Mrs C Forsyth**



**Vice Principal: Mr I Bickerdike**



# Principal's Letter

Dear Parents / Carers,

In a recent student survey, almost all students said that they thought that Woodham prepared them well for their future careers. The statistics bear this out. Less than 4% of last year's leavers are currently not in education or training, compared with over 10% nationally.

This year, we are again working hard with our older students to make sure that they are well-informed about the choices available to them. In the Autumn, we held a careers fair to bring together local post 16 education providers and to give information on apprenticeships. We have subsequently taken many students to visit these colleges as well as organising visits to universities for those thinking about higher education. Our two resident Connexions advisors have also met students to discuss individual concerns.

Employers are sometimes critical of the skills young people demonstrate on entering the workplace. One element of this is being suitably qualified. We work hard to ensure that students achieve the highest possible grades in GCSE English and Mathematics and also encourage them to take qualifications in functional English and Mathematics. Similarly, we give every student the opportunity to acquire an ICT qualification. This year, we are also giving everyone the chance to gain an accredited qualification in workskills.

However, employability is not just about qualifications. Good attendance and punctuality are essential, as are good manners and the ability to work well independently or with others. Over the last few weeks, a number of Year 11 students have put this into practice by taking part in "The Apprentice" where they have had to complete a series of business-related challenges. The final is due to be held this week. Just like on television, the prize will be a real apprenticeship, not with Alan Sugar, but at ThyssenKrupp Tallent. Good luck to everyone taking part on Thursday's specialist day.

For younger students, the first step towards making career choices is deciding on options. There will be a Year 8 options evening on 13<sup>th</sup> May. Other parents' evenings planned over the next few weeks include Year 11 Parents' Information evening on 30<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm, Year 10 Parents' Evening on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 4.00-7.00pm and Year 8 Parents' Evening for consultation with subject teachers on 4<sup>th</sup> May 4.00-7.00pm. There will be a subject-specific evening for Year 7 parents on 8<sup>th</sup> July. We look forward to welcoming you on one or more of these occasions.

Finally, on a completely different note, in July it is the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of Woodham. Amazingly, we do have one member of staff who has been here all of this time who can remember some of the first students who came to the then new school. If you know anyone who was here at the school's inauguration, let us know by emailing [info@woodham.org.uk](mailto:info@woodham.org.uk) or telephoning 01325 300328. We are trying to trace as many of that first cohort as possible ahead of planned celebrations next term.

I would like to wish you all a Happy Easter.

Yours sincerely,



C. Forsyth  
Principal

## ParentMail

ParentMail is our new parental communication system and it's about to go live. However we are still missing some data collection sheets. Can all parents please return the data collection sheets that were sent home with the last Rising Star reports.

## Cheques for school meals

Dear Parents/Guardians

When paying for school meals by cheque could you please write the student's name on the back of the cheque. This will help us with our administration.

Thank you for your cooperation.

## EXAMS

The Summer GCSE written exam season starts on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May and runs until Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2010. Students taking part will be from Years 10 and 11. A copy of the exam timetable is available on the Woodham website.

All students will be issued with a personal timetable which will also tell them the venue and seat number for each exam they will be sitting. Generally morning exams start at 9.15 am but afternoon exams can start any time between 1.15 pm and 1.30pm depending on duration.

Students should arrive at the correct venue at least 10 minutes before the start time of an exam, with the correct equipment.

MOBILE PHONES must not be brought to the exam venue. If a candidate is found to be in possession of a mobile phone during an exam they will be awarded zero points for that component.

The exam team would like to wish all students "Good Luck" in their forthcoming exams.

### Have you collected your exam certificates?

The exam office still has the official certificates for many past students dating back to 2006. We are only required to keep these for 12 months; after that date they should be shredded. If you know of anyone who has not collected their certificates, could you ask them to make an appointment to come in and collect them from reception between the hours of 8am and 4pm?

## **Keep up with Your Kids**

**Want to learn something about what your kids are doing in maths with a view to supporting them with homework and picking up a few skills yourself? Then come along and have a go.**

**Monday Mornings 9:15 – 11:15**

**Starting on Monday 26th April 2010, a series of five free weekly sessions for parents/carers**

**The sessions are friendly, informal and fun**

**For more information or to register your interest, please ring Marie on 01325 375482**

**IT'S FUN, IT'S FREE!**

**We'll show you what's happening so you can keep up.**

**This could lead to a formal maths qualification!**

## **Year 7**

As this goes to press, Year 7 will be having their first Woodham CTC photograph taken. A momentous occasion, I'm sure you will agree. It seems only yesterday that I was welcoming the students into Year 7 and here we are at the end of their second term. It is timely then that I pass on my thanks again for your continued support, this really makes a difference as we endeavour to give your child the best start to their education.

This half term has seen some exciting events for the whole school and I have been really pleased to see Year 7 students joining in. Woodham's Got Talent was a wonderful evening and full of Year 7 promise. In fact, Hayley Gallagher from Year 7 achieved second place in the whole competition.

It is always great to see students widening their opportunities and enjoying extra-curricular activities. Active 8 continues to be a success on Thursday evenings after school and as the summer term approaches I will be offering lunchtime cricket in addition to the already very successful games club.

I wish you all a restful Easter break and hope we can enjoy some sunshine into the start of the summer term.

Tracy Tait  
Head of Year 7/Transition

## **Year 8**

Year 8 have been working hard since Christmas improving their Rising Stars grades since November. In the year group we have spent this half term looking at careers in PCC and preparing them for making a limited number of options for Year 9. We will shortly be having a Year 8 parents evening that will take place on the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2010 which will give you an opportunity to catch up with your child's teachers and review their progress since they have started Woodham CTC. There will also be an options evening on the 13<sup>th</sup> May 2010.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Andrew Jenkins  
Head of Year 8

## **Year 9**

The Year 9 Parents' Evening was a huge success. Parents were invited to speak to all of their child's subject teachers to discuss progress and achievement and to receive individual advice as to how further success could be attained to reach maximum potential. There were a lot of smiles on the evening, with many teachers giving some very positive feedback. There was also an opportunity for some students to modify their options, and listen to some short presentations about subject choices for next year.

Mrs Fawcett will be returning to Woodham after her maternity leave on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March. We are looking forward to having her back again to resume her duties as Head of Year 9.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the parents and students for their support in recent months as the Acting Head of Year 9. It has been a pleasure working with you and meeting so many of you.

Have a Happy Easter!

Miss Anna Wass  
Acting Head of Year 9

## **Year 10 Focusing on the future**

It is frightening to think how fast time flies! The time is rapidly approaching when Year 10 students will be the oldest year group in the school. With this in mind, many of the lessons students have received in PCC have focused on the qualifications, skills and attitude that will be required in outside world. Students have already had inspiring talks with Civilian Employers and members of the Armed Services, namely; the Royal Navy and the RAF. Following the Easter break students will have the opportunity to learn more about Army from their Recruitment Officer. Furthermore, on the 22nd April there will be a parents' evening, which is an opportunity for you to discuss matters with subject teachers.

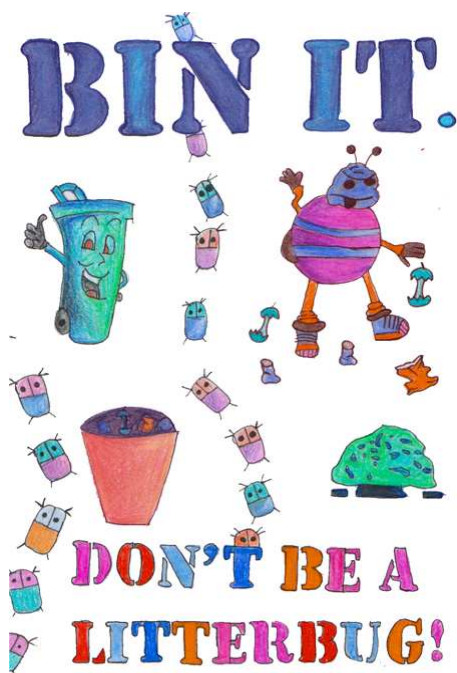
## **Year 11**

A Parents Information Evening will be held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm in the Resource Centre at school. The purpose of the evening will be to help parents support their children in the run-up to GCSEs. A number of staff will be available to offer advice and answer any queries that parents may have. We have run these events for a number of years and parents have found them very useful. We hope to see you there.

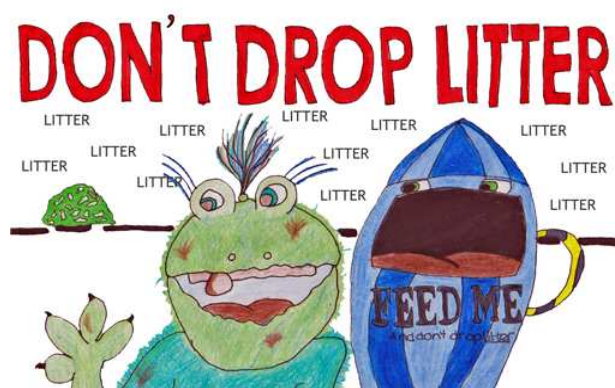
# Art Department

## KEY STAGE 3

In the first half term after Christmas our Key Stage 3 classes all took part in a poster competition to raise the importance of using the bins to dispose of their rubbish. As a result we had many excellent entries and a shortlist for each year group. The winners received Argos vouchers to the value of £20 and posters will be reproduced and displayed around the school. Well done to all who entered and a special well done to the winners!



Year 7 winner – Chloe Farley (7PT)



Year 8 winner – Chad Taylor (8SMr)



Year 9 winner – Thomas Williamson (9LD)

## Key Stage 4

Now that our exams are completed, it's time to focus our attention on art coursework projects which are worth 60% of the overall grade for GCSE and 66% for applied GCSE.

The final deadline for completion of coursework for both courses is the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2010.

# Geography

Students in Year 11 have in the main completed their coursework. Year 11 should now be creating revision timetables and developing revision aids such as mind maps, revision cards. They should also be using the revision books and textbooks supplied by the department to enable focused learning in preparation for the first exam on Monday 14th June.

Year 10 students will soon have completed their work for the first modular exam. They need to make sure they are revisiting and revising their work on the Restless Earth, the Coastal Zone and Water on the Land. They have their modular exam on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June. These students will need to prepare carefully in order to gain grades consummate with their Star Potential, as they will not want to have to re-sit this unit in Year 11. Revision booklets will shortly be available for these students.

# Travel & Tourism

Year 10 Travel and Tourism students have almost completed the requirements for the first assessed unit, European Holiday Destinations. They are now familiar with the format of the BTEC and the requirements of the assessors and should be able to work more efficiently on the next unit, The UK Travel and Tourism Industry.

Year 9 Travel and Tourism students are working well towards assessment in Year 10 for their BTEC studies.

Year 9 geographers are at present studying a GCSE unit, the Restless Earth as they had been clamouring to do work on volcanoes and earthquakes. They are learning a lot and most are pleased not to live in areas of tectonic activity. You could ask them why people do live in such areas and they should be able to give you five good reasons for doing so!

In Year 8 we are studying ecosystems majoring on the Rainforest and trying to assess its global importance. Year 7 are looking at rivers and flooding and learning more about our great north eastern rivers.



# Health and Social Care

Year 9 Health and Social Care students have completed their Healthy Eating Award and will receive their certificates shortly.

Year 10 Health and Social Care completed a First Aid course with St John Ambulance.

Year 10 Young Apprentices successfully completed their latest work experience. All received excellent reports from their placements.

Year 11 Young Apprentices have completed Food Hygiene and Health and Safety qualifications at The Work Place.

# History

## YEAR 11

Students in Year 11 should now be creating revision timetables and developing revision aids such as mind maps or revision cards. They should also be using the revision notes and past papers supplied by the History Department to enable focused learning in preparation for their final exams.

The Woodham Portal also has a range of resources to help with revision including past papers and mark schemes.

Revision classes are held every Tuesday after school and a revision class will also be organised for some time during the Easter holidays.

## YEAR 10

Year 10 students are currently completing their first piece of coursework. The preparation for this work is being undertaken in class with some drafting and research also being expected to be completed at home. The final piece of the work will be completed in school under exam conditions and so it is essential that students meet the deadline dates they are given so that they are in a position to produce the best piece of coursework they can on the day.

## YEAR 9

Year 9 students are progressing very well and learning the skills required for GCSE. We have just finished the units on World War 1 and World War 2 and have decided to give war a break for now and start and look at topics that do not include quite so much death and destruction!!!

## YEAR 7 & 8

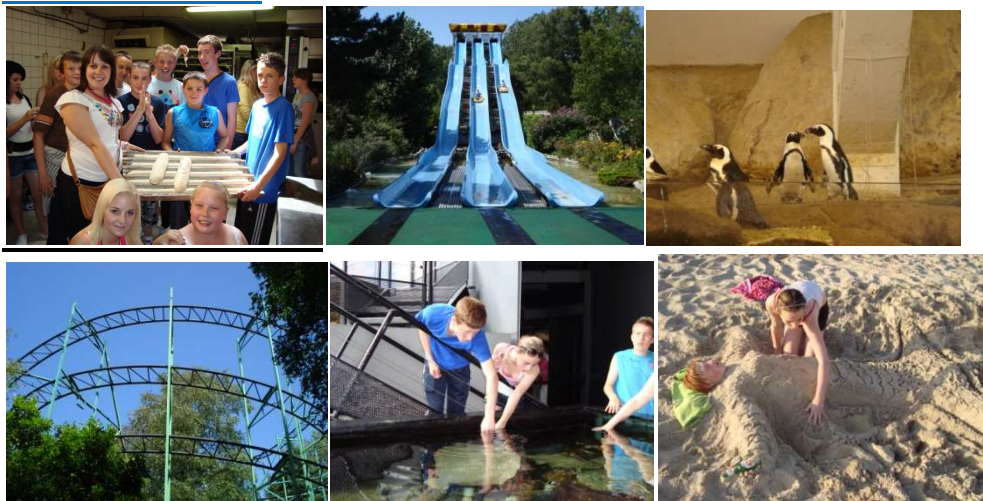
In Year 8 we have been studying the development of Britain as an industrial nation during the period 1750 to 1900. We are moving on to investigate the slave trade and Britain's role in this. Year 7 are looking at everyday life in Medieval England

# MFL

## Year 7 French

We are looking forward to visiting the region of Nord Pas de Calais in summer 2011. The trip has been booked with the travel company PGL/NST. We will go to the Bagatelle theme park, Nausicaa sea life centre, Boulogne bowling alley, Aqualud water park, Beussent chocolate factory, Le Touquet market, a disco in Le Touquet, Auchan and Cite Europe hypermarkets as well as a local bakery to make pains au chocolat and croissants. Links to the websites are below:

- [www.aqualud.com](http://www.aqualud.com)
- [www.parcbagatelle.com](http://www.parcbagatelle.com)
- [www.nausicaa.fr/accueil.htm](http://www.nausicaa.fr/accueil.htm)
- [www.letouquet.com](http://www.letouquet.com)
- [www.choco-france.com](http://www.choco-france.com)
- [www.sables-dor.com](http://www.sables-dor.com)



## Year 8 German

The preparation for the Year 8 Study visit to Boppard, Germany is well underway. We are very excited about the forthcoming trip and hope that the weather will be as glorious as it has been in previous years. I, for one, am completely looking forward to another trip to Phantasialand and the breath-taking rollercoasters not to mention the cruise along the Rhine!

There will be a parents' evening for all students and their parents ahead of the trip to discuss final arrangements and a letter containing details about that will be issued in June.

Thanks to all those parents who support this trip and who have made payments towards this. The final deadline for the trip to be paid in full is *April 1st*. All monies are to be directed towards Mrs. P. Thompson.

I also intend to run another visit to Berlin in the Christmas term. This visit has been a huge success and is aimed towards students who will be in Years 9, 10 and possibly 11 next year. It is a cross-curricular study visit combining German, History, RE and Geography along with Travel and Tourism. Arrangements for the proposed visit are in place and a letter to parents will be distributed soon.

(A.Wass)

### Year 9 French

In the Summer Term Y9 red pathway will be starting on a KS4 coursework assignment about Personal and Social Life.

Y9 blue and green pathways will have the chance to learn holiday German or study a region of France and learn practical skills e.g. how to book a holiday and order meals.

### Year 9 Specialist Day

The Flying Theatre Company performed their version of The Three Musketeers based on the novel by Alexandre Dumas.

The play was performed entirely in French and included acrobatics and magic tricks!



### Year 10 German

Students from the red pathway in Year 10 have completed 2 assignments of coursework for their GCSE; one speaking and one writing. The new specification is running smoothly and information about the new exams can be found at [www.wjec.co.uk](http://www.wjec.co.uk)

This is a useful site for parents and students of GCSE German to have a full understanding of what the course offers.

Students in sets 2 and 4 will be taking a writing coursework resit examination on 23<sup>rd</sup> March to improve their grades.

### Year 11 French

Students have benefited from small group speaking practice sessions with native speakers and Durham University language students as well as some of our former pupils who are now studying A level languages at Queen Elizabeth 6<sup>th</sup> form College.

Mock speaking exams are scheduled for Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March to Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March. The final speaking exams start on 28<sup>th</sup> April. All the speaking questions and sample answers can be found on the Portal as well as details about the exams.

# Music

## WOODHAM'S GOT TALENT!



The night of Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March saw the live final of *Woodham's Got Talent*. Students had been preparing their acts for several weeks, and had been through rehearsals and auditions to secure their place in the show. Prizes of £100, £50 and £25 were at stake for the first, second and third placed acts, so the level of competition was incredibly high!

### *Winning act Beth Gibson and Nathan Elwick, Year 11*

The acts were judged by two judges, Adrian Biddulph, LEA adviser, and Sue Clements. Judges marked each act on three areas:

- quality
- potential
- entertainment value.

After seeing all acts perform, they had a difficult decision ahead of them – deciding the three highest-placed acts.

The performers ranged from singers, instrumentalists and dancers, and also included special guests Newton Aycliffe Cougars, who entertained the audience with three of their cheerleading routines. The show was hosted by Year 11 student David McCormick (below), who delighted the audience by showing off his stand-up comic talents, despite not being an actual entry in the show!

Eighteen acts made it to the final, and after all acts had done all they could, judges decided that the three most impressive acts were:

First place – Nathan Elwick and Beth Gibson, Year 11, who performed *Don't Stop Believing*

Second place – Hayley Gallagher, Year 7, who performed a striking solo dance

Third place – Siân Nicholson, Year 10, who performed *Heaven*.



*Compère of the show, David McCormick, Year 11*

Beth Gibson, part of the winning act, spoke about her experience: 'I really enjoyed the night; it was great fun and everyone was a winner in my eyes'.



*Second placed Hayley Gallagher, Year 7*



*Third-placed Siân Nicholson, Year 10*

**IMPORTANT GCSE DATES:** Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Y11 performance exams. This will be the final chance for students to record their performance coursework.

## PCC

This term has been as eventful as ever. Our Year 7, 9 and Year 11 students have been studying local and international Citizenship respectively. Year 9 have been supporting the Amnesty International campaign to raise awareness of the plight of the people living in the Deep Sea Slum in Kenya. They have participated in a letter writing campaign in which they have written to both the leader of the Kenyan government and the people of the slum itself.

Year 7 have been working with the youth offending team on preventing anti-social behaviour. They have been raising awareness of what they feel needs to be done in order to reduce street crime in the local area.

Year 11 are starting to look at the UNICEF campaign to end human trafficking, with particular emphasis on the trafficking of children. Over the next few weeks they will working towards raising awareness of the issue and what we can do to help.

Our Year 8 and 10 students have been focussing on careers. Year 10 have had visits from the armed forces and a production from travelling theatre company about apprenticeships. Year 8 are focussing on option choices and how to make the best choices for their future here at Woodham.

## From Afghanistan with Love

Following on from last terms Citizenship project in which 9LD and 8SR sent fifteen parcels of Christmas presents to Dmr Kilcullen in Afghanistan to share amongst his comrades, the students from 9LD were thrilled to finally meet the soldier. Dmr Kilcullen of the Coldstream Guards took precious time out of his two-week R & R to visit the tutor group thanking them for their kind gifts.

During his visit Dmr Kilcullen was bombarded with questions about military life and conditions in both Afghanistan and Iraq. Teacher, Mrs L Drew, said "It was a fantastic opportunity for the students to ask questions about life at Camp Bastion". Dmr Kilcullen will going back to Afghanistan next week and the tutor group will be following his progress.



## Aycliffe Star gets England call up



A 15 year old girl from Newton Aycliffe is on the verge of international recognition after being placed on standby to travel to Amsterdam to represent England in 2 fixtures against Holland. Anna Young has been named in the Under 15's girls England football squad after attending trials at Hull University in October. Anna, who attends Woodham CTC, has been playing football since the age of 4, representing Heighington until the age of 8 when she moved to play for Darlington Spraire Ladies.

Anna's talent was identified by Middlesbrough Football Club at the age of 10 and she has been part of their Academy ever since. Her ability was recognised by her academy coaches who first recommended her for England trials for the under 15 squad when she was a year younger playing in the under 14 age group. After narrowly missing out on a place in that squad she has continued to work hard in an attempt to represent her country. Anna is now the third footballer from Woodham to gain international recognition in recent times and she is keen to follow in the footsteps of Ross Turnbull (Chelsea FC) and Jason Steele (Middlesbrough FC) in becoming an England regular.



## **“The Apprentice” comes to Woodham**

A group of ten Woodham Year 11 students have successfully been selected to take part in an exciting and challenging programme to demonstrate their potential and readiness for the world of work. The students are being put through their paces in a scheme similar to the TV series “The Apprentice” by Thyssenkrupp Tallent , who are looking to recruit one or more new apprentices. They have been set realistic, industrial tasks, and have had to work together in groups to find solutions. Their first assignment, set by the purchasing department, was to recommend a new supplier to the company, given a range of options. Their second assignment was to design a transport system, given a strict specification. This design is now in the process of being refined by the groups, and must be ready to be presented to a select audience in the boardroom at TK Tallent on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March, when the students will also be set their final challenge.

The students taking part are: Andrew Gibb, Brad Saunders, Jack Charlton, Jack Moscrop, Luke Minall, Philip Maughan, Bradley Harrison, Lee Wright, Mark Sanderson and Thomas Williams

The successful apprentice or apprentices will be notified just after the Easter holiday. They will then need to focus on their exams to ensure that they meet the criteria and get the grades required of them.

The training manager at TK Tallent, David Pearson, has been very impressed with the calibre and commitment of the group, and it is hoped that this programme, supported by the Durham Education Business Partnership, will become a regular fixture in the College calendar, helping to ensure that Woodham students are the first choice for our local employers when they are looking to recruit.

# Nissan & STEM

In January this year a group of Woodham students took part in a trip to the Nissan Manufacturing plant, in Sunderland. The group of 50 Year 7 and 8 students learnt about how Nissan is developing new fuel efficient and environmentally friendly engines for their new cars and had a sneak preview of their new LEAF car. The group of students got to see a production line in operation, how Nissan cars are manufactured and how the Washington plant is Europe's most efficient automotive manufacturing plant. A return trip is planned to Nissan to see the launch of a new model later this autumn.

Towards the end of this year we will be offering 30 Year 7s places on to a special STEM Celebration Day run by Northumbria, Newcastle, Sunderland and Teesside Universities, at Durham County Cricket Club. The day's aim is to encourage progression and interest in STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

During the session our students will attend two workshops in forensic science ( blood splatter and finger printing) and Marine Biology (working with live marine animals). This will prove to be an interesting day that pupils will remember and we hope will inspire them in their future studies.

We are also planning to take our Year 10 Engineering and Manufacturing students and a KS3 group to visit the Engineering Roadshow at Rainton Medows. This has proved to be a popular and inspiring event where pupils can see at first hand new technologies in the engineering and manufacturing sectors and see Honda's ASIMO robot.

Mr Nelson



# Schools Engineering Challenge 2009-2010

## YOUNG ENGINEERS TACKLE OLYMPIC VILLAGE TRANSPORT PROBLEM

Budding Engineers from 5 secondary schools in South Durham recently completed a major design and manufacturing project, working with an industrial mentor. Once again we teamed up with Dave Spensley, Director of Aycliffe Fabrications, and South Durham Engineering & Manufacturing Forum. The whole event is sponsored by Aimhigher, to encourage students to follow Engineering as a career option.

The participating schools were St Johns RC School, Woodham Community Technology College, Ferryhill Business & Enterprise College, Spennymoor and Tudhoe Grange Schools.

From each school, 16 year 9 students were divided into teams of 4. The teams were tasked with designing and building a fully automated transporter bridge and an electric vehicle. Each element featured in the design specifications which were key features in the 2012 Olympic Village.

Our students were tested to the full over the 13 week after school activity. They had to demonstrate ingenuity, teamwork and excellence in design and manufacture of the bridge structure and electronic circuitry as well as creativity in designing their vehicle body shells.

The Grand Final took place at the Xcel Centre, the brand new exhibition and conferencing facility in Newton Aycliffe. Judges from industry assessed the students' work in terms of quality with all elements being rigorously functionally tested. It was a great opportunity for the students to explain to the judges why they had made certain choices about their designs and manufacturing techniques.

It was an extremely close run final with St Johns narrowly beating Woodham to retain the title for the third year.

Mike Nelson, Curriculum Leader for Design and Technology at Woodham Community Technology College, commented, "The schools' engineering challenge is an excellent way for the students to meet engineers from industry and to work with them. Participating students quickly realise that to get to the end of the project, a significant amount of time and effort is required as well as having to produce work to an extremely high standard."

*Mr Nelson*



# Hovercraft Challenge 2009-2010

## BUILDING A HOVERCRAFT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF BRADFORD

The Build a Hovercraft day for Year 11 girls took place on Friday 5th February at Spennymoor Leisure Centre and was one of two events designed to encourage girls to consider courses and careers in engineering. The day consisted of girls from all schools being grouped into teams. The team building exercise followed a set of instructions to manufacture a working hovercraft, build by cleverly combining and engineering materials, such as polystyrene foam sheet. The girls were accompanied by Miss Gregory and Mr Pearson, who thoroughly enjoyed the day and were generally impressed with the outcomes from all the teams. The day culminated in a race around a circuit. Beth Nichols was in a team that came second and really enjoyed the day and said, "The most important thing I've learnt is that engineering isn't just for boys and it can be fun too!"

The day was jointly organised by Aimhigher County Durham and the Engineering Department at the University of Bradford. Woodham Community Technoloy College had 12 year 11 girls taking part in this event, the majority were selected from our most able and talented list, and many of them never thought about engineering as a career choice for the future.

Joanne Crowther from Bradford's Engineering department said, "The University of Bradford has run hovercraft projects with Aimhigher aimed at girls in the past and found these events to be an ideal way of raising awareness of engineering and science whilst simultaneously giving the students a hands-on experience of teambuilding on a design and build project. In mixed groups, the boys can often hijack the kit and materials and interestingly, the girls' days are usually a great deal of fun and a lot more noisy than when we run them for a mixed group."

Brenda Stephenson, Project Manager with Aimhigher County Durham, said "Most of the girls who attend these events have never thought about engineering as a career but are inspired by the day's activities to consider the possibility".

Mr Nelson



## Key dates for your diary

Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 11 Parents' Information Evening Rising Stars review 3 to parents Year 11 only
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	School closes for Easter
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	School re-opens
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Adult Education Enrolment Week
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	School closes for bank holiday
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	School re-opens
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 8 Parents' Evening
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	External GCSE Exams begin
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 8 Options Evening
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	School closes for half term
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	School re-opens
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Rising Stars review 3 to parents Year 8 and Year 10 report to parents
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Family Learning Day
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 7 – Year 10 Rewards Evening
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Summer Concert
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	School closed – teacher training day
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Art/Technology Exhibition
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 7 Parents' Evening
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	School closes for summer
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> August	GCSE Results Day
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	School re-opens for Year 7 ONLY
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	School opens for ALL Students

## Inserts

1. ParentMail flyer

# Attention All Parents!

**Have you registered on ParentMail?** By registering you can receive messages from the school via email and text.

## **This is great for parents because:**

- Messages will get to you reliably
- We can send messages to, for example, mums and dads at the same time
- You will quickly know about important or urgent messages
- We can tell you more about what's going on at the school
- It's free!

## **It also means that you will help us:**

- Save money because we are reducing paper, copying, post and phone bills
- Improve communications with you
- Be more environmentally friendly
- Reduce our workload



As you can see there are lots of benefits from using ParentMail and we would really like you to register as soon as possible.

**To do this, please return the data collection sheet recently sent to you with your child's Rising Stars report.**

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