



INSIDEOUT



THE CITY TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE, KINGSHURST

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July 2008

In this issue: Alumni, Football Update, Local Opportunities, 4 Page Pullout Project Special, Gifted & Talented and much much more...

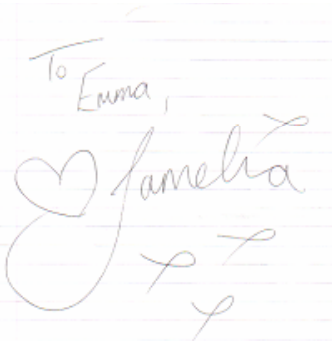
Former CTC 'superstar' visits Kingshurst

Here Emma Brown (11 Saxton, pictured below right with Jamelia) looks back on an "amazing afternoon" with Jamelia.

On Friday 18th April, several students were chosen to record a few short scenes for a BBC3 programme which was broadcast on 20th July at 9pm. The girls were; Shaniqua Clarke, Randeep Marwaha, Emma Brown, Kim Forde, Sasha Irvine, Chelsea Bailey, and Rebecca Kay. The TV programme is to be aired in the summer, and is all about hair extensions and its growing popularity in recent years, particularly among teenagers. We gathered after school and a few short scenes were shot. Several students were chosen to give more in-depth interviews. We had been told that a special guest was presenting the show and all of us were excitedly discussing who it could possibly be. We were just finishing filming when we saw who it was... Jamelia- The popular R n' B singer, famous for hits such as "Superstar"! She was actually a

student at college when she was a teenager.

We all joined her, Mr. Fletcher, and Miss Jones in the Principal's office for snacks. Jamelia really was lovely- she chatted to all of us, and reminisced about her days as a student. She gave us all a hug, allowed us to have photographs taken with her, and even gave out a few autographs! She then had to leave, leaving us all star struck. It had been truly an amazing afternoon. How many people get to meet Jamelia and shoot for a television programme in one afternoon?



SEPTEMBER 19th 2008: THE CTC 20TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION! SEE PAGE 13 FOR DETAILS

Footballers Scoop Unique Treble



Excited players with split loyalties prior to the game. Here they pose with team manager Michael 'Mouriniho' Mayes for the Solihull Times.

Message from Ann Jones, Principal

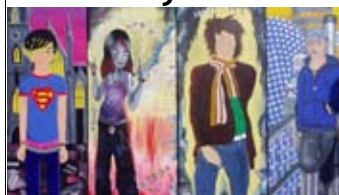
It's been another highly successful year, packed with charity events, incredible sporting achievements, concerts, drama and dance productions, trips and countless educational visits. Congratulations to everyone who has taken part and given of their time so generously. I would like to formally congratulate our IB and BTEC National students who have achieved outstanding results. Good luck to our year 11s as they await their results in August. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Lee Fletcher, Editor of Inside Out, ably assisted by Ian Sullivan, for making the college newsletter something we can be really proud of. I would like to wish you all a very happy, relaxing summer.

The year 10 team have dominated school football in the Midlands, winning the District Cup, County Cup and the highly coveted Villa Cup in front of the Holte End. They reached the last 4 in the national competition improving on last year's progress. According to Tom Gee (10 Parfitt), "We have all worked hard and are really pleased with the progress we have made. Next year we feel we have what it takes to win the national competition. We appreciate Mr Mayes (aka Mr Mouriniho) giving up his own time that enables us to

enter so many competitions and are grateful to James Devesey's mum for helping us find a sponsor. We will proudly wear the kit (pictured below) next season." To keep track of their progress see www.clubwebsite.co.uk/ctck-ingshurst."



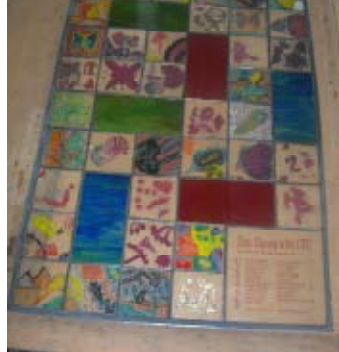
Live Project



James Bignell (12 Davis) highlights the "Live Project" that Miss Sutton has set them:

We visited the staff at The Pump, a youth centre in Lea village to discuss colour schemes, themes and ideas we could develop. We worked as a group and developed ideas on the theme of stereotyping amongst teenagers. This involved taking photos of students around college and also using the internet to gather images of typical teenage groups. To keep the artwork relevant and local we all decided to use Birmingham landmarks such as the Bullring. We were all happy with the final pieces and we cannot wait to see the work being put up.

Art Enrichment



Students from Years 7, 8 and 9 who had opted for Lara Garcia's Stained Glass Enrichment created a stained glass panel entitled "Time Elapsing at the CTC". They used a range of glass making techniques including enamelling and fusing techniques. The enamelling involved applying colour using a mixture of crushed glass plus pigment. The fusing involved trapping copper shapes between two layers of float glass then heating to over 800 degrees in the kiln. Students then assembled the piece using copper foiling and silver solder. This will soon be hung in the foyer.

BTEC Students Help Merstone School



Last year we helped local school Merstone celebrate their first birthday. Here, Jessica Sutton and Rachael Field (12 Davis) explain our latest contribution.

As BTEC Art and Design students at the CTC, we volunteered to work on a project making two pieces of artwork as a team of four. This was for Merstone School, a local school whose students have severe learning difficulties or disabilities with ages ranging from 2 to 19 years of age. We made the decision to work in pairs on a textile banner and a 3D sculpture using tactile

and textured materials for the children to touch and feel. After visiting the school for the first time, and gaining more of an idea as to what our work would involve, we decided on the locations and themes for our outcomes. These would be a Sea-Life banner for the pool area and a contemporary sculpture for the Sensory Garden.

We returned to the school several weeks later to meet the Student Council for their ideas and opinions on our designs, and to discover which ones they really liked. We enjoyed meeting the students and getting their input into our artwork. This helped us to produce attractive pieces that they would like and enjoy. We found that the most popular parts of both designs were recognisable and fun images that children could touch and feel, requiring both the sculpture and the banner to have a variety of textures and materials incorporated within them. After a few months of working on the project we came back to assemble and presented our work to the staff and students of Mer-

stone School. We appreciated all the effort, in making us welcome and helping us with our work. We hope that our work reflects the positive attitude and happy environment that welcomed us on our visits, hopefully the students will enjoy the artwork for many years to come.

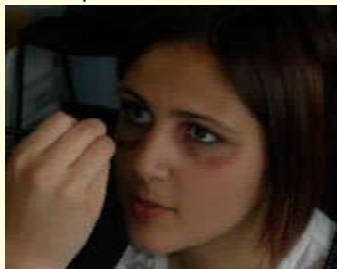
According to Art teacher Helen Dunn who helped organise the event, "Our students worked extremely hard on the project and it was a great experience for them to work as real designers. They took on board the challenges very well, successfully considered the needs of the students when producing their artwork and both pieces of work fitted very well into the surroundings at the Merstone School."



Special Effects Make-Up Workshop

Textiles teacher Lara Garcia highlights a novel workshop led by one of our alumni

BTEC Performing Arts and IB Theatre Arts students participated in a very gruesome special effects workshop. Here they indulged their creative dark sides to create bruises, scars and gory slashed wrists using theatrical make-up and derma wax. The workshop was led by Laura Beathe, an ex CTC student who has carved out a career as a professional make-up artist. The workshop was extremely successful and the students managed to create both naturalistic wounds as well as the more dramatic and theatrical special effects used on stage. The Post 16 students were also joined by an enrichment group of over twenty students from the lower school who became willing victims for the Post 16 students to wield their deadly make-up brushes!



Gifted and Talented Boys' Project



Numerous studies have highlighted boys' underachievement and their propensity to "coast" through their education. With a rapidly changing global economy, it is vital that all students maximise their capabilities to compete in the global economy and enhance their life chances. At Kingshurst, we have been addressing this through our gifted and talented team. Co-ordinator Davinda Kalle and her team have launched a raft of initiatives designed to stretch male students and facilitate realisation of their potential. In this section, the students discuss the impact of these initiatives



Residential Experience

Jonathan Newsome and Chris Hall (10 Streeting)

Horse riding was our first activity, where we were each paired off to a horse, some of which behaved inappropriately, e.g. Rein rode by Chris. We then took part in a high wire course. Most people took part however not everybody could embrace the third tier! After this, we then returned back to our luxurious hostel where we had to decide on a subject. The choices were English with Ms Robinson, Science with Mrs Kalle, Music with Mr Cowlshaw and Art with Ms Tongue. Following this, each group set off to create a lesson plan to teach a group of 15 year 5s from local schools we were to teach in a few months time. On the night, Mr McDermott decided to cook a barbeque and burnt all the food to charcoal! During the residential, we completed teamwork games. On behalf of the group, we would like to thank all the members of

staff that made this trip possible as each participant thoroughly enjoyed this experience.

Primary Workshops

Tom Hooper (10 Dunn)



A variety of workshops were arranged: an Art workshop with a focus on the application of tone and detailing using natural forms and exploring clay, a Science workshop in which primary students were enriched through practical activities based on evolution, involving making rockets and making cells for observation with a microscope. A percussion workshop, using recycled objects, and a creative writing workshop during which students gained breadth and depth in character setting, plot and genre.

Aston University Day 1

Jordan Allen and Zac Jarvis (10 Cornelius)

The G+T boys took a day out to Aston University. We split into groups and had a guided tour with the student ambassadors. We learnt about money issues within university life and about jobs and independence etc... We then played a game where, with only paper and Sellotape, we had

to make a tower over 1m high that could hold a whole galaxy chocolate bar and if your group managed the task you got to share out the chocolate! We then went as part of a team building activity. This was a great experience and some of us started to think very differently about what university has to offer.

Aston University Day 2

Greg Jones (10 Reilly)



For our second day, students had chosen from one of three strands relating to what subjects they would undertake. I chose strand one - Health Sciences. This involved a session on biomedical science. The second strand was Graphics and also included a detailed session of accountancy and financial planning. The final strand was animation, this allowed students to experience the software and equipment of the professionals and animate their own short film. The day started with the first session. We learnt about what is involved in the university course and briefly about biomedical science careers. The session then focused on microbiology and using agar plates. We took samples of our skin to see clearly what would grow upon them. To prove the same point we used a UV light cream that when exposed to UV light shows where the cream has been on the skin. This was added to our hands and then washed it off the results were shocking revealing that some people in our group had not washed their hands well at all and left everyone with something to think about. After some free time to taste student life in and around campus we moved on to our next session; for me this was audiology the study of hearing. In our audiology session we learnt about life with a hearing disorder and how communication becomes harder. This we found to be a very useful and informative session and more practical than the previous one. A short break followed and then a communication and presenting workshop.

This is a skill we all developed using a simple instruction game where we had to explain and elaborate on an idea without realising exactly what it was. This was thoroughly enjoyable and helped us greatly with the presentations that followed. We then had to present our gained knowledge and experiences from the day with our parents and family later that evening. Overall I believe the day was a great success the knowledge gained can help us in the subject we studied and positively influence our choice at university. I also believe that the presenting and communication skills we developed can help us throughout life and provide the basis of future presenting successes.

"Reel access, animation skills"

By Craig Palmer (10 Dunn)



After school on a Thursday, some of the G&T boys were lucky enough to take part in a film club. This involved many aspects of the film industry, such as animation, interviewing and basic skills with the equipment. The basic skills involved learning how to use the cameras, lighting and other pieces, also how much effort goes into creating a show. It was through editing and the stop motion animation, which we really saw how long it takes to make a cartoon or programme. My favourite was stop motion animation, in which we created 'You Got Chaired.' This was created by taking many pictures of the actors making small movements at a time. It means we can do things otherwise impossible, such as being chased by a chair. The interviewing part was also equally enjoyable, and involved interview techniques such as lighting, positioning of the camera and the angle of the interviewer and their guest. On behalf of all the boys involved, I would like to thank everyone who organised the club, we all thoroughly enjoyed it!

Did You Know?

AFTER COLLEGE ACTIVITIES

If students are staying in college after 4pm for any reason (sports practices, rehearsals, working on projects/homework) then they MUST sign in at reception and sign out as they leave.

TELEPHONE IN GENERAL OFFICE

Students should only ask to use the telephone in the General Office for emergencies or when the payphone is out of order.

A minimum charge of 20p will be made for each call.

CONFISCATION BOX

The use of mobile phones and MP3 players is NOT permitted in college.

Should a student have a mobile phone confiscated it MUST be collected by a parent or guardian.

All other items confiscated can be collected following afternoon registration on a Friday from the Senior Tutor on duty.

FIRST CALL HOME

A reminder that if your child is not going to be at college, for a legitimate reason, then parents need to contact the college by 8.00am at the latest, on the day of absence on 0121 329 8300.

When college is closed, messages can be left on the answering machine. Switchboard is open from 7.00am.

If students are late into college they MUST sign in at Reception or in the Registrar's Office (G36).

All the above will ensure that registers are kept up to date, which is a legal requirement and in accordance with Fire Regulations.

FIRE ALARM

The Fire Service bravely put their lives on the line to ensure public safety. False alarms can lead to their resources being stretched and delay them reaching life threatening situations. There will be a £50 charge imposed should any student maliciously set off the fire alarm and waste the Fire Service's valuable time.

Society Stuns on BBC Show



Co-ordinator Manish Popat with the Kingshurst Debating Society

Millions of viewers nationwide saw students from The City Technology College live on Sunday morning participating in the ethical debates of BBC one's The Big Questions. The Kingshurst Debating Society arrived nice and early at the Grace Academy in order to prepare for the live broadcast and get a feel for the topics. Initially, we were all a bit shy, but as soon as the show went out on air we were our usual feisty selves!

On the show we discussed whether the right to live starts at conception; if religion should be banned from schools and if the voting age should be lowered to 16 (suggested by our very own Kelly Bailey). Nicky Campbell hosted the show with soul singer guest, Mica Paris. The heated debate kicked off immediately with the panellists presenting very strong and passionate arguments. They were soon followed, hot on their heels, by very thought provoking statements from Kelly Bailey, Shayley Mann, Amy Walsh and former student Eleanor Parker.

Such a strong interaction from the debating society gave the show an extra edge. It involved many opinions from those who are not industry experts and

hence gave a well rounded approach to issues. It also highlighted the skills that the debating society has developed with mentoring from Manish Popat and Roger Cain.



The Kingshurst Debating Society has members including: Alison Shipway, Amy Walsh, Anthony Sheldrake, Dani McGhee, Edmund Cornelius Van der Molen, Francis Bunce, Jamie-Leigh Chapman, Jemma Buckley, Kelly Bailey, Laura Dignan, Matthew Marson, Natalie Williams, Paul Cate, Peter Alderman, Shayley Mann and previous student; Eleanor Parker.

All in all, The Big Questions provided an amazing opportunity for the debating society to experience the sort of high level debate that is watched weekly by millions.



Post 16 Work Experience

IB and BTEC students recently completed their work experience. According to co-ordinator Jane Loewy, "Work experience is a vital opportunity to see if the students perceived career choice is really what they want to pursue. Furthermore, they can appreciate the relevance of their studies and learn new skills that will stand them in good stead for the future. Placements included Roll and Boll in Ireland, Aston Villa Academy, Morgan Motor Company, solicitors, labs, hospitals, local primary and secondary schools. I was delighted with the feedback I received. Comments from supervisors included:

"Absolute star, settled in well, very enthusiastic, a pleasure having him (Jack Hall-Bodycote Law labs)

"Excellent student, prompt, keen, a very nice girl" (Jemma Buckley-Birmingham University)

"Pushy but in the right way, methodical, will question, flexible, picks things up quickly" (Lee Burden-Fedex)

"Really helpful, prompt, spot on, a pleasure having him" (Paul Cate-Balfour Recruitment)

"An excellent student who will try her hand at anything she is shown, more like her please" (Georgina Gallimore-Aston Villa Academy)

Well done to all concerned!

Young Ambassador



Well done Jasmine!

Fresh from completing her IB Diploma, Jasmine has been helping preparations for the Olympics this summer in her role as a young ambassador working closely with the Youth Sports Trust. This experience will prove invaluable in the future.

Post 16 Comment

A delighted Richard Jones, Vice Principal, looks back on another action packed and hugely successful year.

As we approach the end of another incredibly busy academic year it is important to once again recognize the hugely positive impact our Post 16 students continue to play in the growing success of the College. The Post 16 students are increasingly involved in supporting younger students both within and outside curricular areas and it never ceases to amaze me how these youngsters take on their role-modelling so seriously and successfully. The College prefects continue their outstanding work and it is equally pleasing to see an increasing amount of support being provided within the class-room. Year 12 and Year 13 students have been assisting students at both KS 3 and KS 4 with developing their Literacy and Numeracy skills.

Outside the class-room there has been huge successes. Three students have refereed College

football matches with great skill and dedication. Another group have coached, on a weekly basis the college representative teams encompassing football, rugby, athletics and basketball teams. The Performing Artists have been involved in supporting a large number of youngsters in Dance, Music and Drama productions. The quality of performance seems to improve year by year.

To complete the good news summary the results have been very good this year. BTEC National Diploma results have been stunning and the quality of work produced in all areas is simply fantastic. IB Diploma results have also been extremely pleasing with 70% of students gaining the full diploma. Record numbers of students will be leaving College this year to take up University places.

I salute the work carried out by the Post 16 students and wish the Year 13 students the very best for the future reminding them that they must return to College for the Year 13 presentation evening on September 18th!



Student Life Coaching

This is a new service for you to be able to take a renewed perspective on your college life. Life coaches at college are more than happy to sit down with you and discuss anything that will enhance your life whilst being educated here at the CTC. Take a look at what the following student had to say:

"Life coaching has helped me get through not only college life but through many social aspects too. It has helped me gain back most of my confidence along with some renewed motivation. I feel that many other students could benefit from this programme as I have become more self reliant and emotionally stronger which

has made me get right back on track with studying. To have the knowledge that there is someone to turn to whenever you feel down or want to discuss issues that are upsetting is superb. I most certainly am glad that I swallowed my pride and went to talk to a life coach. I was a bit reluctant to discuss my issues, but as I began to talk about how I felt, my head lifted and I slowly stopped hurting. It felt as though the life coach actually cared and wanted to know what was wrong and more importantly how I could help myself. Once I finished discussing my problems the life coach made an assessment of how best to progress. This made me feel as though I had someone to turn to if things got hard. Having the knowledge that there is someone who will always be prepared to listen is superb and it has most certainly helped and will always help me to achieve anything I want to do in the future".

If you would like more information please contact Mr Strong at your convenience. All enquiries will be dealt with in the strictest of confidence.

Aim Higher



As part of their CAS programme, year 12 IB students have been collaborating with fellow post 16 students from Archbishop Grimshaw to help raise aspirations in primary school students and inculcate positive attitudes towards higher education. Here, we highlight some of their excellent work as part of their "Aim Higher" campaign

On Monday 30th June, and Tuesday 1st July, several post-16 students took part in a Gifted and Talented Workshop, working with Gifted and Talented students in years 5 and 6, at Alcott Hall Primary School and St. Anthony's Primary School. It took lots of hard work and effort, as the post-16s from CTC had to meet weekly with post-16s from Grimshaw. Nikola, Lucy, Tineka, Fiona and Jake took part in organising and planning this, thus making the two days a success, as shown from the feedback from the students from the primary schools. The day began with students interacting with the children, in terms of ice-breaker games. Once these had finished and the children were comfortable around each other, and then introduced ourselves. Activities during the day included role-plays of what happens if you get good or bad exam results, language link of Lucy and Tineka speaking French, Fiona and two other students telling the children about college and their options, Jake and Nikola explaining options and what they wanted to be at different ages in their life, advice on being called a 'Boff', and how to counter this, and finally quizzing the teachers and head-teachers about their life and what they wanted to be at different stages of their life. Overall, the whole experience was very fun, experiencing and rewarding, and we are returning next year to do the same again. *Nikola Doyle and Tineka Blake*



We were asked to join a group of gifted and talented year five and six pupils on a trip to Aston University. It would provide an insight for them as to what their future could hold. Six of us joined the pupils from local primary schools and we set off to the university. We began the day by splitting into groups and with a student from the university were taken on a tour of the campus. It was interesting for all to see what it was like, not only the younger pupils, but also for us too. After a quick break, we entered into some team building games. We split up into groups, and the challenge was to build a tower out of newspaper to hold a large bar of chocolate. If your tower could hold it, the chocolate was all yours! It was an enjoyable day for all and we have future events planned in order to help them to plan for their future. *Lucy Jenner(12 Harris)*

Alumni

Our alumni epitomise students who illustrate what ambition, talent and drive can achieve. We hope our present students can seek inspiration from their achievement and maximise the opportunities presented to them during their college years.



Glen Clarke
BTEC Public Services
1998-2005

I was a student on the BTEC Uniform Services course from Sept 03 – July 05. I always wanted to join the Army and felt that the course was the one for me. Towards the end of the first year however I nearly quit as several of my mates were already in and I was jealous and also hungry to get on with the career I wanted to pursue. I had many a heart to heart with Jason (course coordinator) who explained the pros and cons of both staying with the course and leaving to join the army. I valued his experience and guidance and decided to stay the course.

It was the right thing to do! I joined the army in February 06 and once I completed my basic training I joined my unit, 1 Coldstream Guards who were based in Windsor on ceremonial duties. This was a time to really learn my trade as an infantry soldier and in September that same year I went to Catterick Garrison and completed the arduous and demanding P Coy. In September 07 my unit was sent to the Hellmund Province, Afghanistan, where we completed a very busy and challenging tour. I am now at Brize Norton completing the jumps phase of P Coy and once I have logged a few more jumps I will be awarded my wings and maroon beret. This will give me the opportunity to transfer to the guards parachute platoon with 3 Para and continue with what has, so far, been an exciting career.

I don't think any course can replicate the experiences of being in the army, but the uniform services at the CTC certainly prepared me well for dealing with various life issues. It gave me confidence and understanding, tested our characters constantly, pushed us outside our comfort zones and most importantly gave us support and guidance which allowed us to develop.



Yes Jase you were right, I owe you a crate of beer!!!



Emma Beathe
(Now Emma Dennis)
International Baccalaureate
1992 – 1999

I currently work as an HR Systems Associate at Ernst & Young in Birmingham. This means that I basically look after the firm's e-Learning system, ensuring that it's working correctly and offering training and guidance to users and administrators internationally. But how did I get here?

My time at the CTC looking back was one of the best times of my life – a bit of a cliché I know, but you really don't realise how good your school days are until you get into the real world. At college I decided to do the IB as I thought it gave the best variety of subjects as I had no idea what I wanted to do when I left. I

would really advocate taking the IB as you get a broad range of skills that help set you up for the future. Although at the time it might feel like you are about to collapse under the pressure! I am also proof that the subjects you pick don't limit you when you leave college – my job now is really IT based yet I have no formal IT qualifications. I think that being at the CTC is one of the main contributors in me being comfortable using different IT systems. The fact that the college had so many computers and IT rooms really helped me at a time when a lot of schools just had one computer room.

I have a lot of highlights from my time at the CTC, the numerous college productions (I played Juliet in the IB production of Romeo and Juliet – a brilliant experience!), trips and of course project weeks. I remember one particular project week shovelling cow manure – for the life of me I cannot remember why I was doing this – compare this to me interviewing the politician Michael Hessestine – where else would you find such diversity? These are the memories of the CTC that made it such a special place and so different from other schools.

I left the CTC with my IB Diploma and went on to University in Winchester, this didn't last too long and I left after a couple of months because my course wasn't right for me. After this I got myself a temping job with Lloyds TSB and eventually a permanent position with a mortgage company. Proving that if the university path is not for you, you can still be successful.

After leaving the mortgage company I began to work at Ernst & Young. My career here started as a secretary for the Personal Tax team, something that I had not particularly wanted to do, but it provided me with a foot in the door of an international company. My time as a secretary allowed me to get used to working in a professional services environment and taught me a lot. However, after 6 months a position came up in the train-

ing team which I decided to go for. I got the job and spent another 6 months organising training courses across the UK which meant having good organisational skills, something I learnt from completing the IB. I then saw the opportunity to move teams and became more involved in the systems side of HR and Learning.

The move to my current job happened approximately 6 years ago and since that time it has given me many opportunities. I have been able to travel to Rome for training and have also run my own training courses in Paris. I have also had the opportunity to deal with colleagues across the world and have been responsible for implementing a new e-Learning system in Europe. My success at work is down to finding new opportunities and not being scared to pursue them. I think this comes from my time spent at the CTC and the many options that were open to me there.

Who knows what the future holds for me, I am now happily married and have found time to have two sons along the way! I know whatever path I may want to take in the future I will take with their full support. My advice to anyone at the college now is not to get too bogged down with following the crowd. Do what you want to do and not what other people expect you to do. Different paths suit different people, for me not going to university and working from the bottom up was the right path and I have been able to make it a success. As long as you have determination and drive you are capable of anything! Good luck for the future and follow your dreams!

Post 16 Courses

You don't have to have studied at the college to take advantage of our post 16 provision. There are still some places left. Come and enjoy a fantastic post 16 lifestyle while securing your future. External applicants welcome!

Contact Medina Griffiths on 0121 329 8300 to find out more and secure your place now

A Fitting Finale To Year 11 - The Eagerly Awaited Prom



Emma Brown, (11 Saxton) looks back on the big event on the social calendar 2008, the Year 11 Prom. Once again this was set in the salubrious surroundings of Penns Hotel, Sutton Coldfield, The prom is always the highlight of the year for year 11s, and this year it didn't disappoint.

The hype had been building up for weeks, especially among the girls. It was something nice to think and talk about during the midst of our exams. Some people even had exams the day before the prom which made the prom seem even livelier. Exams were over and we had

the whole summer ahead of us. Even without the relief of exams it would have been absolutely fantastic. Everyone was dressed to impress, and in high spirits. We were provided with a fantastic buffet, and we could all have our photos taken. Everyone got up and had a dance and all too soon

11pm came. Everyone agreed that they wished the night could have gone on longer - but at least we had had chance to see each other one last time before we all broke up for different colleges, all dressed up and happy. It was truly a fantastic night.



From the 9th to the 13th of June the Public Services course embarked on an expedition to the Lake District. For the year 13s this would be their final challenge. The week's activities comprised navigation, high rope courses and the main activity which was a Fire Fighter experience day. On this trip the students would be assessed on their camp craft and camping skills as well as competencies over a range of activities. Such activities were directed at the Public Service curriculum and units such as Outdoor and Expedition skills.

This Fire Fighter experience was extremely beneficial to all of us due to the nature of the careers we are looking for within the services. We were all kitted out with a full uniform (helmet, suit, gloves and boots) and split

into three groups. We then took part in three stands throughout the morning which included a communication exercise and perception of surroundings when disorientated. Casualty procedures and evacuation. Search procedures in a building and tackling fires with various fire extinguishers that are found at home and in the workplace. The main attraction was riding the engine and working the pumps and hoses. This training led to scenarios later in the day when we all rode the engine and were called to a car fire where we tackled and extinguished the fire before extracting a casualty. Such experiences gave all of us an insight into the challenges that we are likely to face not only in life, but in our careers as public services personnel. For all of the group this was the first

taster we had of what is to come when we join the Public Services. Even though it was a new and challenging experience, we all enjoyed it.

The full day navigation exercise comprised a circumnavigation of Derwent Water. This was preceded with some orienteering exercises at Whinnlater Forest around various routes set out by Mr McDermott. The Derwent Water exercise lasted around five hours and during this time we faced numerous challenges and tasks which we had to overcome. As well as being physically tiring many of us had little experience of navigation so the challenges were far more tricky, however with the help of the group and those more experienced we managed to overcome this.

The Go Ape course tested our nerve at heights and although we have previously taken part in other high ropes challenges this was another excellent experience. We were high amongst the trees with crawl tunnels, traverses and scramble nets and each section finishing with a zip wire through the trees. It was a great way to finish our two years. Here are some testimonials from those involved:

"It was an amazing experience and has helped me because I now know what type of jobs I

will be expected to do. It was good to have real life experience instead of classroom based learning because we realised what was actually involved and what was expected of us."

S.Tudor (13 Strong)

"In my two years on the course, this was one of the best experiences I have ever had. Although I am looking towards a career in the Police Force, this emphasised the harsh reality of Public Service life as well as re-enforcing my beliefs and making me more determined to succeed."

J.Holmes (13 Strong)



"For me I found the whole experience to be of use due to the fact that I am looking at a career in the Public Services. I understood the hardships that the Public Services personnel and what they go through which helped me to realise just how challenging the Services are and even though I intend to join the army this knowledge and understanding will help me prepare for what is to come."

S.Ryan (13 Strong)

Local Opportunities

Year 9 G&T student Liam Barrett (9 Lucas) writes for InsideOut. Here, Liam's feature outlines some exciting opportunities available during the summer holiday and beyond.

- * Bored in your free time?
- * Don't know what to do or where to go?
- * Why not visit some of The West Midlands' most exciting places?
- * These is something for everyone with attractions from Museums to Go-karting



Stoke on Trent Water World

Festival Park, Etruria, Hanley, Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire, ST1 5PU.
Tel: 01782 205747
Web: <http://www.waterworld2000.co.uk/>

Try Water World's fantastic white-knuckle ride The Twister- six seconds of thrills and spills combined with brilliant lighting and sound effects. In addition there are many other exciting rides including The Nucleus; the first indoor water roller coaster ride in the UK, The Space Bowl, The Black Hole, The Python, Super Flume and Family Multi-Slide.

Stoke on Trent water world is fantastic and a brilliant day out with family and friends. The water park is the best in the UK and for a cool day out it is cheap. The adrenalin rush fast flowing water rides are brilliant and the facilities also contains wave pools, food bars, outdoor swimming rapids and many more. I advise you to go in the summer and I had a great time with my friends and I would rate it 5 out of 5.

RATING:



Millennium Point

Curzon Street, Birmingham, B4 7XG.
Tel: 0121 202 2200
Web: <http://www.millenniumpoint.org.uk>

Millennium Point is Birmingham's flagship Millennium project, built to celebrate and encourage science, technology and education in Birmingham and the wider region. A brilliant day for all the family!

RATING:



West Midlands Safari Park

Spring Grove, Bewdley, Worcestershire, DY12 1LF.
Tel: 01299 402114/0700 4 SAFARI
Web: <http://www.wmsp.co.uk/>

Are you ready to SAFARI and come face to face with some of the fastest, tallest and cutest animals around? Then here we go..... We have four fantastic miles of safari trail with close encounters galore. Have you ever seen a rare White Lion? Probably not as they are virtually extinct in the wild and we have the only pride in the UK. The animal reserve is home to over 600 animals and covers a vast area of 100 acres, which is often abundant with babies. What's more, this is a self-drive safari in your own vehicle and you get the chance to feed some of the animals too. Alternatively, if you prefer to be driven, then you are able to book a guided minibus tour for an extra charge.

When I went to the safari park with my family I had a great time not only at the park you can drive around the reserve if your own car and observe all the rare animals but you can also feed the animals which is a rare opportunity. Also in the park there is a exciting theme park packed with blood rushing rides from water rides to fast roller coasters. I had a wicked time and it's full of fun for everyone in the family.

RATING:





The Snowdome

Leisure Island, River Drive, Tamworth, Staffordshire, B79 7ND.

Tel: 08705 0000 11

Web: <http://www.snowdome.co.uk>

The Snowdome is the UK'S premier real snow centre, with a 170 metre slope covered in snow all year round. Some activities include; Skating, Skiing, Boarding, Snowmobiles, Tobogganing, Adrenalin tubing and junior sledging.

RATING:



Kingsbury Water Park

Bodymoor Heath Lane, Bodymoor Heath, Sutton Coldfield, B76 0DY.

Telephone: 01827 872660

Web: <http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/countryside>

So much to see and do at Warwickshire's premier waterside attraction! Kingsbury Water Park has 15 lakes situated in over 600 acres of country park. Stroll along the surfaced paths, explore hidden corners, spot birds and wildlife, hire a bike, join an organised event or host your own event. Whatever your idea of a countryside visit is, you will find it at Kingsbury. When I went to Kingsbury's water park I had a thrilling time I hired out a bike and went riding through the lovely scenery at the park. I also tried canoeing on one of the many lakes at the park. On the water there is also jet skiing, wind surfing, surfing, sailing and much more.

RATING:



Teamworks Indoor Go-Karting

202 Fazeley Street, Birmingham, B5 5SE

Tel: 0870 900 3020

Web: <http://www.teamworkskarting.com>

It is just minutes away from the city centre, Teamwork's Karting indoor circuit is like no other! The fastest karts in the UK. Exciting, challenging HUGE 700m indoor race track, great spectator viewing gallery, fully licensed bar and quality catering and conference facilities for up to 150 people. What a great day out that would be!

RATING:



Sheldon Marlborough Cricket Club

Foliot Fields, Stoney Lane, Yardley, Birmingham, B25 8RF.

Tel: 0121 784 9191

Web: <http://www.sheldonmarlborough.co.uk/>

During the summer, it is the ideal time for playing cricket. Sheldon Marlborough is a club in Stechford, Yardley that offers a good standard cricket for all ages. At the club, we have professional qualified coaches that train us every Monday night from 6-7:30 where we progress and improve on batting, bowling, fielding and the tactical aspects of the game of cricket. If you are interested on improving your cricket, skills and wish for a new challenge get in contact with the club to register or just come down to one of the sessions to join and improve your cricket skills.

RATING:



The Ackers

Golden Hillock Road, Small Heath, Birmingham.

Tel: 0121 772 5111

Web: <http://www.ackers-adventure.co.uk>

The Ackers is an Urban Outdoor Adventurous Activity Centre and is located just 2 miles from Birmingham City Centre. The 70 acre semi-rural site offers a wide range of activities including skiing, snowboarding, climbing, bridgering, ropes course, canoeing, kayaking, bellboating, archery, team challenge days, management training and human resource development courses, orienteering, 4 wheel drive course, narrow boat hire and more.

RATING:



Science and Engineering Club



With a skills shortage in science and engineering threatening the future growth of the economy, schools have a vital role in nurturing interest in these subjects. The Science and Engineering Club led by Miss Pearce aims to inspire students to continue studying these subjects, thus enabling them to take advantage of superb employment opportunities with excellent remuneration. Here Mark Goater (7 Pearce) discusses their latest venture.

On the 15th April 2008 the Science and Engineering Club

went to the Coventry Transport Museum. We travelled there in the CTC minibus. When we got there the first thing we saw was a collection of buses and public transport vehicle. Later we went around the museum and saw lots of different vehicles from 1910 onwards. Then we went through a section of the museum about World War II and many military vehicles. Later we came into a display hall with lots of the different cars including lady Diana's mini, the 'DeLorean' from the film 'Back to the Future' and many others. We also went into a hall of model cars and a big model of a town where you could hear sounds of different vehicles.

Finally we went into an interactive hall where there was a 'build your own car' section and lots of different interactive things to do with transport. After the interactive hall we went to the shop which had many model cars, novelty number plates and much, much more. Everyone who came said it was a good afternoon, both students and teachers.

Goals For Charity!



On Tuesday 17th June, enterprising students from 7 Allport: Liam Garratty, James Blundell, James Daly and Jordan Phillips organised a penalty shoot-out for charity. Here, Liam explains their motivation for the event.

The money raised would go to guide dogs for the blind. However much money we raised, Miss Allport would double it! Overall we raised £61.30. It was a good day and we are sure that the charity will be delighted with the money we raised. There were prizes for the winners all donated by the organisers. Although the organisers participated, they did not allow themselves to win. The winner for the boys was Jake Gauntlett who scored 8 goals and the winner for the girls was a tie between Vanessa Lau and Charlotte Locke with both scoring 10 goals.

Kingshurst Achievement Award Spelling Bee

This year a new event was added to the Kingshurst Achievement Award. Three students from each form in year 7, 8 and 9 competed against each other to get the most KAA points for their form. The competition consisted of a thirty word written spelling test which each student completed individually and a verbal test where all participating students had to spell one word in front of the other students that were competing for their year group. All tutor groups scores were then added together.



The results were as follows:-
Year 7 winners – 7 Barber
Year 8 winners – 8 Tongue
Year 9 winners – 9 Davey

IMPORTANT KAA REMINDERS

The final results of the year are coming soon!!!

Key stage 3 presentation evening for the academic year of 2007-2008 is Wednesday 1st October.

Keep an eye on the KAA notice boards for the new events for next year.

"Memories of Wartime"

"Memories of wartime" was a dance production focusing on war and the emotions of it. The production told a story, a story of ups and downs and a story of war from the female perspective. The dance production involved a variety of ages from year 8 to a member of staff all of the dancers and singers were female except one male who was the guitarist. "Memories of Wartime" took place at the City Technology College in Kingshurst. There were a range of styles of dance for example: Ballet, ballroom, rock n roll, abstract and contemporary. According to Dance teacher Miss Norris, "It was a fabulous evening with some stunning dances. Everyone worked really hard and deserves enormous credit."

Maisie Harrison (10 Dunn)



Maths Team Challenge



On 23rd of April, 4 students from year 8 and 9 represented the College at the UK maths Team Challenge regional final held at Myton School, Warwickshire. The team competed in a series of challenges including a head-to-head round and a relay race. Here are the team with their certificates. They are Penny Barrett, Jamie Barrett, Anna Johnson, David Whitlock.

Please see Miss De Silva if you would like to learn more about the exciting maths challenges available in college next year.

Ski 2008



One of the great strengths of the college is the diverse range of educational visits that enable out students to expand their horizons, learn new skills and establish great memories. John Bowers continues to organise the ever popular annual ski trip.



A packed itinerary encompassing Boston, intensive skiing and the ever popular visit to the shopping mall made this one according to many, perhaps the best so far. Here Jessica Ship (12 Cowlshaw) reflects on a memorable week.

After a successful Ski trip to Vermont last year, the trip was again held there this time to Jay Peak Resort. We all arrived at school early and, very tired, travelled to London. From there we flew to Reykjavik (Iceland) and from there flew to Boston.

However, when we arrived in the states we discovered that the airline had left Liz Jevons's suitcase back in England! We all rallied round though and made the best out of the situation for her. We stopped over night in Boston and the next day took a trip down into town where we walked around Boston's famous Quincy Market, which was very enjoyable. After this we then set off to Jay peak, we got there in good time and we soon all settled in for the night. The first day of skiing was certainly memorable as John Bowers ended paying a visit to A & E as Sarah Kinsella had dislocated her arm halfway through the first day. The next day heralded another trip to the



hospital as this time as Bradley hurt his knee, but this was to be the last of any injuries and the rest of the days skiing went smoothly. Over the week we went tobogganing and even had a go at Karaoke. Soon enough it was time to go home.

Overall it was a very successful and hugely enjoyable trip, and I can not wait for next years!



The next Brit Boy Band hit the US!

Italy 2008



Rebecca Mitchell (12 Harris) and Laura Bicknell (12 Hunt) look back on the IB Geography field trip to Sorrento.

After 24 hours of no sleep, we finally arrived in Italy! This was now our home for the next 4 days. When we got there, we went exploring the town of Piano Di Sorrento, however this proved a challenge for some of us. Did you know there were so many backstreets in Italy? After eventually finding our hotel again, we all went to bed with an early night ready for an early start the following day.

At 8am we all gathered in the hotel reception – all looking like zombies, still feeling the effects of no sleep. However, we all remained positive for the day



and got on to our coach, on the way to Pompeii. We explored Pompeii, and have now all seen what a volcano can really do! After pizza and chips, we got back onto the coach to continue our tour of Italy – Mt Solfatara being the next stop! This is dormant volcanic crater where we all stood surrounded by bubbling mud, Fumaroles and a very distinct, not so pleasant smell of sulphur. After gathering our own piece of sulphur and pumice stone, it was time to return to the hotel. We then had a chance to explore the town by night, but aware we had another early morning.

On an adventure again, we set out on our coach – this time on the way to Herculaneum. After an hour of singing on the coach we arrived at the old city again receiving the effects of a volcanic eruption. After the coach driver took us for lunch of pizza and chips – again, we set off towards Mt Vesuvius, preparing ourselves for the 45 minute trek to the top. We started optimistically at the bottom, realising this was a once in a life time opportunity, pushing ourselves to keep climbing all the way to the top. Getting to the top was an amazing experience, the views were incredible, and made it all seem worthwhile. After Mr Mayes had gathered his

geography resources, now with a heavier rucksack than what he went up with, we eventually returned to back to the bottom.

The final day came quicker than we expected and we were on a boat on the way to the Island of Capri. Here we spent the day exploring both the old town and the new town. Collecting last minute pieces of data and shopping made the day go so quickly and before we knew it we were back on the boat on our return journey to the hotel to enjoy our final night.

This trip to Italy was an incredible experience and on behalf of all the students that went we would like to thank Ms Parker, Mr Mayes and Mr Fletcher for putting up with us lot all week – even through the singing!



All Rise!



Eloise Holland and Nicola Hunt (9Ivery) were amongst students from the college that took part in the National Magistrates' Mock Trial competition run by the Citizenship Foundation. It involved a lot of preparation in order to compete against other schools in a real magistrate court. Here they outline their work over the last term.



To gain an idea of what goes on in a court, we had to attend some genuine trials ourselves to get an idea of how the whole process works, and to also give us an insight into the structure and layout of the court room. The court room was extremely interesting and exciting, watching real people in the dock! It gave us a working knowledge and understanding of a court case, therefore giving us an advantage over others if we wished to pursue a career in law! We now understand how everything runs in a magistrate's court and what to expect if we are ever in a court case situation ourselves!

We spent a few weeks learning our roles; we learned our lines, our positioning in the court and even the cue for when to come on. We had been practising con-

stantly and consistently, putting an incredible amount of time and effort into remembering our lines and becoming the characters we were assigned. Another all important factor in our acting was how to present ourselves in front of the court, as this would have a major impact on the magistrates' final verdict.

The morning of the trial came and we gathered outside Sutton Court waiting to be called in. There were three schools in total, but only one of us could win. Each school would go against the other, defending once and prosecuting in the other. The first court case was called 'The City Technology College against Fairfax', in the second we were against Arthur Terry School. The usher (a very well spoken Liam Barrett) beckoned us to stand as the magistrates found their way to their seats. We all sat down, except for the 'defendant' (Sam O'Gorman who gave a very convincing performance of acting innocent), as is usual in any court. The usher read out court procedures, with steps that included swearing upon the bible and other such details.

Whilst the journalist and artist took notes and pictures on the case, the prosecution team (Nathan Williams and Liz Jevons) and the defence team (Chloe Strachen and Natasha Jones) questioned the witness and defendant on a huge range of topics, trying to find some hard evidence to back up their case. After a tense period of time our

trials came to an end as the day drew to a close. However, before we packed our bags and set off back home, the magistrates were to announce who they believed had the strongest of the three cases.

The winner was announced and to much disappointment it was not the City Technology College. The competition was tough and we were disappointed not to win after all our efforts. However, everyone tried their best and that is all anyone could ask for. We all had a brilliant time and we had received an insight into the situations that arise in a court case. We also gained a medal and certificate that will always allow us to reflect back on our brilliant time at Sutton Court. It was a day to remember for everyone who participated.



The members of the College who participated in this activity were, Simon Corcoran, Oliver Lockwood, Nathan Williams, Elizabeth Jevons, Chloe Strachen, Eloise Holland, Nicola Hunt (9 Ivery), Sam O'Gorman, Harrison Cleaver (9Dunlop) and Declan Murphy, Liam Barrett, Ayse Arsu and Anna Johnson (9 Lucas).

A delighted Miss Wright who co-ordinated the project said, "The team did brilliantly and tried very hard, both on the day and during the preparation period. It was great to watch them perform so confidently in the courtroom, which must have been really nerve-wracking! The students learnt a lot about the justice system whilst having fun. We will be entering the competition again next year. If any student who is currently in Year 8 is interested please come and see me!"

Jack Jeyes shows flair for Design Technology



Talented footballer Jack Jeyes (9 Dunlop) showed that he wasn't just good with his feet with his DT work this year. Here he is proudly pictured with his table. This professionally produced piece is just one example of the fine work that Design Technology students have undertaken this year.

In next term's edition you will have the chance to view a wider variety of that work in a feature covering the 'Design and Technology Showcase'.

Year 7 Intake 2009

We are pleased to invite applications for 11 year old students (date of birth 01.09.97 to 31.08.98) for admission in September 2009.

Application Packs will be available from the College - telephone 0121 329 8300 from Monday 2nd June 2008. The closing date for returned application forms is Friday 10th October 2008.

OPEN EVENING
Thursday 25th September
4pm - 8pm.

Russian Success



A delighted Mrs Morris assesses a fabulous year for the Russian Department. This has been an exciting year for all those who learn Russian at CTC. Our students have been invited to take part in a number of national competitions organised by the Russian Committee of the Association for Language Learning, for instance: essay writing, poems or songs in Russian, speaking challenge and design of posters. I was particularly impressed by the number of students who were keen to embrace these challenges and spent hours researching and preparing their material, they practised after school, attended an after-school Russian club and showed a great enthusiasm for this subject, their competitive spirit and above all their excellent knowledge of Russian.

In March 2008 some year 9 and post 16 students took part in the second national essay writing competition in Russian. Liam Barrett (9 Lucas), Anna Johnson (9 Lucas), Ayse Arsu (9 Lucas), Jake Myers (y13), Ben Boagey (y13) and Jemma Buckley (12 Payne) represented our college at this

prestigious competition that was open to all schools and universities in the UK. The students had to produce essays about famous Russians who visited or lived in England. CTC students submitted essays on Anna Ahkmatova (a Russian poet), Stalin, ex-KGB agent Litvinenko and Peter the Great. Their thoughts were presented in a very original way and this obviously caught the judges' eye. Jake Meyers, Ben Boagey and Jemma Buckley came joint first in this competition, beating 176 competitors from all over the UK. Enough to say there were such schools among the participants as Eton and Wellington Colleges. All of the winners are planning to read Russian at university and this was an ideal chance for them to once again test their skills in Russian. All of the participants received certificates, and some of them prizes that will aid them in their further study of Russian. Jemma Buckley had her work published in a Russian newspaper and Ben won subscription to two Russian newspapers. They made their Russian teachers and the college very proud of their achievements

Olympiad 2008!

Whilst some students were watching television at home, or were playing on their computers, a group of Russian students from year 10 and Post 16 were preparing themselves for a big challenge: National Speaking

Competition in Russian. The prize was good – to win a trip to Moscow. Chris Bose, Oliver Cotton, Jemma Buckley, Jake Myers, Nicole Poole and Kieron Reiley competed against other students from all over the UK for the chance to represent Great Britain at a Russian Mastermind in Moscow in June this year. The Russians call it 'Olympiad' rightly so as the 10 winners in the UK will have to demonstrate their tenacity, their will to win, their knowledge of Russian literature and cultural traditions and this all is this in Russian! and a bronze medal.



The Russian Committee of the Association for Language Learning (University of Leicester) were delighted to inform us that two of the winners are from the CTC. Jake Myers (y13) and Oliver Cotton (y10) will be a part of the British team to travel to Moscow to represent the UK in this prestigious competition. The students will be competing against other European teams that learn Russian at school. A further account of their trip will be published in the next issue of InsideOut. This is the College's

first win on such a large scale and we are delighted to see such outstanding progress in our students.

National Poetry

Earlier this year Stephen Okeghie (11 Mayes) and Jemma Buckley (12 Payne) took part in the National Poetry and Song Competition. Stephen submitted a Russian rap and Jemma a poem about a Russian poet, and yet again we received great news. Jemma won the first prize (plus some cash!) and was invited to London for the presentation. The organisers of the competition commented on the high level of Russian from our students and believed that every single student should be proud of their success. The winners were those who went beyond the areas required by the curriculum, communicated their opinions eloquently and showed a deep understanding of poems they recited. There will be plenty more competitions next year, so if you feel you are up to this challenge please register your interest with Mrs. Morris.



Sam Bibb swims to success.

Here Sam Bibb (10 Parfitt) discusses his remarkable progress. The result of natural talent, coaching, incredible commitment and incalculable parental support.

I have swum since I was four years old. I began swimming competitively at the age of 8. I first learnt to swim on the

'Birmingham Strokes Program'. I was on this course until I was 8. When I began to excel, I moved to Fox Hollies Swimming Club which was primarily based at Fox Hollies Leisure Centre and King Edwards School. Once again, I continued to excel and a few years after that I moved to Solihull Swimming Club. Here I obtained my first Midland Dis-

trict Qualifying Times. Just over two years after joining Solihull Swimming Club, we began looking at other clubs and I moved to my present day club Nuneaton & Bedworth Swimming Club. Since joining the Nuneaton & Bedworth Swimming Club I gained six more midlands qualifying times. The reason I swim is that I enjoy it and I wish to exceed and achieve as much as possible. My greatest achievement has been going to the Midlands Championships this year because I had eight Qualifying times and came in the Top 20.

I currently swim six nights every week and three early morning sessions. My average weekly pool time is 13.5 Hours. The Head Coach of my club is Terry Freeman. All interested persons should go to: www.nun-bed-sc.co.uk which contains all details regarding the club.

20th Anniversary Reunion

When: 19/09/2008 at 7pm

Where: the City Technology College, Kingshurst

Tickets cost £5 and are available through our online ordering service, the ParentPay shop, you will receive them by post within seven days. On the night there will be a buffet and School Disco. Contact roz.trudgon@kingshurst.ac.uk for more information.

We hope to see you there!





G & T PE

Rachel Dunlop, a key member of the college's G & T team, highlights more exceptional G & T work being undertaken in PE.

Forty-five Year 9 students attended a three day course at the CTC over Easter, designed to cater for talented students in the field of Art, Music and PE. The idea behind the camp was to give these students the opportunity to develop their talent in an exciting new way outside the classroom as well as giving them some extra maths and science tuition in preparation for their SATS.

Helen Grady and Kelly Davey

kindly gave up their time to teach music from around the world, which gave students an insight into the GCSE music course. Lee Parfitt and Jason McDermott delivered the Level 1 sports leaders award to 26 students who have since been used on the year 6 induction days. They are looking forward to delivering sports sessions in primary schools during the last week of term.

Lucy Tongue designed the art programme around 2D and 3D designs as well as showing students how to use the CAD programme to help with design.

It was a pleasure to see all students so engaged throughout the three days and producing some high quality work.

GCSE PE Acceleration course

Liam Barrett (9 Lucas) gives his views on the G & T accelerated GCSE PE course. "This year in enrichment a group of students have been studying GSCE PE. We have been studying the course a year early therefore preparing for the GSCE exam at the end of year 10. In the lessons, we have been studying all the theory aspects of the course including the personal exercise

programme coursework that we have individually completed. In the lessons, we have been learning about the physical aspects of the body such as the circulatory circuit, respiratory system and how all the muscles work.

According to PE teacher Miss Dunlop, "the students were chosen to start the GCSE PE course early to try and improve the number of A – A* within the subject. These students were chosen purely on their physical ability with the hope that with extra theory time in a smaller group size would help the students achieve this. All students have been extremely well motivated throughout, so much so that they are prepared to take on an extra lesson after school next year! Well done to all students involved."



SScO news

Here, our resident School Sport Co-ordinator (SScO) Jane Loewy assesses some of the fine work undertaken by our students.

The Dance Festival, held at Forest Oak School was assisted by our year 10 Dance Leaders. Rachelle Williams has been training these students throughout the year. Francis Bunce (12 Harris) and Jessica Ship (12 Cowlshaw) went to Smiths Wood School to undertake the Basketball Association's young leader's course which they successfully passed. This allowed them to run, with supervision, basketball events for youngsters here and in our local primary schools.

Members of the Food Council have been regularly meeting to discuss their concerns, ideas and opinions regarding provision of meals and the canteen.

To coincide with National Bike Week, 16th-20th June was Feet for Fitness week with more students than usual coming to college by bike. Some staff supported by parking further away and walking down Cooks Lane or walking and cycling in at least once. More students have enrolled on the Step Into Sport programme in order to complete their award. Students have to be over 14 and must be involved in assisting in a club. Anyone interested in enrolling needs to see Jane Loewy.

Once again Jo Johnson has been coming into PSHE sessions in the gym where students with concerns over anything ranging from nutrition to lifestyle, exercise and self esteem can come along. According to Thomas Murphy (8 Lewis) "I think the fit club has been helped me quite a lot because it has helped me to understand better how I can keep myself fit and healthy. It's also shown how I can incorporate it into my own life and eating pattern which in its own way can be fun." If students are interested in attending they can speak to Mrs Loewy.



PB Sports Support College Sport's Team

John Butler the owner of PB Sports has very kindly donated a new football kit to the College. The College has enjoyed a very close and successful working relationship with PB Sports for several years. We have benefited enormously from the exceptional quality of goods provided, as well as the high level of customer service on offer. John has provided the students with their PE kit for the past six years and is now also able to supply several items of College uniform. John's speciality is unquestion-

ably being able to provide top class goods at reasonable rates with fantastic customer service. For further information please contact PB Sports on 0121 770 8000.



Football 2007-2008

North Solihull continues to produce footballing talent and footballers at the College continue to excel. Aston Villa legend Gary Shaw who played in the triumphant 1982 European Cup Winning team went to Kingshurst school, the college's predecessor. In more recent years our players have progressed to the ranks of Aston Villa, Birmingham City, Walsall and Derby's academies. Here we review the success this year.



Year 7s Win District 5 A Side And Reach National Semi Finals

The year 7s narrowly missed reaching the national 5 a side final after winning the district competition. Team manager Mr Parfitt and his team travelled to (LEE TO FIND OUT) and produced some superb football to reach the final. According to Mr Parfitt "The boys played some fantastic football throughout the season and have shown that they have the ability and enthusiasm necessary to enjoy fantastic success over the next couple of years and beyond."

Year 11s Retain District Cup!

The year 10s followed up their success in winning the County and District cup in year 10 by retaining the District Cup. In a hard fought match against Lyndon, Troy Baker eluded two defenders with his dribbling skills to equalise, ten minutes before time an incisive through ball by Calum Flanagan's cultured left foot freed the predatory Nathaniel Caines who calmly slotted the ball home to seal a fine victory. We wish all the players all the best in the future. Mr Walton will be holding trials in early September for the post 16 squad.



The team celebrate their success at the Prom



Year 10 Football Team

The 2007-2008 season augurs well for further progress next year. Here team manager Mr Nixon assesses the season, "A largely successful season for the Year 9 Football Team culminated with a narrow defeat in the West Midlands County Cup Final to Light Hall School. However, the boys can be proud of their display and although I say so myself, I think they definitely deserved more out of the game than they got. The Year 9s were also unfortunate to be beaten in the semi-final of the Birmingham Cup by the eventual winners of the Villa Park Final, Lyndon School.

I would like to congratulate all of those players involved with the team this year either in the squad or in Enrichment, as well as those who came to support those playing, especially those who watched the Final at the Civil Service Ground."

Nigel Nixon

Under 15 Girls Football

Here Miss Dunlop looks forward to another successful season next year. "The year 9 girls football team have continued their success in the Solihull league this year by coming a very close 2nd to St Peters in the league. We have done particularly well considering our under 15 team is made up of year 9 girls and one exceptional year 8 player Lauren Flint! The team consist of the following players Hannah Whipps, Alysha Brayson, Shannon Murry, Sherelle Jarrett, Emmerald Beddows, Michelle Anderson, Leah Seivwright, Lauren Flint and Jodie Moon. Watch this space next year when they do the double!!!"



Year 8s Unbeaten All Season!

The year 8s look set to follow in the footsteps of the year 10 footballers. They are the first college team to win the Birmingham Schools competitions in successive years and remained unbeaten all season. According to team manager Mike Scott, "The players have been superb and we will now look to emulate the year 10 team and surpass their record."



Under 15 Hockey League final

Health and Social Care teacher Marguerite Palmer runs hockey enrichment and coaches the players between 4 and 5pm every Wednesday. Here she reflects on another hugely successful season for one of most popular extra curricular clubs.

I am justifiably proud of our Year 9 and 10 hockey team who reached the final of the U15 Birmingham Schools Finals. We finished 4th and this was a good effort as we discovered that some of the teams play three times a week and one team had two under 18 England players taking part. The quality of play from the top two teams was superb and I am sure our boys learnt from watching them. They represented the CTC well and their behaviour and gamesmanship was exemplary. Zach Jarvis (10 Cornelius) captained the team and his classmates Stephen Bowcott, Jordan Allen, Luke Menzel, Sam Taylor (10 Smail) David Crawford (goalkeeper) James Wood (10 Parfitt) Jamie Buckley (9 Davey) Elliot Preedy, Fayham Alom (9 Askari) and Charlie Burke (9 Chartier) were the other team members.

Girl's basketball

John Bowers' basketball coaching led to success in the District Championships. The girls trained intensively and performed superbly, finishing second in a fiercely competitive tournament.



Taekwondo stars shine in national Championships



Here, Matt Dagnall (10 Smail) highlights some incredible success our young martial arts students have enjoyed this summer

On Saturday 19th April, three students took part in the biannual Tae Kwon Do Black Belt Grading at the Bristol Academy. Conor Keane (9 Ivery), Jack Lloyd (7 Begum) and myself arrived at the Academy. We were apprehensive but knew we had trained hard. First up was the Korean Terminology section that we dreaded, although we passed that with flying colours. Next was the floor work. We all passed with good marks and are still chuffed to bits. It's not just the gradings that have been going right for us, between the three of us, we have won many medals at regional, national and international levels. Jack has won the English championships while I have come 2nd in the European and British Championships and 3rd in the World Championships, finished 1st in the British and World Championships. Hopefully there will be many others to come in the future!

Cross Country Presentation



On the Evening of Friday 11th April, the year 9 boys and girls received their medals for finishing second in the Cross Country Championships at the annual presentation night. The Championships are traditionally dominated by teams from the south of the borough so this was a great achievement and the best placing in the college's history.

District Athletics Championships

This year the CTC organised the district athletics championships on the 17th June 2008. The athletes enjoyed a very successful and enjoyable day. Forty eight students, many of whom had been attending practices every Wednesday for cross country in the autumn and spring and athletics in the summer managed to test their development. The highlight had to be the girls finishing fourth, our highest achievement yet.

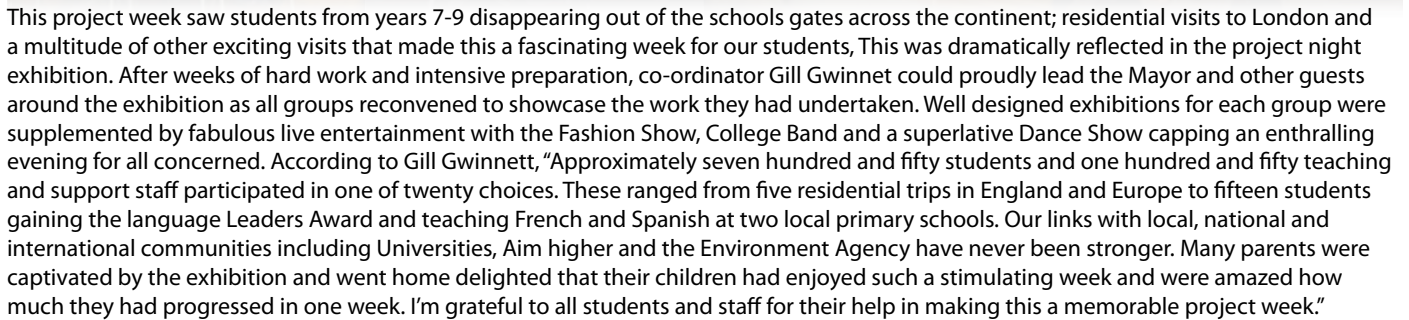
Cross country and athletics practices have gone on throughout the year and are a consistent fixture in our extended schools provision that provide an enjoyable extra curricular activity. Feel free to join us every Wednesday meeting outside the gym at 3.45.

Pictured right is, Daniel Sullivan (400m), Katy Warren (800m), Sam Delany (80 m Hurdles) and the CTC Team.

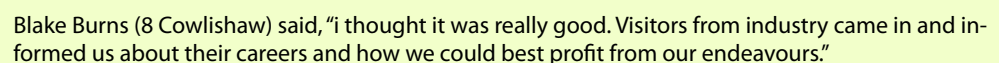


We hope you enjoyed this issue of Inside Out. As staff, we feel it is very important to recognise our students achievements in order to help motivate them further. Occasionally, we are left in the dark about their achievements and they may not have received the publicity they deserve. If this has been the case I would love to hear from you and work towards highlighting their achievement in college and in the local media. I can be contacted on lee.fletcher@kingshurst.ac.uk or 0121 329 8300. Finally, I'd like to thank Ian Sullivan and James Howell for their technical assistance Paul Cate, Matthew Marson Jemma Buckley and Liam Barrett for their contributions as well as The Solihull Times for contributing photos, and parents, teachers and students who contributed ideas and stories. Lee Fletcher, Editor.

2008 **UNLOCK YOUR POTENTIAL!**



was a great day out. Then for the project display night, which showed all the work from all of the projects we performed our fashion show. Kara Norman was our model and Jadene Weldon read the description speech. Everyone in our project, in their groups, performed a daywear outfit and a night wear outfit with another person reading a description speech describing how they have changed the outfits and what the model was wearing. With a little help from the teachers the outfits turned out brilliantly!





Away in Austria

This year, the Music Department continued with the tradition of taking the College Band and Choir on a European tour during project week. This time, we went to Austria! Here Matthew Marson (12 Payne) describes the week.

After the 24 hours coach ride filled with sweets, we arrived at the home of the Von Trapps, Mozart and Arnold Schwarzenegger. We drove through the picturesque mountains along the windy roads before reaching our hotel in Huttau. Hotel Hutter was really welcoming and had great facilities including a swimming pool and trampoline. On the first day, in the scorching heat we departed for St Wolfgang. From

here be boarded a boat and took a gentle cruise to St Gilgen across the idyllic lake surrounded by mountains. Upon our arrival, we milled around the quaint shops before playing our first concert. Our music was much appreciated by the locals and we received a massive applause at the end.

On Tuesday we visited Liechtensteinklamm Gorge. The fast flowing water had cut through the rocks creating a wondrous gorge that had the most beautiful looking water with a magnificent waterfall. This was a great opportunity to get some brilliant holiday snaps! Whilst looking around the shops there Ms Grady spotted

the world's largest Marmot with which she nearly swapped a year 7 for... Later in the evening we played a concert in Fusch which was another success. The highlight was seeing the old Austrian ladies dancing to The Final Countdown.

On the following day, we left for Salzburg to play the concert of our lives at the birthplace of Mozart. Some retail therapy settled our nerves before the performance. Although we had some tuning issues (because the heat made the instruments expand), the concert was a success. We attracted large crowds in the most beautiful gardens, offering the best accompaniment to a warm summer's day. Wednesday evening provided immense entertainment in the annual tour cabaret featuring the

teacher's rendition of "Doh Ray Me Fah Soh Lah Ti", Michael Bevan's stand-up comedy act, the IB Surprise dance and the world exclusive performance of the CTC smash-hit "The Senior Band Song" from the musical prodigies, Paul Cate and Daniel Kee.



Thursday was our last day and we were very sad to leave. We enjoyed the morning in the pool before our farewell to the hotel and Morris the hotel's resident cat. All-in-all the trip was a fantastic experience and was really enjoyed by all students who participated!



Normandy 08

Normandy was the setting for a packed itinerary as Miss Clift, Miss Parker and Mr Fletcher set off with their group. Here Miss Clift assesses the impact of the visit.



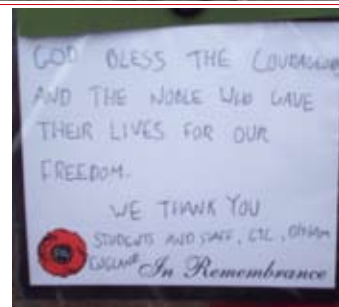
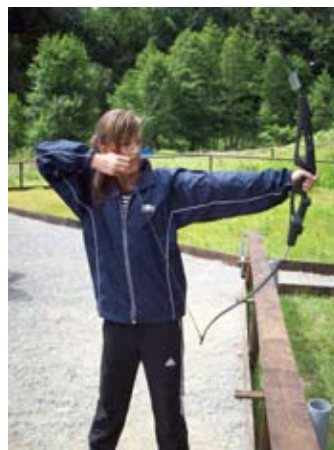
The students were absolutely fantastic during the week. The visit enabled the students to improve their French skills significantly as the animateurs spoke entirely in French from dusk till dawn. We had researched D Day prior to departing and the students visited some of the most poignant sites in Normandy including Omagh and Gold beaches, war graves and Point de Hoc, site of the massive German military emplacement.

The cultural aspect was enhanced further by a visit to the extraordinarily beautiful Mont San Michel. To cap it all the activities at the Châteaux proved very stimulating and gave them the chance to expend all their energy!

According to Sian O'Rourke (7 Pearce). "I really enjoyed Project Week because I went to Normandy. It was a great educational visit which involved visiting lots of historical places.

We had a jam-packed holiday with lots of places to go and see. My favourite day was on the Thursday when we went to all the historical places like the museum and the Normandy Landings. It was very interesting.

We also went to Mont St. Michelle and the Dinan Market. There were lots of activities we did as well like fencing, climbing, aeroball and archery. We had water fights, fantastic experiences and great FUN !!



I don't think we were expecting "escargot" as well. Our faces were horrified !!! We also had lots of activities at night like the french night, the creperie, bowling and a crazy treasure hunt !!!

It seems easier now to understand French, as we have experienced the culture of France and the language more deeply than ever before. I have really enjoyed this trip and would go on it again anyway."



Ardeche Adventure



Resplendent in their new T shirts, over forty students accompanied Mr Walton, Mr. McDermott, Miss Dunlop and Miss Parker to the Ardeche. Visit leader Emma Parker assesses the educational value of a truly breathtaking experience in the south of France. For the past four years we have arranged International activities trips to France and Spain and after much deliberation we decided that this time we would return to the two centre sites of Segries and Mimosa. The main reason being was due to the enormous challenge this visit offers which really takes them out of their comfort zone. Initially our idea for the trip would be for students to develop communication and team work skills as

well as life skills such as developing independence and healthy living. However, on closer inspection, this activities week achieved so much more!

Students learned to be independent, not only in basic hygiene and looking after themselves but also in managing their own money and belongings and remembering to have the correct equipment with them. They needed, not only to look after and take responsibility for themselves and their own actions, but also others. Most of the activities demanded team work and cooperation to be successful. The evening activities, although fun were designed with encouraging students

creativity in mind (Robot Wars, Miss Segries, initiative games) all provided a further challenge to the students. Most importantly, students have found that their own personal confidence has grown in knowing and extending their own personal limits. Many have overcome fears they may have had of the water or of working in an environment where they did not know others and all at some point in the week said that if they could they would love to repeat part if not all of the experience again.

According to Sam Wallace, France 2008 was probably the best trip I have been of with the CTC. We had to use a range of skills to canoe down the mighty Ardeche River and to complete all the water sports activities. These are the skills we used:



Teamwork – During raft building if we didn't work as a team we wouldn't have gotten the raft off the beach. The girls showed a great example of teamwork in this activity as they came first in both races with all their raft intact.



Geographical skills – we had to use geography to recognise different landmarks and recognise how the river meanders!

Speaking and listening skills– Nathan Williams and I had to use our amazing French language skills to communicate with other French people and was used mostly at the water park!



Communication – if we weren't able to talk to each other then who knows what would have happened. Communication was vital not only to enjoy the task, but to keep safe!

Holland Football Tour 2008

The new kit sponsored by PB sports was worn for the first time during the highly successful football tour to Holland during Project Week.

Matches were played in Utrecht against FC Kampong. The facilities were fantastic and a real eye-opener for the group.

According to visit leader Mr Jones. "Some fantastic, slick and entertaining football was played by all of the teams and we are fortunate in that the College clearly possesses several exceptionally talented footballers."

Under 12's



Kampong 0 CTC 7 (Moseley 3, Devlin 2, McKenzie, OG)

Under 13's



Kampong 0 CTC 6 (Parker 2, Bevan 1, Phipps 1, Deeble 1, Churchill 1)

Under 14's



Kampong 1 CTC 6 (Goodwin 2, George 2, Johnson 2)



Men Of the Match

Under 12 - Bobby Moseley
Under 13 - Charlie Ward
Under 14 - Ben George

Trailblazers



The Trailblazers project was a special project this year designed to try out activities which would be fun and informative for CTC students. The week focused on the environment of a teenager growing up in Britain today.

We had some excellent trips and some soggy ones! Everybody loved the visit to Southfields farm, a working farm near

Coleshill, where we met John the farmer and some of his cows! Natural England helped us with the field work and gave us some great goody bags at the end of the day. We spent an occasionally wet and very windy day on the top of the Waseley hills, where we met more cows – indeed as someone pointed out that “the countryside had more cow poo than the farm”! We did how-

ever spend an interesting day investigating global warming and wind energy. A representative of the Green Party also came to discuss environmental and social issues with the group. The students were very interested in fair trade issues and the plight of the elderly.

The Trailblazers also spent some time investigating the local environment with a visit to Babbs’ Mill and a few hours litter picking round Kingshurst – some areas of which had more litter than others! There was also an interesting talk from the NSPCC about cyber bullying and the purpose of Childline.

All in all we learned a lot and discovered many interesting and fun activities other students can take part in next year.



Young Leaders

From Monday 23rd to Thursday 26th June, 57 students from years 7-9 were put through their paces on the Young Sports Leader’s course. They were initially motivated by the input of Sporting Champion and Commonwealth hurdler James Hillier. Students were encouraged to deliver a variety of activities to each other looking at how to divide up space for activities, what equipment to use and how, the task –clear instructions, effective communication both verbal and non-verbal and how to organise young people into groups and teams.

Some students were initially a little reserved, but as confidence and understanding grew, so did the students’ ability to lead groups of their peers.

English Literary Heritage

For project week, Group D went down to London for Three days to explore English Heritage. Miss Robinson was our group leader and our coach drivers Mark and Darren stayed with us through the whole trip. Our first port of call was the London eye which looked huge in real life! We all got onto our carriages and started the 45 minute trip. The sights were amazing and you could see all of London’s major tourist spots. Once we had finished the London eye we made our way to the hotel. We were amazed to find the view from our bedroom window was Wembley stadium! After our meal in Planet Hollywood we travelled to Regents Park to watch ‘Romeo and Juliet’. It was an amazing experience to see one of Shakespeare’s famous plays been acted out outside and it also benefits the year 8’s



who will be studying it next year. After a late night we travelled back to our hotel to prepare for our busy day ahead.

Tuesday saw us setting out on a London tour. Our tour guide originally came from Birmingham but he moved down to London a few years back. We stopped off at Hyde Park and at the end of the tour we came across the monument for Prince Albert which Queen Victoria had constructed. We faced Albert hall

and was surprised to see Roman Abramovich’s house next door! We then had a Shakespeare workshop based on Romeo and Juliet. We all had a lot of fun and Rich and Eden, who ran the workshop, made it even better! We then had a Question and answer session with a Shakespeare performer and he gave us a lot of good information. After dinner at Pizza Express, we went down to the west end and watched a production of ‘Blood Brothers’.

It was a brilliant experience and the show was amazing.

Wednesday was the last day and we ended it with a shop around Covent Garden where everyone was able to buy London souvenirs. Project group D would like to thank Miss Robinson, Miss Smith, Miss Constantinou and Mr Gilbride for taking us on this amazing trip. *Natasha Jones (9 Lucas)*

Looking Ahead to 2008/9

Curriculum days

The Curriculum day dates for 2008/9 are: Friday 28th November, Tuesday 10th February, Monday 30th April and Wednesday 20th May. During these days lessons are suspended and students study a cross curricular theme based around the various aspects of citizenship or the Every Child matters agenda. A complete list of these will be available on the web by the beginning of next term. Kate Wright (the Citizenship co-ordinator) and myself would welcome any input be it ideas, resources or help from any willing parent or carer, concerning the various topics. We do endeavour to keep the cost of these days to a bare minimum and usually it is only the cost a coach to take us to various venues.

Project 2009

The next Project week is on 22nd to 26th June 2009 with the theme of ‘Up, Up and away’. Again if any parent has influence with Birmingham airport or the RAF I would love to investigate the use of a hot air balloon or a harrier jump jet (I am not joking!). On a more serious note if you have any suggestions for how this topic could be investigated or could offer help in any way, please feel free to contact me as there is a potential for some fantastic interpretations of this theme.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all as the Curriculum days and Project week are success not just because of the staff and the excellent behaviour of the students but also because of your continued invaluable support.

Gill Gwinnett (Project Coordinator)