

Shene News

For
Pupils & Parents

8th January 2010



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

We began the term by welcoming students to a new decade as well as a new year. For Shene, this looks to be very auspicious. We recently found some old magazines from the 1980s and 1990s which showed how much the school has improved in terms of examination results, although it always was a school which saw trips and other enrichment activities as integral to a child's full educational experience. We hope that, as an Academy, we will continue to build on our considerable successes and go from strength to strength. Year 11s have finished their mock exams and are now eagerly awaiting the mock exam results, which they will receive on Friday 22 January in a formal assembly. We try and replicate the experience of opening the brown envelope and taking out the results as they will do in August. This is designed to show students how crucial these results are.

AET, our proposed academy sponsor, is already setting up important consultation meetings. Parents are invited to come and meet the sponsors on **TUESDAY JANUARY 26 at 7pm**. This will be a formal consultation, and your views are sought from David Triggs and AET. AET will be consulting with children, staff and governors on Thursday 4 February. They will also be consulting with local stakeholders and primary parents at a meeting held by the Promoted Parent Foundation from 8 to 9 pm at St Mary Magdalen's Church

Hall, North Worples Way, SW14 8PR. Local residents and other interested people are also entitled to attend the 26 January meeting. Please do put the dates in your diary and try and come along so that your opinions and ideas can help in the design of the academy and so that Shene parents' voices can be heard loud and clearly.

I have been very proud of the school, our staff and children, the majority of whom have battled atrocious weather conditions to come into school so that learning and success can continue. We banned snow balls after the first day (they became ice balls). Most students were very sensible and resisted the temptation on Thursday: another example of 'Team Shene' pulling together.

A couple of reminders: please do keep an eye on the blog accessed via our website which will update you with news about what is happening in the school on a regular basis. We are aware that the site has been down a couple of times recently, and are working to ensure this doesn't happen again. Year 9 parents should ensure they note the change of date of their parents' evening.

With my best wishes for a happy, prosperous and peaceful 2010.
VISIT TO YPRES



At 4:45 am we met at the school. We arrived in Ypres along the same route thousands of soldiers took in WW1. First stop Bayenwald (German trench system where Adolf Hitler served in WW1). Here pupils received the 'trench experience'. They were met by soldiers in role who explained what it was like on the Western Front and how weapons like the Lee Enfield rifle and bayonet were used in battle. Then pupils received a 'Trench Meal' (much more appetizing than the real thing). We then went to a variety of cemeteries where famous British soldiers lay at peace. Pupils selected a grave of particular interest to them and placed a cross as an act of remembrance and respect. We also went to the German cemetery at Langemark to contrast the mood of British and German cemeteries. Pupils also saw a re-enactment of the Christmas Truce of 1914 where 'fritz' and 'Tommie' met in 'no mans land'. The day was topped off when three pupils (Shane Slattery, Bawar Khider and Becky Anstee) placed a wreath at the Menin Gate on behalf of Shene School. An outstanding day and every pupil conducted themselves well. The guides remarked 'your kids are fantastic', 'that is the first time a pupil has answered that question correctly out of around 1,000 schools and thousands of pupils'.

Mr Cook, Ms Porter, Mr Tribe

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YEAR 9 IMPORTANT NOTICE

A reminder that it is Year 9 parents' evening on Tuesday 19th January, 4-7pm in Park Hall.

I look forward to seeing you all then.

Ms. B. Porter—Head of Year 9

WHAT IS A GOVERNOR?

A Governor is a device which automatically controls the speed of an engine by regulating fuel intake

A Governor is the representative of the Crown in a British colony.

A Governor is the elected Head of any American State.

A Governor is a member of a team looking after an organisation and its development.

SHENE SCHOOL IS LOOKING FOR A GOVERNOR - not a fuel controller or a representative of the Crown or a head of an American State - but a **Parent** who wants to know more about supporting the day to day organisation of Shene school, have a voice in decision making regarding their children's educational future and an opportunity to monitor and evaluate progress and achievement of all our pupils

Please contact Debra Barlow (PA to the Headteacher) at the school (tel 020 8876 8891) who will pass on your interest to the Chair of Governors. If you want to know more about the role before you decide, Mona Adams our Com-

munity Governor would be pleased to talk to you. You can contact her through the school.

THE SHENE READERS

An enthusiastic group of 13 Year 7s have been coming to the library every week since half-term and have enjoyed reading a range of books including 'Shut Down' ("*I liked the book because it was interesting and weird. I wanted it to carry on!*"), 'The Ruby in the Smoke' by Phillip Pullman, 'Mine's to Go' by Miley Cyrus ("*very good - just had to keep reading*"), "The Stormin' Normans" by Terry Deary and "Evil Brain Chips" by Jonny Zucker ("*I liked the book because it was really funny*"). Between them, they have read over 25 books over the past eight weeks and have made loads of progress with their reading in the meantime! Well done Shene Readers, keep on reading!

Mrs E Carbro, Director of Literacy



Mason Rasharn Abdi Sam Kofi
Jabir Joe Ramiya Nishanth
Just some of the Year 7 Shene Readers with their latest reading books.

THE HEARTWARMING STORY OF HENRY THE HEDGEHOG AND HIS RESCUERS.

On 16th December as the snow fell, young Henry the hedgehog was making his way across the school playground. Henry's future was uncertain, for it is usual for young hedgehogs to be tucked up, nice

and warm, with their parents during winter hibernation.

With freezing temperatures Henry looked doomed, for he was too young to survive without his mum and dad. Fear not! Help was at hand as four year 11 students came to his rescue. Charley Vassar spotted him during morning break and with the help of Georgia Baker, Christy Stout and Amber Mills, wrapped him up in a Shene polo shirt.

After the luxury of a digestive biscuit and a drink of water Henry scurried around his box and made himself a comfortable little bed. The four students then set about a long term rescue plan by firstly phoning Wildlife Aid in Leatherhead for their advice. A spokesman for Wildlife Aid (which features in the popular TV series 'Wildlife SOS') said that the students had done exactly the right thing. . He



would certainly not have survived outside at this time of year.

Later that afternoon, by arrangement with Wildlife Aid, Mr Tribe drove Henry to their hospital in Leatherhead where the little hedgehog was warmly welcomed and given a new home. He (the hedgehog, not Mr Tribe) will stay there for winter and be released back into the wild when the weather is warm enough next Spring.

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