



Your Child, Your School, Your Voice Heads Up!

Heads Up will be back next week.

Sarah Brinkley

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Focus On English Faculty

Loving Literature and Limericks in English

English has hit the ground running this year as both y10 and y11 prepare for GCSE exams. Year 10 have begun with *An Inspector Calls*, by J.B. Priestley and despite being first performed in 1947, this text seems to have really resonated with the pupils. It has been a pleasure to talk to them about the big ideas such as social conscience and community and, as ever, I have been impressed by how insightful and mature our students can be. This is one of 4 texts which will form part of their English Literature GCSE in June this year, the others being Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, *Jekyll and Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson and an anthology of poems on the theme of Power and Conflict.

But it's not all exams, on Wednesday afternoon, seven previous Carnegie Shadowers went to Exeter College for a Carnegie Celebration Tea. In the wonderful Great Hall, we sat down to High Tea, with other Abingdon students. It really was like Harry Potter, except, disappointingly, the candles did not float. However, the guest speaker Annabel Pitcher, author of *'My Sister Sits on the Mantlepiece'*, entertained us with stories from her life, and how she writes her books. A splendid time was had by all.

For pupils in KS3 who might be interested in getting involved later this academic year, Carnegie Shadowing is where Children and young people 'shadow' the judging process for the Carnegie Children's Book Awards. Carnegie 2018 begins in February. They read, discuss and review the books on the shortlist between March to June; from the moment that the shortlists are revealed to the final winners announcement.

Also this term we have seen the first ever Limerick performance event in the LRC! Last week was the turn of year 7, two of which are printed below, and today year 8 and 9 pupils will take to the stage to perform limericks they have written. Winners to be announced shortly.

There once was a young girl named Nora,
Who ought to be an explorer.
She rolled back in time,
Met T-Rex in his prime.
And now, Nora is no more-a!

By Oliver Booker.

There once lived a boy by the ocean,
Who thought he'd found a magical potion.
He took a big drink,
And started to think,

That it tasted like suntan lotion.

By Georgia Brown.

Trips and Visits 2017-18

Last year parents requested an overview of the major trips and visits we had planned. Obviously there are smaller, normally one-day trips that are organised as opportunities arise during the year, but we have collated information on those with a substantial cost implication, to help you choose which trips to attend and budget for these, as requested.

Please note that the viability and cost of trips depend upon student numbers, so it may not be possible to run some trips if there is a lack of interest.

Costs are approximate as we can't always arrange accommodation, transportation or book venues until we have numbers. Especially for European trips changes in currency values can impact upon the eventual cost, however we aim to be as close as possible at this point to support planning.

Year Group	Trip	Approximate Dates	Faculties	Estimated Cost per head
7	Oxford Project – cultural and historic sites in Oxford	May 2018	Humanities	£30
8	Welsh Farm Trip	Summer	Form Groups	£130
8 & 9	Germany Trip (usually Koln)	Activities Week – July 2017	Languages	£350
9	Belgium War Graves	February Half Term	History	£300
10-13	Sorrento	Activities Week	Geography	£760
11	Geography Coursework (Amersham)	November 2017	Geography	£20
11	Berlin Trip	October Half Term	MFL and History	This trip was advertised last year and the deadline for places has now passed.
12	Geography Coursework (Norfolk Coast)	March 2018	Geography	£360
12-13	Seville	March 2018	MFL	To be arranged by students as part of their course

Multiple Years	Ski Trip	Easter Holidays		This trip was advertised last year and the deadline for places has now passed.
Multiple years; Symposium participants	Florence: cultural and philosophical trip	Activities Week	Symposium	£550
Duke of Edinburgh	A number of weekends and extended expeditions have been arranged for the Duke of Edinburgh programme and these will be arranged with participants depending upon level of entry and training conditions.			

Forthcoming Trips

The following trips will be running in 2018-19 academic year, but payment will be requested during the 2017-18 academic year.

Year Group	Trip	Approximate Dates	Faculties	Estimated Cost per head
11 (current year 10)	Berlin	October half term 2018	Humanities and MFL	£500
8-11	Valencia	October 5 th -8 th 2018	MFL	£550

STEM Competitions

Space Sound Effects (SSFX)

Is an online short-film competition for filmmakers to submit up to 15 minute-long entries featuring and inspired by sounds recorded in space by satellites.

All subjects and genres accepted – £2000 worth of prizes on offer – free entry for all ages – Awards ceremony and screening at Rich Mix in Shoreditch, London, UK.

Visit <https://ssfx.qmul.ac.uk>

Please see Mr Scutt in S2 for more details.

Are you a UK student aged 11–16? Would you like the chance to win £100 (plus £500 for your school) by exploring copper's essential role in our present and future?

Copper surrounds us. It's in our phones and tablets, the walls of our houses, our hospitals and even inside our bodies, but we rarely notice it. This competition calls on students to uncover copper, seeking it out in buildings, health and medicine, and new applications in renewable energy and sustainable transport systems.

Choose one of the three categories and design an A3 poster that answers the questions, exploring the red metal's applications and the chemical, physical and mechanical properties behind its use.

- Building Services: Where is copper used in our homes and schools? Think wiring and home automation, plumbing and sprinkler systems. Which properties of copper make it uniquely suited to these applications?
- Health and Medicine: How is copper used in our bodies and in healthcare? Think dietary needs, hygienic touch surfaces and MRI machines. Why is copper essential for our health?

- Renewable Energy and Transport: What contribution is copper making to a greener future? Think wind turbines, photovoltaics, solar thermal, wave and tidal. Think electric vehicles. What properties of copper make it beneficial in these applications?

For more details visit: <http://www.schoolscience.co.uk/theuncovercoppercompetition>

The deadline is 25 May 2018. Winners will be announced in June.

Please return your entries to Mr Scutt in S2 (p.scutt@johnmason.oxon.sch.uk)

Are you interested in Lego? Would you like to compete against other students/schools?

If you are, then please register your interest with Mr Scutt in S2 (p.scutt@johnmason.oxon.sch.uk)

<http://firstlegoleague.theiet.org>

UNLEASH YOUR POTENTIAL



Talent Inspiration Programme

At the end of the summer I took part in the Talent Inspiration Programme at Loughborough University. The camp is designed to help aspiring young athletes to 'unleash their potential' and discover ways in which to take their sport further. I was selected along with 150 other young athletes from across the country to take part.

I arrived at Loughborough University on the morning of Wednesday the 31st not knowing anyone! I was extremely nervous as I went to collect my kit and accreditation but as soon as I met the team leaders I relaxed. We started off with some ice-breaker games in our teams (I was in team Passion!) before going to the opening ceremony for the camp in which we met the ex-international athletes who were to be our Athlete mentors. My athlete mentor was Andrew Bridge a Commonwealth bronze-medallist basketball player. During the first day we did lots of workshops on topics including Team You, Goal setting and Chimp mindset. In the evening we took part in a Question of Sport style quiz in which the athlete mentors competed against each other. We were then shown to our accommodation on campus.

On the second day we got up for breakfast at 7:00 and went to do our first activity for the day: BMX! We met British Champion Mike who taught us how to jump, turn and even stand on the seat of a BMX. It was one of the coolest things I have ever done. We then did some more workshops on our Action Plans, Mindset, Responsibility and Sleep Hygiene. In the evening we attended the National School Games opening ceremony in which a variety of acts performed. It was great to experience what it would be like at a multi-sport national competition.

On the final day we got to watch some of the competitions happening in the School Games. We went to see Volleyball, Wheelchair Basketball and Girls Cricket. It was very inspiring to watch athletes only a few years older than me competing at such a high level in their sport. Then we went to the camp closing ceremony in which awards were given out to 6 athletes out of the whole camp who represented

each value the most. The five values were: Passion, Respect, Self-belief, Honesty, Teamwork and the overall award. I received the award for Respect along with a £20 Nike voucher!

We then had to say our goodbyes, which was very emotional. I made some great friends who I'm sure will be friends for life. The camp was one of the best experiences I have ever had and I will never forget the amazing things I learnt while I was there and all of the inspirational people that I met.

BY EVA PONTING, year 10



Assemblies next week

Next week students will be receiving an assembly based on the video Exposed. 'Exposed' deals with the subjects of sexting and cyberbullying, issues that teenagers commonly face. In October we will be holding a Parents' Forum to discuss this and many of the issues facing young people in 2017. Details on this Parents' Forum will follow next week. 'This video can be found on youtube.com should you wish to view it.'

Ms C Batcheldor
Designated Safeguarding Lead
John Mason School

Dates for your Diary:

We make every effort to keep our calendar on our website up-to-date: click here to view: [JMS website](#).

Community News:

Please get involved with JMA 😊

- Volunteer to help at events
JMA meeting Mon 18 Sep at 6pm
chair@jma.org.uk
- Donate a raffle prize
- Suggest fundraising ideas
- Bingo Night on Fri 22 Sep
- Join Lucky Numbers
Speak to Clare today
Parentmail

