



**DEVIZES
SCHOOL**
A SPORTS COLLEGE

DEVIZES SCHOOL NEWS



No. 991/2008 11th July 2008

DEVIZES SCHOOL “DOMINATES” PARIS!

It seemed like a good idea at the time, meeting at 5am in the morning... but as the 42 hyper-excited Year 8 and Year 9's boarded the coach bound for Paris, Mr Ross did question how wise it was having such an early meet. At least no-one was late... (not even Miss Clune!). By the end of the trip it was clear that the crazy alarm call was well worth it as everyone agreed how great the journey was.

Having arrived in Calais at lunch time we headed straight for Cité Europe, and most pupils headed straight for the sweet shops in search of Smurfs, Sour Tongues and Candy Necklaces. The staff meanwhile headed straight for the shops in search of flowery shirts and zebra-patterned clothes that were to make regular appearances during our time in France. After a couple of hours in the shopping centre we piled back on to the coach and headed for our accommodation on the outskirts of Paris... During the journey around the Périphérique, many pupils had their first sight from afar of La

Tour Eiffel (many pupils felt the visit to the Tower was the highlight of their trip, and the views from the top were described as “fantastique” by all).



Our first full day in la Capitale was a touristy one; first a boat trip down the Seine, taking in the many wonderful bridges of Paris – including all of Mr Langan's favourites – and photo opportunities of Notre Dame, the Louvre and the smallest house on the banks of the river! Then it was on to one of the most iconic structures in the World and the opportunity to purchase miniature versions from the hundreds of street sellers. Mr Ross took this opportunity to catch up on his tan while everyone else went up to either the second or top floor. From here it was on to perhaps the most famous shopping street ever, “Les Champs-Élysées”. Pupils marvelled at the array of posh shops (Louis Vuitton, Hugo Boss...) and took the opportunity to practise some French when buying drinks, food and ice-creams. One group also got a special (and unexpected) view from close-up of the Arc de Triomphe as well!



We then travelled back to our meeting point on le Métro... Reece managed to make friends with people on the tube, while Tess did little for Franco-Britannic relations by stepping on a Parisian's foot! All agreed though that the short trip on the underground was a great experience.

Our Monday was spent in Parc Astérix on an absolutely roasting day; the seven-loop rollercoaster was loved by many, while the staff enjoyed the more leisurely “Grand Splash” water ride... Mrs Puntis still hears the screams of Mr Langan, Mr Kirby and Mr Ross in her sleep!

Travelling back to “l'Angleterre” pupils and staff alike were able to reflect on a brilliant trip; awards were given out for various achievements on the trip and even Jack was seen to smile briefly! All the teachers would like to thank the pupils for their fantastic behaviour, but more importantly for their enthusiasm that made the trip such a success!

Mr Ross



Inside this issue:

- | | |
|------|--|
| P2/3 | Last day travel arrangements
Sudoku
Independent Learning
Author Visit |
| P4 | Creative Writing Festival
National Athletics Final |

Dates for your diary.....

JULY 2008

Mon 14th July - Fri 18th July
inclusive
Y10 Work Experience Week

- | | |
|------|--------------------|
| 11th | Sports Day |
| 21st | Reserve Sports Day |
| 23rd | Activities Day 1 |
| 24th | Activities Day 2 |
| 25th | Last Day of Term 6 |

AUGUST 2008

- | | |
|------|--------------|
| 14th | GCE results |
| 21st | GCSE results |

SEPTEMBER 2008

- | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|
| 3rd | TD Day |
| 4th | Year 7 & Year 12 return to School |
| 5th | Whole School returns |

Last Day of Term Travel Arrangements

School will be finishing at **12.25pm** on the last day of term, **Friday 25th July**.

Students that travel to school on Bodman’s Coaches will be able to travel home using their normal service, which will leave the school site at approximately 12.30pm.

Students using the “Connect 2 Wiltshire” and other public service buses will need to contact the operator to organise alternative arrangements.



Mr Fiddament

Crossing Patrol Vacancy

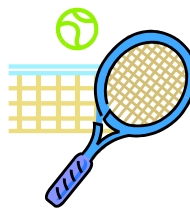
Despite attempts to find a replacement, no-one has come forward to be the crossing patrol on the Southgate roundabout crossing since the last patroller left in June 2007. However, the Council has had many calls about the safety of children at this crossing. Also our own school travel plan has highlighted the need for safer crossing at this junction. Someone from the local community needs to step forward to do this work and to ensure all children using the site can do so safely.

If anyone is interested or knows someone who might be, please contact Mr Tamin, the Crossing Patrol Manager at Wiltshire County Council on 01225 713580.

Tennis Coaching

Coaching on Mondays and Fridays after school has now finished.

Thank you to everyone who attended and to Martin the Coach.



Mrs Strickland

UNISON strike action 16th and 17th July 2008. **UNISON** has informed the school that following a recent national ballot there will be a strike on Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th July 2008. The strike relates to this year’s pay offer of 2.45%.

The impact of the strike on the school will be minimal and will not require the school to close on either day.

Mrs A L Eaves, Bursar

SUDOKU

Fill the grid so every row, column and 3 x 3 box contains all the numbers 1 - 9

	1			2				
			7		8			
3	5			6				
	9						7	
2				3				9
6	4				1		5	2
				9			3	1
			4		7			
				5			6	

Solution to last issue’s puzzle:

5	1	8	9	7	4	6	3	2
4	3	7	2	5	6	9	8	1
2	6	9	8	1	3	5	7	4
1	9	6	7	3	2	4	5	8
3	5	2	4	8	9	7	1	6
8	7	4	5	6	1	3	2	9
7	8	1	6	9	5	2	4	3
9	4	3	1	2	7	8	6	5
6	2	5	3	4	8	1	9	7

Independent Learning Meets Activities Days # 2!

Always looking for opportunities to promote independent learning, we have combined forces with Activities Days' leaders to ensure that while the pupils have fun they are also improving their thinking skills. The focus is particularly on developing the Personal Learning and Thinking Skills that will underpin all we do in the new Key Stage 3 Curriculum from September 2008.

- Independent Enquires
- Creative Thinkers
- Reflective Learners
- Team Workers
- Self-managers
- Effective Participants



Here are just a few more of the Activities Days' contributions to PLTS:

Independent Enquirers: 'Techniquest' participants will make individual use of exhibits to promote their scientific thinking and problem solving; sporting day pupils will investigate their techniques with input from a coach.

Creative Thinkers: The 'Hair and Beauty' groups will be generating ideas and exploring creative possibilities; participants in costume making will design their own costumes and paintballers will develop tactics.

Reflective Learners: Those on the sporting day will analyse why their golf shots were successful (or not!); kite designers and costume makers will evaluate their final products.

Team Workers: Those on the sporting day will work together to organise equipment; Italian cooking pupils will work in pairs to produce meals and participants in paintballing will form competitive teams.

Self Managers: All pupils will have opportunities to manage their time, often to achieve a challenging end goal in one day.

Effective Participants: Those involved in Italian cooking directly benefit from participating; they get to eat what they cook!

These examples are just a few indicators of how Activities Days events will contribute to pupils' stock of independent learning skills and techniques.

J Reeves

David Gilman, the author of **Devil's Breath** and **Ice Claw**, captivated sixty four pupils from Year 8 when he dropped in on Thursday to talk about his books. The worst part was waiting for him to arrive. (His train was cancelled). He writes about Max Gordon in an action-packed adventure, ending in a race for survival in the Pyrenees. We found out about his life and the events that inspired his writing. To help bring the story alive, he showed us a three metre high photo of a grizzly bear, a golden eagles claw and bear claws which all appear somewhere in the story. We also learned some great tactics for surviving extreme weather.

The pupils were fantastic as this photo shows.



Mrs Lee

Devizes School English Department
warmly welcomes parents and students to...

DEVIZES SCHOOL CREATIVE WRITING FESTIVAL CELEBRATION EVENING



Thursday 17th July 2008

6:30 – 8:00pm
in the Main Hall



*The entries are in, the judging has taken place,
the winners have been chosen.*

Over the past couple of weeks, students in Years 7, 8 and 9 have been working on producing new and original written material, as part of the Creative Writing Festival. The Festival draws to a close next week, with an evening celebrating the literary achievements of our talented students.

From the many entries that have been submitted, a final shortlist has been selected. These shortlisted entries have all been included in an Anthology, which will be available to buy from next week.

The Celebration Evening is an opportunity not only to see *all* of this year's competition entries on display, but also offers a chance to hear many of our talented shortlisted students reading their work aloud. Runners up and winners will also be announced during the evening, with prizes and certificates for those who are successful.

This year, Devizes School students have produced some extremely impressive pieces of original writing. The panel were repeatedly amazed at the extensive vocabulary and sophisticated expression used by many of our students – there are plenty of budding authors and poets out there!

The Celebration Evening begins at 6:30pm, in the Main Hall, here at Devizes School.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Mrs Ray
English Department

NATIONAL ATHLETICS FINALS - GATESHEAD

Congratulations and good luck to **Amy Longo** and **Joe Hutchinson** who have qualified for the National Athletics finals in Gateshead this weekend. They will both be competing as part of the Wiltshire team. They will be racing in the intermediate 200m. Last year Amy competed extremely well getting to the Southwest Championships final but this year through hard work and extra training she has made the next step up and qualified for these Championships. She is the current County Champion over 100m and 200m and finished 2nd at the South West Championships which enabled her to qualify for the National Championships.

Joe is looking to emulate his performances last year where he was the National Champion for 200m in the Junior Boys age group. He is now in the first year of the Intermediate age group so will be expecting a challenge from some competitors who may be up to a year older. So far this year, his performances have led him to be County and Southwest Champion in both the 200m and 100m hurdles. Joe has put a lot of hard work into his 9 months of training for this event and he expects to do well again this year. There is coverage of this event on Sky Sports from 14.00 - 18.00 on Saturday so you may catch them on this. **Good luck guys!**

PE Department

Contact us:

Devizes School, The Green, Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 3AG

Tel: 01380 724886 Fax: 01380 720995 Email:

devizes_school@devizes.wilts.sch.uk

Web: www.devizes.wilts.sch.uk

