

The Buckingham *Bulletin*

Success for All through Achievement, Challenge & Enjoyment

New Issue 5
March 2016



The Buckingham School Ofsted Graded Good 2016

Dear All

This has been quite a term for us!

We are proud to announce in this Bulletin that Ofsted now recognises us as a 'Good' school. This is the first time the school has been rated Good by Ofsted and this recognition is well deserved by the whole school community. I am very proud of the staff and students and may I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and wonderful congratulatory emails post Inspection.

Your kind words have been shared and appreciated by all of the staff at the school. We are rated as Good in all key areas of Inspection including Standards, Teaching and Learning, Leadership and Management, Behaviour and Wellbeing, Safeguarding, SMSC, Sixth Form and Overall Effectiveness. The report is extremely positive and shows that we are well on our way to achieving an Outstanding rating in all aspects. One area that I feel most proud of is the quality of our pastoral work across the school. We support students well through transition from Primary and also as they progress through the school in their first year. We prepare students well for University and employment. Our PHSC programmes, year teamwork and extra curricular opportunities all serve to widen the learning experiences of our students.

We believe in striving for the highest standards with students making the most progress possible whilst ensuring that we provide an environment to develop skills and broaden minds. This Bulletin demonstrates this, showing the range of exciting activities and experiences our students have accessed this term.

I hope you can join staff and governors next term on Thursday 5 May (details to follow) to celebrate our achievements from the Ofsted Inspection, in the meantime have a happy and enjoyable Easter break.

Yours sincerely

Miss A P Wells
Headteacher



www.buckinghamschool.com

Ski Adventure in Folgaria, Italy 2016

Leaving school at 10.30am on Friday 12th February, 81 students and 8 staff took the movie filled, long coach journey down to Folgaria in Italy. Arriving tired and hungry in the beautiful snow covered resort on Saturday lunchtime we then settled into our home (Hotel des Alpes) for the next five days.

During the week all students skied in differing weather conditions, we had two beautiful sunny days along with two heavy snow days. The resort was quiet which gave students the opportunity to ski all over the resort. Some of our groups visited the snow park and tackled some jumps whilst the majority of groups skied off piste through the trees and wonderful landscape.

Evenings were filled with bowling, pizza, quizzes, snow and party games. With the Wi-Fi being incredibly slow in the hotel, students had to communicate and talk to each other which was great!

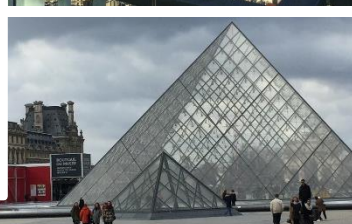
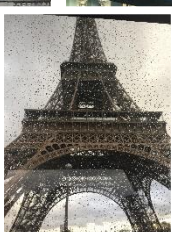
We finished the week off with the students slalom race and a presentation by ski instructors and school staff. There was fantastic progress made by all students over the week with some students overcoming injury and personal challenges. Once again another successful ski trip with The Buckingham School students who were a pleasure to spend the week with.

By the Ski Trip Organisers



Paris Trip February 2016 – Years 9, 10 and 11

50 students from Years 9, 10 and 11 spent four days in Paris seeing the sights, experiencing the Parisian culture and a day at Disney. Here are some of the photos from their fantastic trip!



Toro Rosso Work Experience

Hi my name is Daisy Prince and I worked at the Toro Rosso F1 Factory in Bicester, for work experience. Toro Rosso is Italian for Red Bull, from that you can probably guess this team is Red Bull's second team. My dad, Ian Prince, works there so I was really lucky to get work experience there. As I am taking IT GCSE I was placed with the coding department. I met a really nice guy called Jason. First he showed me what software they used to look through the car and find which places have the most heat. By using this software, it enables the designers and the aerodynamic people to identify any issues - so they can fix the problem or give positive results. After this Jason showed me all of their code. They program the machines that build the parts for the model car. After showing me the 1000s and 1000s lines of code he then showed me this program he had made which allows any user to go onto someone else's computer in the factory and access their own computer through it, you might use this if your computer wasn't accessible for one reason or

another. They gave me the task of setting up the background on the window for it.

I know it sounds easy but I had to teach myself how to do it. I hadn't been taught how to do this so it proved difficult, in the end, it turned out that the code Jason had written was the wrong type of import code so we couldn't do what we wanted to do. That afternoon I found out that I was allowed to come in the next day, so Jason gave me the task of rewriting the whole code. It took all day but I got it done and I had lots and lots of fun.

At the end of my work experience, they asked me if I would like to return in the summer holidays for a week. I must've done something right then! I'm so happy and to top it all off they gave me a work t-shirt, cap and note book. I feel that I am really lucky to have had this experience and I am really grateful.

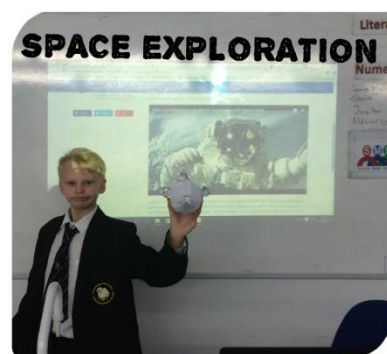
Thank you Toro Rosso!!

**By Daisy Prince
Year 9**



MR. ROCKETT'S YEAR 7 SPACE PROJECTS

As the resident Rockett scientist (pardon the pun) Mr Rockett recently treated the students to an out of this world science experience, getting them to create models, dressing up, a planet cake and honing their excellent presentation and research skills that Year 11's would be jealous of. **Well done, everyone!**



The Buckingham School is a Good School.

"....Pupils work extremely hard and are totally absorbed by high-quality and challenging teaching."

Ofsted 2016



The Buckingham School supports Fairtrade

For the fourth consecutive year, The Buckingham School has supported and advocated the very important work done by the Fairtrade Foundation. Through assemblies and tutorial activities, students have been exploring real life stories of people who are working with and for the foundation.

On Friday 11th March, a member of the Buckingham Fairtrade Steering group came to school to set up the annual Fairtrade stalls and students were able to purchase Fairtrade products.

For the work we have done so far, The Fairtrade Foundation has awarded The Buckingham School the FairActive certificate, which we are very proud of.

If you want to know more about Fairtrade and how you can support it in school, come and speak to Mr Mandel in Student Voice.

Mr Mandel

Teacher Citizenship/PSHCE Co-Ordinator



A fun day for charity!

On Monday 29 February 2016, Year 13 Business BTEC students ran a Charity Fun Day in school. As well as raising money for good causes, it enabled them to demonstrate how much they have learned in relation to organising an event for their Business BTEC coursework. There was a wide range of activities for people to take part in, including a penalty shoot-out, cake sale, basketball shot, sponge the teacher and "Guess how many sweets in the jar"! A total of £39 was raised, which was donated to these charities:



Well done to those students who organised the day and thank you to everyone who participated.

Prom Fundraising on World Book Day

As part of the World Book Day festivities, Year 13 Prom Committee organised a number of fundraising activities for all students and staff to enjoy during the lunch break. Photography students ran a photo-booth, the sports leaders had a penalty shoot-out and there was also a stall selling sweets, cakes and crisps! In total, they made a profit of **£82.25**, which is a fantastic amount! Well done to everyone involved with organising it and thank you to everyone who participated.

Year 13

Prom Committee

Cakes for all as schools scoop Fairtrade awards at Old Gaol



The town's Fairtrade status was celebrated as certificates were dished out to the Royal Latin and The Buckingham School.

For embracing Fairtrade, The Latin picked up a Fairtrade Award and The Buckingham School went one better with a FairActive award.

Certificates were presented by mayor Andy Mahi (pictured right) to, May Roberts, Sam Walker, and James Hobbs.

Margaret Gateley, chairman of the Buckingham Fairtrade Town Steering Group, who also accepted an award on behalf of the town, said plans are afoot for a special event next year, to mark 10 years since gaining Fairtrade status.

News from Buckingham Music Centre

On 28th February over 200 young musicians from Aylesbury & Buckingham Music Centres took part in two spectacular concerts at the Waterside Theatre with 26 bands and orchestras taking part. Schools across North Bucks were well represented and the players of Buckingham Music Centre did exceptionally well. For some of the younger ones it was their very first concert—what a spectacular start to their performing career! If your child is learning an instrument, whether privately or in school, then phone or email Bucks Learning Trust Music to see what Buckingham Music Centre has to offer them. Fay Hayhurst 01296 383596 fayhurst@learningtrust.net

We welcome all our Year 6 children moving up to The Buckingham School in September. Welcome letters have been sent to you – visit www.buckinghamschool.com (after Easter) for updates and information regarding the transition.

**"The behaviour
of pupils is
Good."**

**"The school
prepares pupils
very well for
their future ..."**



Bedfordshire University Trip – 2 March 2016

The Buckingham School Year 10-13 students attended a workshop on Dance at the University of Bedfordshire on Wednesday, 2 March 2016.

The aim of the trip was to provide students the opportunity to experience a number of practical Dance workshops and then create, teach and perform at the university theatre. This was an excellent opportunity for students to perform their own work in a professional environment. It was commented that our students were outstanding in their performance by staff at Bedford University. Other schools attended the event and our students were extremely generous in their praise of others.

Welcome done TBS dance students!



World Book Day 2016

World Book Day 2016 'with a twist' the twist being that instead of donating £1 everyone would donate a book to the Learning Resource Centre (LRC). Never in a millions years did I expect the amount of books flooding through my doors on the morning of World Book Day, I literally could not move as there were piles and piles of books from floor to ceiling (slight exaggeration) but not far off! In total we had the huge haul of 831 books, most of which have already been counted, catalogued, labelled, covered and are awaiting a gap on the shelves to be created for them, after I take a breather (681 of them to be precise).

Some of course couldn't be used for various reasons, adult content/book condition but fear not these will go to good homes around the school or be recycled in one form or another, waste not want not. Thank you so much everybody who donated a book, these will give our LRC shelves a much needed boost and also a lot of students great pleasure in reading them. What I did notice is that Enid Blyton is most definitely coming back into fashion and I can literally supply a shop with Michael Morpurgo books! Such a great day had by all, the LRC raised £45 after myself and Mrs Gibson-Smith created a monster book themed cake, which was won in a raffle by Year 7 student Millie Fenables. In addition, Year 13 students raised £82.25 by running a photo booth, penalty shoot out and various sweet stalls during lunchtime which took a lot of their time to organise for the enjoyment of the students so a big thank you to all the Year 13 students (special thanks to Simeon Klette, Chief organiser) for all your hard work on the day.

Thank you Mrs Gibson-Smith for your cake making expertise, I couldn't of done it without you. World Book Day 2017, who will you be? (I've planned my outfit already)!

**Mrs Swift-Clarke
LRC Manager**



Cinderella – A Student Led Event!

On Tuesday 1st March, a group of Year 7s and 8s, led by Year 9s and 10s, took to the stage to perform Cinderella: The Pantomime.

The pantomime was a student led production from start to finish. Over a period of 3-4 months the amazing team worked tirelessly to put the show on stage. Roles such as Producer, Lighting, Sound, Costume, Props and Choreographer were all assigned and everyone involved put in an incredible amount of effort. Not surprisingly, the evening was a sell-out and the performance was a huge success.

The Pantomime was put on in aid of Great Ormond Street Hospital and Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation. The evening raised a staggering £340 for the two charities and over 70 wristbands were sold in memory of Toby Fairclough, a local boy known and missed by many.

Angus Butcher
Year 11

Mock Trial Competition

On Saturday 12th March a group of Year 8 and 9 students competed in the national Mock Trial Competition. The first round (or local heats) took place in Milton Keynes Magistrates Courts. Each member of the team assumed different roles, for example, Prosecution Lawyer, Witnesses, Magistrate and even a defendant!

Schools then competed against each other using the case study that was pre-released. Our group of students were incredible! Everyone who participated was praised by the organisers for their excellent performance and commitment. Scarlett Steer won the individual award of 'Best Legal Adviser' which was well deserved. Though we did not advance to the next round I am so proud of the students' effort and conduct.

They were amazing ambassadors of our school and it was a real joy to work with them. This was the third year in a row The Buckingham School entered the competition. If you are Year 7 or 8 and are interested in being part of next year's team, come and see Mr Mandel in Student Voice or speak to any of the students who took part this year for more details.

Mr Mandel
Teacher Citizenship/
PSHCE Co-Ordinator



Spring Lottery Result

Parents of:
First prize Stacey Carter
Second Prize Lucy Appleyard
Third Prize David Smart



THE APPRENTICESHIP SHOW, MILTON KEYNES Tuesday 15 March 2016

The National Apprenticeship Show took place at the Arena MK on 14-15 March 2016. It brought together employers, colleges and providers with those wanting to find out more about what apprenticeships can offer.

There were over 100 exhibitors taking part, making this one of, if not the largest event taking place in National Apprenticeship Week 2016. We had the opportunity to take a group of 40 students to the event! It was a fantastic extension of students' learning giving them the perfect opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding of what an Apprenticeship is, the benefits you gain from doing an Apprenticeship along with speaking to future potential employers.

Diary Dates

- 24 March Last day of Term
- 11 April - First day of Summer Term
- 26 April - Parent Forum
- 5 May - Ofsted Celebration for Parents (Including new School website launch)
- 6 May - Year 7/8 PGL Football Trip
- 19 May - Year 7 Parents Evening
- 27 May - Whole school enrichment Day – Half term break
- 6 June - First day back to school
- 17 June - Sports Day

Save the date

2 July 2016
Fundraiser for student
African charity trip

The Buckingham Bulletin is a regular news round up – if you have any suggestions or comments, please contact Claire Sherwood at csherwood@bucksghl.org.uk