

News@Kimberley

December 2007

A Specialist Technology College

Issue 2#



Head's Lines

There is nothing better than being in a school to get a real sense of the anticipation and excitement that builds as Christmas approaches. Our shoe boxes have been packaged diligently by Y7 and Y8 students and will benefit children in Belize. The choir have been singing Christmas carols in the driving rain at the Kimberley lights switch-on and then in M&S Nottingham where they wowed the crowd and raised £230 for the appeal fund in memory of Jade and Stephanie. The foyer is currently full of advent calendars designed and made by Y7 and the air is full of the noise of excited rehearsal for the Christmas concert. Of course, all these activities are possible only because we have such talented and caring students at the school.

I would like to thank all those who responded to the uniform consultation. Governors considered your responses, which were overwhelmingly in favour of the proposed change, and have now made a firm decision to change the uniform to a blazer, shirt and tie for September. Details of the tie and badge have yet to be finalised. The School Council will be asked for their views as part of the process and full details will be available in due course.

Governors have also decided to consult on the school moving to Foundation Status. They believe this will further enhance the ability of the school to direct its resources at the achievement of the students. There will be a Parents' Forum meeting during the consultation process so that parents can hear more from Governors about what this means and what the implications are.

We were inspected by the Local Authority recently as a follow up to an inspection last February. The Inspectors saw "progress in terms of developing strategies to raise standards and achievement." Progress in development of teaching and learning strategies, attendance and behaviour, and strategies to support assessment for learning were all described as good. In short, they were pleased with what they saw and this confirms our own view that school is moving in the right direction.

Once again, I would like to thank you all for the support you give to the school and its students. I wish you all a peaceful and very happy Christmas.

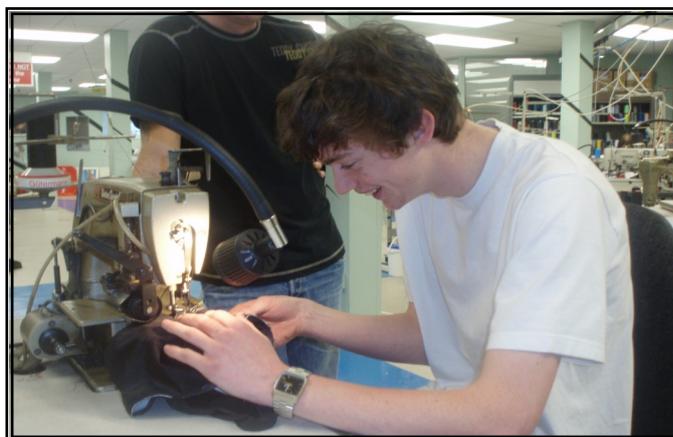
Chris Teal
Headteacher

Kimberley Sixth Form

The Kimberley Sixth Form started the year with a refurbishment which brightened up the Common Room no end. As usual, it's been a busy term with many Year 13 students applying to university and filling out their UCAS forms. The Year 12's soon settled in and are now happily decorating the Christmas tree in the Common Room!

Many of our students have been involved in the 'wider' school life. Sixth Form volunteers are helping out with the Year 8 Reading Programme, a structured course to assist and give confidence to our younger students. The new School Charity Committee has been set up to raise funds for good causes following the success of the Children In Need Day when almost £200 was raised in the Sixth Form alone. Nottingham Road Safety campaigns 'Wasted' visited school for 6 weeks during the autumn term with an interactive presentation on the problems associated with young inexperienced drivers. We are hoping for more speakers next term.

The social highlight of the term is the Christmas Party at the Regency Rooms in Ilkeston, where students and staff alike can relax and earn a well deserved natter and dance!



Sixth Form Product Design (Textiles & Graphics) Speedo Visit



In order to gain an insight into the textiles and graphic industry our Product Design class visited the Speedo factory in Bobbers Mill. Whilst we were there we were given a guided tour of the site, including a look in the top secret Aqualab facility where the latest in swimwear technology is to design clothing and swimwear for use in the 2008 Olympics.

We also got the chance to make our own swimming garments in the Aqualab sample room with two Speedo staff, Janette and Wayne. These resources and facilities are not available to us in school and this industrial visit was a very good opportunity for us to gain an insight into the real life textiles and graphics industry.

Wh@tEver...

Editors Introduction

Welcome to the first ever section of the newsletter written by the Kimberley pupils. We hope this is going to be the start of something big! Look for more articles written by our budding journalists in the next edition. Many thanks to our main contributors: Hannah Boughey, Stephanie Clarke, Paige Duro, Lisa Geary, James Wilby, Kimberley Skinner, and Christian Simmons.

P.S. If you want to find out why we've called this section 'Whatever...' speak to Miss Brock!



The brave choir!

Christmas Lights Switch On!

It's an honour usually reserved for the likes of The Spice Girls, yet on Friday 30th November Kimberley School's head boy and head girl were involved in the switching on of Kimberley Town's Christmas lights.

Gary and Lizzie were not the only ones to represent our school. The school choir belted out a few carols – just as the heavens opened and the rain began to pelt down! True professionals!

What's with the Black T-Shirts?

From the amount of questions we have been asked, we are aware that not all of you know why some Year 11 students are now wearing black t-shirts. These students are now 'Senior Students' and there are currently 37 of them in Year 11.

We thought it would be a good idea to interview Mr. Dawtry, the Year 11 Achievement Leader, to find out all the facts: "During the summer term, Mr. Teal spent some time at Kimberley School meeting different people. We spent some time discussing a way to acknowledge the Year 11s who are good citizens. Then, in September, the idea was discussed in a Year 11 council meeting. During the meeting we came up with the idea of black t-shirts."



Some of the Year 11 Senior Students and their fancy black t-shirts!

So how do you get to be a Senior Student and what do they do? Teachers nominate up to 5 pupils and then Mr. Dawtry selects the students with the most nominations. However, it isn't just about wearing a black t-shirt – Senior Students have several responsibilities such as supervising the Year 11 common room, helping out with school events, acting as role models and even representing the school in the wider community.

What do students get from being a Senior Student? Paul Webster, a current Senior Student, explains: "I like having the extra responsibilities and I like the privileges such as being able to go to the front of the dinner queue when it is my turn to supervise the common room! I think the idea of having Senior Students is good because it gives younger students something to aspire to."

Teachers will have the opportunity to nominate more Year 11s to become Senior Students next half term.

A Festive Treat

Every Christmas it's there. Not the tree, not the tinsel and not the turkey. It's the *tin*. This tin is special. It's an ancient tin that has been kept in mint condition over the years. Pinkish, with sleighs whizzing around, the tin evokes warm memories. But it isn't the tin that is so important...it's what's inside.

Every Christmas our family sits on the sofa, watching the festive episodes of 'Only Fools and Horses' or 'Dinnerladies' which we have seen *thousands* of times before. Warm in our hands are the obligatory cups of teas – but this 'cuppa' will be special. We open the lid of the old tin and that familiar aroma rises.

The 364 days we have waited to feast our eyes and lips on these beauties are over. The golden pastry awaits. The stomach of the pie bulges out. The lumps and bumps are comforting. The dips and dimples are delightful.

Forget the telly for a second. This moment is dedicated to the wonder of mince pies.



Tim Smedley 9P

OCN Christmas Card Competition 2007 Winners:

1st Prize: Damien Kidd 10R / 2nd Prize : Grant Chester 11O
£100 Prize for Nottinghamshire Diploma Resources.

Kimberley's Got Talent!

On Thursday 29th November, two talented Year 10s travelled to Birmingham to audition for the next series of 'Britain's Got Talent'. Robyn Farn and Jodi Calder now face an anxious wait to see if they have been successful.



Thanks to Robyn's father, the two girls made it to their 4pm audition on time – setting off from school at lunch time. Despite feeling understandably nervous, Robyn and Jodi gave a performance to be proud of. Performing in front of two of the show's producers, Robyn sang 'A Thousand Miles' by Vanessa Carlton, whilst Jodi played the piano. Many people at Kimberley School have seen and heard the two Year 10s perform in assemblies, but if you haven't we assure you they're excellent!

The girls will find out if their audition was successful in February. Keep your fingers crossed!

Football's 'Dynamo' Duo!

by our sports reporter: Christian Simmons

We have many talented sports stars here at Kimberley. Here is a profile of two of them Ben Slade and Sam Harris (Year 10) who play for the 'Dynamos' (a team currently fourth in the under-15 Division 3 of the Notts Youth Football League).

Football: a sport liked by many but loved by few. This sport exercises fitness, strength and skill. A team that has all those elements is Priory Celtic Dynamos. The players use the same activity field used by Kimberley Technology School. Among the young players are Ben Slade and Sam Harris.

Ben is a forward player. In an exclusive interview with 'Whatever...', Ben revealed his passion for football. When talking to Ben about how school affects his way of playing, he mentioned how the quick break and lunchtime games on the school field or tennis-courts help hone and polish his skills.

Sam is a no less potent player. Having watched a match against Rolls-Royce Blue, I saw the potential that Sam has. Training twice a week on Mondays and Wednesdays, Sam's effort is admirable. A left-back starter, Sam makes a powerful contribution to the Dynamos.

That's the end of Dynamos...but next Saturday the beast will be awakened and unleashed on innocent Hucknall Town Colts in the "*cup*". So we wish all the team good luck and let's see if they can win a game in time for Christmas. **GOOD LUCK!**

Which Kimberley School sports stars would you like to read about in the next edition? Pass any suggestions to Christian (10Y).

Would-be Journalists Required!

If you are interested in contributing towards the student newsletter, contact Miss. Brock in the Media Studies room.

You too could write an article, become a 'roving reporter' or even take some 'paparazzi' photos. All years and ideas welcome.
Have your say!

Our Afternoon with British Bakeries

October 31st British Bakeries came to school and worked with my food class on how to do a Quality Assurance process.

We were put into groups by the people who came to work with us and were shown a task which we had to do in our groups.

In this task we were given five different products from British Bakeries which were:

- Crusty Bread
- Best of Both
- Seed Sensation
- Scones
- Tea Cakes

With each of these products we had to analyse them. We weighed them, measured them, tasted them and made sure that they were up to their standards that they were meant to be. They introduced us to their traffic light system which depended on how you had evaluated their bread, Green: OK, Amber: Just Right and Red: Not up to Standards.

The people we worked with told us a lot about British Bakeries and gave us a lot of information on bread. They told us how bread was made and how important the presentation and packaging is.

I had a really fun day with the people from the bakery and I did not realise how important bread making was, how much people at the bakery have to do and how important presentation is on Hovis bread.

There was loads of fun parts to the day such as tasting the bread, working with other people in the class and wearing the hair nets which most people in the class had a laugh at. Working with other people from out of school was fun because we were doing an activity that we had never done before with other people and I got to know more of my class.

Overall I think the day was very educational and I enjoyed working with people from out of this school and learning how to make a perfect loaf which is not the easiest of jobs.

By Helen McCarthy



Winter Conditions



If we experience severe winter weather after Christmas, every effort will be made to keep the school open as normal. If the weather deteriorates significantly during the day, a decision will be made to close the school early. It is not possible to contact parents/carers in this situation, so we ask all families to discuss this possibility and agree what action the children should take.

- i.e. 1) Go home or go to a neighbour/relative
2) Stay in school



Students remaining in school will be supervised until the normal school session ends (3:20 pm). If the school is not open for any reason, this will be relayed on the local radio (Radio Nottingham and Trent FM) and also on the Kimberley School website: (www.kimberleyschool.co.uk). Please avoid telephoning the school for information as lines become swamped.

Kimberley Cross Country Team

The Kimberley Cross Country team should be very proud of their achievements at the Broxtowe Championships held at Eastwood School on Wednesday 12th December 2007. The Year 8/9 boys team won overall and the Year 7 boys came second. There were numerous individual excellent performances namely Liam Miller, Year 9, coming in first place with Josh Rae, Year 8, a close second. The Year 7 girls should also be mentioned with four coming in the top ten, Lucy Harris, second, Anya Norrie, third, and Alicia Martin-Jonnes and Megan Stirland, fifth and sixth. Other top ten finishers include, William Perrett and Matthew Keady in Year 7, Jade Raynor in Year 8 and Sam Hawkes in Year 9.

Tuesday Lunchtime, Week B is Reading Group Day in the LRC!

Members of our Year 7 group meet with Miss Pallett, Mr Harris and Mrs Marriott to read, discuss and review the books shortlisted for the Brilliant Book Award.



The books are:

- ♦ *A Message from Mia* - by Sandra Glover
- ♦ *Alone on a Wide Wide Sea* - by Michael Morpurgo
- ♦ *Darkside* - by Tom Becker
- ♦ *H.I.V.E.* - by Mark Walden
- ♦ *My Swordhand is Singing* - by Marcus Sedgwick
- ♦ *Pride & Penalties* - by Chris Higgins

Check out the website read the books and enter your own reviews:

<http://brilliantbookaward.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/bba-schoollogin>

User ID: kimb01 Password: frog143

See Mrs. Haywood in the LRC if you are interested in joining, or in starting a new reading group.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SETTING UP A

**GAMES
WORKSHOP**

GAMING CLUB IN SCHOOL?

IF SO COME AND SIGN UP SOON IN THE LRC.