

# News@Kimberley

January 2008

**A Specialist Technology College**

Issue 3#



## Head's Lines

Although it has been a short half term, we have gathered a tremendous amount of information about the school through our Ofsted report and the Keele Survey. You will be aware from my letter of last week, that the school was served a Notice to Improve. The inspectors had no choice on the basis of last year's results and the school agree with their judgement. However, they recognised that the school is taking its responsibilities to the students and parents seriously and were impressed with the pace of change. In short, those results do not match the school we now know. The lead inspector fed a good deal back which must remain confidential until the report is published. However, there are some things I believe you should know. The school is safe and caring, bullying has decreased and is quickly dealt with, behaviour in lessons is good and students enjoy their education.

These observations are strongly supported by the Keele Survey. Parents told us they wanted higher educational standards and I believe we are now delivering on that. More pupils than the national average said this is a good school, they are happy, respect the teachers and have interesting lessons. Bullying is now seen as a regular problem by fewer students than the average in schools nationally.

All this is good news and suggests we are moving in the right direction. I look forward to our next visit from inspectors and the opportunity to demonstrate that we have a school we can all be really proud of.

**Chris Teal**  
Headteacher

## Honourable Students



We were just on our way up Newdigate Street to go and play football before our exam. When Daniel saw from a distance a black object in the middle of the road, as we approached we began to notice that it was a handbag. Jonathan then opened the bag and looked for some sort of identification to see who the purse belonged to. When we both looked inside the purse we found about £250 and that was just notes, there was also a lot of change. We found a home telephone number so we rang the number off Daniel's mobile phone, there was no answer. So we carried on searching and then we found a little piece of paper which had her cousins mobile number on it. Jonathan rang it and arranged a meeting place at Watnall Bakery. John, Mrs Gretton's cousin, arrived with the police and was very thankful for what we had done. One week before Christmas Jonathan has a Christmas card from Mrs. Gretton saying thank you and she enclosed a £20 note for me and Daniel.

## Parent Governor Election

Thank you to the four candidates who stood for the parent governor vacancy and to all of you who voted. It was a close contest. The successful candidate and new parent governor is **Mr. Clements**. The Governing Body look forward to working with Mr Clements as we continue to drive up standards at Kimberley School.

**John G Wilson OBE**  
Chair of Governors

## Physical Education News

Between November and February the major games teams tend not to have many matches. The Year 7 soccer team however, have still found time to reach the county cup quarter final. They are a very skilful and attractive team to watch and would welcome support in the next round.

This is the time of year when indoor or alternative sports come to the fore. Our hockey team have been playing in the County Central Venue League at Highfield in Beeston. Congratulations to Mrs. Croft and her mixed team; they are always drawn against experienced players but continue to improve and have fun.

The students have had the chance to play other sports. Dodgeball has really taken off as has the basketball club for boys and girls. Friendly fixtures have been played and more are organised for next term.

The netball club remains a favourite with the girls, I believe they had a lovely meal out together at Christmas. Thanks to Mrs. Sutter Hunt.

Mr. Sells trampolining club continues to be over-subscribed and the students are developing their skills but just as importantly having lots of fun.

We are keen to encourage students to develop confidence and self esteem. Mr. Corbett has put in place a 'Pretty Fit' club where our girls have the opportunity to develop their health and fitness and become involved. The results have been excellent.

As part of his School Sport Coordinator role Mr. Corbett surveyed participation in lunchtime and after school sport and PE and he found that 350 students had participated in one week. We are really proud of this and hope that even more students will take advantage of these opportunities. Details are posted on the PE noticeboard.

We are really pleased with our PE initiatives in Year 10/11; sport education and leadership. These lessons give our students more responsibility for organising and leading their own work. It has led to them acting as role models for younger students and having a better understanding of teamwork.

The vast majority of our GCSE students have produced some really good coursework and now need to keep their eyes open for the lunchtime revision club starting soon after half term.

P.H.Allen (Head of PE)



Short courses are available at  
**Kimberley Comprehensive School**  
for adults aged 19 or over.



- ❖ Interview Skills
  - ❖ Customer Service Skills
  - ❖ Job Search Skills (CV letter & Writing)
  - ❖ Business Communication Skills
- Card Craft
  - Jewellery Making
  - Flower Arranging
  - Singing



Course fees are £40 or free if in receipt of a means tested benefit.

### **FREE** courses

- ❖ Building Self Confidence
- ❖ Anxiety Management
- ❖ Food & Mood

**Daytime & Evening courses are available**

For further information or to book a place please contact  
the Community Team on  
**0115 884 2749**

# Celebrating World Book Day

## Thursday 6th March 2008



Pupils will receive a **£1 book token** which can be used towards buying a book worth £2.99 or more, or exchanged for a special £1 book at participating bookshops.

Or use your token towards buying a book from the Scholastic Bookfair which will take place in the LRC during the week beginning 3 March.

## RE News

Visits over the last term have included:

Year 10 GCSE students visited three churches to help with coursework – the Greek Orthodox, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Roman Catholic and the Assemblies of God, Pentecostal. We are very grateful to the church leaders for being so informative and making us so welcome.

Year 10 and 11 visited the Beth Shalom Holocaust Museum at Laxton and met and heard the story of a survivor – Mrs. Susan Pollock?

Year 13 Philosophy and Ethics students visited the Holy Cross Convent for a discussion afternoon.

Year 12 and 13 students attended a Philosophy and Ethics Conference in London.

### Operation Christmas Child

A very big thank you to all those who filled Shoe Boxes to send to needy children in war-torn and impoverished areas of the world. Thank you to those who gave money to help transport the boxes and to the pupils in 8W – Natalie Poxon, Ella N'Jie, Jade Pickard and Starr Sadler, who helped to co-ordinate the collection.

### Year 7 Carol Service

Thank you to the Rev. Julia Jesson for welcoming us to Holy Trinity Church and to Mr. Wheelhouse and the Choir, Jodie Calder, the pianist, the pupils and staff who read, sang, or helped in any way to celebrate the real meaning of Christmas.

### Advent Calendar Competition

Once again Year 7 pupils excelled themselves with their creative calendars that ranged from donkeys to fairies, snowmen to cribs. Thank you for all the time, effort and thought you put into your calendars. You all deserve praise.

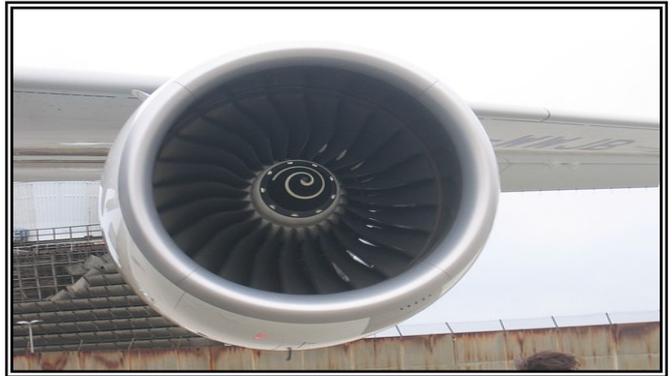
### Holocaust Museum Day

Mrs. Wilde accompanied the following pupils to the Broxtowe Holocaust Memorial Day ceremony in the Walled Garden at Bramcote Hills Park on Monday 28th January: Jasmine Martinez 13G, Alan Vickerstaff 13G, Kirsty Latham 12Y, Laura Smith 12Y, Ryan Houghton 12O, Kelly Woolley 11W, Kim Glover 11G, Safi Zakaria 11W and Lauren Wright 11G.

The students read a poem, "War is not a game", which had been written by Amy Cholerton, a former pupil of the school. Afterwards the clerk to the council commented "I was hearing from everyone how moving the poem and performance was. Thank you to you all".

Thank you Mrs. Glyn for supporting us.

## Year 11 Visit Rolls Royce



Ten Year 11 students went to visit Rolls Royce at Hucknall on January 16<sup>th</sup>. The aim of the visit was to complement their GCSE course and learn about tests that really do take place in industry, and bring the text book to life. Students had previously learnt about such tests in their science lessons and by going to Rolls Royce it gave them the opportunity learn about them in more detail. The day started with an introduction to 5 different tests that Rolls Royce performs on engines to ensure they meet minimum safety requirements. They then had a visit round the testing area where students were able to stand underneath the very last engine to be tested at Hucknall before testing is moved to Mississippi in America.

In the lab they observed tensile strength tests in action and had the graphs explained to them. The drawing and interpretation of the graphs is something they had previously practised in lesson, by seeing them actually be produced and used in industry students realised the relevance of what they were being taught.

Finally they finished with a presentation by an apprentice about his training and career prospects. This will form part the work based project for their science GCSE.

Incidentally I was very surprised to learn that the apprenticeship scheme requires a minimum of 4 A\*- D grades and not the usual A\* - C.

Mrs Ryan

### School Shoes



Please ensure that for safety and smartness your son/daughter wears conventional shoes to school. Trainer style footwear with sport soles such as those made by Nike, Adidas, K-Swiss, Reebok, Timberland etc. are not suitable. If you need further advice please contact school.



raising standards  
improving lives

21st January 2008

Dear Students

**Inspection of Kimberley School, Kimberley, Nottinghamshire, NG16 2NJ**

Thank you for welcoming me and my team of inspectors to your school last week. We enjoyed meeting you and joining you in your lessons.

Here are some of the things we found out about your school. Your headteacher and all of the staff at the school do things with your best interests in mind. They want to improve your examination and test results and to improve the opportunities available to you. This is shown, for example, in the school becoming a Technology College. You enjoy your education and are part of a safe and caring community. You are responding well to the ways in which good work and effort are now celebrated and your behaviour in the lessons we observed was good. Taking everything into account, we have decided that the school needs to improve further. We have asked the school to:

- improve your Key Stage 3 test and GCSE examination results
- make sure that you make good progress in all of your lessons and that the tasks that you do in lessons really extend you
- let you know how well you have done and how you can do even better when teachers mark your work
- make sure that all the very good systems that have been introduced to improve the school's performance are applied in all subjects
- give those of you entering sixth form the best possible advice and guidance on the option choices to which you are best suited.

The headteacher, governors and all staff are united in their determination to improve the school's work. All of you have an important part to play by working hard in lessons so that you can make good progress in your learning. Inspectors will visit again during next year to see how the school is getting on.

With all good wishes for your future at Kimberley School.

**Dr. Kenneth Thomas**  
**Lead Inspector**