

Bolton Schools' Swimming Championships

Tuesday 26th January saw the Town Championships held at Bolton One. The competition and talent in the field was, as usual, exceptional. The team's aim was to break the dominance over the years of Canon Slade and Bolton School. All teams proved themselves worthy competitors but it was the dominance of the Intermediate Boys' team which stood out. Captained by Sam Corsan, the team excelled far more than we could have imagined. The boys won all the individual races starting with Lewis Aldred (Year 9) who just pipped his biggest rival from Canon Slade in the backstroke to take the victory. A captain's performance and PB from Sam Corsan in the breaststroke made it a perfect start for the team. The competition in the butterfly was high and eagerly anticipated. Jack Reynolds (Year 10) was completely focused on the blocks and he had no doubt in his mind that he would win the race. The race was tight in the first 25 metres but

he completely blew the field apart in the last 25 metres to take the win. It was finally down to Jack McKay-Smith (Year 10) to complete the whitewash, winning the freestyle by a huge margin, just missing out on the town record.

As expected from the dominance in the individual events, our individual medley team strolled home to victory at a canter. The last race of the day was the freestyle relay which was made up of Tom Grundy, Declan Sisson, George Booth and Liam Hulme (all Year 10). The race was too close to call, but in the end the boys just missed out and took 2nd place which was more than enough for the team to be crowned Bolton Champions.

All results:

Boys' Intermediate Team – 1st Place
Boys' Junior Team – 3rd Place
Girls' Intermediate Team – 5th Place
Girls' Junior Team – 4th Place

Liam Carr - Head of PE

Hockey Champions

Year 9 became Bolton Hockey Champions for the third successive year beating Canon Slade in the final. Throughout the tournament the girls were undefeated and the standard of hockey played by the squad showed why they have been unbeatable all season. Solid in defence, strong in midfield and an attacking force on goal, most teams find it difficult to score.

Congratulations girls you have been an amazing team to coach.

Rachel Costello - 2nd in PE



Turton alumni

It was a great start to the festive season when we sent out invites to Age Concern and to our Alumni. We invited them along to watch our very popular Christmas stage performance, which this year was a fabulous production of the highly acclaimed "Grease," a celebration of nostalgia for the 1950s, and the crowd and our Alumni loved it!

The students who performed were fantastic and our Alumni could not praise them enough. Our own past staff member Joan Tebay praised "how wonderful and enjoyable the show

was". Pauline a past student, was delighted "I just cannot wait for the next event, thank you Turton Alumni", others commented on the show being a 'tonic', the children were described as 'inspirational'.

Sharon Wyre - Turton Alumni Heritage Group



RAF/BAE Systems Roadshow

Year 8 were lucky enough to get a special assembly by the RAF and BAE systems, showing us all how much opportunity there is in joining the RAF. They demonstrated lots of Science experiments such as using a Tesla coil to play music and how air cannons

work. They talked about the Blood Hound SSC (fastest land vehicle on earth) and how an RAF pilot will be the one who gets to drive the car (Andy Green). They also brought along a Faraday cage, an enclosure formed by conductive material or by a mesh of such material, used to block electric fields. Sam Greaves from 8T2 got to play the keyboard which was connected to a Tesla coil, it sounded

very unique and looked amazing.

Robert Waite 8S3



Turton School Newsletter

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Dear All

As we begin to emerge from a relatively mild winter into lengthening days, we are looking forward to a bright spring where staff and students will start to see the benefits of their hard work this year.

The term has two significant foci; one is the introduction to the exam season for Year 11 as they reflect on their mock results and make changes and adjustments to their knowledge and studies as a consequence. The mocks are important, more in terms of the process of revision, preparing and practice, than for the results themselves. The mocks present a further opportunity for students to develop resilience under pressure and persevering after setbacks in order to achieve their goals.

The second focus is on Year 9 option choices, which is an exciting time for year 9 as it is the first opportunity for them to have a say in what they study. The emphasis is on guiding them to maintain a broad education throughout GCSE.

In a year where austerity's impact on education across the country is at a peak, committed staff at Turton still continue to make 'the sun come out for their pupils' and do more with less. Eleven members of staff joined a local TeachMeet and presented and shared ideas on behaviour for learning and classroom practice. Our plan now is to hold our own TeachMeet at Turton in the summer term.

We continue to explore ways to improve our communication with parents and other interested parties. Please look out for our newly designed website which will go live after half term.

My best wishes to all students and parents for a good half term break and just a reminder that Friday, 12th February is a staff training day.

Best wishes

Sam Gorse - Head Teacher

Ice Age London Success

On Wednesday 27th January 2016, four Year 9 students represented the school nationally, presenting their ideas to Twentieth Century Fox Films at their offices in Soho Square, London.

The four students had been selected from a group of Year 9s who had been working on a campaign to promote the fifth film in the movie franchise – "Ice Age 5: Collision Course". The project, sponsored by the Ideas Foundation, was developed to give students an insight into the creative industries and a greater

understanding of careers in Art & Design, Media, Advertising, Marketing, Film and Television.

Our Year 9 students pitched their ideas to the managing directors and employees of Twentieth Century Fox and were awarded "Highly Commended" prizes for their imagination and creative ideas. All other participants were based at Sixth Form establishments and other Higher Education from across the country and, therefore, our students did exceptionally well to receive these awards.

A huge well done to Ed Webster, Rebecca Dixon, Charlotte Devereux and Amy Bury on their

success. They did themselves, the school and their families proud! The students now have a place on "The Ladder" which supports work experience and employment in the creative industries.

**Lindsey Gray
Head of Art**



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The Clothes Show

The fashion show was great, everybody loved it and was really impressed by the effort that went into putting it together. We all enjoyed going round exploring the stalls. The styles in the show were all unique, we all loved the different categories. The stalls were all beauty, clothes and hair based excluding a few stalls with food and home accessories. We would all like to thank Mrs Murphy and all the other teachers for giving us such a great opportunity. It has inspired me to possibly take up a

career in textiles or design in the future.

Emma Cummings 9T3



English Master Classes

Instead of doing all of our Master Classes at the end of the year, we are trialling them throughout the year to try to help balance students' workloads nearing their GCSEs. There are always two options (Mastery and Good Pass) so something for everyone. This one, on the 2nd February just after school, was exploring 'An Inspector Calls' (for which, incidentally, there is an excellent production coming up at the Lowry – we sadly can't take Year 11 out of school at this time as it's too near to the GCSEs, but you could maybe look for evening

tickets?) There will be plenty more Master Classes coming up, and if you ever want to know if your son/daughter attended do just send an email (lanea@turton.uk.com) as we know teenagers are not always completely forthcoming!

Alice Lane
Head of English



Viva Vegan



Dominika Piasecka from the Viva Vegan Society gave a talk around the ethos of being a vegan and then demonstrated how to make a tasty vegan chilli to a group of Year 9 students. Some of the students got involved and helped demonstrate the cooking aspect.

Catherine Dower
Head of Food Technology

Life in the 1920s

In January Eighteen Year 11 GCSE History students attended a lecture at Bolton School by renowned historian, Professor Kate Williams. The lecture, entitled "The 1920's - roar or whimper?", built on the work the students have been doing in lessons. It gave students a taste of what higher education will be like, whilst also helping to develop their wider understanding of life in the 1920s.

The History department look forward to offering more additional learning

opportunities for our students with a trip to the University of Manchester in the pipeline!

Phil Koller
Head of History



Time to Collect and Reflect

Just after the Christmas break last year's old Year 13 students were invited in to collect their A-level certificates at a reunion event held in college. It was a chance for old friends to catch up after their first term of university as well as meet up with some of the teachers who had taught them. There were light refreshments and also the opportunity to sign up to the Turton Alumni Association. It was a pleasure to see so many of our former students going on to be successful at university and elsewhere.

Any former Year 13 students who were unable to collect their certificates on the day are welcome to come into college and collect them from the sixth form reception.

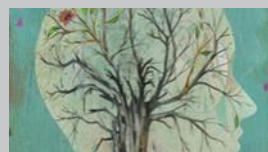
Pete Tiltman
Director of Sixth Form



Termly Assessments - Christmas

Thank you to all parents and students who have supported us with this new venture to prepare students for the new-style terminal and closed-book GCSEs and A-levels. We are aware, like many schools, that building memory and becoming accustomed to silent, timed exam conditions will be important to reduce stress and help students to do their best. Apologies for the unaccustomed delay in returning marked work, but with the Government's new 'life -after-levels' at Years 7, 8 and 9 and the new '1-9' grading system at Years 10 and 11 we wanted to take the time to try to get our feedback right. Do feel free to contact me (lanea@turton.uk.com) or your son/daughter's English teacher if you have any questions.

Alice Lane
Head of English



Numeracy Ninjas

During the Autumn term, our Mathematics department launched Numeracy Ninjas across Year 7. This 5 minute weekly skills test supports students in mastering key skills within Mathematics. Each week students can continue to improve their score and gain Ninja stickers highlighting what belt they are. Students have been so enthusiastic in wanting to gain the prestigious black belt that it will now be launched across Year 8 this term.

Mr Mohammed & Ms Barcham
Maths Department



Pictured above are current students showcasing their Ninja level.

Chocolate Heaven

On Friday 15th January a group of Year 9 students including myself visited Slattery's School of Excellence in Whitefield. We were given a presentation by one of their staff on chocolate and how it was made, we even got some tasters. We then got to make our own chocolate using all the same techniques as the professionals. After we had finished making we were able to visit the main shop, it was like heaven! This was a great trip and one of the highlights of my school career. Thank you to the Food Technology department.

Bill Carr – 9T3



Auschwitz Trip



As part of the Holocaust Educational Trust's 'Lessons from Auschwitz' project, four Year 12 students were given the opportunity to visit Poland for a day. This entailed a visit to Oświęcim, the Polish town which the NSDAP regime renamed 'Auschwitz' during the Second World War. Following this, we visited two of the infamous concentration camps that bear the same name as this ill-fated town. Firstly, we were taken on a tour of

Auschwitz 1 and shown the last remaining gas chamber, amidst the memorial exhibits. After this, we moved on to the much larger, and arguably more notorious, Auschwitz-Birkenau. Here, wooden barracks and the crumbling remains of crematoria provide a poignant insight into the victims of Auschwitz, whilst glass cabinets filled with decaying personal possessions truly strike an emotional chord. A short service from Rabbi Raphy Garson further emphasised the point that those who were persecuted during the Holocaust were not a mere statistic, but individual human beings.

The trip to Auschwitz was a unique experience for all involved, and it highlighted the duty we have to educate others, to prevent such atrocities happening again.

Jude Rowley - Year 12

Turton Tops the Table!

This month, the Department for Education released the performance tables for last year. One of the key figures is 'Value Added' which measures the amount of progress made between GCSE results and A-level results. This is not a figure affected by the prior ability of students entering a sixth form, but is entirely based on how well they have done whilst there.

We are delighted to say that Turton

Sixth Form came top of all state funded sixth forms in Bolton for A-level Value Added, and beat other local providers such as Runshaw College, Winstanley College, Bury College and Holy Cross College all of which are considered 'Outstanding' by Ofsted.

Feel free to check out the tables at <http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance/>

Your future is bright if you choose Turton as your sixth form.

Pete Tiltman - Director of Sixth Form

Options Time for Year 9

Year 9 are currently in the process of choosing their options. They have listened in assembly to explanations of the curriculum in various subjects, have had a successful options evening where they could grill the subject teachers and find out from students what each subject is really like. Now the students are deliberating their choices, with more opportunities on Stop the Clock day in February to consider the various options. The students have until Tuesday 8th March to submit their choices, choosing one subject from each of the four option blocks and a reserve choice. The subject teachers, myself and Mr Sykes are always around to discuss choices.

Cathy Bach
Deputy Head Teacher

Canon Slade Partnership

The lovely English department at Canon Slade invited us to join their Year 11s in watching the poet Terry Caffrey recite some of his poems and also talk about how to approach a new poem. This will hopefully help to prepare us for the 'Unseen Poetry' element of the English Literature GCSE. It was a very windy and wet walk down the road, but worthwhile!

Alice Lane - Head of English



We are appealing to all teachers, students, their families and friends who shop at Sainsbury's to collect and send into school 'The Active Kids Vouchers'.

The more vouchers we receive, the more sports and cooking equipment we will be able to buy. Thank you.

Year 12 Enrichment Group