

# Intouch

Chenderit School **A VISUAL ARTS COLLEGE**



SPRING 2015

## Headteacher's Message

As I reflect on all that was achieved during the Autumn Term and consider the possibilities of the term ahead, I feel a great sense of pride in our students and the staff who support them here at Chenderit. We are truly privileged to have so many amongst us who are pursuing excellence, not just academically but in all other spheres of school life. To witness our community engaging in learning in the widest possible sense and developing the skills necessary to be successful in school and beyond is most heartening.



Jane Cartwright

As each day goes by, we see our students aspire to be even better than the day before and we thank you, our parents, for all you are doing in encouraging such success. In this newsletter, I hope you gain a great sense of life at Chenderit and enjoy reading about some of what we have to celebrate.

I believe we are a school that offers so much opportunity for students: to those who take advantage of what is offered, I applaud you; to those who are yet to be attracted by our wider school experiences, I urge you to try something new in 2015.

Parents of Year 13 students will know that the Autumn Term was momentous for students making decisions about Higher Education and going through the university application process.

We are seeing a very positive range of offers coming in for students which is having the effect of sharpening students' minds in preparation for their January mock examinations. I congratulate Year 13 students for all their efforts as they prepare for these exams and wish them the very best of luck with their results too.

However, our Year 13 students are not the only ones thinking about where they might be at this time next year! Our Year 11 students, many of whom were inspired by our older students at last term's prospective Year 12 New Entrants' Evening have finalised their applications for Sixth Form here and we are truly delighted with the vast number we have received: many more this year than at this time in previous years. We are very excited about the prospect of having so many students join Chenderit's successful Sixth Form in September 2015.

However, although we still reflect on and feel a tremendous pride in last summer's A level results, we recognise that a Sixth Form education may not be for all and so we offer our very best wishes to those students who are applying elsewhere whether that be for apprenticeships, college courses or something else.

Parents of Year 11 students will know that mock examination results have recently been published giving students an indication of what they might expect to receive in their summer exams. For those who are delighted with their progress and outcomes, I congratulate you. For those who are less than pleased, you have the time to make a difference, but only if you plan for your success from this point forward. I am sure that the conversations at Year 11 Parents' Evening in early January will have helped all students and parents know how best to progress. Good luck to all Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 students in the final months of preparation, prior to the summer's exams.

And finally, I thank you, our parents, for working with us in support of our students, your children. We are proud of them all and look forward to a successful 2015 in the full knowledge that there is so much more we can achieve together.

Jane Cartwright  
Headteacher

## ONE STEP AT A TIME VISUAL ARTS

In Our Time is an exciting, new, young person-led, art initiative that is taking place in schools and the community in South Northamptonshire. It allows young people to develop innovative iPad technology skills through animation, digital art and filming and then to share those skills with senior adults as mentors. As part of the school's extra-curricular activities programme, this initiative allowed eleven young people to make digital artworks using the iPad as a tool for developing a range of new and exciting skills and learning.

Funded through grants from South Northamptonshire Council and the National Lottery and supported by the school, the project has enabled Animation Station and Chenderit School to procure iPads and specialist artists to work with key schools and community organisations across the district, developing digital storytelling skills in animation, film and sound. Thirty young people have taken part to date, alongside fifteen senior adults with opportunities to develop it further this year. The engagement of a leading UK VJ has the bonus of creating a body of live artwork as a final performance.

In Our Time is based around developing and telling STORIES through digital technology. Young people discover and explore their own identity, hopes and dreams and then share that understanding with their peers and mentors, through the use of art, video and animation. In our case, primarily, through the iPad!

The project, which is led by Clinton Osborne and supported by Mr Childs, Mr Scott and Mr Christy, allowed the iPad to be seen as a vital art tool and allowed young people to stretch their imagination, artistic and leadership skills to make artwork that spanned from a video journey through 'School Years Together', World War II and the D-Day Invasion, and an animation using the tree as a symbol for life. Combined with a range of Vox Pop interviews with students and adults, the iPads proved invaluable for creating, making and sharing artwork and video inside or outside of the classroom.

The second part of the programme embraced working in the community to allow young people to engage with Regal Care Home and Middleton Cheney Library to develop a range of fascinating interviews and revealing insights into the lives of local people. This year will see the programme move out more into the community with partners including the Hub, Youth Cafe, Brackley and Blakesley Primary School and South Northamptonshire Homes.

For more information talk to Mr Christy, Mr Childs or Mr Osborne.



## A Level Photography Residential in Cornwall

In October, AS and A2 photography students visited Cornwall where they worked on coursework projects. They stayed at the youth hostel in Penzance and visited a wide range of locations, taking photographs with film and digital cameras.

On the way to Cornwall they visited Laycock Abbey, the birthplace of photography and walked down to the harbour in Penzance in the evening to experiment with long shutterspeeds.

The group visited St Ives, including the Tate Gallery and the Barbara Hepworth sculpture garden; a visit was also made to Geevor Tin Mine and St Michael's Mount where students watched the sun set. The Eden Project was next on the schedule for the return journey home which was a great opportunity to see and take images of a wide range of plant life and habitats (once their cameras had become accustomed to the humidity!)

The group was lucky enough to have a mostly dry week, with some sun, while the students worked hard to make this a successful and worthwhile experience. They are currently working on developing their coursework themes and creating personal responses from this research.

We look forward to seeing some fantastic images in January.

Ms Blockley, Ms Williams & Mr Vinciguerra



## CELEBRATION EVENING

sky SPORTS NEWS

Chenderit School was delighted to welcome Sky News Sports presenter Mike Wedderburn as guest of honour at our annual celebration of achievement on Friday 28 November.

Mike delivered a brief speech encouraging all students to strive for their goals and dreams however challenging they may appear. Mike presented books and vouchers to over 250 children, marking achievement for the school year 2013-2014. Prizes were awarded for outstanding academic performance at the end of Key Stages 3, 4 and 5.

We also celebrated the huge number of students taking part in activities as diverse as debating competitions, exhibiting art works, sport and the Duke of Edinburgh Awards. Recognition for those students who had achieved 100% attendance was given. Trophies were awarded for contribution to the school and wider community and for significant leadership. We would like to thank the large number of parents who attended. It was a delightful evening: we celebrated achievement and saw both students and parents bursting with pride!

Martin Barber

## YEAR 11 TCT 3D PRINTING SHOW AT THE NEC

The Technology Department arranged a visit for all Year 11 Graphic Product students to the TCT 3D Printing Show at the NEC Birmingham on Wednesday 1st October 2014.

The purpose of the visit was to explore how Technology is moving forward in the world of 3D printing and manufacturing, playing an important role in defining the world we live in today and how these key areas may affect our lives in the future.

Students have been demonstrating skills using the 3D printer we have on loan in school currently, and during this visit they took part in a personal tuition workshop where they developed their 3D printing skills. The day formed part of the Bright Minds Future Designers program.

the nec birmingham

## Electronic Newsletter

From Easter 2015 we will be sending the Newsletter to parents by email. Paper copies will be available on request. If you require a paper copy please contact Student Services who will arrange to send a copy via students.

# CAREERS IN AVIATION DAY AT HEATHROW

Ten Chenderit students were invited by British Airways to an Aviation Careers Event at their Headquarters at Waterside Heathrow on 6th November: Emre Yildirin, Amy Brough, Tom Chiles, Holly Shenton, Ashleigh Duggan, James Claridge, Sam Allen, Alex Dascalescu, Will Garner, and Jake Haines.

The aim was to give students an insight into the opportunities and careers available in aviation. During the course of the day students gained first hand information on aviation careers and spoke face to face with industry experts. The visit to BA headquarters impressed everyone and when Executive Chairman of British Airways Keith Williams gave the opening talk it was an inspiration to all. The latter part of the day led to a high security tour of the BA Engineering facility where students were amongst the first non BA people to see the installation of the new £100 million pound short haul cabins refurbishment. The day was an interesting and exciting opportunity for the students who have been given an insight into the world of corporate business and been inspired to pursue ambitious careers.



In early December, we were all treated to a fantastic evening of public speaking organised by Brackley Rotary Club. The Youth Speaks competition asks students to form teams of three and make a speech in front of an audience. Students can choose any topic they wish and the diversity of their choices makes for an excellent evening.

In the intermediate competition, four junior teams took part: Charlie Bracke (Y8), Hannah Woodcock (Y8), Beth Ellison (Y8), Rebecca Glenny (Y8), Alice Rowe (Y8), Grace Foakes (Y8), Caitlin Donohoe (Y7), Samyuktha Rees Jones (Y7), Maisie Clark (Y7), Aliza Rahman (Y7), Jodie Evers (Y7), Esther Rathbone (Y7). Aliza, Jodie and Esther won the heat and will represent our area at the district semi-finals in January.

In the senior competition Millie Blyth (Y12), Katie Ann Birch (Y12), Emily Roberts (Y12), Tjala Tiffen (Y12), Annie Quy (Y12), Ella Wilton (Y12), Mathilda Vere (Y9), Emma Whitehouse (Y11), Joey Robson (Y10), Alasdair Jordan (Y11), Lucy Koster (Y11), Emma Taylor (Y11) all represented Chenderit. There were several outstanding and impassioned speeches. In the end, an extraordinary effort from Tilly, Emma and Joey on the topic of the environment proved victorious and these students will represent our area at the district semi-finals in February.

## World War One Centenary Commemoration

2014 marked the centenary of the beginning of World War 1. To commemorate the event, students had the opportunity to take part in a number of events. On November 11 2014, the school marked the signing of the armistice with two minutes silence. This followed a tutor time session explaining the significance of the use of poppies, a symbol of remembrance. at the Tower of London.

On the Extended Project Day on 26 November, Year 8 took part in a combined History, English and Art day which included a visitor in World War 1 uniform, with artefacts from the time. Year 9 have focused on World War 1 in their History lessons.

Finally, 100 students from Years 7 to 13 attended a performance of The Christmas Truce at the Royal Shakespeare Company, Stratford upon Avon on 10 December; a touching, poignant commemoration of the meeting of the two sides in the trenches during the Christmas of 1914.

Martin Barber



## TRIP TO UGANDA

Between 22nd - 29th October 2014, four sixth formers took part in the Jinja International Youth Meeting 2014. We travelled to Uganda and were guests at the Discovery Centre, Jinja. It was a fantastic experience which allowed the students to take part in debates with Ugandan students from local schools.

During the conferences we discussed topics which affected all students and got an insight into issues which specifically affected the Ugandan students. A key issue was the need to protect the environment versus the need for development. Whilst in Uganda, we also had the opportunity to visit several local primary schools and to get to know the local area. We travelled further afield and visited Lake Victoria and the source of the River Nile. One of the highlights of the trip was a visit to the Ngamba Chimpanzee Sanctuary where we were given a tour of the sanctuary and learnt about the plight of the chimpanzees. We then witnessed them being fed at lunchtime: seeing them rushing through the jungle to feast on the fruit was amazing! Overall a fantastic trip!



# Debate News



This term has been a busy one for the school debate teams. Each Friday, the senior debate club has met to train hard to take part in a variety of competitions.

So far this year Abby Park and Lucy Koster have progressed to the second round of the Cambridge Union Schools Debating Competition; Penny Kempson and Verity Babbs are through to the second round of the English Speaking Union Mace competition; Emma Whitehouse, Tilly Vere and Joey Robson are through to the District semi-finals of the Rotary 'Youth Speaks' competition and Abigail Park, Toby Drew, Lucy Koster, Elizabeth Jennings, James Shelton, Jade Steer, Ellen Forbes, Katie Beckett, Bennie Goode, Verity Babbs, Laura Harris, Chloe O'Neill, Savi Dodds, Giles Brittin-Snell and Joey Robson have all represented the school at national university debate competitions.

The Junior Debate Club has proved just as busy. Students meet each Monday lunch time to work on their speaking skills. Four junior teams took part in the Rotary 'Youth Speaks' local competition in November; Aliza, Jodie and Esther won the heat and will represent our area at the district semi-finals in February. The juniors and Mrs Shah organised a debate training day for local primary schools in November, helped run a public speaking day for Y7 and they are now organising a competition for local schools that will run in the Summer.

Lucy Koster (Y11), Joey Robson (Y10) and Finn Ayres (Y10) represented Chenderit at the English Speaking Union Public Speaking Competition District Finals in Oxford. Schools from all over the Oxford area were represented and the standard was very high. Having given up their lunchtimes and free time to prepare, the Chenderit team did very well. Lucy gave an excellent speech, without notes, on her chosen topic: 'The internet has failed to fulfil its potential' and was named 'best speaker' in the district.

On Thursday 13th November, twelve Year 12 students were invited to the Cambridge Union Debate: 'This house believes that western feminism has failed the Developing World'. Students were given the opportunity to have a look around Pembroke College before going on to the Cambridge Union to take part in some debate training prior to taking part in the formal debate. It was a fantastic opportunity to see the best of university debating at first hand, and though the trip returned very late, it gave students an opportunity to recalibrate their aspirations for the future.

In November, the Chenderit Debate Team took part in the Birmingham Schools Debate Competition and the Warwick Schools Debate Competition. These are university BPS competitions; teams from some of the best debate schools in the country are represented. All the speakers performed well and in spite of fierce competition, after a full day of debates, Chenderit A, Toby Drew (Y13) and Jade Steer (Y13) came 13th overall – an outstanding achievement – only 1 point away from the final. Worthy of note, also, were the performances of James Shelton (Y12) and Elizabeth Jennings (Y11) who came 14th and 15th in the novice competition.

The Chenderit Model United Nations Team has had an excellent term. The team not only spent an entire weekend at Tudor Hall taking part in MUNTH representing an array of countries, but also ran a Model United Nations conference at Chenderit that was attended by all Y12 students who came as representatives of a country and took part in debates in the way they are run at the UN. Particular mention goes to Georgia Peterson, Emily Betteridge, James Barlow, Tjala Tiffen, Laura Files, Joe Castle, Chloe O'Neill, Joey Robson, Bennie Goode, Savi Dodds, Ella Wilton, James Shelton, Verity Babbs, Oran Ramage, Lucy Koster, Abigail Park, Megan Lapper, Giles Brittin-Snell, Colby Glover, Sanha Nadeem, George Baldwin-Edie, Tenaz Erenler and Toby Drew.

The term ahead holds a great deal in store for Chenderit speakers. ARTiculation heats are running as we go to press (students must offer a 10 minute presentation about a piece of art) and the local heats will be held in Oxford in January. Concurrently, we are running the Poetry by Heart heats; competitors must recite 3 poems from memory (1 pre 1914, 1 post 1914 and 1 war poem). The regional final is also held in January. The debate team will be at university competitions at Oxford, Cardiff, Bristol, Nottingham and UCL over the coming months. Debate is open to all students and there are opportunities for everyone to take part.

## MODEL UNITED NATIONS



**Model United Nations (MUN) has been very successful over the past term throughout the sixth form. MUN has allowed students within the sixth form to explore the opinions and ideals of other countries, as well as giving us something world renowned to put on university applications.**

Over a weekend in November, Chenderit sixth formers participated in The Tudor Hall annual MUN in their own time. Chenderit was one of the 12 schools participating in the MUN - it is a great opportunity to socialise with other people from different schools as well as seek out advice from those more experienced. It went successfully, with many members from the school contributing with resolutions, amendments and entertainment throughout. For those in Year 12, many have only recently picked up debate as an extra-curricular activity - so the ordeal has been especially nerve wracking and new to them. However, luckily, this year's Year 12s have been extremely outgoing, confident and took the experience within their stride.

On 26 November, on the Extended Project Day, it was Chenderit's annual Year 12 MUN. This is when all Year 12s participate in public speaking, researching and working with people they may not usually work with. This went extremely well with many contributions and a very stimulating environment. In the end, the General Assembly debated a crisis in Korea!

As a Year 13 student, I was impressed and pleasantly surprised at the talented Year 12s and their ability to contribute with confidence.

by Savannah Dodds (Y13)



## Christmas Concert

**Thank you to all students who performed in another very successful Christmas Concert.**

There were some wonderful individual performances, and thank you to all students who put time and effort in to preparing individual and ensemble items. There were representatives from every year group. Particular praise goes to the students in our GCSE Music groups who formed the committee for the concert, and contributed to the set up, sound, lighting, compering and programme. Finally, thank you to all students who have regularly attended rehearsals for the Choir, Jazz Band and Light Orchestra.

There will be further events in 2015.

Mark Ledger

## Links to Our Partner Primary Schools

**This year, a number of teachers have offered to organise a range of events for children in our partner primary schools.**

Tamsyn King continues to work with her primary colleagues to arrange a dizzying range of sporting competitions, aided by Chenderit students whose confidence grows as Junior Sports Leaders.

Natalie Shah organised a one day Debating Competition for 60 children in Years 5 and 6. The event was marshalled and led by debaters from Chenderit. It is fantastic to see our students taking responsibility for these activities.

Meanwhile, teachers from Chenderit continue to work alongside our primary colleagues. After a two year focus on Science, both the Maths (Jen Martin) and English (Zoe Munro) departments are now working with the primary schools to develop exciting new transition activities for Year 6 pupils. This will support the Year 6 pupils' transition to Chenderit School in Summer 2015.

Martin Barber

## CHENDERIT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

**THANK YOU** to all of you who helped at November's Craft Fair and Christmas Market, or who supported us by selling raffle tickets, donating prizes or visiting the Fair. This year, there were 65 stalls and we raised around £3,500, which will be used to buy 'wishlist' items to enrich the learning of all our students. To find out what we donated last year, visit [http://www.chenderit.northants.sch.uk/school\\_association.asp](http://www.chenderit.northants.sch.uk/school_association.asp)

**Our next social event** is the Curry and Quiz Night on Friday 6th February at 7.30pm in school.

Join us at this year's Curry and Quiz Night for a fun, family evening that won't break the bank! Teams consist of 4-6 people and the food is included in the ticket price, with vegetarian and non-spicy food options available. There will be a bar and raffle. Email: [csacontact@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:csacontact@yahoo.co.uk) to book tickets, or to join our mailing list for info on future events.

**New committee members needed!**

We're delighted to welcome two new committee members, but we still need more – many hands make light work! If you have a little time to spare and would like to get involved, please email [csacontact@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:csacontact@yahoo.co.uk)

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES

|                         |               |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Term 3 – School reopens | 6th January   |
| Term ends               | 13th February |
| Term 4 – School reopens | 23rd February |
| Term ends               | 27th March    |
| Staff Training day      | 13th April    |
| Term 5 – School reopens | 14th April    |
| Bank Holiday            | 4th May       |
| Term ends               | 22nd May      |
| Term 6 – School reopens | 1st June      |
| Term ends               | 21st July     |
| Staff Training Day      | 22nd July     |