

News from Connaught school

October 2008

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Following our wonderful results in the summer, the school has had a busy and a good half term. Here is our latest news :-

Results

Our KS3 results were good with percentages of pupils achieving above level 5, 80% for English, 66% for Maths and 69% Science.

Our GCSE results were the best ever with 72% gaining 5 A* - C grades and 62% gaining 5 A*-C grades including English and Maths. 25% of all grades were at A or A* level.

GCSE results in languages in Year 10 were excellent. : 25 Year 10 pupils took the exam after an one year course, all pupils in the group, achieved A* - C grades, including 12 pupils with A grades & 6 pupils with A* grades

Classics : Year 9 pupils studied after school and from a group of 21 pupils, 15 pupils gained A* - C grades including 1 pupil with an A* grade & 1 pupil with an A grade this is a great achievement in Year 9



Our past Yr 11 pupils worked extremely hard and achieved an impressive number of GCSE passes. We are very proud of their achievements such (from left to right) Chidi Onyeche 9A* 2As,, Amrit Matharoo 2As 4Bs 4Cs & Lucy Verdon 12 A*s & 2As

ATTENDANCE has been good over the first half of the autumn term.

Averages for the half term

Week1 : 95.8% **Wk 2** : 96.2% **Wk 3** :95.9% **Wk 4** :93.2% **Wk 5** : 94.4% **Wk 6**: 95.4%

BEHAVIOUR has been generally good over the half term.

"On call" incidents : these are serious incidents of poor behaviour

Sept - Oct 2006 16 incidents
 Sept - Oct 2007 11 incidents
 Sept - Oct 2008 13 incidents

We had a very serious incident in mid September which involved four pupils. This incident led to exclusions and two of the pupils are now no longer on roll at Connaught School.

Exclusions : used for very serious incidents such as fighting or extreme rudeness

Sept - Oct 2006 9 incidents involving 9 pupils : totalling 16 days exclusion
 Sept - Oct 2007 6 incidents involving 6 pupils : totalling 10 days exclusion
 Sept - Oct 2008 6 incidents involving 6 pupils : totalling 12 days exclusion

VISITS & PROJECTS

Year 11 Geography trip	<p>Year 11 geography students went to Mersea Island to do their coastal fieldwork. We were very lucky to have good weather.</p> <p>Students quickly gathered their data. They were looking at coastal erosion and features of coastal deposits. We also spent an hour exploring West Mersea where they were delighted to be entertained by a seal that came to investigate the noise!</p> <p style="text-align: right;">L. Phillips</p>	<p>On 17th September the Steel Band represented the school at the "Paralympics Handover to London" event at Walthamstow Town Square. The 7 Year 11 girls gave a 30 minute performance on stage of their best repertoire & were simultaneously filmed and projected onto a huge screen. The band felt greatly encouraged by the D.J. on stage with them and stayed after their performance to see the many other acts which went on into the evening. The girls particularly enjoyed seeing Leon Jackson from X Factor, Richard Blackwood (Choice FM) & 'Fish Police'</p> <p style="text-align: right;">R. Sanger</p>	Olympic event : Steel band
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Pupil Client group : Building Schools for the Future

In September a group of 7 pupils from Years 7 - 11 visited the Young Design Centre at Somerset House. There were presentations about the BSF scheme from the Sorrell Foundation and the pupils started looking at elements of design. We also visited different examples of architecture on the South Bank. Since the visit, we have taken assemblies and organised a survey of all pupils and staff about the issues that are important when we have a remodel and rebuild.

A. Betts

BELGIUM TRIP

In September, 36 of this year's History GCSE students took part in our annual visit to the First World War battlefields in Belgium.

We were able to change our travel arrangements at the last minute, in order for us to travel by ferry, instead of the planned tunnel crossing, which had been affected by the recent fire.

The girls were exceptionally receptive and cooperative this year and will be better able to relate to the topics studied during this first term of their exam course. More than usual tested the muddy tunnels at Sanctuary Wood and the array of designer wellies was a sight to be seen! As was the stunning display of red roses in Tyne Cot cemetery, shown here in the photograph

P. Williams



Visit by German TV

As part of the growing concern about obesity in Europe. ZOF (a German television channel) came to visit Connaught School to see what we are doing to combat obesity



In food lessons every student is entitled to 20 hours of cooking time in KS3. This helps students to develop their confidence and skills in the kitchen. Students become more aware of healthy eating habits thus combating obesity.

The girls were interviewed by the crew while making fruit salads. They were asked about what they are learning in food lessons and if they enjoyed cooking. The girls were very confident chefs and the German crew were full of praise for their excellent behaviour and they hope to visit the school again.

A. Niesing

PE

Both year 10 & 11 pupils now have the opportunity to go to Redbridge sports centre for their PE lesson on Monday & Wednesday afternoons. This is very successful with girls being able to enjoy squash, badminton, aerobics & the fitness centre.

Diplomas

The creative arts and media course was one of the year 10 options choices this year. A small group of pupils chose this as they were very interested in all the elements that the course was going to cover. The course offers excellent resources at the CLC centre, where the pupils have been working on the media aspect of the course. They have been making news adverts, using video, auto cues and pupils have experienced the roles of sound technicians and director. The girls have been improving their functional skills working closely with an outside company and spending time with guest speakers. The pupils have enjoyed mixing with others pupils from neighbouring schools & have found the diploma to be fun, exciting and a new and different way of learning.

S. Diamond HOY 10

Iftari

Thanks to Year 11 pupils & Ms Meyer who organised Iftari on Tuesday 30th September. The girls gave a presentation about the meaning of Ramadan and Eid. The sit down meal was excellent & everyone enjoyed themselves.

OPEN EVENING

About 400 people attended our Open Evening on Tuesday 14th October. The prospective parents were very positive about many aspects of the school, the tour guides, the pupils in the rooms and the standard of work on display. There were many different activities going on all over the school and we hope we gave our visitors a taste of Connaught life.

CHARITIES

We all enjoyed the "Bring your bear" to school day on Friday 10th October. A total of £196.50 was raised for medical research for very young children. This month we are selling pink ribbons in aid of Breast Cancer awareness and also poppies for the British Legion



School Council Reps & School Representatives

7C Nadia Sharif
7S Ammaarah Timol
7W Ella Augustin
7F Rachel Gillan
8C Oke Obiweubi
8S Sarwat Parvez
8W Ropita Rammya
8F Temidayo Orungbamila
9C Sumaiyyah Patel
9S Naomi Mbimba
9W Amber Donovan
9F Sahani Halwathura

10C Gunesh Panahian-Jand
10S Nadya Baungally
10W Dominika Krywcun
10F Fatima Khalil
11C Sahra Siddiqui
11S Yasmin Barton
11W Kelly De Freitas
11F Hannah Akhtar
BSF Heena Battiwala & Samara Alvis Lee
Olympic Ambassadors Hajra Patel & Felicia Davies
School Council Leaders
Keziah Kissi, Aysha Ingar, Reqaiyah Khwaja

THE GOVERNORS' PROFILE

This is available on our web site but if you would like a printed copy please phone the school office 0208 539 3029 ann.betts@sch.walthamforest.gov.uk Ann Betts Head teacher