



Every Child Matters

Earlier this year I wrote about how the students had been hearing in assemblies about the topic of Making a Positive Contribution to school. Since then there have been many occasions when some of them have been able to do this, including wearing a hat last Friday to raise money for victims of the Haiti earthquake and being part of the public events to mark Holocaust Memorial Day. On the right you will see another good example which many of our Sixth Form students are doing: volunteering. When you read this I am sure that you will be impressed with this activity, not least in the way that it contradicts the image of young people that is so often portrayed in the press and on television. Added to which, the students find this very rewarding.

I used capital letters in the phrase Making a Positive Contribution because it is one of the five elements of a strategy the government has been urging schools to follow, called Every Child Matters, and this again is something that I have mentioned before. One of the other parts of this strategy is Be Healthy and we have addressed this in part by our recent award of Healthy Schools status. The remaining strands are Enjoy and Achieve, Stay Safe, and Achieve Economic Wellbeing. The last of these is less clear in schools as it is covered within the teaching content of various subjects and especially PSHE and Citizenship. Staying Safe has always been a basic concern for all students and employees in schools but has been greatly enhanced in recent years by various regulations and checks that have been brought in and which are checked by Ofsted each time they visit. These give parents the reassurance that correct and tight systems are in place to ensure that children are safe. There is also an element within this of teaching the children to ensure that they themselves behave in a safe way and know what this means.

The final strand, Enjoy and Achieve, is probably what most of us think is the core purpose of education and so it is this one that we concentrate on most, continually evaluating what we do and amending it where we can. Published league tables emphasise the Achieve part of this and parents are frequently told how their child is progressing but we do not ignore the Enjoy part and bear this in mind in planning the lessons and curriculum, asking students at various points in the year for their opinion on the issue.

There is always more that could be done and we will continue to build and develop what we do to provide that element of enjoyment in school.

Sean Hayes

Volunteering

Sixth Form students have been involved over the last term in volunteering work. They have been working towards the **vinspired** awards scheme which recognises the time students commit to their volunteering activities, through 2 awards:

- **vfifty**, gained from completing 50 hours volunteering within 12 months
- **vim pact**, achieved by doing a further 100 hours volunteering within 12 months

The **vinspired** awards scheme was designed to boost students CVs by showing employers, colleges, universities and others clear evidence of what they have achieved as a volunteer, whilst encouraging them to give something back to the community. The students have become more confident and aware of the world around them in doing so.

The activities students have been involved in are immeasurable and have involved activities both in school and out. In-school activities have included: peer mentoring students in younger years and in St Thomas More primary school, acting as reading buddies, acting as musicians for school productions, tour guides for visitors and open evenings, organising the Eid party and school discos for the local primary school.

Clive Sheridan, through the Youth Action Team, has organised a huge fundraising party to raise funds for the Meningitis Research Foundation. It is to be held on 16 February at The City Club in Peterborough and Nicole Lawrence will be performing. Tickets are £5. For more information please phone 01733 341345 or text 07852451250. Clive has also written below about the volunteer work he has been doing.

I volunteer with "Young Lives", a voluntary company working with Young People between 16 and 25 years of age. I am part of a group run by Young Lives called "The Youth Action Team". I decided to do voluntary work because I feel that I can help my community in some way. The Youth Action Team is currently organising a charity party for the Meningitis Research Foundation, open to anyone over 15. This work has helped me understand that I can help my community through volunteering and out of it I can get a nationally recognised award from a partner company called Vinvolved.

Parent Champion

In his role as Parent Champion, Father David will be available to see parents on Tuesday 9 February at 3.30 pm. Father David may be contacted by phoning him direct on 01733-562528 ext 5, or by email at frdavidallsouls@hotmail.com

Achievement in French

This week we are celebrating the achievement of students in the French department. Awards go to:

Effort

Year 7 Michal Polak, Kaneez Abbas
Year 8 Mateusz Betlej, Zehra Latif
Year 9 Clarissa Phillips, Daniel Pacan
Year 10 Hira Iqbal, Siobhan Kelly
Year 11 Shannon Thompson, Aaron Graham
Year 12 Jade Wheeler

Progress

Year 7 Sophie Palmer, Natali Doronina
Year 8 Giovane Azevedo, Thanushiya Konesalingam
Year 9 Jordan McCormack, Airidas Sulga
Year 10 Claudio Marques, Kyle O'Sullivan
Year 11 Ivan Nascimento, Reema Mahmood

Achievement

Year 7 Danae Larham, Josephine Smith
Year 8 Kelly White, Aleksandra Tetnowski
Year 9 Lisamarie Jones, Abbas Tejani,
Nicole Atkinson
Year 10 Katherine Ager, Zainia James
Year 11 Michael Jones, Paulina Nguyen
Year 12 Antonio Monteiro

Congratulations and well done to all.
Ms Haine



100% Club

The following students achieved 100% attendance during the Autumn Term 2009. These students will receive 25 merits which can be exchanged at the Reward Shop run by the Student Support Officers.

Year 7

7AK Goncalo Lopes Grilo, Anastasia Webb
7KI Diogo Barata, Laura Bowden, Bartosz Cackowski
Thomas Chapman, Ronaldo De Noronha
Chelsie Fitzjohn, Caitlin Good, Tracey Hercules
Sarah Louise Kelly, Asprilla Munyiri, Katarina
Tiserova
7MS Patryk Medrala
7VY Victoria Kelly-Gobuiwang
Leandra Balde, Miguel Bicho, Marcelina Klupiec
7WD
Julia Koczulap, Elaine Krstonosic, Milton Miah-Pitman

Year 8

8AD Federica Funicello, Dainius Pluskus, Kelly White
8JO Rhianna Chalmers
8VE Lucy Bailey, Lauren Buckley
8WK Rufaro Chibanda, Carly Lee, Sabrina Rodrigues

Year 9

9DR Artis Debesnieks, Emily Gardner, Hevelina
Mendes
Calton Souza
9VV Patryk Kopiejka, Georgie Miah-Pitman
9WM Jessica Gilbert

Year 10

10BY Charlotte Aitken, Sean Barry, Claudio Marques
10CK Shannan Craig, Daniel Dane, Svajune Juknelyte
Janine Kettle, Maria Miranda, Laura Smith
Patryk Zakrocki
Dominic Falco, Louise Johnstone, Damien
10GW Maggs
10HD Daria Wiecek
10QU Katherine Ager, Chynna Pascual, Luis Santos

Year 11

11AN Heather Hung, Jordan MacIntosh, Sebastian
Michalski
Stacy Noronha, Luke Sheridan
11BT Samantha Lee
11GR Aidan Godleman, Sainjal Solly
Daniel Anderson, Konrad Radzikowski, Ashley
11HA Smith

Sixth Form

CL James Chapman
JJ Lilian Munyiri, Chantelle Woodbine-Bogle
SH Hannah Bolton, Kyle Doyle, Orson Noronha
TU Antonio De Miranda, Erich Kuc, Tu Qian

Sports News

Year 9 Boys and Girls Dodgeball teams played recently at an inter school tournament at Thomas Deacon Academy. Each team played 3 games: the Girls won 2 and the Boys won 1.

The KS4 Girls Football team played a tournament recently at Stanground College. Their results were:
v Voyager - lost 0 - 3 v Jack Hunt - drew 2 - 2
v Stanground - lost 4 - 0 v Bushfields - won 2 - 0
An excellent performance by the girls in what was their first tournament.

ICT Revision Session

An ICT revision and catch up with coursework sessions will run each Monday after school, from 3.30 to 5.00 pm.

Classics Clinic

Classics Clinic will be running every lunchtime from 1.25-1.45 in room 108 from 8 February until 12 February for those students who did not gain at least a grade C in their mock examination for Classical Civilisation. I would greatly appreciate parental support with student attendance. (Mr Boyle)