

Students return from Goa

No 397 Dec 13

Oaklands News

Outstanding Section 48 Validation

**Message from new
Chair of Governors
Transforming lives in Korogocho**



A publication for
Oaklands Catholic School
and Sixth Form College

Lead Stories



Oaklands

Catholic School and Sixth Form College

A Specialist Humanities and Science College

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Philippines <i>Support for Typhoon</i>	5	<i>"But....., it's not fair, It's not me....., why me?....., If only....." Most parents and teachers will recognise these as the war cry of the average teenager when they maintain discontent with life or a situation. In response to the teenage malaise, Bill Gates in a speech to high school graduates, which has almost become an urban internet legend, dished out a dose of realism to youngsters. He described to them his eleven rules for life. Mr Microsoft's first rule , "Life's not fair, get used to it" and his fifth, "Flipping burgers is not beneath your dignity". Your grandparents had a different word for burger flipping they called it opportunity".</i>
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Music <i>Singing extravaganza</i>	10	<i>The Christmas story is full of circumstances that are less than ideal. Mary could have said, "It's not fair" at that moment when she was told she would carry the son of God. Joseph could have said "Why me" when he discovered his situation. What of the "if only" statement? If only we did not have to go to Bethlehem for the census, if only there was room in the inn, if only the barn was not full of smelly animals".</i>
Young Carers <i>Ice skating in Winchester</i>	11	
Government and Politics <i>Trip to conference</i>	12	<i>None of this happened by accident and there is a message in the circumstances of Jesus' birth that were far less than ideal. The facts of Jesus' birth adorn our nativity scenes, Christmas cards and Advent calendars, but how often do we take the truth into our own hearts and everyday lives? Christmas is about hope and a better future, year on year we seek this Nirvana. This year why not challenge yourself to do something different; instead of lamenting the present and wishing for a better future why not cease the opportunity of the present. Challenge yourself to keep your eyes open for what God might be doing in the present, despite what is less than ideal. The words of St. Teresa of Avila, "Christ has no body now on earth but yours, no hands but yours". Provide the impetus to respond to Christ's calling now. I believe Christ's presence is with us in the here and now we just need to create the opportunity for this to grow and it is our actions that will lead to true contentment and joy not just at Christmas but for ever- more.</i>
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From the Headteacher's desk

At the end of last month we received our Section 48 Validation by the Diocese. **I am delighted to report that we received "Outstanding" in all categories.** This is a fantastic endorsement of the school, in particular, the Catholic life of the community, teaching and learning and school ethos. The full report will be made available to parents before the end of term. Thank you to all parents who contributed to the parental questionnaire.

Storm Damage

This term has been exceptionally busy, on behalf of you all, I would like to thank all the staff, teachers and support staff for their commitment and hard work this term. Unfortunately, earlier this term during the Autumn storms a tree came down overnight and damaged the Music block, water entered the building damaging equipment. The damage has now been repaired.



Earlier this term the Sixth Form and Year 11 spent time at St Cassian's Retreat Centre in Kintbury. The retreat experience which remains popular is an opportunity for students to do a little 'soul searching' as a community and identify God in the ordinary and everyday. Giving students such an opportunity is just one element that makes our community unique.

The pace of the school's work for charity continues at a pace; this term we have focussed on supporting St John's School in Korogocho in Kenya (see Page 14) this work will continue next year.

Too much or too little.

Many parents appear to have a view about communication between school and home. Some say there is too much information, particularly when the same piece of information comes via e-mail and in a paper form. Others say there is too little, particularly when making the comparison with the experience in the primary schools. Other parents tell me they would like everything electronic, citing the unreliability of the student bag as a postal service. This term we have been piloting keeping our reception open until 5:00pm. This pilot will continue after Christmas. We have also started to look at how we can streamline our e-mail system to improve the filtering.

At the beginning of the year in the first edition of the Oaklands News the school issued a calendar containing all the events from Parents' Evenings through to social events. With each subsequent issue we also highlight important

dates over the next term. Parents will also ask, 'How do I know how my child is performing'? The answer to this is found in the progress reviews, reports and through the verbal feedback received during Parents' Evening. In addition, the school devotes a week to book sharing where parents are encouraged to read student books and write comments. For specific groups, for example students with special needs, we run additional Parents' Evenings.

External examinations

A significant number of students will be sitting internal and external examinations shortly after the Christmas break. It is important that these go well. The secret to this is thorough and comprehensive revision over the holiday.

On 9th January the school will host the Presentation of Certificates Evening. If you have a son or daughter in last year's Year 11 or last year's Year 13 you should have received an invitation. If you require further details please contact the school office.

Finally, may I wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas and I look forward to welcoming students back at the normal time on Monday 6th January.

Matthew Quinn

Update on our Kenya project

Thank you for your support of the Oaklands St. John's Sponsor a Child Programme. The response to this appeal has been overwhelming and we are delighted to announce that at the moment a total of 175 pupils at St John's will benefit from the donations from the school, parents and community. This equates to over £5200 being raised since October. Year 7 alone have raised over £540, with 7 Martin raising over £180. We did not anticipate raising this much money, so we have been working closely with Father Stefano Giudici, the Director of St. John's School to see how we can maximise the number of children we can support. Under his guidance we have found a way to support even more through a scholarship programme. Father Stefano wants to be able to respond quickly to the needs of families and more importantly the children.



Stop Press!
The Christmas Carol Service raised £900 for St John's. Thank you all for your enormous generosity.

The scholarship fund will enable the school to do this, so if a family's circumstances change during the academic year and they are unable to fund the fees, the scholarship fund will help. Equally, if a family's situation improves the money can be directed towards other youngsters. It will not be taken for



granted that the sponsorship of a particular child will continue for the whole school year and the study bursary will be used to both motivate and reward. Parents of sponsored children are always encouraged to make all possible efforts to take care of their own child's education – our aim is to empower the families through education. Similarly, the sponsored children will be encouraged to be excellent academic students, working to the best of their ability, whatever level that may be, which may become a requirement of their continued sponsorship.



The children who benefit from the fund will be chosen through a continuous assessment by the school social workers, in dialogue with the administration of the school.

The schools in Kenya are currently closed after the end of their academic year. When they reopen in January the children who are going to benefit from this scholarship programme will be selected. At this point we will contact you again with further details. If you have any questions about this scholarship programme, do not hesitate to contact Mr Sumba using m.sumba@oaklandscatholicsschool.org or through the school.

On behalf of the community of St John's, we thank you for your continued support. Fr Stefano, on hearing how as a community we have responded to their need, sent us the following message: *"Thank you so much for your efforts in supporting our school. I am humbled by your feelings of concern and solidarity. On behalf of all the staff, the children and the whole Korogocho Community thank you very much and may God bless you."*

Oaklands and St Thomas More's respond to Typhoon Haiyan

The horrors of Typhoon Haiyan have rippled across the world and been felt keenly among south Hampshire's Filipino community. When disasters strike a rapid response is critical to help those in need. Both the communities of Oaklands and St Thomas More's responded quickly collecting basic necessities that could be shipped abroad to help the disaster relief. Within a few days dozens and dozens of boxes had been filled. Two car loads arrived at Oaklands from St Thomas More's school on the day of the collection. All of the items have been forwarded to the Filipino community for distribution abroad. In addition, Oaklands held an emergency 'Non Uniform Day' and raised over £1000 and the OPA raised over £300 at the Craft Fayre.

Thank you to the parents of St Thomas Moore's and Oaklands for your generosity



Havant Pastoral Mission

On Sunday 8th December the Havant Area Mission final celebration mass was held at Oaklands. The school was delighted to be able to host the event, over 500 parishioners from the Pastoral Area attended. Parishioners and students from Oaklands, St. Thomas More's and St. Peter's schools took part in the celebration.

At the end of the celebration Father Tom Gruffety presented two Oaklands students with a candle which will be lit every day in the school chapel until the mission team return to Oaklands to lead the school Mission in March 2014.



In the last edition of the Oaklands News we reported on how our enterprise team won a trip to Goa. We catch up with them again now they have returned.

Along with Steve Rolls and Becki Simmons from Faith and Football's team of business mentors and with Mark Gibson representing Faith and Football's volunteers the *Girls in Hats* who comprised Felicity Barrows, Emma Latham (10 St. Clare) Bini Sibi (10 St. Vincent de Paul) and finally Georgina Page (10 St. Margaret) and their teacher Mrs Ludlam set off from Gatwick for India on Saturday 23rd November 2013.

Along with elephant rides and afternoons on the beach there was a serious and meaningful side to the trip. Faith and Football has long been associated with Mustard Seed Ministries (www.msm.org.uk) who

support and fund social care provision in India, Bangladesh and the Philippines. One of the trip's aims was to visit some of these provisions and see where the competition proceeds have ended up.

Faith and Football Enterprise

In January there was a chance to enter a competition, run by Faith and Football, to raise money for people in India, the Philippines and Uganda. It lasted four months and thirty seven teams from different schools created their own business and went to sell their own products. By the end of the competition every group made a presentation for the judges so they could decide the winning team that would go to India.

"Girls in Hats" was set to join this competition and we made and sold jewellery. We made a range of jewellery including bracelets, rings, earrings and necklaces. Some of these products were made using recycled materials and all four of us in this business had our own style of jewellery to make. We were inspired to do this because we had found that you could get bracelet and jewellery making packs that had everything you needed to easily make lovely jewellery. We worked out other styles of jewellery and knew this was our best option and made a great product. Our unique selling point was making handmade jewellery and we all wore hats to stand out in the crowd. Our team came together because we all decided we wanted to help those who need it in poorer countries and we created a team so that we could be sure that we were helping others.

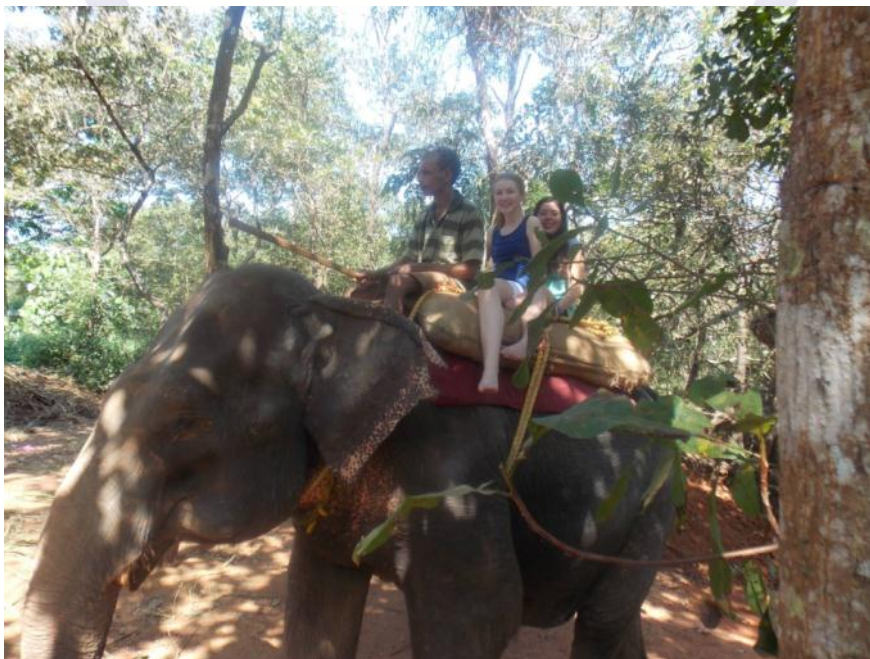
We had two trading days that were organised by Faith and Football. Every group that

took part went to the first day at Cascades and at The Meridian Centre. Cascades was a good experience in which to start selling but with so many teams there it was packed and harder to encourage customers to come to our stall. We sold a lot of products but because of the layout of our stalls it was not as much as we expected. At the Meridian Centre there were fewer teams so there was a lot more space and we were able to pick where we wanted to be. We found it was better there with more customers and we gained from the experience of selling at Cascades.

On 11th June, the results were announced. Everybody who took part received a certificate and some teams got awards for being highly recommended. But the winning team that will be going to India is Girls In Hats!

We were all very excited and shocked to hear the news that we get to go to India and at first it seemed too good to be true. It will be an amazing experience that we helped raise money for. It will be a once in a life time experience that we will not forget.

By Girls In Hats - Georgina Page, Emma Latham, Felicity Barrows and Bini Sibi.



The girls sat and chatted with elderly men and women in community homes as well as visiting a Lamini village to drop off consignments of rice and sweets for the families there.

One of the highlights was a visit to a special needs home for children, although some of the inhabitants have been there for more than fifteen years. This is not a home that finishes caring at 16, 18 or even 21 years of age. One man is still at Little Angels and proudly told us he is 42!

This above image shows Bini Sibi and Felicity Barrows making



friendship bracelets with the boys. It was called Little Angels and all the students were rescued from one difficulty or another. They were not necessarily orphans and some even returned to their family. The lad to the right of this image was Kumar and he had learning difficulties but was an amazing dancer! He was very enthusiastic about the bracelet making. The girls were outstanding in their relationships with the boys at Little Angels. It was lovely to see. They made bracelets, gave bouncy balls to everyone, as well as new football shirts and notebooks and then we ended the day by playing water-balloon cricket. We all got soaked but with the temperature over 35 degrees Celsius it was worth every second!

Well done to the girls, they were an absolute credit to themselves and their families.

The week holds a host of memories for everyone who went. It was a wonderfully planned week and opened our eyes to the happy endings that can be achieved if we all give a little and think a lot!



Faith and Football's 2014 Enterprise Competition begins anew and students in Year 9 have already been thinking creative thoughts to develop some great business plans.

About 75 students have had their first meeting with business mentor Becki Simmons. Now they must think about funding and production whilst the rest of us are opening presents and chomping on turkey.

Competing students will attend a grand launch on 20th January 2014 along with 350 other students; Linvoy Primus and Mick Mellows of Faith and Football. They pursue a top prize of a visit to Goa next November and the competition ends at the beginning of May 2014.



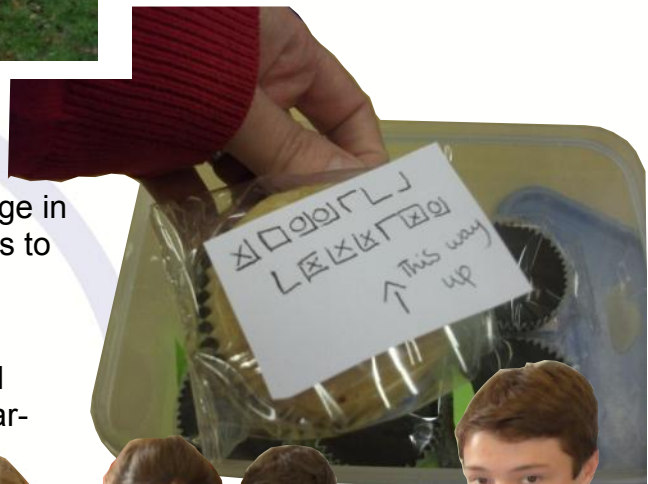
Historical News

The History Department at Oaklands has been very creative over the last half term and a big thank you has to go out to parents who have obviously been helping with students work at home!



Year 7 have been completing a re-enactment of the Battle of Hastings, helping them to understand how and why the famous 'trick of retreat' worked for William the Conqueror. The students really enjoyed these battles and this will help them to answer their upcoming assessment question 'Why did William win the Battle of Hastings?'

Year 8 have been investigating Elizabeth I and why she was such a successful monarch. This led to some groups studying the use of espionage in Tudor England and having to use inventive ways to deliver a secret letter to their teacher.



Year 9 Have been studying World War One and have completed an in depth study on Trench warfare. Some of the projects from home were outstanding including model trenches, cakes and minecraft. pro-



History Club
Year 7 History Club have been meeting Tuesday lunchtimes in J4 and have completed a project on Roman Mosaics which they will develop further on an upcoming visit to Fishbourne Roman Palace in Chichester. They have now begun to research, plan and prepare a Tudor Banquet which they will be cooking and then eating on Wednesday 18th December. Come along and join us in January to help choose our new practical discovery project!

Practice Interviews

From 27th-29th November Year 11 experienced their first taste of a real life interview! Every student had the chance to take a short practice interview with people who were qualified in a range of industries and had past experience interviewing people for different roles.

We all took the opportunity to dress up in smart clothes and had to prepare ourselves for the interview in various ways; one of these being spending some time preparing a CV and putting together a record of achievement. We were all given a time and had to attend a twenty minute slot with our interviewer. The interview began

with a handshake before sitting down to discuss future career options. We were asked questions about the college options that we were considering and even the possibility of higher education such as university. The interviewers helped us to find out what we would need to do in a real interview and what we had already done which has impressed them. After going through our records of achievement and CV the interviewer asked us if we had any questions; in response we took an interest in their personal experience and training.

We all found the interviews a valuable experience and they have given us more confidence and understanding of what we need to do when we leave school in order to give ourselves the best possible chance of getting a good job. It was a great opportunity and we thank all the interviewers for giving up their time and Mrs Payne for organising the event.



Phoebe Meades and Bethany Moore – Year 11

Poppy Cake Miss Mousdale

Anastasia Lonergan, 7 St. Margaret, is one of our talented food technologists who loves baking. I had a conversation with her about making a poppy themed cake, I asked when she had made it and what she would do with it, she had no idea so I suggested she drop it into the Ex-Servicemen's Club as they would appreciate it.

I thought nothing more of this conversation until Sunday 10th November. I supported a good friend at the Remembrance Day Parade in Havant and we returned after the parade for coffee at the Ex-Servicemen's Club. The ladies there were serving coffee and offered me a piece of cake that, in their words, "a beautiful young lady from Oaklands Catholic School had made and donated". . .



Singing Extravaganza

I thoroughly enjoyed the “Twist” production. We sang a mixture of songs, with older students in the school acting out small parts of it. In preparation for the production we practised lots of the songs in our music lessons. When we did the show, each Year 7 tutor group was paired up with another tutor group to sing their songs. We had live music from a student and staff band; they were amazing! Miss Flood and Mrs Richardson were really good at sorting us out and helping us learn all the songs. My parents enjoyed the production and my brother sang along to the songs he knew. It was a great experience and I cannot wait to do another production.

Emily Chatfield 7 St. Clare



Duke of Edinburgh's Award

We now have nine Bronze groups and three Silver groups underway with their respective programmes. I would urge all participants to ensure that their programme plans are approved before starting out on their activities. Expedition training has started; a Navigation and Cooking Exercise was successfully completed by the Silver Groups and the Bronze Groups have received training in basic First Aid, personal kit and mapwork and have recently spent a morning out on Stoughton Down learning basic navigation techniques and how to cope in an emergency. Next term our focus will be on the planning of the practice and assessed expeditions and general campcraft.

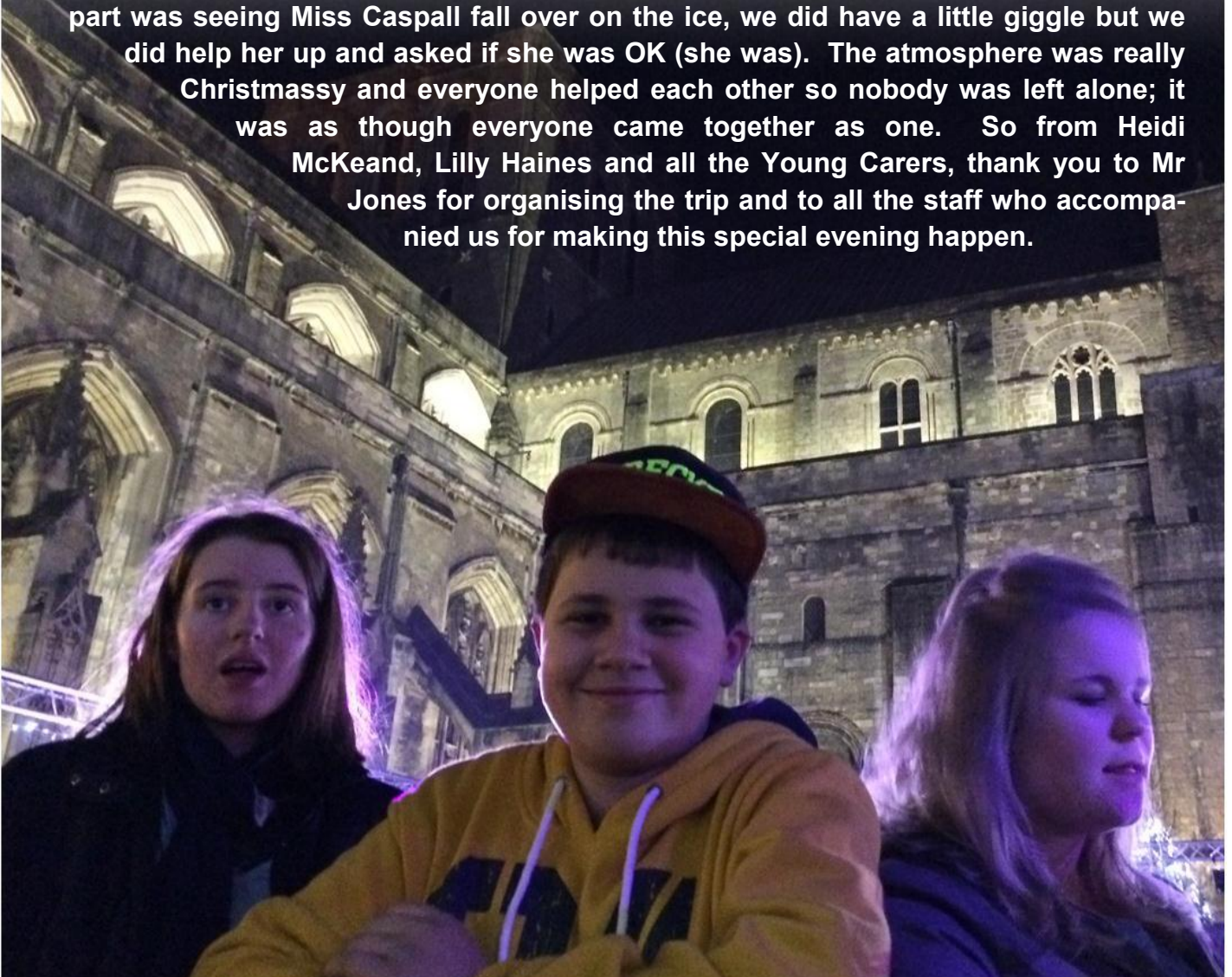
Since our last report I am delighted that five more participants have completed their Awards. Congratulations to:

Silver Award Michael Cottam and Liam Farrell

Bronze Award: Alisha Ayles, Jack Cross and Peter Taylor

Young Carers on Ice at Winchester

On the evening of Thursday 12th December, twenty one Young Carers went to Winchester to go Ice Skating and to have pizza. We all enjoyed it very much. The best part was seeing Miss Caspall fall over on the ice, we did have a little giggle but we did help her up and asked if she was OK (she was). The atmosphere was really Christmassy and everyone helped each other so nobody was left alone; it was as though everyone came together as one. So from Heidi McKeand, Lilly Haines and all the Young Carers, thank you to Mr Jones for organising the trip and to all the staff who accompanied us for making this special evening happen.



Government and Politics

This September Year 12 Government and Politics students attended the Labour Party Conference in Brighton. We started the day in the Grand Hotel and attended fringe debates on the deficit and immigration. The debate on Immigration was particularly interesting, where Lord Glasman and John Denham MP spoke about the decline in English identity and how Labour must respond to the increased popularity of UKIP.

We then gathered outside to watch Ed Miliband make his way to the conference hall for his Leader's Speech, brushing shoulders with Nick Robinson and Michael Crick and the accompanying media scrum. Mike Cox-Smith and Andy Burnham MP (Shadow Health Minister) even got to chat about their mutual love of Everton Football Club!

We finished the day by attending a panel debate organised by the Progress think tank. It proved a

really enjoyable debate, involving Peter Hain MP and Phil Collins, the Political Editor of the Times newspaper, with issues diverse as HS2 and mental health being discussed by the panel and audience.

A few days later Mr Smith received an e-mail from Robert Philpot, the Director of Progress, in which he said, "I just wanted to drop you a very quick line to say how impressed I was by your students. I know that Liz Kendall and Peter Hain were similarly impressed... Thank you, too, for bringing your students along – a number of the panel said it was good to have a bit of a different audience from those who normally attend such meetings."

Thank-you to Mr Smith for organising such an interesting and inspiring trip – next year Tory Party Conference!
Hollie Marriot-Veck



Fond Farewells

At the end of this term we bid a fond farewell to three members of staff:

Mrs Lucy Fackrell who has been part of our Catering team since September 2012.

Miss Hazelle Hill joined Oaklands as a newly qualified teacher just over a year ago and has made an excellent contribution to the Sixth Form where she teaches Sociology and Health and Social Care. We wish her well as she returns to her native north of England.

Mr Paul Zotos joined the Science department at Oaklands in September 2005 and over the past eight years has established himself as a valued member of the department where he has made a substantial contribution at Key Stages 3 and 4. We will all miss his dry sense of humour!

We thank these colleagues for their contribution to Oaklands, we will continue to remember them in our prayers and wish them success and fulfilment in all they do in the future.

New Dictionary by 7 St. Dominic

Over our last few English lessons we have been getting creative. We have created our own words and persuaded Miss Sharma to put them in her new dictionary 2014! It all started off with a boy in our class, named Kens Joshy, creating his own word. This gave Miss Sharma inspiration and a great idea... we could all make up our own words and use persuasive devices to convince her to put it in the soon to be dictionary. We had to keep it a secret, this was a challenge as we were so excited!

We started by persuading Miss Sharma to give us a sweet! We had to use flattery, emotive language and maybe even rhyme! Most people won the grand prize of the sweet, this got us motivated! Our homework was to create our own word and definition. Time to get thinking!

We got into small groups and had to create a jingle and TV advert. We had to perform it in front of the class, Miss Sharma, Mrs Sullivan and one very special guest... Mr. Quinn, our Headteacher. We thought it would be great to invite Mr Quinn to watch our unique performances and see how well we've settled in! All of 7 St. Dominic were very enthusiastic about these performances!

We then had a few lessons to create our TV advert and memorable jingle! Meganachinale! It was so enjoyable! Meganachinale is my new creation; it is an exclamation when you've had a pleasant shock or surprise! My group came up with our jingle really quickly and had the whole class singing it! We then started creating our acting scenes which included our new words. However, we couldn't forget about the persuading part! This was the main part as we really wanted to persuade Miss Sharma to put it into the dictionary! We included all the persuasive devices we knew to convince her to put it into her dictionary!

The day then arrived, Monday 2nd December. Mr.Quinn had taken his seat; Miss Sharma was ready; we were prepared, let's go! We were nervous but knew we would make our teacher and class proud! We all had confidence in our fellow class mates to do 7 St. Dominic proud!

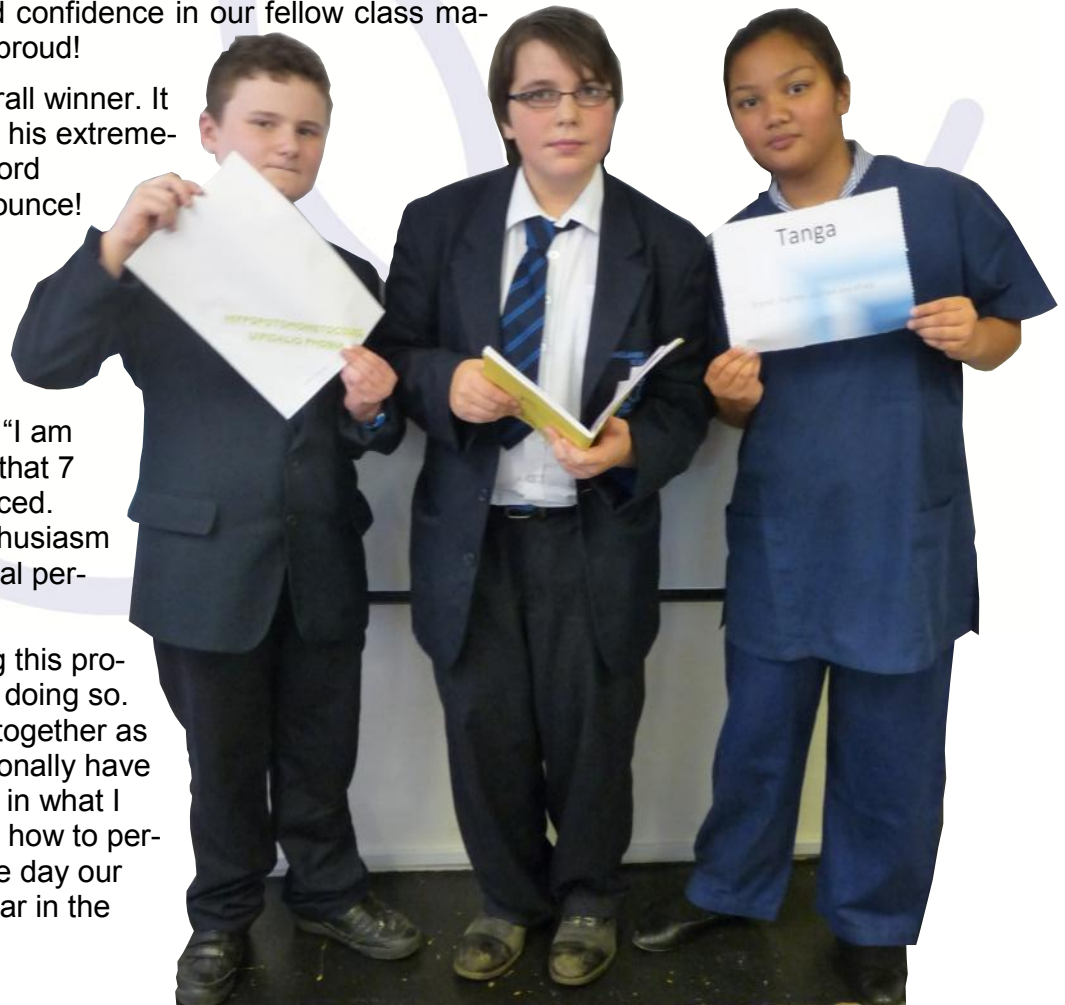
Mr.Quinn chose an overall winner. It was Charlie Gooch with his extremely long and confusing word which I can't even pronounce!

Our performances went incredibly well and everyone was proud including Miss Sharma.

This is what she said after the performances: "I am delighted with the work that 7 St. Dominic have produced. Your hard work and enthusiasm was reflected in your final performances!"

I have learnt a lot during this project and had a lot of fun doing so. It has bought us closer together as a tutor group and I personally have become more confident in what I do. We have also learnt how to persuade and hopefully one day our words will actually appear in the English Dictionary!

By Megan Clacey



Transport

The number 7 bus service from Southsea to Waterloooville is a very busy route that serves the public to reach key locations such as QA hospital, Cosham train station, South Downs College and Waterloooville town centre. Even though the service runs every 10 minutes throughout the day, and a new fleet of buses has been added to the route, we do appreciate that customer demand can make it difficult for students to board buses in the morning to get to school. As a school we have worked extensively with First Bus to make sure that two number 7 service buses call into the site at the end of the day to collect students to go home, but the morning journeys are harder to manage in terms of helping students to access buses in time to reach school, especially as they travel at a peak time along with other students and working adults. To help children get to school punctually, parents and carers may wish to consider alternative routes such as the number 8 or X9 services that can take children into Waterloooville first before catching the southbound number 7 or 145 service from Waterloooville to Oaklands.

Staying on transport, parents and carers are reminded of the need to park considerately in neighbouring streets if they are collecting or dropping students off. Cars should not block private driveways or be parked alongside dropped curbs, and parents and carers should not wait in private bays reserved for local residents. Our neighbours often contact the school (along with contacting St Peter's and Crookhorn) to complain of inconsiderate parking and uncooperative behaviour from members of the public dropping children to one of the three schools along

Stakes Hill Road, so we all need to be aware of the possible impact we may have on the surrounding roads.

When parents and carers do drop children off inside the school grounds in the morning, please do not wait in the car parks until just before the bell so your son or daughter can stay in the car; this takes up car parking spaces that are needed by members of staff and visitors to the school who can find the start to their working day delayed by trying to find a parking space. Stakes Hill Road is incredibly busy, so care must always be taken when turning into or pulling out of the school drive.

Recently, all students in the school were asked to place a

sticker in their diaries with the following message:

If you miss your bus or the person collecting you is late and you cannot contact anyone, you should go to the White House reception for assistance.

The White House reception will be the collection point for students when their normal travel plans to get home are disrupted.

It is important that parents and carers keep their contact details up to date by informing the school of any changes to phone numbers and addresses so that we can do all we can to help students who may find themselves left behind at school later than they would usually expect.

School Finance

Since our conversion to academy status in September 2011 our financial procedures and reporting requirements have become more stringent in line with government policy. Our financial year now runs up to 31st August each year bringing it in line with our academic year making the process of budgeting and prioritising our expenditure more meaningful. As an academy we are no longer under the constraints of local authority financing and as such it allows us the freedom to manage our resources and invest our income in the most lucrative way for the benefit of all our students. This freedom has allowed us to make some considerable improvements to the school site over the last 2 years which has been hugely enhanced by the generous parental donations to our building funds. There are still plenty of opportunities to be explored and economies of scale to be secured but the school's financial position continues to be strong and stands us in good stead to face what is bound to be a turbulent and uncertain period of further changes to education funding over the next few years.

Our full audited annual accounts are included in our Trustees report which is available on the school website on the Governing Body page via the About Us tab. Any questions should be sent directed to Jill McCall our Director of Finance and Business via the main school email address.

Term Dates 2013/2014

Christmas Holiday from Fri 20 December 2013 to Fri 3 January 2014.

Spring Term 2014

Mon 6 January to Fri 4 April 2014.

Half Term: Mon 17 February to Fri 21 February 2014.

Easter Holiday from Mon 7 April to Mon 21 April 2014.

Summer Term 2014

Tue 22 April to Fri 18 July 2014.

Half Term: Mon 26 May to Fri 30 May 2014.

Inset Days for 2013/2014 are as follows: Friday 20th December 2013, Friday 4th July and Monday 21st July 2014.

New Chair of Governors

My first term is now complete as the new Chair of Governors at Oaklands, so I thought it appropriate that I properly introduce myself to you, as well as a couple of reflections on the first few months back.

Taking the Chair from Capt. Paul Quinn was an extremely hard act to follow. Paul has worked tirelessly for over 13 years firstly as a governor and then as Chair. During that time he has successfully steered us through several Ofsted inspections, championed major infrastructure improvements and most recently was instrumental in our transition to Academy status. On behalf of all of the staff and governors at Oaklands, I would like to thank Paul and hope that I can live up to the standard that he has set for the Chair.

I joined the governing body in 2010, for a variety of reasons which include a debt of gratitude for my own education at Oaklands, contributing to the success of my children's time at the school and an opportunity to once again be part of the community of Oaklands. My family has had an association with the school for over 30 years, so although I still have much to learn about the modern educational environment – I



am no stranger to the warm caring ethos that binds the community of Oaklands.

This ethos, as well as the outstanding professionalism of a number of key individuals in the school was the reason that we were recently graded as 'outstanding' in a Section 48 Validation by the Diocese. During this assessment, the inspectors witnessed how we live our mission of Community, Unity and Opportunity. These are not just words, they are how the school educates our young people and it is what makes Oaklands very special and it is the reason that I believe the school continues to provide one of the best educational environments in this area.

All schools operate in a very challenging environment with change as a constant. To remain at the top of our game the school will need to adapt and develop. I am absolutely confident however that Oaklands is ready to meet these challenges. We have a great team at Oaklands, and with the support of parents and governors the Headteacher and staff will continue to deliver standards of education that we can all be extremely proud of.

Have a wonderful Christmas and a healthy and prosperous new year.

Andy Hastilow



CONSULTATION

ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS SEPTEMBER 2015

As required by regulations the Catholic Academy Trust Company in Havant operating as the Local Governing Body of Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College, Waterlooville will be conducting a consultation on its proposed admissions arrangements for the school year 2015 – 2016. The consultation period runs for a minimum period of 8 weeks from 6 December 2013 until 14 February 2014.

Copies of the proposed arrangements can be obtained from the school office or downloaded from the school website www.oaklands.hants.sch.uk.

Comments on the arrangements should be sent to the clerk to the Governing Body by 28 February 2014.

The Governing Body will consider all comments received before determining the policies by 15 April 2014.



Internet Safety Presentation for Parents

This presentation aims to:

- **Raise awareness about inappropriate sexual content & contacts children might come across online.**
- **Help parents identify things they need to think about so that their children can use the internet safely.**
- **Provide practical & relevant advice about internet safety and details of where to go for further information.**
- **Raise awareness about cyberbullying and how to combat it.**

Be informed and keep your children safe on line

DATE: Tuesday 18th March 2014

TIME: 6.30pm

LOCATION: Oaklands Sixth Form Conference Room

Stop it Now! UK & Ireland is a public education campaign aimed at preventing child sexual abuse by increasing public awareness and empowering all adults to act responsibly to protect children. Stop it Now! is managed by The Lucy Faithfull Foundation, a child protection charity, and supported by a National Freephone Helpline – 0808 1000 900.

✉ **Stakes Hill Road Waterlooville P07 7BW**

📧 **Oaklandscatholic@oaklands.hants.sch.uk**

🌐 **www.oaklands.hants.sch.uk**

☎ **023 9225 9214**



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