

## ROCK CHALLENGE

Please be aware that the date for Rock Challenge has changed to the 3rd of May in Bradford. The title of this years performance is The Wonderful World of OZ. Over 90 pupils are taking part this year. We are hoping to present the same performance at school on Friday the 28th of April. The performance lasts approximately 8 minutes, and will be shown at 3.30pm, 4.00pm, 4.30pm and 5.00pm. There will be NO rehearsals over the Easter Holidays. The rehearsals will be every night the first week back at school. Please come along and support us.



## THE JAGUAR CARS MATHS IN MOTION CHALLENGE FOR SCHOOLS

Pupils at Earlsheaton Technology College have been putting themselves in the shoes of professional pit crews to plan races and design racing cars using software that simulates a Grand Prix race. The victorious Year 7 team of Aaron Bailey, Hannah Dixon, Rachel Adamson and Jack Bolton raced against schools from all over England and Wales. The cleverly named Speedy Earls had a magnificent car and planned a superb race that saw them comfortably through to the national semi-finals.



### SPRING TERM

### SUMMER TERM

#### LAST DAY

#### FIRST DAY

#### HALF TERM

#### LAST DAY

Friday 7th  
April 2006

Monday 24th  
April 2006

Monday 29th  
May 2006  
to  
Friday 2nd  
June 2006  
inclusive

Friday 21st  
July 2006

### School will also be closed on:

**Monday 1st May 2006 for May Day.**

April 2006



Dear Parents/Carers

This term comes to a close with a number of issues keeping us busy, the key one being the need to respond to the changes that are going to influence education for the next decade. We will be contributing strongly to the Every Child Matters initiative where we will be working closely with all agencies to underwrite the right of every young person to a safe, challenging and productive childhood in which the ability to contribute to the organisation of their lives is encouraged. The ultimate aim is to better guarantee the economic future of each individual by having them better prepared to meet the challenges of adult life.

In keeping with this policy is the planned development of 14-19 education across the country where vocational courses, those inclined towards practical, work-focussed learning, will expand in all schools by 2008. Obviously we will respond to this requirement and information will be issued as developments take place.

In order to meet the new demands of a developing and technologically expanding economy we will need to engage in a series of major developments over the coming three years in which the changes in content of our teaching must be matched by expansion in the ways that children learn. If you consider how far young people have moved in their use of computers and ICT in general over the past ten years, they have outstripped the pace of change in most educational institutions. Teaching and learning is a partnership and we have to look at how we can increase the effective learning of children.

We are in an excellent position to make significant steps given the improvement in facilities, results and overall performance over recent years. We can move ahead with confidence and as parents and carers, you will have opportunities to contribute to the consideration of developments for the future.

I have included an important insert to this newsletter; it refers to the rights of parents and carers to have access to free school meals for our children. I am convinced that there are a large number of you who have the right but do not claim for one reason or another. Can I remind you that as a school we are losing out on large amounts of funding given out by the government because our free school meal uptake is probably only half of what we are really entitled to.

Can I ask you to check your entitlement and if you are in any doubt please either make a claim or contact school for assistance in doing so. Even if your child would prefer to have lunch under a different arrangement your claim is still valid and would help us no end in our battle for fairer funding for your children and fairer judgement of our performance as a school. At the moment we are compared to schools with 18% free school meals when in fact it is likely that our/your entitlement is nearer to 40%. This situation is costing us dear, probably close to the equivalent of an extra teacher based on government funding.

**PLEASE READ THE ENCLOSED LEAFLET AND RESPOND ACCORDINGLY.**

I close in anticipation of a very busy and rewarding summer term; in the meantime have a good break.

Paul Levey

For and on behalf of the Governors, Staff and pupils of our school



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Awarded for excellence



Healthy Schools



SPORT ENGLAND

## UK INTERMEDIATE MATHEMATICAL CHALLENGE

During February 60 pupils took part in the UK Intermediate Maths Challenge organised by the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust. Congratulations must go to Ryan Simmonds and Lee Scotcher they both received a Silver certificate. Bronze certificates went to Amy Driver, Alexandra Smith, Dean Kittleson, Adam McNally, Michael Teale, Ben Houlker, James Eccles, and Susan Land. The Junior Maths Challenge takes place in April.



5.10784.36  
2.719372  
9-1

## YEAR 11 REVISION INCENTIVE

There are ten £25.00 prizes to be won and Year 11 pupils can win just by attending revision classes. If they attend a revision day or five after school revision sessions they will be given a ticket to be entered into the draw. Registers will be kept of the pupils attending so it is important that those who attend get their mark. The more sessions they attend the more chance they have of winning.



## REVIEW DAY TWO: A LEARNING CONVERSATION

Review Day two will take place on Friday 12th May. The format of the day will be the same as Review Day one with pupils only attending school for their Learning Conversation with their tutor. The Learning Conversation will focus on their progress and any obstacles to pupils achieving their targets.



## TOGETHER WE WILL SUCCEED

As part of our continuing programme to support learning an evening for parents and pupils from Year 9 and Year 11 was organised. A series of fifteen minute workshops on revision strategies, coping with stress, memory techniques and using the internet were available for those who attended the evening.



## SCHOOL MEALS

From Monday 24th April the price of a school meal will increase to **£1.70**.

## NEW ARRIVALS

Congratulations to Ms Watt on the birth of Ella Ray and Mr Harrison on the birth of Lauren Jane.



## LOCAL ELECTIONS

Please note that the school will **NOT** be closed on the 4th of May for voting during the Local Elections.



## CRICCIETH 2006

Just a reminder to all in Year 7 and Year 10 pupils who are going to Criccieth in June that final payments are due after Easter. Any queries please contact Mrs Edmonds at the school.

## NEW YORK

Arrangements are now well in hand for a six day visit to New York during the Easter holiday of 2007. Forty pupils and seventeen staff will be making the trip to the Big Apple where they will be staying near Times Square, taking part in two performing arts workshops with professional actors and dancers as well as going to see two shows on Broadway. The group will be visiting the Empire State Building, Central Park and of course the famous store Macy's!

## LONDON VISIT

During the February half term holiday 40 pupils and 6 staff spent two days in London visiting places like Covent Garden, Tate Modern, Planet Hollywood and Shakespeare's Globe Theatre on the Southbank. The group stopped overnight in the Novotel in London's Docklands. The group also saw two top West End Shows, Bloodbrothers and Phantom of the Opera.



## IT'S YOUR SHOUT

**New website offers people the chance to air their opinions online.**

A group of five students from Year 10 here at the school have been working with staff from the IYCE programme (Involving Young Citizens Equally) to develop a website for young people — Shout it Out. It has been designed to let young people get their views across to councillors, council services and other agencies across Kirklees. IYCE regularly work with different groups of young people who act as an editorial group. This group decided to focus on safety for young people and their communities and they want to hear from young people about their experiences and what they think needs to be done to make communities safer. Young people can have their say by visiting [www.shoutitout.org.uk](http://www.shoutitout.org.uk).