

## “The 7 Habits of a Highly Effective Teenager.”



On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February, 10 pupils from year 10 attended the ‘Shaping the Agenda’ Conference hosted by Yorkshire Forward. Yorkshire Forward is the Regional Development Agency charged with improving the Yorkshire and Humber economy. The venue for this event was the Science Adventure centre, Magna, Sheffield.

Opening the conference was **The Right Hon Ed Balls MP** Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families.

The pupils discussed what strategies they can adopt to make both their school and home life more successful. They participated in games, spoke openly with managers of regional businesses and examined how they could cope better with the stresses placed upon today’s teenagers. They were given a copy of the book, ‘The 7 habits of a highly effective teenager’ by the training provider – Franklin Covey.

Our pupils asked themselves, ‘Am I **Pro-active** – do I think and choose my responses before I react; can I take responsibility for my actions? Or am I **Reactive** – Do I make choices and act on feelings, moods and emotions?’ They also learned to ‘Control your own destiny or someone else will.’

Closing the conference was **The Rt Hon David Blunkett MP**. Blind since birth and from a poor working class family, he told the 150 young people that whatever life may throw at you, however difficult your personal circumstances may be, if you study hard and aim high you can achieve anything.



Pupils to be commended for their participation from E.T.C. were Lauren Price, Josh Bailey, Ollie Pygott, Danielle Frain, Chloe Jennings, Ryan Ellis, Kevan Padgett and Shauna Glover.

<b>Easter Holiday:</b> Break up Thursday 20th March ‘08	<b>Spring Bank Holiday:</b> Break up Friday 23rd May ‘08	<b>Summer Holiday:</b> Break up Tuesday 24th July ‘08
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Staff only Monday 7th April ‘08	All pupils back in school Monday 2nd June ‘08	All pupils back in school Thursday 4th Sept ‘08
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All pupils back in School  
Tuesday 7th April ‘08

### School will be closed on:

**Monday 7th April 2008 for staff training**  
**Monday 5th May 2008 for May Day.**



## EASTER NEWSLET

## TER

Dear Parents/Carers

March 2008

We continue to progress towards achieving the targets we set ourselves as a specialist school and those targets set for us by the Local Authority and the Government. In regards to our targets for attendance we have recently made great efforts to reduce the relatively small but stubborn number of pupils who seem to think that attendance at school is optional. Whilst all schools have issues with this aspect of school life, we have worked specifically to reduce our number of absences through the targeting of information in order to give us a precise picture of the situation. What is clear is that fixed penalty fines on parents combined with the threat of further legal action are becoming more frequently used. Obviously we would wish to avoid this outcome however Governors have agreed that we will exercise this response on those families who condone the repeated absence of pupils from school. Research information tells us repeatedly that absence from school on a regular basis disrupts the experience of school, undermines achievement and destroys prospects for the future of young people.

Connected to this is the issue of time taken off during term, usually for holidays. To put the point clearly no pupils should be taken out of school for anything other than the most exceptional of circumstances and no planned absence should be considered without a discussion with one of the senior team in school. Holidays should be taken in school holidays and not during term time.

OfSTED judged that behaviour in school was good and that our school ran smoothly. On behalf of everyone who expects good behaviour we are happy to strongly reject any disturbance or distress to any member of the school or community. We hold ourselves and parents to be responsible for the attitudes that are shown by our young people in school and in the community. We will share our worries immediately where we find any behaviour or attitudes that cause us concern and in so doing will expect full co-operation in dealing with any issues that may arise. There are many of you reading this that are as committed as we are with the expectations of our children and the support you give them to achieve their full potential is commendable. Thanks to your excellent support the vast majority of our young people arrive at the end of their five years with us mature and ready for the challenges of the adult world, indeed many surpass some of the less positive examples shown by some of the adult population.

Most recently we have received some very positive compliments about the behaviour and attitude of our young people from public groups such as Yorkshire Forward, The Princes Trust, Crystal Ski Tours and The Specialist Schools Trust. We can all be proud of this and take credit for it.

We are now anticipating the coming term which has important examinations, camp and final planning for next year as the key focuses. In line with Government policy we are challenged to provide a revised curriculum from September 08, note Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April is the date of the extra INSET day we are required to take to plan for the new curriculum in Key Stage Three.

I wish you a Happy Easter

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



## SKI TRIP 2008

During the February half term 40 pupils and 7 staff ventured on the ski trip to the beautiful resort of Andalo in the Italian Alps.

This traditional picturesque Italian town, nestled on the border of the Brenta Dolomites proved to offer a modern and well organised ski service. The town proved an excellent place for our school offering everything that was needed for all ages and abilities.

We stayed in a perfect hotel just a snowball throw away from the slopes. This allowed us to enjoy many hours of skiing on top of our 6 day ski course which included 4 hours of instruction a day with qualified, English speaking Italian ski school instructors. All pupils achieved plenty of success on their skies with many going from beginners to advanced level status within the short time away.

On top of the skiing, Andalo proved to have a classic Italian village atmosphere providing a good variety of evening entertainments. There were plenty of shops and other Après Ski activities for the pupils to enjoy, such as the ice skating and an Olympic size swimming pool.

The whole trip was a huge success in many ways summed up in the letter sent to Mr Levey by the Ski Representative who was with us throughout the trip, *"As a deputy headteacher, I understand the principles of Every Child Matters, but this is the first time I have seen a school team bring them to life in such a fantastic way."*

*All the students had an experience that I am sure they will treasure for a long time to come and so will I. We were all part of a winning team and you would have been proud of the staff and students if you had been there...."*

We are now currently organising our 2nd ski trip to Italy for 2009 although only a few places are now available. For more details see Mr Fletcher or Mr Harris who will be more than happy to help.

## PE

Girls Football U13's and U16's went through to Spen Valley finals along with Year 8 Boys. The Finals were on Saturday morning 15th March at Batley Grammar. The Finalist then attend a presentation evening at The Frontier Club in Batley in April.

The Year 11 boys are through to the Finals of the Kirklees Rugby Cup to be played after Easter

The Year 11 Girls Netball capped a fine end to their playing careers at ETC by outperforming all contenders and winning the League again and the Rally.

## Camp

The next deposits of £20 are due for Camp the week after Easter. This needs to be paid to Mr Archer during breaktime. Payment cards will be given out after the deposit is paid.



Places are available on this year's Year 9 camp.

Deposits to Mr Archer, letters are available from Mrs Brougham. See Miss Jones for details. Do not miss out!!!

Pupils who have already been issued a place, please note your next payment is due the week after the Easter holiday.

## Other Recent Trips Were:

Year 10 trip to Pudsey Civic Centre to get hands on experience with various experiments and exam tips. Year 10 trip to Coal Mining Museum. Year 9 trip to firework demo at Howden Clough. Year 7-9 trip to Deighton to investigate the Life of Bugs.

## Can You Help?

General appeal to any parent who works in a job to do with science; would you like to come in and tell our pupils (small groups) what you do and how you got into it and what you like about it?

i.e. Radiography  
Analytical Chemist  
Ambulance Paramedic etc.

## Technology Tournament

Students from Earlsheaton Technology College took part in a Technology Tournament organised by the Rotary Club at the Frontier Club Batley on Tuesday 11th March 2008. The tournament consisted of teams of four Year 9 and four Year 10 students undertaking an unseen challenge against the clock to design, build and test their project. We were one of the 34 teams taking part.

The students were set a civil engineering task of designing and building a bridge over a river and the highlight of the day was the testing session where the teams could see the performance of competing designs and solutions.

Student who took part in the tournament were:

Conor Johnson  
Heather Momcilovic  
Gemma Heszegraives  
David Plachcinski  
Scott Panasuik  
Ashley Cardus  
Jodie Leigh Lawton



## Earlsheaton Dance Company

### Rock Challenge

On Monday 14th April over 100 staff and pupils will be taking part in Rock Challenge.



Pupils and staff have been working hard for the last 6 months on this years entry. It was decided that the entry will be called 'The Sounds of Music' and is inspired by new and old technology and how music has been listened to throughout the years. For tickets please contact St George's Hall on 01274 432000. Miss Laycock would like to thank all the staff, parents and pupils for their hard work and dedication.

### Earlsheaton Dance Company

Earlier this month 15 dancers took part in a performance at Ryburn Valley High School and Haycliffe School; they had an excellent day and everybody performed brilliantly.

Well done to all!!!!

## Student Investment Portfolio Challenge

Year 9 and 10 students have been involved in a national competition dealing in stocks and shares with the companies on the FSTE 100. The pupils have had £100,000 in virtual money and used it to purchases stocks and shares.

The competition has now finished and the student winners were the group that named themselves 'The Goons', who consist of Steven Denvers 10VM, Jamie Robinson 10ST, Tim Gregory 10ST and Alex Guermech 10RT. Congratulations to them all for coming 501st nationally out of 5,119 teams, which included six forms and colleges. Also congratulations to all the other Earlsheaton Technology College teams. Hopefully next year we will be in the finals.

