



Celebrating A Level success

Theale Green Community School recently celebrated the outstanding achievements of students in last summer's A Level examinations. Prizes and certificates were presented by guest of honour Sara Thornton, Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police. She delivered an inspirational speech to the students in which she spoke about her 24 year career, culminating in her current role and also touched upon her pride in receiving a CBE in the New Years Honours. Ms Thornton also encouraged the students to be good citizens as they move on through their careers. The students were very impressed by her and came away from the evening inspired to do well in their future lives. Head Teacher, Sue Marshall, congratulated students on the outstanding A level results at Theale Green. "Our students achieved a 99.94% pass rate, 30% of all results were A or A* and the average pass rate was above grade C." Mrs Marshall also paid tribute to the hard work of students and staff and to the support provided by parents. "We wish the students well in their further studies and



careers. They have been a real credit to Theale Green during their years here." The John Davies Trophy for Academic Excellence was jointly won by Emma Hills and Emily Redzepe and the Year 11 Progress Award went to Matthew Coombe and Lucas Drewitt. Kizzy Bebbington received the John Madjeski Trophy for Endeavour.

Diary Dates

Friday 18th Feb	School closes for half term
Monday 21st Feb - Friday 25th Feb	Holidays Ski Trip
Monday 28th Feb	School returns
Wednesday 2nd March	6th Form Question Time (P5)
Thursday 3rd March	World Book Day
Monday 7th March	UCAS Parents Evening
Thursday 10th March	Yr8 Theme Day
Friday 11th March	Comic Relief Comedy Night
Monday 14th March	Governor's Day
Monday 14th March-Friday 18th March	National Science Week As Photography / Yr 11 GCSE Art & Art Graphics / AS Art & Art Graphics Exam Week
Thursday 17th March	Resident Evil Night (Science/Drama Evening)
Friday 18th March	AS Art Textile Exam G&T Technology Trip (Teen Tech) Hunt House Evening
Tuesday 22nd March	6th Form Parents Evening
Wednesday 23rd March	A level Dance Exam
Wednesday 30th March	A level Music Recital Evening
Thursday 31st March	Yr 11 GCSE Music Exam
Thursday 7th April	Dance Show Evening
Thursday 7th April - Sunday 10th April	Yr8-10 Spanish Trip
Friday 8th April	End of Term 3.00pm
Monday 11th April - Tuesday 26th April	Holidays

Considerate Parking Scheme

To encourage good community relations in our locality, Theale Green School continues to promote its Considerate Parking Scheme. Can we take the opportunity to remind you of restrictions; no parking on the 'keep clear zig zags', and a single yellow line means 'no stopping or parking on the times shown on the signposts' (around the school these are 8.30-9.30am and 2.30-4.30pm). The restrictions are deliberately placed to improve visibility for vulnerable pedestrians and improve road safety. Please can we urge you, wherever you park, to make sure that you are considerate to other road users, pavement users and residents. Before and after school is when the roads around Theale Green and Theale Primary are at their most congested. To help the afternoon situation, why not arrange to pick up away from the schools' entrances, further down the high street, ten or twenty minutes after school finishes or use one of the public car parks? We have been informed that there will be an increased presence of uniformed enforcement officers around the area in the coming weeks. We hope that drivers will stop and park considerately.



We are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers, and the box for depositing the vouchers is on the front desk at Reception.

Have We Got Your Email Address?

Please fill in the form on our website
to update your details.

Please visit:

<http://www.thealegreen.org.uk/contact/index.html>

ART...

Oxford Bound

AS and A level art students enjoyed a one day visit to the Ashmolean museum and the Pitt Rivers museum to collect artist references and find inspiration for their up and coming exam. A good day was had by all. The unusual objects discovered at the museums were a fascinating insight into arts and crafts from different cultures and time periods. The art department looks forward to visits to similar venues in the south east to engage students of all ages in art and design.



Manga Art Competition



Students were asked to design a Manga version of a character from a fiction book that they had enjoyed reading. The winner from the Manga Art Competition is Amelia Richmond, Y9, for her piece Alice in Wonderland. Sonia Leong, Manga Artist and judge for this competition, said "I like the bold colours and lines, the decorations in the background and also the extra detail like the little spiral ringlets in her hair." Runner ups were Mia Kumari, Y8, for his drawing of Sherlock Holmes to which Sonia commented "A nice attempt at shading and stubble, and tartan pattern on the cap" ; and Zack Kenning's version of Harry Potter which Sonia noted as "...difficult pose with a swirling background." You may also like to look at the last newsletter's article on Sonia Leong.

On the last day of term before Christmas, Mr Lambert and I transported a large party of sixth form students to the Thames Valley Police Training College in Sulhamstead, where we had an excellent opportunity to hone our improvisational skills.

As part of their basic training, Police Community Support Officers were tested in real-life scenarios and we played 'The Public' in a variety of roles as perpetrators, suspects, victims and bystanders. Situations included traffic accidents, affray, drink and drug use, concealed weapons and domestic violence. My own role was to play a grumpy old man (who said 'typecast'?) living above a young couple who I reported for constantly making noise and driving me crazy. They counter-claimed that I was the troublemaker and the attending officers did their best to calm things down. We repeated our performance for at least six different pairs of officers so by the end we felt well into our characters. It was very interesting to see how each couple worked together and handled things in their own way.

At the end of a very stimulating morning we received praise for the quality of our efforts and were told how valuable it was for the Police to gain experience in working with young people (and me) in realistic circumstances. Apart from the value gained from performing I think it did the students good to see Police work from a different perspective and appreciate the role they play.

Nigel Wilson, Drama Technician



Drama



Cinderella – Matthew Bourne – Sadler’s Wells 13/01/11

Along with the dance department, 30 Theale Green pupils embarked on a journey to London to watch a performance of Cinderella, choreographed by the world renowned Matthew Bourne at the prestigious Sadler’s Wells Theatre. But, this was no ordinary performance of the well known and much loved fairy tale; Matthew Bourne had used his signature choreographic method and created a stunning adaptation.

As the curtains opened and the audience fell silent a man walked onto the stage, it was none other than the famous Matthew Bourne himself. He spent a moment talking about the show and a project his company was involved in with the local schools. It was a great experience to hear him speak and the pupils were extremely excited by this.

This performance saw the story of Cinderella being set during the blitz of the Second World War. With a fantastic set design full of amazing detail and impressive structures, the dancers told the story of a young girl who is treated like an outcast in her family, who runs away from home and falls in love with an RAF pilot. The couple have to overcome obstacles, such as the young girl’s jealous and disapproving family and being separated by the circumstances of war. Many details of this performance were true to the traditional story of Cinderella but Matthew Bourne had cleverly interpreted it in his own personal way. For example, at certain points in the performance Cinderella seemed to be being followed and controlled by a character dressed all in white. It soon became clear that this male dancer, who floated across the stage with technical ease, represented Cinderella’s imagination and that the iconic ballroom scene was indeed a figment of Cinderella’s unconscious thoughts. This adaptation was very interesting and it linked the idea of Cinderella having until midnight at the ball to the idea of people in the war running out of time and how people fell in love quickly. The performance ended with the female dancers waving away their men as they left home to join the army.

The performance was powerfully atmospheric and worked to convey a darker side to the story of Cinderella that was sprinkled with humorous moments. The dancing, as ever, was of an excellent standard and the evening was filled with fear, drama and love.

The pupils said that they really enjoyed this performance and that it was good to see a traditional story given such an interesting twist.

Dance



Music



Following the success of Adam James and Peers last year, the annual Battle of the Bands competition returned to Theale Green on Wednesday 26 January 2011. 3 junior and 7 senior acts each performed their most polished and rehearsed songs – including dual guitar solos – to an eager audience and judges Martin Rushent and Greg Haines.

After their performance, each band received positive comments from the judges, as well as some valuable suggestions based on their knowledge and experience. Following the final act, the judges deliberated and then returned their verdict.

The winners of the junior section – Daddy’s Blue Van – consisted of Lauren Bamford (vocals), Junan Collins (guitar), Danny Coles (bass), and Olly Turner (drums). The year 10 band (pictured) performed a version of Amy Winehouse’s “You Know I’m No Good” in the style of the Arctic Monkeys. They were commended on all parts of their act, especially their stage presence.

The winners of the senior section – Trailing Wake – consisted of Marisa Rodriguez (vocals) and James Douglas (acoustic guitar). They performed an original song which was particularly praised for the lead vocal. Judge Martin Rushent offered the duet the opportunity to record a demo with him, believing they were professional and had potential for success – watch this space!

The full list of acts:

Junior: Tommy Gaut – Daddy’s Blue Van – Jacob Holroyd and Joe Sumner

Senior: Adam James – Blessing to a Burden – The Inspiration – Into the Chaos – Trailing Wake – Rise Above – Don’t Stop Panic



On Monday 13 December 2010, Reading Minster hosted the Music Department’s annual Christmas carol service. Students from all years – along with a number of members of staff – performed a variety of traditional songs and carols. Erin Tingle (Y9) performed the first verse of “Once in Royal David’s City” unaccompanied, before finishing with the accompaniment of the congregation, senior choir and organ. Miss McAuley led the junior choir (pictured) with “African Noel”. They were later joined by the senior choir, when Mr Henderson conducted “It Came upon a Midnight Clear”. The orchestra, conducted by Mrs Goodhand, performed impressive arrangements of extracts from Swan Lake and Greensleeves, and were accompanied by a piece from the Dance Department.



HOUSE NEWS.

BENYON HOUSE

A big hello to all Benyon students and parents.



Battle of the Bands

Congratulations to all who participated in the annual battle of the bands. Naturally, as the staff band didn't perform, it left the field wide open for everyone else!

Artists in Residence!

Congratulations to Amelia Richmond-Knight for winning the Manga competition and to Mia Kumari for being a runner up.

PTFA/Skittles

We have the annual Benyon vs Piper skittles match at the Red Lion on 24th March. Please come and help Benyon win back the magnificent trophy.

As ever, you can contact us on 0118 9308509 or email us at mshears@thealegreen.org.uk and alanham@thealegreen.org.uk

Have a enjoyable and relaxing half term.

As ever, you can contact us on 0118 9308509 or email us at mshears@thealegreen.org.uk and alanham@thealegreen.org.uk

Mr Shears, Ms Lanham and the Benyon Pride.

HUNT HOUSE



The past term's highlights;

House Points: A huge well done to everybody who collected and handed in their house points over the last term. Special recognition goes to Amelia Hodgetts 7HB for achieving her Platinum Award for 101 House Points in a single term.

Battle of the Bands: Well done to all the Hunt students who participated in this event and made it a great success.

Sports Success: Many Hunt students have been representing the school in a host of National Cup football matches and regional rugby finals. We are extremely proud of their achievements and for the sportsmanship and commitment they have shown.

House Evening: Preparations are now underway for our annual House Evening extravaganza. This year's event will take place on Friday 18th of March at in the main hall. The sixth form are busy planning the event so please come along if you can. Tickets will be on sale soon! There will be a raffle on the night and if you would like to contribute please could you send any items to Hunt Office.

Hunt House PTA: Our PTA will meeting again on 8th March at 7.00pm and we have decided to hold our future meetings in The Volunteer opposite the school. So please come along if you can.

Have a very relaxing and enjoyable week off.

Mr Collins and Miss Skillin

SCOTT HOUSE



A Happy New Year to all Scott parents and guardians,

We would like to formally welcome Mr Clements who has replaced Uwadie as the tutor for 9SC.

Congratulations to Alicia Gilbert in 9SC – winner of the Theale Green round of the S word Competition. She cooked up a storm in the kitchen with her chicken liver pate and Sausage Casserole with parsley dumplings. We wish her every success in the next round. Master Chef-watch out!

Congratulations also to Paula Dainton in 11SA who recently raised a whopping £372.57 in a sponsored silence in support of the Specialist Palliative (Hospice) Care at Duchess of Kent House, Reading. Well done Paula.

Sport Success: Many congratulations must also go to the numerous Scott boys and girls who represented the school in the National Cup football matches and regional rugby finals. They should all be very proud of their spectacular success. I hope that all this training will stand us in good stead for the House Matches as we aim to retain the Goodhall trophy for the Inter House competitions next term!

House Points; For the first time this year we have been knocked off the top position for the highest number of House Points submitted. Not all is lost however and we hope to back a strong come back in the new term. Please encourage your child to submit their well deserved House Points.

Presentation Evening; It was lovely to welcome back so many of our former students for their A level presentation evening in January. We wish them all luck in their future endeavours.

Scott House PTA: If you are interested in joining our PTA, please contact Mrs Jarvis at school on 01189308 512 or at njarvis@thealegreen.org.uk

We wish you all an enjoyable half term.

Mrs Jarvis and Miss Southall



PIPER HOUSE

Enter the Dragon:

All the news that is fit to print from Piper House

Assembly News: Excellent behaviour in Piper House assemblies, again, which covered 'Made in Sheffield', 'We are all Connected', 'A lovely lass called Eve' and 'Piper House Evening The Musical - a preview'. We are always looking for new people to take Piper assemblies, if you are interested and have something relevant to say to young people; please get in touch.

Young Chef 2011: Piper chefs got cooking recently and produced some smashing grub.

Piper House Evening – The Musical: On Tuesday 15th February – it will be over by the time you read this but...Massive congratulations to all involved and well done to the wonderful sixth formers for their hard work in organising it all.

Battle of the Bands: Congratulations to all the students from Piper House who took part.

House Points: Piper House are currently top of the class, well done everyone!

Piper House PTA: A Benyon/Piper skittles evening is planned for Wednesday 24/3/11 at the Red Lion in Theale. The bowling starts at 8.00, but we will have a short meeting at 7.30, please contact Mr Upton for details. We would like to thank Carl Sweetzer, Caroline Edwards and Carol Collins in particular for their hard work and support for Piper PTA. Our next Piper PTA meeting, after the bowling, is on Thursday 05/05/11 at the Volly in Theale at 7.30.

Piper House Christmas Newsletter: If you missed your copy of the special edition Christmas Piper Newsletter, it is still available from all good Piper offices at a school near you; ask a nearby Theale Green student to pick one up for you.

Dougie Upton, Jolene Martin & Spike the Magic Dragon



Science

Marwell Zoo trip

On 25th and 26th January the science department took two groups of year 8 students to Marwell Zoo in Winchester. All the students had the opportunity to take part in a workshop, which involved looking at adaptations of animals. They were able to touch a giant stick insect and a gecko, as well as several real animal skins borrowed from Customs. Despite the cold weather, the trip was thoroughly enjoyed by all, with pictures being taken left right and centre. There were many entries to the photo competition, and after a long deliberation the three winners were: Aisling Bridger, Zoe Gibson and Rebecca Bunce.



Rebecca Bunce



Aisling Bridger



Zoe Gibson

This year our Science and Drama department are joining forces to bring you the premier of "Resident Evil". An entirely new event where families, working together, will be fully immersed in a performance and your actions will decide the outcome of the evening.

Set in the year 2020, a "Mood" virus has taken over the world. Your job is to save the day within the safe haven of the school. However, there is a twist and with hordes of infected victims plaguing the school.... will you evade them for long enough to finish your research, identify a cure and survive the night? You will watch a short play, then carry out experiments in the science labs and search for clues around the school. There will be some scenes of mild gore (students and victims dressed as zombies) and the evening has a zombie apocalypse theme. It may not be suitable for younger primary school children. If you are unsure please do not hesitate to contact us to obtain more details.

There are a very limited number of tickets for this event, so please book quickly! To book, just contact jbourne@thealegreen.org.uk or Tel: 0118 9308501.

If you would like to know more about the event, please contact Dr Rose – drose@thealegreen.org.uk.



Theale Green Science & Drama Departments invite you to attend their "Resident Evil Night" on Thursday 17th March 2011 6pm till 8.00pm

Running every Thursday after school from 3-5, STEM Club has grown in size over the last couple of weeks with interest from new students. We have been building upon the roller coaster project started before Christmas and students have been creating structures to support their coaster track. They have been using computer simulations to help plan out their ideas. A website is in the process of being constructed and hopefully it should be fully up and running by next newsletter. If any other year 8 students are interested in joining STEM club then they can speak to Mrs Green in Design and Technology to find out more.

Mrs Green

Year 8 STEM Club



Master classes

Here are the proposed dates for the year's Master class programme for Science. You will be notified of the forthcoming events.

Year Group	Topic	Proposed Dates
Year 7	Creepy Crawlies	16th, 23rd, 30th June + 7th July 2011
Year 8	To be confirmed	5th, 12th, 19th + 26th May 2011

PE Round up

PE



This year has been like no other, with so many of our teams achieving success at district, county, regional and national level. Under the guidance of Miss Duffin, the Year 7/8 girls' football team set the standard, reaching the quarter-finals of the national cup; losing narrowly in extra time to Brimsham Green school, Bristol. It has been a fantastic journey for the girls, beating schools from Winchester to London - the future certainly looks bright for these girls! In rugby three of our teams reached the county final – the first time in the county's history (including private schools!) that a school has managed to do this. In all three games the Year 8, 9 and 10 teams were desperately unlucky not to win, losing by a single score or being beaten in the final few seconds of the game. In the Year 8 and 9 finals we played Reading Bluecoat and Pangbourne College respectively, with both games going to the wire. The Year 9 team having won the Newbury floodlit league recently against St Barts, were winning with seconds to go, until a score by Pangbourne's winger snatched victory away from us. The year 8 team (winners of the Reading Schools and Aldermaston tournaments) were narrowly beaten 10-5 (single try!) and the Year 10 team lost 22-14 to Charters Sports College, Ascot. All three teams have done fantastically well to reach the final and should be thoroughly proud of their efforts this season. A big thank you must go to Mr Lloyd and Mr Dodson who have coached the Year 8 and 9 teams this year. The Year 8 boys' football team were left to carry the flag for the school, having reached the last 16 of the National competition. Hot of the press - year 8 football team beat Gordano school, Somerset 7-6 on penalties to reach the quarter finals. We wish the boys the very best of luck!



Year 8 - Reid Brown in action against Reading Blue Coat

County Cup Highlights



The boys at Theale Green have done enormously well in Rugby this year with 3 teams getting to the county cup finals. This is a first for any School within Berkshire to get 3 teams there and is a tremendous achievement for a mixed comprehensive school like ourselves, especially with tough opposition from private and grammar schools. All 3 teams went to the final together which were held at Newbury Rugby Club and represented the School with exemplary behaviour and some very strong rugby. Well done to all those who participated.

The year 8s having had another fantastic season, winning the Aldermaston 10s and the Reading League, were so close to a successive County Cup victory again but narrowly lost to a strong Reading Blue Coats side. Quarter finals saw them victorious; winning 50-7 against Slough Grammar leading them on to a tough semi-final match against LVS, Ascot, where Reid Brown's fantastic performance put us into the final, winning a comfortable 19-5. The final held at Newbury Rugby

Club was against Reading Blue Coat School. Supported by a lot of parents, teachers and fellow pupils, it was very obvious that we were watching the best 2 schools in the county playing rugby. Unfortunately two early tries saw us down, however an immediate response from Reid Brown gave us a try. At half time the score was 10-5 to them. With a few injuries to the Theale team and a very tight second half, neither teams were able to score again. We lost narrowly to a strong Blue Coats side and unfortunately were relegated to runners up of the County Cup this year. Well done to all the boys who played and congratulations for getting this far once again.



Year 9 - Captain Scott Parker feeding the ball out against Pangbourne College

Year 9 Rugby

Due to the snow and frost of last term a number of matches were carried on to this term. For the the third year in a row the boys won the Newbury Schools Floodlit Cup winning the final game against St Barts with some lovely running. In between these games we were involved in the County Cup semi-final against the Forest from Winnersh who were the holders of the Cup. A very tense affair with the boys trailing 5-0 at half time. The second half saw us increase the intensity of the match, driving wave after wave of attacks into the defence who finally buckled. A 7-5 win put us in a well deserved final against Pangbourne College - a big challenge. An intense match with Pangbourne slowly increasing their lead with four successful kicks. With 15 minutes to go the score was 12-3. The boys dug deep to lead by 13-12 with minutes to go. The final play of the game was a slow motion disaster as the Pangbourne speedy winger caught a loose ball. He ran and dodged from one side of the field to the other and somehow evaded several tackle attempts and scored the decisive try to the death. Our only loss of a wonderful season in the very last effort of the season. The boys were understandably distraught on hearing the final whistle. Consolation comes with the knowledge that we are the best state school u14 team in the county and now will represent the county in the first round of the national state schools tournament in Oxford in March. Well done the Squad. What a season we have just witnessed, and there's more to come.

The Year 10 rugby team recorded a fantastic victory against Maiden Erleigh school in the semi-finals of the County Cup – the same team which had beaten us earlier in the season. Going into the game we were quietly confident that we could turn around the previous result as we had a full squad to pick from. From the outset we took the game to Maiden Erleigh, with our forwards providing a solid base for our backs to operate from. Matthew Woodrow and Chris George made a lot of hard yards with their ball carrying and Luis Daniels was virtually unstoppable at the base of the scrum. Luis Daniels scored two vital tries and Matthew Woodrow went over in the second half to secure victory. Special mention must go to Jordan Blake and Freddy Grant who scored very important points from the boot. This set up a scintillating final at Newbury Rugby Club against Charters Sports College from Ascot. We started the game very slowly, conceding two early tries. As the game went on we started to gain more possession of the ball, with Markoss Bertoux winning a penalty 5 metres from the oppositions try line. A penalty move worked out on the training ground, saw Matthew Woodrow score underneath the posts, with Jordan Blake converting. In the second half we allowed the opposition to score another soft try. This seemed to spur us into action once again, with our forwards, laying siege to the opposition's try line. Luis Daniels scored two powerful tries to create a nail biting finish. Unfortunately, we were unable to convert this pressure into points, losing narrowly at the end. Despite the result the boys can be very proud of their efforts this season.



Year 10 - During the Rugby Presentation at Newbury Rugby Club



Squad: Alice East, Louise Shepherd, Bryony Melvin, Lucy Why, Ciara Wooller, Shanna Ellis, Georgia Burton, Janelle Branker, Sophie Castle, Lauren Hollingsworth, Molly Holland, Niroshi George, Ana Fewtrell, Cheyanne Jones and Tayla Matthews.

Year 7+8 Girls Football

Since the last newsletter went to press in December, the Year 7+8 girls football team have continued their fine form in the National Cup. On Friday 14th January we hosted St Martin in The Fields High School, competing for a place in the last 16 of the National Cup. As usual Theale started the game confidently and before long our attacking football paid off with a great solo effort from Sophie Castle. In the second half we knew we needed to convert our chances and before long we were awarded a corner. Sophie took a short corner and Shanna Ellis put the ball in the net from 18 yards. Further goals from Sophie Castle, Lauren Hollingsworth and another from Shanna Ellis gave us a final score line of 5-0 sending us into the last 16. The next game saw us draw John Madejski Academy at home on Monday 24th January. We knew this side would be a real challenge but nonetheless the girls went into the game in a buoyant mood. Within a few minutes Molly Holland got ahead of the defence to put Theale into the lead. JMA responded well but thanks to great defensive play from Lucy Why and keeper Alice East we went in 1-0 up at HT. Unfortunately JMA's dominance paid off and they grabbed an equaliser almost immediately after the break. From then on we were required to defend in numbers, which we did superbly. With the score locked at 1-1 we headed into extra time but when this finished 1-1,

it was time for a penalty shoot out. Shanna Ellis, Lauren Hollingsworth and Alice East all dispatched their penalties which gave us a 3-2 victory and sent us wild as we stormed into the quarter final. We drew Brimsham Green High School and travelled to them on Thursday 3rd February. We started the game nervously but the wind did not do us any favours. We slowly settled and played our game. Unfortunately due to a deflection Brimsham took the lead just before HT. Our girls knew that an immediate response was needed and after great determination from Shanna Ellis, who ran through the defence before slotting under the keeper it was 1-1 and game on! At FT the score was 2-2 and extra-time began. Again Brimsham took the lead and left us with work to do. But we grabbed another and had 2 minutes left until another penalty shootout. Unfortunately Brimsham managed to grab 2 goals from nowhere, broke our hearts and sent us out of the National Cup. A massive well done must go to the girls. 416 teams entered the competition and to reach the quarter final was a huge achievement and one they must be so proud of.

Year 8 Football



The Year 8 football team have had a lot of success in the National Cup. In round 4 we beat Brune Park (5-0) from Gosport and in the next round we were victorious against Matthew Arnold school from Staines, winning 2-1 after extra time. Reid Browne was the hero in this game, scoring with a thunderous strike from 25yards. In round 6 we recorded an excellent 6-2 win against Ferndown school from Dorset. Against a strong side containing many Southampton, Portsmouth and Bournemouth players, we played some of our best football of the season. Despite going an early goal down, we totally dominated the opposition. We passed the ball around with real purpose and defended well as a team. Our Captain Ross Stewart was in inspirational form, nullifying any of the opposition's attacks. Goals soon followed with excellent strikes from Reid Brown (two), Luke Hastings, Joe Swaine, Alfie Grant and Aaron Harrison. The pick of the bunch, being a 15yd volley from Alfie Grant. Some of the football played in this game was breath taking and belies the age of some of these players. This victory has taken us to the last 16 of the competition, where we are due to meet Gordano school from Somerset.

ICT Department



Sixth formers check out the IT business

It was an eye-opening experience for Year 12 Applied GCSE ICT students in January as they visited RM, an IT solutions company in Abingdon, Oxfordshire. The students toured the company's factory, looking at how computers start out on the production line as a box of bits and emerge as polished desktop PCs ready to be "burned in" as part of the testing process. Then the students were lucky enough to spend time with members of staff, looking at how ICT helps them to do their job. At the end of the day, the students were presented with RM goodie bags, containing things like RM socks and water-activated tee shirts! "I really enjoyed the visit to RM," said Guy Borland. "I didn't realise how big some of these companies are." Camilla Walkusz also found the visit interesting. "It was amazing to see how computers are made," she said.

Steve Woodrow of RM was very impressed with the students' enthusiasm during the visit. "At RM, we aim to improve life chances of children by delivering outstanding educational products & services, helping teachers to teach and learners to learn. We do this by working in partnership with all levels of education, understanding their needs, and keeping close to the teachers and learners. This was a great opportunity for us to support the students, and I personally really enjoyed co-ordinating the visit, and hope that the students enjoyed themselves (particularly the Butlin's style red coats in Production!) and gained a good insight into how we use ICT to carry out our work. We were impressed with their interest in what we're doing in ICT, and we'd all like to take this opportunity to wish them luck with their future studies and endeavours." The students will now have the opportunity to use what they have learned at RM to complete their coursework, producing a study of how ICT is used in business.

Cheddar Gorge Trip

On February 7th Year 8 Geography Students visited Cheddar Gorge and Caves. This was to enhance their learning and understanding of the limestone topic.

Students had the opportunity to see stalactites and stalagmites in the caves. They were taught about how the caves were formed. There was also the opportunity to go into the scary world of the crystal quest (quite a frightening experience!) and go up Jacobs Ladder to the tower and look down into the gorge. The students were a credit to themselves and the school. A fantastic day!!!



Charity Donations

So far this academic year, fundraising at Theale Green has been very successful! There have been numerous events held and they have been very well supported. Students and staff have worked hard to put on a Christmas Fayre for Naomi House (see below), the Carol Service collection for the NSPCC and they joined in on Macmillan's World's Biggest Coffee Morning, selling cakes and holding a non-uniform day. Matthew Lavender (13HB) organised a Charity Rock Concert in School raising £94.60 which will be going towards the Macmillan Cancer Charity. The biggest event to date though has been "Theale's Got Talent" which raised over £2000 for Children in Need. Overall the total raised is just over £3700!



Macmillan
cancer relief

NSPCC
Cruelty to children must stop. FULL STOP.



ASD visit to Naomi House

On the 27th January 2011 Mrs Bolster and Mrs Harwood from the ASD unit took two students Thomas Turnbull and Amy Long to the Naomi House Hospice in Hampshire to hand over the £100 cheque.

The £100 was raised back in December 2010 at the ASD Christmas Fayre. All the students from the ASD unit ran a selection of stalls ranging from 'Pennies in a Jar' to 'Loopy Loner Fortune Teller', and back by popular demand the Reptile stall, where students and staff could pay a £1 and hold a snake or a lizard or even a tarantula - yuk! We had lots of visitors and a good time was had by all.

When we visited Naomi House we met Pam Bacon who is the Community Fund Raiser and she explained to us the sort of care Naomi House and Jack's House provide to young people.

We all had a really informative and fun day.

GET UP - WISE UP

BREAK THE HABIT!

Reckon school doesn't matter
and you'll walk in to a job?
.....Think again.

- Students who don't go to school or college regularly find it harder to get a job
- Students who are late to school are late to work and employers are aware of this - this is on your school record and will be shown to prospective employers and colleges when you apply.

LATENESS AND ABSENCE ARE A HABIT, AND HABITS ARE HARD TO BREAK

Why is attendance and punctuality important?

- You need to attend school regularly so you can take advantage of all the educational opportunities available
- Poor attendance and persistent lateness undermines your education leaving you behind your classmates
- It is clear that a student who has regular absences or misses extended periods of schooling will find it difficult to catch up with the work that has been missed and to keep up friendships within the class

Good school attendance is vital to ensure you get the best results for your future, whether it's to get the college course you want or the job you want.

IT'S YOUR FUTURE - TAKE CONTROL!

What can I do to help?

- If you suspect that your child may be missing school or is unhappy at school, you should contact the school or the LA Education Welfare Service as soon as possible so that you can work with them to resolve any difficulties.
- Make sure your child understands that you do not approve of them missing school, but be on the alert for any particular reasons for non-attendance, such as bullying or problems with school work and discuss these with the school.
- If your child is ill or absent for any other reason, contact the school on the first day of absence.
- Follow the school's procedures for notifying absence, and always let the school know of any days that your child is unable to attend.
- Make sure your child arrives at school on time for both the morning and afternoon sessions.
- Take an interest in your child's education. Ask them about their day and praise and encourage their achievements at school.
- Co-operate with any support, such as a parenting contract offered by the school or LA.

Theale Green Absence Line: 0118 9308 555 Email: absence@thealegreen.org.uk

