

Hornbeam Sapling Planting Memorial Ceremony



Michelle Waghorn reporting...

We were delighted to hear in July that Year 7 pupil Molly Mower, was one of only 30 secondary school pupils nationwide to be chosen as a winner in the National Memorial Arboretum's poetry competition to commemorate the centenary of the Battle of the Somme. Pupils had to write a poem about a tree that became a poignant symbol of hope during the Battle of the Somme - one of the defining events of the First World War. Molly's poem was about the last surviving hornbeam tree left in Delville Wood after the two-month-long battle there. Molly, (now in Year 8), has won a commemorative hornbeam sapling and plaque for the school and on Tuesday 15th November, the planting ceremony took place. Molly and her family were guests of honour at the ceremony alongside local historian and Chairman of Rayleigh Town Museum, Mike Davies, his wife Sharon, Lynda Walker, Chair of Governors, and some of Molly's teachers. Molly beautifully recited her winning poem and after the planting of the sapling, everyone observed a minute's silence in memory of all those who lost their lives during the Battle of the Somme.



Presented by the National Memorial Arboretum in 2016 to commemorate the Centenary of the Battle of the Somme.

DUTY PUPILS

Thank you for all your help:

Matthew, Daniel, Nathan & Jack (8AHu)

Rheanna, Isabella, James, Emily, Thomas & Abigail (8ENi)

Pupil Services

Book of the Week

GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS 2017

Thousands of weird and wacky world records to fascinate and amaze (Library use only).



D & T FOOD & TEXTILE TECHNICIAN VACANCY

We are seeking to appoint a permanent D & T Food & Textiles Technician preferably with previous experience for 35 hours per week. A full job description can be found on the school website. Please contact the Main Office for an application form.

Closing date: 4pm on Monday 28th November 2016

Interviews: w/c Monday 5th December 2016

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

7PM IN THE MAIN HALL, 6TH DECEMBER

TICKETS £3.00 ADULTS & £2.00 CONCESSIONS FROM PUPIL SERVICES



SIXTH FORM CHARITY WEEK

13TH DECEMBER - 16TH DECEMBER 2016
NON-SCHOOL UNIFORM DAY - 16TH DECEMBER
TO RAISE FUNDS FOR KISARIKA & ALZHEIMERS
£1.00 DONATION

(CAN BE CHRISTMAS THEME BUT NOT NECESSARY!)

MUSIC LESSONS

SPRING TERM 2016
January - March

Pupil Services are now organising timetables for music lessons. If you would like to start lessons please collect a form from us. If you are continuing lessons please send your form with your money to secure a place. All forms and money must be handed in to Pupil Services by Friday 25th November at the latest.



Headlines by Andy Hodgkinson

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Last week and this week, our pupils have been involved in a number of important events to commemorate Armistice Day. As well as numerous activities within lessons, the whole school fell silent on Friday 11th at 11am, pupils laid a wreath at the Rayleigh War Memorial and, on Sunday, I was accompanied by one of our Year 13 History students, Jack, who also laid a wreath on behalf of the school. This Tuesday, we planted a hornbeam sapling, given to the school, as a result of Molly (now in Year 8) and her wonderful poem which was a winner in the National Memorial Arboretum competition. It is so important that we mark Armistice Day properly in school, and we were incredibly proud of all our pupils who conducted themselves superbly.

YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMS

Year 11 mock exams begin later next week and I hope that you will encourage your sons and daughters to revise thoroughly for these important exams. There are numerous resources on our website and on the VLE to help. We have certainly been doing a lot of work in assemblies and tutor time to prepare our pupils - good luck everyone!

YEAR 13 PARENTS' EVENING

Thank you, in advance, to all families who are attending tonight's parents' evening for Year 13. Building on their good AS results in Year 12, Year 13 students are currently working hard and are on course to achieve a really good set of exam results next summer.

Parents' Time

A member of the Leadership Team will be available to see parents without appointment:

9:00am-9:45am Monday - Friday

5:00pm-5:45pm Thursdays



Geography Department



Maisie (7LGr) produced a poster and booklet to advertise the UK.



Sam (8LWo) produced a weather station to an excellent standard.

Emma Portsmouth reporting...

On Tuesday 18th October 2016, 36 Year 9 pupils attended a Geography field trip to The Crystal - a sustainability initiative by Siemens in London. Pupils explored the different ideas linked to sustainable living, including the issues caused by growing populations in cities, how to make wind turbines efficient, as well as the latest technology available for e-cars. After all this hard work, pupils had the opportunity to look at redevelopment in the London Docklands whilst experiencing a 'flight' on the Emirates Air Line Cable Cars.



YEAR 12 VISIT TO OSMINGTON BAY

Year 12 Geography students visited Osmington Bay in Dorset, as part of their A level course. The four days spent there were sunny, bright and productive as students worked hard on collecting data at various sites along the coasts. Students were involved in making use of a number of fieldwork techniques to investigate sand dune profiles at Shell Bay. This included quadrat sampling, measuring infiltration rates of sand and gradient measurements. They then worked late into the day to compare and analyse their results.

Anne Wimpenny

