

PORTLAND PLACE

news



Summer Term 2009 – Week 8 • Week beginning Monday 29 June 2009

Year 7 Puppet Workshop Wed/Thu 1st/2nd July

The whole of Year 7 are involved in a creative arts workshop culminating in a performance in the Drama Studio on Thursday afternoon. They have created amazing African inspired life sized puppets which they will bring to life in a production involving self devised stories, dance, drumming and song.

Year 8 Activities Week – 6th to 9th July

The Year 8 Activities week to York, Activities Week in Monday 6th July to Thursday 9th July, 2009. This is a four day educational trip, we will be staying at a hotel. The company organizing the trip is Rhapsody, who also offers a daily itinerary for us (including visits to the Cadbury World Factory, York Dungeons, a Boat Cruise in the River Ouse, a whole day at Alton Towers Theme Park, and many other exciting activities). We will be leaving Portland Place at 9.30am on the Monday, and our estimated return time is 6.00pm on the Thursday.

Year 9 Activities Week – 6th to 9th July

The Year 9 Activities week to Colomendy, Activities Week in Monday 6th July to Thursday 9th July, 2009. This is a four day residential educational trip to The Kingswood Centre. The Year 9s are very fortunate to have secured a booking as it is extremely popular with school groups. Kingswood is a leading residential activity centre provider. Their centres provide a rewarding educational programme offering thrilling outdoor/indoor activities with links to Year 9 pupil learning, with secure and controlled residential accommodation. The pupils will benefit from the adventure experience, both educationally and socially. We will be participating in many exciting events such as: Go-karting, Kayaking, Laser Zone, Zipwire, Team Challenge, Abseiling and evening events such as a talent show and rounding off in a Campfire event on the last night there.

Paul Lyalls and the Year 8 Poetry Day – 30th June

Paul Lyalls, one of the top performance poets on the London poetry scene, founder of the Express Excess Spoken Word Club in Camden and all-round top bloke, is coming to give a masterclass in performance poetry to year 8s on Tuesday 30th June. Starting at 10:20am in PPS Hall; Paul will spend the rest of the day enhancing our students' poetic and performance instincts.

Celebration Day at Regents Hall on Tuesday 23rd June – full details in next week's newsletter

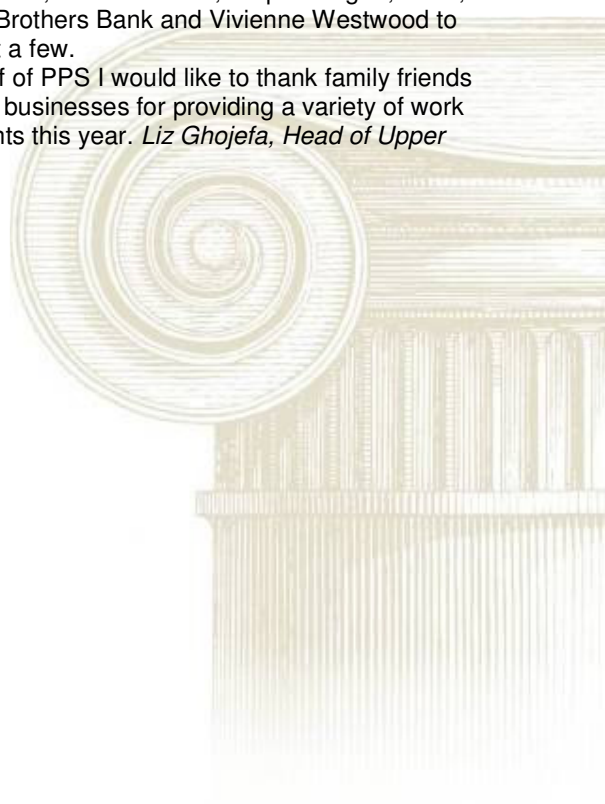
Year 9 Fairytale trip to Wetherby Prep and Pembridge Hall School

For the last term Year 9 have all been working really hard to create Fairytales appropriate for young children. This week they went to perform to two primary schools, years 3, 4, and 5 alike, and were met with a very warm reception. By creating stories in pantomime style the students managed to get the audience involved and really grabbed their attention by their fast paced, action packed story. They then went off and carried out their own half hour work shop, devised by themselves to teach the kids about the morals of the story. They went through various drama activities and ended with a performance from the children involved. It was a thoroughly enlightening experience for students, not only did they have great fun, but they also learnt what a challenge it is to get the children to do exactly what you want them to do! Well done to all involved, it was a great two days.

Year 10 Work Experience 29th June – 3rd July

Year 10's begin their work experience from Monday 29th June and return to school on Friday 3rd July at 1:00pm, where they will have their work experience presentation. We have managed to use a wide variety of employers from local businesses such as HMV and a hairdresser, Scotland Yard, Help the Aged, UCL, Lehman Brothers Bank and Vivienne Westwood to name but a few.

On behalf of PPS I would like to thank family friends and local businesses for providing a variety of work placements this year. *Liz Ghofefa, Head of Upper School.*



SPORTS ROUNDUP

ATHLETICS

ISA National Athletics Championships One National Champion, One Bronze Medal and Six School Records in Birmingham!

On Wednesday 14 athletes from Portland Place travelled to Birmingham to compete in the Independent Schools Association National Athletics Championships. These were held at the Alexander Stadium, home to the famous Birchfield Harriers and venue for this year's British Olympic Trials. Each athlete had been selected to contest in the National Finals on merit by winning their event at the London North Championships in May and this was the largest number of PPS pupils to compete at these championships to date. On a beautiful summer day it proved to be a tough but successful day of athletics for all involved.

Song-Lian Everington contested in the Yr 8/9 75m hurdles and finished 6th in a time of 15.65 seconds, she then raced over to the Shot Putt, which is her strongest event. Song-Lian the reigning ISA National champion won in the first round with a Putt of 9m and winning the gold medal. This means she is our first successful defending champion. Renat Hammet-Millay had the race of his life in the Yr 8/9 boys 1500m to duck under 5min in a time of 4mins 58.5secs and win the bronze medal. This means she is our first successful defending champion. Amy Thornton (Yr 11) had the busiest day of all the athletes as she was competing in the Long Jump, 200m, and 300m. Amy finished 4th in her long jump competition, by an agonising 4cm with a school record of 4m 39cm, before lining up for her 300m. Setting off hard Amy set a school record with a time of 44.9 seconds and again finishing in 4th position in a fiercely competitive race. She later lined up for the 200m and finished 5th in time of 28.3 seconds. Sam Mills set a new Yr 9 boys school record in the long jump to finish 4th in that event. Ryan Stephenson finished 7th in the Yr 10/11 boys 1500m in a time of 4 minutes 41.3 seconds and Flynn Sager finished 4th in the Yr 10/11 boys javelin with a throw of 38.30m.

Other PPS performances were in the Yr 10/11 Girls age group Olivia James (9th 800m) and Taylor-May Sessegnon (5th 80m Hurdles) in a new school record of 15.2secs. Competing in the Yr 7 girls age group, Ellie Kriel Daley ran 6mins 14.9seconds in the 1500m and in the Yr 8/9 Girls events Ya'ana Tarka ran 3mins 04.8secs in the 800m whilst Carolina Bazzarelli Dos Santos and Sara Merckenschlager ran 6mins 13.6 seconds and 6minutes 14.9 seconds in the 1500m. In the boys Yr 10/11 events James Spooner ran a personal best of 24.9 seconds to finish 7th in the 200m whilst Anthony Monteza ran an excellent 800m to finish 7th in a personal best time of 2mins 20.5seconds. Another successful trip for PPS and a long day out. Well done to all who took part.

London Schools Year 7 & 8 Championships

Three of PPS's most talented athletes went to Mile End Stadium on Tuesday for their age group London Schools competition. With every Borough of London represented it meant that there was a huge entrance list for each event. Our pupils competed for the Westminster Team. The biggest success of the day was John Spencer who threw 22.5 metres to take first place in the Year 7 Boys Discus competition. It wasn't until his fifth round throw that he really got a hold of a good throw. Before that he was sitting down in fourth position with a throw of just 20 metres. This was a great effort under huge pressure. In the running races we had Carolina Dos Santos in the Girls Yr 8 800m and Kyle Manning in the boys Yr 8 800m. Both did very well, running amongst some top athletes in the UK. In a field of 24 Carolina ended up 11th and Kyle took 10th. These are two very respectable performances at one of the hardest meets of the year. Well done to our young athletes.

Sports Day 2009

This year's sports day was held at Parliament Hill last Friday, and was a great success. Unlike last year, the weather was fine and sunny, helping our pupils to some excellent athletic performances, including four new school records. A great turn-out of parents and other supporters watched Devonshire House claim their fifth successive sports day title, although it was by the tightest of margins from runners-up Wigmore. Langham and Cavendish claimed third and fourth places respectively.

The Mr McLoughlin trophy was once again awarded to the teachers' team, although they only narrowly defeated a strong parent squad. More importantly, the Victor Ludorum trophy which has been won by Amy Thornton for the last three years in succession, this year was awarded to Jeremy Ogunsulire. Jeremy won both the 100m and 200m A races in convincing fashion whilst also adding shot putt gold to his collection. He also managed to put in a superb relay leg, where he made-up about 10m of ground on the winning team, narrowly losing on the line.

Other great efforts on the day included school records by Terry Farmiloe, Flynn Sager, James Wood and Amy Thornton. Terry set a new Y10 high jump record of 1.60m, the highest by any PPS pupil of any age. Flynn Sager improved the Y10 long jump best to 5.64m, whilst also claiming a clutch of medals. James Wood and Amy Thornton lowered the L6 and Y11 800m records to 2min, 27.1sec and 2min, 48.7sec respectively. The PE department would like to congratulate all the pupils, parents and teachers who took part in and helped to run sports day this year. Your enthusiasm and effort helped to make it an extremely enjoyable and athletically successful day.

Sports Day continued:

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Lower Sixth Activities Fortnight 29th June – 9th July

In the first week, students will be given the opportunity of gaining useful life skills in addition to taking advantage of some of London's most interesting and often lesser known attractions which they may enjoy for their own sake. As the competition for places increases, universities are increasingly looking for students who are cultured, interesting and talented in addition achieving good academic results. This programme has been designed to build on the very successful induction programme held in September, in addition to the First Aid training course completed earlier this year. This fortnight of activities will enhance the students' skills and profiles so that when they apply to universities next term, they will do so with confidence.

The first day, at Pirbright, focuses entirely on team-building skills and gives all the students a chance to demonstrate their leadership qualities. On Tuesday, we are delighted to welcome back Premier Self-Defence, whose director, Debra Steven, will be leading the Level 2 course which will be certificated at the end. Following this, we are pleased to participate in the Jack the Ripper Walk, taking advantage of our location. The penultimate day of the first week will focus on the students' artistic, design, business and marketing skills; this day, The Apprentice Challenge, will enable all the students to make a valuable contribution. We will end the first week with a day in Hampstead, where we will visit Kenwood House and Freud's museum.

In week two, the students' primary focus will be on preparing them for their applications to universities. Day 1 will focus on the actual application. We are delighted to welcome representatives from Royal Holloway University and Bedford University, both of whom will give presentations about the process in addition to student finance issues, including grants, awards and scholarships. The next three days will be spent at Durham University where we will be staying in the Castle, also known as University College, Durham. Not only will this be a very enjoyable three days but will also enable students to make an informed decision about the type of university they wish to go to.
Catherine Brahams Melinek Head of 6th form

Year 7 Activities Week – 6th -9th July

Year 7 are staying in an activities centre in Buxton, near the Peak District. We will be sleeping in tents the first night and then in dormitories for the following two nights (just in case it rains!!). During the week they will have structured activities throughout the daytime and evenings, these activities will include Kayaking Open Boating Eco Trek Shelter Building Rock Climbing Raft Building And Abseiling.

Year 10 Activities Week – 6th -8th July

Year 10 depart for PGL in Sussex by coach at 9:00am on Monday morning. Activities include Abseiling, Fencing, Raft Building, Assault Course, Climbing Wall, Initiative Tests. They return to PP on Wednesday at 4.00 pm.

Week beginning Monday 29th June

Monday 29 June

Lower 6th Activity Week begins

7:45am	Lower 6th trip to Pirbright Army
9:00am	Year 10 Work Experience, (All week)
4:00pm-5:00pm	Yr 7 & 8 Maths Cake Sale Challenge, PPS Hall

Tuesday 30 June

10:00am	Lower 6th Self Defence/Safety Awareness Level 2
10:20am-3:45pm	Year 8 Poetry- Paul Lyllis-PPS Hall
3:30pm-6:30pm	Cricket v Ibstock Place School Away
3:45pm-5:00pm	Art Club, Harford House
4:00pm-5:00pm	Running Club
4:00pm-5:00pm	Cricket Club

Wednesday 1 July

8:45am	Assembly Year 7, Room 11 (Miss Brown)
9:00am-3:45pm	Year 7 – Puppets Creative Arts Workshop
10:45am	Lower 6th Jack the Ripper walk
12:45pm-1:20pm	Krispy Kreme Sale, Library
3:45pm-4:30pm	Carnegie Book Club, Library
4:00pm-5:00pm	Maths Club, Room 10 (Mr Akhtar)
4:00pm-5:00pm	Mandarin Club (Mr Martijono)
4:00pm-5:00pm	French Club – Room 11
4:00pm-5:00pm	Rounders Club

Thursday 2 July

8:45am	Assembly Year 8 PP Hall (Miss Picado)
8:45am-3:45pm	Year 7 – Puppets Creative Arts Workshop, performance at 2:30pm
10:30am	Lower 6th Apprentice Business Game
12:45pm – 1:30pm	Bitesize Years 7, 8 & 9, Room 1
4.00pm – 6.00pm	Basketball Club
4:00pm-6:00pm	Rounders Club
5:00pm-6:00pm`	Charity Art Auction, PPS Hall

Friday 3 July

8.45am	Assembly Years 7, 8 & 9, PP Hall (Mr Walker)
9:00am	Year 9 – Film School Workshop
10:30am	Lower 6th Trip to Kenwood House & Freud's House /Museum
1:00pm	Year 10 return from Work Experience

Art Auction for Charity on 2nd July

Three paintings by Maureen Edgcumbe (an up and coming professional South African artist) are being auctioned for the charity TREE (training resources in early education). The auction will be held on *Thursday 2 July* from 5pm. If you are interested in Art or Charity please have a look at these websites: <http://maureenedgcumbe.com/index.htm> and <http://tree-eed.co.za/>

Staff News

Congratulations to Mrs Rey-Jolly, who gave birth to a baby boy Theo on Thursday 18th June.

CONTACTS

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Year 10/11/6th absences:

Tel: 020 7307 8706

Yr 7 and Yr 8 Maths Cake Sale Challenge

On Monday 29 June from 4pm – 5pm we will be holding our annual Maths Cake Sale Challenge. Students will be completing a Maths project the week prior to the event and then baking and selling their own cakes for charity. The supported charity is TREE. Please visit <http://tree-eed.co.za/> for more details on this charity.