



Palatine News

SPRING 2009



VIP GUEST AT PALATINE!

Alistair Smith is a leading expert in the latest teaching and learning strategies. After both a chequered school experience and a career which included working in construction, quarrying, museums and the Prison's Service, Alistair taught in schools in England. He worked with the Advisory Service in a large Local Education Authority before setting up

his company ALITE responsible for innovation in learning. More recently, he has written award winning books, featured on radio and television programmes, and spoken to over 100,000 educators, parents and developers at conferences throughout the world.



Mr Smith visited Palatine to see our Year Seven Learning Zone at first hand – he left very impressed with what he described as the “range of practical and enjoyable lessons” he saw happening. He said the pupils were extremely well behaved and worked well together. Furthermore, Mr Smith reported that the lessons were well planned using “Accelerated Learning”.

Mr Smith met with a small group of pupils and staff before he observed lessons in the Learning Base. The Learning Base is proving a great success with our year seven pupils cutting down their anxieties about starting high school.

EXTENDED SERVICES

Palatine Community Sports College would like to welcome **Mr David Milroy** our new Extended Schools Coordinator. David is working closely with staff, pupils, visitors and other schools and organisations in the area to help the school provide a range of services and activities to help meet the needs of children, their families and the wider community.

There will be a Basic Computer Learning Course starting on Monday the 20th of April. The course will take place at the school from 5.15 pm to 6.15 pm and will run for 6 weeks. Everybody is welcome.

We are looking to put on a series of activities throughout the school holidays in May and also during the Summer holidays. A full programme of events will be finalised soon – we would welcome your thoughts as to what you would like to be included.

To book your place now on either of the sessions or for any further information or suggestions please contact David Milroy on 01253 336500.

The school has recently introduced Coffee Mornings for all parents and carers. These take place at the school every Tuesday from 9am - 10am. Just turn up for tea, coffee, biscuits, and a chance to talk to **Mandy Evans** and various other members of staff, guest speakers and other parents.

HEALTHY SCHOOL STATUS

Palatine Community Sports College achieved Healthy School Status in January 2009. The status recognises the work the school undertakes in relation to Personal, Social and Health Education, healthy eating, physical activity and emotional health and well-being of students.

Healthy School Week

A Healthy School Week has been organised for the week beginning 20.04.09. The week will involve numerous external agencies such as the NHS and the Hub engaging with students. Also our own students who attend the school's Healthy Club will be educating their peers on what makes a healthy lunch box. Students in all form groups will have the opportunity to participate in an inter-house sporting competition.

The intention of the week is to provide our students with information about health related issues that will impact on the choices that they make in their lives.

We are keen to involve parents and would like to invite all parents into school on Monday 20th April between 2pm and 4pm to meet with our Health Mentor, Lisa Lonsdale and Sara Abiss from Blackpool NHS.



Healthy Schools
BLACKPOOL

NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK PRIMARY SCHOOL LIAISON

On Tuesday 10th March we celebrated National Science Week here at Palatine. The whole of Year Five from *Roseacre Primary School* visited the school to take part in a number of different science based activities. They were able to benefit from practical experiments in our specialist laboratories. The *Roseacre* pupils also took part in sessions on the history of Forensic Science and Literacy.



Our primary school guests were supported and coached by a number of year seven pupils. Year Seven pupils had the opportunity to spend the day showing responsibility and leadership skills in helping younger children.

Many thanks to all the staff and pupils involved.



Palatine Students and Staff all worked hard together to raise over £1250 towards Comic Relief this year.

We held a non uniform day and lots of staff and students got involved with additional fund raising activities through sponsorship.

The Palatine's and special guests entertained us all with a special concert at lunch time. Red nose cakes were on sale and there was the opportunity to get faces painted red and have a go at penalty shoot outs. Willing teachers, including Mr Cartmell raised a lot of money by allowing wet sponges to be thrown at them. Students and staff can feel proud of their efforts towards this very worth while charity.

YOUNG SEASIDERS COMPETITION

Students at Palatine have once again been heavily involved in creating art work which is displayed as part of the exhibition at the Grundy Art Gallery.

We have been lucky enough again to win a prize. Congratulations to all involved particularly **Sean Singleton, Connor Riley, Libby Howker, Shaddon Blunden, Rhiann Mitchell.**



stand up to hatred

On the 27th of January Miss Ingham accompanied 3 year 10 students to Blackpool Town Hall. The students, **Aaron Edgar, Sam Richardson** and **Jake Jordan** were taking part in the delivery of the Holocaust Memorial Day event for the people of Blackpool this year. The students had collaborated with students across Blackpool to come up with ideas for the service. In their section the boys presented images about the



world's future and how this could be good or bad, indicating that the possibilities were up to us.

The day was a resounding success with the students being praised for their effort and hard work and being asked to return next year.

CHESS CLUB

Because of increased interest we have opened up a new club for Year 7 only, giving them opportunity to play and practice together, experienced players and beginners are welcome. Friday Chess Club is now reserved for more



Mr Powell with New Year Trophy winner **Alex Caygill** and finalist **Wade Walmsley**

serious play with students hoping to qualify for the British Land Megafinal on May 2nd at Hodgson High School. On the Saturday following this, Palatine are hosting the first ever Blackpool Schools Chess Championship (see advert) organised by the Chess Committee (Mr Holden, Mr O'Brien, **Matthew Csonge** and **Roy Brown**) and supported by Blackpool Young Peoples Services (formerly Blackpool Youth Service).

PEER MENTORS



We have recently recruited and trained four new Peer Mentors, **Bethany Easen, Danielle Davies, Sarah Owen** and **Mark Ashmore** so that we can continue to support Year 7 students in Hearing to Help, by giving them an opportunity to talk confidentially and privately to a Peer Mentor. We presently talk to twelve referred students who we try to see weekly. When students were asked what the most helpful thing about H2H was, they said they liked "having someone to talk to". Referrals are made by teachers or the students themselves by asking Peter Holden (Learning Mentor) or any Peer Mentor.

MATHS

In association with the University of Leeds, The UK Mathematics Trust have encouraged students to be involved in the Intermediate Challenge.

This is a prestigious Nationwide challenge for years 8 & 9 and the following students achieved either Bronze or Silver awards;

Year 10 Bronze:

Thomas Chadwick; James McCully; Caroline Guilfoyle; Jacqueline Braithwaite; Rory Sloan; Tina Husband; Shaun Cairns

Year 10 Silver:

Jack Kelly and **Luke Atkinson**

Year 9 Bronze:

Jamie Brooke

Year 9 Silver:

Jack Connor (best in school) and **Katie Husband**

Congratulations and well done to all involved!

Live of Activity

MUSIC

Blackpool Music Services 'Schools Alive 2009' which happened over 4 nights in February at the Grand Theatre featured bands, choirs, dancers and other ensembles from schools throughout Blackpool.



Both Palatine's Samba Band and Swing Choir performed on the first evening to a packed house. The Swing Choir kept the audience entertained with their singing, dancing and acting to 'Mamma Mia', a medley of Abba songs, followed by the Samba Band who impressed by performing lots of exciting rhythms in their new sparkly t-shirts! Both groups were featured in the Gazette with a photo of the Swing Choir and a description of the Samba Band as 'getting everybody moving in their seats to the funky sounds!' Unlike the choir who have performed every year at the Grand, it was the Samba Band's first year participating



in this event and definitely not their last! Samba Band also performed at Park School on Red Nose Day to entertain the pupils in their assemblies. Watch this space for more events!

CHAMPIONS OF BLACKPOOL

Year 7 and 8 girls at Palatine won the Blackpool FC in the community 6 a side tournament held at collegiate.. They then were lucky enough to have a coach from BFC to come in and help them train. The girls will now compete in the area finals.



Top of the SHOXX

The new Shoxx Gym has been a big hit with Key Stage 4 Palatine pupils.



BTEC Pupils LEAD the way (WATERLOO)

Mr Grants Year 10 BTEC class are currently delivering lunch-time sports sessions to years 3-6. MFL pupils doing the Young Foreign Leaders award are going into classes to help enhance the languages delivery as part of the course.

DANCE AT PALATINE

Twelve pupils from year 10 BTEC Dance have participated in a project with The Royal Ballet. The project has enabled pupils from Palatine to meet with people from the Royal Ballet and share in the experiences of students from the Royal Ballet by working directly alongside them. It has allowed pupils to gain a greater awareness of what is involved in ballet and how this can help them in their overall dance performances.

WORLD BOOK DAY

On Thursday 5th March Year 7 pupils attended school dressed as characters from their favourite children's book and raised £80 for Donna's Dream House. The day was a great success. The best dressed and the winner of a book voucher was Khya Whitehead in 7CL.



OF MICE AND MEN TRIP

Miss Stout arranged for 95 Year 11 students to attend a production and workshop of 'Of Mice and Men' as revision for their GCSE. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by both students and staff and some students even took part in the workshop activities. The next trip is in May to see 'An Inspector Calls'.



YEAR 7 CAROUSEL ACTIVITIES

Year 7 English classes have been taking part in a carousel of activities during lesson time. They have been turning the knowledge that they have acquired in lessons into music, art, drama and creative writing.



YEAR 9 MOUNTAIN WALKING DAYS

On Wednesdays, Year 9 pupils have been out walking with Mr Little and their English teacher. The walks have been hard-going but the pupils have really enjoyed them and it has been worth the pain! Once back in school they have then turned their experience into a piece of written work

U16 BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS



Taste of glory. The boys triumphed against a strong St. Marys team in the final to become Blackpool Borough Champions.

RECORD NUMBERS VAULTING



Friday Lunch

Aiming For The Stars!!!!!**





The ever popular musical The Sound of Music came to life on our stage for a week in April 2009. The Von Trapp family and all other characters sang, danced and acted to full houses each night.

Over 50 students from years 7 to 11 were in the cast, or crew and students from Blackpool Sixth Form College kindly gave up their time to play in the band.

Each night had a full house and a great night was had by all. The show was also performed to over 300 year 5 students from local primary schools on 31st March 2009.

The students and staffs hard work and commitment showed in fantastic performances after all the lunchtime, evening and weekend rehearsals from January 09 to April 09.

The whole cast were excellent and congratulations are given to all who have been involved.

So.... Don't forget to get involved in future shows for example the **Summer Concert in July 09**, The **Christmas Show Dec 2010** and our next large scale production in **2010**.

ICT

Activity

A number of activities are happening within the ICT department – we would welcome your involvement in the following:

Animation Club

The ICT department are looking for pupils that are interested in making animations. If you would like to learn how to create an animation and represent Palatine Community Sports College then please come and join us. The club will start on Thursday 26th March at 3.15pm and run for eight weeks. **If you are interested then please see Miss Schofield.**

Council

The ICT department are also looking for pupils that are interested in joining the ICT Student Council. This will be a fantastic opportunity to get involved in what courses we run, what projects we deliver and you have the opportunity to try things out before classes do. You will also be involved in organising ICT clubs and trips and having your say.

If you are interested please see Miss Schofield.

Clubs

ICT clubs run from 1.15pm – 1.45 every day. Please just get a pass at 12.55 from IT 5 and be ready to join in the fun at 1.15pm.

Year 11 Revision Class

Coursework catch up and revision classes run every Monday in IT5 with Miss Schofield starting at 3.15pm.

BLACKPOOL SCHOOLS CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2009

Supported by Blackpool Young Peoples Services and Palatine CSC

When: Saturday May 9th 2009

Where: Palatine Community Sports College,
St Annes Road, FY4 2AR

Eligibility: Open to all students under 18
who are educated in Blackpool

Entry: £4 per student or £10 per group of 3

Sections: U9s, U12s, U15s, U18s
[separate awards for boys and girls]

Interested: Talk to **Peter Holden** at Palatine
on 01253 336500 or e-mail:
peter.holden@palatine.blackpool.sch.uk

IMPORTANT DATES!

School closes for Easter	Friday 3rd April 2009 at 3.15 pm
School Re-opens	Monday 20th April 2009 at 8.35am

Summary of important dates for the remainder of the school year:

Summer Term 2009

Monday 20th April	School re-opens to students
Monday 4th May	May Day (Bank Holiday)
Friday 15th May	Super Learning Day – School closes at 1pm
Friday 22nd May	School closes for half-term
Monday 1st June	School re-opens to students
Friday 3rd July	Super Learning Day – School closes at 1pm
Friday 17th July	School closes for Summer



Palatine Community Sports College are using the services of Bully Free Zone in order to help pupils throughout the school affected by bullying. Through a drop-in service on Monday, from 1-2pm, any pupils can ask for additional support and guidance in the area of bullying. Students are urged to visit the Extended School Room during Monday dinner time to chat confidentially about any issues surrounding bullying. Peer mentors as well as staff from Bully Free Zone are available to discuss problems and potential solutions to these issues. Bully Free Zone co-ordinator, Catherine Parkinson, can be contacted at all times by ringing the Bully Free Zone office on 01253 295555 or by visiting www.bullyfreezone.co.uk.

FOND FAREWELLS & WARM WELCOMES

At the close of the Spring Term we say "GOODBYE" to one colleague. **Ms Greenwood**, of the Science faculty bids her farewells to all at Palatine to take up a new post at her new school in Hertfordshire. **Ms Greenwood** will be sadly missed and on behalf of all the staff and pupils we wish her every success.

Welcome to **Mr D Milroy** who commenced work recently as the schools Extended Services Coordinator. The start of the Summer Term will begin with welcoming two other new members of staff. **Ms T Bell** will be re-joining the English faculty. **Ms Boocock** will also be joining us as a teacher within the Science faculty on the 22nd June 2009.

Good luck

to all year 11 students with their GCSE exams which they will be starting in the new term.

FUTURE EVENTS

Parents Focus Groups Meeting

Parents views are always welcomed. If you would like to come along to our next meeting, please join us at the school on **Thursday 4th June 2009.**

Year 10 Parents Evening

Further details will provided later on in the term.

Sports Award Evening – 9th July 2009.

Palatine will once again be holding the Sports Award Evening. Further text to follow...

Year 11 Students

To support students in working towards achieving their English Literature GCSE's, a number of Theatre Trips have been arranged. Of Mice and Men has recently taken place and An Inspector Calls is due to take place on **6th May 2009.**