

# **MOOR HOUSE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

## **May 2010**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the May 2010 Newsletter.

### Community News

During the weekend of 9<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> April, Dorking Swimming Club, a 'Swim 21' registered organization, used the Moor House pool for their annual swim camp. This was the first time such an event was organized and it was, from the point of view of both the swimming club and Moor House, an unqualified success. 28 swimmers aged between 11 and 14 with 7 coaches and volunteer helpers in attendance (all CRB checked) spent a weekend developing swimming and team building skills which will stand the swimmers in good stead for their own personal development and competitive swimming at local, regional and even national level.

Comments from the club were glowing in their praise of John Halliday and Terry Luff for their assistance and support. Conversely John and Terry were fulsome in their praise for the immaculate condition the pool and dormitories were left in at the end of the weekend. Moor House is pleased to have made such a contribution to facilitating the health and fitness of young people in the wider Surrey community and we hope that such a link will continue in the future.

### **DUKE OF EDINBURGH EXPEDITION SUCCESS**

**Senior students successfully undertook their practice and full Bronze expeditions!**

**See full reports and photographs on the school website!!!**

### SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

School Council recently sent off 20 shoe boxes filled with goods for children in Haiti to the Red Cross. Boxes were filled with life essential items such as toothpaste or brushes but also had toys or pencils to help keep the children's spirits up whilst they build their lives back up. Two members of School Council also attended a regional Federation meeting. They worked along side other school councils to look at larger projects such as raising awareness for anti-bullying. There will also be a festival held on the 26<sup>th</sup> June. School Council will be running a talent show of our own to then send our winner to represent the school at a regional talent show. In running this we will also be raising money by charging entry. This money will be matched by the Rotary Club and will go towards sending out survival boxes to countries that need them.

Cinema night has also gone down well. Children attend every other Wednesday and watch a film that has just been released.

## **CULTURAL VISIT TO BERLIN**

See the school Website for details of this exciting trip for senior students.

## **GCSE ART EXAM**

After 2 years of studying, my 'six' GCSE Art Students 'sat' their '10 hour' final paper on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> May 2010 for the AQA Board.

A number of them have chosen to use their 25% extra time allowance to complete their work.

They have all worked very hard and I believe have worked to the best of their ability.

There has been a variety of 'medium' used: acrylic paint, pastels, fine pens, soft pencils.

I am delighted that there is such a wealth of creative talent here at Moor House School.

Bridgette Greig

## **CONSTRUCTION AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT GCSE**

Construction is one of the earliest exams for Year 11 so pupils have now completed all parts of this course. In addition to the written exam, pupils have completed two coursework folders, a practical test and a health and safety assessment. Recently we have concentrated on the coursework elements and at the end of April pupils faced the practical test.

Each pupil designed a patterned feature for their wall, calculated the materials required, made a plan of work and completed a risk assessment. The day of the practical test arrived and we were lucky to have bright and sunny weather. At 9a.m. pupils collected their materials, selected the tools needed, measured and set out their work area and then began to build. Some were confident in their work; others a little slower, checking carefully as they built. Some pupils exhibited a more natural skill and others had to work very hard to achieve the desired outcome. By lunchtime a couple of pupils were near completion but another had to reassess their work and take corrective action to avoid disaster. Returning after lunch, the build went on and most relaxed a little as they saw the end in sight. Some said they were beginning to feel like 'real' builders and comments such as "We ought to have a radio playing loudly", "Shouldn't we be making tea" and "Don't builders shout rude things at passing ladies?" were quickly stifled as Mrs. Dobbie came into sight accompanied by a visitor.

It is rare that pupils spend a whole day engaged in a physical task and with the additional pressure of knowing that this was their exam, some were very tired towards the end of the afternoon. Most managed to maintain full commitment through the final stages of pointing and cleaning their wall, others were clearly struggling. At the conclusion, however; all the pupils completed the task, all had learned some useful skills and each had a final product of which they could be proud.

## **Design and Technology Report – Summer 2010 – Year 11**

Y11 Design and Technology students have been very busy in the first half of the summer term completing work on their practical projects. More than a year ago each of the students began work, designing their project. Despite delays and setbacks along the way each has produced a complete, quality product, learning much along the way. In recent weeks, many of the students have taken advantage of the extra sessions provided in the evenings, using each session to full advantage, improving the quality of their projects.

Mr Osborne

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## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Examinations begin on May 26th

Sports Day Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June

Leavers' Day Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July