



Longsands College Newsletter

Vol 5
Issue 2
Oct 2006

Year 11 and the Chocolate Factory



How does this sound for a day out? Hopping onto a coach, arriving at a world famous chocolate factory, taking a tour full of bizarre activities, amusing games and free chocolate, then buying lots *more* chocolate, and eating it all on the way home... I have to admit, it does sound like something out of 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' but for about 80 lucky Year 11 students, this was a dream come true.

On Tuesday 3 and Wednesday 4 October, those on GCSE Business and Applied Business courses took a day out to Cadbury World to study the business for their coursework (and eat a LOT of chocolate). We started the day with a step back in history, taking a look at the street where John Cadbury first set up his business. Afterwards, we looked at the steps taken to turn cocoa beans into the famous Dairy Milk. We then took a tour of the factory itself looking at the production and packaging, ending with a ride on 'Cadabra', where a few students were given a jolt by the Cadbury's staff, whose aim seemed to be, ultimately, to make as many of the visitors shriek as possible!

Before lunch, students were split into two groups and a member of staff gave them a one-hour talk and discussed the

elements that each group needed for the work they are doing in lessons. A few people went to 'Essence', a new attraction where, after learning a bit about the 'glass and a half' trademark, you could indulge in a cup of melted chocolate with a topping of your choice, be it gummy bears, marshmallows, popcorn or another interesting idea. Although this sounds alluring, most did not finish their cups and those who did (and also finished a few others,) felt the effects of this for a while after! After one last dash around the shop, everyone hopped back onto the coaches and talked about their highlights while munching on whatever they had collected from the day.

"It was a fantastic day," said **Jessica Enos**. *"If I had a chance I'd do it again, despite the fact I couldn't face chocolate the day after!"* This is just one of the many compliments of the trip and I think I speak for everyone when I say a big thank you to Mr Paine, Mr Seery and all the other staff who came along, for a fantastic and memorable day...and now back to healthy eating in College!

Samantha Arnold



Developments

Languages Trips

Longsands' Modern Languages Department will be taking Years 8 and 10 to France and Germany next summer. Year 8s are scheduled to go on 23 June 2007 and Year 10 will travel on 14 July 2007. We hope these future trips will be as successful as those in recent years.

Peter Howard

Student Council

Student Council members will soon be wearing badges on the front of their polo shirt to identify them to other students.

Current plans that have arisen in Student Council Meetings include the idea to completely refurbish the large courtyards outside the Ritchie & New Halls for students. **Tom Dinsdale** and **Michael Green** are heading the KS3 project, and they are both very excited with the ideas which have been flowing in about what this new space should look like. (See reverse for final design.)

Keep an eye on the notice board in the New Hall for regular updates.

Patrick McAteer

Mr Gamby the College Media technician, has been working very hard on helping the Sixth Form get the full potential out of new equipment and facilities at the College. They have the opportunity to use new 'Mac' computers, which are very different from the PCs the rest of the College use. This is because they have no tower and the hard drive is built in; the computers also use a single button mouse. The Media Studies room is divided into two sides. On one side students have access to Macs to do video editing using the iMovie software. On the other side of a sound proof wall is a radio studio, which is becoming even more advanced as 'podcasting' is being introduced. This will make it possible for students to record interviews which will then be transferred onto the website. Visitors to the site can then download the files.

The Media Studies Department is in the process of buying a 'green screen'. Longsands students will then be able to video reports and import video footage and images behind the presenters. Mr Gamby commented; *"The Sixth Form have already started to use the media lab. and hopefully, after the half term break, the Year 13s and also the new Year 12s will continue to be motivated to enjoy using new equipment and software"*. Ashley Ancell

Tel: 01480 35 35 35
 Fax: 01480 37 57 57
 E-Mail: enquiries@longsands.cambs.sch.uk

Write:
 Longsands College
 Longsands Road
 St. Neots
 Cambridgeshire
 PE19 1LQ



Healthy Schools



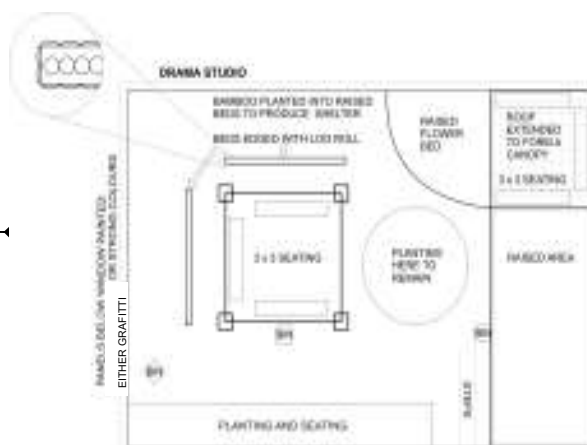
The healthy meals are now in action at Longsands, and seem to be successful. Also, Mr Clarke is working extremely hard on a new project which will be lasting for two years. It involves Longsands, a school in Spain (Xativa) and a school in Holland (Haarlem). All three schools will each choose 150 students and seven/eight teachers, who will all work with each other and look at health issues such as diet, exercise, drugs and sexual health. On Thursday 5 October, teachers from the schools had a meeting to discuss how they were going to interact with each other. Thank you to Mr Clarke for all the hard work he has put into planning to make this project successful.

Ashley Ancell

Courtyard transformation

The KS3 Courtyard Committee is undergoing research into the cost of planting and seating for the refurbishment of the KS3 courtyard. They have a budget of £2000 and are hoping to add an extended roof to form a canopy. Tom Dinsdale 8GD, Michael Green 9LAG, Rachel Hamilton and Laura Taylor 9MPM are all involved in the planning and design of the courtyard. They have been working hard and hopefully the project will be completed as soon as possible. Other ideas have been put forward and are being thought about such as, painting the walls in bright colours or asking the College's graffiti artist to come and decorate the wall under the drama studio. Ms Mathews, also involved, told us *'The KS3 students came up with some lovely ideas and it will be an excellent facility when it's completed'*. The courtyard will become a useful and relaxing space for the use of KS3 students.

Jenna Lewis and Gemma Bleakley



Learning Support

The Learning Support Department offers several levels of support for students.

If you have concerns about your child's special needs, please contact Mrs A. Brodie, SENCO. Mrs Brodie also attends all Parents' Evenings in Key Stages 3 & 4 and is usually able to see parents without an appointment.