

# NEWSLETTER

March 2008

## CLAYTON HALL BUSINESS AND LANGUAGE COLLEGE

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Dear Parent

As the Spring Term draws to an end I'd like to thank you for your continued support and make you aware of some new ways we are using to get your views.

The feedback on the Parents' Questionnaires you completed at the Parents' Evenings contained some suggestions that we need to be more active in seeking your views. In response we have just added to the school website a link for all parents to give us their views on any matter they choose. We will regularly access your views and respond accordingly. Specifically, we will try to post or publish our response so that parents know their concerns have been acted upon. Secondly, we have begun to hold year-specific meetings following on from each parents' evening. After analysing the contents from parents for each year group we have compiled a list of issues that concern you most. We have then invited a random selection of parents to come to a meeting one night after school. The Year 8 follow up was on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March and Year 7 was on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>. The other years will follow in the Summer Term. If there are any parents of students in Years 8, 10 and 11 who would specifically like to attend these consultations, please contact the school and we will arrange it. Finally, as part of the school's Disability Equality Statement we would like to meet parents, again in the Summer Term, to find out how we can make ourselves more accessible to members of the community with disabilities. Again, if you have any views please contact me at the school directly or via my email at [headteacher@clayton.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@clayton.staffs.sch.uk). Your views do count and you are telling us we need to try harder to seek them. In the Summer Newsletter I will give you some feedback on what you said the school's Strengths and Weaknesses were.

The school is also working hard on our Key OFSTED Targets. Firstly, considerably extra resources have been put into improving Key Stage 3 SATs results. For the first time all Year 9 students sat Mock SATs in all 3 core subjects and the papers were externally marked. We now have the papers back plus some detailed notes. This is a key improvement in the way we prepare our students for the exams. Our second target asked us to prepare and deliver the school for an outstanding OFSTED judgement and this is something the governors are keen to take an active lead on. This area of focus was added as fourth strand of the school's Strategic Plan in order for it to be given the status, importance and resources it requires. An action plan is therefore being prepared and I will make sure it is widely publicised when it is finished.

Finally, can I wish you all a Happy Easter and a restful break over the Bank holiday period.

Mark Heuston  
Headteacher

### **IMPORTANT – Change of date on Calendar:**

Please note that the Staff Training Day mentioned in the Student Calendar for **FRIDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2008** will not now be going ahead. This will be a normal school day for all students.

**The School is open for the first day of the Summer Term on Tuesday April 8<sup>th</sup> at 8.45am.**

## **New Dress Code and Behaviour Code for all students**

Please see below the Dress Code recently amended. This, together with the amended Behaviour Code, is displayed in all rooms throughout the school. If you would like to look at our Behaviour Code, log on to our website.

*Mark Heuston*

**CLAYTON HALL  
BUSINESS AND LANGUAGE  
COLLEGE**

### **DRESS CODE**

A school is a place of work. Students need to appreciate that there is a difference between dress for work and the free self-expression which goes with dress for leisure time.

1. **Coats** and other items, which are not part of school uniform, should be removed when entering the foyer areas of all buildings. Such items of clothing should not be put on again while going between lessons but only when students are about to leave the school premises.
2. **Shirts** should: not be fitted; button up to the neck; always be worn properly buttoned and tucked in.
3. **Girls' Skirts** must be: black; plain A-line style with no pleats; knee length; The material must not be tight hugging; The skirts must not have splits at the front or sides.
4. **Girls' Trousers** must: be plain tailored – with a defined waistband and zip; hang from the waist line; not drag or touch the ground; not be hipsters; not have a belt or buckle

either sewn to the trouser or loose; not be of tight fitting material; not have logos on them.

5. **Ties** should be properly knotted.
6. **Sweatshirts** should be worn by all students.

### ***These items should be checked before entering the classroom***

*Our official School Uniform Suppliers stock suitable styles and will be happy to fit students with a correct size. Our Suppliers are:*

*Smart School Uniform, The Barracks, Newcastle. Telephone (free) 0800 0681 782 and*

*National Schoolwear, Stafford Street, Hanley. Telephone (01782) 272991*

7. **Training shoes** are not part of the school uniform, for health and safety reasons. If students wear them at break or lunchtime to play sport, then they should change back into their shoes before their next lesson. **Shoes:** Platform shoes, high heels or shoes with no backs are not allowed for health and safety reasons.
8. **Jewellery**, apart from 1 ear stud per ear and a watch, is not allowed. This is in the school uniform information and should not be worn both for health and safety reasons and on the grounds of security.

***Any student persistently flouting this Dress Code will be reported and suitable steps taken to prevent repetition***

***M Heuston  
Headteacher***

## MAG

On The 19<sup>th</sup> February twenty-six pupils, belonging to the More Able Group, visited the Houses of Parliament at the invitation of Paul Farrelly, MP for Newcastle, after he was contacted by a number of enterprising students from the group.

The trip was an appropriate climax to the group's exploration into the bicentenary of the abolition of the slave trade, having the opportunity to view the establishment that eventually brought it about.

We all had a fantastic day and were overwhelmed not only by the grandeur, but by the sense of history and importance that surrounds the building.

Thanks to all staff involved and our MP and his staff for enabling the trip to run so smoothly.

**Mr T Pilsel. MAG Co-Ordinator**

## CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

On Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March Rosa Dilling, Joshua Hollins, Matthew Kelly, Tom Sweeney and Jonathan Crick took part in the National Schools Chess Championship National Qualifier.



The day long qualification was held at Nottingham High School and was attended by the best young players in the north of England.

After six gruelling hours of matches, mostly against players four to six years older than Clayton's, we managed to defeat one other school, eventually finishing in fifth place.

Well done all who took part.

**Mr T Pilsel.**

## Poetic Justice for the English Department.

A great day was had by Clayton Hall students at Keele University this term. Fifteen students from Year 10 were given the opportunity to spend the day at Keele University studying poetry and learning about how English is taught in higher education. The poetry workshops included an in-depth focus on detailed interpretations of poetry and gave students the opportunity

to engage with and dramatise poetry. Student comments on this part of the day included the following;

*"... it has given me a broader knowledge of poetry and taught me how to understand more complex pieces better."*

*"This gave us a much better insight into the world of poetry and we learned to annotate and look deeper into the hidden meaning of poetry."*

*"The lessons were really interesting and I learnt loads about poetry. The talks were also pretty fascinating."*

*"... our group did an awesome re-enactment of 'Porphyria's Lover'!"*

The students were also given a tour of Keele campus with a chance to discuss the types of courses available with the university's student mentors;

*"I thought this was a great way to explore the different university options and courses, and to learn about English (particularly poetry) at A-Level and at University."*

*"I felt the staff and mentors were really friendly and helped us a lot and answered our questions."*

*"... gave us a really good insight into university life..."*

*"I learnt a lot about... higher education."*

*"... the lessons were mature and provided a real feel for what university life is like."*

Feedback from the students involved was very positive and it would seem that they enjoyed all parts of this visit in equal measure. Hopefully, the department will see more students from Clayton Hall going on to study English at University level. Our thanks go to all the staff, both at Keele and here at school, who helped to make this such a successful venture. The final word however, must go to the student who begged,

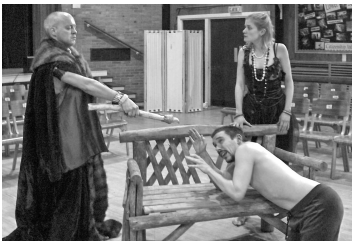
*"Please arrange more things like this!"*

**Mrs T Brits Head of English**

## Shakespeare Makes Waves in the English Department.

The English Department's launch of 'The Tempest' in Year 9 was, in the tradition of Shakespearean theatre, a dramatic event. A whole day was dedicated to workshops, a director's master class and of course a performance of the play, which is a key text for the English National Curriculum Tests later this year. The day was run by the experienced company 'Shakespeare in Schools' and aimed to bring the comedy and tragedy of 'The Tempest' alive for almost 200 students.

The cast, some themselves qualified teachers, encouraged and involved every student in the initial workshops, where students got to try out different roles from key scenes. The director's master class explored how performance can alter the audience's response to characters in the play, and the quality of the performance was



enjoyed by staff and student's alike, including a Year 11 G.C.S.E. drama class who were also invited to attend.

Responses from students have been incredibly positive and all have their own favourite moments from the day. In

lessons, staff have been able to reinforce the visual nature of theatre and students have used their experiences to inform their own understanding of the play and the key examination scenes. The English department's thanks go to 'Shakespeare in Schools' for the quality of their actors and of the experiences they provided. Our thanks also go to the Drama department for their earlier work on 'The Tempest' with Year 9 which gave the students such a sound understanding of the plot and key characters.

'Shakespeare in Schools' will be returning next year, when we hope to be 'making waves' again! A vengeful Prospero berates the wretch Caliban, whilst a soft-hearted Miranda looks on.

**Mrs T Brits**  
**Head of English Department**

*Congratulations to 37 students of year 7 who won the opportunity to be published in the Young Writers Mini Saga's Anthology. The book will be published later this year and will be available to borrow from the library. Once again well done from the English department.*

## Year 7 PSHE Day: February 5<sup>th</sup> 2008

Our last PSHE day covered a topic of health and fitness, due to the rising number of obese children in the UK. The health side was the side that really showed through, as periods 5-6 were devoted to a healthy eating classroom talk.

Firstly the talk started with a brief overview of the main food groups – fruit and vegetables, carbohydrates, protein and dairy products. A correct balance is needed for a healthy diet, and the last food group – sugars – had to be a minority, as they are detrimental to overall health and fitness.

Then, we moved onto the fitness side of the day. We began with a minute of measuring our pulses to find out our heart rate, and found that few pupils who thought they were unfit were actually perfectly healthy with heart rates at around 70 bpm.

We were then asked to fill in a sheet of the exercise we take in a regular 7-day week. Some people found it hard as they realized that they did not take the full 20 mins a day heavy exercise, and rather concentrated exercise into one day of the week.

After lunch break, we split up into our chosen activity groups and were led to the sports hall for circuit training, the gym for aerobics, and due to the rain, outdoor activity into the sports hall as well. I was in the circuit training group, and after a short safety lecture split into pairs and introduced to the circuit.

Activities included rowing on the rowing machine, burpies, memory games, press-ups, agility runs and tricep dips. Activities lasted for two minutes per pair, or one minute each, and after we had completed the day we recorded our results and handed them in.

The best score in the year group received 10 points, second received 8 points, etc. but all completed tasks earned at least one point. The overall winners have their names currently up on the PE department wall, but everyone who participated was given a certificate as a memento and reward.

**Keir Joynson 7T**

**Superstars Individual Multi-Fitness  
Testing Event  
PSHE Day 5<sup>th</sup> February 2008  
Year 7 Boys and Girls**

The comprised of 9 timed physical activities and 1 mental activity game, each lasting 1 minute in duration. A total 46 boys and girls from year 7 took part on the day, working in pairs to record each others results. Each individual competed against the clock and the other participants recorded their best score in each activity. Points were awarded to the top 5 placed in each activity least, and Mr. Alcock, who organized the event, would like to thank all staff who helped the day to run smoothly, as well as everyone who took part.



The top 3 girls were as follows:  
1<sup>st</sup> Katy Rowland  
2<sup>nd</sup> Beth Spiers  
3<sup>rd</sup> Fiona Chell

The top 3 boys were as follows:  
1<sup>st</sup> Ben Lack  
2<sup>nd</sup> Josh Siebetta  
3<sup>rd</sup> Liam Downs

**Mr. W Alcock**

**Year 7 PSHE Day**

On February 5<sup>th</sup> we had a PSHE day. For that day our theme was health. In the first part before lunch we talked about what we thought health meant. Plus we watched a video on healthy eating. It was 'Hell's Kitchen for Kids'. It taught us about fresh food. After lunch we did one of three activities Aerobics, Circuits or outdoor activity. I chose Aerobics we had fun being taught all different moves to different music. It was tiring. Overall the day was great and everyone enjoyed it.



**Jessie Sims 7K**

**Breakfast**

On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February (Shrove Tuesday) 7D had a delicious breakfast at school. It would normally have cost £1.55 but the staff kindly reduced it to £1.00 for us, it was held in the cafeteria and every form was able to take part some time in the week.



There was a choice of:

- Bacon
- Fried or scrambled egg
- 2 rounds of toast
- Baked beans
- Orange juice
- Milk
- Cup of tea

Most of our class had the breakfast and all who did really enjoyed it!

The breakfast was to encourage children to eat healthily, we may all have started the day with a healthy breakfast but I can guarantee that most of us went home and had pancakes!!!! This enabled us to not feel quite so guilty about going home and eating lots of pancakes!



**Yasmine Yearsley 7D**

**Cinderella**

On Friday January 11<sup>th</sup> 124 pupils from year 7 went to see the amazing production of "Cinderella" at The Regent Theatre, in Hanley.

We left school just after lunch and travelled by coach. We reached the theatre within 20 minutes and by the time we had arrived the atmosphere on the coach was buzzing with excitement.

We entered the theatre and sat down, then the magic started. We were blown away by the actors and actresses; Jonathan Wilkes, Coronation Street's Shobna Galati and Signal One presenter Andy Goulding were incredible. They included well known comedy phrases, for example: "Am I bovvered ????" and many others.

They also included the audience and there was a lot of sore throats by the end of the performance.

What a treat!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Leanne Daw 7C**



## Netball update!!!!

The season started well for the Year 7,8,10 and 11 netball teams, all winning the pre season Brine Leas Tournament. They beat off tough competition from Cheshire schools including Malbank and Queens.

The under 16 team have enjoyed particular success achieving 4<sup>th</sup> place in the county. In the Newcastle district league they missed out on the top spot by only one goal, after a 12-13 defeat to Sir Thomas Boughey. There was more disappointment for the team where despite remaining undefeated at the Newcastle Tournament they finished second. This was as a result of drawing with Newcastle under Lyme School and Sir Thomas Boughey.

“Perseverance” was key for the year 9 team who despite losses to N-U-L and Boughey managed to improve on last years finishing place. After strong wins over Newcastle Community, Chesterton and Clough Hall the team achieved a respectable 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Newcastle Tournament Although the Year 7 & 8 teams have not yet finished the season the outlook is very positive. With both teams achieving wins over Chesterton and Newcastle Community the chance of a top 3 finish is very possible.

Congratulations must also be given to the following pupils for their outstanding success in the county and regional selection.

U16 Regional & County Selection:  
Rachel Beeston

U16 County Selection:  
Emma Lawton

U14 County Selection:  
Lucinda Rushton

Remember anyone interested in netball, school practice is held Thursday 3.15-4.30 and for those seeking further coaching outside of school Newcastle Town holds open training at Newcastle Community High School every Tuesday 5.00-7.00. Anyone interested should contact Julie Tinsley on 01782 611129.

The school netball squads are currently seeking sponsorship. 2 of the squads

have already achieved a sponsor from FWB and Heron Fine China. Anyone interested in sponsoring the teams should contact Miss Rutherford.

### Year 7 Squad

Ashleigh Bradbury  
Jenny Evans (Capt)  
Emily Williams  
Laura Thompson  
Lola Alolobi  
Louise Clarke  
Sydney Hazarati  
Phoebe Kong  
Becky Jones

### Year 8 Squad

Akila Samsudin  
Lucinda Rushton  
(capt)  
Jenny Darby  
Megan Pile  
Lucy Ashley  
Megan Ashley  
Sally Hall  
Amy Yates  
Amy Downing

### Year 9 Squad

Becky Dodd  
Amy Lister  
Evie Carroll  
Kate Stirling  
Beth Stevenson  
Emily Chesterman  
Rachel Breeze  
Beth Roscilli  
Lucy Corcoran

### Year 10/11 Squad

Rachel Beeston  
Harriet Rushton  
Lily Martin  
Aimee Brown (Capt)  
Laura Gidman  
Emma Lawton  
Abbi Taylor

**Miss E Rutherford**

## Spring Term Boys Sports Report and news from your SSCo (Schools Sports Coordinator)

### **Badminton news**

The Y9 boys badminton team won the area partnership badminton championships in November to progress to the County champions played in January beating Wolstanton 4-1 in the final. Well done to Alex Liebeck, James Buckley, Matt Galletley, Shaluka Jayawardena, and Ryan Corbett.

In the County section of the Competition the team were narrowly beaten into 2<sup>nd</sup> spot losing out 3-2 to the eventual winner. They won their other games 3-2, 4-1 and 4-1.

The year 9 Girls badminton team won their area partnership championships in November to progress to the County championships played in January beating St John Fisher 3-2 in the final.

In the county stage the U14 girls team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 5 teams with the singles players not losing a single match in any one fixture. They were Evie Carroll, Lucy Baker, Beth Stevenson and Ella Clarke.



The Y10/11 Girls badminton narrowly missed out on a clean sweep for this years badminton teams losing out to St John Fisher in their partnership badminton championships. Thanks to Lizi Baker, Amy Brown, Emily Shaw, Steph Brookes and Emma Lawton

The Y11 Boys badminton cruised into the County championships final beating off all opposition in their partnership championships. They beat Sir Thomas Boughey 4-1 in the final. Thanks to Robert Amesbury, Ben Massey, Adam Lucas, Ben Warren and George Tattershall.

In the county competition of the Badminton Championships the U16 team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> of 5 squads with some good performances from all players. Blythe Bridge went on to win and look strong contenders to make the National finals.

### **Basketball news**

#### **U14 News**



Clayton lost to St John Fisher 44-22 away  
Clayton lost to Madeley High 10-6 home

Thanks to Joe Pearson, Matt Tharme, Alex Garrett, Ryan Corbett, Matt Galletley, Oliver Ford and Alex Liebeck.

2 matches remain in their Pool

#### **U16**

Clayton lost to Wolstanton 59-9

### **Staffordshire Team Championships**

4 teams represented the school in the County team championships held at St Margret Ward High School in November. Two of the U16's team were knocked out in the first round and the Quarter finals leaving the U16 A team to fly the flag. They made it all the way to the semi finals where they played De Ferrers High School. In the end they lost out 7-1 as De Ferrers fielded two superb youngsters who made a real difference in the outcome, De Ferrers went on to win the U16 category.

Thanks to  
Alex Liebeck, Ryan Corbett, Matt Galletley, Alex Garrett, Lee Foyle, Tom Amos,  
Ben Massey, Laurence Austin,  
Oliver Ford, Pete Henson, Matt Tharme, James Buckley.

In the U13 category Clayton progressed all the way to the final beating past winners St Margaret Ward on the way. In the final they played fellow

first timers at the championships in Madeley. A tense final got under way and no team took the initiative or managed to sustain a big lead. The turning point for Clayton was number one seed Ryan Maughan who at 2-0 down and 7-0 down in the third match embarked on an unbelievable come back, he went on to that game 13-11 and beat Madeley number one 3-2 to give Clayton a 4-2 lead. Madeley fought back in the last two games to tie the final. Madeley were judged winners by the tournament organiser after winning more sets than Clayton 15-12.

Thanks to  
Ryan Maughan, Jack Clarke, Cameron Rhodes and Matthew Whitaker.

### **Staffordshire Schools Individual championships held at Trentham High**

#### **U13 Girls**

2 girls represented Clayton in a round robin style competition

Lydia Brown placed 3<sup>rd</sup> of 5  
Beth Spears placed 5<sup>th</sup> of 5.

#### **U13 Boys**

Cameron Rhodes, Ryan Maughan and Jack Clarke all topped their groups.

All players made it safely to the quarter finals after the first knockout round.

Cameron Rhodes lost out in his quarter final to the eventually runner up. Jack Clarke progressed to the semi-final where he lost out to the eventual runner up. Ryan Maughan also made it to the semi-final where he lost out to the eventual winner.

#### **U16 Boys**

Alex Garrett, Ryan Corbett, Matt Galletley and Alex Liebeck had to play through a group stage to make the 2<sup>nd</sup> round. All made it through except for Alex Garrett.

Matt Galletley progressed to the quarter final where he was edged out by a pupil from St Margaret Ward High. Alex Liebeck also made it through to the quarter finals where he was beaten by the eventually runner up. Ryan Corbett made it to the semi finals but lost out also to Sam Law the eventual runner up.

## North Staffs Schools Table Tennis League

The A team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> of 5 in the pool and narrowly missed out on the semi final/finals night. However the B team topped their pool not losing a match. The B team topped their Pool and played Holden Lane in the semi final. They swept them aside 9-1 to reach the final at their first attempt. St Peter's the reigning champions proved why they haven't lost in 6 years as they edged out a young Clayton side who lost out 7-3. The match was well poised at 3-3. Three of the last four games went the full 5 set distance with St Peter's holding their nerve the best to sneak the win. Well done to Ryan Maughan, Jack Clarke, Oliver Ford and Pete Henson.



## Clayton Hall Table Tennis Championships

64 pupils took part in the first ever school table tennis championships for lower and upper school.

All entered players were guaranteed two matches with a consolation draw and main draw after the first round was played with a knock out format adopted thereafter.

The Lower School championships was won by Alex Liebeck who beat Ryan Corbett 3-1

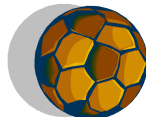
The upper school final was won by Max Locker who beat Tom Amos 3-2.

## Clayton Hall Badminton championships

32 pupils took part in the first ever lower school badminton championships. Unfortunately the upper school competition had to be cancelled due to no interest from pupils to enter.

A thrilling semi final played out by Year 7 pupil Harvey Collins and Y8 pupil Matt Whittaker proved the highlight of the competition with an incredible close match which Mat won 23-21. He met Alex Liebeck in the final. Alex was too strong for his younger opponent. Alex won the final 2 sets to nil.

## Football



### Y7 Team News

Clayton 6 Wolstanton 4 (Louis Downs x3 Harvey Collins, Kieran Carley, Dominc Kozyra plus Man of the Match.

### Y8 Team News

Clayton 2 Wolstanton 4 Cameron Rhodes/Aaron Mason (Goal scorers)

## School Sports Coordinator's Report

### Sports Leaders

Miss Rutherford has been putting Y10 pupils through their leadership paces working with groups of pupils who wish to be "Sports Leaders". They have been successfully deployed into some of our local primary school and taken activities and led lessons. The upshot of it all is they will gain a qualification upon completion and continue to support the work being done in school to support and provide activities at Clayton Hall and other local primary schools. It provides pupils with leadership opportunities and develops their confidence and skills.

### Other leaders

Other "non sport leaders" have also been supporting the P.E. dept recently. Primary schools have been using the school Astro turf for football matches/small festivals with many pupils' refereeing and taking control of the games. Thanks to Sam Welsh, Zara Bloor, Amy Fullwood, Chicolle Dean, Lee Foyle and Tom Amos.

Three Y11 boys have been refereeing and supporting the school Y7 and Y8 football teams. Thanks to Tom Amos, Lee Foyle and Matt Lowndes for their assistance. Any pupil wishing to help out in any way is more than welcome.

### Official School-Club links

The following list is links the school has with local clubs who are Clubmark Accredited and support the work of the P.E. department and Sports Teams at the school. These clubs come highly recommended to any parent who wants their child to get involved with a local club.

Clubmark is a kite mark given to clubs/organisations who show excellent standards of organisation and meet all criteria set out either by the National Governing Body (NGB) or Sport England. They have achieved this kite mark because of their excellent coaching development, child protection policies and their school club links. Other factors are also taken into consideration but these areas are the most important.

Newcastle Track Cycling Club

<http://www.newcastle-track.co.uk/>

Newcastle Rugby Club

<http://www.newcastlestaffsrufc.co.uk>



Newcastle Town Netball Club  
Newcastle Athletics Club  
<http://www.newcastlestaffsac.co.uk/>  
Clayton Hall Table Tennis Club  
<http://claytonttc.topcities.com/home.htm>  
Penkhull Table Tennis Club  
<http://penkhullttc.topcities.com/pttchome.htm>  
Basford Tennis Club <http://www.basfordttc.co.uk/>  
Newcastle Volleyball Club  
<http://www.newcastlestaffsvolleyballclub.co.uk/>  
Tretham Boat Club (Stoke Rowing Association)  
Ken Steele (Badminton coaching)  
S&H Kickboxing

Please do not hesitate to contact the P.E. dept to find out more information about these clubs in our community. If you run a club or wish the school to know about your son/daughter's club please let us know so we can spread the word and get more youngsters enjoying sport. Please feel free to contact us below.

[rrhodes@clayton.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:rrhodes@clayton.staffs.sch.uk)

### **Work Experience**

Work Experience dates are Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2008 – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2008. Debbie Watkins, the administrator is in the process of finalising arrangements for this years programme and after the Easter break Debbie will provide each pupil with a print out of their employer contact information. Pupils will spend time with their form tutors practising the skills and planning the arrangements to visit their employer for the first time. Many pupils are anxious about work experience and this preliminary visit should help pupils to iron out any concerns so that their work experience will be both enjoyable and valuable. A key aim of work experience is to prepare young people for the transition from school at 16. Parents can help by discussing arrangements and encouraging pupils to talk to form tutors/work experience administrator about any concerns they may have. Finally it is proving quite difficult this year to locate and organise suitable placements for all our pupils and I would request that if any parent may be able to suggest or provide a work experience placement, would they please make contact with Ms. Cregan the Head of Careers.

**Ms C. Cregan**  
**Head of Careers**

### **Connexions News**

Part of my role as a Connexions Personal Adviser working in schools is to follow up the previous year's school leavers to find out what they are doing in terms of education, work or training by the end of October after they have left school.

2007's destination survey gave the following information about last year's school leavers at Clayton:

77% continued in full-time education as opposed to 74% for all schools in the Newcastle district. 16% went into work-based training (including employed and non-employed status apprenticeships) which is the same as the average for all schools in the Newcastle district. 6% were not yet settled as opposed to 7% for all schools in the Newcastle district 0.5% went into jobs with not training as opposed to almost 2% for all school in the Newcastle district.

As you can see, the vast majority (93%) of Clayton school leavers continued into some kind of learning post-16. This is good news, indicating that young people at Clayton are willing to gain further qualifications once they have left school, thus giving them a head start in the jobs market.

If you would like to contact me regarding the above or any other issue, please do so at Newcastle Connexions Centre in Hassell Street, Newcastle (Tel. 297383) or via email [denise.sillitto@cxstaffs.co.uk](mailto:denise.sillitto@cxstaffs.co.uk)

**Denise Sillitto**

### **BUSINESS and ENTERPRISE**

#### **'The Fruit Game'**

As part of our enterprise development we were asked to help Mr Williams to deliver an enterprise activity to year 6 at St Werburgh's. The pupils represented a country and their aim was to use templates of fruit to make and sell at market prices. The activity lasted an hour and during this time Mr Williams would change the rules or fruit prices. This meant the pupils had to think quickly about what to do. As they got used to the game they began to think ahead and some teams started to take risks in the hope that market conditions would favour them. Jamaica took a big gamble on bananas and were excited when the price rose sharply! It not only challenged the year 6 but it challenged us as well. We were the bankers and had to sell the items to enable them to make the fruit and then buy the fruit from them.



The pupils had to negotiate with us to get the full market price and Mr Williams kept telling us we had to be ruthless! We think it was a really good game and they all learnt how to hustle and share responsibilities in their team. If they didn't work together they wouldn't do very well. There was quite a lot of maths as they had to keep tabs on how much money they had and whether it was earning interest in the bank. It certainly confused us! The teachers also kept doing health and safety checks and if the pupils were untidy they were fined. We both found the experience fun and interesting and would like to do something similar again.

**Zara Shufflebotham and Kirsty Lawton 10P**

### LIBRARY NEWS



The Young Teen Fiction book award for this year is now in full swing. The six short listed books are:

- Kiss by Jacqueline Wilson
- Skulduggery Pleasant by Derek Landy
- Hurricane Gold by Charlie Higson
- Blood Beast by Darren Shan
- Snakehead by Anthony Horowitz
- Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows by J K Rowling

The 12 pupils that are taking part in the event have to read all six titles and then vote online for the book they think is the best. In July we will team up with other schools in the county and discuss the books in detail before deciding on the ultimate winner.

The 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> March was book week with world book day being on the 6<sup>th</sup>. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> March a debut author, Tom Kelly, visited the school and provided a talk to two year 7 classes. During break time he took time out in the library to sign copies of his book, *The Thing with Finn*.



All pupils from the lower school were issued with World Book Day tokens which they were able to swap for a WBD book or they could use the token against any purchase in this month's Scholastic Cover2Cover magazine.

Other events included a lunch time of reading, a competition to match book titles to subject departments and a 'pub style' quiz complete with picture rounds and 'playing the joker' which was great fun.

The Nestle Box Top scheme has come to an end for this year but please continue to bring them in as we can start again for next year. You have raised £80 this year which will be spent on books for the library. If there is any title or particular author you would like me to get then just let me know.

Next term sees the launch of the national year of reading campaign with many events

being planned for each month. Keep an eye on the bulletin for competitions and opportunities to win many prizes.

*Mrs K J Corbett*

## YEAR 7 ENTERPRISE FAIR

### SATURDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2007

As part of their business and enterprise learning year 7 worked alongside staff to plan and run an Enterprise fair. The pupils were asked to think of ways to raise money which could include games to play or products to sell.

Everyone worked hard to come up with exciting ideas and then most importantly put these into practise. Some of the children then volunteered to come in on the Saturday and run their stalls and activities. It was lovely to see such enthusiasm on the day and we were rewarded with profits of more than double those of the previous year.



Thank you to all pupils, staff, and parents who helped to make the event such a big success. A special thank you, to, the Friends of Clayton for the refreshments on the day, Mrs Bourne for the bookmarks, and Mrs Bailey for providing the mobile phone charms.

Overall we made a profit of £895.00 of which £430.00 went to the Douglas Macmillan Cancer Appeal. Prior to the event, each form group had nominated a charity of their choice and each Year 7 pupil was given an opportunity to vote for the charity of their choice, using a proper ballot paper. This was presented to a representative of the Douglas McMillan charity in a special assembly. The remainder of the money will be used to run future enterprise activities such as next year's Enterprise Fair.

Once again thank you to all those who took part and helped to raise a substantial amount of money for an excellent cause.

**Mr R Williams**

### Clothes Show Live – T-shirt competition

It was approaching the end of the summer holidays when I was bored and struggling to find something to do when I noticed a 'design your own t-shirt' competition. Seeing as design of some sort is the route I want to take when I leave school, I thought I'd check it out. When I read more about it and realised £1500 was up for grabs I decided I'd enter. I downloaded the brief for the competition and

soon put pen to paper. It took me around 2 or 3 days to come up with a final design that I was happy with, and then I soon sent it away to Clothes Show Live, who were organising the competition. It was about 2 months later when I got a call saying that my design had been successful and had made it into the top 10 in the UK. It came as a complete shock seeing as though it had been 2 months since I had sent off my design and within that time I had completely forgot about it. I was on a high for the next few days, knowing I was in with the chance of winning. I wasn't sure if I'd even like Clothes Show Live as it seemed to me as a boring event to go to, so I wasn't really that excited about attending.

When it was the day of the show, I picked up some friends and travelled down to Birmingham, the NEC. I had to be in the VIP suite for 10 o'clock and I was late, so it wasn't the greatest start to the day. I got the details from the events manager about the time of the show I was in and the time I had to be with my model. Then it was time to go into all of the main halls and see what the Clothes Show had to offer. To be quite honest I wasn't really that impressed as it was just full of girls clothes which isn't my idea of fun, but it was what I expected. However, the performance that you can go and see was actually really good, and me and my friend had VIP seats which allowed us to be sat right at the front! Despite having Shayne Ward singing, who I think is really annoying; the rest of the performance was really good.

After the show it was time for my show! So I headed to the meeting place whilst my friends got a good seat by the catwalk. There was me and 9 other finalists who all looked as anxious and as nervous as I did. We were all asked to line up backstage in a specific order, and I was 3rd in the line so I thought I must have come third. But I was wrong, the host (Ziggy) announced that there were 2 finalists who would be coming out first then the winner would be announced. I realised then that I had won and I was so confused because I honestly thought that some of the other designs were really good. I was then ushered on stage with my model and was nearly pushed down the catwalk as I was so reluctant. It was so surreal. There was music, lights and people cheering my name. It was so weird, I had a really good looking girl strutting next to me in the shirt that I had designed and then there was me walking quickly down the catwalk and just standing at the end as the model posed for the photographs. As I walked back I could see my family and friends cheering in the crowd for me. I walked back to the stage and I was awarded with the cheque of money, a glass trophy and a huge bunch of flowers. After being congratulated by Ziggy and the other contestants I escaped from the rails of clothes and good looking models to join my friends and family in the crowd. It was announced then that my shirt is on sale in a fairtrade

stall, so we all left the catwalk and went to buy some shirts! When we found the stall, it was covered in my shirts! All of the mannequins had it on, all of the staff, and it was on every rail. Seeing my design on such a large scale was immense! After meeting all the staff at the fairtrade stall who had been supporting my design and who had printed it, it was time to head home with my winnings!

It was a surreal experience, and so unexpected. It really was amazing.

**Greg Jackson IIV**



Staffordshire Catering Service is introducing some changes to the food served at Clayton Hall Business and Language College. Here are a few events that are coming to the dining room soon:

**New Taste and Try Sessions** – help us decide what new products go on the menus. We recently held our first session – great feedback. Next session: Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March – Paninis with various fillings. Come along and try the new products for free, fill in a form with your opinion.

**April's Special Offer – Share a Pizza** – when its raining share a brolly - when you're hungry share a pizza – Large slice for only £1.50.

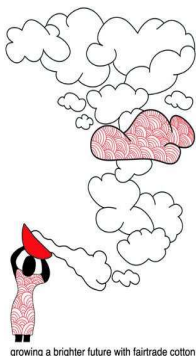
**Smart Pasta** – watch out for this new service – pasta in a pot with a choice of sauces for £1.50. Starting 14<sup>th</sup> April we are trialling several different sauces and need your feedback – so don't forget to logon to the Intranet and follow the link to the online poll to pick your favourite. Least favourite sauces will be taken off the menu – it's your choice!

**Continental Days** – your catering team are linking the menus to the school's curriculum. Promoting menus that reflect the theme of the continental day and aimed at each different age group.

These are just some of the new and exciting changes to the food service at Clayton – watch out for more.....

**Food Focus Group** – feedback your opinions of the service to your year group representatives. If you think it's great – we keep doing it. If you don't like something the only way we know and can make it better is by you letting us know.

**County Catering**



growing a brighter future with fairtrade cotton

**School Absence Line:  
01782 297566**



Just a reminder to all parents that the above number is the one you should be ringing if your child is ill or going to be late in, due to an appointment. It is a dedicated line and is available for you to ring 24 hours a day. You will hear a short message asking you to leave details of your child's absence. The message is then passed on to your child's form tutor.

**Thank you. Mrs Osborn**

**Science and Engineering Club**

The science and engineering club have been doing a project on forensic science this term. We have been learning such things as how to identify fingerprints and casting car tracks. Furthermore

we have been learning how to do DNA and blood tests. As well as this we have been identifying certain substances by using the flame test (different elements change the colour of the fire) and dipping the elements in acids. Finally we have learnt how to use chromatography

effectively. All these skills are used by professional forensic scientists.

Soon we will be investigating the pretend murder of Mr Heuston. We can use the skills we have learnt to interrogate the suspects and find the murderer.

**Mr Heuston would like to mention the following students who have received a praise letter this term.**

Forename	Surname	Reg
Daniel	Arme	7A
John	Booth	7A
Samuel	Booth	7A
Lahana	Dytor	7A
Laura	Field	7A
Joshua	Hollins	7A
Daniel	Plant	7A
Bethanie	Spiers	7A
Matthew	Stride	7A
Ashley	Thompson	7A
Lauren	Titley	7A
Jessica	West	7A
Katie	Barker	7D
Daniel	Birnie	7D
Ashleigh	Bradbury	7D
Joshua	Bryan	7D
Louise	Clarke	7D
Amy	Cooper	7D
Alexander	Corrin	7D

Emma	Ford	7D
Imogen	Ford	7D
Elise	Gott	7D
Ben	Hemmings	7D
Alexandra	Probert	7D
Hannah	Quinn	7D
James	Rayner	7D
Tyler	Smith	7D
Jack	Stoddart	7D
Sam	Weaver	7D
Emily	Williams	7D
Callum	Wilton	7D
Jasmine	Yearsley	7D
Lydia	Brown	7G
Rebecca	Owen	7G
Katie	Adams	7H
Megan	Beech	7H
Jake	Boughey	7H
Liana	Bourne	7H
Danielle	Crewe	7H
Jonathan	Crick	7H
Alexander	Dooler	7H
Rhea	Fenton	7H
Natalie	Gilligan	7H
Rachel	Hill	7H
Joe	Hoskins	7H
Radian	Jawadin	7H
Phoebe	Kong	7H
Benjamin	Lack	7H
Joshua	Latham	7H
Aaron	McGowan	7H
Sophie	Pattinson	7H
Rebecca	Underwood	7H
Paige	Davis	7K
Jessica	Davis	7L
Jenny	Evans	7L
Alexander	Makins	7L
Bradley	Mitchell	7L
Marcel	Welsh	7L
Tania	Abedin	7T
Mopelola	Afolabi	7T
Melih	Anik	7T
Leah	Bentley	7T
Megan	Bye	7T
Chelsea	Eaton	7T
Daniel	Ellam	7T
Larissa	Evans	7T
David	Fox-Wells	7T
Benjamin	Garner	7T
Natalie	Heath	7T
Christopher	Hill	7T
Ricky	Jackson	7T
Gemma	Rogers	7T

Molly	Ryles	7T
Laura	Thompson	7T
Anya	Welsh	7T
Shannon	Whittingham	7T
Camilla	Woodward	7T
Charlotte	Wooldridge	7T
Atilla	Zirekoglu	7T
Sanjidah	Ahmed	8A
Laura	Banks	8A
Pascale	Berry	8A
Stacey	Bradburn	8A
Dominic	Hope	8A
Grant	Hopwood	8A
Joshua	Hough	8A
Rebecca	Inskip	8A
Sameeya	Khan	8A
Jake	Llewellyn	8A
Emily	Massey	8A
Ben	Masters	8A
Pippa	Monks	8A
Jack	Rollings	8A
Jessica	Timmis	8A
Matthew	Flynn	8N
Charlotte	Hickman	8N
Lucinda	Rushton	8N
Sam	Russell	8N
William	Brambley	8P
Ashleigh	Cross	8P
Chandler	Deakin	8P
Joseph	Dobson	8P
Ebony	Gledhill	8P
Joshua	Handley	8P
Bethany	Holford	8P
Moonnoon	Jawadin	8P
Ashley	Lambert	8P
Mitchell	Love	8P
Rachel	Shallcross	8P
Shelly	Stanier	8P
Oliver	Steventon	8P
Selvi	Altun	8R
Lucy	Ashley	8R
Hayley	Bates	8R
Elizabeth	Chadwick	8R
Lucy	Hayes	8R
Danielle	Madeley	8R
Aaron	Mason	8R
Charlie	Shufflebotham	8R
Hannah	Waite	8R
Emma	Whittingham	8R
Samuel	Espley	8S
Ross	Littlejohn	8S
Akshay	Soni	8S
Hollie	Beech	8T

Thomas	Bradbury	8T
Bethany	Carr	8T
Niall	Forrest	8T
Amber	Griffiths	8T
Sophie	Lear	8T
Rebecca	Leech	8T
Rebecca	Lees	8T
Imogen	Love	8T
Jack	Mould	8T
Anna	Plant	8T
Cameron	Rhodes	8T
Stephanie	Whieldon	8T
Richard	Cartlidge	8W
William	Yates	8W
Jacob	Clews	9A
Ryan	Corbett	9A
Kym	Laney	9A
Laura	Bradbury	9D
Ella	Clarke	9D
Rebecca	Day	9D
Cameron	Love	9D
Katie	Hill	9J
Megan	Norman	9J
Daniel	Mountford	9M
Alex	Garratt	9P
Evie	Carroll	9T
Hannah	Doyle	9T
Matthew	Galletley	9T
Alexander	Liebeck	9T
Amy	Lister	9T
Clara	Taylor	9T
Jack	Burton	9W
Katie	Henshall	9W
Shaluka	Jayawardane	9W
Nikita	Stribling	9W
Miriam	Wardle	9W
Josh	Amphlett	10A
Eric	Wilshaw	10D
Shanttel	Green	10M
Amy	Salt	10M
Natalie	Wain	10M
Kirsty	Lawton	10P
Thomas	Whitehouse	10P
Thomas	Davey	10S
Ryan	Downs	10S
Emilia	Capper	10W
Laura	Matthews	10W
Emily	Whewall	10W
Louise	Marketos	11D
Kerri	Welsh	11R