

SWANLEA NEWS



SWANLEA BUSINESS & ENTERPRISE COLLEGE

Issue 61
Summer 2008

LORD MAYOR COMMENDS SWANLEA'S CITIZENS



AND COMES TO SEE
MERRILL LYNCH'S
RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP PROGRAMME

LETTER FROM THE HEAD

Ms Austin



Suddenly the summer term is upon us, and as always, activity at Swanlea has not diminished for a moment. Despite lots of us - parents included - being preoccupied with examinations, Swanlea students have continued to make their mark and staff have continued to raise standards.

We were privileged to host a visit from the Lord Mayor of the City of London, Rt. Hon. David Lewis, together with Bob Wigley, Chairman at Merrill Lynch of Europe, Middle East and Africa, Mr Alderman and Sheriff-Elect Ian Luder and Mrs Lin Luder, Mr Neil Chrimes, Duty Household Officer, as well as representatives from the Guildhall.

The Lord Mayor visited Swanlea to speak to students about the impact Merrill Lynch's entrepreneurship programme has had on them. The MLEE programme was recognised in Lord Mayor's Dragon Awards scheme last year. The visitors met students from Swanlea and Osmani Primary school, accompanied by Ms Atoyebi, Head,

The Lord Mayor and Bob Wigley also took part in a 'career options' question and answer session with students to give them an opportunity to find out more about their jobs - a wonderful experience.

I do hope you enjoy this edition of Swanlea News.

With every best wish,

Linda Austin

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Business &
Enterprise



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Healthy Schools

SWANLEA STUDENTS REUNITE

Ms Daly
MRO

Thursday 19th June saw the reunion of Swanlea alumni from 2000/2001. Over 50 ex-students attended this wonderful event, all keen to catch up with their old classmates and speak to teachers. We were all pleased (but not surprised) to see and hear what these fine young men and women have been doing since leaving Swanlea.

Our alumni have gained many, considerable achievements since graduating from Swanlea. Our students have gone on to a range of careers, including medicine, accountancy, youth work, biomedical science, teaching, banking, architecture, marketing, law and the civil service. We are very proud of them all.



SWANLEA WINS PRESTIGIOUS SILVER ARTS MARK AWARD

On 23rd June, Clare Crawford, Deputy Bursar, Oli Hoque (9N) and Azmina Begum (7E) went to pick up the silver Artsmark award at a celebration event at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, Southbank. The event was hosted by Kat B (MTV and Choice FM) and included dance and vocal performances from other winning schools, as

well as an appearance by Michael Rosen, the children's laureate, who recited a specially written poem about the Artsmark Award. Oli and Azmina proudly accepted a framed certificate confirming our silver artsmark status.

Ms Crawford
Deputy Bursar





MERRILL LYNCH PRESENTATION SKILLS COMPETITION



On Thursday 6th June 12 students from Swanlea, Bow and Mulberry competed in the final of the Merrill Lynch Presentation Skills competition.

Students from all three schools had received significant support and coaching from senior staff at Merrill Lynch since December. Many thanks go to Hannah Jackson in particular, who ran the training courses for our students. Students had also undergone quarter and semi final competitions in order to reach the final, and each took to the podium with months of preparation and hard work under their belts.

The tension (and competition) was fierce! Those who had not been successful in reaching the final

came to support their classmates nevertheless. The atmosphere at Merrill Lynch's King Edward Hall was thrilling. Everyone competed hard, but what stood out to the spectators was not just the students' bravery, but their generosity towards one another. Clearly it was not just presentation skills the students had learnt.

Having come first and third place in 2007, we had high hopes for the competition this year. However, the standard of the entries were by far the best this year. Whilst we didn't win, our students were a credit to the school and we are determined to come back next year and do even better.

Mr S. Firth
Assistant Headteacher

Congratulations to all who took part: Michael Lennard, 9S, Tasnim Anisa Ali, 9S, Hodon Saad Ali Shire, 9S, Marcus Boyea, 9L, Eniola Olatunde, 9L, Shamisul Alom, 9L, Amin Mohammed, 9L, Javed Hussain, 9E, Tarekur Rahman, 9N, Oli Hoque, 9N, Akiqul Hoque, 9N, Menhaj Amran, 9N, Zakir Miah, 9A, Shazmin Rahman, 9A, Fatimatul Zakra, 9W.





MUSIC NOTES

What a year 2008 has been for music at Swanlea. We have had some big changes starting with two new music teachers. Both myself, Jane Brownlee, new Head of Music, and Nick Jack are delighted to be teaching music at Swanlea School. Next year we will be joined by Ms Georgette Nummelin.

We have had students on exciting trips including a group attending the City University Summer School. This was a five day intensive course where students got to experience the rigours of studying music at a university level. Recently another group of students attended the Festival of London performance at St Paul's Cathedral. The Performers were incredible and featured on the night was the Hallé Orchestra from Manchester. The performance was



conducted by Sir Mark Elder, and included a program of Brahms, Wagner and R. Strauss. The Swanlea students have already been invited back next year. Well done!

We have had some amazing ensembles this year and most recently saw the evolution of the Grime club into the Swanlea Beats Club. It is been incredibly popular with the students. We have been so very lucky to have DJ Wonder and DJ Crises at the helm of the Beats club. We also have a new 'hip-hop tabla club', which has been coordinated by Mr Sudarshan Das. Mostly comprised of Year 7 students the Hip Hop Tabla have been working rigorously and we congratulate them on their brilliant work. Also to be congratulated is

Mr Merjin Royaards who has been directing the Swanlea Drum Club. There have been some remarkable rhythms coming out of Drum Club! Of special note is Mr Michael Picknett, who has been directing the 'hour of power' guitar club with some awesome music being played.

Thank you to the many students who have been practising this year, and are starting to really sound terrific on your instruments. We look forward to even more exciting trips, ensembles and concerts next year.

Jane Brownlee
Head of Music





THE CITY GATEWAY PU



6 Left to right: David Donoghue, Emily Georghiou & Patrick Farrell
Above: Fatimatul Zakra, 9W, who helped chair the event

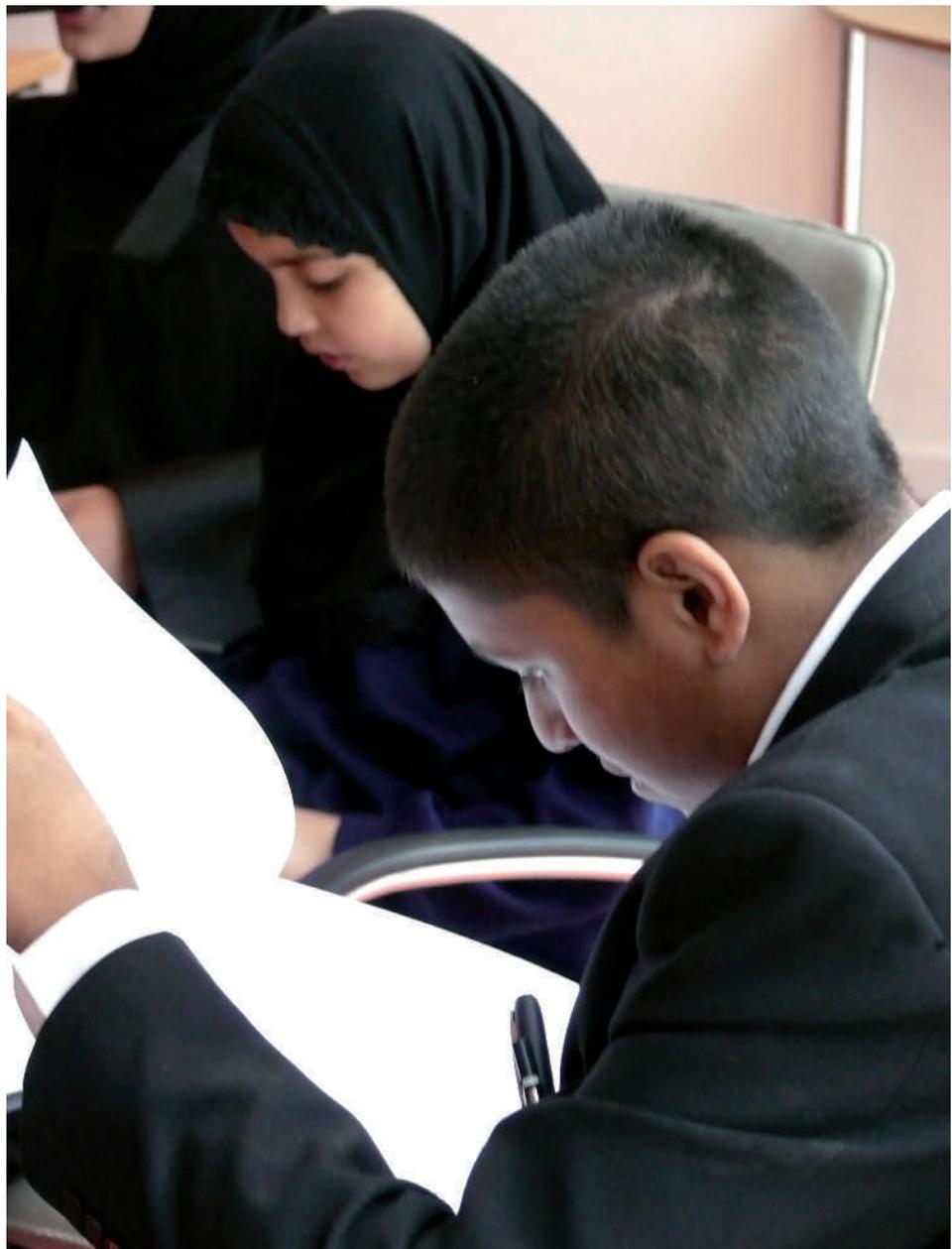




This year's City Gateway Pupil Parliament was held at Norton Rose's new headquarters near London Bridge - right next to City Hall.

Pupil Parliament is an innovative and challenging opportunity for students to learn more about government, leadership and democracy. School council representatives from Swanlea and Canon Barnett Primary school were selected to participate in the day-long experience. Having prepared questions in advance, students were invited to ask the panel questions about topics relevant to children. Issues about the environment, bullying, crime, out of school opportunities all arose, and students from both primary and secondary sectors worked together to come up with proposals to take forward in their own schools.

Students were treated to a prestigious panel of guest speakers - Patrick Farrell, Partner at Norton Rose, Emily Georghiou from the Equality and Human Rights Commission, and David Donoghue, member of the Local Area Partnership steering group.



PUPIL PARLIAMENT 2008

We hope to continue on the excellent work that students produced and implement the desired changes at school. An exceptionally valuable chance for students to develop their own voice and learn how to instigate real reform, this year's Pupil Parliament was yet again, a huge success. We remain indebted to Norton Rose for their sponsorship of the event.

Mr A. Goodman
Deputy Head



QUALITY IN SWANLEA

In today's world of work there are many choices that young people can make about their future and many obstacles and hurdles that they have to overcome to achieve their aims. At Swanlea we understand this and see the importance of careers education and information, advice and guidance. We run a comprehensive programme

of careers education, activities and events through from Year 7 to Year 11. These are closely linked to the Extended School programme. As of this term we are working to achieve the Investors in Careers Quality award for the school. This is an exciting project and we hope that everyone that is connected with the school will support us

in this. Investors in Careers is a nationally recognised award for quality and all schools in the Borough are being encouraged to work towards it. We hope to be one of the first to achieve it.

Vanessa Chadwick
Careers Co-ordinator

GIFTED & TALENTED PARENTS EVENING

Parents, students and staff gathered on Thursday 26th June to celebrate Swanlea's Gifted and Talented.

Mr Allen, Gifted and Talented Co-ordinator, arranged a fantastic evening of interactive events and activities. Designed to help advise parents on how they might support and encourage their child's talents, the evening soon got into full swing, with parents and children soon trying to out-do one another!

Families were also given the

opportunity to collect specific learning resources to take home and keep- calculators, Maths sets and dictionaries, to name but a few.

As part of the generous Gifted and Talented provision at Swanlea, students were also invited to join a special, all-expenses paid residential trip, designed to stretch, excite and inspire students.

The evening was a wonderful success and we all look forward to many more to come.

Ms Dudhia
Assistant Headteacher



THE SUMMER UNIVERSITY

EASTER PROGRAMME

Earlier this year Swanlea students took part in the Summer University Easter programme. The main aim of the programme was to equip the students with the knowledge of how to become a business entrepreneur in the future. Year 10 students from five different secondary schools in Tower Hamlets took part in the programme: Morpeth, Swanlea, Oaklands, Raines and Bethnal Green Technology College. The

students explored themes such as achievement and success and considered what that meant to them. They created business plans, took part in challenges, made creative models and prototypes – just like in ‘Dragons Den’.

The entire group was taken to Stubbers Adventure Centre in Upminster in the second week to participate in various personal development and team

work activities. The activities included driving 4x4 vehicles, raft building, jet skiing and more! The students had a great time and are now able to add exciting accomplishments to their C.V.s and have certificates to prove it!

Ms S. Begum
KS4 Learning Mentor





SWANLEA FILMMAKERS HELP PROMOTE STEWART HEADLAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

The staff at Stewart Headlam Primary School, our nearest neighbouring school, have wanted to make a film to celebrate and promote their school to local parents. With numbers of parents and children falling in the local area for all schools they felt it was important to have something very positive to show to the community.

So, as part of our Community Links with the Business and Enterprise bid we have employed Indymedia to produce a DVD. Six students from Swanlea have worked closely with Kalim from Indymedia learning skills ranging from audience for film; how to use various types of camera from shoulder mount to tripod using microphone for sound (and one strange camera called the Fig Rig

which has more movement and different angles); marketing and fundraising.

The Year 8 Swanlea students have accompanied Kalim to Stewart Headlam primary school working with a group of children from Year 6 who worked on a brainstorm for themselves about what they thought the film should show about their school. They chose the film locations along with Indymedia and the primary pupils will also do voiceover. Swanlea has been there every step of the making the DVD.

The first day's filming starts on Friday 13th – hopefully a lucky day for Stewart Headlam!

Ms Chadwick
Extended Schools Manager



MUSIC SUMMER SCHOOL AT CITY UNIVERSITY

This music workshop was brilliant! I learned about things that I had never even heard of before - I was amazed. On the first day we had to compose our own song and lyrics, which was lots of fun and a wonderful opportunity for us all. We also learned about composing music on the computer.



The next day we learned all about music production and how to be a good music producer. We learned about what is needed to make a profit, and how competitive the world of music is. The next day we learned about the Gamelan - something we had never encountered before. It's an Indonesian instrument and named after an island in Indonesia. The Gamelan is a mixture of drums, gongs and some tuned bars like a xylophone. We all hit the instruments at the same time but we all had different rhythms. You might think that that kind of music

would not sound good, especially with all of us being novices, but we made a really nice sound. The vibration of the Gamelan is longer than any other instrument I know. It has some very low notes and gives out a deep sound that we could feel inside.

On the last day of the summer university programme we had a drums workshop. It was one of the most amazing things I have done in my life. We enjoyed it a lot and we learned loads.

Tahsan Chowdhury Rafat, 10E





Tower Hamlets, in partnership with the Metropolitan Police, have invited schools across the borough to participate in a competition to highlight dangers of knife crime.

Students from Swanlea have entered the competition to design a poster and a badge for use throughout the initiative. As well as attending workshops and lessons, all students and staff will be given the badge (right) to wear, and will also spend time handing them out to the community and asking them to show their support.

Two Swanlea students have been successful in the borough-wide poster competition - Lipi Begum, 7L and Ismail Kazi, 7W. Congratulations!

Mr Pennick
Teacher of Art
Assistant Head of Year 8 & 9



LEGACY 2020 COMPETITION PROMOTE YOUR PART OF LONDON

Ten students from Year 8 and 9 participated in a competition run in collaboration with Young Enterprise, Oracle and the London Olympics all about promoting your Olympic borough. The aim was to get innovative ideas from students of the five Olympic boroughs; Newham, Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Greenwich and Waltham Forest, which would advertise their area to visitors of the 2012 Olympics. Swanlea students chose different areas within Tower Hamlets, like Brick Lane and Canary Wharf, and decorated t-shirts and bags with slogans to advertise this part of London. Two students from Year 9, Sebiha Macit, 9S and Maria Lopez, 9L got through to the final with their t-shirts promoting Canary Wharf with the slogan "London's Little Manhattan." The final was held in HSBC in Canary Wharf on 10th July, and Swanlea were up against students from Crown Woods School in Greenwich, Haggerston School in Hackney,

Sarah Bonnell School in Newham, St Bonaventures School in Newham, Raines Foundation School in Tower Hamlets, Stepney Green School in Tower Hamlets and Sir John Cass School in Tower Hamlets. The students presented a 3 minute speech on why they chose this particular area and slogan to judges from USB, Deutsche Bank and HSBC.

Swanlea's entry won the coveted Internationalism Award, and all students were presented with a certificate, medal and trophy. Congratulations!

Ms Pritchard
Business & Enterprise Co-ordinator





CONGRATULATIONS SWANLEA CRICKETERS

Ms Daly
MRO

The Swanlea cricket team came within a hairsbreadth of reaching the prestigious national Twenty20 cricket tournament after a nailbiting final against Dulwich College. The now famous (in Tower Hamlets anyway!) Swanlea team have enjoyed a well-deserved run of success on the field, beating local rivals, Stepney Green, in order to reach the semi-final. What the boys lacked in years of experience, they more than made up for in effort and exemplary sportsmanship. A special mention goes to fast bowler, Shaykul Hoque, who, at 12 years old, more than held his own against the older boys. Congratulations all!

