

SWANLEA NEWS



SWANLEA BUSINESS & ENTERPRISE COLLEGE

Issue 64
Summer 2009



Good luck



Year 11



from us all



at Swanlea!



LETTER FROM THE HEAD

Ms Austin

As you can see from this issue's front cover, this year's Year 11 students recently celebrated their graduation. It was truly wonderful evening and much enjoyed by all who attended. Very many thanks to Mr Chowdhury, Ms Hartigan, Ms Landers, Ms Begum and all the many members of staff who contributed to this splendid occasion. We look forward to sharing with you all Year 11 students' examination results in the summer, and wish them all the very best in the future.

There have been many special events at Swanlea over the course of the summer term. Year 8 took part in a marvellous Athletics Carnival at Mile End stadium, we were chosen by Nokia, Oxfam and IDEO to take part in an extraordinary project on revolutionary design, SPARC students took part in their residential training weekend in preparation for their leadership duties in September, Year 8 students went on a team-building and training weekend to Bowles, kindly sponsored by Merrill Lynch/Bank of America, and

the SEN team led another residential weekend trip to Halls Green. We recently celebrated the school's annual Whole School Awards evening, and we were honoured to have Farmida Bi of Norton Rose as our Guest Speaker this year. The audience were treated to a number of incredible performances by students and thoroughly enjoyed celebrating the many accomplishments students have achieved this year. You will read much more throughout this magazine about all the wonderful activities Swanlea students have taken part in recently and I do hope you enjoy reading about it all.

With best wishes for a wonderful summer break,

Linda Austin



Swanlea School Business & Enterprise College

31 Brady Street
Whitechapel
London
E1 5DJ

Tel: 020 7375 3267

Fax: 020 7375 3567

Email: officeadmin@swanlea.towerhamlets.sch.uk

www.swanlea.towerhamlets.sch.uk

Editor: Eimear Daly



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



PARENTS AND PUPILS FIGURE IT OUT FOR PRIZES

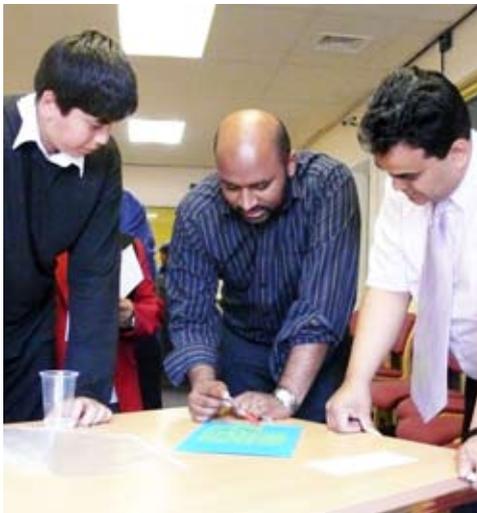
Swanlea Gifted and Talented students, together with their parents gathered in the Library on Wednesday 8th July to take part in a fantastic evening of activities. Aimed at developing the skills of Gifted and Talented students, the Maths faculty put together an amazing range of tasks and challenges for parents and their children to take part in. A healthy sense of competition soon kicked in as each team tried to solve each puzzle, gain as many points as possible,

and get their hands on some prizes! Everyone really enjoyed getting involved and testing their mathematical abilities - one father and son team even managed to come up with an alternative answer to a reasoning challenge that was even better than the original answer! Everyone left with a pack of free gifts specially designed for Gifted and Talented students. It was a wonderful evening and many thanks to the Maths faculty for coming up with such inventive

ways for parents to work alongside and encourage their children.

Swanlea will have even more activities organised for parents of Gifted and Talented students next term, so please do look out for any information about upcoming events.

Mr Allen
Coordinator for Gifted & Talented Students



PUPIL PARLIAMENT 2009

On Wednesday 24th June 2009, the East 1 Schools Partnership participated in Pupil Parliament, held in the amazing London headquarters of Norton Rose on the Southbank. The event was attended by all the 8 schools, including Swanlea.

Pupil Parliament is an event that gives young people the opportunity to discuss issues that are important to them. The Pupil Parliament has kindly been sponsored by Norton Rose since its conception in 2005. This year Pupil Parliament was attended by over 80 pupils from years 2 to 10.

The parliament discussed the Environment, Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour and Poverty and Homelessness. During

the first session, pupils had the opportunity to ask a panel of experts questions about the topics and received advice on how they could work towards alleviating these problems. This year's panel members were The Deputy Mayor of London Richard Barnes, Gillian Temple from Oxfam, Duncan Shrubsole from Crisis, Sergeant Peter Grundy from Tower Hamlets Police, Aziza Atta from Norton Rose and Kamal Ahmed from the Equality and Human Rights Commission.

During the remainder of Pupil Parliament, pupils worked in groups with pupils from other schools and discussed the panels' advice. Based on this advice they developed an action plan for the East 1 Schools Partnership which will be worked on next academic year.

"My experience at Norton Rose was inspiring and it mad me think about what I wanted to do when I am as wise and as good as the panel members"
Tayla Clarke, Year 8 student

"I think it was educational, fun and exciting. It was nice to meet new people and children. I like working with Aziza, when we worked in small groups"

Nazli Kayran, Year 8, Swanlea

Ms Allen
East 1 Schools Project Manager





Young Chamber empowers students to get business savvy!

Swanlea School has launched its brand new, exciting and innovative, Young Chamber! The concept of Young Chamber is similar to School Council, except it is designed specifically for learning about Enterprise. It is a national project, linking schools and businesses through local Chambers of Commerce. Students from Year 8 and Year 10 have signed up to be part of this wonderful initiative, which

has, so far, led students to set up a car washing service for teachers in order to get a flavour for business, as well as attending fantastic networking sessions with other Young Chamber schools and Leadership Days. Students have been given the opportunity to develop their enterprise skills and even learn new ones! They have also had the chance to take the London Big Bus Tour to see parts of

London that they hadn't seen before.

Each student has each been assigned a job role and next term will be writing up an Action Plan for services that they wish to run in Swanlea, so make sure you keep your eyes peeled as a brilliant business opportunity could be coming your way!

Ms Pritchard
Business & Enterprise Coordinator

Swanlea School wins Merrill Lynch Presentation Skills Competition

On 11th June, Nazia Begum (9L), Zakaria Hassan Abby (9E) and Safwan Ahmed (9E) took to the stage to showcase their presentation talents to an audience of Headteachers, students, parents and Merrill Lynch/Bank of America employees. They were competing against Mulberry Girls School and Bow Boys School in order to win the coveted title of Merrill Lynch Presentation Skills Winner 2009. Safwan was first up doing a humorous speech on Sir Winston Churchill and his achievements and downfalls. Next up was Zak who spoke to the audience about Grameen Banks, a non profit Social Enterprise set up in Bangladesh and also seen in third world countries, which give people the opportunity to set up businesses by giving out non interest, small loans. This presentation was incredibly thought provoking and moving. Nazia was last on stage and she did an interactive presentation in the form of Who Wants to be a Millionaire in order to raise awareness of the dangers of credit cards especially during the Credit Crunch. All three presentations were incredible and set the standard and competition level really high. Zak went on to win third place and Nazia came first and it was a well deserved win. If anything, we should have won all three places...maybe next year!!!

Ms Pritchard
Business & Enterprise Coordinator



BUILDING TEAM SPIRIT AT HALLS GREEN

The colour green features prominently in my life but that wasn't the reason Ms Reilly chose to go to the Halls Green Centre in East Sussex for the annual SEN Residential trip which was, once again, an amazingly successful one.

An hour and fifteen minutes outside London and you are transported into another world with rolling green fields and so much of space. The centre staff welcomed us on our first day and gave us a tour of the site and a briefing on our activities. Team building was the order of the day and we relished the challenge in the enterprising Swanlea spirit.

We successfully built and sailed on well constructed rafts; defused bombs using just ropes, took the multi-task Eggbert challenge and swished down the zip wires. One pupil was heard to exclaim excitedly to her Dad down the phone 'I really did it Dad! I sailed on the raft that I helped built.' What a sense of personal fulfilment is felt when dreams are achieved and you are the architect of your own success. We should all try this experience!

One of the highlights of the trip was a barbeque evening and the Sunday evening Dance Challenge. Ms Reilly has the video footage and it does make

interesting viewing! I am calling the producers of Strictly Come Dancing to tell them that Swanlea has talent.

This trip was only made possible through the brilliant organisational skills of Ms Reilly and the support that was given to her by Ms Mudge, Ms Diane Wells and Mr Simon Mustafa. A big thank you to all of you.

**MS DYER
SENCE**



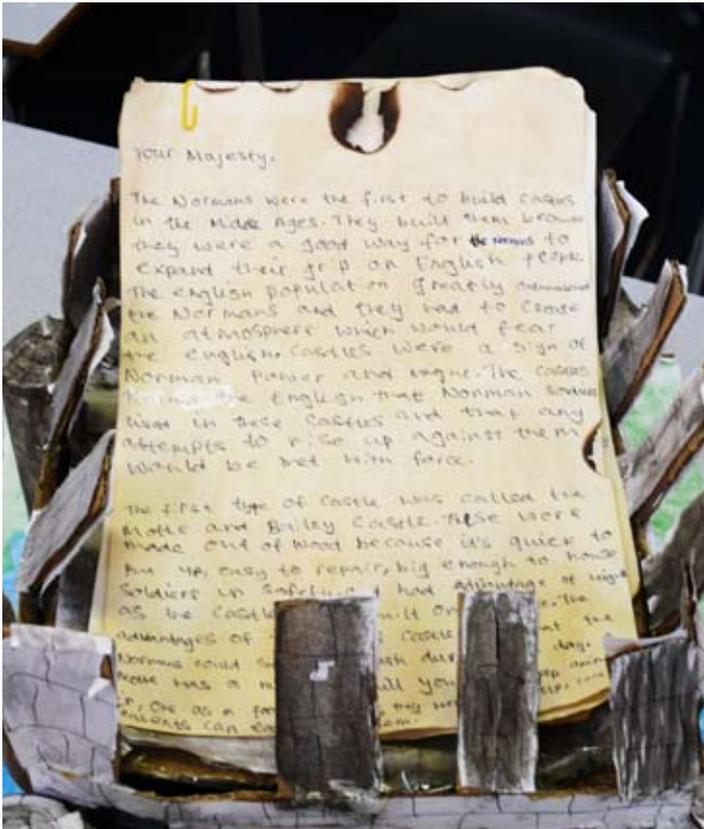
Creative castles competition capture Swanlea Historians!

Swanlea Year 7 students have been putting their creative skills to use in their history lessons. Rather than just reading about medieval castles the budding historians have been creating their own model castles in the Year 7 Castle-Making Competition. Castles will be judged based on historical accuracy, defensive features, creativity and artistic skill and awards will be presented to the best castles early in the new school year. Moats have been made out of sweet wrappers, towers out of toilet rolls and drawbridges out of lollipop sticks to create some outstanding pieces of work. Some even had gory scenes of attackers being killed in barbicans made of cereal boxes! Examples of the best castles can be seen on display in our school library.

Mr Whittingham
Leader of Learning for History



Swanlea parents have a whale of a time at the London Aquarium!



Swanlea Community ICT and literacy class visit to the London Aquarium on 1st July. The students thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of the day out from the journey on the underground, crossing the Millennium footbridge and the sights on the South Bank. The living statues provided a particular focus for photographs and attention. Inside the aquarium a kaleidoscope of curious, colourful, calming and informative displays were in evidence with the shark tank inspiring the most amazement. Apologies to Miss Jelly Begum who was often feted as the various jelly fish displays were noticed. The cool and inspiring exhibits were a contrast to the heat of the sweltering temperatures that day as I returned to school and the majority of the students marched to parliament under the direction of field commander Ms Chandni who teaches literacy and ICT with the class.

*Mr S. Miah
Maths Teacher*



YEAR 8 GO BOWLES-ING!

On 22nd May 43 students were chosen to go on a residential weekend trip to Bowles. The trip was sponsored by Merrill Lynch/Bank of America and was organised to help us develop our enterprise and leadership skills. At Bowles we had lots of fun doing the activities which had been organised for us. In return, we did some small chores to help out around the camp, like setting up for meals, clearing the tables and making our own beds.

Although the activities were fun, they were also scary, and really tested our nerve and mental determination! When it was our turn to do the zip wire task (which was climbing to the top

of a really tall tree and flying from one side of the field to the other just holding onto a bar which we were harnessed to) most of us were utterly terrified! On the other hand, some of the other tasks we did helped us learn how to communicate with each other. We did many problem-solving challenges, like having to get a tyre through our bodies and over to each other without letting our hands go. We laughed a lot while trying to work our challenges out and really tried to help each other and work together. It was very interesting and really rewarding when we completed each challenge successfully. We all felt very tired but great at the end of each day!

"I loved the trip, it was a hundred times better than chocolate!"

Nazia Begum, 8E

"Bowles was one of the best residential trips I have ever been on. I would love to go again!"

Nadim Saner, 8A

One of the most important reasons why we would all love to go again is because of Ms Byrne, Ms Pritchard, Mr Rasheed, Mr & Mrs McCarthy, Raihana and all the staff at Bowles who all gave up their weekend to make sure we have the time of our life. Thank you so much!

Maria Akther, 8E

Article title by
Farhan Ahmed, 8N



DANCE INFUSION SWANLEA STYLE!



Year 7C boys were introduced to Dance in a rather unconventional way during their P.E lessons this term. Over the course of the term, they worked on choreographing a performance influenced issues of conflict in the media.

This was FIRST male dance unit taught at Swanlea, but I knew it would be a great experience. I was met by a wall of excuses...No Miss, Dance is for girls!. This response warranted drastic action so I decided to jump in with both feet and step up to the streets! Soon enough the boys decided to have a go as they heard the beat of the music. They assisted the creative process by brainstorming ideas and talking about their personal experiences and perceptions of conflict to choreograph a personalised and emotive performance. The ideas flourished further when they worked collaboratively in their groups. There was genuine enthusiasm, energy and happy feet as the performance started to come together.



7C certainly STOMPED THE YARD in proving that Dance is not just for girls!! So much so that they performed at the Year 7 Assembly with extreme confidence in front of their peers....a proud moment indeed!

A big up to all the boys in 7C who bravely took part in the assembly. Special mentions to Zackiyia & Tahimdor who performed like a true soldiers on the day.

Many thanks to all the boys for such a fantastic performance. Well done!!

Ms Flowers
P.E. Teacher

NEWS FROM THE P.E. TEAM...

Mr Thomas, Mr Cotterill, Mr Ellis, Ms Flowers, Ms Foley, Mr Guzda & Mr Grant

ATHLETICS

The Y8 Athletics carnival was a real success with huge participation and a strong element of competition. Special mention goes to Andrew Brand of 8L won the 100 metres, 1000 metres and finished 2nd in the High Jump. Also worthy of special note was Rhianne Williams' (8S) performance, who managed an impressive sprint double by winning the Girls' 100 metres and she was part of the team that won the 4x100m relay. The day was a tribute to the hard work of the PE department led by Ms Foley's dedication. A special mention must go to Anthony Williams (Year 9) for finishing 5th in the London Schools' Championships 200 metres

CRICKET

Cricket has been the area of most outstanding achievement for Swanlea pupils. There have been a huge amount of fixtures organised by Mr Thomas and Mr Grant and the boys have performed admirably. Year 7 (Mr Ellis) reached the semi finals of the London Cup, Year 8 are in the Final of the London Cup (Mr Grant), Year 10 (Mr Cotterill) have reached the Semi Finals of the Tower Hamlets Cup and the Final of the London Cup and Year 11 (Mr Grant & Mr Cotterill) won the Tower Hamlets Cup. A mixed year group KS3 team finished 1st and 2nd at the London Super 6 Indoor Cricket Tournament at Leyton Orient with Juned Alom (Year 8) winning the Player of the Tournament award for hitting highest number of 6s. As well as this, Swanlea Year 8 boys and girls attended a Cricket festival at Lord's Cricket ground. The individual performances have been fantastic and many boys are now representing high standard clubs. Shahrukh Khan and Mahi Mahfazul (Year 7) play for Blackheath CC, Shaykul Hoque (Year 8) plays for Middlesex CCC and London, Mitu Ahmed (Year 9) plays for Blackheath CC and Kent CCC and Soyfur

Rahman (Year 11) plays for Wanstead CC 1st X1.

ROWING

Indoor Rowing has really taken off this term. Mantas Ganabnas of 9S, Aminul Islam (Y7) and brother Bodrul Islam (Y11) performed superbly in the Borough School Championships and have established themselves as some of the most powerful rowers in the Borough, so well done to those boys for their hard work.

BADMINTON

Badminton has once again been a real area of strength for Swanlea. Mr Thomas has overseen a fantastic Badminton club that is full of talent and suggests that once again that Swanlea are one of the strongest Badminton schools in the borough. In the Tower Hamlets Under 13s Badminton Tournament, Juned Alom (Year 8) and Mahi Mahfazul (Year 7) played and won 7 games, making them overall champions.

Swanlea swept the board at the Tower Hamlets Championships. Swanlea boys finished 1st and 2nd in Years 7,8,9 & 10 in the overall competition. In the doubles competitions, Shahrukh Khan and Mahi Mahfazul came 1st, Shaykul Hoque and Juned Alom finished 1st in Year 8 & 9 competitions while Khayrul Amin and Rubel Abusaleh

finished 2nd in Year 8. Mitu Ahmed and Walihur Rahman took the Runners-up position in Year 9.

YOUNG AMBASSADORS

Swanlea has produced some extremely responsible and articulate young pupils to fill the positions of Sports Ambassadors. Oli Hoque and Michael Lennard (Year 10) represented Swanlea at the Tower Hamlets Sports Ambassadors' meeting and assisted in the Primary School Cluster Sports festival. Rosie Agbotro and Ankar Ali will be representing Swanlea next year.

It has been a fantastic year full of effort and achievement from staff and pupils alike. A huge thanks to all for their support and hard work.

Mr Ellis

SUMMARY

- Year 11 Cricket won the Tower Hamlets Cup
 - Year 10 are in the Semi Finals of Tower Hamlets Cup
 - Year 8 are in the Semi Finals of the Tower Hamlets Cup
 - Year 7 reached the Semi Finals of the London Cup
 - Year 10 have reached the London Cup Finals Day
- Shykul Hoque (Y8) and Mitu Ahmed (Y9) have both represented London and Middlesex, and Soyfur Rahman (Y11) has represented London. These are all fantastic achievements - WELL DONE!

