

Education and Health Ministers' Visit Swanlea



By Janet Bergin-Miah - SENCO/Senior Leader

The Secretary of State for Education, Rt Hon Justine Greening MP and the Secretary of State for Health, Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP visited Swanlea School last week.

Swanlea was involved in the CAMHS Schools Link Training pilot in 2015/16 which saw local models of joint working between schools and mental health services vastly improve. The pilot meant that services worked more smoothly together, and children were able to access the right help quicker through the new, trained school leads, reducing pressure on local CAMHS services and improving the mental health support of all pupils.

The Health Secretary and Education Secretary talked to our students about the services available to them and how Swanlea's help and support has benefited them and their mental health.

We also showed the ministers the

work our students have been doing to raise awareness around mental health. Students were thrilled to present the 'I Am Me' campaign, a video and set of images promoting awareness of the issue for young people and the community. Needless to say Education Minister, Justine Greening, was extremely impressed and encouraged our students to carry on with raising awareness on such an important topic.

For more information on our mental health campaign please go to:

<http://swanlea.co.uk/swanlea-launches-mental-health-awareness-campaign/>



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wed 3rd Jan

First Day of Spring Term
9.30am start for students

Tues 23rd Jan

HPV Immunisations (catch up 1st dose)
1pm

Tues 30th Jan

Head to Head Interviews
9am-3.15pm

Fri 9th Feb

Year 9 Immunisations

Christmas Holidays
21st Dec 2017 -
2nd Jan 2018

Half-Term Holidays
Mon 12th Feb 2018 -
Fri 16th Feb 2018

FEATURE POEM

Autumn is over the long leaves
that love us,
And over the mince in the barley
sheaves;
Yellow the leaves of the rowan
above us,
And yellow the wet wild-
strawberry leaves.
The hour of waning of love has
beset us,
And weary and worn are our sad
souls now;
Let us part, ere the season of
passion forget us,
With a kiss and a tear on thy
dropping brow.

W. B. Yeats ©

FUN FACT!

This year we'll be selling our own Christmas cards designed by students. All proceeds will go to the Cambodia School Appeal



The Lady in Theatre

By Kate Hibbert -
Leader of Drama

Year 10 GCSE students worked with professional playwright, Asif Khan and director, Cheryl Ndione, to create a new play for a drama project called Re-Fuel. After gathering pupils' ideas, Asif wrote *The Lady*. *The Lady* is set in a minicab office during an Eid party however a mysterious ghost appears asking the partygoers for help.

Students performed *The Lady* at the Rich Mix Theatre and Theatre Royal Stratford East in October. The performances at both venues were outstanding! A huge congratulations to Aisha Naima Adan, Khadija Begum, Joly Begum, Zahra Haque, Rehan Malik, Anisha Mohamad, Zulaikha Khushi Rob, Sandipa Sen and Rahul Uddin for their award-winning turns!

STEM with Hitachi

By Shelley Khathun - Entitlement
& Enterprise Co-ordinator

On Friday 8th December Swanlea School was host to workshops run by The Hitachi Group. Volunteers from Hitachi ran these workshops for our year 8 G&T students, sharing their educational and work experiences.

The purpose of the workshops was to give students the chance to explore the different job opportunities related to STEM and inspire students to take an interest in STEM related subjects for further education.

Ms Flannery, Year 8 LCO said, "Pupils had a really enjoyable experience and they gained so much from it!"

Thank you to Hitachi for inspiring the future of STEM.



The Polar Express!

By Janet Coulson - Leader
of PVA

On Wednesday 13th December the Choir and Drama club joined forces to perform an adaptation of the *The Polar Express*, by author Chris Van Allsburg, for our annual Christmas Show. The cast, all from Key Stage 3, stayed behind after school for their rehearsals throughout October and November to perfect their lines and songs.

Everyone was impressed by the performance, making it a wonderful way to get into the festive spirit!

Thanks to all of the cast and musicians for their hard work in making this a great production and to Ms Williams for the fantastic scenery.

Spread the Cheer!

By Swanlea School
Community

It's that festive time of year again where we see people buying gifts and spending time with loved ones. However not everyone has the chance to enjoy the holidays.

This year our sixth form students are collecting non-perishables for the local food bank to help people in need. This includes tinned and dried foods and also basic hygiene essentials such as soap and nappies.

A collection box can be found under our Christmas tree near reception. All donations are welcome. Thank you all for your support, we hope this will bring some festive cheer to those in need!



This year's amazing donations!