

# Castle Views

May 2010

Issue 5

## Challenge Days

**Enterprise by name,  
enterprising by nature!**

Our students here at Castle View really are an enterprising lot!

For a whole day in November 2009 and January 2010, the normal timetable at the Academy was collapsed and a series of challenges were set for our students in years 7 to 10.

Each year group worked in their tutor groups to complete a diverse range of tasks and challenges. The challenges were designed to test and develop students' enterprise skills whilst helping them to learn all about some key topics, from personal safety and healthy living to learning about the environment and the importance of recycling.

These days have proved very popular amongst our students and it shows that we have a lot of very bright, innovating and enterprising children here at Castle View Enterprise Academy!



# Safety First!

This 'Safety First' challenge was given to students to help improve knowledge on how to stay safe in all areas of their lives.

Through a series of fun and interactive games, the Academy's co-sponsor, Northumbrian Water, helped our students to improve their knowledge of water safety.

Tutors worked with students on cyber-bullying and keeping safe online. Then it was Miss Cockburn to the rescue as students learnt the basic principles of first aid and life saving.

Northumbria Police delivered a thought-provoking session about knife crime and anti-social behaviour and the ways in which crime affects them and the wider community. The students particularly enjoyed the first aid session given by St. John's Ambulance. The session allowed the children to learn the important basics of first aid and then practise their newly found skills on each other.

Sure Safe came to the Academy to teach the students some non-combative self defence techniques to help them stay safe.

The Tyne & Wear Fire and Rescue Service challenged students from years 7 and 8 to get into full fire-fighting gear as quickly as possible. The fastest student recorded a remarkable time of just 33 seconds! Could we have an aspiring firefighter in our midst?

In addition to these activities, the students worked closely with their tutors to consider the effects of bullying and how to stay safe when surfing the internet.



# Culture

Students from years 7, 9 and 10 had the challenge of learning about a variety of different cultures from all around the world.

The students participated in a wide and varied carousel of activities designed to help experience the culture of other countries



One of the most popular sessions was the Chinese Lion dance. Mr Marsden took a great deal of pleasure in showing us all how it should be done! Dancing shoes were at the ready for our students when they were shown how to perform a Chinese fan dance and then learnt how to write their names in Chinese.

Whilst some of the children were learning all about the Chinese way of life, another group of students were learning how to dance Bollywood style! Some very impressive moves were witnessed!

Mrs Lauder introduced the students to the world of international cuisine and with the help of Mr Gawthorpe, the students designed and modelled some fabulous tribal masks.

Courtesy of Mrs Marshall's fashion tips, students came up with their own unique t-shirt designs.

Amnesty International visited the Academy and encouraged students to consider the wider world; focusing on human rights issues.

Other activities included a drama session, playing the African drums and cooking and sampling a variety of foods from around the globe.





# Healthy Living



Students from years 8 and 9 were set the challenge to get healthy.

They were given a multitude of tasks to help them realise how important having a healthy and active lifestyle really is.

Students loved the Jujitsu sessions where they learnt some basic moves and self-defence techniques.

A special thanks to Mrs Dickinson for an excellent demonstration, hopefully it didn't hurt too much!

Teamwork was the focus for the SAFC fitness session. The coaches from Sunderland Football Club put the students through their paces with a workout in the activity studio. They learnt some basic techniques around fitness and ball control.

Who knows, the next big SAFC star may come from the Academy!



The Neighbourhood Officers and the Academy Nursing team came in to raise awareness and provide informative workshops about the importance of a healthy and balanced diet as well as make the students aware of the dangers of smoking and the negative effects of drugs.

Students were also asked to wear 'beer goggles' to show them how their senses are impaired through binge drinking.

Tutors also worked with their tutor groups to look at emotional health.

The challenges were designed to be fun and enjoyable whilst providing useful tips and techniques for the students to take with them throughout their lives.

It was an action packed day for our students but thankfully, they got the opportunity to chill out through the relaxation techniques demonstrated by the Mental Health Nursing team.

# Crime & Punishment

Students from year 10 were given the opportunity to work with the Crown Prosecution Service.

Students were involved in a mock trial playing the parts of Judge, Jury, Defence, Prosecution and even the accused!

Students worked with their tutors to consider the aspects of the legal system in the UK and compared this system to other countries.



A session all about human rights and how they compare around the world proved to be very thought provoking for many of our students. It made them realise how lucky they are to be living in a country where their rights and privileges are of paramount importance.



## Eco-Challenge

For our students in year 10, the focus was on the environment and the importance of recycling.

They were set the challenge of working as a team to produce a fully accessorised fashion outfit from nothing but household rubbish.

With bin bags of old newspapers, empty cans, plastic bottles and egg cartons, students attempted to become the next Jean Paul Gaultier!

A guest speaker from City of Sunderland Council gave our students an interesting talk about recycling in our City and how they can play their part in making Sunderland and the rest of the country a more pleasing and eco-friendly environment.

The day culminated in a fashion show where students got the chance to model their own designs. The event was compered by Mr Marsden.

Some of the outfits were out of this world! It was hard to believe they were made from normal household waste!



Our Year 11 students were far too busy to be having fun!

They had their eyes on their GCSE examinations in Maths and English Language.

The day focused on revision techniques to help students prepare for their exams.

During the morning session, Fabulous Flournoy (pictured above) from the Newcastle Eagles Basketball team, dropped in to deliver a motivational talk to the year group to give them inspiration for their exams.





# COURMAYEUR 2010



In January 2010, a group of 25 students and three staff travelled to the Aosta Valley in Italy to ski in the beautiful resort of Courmayeur.

It was a very long journey as they first travelled by coach from the Academy to Dover.



They then took the ferry to Calais where they rejoined the coach and travelled across France, through the Mont Blanc tunnel into Italy.

Courmayeur sits comfortably at the foot of mighty Mont Blanc. It is a delightful old traditional Alpine village, at the heart of which is a maze of interesting, narrow cobbled alleys.

The ski area has 100 kilometres of exciting downhill runs that rate from easy for the novice skiers to challenging for the more advanced. Our students ranged from beginner to intermediate.

All the students made great progress and were awarded with a certificate and badge at the end of the week. These ranged from 2\* to 4\* with distinction. We're hoping for some 5\* next year!



All the students who went to Italy were an absolute credit to the Academy, many have said they would love to go back if the chance arises.



Mrs Dickinson is already on the case as she is planning to go back to the same resort next year with another bunch of keen students!



# Black Cat for the day!



One of our Year 7 students, Christopher Finley of 7PR, was selected to become Sunderland AFC's mascot when they took on Wigan Athletic at the Stadium of Light in February 2010. This match was sponsored by Northumbria Water, the Academy's lead sponsor. Not only was Chris a mascot but he was treated to a VIP day out at the stadium.



Chris got to meet the players from both sides, take a tour of the dressing room and even got to see the boardroom where all the important decisions are made.

Chris said, "We had to meet at the Stadium's Reception at 1pm. A man called Malcom Hopkins had arranged to meet us. He was our guide for the day. I was very excited, especially when we got to change into our football kits in the actual home dressing room!" Chris also got to meet the Sunderland Chairman, Niall Quinn (pictured above).



Chris said, "I was really nervous before I went to meet Steve Bruce (Sunderland Manager) and the players. I had my photographs taken with some of the players and got their autographs. When it was time for the match to start I got to walk out onto the pitch with Craig Gordon (Sunderland Goalkeeper) and shook the Wigan player's hands. The noise from the crowd was amazing!"



Chris got to watch the game from the VIP area of the Stadium and even though Sunderland could only manage a draw, he thoroughly enjoyed his day out!

# House Events

## Spring Term



### Creative Writing

Robyn Elvidge of Year 9 won the Creative Writing competition for Derwent House. Here is Robyn's winning piece, entitled 'The Journey'.

The pungent aroma of death rested delicately on my dodderly lips – leaving a putrid taste in my mouth. The domination of evil shrouded every building like a suffocating gas, leaving a downpour of glowing fluid!

“Bang” The earth trembled in distress! Many tiny asteroids hit Manhattan like hailstone! Delicate mice scurried away from the city throwing themselves into disused cars. My heart spun into a race against time. Every beat was like an electric shock – deep within my body's tissue! The world has stopped around me like the tick of a dying clock.

“Boom” a force behind me crushed my internal organs, grinding them to a pulp. As my knees fell to the blackened floor, I felt myself drifting towards a fatal death! Who? What was behind me! As I went to turn around, there stood. ME? As I slowly dropped to the floor the image of myself faded in a blink. A sharp shooting pain awoke me. As I opened my eyes I frantically glanced around me!

“Whooh” a transparent swirl of a spectrum of colours floating aimlessly in the air. It was the most beautiful thing I had ever seen. My heart melted to the tranquil sound of a soothing river. The scent of freshly cut flowers and homemade pies!

Nothing in the world could ruin this moment!

### Netball



Kielder House won the Spring Netball Competition with great wins in the Year 7 and Year 11 competitions.

Pictured with the Netball Trophy (above) are House Captains Christie Moon and Jack Conlin with Year 7 players Georgia Spencer and Sophie Dix.

### Business & Enterprise



Kielder House won the Business & Enterprise House Award by building three amazing bridges with the Army.

Pictured are the team of Demi Bulmer, Nicole Chadburn, Alan Begg, Chris Finley, Grant Steabler, Stephen Dixon and Thomas McManus.

### The Big Quiz



Kielder won The Big Quiz, beating Fontburn by just 5 points!

Pictured is House Captain Christie Moon with her team of Callum Mordey, Alex Howarth, Adam Layfield, John Paul Devlin and Stephen Dixon.



## Ten Pin Bowling



The Academy booked every lane at the Mecca Bowling Alley on Newcastle Road for the students and staff to compete for the Bowling trophy in this house event.

After 2 games per house, Fontburn and Kielder couldn't be separated, finishing with 24 points each. The combined points for finishing first and second were split equally between these two houses, each house gaining 7.5 points

to add to their totals. It was almost a very different outcome as Derwent had a chance to snatch 2nd place outright.

A special mention goes to Sam Spraggon (Kielder) and Chris Brown (Fontburn) for being the highest student scorers whilst, the highest scoring member of staff was Mr Marshall of Fontburn.

## Ready, Steady Cook!

The Academy saw it's first Ready Steady Cook competition this year and it proved to be a big hit amongst the staff and students!

All students who entered were paired with a member of staff from their house and were each set a task to produce their own speciality dish. The competition was run over three weeks, cutting the field down to just three finalists. The finalists having to then produce a three-course meal with their partner whilst being cheered on by an audience of students in the main hall.

At the end of the competition, the student audience decided who should win by voting with their red, green and silver pepper cards.

After a thrilling and close final, the Kielder team of Christie Moon and Mr Travis came out on top with the Derwent pairing of Mrs Lincoln and James Palmer a close second and Miss Reynolds and Hannah Ratcliffe in third place.



## House Events

*the scores so far...*

House	Total Points
Kielder	82.5
Fontburn	67.5
Derwent	66

Points are awarded for each house event. The house finishing in first place are awarded nine points, second place six points and three points for the third placed team.

In the event of a tie for first place, points for first and second place are added together and divided equally between the two houses. With only a few house events remaining its anyone's guess who will win the first ever 'House Champions' trophy!

# 'Urbanisation' Photography

The first ever photography competition was held in April 2010. The theme for the competition was 'Urbanisation' so the students had the task of finding the perfect picture of somewhere in the north east to reflect this theme. The standard of entries was fantastic making judging the competition extremely difficult. Here are the top three pictures:

1st Place  
Eric Oliver  
Fontburn



2nd Place  
Tori Leachman  
Derwent



3rd Place  
Brogan Hindmarch  
Kielder



## Armed Forces Career Clinics



The Army Recruitment Group held a careers clinic during the Year 10 and Year 11 lunch break on Thursday 11th and Thursday 19th of March this year. The students were able to talk to an Army Recruitment Advisor about the varying roles available within the Armed Forces.

Students also had access to publications and handouts detailing the entry process, pay scales, skills and experience required along with the many travelling opportunities a life in the Army has to offer.

The Academy also hosted a RAF Careers Clinic in April. These clinics are designed to give our students clear, concise and unbiased information when it comes to their future career options.







# Tenner-tastic Ideas!

Students from Year 8 are taking part in a National Enterprise Campaign. The 'Make Your Mark With a Tenner' Challenge is run by Enterprise UK. Students are able to apply for a business loan of £10 and are challenged with using their creativity and entrepreneurial skills to make as much profit as possible.

Entrepreneur Sean O' Connor, founder of Sunderland-based carbon trading business 'Clean Energy Captial' and Enterprise UK Ambassador, visited the Academy to hand over the money.

Any profits made are kept by the students as a reward. The best three business ventures will be entered into the regional heats of the 'Make Your Mark With a Tenner' competition. Winners will be given a further £100 and expert support from a business mentor. This is to help the students further develop their entrepreneurial skills. Sir Alan Sugar had better watch out!

## The Recital

**The Recital on March 22nd 2010 was a celebration of Castle View Enterprise Academy's Performing Arts clubs and BTEC Performing Arts assessment pieces.**



**There were performances from Grease, Chicago, Mamma Mia and High School Musical as well as performances by the Academys band and also songs performed by students who are currently undertaking singing lessons at the Academy.**

**The Monday Dance club performed an exciting Hip Hop dance routine to Alexandra Burke's 'Bad Boys' and the Youth Dance club performed an outstanding contemporary dance piece based around the theme of 'Conflict'.**

**The feedback we received from the audience on the night was very positive and lots of people commented on how they really enjoyed the evening.**

**A big WELL DONE to all involved!**



## Young Chamber Council

'Use Your Loaf' Youth Conference  
'A day of inspiration for students aged 13-19 in the north east'

On Wednesday 10 March 2010, six representatives of the Young Chamber Council attended the annual Entrepreneurs Conference at the Rainton Meadows Arena. The conference was designed for young people to be inspired and learn from various entrepreneurs.

The Entrepreneurs talked about how they came up with their ideas, what motivated them to set up their business, the risks they had to take and why it was so important for them to carry on when people were telling them the business would never work!

Rob Law braved the Dragon's Den with his invention the Trunki. The Dragon's did not buy into Rob's design of luggage but he went on to prove them wrong and now runs a successful global luggage company!

The Young Chamber Club is open to students of all year groups on Monday after school from 3.15 - 4.15 pm. To register contact Mrs Smith.



# 'Seasons' Art Project 2010

## Susan Warlock Artist in the Community



The project brief was to run a series of eight, half-day workshops with approximately twelve students from Castle View and Portland Schools. The aim was to create a body of abstract 2D artwork based on the theme of 'Seasons', using art, craft and recycled materials. In addition, the artist is working with students to plan and execute an exhibition of the work and produce a calendar using images from the original work.

During week one, 12 young people attended the inaugural session. The artist started by introducing herself and the project to everyone then all the students introduced themselves to one another. The session started with a group exercise. Susan laid out a long strip of paper and provided the group with a selection of pastels, chalks and pens and encouraged everyone to make a mark on the paper and 'take it for a walk' making squiggles, patterns and shapes along the way, sometimes joining their lines and shapes to someone else's.



For the second activity, Susan gave everyone their own piece of paper and divided them into groups of winter, summer and autumn. Each group then drew pictures using colours which reminded them of the season they had been given. Susan provided the children with reference images if they needed them along with some vibrantly coloured water soluble pastels.



Susan gave everyone a small viewfinder and asked them to select a portion of the larger image and draw it on a separate sheet of canvas, again using the water soluble pastels. Once the initial painting had been completed, glitter paint and gold paint was added to the mix to enhance some areas of the painting. The end results, as you can see, were bold and lively pieces of work. The group spent the last 20 minutes of the session reviewing and critiquing everyone else's work.

In the second week, the group progressed to using acrylic paints, starting by applying it to acrylic paper. Susan then masked the edges of the paper to give it a clean, crisp and professional edge once it was removed. The students were shown examples of abstract art by world renowned artists such as, Jackson Pollock, Jasper Johns and Mark Rothko. Once everyone had completed their work on paper, the group moved to using canvas, starting with a small canvas. Everyone seemed confident applying the paint and enjoyed mixing their own secondary colours from the primary colours. Once again, everyone in the group made some lovely pieces of work, full of vibrant colours. They used a variety of techniques including impasto, scrafitto and layering, all to great effect. Glitter was also used at this point to brighten up the work even further. By the end of the session, we had an array of amazing work!

## Contact Us

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**The Academy has a Complaint's Policy & Procedure which is available at the above address on request**