

Humanities Conference



Last week the Library and Humanities department hosted a Humanities Conference for some of our Year 7 and 8 students. The event, called *The Coming of the Great War* was organised by Mr Margerison and Mr Philips.

The cross-curricular session aimed to help students make connections between subjects. "Programmes like this are important as students can see the skills they use are transferable" said Mr Philips. "They also benefit learning in other subjects, in this case English and History."



During the programme students completed history activities exploring *The Road to War* and took part in a creative writing workshop focusing on *Leaving for the Front*. The highlight of the day was a talk by author Johnny O'Brien whose book *The Day of the Assassins* places a teenage boy at the heart of events in the summer of 1914. Johnny allowed students to handle a collection of objects belonging to his grandfather - including a telescope, medals and a German helmet. His talk concluded with students re-enacting the assassination of the Archduke Ferdinand. "The event was a great success" said Mr Margerison. "One of the aims was to build on the opportunities that an author visit presents, and in this case it worked really well". The students also enjoyed an afternoon off timetable. "The author was really good and it was great that he got us doing practical things like pretending we were the assassins," said Helena from Year 8. "I liked the history activities too."



Students from neighbouring St Martin-In-The-Fields High School were also invited. "So not only was it an opportunity to challenge our HAHS students" added Mr Philips "but we were also really pleased to get the two schools working together. We hope there will be many more events like this."



We have several copies of Johnny O'Brien's books available for loan in the library.



Family Mathematics Evening

The Mathematics team at The Elmgreen School organised a Family Workshop for Year 11 students who are sitting the additional linear exam in November. The evening started with an introduction of the course structure and question and answer session. Families then did an activity together using the revision resources available at school; many families also planned a revision schedule together. Families were extremely positive about the event; parents commented on how helpful the evening had been in helping students to focus on how they could support their learning at home in order to maximise their grade in GCSE Maths by the end of Year 11.



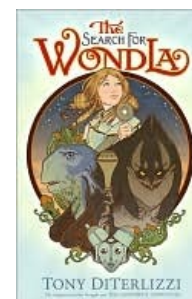
Science

Science exams are only 4 weeks away for year 10 and 11 students! After school science revision sessions will shortly be advertised, but all Key Stage 4 students should already be setting aside time after school and at weekends to revise. Students interested in revision guides should see Mr Scallan. The exam dates are below:

Year Group	Exam	Date & Duration
Year 10	Biology: Influences on Life (Core Science GCSE)	Tuesday 8th November 2011 (afternoon, 1 hour)
Year 11	Chemistry: C2 Structured Paper (Additional Science GCSE)	Tuesday 8th November 2011 (afternoon, 30 minutes)
Year 11	Chemistry: C2 Multiple Choice Paper (Additional Science GCSE)	Monday 14th November 2011 (afternoon, 30 minutes)
Year 11	Chemistry C1a & C1b retakes (Core Science GCSE)	Tuesday 15th November 2011 (morning, 2 x 20 minutes)

STOP PRESS

We still have signed copies of Tony DiTerlizzi's *The Spiderwick Chronicles* and *The Search for Wondla* and a selection of Johnny O'Brien's books available for students to purchase. Hurry whilst stocks last!



KS4 Maths Exam update

The Mathematics team at The Elmgreen School greatly appreciate your support in ensuring that your son/daughter starts revising at home. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information or support.

Useful websites – www.emaths.co.uk, www.mymaths.co.uk, www.edexcel.com

Exam	Year Group	Date & Duration
GCSE MATHEMATICS MODULAR UNIT 1	All Year 10 students	WEDNESDAY 9 November 2011 1 hour 15 minutes
GCSE MATHEMATICS MODULAR UNIT 1 resit	Selected students from year 11 set 1 and 4	WEDNESDAY 9 November 2011 1 hour 15 minutes
GCSE MATHEMATICS MODULAR UNIT 2 resit	All students from year 11 set 3 and 7	WEDNESDAY 9 November 2011 1 hour 15 minutes
GCSE MATHEMATICS Linear Paper 1	Yr 11 students in set 2,5 and 6	WEDNESDAY 9 November 2011 1 hour 45 minutes
GCSE MATHEMATICS Linear Paper 2	Yr 11 students in set 2,5 and 6	Monday 14 November 2011 1 hour 45 minutes

School NEWS



The Key Stage 4 Extended Day has started

We all know that some people dream of success while others wake up and work hard at it. In order to succeed at GCSE and BTEC, students in Years 10 and 11 will sometimes have to stay longer in school. This might be to complete a controlled assessment, attend a compulsory class to boost performance or for a drop-in club.

Subject leaders will tell students when they have to stay behind and might also contact families if necessary.

To make it very easy for students to attend, we have allocated different days to subjects:



Joshua working on BTEC Sport

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Priority subject	Option Block A subjects	No sessions as there are regular staff meetings on this day	Science	Option Block B subjects	Any subject
<i>Second subject</i>	<i>Core ICT</i>		<i>Maths</i> <i>English*</i>	<i>Philosophy and Ethics</i>	

*English and Maths appear as second subjects because they are important – so all intervention is timetabled during the school day.



15 students completing Art controlled assessment 6 still there at 5.30pm!

Some sessions have started running and already a number of students are staying in school to do their work. As Thomas Jefferson said: "I'm a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work the more I have of it."



Keesha working on Science and Shannon on French

Date Change for your Diary

Please note that the Professional Development Day for staff has changed from Friday 18 November to **Friday 11 November**. School will be closed to students on this day.

Election of Parent Governors

The term of office our current parent governors is coming to an end and we will be holding elections in November. The existing parent governors can stand again but we would welcome nominations from any eligible parent or carer. A letter has been sent home today with your child which gives further details. It will also be on the website shortly.

College Stars of the Week



Do these belong to you?



NEW ARRIVAL IN RECEPTION



The latest artwork loaned to the school under the PPF Space for Art scheme has now taken up residence in the reception area. It's a sculpture called "**Lonely archipelago**" by Kevin McKeon. Kevin carves stone for a living. He has replaced old statues at the Palace of Westminster and Windsor Castle Great Chapel as you can see from these images.



The piece in reception is a real contrast to that work and we asked Kevin to explain his ideas about it (- in case you were wondering an "archipelago" is a chain or cluster of islands)

"I like art that makes you ask lots of questions and is a bit mysterious. Just because I made it doesn't mean I know all the answers - somebody else could see something else just as interesting in my work which is what makes art exciting.



I was looking at some small islands, not much more than rocks, just off shore & I wondered had a

human ever stood on them? I wondered were there many places on this very crowded earth that had never had human contact. We all seem to want to cluster together in certain places like London.

I used slate to represent the sea to create my lonely archipelago. I like the fact that the sea in my work is solid - the opposite of the real sea which never stops moving. I hope when people look at the work they will imagine themselves as part of the work - on a shore and looking out across the sea to these islands."

Next time you're in the building take time to look at the work in more detail – It will only be there until Christmas!

Message from the PPF - Do you like what we're doing?

Ever feel you would like to chip in more and influence the sort of events organised by the school's Foundation body the PPF?

The PPF Board of directors has now decided to devote its next board meeting exclusively to **events planning** and you are **all** invited!

They tell us *"We are keen to ensure that PPF events are truly inclusive and are the sort of things our families would like to attend. We would also like to ensure people feel welcome to get involved and make suggestions on how things could be done better. So if you would like to come along please do – We will meet at school, from 7.00-8.30pm on Monday 7 November.*

Meetings are friendly and no previous experience is needed – you will be very welcome!"

More info the Project Manager Kate Scrase
(kscrase@the-elmgreen-school.org.uk or 07976 356268)

KEEP THESE DATES!

The PPF are gearing up for the first fund-raiser of the year – the **PPF Quiz Night**. This will be the third quiz night and if it is anything like the previous ones you are guaranteed a great evening out.

More details to follow soon but you might want to start teaming up now and make sure you keep **Friday the 18 November** free.

The next PPF event will be the Annual General Meeting and PPF Forum on **Wednesday 7 December**. To ring the changes they will be staging a debate which is intended to provoke thoughtful and lively discussion.

Watch this space!