

School NEWS



Friday 3 February 2011

Our Link with Taiwan

On 10 January 2012 we were delighted to welcome Chien – Lun, a primary school teacher from Taiwan, as a visitor to our school. In Taiwan, Chien – Lun teaches second graders and sixth graders English. He came to England through participating in a programme run by the Taiwanese Ministry of Education, which selected primary and high school teachers to carry out four months of research abroad.

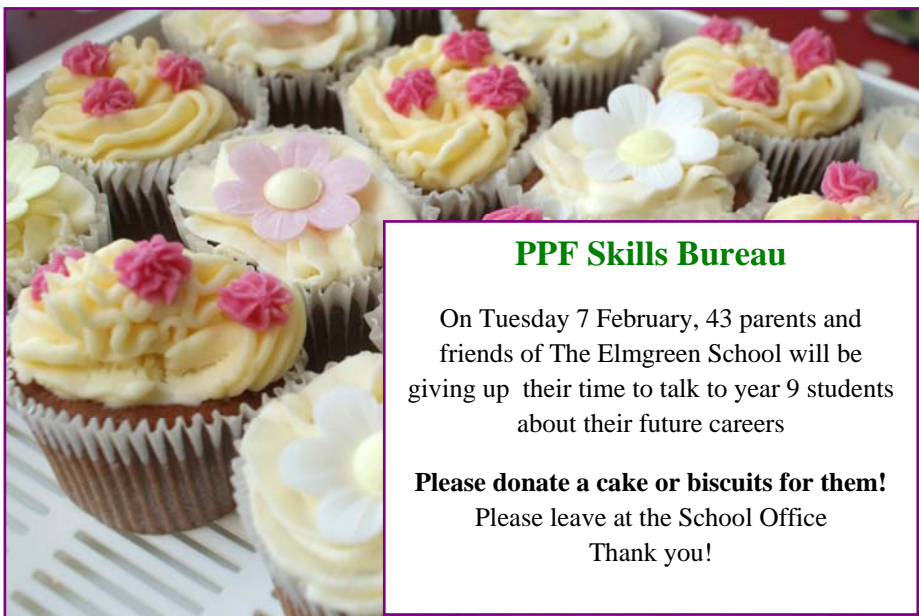
His research topic, at University College London, was 'Global warming integrated in marine education'. He wanted to learn more about the impact of climate change in the United Kingdom, and how British schools teach students about the problem of climate change in Science and Geography lessons in KS3 and KS4.

His visit included a tour of the school and he commented 'I wish I could come to your school'. He was extremely impressed with the architecture of the building; the positive relationships between staff and students; the informative displays around the school and in the classrooms; the friendly way he was received by both staff and students and the well constructed curriculum on offer to the students.



He spent valuable time with Mr Dan Scallan in Science and Mr Filipe Cerqueira in Geography learning where and how this school approaches the topic of climate change in its curriculum and was able to take away a lot of ideas which he will put into practice in Taiwan.

We wish him well.



PPF Skills Bureau

On Tuesday 7 February, 43 parents and friends of The Elmgreen School will be giving up their time to talk to year 9 students about their future careers

Please donate a cake or biscuits for them!

Please leave at the School Office
Thank you!

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 4 February

10.00am – 12.30pm

ICT for Parents

Tuesday 6 February

PPF Skills Bureau

Saturday 11 February

10.00am – 12.30pm

ICT for Parents

Maths Workshop

National Storytelling Week

This week we celebrated National Storytelling Week, set up by the Society for Storytelling twelve years ago to promote one of the oldest art forms in the world. Since time immemorial we have been telling stories: passing down tales from one generation to the other, not only to entertain ourselves, but to mark our place in the world and record our history. This week, public libraries, schools and bookshops all over the UK have been storytelling, reminding us a how brilliant the spoken word can be.



Here at The Elmgreen School, our chosen theme was Celtic Yarn Spinners, and each lunch time this week we listened to Celtic myths, legends and folktales in the library. Every day the air was thick with tales of Beowulf, Banshees and Selkies and we heard several versions of the story

of Fionn Mac Cumhaill (or Finn McCool) and the Giant's Causeway from both students (thank you Felan, Riddick, Ramila, Joshua, Alexander, Colette and Ella) and staff. On Friday Mr Bullen, teacher of the Deaf, signed the story of The Whales Song.



In tandem with this event, and as part of the Reading Passport programme which encourages students to make wide reading choices throughout the year, we have been delivering storytelling sessions to our Year Seven English classes. This week we focused on Anthony Horowitz's Horror series - edge of your seat stories that have had us gripping our chairs and wondering what on earth will happen next. These books are excellent for both emerging and voracious readers. We have several copies for loan as well as many similar read-them-if-you-dare titles.



College Stars of the Week

Adam
J4

Sadek
S10

Holocaust Memorial Day

Every year around the world, the 27 January is marked as Holocaust Memorial Day. It is an opportunity to remember all the victims of the Nazi holocaust as well as the victims of genocide in Rwanda, Kosovo and Cambodia; the day now represents the speaking out against injustice or intolerance. This year in particular recognised the need to take inspiration from the past, with the “Speak Up, Speak Out” pledge run by the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust. At this moment 34,649 people have signed this pledge, committing to challenge the language of hatred. Amongst that number are a 100 of our Year 8 and 9 students, who during a visit last Thursday to the Holocaust Memorial Day exhibition signed the pledge in Trafalgar Square.



The morning also included an incredibly moving account from a holocaust survivor. All students dealt with the difficult topic very maturely and asked some very perceptive questions. Students also watched a contemporary dance performance about the power of speaking out and breaking the chains hatred.



All students appeared very moved by the day and hopefully have a greater understanding of the topic due to be studied in all history lessons after Easter.



Lambeth Achievement Awards 2012

22 of our students have been selected to receive a Lambeth Achievement award for their key stage 3 performance. The ceremony is on Tuesday 7 February at 2.00pm at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, Southbank Centre. Congratulations to all our high achievers.

| Besant | James | Szabo | Wilberforce |
|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Elizabeth Manuwa | Melissa Anane | Kemet Blackwood | Jack Allwright |
| Inigo Meshoulam | Marie Brewer | Kimberly Ramsey | Anerurin Hodgson-Roch |
| Ben Pizzoferro | Molly Guiver | Oscar Swan | Daniella Keenan |
| Nathan Rogers | Joshua King | Israel Whyte | Stanley Myles-O'Mulloy |
| Marek Smagala | Charlie Kirchner-Burles | | Tara Pawils |
| Merhawi Yemane | James Mason | | Sunil Taper |

Romeo and Juliet Love Poem

By Phoebe 9E4

To my beloved Juliet,
You are the sun that brightens my everyday,
You are the stars that shine down on me lightening my path
of life
You are the birds in the orchard trees, singing the melody
that lifts me to my feet each morning
You are the velvet roses that blossom in the courtyard
You are the exotic jewel sparkling again the dark skin
You are the wind rushing through my hair
You are the every beat my heart takes
You are the vivid dreams I have each night
You are the risk in which I am willing to take to be with you
You are,
 My love,
 My life,
The lady whom I cherish and wish to marry
I love you...

Academic Target Review

Over the past few weeks the staff at The Elmgreen School have been reviewing the targets that students set at November Family Conferences. Where students have met targets teachers have set new ones and where targets have not been met they have remained.

Could I ask families over the next few days to review the family targets that were set in November. Please create a new target if you feel the November targets have been fully met by your child.

Some possible tutor targets are listed below to help support our student's home learning:

- Spend 30 minutes each day reading for enjoyment (novel, magazine, newspaper)
- Spend at least 60 minutes on HW/ILP tasks
- Ensure you proof read and correct written work before handing it in
- Ensure you complete Homework/ILP on day set
- Borrow and read at least 3 library books by a set date
- Ensure all Homework/ILP tasks and deadlines are written clearly in your planner
- Create a key stage 4 revision timetable and stick by it
- Remember all of your equipment for lessons every week
- Learn 10 new spellings a week

Student Leadership at The Elmgreen School

DID you KNOW?

- 147 students supported the open sessions in 2011
- 50 year 7 students have already carried out student receptionist duties since September 2011
- 20 students are trainer junior Librarians
- 40 students have been trained as prefects
- 25 Year 8 and 9 students have given up Saturdays since September to complete their Junior Sports leader Award
- New members of teaching staff appointed over the past 2 years has been interviewed by a student panel
- We have trained student peer mediators working at The Elmgreen School



Year 10 Physics Revision Pack

All year 10 Core Science students have now been issued with a Physics revision pack to support them with their revision over work experience and half term. Please dig it out of the bottom of their bag, and support them as much as possible with completing it. Any extra work they do, will only be of further benefit, so please don't hesitate to remind them to crack on and revise as thoroughly as possible for their exam on Friday 2 March.

Dan Scallan – Subject Leader for Science