



NewsLetter

APRIL 2005

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Performance in the Blood!!!

What a week of music, dance and drama we had just before Easter. It started off at The Lowry dance festival on Monday when our girls performed admirably dancing to the Elvis hit "A Little More Action", in front of a packed and appreciative audience.

The following night saw standing room only in our school hall for our 'Easter Eggstravaganza'. This was a two hour feast of performance of the highest order and by the end of the evening some 14% of our pupils in years 7, 8 and 9 had contributed to the event either by singing, dancing, acting or playing music.

Talent of the Highest Order

Everyone in the highly appreciative audience was enraptured by the energy, enthusiasm, organisation and talent on show. By the end of the week we had our full school assembly when the winners of our school talent competition were able to showcase their performance in front of our 1000 strong school community.

Popular School

No wonder so many pupils are joining our school on a weekly basis!

Relaxed and Confident

As this was perhaps the seventh school production I have seen at our school I am struck by the visible growth in confidence of our performers and, by no coincidence, how appreciative our parents and pupils are.

Dedicated Staff

After such a tremendous week of performances I should like to share the pupils' appreciation of all our teaching and non-teaching staff who worked so hard and skilfully to make these performances possible.

Best Wishes

J Biddlestone
(Headteacher)

INCLUDED IN THIS EDITION:

**Find out about our school
canteen.
Raising money for Red
Nose Day!!
About the new Nurture
Group**






*Ali Hussain - Silver Medalist in the
Salford Schools' Chess Championship*



The Swinton High School
Sefton Road • Pendlebury • Manchester • M27 6JU
Telephone: 0161 794 6215

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2005		
April 12 th	Year 9 Parents' Evening	
May 2 nd May 3 rd – 6 th May 9 th – 13 th May 12 th May 23 rd May 24 th May 26 th May 27 th	School Closed (May Day) SATs Exams Year 7 and 8 Exams PTFA 6.00pm GCSE Exams Start GCSE Modular Tests (Year 11) Year 10 Parents' Evening Half Term	
June 6 th June 14 th June 18 th – 24 th June 22 nd June 23 rd June 27 th June 28 th June 29 th	School re-opens after half term Year 7 History Trip Water Sports Trip Yr 10 Geography Field Trip Yr 10 Travel and Tourism Trip Yr 10 Work Experience Starts Yr 10 GCSE Module Tests Yr 8 Parents' Evening	
July 1 st July 4 th /5 th /6 th July 7 th July 9 th July 12 th July 14 th July 15 th July 18 th July 19 th July 20 th	Sports Day (Pre-events) Yr 6 Intake days (Primary children will be informed which day) New Intake Evening (Parents and Pupils of Yr 6 children) Performing Arts Residential School Concert Yr 7 Parents' Evening Sports Day Track Events Summer Assembly Rewards Day SCHOOL FINISHES!!!!!!	



NEWSLETTER QUIZ

As you may know The Swinton High School has a new website, so this month's quiz is related to the website. All you have to do is look on the website to find out how much it cost to refurbish our fabulous new library. Note down the URL (this is the address of the website, eg.

www.swintonhigh.co.uk/news.htm)

and give your answer to Miss Timms

Prize for the first correct answer.

THE SALFORD SCHOOLS' CHESS ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP 2004/05

By Ali Hussain

My name is Ali Hussain and I am in year 8. I am the captain of The Swinton High School Chess Club.

Before the competition started one of our design teachers, Mr. Blackburn, gave me a few tips on different moves. The competition started on Monday 21 February 2005 after school. I won the first match in one minute flat.

I played the 2nd match and won again. I felt proud but nervous because in the next match the opponent was a good player. In 10-15 minutes I lost, but overall I came 2nd in the Salford Schools' Chess Association.

I would like to thank Mrs Collier, Mrs Howarth and Mr Horrocks for all their support.

By M Howarth and S. Collier

Congratulations to Ali Hussain in 8T who gained a silver medal in the year 8 final on Monday 21st February. Ali was one of four finalists, and in his first two matches he convincingly beat the players from other local Salford high schools.

His third match against Irlam and Cadishead was a very close one. The game went to the wire, but unfortunately following one fatal mistake from Ali, he found himself in check-mate.

Not to worry – Just like Amir Khan, he'll be back for the Gold Medal next year!!!



MAXWELL HALLS VISIT L RYAN

On Tuesday March 1st, 100 year 10 pupils visited the Maxwell Halls at the University of Salford for this year's Careers Roadshow. The event, organised by Salford Business and Education Partnership, gave the pupils a brilliant insight into the many, varied post-16 options open to them.

The pupils were an absolute credit to the school, and staff at the University commented on the excellent behaviour and level of interest displayed by our pupils. Well done year 10!

SCHOOL FOCUS WEEKS R HALLIWELL

There have been a number of school focus weeks which have recently been held in school. The first two focus weeks which took place in January, involved 'Movement around the school'. Pupils were encouraged to walk on the left and use the correct doors to enter and exit the buildings.

During two weeks of February and March, equipment was the main focus. All pupils were encouraged to bring in the correct equipment as stated in the Student Handbook and pupils had equipment checks throughout the day.

Please can we encourage pupils to continue with this positive ethos throughout the year?

School Uniform

Girls

School Sweatshirt	-	Only available from Wilkinsons (from £11.00)
Shirt	-	Light blue, plain (from £7.50)
Tie	-	Only available from the School Office (£2.50)
Skirt	-	Navy Blue, 20" maximum waist to hem, only available from Wilkinsons (1 modest split allowed) (From £10.00)
Trousers	-	Navy blue, only available from Wilkinsons (from £19.00)
Shoes	-	A suitable black, low heeled shoe
Socks	-	White, black or blue ankle or knee length, (plain not patterned)
or Tights	-	Black or navy blue (plain not patterned)
Craft apron	-	(from £2.99)

Boys

School Sweatshirt	-	Only available from Wilkinsons (from £11.00)
Shirt	-	Light blue, plain (from £7.50)
Tie	-	Only available from the School Office (£2.50)
Trousers	-	Black – no cord or denim
Shoes	-	Black
Socks	-	Plain colour which blends in with uniform
Craft apron	-	(from £2.99)

Pupils are expected to provide themselves with the basic equipment for lessons. These include:

A pen (essential)

Pencils (essential)

A rubber (essential)

A ruler (essential)

Student Handbook (essential)

A pair of compasses

A protractor

A set square

An electronic calculator (a Casio FX-83 is recommended)

A bag for carrying books and equipment is essential



REMEMBER!

Equipment can be purchased from the nurse's office during morning registration.

YEAR 10 AND 11 PARENTAL/CARER QUESTIONNAIRE R HALLIWELL

Many thanks to all parents/carers who completed the parental/carer questionnaire on the year 10 review day and year 11 parents' evening. The results have now been analysed and the following key points have been identified:

- Parents/Carers value the staff in school and feel that they expect their child to work hard and do their best.
- Parents/Carers feel that they are kept well informed about their child's progress and their child is encouraged to attend well.
- Parents/Carers feel comfortable in approaching school regarding any concerns they may have.
- Primary transition and admission arrangements were also highlighted as a positive aspect of the school.

What changes can we make to help your child in school?

The questionnaire highlighted that parents/carers would like more activities to be offered to their child in school.

At present there are a number of drama, music, dance, art, chess, subject and sporting activities on offer at lunchtime and after school. If you or your child can offer any suggestions as to what new activities the school can offer then please let us know. Meanwhile, would all pupils please check the activities list in the main dining room?

Thank you once again for taking time to complete the questionnaire. Parents/Carers of years 7, 8 and 9 will be asked to complete the questionnaire at their child's Parents' Evening.



WARBURTONS TRIP BY LUCY HOUGH – 90

On Wednesday 19th January 2005, 7 pupils from year 9 visited Warburtons Bread Factory. We were supplied with long white coats and hairnets. We were separated into groups and were taken around the factory. We got to see how the dough for the bread was made and split so it could make separate loaves.

We also saw how bread was wrapped and taken out to shops and supermarkets. When the tour had finished we had a drink in the café and then each received 2 milk loaves to eat when we got home, but most of us ate ours on the mini bus returning to The Swinton High School.

READY, STEADY, COOK!! S CARTER

On Wednesday 23rd February, 20 food technology pupils from year 10 took part in our third "Ready Steady Cook!" competition. It was jointly organised by Jenny Whitworth from Salford Business and Education Partnership and Sally Carter, Head of Design and Technology at The Swinton High School.

Working in groups of five, with the assistance of professional chefs, David Cambridge from The Lime Bar at Salford Quays, Paul Dickson of Deckers at Rochdale, David Swift from Cromptons in Swinton and Robert Broomfield from Pendleton College, the pupils had one hour to prepare a two-course meal. As on the TV show, the pupils were given a bag of ingredients. This contained a pork steak, a fresh pineapple, a pepper, wholemeal bread, fresh oranges, and a pack of filo pastry. They also had access to a well stocked store cupboard.

The pupils worked very hard throughout the morning and their results were fantastic. The judges had an extremely difficult decision to make as all of the dishes were very creative and could grace the tables of any high-class restaurant.

A panel consisting of chefs, retired food technology teacher Mair Swift, and Deputy Headteacher Fred Eckersley, judged the food. The pupils also gave a presentation to the panel. Here they explained what they had made and what new skills they had learned.

Congratulations to the winning team, Lisa Rostron, Samantha Dalby, Daniel Clough, Ashley Taylor and Nikitta Cole, as well as their professional chef, David Cambridge of The Lime Bar, Salford Quays.

Their prize is to be an all expenses paid lunch at The Training Restaurant at Pendleton College. Many thanks are due to the college for providing the prize for the third year running.



The winning team with their dish and professional chef



MY DAY OUT TO SOUTH TRAFFORD COLLEGE BY BEN LARK

On Wednesday the 9th of March 2005 I went to the South Trafford College and competed in a 'cook off' based on the food you made. Your parents then had to taste it. When I got there I was kind of nervous but excited. At first I was a bit quiet because I didn't really know any one, so when we got there we had to attend a presentation on what different jobs there are and what courses the college supplies.

After that, we teamed up in to four groups and were led to our kitchens. We were then divided up again into different halves of the kitchen. In my side there were two boys and a girl and on the other there were two boys and two girls. Working with us were four assistant chefs and a senior chef on each side. Our senior chef was called Steve and he was really funny and told lot of jokes. Then when we had been split into groups we were given specific dishes to make for the buffet, but I was looking at the board and I saw a dish called sashay chicken, which was a Chinese dish and I asked if I could make that one and Steve said, "Ok, but it is quite difficult." I still wanted to do it, so I did.

First, I had to grind up the sashay seed and salt with a rolling pin. Then, I mixed the salt and sashay seeds with some flour to make some batter like mixture. Next, I deep fried the chicken drumsticks before I took them out of the fryer and rolled them in the batter then put them back in the fryer until they were crispy. After that, I chopped up the spring onion and cucumber and placed them on a long dish around the chicken. Next, I was asked to make some seaweed and some ho-sin sauce so I mixed up some soy sauce with some ho-sin and put it in a pan to boil. Also, I had to make crispy seaweed but crispy seaweed isn't really seaweed its spring cabbage deep-fried and dusted with a mixture of salt and sugar.

Then, at the end, when all the parents arrived, we had to serve our mums and dads with the food and the parents scored it with a scoreboard, and the person with the most points won. The prize was a meal for four cooked and served by the child to their mums and dads at a top 5 star hotel: The Lowry.



YEAR 11 VISIT TO PIZZA EXPRESS S CARTER

When Jenny Whitworth, of Salford Business and Education Partnership, approached the Food Technology department about a trip to Pizza Express at The Lowry, I immediately agreed because I knew that some of our year 11 pupils had chosen to design a pizza for their coursework project.

First of all we had a guided tour of the premises. We were surprised to see that most of the “behind the scenes” areas were actually very visible from the public areas.

It was lovely to have the whole restaurant to ourselves. A chef showed us how to shape the dough and we had a choice of toppings, so our pizzas were individually created to match our own preferences.

This was a very hands-on experience and we all thoroughly enjoyed it, especially eating our finished products! And the girls all came away with a good insight into the restaurant business.



by Lynsey Watson – 11O

On Tuesday 15th March, Becky Noone, Sam Cordwell and I went on a food technology trip to Pizza Express. The people were really friendly as soon as we stepped in.

We had the chance to make our own pizza's for the first time with a professional. We really enjoyed the experience and we would go again if we had the chance. This has really benefited us as we can use this as part of our research for our coursework.



TESCO COMPUTERS FOR SCHOOLS VOUCHERS

Please support the ICT department and the school by collecting as many Tesco Computers for Schools vouchers as possible.

Last year we saved over 8,000 vouchers and were able to order 4 digital cameras to be used in lessons.

This year we hope to save over 12,000 vouchers so we can order a digital camcorder for the ICT department.

Please ask your family and friends to help us achieve our goal. Any vouchers please give to Miss Hamer or any of the ICT teachers.

Many thanks.

Mr Sloan and his year 10 GCSE Applied Business class went to the Blue skies Business Exhibition at The Printworks in Manchester on Thursday 10th March.

The exhibition gave a fascinating insight into the lives of Britain's young entrepreneurs. From online gaming to therapy massage, the year 10 pupils had their eyes wide open to the many ways in which to become a millionaire.

Mr Sloan added, "The boys and girls of year 10 realised today that making money and having a successful business just doesn't fall out of the sky. They found out how much hard work and the little bit of luck that is needed!"

RED NOSE WEEK J BANKS

Red Nose Week at The Swinton High School exceeded all our expectations and we managed to raise our best ever amount for charity. On Friday 11th March the total raised stood at £700 and the money is still rolling in, hopefully, making a grand total of £800.

Money was raised through selling cakes, holding a raffle, a sweepstake and a non-uniform day. Pupils and staff were very generous and everybody contributed to a successful week.

Chloe Witherington in Year 9, managed to raise £100 through a sponsored silence. Chloe being silent was an event many pupils and staff were willing to pay good money to witness (it is a rare event!) Despite several doubters Chloe managed to stay silent from 8.30am – 3.30pm, a fantastic achievement. Thank you Chloe and everybody for their support. You all helped contribute to a fabulous week.



RND'05 - FRIDAY 11 MARCH



BRAINQUOTE

"Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom."
George Washington Carver

GCSE Examination Timetable

Summer 2005

DAY	DATE	SESSION	SUBJECT/PAPER
Monday	23/05/05	9.00am	SPANISH LISTENING Foundation and Higher level papers
		1.00pm	BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS Written paper
Tuesday	24/05/05	9.00am	MUSIC - Listening
Wednesday	25/05/05	9.00am	ENGLISH LITERATURE Foundation and Higher Level papers
		1.00pm	PHYSICAL EDUCATION
Thursday	26/05/05	9.00am	D&T: RESISTANT MATERIALS Foundation and Higher Level papers
		1.00pm	SPANISH: READING AND WRITING Foundation and Higher Level papers
Friday	27/05/05	9.00am	RELIGIOUS STUDIES
Monday	06/06/05	9.00am	GEOGRAPHY – PAPER 1 Foundation and Higher Level papers
		1.00pm	SCIENCE – MODULAR Foundation and Higher Level papers
Tuesday	07/06/05	9.00am	APPLIED ICT
		1.00pm	MATHEMATICS, PAPERS 1, 3, 5 Foundation, Intermediate and Higher Level papers

DAY	DATE	SESSION	SUBJECT/PAPER
Wednesday	08/06/05	9.00am	ENGLISH – PAPER 1 Foundation and Higher Level papers
		1.00pm	D & T : GRAPHIC PRODUCTS Foundation and Higher Level papers
Thursday	09/06/05	9.00am	FRENCH LISTENING Foundation and Higher Level papers
		1.00pm	HISTORY - PAPER 1
Friday	10/06/05	1.00pm	ENGLISH – PAPER 2 Foundation and Higher Level papers
Wednesday	15/06/05	9.00am	MATHEMATICS – PAPERS 2, 4, 6 Foundation, Intermediate and Higher Level papers
		1.00pm	GEOGRAPHY – PAPER 2 Foundation and Higher Level papers
Thursday	16/06/05	9.00am	SCIENCE – MODULAR Foundation and Higher Level papers
		1.00pm	D&T – FOOD TECHNOLOGY Foundation and Higher Level papers
Friday	17/06/05	9.00am	APPLIED BUSINESS
Monday	20/06/05	1.00pm	FRENCH – READING AND WRITING Foundation and Higher Level papers
Tuesday	21/06/05	9.00am	HISTORY – PAPER 2
		1.00pm	H.E. – CHILD DEVELOPMENT Foundation and Higher Level papers
Thursday	23/06/05	9.00am	DRAMA

DAY	DATE	SESSION	SUBJECT/PAPER
Friday	24/06/05	1.00pm	D&T – SYSTEMS AND CONTROL Foundation and Higher Level papers D&T – TEXTILES TECHNOLOGY Foundation and Higher Level papers

PLEASE NOTE

(a) Seating arrangements for the modular science tests on the 24/05/05 will be provided to the pupils by the Head of Faculty, nearer to the date of the exam.

(b) As above for any of the practicals.

(c) Spanish Orals

To be held on the 19th and 20th May 2005 – AM only. Subject teachers will inform pupils which session they will be attending.

(d) French Orals

To be held on the 12th and 13th May 2005 – AM only and the 16th May 2005 AM and PM. Subject teachers will inform pupils which session they will be attending.

**THE MORNING SESSION FOR ALL EXAMINATIONS
WILL START AT 9.00AM**

THE AFTERNOON SESSION WILL START AT 1.00PM

**All pupils should be in the Examination Room(s) mornings and afternoons
TEN minutes before the start of the examination.**

M F Royle
Examinations Officer

YEAR 9 SATs EXAMINATION TIMETABLE

Tuesday 3 May	Wednesday 4 May	Thursday 5 May	Friday 6 May
Morning Session			
Science Paper 1 Calculator needed	Maths Paper 1 Maths Mental Test	English Reading Paper	English Writing Paper
Afternoon Session			
Science Paper 2 Calculator needed	Maths Paper 2 Calculator needed	English Shakespeare paper	

YEAR 7 POLICE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT R HALLIWELL



On a cold Saturday morning, PC Pinder and Miss Halliwell met with nine year 7 pupils to attend a football tournament at St Patrick's High School.

The pupils participated in a number of football matches against Salford High Schools and demonstrated some excellent skills as well as playing to the 'Spirit of the Game'

All pupils behaved exceptionally well and were a credit to the school. Well done!!



SKI AUSTRIA

FEBRUARY HALF TERM, 2005 T SLEIGH

Each year, I say that it was probably the best trip we have done. This one was certainly amongst the best!

The skiing conditions were near to perfection, bright, blue skies, superb powder snow and excellent instructors.

Each day the group spent nearly seven hours on the ski slopes. Those who had never skied before were skiing down intermediate slopes by the end of the week. The more able were covering in excess of 50 kilometres of piste, some of it on "black" runs. More to the point, NO INJURIES! Well, there was a hospital trip for one youngster who managed to "head-butt" his glass at the dinner table, three stitches!

Each evening presented something different. Ice skating on a frozen lake, swimming (the pool had slides, wave pool and a heated outdoor pool as well), an Austrian Evening at the local town's community centre (yodelling and slap dancing) and the Presentation Evening Disco at the "Silver Bullet".

I must say a massive "thank-you" to all of the party members who were great to be with and made the trip a huge success. Not forgetting, of course, many thanks to Mr. Shuttleworth, Miss Charlton and Miss Mullineux for their support throughout the holiday.

I am in the process of organising next year's trip. So look out for any notices.



ADVENTURE HOLIDAY TO SPAIN, JUNE 2005.

Some places have become available on this trip, due to some cancellations. This will be open to Years 8 and 9, then Year 7 if appropriate. Please get your youngster to ask me for details if you are interested.

Mr T Sleigh

YR 9 FOOTBALL B SLOAN

Having finished off 2004 with a slump in form, Mr Sloan's Year 9 footballers began the second half of the season in a more jubilant mood. Three wins out of three was to follow against St. Ambrose Barlow, All Hallows and Wentworth High respectively.

In gutsy and determined Swinton style, the year 9 lads rose to the challenge that faced them in their last three fixtures. Although there was some splendid individual performers, Mr Sloan added that "Each player throughout the season has played as part of a team and that is what it's all about. To win our last three games has meant a lot to the lads and myself".

Roll on the new season!



SALFORD SCHOOLS' PARTNERSHIP

R DUNNET

From September 2005 The Swinton High School, along with our family of primary schools, The Deans, Wardley, Mossfield, St. Augustines and Clifton, will be an important part of the Salford Schools Sports Partnership. This is a government funded initiative intended to increase the percentage of school children in England who spend a minimum of two hours each week on high quality PE and sport within and beyond the curriculum to 75% by 2006. It is hoped that this can be achieved by improving the quality of teaching, coaching and learning in and through PE and school sport.

More opportunities, and a wider range of sports and leisure activities will be available. To this end Mr Dunnet will be released two days a week to take up the role of Schools Sports Coordinator to lead and drive the sports partnership. Our primary schools can look forward to seeing more of Mr Dunnet next year!

"CHAMPIONES, CHAMPIONES"

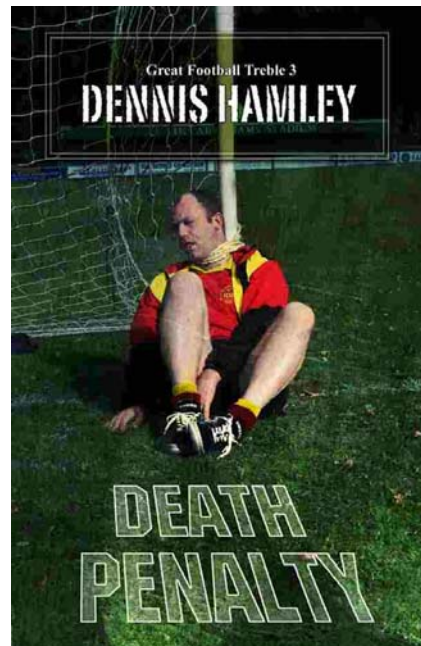
J HENNESSEY

During one Year 7 English class recently, pupils entered a competition to choose between five possible front covers of a forthcoming book about football.

Chris Thompson and Joel Rimmer talked of a 'twisted sense of humour' and 'deathly red', which impressed author and Pompey fan Dennis Hamley so much that he announced them as secondary school winners, and sent us two of his football books already published.

This also means that in May (hopefully after United has won some silver), we can expect a visit from the author himself.

This could be an ideal 'Dads and Lads' opportunity, so watch this space!



The winning front cover



BRAINQUOTE

"There is a brilliant child locked inside every student."
Marva Collins

WORLD BOOK DAY 2005 !

PAUL SNAPE AND DEREK CORCORAN

It all began on the 3rd of March 2005 where Miss Hennessey and pupil librarians set up the activities for the day. The activities had a 'world book' theme and included:

- Recipe designs
- Best futuristic vehicle design
- Guess the teachers favourite place to read
- Listing books set around the world
- Competitions
- Quizzes
- Puzzles
- Word searches and many more

World book day was controlled thanks to the amazing Miss Withers at the door and Miss Hallows, who attended the day. Each pupil was given a pass and they would hand it in when entering the library.

Over thirty pupils took part and we had a lot of fun – lunch went really quickly!

As well, each Year 7 pupil was given a book voucher to exchange for one of six books in Waterstone's or WHSmith, for free!

Hope to see you at World Book Day next year!



RICHARD AND JUDY EAT YOUR HEART OUT!

MISS HENNESSEY



For the second year, our school took on the challenge to 'Read, Vote, Pick the Winner' amongst six very different, new novels to decide who should receive the Salford Children's Book Award 2005.

The shortlist comprised of

Bootleg by Alex Shearer, a tale of prohibition...of chocolate!
Caught in the Crossfire by Alan Gibbons, based on the Oldham race riots and telling two very different sides to one story.

Garbage King by Elizabeth Laird, a harrowing account of Ethiopian street children, shown to be all too common on Comic Relief night.

Inventing Elliot by Graham Gardner, describing what happens when a victim of bullying is invited to join the other side...

Michigan Moorcroft RIP by Martin Chatterton – sk8rboy heaven...or hell?

Private Peaceful by Michael Morpurgo. This was set in the trenches of World War I and had a very moving twist.

The eventual winner was *Private Peaceful*, as voted for by two of our group.

Although Michael Morpurgo couldn't be at the ceremony, held at the Lowry, four of the other authors were, and the pupils collected autographs and posed for photos with them all. We have copies of all the nominated books in the library, and our reading group continues on a weekly basis.

THE SWINTON HIGH SCHOOL NURTURE GROUP J BANKS

The National Curriculum (DfEE and QCA, 1999) sets out a 'statutory inclusion statement on providing effective learning opportunities for all pupils'; it acknowledges that some pupils may be at a disadvantage unless curriculum planning is specifically designed to meet their needs. Building on this strategy it was decided by the Learning Support team at The Swinton High School to introduce a nurture group into The Learning Support Unit (LSU) timetable.

The school's Nurture Group room includes a kitchen and breakfast table. The kitchen allows easy preparation of breakfast and cooking activities. Nurture Group staff are also able to make tea and coffee for parents and school staff. The table is used for sharing meals as well as schoolwork. There are also a number of other tables on which to complete National Curriculum work.

The Nurture Group for disaffected pupils makes a particularly important contribution to raising the literacy and numeracy standards of the pupils concerned:

'The Nurture Group makes an essential contribution to all pupils' lives by helping individual pupils raise their self-esteem, and teaching the whole school community important lessons about tolerance and coping with difficult situations'.

(Boxall.M, Nurture Groups In Schools, 2002).

At The Swinton High School, up to 18 pupils with very specific needs, attend this unit on a daily basis. The pupils attend every morning to participate in literacy and numeracy lessons. These lessons are very carefully planned and intricately organised to match the needs, ages and abilities of all pupils. The provision is highly successful.



The quality of teaching is very good and the work matches the pupils' needs precisely. It is explained to pupils that expectations are very high and the pupils know exactly what is acceptable and what is not. They respond well to this and make good gains in their knowledge and understanding. The pupils know that, whatever their need and whatever their response, they will be helped to overcome the problem and, given time, will settle back into the routines of mainstream classes.

Most of the pupils have found it difficult to conform and concentrate in a larger class environment and this has affected their past learning. Within the Nurture Group they are safe to work at their own level and speed and this promotes better learning and better self-esteem. The pupils feel successful and therefore make good progress.

Although it is in the early stages of implementation, this group is already a significant and valuable part of the school's special needs provision. In a recent HMI inspection the group was commended for supporting inclusion in the mainstream classroom, its aims and purpose have been made clear to teachers, parents and the community. The aims it has set itself are prominent in the daily life of the group: it is successful, with the children currently attending, in helping them to 'improve their self-esteem and develop confidence, through close, trusting relationships with the adults and children' (HMI report Swinton High School, 2004).

This has a real impact on the development of their ability to conform and form relationships. The level of care and support and affection given is very good.

Ultimately, the school's nurture group aims to fully reintegrate all the pupils successfully into mainstream education and help them adjust to and operate within the new environment through building their understandings, independence and personal responsibility. To do this most effectively the school ensures just that, when the pupils are readmitted to full time mainstream lessons, they have a consistent experience and that their teachers have the training to provide it. The staff running the Nurture Groups are on hand to offer support and guidance. The response from subject teachers has been positive with many reporting that a pupil's time spent in the group has an impact on the rest of the week in lessons, usually calming the pupil's behaviour overall.

SALFORD SCHOOLS' DANCE E BATTERSBY

This is always an enjoyable event and our students love to be part of it. After my first successful piece at last year's festival, I grouped together 11 of our students to take part in this year's performance. The theme was communication, not really an easy concept to portray in a dance, but I decided to opt for the medium of sign language.

With the help of our fabulous new dance teacher Miss McDermott and a revival of the King "Elvis Presley", we choreographed "A little less conversation". In wild west style, the group donned their cowboy hats and roped the audience in. We were fortunate this year to have two workshop days as well as our performance night whereby the group took part in a contemporary dance sortie as part of a special project choreographed by a fantastic local dance specialist (we didn't really mind

getting up on a Saturday morning to rehearse, honestly!!)

Congratulations and well done to our students: Laura Pollitt, Tara Lea, Rhiannon Bigland, Jennafer Small, Rebecca Hawthornthwaite, Hannah Forshaw, Hannah Pierce, Hannah Walters, Stacey Doddy-Wynne, Carla Ward and Lauren Wilson.

They worked very hard giving up a lot of their time, I'm very proud of them all!

Thank you to Miss McDermott for her inspirational ideas and expertise and Miss Mullineux for her support (Sorry about the Saturday get-up!)

Thank you also to staff who came to support us on the night. Here's to next year!!



FOCUS ON THE SCHOOL CANTEEN

Forget Jamie Oliver - The Swinton High School has probably one of the best school canteens in the country. Cook supervisor Dot and her assistant Carol make some of the nicest food this side of The Ritz. A particular favourite day at school (for staff and students alike) is Thursday - Curry Day, where you can buy one of the finest freshly made beef or chicken curries- good enough to rival any that can be bought in Rusholme. Indeed, it is not uncommon to find Mr Biddlestone queuing a good five minutes earlier than normal for his 'curry fix' on this day!!

Breakfast Menu - 8am

Toast	20p
Teacake	30p
Crumpet	30p
Tea	30p
Coffee	35p
Hot Chocolate	35p
Cold Drinks from	25p

Morning Break - 10.50am

Same as the breakfast menu plus

Sausage Barmcakes	60p
Bacon Barmcakes	80p
Cheese on Toast	45p



Healthy Eating in the Milk Bar



Serving lunch in the main serving area

Lunchtime Menu - 1.05pm

There is a special meal on each day in the main service area. We serve fresh meat curries, together with poppadum and spring rolls, Spaghetti Bolognese, Homemade steak pie with potatoes and vegetables, with fresh fish on a Friday.

We also run a salad bar where freshly made sandwiches and salads can be bought, as well as a milk bar, where rice and pasta dishes can be bought and a fast food bar which serves jacket potatoes and toasties.



Students tucking in to a good home-cooked meal

NEWS FROM PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS

BY THE PVA TEAM

CREATIVE PARTNERSHIPS – “BURNING ISSY”

The aim of our latest Creative Partnerships project is to transfer the novel “Burning Issy” by Melvin Burgess to a “stage production” working with The Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester.

A selection of pupils from Year 9 all read the book and have been involved in the art and design element of the project. They have spent 3 days working with Louise Ann Wilson, a professional set designer, and art teacher Mrs Mills creating the most amazing paintings, models, masks and 3-D figures. They were visited by the novelist Melvin Burgess and were featured in the Manchester Evening News and Salford Advertiser.

They will present their work at The Royal Exchange Theatre in July, alongside work from two other schools working on the project.



Burning Issy by Holly Bullivant – 91

A select number of year 9 pupils from The Swinton High School were chosen to take part in the art workshop which ran for four days. The pupils were each given a book called ‘Burning Issy’ to read, which was based on the Pendle Witches. After the pupils had read the book they began the workshops. It was based on designing and coming up with ideas for the stage design for Burning Issy which would be held at The Royal Exchange in Manchester.

There was a number of people who helped run the workshop but

Louise, who was already a designer helped and put some very useful ideas into the work. The pupils were shown different sets Louise had designed for numerous shows. Also the pupils were reminded of extracts of the book that would be helpful with the making of the design.

But things soon got messy. The pupils got to do some expressive artwork based around their image and ideas of the book. The turnout was fantastic! Also the pupils met Melvin Burgess, the author of the book and spent some time with him discussing his ideas on the book and its characters – that was just the first day!

The next three were spent designing the set for the show. Within a few hours everybody had come up with some amazing ideas and the classwork was a massive piece of artwork based around Burning Issy. To finish it off, the pupils read a few extracts of the book while admiring the hard work they put into the set.

If all the hard work would go into a set for Burning Issy, it would look truly spectacular!

ROBERT MEADMORE CONCERT

Pupils in Year 7 & 8 were treated to a concert with a difference when “musical theatre” singer Robert Meadmore visited school for two performances in our senior hall on Thursday 3rd February. As well as performing three songs, Robert spoke to the pupils about his musical life and career and answered some very mature questions posed by our pupils.

The concert was recorded by GMR local radio and Channel M TV.



NEWS SHORTS

Australian Dance Workshop

On Monday 21st February a class of Year 9 pupils took part in a workshop by The Australian Dance Theatre Company provided by The Lowry. Boys and girls had a go at some quite complicated contemporary dance moves, including some break dancing by the boys!

Salford “POP IDOL” project

The search is on to find our own Salford Pop Idol! The initial phase of this project has taken place, with all entrants from across the city's schools making a demo CD in our Learning Network Recording Studio. The competitors now choose whether to go through to the live round and hopefully the final! There are a number of entrants from our school so Good Luck to them all.

“TALENT @ TSHS” CD

Our Comic Relief CD was released on March 11th and features the talent of our pupils and staff. This was produced in our recording studio and is available from school for £3. All proceeds go to Comic Relief.

Instrumental Ensemble

Our new Instrumental Ensemble has been working extremely hard and makes their performance debut at our “Spring Extravaganza” on March 15th. We hope to involve some more of our new instrumentalists after Easter.

Active Drama “Emma”

In conjunction with Salford Arts and leisure we hosted a performance by Active Drama called “Emma”. The play was performed to Year 9 and year 10 (GCSE Performing Arts and drama) pupils.

The play was in a ‘forum’ style, which means that students could interact with the actors and shape the outcomes of the play. It told the story of Emma, a young girl who had contracted HIV and about how she dealt with relationships and growing up.

LAMDA Examinations

Do you want a qualification in acting?

If so see Miss Smith about LAMDA lessons – now booking for summer and autumn term.

UBUNTU

Our pupils are performing at the M.E.N. arena, on Friday the 15th April in collaboration with other Salford Schools and the International Rotary Convention. Nearly 40 pupils have rehearsed over 3 Sundays to produce a poignant piece of drama/dance about refugees. The work will be performed to a packed audience and any proceeds go towards this year's Rotary fund raising charity in aid of orphaned children many of who suffer with HIV and Aids.



An article reproduced from the Rotary Club Magazine

In the language of the Zulu and Xhosa tribes in Africa, the word "Ubuntu" roughly translates as "fellow feeling with" and looks at the African philosophy of balance and sharing. According to Archbishop Desmond Tutu, "A person with "Ubuntu" is open and available to others, affirming of others, does not feel threatened that others are able and good, for he or she has a proper self-assurance that comes from knowing that he or she belongs to a greater whole and is diminished when others are humiliated or diminished".

"Ubuntu" is a wonderful word – a word that seems to so aptly describe the spirit and purpose of Rotary!

So why "Ubuntu" in Manchester on April 15th 2005?

On this evening, over 600 young people from the six Education Authorities in Greater Manchester will use their musical and dramatic talents to share their own "Ubuntu" by identifying with the 5000 children in 1000 of the poorest child headed and grandparent headed families in Rwanda, and South Africa.

These young performers understand only too well that an estimated one million people were killed in 100 days in Rwanda in 1994 and that by the end of 2001 there were 613,000 orphans of which 300,000 were orphans of the Aids epidemic – they know why Rotary has an "Africa Hope".

An exciting musical evening is being planned at all the Music Centres – with over 40 young people from Bolton rehearsing with their Djembes (African drums) to spectacularly open the evening with a bang! Other groups performing include the Rochdale Youth Band who have played at the Bridgewater Hall, The Royal Albert Hall and the Royal Festival Hall in London; Oldham Youth Choir, winners of the Youth Choirs class at the Elgin Festival in Worcester; "Steel Sensation" – a steel band which is a collaboration between the Northwest Steel Band Association and the Manchester Music Service.

As well as all the musical items, a further 120 young people will rehearse on only three Sundays to devise the penultimate dramatic presentation which will look closely at the concept of families in Africa – their past sufferings and hope for the future – rotary's Africa Hope.

The South African Governmental White Paper on Welfare officially recognises "Ubuntu" as "the principle of caring for each other's well being and a spirit of mutual support". "Ubuntu" means that people are people through other people.

The idea for *this* "Ubuntu" came from within the RIBI youth Activities Committee. Knowing that Music and Performing Arts Services need all the support and encouragement we can give them but, just as importantly, working with young people over a period of time, they and their families will better understand what Rotary service means.

HALLE FOR YOUTH CONCERT

At the end of January, 45 Year 8 pupils attended a concert by the Hallé Orchestra at the Bridgewater Hall in Manchester.

The concert introduced the pupils to the different instruments and sections of the orchestra through demonstrations and performances of music that most of the pupils recognised, Star Wars, Titanic, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang.

For most of the pupils it was their first experience of seeing and hearing a 'Live' orchestra and they all thoroughly enjoyed the concert.



Grace Martin – 8I

On Wednesday some Year 8 pupils went to watch the Hallé for youth orchestra. We all enjoyed the day and were introduced to lots of new instruments. They played lots of familiar songs that we all recognised including The Simpsons, Titanic, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang and finally Star Wars. The primary school St. Chad were on the stage doing their version of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. They gave us ideas of how to make our own instruments. Overall the day was enjoyable and fun.

Anthony Evans – 8N

On Wednesday 26th January 40 or so pupils went to the Bridgewater Hall to watch The Hallé Orchestra. They were playing recognisable tunes like 1812 overture by Tchaikovsky. They also played the backing theme from the film Titanic as well as the backing tune from the films Star Wars. Overall it was an enjoyable day and the teachers weren't bad either.

Scott Berrisford – 8S

On 26th January 2005 about 40 pupils from Year 8 went to The Bridgewater Hall in Manchester to watch Hallé for Youth. It was a good concert and very entertaining. We got to sing whilst we were there we sang Chitty Chitty Bang Bang with a Year 4 class from St. Chad's as the musicians on the stage. The orchestra was very big – I had a good morning and really enjoyed it.

SPRING

EGGSTRAVAGANZA



On Tuesday March 15th, over 70 pupils took part in our Spring Eggstravaganza of Music, Drama, Dance and Art.

Parents, staff, friends and pupils were treated to an art and textiles display before the concert followed by a variety of artistic performances!

The concert was an opportunity to show our talented pupils and featured the music and drama winners from our Talent Show held in January.

This was the first occasion that our Year 7 Steel Band played in public, and the Year 8 and Year 9 bands were also featured. Another debut performance was made by our Instrumental Ensemble and singing was provided by the Vocal Ensemble.

From drama came a performance of "Sweeney Todd", a mixture of comedy, magic and horror, provided by a large cast of pupils from Years 7, 8 and 9.



Two different dance groups took to the stage – one fresh from their performance at The Lowry the previous evening and the other made up from our new Dance Club in school.

The hall was packed with a very supportive audience who enjoyed an excellent evening's entertainment.

Well done to all involved and thank you to anyone who helped in any way towards this event.



Pictured on the right is pupil Laura Pollit. Laura qualified to represent the North West at Blackpool in the under 16s Modern Sequence dancing. There were 82 competitors and she got down to the final 18.

PERFORMING ARTS LINKS WITH OUR PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Wardley

Year 6 pupils have had some extra music lessons provided by Mrs Tomlinson. Pupils have been able to use a variety of instruments and have learnt some songs, some African rhythms and a variety of musical key words.

St Peter's

Miss Smith has visited all junior classes at St Peter's to work on literacy. Pupils have been able to improve their skills and understanding through a number of drama activities.

Clifton and The Deans

Both these schools have been involved in our "Haunted House" project. Year 5 pupils have worked with Mr Williams and Miss McDermott to create a music, dance and drama presentation on the theme of a Haunted House. Pupils have also been involved in story writing and many have created their own costumes as well!

We look forward to working with our other primary schools in the near future.

"STARS IN YOUR SCHOOL" TALENT COMPETITION 2005.

Over four lunchtimes GCSE Applied Performing Arts pupils organised and ran this year's competition. There was original dance, drama, comedy, art and music from pupils in years 7-10. The winners performed in the Easter Assembly and also in the Spring Eggstravaganza.

The winners were as follows:

Performers

- | | | |
|--------------|---|---|
| First Place | - | Jack Martin, Grace Martin, Rhiannon Bigland and Jennafer Small – Blood Brothers |
| Second Place | - | Christina Francotte and Adam Clarke - Dance |
| Third Place | - | Luke Hinton and Adam Birchall - Keane |
| Staff Winner | - | Mr Kerns |

Artists

- | | | |
|--------------|---|------------------------|
| First Place | - | Tom Swift – Crazy Frog |
| Second Place | - | Nicola Burke |
| Third Place | - | Banija Sivanandan |



AIM HIGHER: PERFORMANCE AT THE LOWRY.

Battle of the Colleges!

Salford and Pendleton Colleges put on a 'showcase' at the Lowry Theatre for pupils in Year 10. The project was funded and organised by 'Aim Higher'. Aim Higher encourages pupils to look to further and higher education and gives pupils in secondary school a chance to see what is expected of them when they go to College or University.

The showcase had tap dancing, sword fighting, Shakespeare and street dancing. Our pupils were very impressed by the professionalism of students from both colleges.

Art and Design News

During April we shall be having another artist in residence practising within our classrooms. James Buckley, a fine artist from Salford University will be sharing his expertise with all our pupils for one week. All pupils will be encouraged to meet James and view him at work.

Later on in the year two of our Gifted and Talented year 10 pupils will work alongside James at his studios for one week. Kay Walton and Laura Jones will continue the partnership with James by participating in work experience at the Oldham Art Gallery. Both pupils have been picked to work alongside James for their outstanding work and commitment shown throughout year 10 in Art and Design. All work produced will be exhibited at The Great Northern Warehouse in Manchester in the summer.



Eccles College is close to completing their new building situated in Eccles. We have been asked to contribute towards the prestigious opening by participating in the "Big Draw". Several high schools have been selected to complete two sections of a very large painting to be displayed in the entrance hall. The overall image is an industrial landscape of The Lowry and surrounding docks. The year 10 pupils who are involved will be attending the open evening shortly.

Gifted and Talented Art and Design in Salford

David Gordon, Alex Thomas and Jack Fairhurst have been selected to represent the school in advanced art sessions, currently being held at the Salford Arts Gallery and Museum. The sessions will result in an exhibition to be held in the gallery and museum.

We need a new identity...

You all know that we are a very creative department. Well we want our creativity to extend through our classroom doors. We would like a Graffiti style design to be designed for our department doors. The winning pupil will spray their design onto specially designed board. All entries need to be in before half term.



SWINTON EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT CENTRE (SESC)

SuccessMaker

Success Maker creates an individual learning path for each student. Students are presented with material appropriate to their individual ability. Each student's response is recorded, which can be monitored and diagnose student performance.

Students need regular access, for relatively short periods of time.

Success Maker has been shown to: -

- Raise levels of a pupil's achievement
- Raise self-esteem and confidence
- Improve behaviour and attendance

Success Maker Enterprise is a computer based learning system that manages the delivery of the curriculum materials so that students are presented with individual programmes of work. Students need regular access to the system.

Success Maker Courses

- Discover English
- Initial Reading
- Reader Workshop
- Reader Adventures
- Reader Investigations
- Spelling Skills
- Writer Studio
- Maths Concepts and Skills
- Maths Investigations
- Maths Processor

On the 8th November 2004, six Year 6 pupils from Mossfield Primary School started a Success Maker course at the Swinton High School. Each child was started on level 2.00. Each child has achieved a higher level and gained confidence with every session. The children have attended approximately 30 sessions. At the end of the course each child will receive a certificate for completing the course and their parents receive a Parents Report from the course.

Feedback from the Children

All of the children have enjoyed the course and are sorry to see it end, they would also like to continue next year with another course.

The children behaved very well whilst they were in The Swinton High School and it has been a

pleasure to have them attend the Success Maker course.

In July and November 2004, ten members of staff attended 2 training days on how to use the SuccessMaker programme.

In G3 we have 6 computers installed with SuccessMaker.



SESC has also installed SuccessMaker on 7 computers in G2.



On April 4th 2005 6 Year 5 children from Mossfield Primary are starting a Maths and spelling course on SuccessMaker, this will run till July.

Pam Anderson-Brown
SESC Co-ordinator

THE SWINTON HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL TERM TIME DATES 2005 - 2006

2005	Close	Open	Days Open
		Monday 5th September	
Half-Term	Friday 21st October	Tuesday 1st November	
Christmas	Tuesday 20th December		71
2006			
		Friday 6th January	
Half-Term	Friday 17th February	Monday 27th February	
Easter	Thursday 6th April	Monday 24th April	60
May Day	Friday 28th April	Tuesday 2nd May	
Half-Term	Friday 26th May	Monday 5th June	
Summer	Friday 21st July	Thursday 31st August (provisional)	59
			190 days



For the latest news and up-to-the-minute information about The Swinton High School, visit our newly relaunched website at

www.swintonhigh.co.uk