

Term 1 October 2017

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THIS ISSUE



2 show stars
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Great catch!
See page 2

Music to our ears!

Praise and positivity abound at Open Evening



By Morgan Lawrence

Everywhere you walked, parents were smiling, chatting and asking questions to their guides about school life.

Food tech was a popular room to visit—probably because of the food—but all departments had activities for children and adults.

Many people sounded as if they were enjoying themselves and keen to visit every area of the school, ready to join in.

One pupil who helped out on the night said: “This year’s open evening has been amazing—from the number of people who came, to the helpful guides giving up their free time to show around our potential pupils that will join us in September.”

Meanwhile, a delighted Mr Roberts said: “I would like to say a huge ‘thank you’ for all your efforts in making Open Evening such a success last night.

“I was inundated with positive comments about the school and was impressed by the innovation and creativity demonstrated by all the teachers.”

Mr Roberts, who gave a talk to

SOUNDS GOOD: Sophie Basham and Gemma Crome entertain the visitors

Continued on pages 4 & 5

We've caught the fishing bug!

Another lucky group of pupils have had the chance to take part in the Fishing4Schools programme.

It was the first time Connor Kennedy, Jett Martindale, Kian Wilkins and Jamie Holder had fished competitively and the experience was a successful one.

The lads kept up the school's tradition of competing well – taking third place at the event at Grove Farm Fisheries Hadlow, which is run by Hadlow College.

Earlier in the month, the boys had joined Kent instructor Bob Goble to fly fish for carp.

Bob said: "These students were super excited to fish. They had no idea you could catch carp with fly gear and were pleasantly surprised with the size of the fish.

"With help from myself, they managed to hook and land these super specimens. One student said: 'I can't wait for next time' and neither can I!"

Learning support assistant Mr Nichols organises the event as an intervention to help students who need a confidence boost or help with a tough school life.

He said: "The boys were very excited about coming third. They fished very well and did the school proud."

Fishing4schools has been part of school life for several years. Events, run by the Countryside Alliance, offer young people the opportunity to discover the joy of fishing.



REEL FUN: (top) Bob with Cameron Ward. Connor Kennedy (above) with his catch; looking and learning (above right). Bob with Jett Martindale (left) and Josh Gilham (right) with a big carp.





Mr. Carl Roberts

At the start of the academic year each September, teachers up and down the country wonder what the new cohort of children are going to be like. At The Malling School we are always positive about the year ahead, ready to do our very best to ensure the young people in our care get the very best education, and ready for any challenges we may face along the way.

This year was no different. But there was a sense of heightened expectation knowing that Year 7 was going to be the biggest in our recent history. With the school now oversubscribed, we hoped that joining us would be a group of children that were even more proud to wear the TMS badge than those who had gone before them.

We were not disappointed.

Year 7 have proven to be a hard-working, polite and enthusiastic group of children. They have settled in well and have very quickly demonstrated that they understand what we call The Malling School Way.

Of course, this doesn't happen by accident and we work hard to make sure the transition from primary school to secondary school is a smooth one and that children understand our expectations from day one. The recent Year 7 parent survey,



READY FOR ANYTHING: Year 7s have started the year with a hard-working and enthusiastic attitude.

where every single response and comment was positive, demonstrated that all of our hard work had paid off. Of course, the older pupils were also instrumental in ensuring that Year 7 had a positive experience.

They acted as buddies, guides and leaders for those new to the school and it was a pleasure to watch them doing their best to ensure that every child was comfortable and happy in their new school. We have truly wonderful pupils at TMS.

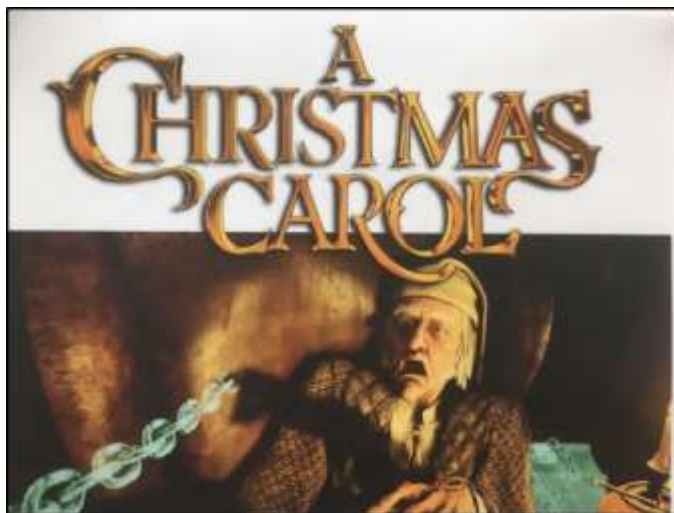
As the end of the first half term approaches, staff in many schools have lost the enthusiasm of September 1st. At TMS, however, we are as excited as ever about working with the pupils in our school.

We remain optimistic about the year and enjoy working hard to make sure every young person does his or her very best.

This doesn't mean we're not looking forward to the half term break but we will return in November eager to continue the work we have started.

Every day as I walk the long path from the car park to the school buildings, I think about how lucky I am to work in such a beautiful environment, with such a fantastic group of children and staff.

It really is an honour and a privilege to be headmaster of The Malling School and I am grateful to all of the people around me that make it such a wonderful place.



SPOOKY! A brilliant re-telling of A Christmas Carol

Just the ticket!

Quantum Theatre Company will be in school performing A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens to *all* year 7s on Monday 11th December.

The production was a real hit last year and is a chance for pupils to experience high quality theatre – and help them with their study of the novella.

The English department is expecting all year 7 pupils to attend and is asking for

£3 towards the cost of the performance. FIVE reward points are available to the first 25 pupils to buy their tickets.

Pupils can only buy their tickets from Ms Sprinz at **break time in the library**. So get yours today!

'A Christmas Carol' is one of the set texts for some Year 7 pupils. Other books chosen to read include The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas and Skellig.



*Letter from our
Governors*

Dear all

I am a Kent Police officer and became a school governor to make a difference.

Like others, I want to have a positive impact on the lives of young people, so that they have the best education and start in life. Sadly, my job often demonstrates how a lack of guidance, support and inspiration can impact negatively on someone's life.

Young people spend the majority of their time at school, so it is important to make it productive and enjoyable. I am a governor because I believe the experience and skills I have developed through my work, further education and other volunteering commitments make me a valuable member of the team.

My areas of focus on the governing body are quality of teaching, personal development, behaviour and welfare. It is important to note that our role is to monitor and make strategic decisions. My recent monitoring visit touched on both of these areas. I am very pleased to say that the behaviour and politeness of students was notable, and the teaching was of a very high quality.

However, we recognise that there are always areas for improvement and it is our job to monitor that progress through our positive relationship with the staff. We hold the staff and the Senior Leadership Team to account by asking questions and challenging in a constructive way.

As a governing body we have decided to adopt a 'circle model' structure. This means that rather than working in separate committees, each of us is engaged in all parts of the school.

I invite parents to get in touch with us if they would like to know more - we would love to hear from you. I am extremely pleased to be a Governor at The Malling School and I look forward to watching the school make even more progress.

Zak Khan

Governor responsible for quality of teaching, personal development, behaviour and welfare

Our biggest ever op



Food, glorie



Here's what ... they eat course but tucked in to fundraising Care.

Ms Platt said whether you have manag

Meanwhile, normal less assessment really well a finished dish

Well done e

en evening impresses visitors

From front page

more than 800 prospective parents and pupils, told teachers: "I am also pleased that all of your efforts have paid off and congratulate you on making our school so popular with parents and children."

The Headmaster added: "I too would like to thank all the pupil ambassadors who came to guide parents and for everyone who helped organise the evening behind the scenes."

All departments put on some exciting activities. In maths, ratio knowledge was put to the test in a fun horse-racing activity.

The English department invited visitors to make a wish for Scrooge and to test their knowledge of books by matching covers and quotations. Mr Cass and Mrs Finlay ran a home shopping channel

to test persuasive writing techniques and were impressed by the confidence and knowledge of youngsters. Science gave youngsters the chance to have a hair-raising time with the Van de Graaff generator, while the health and beauty salon offered nail decoration and hair appointments.

Humanities tested pupils on their knowledge of 'poos of the past' - a sharp contrast to the active displays from the PE department, which was involved in showing how the running machines worked, as well as putting on gymnastic displays.

It is believed that The Malling School had 50 per cent more visitors than last year and all open morning tours are full for the first time ever. More tours have had to be arranged to ensure that those who want to see our school can have a chance to do so.



INVOLVED: pupil ambassadors showed parents and prospective pupils a mind-boggling array of activities

ous food

staff get up to in the staffroom cake! Well, not every day, of thanks to Ms Platt and Nicky they some treats as part of a event in aid of Macmillan Cancer

d: "Thank you for your support, u baked, bought or donated! We ged to raise £152.78."

food tech pupils took time out of ons to complete their NCFE t. Mr De Roeck said: "They all did nd everyone completed a h!"

everyone!



READY: food tech chefs check everything is in order before their important assessment.

Our achievements

Briefly...

FIREWORKS: Keep safe this bonfire night by joining a local display.

The Kenward Trust is holding its Firework Spectacular on Thursday 9th November. The display will have a Star Wars theme at the event, which is held in the trust's grounds in Yalding.

Gates open at 4.30pm with the display starting at 7.30pm. For ticket information visit www.kenwardtrust.org.uk.



BOOK REVIEWS: Scores of pupils submitted book reviews for display on Open Evening.

Winners will be given treats by their teachers, with the overall champ's review being submitted to Ink Pellet, the arts magazine for teachers. Ms Riggs will make the final, all-important decision.

See next term's School Newsletter to find out who had this honour.

Jewel of a lesson



SKILLED: Having created a template, it was now time to cut it out

Students from 10c CoPe have been taking part in jewellery-making this term arranged by Mrs May.

Whilst working on the module as part of their course Pupils learned how to make their own necklace pendant with the support of Mr Birch.

They had the opportunity to learn about some of the equipment and techniques jewellery makers around the world use. They had sessions on equipment, cutting, piercing and enamelling whilst making pieces ranging from a floating heart to an eye.

This was an excellent opportunity to demonstrate their adaptability and thinking skills as well as their hand eye co-ordination.



A SHAPE! The design comes to life



Gary meets his match!



STAR TURN: Gary Lineker meets our Tone

The 2 Show team have been very busy over the summer holidays travelling from Pinewood Studios in London to the BBC's Match of the Day studio in Manchester.

Guests have ranged from ex England footballer Gary Lineker to star of Absolutely Fabulous Joanna Lumley. Season 8 concluded with comedian and impressionist Rob Brydon, who joined Tone in conversation about his life and career as one of Britain's most popular comedians.

During the interview, Rob gives many entertaining examples of his impressions including Michael Caine and his man in a box!

In a special interview in the BBC Match of the Day studio, Tone caught up with Gary Lineker, who reflects on his career in football, including his 48 goals for England and winning the Golden Boot during the World Cup finals in Mexico. Gary is now presenting

Match of the Day and Sports Personality of the Year.

Next up was adventurer, producer and presenter Martin Hughes-Games who shared his tales about his travels around the world. Martin also speaks about his passion for India, racing motorbikes and presenting on Springwatch.

Radio 2 presenter Jeremy Vine joined Tone at the BBC's Wogan House in London to talk about his career in radio and his TV appearances, including his run on Strictly Come Dancing.

And bringing us up to date, new co-presenter Rosie Schofield joins Season 9 to interview Joanna Lumley about her acting career and her travels.

You can hear all these interviews on the Unit Radio website: http://www.unitradio.co.uk/?page_id=1194

Our achievements

Meet our roving news reporters



Journalism club has started in R11 on Friday lunchtimes.

The aim of the club, which is run by Mrs Finlay (a former journalist) is to gather news for this magazine and other news outlets around school and beyond.

Members will have a chance to write, photograph and design news and feature stories, as well as take part in the BBC School Report day.

Team member Morgan Lawrence has already had work published, as you will see. She said: "We have loads of ideas, so come along and join us."



Mrs Finlay said: "It's a great opportunity to write real news with the chance to be published in newspapers and websites. What a great thing to put on your CV!"

Michael Middleton is in Year 11 and took part in an exciting charity bike ride.

MORGAN LAWRENCE, in her first interview for the school magazine, spoke to Michael to find out more...

Who was the bike ride in aid of? I did the bike ride for the British Heart Foundation.

Do you enjoy bike riding? I love bike riding, always have. For a long time, I've biked to school and back, and done paper rounds in the morning. It was fun.

Where and when did you do it? We started in London and then we went through lots of different areas and ended up in Brighton. It was 75 miles— that's almost three times the normal length of a marathon. I did it on the 23rd September. It was seven hours of cycling and that didn't include the breaks.

Have you done any others before? That was the first one. I plan on doing the second London to Brighton next year.

So did you have a lot of water with you to stay hydrated? I had four bottles of water and these energy powder things and energy gels. We had to take quite a few of them to keep us going.

So did you do it with anyone? I did the challenge with my dad. He did it last year as well and I plan on doing it next year with him again.

Would you say you are proud of your achievements? When I passed the finish line, I was extremely proud. But I was also proud of my dad because he's almost 50 now so he's getting old but he did quite well. I think I was one of the youngest contestants to do it.

Michael gets on his bike for charity



Did you get anything at the end as a memory? You get a medal and you can keep your registration number. At the end it's more of the mental thing because of the pride you get from raising that money for someone who needs it.

What would you say to other people to

encourage them to do charity events? I recommend just giving it a go because it's nice for people that need the help.

How much did you raise in total and why? I raised around £310. It means a lot to me and my dad but it means a lot more for the people that are getting help.

Information

Come to support our Parent Forum

The Malling School would welcome your support at our Parent Forum. We are a group of parents keen to support the continued good work of the staff at The Malling School.



This forum provides parents the opportunity to voice both praise and constructive ideas for the benefit of the students. All we ask is that you give up one hour of your time each term – refreshments provided.

Meetings are held on Wednesdays in the library from 6.00-7.00pm. The dates for the next academic year are 15th November, 14th March and 13th June.

For more information please contact:
fiona.brewer@themallingschool.kent.sch.uk

Autumn delights

A host of extra-curricular learning workshops are taking place this term.

On Tuesday 31st October there is a 'Breaking the Cycle' presentation' for all Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils in the school hall.

The workshop promotes the message of non-violent conflict resolution in teenagers.

There will be a 'Bin it' presentation in the school hall for all Year 7 pupils on Wednesday 22nd November.

This is an anti-littering roadshow designed to make

pupils stop and think about the effect that littering habits have on their community and to encourage them to challenge and change behaviours.

Meanwhile, pupils taking part in the CoPE Programme have a chance to experience 'real life scenarios' thanks to Ms May.

As part of the "Rights and Responsibilities" unit, pupils will visit to Maidstone Magistrates Court on Friday 3rd November. This is an all day trip that includes a group lunch in Pizza Hut.

Homework club

Pupils who do not have internet access, or need help with work, can now attend our homework club during Period 1. To attend, pupils must bring a note with them from their form tutors.

When?	Where?	What time?	Who with?
Monday	Learning Support	08:50-09:20	Mrs Ritchie
Tuesday	Learning Support	08:50-09:20	Mrs Ritchie
Wednesday	Library	08:50-09:20	Miss Cole
Thursday	Learning Support	08:50-09:20	Mrs Ritchie
Friday	Library	08:50-09:20	Miss Cole

Keep in touch

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Your news

If you have any stories, comments or would like to publicise your community event, please contact the editor:

lesley.finlay@themallingschool.kent.sch.uk

Available in other formats