



END OF TERM NEWSLETTER MARCH 2015

## WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Lodge Park has had a busy and interesting term with successes in many different areas of academy life.

I was delighted that two of our students won prizes at the

Northamptonshire Art Competition, we are extremely proud of our art department and it is fantastic that some of our talented students were recognised for their creative flair.

We also had a lot of success at the Northamptonshire Winter School Games. We entered 16 teams in various events and came away with two gold medals and a silver, which is another brilliant achievement.

I hope you enjoy reading about these and all the other visits and events the students have

experienced this term.

I would like to wish you all a very Happy Easter and look forward to welcoming everyone back for the Summer Term.

Kind regards

**Alison Hayes**

Principal



## SPEAKER'S STUDENT COUNCIL AWARDS

### **Our Student Council won a Highly Commended Certificate in the prestigious Speaker's Student Council Awards.**

The national competition, which is sponsored by the Speaker of the House of Commons, asks Student

Councils to plan and present a project that would benefit the school or community.

The Awards team praised our students' project, 'A life lost or a life saved', aimed at teaching children how to cope in life-threatening situations.

The school council received a

certificate in recognition of their achievement. The letter said: "We would like to congratulate your students on receiving this special recognition from the judges.

"We would really like to thank your school council for taking the time to tell us about all the hard work that has gone into making your project great."

## STUDENTS ARE INSPIRED BY CAMBRIDGE SCIENCE FESTIVAL

Eight lucky students visited the Cambridge Science Festival, at Peterhouse College this term.

The Year 12 students had the chance to find out more about the prototype space probe, 'Bruno,' which is due to be sent on a nine month expedition to Mars.

They also had the chance to meet Professor Adrian Dixon, Master of Peterhouse College, and speak to current undergraduates about what it is like to study science at Cambridge.

Nathan, Year 12, said: "I'd really like to pursue a career in science, so I attended the Science Festival to find out more about different areas of specialism. It was fantastic, I spoke to scientists of the highest calibre and in an environment so steeped in academic brilliance."

Mr Drumm, Teacher of Science, commented: "Events like this really add value to the curriculum we offer, and encourage our students to develop a curiosity for science and technology in and outside the classroom."



## DIGIGIRLZ

Six of our Year 9 girls were recently invited to take part in a "Digigirlz" day at Microsoft.

Aimed at raising interest in computing and digital technology, particularly among girls, the students received a full tour of the Microsoft site and took part in activities.

The main task of the day was to design and present a new educational app. The girls came up with 'Perfect Planner,' to replace the hardcopy student planners. The judges liked the idea so much that it was shortlisted for the final.

Mrs Hayes, Principal, commented: "Seeing the workings of a large multi-national organisation and having the opportunity to talk to the employees there was an amazing experience for our students."

## STUDENTS WIN TOP PRIZES IN ART COMPETITION

Two talented Year 12 students have been recognised for their photography skills as part of the Northamptonshire Art Competition.

The competition, which was organised by the University of Northampton, celebrates the brightest young artistic talent across the county.

Emma Johnson won the 2nd prize of £250 and Zaneta Nestorowicz collected the 3rd prize of £100 in the Media and Photography category.

All of the students' artwork was also exhibited at the university.

Mrs Hayes, Principal, said: "We're delighted that Emma and Zaneta have won awards for their wonderful photographic artwork, they worked really hard and have demonstrated a real flair for the subject.

"Art is something we are really passionate about at Lodge Park Academy. Our sixth form students were excited to take part in this year's competition as it gave them

the chance to showcase the creative talents they've developed this year."



Image copyright University of Northampton. Photographer R Byles.

# DRAGON'S DEN AT LODGE PARK

Seven teams competed against some very fiery 'dragons' in the Dragon's Den event at the Corby Cube.

Every team presented professionally and there were some fantastic ideas.

Despite the overall talent, it was a team of six boys called 'Anti Anonymous'



that managed to wow the judges enough to win the competition.

Their idea was to create a package of resources on a USB wristband for primary school children. The boys are planning to trial it at local primary schools before representing Lodge Park Academy at the county semi-finals in June.

Alison Hayes, Principal, commented: "I am very proud of the boys and I think their idea will work really well. Let's hope

the judges in June will think so too."

# SKY ACADEMY SKILLS STUDIOS

A fascinating tour of the Sky studios was the prize for eight high achievers from various year groups.

The students saw Sky Sports News going out live, and were then asked to produce a news broadcast of their own, giving them a real flavour of work in the media industry.

Mr Storey, Progress Leader at Lodge Park, said: "What a fantastic trip. It was great to see our students learning new skills in the production studios. Maybe one day we will see one of them on our television screens."

The video produced by the students is available on the Lodge Park Academy website.

# EISTEDDFOD MUSIC COMPETITION



A group of our aspiring musicians recently took part in the DRET Eisteddfod Music Competition at Kelham Hall.

The Lodge Park Academy Choir opened the competition with 'Happy' by Pharrell Williams. We also had fantastic performances in the Instrumental Solo, Choral Ensemble, Instrumental Ensemble and Vocal Solo categories.

Congratulations to Becca Bell, who was selected as the overall winner for the academy, for her solo Flute performance.

Beatriz, a Year 11 student, said: "I had a wonderful day. It was really fun to perform in a concert hall and I enjoyed listening to the entrants from the other academies too."

Nic Chalmers, one of the judges and conductor for the Nevill Holt Opera, said: "The standard of musical talent was outstanding. Everyone who took part can feel very proud of their contribution!"



## SUCCESS AT NORTHAMPTONSHIRE WINTER SCHOOL GAMES

Lodge Park came away with plenty of medals at the Northamptonshire Winter School Games this term.

In the Boccia event, a Paralympic sport similar to bowls for athletes with disabilities, our team played amazingly well, and were joint champions in their first ever competition.

Other winners on the day included,

the Year 7 and 8 Girls Rowing team who beat the opposition to win the trophy, and our Year 9's who finished as runners-up in the Futsal tournament.

Adam Douglas, Sport Enrichment Officer, said: 'I was delighted to see the commitment and sportsmanship demonstrated by every team. It is a huge boost to win medals and we look forward to the next event in the summer.'

## INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL STAR INSPIRES STUDENTS



Women's International Football player, Sue Smith, paid a special visit to Lodge Park Academy to talk to students about the life of an elite athlete.

The star gave a number of coaching sessions to sports students and spoke to GCSE and BTEC classes about her journey to success.

Jack Green, Year 10, said: "Sue Smith highlighted how important hard work, dedication and sacrifices are if you want to make it to the top. She told us that we can all aspire to great things if we put the work in."

The England player tweeted: "I loved my session with Lodge Park through DRET sport. The young people were so great."



## RUGBY MASTERCLASS

Aspiring rugby stars from Lodge Park joined students from across the DRET academies for a masterclass with Rugby World Cup champion, Ben Kay.

At a special VIP session, they learnt new skills and techniques to improve their game.

Shane Ward, Sports Enrichment Manager for the David Ross Education Trust, said: "At DRET we believe visits like this raise aspirations and increase self-esteem.

"Ben Kay has not only given our students important tips but he has made them think about the discipline, passion and dedication needed to reach their ambitions on and off the sporting field."

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