

CANBURY NEWS

The past two or three months have been more eventful than usual with much happening here at Canbury in addition to the normal routine.

Inspection

The Independent Schools' Inspectorate finished their thorough inspection of the school after the half-term break and, at the time of writing this letter, I am still awaiting their report which will be made available for all of you to read on our website: www.canburyschool.co.uk In their final feedback to me before their departure, both **Inspectors commented positively on the friendly family atmosphere of the school, the politeness, openness and confidence of the pupils, the quality of the teaching and learning which they rated "good", the excellent welfare of the pupils and the fact that the pupils achieved better GCSE results than those predicted by standardised testing (MidYIS). The school certainly achieved its stated aims and ethos and the GCSE results were in line with national norms for independent schools.** The Governors of the School join me in congratulating and thanking the staff and pupils for all their efforts and also those parents who kindly completed the questionnaire for the Inspectors.

Staff News

I am very pleased to announce the appointment of **Mrs Kay Adams as Head of Design and Technology.** Kay started teaching here immediately after the half-term break and has been busy setting up the new department in our impressive, refurbished Art and DT room. She has a wide range of experience having taught in independent and maintained schools in the South-East, **specialising in Graphics and Resistant Materials.** She is the holder of a **BA (Hons) degree in Silversmith and Metal Work** and a **PGCE from Goldsmith College, University of London.**

I am also delighted to report that **Mr David Natt (Head of English and Drama and Year 11 Tutor)** has recovered sufficiently to return to Canbury at least on a part-time basis. **He will resume teaching most of the Years 10 and 11 English lessons while Miss Melissa Kenny will remain with us this term to teach Years 7, 8 and 9 English and Drama.** We extend a very warm 'welcome back' to David.



School Visits

The four day Spanish trip for Years 10 and 11 to Barcelona was a great success. Senorita Porto, Mrs Jevons and Mr Penagos and one parent, led a party of 21 pupils to this exciting city where they visited many local sites including the **Sagrada Familia Cathedral**, the **Musee Picasso**, **Parc Guell** (the Art Nouveau extravaganza by Gaudi), the theme park of **Port Aventura**, **Nou Camp** (home to Barcelona football club), a food market, **Las Ramblas** and local restaurants. Many thanks to the Senorita for her excellent organisation and to the staff who accompanied the intrepid travellers.



Barcelona here we go!



Gaudi's works



Sagrada Familia



Parc Güel



Something reminded us of home



Portaventura

The next residential trip being planned is to **Iceland** in the final week of the Summer Term 2011 for Years 9-11. **Mr Sam Denham (Head of Geography and Business Studies)** will be leading the group accompanied by **Mrs Annie Emslie, Ms Kels Noades and Mr Peter Learnihan**. Most pupils in Years 9 and 10 have already registered to go on what promises to be an action-packed tour **visiting geysers, volcanoes, waterfalls, lava fields and seeing the fantastic scenery of this interesting country.**



This Year's Chosen Charity

Having short-listed three local charities, the School Council presented them to the pupils at an assembly at the start of this term and the majority voted for **"Small Steps" which helps children with special needs from birth to four years of age**. It is based in Putney and is part of the National Schools for Parents Network, run by SCOPE, the National charity for people with cerebral palsy. Events are being planned throughout the school year to raise funds for this thoroughly worthwhile charity.



[Small Steps](#)

The English Heritage Blue Plaque

We were pleased to welcome **Mr Don Wales, grandson of Sir Malcolm Campbell and nephew of Donald Campbell**, to the school on Monday, 29th November, for the official unveiling of the English Heritage Blue Plaque commemorating the fact that they both lived at Canbury in the early 1920's. Governors, parents, staff and pupils listened to short speeches by **Howard Spencer, an English Heritage historian, John Hobden, the proposer of the plaque** and finally, Don Wales who pulled the cord to unveil the plaque positioned on the front of the building. It was an important day for the school and we are very proud indeed to be associated with the Campbell family and English Heritage.



[Canbury Blog – Click here](#)

Lunches at School

Whilst we very much appreciate pupils like to have something hot for their lunch in the winter, in line with our **healthy eating policy**, I would ask parents when **buying meals for children to heat at school, they please choose ones with the minimum of additives**.

Final Week

Normal routine will continue until the final day of term, Friday, 17th December. On this day, **Doors will Open at 08 45 for Registration at 09 10**. This will be a **MUFTI DAY (£2 PER PUPIL FOR "SMALL STEPS")** and a special programme of events is being planned for the morning, culminating in the final assembly and prize giving. The term will end at approximately midday.

I take this opportunity to thank you for all your support throughout the past year and wish you and your families Season's Greetings and a very happy and peaceful New Year.

STOP PRESS: Please note, the Summer Term will now
Start at 08 10 am on Wednesday,
27th April and Friday, 29th April and
Monday, 2nd May are Bank Holidays.