

Arnewood News

The Arnewood School 11 - 19 Academy

Spring 2018

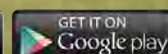
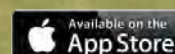
Inspirational Visit from Para-Athlete



Also inside this issue:

- Safer Internet Day
- Multi-million pound project gets underway
- Students take part in nine-day history tour

DOWNLOAD OUR APP



Students Enjoy 'Inspirational' Visit from Para-Athlete

Para-Athlete, Luke Sinnott spent the morning inspiring our students with an assembly and running workshop...



INSPIRATIONAL: Paralympian Luke Sinnott with gifted young athletes.

Students were left inspired when Para-Athlete Luke Sinnott thanked them for their fundraising efforts.

The Arnewood School was visited by Luke for being one of the leading schools in the UK to raise money for Sport Relief.

In the past six years the school has raised more than £51,000 for charity, with £15,089 of that going to Sport Relief.

The athlete and former army captain, who has competed in long jump at the Paralympics and Invictus Games, led an assembly for year 7 and 8 students and then spent time coaching some of its young promising sports stars.

Luke said, "It was a pleasure to visit Arnewood School to see all their efforts for Sport Relief. The children braved the arctic winds for a 40 min sprint session where they impressed me with their efforts. There are some good athletes developing at Arnewood, the future is bright."

In assembly, Luke spoke about how he became an international long jumper, after losing both his legs

in Afghanistan. He also showed the students videos of him competing at the Paralympics and Invictus Games.

After the assembly Luke spent time with promising athletes from years 7 and 8, leading a running workshop. Luke demonstrated the different techniques and skills and also gave them a running display.

Nigel Pressnell, Headteacher said, "It was an honour to welcome Luke Sinnott to the school. He not only led an assembly for all our year 7 and 8 children but he also spent time coaching and training some of our young sports stars."

"Luke's visit was inspirational and demonstrated perfectly that with determination, hard work and talent you can fulfil your ambitions. He truly left his mark on all of us."

You can view more photos of the 'inspirational' visit from para-athlete Luke Sinnott on our website.

Safer Internet Day

Students and staff supported Safer Internet Day recently and joined the global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology.

Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, Safer Internet Day took place on Tuesday 6th February 2018 with the theme 'Create, Connect and Share Respect: A better internet starts with you'.

To celebrate the day, students were asked to pledge what they will do to make the internet a better place. The most common pledge was to post positive comments and to report anything bad they see online.

Students also got involved by sharing their online experiences via a green screen activity over lunchtime. Miss Milligan, IT Manager, recorded students' responses to what they do online and for how long, as well as gather some handy tips to staying safe whilst online!

Arnewood also had a visit from Lloyds Banking Group, supporters of Safer Internet Day, who delivered assemblies over two days to year 7 – 10. In these assemblies students were asked about

their online habits, what apps they like to use as well as sharing ideas on how to make the internet a better place.

Will Gardner, Director of the UK Safer Internet Centre and CEO of Childnet said, "Safer Internet Day is an opportunity for everyone across the UK and globally to unite for a better internet. Whether you are a young person, parent, carer, school or organisation, we can all take positive actions to make the internet a better place. Hundreds of schools and organisations have pledged their support for Safer Internet Day and it is this collaboration that helps ensure Safer Internet Day has such a positive impact, reaching 42% of UK children in 2017 and growing year on year."

Miss Milligan, Arnewood's IT Manager said, "Technology is a part of everyday life for our students and online safety is at the core of everything we use. It's vital we spend time making sure students know how to keep themselves safe online and what to do if something makes them feel uncomfortable."



Lloyds Banking Group delivered an assembly to Y7-10 students about the importance of internet safety.

Multi-Million Pound Project gets Underway

Work gets underway at Arnewood after successful bid of £2.5m for renovation of the Scola building...



Construction students help to get the £2.5 million improvement works underway. They are joined by, far left head teacher Nigel Pressnell; second from right Paul Clarke, head of design & technology and far right, site manager Wayne Siney.

Multi-million pound works to give The Arnewood School a major re-fit is underway. The school's Scola building is undergoing a £2.5million overhaul to vastly improve its look and environmental performance.

Construction students from the school helped to signal the start of the works during a special ceremony, in which they got to take a hammer to the soon-to-be-replaced brickwork.

Head Teacher, Nigel Pressnell said, "We are all incredibly excited about this work as it will make a huge difference to the appearance and function of our school.

"It felt entirely fitting that our construction students were invited to mark the beginning of this project and they will be kept involved during the duration of the works."

"Modernisation will make the building a lot more environmentally friendly, cost efficient and far more

attractive."

The building improvements have been made possible after Arnewood successfully secured a Condition Improvement grant from the government.

This funding will see the current 1970s building stripped bare apart from its main structural walls and



Scaffolding is being erected on the Gore Road end of the building for the start of phase one.

replaced with an improved, more environmentally friendly façade, ceiling and windows.

Temporary classrooms have been in place since February to enable the vacation of the current building.

Scaffolding went up this week and phase one of the works is underway on the Gore Road end of the building, which includes re-cladding the exterior and installing new windows.

Phase two will see a re-clad and re-fit of the other end of the building and will get underway after the summer holidays and is due to be completed in December.

The works will also include improvements to the interior decoration and the refurbishment of one of the science labs.

Phase one is due for completion in the summer when that part of the building will be returned to the school.

In July the refurbishment of the main reception will also get underway and due for completion by September.



Temporary classrooms have been in place since February.

As part of the renovation everything will be replaced, including the ceiling, windows and carpets.

The improvements will result in the building being warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer.

Students are expected to fully occupy the new building by Spring 2019.



A 3D visualisation of the Arnewood school's new £2.5m renovated building, by architects' Kendall Kingscott.

Third Reich Tour

Over February half term 51 Y11 students took part in a nine-day history tour of Eastern Europe. Freya Wood, a Y11 student who went on the trip, tells us about her experience...



After an 18-hour coach journey, we arrived at Nuremberg, Germany. Following a good night's sleep, we had a tour of Luitpoldhain Mass Rally parade ground which gave us a really powerful sense of the influence the Nazis had over the Germans. To see the scale and understand the history of the location of the annual mass rallies left us all with a real sense of perspective of what the Nazis did.

After a little free time in the afternoon, we returned to the parade ground to walk around the Third Reich Documentation Centre where we learnt about the history of the Nazis and their wide-reaching dominance.

The next morning, we set off for Prague in the Czech Republic. We had lunch when we reached Terezin before touring a museum and concentration camp there. This concentration camp showed us all what life was like for many Jewish prisoners in the Terezin ghettos of the 1930s.

Day 4 was a day which changed us all. We visited Lidice, a village completely destroyed in

1943 in reprisal for the assassination by Czech nationalists of Reinhardt Heydrich, head of the Gestapo. We walked around the Lidice museum learning about the town, the people and the massacre before stepping outside to truly see what was left of the town. There was very little remaining as all 173 men were executed and 184 women and 88 children were deported to concentration camps.

In memory of this massacre, we laid a small teddy bear to remember the 88 children of Lidice who were taken from their parents and their homes. After the Nazis had killed the men and sent the women and children away, they blew up the village to try and remove it from existence. Today all that remains are the foundations of the school and church.

After some free time in Prague city centre, we took some photos at Charles Bridge before heading to TGI Fridays for dinner. On returning to the hotel we had a workshop where we reflected on the day which was full of both education and emotion. That day's experience taught us so much about the human race - both it's negative and it's

Students' Corner

positive power and influence.

The following day we travelled to our third city of Krakow, Poland, where we visited Auschwitz I for a private tour around the concentration camp to see first-hand the horrors of the Holocaust. We walked around the silent, cold extermination camps seeing something we had only ever heard about in classrooms. We then went to Auschwitz Birkenau or Auschwitz II to see where approximately one million men, women and children lost their lives. This day we were open to the elements as the snow began to fall. We experienced a day which will stay with us forever as it gave us a small insight into the persecution and dreadful waste of life suffered by so many people.

We ended the day with some free time in Krakow and a dinner serenaded by a live band. We then packed our bags in preparation for the next day when we would travel to our final city, Berlin.

We visited many historical places which allowed us to visualise the locations we had heard about in our history lessons. We visited three memorials; the Sinti Roma Memorial, the Homosexual Memorial and the Jewish Memorial all of which were erected after the war. These are within walking distance from the Reichstag (German

parliament) to show how Germany remembers the war and its many citizens who were lost.

After lunch, we boarded the coach for our final journey back to New Milton. On reflection, this valuable trip has taught us all more about ourselves and others and how power and influence can be used for good or evil. Hopefully, this experience has not only helped us with our History GCSE but has also made us all better individuals for the future.

By Freya Wood, Y11



Students lay a teddy bear in Lidice in remembrance of the 88 children who were taken from their parents and homes. The photo above shows a candle lit by students at the end of the line at Auschwitz Birkenau. In loving memory of all those that died here



School of Rock The Musical



Talented students wowed audiences with their highly anticipated production of School of Rock the Musical.

With the bar set high from High School Musical back in February 2017, it was going to be tough to think of something that could outdo it. Perhaps a performance for a current West End show could do the trick?

Well, The Arnewood School was in luck...In December 2016, Andrew Lloyd Webber announced that schools across the UK could obtain the rights, free of charge, to create and perform their own production of his latest hit musical.

Students were busy rehearsing High School Musical when Mrs Watson, Head of Drama, received an email confirming that Arnewood had been selected to perform School of Rock.

Over 60 students across all years auditioned for the musical, resulting in a very tough decision and two casts being chosen. Both Cast Rock and Cast Roll performed for two nights each during December, where audiences packed out the hall for four nights of rock music and pyrotechnics.

The cast gave it their all, 'sticking it to the man' and 'pledging allegiance to the band.'

The stage musical, which is currently on Broadway

and in the West End, is produced by Andrew Lloyd Webber, and is based on the hit movie with Jack Black.

The two-hour, two-act musical follows Dewey Finn, a failed, wannabe rock star who decides to earn an extra bit of cash by posing as a supply teacher at a prestigious prep school. There he turns a class of straight-A pupils into a guitar-shredding, bass-slapping, mind-blowing rock band.

Arnewood's Director of School of Rock, Mrs Kirsten Watson said, "This has been a truly amazing school production and one of epic proportions. I'm extremely proud of everyone."

Many parents and friends of Arnewood have shared their amazement at how 'professional' the production was for a school production. One parent said, "I went on night two and three and it was astonishing on both. The commitment of all participants was a joy to behold and an absolute credit to the director. It will always be a treasured memory of my daughter's time at the school for her and us."

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Two months later and it was time for another group of drama enthusiasts to shine with Charlie and the Chocolate Factory: A Play.

Fresh from the excitement of School of Rock, audiences once again packed out the hall over two nights for a fun evening of pure theatre.

This time round, there were no pyrotechnics or fancy staging, just the talent and imagination of our students bringing the story of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory to life.

With very limited props - just a bed and a sheet, Miss Kitchen and Mrs Marsh took on the challenge to strip everything right back to tell the tale using a theatre style called Total Theatre.

This type of performance includes all or most of the theatrical elements – music, dance, song and spectacle. The cast were required to be characters, narrators, make sound effects as well as create the set using physical theatre. And to make it even more complicated they also chose to stage the performance in the round.

The 1964 children's novel by author Roald Dahl,

features the adventures of young Charlie Bucket inside the chocolate factory of eccentric chocolatier Willy Wonka, who announces that he will be putting five golden tickets into select Wonka Bars which would allow five children to tour his factory for a day.

The first four tickets are quickly found with the last remaining ticket being found by Charlie. And so the wacky adventures begin.

36 students from across all year groups took part in the play, with sixth former Frances Whitworth taking the lead role as Willy Wonka and Anna Simpson in Y7 taking the role as Charlie Bucket.

Miss Kitchen, Director of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory said, "We are incredibly proud of the cast who have really risen to the challenge and have made the performance really exciting."

"It has been fantastic to be able to showcase the talent of students across all year groups, particularly seeing a large amount of year 7 students taking lead roles."



The cast of 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory: A Play' celebrate two successful nights of Total Theatre.

Back to School for Governors' Day

Arnewood's governors got an insight to school life at Arnewood when they went back to school...



Governors went back to the classroom for the day. Pictured from left to right: Headteacher Nigel Pressnell; Chair of Governors, Elizabeth Cook; Year 7 students Poppy Robinson-Green and Julia Podley; and Governor Cllr Goff Beck.

This special event was designed to give the governors a full insight into a typical school day. They conducted 'learning walks' in different departments, observed lessons, had one-to-one discussions with heads of departments and had their lunch in the canteen to chat with students.

Head Teacher, Nigel Pressnell said, "Our governors regularly come into school but this event offers them the opportunity to see the school in action for a full day."

"The governors provide wonderful support to the school and play a very important role in holding me and other school leaders to account. Giving them this insight into a full school day will enhance their knowledge of what we do and help them to support

and challenge us."

The responsibility of the day-to-day management of the school rests with the headteacher, while the Governing Body provides strategic management, acts as a 'critical friend' and supports the work of teaching staff.

Elizabeth Cook, Chair of Governors said, "The Governors' Day gave us a chance to see first-hand how students are engaged and enjoying their learning. We met with pupil premium representatives who shared with us their experiences of school life and their progress and we also met with other students over lunch in the canteen."

"It was a very detailed programme and we learned so much in the seven hours we spent at the school."

Ski Trip

On a drizzly Saturday afternoon in New Milton, 35 extreme sports enthusiasts set off for the slopes of Italy. After a seamless, but tiring journey of 24 hours we arrived in the picturesque village of Artesina in the Italian Alps.

After students had settled into their rooms, the air of expectation lifted as students collected their skis, snowboards, boots and helmets. This was followed by the first evening meal which set the tone for the week - a large bowl of pasta, meat main and polished off with a lovely Italian dessert.

We awoke to beautiful sunshine on the first morning, and the students were divided into their different groups - one group of cool snowboarders, two beginner ski groups and a small advanced group.

The advanced group led by veteran instructor Gino quickly disappeared over the horizon into the Alps. The beginners quickly progressed onto blue runs and by the first afternoon found themselves at the top of the mountain. However, this is also where we had our first major crash. As keen geography student Nathan Prowles was taking in the amazing view he realised too late that his skis were moving him down the mountain at quite a rate. Fortunately for him the solid frame of Josh Dew was directly in his line and provided a useful but unaware 'buffer'. Despite the mighty collision both dusted themselves

off and fell about laughing.

Despite a large number of thrills and spills both the skiers and snowboarders progressed quickly and the instructors were full of praise for their efforts. By the third morning most students were following the instructors down the second most difficult red runs. Fortunately the hotel provided hot lunches of even more pasta to help re-fuel for the afternoon exertions.

Keen to keep minds sharp, Mr Merrick provided the evening entertainment. Each evening meal was accompanied by a brain teaser of a quiz on topics as diverse and academic as sweets, chocolates and makes of car. This was followed by Merrick evening Entz such as bingo, pub quiz, sledging and movie night. Needless to say it wouldn't be Merrick Entz without the usual technical hitches. These evenings were also an opportunity to reflect on the day's exploits with awards for skier of the day, snowboarder of the day, crash of the day and of course plank of the day, which I am pleased to announce was won by Miss Vincent on at least one occasion.

The week seemed to pass so quickly. A combination of beautiful blue skies, stunning mountain scenery, delicious Italian food and great company meant that everybody had a fantastic time. Roll on Ski 2020.

By Mr Price



Sixth Form Reaches Top of the Summit in A Level Results



Arnewood Sixth Form celebrates three of its A-level subjects being highlighted as producing among the best results in the south-east.

The Arnewood Sixth Form has received official recognition for being among the best in the south-east for three A-level subjects.

Arnewood features in the prestigious ALPS (A Level Performance Systems) Directory, which highlights schools that have been 'consistently strong' in their teaching and examination results.

The sixth form has been highlighted as having some of the best results in the south-east of England (including south London), in maths, psychology and law.

For both maths and law, Arnewood scored a Grade 2, which means the results are officially 'outstanding' and places it in the top 90-99 percentile.

In psychology, the school received a Grade 3, which is an 'excellent' rating and means its average results from the last three years puts it in the 75-89 percentile.

Headteacher, Nigel Pressnell, said: "We are delighted to feature in the ALPS Directory, which is produced by the Regional Schools' Commissioner and is aimed at sharing effective practice for raising

standards across the region. This tops off great success for our sixth form which last year produced our best overall A-levels results, putting us in the top 10% of sixth forms nationally."

Mr Colman, Head of Sixth Form said, "In this edition of the directory, The Arnewood Sixth Form has been highlighted to have produced consistently strong results in individual subjects over the last three years. This is an achievement that both students and staff should be extremely proud of as it shows real testament to everyone's hard work in maintaining the sixth form's high expectations."

The ALPS A Level Directory of Good Practice 2017 was created using data provided by schools across the region.

It can be used to identify providers with consistently strong and rapidly improving departments to enhance collaboration between schools, colleges and academies.

In 2017 Arnewood saw 100% of its students secure the A* to E pass grades, with more than one in five students (21%) achieving A* to As across the board and more than half (52%) receiving A* to B grades.