

Tuesday, 14th March 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

It has been a busy time for our Year 9 students at school with the options process under way. Students and their parents have attended a curriculum evening this term to gather information about the courses available to study from Year 10 and parents should have received an appointment for an individual meeting on Friday, 24th March to discuss their child's choices. Please contact the school if you are unable to attend this important meeting.

Our Year 10 and 11 GCSE Drama students enjoyed a very exciting day in London recently to attend workshops and a performance at the National Theatre. A short report covering their visit follows in this newsletter.

This term we look forward to our KS3 students attending several safety presentations, delivered by the Fire Service, and some of our Year 8 and 9 students paying a visit to the Essex Book Awards. I hope to feature more information about these events in future newsletters.

Kind regards,

Elizabeth Robinson

Upcoming Events

23rd March

Y12 Parents' Evening

24th March

INSET Day/Y9 Option Meetings

27th March

Y12 Psychology Conference

29th March

Y10 & 12 University of Kent Visit

3rd-13th April

Easter Holidays

14th & 17th April

Bank Holidays



GCSE Drama Trip – 23rd February 2017

All GCSE drama students along with Year 10 GCSE Drama students from another trust school, Abbs Cross, joined together to go to London to see two shows. The Year 10s went to see the *Woman in Black*, a dark mystery piece based on the dual story of Mr Kipps a solicitor sent to Eel Marsh House to deal with the affairs of the late Mrs Drablow, only to be affected by the ghost of a woman who will not rest until the story is told. The Year 10s from both schools joined forces to attend a pre-show workshop, which actually took place in the Fortune Theatre itself where the play is produced. In the workshop students were introduced to the set and the way it is manipulated throughout the show to create dramatic tension. Students were invited onto the stage where they explored the stage space and the way a significant door played a large part in creating the tension. They experienced first-hand the way it was used by experiencing the same horror as the characters within the play itself. Needless to say there were a few students who jumped when the door slammed shut on its own.

Later in the day, after spending lunchtime in Covent Garden enjoying the street entertainment, the group attended the play itself and enjoyed the expectations from the workshop before. They made notes ready

for preparing for their examination and have since in class studied their understanding of the play they watched, from the way it was written and produced, down to the drama skills used to create it.

The Year 11 went at first on a backstage tour of The National Theatre on the Southbank and got a real introduction into the workings of a huge organisation, which creates three plays a day in three different styles of theatre. They had the privilege of seeing how productions are created back stage from scenery and set construction, to prop and costume making. There were opportunities to watch the many craftsmen and women at work developing special effects creating scenes that involved the use of everyday objects cleverly laid out so they could be carried and manipulated by the cast that used them. They saw a huge revolving stage and how it transformed itself just by pushing a triangular shaped wooden wall from one scene into another. This opened our students' eyes wide into the many different career opportunities in the theatre other than just acting. One student kept saying, as we walked around "This is amazing!".

Our tour guide also explained that students could sign up for a membership to the National where they could visit any show for £5 per ticket and experience the many productions they produce changing their plays every four days (see online The National Theatre). After they visited the National they explained how they were truly inspired.

After a blustery walk back over Waterloo Bridge (thanks to storm Doris), where they experienced one of the best views of the city in London, they had a quick lunch in Covent Garden then went to see Kite Runner based on the book by Khaled Hosseini. The play was based on the book, which was a story of two boys who grew up together, one of a different status and religion and the other the opposite, yet they were more closely connected than they thought. The story revolves around how the circumstances of their class divided them and how Emil had to come to terms with the consequences of his actions. This is a new production in the West End and one which challenged the students as they watched the story unfold. The students are now working on coursework as a direct result of their visit to the production.

All students experienced the best of the West End and also worked with professionals from the industry including a professional actor and director on a unique experience and a day to remember. Miss Lewis, Head of Drama



Attendance

Top Forms

- Year 7 – 7T 7 & R – 97.91%
- Year 8 – 8C – 97.45%
- Year 9 – 9T – 96.64%
- Year 10 – 10R – 97.17%
- Year 11 – 11C – 95.99%

Attachments

- Feering Falcons Football Information
- Operation Christmas Child – Donation News

Catering News

It's been a busy time for all things food related this term at Tabor Academy.

The Year 11 GCSE Catering Students excelled themselves with their creations of a two course International meal, many of the practical outcomes were as good as restaurant quality and they have many reasons to be proud of themselves. Here is a small selection of photos of their final dishes.



KS4 students were recently treated to a visit from Martin Fordham of the Chefs Programme at Colchester Institute. He showed the Year 10 students how to portion chicken, fillet a salmon, ran a completion in how to prepare a potato garnish and then prepared a delicious stir fry for the students to taste. Martin gave many culinary tips and was eager to explain how our students could progress on to the vocational courses offered



World Book Day

Thursday 2nd March was World Book Day and, as usual, the library celebrated it with lots of fun and competitions.

Several staff members dressed up for the occasion and they proved to be a colourful addition to the day. Characters included Little Red Riding Hood, The Wolf (dressed in grandma's nightie!), Bilbo Baggins and Mary Poppins.



Throughout the day there were 'golden tickets', given out by the English staff, to randomly selected students who had to say what they were currently reading and then produce the book. There were chocolate treats in the library for the winners. Some of them were Dawid, Taylor, Leah and Adam; well done.

In the library during break and lunch there were mini competitions and an author trail where 14 cryptic clues led to an author's name. Great fun was had guessing who was correct.



This year's main Library competition is book-folding and we have had some fabulous entries. The idea is to use an old or damaged book and fold the pages to produce an animal or other item. The directions on how to do this can be found on the internet and the competition closes on Friday March 17th. Thank you everyone for making it a great day. Mrs Aves and Mrs Barrow, Library

An Apology

In the previous edition of Tabor Academy News it was reported in the Jack Petchey feature that Charlie was singled out by the Award organisers but in fact the student was Cameron. My apologies for any upset caused.
Mrs Aves, Library Manager

Until next time

If you have any questions or opinions on any of the items in this newsletter, please email us at: tabornews@taboracademy.co.uk. Thank you for reading this 165th edition of the Tabor Academy News.



Feering Falcons Blues U12s

With the 2017/18 season fast approaching we are looking for additional players as we will be moving up to 11-a-side at Under 13. Players need to be Year 8 from September 2017.

We are an FA Charter Standard club with our own home ground facilities and currently play in the Colchester and District Youth 'A' league and our existing crop of players likes to play a good standard of passing football. We are on the lookout for all positions but defenders are particularly needed. If you're interested, and would like more information, please ask your parents to contact Chris Raven on 07787 418431.

Players must not be registered with any other Colchester and District Youth Football League club

Thank you to everyone who helped fill our Christmas shoe boxes. They were tracked via a barcode and we now have confirmation from Samaritan's Purse of where they travelled to;



UKRAINE

THANK YOU for bringing Good News and Great Joy to a child in Ukraine. Your kindness means that one more precious child experienced the joy of opening a very special gift and the hope that comes from knowing that someone, somewhere, cared enough to pack it especially for them. Thanks to the generosity of individuals like you, all over the United Kingdom, 882,647 children, in 17 countries, received a gift to remember!

From your living room table, to your nearest Drop Off Point, off to the warehouse and sent travelling overseas by ship, lorry, camel or plane -- your shoebox has made a very special journey to reach the hands of a delighted child.