

Gold *Extra*

Expo is go

As a Performing Arts Specialist School, and a Creative Partnerships 'Change School' we are planning a week of 'Expo' events to coincide with Shine Week. Shine is a national celebration of young people, taking place from 6th to 10th July 2009, through a combination of local and national events and supporting media coverage to create a real buzz about the talent in all young people.

As some of you should already be aware, some rather unusual things have already been happening across the school and these cross-curricular projects will culminate in engaging and sharing experiences, or 'Expos' during Shine. This Gold Extra intends to give you an insight into the exciting work so far and projects yet to come.

CSI Ratton

Students returned from half-term to find a fake crime scene: a shed had been erected and burned down in the north playground, and there were lots of people in high visibility jackets and forensic suits poking around. Year 8 students were summoned to the hall where they were briefed by DCI Hewitt (AKA actor, Adrian Andrews). The penny slowly dropped and students realised they were being led on when the DCI asked them to investigate the suspected murder of a former pupil!

Following this, students are studying and writing Murder Mystery stories in English with the help of Cameron McAllister (writer/producer of Prime Evil no less!), and carrying out forensic tests in Science. Each Blue Monday students will be briefed by the DCI and given new evidence to consider and leads to follow.

On 6th July students will present their own theories about the crime to a Forensic Scientist and later pitch their story ideas to screenwriter Cameron McAllister.



International Food

Our Language and Food Technology Departments are working together with Refresh to produce a European theme to school meals during Expo week. Selected students are already researching international healthy dishes which they will prepare, cook and serve themselves, during the week beginning 6th July. Students can look forward to a German, French, Italian and Spanish day in the canteen, finishing up with traditional English pasties and fish & chips on the Friday ...yum!

Los Tres Cerditos

Small groups of Year 8 students spent two days each at Ocklynge Junior School with groups of Year 6 pupils for this Spanish & Drama Expo, creating the film 'Los Tres Cerditos' ('The Three Little Pigs'). A variety of skills were learned and applied during the two days and our students impressed many with their Spanish speaking and understanding.

Students assisted Mr Stocker in his Mask Making Workshop and between them the Year 8s and 6s made fabulous masks and props. They also spent time with Ben Fairlight, a local storyteller, developing their storytelling skills before working very hard with Mrs Weblin and José to learn and perfect the dialogue and narration ... in Spanish!

During Day Two, students and pupils worked with Miz Wells and local film maker Rob Walker, developing the performance to create the film - a permanent resource for both schools.

All involved have thoroughly enjoyed working on this project and we are most grateful to the Ocklynge staff and pupils who made wonderful props for the play and performed like stars. The Ratton Students involved will all receive community points in the near future for being most effective participators.



A special thanks to Becky Barnett who assisted us throughout 'Los Tres Cerditos' as part of her Work experience for her Musical Theatre Degree, and also to Matt Roskilly and Mustafa Koksal from Year 10 who had this to say ..."During the week we did our work experience with the Community Arts department. While doing this we visited Ocklynge with some Year 8s. We helped a group from Year 6 create a film of the three little pigs, in Spanish. Throughout the week we helped create masks and props for the film, and learnt a song 'Who's afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?' (in Spanish). It was a great experience and we wish we were still there!"



Slave Dance

Dance and History Departments are currently working together, planning Year 7 workshops exploring the slave trade during Expo Week.

Islamic Art in Maths

Creative Practitioner Dinah Kelly, along with our RE and DT departments, will be working closely with the Maths Department and Year 9 over the coming weeks using geometry to produce a range of Islamic style art works, transforming our room 101 into a colourful art exhibition. Students will revise Islamic culture and develop their Arts Practice through drawing, printing, collage, painting and creating stunning perspex stained-glass windows. As their Expo selected Year 9 Students will run workshops for Year 6 pupils from Ocklynge. Watch this space for further developments...