



SPOTLIGHT



Issue 1

Parents' Information Newsletter

Summer Term 2008

Dear Parents/Carers

It is a great privilege to be able to write to you for the first time as the new Headteacher of Poltair School. It will come as no surprise to any of you that I have received a warm welcome from students and staff alike. Poltair is clearly a school where courtesies are observed and where hard work is encouraged and expected but also rewarded. In addition there is a strong tradition of 'looking out for each other'.

The opportunity for Poltair School to become "outstanding" is real, especially if staff, students, parents and the wider community work together in a joint mission to achieve this. Indeed I strongly believe that we will need to listen to the voice of all of these stakeholders so that we 'do the right things' in the next phase of our journey. I do believe that exciting times lay ahead.

So much seems to have happened in just four days. There have already been many highlights. On the Training Day on Monday it was fantastic to see staff working so hard on the new curriculum and learning opportunities to be introduced this September. Equally impressive was the pride that the Year 11 students took in their appearance and presentation prior to their year group photograph on Thursday. On the first day back after the break I was met with nearly 50 letters of application from Year 10 students hoping to become prefects. Universally well-written, it is heart-warming to know that so many young people are keen to take on leadership roles on behalf of others and demonstrate a sense of duty.

I do hope that our young people, and especially those in Years 9 and 11, are just as keen to take full advantage of the revision and study sessions being provided after school (look at the separate article on this). We all need help and guidance if we are going to be successful and that is what these opportunities are all about. Finally, can I remind you about the importance of Target Setting Day on Wednesday 16th April? We are committed to these events as they bring clarity to students and parents alike in terms of where students are, what they can do well and what their next steps should be. I also hope I will have an early chance to meet some of you on that day.

Wishing you an enjoyable weekend.

Stephen Tong
Headteacher

Poltair School
WORLD MATHS DAY
5 March 2008



United Kingdom

Total Questions Correctly Answered by our Students		44,766
Total Time on Task by our Students		4,709 minutes
Total Number of our Students who participated		312
Average improvement in Mental Arithmetic by our Students		75.4%
Top 10 Questions Answered	Top 10 High Scores	Top 10 Improvers
1 A INCH 1880	1 M THACKER – 34	1 R TYNER – 2400%
2 J CONROY 1060	2 A INCH – 31	2 E HAWKINS – 1000%
3 J GILBERT – 888	3 J NICHOLLS – 30	3 C ROWLINGS – 650%
4 L GONCALVES – 706	4 L TRUDGEON – 28	4 A HARRIS – 650%
5 J GILBERT – 661	5 L FENNER – 28	5 J DOUBLE – 466.7%
6. D BERRY – 610	6 S SOUTHEY – 28	6 G HOLLAND – 400%
7 S MARKS – 610	7 J CONROY – 27	7 T ALBON – 340%
8 L TRUDGEON – 541	8 L PARSONS – 26	8 K GAY – 320%
9 M BRETT – 462	9 S MARKS – 26	9 R LEE – 260%
10 M BREWER - 428	10 D BERRY - 26	10 S BUCKLAND – 233.3%

← 312 of our pupils took part in the World Maths Day event and challenged other pupils from around the world to answer as many mental arithmetic questions as possible in a minute on line. The pupils managed to answer over 44,000 questions correctly. The results are listed left.

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday 16th April
Target Setting Day 2

Monday 5th May
Bank Holiday

Tuesday 6th May to Friday 9th May
Year 9 SATS

Wednesday 7th May
Year 10 Parents Evening

Monday 12th May
Written GCSE Exams begin

YEAR 11 REVISION PROGRAMME 2008

The tables below list the evenings when subject staff will be available for revision sessions. Science, Maths and English revision **MUST** take priority in Week A.

<u>WEEK A</u> (3.15 – 4.15)	<u>DAY</u>	<u>SUBJECTS</u>
	TUESDAY	SCIENCE
	WEDNESDAY	ENGLISH
	THURSDAY	MATHS

<u>WEEK B</u> (3.15 – 4.15)	<u>DAY</u>	<u>SUBJECTS</u>
	TUESDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GEOGRAPHY (see Geog notice board for details) - HISTORY - IT - MFL - MUSIC
	WEDNESDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GEOGRAPHY (see Geog notice board for details) - RE - IT - MUSIC - CHILD DEVELOPMENT - FOOD TECHNOLOGY
	THURSDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GEOGRAPHY (see Geog notice board for details) - HISTORY - IT - MUSIC
	FRIDAY (EARLY BIRD 7.30AM – 8.30AM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GCSE PE
	FRIDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MUSIC - IT