

The Specialist @ Nunthorpe

Issue No. 10 July 2010

Welcome to all our new Year 7 parents who I hope will enjoy reading all that our students have been involved in over the last six weeks. It should give you a taste of the type of events your sons and daughters can participate in during their time at Nunthorpe. We wish our Year 11 students every success for the future and look forward to seeing many of them return to the Sixth Form Experience in September. Have a wonderful holiday.

The Apprentice 2010



During this half term the BIE faculty have been running The Nunthorpe Apprentice for Year 9 students. It was formally launched with promotional videos in Year 9 ICT lessons. Competition was fierce and over 35 application forms were received. Three of the BIE staff were on the interview panel and 'grilled' the students by asking them why they felt they were suitable for taking part in the challenge.

The final 10 students chosen consisted of 2 from each house. The challenges have been set by local businesses, including Coast and Country, Orange and Davison Smith and ultimately there will be one winner but who will it be?



Elaine O'Neil from Orange (second right) with Year 10 prefects who were judging the presentations.

The 10 students taking part are;

Kim Harris & Whitney Gundu - Endeavour
Olivia Thompson & Rachel Eagan - Invincible
Rob Carabine & Philip Hutchison - Triumph
Luke Finn-Forster & Amy Hardy - Valiant
Matty Gair & Jenny Oxley - Victory

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the contributors to this edition of the



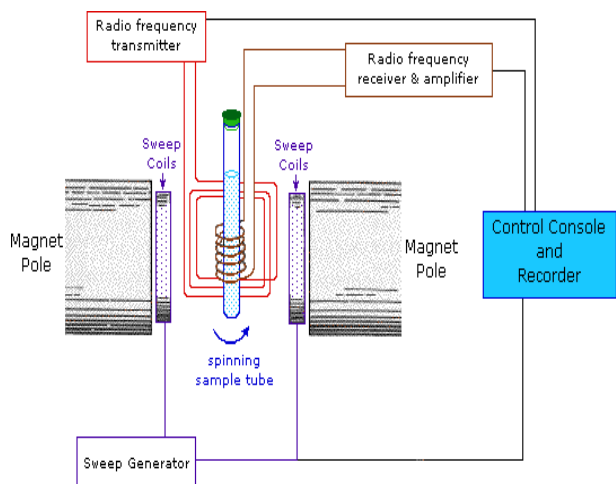
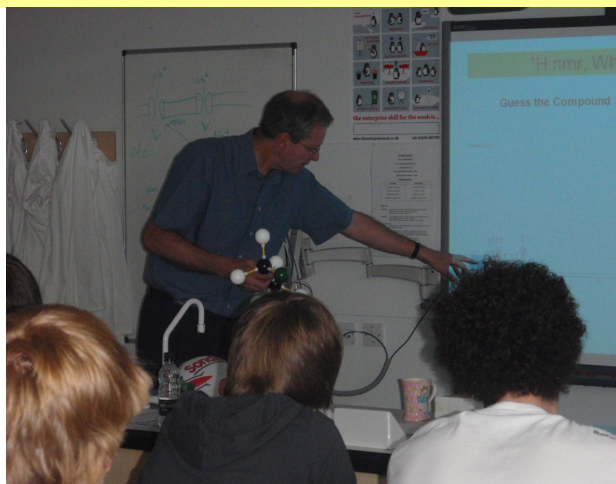
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STEM Ambassador Programme

Ambassador: Mr Neil Tindale, Research Manager for Lucite International, delivered an interactive Master Class to Year 13 students on the subject of Spectroscopy and Chromatography. Mr Tindale covered the topic of Thin Layer Chromatography (separating mixtures of substances into their component parts) in his lecture which proved relevant for the students as they will be using Thin Layer Chromatography in the course of their studies in Year 13.

Mr Tindale went on to show slides of the type of equipment used in Gas Chromatography along with examples of results. This process is a more powerful means of performing qualitative and quantitative measurements of complex mixtures of volatile substances and these methods are used in medical, pharmaceutical, environmental and law enforcement fields. The final topic of the lecture was Nuclear Magnetic Resonance ^1H nmr (usually referred to as nmr). This is the pre-eminent technique for determining the structure of organic compounds and of all the spectroscopic methods used it is the only one that gives enough information to determine the exact structure of an organic compound.

The topics covered in the lecture were 'serious science' but the students evaluation of the visit was very positive with comments such as "Very informative", "Made one think", "Some difficult concepts", "Great, as we are doing TLC on our aspirin samples next week" and "Will need to do more reading!"



Look out for the article in the next magazine from the joint faculty, Science and English, G&T Master class. Was Frankenstein a Monster?

The Fruit and Vegetable Garden

Our garden is going from strength to strength as we have enlisted the “green fingers” of one of our staff, Miss Dean.

She explained how she became involved with gardening, starting at a very early age, “A wooden fruit box with some soil, a Marigold and a chunk of London Pride, placed with care on top of the coal bunker in our backyard. This was how I started my life as a gardener when I was six years old. I had pestered my granddad for some plants and this was what I came home with. Not long afterwards, my family moved from the town to a house with a very large garden, where I spent many hours helping my dad grow vegetables. He wasn’t very good with flowers – he pulled up the Marigolds thinking they were weeds! During visits to my grandparents, I would help out in the garden and avidly listen whilst my granddad gave me valuable gardening advice on how to sow seeds, re-pot plants and take cuttings”.

Miss Dean continued “Now I find myself passing on this valuable advice to the new gardeners of Nunthorpe School. What started as a project to promote healthy eating has become an ever expanding gardening club. Always enthusiastic, the students meet at DANS, Nunthorpe School’s alternative learning unit where I work as a Learning Support Assistant. During lunchtime we plan what jobs need undertaking. So far, during this summer term, we have built a greenhouse, cleared the neglected area at the back of DANS, and sown flower and vegetable seeds. We have also planted up the flower bed outside the SLT corridor with Geraniums and Busy Lizzies and planted vegetables in the raised beds behind the Sixth Form. Some students are so keen about gardening that, as well as attending lunchtimes, they also come gardening during OPT 4, where we have been working on the fruit trees: securing them to the fencing around the Sixth Form in readiness for next year, when hopefully we will get a bumper crop of fruit”.



Gardening is the opportunity to get lots of fresh air and sunshine, learn about growing plants and how we can eat healthier by growing just a few vegetables. It is also the chance to grow not only plants but also friendships.

Go on. Give it a grow!

Thank you to the enthusiastic members of the Parent Voice Group who are going to manage the gardens during the school holidays.



The Future Leaders Programme



Three of our students Joe Harris, Hannah Rodgers and Sarah Giblin with students from other schools after having spent the week together working on leadership challenges at the Outward Bounds School at Aberdovey, Wales. The Future Leaders Challenge in conjunction with Coast and Country will be offered to all Redcar and Cleveland schools from September 2010 and our school will be participating.

Look out for: TADEA have agreed to sponsor the development of the Science Quad to the value of £500. The design of the quad will be led by the students and incorporated within an Art and Science project. This will commence in September 2010.

The Enterprise Team have sponsored the school Radio station to the value of £1000 towards the cost of equipment and there are four Year 12 students who will be leading the project from September mentoring

KS3 & 4 students during OPT 4. If you have not already signed up then contact Mrs Blacklock: ablacklock@nunthorpe.co.uk

The Maths faculty will be welcoming a STEM Ambassador in September after the success of the previous Ambassador.

STEM Club

Miss Newell (Science) will be leading the STEM Club from September 2010. This is in conjunction with the Technology faculty and they will be participating in various STEM challenges over the school year. A CREST Award scheme will also be available for KS3 students.

G&T Maths; On Wednesday 14th July AS and Year 10 Gifted & Talented Maths students had the pleasure of listening to Fred Pernet, the CEO of Sim MarTech. His presentation aimed to inform students about the real life applications of Mathematics. He was able to give many examples of how and why Maths is the foundation of so much in life and how the students can change the world using Maths. All who attended talked about how they had been inspired and informed and asked Mr Pernet to come again.



Above: students working with straws and marshmallows exploring Mathematics.

As reported in the previous magazine Mr Wardman and six Year 10 G&T students participated in the Great British Knot experiment online on Wednesday 14th July and all their results have been fed into the National Data Base.

STOP PRESS:

**Luke Finn-Forster is this years
Young Apprentice
Congratulations!**

