

Heartbeat



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Issue 28

Year 10 clock on for work



Job done: Alicia Smith, far left, and the staff at dBD Communications, hold up the advertisement Alicia produced during her two work experience placement at the Essex company

Last term, Year 10 swapped the classroom for employment, as they undertook two weeks in the work place, *writes Head of Year 10, Miss Clarke.*

Not being content with the usual primaries, offices, hospitals, beauty salons and shops, our Year 10s took themselves as far as Essex and even Spain, in the pursuit of finding their dream job.

Alicia Smith (10H) tells us of her experiences: "I was lucky enough to go to Essex for my placement, where I stayed with my auntie for the two weeks.

"I worked for dBD Communications, who were formed in 2002 as a Communications and Management Consultancy company. While on placement, I learned lots of new skills, such as HR pay, recruitment, health and safety and general office admin. I used the skills I learned with advertising software to make my own advert. I really enjoyed the experience and hope to do something similar in the future."

The feedback for Year 10 was extremely

positive, with Mr Sommers from Sefton Educational Business Partnership describing the students as 'a fantastic, mature group who were an absolute pleasure to work with' – sentiments echoed by the many employers who gave their time to train and look after all the students.

Involvement proved to be invaluable, even after the two weeks, as the English, Business and ASDAN departments used the experiences as part of the GCSE assessment process. Year 10 have really impressed, and this enthusiasm and commitment now needs to be continued in their academic studies as we approach this vital last term.

Our other pictures show, from the top; Daniel Kendrick (10C) at Cunliffe Surveyors, Bootle, Charlie Boulton (10S) at Mercedes Benz, Liverpool, Ellie Ralston (10R) at All Saints Catholic Primary School, Anfield, Jack Deery (10D) at Bees Knees Nursery, Bootle and Aidan Clews (10R) at Curly Music, Liverpool.



Third issue of Strange Harbours makes a splash

Issue 3 of Strange Harbours, the College's literary magazine, has just been released. Packed full of stories, reviews and some stunning artwork, the latest instalment contains something for everyone and is on sale for just £1.

Overseeing the students' work is the main Editor, Mr Daw, from the English department. He said: "Both in terms of content and contributors, this issue is easily the most diverse we've released so far.

"The fiction content alone is very varied. We've got some pretty unsettling horror stories alongside some more experimental pieces and, at the other end of the spectrum, some very light-hearted fun stuff. There is something for everyone."

As well as fiction from students, there are review articles on films, books and video games.

Mr Daw added: "I must admit I'm very pleased with the way the review section has expanded this issue."

"Our students have strong opinions about what they like and don't like and, again, there's a wide range of topics featured. I'm



also excited about the artwork in the magazine.

"We ran a competition for students to produce the cover of this issue and we're running with competition winner, Ivana Mendoza Trejo's very striking dragon image.

"In addition, thanks to Mrs Campbell of the Art department, we've got some fantastic artwork from students on the inside covers."

The issue is on sale now and can be obtained directly from Mr Daw.

Meanwhile, writing and editing meetings continue every Tuesday after school in G16. "I've just started page planning Issue 4," explained Mr Daw, "and I'm always excited to receive submissions, so if anyone wants to submit a piece of fiction, a review article or wants to get involved with illustration, they're very welcome to pop along to a meeting or submit their work directly to me during the school day. We've got a strong core of very talented students working on the magazine at the moment, but there's plenty of room for more."

Double drama delight for Andrew

Congratulations to Andrew Fraser who has been accepted into the National Youth Theatre.

The news comes just days after Andrew (13D) won the top prize at the recent Crosby Music & Dance Festival. Andrew, who only took up Drama two years ago, wowed judges at the Festival by performing Shakespeare, speaking and taking part in a solo acting session. Andrew had



discovered he had been accepted onto a two week summer course at the National Youth Theatre. The talented Sixth Former faced a nervous wait after he auditioned along with 4,200 young hopefuls. A delighted Andrew said: "It was great news. I was really nervous because only

500 were selected. I'm very happy and really looking forward to it." The two week summer course will take place in London during August.

News in brief

On Wednesday, at 3.30pm, there is a charity football/netball match. Also on Wednesday, there is a trip to the Liverpool Empire to see Hairspray, departing 6pm. Silver Surfers meet at 3.45pm in G8 on Thursday. On Friday, there is a Rugby Leaders Course at Waterloo Primary.

School Levy

Staff at the College would like to thank all those who responded to February's School Levy appeal. So far, 103 families who have children in Years 9-13 have kindly made donations. Thank you to all those who have contributed.