

# Heartbeat



Monday, March 23

Issue 25



## Fairground attraction is perfect for IT fact-finders

On Sunday, March 1, a number of our ICT students embarked on a fact-finding mission to Disneyland Paris as part of their course, *writes Head of ICT, Mrs Askew.*

This year, they were joined by Business Studies students who were also looking forward to the adventure.

Day 1 saw the students attend two conferences in the Disney Village – ICT, and Business Live, where external speakers gave their presentations on the world of ICT and Business.

Hosted by the BBC click presenter, Kate Russell, the students listened to engaging talks about the use of social media to grow a company's customer base, the use of internet marketing for Disneyland Paris and the innovations being made by the Raspberry Pi foundation.

The students were then introduced to the

parks where they were required to gather information on the use of branding, marketing and IT systems for use in their school work.

Day 2 started with a hearty breakfast, before a full day sampling the roller coasters, exhibitions and shows. This culminated in the spectacular Disney Dreams show, complete with resplendent fireworks behind the castle.

A day in central Paris was the order of Day 3, with an early morning visit to Montmartre and Sacre Coeur. Bathed in sunshine, the students were able to sample the delights of the artistic district, view the inside of the church and take in one of the best views of the city.

From there, we travelled to the Arc De Triomphe, where they were faced with more than 135 stairs to the top.

Once at the viewing area, a 360 degree panoramic took in the financial district, Champs Elysees and the infamous Eiffel Tower.

Lunch on the famous thoroughfare was followed by a walk along the Seine towards the Tuileries Gardens, eventually ending up at the famous pyramid of the Louvre art gallery.

Most used their time there to take in the famous Mona Lisa painting and other artefacts contained therein.

Our final day gave us a final opportunity to hit the parks, before meeting for our return transfer to the airport and home.

The knowledge and insight gained on the visit will be directly applied to schoolwork, allowing students to present their first-hand knowledge of many topics.

A fantastic time was had by all.



# Former students return to school after 50 years

A group of ex-students returned to school last month, almost 50 years after they left.

The group contacted Mr Walker requesting an opportunity to visit the school they attended in the 1960s, when it was then known as Seafield, to reminisce about the good old days.

College staff were delighted to accommodate the senior students during an Inset day on February 13 and the visit proved to be a great success.

Among the 18 returning students was

Grace Wharton, who was delighted with the trip down memory lane. Grace said: "We had a brilliant time reminiscing about our school days.

"It is almost 50 years since we left, so to be able to walk down those corridors and see our classrooms once more was quite special.

"Although there have obviously been some changes, much of the original school remains and we all agreed we were privileged to have attended such a lovely place.

"I am sure your current pupils will feel the same and, judging by the wonderful artwork on display, you have a very talented group there now."

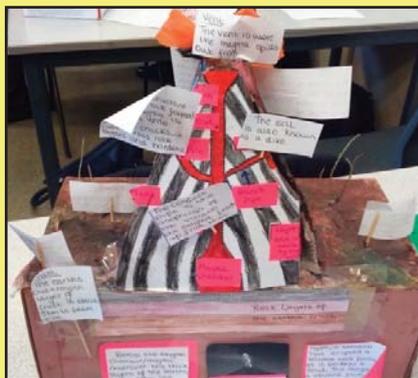
Grace and her friends also enjoyed a school dinner with a difference, as they were treated to drinks and homemade cakes, courtesy of the kitchen staff.

Grace added: "I would like to thank Mr Walker for letting us visit. We were also treated to drinks and gorgeous homemade cakes and we would like to thank the kitchen staff for those too."

## Year 9 homework was a hot topic

Our Year 9 pupils recently had a homework project to create a model volcano, writes *Geography's Mrs Sinnott*.

The volcanoes came in all shapes and sizes but all were done to an extremely high standard. Pupils had to assess each other's work, giving it a grade and then explain their reasoning for that mark. They then produced a self-evaluation of their own work, considering what went well and what they would do to improve their level.



## News in brief

Art examinations continue this week. There is an A2 Drama Night at 7pm tonight in the Drama Studio. There are French speaking tests on Wednesday and Friday in the White House. On Thursday, there is a Eucharistic Service at Upper Site, a number of students will visit Panoramic at 12pm and Year 10 Consultation Evening takes place. On Thursday and Friday, a 'Promoting Science Amongst Girls', presentation will be shown to Year 7 students.