

No. 07 - 5 December 2007

Dear Parents, Staff, Governors and friends,



THANKS TO ALL OUR FUND-RAISERS

On Fri 16 th November the school raised £2225 for Children in Need through a sponsored non-uniform day and a whole host of other activities. A special mention should go to the Visually-Impaired Unit who raised over £600 of the total. And on Sat 24 th November the PTA Autumn Fayre raised over £1200 for the school, thanks to a great many parents, staff and students. Many many thanks to all involved.



TAPTON LOTTERY WINNERS: OCTOBER WINNER: £10 LYNNE BERG, NOVEMBER WINNER: £10 HILARY DIXON

We still need more people. Would you like a number? Please contact Mr Storer at school



CONGRATULATIONS ALSO TO ALL OUR SENIOR MATHS CHALLENGERS

This year we gained 4 Golds, 6 Silvers and 11 Bronzes in this national competition. Also good luck to 2 of our students who have made it through to the next round which is the British Olympiad.



HOLLINGER IN ANTARCTICA

Week 4: Miss Hollinger is still having a whale of a time at the bottom of the world. She and the team have started some of the science work which includes Ms H looking for cryoconite holes which are melted holes in the Glacier. They've also had days when doing science wasn't possible because of the high winds - speeds of 30mph to be precise! After being cooped up in their tents for a long time they devised a novel way to burn off energy: kite surfing down the glacier, though apparently Miss Hollinger had a bit of trouble going straight. A member of the expedition experimented washing clothes. Getting things dry in Antarctica is tricky. Anything wet you put outside freezes in seconds. All their meals are packeted and, with no fresh fruit or vegetables, vitamin pills are taken to supplement their diet. They need a 4,000-calorie diet to keep them going in the challenging conditions, so she has to make do with Haribo and chocolate instead. Doesn't sound too bad but imagine having it everyday and it gets a bit monotonous. Now they are heading towards the Connell Canyon over difficult terrain, using special skis to climb, and are not sure when they will arrive. Hauling the sledges carrying tents, food supplies, clothing, equipment and rubbish over dangerous crevasses and slippery blue ice is no easy feat. One consolation is that the views are spectacular.

What a lucky yet busy woman! Simon/Rebecca



COME TO THE CHRISTMAS CONCERTS AND THE CAROL SERVICE

Tapton is justly famed for its music and our concerts are a celebration of our students. Last year it was 'Bugsy Malone' so the Christmas Concerts had to be postponed but they're back now with a different programme on each night. Come and enjoy them on **Mon 10 th or Tues 11 th Dec**. Tickets are £4 (£2 concessions) from Mrs Northin. They'll be superb. On the following **Monday (17 th Dec)** it's the Carol Concert in the magnificent setting of St John 's, Ranmoor. Everyone, past and present, is welcome on this most special of occasions. Christmas begins here.



STAYING ON TO THE 6TH FORM OR COLLEGE ... AND NEED FUNDING?

Ask Mrs Tabani in the Y11 Office for an Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) pack which will show you how to apply for regular financial support while you are in post-16 education.



OTHER COMING EVENTS

Thurs 13 th Dec
Thurs 20 th Dec
Fri 21 st Dec
Mon 7 th Jan 2008

GCSE Certificate Presentation Evening for last year's Y11
A Level Certificate Presentation Evening for last year's Y13
Last Day ... Staff Production 'Joseph' a.m. ... Early closure 2.00 p.m.
First day of Spring Term



REVISION FOR GCSE PHYSICS

The school has subscribed to www.easyphysics.co.uk, a website you can use at home to revise for GCSE Physics modules. To access the site, you need to choose 'OCR Gateway' from the menu, then enter username and password (ask your teacher for this).



GET FITTER, HEALTHIER AND HAPPIER

Do you have children 7 – 13 yrs old. Are you worried that they might be unhealthy or overweight. The MEND programme is a healthy lifestyles programme based at Handsworth School which aims to get kids and their families healthy and fit, having fun, in only 9 weeks – and helps them stay that way. Call 0870 609 1405 or contact www.mendprogramme.org to find out more.



CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD LUCK

To two Y12's, whose business, www.YourPartyStarter.co.uk has been one of twenty ideas to be shortlisted in the Royal Bank Of Scotland's BiG idea competition. Over 270 ideas were submitted and so being shortlisted is a fantastic achievement for the fledging business, which will now automatically receive £1000. On Tuesday 4th December they will be given an opportunity to pitch their idea to a panel of business angels with the chance of winning a share of £100,000 for further investment. The business has been a tremendous success so far. The media launch raised over £300 for charity (Help a Hallam Child and Nchelenge School in Zambia) and the event was featured on Hallam FM and in this month's issue of The Star's Business Monthly. A local film company, Fable Films LLP, is filming a documentary about us, which they hope will be shown on TV. 32 students in Y12 work for the business, which aims to provide age-related party ideas for the people of Sheffield , for free. Of course, if you would like more information about advertising your business on the site or know of someone who might be interested, then please use the 'Contact Us' section of the website above.



SPORTS REPORT

Football: Sheffield Champions: Congratulations to our year 11 football team who qualified for the national Stags of the National Schools Cup after a terrific game with All Saints School in the Sheffield Schools Final. In a very close encounter the game ended in stalemate after full time then extra time , with neither side being able to score the vital goal. However Tapton held their nerve in the penalty shoot out winning 6-5. They now play in the first round of the National stages with a visit to the Doncaster Champions Danum School on Thurs 6 th Dec.

Badminton: Mrs Goodhead's year 7 Boys completed a convincing victory in the Yorkshire Schools Badminton Semi final at Minsthorpe School Wakefield, beating the hosts 7-0 and then beating Outwood Grange School by the same scoreline. They now play in the final after Christmas.

Table Tennis: Our table tennis players had a good start in the Sheffield Schools table Tennis Leagues last week. Our Year 10 team are in 2nd position, beating our year 11 team by one point in 3rd position. Whilst in the Year 8/9 league our A team are 2nd with our B Team 3rd.