

No 10 - 30th January 2008

Dear Parents, Staff, Governors and friends,



EARLY CLOSURE, 2.30 PM FRI 8TH FEBRUARY

At 2.30 on Friday we will be presenting their Progress Files to the Y11, in front of staff and their parents, with a guest speaker. It's a special occasion and the culmination of years of support and guidance for people getting ready to move to the next stage in their lives whether to 6th form, further education or training. We feel it's important for all staff to be there and therefore, by arrangement with the Governing Body, school will be closing for other years at the end of period 4 (2.30 p.m.), and the 651school bus has been arranged for that time. Y11s will be dismissed at the end of the presentation.



TWO COMING PTA EVENTS - THE TAPTON BRASS BAND CONCERT ON FRI 29TH FEB AND THE QUIZ NIGHT ON FRI 14TH MARCH

A feast of music with the outstanding Tapton Brass Band – three times in recent years the best school brass band in the country - plus soloists and a special slot at the start for the Tapton Big Band. Tickets £6.50 and £5. And, a fortnight later, a second chance this year to enjoy Mrs Hilton's famous Quiz Night. Bring a team - ask your friends – or just come along yourselves and we'll introduce you to some others. It's a really sociable occasion – fun but quite a contest. Excellent food - but no licensed bar - bring your own drink (and glasses). Tickets are £6 each, including food. Tickets £6. Please send ticket request with cash/cheque payable to Tapton School PTA to Mr Storer at school.

This month's £10 winner of the Tapton Lottery was Mrs R. Fletcher. Have you bought a number?

All the proceeds from PTA events go to help departments buy books and teaching equipment that they couldn't otherwise afford or to help young people through the Enterprise Award scheme. The school no longer has its own private funds nor can raise them through Tuck Shop or other activities, because of the PFI contract. We need the PTA to support us and we need you to support the PTA, please.



OTHER COMING EVENTS

Fri 1 st Feb	Y11 Reports to Parents
Tues 5 th Feb	Y13 Parents Evening 4.30 – 7.00
	Governors' Meeting 7.00 Conference Room
Fri 8 th Feb	Early Closure 2.30 ... Y11 Presentation of Progress Files
Feb 11 - 15	Half Term Holiday



GCSE SCIENCE COURSEWORK DATE CHANGE

Y10 coursework will now take place in June, not February as published in the school calendar.

Y11 coursework is ongoing.



CONGRATULATIONS TO ONE OF OUR Y9 STUDENTS

One of our Y9 students took part in a national poetry competition to support the work of the Forest Stewardship Council. All the poems were judged on their own merit and she was awarded joint first prize ahead of the entries from older children. She wins £50 of M&S vouchers. Her poem is reprinted below.

The FSC – the one for me

The autumnal winds are blowing, the golden leaves fall down,
The squirrels hop from branch to branch, knocking chestnuts to the ground.

One little chestnut, hard and brown, falls down upon the leaves,
It is buried by the winter rain, away from magpie thieves.

The tree's one hope of growth, lies unseen in the mud,
But when spring shows its welcome face, it bursts into bud.

Alone in the soft damp earth, the little plant pokes out its shoot,
As summer passes, it grows big, but doesn't yet bear fruit.

The long years pass around the clock, the Seasons come and go,
That tiny bud grows strong and large, sees heat waves, hail and snow.

The years are into dozens, many secrets this tree has held,
It stays on, proud and straight, while many woods are felled.

Not many forests are so lucky, they can't be enjoyed by everyone,
The FSC wants trees to live this long, to see through rain and sun.

The woodland is home to many things... plants, animals and birds.
It is home to people's lives and rights; these aren't just empty words.

The FSC protects these trees, only cuts down woods when needed,
Look out for their logo on your goods, and help more trees be seeded.

This symbol isn't just on furniture; it's on decking, floors and walls.
Found on paper, charcoal, kitchen tools, even venison and footballs!

So show your support in forests near; it's up to you and me.
Do you really want no woodland left? Please help the FSC!



MUSIC NOTES

i. **SAMBA BAND** : Open to KS3 students – no audition necessary – all welcome. **Mondays 8.30 am in Room 118** . Starts Monday 28 th January @ 8.30am – 9.15. (If your bus normally arrives later than 8.30am just come along as soon as you can!!)

ii. Ever wanted to play African drums? Join Master drummer Miss Smith for the new African drumming group on **Monday lunchtimes at 1pm** . Come along and learn traditional, energetic, West-African rhythms on djembes, doun douns (bass drums) and hand percussion. **EVERYONE WELCOME! ROOM**