



The Swinton High School

a specialist college for the performing arts

news from the school



The Swinton High School : Sefton Road : Swinton : Manchester : M27 6JU : Tel 0161 794 6215 : www.swintonhigh.co.uk

Message From The Headteacher



Rounded Education

In the space of the last few weeks you will see just how many enrichment activities we offer our young people. From sport to rock concerts to charitable giving, they all show that we value a rounded education for every one of our youngsters.

Achieving the best possible exam results is of course our most important priority but it has never been part of The Swinton philosophy to look at that single aspect of your youngster's education. In partnership with parents and carers, we strive to encourage and develop our youngsters to become caring, considerate and active and in doing so together, we develop the best kind of young adult: one who has achieved his or her academic potential, who is healthy and has the right values to make a purposeful and fulfilling contribution to society.

Ambition!

It is our privilege to have the opportunity to develop our youngsters to fulfil these ambitious aims.

I do hope you enjoy our new style of newsletter and I commend it to you.

With every best wish for our continued partnership

John Biddlestone
(Headteacher)

Welcome to the new style of newsletter from The Swinton High School. Our aim is to keep you up-to-date on all our latest news and events that have recently happened, as well as news of forthcoming events.

Although it is much smaller than the old version of the newsletter, worry not, there will be just as much news reported, you will simply receive it more frequently than you used to. There will also be more articles and pictures on our brand new school website - www.swintonhigh.co.uk.

And as if that isn't enough, in July we aim to produce a bumper 'Review of the Year', with more news, more pictures and more features than ever before.

We hope you enjoy reading this first edition and would like to hear what you think. If you would like to comment on our new format, please contact Scott Croston at the school - 794 6215 or email - swinton.highschool@salford.gov.uk

Open Evening at The Swinton High School

On Tuesday 3rd October, The Swinton High School played host to over 250 Year 5 & 6 pupils and their families at our annual Open Evening.



The staff and pupils from the school worked hard all night, entertaining and guiding our potential new recruits, so that they managed to see as many of the organised events as possible.

There was a whole host of activities for people to see and participate in, from the Steel Pans playing their own unique brand of music, to cooking in food technology, a dance display in The Swinton Globe, even an opportunity to try our very own Continental Café in modern languages.



We received a lot of positive comments from parents and pupils, here is what just one parent had to say:

"We were very impressed by the range of activities and pleased to hear about the progress being made in GCSE results. The staff appear to put a lot of effort in making the subjects interesting and seem to have a good relationship with the pupils."



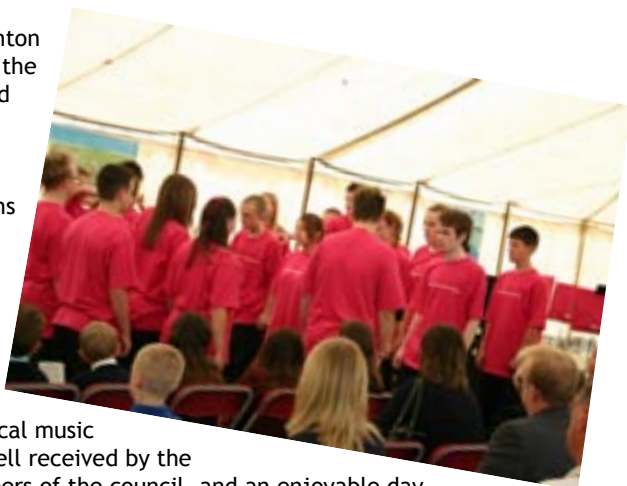
Please pass our thanks to Rachel for acting as our tour guide for the evening – what a polite and pleasant young lady. We hope she achieves her ambition to be a vet."

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Launch of the Salford Children and Young People's Plan

On the 25th of September, the Swinton Civic Centre hosted the launch of the Salford Children and Young People's plan, an initiative set up to further the ambitions of the youth of Salford. Along with another local school, our children performed 'Peace and Conflict' a stylised movement piece set to a classical music score. They were well received by the audience and members of the council, and an enjoyable day was had by all. The performers even got a free T-shirt for their efforts!



Fund Raising at The Swinton High School

On Friday 29th September, members of staff from the school hosted the World's Biggest Coffee Morning in conjunction with Macmillan Cancer Support, and other schools and workplaces all over the country. Staff were asked to donate any change they could to help Macmillan raise £7million for people living with cancer. After the debris of biscuit crumbs and spilt tea was cleared, it was revealed that we had raised over £75. Congratulations go to the staff who organised the event, and we hope that Macmillan hits its intended target!

We also received a letter from *The Cancer Patient Support and Relaxation Group*, thanking the LSU for raising the huge sum of £301. So far this year, the LSU have raised £2415 for various charities.

A big well done to all involved in the LSU!!

Harvest Festival 2006 s.Carter

On the morning of Tuesday 17th October, we held our annual Harvest Assembly. During the afternoon, under the supervision and guidance of Mrs Carter, Miss Jewkes and Miss Mansell, a number of year 11 food technology students unpacked the boxes of produce that had been donated by each form group and made up the harvest parcels and boxes, ready to deliver the following day.

On the Wednesday morning, Mr Dunnnett and six year 11 food technology students delivered 143 parcels and boxes to:

- Age Concern
- Heath Cottage
- Agnes Hopkins Day Centre
- The Fountains
- Rainbow Nursery
- Pennine Court
- Crandon Court
- Sindsley Court
- Laurence Lowry Court

A further 30 bags were delivered later in the day by individual pupils to their nominated elderly people.

We have been pleased to receive many messages from the recipients and they would like to pass on their thanks to all who took part. Many thanks are also due to staff, parents and pupils who contributed so generously.

A special thank you should also go to the year 11 pupils who were the best ever helpers and excellent ambassadors for the school.

by Katie Cooper and Sara Maymond
The day after the harvest assembly, Mrs Carter's year 8 class helped to carry all of the bags and boxes down two flights of stairs - up and down several times - to the mini bus. When all of the bags had been loaded, these pupils went out to deliver them:

Sara Maymond, Katie Cooper,
Natalie McGuinness, Alex Griffiths,
Ali Hussain, Joe Taylor

The old folks thanked everyone and their parents for letting us go. One old man said, "God bless you and may the Lord always be with you"



Super Competition Time



To celebrate the launch of our exciting new website, The Swinton High School is giving one of our pupils the chance to win its biggest ever prize.

You can win a brand new laptop computer, complete with Windows software.

Details can be found on the website itself:

www.swintonhigh.co.uk



Enterprise Days

As part of the work related learning and Able, Gifted and Talented remit, three enterprise days were organised by ourselves and the BEP.

Year 7 – Dream Homes

20 year 7 pupils were chosen by their form tutors to take part in the Dream Homes enterprise game. The 20 pupils were chosen on the basis of those pupils who had made a great start to The Swinton High School.

The Day was led by Lucy Butler of the Salford BEP and challenged the pupils to design, plan and cost a luxury housing estate. Pupils then had to build a display model and present to the rest of the class their homes.

It was a great day, which was enjoyed by both staff and pupils.

Year 8 – Sports Fantasy Ride

The Able, Gifted and Talented cohort was chosen to take part in the Sports Fantasy Ride enterprise game. The main aims of the game was for pupils to enhance:

- Teamwork skills
- Individual learning
- Communication skills
- Creativity and imagination
- Literacy and numeracy skills
- Decision making

These skills were all challenged under the remit of a Sports Fantasy Ride theme park. The pupils had to design, plan and cost a new sports ride, which had to take into consideration issues such as Health and Safety.

Even though the rides that were produced looked extremely scary, the year 8's were convinced that if their reward day was at the theme park all teachers would have to go on their rides.

All enjoyed the activity and again pupils were praised about their excellent behaviour and enthusiasm.



Shawn Emanuel Concert

On Friday 29th September, Year 7 were treated to a concert in The Swinton Globe by new artist Shawn Emanuel. Shawn sang a number of his songs, answered questions about his career and posed for photographs with our pupils. At the end of his concert he spent half an hour signing poster and autographs for all the pupils (and a couple of teachers!). A good time was had by all!



Heart Of Salford Awards

Our resident musical duo, 'Jazzin' It Up' were called upon to entertain the nominees and spectators at Buile Hill Banqueting Suite for the 'Heart Of Salford Awards', a ceremony rewarding the citizens of Salford who volunteer their own time to help and aid others. Jazzin' It Up played a selection of blues and jazz music in between awards and were complimented many times by members of the audience for their professionalism. The organisers commented that "they were brilliant musicians and very adaptable to the needs of the day...they are a credit to themselves and the school".



Rock band gear visits The Swinton High School

Just before half term, year 10 and 11 performing arts students were treated to a rock concert and question and answer session by rock band gear. Sponsored by National Music Week, this was surely one of the loudest concerts THE Swinton Globe has ever played host to!!



coming soon....

West Side Story

Tickets for this show are due to go on sale from the week beginning 27th November. They are available from the Box Office at The Swinton Globe on 0161 794 6215.

Alternatively they will be on sale outside the performing arts office every day at breaktime in school.

Tickets cost £4 for adults and £2 for concessions.

12th, 13th and 14th December, 7pm The Swinton Globe

Year 11 Careers Evening

As the range of options open to year 11 school leavers becomes wider, the choices facing young people leaving school can be confusing. Therefore, the school held its annual careers evening at the end of September for year 11 pupils and their parents/carers.

The purpose was to provide information on all of the current post-16 routes and the sources available, guidance and support. Speakers were invited to lead sessions on A/AS levels, Vocational A levels, GNVQs/NVQs, work based training and careers in the performing arts and the media.

This was an extremely important event for our year 11s and it was great to see so many of them attend!

Important Dates For Your Diary

| 2006 | |
|--|---|
| Thursday 23rd November Friday 24th November | Year 10 GCSE Science Modular Exams Year 10 Review Day |
| Monday 4th December Tuesday 12th December Monday 18th December | Year 11 Mock Exams Start School Production Tuesday - Thursday School closes for Christmas |
| 2007 | |
| Thursday 4th January Monday 8th January Tuesday 30th January | Back to School Year 9 Mock SAT Exams Start Year 11 Review Day |

Year 11 Mock GCSE Exams Start Monday 4th December

It's that time of year again when our year 11 students will be taking their mock GCSE examinations in school. These exams are very important, giving vital practice in preparation for the GCSE exams proper.

To aid our students we have provided a 'Guide to Revision' which is available for them to download from the pupil section of our school website:

www.swintonhigh.co.uk

Football Frenzy at The Swinton High

So far this season we have had fantastic success with both our girls' and boys' football teams.

The girls from year 7, 8 and 9 have been competing in the Salford Schools' 6-a-side football tournament. The matches are played every two weeks and are held at The Salford Sports Village.

Our results so far are as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Year 7 v Hope High | won 4 - 0 |
| Year 8/9 v Hope High | won 2 - 0 |
| Year 7 v St Patrick's | won 3 - 1 |
| Year 8/9 v St Patrick's | won 1 - 0 |
| Year 8/9 v Buile Hill | won 4 - 0 |

In the year 7 Salford Cup, our boys have made a great undefeated start. There are two more games to play before the semi-finals:

| | |
|-------------|-----------|
| Albion High | won 5 - 1 |
| Buile Hill | won 4 - 0 |
| Hope High | won 9 - 0 |
| All Hallows | won 7 - 0 |

The year 8 and year 10 Salford Cup will start in February of next year.

There are still three fixtures left to play in the year 9 Salford Cup, results so far:

| | |
|-------------|------------|
| St George's | lost 3 - 1 |
| All Hallows | drew 0 - 0 |
| Hope High | won 6 - 0 |

Finally, in the one match played so far, the year 11's won 13 - 2 against Hope High.

Well done to all our teams and thanks to all the staff involved for giving up their time to take us to the matches.

Soon to come...

Volleyball practices will start in November for years 7-11. The annual Salford Schools' Volleyball Tournament will be held after the Christmas Holidays at The Swinton High School.

Forthcoming Careers and PSVE Events:

Monday 27th November -
Year 9 Theatre in Education Project
Salford Drugs and Alcohol Action Team

Monday 15th January -
Year 8 Theatre in Education Project
Responsible Drinking

Monday 26th February -
Year 9 Theatre in Education Project
The Bigger Picture