



TOOTH HILL

BINGHAM • NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

From the Head Teacher

CONTACT

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that all our parents, carers and students had a relaxing and peaceful holiday as we now face the business end of the academic year. Owing to the early occurrence of Easter this term will be very short, at only 9 weeks. Consequently much has to be compacted into a very limited time.

As ever, our big focus will be preparing students for important assessments. Year 9 will be undertaking SAT Mocks as they start key preparation for the actual SATs in May. At the same time we will be asking them to consider their GCSE options towards the end of this term.

For Year 11 students it is all about vital preparation: firstly completion of all outstanding coursework, followed by long-term revision for the final examination assessments, some of which will start this term. For most subjects, the final examination accounts for 80% of total marks awarded and is the main determinant of the final grade awarded. Consequently, getting long-term revision in place is critical to success. As ever, each department will give every support to students but ultimately students need to work actively to gain maximum personal success.

If any group of students is under pressure, then it is our Year 12 and 13 College Students. For them, grades are essential to securing university placements and employment. We appreciate the demanding conditions under which they have to work: equally, we are committed to ensuring that they will get every help along the way.

For all those students involved in important assessments, we trust 2008 will be a very successful year and one they can look back on with pride and satisfaction.

*Yours sincerely
John Tomasevic*



College Corner.

By Suzi Gregg and Charlie Crowson

The College Christmas pantomime was a huge success, raising money for the college. Every one had lots of fun and made new friends. We would like to thank all the teachers, students and parents who were involved for their hard work and support.



The Tea Dance and the Children's Tea Party, organised by Year 12, was a great achievement, showing how the College can help the community. The children enjoyed meeting Santa and getting their presents during the party. Those who came to the Tea Dance were very thankful for the opportunity to meet new friends and have a dance. We would like to thank the band and all those who got involved, donated presents and put in hard work.

Congratulations to Phil Cleveley on his marriage in the Christmas holidays. We wish him and his new wife much happiness.

David Litchfield from NCC will be coming into College on January 28th at 7pm to talk to the Year 13s about university finances. A very useful talk which we hope will ensure our students get the most out of university without the money worries.



Interviews will take place during this term for students who have applied to the College.

We hope everyone had a lovely Christmas and New Year and now feel recharged for the new term. Currently, many students are working hard for their exams as January modules are now underway. Good luck.

Total fund raising for
Children in Need is
£1,431.50

Well Done to everyone who helped
make it such a success

Learning Support Department Monthly Review Meetings.

Does your son or daughter have special educational needs or are you concerned about the possibility that they may have some difficulties with learning?

The Learning Support Department hold informal monthly meetings for parents or carers to come and discuss any concerns they may have, the support arrangements for their son or daughter or to share information. These meetings are usually held on the last Tuesday of every month in the Learning Support Department.

Please ring the school office to make an appointment with Mrs Nelson, the Inclusion Co-ordinator.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 29th January.

Shadowmancer
Author - Taylor, G.P.

Review Written By Jack Beard (9.8)

This book is great. It is set in the 18th century, with strange events happening in the local vicarage. A black person called Raphah saves the life of a young boy called Thomas which creates a lasting friendship. They go to investigate the vicarage where they meet a fiery girl called Kate.

They start the search and the adventure really begins. That's all I will say except that this is a brilliant read, packed with folklore, history and ancient Demons!!!

I would give this book 9.5 *out* of ten

New for Contact: Your News and Views

Letters Page

We are constantly trying to improve the quality of information that you receive through our Contact Magazine and propose the inclusion of a 'Letters Page' from the start of the start of the new academic year. Letters submitted of a general nature will be printed and replied to in Contact. (Please direct letters that raise personal issues to the Head of Year/Tutor as of now).

Letters for Contact should be addressed to Mr R Whiteley or emailed to TootHill.Contact@toothill.notts.sch.uk

News from the Past

It is always a delight to hear of news of former students and we know that many readers enjoy these updates. Please let us know any news that you may have. Photographs most welcome.

Rob Whiteley (Senior Deputy Head Teacher)

**TOOT HILL SCHOOL
CATERING DEPARTMENT**

VACANCY

Catering Assistant

Term time only + 3 cleaning days

£5.80 per hour (to be equated) pay award pending

Job 1 - 20 hours per week

Hours: Mon – Fri 10.15am – 2.15 pm

The job involves:

general food preparation

cash handling/till operator

washing up, cleaning duties; etc.

serving pupils, students and staff

dining/staff room duties

Start date: **February 2008**

Closing date for applications: Friday 25th January 2008

Apply in writing to the catering manager at Toot Hill School

The LRC's Autumn Term 'Suggest A Book For Our Shelves' Competition

The winners have been drawn....

Thank you to all entrants. The winners are, C Prideaux, J Grange, N Swinger, O Parker. Each winner can collect their gift token prize from Mrs Litherland or Mrs McCreddie. Selected competition titles will be purchased during 2008. If you would like to see a particular title on the LRC's shelves, please call in and tell us - we will then be able to include it in our next 'Suggest A Book...' competition to be held during Spring 2008.

Fishing for Clues, Author - Evans Ann**Review Written By Will (William) Chadwick (8.3)**

The title of the book I'm reading is called Fishing for Clues by Ann Evans. It is part of a series called Sealed Mystery. The story is about a boy called Jake and a girl called Candy and their dad. They buy a boat called the Balloo the previous owner Benjamin Fisher has mysteriously vanished and Jake and Candy get suspicious and try to find out what happened to him. The characters are Candy, Jake and their dad. Candy is worrying and suspicious type, Jake is the little annoying brother type and their dad is the type who has a taste for beer and does a lot of jokes on his kids

I think this book is really good because it has a great plot and you have got to follow the clues to get the murderer.

I would recommend this book for people who like mystery stories and like following the clues.

I would rate this book 9 out of 10.

Blue Moon, Author - Green Julia**Review Written By Tabitha Grindrod (10.3)**

Blue Moon is about a teenager called Mia who gets pregnant at the age of 15. She has to go through a lot and all of her friends and family have different ideas about whether she should keep the baby or not. In the end Mia runs away.

This is a very good book because it makes you think about what you would do if you were pregnant. It is a book full of emotions.

My favourite character is Mia because she goes through a lot and is very brave.

In the end Mia decides to keep the baby. Her dad is not very pleased but he gets over it.

I would give this book 9 out of 10, because it is very emotive and is an excellent story line.

A poem from the Creative Writing Academy
The Totleigh train of thought

There's a place at the end of those long narrow lines
Where people are trains that refuse to meet
Where talk comes so easy but so often hurts
And the only achievement is who you can beat
And the beating cuts cruel – it really can sting
Although no-one expects that it will
Where the words thrown your way last too long in your head
And the days drag with keeping so still
Seems a long world till supper when laughter is gone
So we don't want to wait until then
Instead, catching a promise of freedom to be
We count up the days until when
We're churning and turning and hugging the lines
That will keep our ideas on a page
Till we reach the end station where the world stays behind
And a week will become our new age
The stage is all set for we cannot know what
Yet we're sure somehow it will feel right
Where strangers connect as the lines never could
And deep talk leads us dark into night
And the nights warm and loose hug our mornings so fresh
When we're up before anyone sees
With our thoughts running free like our laughter and screams
Where there's freedom to totally be
Where we'll huddle in thunder or shriek in the rain
Truth and dare, hide and seek, take your pick
Where your mind becomes real and those who listen do hear
Precious memories that know how to stick
As we start to unravel random newness revealed
We recognise which world is wrong
With those lines that won't meet where it's hollow and false
Where our rhyme seems to create some warped song
So we lose track of time letting laughter remain
In the train of our family group
Where the movement of words find release on the page
And securely slips into our loop

As the running and roaming and rhyme meet the night
And the flood of our dreams hits the day
It's the shock of reality threatens our freedom
As we're forced to abandon our stay
With the loss of that taste only we'll truly know
Though with words we may strive to express
The lines will feel skewed when our pages are torn
When normality adds to our stress
But if those with the power to bend those straight lines
Curbing blinkers and curving their heart
Would meet with our minds and the need to create
They'd discover the truth of our art

Toot Hill Reprographics Dept.
for all your printing needs
why not ring us on
01949 863012
and speak to Marion or Lesley
for a competitive quote



The Weather Lottery

Hopefully over the last few weeks, you will have received a letter and an application form for our new fund raising venture
"THE WEATHER LOTTERY"

This is an exciting fund raising idea for us all, as not only does it give you the chance to win **£10,000** every weekday for the very small price of just £1.00 per week, but it also enables Friends of Toot Hill School to raise the vital extra funds needed to help support our children in their education and their school.

If you would like to support us in this fund raising scheme and I really hope you will, please complete the application form you have been sent or you can even join on-line at

www.theweatherlottery.com

If you have any questions please leave a message for Kirsten Lenton at school and I will return your call as soon as I can.

easyfundraising .org.uk

RAISE FUNDS WHEN YOU SHOP ONLINE

You can now raise extra funds for **Friends of Toot Hill School** when you shop online. We have teamed up with **easyfundraising** who offer a great service where you can shop with Amazon, John Lewis, Toys'R'Us, DELL, Vodafone, Tesco Direct, M&S, Next and over 500 of your favourite online stores, and we'll receive a FREE donation of up to **15%** from every purchase you make.

You still shop as normal and **it doesn't cost a penny extra** to shop and raise funds in this way. You can even **SAVE MONEY** as many retailers give extra discounts and exclusive offers when you shop using the easyfundraising site.

If you shop online ANYWAY why not use this completely FREE service to raise extra funds for **Friends of Toot Hill School**.

Additionally, if you have a business or are working for someone else, it is a great idea to get them to buy their business purchases through this website too. It will not cost them a penny, but they will be helping to raise money for a very worth cause.

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/uk/toothillschool



W/B Monday	7th January	Year 7 trip to Dickens World Year 11 MFL Mock Orals
Thursday	10th January	Year 11 Parents' Evening
Friday	11th January	Gifted & Talented Students trip to Oxford University
Thursday	31st January	Year 9/10/11 Intermediate Maths Challenge
Friday	1st February	Publication of Year 9 Options Booklet
W/B Monday	4th February	Year 12/13 Media trip to Paris
Tuesday	5th February	Year 9 trip to Space Centre
Thursday	7th February	Year 9 Option Information Evening Year 9 Parents' Evening
W/B Monday	11th February	Half-Term holiday
W/B Monday	18th February	Year 8 Enterprise week Year 10 Geography Trip (2 Days)
Wednesday	27 February	Year 10 'Blood Brothers' trip
Monday	3rd March	Year 10 Maths Modules Year 11 Maths re-sit Modules
Tuesday	4th March	Student Review Day (Students attend interview only, accompanied by parents)
Friday	14th March	π day Term ends for Easter Holidays
Monday	31st March	Summer term begins