



DAVENANT FOUNDATION SCHOOL
Chester Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 2LD

www.davenantschool.co.uk

Newsletter No. 8

Easter 2010

The week of 15th March was Mission Week at Davenant. This was organised by a team of sixth formers who put together a programme that covered the whole school and ensured all students were able to access one or more of the activities.

Some powerful and well received assemblies were organised along with lunchtime talks, special R.E. lessons, a programme of visiting speakers and the conversion (temporarily) of a classroom into a fascinating Prayer Room which was full of interesting features and visual treats! In addition, a group of young men from the national Youth for Christ Project was hosted for the whole week and ran a football related activity that engaged large numbers at Break and Lunchtimes.

The student Leadership Team deserves to be congratulated for organising such a big event so well. They ensured that all the necessary checks and arrangements were made as well as doing their best to ensure all costs were covered. The result was a week that enhanced the Christian life of the school and which prompted students to reflect on some fundamental and big questions. I hope the event will be repeated in future years.

The Mission Week was also yet another reminder of the ability of our students to engage in and to organise really high quality events. In the past fortnight, our newly established **Eco Schools Group** has started on its work to look at key areas of school life where we need to be more aware of sustainability and taking care of our environment. A group of Year 10 students have attended a **Democracy Day Conference at Epping Forest District Council** while a group of sixth formers attended a one day event in London to discuss **social justice issues relating to London 2010**. Two Year 13 students have taken part in a **visit to Auschwitz** organised by the Holocaust Trust and our **Learning Ambassadors** have now had two meetings with students from other schools in order to review and report on aspects of school life-n.b. next term the Learning Ambassadors will be presenting a report with some recommendations about the use of Homework at Davenant.

This has been another very busy and exciting term. Our students remain a great resource and an inspiration in so many ways. The Summer Term is dominated by examinations for students in the Upper School but there will remain many opportunities for students in all years to enrich themselves and the school by being involved in valuable and challenging work.

Chris Seward
Headteacher

SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

The end of the Easter Term has seen many sporting events with Davenant students participating fully and with great distinction. Particular note is made of the following:

- **Claudia Conway and Rebecca Hewitt** who represented Essex in the English Schools Cross Country Championships and helped the county win the national title for their age group.
- **Thomas Phillips, Connor Taylor, Luke Pascoe and Samuel Murray (Year 10, 11 Tournament) and Connor Taylor, Matthew Beaumont, James Smith and Oliver Phillips (Years 7,8,9 Tournament)** who will be representing Davenant in the English Schools Badminton Finals in April. Thanks also go to **Emma Skingley and Tony Dawkins** from the Sixth Form for their help and support.
- **The Year 7 Netball Team (Captained by Rebecca McLean)** who were runners up in the Redbridge Netball Rally.
- **The Year 8 Rugby Team** who reached the Semi- Finals of the Shield Competition in the Berkhamsted Invitational Sevens Tournament (competing schools came from across the U.K.). Also the **Under 16 Sevens Team** who were entered for the Rosslyn Park National Tournament.
- **The 1st X1 Football Team** who have had an outstanding season.

GOOD LUCK to the footballers who are about to embark on their tour to Barcelona with Mr Dodd and colleagues. The recent Quiz Night raised over £1000 - Well done and thanks to all who helped.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION-DAVENANT'S GOT TALENT

Davenant's Got Talent was taking place on Friday, 26th March. Once again the Parents Association has really pulled out the stops to support this event and to help raise funds for the school.

As with previous events, we will benefit from matched funding which is promised by a business where one of their employees is involved in supporting a community activity. In this case Barclays are the company concerned and, thanks to the involvement of one of our parents in the Christmas Fair, Barclays have already donated £688 to the P.A. with the possibility of a further £2K from DGT. We are currently compiling a list of companies who offer this matched funding but, if a parent works for a major business or employer, it is worth asking if the donation of your time could result in a boost to our funds. For more details, please contact Mr Parker at the school.

STAFFING NEWS

We were very pleased to welcome back **Mr Eustace** after a very long absence waiting for and, then, recovering from a hip operation. He will be resuming his timetable and we must thank **Ms Beggs** who has done such an excellent job in covering for him. Meanwhile, to ensure continuity, Mr Midgley will continue to act as Head of Year 7 until the end of this year.

DAVENANT INTERNATIONAL

The highlight of the Davenant International Programme for this term was the visit to Geneva during half term. The group is organised by a student team under the watchful eye of Mr Morris-Whitehead.



The visit to Geneva allowed the group to visit the United Nations, the Red Cross and (very exciting!) the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN). The new President of Davenant International is Marius Vermaak who says “The trip gave us a unique insight into what these organisations are doing - each of them is having a massive impact on the world and on the lives of many people.”

The student committee of Davenant international is already planning a programme of talks and visits for 2010/2011. Any parent who would like to suggest a speaker or topic should contact Mr Morris Whitehead at the school.



Dates for your Diary

REMINDER: School finishes for the Easter Holiday at the normal time of 3.30 p.m. on Thursday 1st April. Students return at 8.30 a.m. on Tuesday 20th April. For details of next year's dates, please see below.

April

- 1st : End of Term - 3.30pm finish
- 20th : Start of Term
- 29th : Junior Maths Challenge
Year 12 UCAS Information Evening – 7.30pm in Hall

Results Dates for August 2010

A Level - Thursday 19th August 2010
GCSE - Tuesday 24th August 2010

YEAR 11 STUDY LEAVE ARRANGEMENTS

- 17th May – Normal Lessons
- 18th May – Study Leave Day (whole year have RE exam in the afternoon.)
- 19th May – Normal Lessons (some students will have language exams in the morning)
- 20th May – Morning - Normal Lessons (some language lessons in the morning)
– Afternoon - Year 11 Exams Assembly followed by Year Photo
- 21st May – Study Leave begins for all Year 11

2010/2011 TERM DATES

Autumn Term: Wednesday 1st September - Friday 17th December 2010

Year 11 Work Experience : Tuesday 31st August – Friday 10th September 2010

Wed 1st Sept - INSET Day : School closed

Thurs 2nd Sept - Years 7 & 12 Only

Fri 3rd Sept - Years 7 & 10

- Year 12 - Peer Mentoring Training

- Year 13 Enrolment

Mon 6th Sept - Years 7 - 10, Years 12 & 13

Half Term: 25th - 29th October 2010

Spring Term: Tuesday 4th January - Friday 8th April 2011

Fri 18th Feb - INSET Day : School closed

Half Term: 21st - 25th February 2011

Summer Term: Tuesday 26th April - Friday 22nd July 2011

Tues 26th April - INSET Day : School closed

Mon 2nd May - Bank Holiday : School closed

Half Term: 30th May - 3rd June 2011

There will be a further 2 INSET Days which are yet to be confirmed.