

Sports Desk...

Hoop it Up!

After cruising through the group stages, the Year 11 Basketball team came unstuck when they met Poynton in the English Schools' Competition. Since then they've got back on track with victories in the Bolton Schools' Championship and the Lancashire Cup.

Turton's teams are making serene progress through both competitions, with Year 9 the only squad to lose so far, narrowly edged out by last year's winners, Canon thingy.

Fantasy Football!

The Senior First XI have crushed virtually all before them in the first half of the season with a solitary defeat the single blemish on an otherwise perfect record. With the second half of the season just about to commence they are sitting in second place in the NW Colleges' League.

Girls' Football: The Agony and the Ecstasy!

The Year 7 & 8 girls' team tasted the extremes of delight and despair during their epic quarter-final battle with St Matthew's RC School of Manchester in the Gr. Manchester Cup. A dodgy refereeing decision in the dying seconds of the game, as we led 3-2, deprived Turton of victory and set up a replay. Naomi Morris Ashton was the star of the replay, overturning a two goal deficit in the last five minutes of the match. Alas, illness forced Naomi out of the game and she was forced to watch from the sidelines as St Matthew's claimed a winner.

Y7 Put Fun in Fundraising!

Fitness and fundraising was the theme for Year 7 students as they took part in a sponsored work-out last week. They'll be hoping to top last year's tally with all funds going to Lepra, an organisation that helps those afflicted with leprosy.

Lesley Woods - Asst Leader KS2/3

The Year 11 and 6th Form team inflicted revenge for last year's defeat to Priestly College with a 4-2 victory in their recent encounter.

Any girls inspired to join us are welcome at practice every Thursday.

Cross-Country

A wintry Wednesday afternoon at Rivington was the scene for the Bolton Cross Country Championships on Jan 18th. Turton's team of runners put in some formidable performances, some of the highlights being April Stevenson and Jordanna Denton finishing 2nd and 7th respectively in the Yr 8/9 girls' category.

In both the Yr 10/11 boys and girls' events Turton occupied first and third positions. Robert Ashworth and Rachel Pounds led their fields, while Jordan McLoughlin and Paula Bateson finished in third.

Badminton:

With the talent pool bursting at the seams we've had no option but to form A & B teams to accommodate it all! And in spite of defeat last week to St. James' we're hopeful of a bright future, with Jordan McLoughlin and Alex Carey looking particularly impressive at the moment.

Self Defence:

A reminder that female pupils are invited to join our self-defence classes on Monday afternoons, with tuition courtesy of 6th Dan Kevin Clarke, and not the lowly 5th that we downgraded him to last issue.

Chris Mullin - Acting Head of PE



Take Me Home...

With Arsenal sliding down the league and tumbling out of cup competitions left, right and centre, Mr Read was presumably contemplating a late switch in his allegiance as he took a group of fourteen sixth form students to Old Trafford for Manchester United's recent Carling Cup Semi-Final clash with local rivals Blackburn Rovers.

The students enjoyed a lively encounter with plenty of skill, scoring and scuffling. Mr Read meanwhile has been unavailable for comment and was last believed to have been seen running down Islington High Street in pursuit of a large man wearing the Arsenal number 23 shirt.

Ian Bland

Get Active!

It's not too late to get involved in an exciting range of evening sessions currently being offered by Bolton Youth Service to anyone aged between 12 and 19. From becoming a deck supremo to skippering a kayak, all tastes are catered for. The sessions take place at Turton Leisure Centre, as well as other venues around the town, and the full schedule is as follows:

Monday: DJ Mixing 6.30pm – 9.30pm, Kayaking 8.30pm – 10.00pm

Tuesday: Outdoor Activities 6.30pm – 9.30pm

Thursday: Sporting Activities 6.30pm – 8.00pm, Trampoline 7.30pm – 8.15pm

Friday: Football 6.30pm – 9.30pm, Phoenix Drama Workshop 7.00pm – 9.00pm

In addition, the youth service will also be providing a range of daytime activity sessions so that you can keep boredom at bay during half-term week. For further information contact Gerry Luzcka on 07899 664762

Return Date:

Following the half-term break students will return to school on Tuesday 28th February.

Boldly Going...

'Boldly going where no one has gone before' was the theme of the enterprise day held in December for Year 10 students. Cragrats Theatre Company kick-started proceedings with a short play about the many ways to be enterprising in life.

10S2's Jordan McLoughlin found himself roped into events, with his romantic affairs given a little more public scrutiny than he might have desired, but he played along with commendable spirit, and the play was warmly received by the students.

Inspired by the play, the pupils broke into small groups in order to develop their understanding of enterprise, helping them become commanders, if not of the Starship Enterprise, then of their own destinies.

Since the introduction of the Work Related Curriculum in September 2005 it has been compulsory for students to experience aspects of enterprise, and this highly successful day proved that this could be achieved in inventive and engaging ways.

Bill Tomlinson Careers Co-ordinator



Bye-Bye Pods

Advances in technology constantly demand that we review school guidelines as to what equipment is and is not safe and practical to bring into school. With this in mind we would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and pupils that PSPs are **not** permitted in school, while MP3 players and iPods are not to be used in lessons or on corridors. These decisions have been taken to minimise problems that can arise from damage, bullying, and confrontations between staff and students. We trust that you will support us on this issue.

Chill-Out Zone!

After months of frustrating delays, the new seating area in the Japanese gardens is now fully open for business. The wooden deck and seating is already providing an oasis of Zen calm where pupils can enjoy their lunch or break. A big thanks to Year 11 NVQ Construction students who built the deck, and especially to Adam Grundy and Sasha Waddington who gave up time after school to complete the project.

Clive Searle - Geography Dept.



Just Capital!

A question and answer session starring the unlikely pairing of MPs Boris Johnson and Clare Short was just one of the highlights of the December trip to London by AS Politics students. The aim of the trip was to increase the Year 12 students' understanding of British Politics, and their time in the company of the owner of Westminster's most famously messy hairdo certainly helped achieve this.

During their stay in the capital, the group also squeezed in a walking tour that took in Buckingham Palace, Ten Downing Street, and Whitehall, together with a visit to the Houses of Parliament.

The students behaved exceptionally well throughout the two-day tour, and gained a unique insight into British politics.

Kelly Bali
Head of Government & Politics

Oliver Twist Review

Shortly before Christmas most of Year 7 went on a trip to the Library Theatre, Manchester, to watch an adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic 'Oliver Twist'.

In spite of its bum-numbing two and a half hours' length, it was still an enjoyable show, and this was 'Oliver Twist' with a twist! It differed from the well-known film in that it had a much darker theme, and in parts was rather scary.

A small cast was complemented by hand puppets and instruments, with each actor playing several parts very effectively. Fittingly for a theatre in a library, books replaced the usual props, a clever and inventive idea.

Overall we'd give this production a more than satisfactory 7 out of 10 for its professional quality and great cast.

Lydia Morris & Hannah McFarlane
7T4

School Crossing Patrol Vacancy



After many years of committed service seeing pupils safely across Chapelton Road, School Crossing Patrol Barry Niblett will be laying down his lollipop in May when he reaches the compulsory retirement age of 70.

Pupils and staff wish him a long and happy retirement, and his permanently cheery demeanour will be much missed, particularly on cold, dark mornings.

Anyone interested in filling the position when it becomes vacant should contact Steve Lomax at the Bolton Road Safety Dept. on (01204) 336465.

Age Concern

Harold Heywood of Age Concern is pictured raising the awareness of Year 12 students about issues affecting the elderly.



Dress You Up!

Forget London Fashion Week, true style pilgrims will be heading for Turton on Thursday 16th Feb for the Flinch & Funk Fashion Show. Designer togs with non-designer price tags and only £1.50 a ticket. What are you doing still reading this? Get your skates on, the show's about to begin!

Pamper Yourself!

Sisters will be doing it for themselves on Friday 5th May when we host our first Women's Health, Wealth and Beauty Evening. We've already had a very encouraging response from local businesses eager to seize the opportunity to promote female-friendly products and services to a potentially huge target audience. If your company would like to join them then please contact Penny Elger on 01204 853449.

Tickets are likely to be in great demand as the event draws near, so waste no time in reserving yours by contacting Bev Philbin on 333233 ext 201.

Summer Prize Draw

More details regarding ticket availability and prizes will be released soon, but if anyone is in a position to offer prizes we would be delighted to hear from you.

Future Plans

We've plenty of exciting projects in the pipeline for the coming months, but we're always eager to hear new ideas. So if you've ever thought about joining the PA, don't hesitate, and with only three meetings remaining this academic year, opportunities are running out. Join us on:

- Tuesday 4th April (7— 9pm Meeting)
- Wednesday 7th June (Parents' Forum at 6.30, PA meeting 7.30 – 9pm)
- Tuesday 4th July – Social evening

Contact the PA:
Deborah – 811357 or email Deborah@hey01.freemove.co.uk

Katie Heads For Science Finals

Turton Sixth Form student Katie Selby is to compete with the country's top young scientists at the prestigious British Association of Science Fair at the end of February. The fair, organised by the Royal Society of Scientists, invites the best students from all over the country to present research projects that have been particularly impressive at regional events. Katie, who joined Turton from Sharples Science Specialist College, did her research on using high resolution images to aid cancer research and, to help her, she was allowed access to facilities at Manchester University. The practical applications for the early diagnosis of cancer gained her a Gold Award at the regional event. Needless to say, Manchester University was quick to offer her a degree course following A-Levels.

Andy Mills - Head of Sixth Form

Science Booty!

Science students are benefiting from the recent acquisition of new data-logging equipment and two additional interactive whiteboards, purchased thanks to parental donations. Year 10 students are already raving about the impact on their learning of 'these screen things', and your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Cathy Bach - Head of Science

Wanted: Persil Coupons!

Persil are currently running a promotion in which coupons from packets can be exchanged for art equipment for schools. So if you want to help us create a cleaner, brighter art department that washes whiter than white, then please snip the coupons out and bring them into school. Coupons can be deposited in a box in the school foyer, or alternatively students can simply pass them to form tutors. Many thanks for your support.

Belinda Crook
Learning Support Dept.

Remembering John

On 30 December, the date he would have turned 16, Year 11 students visited John Ridehalgh's grave to lay a wreath and to remember their friend. Following the visit the students visited John's Grandmother's house for tea, a moving occasion for all the students involved.

As a mark of thanks for the way in which Year 11 students responded in the wake of John's death, his father Paul, along with Bolton Wanderers, provided tickets for students for the pre-Christmas clash with Aston Villa.

Jan Bazley - KS4 Leader

The Frame Game!

The North-West art world continues to fall at the feet of Emma Wyre, who can now add a solo exhibition at Manchester's uber-trendy Dry Bar to her already impressive list of achievements. Emma, who completed her GCSEs last year, is now studying Art & Design at Blackburn College, but she hasn't entirely severed her links with Turton and finds time to nip back to study A-Level Media Studies. Emma's dark, computer generated animations have already brought her comparisons with Tim Burton and Jamie Hewlett of Gorillaz fame, and this latest prestigious engagement is certain to add even more sparkle to her growing reputation.

Race for Life

For the second year running (quite literally), Turton will be entering a squad in the Race for Life event at Leverhulme Park on 23rd July. All proceeds raised go directly to Cancer Research UK. Training is already underway for the Turton team with Thursday afternoon jaunts round the Jumbles seeing numbers grow every week.

Paula Cole
Learning Support Dept.

Turton High School Media Arts College

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Issue 32



What's a Cluster?

Words spring in and out of popular use all the time and in the education world there is definitely too much jargon. We're either "up-skilling", "down-sizing", "re-framing" or "personalising" and parents must sometimes wonder what it all means. Some terms like "social inclusion", and "extended schools" sound interesting. Others like our own "internal exclusion" unit must be positively confusing.

Well, you will hear a great deal in the coming months and years about "cluster" working. This simply means that instead of competing with each other, schools will work together to provide the best

opportunities for all our students. The Bolton North Cluster is made up of ourselves, Smithills, Sharples, Withins, Canon Slade and Thornleigh. We organise joint coaching and training for staff, mentoring for students, extra provision for youngsters who are struggling to behave appropriately and, perhaps most importantly, extended curriculum opportunities to raise achievement levels even higher.

So watch this space for future examples of cluster success as well as the ever-increasing achievements of students here at t:mac.

John Porteous - Headteacher

KS3 Presentation Evening

The intense focus on GCSE exam performance can sometimes mean that it's too easy to overlook the achievements of pupils at Key Stage 3. With this in mind, Turton is planning to redress the balance when, later this year, we hold our first prize evening to celebrate the achievements of pupils in Years 7, 8, and 9. Honouring students who excel and show real talent, often overcoming considerable barriers to do so, is a cornerstone of school culture, and the Presentation Evening will hopefully become a highly anticipated annual event.

In order to make the event even more special we would like to invite local businesses and members of the community to get involved by sponsoring prizes that will bear the sponsor's name, and will be awarded on an annual basis.

If you would like to help us celebrate success and sponsor an award, then please contact Joanne Shaw, Headteacher's PA, on 333233 Ext. 162.

Soccer Sensation

Being voted 'Most Outstanding Offensive Player' seems the sort of title tailor made for El Hadji Diouf or Wayne Rooney, both of whom can be as offensive as they are outstanding. In actual fact it's a title recently bestowed on former Turton student John Cunliffe, with 'offensive player' in this case being American parlance for striker! John, formerly an England U18 schoolboy, is in the third year of his studies at Fort Lewis College, Colorado, and the product of Turton – with a little help from Manchester United, Blackburn Rovers, and Preston North End - is proving a sensation on the soccer field.

Having recently helped his side secure the Division 2 National Championships, John was included in the All America First Team in recognition of his striking abilities, and he is well on the way to achieving his lifelong ambition of becoming a professional football player.

Ian Bland

BWFC Language Evening

Not even the most comprehensive foreign phrase books are likely to give you the French for 'At the end of the day it's a game of two halves', or the Spanish for 'The gaffer just tells us to hoof it long and hope big Kev gets on the end of it', so the Turton students who attended a Language Evening at the Reebok stadium, where they interviewed stars of the Whites' foreign legion, had to fend for themselves.

Places were limited to five students per school, and Turton's team of interrogators comprised Josh Baines, Sarah Small, Tom Morgan, Tom Winrow and Melissa Mitchell. The students were given the freedom to throw whatever questions they desired at the players, the only proviso being that they were in the players' native language.

Year 11's Josh Baines prepared speeches in French and Spanish and thanked the players on behalf of all the students present at the end of the evening. As an extra bonus, 'Match of the Day' cameras were on hand to record the event, and we duly starred alongside Messrs Lineker and Hansen just before Christmas.

The evening was a great success and the pupils were a credit to the school.

Lindsay Inkpen - Head of Spanish

