

PE NEWS

Year 7 Football

A brace of refereeing blunders saw Turton bundled out of the Bolton Schools' Tournament at the hands of Bolton School. Having failed to spot that an arm had helped one of the opposition's goals across the line, the official then wrongly ruled out a legitimate Turton goal. With the tie square at 4-4 after normal time, extra-time gave way to penalties, and a single missed spot-kick, leaving the tie at 9-8, saw the Turton team left forlorn.

Basketball

Glory remained tantalisingly out of reach for the forces of Turton's Year 7 & 8 Basketball teams. Both sides made it to the finals of the Bolton Schools' tournament and both saw their glory hijacked by our old adversaries from Canon Slade. Year 11 meanwhile look set to put aside the disappointment of narrowly losing the Lancashire Cup to Bury Grammar, where some last minute heroics from Jamie Glenn sent the game into overtime, when they face Ladybridge in the Bolton Schools' Final. With Jamie Glenn in menacing form, victory should be assured.

Golf

The almighty Stirling clan have once again been terrorising the opposition on the region's golf courses. Together with Year 11's Aaron Gandy they entered the South East Lancs Championships at the Old Links last month. The team finished second overall, while individually, Louisa was crowned Bolton Champion, and brother Anthony was named U16 Champion.



Netball

Lightning struck twice as both the Year 7 & 9 teams were eliminated from the Bolton Schools' Tournament in the Semi-finals courtesy of the Chelsea of local netball, Bolton School. Year 8 meanwhile navigated their way to the final, only to lose out to, guess who? Yes, once again, Bolton School. Hard luck, girls!

Get Involved!

Rounders: Open to Years 7-10. See display boards for more details.

Gymnastics: Every Tuesday between 3-4pm, with one of the school's many Miss Jacksons! All welcome.

Athletics: Practice sessions on Tuesday and Thursday. Again, all are welcome.

Self-Defence: Classes will commence after half-term, every Monday in the gym from 3:15 to 4:15pm.

Chris Mullin
Acting Head, PE Dept.

A Play for All Ages!

Opposite ends of the age spectrum came together for a fun-filled night out, as 12 Turton Students joined 12 Senior Citizens for a trip to see 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang' at the Palace Theatre, Manchester on 3rd May. The outing was funded by a lottery grant awarded to Age Concern earlier this year to encourage positive relationships across age boundaries, and the students have been giving up their time to work with and befriend older members of the community. The show's astounding special effects proved dazzling whether you were 18 or 80, and it was richly enjoyed by all.

Ben Hobson – 13.9

Sixth Form Council

The Sixth Form Council was established earlier this year and is already having a major impact on college life. With approximately thirty members, the aim of the council is to extend dialogue between students and staff, and to allow students a voice in making the decisions that affect them. The council is divided into three sub-committees, (Social & Community, Environment & Health, Teaching & Learning) and members of all three have gone about their responsibilities with great vigour.

Working alongside The Head Boy and Head Girl, the social committee have already helped organise a leavers' trip to Alton Towers, and have established an inter-form football tournament that embraces both male and female players. With the help of Mr and Mrs Mullin, female students have been given the opportunity to attend self-defence classes – not just to ready them for the inter-form football. Sixth form teams will also be running in both The Race for Life and Race for Moore charity events in the coming months.

Food has topped the agenda for the Health Group, and the members created a questionnaire to gauge students' attitudes to food provision in the Sixth Form, with a view to widening choice. Meanwhile a cook book has been produced for those Year 13 students soon to depart for University, designed to nip in the bud a reliance on traditional student fare i.e. kebabs and cans of Red Stripe. Students have also instigated liaisons with a local recycling company and, thanks to their efforts, we plan to have recycling bins in place by September.

The ambition and enthusiasm of the council members have already proved inspiring, and we look forward to maintaining this momentum in the coming months.

Natalie Holmes
Assistant Director of Sixth Form

Music News

Young Masters!



Turton's well of music talent is clearly in no danger of drying up on the evidence of the Junior Concert that rocked the Arts Theatre on Wednesday 10th May. Junior Orchestra kicked proceedings off with storming renditions of pop hits like 'Let Me Entertain You', while new rock band, Levee, turned it up to 11 with a cover of Led Zeppelin's classic 'Moby Dick'. Showing the composure of seasoned professionals, several Year 7 soloists showcased their talents, before the evening swung to a close with the Junior Jazz Band. The future looks, and more importantly sounds, very healthy indeed.

Big Date for Our Big Band!

Meanwhile the Senior Jazz Band have gained further recognition of their blistering talent with an invitation to perform at The Best of the North-West Concert on 3rd July, at Manchester's ultra-grand Bridgewater Hall.

Postcards from the Cutting-Edge!

Thirty Year 9 students will be collaborating with professional composers and film producers, as well as students from schools across the country, between 22nd and 24th May, as they take part in an exciting project called 'Sonic Postcards'. Students will create sound and animations that capture the spirit of their towns, before sharing them with other participating schools via the Internet. The completed images will then be compiled into a film giving a unique visual and aural journey across the country that will be screened at Manchester's Cornerhouse Cinema on Friday 23rd June.

Emma Johnson - Music Dept.

A Visitor to Remember

It's not every author who gets to hear himself declared 'Mint!' by their fans, but that was the verdict on prize-winning novelist Alan Gibbons who spent a day at Turton earlier this term. Alan ran story-writing workshops for Year 8 & 9 students, and inspired torrents of creativity from the pupils. Additionally, as a reward for their outstanding conduct during the SATs, the whole of Year 9 had an hour long audience with the author in the Arts Theatre and students and staff alike were spellbound as he spun tales from his life and work.

It was a delight to see the students getting so much pleasure from such an energetic and enthusiastic practitioner of the written word. Mint, indeed!

Judith Sprawling
School Librarian

Headlines and Deadlines!

Thursday 16th March saw the school library transformed into a bustling newsroom as a hand-picked team of Year 7 reporters entered the Times Educational Supplement's annual newspaper competition. The challenge was to produce an entire newspaper, from scratch, in the space of a single day, covering everything from World Affairs to what's going on around school.

With the deadline looming over them, it was a race against the clock, but our crack team, assisted by Mrs Sprawling, Mrs Sweetlove, Miss Harris and Mrs Orgill didn't wilt under pressure, and the finished item hit the presses (well the printers and photocopiers anyway) in the nick of time.

Although we didn't win the competition, our entry was commended by the organisers, and we all had great fun in the process.

Holly Elliott – 7T3

Revision Round Up!

The panicky look in the eyes of Year 11 students over the last few weeks hasn't just been because they can't quite remember who they left their Leaver's Book with and fear they might never see it again, it's a sign that GCSE exams are hovering just around the corner and are drawing nearer every day. In order to allay their fears, many departments have recruited examiners to visit school and reveal the secret of exactly what they're looking for from successful exam candidates.

History called upon the services of AQA Chief Examiner Jim McCabe who guided 90 Year 11 students through a daylong session focussing on the exact requirements of the exam. Meanwhile, the Maths Department arranged for Kevin Tanner, Senior Examiner for Edexcel, to lead two ninety minute sessions, one to hoist 40 C/D borderline students onto the right side of that particular fence, the second aiming to do the same for 60 students perched between grades A and B. The English Department drafted in Peter Thomas who gave an insider's perspective to two groups of 30 students on how to wow his fellow examiners.

Science meanwhile have been running revision and coursework sessions throughout the last term to support students' efforts.

Ian Bland

Blood Donation Session



Nina Cooke, pictured giving blood during the National Blood Service's most recent visit to Turton.

It's a Woman's World...

Members of the male sex were surplus to requirements on Friday 5th May as Turton hosted its first Health, Wealth and Beauty Fair for Women. Over £1400 was raised for the PA with 40 stallholders offering everything from tarot card readings to legal advice from an all-female firm of solicitors. Massages and manicures were also on offer, and for an additional touch of indulgence, one could dip fresh strawberries into a chocolate fountain. Bliss.

Many thanks to Penny Elger and Jane Bailey for their tremendous work behind the scenes, and to Andy Mills, whom we would like to defend against accusations that he is a traitor to his gender, since he, along with Bev Philbin and Liz Smethurst and some helpful Year 9 students, prepared the Sixth Form area for the evening.



Fizz Fashion Show – Thursday 8th June

With summer just around the corner, it's no doubt time to give your wardrobe a seasonal reboot, and we're here to help with another of our enormously popular Fizz Fashion Shows. Designer and high-street clothes can be yours at prices significantly lower than those you'll find in the shops, making the ticket price of £3.50, including a glass of wine or soft drink, a veritable steal.

Summer Prize Draw – 13th July

With a first prize of £200 and a second prize of £100, not to mention an array of other prizes including weekends away and days out at local attractions, this year's Grand Prize Draw looks set to be our most impressive yet. Books of tickets will be distributed shortly, and we would greatly appreciate that you support us by selling at least one book from the five you will receive.

Future Plans

We've plenty of plans and ambitions for changes in the future but would welcome the input of new members, so if you've thought about coming along but never quite got round to actually doing so, now's the time to join us!

Tuesday 6th June (Parents' Forum at 6.30, PA meeting 7.30 – 9pm)
Please note change of date
 Tuesday 4th July – Social evening

Contact the PA:

Deborah - 811357 or email Deborah@hey01.freemove.co.uk
 Lesley - 305011
 Jane - 306771

250 Club Winners

March

- 1st Mark Fenn
- 2nd G Howells
- 3rd Fiona Walters

April

- 1st Deborah Nolan
- 2nd G Howells
- 3rd J Southern



Water Aid Awards Evening

Turton's fabulous fundraising efforts for the charity Water Aid were recognised at their Silver Anniversary Evening with the presentation of the Chief Executive's Award for money raised in school. Jamie Alnaimi and myself joined Mr Smith at the ultra posh Midland Hotel for the 'do', where we were served a delicious meal and were entertained by a string quartet and the Cheshire Choral Society, a female barber shop group who belted out a variety of songs, including a surprising version of 'I Predict a Riot'.

Fellow guests at our table complimented us on what a credit to the school we had been, and we now look forward to develop fund-raising for the charity across all parts of the school.

Matthew Luke - 9S3

Bafta Glory



Congratulations to former Turton student Justin Chadwick who was the toast of the television world earlier this month as he collected the profession's highest accolade, a BAFTA, for directing the BBC's universally lauded adaptation of 'Bleak House'.

Ian Bland

All Mapped Out!

Good news for those who, in the light of the current electrical rewiring that has seen traditional routes across the school overturned, the Turton site has recently been 'mapped' by orienteering experts, and an orienteering club will soon be up and running to put the map to use. Don't suppose anyone's got one handy and can tell me how to get from the staffroom to C1, do they?

Ian Bland

Turton High School Media Arts College

Newsletter
 MAY 2006



Issue 34



Good Luck

The examination season is well under way now and on behalf of all my colleagues on the teaching and support staff, I wish everyone in Years 11, 12 and 13 the very best of success. I am sure they will work hard over the next four or five weeks so that they can be relaxed and confident when the results are published in August.

Year 11 deserve great credit for how they conducted themselves over recent weeks. There has been a real sense of togetherness in this year group and we will miss those who leave us this summer, but we

are delighted to be welcoming so many t:mac students back in the Sixth Form.

It was a great pleasure to meet with the 6th Form Student Council representatives this week. They have many ideas for ways to further improve Sixth Form life and facilities, and we will be working with them to identify funding opportunities next year.

For those pursuing Media and the Arts courses through GCSE and A level there could be no greater inspiration than Justin Chadwick's recent Bafta Award. Good luck to all the rising stars of the future at t:mac.

John Porteous - Headteacher

Chemists Compete!

Year 12 students Amy Waters, Georgina Wharmby and Eddie Beach flew the flag for Turton at a Chemistry Analysis competition run by Manchester Metropolitan University earlier this term. The Turton team more than held their own in the competition, finishing above six grammar schools and a local rival school who it would be impolite to name. Oh, if you must, it was Canon Slade.

Cathy Bach – Head of Science

Our Day Out!

If this newsletter makes it from the depths of your child's bag in time, then you may still have the chance to grab a ticket for t:mac's production of 'Our Day Out' which runs from Tuesday 23rd to Friday 26th May, starting at 7:00pm.

The musical play follows the exploits of Mrs Kay's Progress Class as they wreak a trail of havoc on their way from inner-city Liverpool to Conwy Castle, much to the despair of super-strict Mr Briggs who tags along in the vain hope of stopping the trip from spiralling out of control.

Cast and technical crew have been working tirelessly for months to tackle the problem of how to transform the Arts Theatre into a zoo, fairground and beach, while just as difficult was the job of coaching our own angelic students into acting like the frisky little monkeys of the play.!

If you hurry, tickets might still be available from the Drama Office at £4 for adults and £2 for children.

**Jeannette Bimpson
 Drama Department**

A Stitch In Time!

Turton took over Farnworth's Technical Innovation Centre on the 28th April as we hosted a GCSE Textiles Revision Day. Our own students were joined by pupils from fellow North Cluster Schools for what proved to be an immensely valuable day as speakers from all areas of the Textiles Industry gave students an insight into their profession. Students enjoyed practical activities such as a production line exercise, and they left thoroughly fired up and confident for the approaching exams. Overall, the day was hugely successful and we hope to make this an annual event.

**Sarah Murphy
 Textiles Technology Teacher**



Strictly Prom Preparation

The limo's booked, the posh frock/tuxedo is hanging in the wardrobe; now, if you only knew how to tango, you'd be all set for the prom. About 30 Year 11 students can check this off their list of prom-related worries after they spent a morning turning elegant circles around the dance studio, receiving expert tuition in the fine art of ballroom dancing. Cold feet, rather than flat feet, afflicted a few of the male students, but all those who took part had an excellent time, and they will give a demonstration of their dancing prowess at the prom next month.

Katie Eyres – Alternative Curriculum Co-ordinator

Diary Dates

Following its enforced cancellation in March, Target Setting Day has been rescheduled for 6th June, while Year 6 Induction Evening will now take place on 6th July to avoid a clash with the World Cup Semi-final. Come on, England!