

PE News

With winter blasting everything in sight, it's been a fairly slow start to the New Year, with most outdoor teams yet to resume fixtures. Keep watching the notice board for details of upcoming matches, but don't for a second think we haven't been keeping ourselves busy...

All Hail (and sleet) the Cross Country Team!

Gusts and gales raged across Rivington on Wednesday 17th January as our cross-country team braved the elements to register some superb performances in the town Championships. Leading the field were the 6th Form girls team who won their event, led by Rachel Pounds who won her race outright. Louise Allmark (5th), Hannah Jackson (6th) and Jessica Mills (10th) all join Rachel in being selected to represent Bolton in the Greater Manchester Schools' event later this month.

Year 7 boys put in a fine team effort, finishing third, while April Stevenson won the year 10 race. Other notable runs came from Year 7's Luke Cramner, Ben Harrison and Georgia Taylor, Year 9's Jordanna Denton and Rob Ashworth of Year 11, all of whom raced their way to a place in the town line-up.

Hoop-hoop Hooray!

Turton is fast building a reputation as a fortress when it comes to basketball. Year 8 and 9 have already booked their places in the Bolton Schools' Championships final, while Year 7 and 10 are nicely poised to follow suit with the semi-finals looming. Sadly, Year 11 failed to make it a clean sweep, narrowly being edged out of the tournament.

New Governors

Three new Governors were appointed in October to serve for four years: Fabian Lord, Community Governor, John Mitchell, Parent Governor and Janet Sofield, Parent Governor.

John Porteous - Headteacher

Gold-Pedallists!

Five teams have been entered in the Bolton Cycling Championships to be held at Manchester's National Velodrome Centre. Three practice sessions will be held leading up to the event, where Mr Wilman will join our select crew of cyclists. See the notice board for more details.

Fight! Fight! Fight!

Roll over Big Daddy and tell Giant Haystacks the news, Turton is about to enter the wrestling ring! We are planning to enter a team in the National School championships in June, and practice is underway every Tuesday between 3:15 and 5:00pm. Sessions are open to both boys and girls, but please note there will be no mixed fighting. Nor any of that choreographed rubbish like on the telly either!

Sporting Round-Up

Kingswood will be the venue for the next stage in the **Golf** A-Team's assault on the Regional Championships. **Badminton** matches are underway again under the captaincy of Jordan McLoughlin. Practice takes place every Wednesday and all are welcome. A reminder that **Karate** Club takes place every Monday, while **Gym** Club is held on Wednesday.

High kicks have been the order of the day for Year 7 and Year 10 girls, but in very different ways. Year 10's have shown tremendous enthusiasm for **Thai-Boxing**, while the Year 7's have thrown their all into **cheerleading**. Indeed, so keen are the Year 7's that we're now looking to build cheerleading into the curriculum, so pom-poms at the ready!

**Chris Mullin
Head of PE**

Diary Date

Please note that school will be closed to students on Friday 16th February for a North Bolton Excellence Cluster joint training day (not Monday 26th as printed in the student planner).

How's My Newslettering?

Profiles of individual teachers and more details on extra-curricular activities were two of the ideas suggested by respondents to a questionnaire assessing levels of satisfaction with the school newsletter. Many thanks to all those who responded, particularly the vast majority of highly complimentary replies, and as ever we will strive to make improvements in the areas highlighted. In fact Mr Crompton (33, Sagittarius, from Hartlepool) is preparing for his close-up even as I write...

Ian Bland/Liz Smethurst

Coursework Catch-Up Ahoy!

Year 11 students drowning in a sea of coursework are being offered the chance to climb aboard lifeboats skippered by Mrs Ault during half-term. With ultimate deadlines looming in all subjects, this is a last chance to receive personal help and support. The sessions will take place in C6 every day between 9am - 3pm. Uniform isn't necessary, and refreshments will be provided to sustain students through the hard slog.

Diane Ault - Learning Mentor

Christmas Cake Competition

Competition was as fierce as ever for the annual Year 10 Christmas cake contest, giving judge Mr Trainor an extremely difficult task in selecting a winner. After great deliberation however, he decided that the prize should go to Sophie Green for her splendid 'Father Christmas in Bed' cake.

**Christine Birchby
Head of Design Technology**



From Edgworth to LA!

When David Beckham's LA Galaxy meet local rivals LA Chivas in the American MLS league next season, Becks might be surprised to hear a distinctively Bolton twang coming from one of the opponents jostling him for possession. Former Turton pupil John Cunliffe, who has excelled on the American college soccer circuit, has signed for Chivas on a temporary contract that he hopes will be made permanent in June. If it is, he can expect to come face to face with one of his boyhood heroes, and with the MLS certain to gain world-wide exposure on the back of Beckham's presence, it could help him realise his ambition of one day lining up in the Premiership.

Ian Bland

Advertisement Job Vacancy

Community Sports Support Officer
15 hours per week

Salary Scale 4/6 £ £16,137 to £22,293 per annum (pro rata)

The Governors are seeking to appoint a well organised person to this exciting new role.

You will be required to organise and develop a programme to enhance community access and use of the new MUGA facility at our school. An interest in sport is desirable, along with a commitment to promote healthy living within schools and the community.

The successful candidate will be able to work flexibly, for an average of two days per week. Some evening work may be required.

Please contact the school for further details and an application form.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Successful candidates will be subject to an Enhanced Disclosure by the Criminal Records Bureau.

Closing Date 2nd March 2007

'No, you can't have chips with that!'

The Healthy Schools Working Party met in January to develop a whole school food policy. Contributions were made by Governors, Environmental Services, parents and staff, as well as representatives from VOL, and early indications are that the prospects for Turkey Twizzlers appear bleak. Pending approval from the Governing Body, the policy will be posted in full on the school website soon, while paper copies are available on request from Bev Philbin in the t:mac office. Turton should have achieved Healthy Schools Status by the end of March this year. Anyone eager to learn more should view one of the following websites: www.wiredforhealth.gov.uk www.boltonhealthyschools.org www.foodinschools.org www.5aday.nhs.uk

Liz Smethurst - Assistant Headteacher, Community

School Travel Plan

Many thanks to all pupils, staff and parents who have completed a questionnaire intended to help us formulate a School Travel Plan. It is hoped that with your help we can identify issues of concern surrounding travel to and from school with a view to improving provision. Schools that develop a Travel Plan that addresses ways in which they can reduce reliance on car journeys, which are of course simultaneously harmful to the environment and do little to help the health of students, will be in line for a Capital Grant to invest in projects in the school grounds that will support the Travel Plan.

This initiative contributes to the 'Every Child Matters' agenda, which seeks to promote issues of health, safety and the need to make a positive contribution to society. For more information on 'Every Child Matters' visit www.everychildmatters.gov.uk

Liz Smethurst - Assistant Headteacher, Community

Dream Team!

Turton's Year 11 'Dream Team' participated in a Master Class for Young Enterprise for a whole day. Developing their own product, bartering and haggling for produce, and selling to shops, they truly became the next judges in our real life Dragon's Den!

Katie Eyres - Vocational Curriculum Co-ordinator



Year 8 Curriculum Evening

Year 8 Parents attended a Curriculum Evening in December. Mrs Lewyckyj and Ms Gorse gave presentations outlining the role of Learning Mentors while Mrs Birchby explained how the Design Technology department caters to the needs of Year 8 pupils.

Feedback indicated that those present found the evening to be informative and very useful, though the smaller than expected turnout was disappointing. If there are any issues you would like to see addressed through our Curriculum Evenings then please don't hesitate to contact me at school.

**Tania Lewyckyj
Deputy Headteacher**

TIC Visit

Designing the products of the future was the challenge laid down to 30 Year 8 pupils on a recent visit to Bolton's Technical Innovation Centre. Other outings to the TIC have seen Year 10 Resistant Materials GSCE students given the chance to experiment with top of the range CAD CAM equipment, while Year 7's have sampled 'smart materials' that question ideas we take for granted about the form and function of different items.

**Tania Lewyckyj
Deputy Headteacher**

Parents' Association

Please contact Lee Ann Beswick in our Finance Office on 333233 to make an appointment with Nadine on the 1st March.

Fashion Show

Winter might be holding court outside the window, but all thoughts turned to spring and summer at the latest 'Hooch and Bench' Fashion Show on February 8th. Turton students modelled the latest designer gear and £200 was raised as countless wardrobes received their seasonal upgrade.

Bank on some free cash!

Fancy making an easy £100? And earning £50 for the school in the process? Turton has teamed up with the Royal Bank of Scotland and anyone opening a new account can take advantage of this fantastic offer. All that's required of you is a minimum of £500 paid monthly into the account and to transfer at least 3 direct debits or standing orders. Nadine Rushton from RBS will be in school from 1.30pm to 4.30pm on Thursday 1st March to organise the new account. The offer is open to anyone with links to Turton, including parents and staff, and you will need to bring photo ID, a current bank statement and a recent utilities bill with your home address.

A Case of Success

Peter Ward, President of Turton Rotary Club and past president Neil Hardman present the display cabinet for the KS3 Celebration of Achievement Awards.



Pictured L-R Tania Lewyckyj, Deputy Headteacher, Peter Ward, Clare Scholes, Head Girl, Shaan Bassi, Head Boy and Neil Hardman.

Future Plans

The calendar of events for the year is already shaping up well. Summer will once again see our annual Prize Draw, and we are already seeking to stockpile spectacular prizes, so if you are in a position to contribute we would love to hear from you.

The meeting schedule for the remainder of the academic year is as follows, and as ever we offer an open invitation to anyone curious to learn more about the running of the school or eager to share ideas:

Tues 6 March: 7pm PA Meeting
Tues 1 May: 7pm PA Meeting
Tues 5 June: 6.30 Parents' Forum
7.30 PA Meeting
July: PA social TBA

Contact the PA:

Email pa@tmac.uk.com; or ring one of the PA committee members:

Deborah on 811357
Jane on 306771

Saturday Club

Aged between 4 and 13? Find yourself at a loose end of a Saturday afternoon? Then why not pay a visit to the Saturday club right here at Turton, where from 1:30 - 3:30pm during term times you can take part in arts and crafts activities as well as sports and group games. Entry is free and the meetings take place in the leisure centre.

In addition, sessions will run on a daily basis during the February half-term offering the same activities to 4 -13 year olds. So drag yourself away from the TV or the X-Box and be there!

Nicola Howarth - Community Play Development Officer

Options Evening

The annual Options Evening for Year 9 students and their parents was held successfully earlier this term. With the educational paths between 14 and 16 becoming more varied every year, the careful guidance and advice given at Options evening has never been more essential.

The current range of provision is due for rapid expansion in future years as the Government's plans for a Diploma route to run alongside the more familiar GCSE path come to fruition. The first Diplomas start to be offered from 2008 but by 2013 there will be fourteen available. This will mean Options Evening could well turn into Options Week! We will keep you informed about all these developments in future issues.

**Charlie Taylor
Deputy Headteacher**

Lusanda in Uganda Jazz Evening

On Friday January 26th the Senior Big Band performed to a sold out Barlow Institute in Edgworth to help raise funds for my year in Uganda with Project Trust. More than 120 people crammed into the tiny venue, and helped by guest vocalist Eddie Williams, a vibrant atmosphere was whipped up for listeners of all ages.

Many thanks to everyone who helped organise the event, and on the night, Eddie, the band, and of course Mr Parkinson, for all his hard work in getting the repertoire up to scratch. With profits of more than £1500 going towards meeting my target of £4,190 it was an immensely successful night.

Lusanda Donnelly 13.10

250 Club Winners

January	February
1st L Sisson	1st H Hardman
2nd J Finn	2nd G Howells
3rd C Allen	3rd G Howarth

Turton High School Media Arts College Newsletter

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'Once more unto the breach....'

As you will read in this newsletter, t:mac students are achieving great things in a whole host of different activities: academic, cultural and sporting. I congratulate them all for their energy, imagination and teamwork.

At the same time, for some students, the pressure is being applied to ensure they fulfil their potential in AS and A2, GCSE and SATs exams. Intervention classes, exam clinics, coursework catch-up sessions and holiday booster activities are all on the agenda over the next two or three months and I would urge you to support us by encouraging students in these year groups to take full advantage of what is on offer. I must also express my appreciation of the efforts of staff who are going more than the extra mile to give candidates the best chance of success this summer. To Year 11 in particular, I would emphasise that the efforts put in now with coursework, revision and exam preparation will make a real difference to the grades they receive in August.

These, in turn, can make a big difference to their future prospects and open the door to a wide range of career and study opportunities, so it's worth every bit of effort now to ensure a successful future.

On a different subject, we are making progress in reducing the level of anti-social behaviour by a small number of more selfish students in school. One problem which we have not yet eradicated is smoking on two or three school buses. We are working with the bus companies on this and individual students will be banned from using the buses for anything from 3-13 weeks if they continue to inflict their smoke on fellow travellers.

As in all things, we don't see why the 99% should suffer because of the anti-social behaviour of the 1%. In any case, the law change and nationwide ban coming into effect later this year will sharpen everyone's focus on this issue.

Thank you to all those who bring things to our attention and help us to resolve them.

**John Porteous
Headteacher**

Spray It With Verse!

Investigations into an outbreak of graffiti in the t:mac building have revealed a rather surprising group of culprits. Visitors to the weekly Age Concern session collaborated with Turton students on a project entitled 'Where memories meet dreams'. Working in partnerships that crossed the age gap, the junior partner recorded their memories of the past, while the senior one came up with their hopes for the future. These ideas were fused into poetic form, and the end product was displayed graffiti-style.

This hasn't been the only creative pursuit of the group. In December they experimented with acrylic paint and

printing with Indian designs, while at Christmas members performed a pantomime, and were treated to carols sung by Eagley Junior Choir, as well as a performance by Turton Dance Club. A real spirit of community and companionship is generated in the Wednesday afternoon sessions that's valued by all who attend.

Jane Sweetlove - Media



Work Experience 2007

Year 10 students have been busy searching for 'jobs' as the annual Work Experience Programme gets underway. This is stage one in a process that will culminate in two weeks in the workplace in July, before which they must apply for their jobs.

In a change to previous years we will be working closely with Bolton and Bury Enterprise Business Council whose vast database of participating local companies will be made available to students.

As in the past, students will also have the chance to find their own placements, and we are always eager to hear from any employers willing to receive students for this valuable and rewarding fortnight. Anyone interested in registering their company can contact myself or Lynn Shelmerdine, or email to saundersm@tmac.uk.com.

**Mark Saunders
Work Experience Co-ordinator**

VOL in Action!

The VOL teams from the various Year groups are as busy as ever, proving that when pupils are handed responsibility they rise to it with vigour and determination. The Year 11 team have recently completed an audit of recycling availability around the school site and are now liaising with the local authority to increase the number of school recycling points. It is hoped that by the beginning of February we will have highly visible points where pupils can recycle plastic, tin and old mobile phones. VOL - leading the way on sustainability issues!

**Tania Lewyckyj
Deputy Headteacher**