



WEEKLY BULLETIN

17th May 2012

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents,

As you may have seen via the school website, I am delighted to inform you that students from Richard Lander School have won a national Science competition. A few weeks ago, our students entered the South West final with regard to an Olympic themed anti-doping challenge. This got them through to the national final which was held in London at the end of last week. The competition started with 400 entries from across the country and the six finalist schools had to present their entry to an esteemed panel of judges. This success is superb, and I would like to commend both the students who took part and Miss Steen and Mrs Rea for leading on this project. Thanks also to Mr Bond who accompanied the team to London.

I hope that parents are accessing the new website at least a couple of times a week. It will be a main source of communication from school to home; and will also be the opportunity to showcase and celebrate the achievements of our students. There is plenty on the website for you look at and we are really pleased with the contribution of both staff and students thus far.

Please email any comments you have regarding the new website and how it could be developed further to support parents and students alike, using the 'contact' function via the website itself.

Kind regards,
S Mulcahy



Important Dates for your Diary

- 21st—25th MAY**
- 28th MAY —1st JUNE**
GCSE Exams All Week. Timetables have been issued to students and are on the school website.
- FRIDAY 18th MAY**
Community Swimming Gala
- 21st—25th MAY**
GCSE Exams All Week.
- WEDNESDAY 23th MAY**
Y9 Graduate Fashion Show in Falmouth
- THURSDAY 24th MAY**
Y8 Parents Evening
- WEDNESDAY 30th MAY**
Primary Sports Cluster Olympic Day
- WEDNESDAY 30th MAY**
Duchy Young College Taster Session
- THURSDAY 31st MAY**
Meet the Maths Examiner—Y11
- FRIDAY 1st JUNE**
Jubilee Non Uniform Day
- MONDAY 4th JUNE**
Half Term

'Bags 2 School' : Lander Uganda 2012



Do you want to clear out that spare room, or get rid of those old clothes, that are never worn anymore? Then please support our campaign by collecting a blue bag from Miss Elliott in the Mezzanine.



We need unwanted but re-usable, clothes, paired shoes, belts, hand bags, bedding and soft toys for our 'bags to school' campaign. Return your filled blue bag to school, and we will receive 50 pence per kilogram collected. All proceeds to the 'Lander to Uganda' projects fund.

Just think you will have more room in the wardrobe and will also have the knowledge that you are helping a most worthy cause, providing hope and a better life for many hundreds of orphaned children in schools of Uganda.

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Year 8 “AntiDope” Team Win National Scientists In Sport Final

Our Year 8 team has won the national final of GlaxoSmithKline’s Scientists in Sport Anti-Doping Challenge inspired by the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, after designing a portable drug testing kit. Year 8 students Calum Moore, Euan Wilkinson, Lucas Edwards, Jessica Wright, Rosie Buttle and Megan Wilson-Newbury beat the other 5 teams in the national final which took place at the Science Museum in London, last Friday.



At the final, each team presented its testing kit, to a panel of judges including: Professor David Cowan, Head of the Drug Control Centre at King’s College London and Director of the London 2012 anti-doping laboratory; Kate Walsh the captain of the Great Britain Olympic hockey team and David Kenworthy, Chair of UK Anti-Doping. Kits had been designed to detect five mock banned substances.

The school will now receive £1000 worth of science equipment and the winning team members will be given an exclusive tour of the GSK laboratories in Harlow where all the testing for the London 2012 Games will be carried out. This high security facility is not usually open to the public and the students from Richard Lander will be the only students permitted to visit this important London 2012 venue.

Miss N Steen, science teacher said: “We’re delighted to have won the national final and it’s testament to the passion and enthusiasm of our students that they’ve been able to win a national competition against 400 teams. The whole school is extremely proud of them. The competition has been great for science at our school. It has inspired our students to think differently about science, as they have been able to apply the things they learn in the classroom to something as big as the Olympic Games. We’re now planning to roll out the mock anti-doping test lessons through our curriculum and use them in our science lessons in the years to come.”



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Year 9 Students Short Listed for the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Arts Competition



Georgia Wallis, Anona Griffiths, Hannah Healey, Georgia Cotterill, Cerys Abbott, Tory Cane and Calum Deakin have been short listed for the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Arts Competition!

These students, along with their families have been invited to the Royal Cornwall Show for the potential prize giving in the BBC Radio Cornwall Show Theatre!

Their work will be displayed at the show and also, with the help of Plymouth University students, in a touring exhibition of entries across the county. This is a prestigious competition prompted by the Cornwall Lieutenancy.

The competition judges are: Edward Bolitho (Lord Lieutenant), Ben Giles (film maker), Kurt Jackson (artist), Patrick Gayle (author), Wendy Delf (Cornwall Council), Hilary Bracegirdle (Royal Cornwall Museum) and Professor David Coslett (Plymouth University).

For a closer look at this fantastic piece of art and to see what the students have to say about it please visit the school website and follow the feature link on the home page. (Ms S Body)

Maths Challenges and European Kangaroos!

The UK Mathematics Trust runs a series of maths challenges nationwide for students to compete in. In the Intermediate Challenge this year Richard Lander received 7 Gold, 16 Silver and 25 Bronze certificates. The three students pictured below, not only received their gold certificates but also, progressed further in the competition. Mark Simpson (Year 11 and best in school), Sam Crabtree (Year 10) and Harrison Moore (Year 9) were three of the 4,427 UK students invited to compete in the European Kangaroo. This was a one hour paper taken in over 30 countries worldwide on Thursday 15 March 2012.

Massive congratulations to Mark Simpson who achieved a score of 85, compared with the national mean of 63, and also to Harrison Moore who achieved a score of 100, compared with the national mean of 76. Both were awarded a Certificate of Merit. These are Richard Landers best ever results in this competition. (Mrs C Beech)

Harrison Moore, pictured front, said: "It was a fun experience to participate in a competition against the best mathematicians from other countries."



Richard Lander would also like to congratulate Harry Searle in Year 9 on being shortlisted for the Magistrates' Court Mock Trial 2011/12 Court Reporter Competition. More on great achievement in next weeks Bulletin.



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Ten Tor and Jubilee Challenge Report

The Ten Tors challenge requires participants in teams of six to check into ten selected tors in the correct order, unsupported. They have to take with them all the supplies needed for a two day expedition, together with the necessary equipment to camp overnight as well as cope with whatever conditions the moor throws at them. This means their rucksacks can weigh up to 30 pounds.

After many months of training and preparation, which began way back in October, the Richard Lander teams were ready to take part in the Ten Tors Challenge which took place over the weekend 11th and 12th May. This year was a bit of a mixed bag. Although participating in the 45 mile category the year 11 team had to cope with a very long route that was in reality nearer to 55 miles. With blazing sun over head and boggy ground underfoot three of the team found the conditions too much and had to drop out. Normally this would have resulted in the remainder being disqualified, but they were allowed to join with another school who, although being sixth form students, were very grateful for the superior navigation skill of our team. As a result Alex Davis, Sophie Bowden and Tom Lowe completed the challenge and received their very hard won medals.

By contrast the year 10 team; Ryan Hodges, Reece Light, Thom Ryan, Phone Naing, Roz Whitworth, led by Sam Crabtree managed to cope with the conditions better and absolutely stormed round their route. They arrived at the finish at quarter past eleven on the Sunday morning, the fastest ever time that any Richard Lander 35mile team has completed the course. They will have averaged over 2 miles per hour, which for rough terrain is very impressive. In fact they were so good that they reached and camped at Tor 8, the maximum distance allowed on day 1, with two hours to spare.

For the first time this year we entered a participant in the Jubilee challenge, which is shorter version of the ten tors for students with learning difficulties. Jed Tinney, ably supported by Joe Curgenvin and Mr Vaughan, completed his 7.5 mile route in less than 5 hours. Very well done Jed! (Mr D Tointon)

For more photos of the events please see the school website.





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Gifted and Talented Report: Oxbridge Opportunities



Last week 8 year 10 students were fortunate enough to have the opportunity to take part in an Oxford University taster day at Wadham College. Students travelled up to Oxford by train on Wednesday taking in sights of the city in the afternoon. Students had a meal in the city followed by a night at the Youth Hostel.

On Thursday morning the students were met by representatives of Wadham College and given talks and tours by students on University life and the application process. The first afternoon workshop was spent at the Pitt Rivers Museum which has a fascinating array of objects from around the world. Students took part in an objects challenge helping them to learn more about the study of Anthropology. The final session was based in the city centre and asked students to complete a photo challenge around Oxford. The students had to take a variety of different photos to show for instance, how many students you can fit into a phone box (pictured left), alongside taking photographs of important Oxford landmarks. All the students were excellent ambassadors for the school and gained a great deal from the experience. Maya Sheldon from Year 10 said having this experience "makes me want to study more and succeed in getting really good GCSE's as I know that they will be useful in the future"

For further student comments please see the school website.



Year 11 GCSE **English Literature** revision sessions for the following exams

A662 Modern Drama - An Inspector Calls

A663 Prose from Different Cultures - Of Mice and Men

A664 Literary Heritage Prose and Contemporary Poetry - Animal Farm and Poetry Skills

A680 Information and Ideas

Date	Tuesday lunchtime	Wednesday afterschool	Room
22nd and 23rd May	A664 Contemporary Poetry: AO2	A680 Information and Ideas skills: Section B - Effective openings and endings	102



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Upcoming College Taster Days for Year 10



Year 10 will be attending college taster days on Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th July. All students need to register for their sessions at Cornwall College by going to the following web address: www.cornwall.ac.uk/ed/richardlander . **They need to do this as soon as possible as some of the sessions are filling up quickly** – they can register from home or in school during the lunch hour. The forms for selecting Truro College sessions will be done during PD lessons. (Mrs B Stokes)

Oxford University – Investigating Medicine

On Saturday 21 July we will be running an event in Oxford, Investigating Medicine, for year 11 students who are interested in Oxford and seriously considering applying to university to study medicine. This will provide them with information on applications, career paths, and the opportunities available through studying other medical-related and science courses. The provisional programme is:

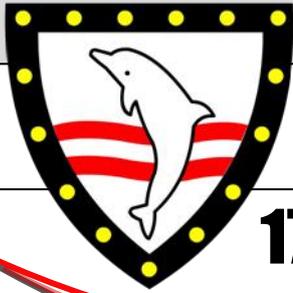
10.00-10.30	Arrival of students with parents, registration
10.30-11.30	Professor Robert Wilkins: So You Want to be a Doctor?
11.30-12.30	– Students: Sessions with undergraduates on medical ethics / science research skills – Parents and Carers: Careers and finance sessions
12.30-13.30	Free time for lunch
13.40-14.30	Subject-based Taster Session 1 for students
14.35-15.30	Subject-based Taster Session 2 for students
15.30-16.00	Summing up, Q&A, evaluation.

We very much encourage parents and guardians to accompany their children on this event, and will be running morning sessions especially for them. Even where this is not possible, a responsible adult must accompany all participants to the events. Applications should be made by individual students, using copies of the attached form. Please note that the form must be signed by **both** a teacher **and** the student's parent or guardian. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis to applicants who meet the following criteria:

- Be completing their final year of GCSE courses, and be predicted to gain a majority of A* and A grades.
- Be planning to attend a state school or college to study for A Levels (or equivalent).
- Be intending to take chemistry and at least one of biology, physics or maths at A Level.

Be interested in studying medical sciences at university.

For more information please see Ms Hope or Mrs Stokes



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Plymouth University Peninsula Schools of Medicine and Dentistry, are holding an Open Day on **Saturday 9th June 2012**.

At the Open Day students will be able to talk to our medical students, academic and clinical tutors and experience hands on displays in areas such as:

- Taking blood pressure
- Practice CPR
- Intubation
- Visit our Life Science Resource Centre
- Observe a Small Group Learning session

In addition they can also;

- Attend a presentation on the BMBS programme
- Find out more about the Admissions process
- Campus and Accommodation tours

(Mrs B Stokes)

National Citizen Service 2012

Young People Cornwall, as part of NCS South West, have places available for young people of year 11 age to take part in an exciting summer programme which will offer them the chance to meet new friends, get involved in their local community and participate in a range of fun and challenging activities including two residentials. Open to all young people in or out of school. **FREE**



We are offering the following:

Week 1: Residential outdoor activities and team building.

Week 2: Residential ...Young people widen their view of volunteering opportunities in the community.

Week 3: Young people plan, organise and deliver a community action project to benefit others in their area.

The programme begins on the 9th of July and is then repeated from the 13th August. Please let all eligible young people know about this exciting opportunity.

In October we will bring together young people from across the South West who have taken part in NCS this summer for a gig/celebration

Please look at links on our website - www.ypc.org.uk and also www.ncssouthwest.co.uk for leaflets and posters
www.facebook.com/ncssouthwest
www.youtube.com/ncssouthwest

For further information, leaflets and posters, or to book places, please contact Kate Andrews kate-an@ypc.org.uk or telephone her on 01872 222447.