

# A SNAPSHOT OF JEFFERSON SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

Issue 6

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the end of term it is time to reflect upon another successful year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jefferson staff who have worked tirelessly to ensure that your child is happy and achieving and for creating a culture of excellence.



I would also like to thank you for your support throughout the year particularly at our Creative Evening and our recent performance of Hairspray. Being part of your child's education is very important and together we can effectively support our young people in whatever they do. Attendance at Review Days remains good, I cannot stress enough how important it is for you to attend.

We have some very exciting plans for next year which include an added emphasis on creativity and of course our push to improve levels at Key Stage 3 and grades at Key Stage 4.

We return on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September and the arrangements for the start of term are detailed below.

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2010

- Year 7, 8 and 9 will arrive at 10:00am and will leave at 12:00pm
- Year 10 and 11 will arrive at 12:30pm and will leave at 2:30pm

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2010

- All pupils will arrive at 10:00am and will leave at 2:40pm

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2010

- All pupils will arrive at 8:30am where they will follow a normal timetable

As you know Excelsior Academy has a clear Uniform Policy and we will continue to maintain our high standards. I would like to ask for your continued help and support regarding this in the new Academic Year.

Have a safe and happy summer.

Yours faithfully

*J Futers*

Miss J Futers

Jefferson School Principal



Jefferson have continued to work with St James' Church in Benwell. The pupils participate and contribute to a community project involving local residents of all ages working together to bring the story of Noah's Ark to life using knitting skills.

Jefferson had the important task of making the Ark itself which is now the centre piece of a huge display in the church.

This project has been successful in bringing together Jefferson pupils and our local community.



## FAMILY DAY



Jefferson hosted Excelsior Academy's first Family Day in May this year.

Parents, staff and pupils had a fantastic day at Plessey Woods.

Working with parents is very important for both children and families. Events like the Family Day and Review Days are crucial to your child's success.



Our last Review day on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2010 was very successful with 66% of parents either attending on the day or through follow up contact.

Thank you for your support on these days it is appreciated.

Family Day will certainly be in the calendar for next year.....watch this space!

## CREATIVE ARTS EXHIBITION



In July we hosted the second annual Creative Arts Exhibition which was even bigger and better than last year. The Chair of Governors, Mr Fair, along with parents and other guests enjoyed an evening of music, art, drama and dance.

Full marks to Miss Coulson's team and the pupils for a fabulous event.

## HAIRSPRAY



Jefferson pupils and staff again contributed to the Academy Summer Production of "Hairspray".

We had two sell-out performances. Before the performances the cast and crew had a two day trip to London to see a performance of Hairspray.

## BLENCATHRA CHALLENGE



Miss Wilkinson (Humanities) led a team of pupils on the Blencathra Challenge in the Lake District. Jefferson and Armstrong pupils worked together on this Eco Project. Follow up work was completed in school on their return and also at Scotswood Nature Garden.

This challenge helped pupils to work together on team building and personal challenges. Pupils learnt about Eco issues and ways of improving the countryside.

## KIELDER FOREST

Mr Carville, Miss Humphries and a group of Jefferson pupils braved Kielder Forest to enjoy a variety of challenging activities including canoeing, climbing and walking.

Pupils thoroughly enjoyed their experience!



## MOOR HOUSE ADVENTURE CENTRE

Mr Glenwright and a team of Jefferson staff worked with a group of Year 8 pupils on a residential trip to Moor House Activity Centre in Durham.

Our sponsor Lord Laidlaw funded the majority of the experience for the group where most of the pupils had not been on a residential before.

Pupils were involved in outdoor activities based on team building exercises.



## PREPARATION FOR LIFE

All Jefferson pupils are involved in a PFL course every week (Preparation for Life). This course aims to give Jefferson pupils access to different activities and of course the more traditional learning areas of RE and PHSE. An important part of the course is learning about other areas of life experience.

This term some of the events we have hosted are:

- “Show Racism the Red Card”
- Healthy Eating – “Fruity Friday”
- Maths Challenge at the Centre for Life
- Martial Arts Training - “Looking after yourself”



## MEETING THE LORD MAYOR OF NEWCASTLE

Amy Redhead (Jefferson School Student Council Vice Principal) along with other Academy pupils met the Mayor of Newcastle at the Civic Centre. Pupils asked questions about issues relevant to them.



# Week of Creativity

During the last week of term we celebrated our second annual week of creativity. This year all our pupils had opportunities to experience: vocal workshops, line dancing, hip-hop dancing, football street skills, West African drumming, steel pans, drama using masks, a traditional sports day, a disco, a live performance from an up and coming boy band and a day trip to Flamingo Land. Here are some of the highlights.



Nicole, Samiha and Dikchhya getting into the groove!



Emre getting dressed up before his performance.



Hatrick Project doing some football skills with the pupils.



Joe and Adam getting into the swing of things!



If it rains for most of the Summer blame this lot!



Khaos Theory stole many hearts on the day.



We have never seen Mr Brannan move so quickly.



Paul and Asrafur getting ready for their big egg and spoon race.



You can get a smile out of Fatin even in adversity!



Oops Catalin (in white bottoms) gets it all wrong!



Year 9 girls all dolled up for Flamingo Land.



Azal and Saliema giving the big rollercoaster a miss.



A desperate Mr Glenwright trying to get Mrs Glenwright a perfect wedding present!



Just as well Bradley and the boys were having lunch after this ride!



Toon Toon Come on Army!

Mr Ruddick (from Sunderland) still a Black and White fan at heart. We wish him all the best in his new School.

## TERM/EVENT DATES

- Autumn Term begins Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2010
- **Jefferson Achievement Evening** September – details to follow
- Autumn Half Term 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> October 2010
- Autumn Term ends 17<sup>th</sup> December 2010
- Spring Term begins Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011
- Spring Half Term 21<sup>st</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> February 2011
- Spring Term ends 15<sup>th</sup> April 2011
- Summer Term begins 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2011
- Summer Half Term 30<sup>th</sup> May-3<sup>rd</sup> June 2011
- Summer Term ends 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2011