

# Harton News

## The Harton Technology College Parents' Newsletter

### Head Teacher's Comments

Many thanks to the vast number of parents and guardians who completed the recent **questionnaire** on their perceptions of the standards of education at Harton Technology College.

I would like to extend a warm invitation to all parents and guardians to a meeting at the school on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 6:00pm** when I propose to share the full findings of this survey and provide the opportunity to indicate how I intend to respond to any concerns raised. Clearly, we have done well, but are not complacent about the results. Instead we intend to examine where we can improve further (see attached).

We are currently awaiting similar feedback from our extensive survey of staff and students at Harton Technology College.

### Year 10 Students – Work Related Learning

Two students from our **Year 10 Catering & Hospitality Vocational Group** have been selected to represent South Tyneside College and the School at the Catering Managers Association 14 – 16 Competition at St James' Park, Newcastle, on 9<sup>th</sup> March. Jack Trump entered the 'Scones' section and Stephanie Sweet the 'Stir Fry' section. The rest of this vocational group attended the competition in support of these students.

**UPDATE** – Stephanie Sweet **WON** her competition - well done Stephanie! and well done to Jack for a great effort.

The **Year 10 Hairdressing Vocational Group** has been invited by South Tyneside College to enter the 14-16 Schools Link Hairdressing Competition at Kirkley Hall, Ponteland, on 12<sup>th</sup> April. The group of 14 girls were spectators at the AHT Competition on 14<sup>th</sup> March in Gateshead to help prepare their entries. Good Luck girls!

March 14<sup>th</sup> saw the start of a week long **Employability Skills Project** for our **Year 10 Work Related Group**. 30 students participated in a project at the Newcastle Chronicle, attended a Personal Skills Development Course with the Army and attended various workshops.

Harton Technology College has once again been invited to take part in the **TDR 'Tomorrow's Engineers Initiative'**. This exciting project comprises work experience and business mentoring with major local engineering companies and provides invaluable careers advice.

23 of our **Year 10 GNVQ Applied Business Studies** students recently spent the day at **Orchard Information Systems** in Newcastle. The company provided a workshop covering company objectives, functions, departments and customer care – all essential elements of the business studies course. Many thanks to the staff at Orchard Information Systems for their invaluable support.

### Sports Hall Update

Building work on the Sports Hall is progressing very well. The steel work is being erected at present and the build is on schedule for the finished Sports Hall to be ready mid to late August.



### School Dates

**Students break up for the Easter holidays on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2005. Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March is a Staff Inservice Training Day.**

- Spring term ends Wednesday 23 March 2005.
- Summer Term starts Monday 11 April 2005.
- May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 2 May 2005.
- Half Term ends Friday 27 May 2005, return on Monday 6 June 2005.
- Summer holidays commence Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July, return on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2005.

### Attendance & Punctuality

Well done to all students whose attendance remains excellent! However, there are a small minority of students who arrive late to school on a regular basis. Could I please remind students and parents that the bell for the start of school rings at 8:30am and students should be in their form rooms no later than 8:40am.

### 'OKLAHOMA!'

Once again the students of Harton Technology College had great success with their spring production of 'OKLAHOMA!' Over 40 students from Years 8 to 11 were directly involved and the cast had a strong supporting production team of staff members.

Rehearsals paid off in a slick, sharp and professional performance enjoyed by all! Auditions and rehearsals are soon to start on '**Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**' for March 2006.

### ROCK CONCERT

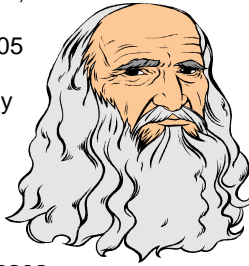
A '**SPECTACULAR**' **Rock Concert** took place on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 7:00 pm in the School Hall.

Students and Staff were 'strutting their stuff' – "Bad Habit" performed '**LIVE**' and there was a Special Mystery Guest Appearance!

**IT WAS A SELL OUT!!!!**

## Students' Events and Achievements

- **Net 05 Animation Award** – Yve Smith, Carmen Green, Steven Robson and Richard Milburn all attended the Net 05 regional award ceremony at the Gosforth Park Hotel. At the ceremony the students received recognition for an outstanding contribution.
- **CC4G – Computer Club For Girls** – The club is now up and running for students in Year 7.
- **Web Design and Entrepreneur Classes** – since January a group of Year 7 students have been involved in learning how to create and design websites using cutting edge technology and packages.
- **Cluster Arts Project** – Years 9 & 10 students are working with other students from St Wilfrid's, Mortimer and Brinkburn. The project is aimed to produce a performance that will raise aspirations and awareness of options after school.
- **University Masterclasses 2005** – Year 10 students are attending Masterclasses run by Northumbria and Newcastle Universities which aim to expand and enrich learning at KS4. The Masterclasses involve Business Studies, Art and Chemistry and also new areas such as Built Environment and Geomatics.
- **Etching Renaissance Class** - A group of Year 10 Art students are currently attending an Etching Renaissance Class at St. Josephs. An exhibition of their work will follow in the Summer Term.



### Aimhigher

- **Expanding Horizons Conference** – Selected students from Years 10 & 11 attended a 3-day conference re. vocations and the work place.
- **Aimhigher Roadshow** – In February students were given the opportunity to explore their options post 16 in the unique and fully equipped Roadshow Tour Bus.
- **Cragrats** – The Cragrats Theatre Company visited the school and delivered a performance to the whole of Year 9 about higher education options after school. **Hefce Applications** – Students in Year 11 have applied for places on the regional Hefce Summer Schools which will allow them to experience University life first hand by actually living on campus for a week! We wish them luck!!

## GCSE Examinations

**Message from Mr Brooks-Tyremen (Examinations Officer):-**

- Could I please urge all Parents to encourage their sons and daughters in Year 11 to **start their GCSE Revision NOW** and not wait until the night before their various examinations. *'A little bit of revision on a regular basis NOW goes a long way!!'*
- Also would all Year 11 students please check their Green Sheets to ensure they are entered for the correct examinations and that their personal details are correct.
- GCSE and GNVQ examinations will be well under way/completed (either/or) by the time our next Newsletter is issued. Best wishes to all students about to take examinations – we look forward to receiving some excellent results in August!

## Mural by Year 9 Art Students

Miss McCaffery (Art Teacher) and a group of Year 9 students have painted a mural by the senior girls rest rooms, reinforcing the message "**Harton says NO to Bullying!**"



## PTA Gourmet Meal at the College

A fund raising 'Gourmet Meal' has been organised at South Tyneside College on Thursday evening 5<sup>th</sup> May. Details to follow!

## Sporting Activities

**Golf** – Mr Cartwright & Mr Carlisle organised 3 golf teams to represent the school in the British Heart Foundation Junior Golf Championship 2005. The National Final is to be held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2005 at the Belfry where the Ryder Cup was played between the USA and Europe in 2002.

**Trampoline** – Harton now has its very own Trampoline Club! Year 9 boys (25 strong) every Tuesday 3:30 to 5:00pm. The boys have all achieved Level 7 Certificate in Trampoline. New members welcome!

## Year 10 - Duke of Edinburgh Award

**Congratulations to: Natalie Brown, Lynsey Ross, Laura Harrison, Jessica Riley and Kelsey Arthur**

whose applications for the Bronze Award of the scheme have been approved this term. The girls can collect their certified record books from Mr. Williams. Other candidates who have completed all sections of the Bronze Award should submit their record book to Mr. Williams for certification as soon as possible. Silver Award can commence next term once full certification has been achieved at Bronze level.



## Community Corner

### Community Wardens

The area now boasts 2 Community Wardens who patrol around the school and neighbouring area. Their purpose is to enable all of the community to access all areas and to enjoy the facilities. These Wardens will inform both the Police and the School of any areas where they perceive a problem. This could include anti-social behaviour, vandalism or environmental issues.

### Community Membership

Details of **Community Membership** and times are available from the School Office:



Lisle Road, South Shields  
NE34 6DL  
☎ 4564226 Fax: 427 1478



