

PROFESSOR LEONOR BRIONES VISITS SWANLEA



ALSO!

**SWANLEA GETS FLASHMOBBED BY DISS
SWANLEA MUSICIANS PERFORM WITH THE ROYAL
PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
BP TURN SWANLEA MATHMATICIANS INTO TRADERS
SWANLEA STUDENTS MEET THE QUEEN!**

LETTER FROM THE HEAD

MS AUSTIN



Many congratulations to Peter Takacs (left) who joins an ever-increasing pool of Swanlea alumni to be offered a place at the country's leading universities. Peter will be reading Computer Science at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, next year, and we are absolutely delighted for our ex-Head Boy's outstanding achievement. It is wonderful when our ex-students come to us to share their good news with their teachers, and I know I speak for us all here when I say that we love to hear of it!

This academic year has really seen the arts subjects at Swanlea flourish. A special mention must go to Mr Shindler and Ms Brownlee for their tireless work with the new Dance and Music initiatives happening. The school has been enriched by these wonderful performances.

Linda Austin

LETTER FROM THE GOVERNORS

MS AUSTIN, COMMUNITY GOVERNOR



Dear Parents, Students and Friends of Swanlea school,

Firstly, on behalf of all the Governors at Swanlea, I would like to extend our thanks to the school community for their hard work and support. As Governors, we meet with staff regularly and receive reports on what

is happening, and what people are working on. We know that the school community works incredibly hard to continue achieving and I am sure you will enjoy reading about just some of the extraordinary events that have taken place over the Spring term in this edition of Swanlea News.

Secondly, for those of you who do not already know, Swanlea has recently launched a structured programme to enable parents to become trained as volunteers within school. We already have five parents working as volunteers, and we are delighted that they have offered their time and skills so generously. Our current group of volunteers do a range of

extremely valuable activities in school, from assisting with administrative work, helping within lessons, volunteering as a midday supervisor to offering extra tuition to students. If you feel that you might be able to offer some time and help contribute to school even more, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please do contact Ms Choudhury, Parental Engagement Coordinator, on 020 7422 7853 to find out more about what this exciting new partnership.

If any parent, student or friend of the school would like to contact any member of the Governing body, please do feel free to do so at any time. Please do call the school number on 020 7375 3267 if you would like to reach us. If you would like to find out more about the Governors at Swanlea, please visit the school website on www.swanlea.towerhamlets.co.uk/governors.

Best wishes,

Annette Austin
Community Governor

Swanlea School Business & Enterprise College

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PROF PROMOTES PROGRESS

This year, eight extraordinary women from around the world joined together to form the W8. These amazing women have

dedicated their lives to fight for health and education in their own countries.



15th March Swanlea was lucky to have one of these extraordinary women visit from the Philippines. Professor Briones is in the UK to campaign on public health with Oxfam. The campaign asks the UK government to maintain its financial aid commitment of 0.7% GDP and to champion public healthcare services, not private.

Professor Briones taught us about the health provisions in her country. We all thought that we take our health service for granted and we were shocked at how little the people in the Philippines got, for example, we can call an ambulance if we need one and we do not have to pay but in the Philippines if you call an ambulance you have to pay about £600 for it and then sometimes it doesn't come!

Professor Briones also told us a story about a boy who died because he did not have the money for treatment and every hospital he went to told him that they could not treat him because he had no money.

Professor Briones talked to us about how important youth action and participation is to help build a more equal world. We feel that we should work together to make the world a better place so that there is good education and health care for everyone. Many thanks to Ms Williams for organising this visit.

ARTICLE BY: *Md Jamil Numan 8S
Halima Miah Kamaly 8A
Azward Rahman 8E
Ishityaq Kamal 8W*



RAW SLICES

Thursday the 10th of December 2009 marked an event that astounded many music lovers, as they witnessed some of the most epic music performances of all time. Young students of Swanlea School performed pieces of music, some made up their own and others chose classics and modified them into their own masterpieces.



The evening started off with the performers being introduced by Swanlea School music teacher, Ms Brownlee. The opening piece was a group performance called "Beat it" it was a drum performance devised by Muznibin Ali and Ms Brownlee. The crowd went wild after hearing this incredible display of rhythm and technique by these young musicians. The crowd was then tantalised by a wonderful

rendition of 'Oh When the Saints', the piece consisted of Muznibin Ali on the saxophone, accompanied by a group of Year 7,8 and 9 students on both the saxophones and clarinets. The audience adored this startling performance and absolutely admired the group for their courage. Another ensemble piece early in the concert was given by the Swanlea String Ensemble. It was incredible and truly a sparkling rendition of 'Twinkle Twinkle'.

The concert also featured three heart warming piano pieces, one was 'Simplicity' performed by Elyse Catterall and Puja Gurung, and the crowd was absolutely moved by their display. The second piano performance was by Juhab Uddin, it was a Mozart piece and Ms Brownlee was especially impressed by his performance. I don't think anyone was more surprised than Juhab himself when he heard himself play and receive well-deserved applause. The last of the three piano performances was given by a very brave student from Year 7, Nihshiim Uddipan,

who delighted the audience with his musical sincerity. One of the most well received performances was the choir which featured members of all year groups. They sang a wonderful version of 'Something inside So Strong' by Labri Siffre. The audience was dazzled by their voices and team work. Another piece that wowed the crowd was the rock solid performance 'Knocking on Heavens Door'. What was unusual about the performance was that they only had three people, a bass player, a guitarist and a drummer; even so the crowd was still on the edge of their seats.



The final piece was by far the most astounding performance of the entire concert; it featured the entire year 11 Music Class ensemble to perform 'Trouble' by Coldplay. And, play they did as they showed amazing teamwork and unbelievable music ability. At the end of the show the hall was thundering with applause, and the schools Head Teacher Ms Austin rightly stated "this was the best music concert in Swanlea's history".

BY FRED VARLEY 11M



MUSIC NOTES

It has been another exciting year for



music at Swanlea. In this year which is officially the DCSF Year of Music, Swanlea School has been excelling in every aspect of music. There have never been more children playing instruments and there have already been 6 exciting music events with another 3 to go!

New music teacher Mr Euden has made such a positive impact, inspiring many budding saxophonists. There is even a rumour that he intends on restoring the DJ workshop and Swanlea beats club...stay tuned for more info about that!



Our talented band – 'The Mirrors' represented the school at the XLP showcase, where they were highly commended for their originality and musicality. They performed also at our opening concert – 'Raw Slices' which was a complete success. Everyone who was there enjoyed the efforts from our very talented students. Read Fred Varley's



critique overleaf for more details!

We took 40 children on a trip to see the London Philharmonic perform at the Royal Festival Hall in Southbank. It was such a moving concert and very inspiring for our students to see these professional musicians and choir at work.



In March we had visiting tutors from the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra who developed a new composition with the students and presented a performance to parents on the same day. It was an amazing experience and the school orchestra comprising 70 musicians, was incredible! Well done! We look forward to the RPO tutors returning for another workshop on the weekend of the 12/13 June – where we are going to have lots of music in the school to prepare for the official opening of the new music department.



UP-COMING EVENTS

Sometime next half term we are moving into the new music department!!!!

4th May – World Music workshop delivered from Guildhall School of Music tutors!

27th May – We have 10 percussionists performing with the BOROUGH BEATS concert (we will have limited tickets to see this event so you need to contact the music department early if you wish to attend)

12/13 June – Swanlea weekend of Music

14th June – Opening concert for the NEW MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Also our new cluster choir from our local primary schools is going to be part of a very big concert in June...more info coming!

Ms Brownlee
Leader of Learning for Music

SWANLEA STUDENTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT THE MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE

Ashley Sanford 8S, Bethan Turner 8A, Flora McLaughlin 8A, Shumon Ahmed 10S and Stefan Dujakovic 10W joined over 300 students across London to participate in the Model United Nations seminar on 5th December.

The students had only 6 weeks to prepare for the conference and were trained by 6th form students from Mulberry School. This year the students had to research into

the on-going problem of Child Labour. The delegates had to write proposal papers and address the various committees following the strict guidelines laid down by the United Nations.

The next United Nations Conference will be held in July 2010 where it is hoped that more students from Swanlea participate and get a taste for international relations.

“Hopefully your time at this Model United Nations will help you become the models the world needs to fulfil the ideals of this organization’

Message to the Global Classrooms Model United Nations Conference from the Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

Ms Williams
Deputy Coordinator of Learning
for Year 8



YEAR 8 G&T STUDENTS SENT TO COURT!

On the 23rd and 24th January we went to the University Of London College to take part in the Young Lawyers Chamber conference.

There were about 25 students altogether from all over the UK ranging from Y6 to Y9. We all were involved in a variety of interesting activities, such as, questioning witnesses, giving opening speeches and discussing courtroom tactics. We were also involved in a mock trial which was

great. We learnt about jobs in law and about the consequences of specific crimes and actions taken against people who commit these crimes.

The whole day was a worthwhile experience and we both learnt a lot. Many thanks to Ms Reilly for taking us there.

BY
REYAZUR RAHMAN 8A
AZWAD RAHMAN 8E

SAFE PLACE TO BE

Safe Place To Be is an after-school and holiday club.

Safe Place to be takes place at Swanlea every day from 4pm to 6pm during term time and it is there for all Year 7, 8 and 9 students.



The club is jammed packed with all different activities from

football,
badminton,
table tennis,
playstation,
basketball,
caramboard,
board games,



outdoor trips,
henna,
cooking,
dancing,

cushion making,
t-shirt printing

& the list goes on...

"I LOVE GOING TO
SAFE PLACE TO
BE....THERE'S SO
MUCH TO DO!"

SALAM, YEAR 8

**IT IS THE
PLACE TO
BE, SO COME
JOIN THE
SAFE PLACE
TO BE TODAY!**

"IT IS THE BEST
CLUB I HAVE
EVER BEEN TO!"

SAYFUL, YEAR 7

GIRLS NIGHT EVERY WEDNESDAYS

GIRLS you choose, you decide, you RULE! So come and make it your night.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION SEE MR HUSSAIN

LEVEL 3S ON THE UP!

SUCCESSFUL PARENTS MEETING FOR PARENTS OF LEVEL 3 CHILDREN.

On Monday 7th December Ms Williams and Ms Sinha-Das organised a meeting for the parents of children in Year 7 who are in Swanlea's specially created Level 3 English classes. These classes operate alongside mainstream English classes for Year 7 students and are designed to give students at Level 3 an additional boost by being taught in small class sizes where they can be given more one-to-one time.

Monday's meeting was the first of three meetings that will be arranged for the Level 3 parents. The meeting focused on reading skills and what parents can do practically to encourage and support their children with their reading. The next session will be in the spring term and will be based on Writing skills, while the session in the summer term will focus on Speaking and Listening skills.

After Ms Williams introduced the session Ms Rodrigues and Ms Chapman lead the parents through some fun activities which showed them how they could encourage and help their children to use different kinds of texts to make predictions, infer, predict and skim and scan to find information.

The session was well attended and the feedback from parents was excellent with 100% of parents attending saying that they enjoyed the session, found the activities useful, and that they would definitely attend the next two meetings. Miss Sinha-

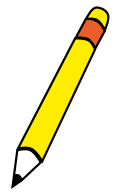
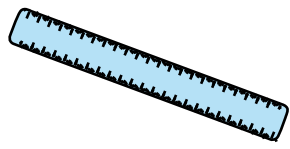


Das said that the feedback she received was particularly positive with parents commenting that they felt very supported by the staff involved in organising the event.

Next time we will be aiming to get 100% attendance of all Level 3 parents so, if you have a Year 7 Level 3 student in your form (they will currently be taught English by

Miss Rodrigues or Miss Arnold-Ochs) please do talk up the importance of these sessions in helping students and parents work together to push up English levels.

Ms Chapman
Teacher of EMAG



STUDENTS! SHARES! SUCCESS! IT ALL ADDS UP



Interest rates were high when the Mathematics Faculty organized a fantastic opportunity for 60 Gifted & Talented students from Years 8 and 9 to test their mathematical and enterprise skills through a fast-paced trading program.

The BP Trading Challenge is designed to simulate an actual trading day where students' trade oil, react to market and manage. The goals were profit and work team.

Students the role Chairperson, Trader, Accountant and

Market Analyst throughout the day. A short film and power point presentation introduced the games followed by few practice rounds for warm up.

Each group then took part in six 'real' trading rounds, students were to react market in order to market price decide to buy or Mathematical Enterprise were essential in making effective decisions to calculate risk versus reward. Collaborating as a team and managing budgets were

also key features in analyzing mathematical reasoning and evaluating connections between problems.

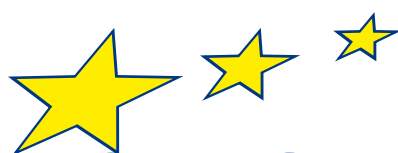
As the event drew to an end the teams held their final company meeting, and reflected on how well they worked together and discussed the skills they have learnt and used through out the day.

**Mr Miah
Maths Faculty**

"It was a brilliant day, especially because we won and learnt that in business you have to take risks, which sometimes don't pay off but its better to take risks rather than being risk averse"

"I really enjoyed myself and learnt that you have to buy low and sell high. I enjoyed the teamwork aspect and having our own roles within the team"





EUROSTARS TO ANTWERP

This term has been a thrilling one for the English faculty! Organised by Mr Fennerly and the Booktrust, students were invited to take part in a two-day workshop at Swanlea to explore poetry from different cultures. They initially worked alongside a poet to create their own creative pieces, knowing that at the end of the experience, 3 students would be selected to go on an incredible trip to Anwerp to take part in an international poetry festival!

Rahul came 2nd in the performance category (and 4th overall in the competition), and Zak received an honourable mention for most powerful poem. An incredible accomplishment, very well done to all!

Mr Fennerly
Deputy Coordinator of Learning
for Year 10



Melissa Stanford, 10S, Zakaria Hassan Abby, 10E, and Rahul Miah, 10W, earned their place with 24 other students from Amsterdam, Berlin, Antwerp and London to take part in the festival. Swanlea students had to perform their poem in front of Her Royal Highness, Princess Mathilde of Belgium!



A RIGHT ROYAL REGALIA!



On behalf of Mosaic, five Year 9 pupils were given the opportunity to be flag bearers for the Commonwealth Observance Day on the 8th March. They carried the flag of a Commonwealth country in front of all the guests at the Ceremony held at Westminster Abbey. The pupils also had the opportunity to meet The Queen, Duke of Edinburgh, Prince of Wales and Duchess of Cornwall. Adeb Abdul Razak, Saaqib Ali, Mohammed Abdur Rab, Asma Begum and Nazifa Anjum (pictured to the right) all had a fantastic day and were grateful for the experience.

Ms Pritchard
Business & Enterprise Coordinator



SWANLEA GETS FLASHMOBBED

As promised in the previous edition of **Swanlea News**, Swanlea's new dance company, DISS, performed two fantastic flashmob dances for the school community this term.

An incredible achievement, all the spectators were stunned by the significant skill and teamwork abilities that DISS displayed. Clearly a result of hard work and commitment, the whole school was treated to a wonderfully

inspiring performance. Many of the observers commented on the bravery and talent of the participants. Many thanks to all who took part, it was a wonderful way to start the day. We all look forward to DISS's next performance!

Ms Daly
Media Officer



NEWS FROM THE P.E. TEAM...

Ms Flowers, Ms Foley, Mr Grant, Mr Guzda, Mr Heenan & Mr Thomas

SWANLEA VS TOWER HAMLETS

Tower Hamlets Year 7 Indoor Sportshall Athletics Tournament held at Langdon Park on Thursday 4th February.

PARTICIPANTS - Thamin Rahman, Yusuf Benallal, Ismail Kiani, Abdullahi, Samiul Ahmad Razna Begum, Roda Akbor, Mia Scott, Anisah Ferdous, Lucky Aktar

Congratulations to the students listed who competed in the Tower Hamlets Year 7 Indoor Sportshall Athletics Tournament held at Langdon Park on Thursday 4th February. Top efforts in the boys & girls speed bounce & long jump events. The boys placed 8th & girls placed 9th in the overall tournament.

Ms Foley

SWANLEA VS EAST LONDON

KS3 Boys Badminton representing Tower Hamlet in the East London Badminton Championship at Newham Leisure Centre.

PARTICIPANTS – 9N Shaykul and Juned (captain) 9C Mohoosin 8C Mahi 8W Sharukh.

GAMES PLAYED

Swanlea VS Thomas Tallis	Won 5-0
Swanlea VS Langdon Sport College	Won 5-0
Swanlea VS Rokeby School	Won 4-1 (Semi Final)
Swanlea VS Stepney Green	Won 4-1 (Final)

Fantastic team and individual performance. The boys have qualified for the Southern England on the 25th Feb.

Mr Thomas

SWANLEA VS EAST LONDON

KS3 Girls Badminton representing Tower Hamlet in the East London Badminton Championship at Newham Leisure Centre.

PARTICIPANTS – 7E Cindy Wong, Jauqline Mc Cainwright 8C, Fariha Kamil, Feven Damtew

The girls played very well to come 4th in the Championship. Cindy won 3 out of her 4 singles games. It was a great team performance, especially considering the girls were competing against Year 9 girls.

Mr Thomas

SWANLEA VS TOWER HAMLETS

Tower Hamlets Year 9 Basketball Competition at Whitechapel Sports Center Friday 5th March

PARTICIPANTS – Abdirahim Ahmed, Masum Ahmed, Liban Ahmed, Fahim Kamali, Mansur Ahmed, Foysol Ahmed

Congratulations to all the boys who participated extremely well throughout the competition against much bigger and more experienced opponents. The boys finished in 4th place overall and showed remarkable improvement in every game played. Top Scorer for the tournament was Foysal Ahmed with 10 points and special

mentions to Liban Ahmed and Fahim Kamali who were able to shoot a three pointer each.

Mr Heenan

SWANLEA VS TOWER HAMLETS

Mini Marathon held at Victoria Park on Thursday 11th February

Well done to Abdullahi, Year 10, & Bethan Turner, Year 8, for becoming overall champions in their age groups at the Mini Marathon held at Victoria Park. Aminul Islam just placed out of contention for the reserve list for his age group but showed great determination and stamina. Abdullahi and Bethan will now be representing Tower Hamlets in the London finals. A big thank you goes to Ruhul for escorting the students to the event.

Ms Foley



Above, Bethan Turner, Year 8, & Cindy Wong, Year 7, winners of the Tower Hamlets Mini Marathon & East London Badminton Chamionships respectively.