

ENTERPRISE BULLETIN

Autumn Term 2013

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We are committed to educating our students to become enterprising individuals, successful in their learning, in their future careers and in life. This Bulletin is a termly publication to students, staff, parents, businesses and community partners. The Bulletin highlights and celebrates some of the good practice that is taking place. We hope that through this Bulletin you will gain a better understanding of what it means to be a Business & Enterprise College.

OUR ENTERPRISING STUDENTS RISE TO THE CHALLENGE

The start of the academic year is traditionally a busy time for Enterprise and this year has been no exception. The Autumn edition of the Enterprise Bulletin highlights many examples of excellent entrepreneurial work carried out during the Autumn Term.



Our Sixth Formers started the term with the Education Business Partnership's challenge "Champions of Enterprise" and the Young Enterprise "Company Programme"—see our coverage on page 4.

This was then followed by a whole week of enterprise challenges for our students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 during Global Entrepreneurship Week in November. All of our events were available to see on the Global Entrepreneurship Week website together with thousands of others being run around the UK. We were later delighted to learn that the organisers had officially classed our school as having run a **HIGH IMPACT EVENT** as highlighted in the logos we have been given to promote our successes in Enterprise—*"Our high impact criteria is designed to identify events that provide role models, offer practical support, develop enterprise capabilities, reference the wider GEW campaign and evaluate*

success - all elements that we have identified as being crucial to a successful GEW event ... We'd like to congratulate you on this achievement and thank you for playing such an important role in the success of Global Entrepreneurship Week" The GEW Team.

Throughout the term our enterprising students have been involved in fundraising events which they have organised and run themselves. Our Year 8 China Challenge students, for example, had a very successful sales event at the recent PA Gift & Craft Fair (see page 3) whilst other students have held cake sales during House evenings and in school to raise funds for their House charities.

The picture shows one of our Y7 teams testing their skills with the Stixx machine making rods from sheets of newspaper during Global Entrepreneurship Week.



Inside this edition

- Global Entrepreneurship Week—team challenges *page 2*
- International school partnership news *page 3*
- Y12 Champions head for the final at Arlington Arts *page 4*
- Sixth Former businesses now up and running *page 4*

Global Entrepreneurship Week 18—22nd November 2013

Since it was first launched in the UK in 2004, *Global Entrepreneurship Week* has spread to over 130 countries around the world. In the UK events have ranged from small workshops, classes in schools, debates, conferences and competitions totalling in the region of 3200 events around the country. As reported in a recent edition of *BartholoNews*, here at St Bart's we have run our own enterprise challenges during this week every year for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 to show them how, through Enterprise, they can not only come up with money making ideas but how they can also use and develop key skills such as team work, time management, finance and communication.

Our Year 7 students were particularly keen to sign up for the Year 7 *Entrepreneurship Day* and once again we found ourselves oversubscribed and in a position where unfortunately we had to disappoint a few. To those we had to turn away we say: look out for our *Family Enterprise Experience* coming up in the Spring Term which is another enterprise opportunity which you can sign up for! After an initial icebreaker activity, students were asked to think about entrepreneurship and what it means to be enterprising. They were asked to consider life for many youngsters and their families less fortunate than themselves who live in poor regions of India. They were shown how, through entrepreneurship, they are able to make a living using just the very basic of materials—newspaper. Reusing newspaper and turning them into surprisingly good, strong bags and selling them is a real life saver for many and all teams had a go at making their own. The main part of the day challenged students to make paper rods with our Stixx machine (see front page photo) which could then be used to design a structure to support a plastic tray.



**"A really fun day!
Teamwork and new skills were improved."**
Year 7 student



"We really enjoyed working with each other and helping each other to create the best score."
Year 8 student

Enterprise skills of teamwork, planning, communication, time keeping, budgeting and presentation were demonstrated throughout the day as teams came up with their final product and presented their proposals "Dragon Den" style to their peers. Congratulations went to *Bethan Davies, Georgia Vockins, Megan Bowey and Ffion Godwin* from 7D2 whose product "The Trixx" scored top marks with its ingenious design incorporating folding legs and a bin holder together with the option of a support to enable you to carry the whole thing from round your neck if required!

This busy and productive day was then followed by teams of Year 8s who took up the online *Race Day for Schools* challenge. This exciting, interactive web-based activity, designed by the British Horseracing Authority, is specifically linked to Enterprise Education and aims to help students develop their enterprise skills in the context of horseracing. Year 9 students were invited to register their small business ideas as part of our *Apprentice Challenge* and following presentations to the panel of judges all teams are now in possession of a £50 enterprise loan to help them get started—we will hear more about their business stories in the Spring term. Finally, Year 10 teams had a half day working on a business scenario "Have You Got What It Takes?" each competing to see who could come up with a realistic proposition which was financially sound.

Throughout *Global Entrepreneurship Week* students were given the opportunity to use and develop a wide range of enterprise skills which will help them both now and in the future.



"This was an amazing challenge making us think in many ways."
Year 7 student



High Impact Host
Global Entrepreneurship Week 2013!



International School Award

St Bart's establishes new links with Africa

At the beginning of the school year we were delighted to receive notification of our reaccreditation to the [International Schools Award](#) from the British Council. This will be the 3rd consecutive period that we have achieved the award and it will run from 2013 to 2015. The International Schools Award strengthens the school's commitment to helping students develop into valued members of the wider global community, helping them to understand and respect other societies, languages, traditions and beliefs.



The recent news of an exciting new project to further extend St Bart's links with schools around the world highlights this commitment. We read in [BartholoNews](#) and heard in whole school assembly about the October visit by Mrs French and Mr Robbins to Kyiase MA Junior High School in Ghana. Work has already been taking place in school to establish firm links between our students and schools.

Here Mrs French gives us an account of their visit.



"Our visit to Kyiase School certainly laid the foundations for a meaningful partnership between our schools. Even though the classrooms were bare, with no whiteboards or computers, just wooden desks and benches, the willingness of the pupils and staff to share ideas and projects was evident. We had already started exchanging letters before our visit and brought with us some of the replies from St Bart's students. These letters were accepted with squeals of delight and no sooner had they received the letters than they rushed into the corners of their classrooms to write replies.

We have now started a programme where we are exchanging lesson ideas about a topic where we have a

difficult shared history, slavery, and also about topics that affect our common future, the environment and eco systems. We will also be discussing our respective football teams in next year's World Cup and will exchange photos and stories about how we experience this global phenomenon in very different parts of the world.

Over time we might be able to make a difference to the students in Kiase School. We would like to set up projects and raise funds so that we can convert a bare annex room into an IT area to improve communications between our schools via video links. We also hope to set up an exchange to enable students to experience Ghanaian culture and to help teach in the school. Who knows ... even

further down the line we may be able to welcome Ghanaian students and teachers to our school.

This is an exciting partnership and the warmth, generosity and friendship that were given to Mr Robbins and I will stay with us forever". *Mrs French*



China Challenge at the Christmas Gift & Craft Fair



At the end of last year many interested Year 7s and their families came along to an information evening to find out about China Challenge and our Easter Study Tour to Shanghai in 2014. Following this very popular evening a total of 31 students had confirmed their places on the tour. As part of the programme students have been learning and doing their own research on China and its culture during regular team meetings in school and Culture Zone Evenings.

Here [Emma Street 8D1](#) gives us an account of the groups' recent fundraising activities.

On Sunday 17th November 2013, 31 Year 8 students were lucky enough to be given 5 stalls at the PA Craft Fair to raise money for their upcoming trip to Shanghai. We split into 5 groups and sold things from Christmas decorations to mulled apple juice. Everything sold was made by us. All

together we raised over £700 towards our trip—with some of the money we will be buying gifts to take with us for our Chinese hosts to thank them for their hospitality. When I go to Shanghai I am most looking forward to experiencing their different culture, life and meeting new people.





Developing skills for the future ...

With a cohort of over 250 students joining Year 12 this year, both the school hall and Sixth Form area were filled with over 45 teams participating in a day of enterprise at the start of the term. An annual event, "Champions of Enterprise", run by the Education Business Partnership West Berkshire and supported by business volunteers, gives our sixth formers the opportunity to experience a true to life business challenge aimed at stretching and developing students' skills.



Day 1 of Champions of Enterprise challenged all teams to examine 3 real local businesses and decide which one would receive their "investment" and why. Following afternoon presentations 6 teams were put through to Day 2 at the end of which the team from 12C2—pictured left to right Harriet Wilson, Megan Bone, Katherine Valentine, Chelsea Ford, Rachel Barnes, Yasmin Copas—were crowned the ultimate winners.

Things did not stop there for the team however. They were now the team that would have the task of representing St Bart's at the Grand Final in December. To help them to prepare for this the team had the invaluable support and guidance of their mentor, Penny Ferguson, founder of the company The Living Leader. During several school meetings with Penny the team worked on their presentation delivery and grew in confidence ready for

Day 1 Champions Challenge ...

- Work as a Corporate Investment Team & decide upon which of the 3 companies to invest in
- Analyse the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities & threats of each (SWOT analysis)
- Choose your preferred company & then explore the business opportunities for that chosen company
- Make an effective presentation to judges from each of the 3 companies

On the day of the Final on 4th December the team (unfortunately without team mate Harriet Wilson who was already committed to the school performance of Little Shop of Horrors) headed off to the Arlington Arts Centre, Mary Hare School where they had to present their proposals to a panel of judges from Greenham Common Trust, Generate UK and Barclays.



" We may not have won but it really was worth while and opened up so many doors and exiting new opportunities, we really recommend it "

judges as well as invited families and other teams was nerve racking but a challenge which the team faced with great confidence and maturity giving their entire presentation without notes and with just their slides as support.

All of them are to be congratulated for having done so well and despite missing out on winning the competition it was a very close run thing and the whole experience has been something from which they have all learnt a great deal.



Scoffware

is a business which has evolved from selling a range of kitchen related products and aprons to sweatshirts. The photo above shows their original range of gift items on display at the school's Christmas Gift and Craft Fair.

With any new company there is a period of development and on finding that their original idea was not going to be financially viable the team at Scoffware have changed their product range and are now working hard on their new direction.

Company Programme gets off to a flying start



The Young Enterprise "Company Programme" is another enterprising opportunity offered to Year 12 students at the beginning of the year. This programme enables students to set up and run a real firm for a year under the guidance of a business volunteer. They get practical experience of the joys and pitfalls of creating a truly functioning enterprise. They do everything from raising the initial share capital through to designing and making their product or service to selling directly to customers at specially organised trade fairs and ultimately winding up the firm and paying their taxes!



is a company specialising in a range of backpacks all branded in their unique logo which they have been successfully selling in and outside school. As their business plan states they are "in the business of selling backpacks for people interested in fashion, sport or general leisure activities. The Urge brand is very important to us as a company. The

brand and the label is what our customers are going to be investing in, as well as a good quality backpack." Check out their website <http://urgeye.wix.com/urge-backpacks>

Students in both companies have been working on their business plans agreeing on company roles and mission statements, long and short term objectives, marketing strategies and finances. We wish them every success.