



WALTON HIGH NEWSLETTER

- A Specialist Science School

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

It is traditional at this time of year for me to devote my section of this newsletter to the summer's examination results.

We were all absolutely delighted with the outstanding achievements of both the Class of 2004, who sat their A Level examinations and the Class of 2006, who were completing their GCSE papers.

Starting with GCSE, a staggering 79% of last year's Year 11 achieved that crucial benchmark of at least 5 A* - C including English and Maths. Once again, this was the school's strongest ever performance, raising the bar still further on last year's figure of 76%. I was also particularly delighted with the increasing number of As and A*s, with a hugely impressive 45% of the cohort achieving at least 3 A*/As.

We were particularly proud that 56% of the A level examinations were marked at either Grade A*, A or B. This particular figure has risen by nearly 20% over the past three years and this is due to the hard work of the students, the support of their families and the high quality teaching they receive. The most significant aspect of this figure is that these grades are good enough to get Walton students into virtually any University in the country and this was borne out by the fact that 75% of Y13 students took up a place at their first choice University.

I know that there are many important events coming up between now and the end of term and I look forward to meeting many of you over the next few weeks.

I also want to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

N D FINLAY
HEADTEACHER

Y11 LEAVERS' CELEBRATE THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS!



The Chair of Governors, Mr Ben Rowell welcomed everyone to Walton's annual Presentation Evening to celebrate the fantastic achievements of last year's Y11 students. The John Knight Shield for Outstanding Achievement was awarded to Ruby Coates, pictured left with the Headteacher and Mr Rowell. Ruby achieved a magnificent 12 straight A*s and a distinction in ICT.

Staffordshire University 'Greatest Improvement during GCSE' Award went to Joel Lloyd. Laura Richardson was given the Headteacher's Award for personal endeavour. The Roger Timbrell Progress Award went to Laura Hartland. Stafford Railway Building Society Award for an outstanding piece of coursework went to Molly Teece. Luke Taylor and Alex Tinkler picked up The Governors' Work Experience Award. The Steve Symes Award for initiative, courage, vision, commitment and determination was awarded to Hannah Bonney. The David Hardman Leadership Award was given to Alex Hylton and finally, Service to the School Award was presented to Nikki Kiteley.

WALTON OPENS ITS DOORS!



Walton High School held its Open Evening on Thursday 13th October. A large number of parents visited the school with their children to appreciate all this school can offer. Two presentations from the Headteacher took place in the Hall due to it being at full capacity for the first talk. Parents and prospective students were able to tour the school where they could view the many varied activities which were underway. Work from each department was also on display. The evening was a huge success!



THIS NEWSLETTER IS NOW DYSLEXIA FRIENDLY

RESIDENTIAL CAMP EXPERIENCE FOR YEAR 7

'You can do it' - 'No I can't' - But the tentative foot reached for the highest spot on the pole and a smile spread across the youngster's face as he stood up and lurched forward to grab the trapeze. He had indeed reached the highest point and conquered his fears!

Similar occasions such as this were reflected over the 240 acres at Boreatton Park in Shropshire where Y7 explored during their three day stay in



October. Lakes, zip wires, abseiling towers, high ropes course, Jacob's ladders, quad bike tracks, giant swings, indoor pool, a river and 20ft sandstone cliffs feature at this massive adventure playground.

DIARY DATE

After consultation, the majority view of those who contributed to the review of the Y11 Leavers' Ball date, opted for FRIDAY 6TH JULY 2012. Mrs Crowder thanked the parents who responded to the request for their opinions. They were very valuable indeed.

THE BIG 50!

This HUGE figure represents the number of school clubs which run across the school every week. The clubs run before and after school and many are held at lunchtimes too! So, whatever your interests, find a club to suit you!

A full list of extra-curricular activities is displayed on the school website off the homepage menu under students and duplicated under parents.

LOG ON TO FIND OUT MORE!
www.waltonstaffs.co.uk

**SUPPORT YOUR
SCHOOL CLUBS
NOW!**

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING SUCCESS

Sixth Form students and staff worked together on Thursday 6th October to hold yet another successful coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.



Pupils from all year groups across the school visited the Sixth Form Centre and enjoyed a great selection of homemade cakes provided by the Sixth Form volunteers.

Well done to Mrs Green (Pastoral Head of Sixth Form) and the team who raised the grand total of **£313.82!**

Aberystwyth coastal defences under scrutiny by Y10



Y10 Geographers recently enjoyed a visit to the Aberystwyth region as part of their fieldwork investigations along the Cardigan Bay coast. They surveyed the new coastal defence scheme at Borth and carried out further comparative work in Clarach Bay and Aberystwyth. The teaching staff commented how well the group behaved and a good time was enjoyed by all in the September heat wave.

THOUGHT PROVOKING TRIP TO BATTLEFIELDS FOR Y12



From 14th-17th October Y12 students visited the battlefields of Flanders as part of their course on the British Experience of Warfare, staying in the beautiful and strategically important town of Ypres. Students were able to take an active role in the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate, visit local sites such as Passchendaele and walk the vast areas of the Somme front. This year they also visited the tunnels beneath the town of Arras, where soldiers massed prior to the 1917 offensive.

Students also enjoyed the annual fancy dress party - won this year by John 'Captain Sparrow' Matthews, with an honourable mention for Mr Corrigan's fine 'Lawrence of Arabia' outfit. An interesting, emotional and informative time was had by all.