

Dear Parents and Students,

Information Session for Key Stage Three Parents

Do you know how your child is using computer technology in their spare time?

A reminder about the information session we are offering for KS3 parents and their children. The session is on Tuesday 9th March 2:45-4:15 in the library. Please return the reply slip to your child's tutor. We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday.

Support For Parents

We have been approached by a number of parents who have requested support with dealing with their teenage son or daughter. In response to this NCBIS will be offering a **Parent Plus Adolescent Programme** to secondary school parents after the Easter break.

Topics will include the following

Getting to Know & Connecting with your Teenager.

Communicating Effectively & Positively

Negotiating Rules & Boundaries

Teaching Teenagers responsibility

Managing conflict

Solving problems together.

Being a parent can be a difficult job; we do not always get it right. Unfortunately there is no right or wrong way to bring up your teenager & navigating the teenage storm can be hard. If you would be interested in attending this course, please contact Aine Knapton Student Support Officer. The course will run for 8 weeks & will start on Tuesday April 20th.

Numbers are limited.

Please sign up ASAP by contacting Mrs Knapton on aknapton@ncbis.net

Uniform

Can we ask all parents and students make sure that the uniform policy is being adhered to? If you are unsure about any aspect of the uniform, please refer to page 12 of the planner or check the school's website. <http://www.ncbis.org/secondary.htm> We thank you for your support.

NCBIS Funk to Junk Fashion Show!

During the week beginning March 21st, NCBIS will hold its first environment week. There will be a range of activities going on throughout the week all aimed at raising

environmental awareness. A full schedule of events will feature in next week's newsletter.

As part of environment week, NCBIS will be hosting a recycled fashion show on Thursday 25th March during secondary lunch break. Primary will be hosting their own fashion show during their lunch break and the two schools will merge for a fashion extravaganza at 2.30pm for parents viewing.

WE NEED SUPPORT AND ARE LOOKING FOR: -

- 1) Volunteer students, teachers and parents to create one or more fashion items from used materials E.g. Jewellery, hats, scarves, belts, whole outfits, shoes. All fashion items will be displayed on the catwalk.
- 2) Any old materials (old clothes, used paper or plastic cups, old toilet rolls, old household items etc...)

If you are interested in designing something please let Jodie Mills (jmills@ncbis.net) as soon as possible so that we have an idea of how many models we will need.

Jodie Mills
Head of Sixth Form

Uganda Expedition Exceeds all Expectations!

A few weeks ago, 15 students and 2 teachers embarked on an adventurous journey to Uganda. At first the group spent 3 days trekking Bwindi's Impenetrable National Rainforest and saw such things as Pygmy villages, volcanoes and Congo along their way. One morning was even spent playing football against locals on 'The Top Of The World'.



The next half of the trip was spent painting a local school in Jinga, a town to the East of Uganda's capital Kampala, white water rafting on the Nile and lastly a 3 day safari, looking for the Big 5.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed their time with highlights being 'jumping' or falling in to the



Nile while whizzing down the rapids, standing 10 metres shy of wild Rhino's and looking at hippos and crocodiles on the boat safari ending up at Murchison Falls where water travels at 350m a second!

Overall the trip was a fantastic experience for all, which will not be forgotten. The students who participated would like to thank all parents, teachers, students and the NCBIS

community who supported them in helping them raise money for the local school and soft power education. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Quinn for being such a great chaperone and Mr Andrew for all his organisation, dedication and funny stories! It certainly was; 'a trip of a lifetime'.

Please follow this link if you'd like to read more:

<http://www.ncbis.org/gallery%20uganda%20trip%202010.htm>

Lexi Rees
Head Girl

Ski trip to Morgins 13th-20th February 2010

During activities week, 30 pupils and 3 staff traveled to the beautiful Swiss ski resort of Morgins, where we stayed in a lovely traditional chalet that was used exclusively by our group. The children spent 6 days having lessons in either skiing or snowboarding, and everyone made exceptional progress throughout the week, no matter what their ability was at the start of the trip. The weather was generally excellent and we were blessed with a large fall of snow just before we arrived in the resort, which meant conditions were near perfect. In the evenings, we were treated to a number of activities, including sledging, a torch-lit walk in the forest and night skiing, as well as shopping and a pizza outing for some of the older students. The end of the week was marked with a ski/snowboarding timed slalom race for all students, which David Oxley in Year 9 won. This was an exceptional achievement as he skied in the intermediate ski group all week. All the students were a real credit to the school and behaved impeccably throughout the week. We all returned to Cairo refreshed from an exciting



week in the Alps and with some great memories.



Please follow this link if you'd like to see more photographs: :
<http://www.ncbis.org/gallery%20ski%20trip%202010.htm>

S Newton (Head of Key Stage 4)

London Trip

Between the 14th and 19th of February of a group of 23 students braved the cold streets of London to take part in the London Theatre trip. This is what Emma Crichton, 7PB, had to say about the trip. "London was an extraordinary experience for my self and everyone on the trip. We did things that we would never get a chance to do normally: go backstage at Dury Lane, see four productions in four different theatres, do a stage fighting workshop, speak to actors and take part in a workshop at the Globe theatre. One of the most interesting places we went to was Warwick Castle. I would give a special thanks to the people who made this possible: Ms Collins, Ms Goodey and Mr Keer Keer. Thank you for making this experience the best."



The teachers on the trip would also like to thank the students who took part for their excellent behaviour, humour and enthusiasm.

Please follow this link if you'd like to see more photographs: :

<http://www.ncbis.org/gallery%20london%20trip%202010.htm>

Kenya Surf Holiday

Upon our arrival to the coast of Kenya, the hidden secrets of the Malindi coast with golden white sands and tropical swell were unveiled to us. Who would have thought you could surf in Kenya? We rode the waves from dawn to dusk, saw three of the Big Five on our safari trip, enjoyed mountain biking, kayaking and spending time at the Malindi Primary School.

A full student report and photographs will follow next week.

Mark Inman

Orphanage trip to Abbasaya



Over two days in February, a number of Key Stage 3 students created bold and colourful murals on the rooftop of an orphanage in the Abbasaya neighbourhood of Cairo. Everyone worked together on the design, painting, and clean up processes, transforming the area into a bright and playful space for the home.



Orphanage Visit in 6th October

During Activities Week, a number of Key Stage 3 girls attended an orphanage for girls in 6th October City. The charity is located in a gleaming new complex built to support low-income housing needs. The students and the residents played games in mixed teams, including 'how to make a very durable bag out of a few newspapers and some tape', and how to change poker chips into different shapes only using a limited number of moves. These games encouraged the NCBIS girls and the girls from the orphanage to work

together, communicating across different mediums, in different languages and solving problems with limited guidance.

An inventor was also invited to talk to the students. He asked us some very searching questions about what we see around us, and what it means to us. He has invented a flotation device for ships which was inspired by the wings of a bird. The style of his questions and the responses that it inspired were excellent examples of inquiry-based learning.

Outside games included a competition to test how many people could fit into a small space. Rania, who manages the charity, introduced the task by explaining that most of the population in Egypt shares a very small living space. She wanted the girls to 'feel' what it was like not having your own personal space.

All of the NCBIS girls worked well together with the hosts and everyone enjoyed it. It was a fantastic experience, and very professionally run; the comments below speak for themselves. We look forward to working further with the charity.

- "The past two days have been very fun and interesting. We've playing games with them and solved problems. When I was there they warmed up to me very quickly and made me feel very welcome. I am glad I had the opportunity to visit the Egyptian orphanage. "
- "This visit let me understand that I'm very lucky because I have a family and I can go to school. In the beginning, I felt very sad for these girls but I understand that at least they have a place where they can live and they have food. "
- "I feel good because I helped a lonely child. I think it was a great experience for me."
- "They are just girls with a troubled past. Everyone had different personalities."

FunSports 2010

While others were running, walking, climbing, skiing and having with water in other countries the students left behind were.....er....running, walking, climbing, skiing and having fun with water. Agreed it wasn't quite as exotic, fast or strenuous as those who left Egypt's sands, but a lot of fun was had and an awful lot of energy expended.

FunSports 2010 proved to be a huge success. The turnout was outstanding and every single student was actively involved for the entire day, culminating with the Tug-of-War and Sprint Finals. The feedback from students was excellent and every single pupil contributed to their House's efforts. I, for one, had a fantastic time and must thank the ground staff for their efforts, the teaching staff for their tireless enthusiasm and the students for tackling the event with such positive energy.

Among all the throws, runs, pratfalls, water fights and sprinting one House emerged stronger than all the others, so this year's FunSports winners were.....AIR.

Mr D Sargent

Yours faithfully

David Pontich
HEAD OF SECONDARY