



# THE GRANGE SCHOOL

*A Specialist School in Business & Enterprise*

*Mr V Murray – Headteacher*

## Enterprise News!

Every Term from the Business & Enterprise Centre

**Autumn Term 2009**

**We Want You!**



Jess Smith, Jade Tibbles, Wayne Thorne, Naomi Smith (Year 12)

*Come on!* Now's your chance! Whether it's just you or a group of you, the school wants to hear about anything you've been doing that is unusual, imaginative, inspirational or just plain fantastic!

This is your chance to tell the world about a project you've been working on, or about something outside of school that is an example of courage, determination and excellence.

Maybe you've been involved in helping out somewhere, or you've won a medal, or you've produced a project at school that has changed something for the better. You choose!

*So, what are you waiting for?!*

Just contact **Mr Sabin** or **Mrs Kew** and they'll do the rest.

**A \*new\* Newsletter from the Business & Enterprise Centre**

You don't have to be a Business Studies student to contribute to this newsletter. You can be studying **any subject** at all and you can be in **any year group** – we want to hear from you.

There will be **competitions**, a space for you to write about something you feel strongly about called "**I think...**" and a **puzzle or two**.

Sometimes we will be running surveys, just to see what you think; this will be called "**Survey Spot**". For example, "*Do you think that schools should give out more homework to students? Yes or No*". We will tell you how to give an answer to that, and set deadlines for you to respond by.

**Teachers** will be contributing too – they will be writing about our successes every term.

### **Our Success**

Here's a question for you: we have a school motto – do you know what it is?

You guessed it! It's:-

**“WE CAN!”**

Let's make that the way we think inside and outside of our school.

**News about the NEW  
Business & Enterprise Centre**  
by Mr Sabin

As part of our bid for **Specialist Status**, we are committed to creating a new Business and Enterprise Centre, which will be situated in the current English block. This will have been created over the holidays, and will be ready for use from September 2009.

As well as a general re-vamp we will be adding Inter-active Whiteboards and a number of additional computers. This will be of huge benefit to Sixth Form vocational students in particular, and we will also create some quiet study facilities for our older students.

The large room is having over 60 fixed theatre style seats put in, which will be used for visiting speakers and presentations. Other subjects can also make use of this facility, and it will be used for other school events when appropriate.

The B and E Centre will be the focal point of all of the Enterprising activities that will be going on next year. Michele Kew, our Specialist School Project Co-ordinator will be based over there, and we are also fortunate to have Liza Watts adding her own energy and enthusiasm to the team for a full day each week (and numerous hours during the rest of it!).

This facility will also be open to the local business community, at a small cost of course (this is an Enterprising school!), who may wish to use it for their own meetings and conferences. This is part of our desire to give something back to the whole community, and raise our own profile within it.

If you have your own business, know someone who has their own business, or knows of one which sometimes hires conference type facilities, then please get in touch, as we are keen to develop this part of our Specialism.

**The B & E Centre works with the  
University of the Third Age**  
by Mrs McGarvie

The University of the Third Age (U3A) has developed over the last thirty years and now has branches in many different countries. The aim of the U3A is to allow people who may have retired to be able to continue learning in a variety of different areas.

The Aylesbury branch of the U3A has a wide variety of groups that meet together in order to develop their interests, but this year, to celebrate the U3A and its success, the members held a celebration event at **Green Park** on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2009.

With **The Grange School's** help from January this year, several U3A members worked on creating a presentation that would be shown at the event in order to highlight the history of the U3A and to demonstrate the wide range of activities that its members participate in.

One of the groups, led by our former Specialist School Project Coordinator, was working on researching the history of the U3A; the other group, led by Fiona McGarvie, worked on learning and developing their PowerPoint skills in order to create a presentation that would be shown at the celebration event.

The group used a variety of new skills that they had learned in their sessions to create a PowerPoint presentation that was able to incorporate photography and therefore gave a very visual explanation of the history and development of the U3A.

**New U3A Project**

The B&E Centre is looking into assisting another local branch of the U3A, this time in nearby Thame, to professionally record the experiences of survivors of World War II. Details to follow.

## Let's have a break!

by Mrs Kew

### PUZZLE CORNER

Here's a simple one for our first quiz:

1) Where is this?



In future, we will be running quizzes that will have prizes (so they'll be harder than this one!)

How about this? (You may have to ask your parents about this one!)

2) **Question:** What did "having a wireless" used to mean at the time of the Second World War?

What are the answers? See if you can work them out.

### *SURVEY SPOT!*

This is where you can respond with a "yes" or a "no" to a quick random survey so the school gets an idea of what students really want for their school.

Sometimes we will ask for your opinions, or for your vote on something too – watch this space!

The surveys will usually just be a bit of fun but sometimes we may ask you for your opinion on more important matters. As long as your response is put forward in a reasonable manner, we will take notice of what you say and respond through school assemblies.

There will be a *B&E Survey Response Box* in the new Business & Enterprise Centre for you to put a slip of paper in with your answer. You don't have to leave your name if you don't want to.

This is where you could influence the way the school is run, so make sure you have your say!

Please post your survey slips in the Business & Enterprise Centre office or just give them to Mrs Kew whenever you see her.

*We will be starting this Survey Spot next term.*

### *"I THINK..."*

This is where you get to say what you think about something that is important to you.

You can be honest but you need to present a rational and professional argument, perhaps more than one side of your argument too, to make your own opinion more convincing.

See if you can find somebody famous who has the same opinion as you and quote them to back your argument up. Perhaps quote someone who has the opposite opinion too. No more than 200 words, please. (Please bring to the Enterprise Office.)

### **PHOTO SPOT!** Send us your photos!

The photos have to represent something inspirational and fun, and something that is in keeping with the school motto **"WE CAN!"**

We will need a caption for the photo, a date, and the names of the places and /or the people photographed.

Pop into the B&E centre with your photos when you are ready; Mr Sabin will take a look at them and decide which ones will be printed.

## Subject Enterprise Bids

by Mr Sabin

We are keen to spread the Enterprise message around the whole school, which is why **all subjects are able to bid for money** in order to introduce their own Enterprise projects.

This will mean lots more *exciting opportunities for students* to get involved and show off their creative dynamism and ‘can-do’ attitude.

Here are a few examples; **Technology** is using the cash in order to buy a printing machine. Mr George said, “Wow, I’m so excited. My hair is standing on end and I feel 5 ft tall!” The machine will allow us to print virtually anything onto sweatshirts and T-shirts, mugs, caps etc. The Tech team will use it to show students how exciting their subject is, but it also allows for real Enterprising projects to be devised. So next year we should see quite a few mini-businesses being set up, using this equipment.

Mr Davies is planning to buy a number of lockers for the 6<sup>th</sup> Form Common Room which will be rented out to 6<sup>th</sup> Formers on a termly basis and to purchase a set of mini-presentations which will help prepare Sixth Formers for work and build their *understanding of Financial and Economic matters*.

Both **Music** and **SPACE** are bidding to buy *electronic recording equipment*, which will encourage team-work, creativity and communication.

Mr Hurst is using the money to hold a Year 7 **Maths Numbers Day**. This should be fun, and will get the students to use their maths knowledge in an Enterprising way.

There are plenty of other projects in the pipeline, and it’s great to see the **Specialist Status** being integrated throughout the school, and beginning to make a real difference, within the classrooms, to many more subjects.

Anybody, be it teacher, student or parent, with any ideas about what they would like to see us invest in next, please contact me.

## The Share Centre Challenge

(Student photo on the first page)

by Mr Sabin

This competition proved to be one of the highlights of the year, with **The Grange** coming second in the UK and *first in our region*.

Four Year 12 students, Wayne Thorne, Jess Smith, Jade Tibbles and Naomi Smith, joined Mr Sabin in investing £1500 of real money in shares on the Stock Exchange. The Share Centre, which is based in Aylesbury, donated half of the initial money, and we were able to trade shares on their website.

Making money out of shares is quite easy in theory, simply buy when the price is low, and sell when it goes up! Making money in reality is never that easy though! We started by monitoring a range of shares, and then bought them when their price fell to our target level. We then set a limit that when the price rose by 20% we would sell. This approach generally proved successful, as we were happy to wait for the price to rise.

This year has been a tough one for shares, and prices have generally been falling. However, through a bit of luck, careful analysis and, of course, huge financial skill we managed to turn that £1500 into £3067 by the time the shares were sold on July 1<sup>st</sup>. It was pleasing to see Eton, amongst others, eating our dust (!).

The money will be used to enter the competition next year, with the profit (we actually also get back the trading fees, which will mean the total received will be close to £3400), being distributed between our chosen charities, the School Mini-Bus Fund and other Enterprise activities.

Those of you heading into **Year 12** next year, with an interest in financial matters, will get the chance to join the team at the start of the year.

### A FINAL WORD

Good luck for the new term and make sure you tell us what you’ve been doing!