Good News Update!

In our recent annual report Graham Jackson – our Lambeth Schools Improvement Advisor – wrote:

The school is to be congratulated on achieving a further improvement in the percentage of students achieving 5 or more A* – C GCSE’s including English and Maths.... 65% is both above National and Lambeth average. Attainment has impressively improved in three years.

Value added continues to be a highly impressive feature of The Norwood School.

The proportion of pupils at A Level attaining the highest A* - A grades was higher than both national and other local providers; this is highly impressive.

Thank You Student Ambassadors

This year's guides have set a wonderful example and we have been very proud to have had them as Ambassadors this year. It has been a busy schedule starting with the Open Season back in September and October but they have also been invaluable helping with so many events including the Friendship and Bursary Tea Parties and the recent SLT induction Interviews and Induction day itself.

'We were proud to be chosen to take on this responsibility' – said Tineka.

'I liked being able to share how proud we are of our new school with all the visitors', said Georgina.

Caron and Hezekiah also commented - 'Lots of the visitors commented on our maturity and good manners and were really impressed with the brilliant art work that was all around the school'.

Yr 5 and 6 Parents were equally complimentary - 'your guides were honest and open about the school'. 'The children were incredibly proud of their school and spoke with such confidence.'

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Governors,

Welcome to our Summer Edition of Norwood News. We hope that it will give you an insight into some of the highlights of the term and a sneaky preview of what will be in our Summer Bumper issue, hot off the press when we return in September. Wishing you all a restful and happy summer break.

» Denise Webster | Headteacher

The September Issue

2013 GCSE and A Level Results
The Norwood Factor Finalists
Aspiration Inspiration Week – an exploration of the weird and wonderful world of work!
We Will Rock You Feature
Sports Day 2013
Don’t forget to take a look at our website at www.thenorwoodschool.org that features the latest good news from across the school. We welcome your feedback.

BSF Update 2013

At last the long awaited final phase of the building programme was unveiled at the very end of the Summer term!

The brand new theatre, sixth form study area, reception, library and entrance from Crown Lane are now the jewels in the crown of our new building.

It has certainly been worth the long wait and staff and pupils will be relieved when they return to school in September to see the diggers, cement mixers and builders long gone!

We are looking forward to our first proper Open Season in three years – when we will be able to welcome visitors and share every aspect of our amazing new school, the new canteens, the state of the art science labs, a fully equipped fitness suite and landscaped gardens.
**Converge**

**Key Stage 4 & 5 Dance Showcase.**

We were all certainly treated to some outstanding performances at this year’s dance showcase. Ms Acham, who introduced the performers, was right: the quality of work seems to just go from strength to strength every year.

Yr 11, 12 and 13 captivated the audience performing a range of styles and genres that challenged their levels of skill, agility, intelligence and creativity. Highlights included Freedom, a street dance duet with Alana and Saqirah, the contrasting Death and the Maiden and the ever popular Breakfast Club. The evening really was a very moving and fitting farewell to Ms Wright from the Dance Department who has sadly moved on to pastures new.

Well done and thank you to everyone for another fabulous evening, it really was a very moving and fitting farewell to Ms Wright from the Dance Department who has sadly moved on to pastures new. We all wish her every happiness and success.

As ever, we were delighted to welcome a packed house of friends, relatives, staff and special guests including some of our new bursary students who will be joining us in Yr 7 in September as well as Hopal Romans who continues to lead the ever popular Norton technique class after school on a Friday.

Mr Jones is a familiar figure to many around the school, both staff and students, whether it is at the ever popular Breakfast Club in the morning or on one of his many tours of duty around the site! A familiar figure who offers stability and support to every member of the school community. Staff and students respect his fair, authoritative presence, his honesty and reliability. His impeccable appearance is testament to the high standards he expects in himself and others.

After leaving the armed forces, Mr Jones spent a couple of years building The ‘Boyhood to Manhood Foundation’ and working with The Children’s Society, working with young people in up to 28 different schools across London. Joining us at The Norwood School in January 2010, he very quickly settled in and has become one of our highly valued support staff.

In the words of those children who voted for him:

‘Mr Jones is an inspirational role model’.

‘He knows how to communicate with students on a one to one level and takes time to talk to them’

‘We all appreciate his clear boundaries’

‘Nothing is impossible – getting it right in the present will ensure a successful future!’

*WELL DONE MR JONES AND THANK YOU!*

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**Dover Castle – Year 7**

A great day was had by Year 7 at Dover Castle in June. Year 7 have been studying the Crusades and the development of castles.

Dover Castle was built during the medieval period. The children were impressed that the stone keep had been recreated with furniture, fake food and weapons to show them and other visitors, what it would have looked like hundreds of years ago. The children were amazed at the length of the beds in the sleeping chambers! It seems that people in medieval times were a lot shorter than we are today - apparently they usually slept sitting upright! Some of the children were gob smacked when they saw a grey and red squirrel fur throw on one of the guest beds that cost £1000 in medieval times, they couldn’t believe that they were allowed to touch it. The sun almost shone, the rain held off and the teachers on the trip had as great a day as the students. Every student asked said they would definitely recommend it to Year 7 next year. Well done year 7 and thank you to all the staff that helped out on the visit.

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**The Young Entrepreneurs Project At West Norwood FEAST**

The Young Entrepreneurs Project has been a collaboration between FEAST and students from Norwood School. It was devised to give local young people an understanding of how to run a business, and what it takes to be a success.

Every fortnight, students visited a different independent business in West Norwood. These included Beamish & McGlue, Volcano Coffee, Floral Hall, Whitaker’s Fishmonger, and Winkworth West Norwood. Students had the chance to learn about each business at their respective sites, take part in activities related to the work of the business, and learn about the entrepreneurs’ journey to success.

After visiting local businesses in West Norwood, the students brainstormed ideas of what their experiences had meant to them. They came to the conclusion that West Norwood is changing and that the creative and driven people behind local businesses are helping to bring about that change.

As a culmination of the project, students designed a t-shirt to sell at the FEAST. They used all of their learning about running a business to develop their ideas. The logo on the t-shirt represents the sense of movement, exploration and creativity that is evident all along Norwood High Street and beyond.

The project would not have been possible without the generous input from local businesses, Helen Ward from FEAST and funding from the Outer London Fund.