



# Longsands College Newsletter

[www.longsands.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.longsands.cambs.sch.uk)

May 2009: This term  
at Longsands...

## From the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers

Earlier this month you should have received via 'student post' a copy of the swine flu advice letter. At the time of writing this letter, it would appear that fears of an imminent pandemic have not been realised. However, the advice could still prove helpful especially in the winter months. A copy of the letter is on our website.

We continue to develop our on-line resources. Students with internet access at home should be able to locate work stored on the College server. As the flu letter mentioned, this is only possible, however, if the student has changed his/her password in College so that it can be synchronised with the county systems. You may want to ask your son or daughter if they can, indeed, navigate to the Learning Gateway and their own work.

Together with three other schools from across the region, Longsands has become a founder member of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Enterprise Learning Partnership. The inaugural meeting of the Board was held on site here in the Creative Exchange: a fitting context in which to discuss how enterprise and creativity can be provided across the curriculum. A practical expression of these qualities will be the College Fete, which will be held on Saturday 11 July (1 – 4 pm). More details about this event, which will raise money in support of an orphanage in Kenya, will be on our website soon.

The College's partnership with schools in Germany, Holland, Italy, Spain, Estonia and Russia – the Horizon Group – continues to provide an international context for aspects of our work. The annual conference confirmed plans for a festival in Germany in Easter 2010 and several other special activities such as a repeat of a Genetic Fingerprinting course. It

was also agreed that we should 'recruit' one or more schools in France. The College is preparing a submission for the International Schools Award, which will reflect our participation in Horizon, in-College events such as Japan Week and other external links.

I should like to congratulate students who have, in one way or another, excelled themselves this term. They include award winners in Young Enterprise, winners of a media-based competition and the first group of students to be awarded Longsands Masters certificates. What has also been most encouraging are the outcomes of the spring term students' survey. We hope to be able to include a summary in the final newsletter of this academic year.

Finally, we wish students who are taking their Diploma, GCSE, AS and other examinations this summer every success.

Yours sincerely

Robert Whatmough  
Principal

### Student Absence Line

01480 223343

Please use this number to report any attendance issues, eg your son/daughter's absence, lateness, medical appointments etc.

*Thank you*



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## Noise Action Film Winner

As part of the Noise Action Week Campaign, the environmental protection team at Huntingdonshire District Council ran a competition to produce a 40 second long advert to promote noise awareness. The short film will be used to promote considerate neighbour behaviour and to raise awareness of the Council's noise complaints system. The competition was open to all and some of Longsands' Year 10 Media students entered.



John Allan, HDC's Neighbourhoods' Intervention Manager, commented: "We were very impressed with the standard of entries. It was difficult to choose, but the message in the winning film was clear and accurate and was produced by a Year 10 student from Longsands College, St Neots. The runners-up also come from Longsands."

The environmental protection team will present a prize of £150 to winner Amelia Taverna at **11.45am on Thursday 21 May at St Neots Market Square** at a Noise Action Week Roadshow. Miss Alison, (Media Department) said: "We are very pleased that she won, but also very pleased at the standard of all pupils that entered."

The chairman of the district council, Councillor John Davies, will be making the presentation.

## Farewell Year 11

Friday 15 May marked the end of Year 11's hard work here at Longsands, and to celebrate, a special assembly was held in the Ritchie Hall.

Over the past 5 years Year 11 students have been very successful in their work and have shared many fun times with their peers here at Longsands. During the assembly, awards were handed out as a reward for all their efforts. We spoke to Head of Key Stage 4, Mr David who said: "We held this assembly so that the students could remember their time at Longsands fondly and to create a special event that they could look back on in the years to come."



Reporter:  
Kara Wildber & Sarah Humphrey

Photos:  
Alex Smalley

## Enterprise Winners!

The local finals of Young Enterprise were held at Wyboston on Thursday 29 April. Longsands entered two groups of Year 12 students. These were *Emerald* and *Bishbosh*. The task was to set up a business and run it for a year. During this time period, they had to sell their own products. *Bishbosh* decided to sell calendars and valentine's cards. Student then had to present their business in front of several judges. The Longsands' students did not leave the ceremony empty handed winning five awards out of a possible ten! **Katie Dunstan** won the award for *Best Entrepreneur*. The judges

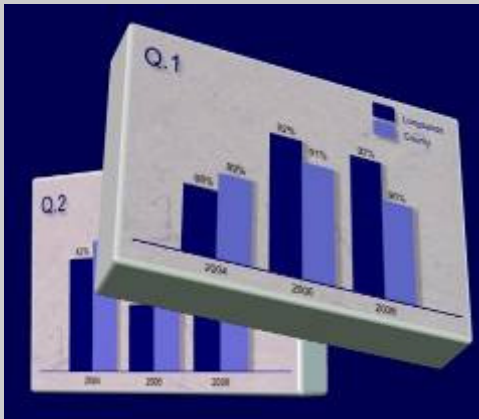
commented that Katie "performed an outstanding presentation which was very clearly explained".

The team better known as 'Emerald' (**Molly Judge, Lisa Harris, Charlie Nunn, Hannah Szurek, Alex Deverell, Ryan Hodge, Bradley Dickerson and Sophie Fisher**) were runners up. Longsands' students also won two further awards for 'sustainability' and 'innovation.'

Congratulations to all those who took part including the teachers Dr Millington, Mr Twiss and Miss Burt.

Reporters:  
Kara Wildber & Sarah Humphrey

## Students' Health Survey



Eating a healthy breakfast is an accepted part of improving learning at school, but how many Longsands students actually make this a part of their daily routine?

Adults may remember a time when smoking was a regular part of life but what proportion of students try cigarettes now? How has that changed over the last few years?

Every 2 years Longsands students from Years 8 and 10 take part in a national survey to discover the extent to which healthy lifestyles are being adopted. Our most recent data allows us to compare results with our previous surveys and with schools across Cambridgeshire.

To find out the answer to the above questions (and others) look up our website and follow the link "**Health Survey 2008**" in the Latest News box.