

President Nixon leaps in!



17 year old Jack Nixon, formerly of Lord Wandsworth College, has been elected to Student President. He will lead a 12-strong committee of students, each of whom plays a significant role in the development of this Beacon College, recognised as one of the country's leading sixth form colleges.

Jack said, "It's a great honour and a privilege to be elected President of such an outstanding student body. I look forward to even more success for the College in the coming year." Jack is in his first year studying Chemistry, Economics, English Literature and Mathematics.

Newly elected Vice President is Daniel Rodgett, a former student of Calthorpe Park School, who is studying Biology, Government and Politics, History, Italian and Sociology. Dan sees his role as supporting the President and the rest of the Student Association. He said, "I welcome the challenge to serve as Vice President for 2009/10 and look forward to supporting Jack and contributing to the success of this exceptional College."

Both Jack and Daniel will be appointed to the College's Governing Body as full voting members from April 2009, giving them invaluable experience serving on a statutory corporation answerable directly to the government. President elect Jack Nixon said, "Both Dan and I acknowledge the challenge which faces us, but we are very much looking forward to playing our part in taking our outstanding College forward."

"Less Wriggle Room," say university admissions tutors

There has been a lot of publicity in recent weeks about the increased number of applicants to university for September 2009 and the capping of university places by the government; it is likely that some 10,000 students will not be placed this summer. All universities are reporting increasing applications - some by as many as 25% compared with last year. The impact is that there are unlikely to be many places available in Clearing which opens in August when examination results are published.

It also means that universities are less likely to be generous when interpreting results this summer. In previous years, missing the offer by a grade in a couple of subjects has often resulted in the place still being confirmed by a university - the so-called *wriggle room* which admissions tutors have used to ensure their places are full. This year the grade and points requirements will be adhered to more strictly.

The message for all A2 students is clear - please make the best use of the remaining weeks before your A2 modules. Make sure that you do as well as you can to ensure you get the grades which the universities have asked for ... and that means study, don't party, for the next few weeks. Everyone knows the parts of a course they feel uncertain about - those are the ones which need particular attention!

Leavers - Clearance from College

Before leaving College, students must return their books and complete all clearance formalities. Students who are leaving must complete their clearance form which can be obtained from their Personal Tutor. To ensure that students can contact their subject tutors, we recommend that they clear on one of the following days:

Thursday 18 June am or Tuesday 23 June pm or Tuesday 30 June. All students should be fully cleared by 4pm on Tuesday 30 June.

If books and other College property have been lost, the College will expect reimbursement for the cost of replacing the items. The College will withhold results and any references until the clearance procedure has been completed.

Car parking - Thank you - and there is one more problem... Whitehouse Close

Thank you to everyone who has responded to the call to remove cars from the St Michael's Road area - the College has received a number of positive comments from local residents. The remaining issue concerns dropping off and picking up students in Whitehouse Close (the road adjoining the mini-roundabout on Sand Hill, opposite the Brian Smith Car Park). The Council has introduced a prohibition on dropping off and picking up in the Close and I understand that enforcement officers will issue fixed penalty fines to parents who contravene the law in the next few weeks.

Important information for all Year 1 A level students and parents

Applying to university 2010

Although universities state that all applications received by the closing date receive equal consideration, our experience is that popular courses fill up fast; students who apply later put themselves at a disadvantage.

In our experience early applicants are more likely to get offers and we encourage our students to apply early in the Autumn Term so they can then concentrate on their academic work and preparation for the January modules.

Advice and guidance on the UCAS process is given during the Tutorial lessons in June/July when students will start their applications which they will be able to continue at home during the summer holiday. The PowerPoint presentation used at the recent Higher Education Evening for parents is available at www.farnboroughsfc2.ac.uk/home/news.aspx?id=167.

Personal Statement

The personal statement is the opportunity for students to 'sell' themselves with evidence of academic interest in the subject and broader interests. Students will receive help with this in Tutorial classes but no one should underestimate the time it takes to get it right.

Deadlines - every Wednesday, 12.15pm

Applications for Oxford, Cambridge, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Dentistry must reach UCAS by **15 October**. To meet this deadline they must be submitted to Personal Tutors by **12.15pm on Wednesday 23 September**.

We allow **15 COLLEGE WORKING DAYS** for processing the application, writing and checking the reference. Hence applications will be processed as follows:

Date application signed in with Tutor (all Wednesdays):	Date guaranteed to be sent to UCAS by (all Wednesdays):
23 September	14 October
30 September	21 October
7 October	4 November
14 October	11 November
21 October	18 November
4 November	25 November
11 November	2 December
18 November	9 December
25 November	16 December
2 December	13 January

Applications signed in with Tutors after 12.15pm on any Wednesday will move into the next time period.

Student Finance

Information about Student Finance for entry in 2010 will be available at a meeting for parents in the Autumn Term 2009. The PowerPoint presentation used for 2009 entry is available at www.farnboroughsfc2.ac.uk/home/news.aspx?id=128.

Excellent Candidates do get rejections!

Our best candidates understandably choose to apply to the best universities but it is wise to include a less selective one too. Please be aware that students do not always receive five offers, especially for very popular courses such as Law and English.

Do not set your heart on one particular university - you may find yourself rejected inexplicably.

Open Day visits to Oxford and Cambridge

There is limited space still available on the Open Day visits to Oxford on Wednesday 1 July and Cambridge 2 July (please note the trip on 23 June is now full). Students wishing to know more about these opportunities should see Helen Diffenthal (office in the Tutorial corridor) and collect the necessary paperwork from Student Services Reception.

Friday 3 July - Moving On Day

Over 100 Higher Education Institutions, employers and gap year organisations will be visiting the College to enable students to participate in a wide range of lectures, seminars and workshops. This is a whole College event where students will have the opportunity to find out the reality of entering a particular career or studying a subject at university. There will also be workshops on student life, student finance and job search skills as well as a chance to visit the Exhibition which is being held in the Dame Kelly Holmes Sports Hall. All first year students must be in College on this day. Students will make their choice of seminars in Tutorial lessons after Study Leave.

Extended Projects - new A2 students:

opportunity for independent research

This College pioneered work on the Extended Project which the government has now introduced as a new qualification. There was great national interest in the development at the College and it has been featured several times in the national media (Independent, Guardian, Times Educational Supplement, BBC Radio 4 - see the College website *College Innovations* for links).

We will be making the Farnborough Extended Project available to current first year students proceeding to their A2 courses in the summer. Briefly, they will be invited to think of a topic related to two of their A2 subjects, to undertake a piece of individual research over the summer holiday and to write a dissertation of 5000 words by the end of October. The dissertation will be bound as a university-style thesis and presented to the student at a ceremony in December. Each student will have a research supervisor from the teaching staff. The dissertation will be available to the selecting/interviewing universities prior to interviews in December.

Those students who participated in the Extended Project in the previous three years found it a very positive experience, preparing them well for higher education - listen to the BBC Link on the website. Many Oxbridge Colleges have been particularly interested in extended projects during entrance interviews.

The Extended Project is not a replacement of an AS or A2 - rather it supports and extends the studies which students undertake in their second year to provide stretch and challenge. Students will be invited to think about participation

Progression

New A2 Courses - and Parents' Evening

First year students will be soon discussing their A2 and AS subjects for September with their Personal Tutors. We recommend that **all** students follow **all** their AS subjects for the A2 introductory courses which begin on Tuesday 9 June. For many students, the choice of A2 will depend on their AS results in August - it is not possible to take up an A2 subject in September if you have not attended the summer course.

All students must choose at least four subjects for their second year studies. Many choose 3 A2 and 1 AS, although a number take 4 subjects, and some even 5, through to A2.

This is a real opportunity for students to add breadth to their education which is valued by employers and universities. A timetable with only three subjects is insufficient and leaves a student with over half the week free. We do not permit timetables with such little commitment to study.

The parents of students who need advice are invited to attend the Parents' Consultation Evening (Progression), with their sons/daughters, on Tuesday 16 June, 5.30pm - 7.30pm.

Important Term Dates 2009-2010

1st year Study leave	Friday 15 May 2009, 4.15pm
2nd year Study leave	Friday 22 May 2009, 4.15pm
Reading Week	Mon 25 May - Fri 29 May 2009
A2 courses begin	Tuesday 9 June 2009
Parents' Evening	Tuesday 16 June 2009 5.30pm - 7.30pm (Lower sixth Progression advice)
End of Summer Term	Thursday 9 July 2009 (4.15pm)
A and AS results	Thursday 20 August 2009
GCSE results	Thursday 27 August 2009
New Academic Year	Wednesday 2 September pm (enrolment begins)
Second Year return	Thursday 10 September 2009
Full Term starts	Monday 14 September 2009
Reading Week	Mon 26 - Fri 30 October 2009
Open Days	Wed 11 & Thurs 12 November 2009
Christmas Vacation	Mon 21 Dec 2009 - Fri 1 Jan 2010
Study days	Mon 4 & Tues 5 January 2010
Reading Week	Mon 15 - Fri 19 February 2010
Easter Vacation	Fri 2 - Fri 16 April 2010
May Day Bank Holiday	Mon 3 May 2010
Reading Week	Mon 31 May - Fri 4 June 2010
End of Summer Term	Thursday 8 July 2010 (4.15pm)

Examinations 2009

Although the examination season is now well under way, please recall the details given in the last newsletter. Continue to check with your son or daughter that they have correctly recorded the TIME, DAY and DATE of their examinations. It is a good idea to pin them up on the kitchen noticeboard so that no one is in any doubt. Turning up in the afternoon for a morning examination will result in students not being able to sit the examination.

Examination timetables are available on CristalWeb, showing the location and seat number; **students must know their seat number**. Please also pay particular attention to any supervision requirements.

If a student is **absent from a public examination**, we will attempt to telephone the student's home. Students are generally allowed into the examination room during the first 30 minutes of the exam but the Examination Board may penalise the student heavily. Sometimes we are unable to make contact because an old telephone number is on record and sometimes we only get the answerphone. If we contact you in error, we ask for your understanding. Our aim is to act quickly in order to get the student into the examination - detailed checking wastes valuable minutes.

If your son or daughter is ill on the day of the examination and is unable to attend, please telephone the College Registry well before 9am (01252 688216) - but a doctor's certificate is essential.

INTERNET RESULTS - AS and A2 Level Examinations - Thursday 20 August

The results will be available to students from 8am on CristalWeb, accessible over the internet, **at home**. The Dell will be open from 9am for those who do not have access to the internet at home. All students should know how to access CristalWeb and need to remember their password. If a password is forgotten, telephone the Help Desk on 01252 688271. Although the results from CristalWeb will be correct, and can be printed off, they will not be accepted by universities or employers as evidence of achievement. The Examination Board Statements of Results will, therefore, be required.

Statements of Results with Strawberries and Champagne - 12 noon - 20 August

Exam board Statements of Results will be available for SECOND year students from midday in College, followed by a champagne and strawberry celebration. Parents accompanying their sons and daughters will be welcome to attend. Senior members of staff, Personal Tutors and Careers Advisers will be available after results to give support and advice. UCAS advises that students should be at home for results so that HE applications can be finalised.

We have been advised by UCAS that, due to the sheer number of applicants and the government's limited funding for places in Higher Education, there will be fewer late places available in Clearing (see page 1). Nobody should be considering clearing as an option!

First year students - Results from 2pm

Statements of Results are important also for AS students and they will be available from 2pm. First year students should not arrive early. They will get champagne next year if they work hard - but not this year!

Learning Resource Centre

Reading Week Opening Times

The Learning Resource Centre will be open during Reading Week at the following times:

Wednesday 27 May	10am until 4pm
Thursday 28 May	10am until 4pm
Friday 29 May	10am until 4pm

Please note that some members of the IT Support Team will not be in College. This may affect our ability to provide a normal level of service. For further information or to check the status of the network, please contact the Help Desk on 01252 688271, especially if you are travelling from a distance.

Congratulations!

Ashley Tomlinson as a member of a team which won the 14-16 National Championships and the 11-19 English Championships in the Formula One in Schools Competitions. The team will be collaborating with a college in Singapore in the World Finals in September.

Alex Jones on being selected to have a new Stagecoach bus named after him. Alex is part of the Hampshire Talented Athlete Scheme which is supported by Stagecoach.

Lianne McDermid on achieving two scholarships at Bangor University.

Amy Woods on being selected to represent Great Britain in the 2009 Aerobic Gymnastics French Open.



Jamie Bylett, David Gregory and Laura Tester on being runners-up in the "Chance to be the Chancellor" competition sponsored by The Times. These students will be going to the Treasury to have their prize presented by Rt Hon Steven Timms MP (a past Farnborough student).

Vikki Chinchen, Danielle Pratt, Sam Read and Robert Towler on winning the BOC Inspiring Gases Challenge. The challenge was to develop a new application for one of BOC's hospitality gases that would add to their sales and create a 'wow factor' in the entertainment sector of their business.

Starpack Awards 2009, Institute of Packaging (IOP)

All of the six entries from the College achieved significant Starpack awards, a national design competition run by the IOP. The competition brief was to design a carton board 'charity money box' with suitable graphics and style to reflect their chosen charity.

Gold Starpack winners: Evan Mackrill and Matthew Bullock

Silver Starpack winners: Catherine Leung and Desislava Staytcheva

Highly Commended: Joe Barlow and Vlad Cochintoiu

Sports Department achievements

The Farnborough 6 Fun Run

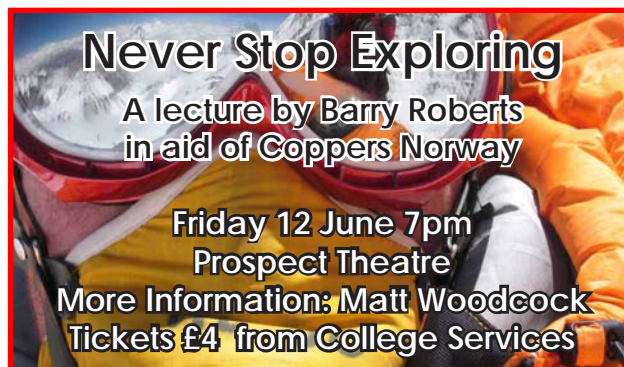
The second College Fun Run took place on Sunday 8 March with over 450 local people running in support of the Ascot based charity, Sebastian's Action Trust raising over £4000. The Run was organised by a group of 16 A level Leisure Studies students and included six, three and one mile races. The winners of the 6 mile race, Tom Bowerman (men) and Catherine Taylor (women), achieved new record times of 33.10 mins and 37.45 mins respectively.

British Colleges National Finals in Loughborough

Students from the College won five team medals, including gold medals in the Elite Trampoline (Phil Birkett, Marc Fox, Joe Norris and Andy Pike) and the Mixed Doubles Badminton (Lizzie Fearnley and Tom Forsyth). In total 22 students represented the College with great distinction, as part of the victorious South East Team which retained its crown as National Champions.

Teams

All College teams in all sports have had successful seasons. For the 3rd consecutive year the 2nd XI football team retained their County League and County Cup titles by winning all but one of their games this season. Congratulations and thanks to all students who have participated in competitive sport this season.



Never Stop Exploring
A lecture by Barry Roberts
in aid of Coppers Norway
Friday 12 June 7pm
Prospect Theatre
More Information: Matt Woodcock
Tickets £4 from College Services

Leavers' Concert 2009

Music students of The Sixth Form College
Farnborough
7.30pm
Prospect Theatre
Friday 22 May



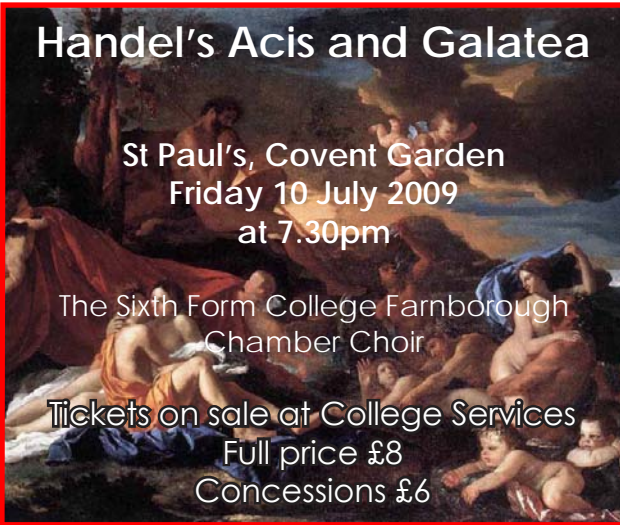
Tickets £5 from College Services

Handel's Acis and Galatea

St Paul's, Covent Garden
Friday 10 July 2009
at 7.30pm

The Sixth Form College Farnborough
Chamber Choir

Tickets on sale at College Services
Full price £8
Concessions £6



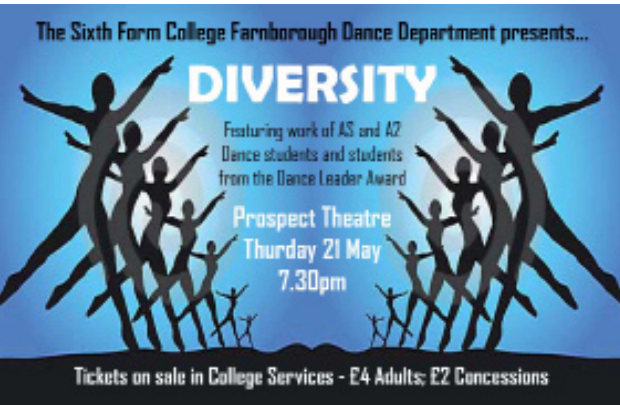
The Sixth Form College Farnborough Dance Department presents...

DIVERSITY

Featuring work of AS and A2
Dance students and students
from the Dance Leader Award

Prospect Theatre
Thursday 21 May
7.30pm

Tickets on sale in College Services - £4 Adults; £2 Concessions



MINISTRY OF SOUND
COLLEGE X FACTOR WINNERS SURF SIMULATOR
THE CUT UP BOYS
VICE SQUAD
LEAVERS BALL
2 COURSE MEAL
CASH - PROSPECT
CARD - FINANCE
20 POINTS
ONE GUEST PER PERSON
CASINO

ART EXHIBITION

A celebration of work by the class of 2009
At The Sixth Form College Farnborough

Dame Kelly Holmes Sports Centre
Private view 1900 - 2100 Fri 26th June
Public view 0900 - 1500 Sat 27th June
Public view 0900 - 1600 Mon 29th & Tues 30th June
Free Entry

CATALOGUE ON SALE

Leavers' Photo 2009

Order via CristalWeb Now



The Leavers' Photograph was taken on Friday 1 May and can be ordered on CristalWeb by clicking 'online payments' and then 'course payments'. There will be two pictures, the formal one and the more informal one, where students are more relaxed! They represent a significant memento of the time spent at College (and would make an ideal present from parents to mark the end of students' hard studies). The proofs will be displayed outside the Finance Office when they arrive.

Orders must be received by Friday 3 July 2009.

We recommend you order now lest you forget!

Mounted, Titled & Framed	@ £54
Mounted & Titled	@ £28
Presentation Box	@ £22.50
Photograph only	@ £18.50

Feedback

It is always very helpful to receive feedback on your perception of the College - if you have any comments concerning the quality of education which we offer, we would be very pleased to hear them. In particular, please do not hesitate to let me know if you have any concerns.

John Guy, May 2009

Student compositions "inspirational"

Clive Williamson, the internationally acclaimed pianist, played in a celebrity recital in the Prospect Theatre recently. It was a bold and innovative programme which captivated the audience leading to three prolonged curtain calls. As the UK's foremost exponent of contemporary piano music, every major composer of the past 20 years has composed pieces for Williamson. He has received much critical acclaim for his recent recordings of One Minute Wonders, in which he plays short pieces by world class composers. In an exciting expression of confidence in the College's young musicians, Williamson extended his project to 25 A level music students whom he challenged to create their own one-minute compositions which he played alongside those of established composers.

The first half, in which these pieces received their first performance, was little short of astounding. Grouped together and framed by works from the published collection, the students' music revealed a remarkable variety of style, colour and mood and a compositional assurance well beyond their average 17 years. From the very humorous, through the very dramatic, and on to the very lyrical, all were imaginative, communicative and often poignant. The quality of the music, combined with Williamson's remarkably insightful interpretations, kept the audience on the edge of their seat throughout the thrilling performance.

Speaking after the concert, Williamson said, "It was a true privilege to be able to work with these students. They have all produced terrific results and there was a real feeling of community among them. I know how proud the College is of them, and it's well deserved."

A rare performance of Ives' monumental First Sonata occupied the second half giving Williamson the opportunity to demonstrate his awe inspiring virtuosity.

Director of Music at the College, Paul Bambrough, said, "The work is known for the incredible demands it makes on the performer but nothing could prepare the audience for the sheer physicality of the music and the apparent ease with which this formidable music was dispatched by Clive Williamson."

The combination of the students' fresh, youthful and dynamic works, Ives' explosive directness and Williamson's pianistic mastery made this a musical feast of inspiration, long to be remembered!



Travel Scholarships announced

Congratulations to the following travel scholars who have recently received their awards, and particularly to Alice Feltham who also won a Jacqueline Findlay Travel Scholarship sponsored by the Blackwater Valley Rotary Club. The awards were presented by Andrew Lloyd, Chief Executive of Rushmoor Borough Council.

JOSHUA ARMSTRONG - a three week InterRail trip around Europe.

BETHAN ASHLEY - the Earthwatch organisation to Trinidad and Tobago to investigate the endangered Leatherback Sea Turtles.

KATHARINE BALL, GEMMA COOKE, CHARLOTTE KEELING, MEGAN KERRY, ROBYN NEAL, STEPHANIE WADSWORTH - the Atlantic Whale Foundation to Tenerife to undertake a research and conservation project.

EMMA BLOTT - attend an intensive French course and join a BSES expedition to the Arctic Svalbard.

EDWARD BOULDING - Mityana Charity to assist at a school in Uganda.

SARAH BROWN - volunteer on a medical project in Venezuela and backpacking around South America, New Zealand, Australia and Southeast Asia during a gap year.

SIMON BROWN - Gap Year South Africa Organisation teaching sport to primary school children.

CHARLOTTE BRYANT, JOANNA ISAAC - Army Cadet Force "Defiant Cadet" exercises in Germany and Holland.

EMMA CARSON, SOPHIE PAYNE, LUKE SELLEY, VICTORIA STONE - Gap Year South Africa to take part in medical and teaching projects.

SAMANTHA COLENUIT - Projects Abroad to Ghana; undertaking volunteer work with an English Language Newspaper.

EMMA COLPUS - Gap Year South Africa to undertake a sports coaching/teaching project in a deprived school in Port Elizabeth.

JEREMY DAY, RICHARD DAY, ROSALYN JOHNSON, DANNY LEE, KAGWENI MICHENI - the Youth with a Mission Organisation to Morocco. Work with disabled children, teach English and assist with sports clubs.

ALEX DOYLE, JAMES VINNICOMBE - Explorer Scouts to Uganda. Assist with a building project and undertake a five day expedition to climb Mt Elgon.

SOPHIE DUNDOVIC - Big Island Hawaii to trek up the volcano.

ALICE FELTHAM - South America with the Real Gap Organisation; assist with various projects throughout journey.

BRONYA FRANCIS - intensive French course at the Institut Linguistique Adenet.

FIONA GILDEA - volunteer work with the NGO-Deepalaya organisation in Delhi.

ALEX GROOMBRIDGE - Japan to develop further language skills and learn about Japanese culture.

MATTHEW LAW - the CARE Baboon Sanctuary in South Africa.

CATHERINE LEUNG - work experience with Broadway Malayan Architects in Singapore.

ELIZABETH OVER - Thailand with Real Gap; trekking, visiting cultural sites and volunteer work.

ALISA PHARO - Gap Year South Africa; assist with medical and veterinary projects.

AMBER RUXTON - backpacking around South America, New Zealand, Australia and Southeast Asia during a gap year.

ABIGAIL SALTER - gap year with a Christian organisation, Church Army; missionary placement abroad for six months.

ELLENA SHELDON - travel to India, Sri Lanka and Uganda as a volunteer for the Mission Aviation Fellowship Project.

EMMA SWEETMAN - joint service around the world sailing expedition "Exercise Transglobe".

ALEXANDER WHITFORD - Mozambique to undertake a Literacy project with the charity Alfalit.

AMY WOODS - compete with the 2009 Great Britain Aerobic Gymnastics squad for the ANAC Championships in Las Vegas.

Magnificent Treasure Island

Students from Henry Tyndale Special School and Farnborough Sixth Form College staged a magnificent but slightly unusual production of Treasure Island before a packed audience of parents and friends in the College's Prospect Theatre recently. The production was the culmination of a year's joint activities between the College and the post-16 unit of Henry Tyndale Special School, known as Coppers.

Students Marilla Tolfree and Nick Elsey master-minded the production as part of the College's enrichment activities.

Marilla said, "It was a bit scary as we came towards the day of the production because so many things could go wrong – but everybody was magnificent and the show was a great success."

Nick added, "It was really hard work getting the show to performance standard but it was worth it to see both groups of students so engaged with the project."



Scene from Treasure Island performed by Henry Tyndale students and produced by College students.



A team of Young Entrepreneurs from the College have won the 2009 BOC Inspiring Gases Challenge. The challenge was to develop an exciting new application for BOC Sureserve's range of Hospitality Gases, including helium and carbon dioxide, that could eventually be successfully marketed.

The team of four A level students, Robert Towler, Vikki Chinchin, Danielle Pratt and Sam Read came up with a novel use of carbon dioxide to produce a curtain of cooling water vapour and carbon dioxide that could be a feature in night clubs or promotional events.

Big Issue Editor visits College



Big Issue Editor, Charles Howgego, with AS Media students Jack Lyons, Robyn Dow and Craig Atkinson, whose project work to design a cover for the magazine gained much praise. Charles said, "This is astonishing - much better than most of the professional copy that I am sent for consideration."

Ministry of Justice opens its doors



AS Government and Politics students visited the Ministry of Justice recently to meet senior officials and Justice Minister, David Hanson MP.

David Bell Tops Out "fantastic" new building

David Bell, Permanent Secretary at the Department for Children Schools and Families, conducted the topping out ceremony for the College's new £5.5 million arts, IT and physics building.

The ceremony marked the completion of the top floor slab and overall structure of the iconic new building which will open for teaching in the new academic year, September 2009.

Student President, Theo McCusker, invited David Bell to conduct the ceremony. Speaking from the roof of the building to the staff and students gathered in the quad below, he said, "I am proud, on behalf of the entire student body, to be present at the ceremony and to invite you to lay the final slab on the roof of this fantastic new facility."

David Bell said, "Today, I have seen real engagement with learning by students who experience an outstanding education at this College. I hope the new building will help you to reach even greater heights of achievement. I congratulate the College for the vision, the architects for the design and the construction team for the manner in which this build is happening at the very heart of the College."



Student President, Theo McCusker, welcomes David Bell to the College from the rooftop of the new building.