



Outstanding outcomes for 2010 Leaver Group

RESULTS SUMMER 2010: Outstanding achievements across the board

POST-16:

- ☆ One year 12 pupil attained BTEC First Diploma in Sports with grade Merit
- ☆ Two year 12 pupils attained BTEC First Certificate in Sports with grade Merit
- ☆ Two year 12 pupils attained BTEC ELC Entry Level 3 Life Skills (Independent Living Skills)
- ☆ One year 12 pupil attained City & Guilds Level 1 Certificate in Basic Construction Skills – Painting & Decorating at Southampton City College

YEAR 11:

- ☆ 100% of year 11 pupils gained 4 or more grades A* – G GCSEs, 86% gained 5 or more and 65% gained 6 GCSEs.
There were 79 passes from 84 Entries.
- ☆ 92% of pupils completed pre-vocational accreditation: Certificate in Skills for Working Life – Vocational Access Course studying Painting & Decorating or Horticulture.

YEARS 8, 9 & 10:

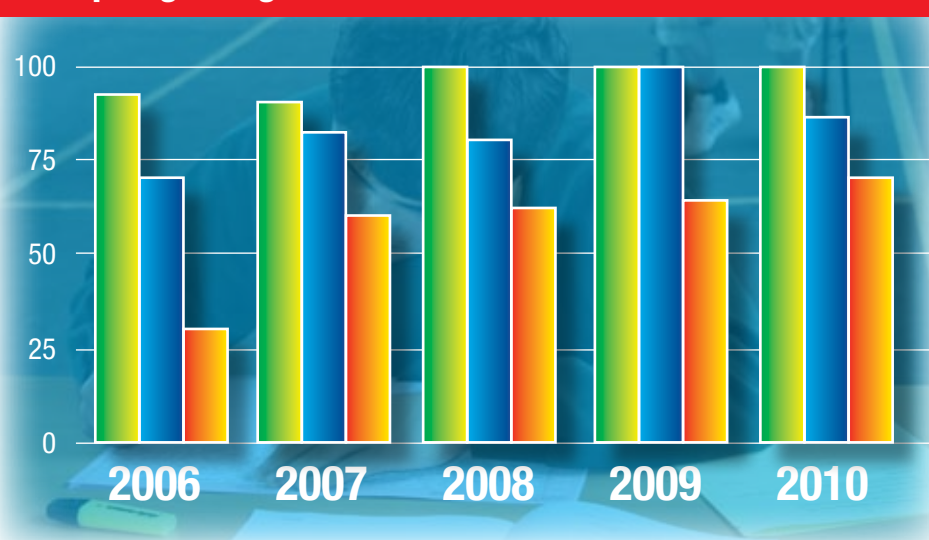
- ☆ One year 10 pupil was entered for GCSE Science and GCSE Maths (Foundation level) and he attained grades B and C respectively
- ☆ All pupils entered for ELC ICT attained Level 3

St Edward's post-16 students fared extremely well in securing positive destinations following their departure from us in the summer. We were delighted for them and we wish them every success in the future.

Of the seventeen students from Years 11 and 12 who completed their placements, we were very pleased to learn that fourteen had secure plans for their immediate future at the point of completion. Destinations for 2010 include college, apprenticeship or post-16 placements at St Edward's. These outcomes speak volumes for the progress these pupils achieved in their time as students at our School and we are very pleased for all of them.



% Pupils gaining A* – G GCSEs



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From the Chair



Everyone at St Edward's was delighted to learn of the very successful outcomes for boys completing their placements with us in 2010. Their GCSE, vocational and post-16 results were once again extremely impressive. We wish all those students every success in the future.

We have packed as much as we can into these pages to share with you the breadth of boys' experiences at St Edward's. Our School is a vibrant place where everyone can feel welcome, where their contribution has a value and where the boys themselves can help make a difference for others. Several boys set themselves a real challenge by presenting a day long Readathon, which, as you will read, proved a huge success with many other boys and members of staff pledging their support. Congratulations to all involved.

I am pleased to confirm the opening of a brand new facility, the Coach House, for use by our Additional Services team. Many boys are managing their anger and other difficulties more effectively through the specialist support they receive from the team. Our own maintenance staff, supported by many extremely generous donations from contractors and other benefactors, pulled out all the stops to complete a fine project and the Coach House is now a reality. We are most grateful for the support we have received to complete this important project to such a high standard.



The Coach House

We are very aware of the prevailing economic difficulties which confront so many people at this time. We pledge we will continue to do everything we can to ensure all our pupils can make best use of the opportunity provided by local authorities by placing them at St Edward's.

RCB Long

Chairman of the Board of Governors

Charity Readathon

Four boys ran a Readathon day to raise money for the St Edward's chosen charities – The Poitiers Project and The Kisoboka Trust. The Poitiers Project supplies food and clothing to people in the Southampton district. The Kisoboka Trust supports school projects in Africa.

The boys, in years 10 and 11, decided to ask other pupils to join them in an attempt to read continuously for seven hours in one day. They planned a timetable for the day allocating readers fifteen minutes to read out loud, with a varied choice of literature from magazines to epic novels. The boys raised funds by asking staff to sponsor the day and two of the pupils, George Pennington and Samuel Botwey, cooked cakes and cookies to serve to all those taking part.

The boys were supported by the Literacy Department in the school, who try to make reading fun. "Struggling readers often shy away from books and the reason is simple," said Nancy Stanton, the school's Literacy Support Coordinator, "they lose the gist of the plot when reading slowly which makes it difficult to stay in tune with what has happened. We encourage our pupils to try e-books, speaking books, widgeit symbol books and carefully selected fiction that is age and interest appropriate as well as set at a level that is comfortable and enjoyable for each individual. We have initiatives such as a 'buddying' scheme where older pupils support younger less confident readers, giving reading more kudos than any of the staff could."

The day was a resounding success with boys offering to read two or three times instead of just once and staff punctuated the event with their own poems, stories and fiction books. Everyone who took part in the day was made to feel special with a certificate of achievement either for their part in organising the event or for taking the time to spend fifteen minutes reading for two worthwhile causes.



Harvest 2010

Apples, tomatoes, onions, garlic, chillies – what we do with all we grow here at School

During the autumn we celebrated our school Harvest – the chapel looked like a Market and the Lower school boys were very happy to show off the produce they had grown during the season.

This year we planned, sourced the ingredients and made four different types of chutney. On one very busy Friday, boys in the horticulture team chopped, sliced, weighed and successfully made chilli jam, onion and thyme marmalade, St Edward's secret special tomato chutney and a roasted pepper chutney. We were grateful for help from the Catering staff.

The boys will be selling the produce at the Carol Service to raise money for this year's chosen charities.





The Kisoboka Trust

Kisoboka – It Is Possible

St Edward's has teamed up with The Kisoboka Trust to support the installation of a water and sanitation plant for schoolchildren at the Notre Dame Catholic School in Uganda.

Kisoboka means 'It is Possible' and three members of the Kisoboka Trust – Helen, Brian and Norman - led a special Assembly at St Edward's to promote the work being done to support children attending the Notre Dame Catholic School in Masaka District.

£1000 was raised following an evening of African Choir music held at Melchet Court. Boys on the Student Council also donated £300 which had been given to them to allocate to something worthwhile. By hearing about what young people in other parts of the world have to put up with just in order to attend school, we can place a much higher value on the learning we receive here in Britain. We hope that by the end of 2010, everyone at St Edward's might have made some kind of contribution, small or not so small, to the funds which the Kisoboka Trust are putting to such great use for the benefit of school children in Uganda.

There will be opportunities for parents and families to join this appeal when we meet for the Christmas Carol Service.



A View from the Kitchen

The School's Catering Team thought the Summer Activity Week during August was a very positive experience. Pupils took part in brilliant activities and at the end of each day they enjoyed themed evening meals prepared by our team.

We started with an Indian meal – boys had a choice of curries and accompanying dishes. This was followed by an Italian menu and then a traditional 'English Barbeque' which had to be served indoors on account of our traditional English summer weather! A Mexican Supper was held on the final evening. The boys particularly liked the chocolate fountain and huge Knickerbocker Glories.

All the members of the catering staff who took part this year are looking forward to next summer's activity week and we already have plenty of new ideas for food.

Ross Hatch takes a cookery activity and actively encourages boys to make nutritious and interesting dishes. Ross is planning to put together a recipe book and pupils have been asked to participate in this.

In this academic year we are looking at the 'Food for Life' Scheme. We hope to plan whole school events linked to Food for Life and also involve a local farmer.

St Rose of Lima

A group of St Edward's School's staff team attended a training visit at another Clifton Diocesan school, St Rose's, in Stroud. St Rose's is a special school meeting the needs of children and young people with severe physical and learning difficulties. While our staff team was there, they were shown a magnificent oak carving of St Rose by Van Werdevelt, carved in 1849.

The statue had clearly seen better days and was in need of considerable restoration. We suggested that perhaps the boys in our Decorating and Art departments might refurbish the statue as a partnership project between the two schools.

St Rose's accepted our offer of help and agreed the statue could be temporarily removed to St Edward's, where boys could use our craft facilities to complete the restoration work.

The statue was subsequently brought back to our workshop by a group of boys who were making a link visit to St Rose's and the restoration work got underway. Several boys have helped to clean and sand down the statue. It was then very carefully coated using special Danish oil.

Once the statue had received its final coat of Danish oil, a party of boys who had been directly involved in the project travelled back to Stroud to deliver it safely to St Rose's. It now sits back in its place on the main staircase in the entrance to the school.

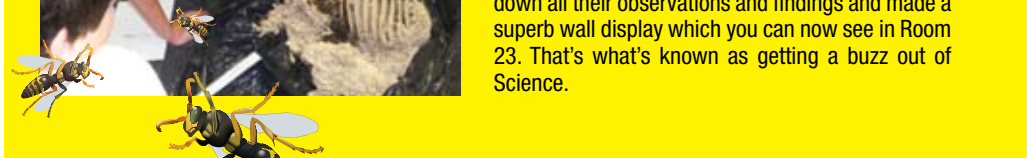
We have really enjoyed working on this project. It has enabled our boys to make a direct contribution to St Rose's School and given them a chance to work alongside young people who face their own challenges on account of their condition. Thanks to all the boys who gave freely to this project.



A STING IN THE TALE?



Well not quite! Recently, the Headmaster discovered a huge wasp nest in his attic and had to call in the pest control specialists to neutralise it. He donated it to the Science Department for experimentation. Five boys in Year 9 were given the opportunity by their teacher, Mark Holmes, to dismantle the nest. Firstly, they sketched the complete nest and then they separated the living quarters from the nursery. Finally, they separated the eight layers that made up the nursery. In the following lessons, they wrote down all their observations and findings and made a superb wall display which you can now see in Room 23. That's what's known as getting a buzz out of Science.





WarHorse

On my birthday, me, JMK, Harold, Scottie, Mrs Hillon, Nancy and Harry went to London to see 'Warhorse'.

It is a play about a horse that goes to war. It was two and a half hours long. It was sad, happy and had some funny bits. Before we saw the play, we went to Covent Gardens and watched a magician. He gave three gold coloured cups out and gave one to us and told us to hold it. Harold picked it up very bravely and confirmed the cups were empty. The magician then made balls appear from the cup, vanish and then re-appear. He was very funny and told jokes all through his performance. At the end he made apples and lemons appear in place of the balls and also made a melon appear from his hat which he had just put on the table. It was brilliant fun. After the magician, we went to watch a pole climber from the Cirque Du Soleil act. He climbed a 15 foot pole and did acrobatics on the top. The pole was only held up by four volunteers.



After the play we went to Pizza Express, Scott and I took a souvenir from the restaurant. We had never had coke in a glass bottle before, so we took it home to keep.

On the way back, Harry embarrassed us on the underground train, he pressed his nose onto a glass window and thought only we were watching, however, a women who was reading her newspaper saw him and tutted rather loudly. We laughed. In the end we all had a blinding time at the London Theatre. The trip was a reward for our help in being reading buddies for younger boys. It is worth helping when you get a trip like this one. *Aaron Cooke*

Football - The Melchet Cup



The Melchet Cup was restored to our sporting calendar this year. A squad of St Edward's pupils, supported by staff footballers, took on the Headmaster's Sunday side for the trophy. The game was played on a beautiful summer evening and it proved to be a hugely entertaining occasion, with chances for both sides. The boys from St Edward's were especially impressive, putting the skills they had learned in training to great use against a side brimful of experienced adult players.

It was a tight game and ended in an honourable 2-2 draw and so the trophy was shared by the two sides. Craig Rochford, Chief Executive of the Invention Factory and the visiting team's coach for the evening, presented the trophy and medals to all the players. All agreed the Cup should be up for grabs again next summer. A great occasion.

Wales Expedition 2010

All our pupils enjoyed themselves and their behaviour was exemplary. This year the weather was fantastic - we were spoilt with hot sun and excellent conditions for all the activities. Everybody supported each other really well and worked to be a great team, especially when some members of our group became unwell.

Brandon McMillan was awarded Expedition Champion for his excellent behaviour and his complete enthusiasm for all the activities. Ross the chef cooked a superb array of food and the evenings were brilliant.

Thanks to everyone who helped us get there.

Kristian Barton, Expedition Leader

This year's Wales Expedition was great. Here's what we did:

Tuesday

Kayaking all day on the River Wye

Wednesday

Caving in the morning followed by Gorge walking in the afternoon.

Thursday

Mountain Boarding at Court Farm in Herefordshire before making the journey back to school.



Douai Abbey - Autumn 2010

To help and encourage Year 11 boys at the beginning of their final year we took them to the Benedictine Abbey at Douai near Thatcham in Berkshire. We enjoyed a day of reflection there, finishing off the afternoon with a meaningful short liturgy; an important element of the service was a series of encouraging goodwill messages from teaching and support staff, woven into a powerful powerpoint display. We want all our Year 11 boys to get the very best out of their final months of school.

