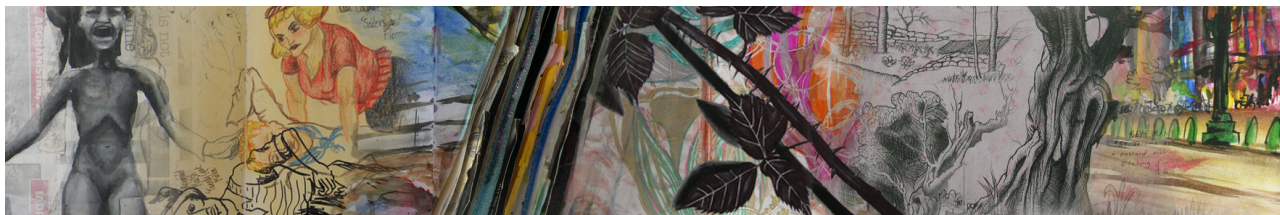




FERNDOWN UPPER SCHOOL



A NATIONAL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN THE VISUAL ARTS DECEMBER 2009 VISUAL ARTS NEWSLETTER

FERNDOWN'S STAFF ALL GO ART MAD!



To celebrate Ferndown Upper School being named by all three of Her Majesty's Art Inspectors as one of the best visual arts colleges in the country, David Pilkington, Director of Art asked all staff at the school to produce an original work of art. Based on the Royal Academy idea, all staff including site management, teaching assistants, support staff and teachers were given a postcard sized piece of card and three weeks to produce an original work of art. Over 60 works of art have been created including drawings, paintings, collages and even relief ceramic pieces. The work is displayed in school and is to be photographed for the school's gallery. Staff will be invited to 'bid' £5 for works in a 'blind' raffle, taking place in January. All proceeds from the auction will be donated to a cancer research charity.

STUDENTS TO ATTEND SEMINAR WITH TOP ARTISTS

A party of Foundation and A Level art students will be attending a high profile seminar in London for the last week of term. The title of the seminar is "What is Art?" and guest speakers will be high profile writer and critic Germaine Greer, celebrated illustrator Quentin Blake and high profile artists Antony Gormley and Martin Creed.

SUCCESSFUL FOUNDATION OPEN DAY

Such was the interest in the school's very successful Foundation course for 2010-2011 from students from other schools that Ferndown relaunched the idea of a Foundation Open Day in mid November. The event was a huge success with students, teachers and parents among the many visitors from schools across East Dorset

MODEL MAKER VISITS THE SCHOOL



Former student James Barnes visited the school for day in mid November. James, who achieved a Distinction on the school's Foundation course

in 2004, went on to complete a degree in Modelmaking at the Arts Institute in Bournemouth and achieved a First Class honours on the course. He is currently working for a local independent model making company and he has recently worked at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. On his day in school, he worked with both Foundation and Technology students and he led workshops with students.

YEAR 9 TO RETURN TO CORNWALL

After two very successful residential visits for the Year 9 artists to Cornwall in 2006 and 2008, a four day visit for the school's Year 9 has been launched. The visit which will take place in July of next year and will reprise visits to degree shows at the University College of the Arts, Falmouth, a visit to the Tate St Ives and a day drawing at the Eden project.

FASHION STUDENT SUCCESS AT THE CLOTHES SHOW LIVE!



The school's highly successful Fashion and Textiles department took a party of Fashion students from several years to the Clothes Show Live at the start of December. Year 10 Fashion student Lindsay Davis was short listed into the top ten finalists for the Clothes Show Live Young Artist of the Year Award. Entrants had to design a poster promoting the Clothes Show Live, and the winning entry would be used as part of the show's promotional material to schools. Lindsay's Fashion teacher, Helen Hughes said "Lindsay did really well to get into the top ten, and although she did not win, it was a great achievement for Lindsay to get into the top ten and to go up onto the stage".

LIFE DRAWING AND ART SHOWS



Over the last month, Life Classes have been arranged on Thursdays in one of the school's Foundation studios. A Level art students from Saint Edward's School, Poole, Corfe Hills School and Queen Elizabeth School, Wimborne have all come to the classes which have been an overwhelming success. The classes were taken by Ferndown's Foundation tutors. As a way of sharing good practice, all visiting students were asked to "pay" for their class by bringing a favourite piece of their A Level work to lend to a new temporary exhibition from each school in Ferndown's art atrium. Above is a photo of the exhibition from Corfe Hills and Saint Edward's Schools which was displayed for one week before being replaced by a current exhibition from Queen Elizabeth School. It is hoped to continue with a rolling series exhibitions from other schools.

SUCCESSFUL APTITUDE TESTS FOR THE SECOND YEAR

In November, a number of Year 8 children from both East Dorset and Bournemouth came to school on a Saturday to complete the visual aptitude test. The children were taking the test to try to join the Gifted and Talented art group in Year 9 in September 2010. This year's first group of gifted art students in Year 9 are to be given the opportunity to work in the newly refurbished Ashmolean Museum and Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford in late January.

NOTES AND QUERIES

If you have any queries or suggestions as to how this can be further developed, please do not hesitate to contact David Pilkington, Director of Arts, at school on 01202 871243 or Email davidp@fernup.dorset.sch.uk or Brynley Elias, Community Arts Officer, can be contacted on

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