

Fred Longworth High School Newsletter

Issue 45



February 03

‘A PARTICULARLY SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL’ Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector

We are delighted to share with you David Bell’s letter informing us that we feature in his annual report. We are proud to be recognised for our success and would like to thank all parents, governors, staff and friends of the school for their continued hard work and support.

21 January 2003

Mr A Colley
Headteacher
Fred Longworth High School
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Tyldesley
Manchester
Lancashire
M29 8JN



**Office for Standards
in Education**
David Bell
Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Schools

Dear Mr Colley

I am about to publish my Annual Report for the academic year 2001/02. As in previous years, I will be identifying a number of "**particularly successful schools**". These schools have received an outstanding inspection report and have performed well in national tests and examinations, given the circumstances of the schools. The report will be published on 5 February 2003.

I am pleased to inform you that your school is included. My warmest congratulations to you, your staff, governors and of course the pupils.

Please pass on my good wishes to your staff for the coming year. I am copying this letter to your chair of governors for information.

Yours sincerely

David Bell

David Bell



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

ADVANCED SKILLS TEACHERS

We are pleased to report that Mrs. G. Maher and Miss K. Slack have both satisfied the rigorous standards and undergone external assessment to become Advanced Skills Teachers.

We will therefore be creating two AST teaching posts in school from Easter 2003. They will be the only ASTs in Wigan in their particular specialist areas of Religious Studies and Dance.

Well done!

GOODBYE!

To Mrs. Hallett (First Aid officer) who has moved on to take up a new career. We would like to thank her for all the t.i.c, plastering, bandaging, counselling and general comforting of sick and injured students and wish her well in the future.

The post is now advertised and we hope to appoint a replacement soon.

RESOURCE CENTRE GRAND OPENING

On the 8th January, the newly-extended Resource Centre Library was officially opened by Mrs. Margaret Tooley who was the Library Supervisor in the school for almost twenty years before her retirement a few years ago. Many staff attended the opening and had the opportunity to look at a wide range of new books and resources which are now available in the Library.

The Library is now fully operational with large numbers of students taking advantage of the improved facilities at breaks and lunch times as well as during normal lessons.

FREE BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS

Once again, the school is participating in the Walkers 'Free Books for Schools' campaign. Please save all your empty crisp packets and/or special tokens from

the Sun newspaper and send them into school where we have a collection box in the Library, along with a team of volunteers to cut out the tokens and save you the trouble!

YEAR 11 LEAVERS' LEGACY

This year we are hoping to introduce a scheme whereby Year 11 leavers' are encouraged to donate a book to the school Library, which will bear their name on a special book-plate, in recognition of their time at Fred Longworth. More details to follow.

LANGUAGES WEEK

From Monday 27th of January to Friday 31st January, it has been Languages Week at Freddie's. Years 7, 8 and 9 have been enjoying many languages and delicious foods this week.

We have been learning Spanish, German, French, Italian, Arabic, Cantonese and other languages. At break time in D. & T. we have been able to enjoy some fine French and German foods, such as croissants, pain au

chocolat and Bratwurst.

Many students have enjoyed learning different languages and some are hoping that they will be able to do them again in the future.

INTERNATIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

In November 2002, I volunteered to have a German student stay at my home whilst they completed their work experience. In the build-up to their arrival I kept in contact with the German student I would have to stay. We exchanged details via e-mail. It seemed we were similar. She was a 14 year old girl, her name was Anne and it seemed our hobbies and interests were alike. I was both excited and nervous before her arrival.

In December she arrived in England. At our meeting we were both nervous. Throughout the two weeks we did various activities such as bowling, shopping, ice-skating, discos, going for meals and going to the cinema. As we spent more time together we became good friends and discovered we got on very well. Not only that, Anne also got

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Year 9 Parents' Evening	-	Thursday 13th February from 4.30 p.m.
Staff Training Day	-	Friday 14th February school closed for students
Half Term Holiday	-	Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February
School re-opens	-	Monday 24th February
Year 9 Options Evening	-	Tuesday 25th February
Year 9 Options Interviews	-	Monday 3rd March – Friday 7th March
Year 8 Parents' Evening	-	Thursday 3rd April
Progress Review Day	-	Friday 4th April (students attend for appointment only)
Year 7 Haven Week	-	Monday 7th April – Friday 11th April
Easter Holiday	-	Monday 14th – Friday 25th April (inclusive)
Summer Term starts	-	Monday 28th April

on with lots of my friends too. Consequently, at the end of Anne's stay we were all sad to see her leave.

At the end of Anne's stay, I realised I hadn't only just made a new friend, but also improved my ability to speak German.

It was definitely an amazing experience and I would recommend it to anyone who is given a similar opportunity.

Alaina Carter 10RB

GERMAN EXCHANGE

The German students and staff from our partner school in Müllheim will be visiting us during the week beginning the 24th February. We look forward to seeing our German friends again.

PHONOGRAPHIX

Parents and teachers both know that some students struggle to acquire the basic literacy skills of reading and spelling. For those transferring to secondary school this can lead to a great deal of anxiety and stress.

We attempt to identify and help these students, and are proud to be the first secondary school in Wigan to train teachers and learning support assistants in the highly successful PhonoGraphix method. Year 7 students with literacy problems follow a one week booster course planned to deliver measurable improvements in reading and spelling skills. This is always enjoyed by students and proves an effective way of raising basic attainment. Students who need a little more to consolidate their skills meet 1:1 with our trained reading therapist, Mrs. Bailey. She uses a PhonoGraphix based multi-sensory approach to strengthen existing skills. We always find that parents have an important contribution to make in helping their child to feel secure in their reading and writing. With this in mind we have been delighted with the response to our Parents Workshop, held on 04/02/03 at which our Educational Psychologist and

members of the Learning Support team explained the method to parents, and worked with them on some exemplar worksheets using PhonoGraphix skills. To see parents role playing their sons and daughters was very revealing!

We intend to hold more of these workshops in the future. Watch this space!

FAST TRACK YEAR 9 G.C.S.E.

In September few of us found out that we would be taking our French G.C.S.E. in June 2003! Just 9 months to learn three year's worth of French. We were terrified! On Wednesday the 4th September we had our first G.C.S.E. French lesson. We were greeted by Miss Antoniazzi who turned out to be a really nice and pleasant teacher – not like some of you have been led to believe or think. A couple of weeks passed and we were still questioning whether to take the task or not. But now we are all settled and enjoying it a lot more than we thought.

As a nice welcome back we were presented with our 'mocks' but it wasn't too hard and we still have 5 months to learn our languages and then it's on to something else. The something else means that we could leave Fred Longworth with G.C.S.E.s in two different languages or an As level in French.

LOCAL HISTORY ON THE WEB

21 members of the Tyldesley Historical Society came into school to look at their website created by Mr. Rydings. Dan and I were asked to come in on a Thursday night to help the members to navigate the site. We only expected there to be two or three but in the end 21 arrived and for the next hour we were run off our feet helping them out. After an hour most were doing all right and I went to the 1901 Census site, which then led to another hour of stories and discovery with Mr. Rydings also showing the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website. The evening was very

enjoyable and I am sure that the society will be coming back again to look at the censuses and use the Internet for their own research.

The website gets hits from people all over the world and is a good source for research. There is always someone looking to trace their families back to Tyldesley. There seems to be a lot of people from Australia leaving messages, so maybe there were a lot of criminals in Tyldesley many years ago! The Tyldesley Historical Society website address is: www.tyldesleyhistoricalsociety.co.uk.

FRED LONGWORTH ARTS COLLEGE COMMUNITY PROJECTS

**Fred Longworth BIG BAND
Monday 24th March
7 p.m. – 9 p.m.**

Masterclass with
J. Richard Dunscombe

Richard is Director of Jazz Studies at Florida International University and also works for Warner Brothers Music Division. He will be bringing new music with him, published by Warner in America, for the band to play. Players and spectators are welcome.

**Friday 28th March
10 a.m. – 3.30 p.m.**

Masterclass and concerts with Marlene VerPlanck (see [Marlene VerPlanck.com](http://MarleneVerPlanck.com)). Marlene is an international vocalist from New York and will perform two concerts in the morning session and an afternoon workshop for partner schools and gifted and talented students at Fred Longworth. She will be accompanied by her own trio. (Piano, Brass and Drums).

Please ring Mr. Asbury at school if you would like to attend.

A.M.
10.40 a.m. – 11.35 a.m. Concert 1
11.40 a.m. – 12.35 p.m. Concert 2

(Continued on page 4)

P.M.

Workshops for Fred Longworth Gifted and Talented students to include our partner schools Hesketh Fletcher High and Bedford High.

Friday 2nd May, 7.30 p.m.

Community **BIG BAND** concert at Atherton Parish Church. A high quality recording will be made of the performance to be included on a live C.D. Tickets will be available soon.

COMMUNITY ARTS

I move, I imagine, I create (IMIC)

Dance with Older People/people with a disability

This project has provides older people and adults with a learning or physical disability the opportunity to participate in dance workshops. All of the workshops are taking place at venues such as day centres and residential homes. All those taking part are encouraged to create and share work with other members of the group, therefore enhancing their knowledge of movement and communication skills.

The project will demonstrate how the arts can be a good resource to older people and people with learning and physical disabilities.

The project will enable people to:

- Challenge stereotypes
- Increasing mobility
- Gain confidence
- Build self-esteem
- Enhance knowledge of different art forms
- Share ideas and skills

This project is working in partnership with Leisure and Cultural Services (LEA), specifically Nicky Griffiths, Arts Development Officer and myself, Community Arts Co-ordinator at Fred Longworth High School. Funded by F.L.H.S., Wigan Council.

IMIC TRAINING DAY

Any carers/support workers interested in

learning a new skill?

Would you like to have some training and insight into movement/dance sessions?

If yes to all of the above, then our course would be suitable for you.

We at Fred Longworth High School and Leisure and Cultural Services (LEA) are having a training days on Friday 14th February, from 10.00 a.m. until 1.00 p.m. Lunch can be provided if necessary. This is specifically aimed at carers and those who work with older people and people with a disability.

If you are interested you can contact Louise Rowley (Community Arts Co-ordinator). on 01942 883796

THE LUDUS DANCE EXPERIENCE

On Thursday 23rd January, Years 7/8 and 9 breakfast dance students went to the Performing Arts Centre in Hindley to watch Ludus Dance Company perform their current work Zygote. Ludus often works with difficult subjects. The performance we watched covered teenage pregnancy and how to cope. It was good to watch and good to see such a controversial issue in the form of dance.

And then it was our turn! The following week was busy for us all in the dance

studio. Jasper and Anna from the Company, who were also in the show came in to help us in the form of 4 workshops. We were going to perform at the Arts Centre ourselves on the following Friday. The week was great and I learned lots of new skills and made many of new friends. It wasn't all fun as I really had to work hard and concentrate, as there was some tricky footwork involved, but we all managed to get it together in the end.

So, it was an excited bunch of girls that set off on the coach – looking really stylish with our hair done, make-up and dance gear on. I'm glad to say the performance went really well and it was a great experience for us all. Many thanks to Ludus Dance Company for all their hard work and for allowing it to happen.

Claire Chilton, 7JK