



Burlington Danes Academy Sixth Form's

**BDA**  
SIXTH FORM

# SIXTH SENSE

AN **ark** SCHOOL [www.burlingtondanes.org](http://www.burlingtondanes.org)

25<sup>th</sup> October, 2013

## Have a great week off!

**Ms Megaw:** With the half term upon you remember that your week should of course be a chance for rest and recuperation; be sure to eat well, sleep lots and catch up on exercise! You can also get involved in some of the cultural pursuits that I discussed in assembly, which of course will support not only your studies but also help you in the wider sense.

It is also a chance to get fully up to date with all your work - go through your textbooks and folders to ensure nothing is missing and these are effective revision materials for your exams in the summer - highlight key points, stick in your resources, and consolidate your learning over the very long eight week term. Please ensure you complete the work your teachers set as well as the further reading that you may not have had a chance to do during the term.

We are working hard over the half term to find a solution to the issues you have raised for lunch time areas; remember the Eatrium will be available for you at lunch breaks after half term as an alternative to the very crowded Pitstop room! Watch this space for potential long term solutions as discussed in assembly. We will also be looking to add to our staff commendations board for all the positive things that you are doing around the academy - you need to be recognised for all the wonderful things you do and are involved in.

As per the letter sent home we will also be cracking down on dress code however - including haircuts! - so please ensure you are ready to return in the new half term in business dress. Year 13 don't forget the 1994 Group/Russell Group UCAS deadline to pay and send on 1<sup>st</sup> November, and Year 12 don't forget the Loughborough University trip coming up on the 6<sup>th</sup> November.

I wish you a very happy holiday and look forward to seeing you on Tuesday the 5<sup>th</sup>.



“You need to be recognised for all the wonderful things you do and are involved in”

# The University of Liverpool

The University of Liverpool has everything a classic "red brick" uni should: a distinct identity, top-notch teaching and research, a diverse student body and, of course, a location in the centre of one of the UK's most exciting cities.

Founded in 1881 as one of the original "red brick" civic colleges, Liverpool has since established itself as a university of academic excellence and innovative research. Offering more than 230 degree courses across 103 subjects, it boasts eight Nobel Prize winners amongst its illustrious alumni.

A founding member of the prestigious Russell Group, Liverpool has consistently upheld its traditionally high standards, with particular advancements made in medicine, biochemistry, civic design and architecture. The 35 departments and schools are split into three faculties: Science and Engineering, Health and Life Sciences, and Humanities and Social Sciences. According to the Academic Ranking of World Universities, Liverpool is securely fixed in the top percent internationally, placing it within the top 100 institutions worldwide.

What's more, Liverpool is exceptionally well armed when it comes to facilities: it is home to two main libraries, one of which the recent recipient of a £17m makeover; excellent sport and leisure equipment, including a brand new gym installed in 2012; a refurbished student base, complete with a new bar, international food court and performance venue; and its award-winning £23m central teaching laboratories, opened in 2012.

It's worth noting that Liverpool was voted 2008's European Capital of Culture – need I say more?



*Liverpool has since established itself as a university of academic excellence and innovative research*

**KPMG, Mr Whitlock:** On Thursday 24th October, I took Jasmine, Feyi, Abdillahi, Ondraya and Hamida to KPMG in Canary Wharf. Students were immediately impressed with the size of the building and its amenities. They were exposed to a presentation by current employees, both new and experienced, who explained the options for the lucrative and highly competitive school leaver and graduate programmes.

After hearing lots of information, opening a brochure and finding BDA mentioned by Mr Jerred in an interview from a previous year, and drinking Camomile tea with lots of milk? (Feyi!), students were able to spend the rest of the time talking to the employees about what it is like to work at KPMG. Finally, students had a photo opportunity in the presentation room with one in particular getting carried away thinking he was addressing a large audience from the stage (no Feyi, it was just myself and a couple of other students). Students found this experience really informative and useful.



# The Friends of BDA Reunion

The Friends of Burlington Danes Academy alumni group came together for their annual reunion in the Main Hall on Saturday afternoon.

For the fifth year running that BDA has hosted the event, sixty guests came from far and wide to enjoy a fantastic lunch in the company of old school friends while hearing all about the academy's latest achievements.

In special recognition of the group's continued contribution to the BDA community, a crab apple tree was planted outside the Fink Building. Dame Sally chose this type of tree because of its popularity with birds. Its life and colour will remind generations to come of our school's wonderful, rich history.

Chairman of the group, Audrey Jones, was particularly impressed by the ten students who gave up their Saturdays to host the event. She described them as "an exceptional advertisement for the school" and suggested they pursue careers in entertainment.

One guest said: "Even though so much has changed since my days at school, it is still dear old Burlington."



## Social Committee's First Event...



**Krya, Kyron and Janine:** Our Halloween Spooktacula viewing of the Conjuring was really great, with pizza, popcorn, drink and enough screams to fill a haunted house.

You can be sure that there will be another event, so tell your friends so they can tell their mums and they can tell their friends who can tell their dogs who can tell their friends! We want everyone to know about it!

And a big thank you to the year 12's that stayed behind to help clean up. Many more to come!

## BDA at the Old Vic...



Students visited the famous Old Vic theatre on Monday to take part in workshops exploring the genius of Shakespeare's comedy, Much Ado About Nothing, from the actors' perspective.

Students then attended a fantastic performance and turned their critical eyes to the director's many innovations, including the inspired decision to use a wholly blind cast.

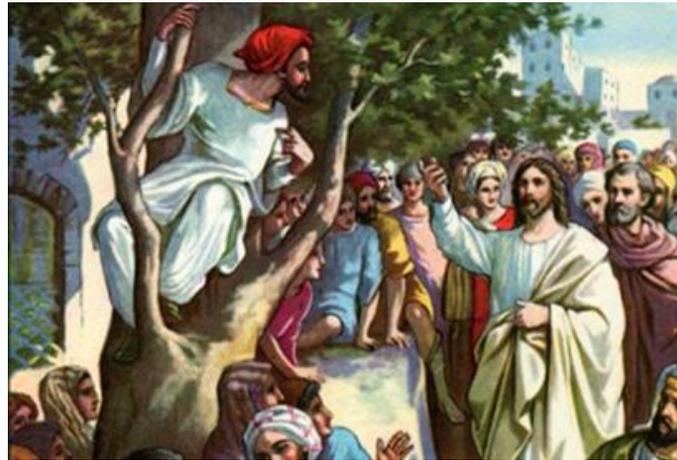
It was great for students - who are more familiar with Shakespeare's tragedies - to see just relevant his comedies remain today.

# Chaplain's Reflection: Luke 19:1-10

**Mr Whitlock, Acting Chaplain:** Jesus tells a story in Luke 19:1-10 about Zacchaeus the Tax Collector:

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

When Jesus told this story, the Jewish audience would have been shocked. Why? Because Tax Collectors were Jewish men who were rich because they took from other Jews on behalf of Rome. We learn that Zacchaeus must have been a pretty short guy so he cleverly climbs a sycamore tree (short trunk, long branch). Jesus has a prophetic revelation and knows this Tax Collector's name, even though he had never met him before. In the ancient culture, if someone is called from afar by their first name, it shows they are accepted. When Jesus shouted out "Zacchaeus" the whole crowd would have turned in shock-horror!



We learn Zacchaeus responds with great joy and after hearing the crowd accuse Jesus of accepting a "sinner" he confesses what he has done wrong and declares he will pay back everything he has taken four times the amount! This was an expression of Zacchaeus's faith in Jesus which led to his salvation.

What can we learn from this?

1. Even the most shocking person can get noticed by Jesus
2. God knows you by name (in fact, He knows how many hairs are on your head!)
3. You are accepted by Jesus no matter what you have done.
4. Acceptance in God's love brings you great joy.
5. Confessing what you have done wrong and putting your faith in Jesus brings you salvation.

"It is better for people to confess their sins than to harden their hearts"

**THE CHRISTIAN SERVICE, Mr Whitlock:** On Thursday 23rd October there was a Christian Service which runs every half-term in the Dennis Potter Theatre.

Seats were almost full of a variety of students from Year 7 to Year 12. Students sang a contemporary worship song by Tim Hughes "Here I am to Worship" before being introduced to a team of youth workers from a local church who proceeded to explain how valuable the students are in the eyes of God.

Jamie, one of the youth workers, screwed up a £10 note and asked students if they still wanted it. They all responded unanimously "Yes!" He then put it under his arm pits, stamped on it and chewed it in his mouth. Many students still wanted the £10 note. "Why?" He asked. The response was "Because it is still valuable." Jamie went on to explain that just like the £10 note, not matter how much we have messed up, God still thinks we are valuable and priceless to Him.



This was followed by his brother Jon who gave his testimony of how he gave up a life of drugs to follow Jesus.

"In this world we often know the cost of everything and the value of nothing." How much do you value your own life? If you feel worthless, have a low-self esteem or struggle to see how you will ever be accepted, make sure you speak to a member of the Pastoral team (a peer mediator, your Tutor, your DOL or The Chaplain Mr Whitlock) so we can listen and help you see that your life is precious.

# Review from the library: Carrie

**Ms Hartnett:** I really loved this book when we read it recently for the **Sixth Form Book Society** – that's Mondays in the sixth form library after school, in case you're wondering, and there are biscuits...

Stephen King is a fantastic author, so many of his books have been turned into films – including *The Green Mile*, *The Shining*, and of course, *Carrie* which comes out (again) in November. It's a pretty short book, but it really impressed me. The pace is good, the whole thing builds really well towards THAT ending, and I really warmed towards the characters. Carrie is an interesting character, and of course you end up feeling really sorry for her, but she's a little unlikable too.

The novel switches between the perspectives of some of the characters and news reports, and psychology articles written after 'the event'. Carrie, a socially awkward girl who has a terrifying religious zealot for a mother, and is severely bullied at school, begins to discover her ability to move things with her mind, powers of telekinesis. The book builds towards the dramatic ending you are already prepared for – but it's still incredibly shocking to read.

If you're going to go see the film, or want to scare yourself in time for Halloween – this is a brilliant psychological thriller to try. This book is also great if you're interested in trying something a bit different as it's written in an unusual style.

# STEPHEN KING

## CARRIE



Carrie White is no ordinary girl



**Kings College London, Mr Whitlock:** On Wednesday 23rd October, I took ten students to KCL for a "Getting into University" event on Law and Medicine run by the Bangladeshi Society. Students were exposed to a presentation on entrance requirements, what it was like to study Law and Medicine and even top tips on how to write a decent personal statement and employ good interview techniques.

The evening was finished with the medical students showing the 6th Formers how to resuscitate a person having heart failure, save someone who is choking and take a blood pressure reading manually. Lots of questions were asked and students were better informed to make decisions about a career in Law or Medicine.



**Mr Jennings:**

Following on from the assembly on positivity, I want to say well done to the vast majority of year 12. You should be incredibly proud of the effort and attitude you have displayed in this first half term. Personally, I am finding it extremely rewarding to be part of a year group full of mature, confident students who are striving to do what's best for themselves and those around them. I feel lucky to be part of this community, so thank you for the part you are playing in that. Enjoy the break