

## Secondary School

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14<sup>th</sup> January 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian,

### Mid Year Report – Creative Arts

May I take this opportunity to inform you of progress made in the Creative Arts Department so far this Academic Year.

Since September students have been introduced to many new topics within Art, Drama and Music that allow students to experiment creatively, challenging ideas that develop new skills and approaches to the Arts. It has been an exciting first term for the faculty and students have worked enthusiastically producing excellent work in all three Creative Arts subjects. Last term's exam results were very pleasing suggesting students continue to improve and develop their creative skills in Art, Drama and Music.

This year Art has taken on new dimensions. There has been a strong push for all Key Stage areas to experience and experiment in a three dimensional and sculptural way. Students have been working with a variety of different media and have refined and practiced their drawing, making, painting and printing skills. Competitions have been introduced such as the logo design for the PTA in collaboration with our school website and advertising projects which are still in process. There is also a design competition to create a front cover for the Yearbook. These competitions have been open to all year groups and offer fantastic prizes and opportunities.

It has been an exciting time in Drama so far this year which saw students produce some wonderful work in the drama studio and theatre. Students have explored the 14th century Italian form of comedy, Commedia Dell' Arte. Mr. Oxlade and the students had lots of giggles getting to know all of the characters. Students have been introduced to new challenging techniques in Drama. IGCSE students have worked extremely hard from scripts and are currently devising their own drama. IB Theatre students have been getting acquainted with the high expectations of the course studying major theatre practitioners like Bertolt Brecht and Augusto Boal. All year groups have excelled in their own drama performances further enhancing confidence and communication skills.

The Music department has seen many changes this term. Students have been introduced to new genres of music in all year groups. The introduction of keyboards into the Music studio has allowed all year groups to develop better composition and performance skills. Miss Goltepe has established a year 7 recorder group improving students' sight reading skills. Students have been very enthusiastic in practical classes enjoying percussion, guitar and keyboard work. New music technology has been introduced into the classroom to help students with compositional work in IGCSE and IB Music. Music students are now enjoying a varied curriculum.

Creative Arts Clubs were a big success last term. Miss Mias Art Club has been great so far with keen year 7, 8 and 9 students creating their own metamorphosis shoe designs and making them come to life. The Drama Club involved students working hard on the production of Peter Pan to be performed this term. In music students excelled in songwriting club and the older students enjoyed learning more about improvisation in Jazz Club. Students from all year groups have started warming up their voices in the new BISI school choir that will be performing later in the year. We have some wonderful voices in our school and it's great to see such a positive attitude to school singing.

Extra curricular activities are a major part of the development and creativity amongst our students. Creative Arts students this year have visited the Istanbul Modern to see the work of artist Hussein Chalayan. Students went along to the famous Body Worlds Exhibition to see the extraordinary work by Dr Von Hagen. There has been an exciting trip to Contemporary Istanbul Arts Fair where students were able to meet real contemporary artists and view global artworks. In Music, students had the opportunity to play woodwind at Chirigan Palace as part of the Winter Concert. In Drama, students have enjoyed watching live theatre in Istanbul.

As a department the Creative Arts team are very proud of what our students have achieved so far this year. We hope students continue to grow on the successes of last term. The new Creative Arts teaching team consider this to be a very successful start and we will continue to achieve great results during the remainder of the year. We all look forward to the summer production of 'The Lion King' and the London trip later in the year.

Thank you for all your support of the Creative Arts.

Yours faithfully,

Michael Fenwick