

Secondary School

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Dear Parents,

The end of the school year is upon us and a well deserved break for all of our students and staff. The Summer Term is often thought as the quieter of the three terms. This has certainly not been the case for the Science Department who have been working at full speed. We produced a highly successful Science Week that was really a lot of fun for our students and for the staff. The week included themed lessons that were creative and exciting. Year 9 designed and built rockets then tested them for length of flight and stability. This linked to the forces topic. Year 8 designed and built musical instruments linking to the sound topic and Year 7 produced some magnificent solar cookers with the highest temperature reached at 93 Celsius! This linked with the temperature and heat topic. Other activities included a quiz, spelling competition, special assembly and educational trips to the Aviation Museum, Turkuazoo Aquarium and an ecological survey in the Belgrade Forest.

Year 12 completed a very important part of their IB Science subject assessment known as the Group 4 Project. This is where an overall theme is decided amongst the students and then they work in groups to investigate topics around the theme. The theme this year was Water. Investigations included the use of steam turbines, pollution testing of water samples from different locations along the Bosphorus, chlorine in the swimming pool, properties of water, using solar distillation and producing hydrogen from water as an alternative fuel source. The students were not assessed on their results but on their personal skills in working with others in a group.

The end of the school Year sees one set of students graduate and another set of students finish their Primary education. Many Year 6 students and parents will feel anxious at his time. The school has tried to ease this process and make students feel welcome before they start in September. These are known as transition activities. Year 6 students visiting the Science Department on their taster days got to use a lab probably for the first time. They experienced the weird and wonderful world of Chemistry by mixing chemicals together and making observations. Mr. Mayer and Mr. Shippen visited Etiler and Zek Year 6 classes to introduce themselves and teach a sample lesson on electricity that will be completed when students start school in Year 7. I believe it was an electrifying time for the Year 6 students as they experienced the Van Der Graaf Generator.

Finally we all have Year 11 and 13 in our thoughts at the moment as we all wait with anticipation for their IGCSE and IB results. They have worked very hard in these last few months and we all wish them the very best of luck in the next step of their lives. My personal thanks go to all staff and students who have contributed to making this a fun and successful year for the Science department.

Happy holiday!!

Michael Tarbuck