On Monday 25 February, we were delighted to welcome 120 students from South Wilford Primary School to take part in the ‘Emmanuel Extravaganza’, an event to enable students in Years 3-6 to experience a wide range of creative and innovative learning opportunities. Students were split into smaller groups and rotated around a programme of exciting workshops in Science, DT, ICT, Art and Music. At the end of the sessions, students’ parents gathered in the Hall for a showcase of all the excellent work that was produced.

Teacher, Mrs Hatfield, said, ‘It was a very well organised afternoon and the atmosphere was great! There were a variety of activities for which the staff had got together many good resources. The children were enthralled! Thank you.’ Pupil, Mae Denman (Year 5) commented, ‘The Emmanuel Extravaganza was fun, exciting and really enjoyable. Many people worked hard to get it ready and I think they deserve a big ‘thank you!’ I think the staff were very skilled in their subject. It was great being at Emmanuel - they should definitely do it again so that other children can try it.’ Pupil, Charlie Gallagher (Year 5) commented, ‘The ICT lesson was good, BUT the Science was the best lesson of my life!!! Every school in England should have one of these days!’ A parent commented, ‘That was a great afternoon. The children seem to have really had a good time. I like the facilities here and the presentation at the end was lovely.’

We look forward to further opportunities for our primary partner schools to visit Emmanuel in the summer term to extend their current learning and to support their progression into Year 7 in the coming years.

Mr Smith, Deputy Headteacher

Took together to learn, to grow, to serve
Drug awareness has been the key focus of the Citizenship Drop Down Days this term. Year 10 engaged passionately during their ‘Drop Down morning’ on the theme of Drugs as they showed flair and maturity during their discussion. Collectively we explored the dangers of drugs and the impact that it has on an individual as well as a family’s health and well-being. Lessons were full of active learning which involved students displaying their understanding through written text, song lyrics and visual games.

The Year 8 Drug Awareness Day which followed a week later focussed on the importance of living a ‘drug-free’ life and the meaning of eating healthily. One student commented wisely, ‘I think I have gained a better understanding of how to improve my health’.

The day finished in a spectacular fashion with an inter-tutor group quiz. Students competed in a lively way to answer questions relating to drugs and health. Their knowledge, understanding and competitive spirit was truly admirable.

Mr Doorbar, Director of Learning and Innovation for Religious Studies, PSHE, Citizenship and Spiritual Growth.

On 5 March numerous excited Year 7 and Post 16 students partook in a visit to Hampton Court Palace in London to witness the real-life splendour of one of this country’s most magnificent buildings. The palace which was designed by Cardinal Wolsey, was used to showcase his power and his wealth; it was the principal site for entertaining and for hosting important state diplomatic visits. The students were able to explore the grand banqueting halls, the various royal suites, the courtyard and even the Tudor kitchens. However, it was the maze with its many intriguing twists and turns which really captivated the students’ attention.

“There was wonderful sunshine...we headed into a massive and beautiful garden which was like a huge puzzle. The maze is so famous because it is the oldest in the world. It was a fantastic trip not only because I learned even more about Tudor history but also because I was able to learn from the Post 16 students”.

The History Team and Mads Norlov, 707
Since Christmas, Miss Bell and Miss Miles have worked with a group of budding journalists in the Year 8 Gifted and Talented enrichment club, on Tuesday lunch times, to develop their writing and multimedia skills to take part in the annual nationwide news simulation day called School Report, run by the BBC; this year the event took place on 21 March 2013.

In the run up to the big day, the students selected and researched feature stories covering such diverse topics as youth unemployment, the latest tram developments in Nottingham and World Water Day. The students were intrepid investigative reporters, working alongside Marie-Line Antoine and Dave Ellis, e-Learning consultants, and put many hours of work into the production of their features; they interviewed a variety of people, including councillor Jane Urquhart, who oversees the tram development for Nottingham City, and our very own Mrs Wilkins, about Yellow House's nominated charity, Water Aid.

The team of reporters spent two days at the e-learning centre, recording the presenter links and editing the features together. We were lucky to use the centre’s custom built TV studio, complete with full studio lights, green screen, HD cameras and a brand new £4,000 vision mixer in the gallery. Students had varying roles throughout the two days, which included presenters, reporters, researchers, floor manager and director.

On School Report Day, Thursday 21 March, the team met first thing at the e-Learning Centre to have a news review meeting. They looked at the international, national and regional news stories of the day to select which headlines they would cover in their live broadcast before formulating a script for the presenters to memorise. This was subsequently loaded onto the autocue (just as a prompt!) for the production and then... at 2pm sharp, it was time for: lights, camera, action ...

“The group worked hard on their scripts sharing ideas of what could be added, taken out or improved.”
Kinga Sitkiewicz, Year 8

You can watch the final Nottingham Emmanuel News School Report and read a blog of the events leading up to the day on the School Report section of the school website. Furthermore, you can watch a film about the making of the School Report on Shine TV.

Eleanor Harris said "School Report was a great learning experience as I was able to see how a news programme is put together and how much work it takes" whilst Mei Yan Lee stated "I really enjoyed the opportunity to use the sophisticated media equipment".


Thanks to: Ms Bell, Ms Miles, Ms Richards and Mr Guy and to Marie-Line Antoine, Dave Ellis and James Hancock at the Nottingham e-Learning Centre.
Mother’s Day
1103 made sure every Mum was treated to something special this Mother’s Day by selling cards and gifts in the Dining Hall. Despite being extremely busy Green House Year 11s designed and produced their own handmade cards and gave up their lunchtimes to sell products. Lianna Hastie, Muminah Farooq, Anna Juffs and Grace Boden worked very hard to raise money for the Green House charity World Vision.

We hope every Mum had a wonderful day!

TUTOR GROUP ATTENDANCE PRIZE
Heads of House consistently aim to raise the profile and the importance of student’s attendance across the Houses because we know that there is a strong correlation between attendance and achievement. We have recently launched a tutor group attendance prize for the group with the most students in the Champions League (100% attendance) and Premier League (99.9-97% attendance) in order to celebrate tutor group attendance.

The tutor group attendance prize for the Autumn Term was won by Green House’s 1103. Their reward was a meal at Pizza Express in West Bridgford along with their tutor, Ms Wainright and the Head of House. The students were exceptionally polite and really enjoyed celebrating their success together. Well done 1103!

Ms Miles, Head of Green House

Adam Nightingale helped us to celebrate World Book Day on Thursday, 7 March by promoting his new work of non fiction “The Shipwreck Cannibals - Captain John Dean and the Boon Island flesh eating scandal”. This is published in November and available from all good bookshops. Adam captivated groups of students throughout the day in the Learning Resource Centre by explaining the process of researching and writing the book. He also read key extracts from the text. Captain Dean, the central character, is buried in Wilford Churchyard and so creates a local interest in the story of his life and times. If you want to know more you will have to buy the book! In his busy and interesting life he journeyed to America, where he was shipwrecked and helped to build up the Russian navy. My thanks to all the students who asked lots of questions and helped the day to be a success.

Mr Pycroft, Learning Resources Manager
Check out Adam’s interview on Shine TV: www.emmanuel.nottingham.sch.uk/shinetv.html
The idea of READ came from the founder John Wood, a Microsoft Executive. He decided to take a trip to Nepal for a break from his busy work life. Whilst on this trip he got invited by an Education resource officer to visit a school in a neighbouring village. At the school, he saw the harsh reality that there was a severe shortage of books. He decided to return the following year with 3,000 books and thus the creation of READ. This fantastic organisation has been active since 1998.

During Year 12, I was introduced to READ by a friend who was currently running the project at that time; she offered me the opportunity to be part of the READ team and soon after this I became interested in taking over the role as Project Leader of READ which I did later on. Initially, I strived to encourage others to volunteer and, successfully, I recruited eight people who willingly took part. As a team we managed to set up connections with local churches in order to increase the amount of books for our collection. This proved to be very successful as we are frequently supplied with new books every week. As well as the book collections still going on at the churches, I am pleased to say that the book count so far is approximately one thousand, which is concurrent with our present target. Alongside the churches providing books, we also have members of the public contributing towards our READ collection by offering bags of their old books. I think it is brilliant that people are willing to give in their old books in order to help the people of LEDCs. I am sure they will be pleased to know that by donating the books they are making a difference in the world. Furthermore, the total number of books accumulated (which is continuously increasing) has meant that our target will be extended. Thank you to everyone in the community for their kind generosity.

Luke Parr, Year 13

Photos: Will Leonard, Year 13, gives a hand loading the Read International van. The collection bin at the entrance of the school waiting for your unwanted books!

MEDICAL MARVELS:
AN INTERACTIVE REVISION SESSION

Year 11 Historians undertook a visit to the Thackray Museum in Leeds in order to deepen their understanding of how medical knowledge and procedures have developed from the 19th century to the present day. There were gruesome facts and plenty of blood, guts and gore as the sounds and smells of an operating theatre were brought to life!

Students learned about public health in the 19th century and how important individuals such as Louis Pasteur, Robert Koch and Alexander Fleming have helped to instigate change. The students completed an array of tasks that will aid their revision for the forthcoming exam. As Bethan Laughlin states “It brought to life the Medicine Through Time course in a way that was more memorable from simply reading it on a page … the stench and horrors of life in a working class area in Leeds in 1842 were clearly displayed through such a dramatic exhibition.”

Ms Wiltshire, Director of Humanities and Social Sciences

Top: Beth Chadwick and Chloe Mutton participating in one of the various interactive displays at the museum.
Bottom: Daniel Reeves in a typical apothecary’s shop.

GEOGRAPHY

We are studying Volcanoes and Earthquakes in Geography this term and for our independent work outside of lessons, we had the choice from a range of engaging activities; some of us chose to create board games and songs and others researched and created quizzes and diary entries which reflected our subject knowledge and interest in this topic.

We all chose different methods of working; some chose to work at home with parents whilst others attended the weekly Humanities homework club and worked with Ms Salt and Ms Barratt to create a papier mache volcano. We have worked very hard on our projects and have developed different ways of working outside the classroom. We’ve all been successful in our own ways. Ms Barratt says she’s impressed with our creativity, independence and effort and has celebrated this with the school’s reward system. We like being able to choose our own activities and be more independent.

Our class would like to thank all the people at home and school who helped us with our projects.

Researchers and written by 7Y3

Megan thought that making a board game would be fun and interesting. She created a 3D model as the central piece of the playing board.

Piers has created a model, wrote a song, created a diary entry and did Internet research amongst other activities.

Photography by Leo and Piers
DEBATE MATES!
On 19 March, the English department hosted the latest round of the Urban Debate League, run in conjunction with the national organisation Debate Mate. Students and teaching staff came from Redhill Academy, Big Wood School, Derby Moor School and Nottingham Girls Academy to Emmanuel and they were all very impressed with our facilities here, especially the new installation in the foyer!

Our team for the first round was: Molly Mansfield, Elliott Bairstow, Alice Edmonds and Grace Boden and they beat a team from Nottingham Girls Academy on the motion of should performance enhancing drugs be allowed in sports. In the second round, Elliott made way for Awais Maqsood, who is in Year 8, and we argued against a team, made up of Year 10 students, from Redhill on the motion of whether police in this country should be armed. Unfortunately we narrowly lost the second debate, although Grace was complimented by the judge from Nottingham University for delivering the best content of a summation speech she’d ever seen.

Ms Richards, Director of Communications Learning Community

Science and Engineering week - 15-24 March 2013: Invention & discovery

Science Week 2013 was all about invention and discovery. Much of the world around us has at some point been invented and everyday problems lead to new innovations to solve them. Explorers of the natural world discover new things every day, from new species to space phenomena. Invention and discovery is a broad theme encompassing many aspects of science and engineering.

Some of our Year 10 Triple Scientists have been discovering what KS3 students have been up to and here is their report.

‘For Science week the Year 9 Students have been Forensic Chemists. They have been taking part in many interesting investigations and exciting experiments trying to discover how Chemistry is used in day to day living. They learnt about what really happens when scientists test foods for contaminants – all very topical due to the horse meat scandal. KS3 have been learning about the chemical reactions and techniques which are used to detect different chemicals. It was a very intriguing opportunity for the students to participate in some detective work to have an insight in the life of a Forensic Chemist!’

Leticia Wright and Iona-Skye Wood, Year 10
With just 4 months to go until departure, Partner Ghana continues to develop with pace and excitement. The 20-strong student team will be led by Mr Wolfe, Ms Moore, Mr Newman and Ms Grange this summer, and the preparations and fundraising are progressing very well. A wide range of activities have included Cake Sales, Netball Tournament Hospitality, Big Bike Ride, Sponsored Climb (Peter Emery, Year 12), and 3127-length Sponsored Swim (Jess Clay, Year 11), alongside some exciting donations from partner charities and grant-making bodies. The team is fully confident about hitting the final fundraising target by the end of May. As we continue to develop our relationship with Dutch Komenda, Mr Dunning and Ms Grange will be flying out during the Easter holidays to plan future events and develop an exciting CPD opportunity for our staff teams. Because of this success, we now have the exciting opportunity to raise money directly for the project work that we will be doing in Ghana this summer. Our target for this building project is £5000, which is going to be able to pay for the complete renovation of one of the school blocks, to house an eating area, classroom and accommodation for 4 teachers. It is a really ambitious and exciting project, and you can get involved in this effort. There are of course many opportunities to sponsor students in events, and equally simply to donate to this project which is going to have an incredible impact on the school in Ghana. Please contact Mr Wolfe directly if you feel that you could support, and do watch the latest film on Shine TV which shows you the projects in detail and how you could get involved.

“I can’t believe it’s only 4 months until we go – my swimming has gone really well and I’ve raised all the money I need for the trip – I can’t wait to get on the plane now!” (Jess Clay, Year 11)

“The fundraising is going really well and the team is working so well together – it’s going to be an amazing trip!” (Declan Kinsella, Year 12)
THE DREAM SADLY COMES TO AN END

The Year 9 boys football team have had a truly remarkable season reaching the final stages of in the City, County, and National Cup.

On Wednesday 13 March, the boys played in their quarter final fixture against a school from Durham. Having performed exceptionally well in the previous rounds, they entered the game confident that they could progress further in the competition. The game started and it was clear that the standard of opposition had risen sharply and that we would have to be at our best to beat them. Unfortunately the visitors quickly went 0 – 3 ahead, giving Emmanuel a massive mountain to climb. The deficit proved too difficult to bridge and we disappointingly lost the fixture and went out of the National Cup.

As their manager I am, however, immensely proud of the team’s achievements this year. They have greatly surpassed my expectations which I set at the beginning of the season. The boys have been an absolute credit to the school and have achieved something of which they should be extremely proud. The crown of being one of the top 8 under 14s school football teams in the country is superb. I am confident that on our day, we would have progressed further and really hope to do so in the National Cup next year.

The team must now dust themselves off and prepare for their semi-final in the County Cup so they can retain the trophy which they hold from last season.

Mr Clarke, Head of PE

SUCCESS DRAGONS’ DEN STYLE

In February, for the final part of their project the Leadership Academy group from the Sports Council took part in the City Dragons’ Den event.

The Leadership Academy group were responsible for setting up the Urban Hockey project for Year 7 and 8 students. This involved leading parts of AOWs, leading taster sessions and extra-curricular clubs, and finally organising and running the Urban Hockey Tournament which ran just before Christmas.

The Dragons’ Den event was similar to the television programme as the students had to present their project to a panel of judges. Our students were fantastic with the judges feeding back that their presentation was brilliant, eye catching and very well presented. The judges decided that our project was both the best presented and the best all round project and so our students won the City Leadership Academy for the very first time. Our students will now go on to represent the city in the County Leadership Academy in the summer and will be mentors to next year’s project, featuring on the judging panel as well.

Well done to Olivia Micallef, Heather Keith, Eban Straker-Meads and Luke Beardsley on their fantastic achievement.

Mr Marsh, Community Sports Leader

MASCOT AT THE SIX NATIONS

On Sunday 10 March 2013 Mr Irons and myself took Andy Musvaburi to experience a once in a lifetime opportunity. As part of the All Schools programme we received the chance to go to the England vs Italy Six Nations rugby match held at Twickenham stadium. This project is run in many schools across the country and a representative from each school is given the opportunity to be a mascot on the pitch during the national anthems. The day started with a gathering of all the representatives from the different schools and a presentation from the CEO of the RFU and Alex Corbisiero, who is an England International. After this the students had a practice on the pitch of what they had to do before a well-earned lunch. Just before kick off the students, alongside the armed forces, marshalled the giant England shirt on to the pitch before the teams entered and remained during the National Anthem.

This was an absolutely fantastic day, made better as England won, and it will live in Andy’s memory for a long time.

Mr Marsh, Community Sports Leader

DATES FOR APRIL/MAY 2013

Monday 15 April: Term starts
Monday 22 April: Year 7 Drop Down Day for PSHE/Citizenship
Thursday 25 April: Junior Maths Challenge
Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 May: Year 10 Practice DofE
Monday 6 May: Bank Holiday
Thursday 9 May: Parent Partnership Forum, media workshop (Please note the new date, originally the 30th April)
Monday 13 May: Primary school transition visits begin
Wednesday 22 May: Year 9 Drop Down Day for PSHE/Citizenship
Thursday 23 May: Art Trip to NTU/NCN/South Notts College
Monday 27 - Friday 31 May: Half Term

Together to learn, to grow, to serve