



# Millais International

Summer 2009



## Millais grills the Chancellor

In the lead up to the G20 Summit, Alistair Darling chose to visit Millais School because of its strong global links. Students posed questions on global economic issues and the financial crisis. A video link up was also arranged with a partner school in Canada, for students to also pose questions to the Chancellor, prior to the G20 Summit in London.



Representatives from UK schools with Alistair Darling

## BBC & British Council—'Cruncharama'

Representatives from twenty schools from around the UK were invited to No.11 Downing Street to take part in the Global Change-makers debate. Each school represented one of their partner schools in each of the G20 countries. Two Year 11 Millais students represented partner schools in Australia and Canada. They were able to share and discuss their concerns and views on the financial situation with fellow students from across the world. Alistair Darling welcomed the chance to hear their thoughts prior to meeting with the world leaders at the G20 Summit.

# Canadian Work Experience

At the beginning of March I was lucky enough to have the chance to spend two weeks working in Glenforest Secondary School in a city called Mississauga in Ontario, Canada. This was the first international placement that has been granted by the National College of School Leaders for the NPQH qualification so this opportunity was the first of its kind in the UK.

The purpose of my visit was to help support the school by giving the teaching staff some ideas of how to develop their International Work and it was also an opportunity for me to work in another school on aspects of leadership with the Principal (Head teacher), Mrs Cindy Horvath.

Links in different curriculum areas between our two schools have been made and we hope that these will be extended and strengthened with the possibility of visits for Canadian teachers to Millais School and for our teachers to visit the Canadian school.

It was a fantastic experience during which I learned about another educational system and what it is like to work in a very multicultural school; I also got to work alongside new international colleagues and learned about a different country and culture. The trip was made possible through links made via our International School Award status and Language College Specialism.

Mrs Springer





## Science

During Science Week, year 7 students looked at water usage. They completed an 'audit' to find out how much water was used at home and asked pupils from international partner schools to do the same. The data was compared and presented on posters and in a report.

All curriculum areas have been busy completing their international activities this year for reaccreditation for the International Schools Award. To retain the award, schools must submit evidence every 3 years. Here is a sample of some of the exciting international activities which pupils have enjoyed.

Last year the British Council received applications from 400 schools nationwide. This year 800 schools are submitting portfolios. This includes schools applying for the first time and schools like Millais re-applying.



## Maths

**WORLD MATHS DAY** in March challenged children around the world to test their mental arithmetic skills, against each other. 4 students competed at once to see how many questions they could answer correctly, in one minute. They could see a map of which countries they were competing against and were impressed by the speed of some of those taking part. As this was an online activity pupils enjoyed taking part in class and at home too.



**FRENCH SCHOOL LINK** Year 6 pupils from College St Pierre from near Port Louis in Brittany were welcomed to the school in February. The class had enjoyed a busy week, visiting places of interest in Paris, Portsmouth and London. Year 8 Millais pupils spent the morning hosting the French school and enjoyed a joint Maths class, outdoor games and the opportunity to practice speaking in French.

## MFL

Year 8 pupils celebrated **Europe Day** in April and learnt about their European neighbours with quizzes, a German breakfast, workshops and Spanish dancing.



A Spanish theatre group provided an entertaining performance to Year 9 pupils in March..



Year 10 pupils took part in the **Spanish exchange** this year. Linguistically they gain enormous confidence and both their listening and speaking skills notably improve. The Spanish students visited local primary School Kingslea, to give younger children a lesson in Spanish.

## Humanities



Many year 9 students enjoyed making their own Italian meal during a recent Geography lesson. This was part of a study on Italy which the whole of year 9 have been following this term.

Pictured right are some students from Louisa Muscatine Junior Senior High School in Iowa who have been corresponding with some year 8 and year 9 students in Humanities. Students from both schools have prepared presentations of the History and Geography of Horsham and Letts, Iowa and completed questionnaires for each other.



## Technologies

Sampling dishes and tasting unfamiliar food gave Year 9 ideas for their **Multicultural Food Topic**. Following some research they selected and cooked 3/4 dishes sweet and savoury dishes from a country of their choice.



**African Art Cushions** - Year 9 pupils researched art from Africa and other primitive art, and drew out some designs. A cushion was made using traditional African techniques—tie dying and hand embroidery.



**Culturally inspired wooden boxes** - This ongoing year 8 project looked at types of decoration traditionally used by different countries and cultures. Pyrography (burning the design on wood) was used to reproduce the designs on a wooden box.

## Art

Year 9 pupils studied the work of Picasso and produced their own work entitled 'Picasso's People'. This was exchanged with Spanish partner school Colegio Montpellier in Madrid.



## English

Year 10 pupils studied a selection of international poetry to gain a greater understanding of different cultures and traditions. Activities included drama performances, art collages, idea brainstorms and presentation posters.



## DANISH EXCHANGE JUNE 2009



Year 8 pupils from Millais and Forest hosted 25 Danish Students between them, in September 2008. The return trip to Denmark took place in June, however only one very brave pupil from Forest took part.

The students enjoyed a fun packed week visiting Copenhagen, Tivoli Amusement park and Lejre Research Centre. Unfortunately due to rain, the group were unable to visit the Faxe limestone quarry.

The strong link with Karise Skole has existed for many years to help the school with their International Education Programme. This provides selected students with a bilingual education in Danish and English. They have to commit to at least 2 hours of homework a day and may be withdrawn from the programme if they are unable to cope with the demands. They benefit tremendously from the exchange with Millais, spending as much time as possible with their English student, to practice speaking and listening in English.

Mr Skinner and Mrs Doyle accompanied the trip this year.

**Mrs Dawson**



**actionaid**

E kuabo – or welcome in Nigerian dialect! I am delighted to tell you news of our charity link with Africa.

It is good to raise our global awareness in practical ways, and our sponsorship of six children in African countries provides us with a direct link to these communities. Each year group continues to support a child, as do our staff, in Malawi, Ghana, Tanzania, Uganda, Nigeria and Ethiopia. We regularly receive updates of the charity's work and current projects and love to read the latest news from the children themselves.

This of course provides a real insight into their lives and aspirations – and gives meaning to the donations which we pledge each year. We hear of their struggle to maintain their farming, improve education, provide medical care and so on. Apart from our promised sponsorship we try to raise extra funds for special projects such as a clean water scheme. To this end I ran the London Marathon (4.30 hours!) this year and was thrilled to visit the Actionaid team at the end of the race to receive their congratulations on behalf of school. Millais is very well known to their team, having supported the charity for over 20 years. They were thrilled to receive our cheque for £500 in addition to the payments for our sponsor children.

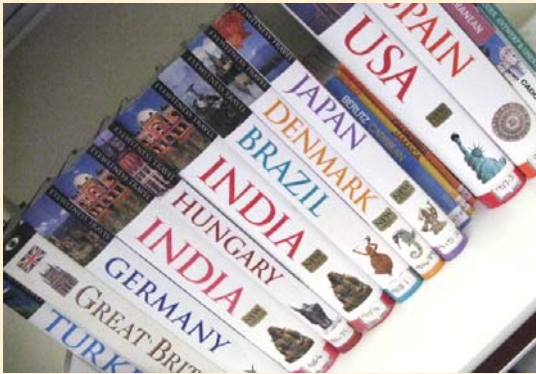
And next year? I'll be after your support again – I have my name down for a marathon place already!

Thanks to all who have supported Millais' efforts.

**Mrs Besson**

[www.actionaid.org.uk](http://www.actionaid.org.uk)

## Library Travel Guides



The travel guide section of the library has expanded to include the following countries:

- Turkey
- Great Britain
- Germany
- India
- Hungary
- Italy
- Florida
- Jamaica
- China
- Brussels, Bruges, Antwerp & Ghent
- Brazil
- Denmark
- Japan
- Caribbean
- USA
- Australia
- Spain
- California
- Ireland

Please contact the librarians to suggest any further titles for this section.

## Les correspondants

By Louisa Clark, 10AKG

Le vendredi 5 juin notre correspondants françaises de Metz sont venues nous rendre visite à Millais. Nous avons vu les correspondants pour la première fois et nous avons bavardé. En plus, nous avons échangé des cadeaux et nous avons pris des photos. Dans le futur, nous allons échanger des emails et peut-être aller les voir en France.



## CHARITY EVENT FOR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS AWARD

In May 2009, we were asked to plan and hold an event supporting a Third World Country charity. We held our event on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at lunchtime. Local shops kindly donated prizes for the charity raffle. £15 was raised for PLAN, a charity supporting children in Third World Countries.

[www.plan-uk.org](http://www.plan-uk.org)



## BRITISH AIRWAYS FLAG AWARDS

As you are probably aware we have a strong link with British Airways, who have supported us in many ways since we were designated a Language College. One of the opportunities available to our students is the BA Flag Award in French, German, Spanish and Italian. Designed specifically for GCSE students in Language Colleges; the test for this award is based on the same tests taken by cabin crew at BA.

We are proud to say that this year we have 97 students in Year 11 who have passed this award - **our best results ever!** Congratulations to all those students in Year 11 who took the test and were successful, this is a fantastic achievement.

-  53 French passes
-  24 Spanish passes
-  8 German passes
-  12 Italian passes

Miss Witt

# Languages in the community. . .

James arrived in October 2008 attending the international conference hosted by Millais, with his Chinese colleagues and students. He stayed on for a further 3 months and was kindly hosted by a member of staff. He spent his time observing some of the teaching techniques used, as well as delivering three lessons to each year 7 class and to some of year 10, on Chinese language and culture.

Kingslea Primary School enjoyed a visit from James too and pupils were thrilled to learn some Chinese words and phrases.



Liu Zhuo (James)  
at Kingslea Primary School

I have been working at Harwood House with adults with severe learning difficulties and at Age Concern with the elderly, for over 3 years now.

Every week we have a 1 hour session of fun games in French in each of two Day Centres. This picture, was taken during the Christmas session at Harwood House. 4 year 9 girls came along to assist with learning Christmas vocabulary and singing carols in French. We had some light refreshments and the girls chatted to the centre clients who really enjoyed their company. Many of the clients are immobile and/or depressed and/or have low self esteem so this session gives them a little boost in their difficult lives.

**J Greenfield**



## Competition Winners . . .



### Horsham Twinning Association

Congratulations to Beth Hundleby, Megan Tranter, and Elina Steenhuis in Year 8 who have won second prize in the annual Horsham Twinning Association video competition for schools in West Sussex. The task this year was to produce a ten minute video in French or German to advertise their town and area. The ceremony took place in the Council Chamber on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June.

## NEXT EDITION WINTER 2009

- International Schools Award
- Hungarian Exchange
- Danish Exchange 2009/10



Previous publications may be found on the Millais website:  
[www.millais.co.uk/intl\\_links.aspx](http://www.millais.co.uk/intl_links.aspx)

Four girls from Millais School made a trip to Warnham Primary school to give some Italian taster lessons to Years 4 and 5. The girls taught the children the names of animals, colours and parts of the body in Italian. The children really enjoyed learning the language and participating in the activities that the girls prepared.



On 25 May, 21 Spanish students accompanied by their three teachers visited Kingslea Primary School. The Spanish students had prepared short presentations about themselves and some short language learning activities in Spanish. The children learnt numbers, played Spanish bingo and even learnt some Spanish songs and dances. Both the Spanish students and pupils of Kingslea Primary School found the experience very enjoyable.