



Thomas Telford School

Newsletter

Issue 7

Spring 1993

School Bank Opens For Business

BTEC Business and Finance student, David Hutton, has just become the manager of Yorkshire Bank's newest 'MiniBranch' which will provide a comprehensive banking service to both students and staff at Thomas Telford School and help students meet the demands of the National Curriculum.

The MiniBranch was opened on 9 February by Yorkshire Bank's Liaison Officer, Lisa Berry, and Telford branch representative, Julie Garland, and will be totally run by the second year sixth Business and Finance students. Their role will include appointing personnel, marketing, financial administration, research, design and evaluation skills.

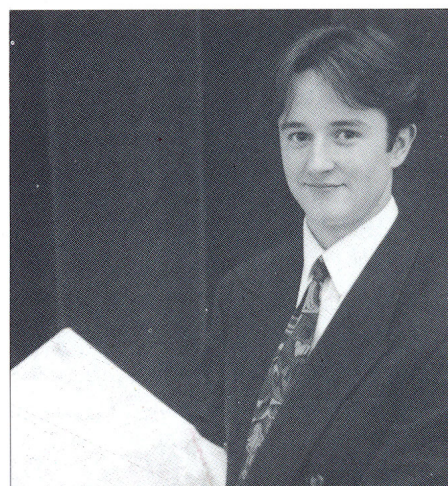
The students selected the Yorkshire Bank after conducting an extensive survey of banking services for young people. The bank will offer a wide range of facilities including savings and cheque book accounts, bill paying, credit transfers and cashpoint cards to its customers.

Business and Finance teacher, Alison Caldwell, said, 'The School bank forms an integral part of the BTEC National course and will provide the students with the practical skills of running a commercial enterprise. Each student will receive a certificate of involvement from Yorkshire Bank at the end of their course to show to potential employers.' All students are actively encouraged to use this new facility should they wish to.

Lightning Strike for Student

Thomas Telford student, Nick Goodricke, will be going to the Tweedsmuir National Park, British Columbia, one of the most remote corners of the world this summer as part of an international expedition to study the cause and effect of the forest fires which regularly devastate the region. Nicholas was selected from over 400 applicants by the British Schools Exploring Society to be amongst the 80 strong British contingent of the expedition which was organised in conjunction with the University of British Columbia and the Canadian Forestry Commission.

Apart from the scientific work he will have to undertake, Nick will have to learn how to set up a 'Bear Proof' camp, ice crevasse rescue techniques and how to get about in a Canadian style canoe.



Sixth form student Nick Goodricke plans his route.

The last few days of the trip will be spent sight-seeing in the Rocky Mountains before returning to Telford via Vancouver. Nick is now busy raising the £1800 he needs to cover his transport and equipment costs. To do this he is planning a range of sponsored events as well as looking for financial support from the local area. Nick has already received contributions from School sponsor, The Mercers' Company, and his fellow students following a recent charity 'Mufti' day. Nick will also be tackling the 'Three Peaks' at Easter.

Aid For Oil-Slick Seals

Thomas Telford students were quick to come to the aid of the marine life affected by the Braer disaster off the Shetland coast in January.

Some students organised a spell-in while others held a sponsored silence and a raffle to guess the number of sweets in a jar in an attempt to raise money for the British Divers Marine Life Rescue Team. The group was set up in 1976 and consists of volunteer divers from a wide variety of professions who give their time and skill to rescue marine mammals, birds and other aquatic life forms.

Systems manager, Mr Kevin Samujh,

himself a member of the team and English teacher, Deborah Mundy, organised the events and all the money raised will be used exclusively on the welfare of the wildlife involved in the disaster.

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A Message From The Head

It is with continued confidence that I am able to share with you some of the progress that the School is making.

Attendance is still being maintained at 96% and our students continue to excel in a range of learning, support and social situations, some of which are reflected in this Newsletter. Particularly well done to Daniel Mackriel for gaining international honours at Ice Hockey and Nick Goodricke for being selected to go to British Columbia on an expedition this summer.

I have just completed another phase of appointments of new teaching staff to the School. We received approximately 1,000 enquiries for 12 teaching vacancies here and have been able to select high calibre teachers to join the existing excellent teaching staff of the School.

The last remaining phase of building, the Allweather Floodlit Pitch and Playing Fields, is due to be completed by the end of the Summer term. This will enable us to have the full onsite facilities available for use for the beginning of the new educational year.

Furthermore, it will enable us to expand the community use programme which should provide opportunities for our parents as well as students.

Thank you for the support that you are giving the students and staff.

Sheik, Rattle 'n' Roll

This year's School production will be "Sheik, Rattle 'n' Roll", and will be performed on Wednesday 5 and Thursday 6 May at 7.30 pm. Details of ticket purchase will be announced in the near future. The response by students has been tremendous and rehearsals have begun with an enormous amount of enthusiasm. If any parents are interested, now or in the future, in helping direct, design the sets or costumes or even in performing then please ring the Curriculum Team Leader for Drama, Mr Nigel Griffiths on 0952 200000.

Advisory Council News

On behalf of the Advisory Council may I welcome the new members of staff and wish them a long and happy association with our School. I would also like to welcome James Dove as the newest member of our Council.

As you are aware, the Advisory Council provides links between parents, students and the School. To help communicate with the Council we have printed a photograph of the members.

We would be very pleased to hear from you on any aspect of school life and in particular would welcome offers of help with our programme of social activities.

On Friday 5 March we held our most successful Quiz Evening to date with 46 teams taking part. The evening was hosted by our professional quiz-master, Mr Ron Jefferies, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all parents, staff, students and friends alike.

We are also holding our annual Bar-b-que on Saturday 10 July. Please make a note of this date as tickets are limited and will be sold on a first come first served basis. This event will be even better than last year with more activities and stalls and, with a bit of luck, even sunshine.

As already stated, if anyone can help at these, or any future events, we would appreciate hearing from you.

At this point I would like to thank Mrs Mundy who organised the students' Christmas disco, staff who took part, parents who came to help and, of course, all the students who looked great in their fancy dress costumes. Also, on behalf of the Advisory Council and parents may I thank Mr Carroll, staff and students for a memorable Christmas Carol Service.

Denise Adams



Advisory Council Members:

Ms Spence, Mr Roache, Mr Jones, Mrs Shaw, Mrs Adams, Mr Evans, Ms Ferguson, Mr Plant.

Dates For Your Diary

1993 Summer Term 19 April to 30 July
(Half Term 31 May to 4 June)

The School production, 'Sheik, Rattle 'n' Roll', will take place on 5 & 6 May (Wednesday and Thursday) at 7.30 p.m.

Record of Achievement Evening 1 July

Staff Training Days 5/6 July

Advisory Council BBQ 10 July

Governors' Report to Parents 13 July

Achievement Evening 21 July

G.C.S.E. Exam Results day 26 August

1993 Autumn Term 1 September to 22 December (Half Term 25 to 29 October)



Top Spin

Congratulations to sixth form Business and Finance student, Cameron Styles, for his recent success in the Telford Schools' Table Tennis Championships. Cameron who also plays in a local table tennis league, won through into the knockout rounds and was only narrowly beaten in the final game of the tournament.

Lasting Impressions

Dudley Health Authority were full of praise for sixth form Design student, Cate Bowater who has recently been busy helping to redesign the Authority's literature and logo. The task was undertaken as part of Cate's course requirements, but they were so impressed they rewarded her efforts with a letter of commendation and a gift voucher as a token of their appreciation.

Congratulations also go to sixth form Design student, Jonathan Williams, who has just become the first Thomas Telford student to complete his Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. To achieve this standard Jonathan organised a car crime prevention weekend, attended a professional golf training course, went on an expedition and undertook an advanced trumpet playing qualification. The Duke of Edinburgh scheme is run with the help of a member of staff provided by Shropshire County Council. The meetings are held every Wednesday evening in the School.

Ten out of ten yet again. Well done to those students who have just passed their British Red Cross First Aid exams. This equals last year's results and maintains the high standard set by Thomas Telford School in this area.

Flying High

Sixth form science student, Dawn Fletcher, has recently been awarded one of the RAF's top scholarships which will provide her with financial support whilst completing her 'A' Levels and the opportunity to train as an air crew officer when she qualifies.

Dawn, who is a member of the 1130 Wrekin Air Cadet Squadron, Wellington, was one of only 120 students chosen from over 1000 applicants.

Textile Visit

Ten sixth form Design students have spent a three day residential textile taster course at the Bolton Institute of Higher Education this term as part of the School's career guidance programme.

Links between Thomas Telford and Bolton, a national leader in textile design courses, were established after some staff and students attended the School's Fair Careers Convention in London last summer.

The intensive course has been produced by Dr Philip Lawton of the Bolton

Institute and covers most aspects of textile design work including weaving and printing and it will hopefully make the students aware of the range of options and types of qualifications open to them. As part of the Institute's hospitality the students were taken to the Hollywood Bowl, an American style bowling alley, and to the region's best known provincial theatre, the Octagon, to see Arthur Miller's, 'Death of a Salesman'.



Thomas Telford students pictured during their recent visit to Bolton.

Staff Welcome

Welcome to new Deputy Head Manager, Mike Danvers, who joins us from Knowsley L.E.A. where he worked as a senior adviser with particular responsibility for staff development and equal opportunities. Before this he worked for 14 years as a teacher and deputy headteacher at schools on Merseyside, teaching mainly mathematics.

Welcome also to the manager of the Conference and Hospitality facilities of the School, Ceri Williams, who joins us from the Mid Cheshire College of Further Education.

Ceri worked for the Forte group in food and beverages management, customer care and the marketing of conferences and accommodation before moving into Further Education teaching twelve years ago.

She has recently been working on the development of student services at her

previous college and is now looking forward to developing a range of hospitality services at Thomas Telford School in the near future.

And finally hello to two new support staff members. Catherine Walton joins the School as Visual I.T. Technician. Originally from Pennsylvania, America she graduated with a BSc in Telecommunications. Upon Graduating she joined CNN News as a Video Tape Editor and then moved to England in December 1991. Catherine is currently working on a project to provide the School with a Daily T.V. Bulletin slot.

David Bowdley holds a BSc in Applied Sciences and joined the School as Audio I.T. Technician. As David says "Audio plays an important part in education in the areas of Video production, Science and Music and Performing Arts". David is responsible for the School's recording studio and developing its role within the curriculum.



Keeping Up With The Jones'

This proved too difficult a task for those taking part in the recent TSB Shropshire Schools cross country championships at the Oldbury Wells course in Bridgnorth. Sixth form Leisure Studies student, Helen Jones, claimed her first senior title by outstripping the opposition from the starter's gun to win by the biggest margin of the day. Helen led all the way and crossed the line 51 seconds ahead of her nearest rival.

County Selection

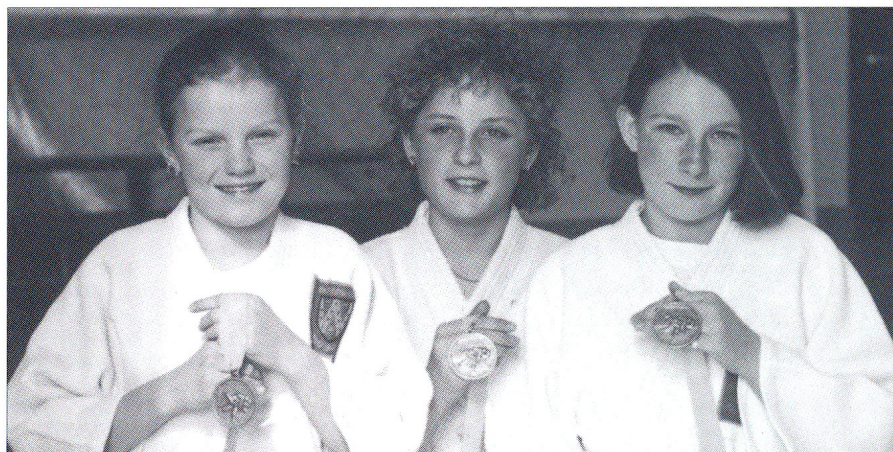
Congratulations to P.E. and Leisure Studies teacher, Sue Luckett, who has recently been selected for the senior Shropshire Netball Team. Her first game was away to Dorset where they achieved a very creditable draw, 42 points all, after twice coming from behind.

Football Finalists

The Year 8 football team goes from strength to strength. After achieving their highest margin of victory, 11 - 1 against Wolverhampton Grammar School, (with another hat-trick from Andy Pryce and goals from Simeon Sunday, Michael Carter, Nick Chetwood, Robert Osbourne and Jamie McDowell) they beat Brooke CTC 5 - 3 in the regional final of the CTC Knockout Cup.

This was the most important game of the season so far putting the team through to the National Final which will take place later in the year.

Parents who wish to give any of our teams some encouragement and support either by offering time to help with coaching or in other ways please contact Mr Douch or Miss Luckett for further details.



Year 7 students Donna, Sarah and Rebecca, proudly displaying their medals

Judo Bronze

Three Year 7 students, Rebecca Kane, Donna Wilkinson and Sarah Parkes, members of the Wrekin Judo Club, entered the Shropshire Inter-County Trophy Competition at Haden Hill Leisure Centre in December and collected the Bronze medal. Well done.

Pitch Update

The new all-weather floodlit pitch with a playing surface longer than that of Wembley Stadium should be ready for use by July '93. The project, which has been financed by the sponsors of Thomas Telford School and the Sports and Arts Foundation, has been delayed because the bad weather has made the use of heavy track machines impossible.

'Young Ones' Success

The 'Young Ones', the School's student and staff netball team, finished in bronze medal position in the Telford Winter League this season. They had to play each team in the league twice and can proudly say that they were the only team to beat the eventual winners, the Pink Panthers.

Higher Sporting Echelons

Year 8 student, Daniel Mackriel has again been selected to represent his country at Ice Hockey. Daniel who plays for the Telford Peewee Club has just been selected to play for England at Under 14 level and will be representing his country in France and in Scotland over the next few months.

Daniel's club side, Telford Tigers U.14 team are currently top of the league having scored over 180 goals for, whilst conceding only 12 against.

Gymnast, Jason Plimmer will be representing Telford and the West Midlands at this summer's British

Championships after winning three gold medals in the recent qualifier at West Bromwich. Needing only one gold medal for selection, thirteen year old Jason came first in the mixed pairs, tumbling and the men's pairs. Well done on a remarkable achievement.

Going For Gold

BTEC National Leisure Studies student, Julie Marriott, has won one of only ten £500 grants from the Sports Women's Foundation to help further her ambitions to become one of the country's top gymnastics and trampolining coaches. Julie, who collected her award at a top London hotel, will be flying out to an international coaching camp in Los Angeles for three weeks this summer to help train a team of ten British gymnasts.

