

Collett Catch-Up



The Collett School
Special Educational Needs



Friday 1st December 2017

(It's December, so it's basically Christmas... right?)

ALUMNI EVENING

The Collett School hosted a successful evening for ex-pupils from The Collett and St Luke's Schools on Tuesday 21st November 2017.

Aimed at current parents to share the real stories about our post-16 alumni and their adult lives, the event also marked the schools' deepening association as parents and staff were united together.

The staff were beaming as parents absorbed each word confidently conveyed by our ex-pupils about their journeys to where they are now. We heard about academic successes (degrees and qualification), artistic achievements (music, paintings, drama), jobs and accessing community provision. The most striking of all, however, was that each young person said that whilst there are difficulties in their way, it does not stop them from leading a fulfilling life.

Huge thank you to: Ben B, Matthew M, Hayleigh B, Gillian D, David R, Billy B, Hannah S and Jack R-S – our ex Collett pupils – and Jonathan W, Matthew W, Matthew D, Richard S and Jack G, our ex-St Luke's pupils.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

Tuesday 5th December

Warner Bros. Studios Xmas Market
and Carol Singing

Wednesday 6th December

Chicken Shed Theatre Trip &
Jack and the Beanstalk Panto, 1pm

Friday 8th December

Coffee Cake and Catch Up & Open
Tours, after assembly

Friday 15th December

Xmas Dinner, Santa and the Xmas
Disco & Xmas Jumper Day!

We are planning an alumni evening next year, bigger and louder than ever.

“It was a really successful evening and all the stories were amazing. These kids have more spirit in them than most kids their age.”

St. Luke’s parent

“Thank you again for arranging this amazing and inspirational evening which has raised hope for my son’s future.”

Collett parent

BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE

I’m a bit late with this one (sorry Jan!) – Saturday 18th November saw Collett staff and parents/carers endure heavy rain outside Bunnings, Hemel Hempstead, to cook some sausages and raise some money for the school.



We made *drum roll* £360! Amazing effort – thank you to everyone who helped out, and to Bunnings for hosting us!

CARIB CHILL RUNNINGZ CHARITY EVENT

This community fundraising event, kindly set up by KickOff@3, in aid of The Collett School and Barnet Hospital’s Starlight Ward is just eight days

Visit us for more info. at

www.collett.herts.sch.uk

You can also follow us on

social media, find us on

Facebook, [Friends of Collett](#)

or Twitter, [@CollettSchool](#)

**WANT AN EASY WAY TO
REMEMBER EVENTS?**



Sign up to the **Timedrop app** and follow us to get notifications directly to your phone! It’s quick, simple and means you will never miss out on any event.

QUICK REMINDER

Oaklands College open evenings and other key dates for this year can be found [on our website](#).

Our current school lunch menu is [available here](#).

We are a **Nut Free School**.

away! There will be special guest performances from TRICKSRTB, Miss Fiona Rae and Maulo alongside Caribbean food, a bar and raffle – you can even bid on signed Arsenal and Spurs shirts!

The event is on from 7pm till midnight on Saturday 9th December and tickets are available from the school reception - £30 for adults, £15 for children (under16).

DACORUM DOLPHINS

Dacorum Dolphins is a swimming club for people with disabilities and their families every Saturday, 5pm-6pm at Sportspace, Hemel Hempstead from the 6th January. If you would like to swim in a fun, friendly and safe environment, then please contact Atheal by email on atheal.elemenyawawi@yahoo.co.uk or phone 07805076832, or contact Sue on 01442 240738.

WATFORD FC DISABILITY SESSIONS

Meriden Community Centre are going to be running an inclusive disability session on a Monday between 5pm – 6pm from the 8th January. The sessions will be free for the first six weeks.

If you would like to book, or for more information, please visit this link: <http://meridencc.com/course-listing>

PARENTS ON THE AUTISTIC SPECTRUM SUPPORT GROUP

The next session is on Friday 15th December 2017, drop in between 12:30 and 2:30pm South Hill Centre, Hemel Hempstead. This will be the 6th drop-in session for parents who are on the Autistic Spectrum, themselves with children of any age.

The group aims to provide a safe, supportive, understanding and friendly environment for those adults in Herts who are seeking:

- Friendship and networking with other Autistic parents
- Understanding and information around their diagnosis and sensory processing challenges
- Access to tools, resources and ideas to help aid communication and parenting skills
- Advice, signposting, support and information about an array of services in Hertfordshire and nationally
- A place to bring their children who will have access to a crèche worker

ONLINE THIS WEEK

Check out [this short video of Helen](#), who has Down's Syndrome and works full time at Greggs, explaining why she loves to work.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Wise sayings often fall on barren ground, but a kind word is never thrown away."

Arthur Helps

FACT OF THE WEEK

If all the ice in Greenland were to melt, world sea levels would rise by 23 feet, enough to wipe out London and Los Angeles.

QI

to provide activities whilst parents can access support and chat

-Baby changing facilities and refreshments included free of charge

Please email Hannah at hannah.bridle@hertfordshire.gov.uk for more information and for a referral form or call 01442453535.

Please pass on this email to anyone this might be of interest to!

Future dates: Friday 26th January / Friday 23rd February / Friday 23rd March / Friday 27th April / Friday 25th May / Friday 29th June (final planned session, more to be confirmed)

WINTER WEATHER CLOTHING

All children must come into school with their legs covered during the winter months, be it trousers or tights, and must wear weather-appropriate clothing, including gloves, hat and a coat. We have had some children come into the school without any over the past week.

If you happen to have any spare winter clothing items, please donate them to the school at reception where we can then distribute them if necessary. Thank you.

FRIDAY ASSEMBLY

Today is the 1st of December, and Mr Houlton-Allen was keen to point out to the school that IT'S ALMOST CHRISTMAS and that IT'S BEEN SNOWING! But there is an unfortunate side to such beautiful weather – many homeless people endure terrible conditions – and with it potentially being the coldest winter on record this season, Mr Houlton-Allen advised all children to wrap up warm.

The 1st of December is also World AIDS Day – the children learnt about remembering those who have died from the disease as well as spreading awareness and, hopefully, finding a cure.

Focusing back to the Christmas Season, Mr Houlton-Allen talked about Advent – the time of year Christians count down the days until Christmas Day – and said it was a very exciting time for people of that faith.

The Spotlight was on Josh from Ravens, who this week showed us all his list of 'The 10 Most Dangerous Dogs' – he wrote it all on his own and show off his fantastic handwriting and use of phonics,

and said he “spent ages doing it.” We’ll be calling him Professor Josh soon!

First up in the Talent Spot was Abaigh, who sang a great rendition of ‘Let It Go’ by James Bay, before Bailee from Elder and Andy from Post-16 sang ‘Despacito’ and had everyone singing along.

Mr Hoult-Allen then turned our attention to recent news stories, firstly focusing on President Donald Trump’s retweets of far-right group Britain First. Using this as an example, we discussed how we don’t accept bullying of any kind at the school, and that we firmly stand for everyone’s differences – because this is what makes us have value and worth. As such, we must support all faiths.

We then moved on to Prince Harry and Meghan Markle’s engagement, with Mr Hoult-Allen quipping: “Hopefully it’ll go better than the last time a royal married an American.”

Regardless, everyone seemed very excited by the pair!

Finally, Rosewood revealed that they visited London last week, and even used the Underground. This week they visited the cinema to see Paddington 2, but Mrs Brenham was so proud with Jacob as it was his first trip EVER to the cinema – great work, Jacob!

Stay tuned for our Christmas lights switch on next week!

AWARDS

BRONZE AWARD

Leo, Lewis, Miles and Zak from Post-16 – Eesa from Robins also received his last week

SILVER AWARD

Jasmine from Rooks, and Lewis from Sandalwood

BRAVERY AWARD

...goes to Jack from Elder, who helped his friend who was scared during the fire alarm despite being worried himself. Superb!

Congratulations to all of you – we are so proud of all of your achievements!

Thanks for reading!

Mr Harry Crawford

The Collett School