

ELEVATION VIEW 3



ELEVATION VIEW 4



Teri's marathon walk





Events

Plans for new STEM Centre

Watford Grammar School for Boys has plans to build a new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Centre.

The Plans

The ground floor of the new Centre will have two full-sized science labs. It will also have an integrated Computer Aided Design (CAD) and Computer Aided Manufacture (CAM) suite, which will allow students to increase their knowledge of vital industrial skills. This floor will also include facilities for large-scale 3D printing.

The new Centre will also contain a suite of sixth form teaching rooms. These will be primarily for the teaching of mathematics but two of the rooms will be equipped with gas and water to cater for the teaching of science subjects.

The top floor of the building will have an engineering/robotics room which will accommodate Stem related activities, some of which are already running at the school, such



as Young Engineers, the Go4Set and LEGO robot challenge. The remainder of the floor will be given over to a large conference room.

These facilities will allow the school to build on its links with Imperial College and other institutions. The Engineering Development Trust, for instance, will be able to use the venue to host competition days involving students from all over the region.

The School is currently seeking funding for the project from several sources.



Newsletter put together by: Kathryn Bourke, Luzia Lei, Victoria Conquest, Deborah Bush, Nicholas Bush

For landscape view please print



FRIENDS OF

Teri Walks for Watford Boys

Teri Bishop will walk the 50km between Watford and Bletchley this June to raise money for our school. We met up with Teri to ask what inspired her to do this marathon. She said it was her way of saying thanks to the school for supporting her son.

'We owe his future to the school,' she said.

Teri, who has four children, is training hard and by June she will be walking for up to 9 hours or 27 miles a day in preparation for this event. Teri's Walk will be along the Grand Union Canal. She told us she prefers towpaths as they go through quiet and beautiful places but she does not underestimate the challenge ahead.



Teri has asthma and on past walks she has sustained severe damage to her feet, including blisters.

We said goodbye to Teri who was off on a training walk across 17 of London's Bridges. Teri's Walk is organised by Action Challenge and the proceeds will be split between the Learning Support Centre and the school generally. Please support Teri by sending donations in cash or cheque, payable to the Watford Fuller Foundation, to the School Office for the attention of Mrs Burt.



FRIENDS OF

Events

The Watford Boys' Spring Music Concerts took place on the 25th and 26th of March in the Muse. Friends of the school served refreshments to performers and capacity crowds on both nights. The total net amount raised for the school was $\pounds444.96$.





Friends also helped serve refreshments to teachers on parent nights. Thanks to every one who took part: Victoria Conquest, Hayley Jacobs, Louise Marks,

Luzia Lei, Kathryn Bourke, Barrie Tynemouth, Alex Tynemouth, Sharon Jackson, Daksha Dodhia, Archana Singh, Nayan Das, Susie Huxham, Samantha Huxham, Rachael Speirs, Malcolm Bush and Deborah Bush.

Forthcoming events

Summer Ball

This will take place at the Watford Hilton on Friday the 12 June 2015 at 7.00pm. Tickets are on sale now via Eventbrite. Details are on the School website at <u>www.watfordboys.org</u>

Mr Allchorn will be taking part in a cycle race to raise money for the school this June.

The Watford Film Society are planning to host a film for the school in the summer term.

Remember to save old school uniform for the uniform sale in summer term







Undercover parent #2

Well, we survived the parent-teacher meeting (myself and the kid – no way would himself take a half day!) with only a few bruises, mostly to our elbows from trying to get into the room before the rest of the throng of parents.

Maths was the worst room to get into because the Dads turned up in force for that session so I had to take advantage of being small and push at their knees to collapse the scrum (see how much I've learned about rugby already!).

I've been out and about trying to get to understand what people are really like at this school. I've been hanging around undercover on Shepherds Road watching at pick up and drop off times. You can learn a lot about parents and kids from the cars and the drop off technique...

There's three main techniques:

1. Open the door and push them out quick before accelerating away BMW, Audi and Merc drivers mostly.

Silver

The lang line o' silver backs lead, Frae Galashiels tae Peterheid, With fins flying, heids seeking, Looking on'y for some light relief

The schools swim fast in tight formation, Struggling and straining to keep the Pace, faster and faster, Because the only place we can't go is where we've been 2. Stop car in the middle of the road, get out, open kid's door, do up their coat, check their bag, give them a kiss, wave goodbye. These are the loving parents and most likely to cause an accident. Volvo drivers mostly – presumably

that's why they build in so many safety systems.

3. Park carefully, stay in car while kid exits quickly, looking around furtively in all directions for traffic warden. The kids of these parents will be careful with their money and law-abiding, but may suffer anxiety attacks. Fords, Hyundai and Mazda drivers.

While on my undercover observations I've noticed something strange – there's a lot of people hanging about on Shepherds Road. There may be other undercover agents – maybe the teachers or maybe even the kids. Some of them look suspiciously young, are in full disguise in school uniform and hanging out next to the ice-cream van – in February! I think I'm not alone...

But tae find a place tae settle doon, Peaceful, and seilie, and away Frae, The calloused hands o' fishermen,

To reach a place so long dreamed of, Finding it barren and impotent, is to See the realisation, that there's one place you belong, Where you're born, and it's impossible to leave. **Tim Bush**

For whit coud our purpose be,



Dried noodles with chicken and broccoli

250g dried thin rice or egg noodles
1 tablespoon vegetable oil
3 eggs, beaten lightly
1 medium brown onion, chopped finely
2 cloves garlic, crushed
2 teaspoons grated fresh ginger
500g chicken mince
500g stem broccoli, chopped coarsely
¼ cup (60ml) light soy sauce
½ cup loosely packed, coarsely chopped fresh coriander
240g bean sprouts



1. Place noodles in large heatproof bowl; cover with boiling water. Stand until just tender; drain.

2. Brush heated wok or large frying pan with a little of the oil. Add half of the egg; swirl to cover base of wok. Cook, covered, about 3 minutes or until cooked through. Remove omelette from wok; repeat with remaining egg. Roll omelettes tightly; slice thinly.

3. Heat remaining oil in wok; stir-fry onion, garlic and ginger until onion softens. Add chicken; stir-fry until chicken is cooked through.

4. Add stem broccoli, sauce and coriander; stir-fry until stem broccoli is just tender. Stir in noodles and sprouts; serve immediately, topped with omelette.

Luzia Lai

Still Alice: Film Review

Still Alice recently took home the Best Actress award for Julianne Moore at the Oscars, but was missed out in all other categories. It took a long time for it to come to cinemas in the UK, but we finally got in it March, and so I thought that instead of reviewing a larger film out in cinemas this month such as blockbusters Chappie and Insurgent, I'd take the time to recommend this, a much smaller, but very memorable independent film about a fifty year old linguistics professor, Alice Howland, who must cope with her recent diagnosis of Early Onset Alzheimer's disease.

It's an incredibly moving story, but at the same



time manages never to be saccharine. You feel as if you're seeing the world through Alice's eyes, and the filmmakers do a fantastic job of making her emotions tangible. The film is quiet and never hits you over the head with messages FRIENDS OF

and obvious metaphors, but you're provided with just enough story and plot points to keep you engaged in the story.

The characters, while not groundbreakingly original, nicely subvert cliche enough to make you warm to them and become emotionally involved in their stories. They were all well developed, particularly Kristen Stewart's character, Alec Baldwin's, and of course Julianne Moore's, who's character's position is all the more heartbreaking considering just how defined she was by her intellect before her disease started to manifest itself.

And yes, Julianne Moore completely deserved her Oscar win. Her performance is masterful and

everything you'd expect from an actress of her calibre. The supporting cast is also very strong, with a particularly impressive Kristen Stewart who is bound to silence any of her doubters who come across this film.

When *Still Alice* ended there was a moment of silence in my cinema as everyone digested what they'd just seen. The film is moving, eye opening, immersive, involving and it will stick with you long after you see it. It may be a struggle to find a showing, but cinemas should still have a few screenings of it left, so if you have the time *Still Alice* is the film to spend your money on this month. **Orla Smith**



"Spring" Tom Wright



Artwork: Keeva Garvey



Next Friends committee meeting is on Wednesday 20 May 2015 at 7:30 in Room 111 To submit items to the newsletter please email **friendsnewsletter@outlook.com**