



Spring 2020

NEWSLETTER

TWO RIVERS High School

**International
Education
Consultant
at our
Inset
Training Day!**

*International Consultant.
Fellow, University of Oxford.
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Welcome to our latest Two Rivers High School.....Newsletter!

Professor Barry Carpenter OBE, CBE, PhD

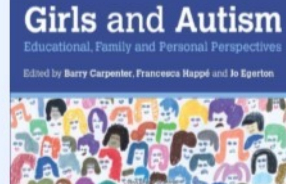
On our training day in January we were delighted to welcome Professor Barry Carpenter to the high school to present information on complex needs in education. We invited our primary school staff and representatives from a variety of local schools to share in his expertise.

Barry is a renowned researcher, author and educational consultant on many issues regarding special educational needs. As an ex Headteacher he devoted his time over the last 30 years ensuring that all students gain the best education.

Barry spoke with passion and knowledge on a variety of issues including premature birth and its effect on students learning, Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, ADHD, Attachment, Autism (especially in girls) and Mental Health issues. His talk was inspiring and passionate as he shared insights and evidence based on research.

Barry Carpenter is a leading specialist in the field of special educational needs and was recently appointed to the UK's first Professorship in Mental Health in Education, at Oxford Brookes University. He is an Honorary Professor at universities in Ireland,

Germany and Australia and he has been a Fellow of the University of Oxford. He has been awarded an **OBE** and **CBE** by the Queen for services to children with Special Needs. In 2017 he was entered into "Who's Who" in acknowledgement of his national and international contribution to the field of Special Education.



Barry lectures nationally and internationally. In recent years, this has included China, Japan, Abu Dhabi, USA, Germany, Australia and New Zealand. With Barry retiring this year we were very fortunate that he chose to come to Two Rivers High School.

Upcoming Events

Half Term -17th February
- 21st February 2020

Non-uniform Day -20th
March 2020

Italy Trip - 23rd to 27th
March 2020

Family Easter Disco -27th
March 2020

Sponsored Walk - 2nd April
2020 (Tamworth Athletics Stadium)

End of Term -3rd April 2020

Staff & Pupils return - 20th
April 2020

Around the School



River T have been enjoying **climbing** as part of their **physical therapy** sessions. They are getting braver each week by climbing higher. Students are **communicating** with staff letting them know when they want to be lowered, or keep climbing. Well done River T!



In **Lower school** this half term we have been looking at different **jobs** and **careers** we could do as we get older. We had lots of fun trying out the different jobs and using our **imagination** to stretch and try our skills.

So far we have been architects, designers, builders, ice cream sellers, kitchen workers, photographers, mechanics, taxi drivers, shop keepers, artists, dinosaur hunters and journalists. Here are few photos to share our experiences.



Lower School have been working scarily hard in **English**. This term they have been studying **Monsters Inc**. So far, they have learnt how to form sentences with speech marks...

Mike said, "What do you call a mountain of cats? A meowtain!" By Rhianna Wells.

Mike said, "What do you call a fly that can't fly? A walk." By Alfie Horton.

Mike said, "What did one toilet say to the other? You look flushed!" By Daisy Dobson.

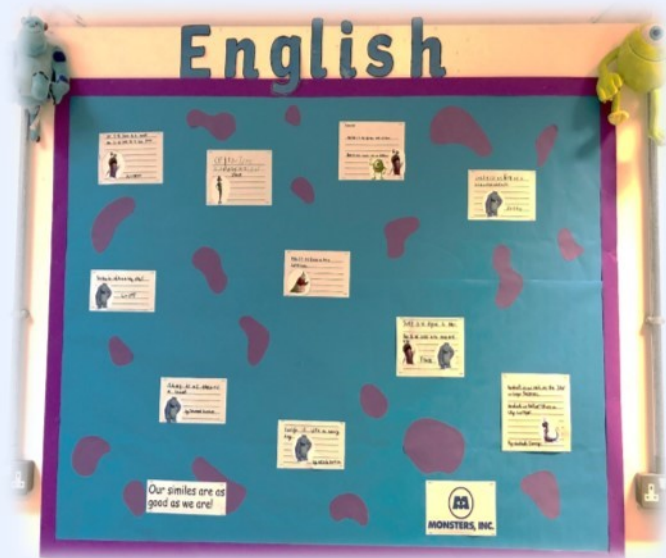
They also mastered the skill of writing their own similes and metaphors...

"Sully is as fluffy as a sheep." By Thomas Hughes.

"Randall is as tall as a skyscraper." By Rachael Denny.

"Sully is as big as a mountain." By Bailey Francis.

What an absolute scream!



UPDATE



This half term **Middle School** have been busy making organisers in **Woodwork**. They include notepads, pen holders, mobile phone storage and key hooks. Many of them learned **new skills** and all have produced outstanding, high quality personalised work. **Well done** Middle School!



Table Cricket

On Monday 10th February, two teams competed in a **Table Cricket Competition** at Westcroft High School. The two teams played in 5 rounds showing **great skill**, concentration and **team work**. All students involved received **certificates** for their performances.



Basketball Tournament

Two Rivers performed valiantly at this years **WMSSA Basketball Tournament** finishing third in both competitions. **Congratulations** to those pupils who represented the School.



Middle S rose to a challenge when pupils were asked to make a short film for **Anti-bullying week**. Although this is not until later in the year, Demi and Evie immediately set to work writing the scenario and script. The cast were selected and they practised during their lunchtimes for 2 weeks, taking some direction from Mr Tilley. An ex-pupil Nathan Clark, who has a film editing background, volunteered his time to come into school to film and create the finished video. This will be used in **Middle** school's assembly and for **Anti-bullying week**.

Well done to Evie, Demi, David, Robert, Jack and Sam for taking part, and for Kylie who stepped into the role of the victim at the last minute. Many thanks to Nathan and Mr Tilley for supporting them.



River E have spent the last few weeks making felt **monster** pencil cases. When they first started to **sew**, most of them couldn't sew a stitch, but they **persevered** and made lots of progress. They all **completed** their pencil cases, some with a little support and are extremely **proud** of their final pieces.

The Wizard of Oz

UPDATE



Students from across the school including **River E** and **River T** performed in the Christmas production of **The Wizard of Oz**. Sixth form students who had chosen drama as an option were cast in the main parts and did a **brilliant job**. The performance was a **great success** with many audience members commenting on the quality of acting and the **professionalism** of all students involved.



Lichfield College Visit

Year 11-14 students visited **Lichfield College Campus** to experience the college environment and look at the **courses** available. Students particularly enjoyed the **Media and Music** areas.

"I really liked seeing all the different instruments" – Kathryn Clayton Upper N



"I would like to go back and experience taking a Media class." – Tyler Hadley Upper B

"I enjoyed finding out about the Drama course. I have signed up for the taster day at Half Term" – Jacob Withnall Upper N

Those students who are leaving for **College** at the end of this year made the journey independently by public transport. We are looking forward to the next visit when we will **take part** in a class and have lunch at the **canteen**.



The **Sixth Form** woodwork group have been renovating a bird box with a **camera** inside, which was donated to the school. They toured the **perimeter** of the school building to decide on the best place to position this. They took advice from **Mrs Brough** about the site, who agreed that the position would be the best to attract the **birds** from the trees and be suitably **protected** from the elements. Hopefully our feathered friends will spot our bird box when it comes to **nesting time** and we will be able to watch them nest and hatch their young. If so we will link it to the **TVs** around the school! Should we send a **Tweet** to the bird community...?

Year 7 and 8 pupils celebrated **Chinese New Year** by having a party! They wore **red t-shirts** (for good luck) and attempted to eat **noodles with chopsticks**. Everyone played Chinese games and made lots of noise with their drums in the **dragon dance**.



Gung Hay Fat Choy!