



A real treasure chest

THE contents of a 19th century time capsule were revealed at the grand unveiling of our new £20m school building.

The hidden treasure was discovered in the rubble of brick work of the old building when it was demolished back in May.

MP and former Buxton School student Dawn Butler was among the guests at the new building's ribbon cutting and opening of the glass bottle capsule in September.

Inside, two newspapers were found – The Standard and The Stratford Express – dating back to May 1899, as well the programme of events from the same year at the opening of the Cobbold Road school.

The bottle was opened by the three winners of a “write a letter to the future” competition held by the school. Their letters will be among

Special report: Pages 2 & 3

a host of items buried in a time capsule at the school's new building, for future generations to discover.

The Stratford Express, which covered Leyton, Leytonstone, Wanstead, Woodford and Walthamstow, ran for 145 years until 2011.

The Standard, now known as the Evening Standard, still runs today and has been delivering news to Londoners since 1827.

To mark the day, the school opened its doors to the community by hosting a series of activities, including a primary school football tournament, bouncy castle, barbeque and musical performances.

Headteacher Kath Wheeler said: “It has

been a great privilege to open the school today to the community and have the opportunity to showcase the outstanding facilities now on offer at Buxton School.

“With the unveiling of a 119-year-old time capsule and grand reopening of our £20 million new primary and secondary, it has been truly an historic day in the proud history of this school.

“The facilities now available at Buxton School match the Ofsted-acknowledged top quality of education on offer to both current and future students.”

After its opening by Wanstead School Board in 1899, Cobbold Road was reopened as two schools, Cann Hall Primary and Tom Hood, in 1925, before becoming Buxton all through school in 2010.

Memorable day in the history of the school



Connection: Competition winner Malcolm Barrall

COMPETITION winner Malcolm Barrall has a special connection to Buxton because five of his children attended the school.

“My children attended this school so I have a real connection to the school and site. That was more than 20 years ago now but it is still a special place.

“Knowing that my letter will be read by future generations really makes you feel part of the history of the school and the community.

“It has also been such a wonderful day seeing all the students now attending the school and celebrating the next chapter in the school’s history.”

MP Dawn Butler, who attended the school from 1980 until 1985, was among the guests of honour at our grand reopening.

She said: “It is a tremendous privilege to return to my former

COMMUNITY VIEW

school at the reopening of this fantastic new building. It is wonderful to see that the diversity and community spirit, which made this such a special school when I attended, remains to this day.

“It was a very special day for me because I was able to bring my mum along to this wonderful event. It really feels like going back to my roots.

“We were all witness to a special piece of history today when the bottle was opened for the first time in 119 years.

“Myself, all the former students who visited today and the current staff and students are all part of the rich history of this school.

“I am also really pleased that they have decided to bury their own time capsule for future generations to discover.”



After the party it was our Teal Volunteers who came to the rescue. The group of volunteers gave up their Saturday to pick up litter and make sure the school was ship shape for when students arrived back on Monday.

SCHOOL REOPENING CEREMONY



Former pupil: MP Dawn Butler said it was a privilege to return to the school as she attended the event with her mother



Current pupil: Head Girl Imaan Bhaji played her part too

Capsule reminder of bygone times

THE 119-year-old copy of the Standard found in the time capsule offers a revealing portrait of life in the 19th century.

The paper, famed for its coverage of international news, carries stories on duels in Paris, an outbreak of bubonic plague in Hong Kong and an international miners' conference in Brussels.

In London, the big story of the day was of the "shocking death" of a "well-dressed" banking clerk who allegedly "dived" in front of a steam train at Charing Cross.



Imaan was keen to be part of the occasion

BUXTON School Head Girl Imaan Bhaji was among the winners of the letter-writing competition.

She said: "I really wanted to be a part of this competition and day because it is an important part of the school's history.

"I also wanted the opportunity to share what it is like to be a

COMMUNITY VIEW

young person in 2018 to future generations.

"I included lots of information on what we do in our leisure time on social media. But I also included important issues of the day such as the Grenfell Tower fire."



Students get a deeper understanding of war

STUDENTS played tribute to the Muslim soldiers who laid down their lives in the first world war during a trip to a military cemetery.

The Year 10 history trip saw students lay a wreath and take part in a commemorative service at the Brookwood Military Cemetery in Woking, Surrey.

They also took part in a Shared Heritage workshop where they learned about the

crucial contribution played in the war by the Labour Corps, made up of Muslim soldiers.

Students were then tasked with creating their own wreaths before taking a tour of the graves of the cemetery to lay a wreath at the Free French Cemetery during a service led by a priest and Imam.

Year 10 Sendil Coopoomotoo said: "It really changed my perception of the war

and the contribution made by different communities.

"I had no idea Muslim and Asian soldiers fought during the war. The service was very moving because you knew you were marking men who fought to save this country.

"It has made me look at history very differently now and to look for the stories that are hidden and more interesting."

Taste of the army life during overnight trip

STUDENTS learned about life in the military during an overnight trip to an Army base.

During the visit, pupils took part in a range of fun and challenging activities including assault courses, night navigation exercises and camping.

The Challenge Weekend aims to help students develop teamwork, leadership and interpersonal skills.

The programme, run by charity Shared Outcomes, mimics the training given to new recruits in the British Army.

It was held at the Army Training Centre Pirbright in Woking, Surrey, in October.

Student Briyanna Cabey said: "The weekend was a lot of fun and really changed my thinking on what life in the army would be like.

"It also helped us a lot to develop new skills because in the army you need to be much more independent and look after yourself.

"Although I don't think the army life is for me, I certainly got a lot out of the trip which will be useful for any future career."



Tough: Students were put through their paces (above) but were tired out on the bus journey home



Harvest Festival gave students food for thought



OUR primary students celebrated foods from across the world at our Harvest Festival.

Families were in attendance for a day of harvest-themed songs, presentations and poetry from students across the year groups.

The school also collected tinned food, fruit and vegetables which were distributed to local food banks.

Head of Primary Ms Bowers-Broadbent said: "This was a chance for students to explore the food associated with cultures across the world.

"It was also a time for them to reflect on how fortunate they are to live in a country where they do not have the concerns other young people around the world face."

Volunteers play their part for community

BUXTON School students have been described as a "credit to the school" after giving up their Saturday to help renovate a new community hub.

Our Teal Volunteers, made up of Buxton School students, spent eight hours picking up litter, clearing out old furniture and helping with the painting of the pavilion in Cann Hall Park in September.

The centre, provisionally known as the Cann Hall hub, will offer residents a mixture of community-driven classes.

There are also plans for a community café as well as opportunities for sporting and educational activities.

The driving force behind the project is community action group and registered charity Cann Hall Cann, of which the school is a member.

Work began a year ago when Buxton School primary and secondary students took part in a community vegetable planting day as part of their Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Year 10 student Francesco Quadros said: "This school and community gives us so much, you feel like it is your duty to help out whenever you can.

"Being a Teal Volunteer means you have to be a good role model, not just for the school but to other students at the school.

"We want other students at the school to see that you get a lot out of being a part of your local community and playing an active role."

Year 9 pupil Nejvan Palmer added: "It was hard work but you really got a good feeling when you saw the result at the end of the day.

"When it is ready and people can use it as a community hub, we can all say that we played a big part in helping to make that happen."

Community and Extended Schools Leader Ms Moloney said: "It is absolutely right to say that our students have played a crucial role in supporting this project.

"I am so proud of these young people.



They are a credit not only to the school and the community but to themselves and their families.

"There is often a mistaken perception of young people that they are not prepared to

contribute. That can certainly not be said of the pupils at Buxton School. Their work will go along way to creating a culturally inclusive café, sports and educational hub, which will benefit the entire community."

New recruits always wanted

THE Teal Volunteers are appealing for more members to help out with school and community volunteering.

The group, part of the Buxton Voice school council, have this term volunteered at Open Evening and during half-term activities club.

They also volunteered, manned stalls and helped to set up the school at the grand reopening in September and Winter Festival in December. The students

have created their own Teal Volunteers app which helps to track and organise volunteers for upcoming events.

Emily Torres said: "We are quite easily recognised in our Teal Volunteer high-vis clothes. It would be great if other students could join us.

"It is not only about helping the school and community but also being part of a group of people where you can make new friends."



Yokeu's appeal goes to families

CHAIR of the Parents, Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA) Yokeu Kusnama is calling on families to join the group.

She is also inviting them to join our Friends of Buxton School Facebook group where families can share their experiences of life at Buxton.

She said: "This new group is going from strength to strength but we are still on the lookout for new members.

To join, search Friends of Buxton School on Facebook and click to join.



Mental health charter a target for students

Champions' joy at £1,000 grant

OUR youth health champions have won £1,000 grant from the Mayor of London to set up a mental health charter for young people in Waltham Forest.

Buxton School students impressed the panel at City Hall with a 15-minute pitch to the Team London Young Ambassadors small grants committee in December.

The money will fund a summit, to be held in February next year, for youth health champions across the borough with the aim of supporting mental health provision.

As part of the pitch on behalf of 14 Waltham Forest schools, students had to submit a budget outlining how the money will be spent.

Year 10 student Sendil Coopoomootoo, who was among the students who took part in the presentation, said: "It was very nerve-wracking standing up in front of the four judges and trying to explain why we deserve the money.

"Finding out that we had won the grant and can now go ahead with our summit gave us all a really great sense of achievement.

"We know this money will be spent on a cause that is very close to our hearts as students at



Buxton but also crucial for other young people in the borough.

Community and Extended Schools Leader Ms Moloney said: "I could not be prouder of the way our students represented the school and their borough.

"This is a truly magnificent achievement that will have a lasting impact on young people in Waltham Forest.

"This group of students and those that have supported them are truly a unique group. They are everything a young person should aspire to – intelligent, kind considerate and caring."

Pupils eager to lend a hand

OUR Year 10 students have qualified as health champions following a two-day training course in October.

At the event hosted at Buxton and attended by other local schools, pupils learnt how to spot a person suffering from mental health problems and provide resources for those in need.

Student Briyanna Cabey said: "I wanted to be a Youth

Health Champion because I have always liked helping other people.

"I think it is important that young people expand their understanding of mental health because it really affects a lot of people.

"As a young person we can often let thoughts get to us and so having someone around the school who can help is very important."

Trust helping to drum up African awareness

STUDENTS explored African culture with dances and art classes to celebrate Black History Month.

Our pupils learned the rhythm and beats of African dances and designed African flags.

The event, aimed at promoting cultural awareness among pupils, was run by the Eastside Educational Trust.

Victoria Dzivenu, from the Trust, stressed the importance of cultural awareness, saying: "Some people don't understand other cultures, such as the rhythm and beat in music. In African music you really have to feel the music."

She added: "The students at Buxton were great. I go to lots of schools, and sometimes it's a real challenge."

"The students here are so focused and have learned so much in the workshop. I'm proud of how much the students have learned in such a short space of time."

Year 3 student Esa Rehan said: "I've really enjoyed creating rhythms and learning more about Africa. I also sketched Trinidad and Tobago."

"The teaching was really fun and even when the teachers helped us with our art, it still looked great."

Year 3 student Melissa Atawe said: "Performing on African drums is something we don't often get to do at school, so I really enjoyed taking part with my friends."

"I also asked a question about African food and learned about the plantain."



Pupils on the spot to help charity

PRIMARY and secondary students wore yellow clothing and sported painted spots on their faces to raise £554.26 for Children in Need.

Primary teacher Ms Duplooy said: "The children's kind and caring side shone through and they wanted to help others in need. They know how fortunate they are and understood that there are children less fortunate."

Lessons in life from former Orient ace Jay

FORMER Arsenal star Jay Simpson handed out footballing and life lessons to students at Buxton School during a visit.

The footballer ran a skills session and took part in a match with secondary pupils before leading a motivational assembly on goal setting and staying focused.

Jay, who spent three seasons at Leyton Orient and has also played in Thailand and America, rounded the day off by running a five-a-side tournament with primary pupils during the visit last week.

Jay, whose mother-in-law works at the school, says it is important for young people to have positive role models.

He said: "It is important to me to be involved in helping out young people. There is a lot happening in areas like these, like the one I grew up in north London.

"I know not everyone will be a professional footballer but a lot of what I have learned through my career will be relevant to them.

"There are a lot of ups and downs as a professional sports person and you need a strong character. It is about staying on the right path and staying focused on your goals."

Student William Amoah, 14, from Leytonstone, said: "It is great to have someone like Jay visit the school and share his story with us. He is a very approachable and friendly guy and you can see that he wants to help us.

"I found his talk very motivating and it was



Skill session:
Jay (right) took part in a game

also to get some tips about football. He is the sort of person people of my age are more likely to listen to because he is someone we can relate to quite easily."

Buxton community leader Carol Moloney said: "Jay had a real positive impact on our pupils. They were really engaged when he spoke and seemed to really take on board the messages he was trying to convey. We cannot

thank him enough for taking the time to spend the entire day with the students, teaching them some crucial life lessons and taking them through their paces on our new 3G football pitches."

"The fact that he is a former Orient star made his presence all the more welcome, not just among our students but also diehard staff Os fans."



It all started at Buxton for duo...

POP group Misunderstood laid the foundations for their successful run to the finals of the TV talent show X Factor with a visit to Buxton School.

The duo delivered a powerful message to

students, posed for pictures and performed songs at the school in 2014.

Ms Moloney said: "It can be said that Buxton School started these two young men on the road to success."



YEAR 7 families got tips on how to keep their children safe online at a seminar held at the school in September.