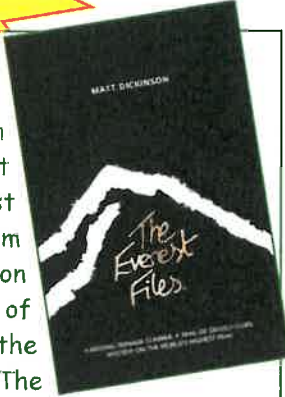


Year 9 Boys - Everest Reading Challenge

A number of intrepid boys in Year 9 are taking up the Everest Reading Challenge. The Everest Files, by award-winning film maker, novelist and expedition leader, is a thrilling journey of murder and mystery set against the backdrop of the Himalayas. The Year 9 boys will be reading the book with Mr Walker and creating a display inspired by the story. In February, the novel's author Matt Dickinson will visit Taskers to judge their work and give a presentation about his writing and his adventures as a mountain climber in some of the world's most challenging conditions!



MAT TRIP As part of the schools More Able and Talented initiative, Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum held an afternoon of workshops for our Year 9 Science and Geography MAT pupils. This examined Milford Haven and our National Parks potential for renewable energy, the diverse nature of the marine mammals found in our waters and global trade patterns. It also explored the variety of employment opportunities that Science and Geography make available to this region. The providers were extremely impressed with their group presentations and the level of detail which they included when making their arguments.



Year 9 Hockey Tournament

On Wednesday 18th January, the Year 9 hockey team played in the Pembrokeshire tournament. In our pool were Milford and Fishguard. Despite playing really well, we lost to Milford 2-0 and to Fishguard 1-0. Milford won the pool and went through to play in the final against STP, which they won 1-0. Players of the tournament for us were Daisy Brown, Melissa Pollock and our captain Amber McFadden. Da iawn pawb!



Year 11 GCSE Art & Design pupils have received their papers. Extra sessions are now being held in the Art Rooms on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays with Mr Prosser, Mrs Edwards and Mrs Berrigan



'A' level Chemistry and Physics students were visited by fellows from the Royal Society of Chemistry this week. The PhD students came from Swansea University with 'Spectroscopy in a suitcase' which comprised of a hands on workshop with £50,000 worth of up to date high tech equipment. The workshop allowed our

students to produce their own Fourier transform Infra Red spectra to determine the functional groups in an unknown compound. They also bought with them, much to Mr Sharpe's amazement, a portable Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) machine, this device allowed our students to run spectra to find out the structure of complex molecules. The NMR makes hydrogen nuclei spin in an intense magnetic field. Mr Sharpe commented that when he was at University an NMR machine would need a large room, liquid helium, liquid nitrogen and hours to set up. This modern device is about the size of a toaster, works in a few minutes and produces higher resolution spectra than those of the 400MHz machines of old. The students rather hoped they would leave the equipment behind but unfortunately they had to take it back to Swansea!

