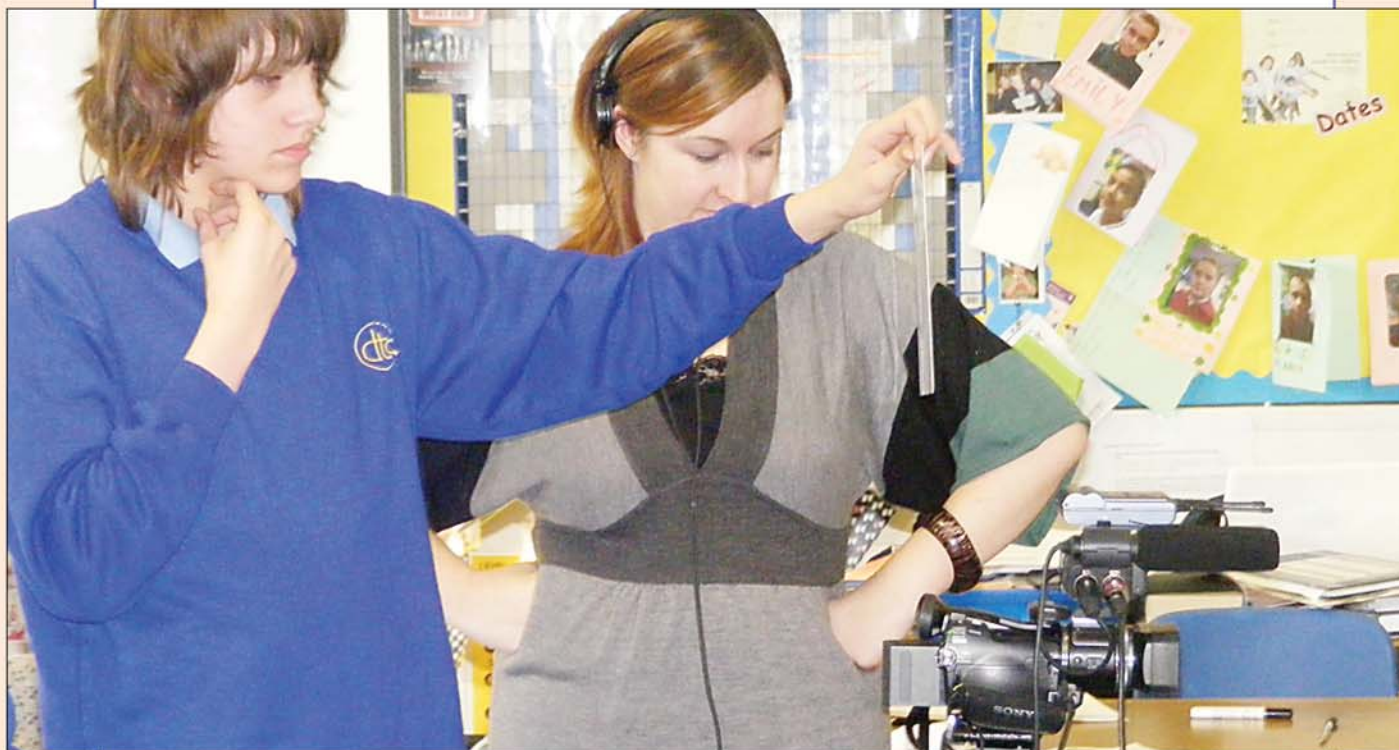


## The Adver's Steph pays a visit



**REPORTING BACK** The Adver's Stephanie Tye with Dorcan pupil Luke Newton, 14

# ...AND HERE IS THE NEWS

THE Media classroom at Dorcan Technology College turned into a newsroom twice in two weeks, as Swindon Advertiser journalist Stephanie Tye came in to share her tricks of the trade.

Pupils doing the Media Diploma learned how to use professional cameras and wrote scripts for a news report. The report was recorded and now features on the Student Adver website.

The Dorcan students were given a real insight into life as a journalist as Ms Tye talked about where to look for a worthy news story and how to write scripts.

Pupils also watched three newsreels before recording their own news headlines which included a weather report and sports round up.

Sam Hackett, 14, and a student on the diploma course said of the visit:

"Steph was really friendly and gave us confidence to work harder."

Elliot Watling, 15, said: "She had experience and it was great to hear what she knew about journalism and the media scene."

As well as teaching the children how to write news stories, Ms Tye also taught them how to use professional cameras, which particularly excited pupil Luke Newton. "I was very interested in the cameras they use in journalism, and I now feel able to use one myself," he said.

As well as proving invaluable to the diploma students Steph also visited the Media Club, where budding young journalists and photographers gather once a week. Danielle Christopher, 11, who goes to the club every week, said: "I learned a lot about journalism when she came to visit."

Ellie Burn, also 11, commented: "It

was good that a proper reporter came in. It was interesting finding out how they got their stories."

The children learnt how to write an article, as well as learning how to find a news story which would interest the local community.

"I'm excited about actually going to report on my own news story. I thought Steph was cool because she has interviewed famous people," said pupil Leah Pryer.

The visit really inspired pupils at the school, and was a huge success.

The children and staff all want to say a big thank you for her time and look forward to seeing her again really soon.

To watch the pupils' video headlines, go to [swindonadvertiser.co.uk/community/studentadver/video](http://swindonadvertiser.co.uk/community/studentadver/video).

## WIN TICKETS TO THE CINEMA

- Have you seen a good film recently either on DVD or at the cinema?
- Send us your reviews – of no more than 150 words – and we will publish them online and in the next edition of the Student Adver on January 8.
- The Adver's film critic, Steve Webb, will choose the best review each month and the winner will receive a pair of tickets to watch any movie at Cineworld in Swindon.
- Normal Newsquest rules apply. For more details, see our website: [swindonadvertiser.co.uk/leisure/competitions/comp-rules](http://swindonadvertiser.co.uk/leisure/competitions/comp-rules).
- Email reviews to: [studentadver@swindonadvertiser.co.uk](mailto:studentadver@swindonadvertiser.co.uk)



**Scouting for Girls**  
Review by George Tompkins, 13  
Churchfields School

IT WAS hot, it was sweaty and me and my mates were proper packed near the front. But when Scouting for Girls, the night's live band, came on stage, no one seemed to care at all.

Scouting for Girls did a great job of entertaining everyone at their gig on Wednesday 12th November at the Oasis.

I never really thought much of Scouting for Girls, until I got invited by a mate who'd received tickets for her birthday. I thought 'Hey, free gig' and tagged along.

Before the night's main attraction came on, two support bands played. First on stage was Sam Beeton, an acoustic guitar player who seemed very popular with the girls. With guitar and harmonica, he got the crowd yelling and screaming quite quickly and played an excellent acoustic set.

Next on were The Days. I'd seen them once before when they came to my school and played a few songs. I liked them then, and downloaded some music off MySpace, so I found myself humming along. Although they seemed heavily influenced by other indie

bands. They were alright and got everyone waving and dancing along.

Then came Scouting for Girls, the night's main entertainment.

When they opened on an AMAZING 'I'm Not Over You', I could tell I was going to enjoy myself. The good thing about the band is, even if you're not a big fan and you've only heard of a few songs, you'll find yourself singing and dancing due to their catchiness.

Saving all their best tracks until the end of the gig, Scouting for Girls blasted through an awesome set list. I really enjoyed 'James Bond' – so much that I didn't even care that a girl behind me was digging her elbows into my back. It was that enjoyable.

The band did an amazing job of getting the crowd going, getting everyone to repeat lines and wave their arms in the air. Roy Stride (Lead Singer/Keyboards) even decided to run to the back of the hall, climb up onto the balcony and sing a few lines up there.

Overall, the gig changed my opinion of Scouting for Girls. I used to believe they were a wannabe indie band. Now I know that they play good, catchy, happy and enjoyable songs.



**COMPETITORS** Back row from the left, Sheryl Higham, Victoria Bartlett, Dane Farrimond. Front row, Harry Brothwood, Ben Traas and George Hunter

## Now Ben's set for the finals

PUPILS from Prior Park Prep School in Cricklade competed in the Wilts and Dorset heat of the annual Thomas Cranmer Awards competition on Saturday 15th November.

In a very close contest, the judges from the Salisbury diocese chose Prior Park's Ben Traas (11) as the winner and he will go forward to the National Finals in February, to be held in the gracious surroundings of the Charterhouse in the City of London. Prior Park pupils, George Hunter and Harry Brothwood also scooped second and third place.

Prior Park's other competitors, Dane Farrimond, Sheryl Higham and Victoria Bartlett, were all commended for their performance.

This annual competition for 11-18 year olds is run by the Prayer Book Society (patron Prince Charles), ensuring that the words written by Thomas Cranmer are familiar to a new generation of youngsters. Competitors have to practise and read a long passage from the Book of Common Prayer – for the finals all the regional winners will have to learn their pieces by heart.