

FELSTED Annual Report 2008

FELSTED COMMUNITY MATTERS:

- **Crix Green Mission:** An appeal was made for more use of Crix Green Mission Hall with no kitchen, only one toilet and parking on a grass surface, as stands empty for six days a week. The Hall is a place of Worship and used for FELSTEDIANS as their Polling Station.
- **FELSTED Action Children's Equipment Project:** On 25th September, FELSTED'S local traders and businesses were asked to help with F.A.C.E. project group by help to raise further money of at least £2,000 to renovate the children's village play area for next year. FELSTED Parish Council had given £17,500 and the National Lottery has donated a £45,000 grant towards the five-a-side football and netball areas. F.A.C.E had also raised money with fund-raising events as well as the FELSTED'S Youth Club.
- **FELSTED Annual OPEN Gardens:** GARDENS-large and small were celebrated over the weekend as 28 owners opened their gardens to visitors in aid of The Friends of Holy Cross. The event came to an end with a "bring-and-share" supper in the Kellys' garden, which also gave everyone a chance to welcome the new curate, Mark Windsor. In conjunction with the open gardens, the United Reformed Church held a flower festival to celebrate its 175th anniversary.
- **FELSTED Decorative and Fine Arts Society Club:** Continues to grow with more than 80 members and deliver lecturers and talks, such talks, Tutankhamen-Treasures, Secret Life of Paintings: Symbolism and Meaning of Art, 'Woodblock Prints from the Edo Period-Hokusai and Hiroshige', 'AWN Pugin-A Passion for Gothic', listen to 'Upstairs, Downstairs' and the changing fortunes of England's stately homes and their occupants over the past two centuries.
- **FELSTED Friendship Club:** Meetings, In April 71 members attended their annual meeting. Events, In June the coronation of its first king and queen took place, 19th July, members had an outing to Maldon on board the Viking Saga with a commentary of history in Maldon and 1st November the coffee morning and bring and buy sale was a success and a donation to Age Concern in Essex. Talks, In October a talk about "a day in the life of a Thames Tug".
- **FELSTED Garden Club:** Meetings, the AGM meeting was on 21st February with full attendance and donated fund raising money to FELSTED Aid for Deprived Children and the Essex Air Ambulance. Events, In April opened their spring show despite the damaging weather and on 5th September, their annual event attracted more than 300 entries.
- **FELSTED'S Holy Cross Church:** Events, Sunday 11th May, celebrated the birthday of the Church, Pentecost. After the service, there was a Pentecost picnic combined with the Samaritan's Purse Walk 4 Water campaign.
- **FELSTED Memorial Hall:** Events, 120 people dressed in 1940's outfits danced the Jitterbug to Glenn Miller. The night raised about £500 towards the Memorial Hall.
- **FELSTED Men's Breakfast Christian Club.** Meeting, Saturday 6th September FELSTED saw the first Men's Breakfast club. They discussed the clubs plans and agreed to meet the first Friday of each month except July and August, to arrange guest speakers, pray, attend Christian events at Mulberry House in Ongar, mutual support and a planned task force.
- **FELSTED Women's Institute Club:** Meetings, the end of their September Annual meeting was celebrated with fun and laughter with a comedy act performed by committee members and on 8th October all were all were thanked all for their donations towards the Samaritan's Purse shoebox charity appeal. Events, on 25th February FELSTED and Rayne challenged each other for almost 30 years to battle for a frying pan trophy (In the earlier years the contests were physical races but today they are held indoors.). They took part in a pancake drive, based on the beetle drive game, at The Old School Room in Rayne. After 8 games, the hosts won the trophy by just two points. An Italian night in March with a quiz on Italian food, food and a raffle, on 9th April, they celebrated their 90th anniversary year together with Alice Case who turned 90 too, on 25th September's monthly craft classes started and continued on the last Thursday of each month at 15:30 for two hours in the United Reform Church Hall and on Saturday 1st November a bring-and-buy sale. Talks, on "social history of sayings and superstitions", "colour and style in the wardrobe at the W.I. club", "the flight of the East Prussian people and their Horses", "Life is a Journey Not a Race", "happiness can be achieved by using Bach Flower Remedies" and "Christmas with a tasty difference".

- **FELSTED Royal British Legion Women's Club:** Meeting, on 6th October, the annual meeting took place followed by a quiz, a game of Bingo and the winner Sylvia Delnevo announced for the 'Cutest Cuddly Toy' competition.
- **FELSTED Royal British Legion Club:** Events, On the 1st March the Hall was full with members for the Poppy Appeal's last fundraising event of the year, their quiz night raised £400 profits for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, on 14th March, 70 members and guests celebrated St. Patrick's Day with beef stew and after the meal there was a Disco, on 21st March, Good Friday was celebrated with an Easter Raffle and on 22nd March there was an Easter dance.
- **WEA.** Talks, In October talks was on "Our Hazardous Planet" with lunch and talks on "How to Look at Fine Art Paintings". Events, On 13th November a trip was arranged to Courtlaud Gallery.
- **FELSTED Youth Club:** The club held at the Memorial Hall during the first Friday of each month from 7:30pm to 9pm for ages 10+, had started the year strongly with 22 members attending regularly. The highlight for many members had been the ever popular Archery organised by the boys clubs of Great Britain.

FELSTED BUSINESS REPORTS:

- A village petrol station, 'Gulf IN' Dunmow Road, FELSTED, was named the second most expensive in the country. The station was selling a litre of unleaded petrol for £1.21 and the owner John Hutley.

FELSTED CHARITY EVENTS:

- A FELSTED rower Charlie Pitcher, 45, from Alderton Close, had started to prepare for one of the toughest events in the world the 'Woodvale Transatlantic Rowing Race'. This race is 3,000 miles across the Atlantic in a rowing boat solo which takes place December 2009. He is hoping to raise tens of thousands of pounds for a charity called A C T (Addenbrookes Charitable Trust) in memory for his brother Shaun McLeod Jones.
- On 28th February, 2 brothers Will Jones from FELSTED and Matt (17 years) completed their 125 mile canoe marathon from Devizes to Westminster in Kayaks as part of the 60th anniversary of the longest canoe race in the world, to raise money for Action Medical Research in the process. The race attracts hundreds of entries every year since 1948. The marathon took them three days followed by a 17 mile sprint and all on water. The organisers described the conditions as some of the most testing in the history of the event. So far they have raised £355 online against their target of £3000.
- On 19th April, Angi Greneski who covered FELSTED and Stebbing areas was one of three Dunmow Police Community Support Officers who swam three miles for charity. They took part of the national 'Swimathon' in support of the Marie Curie Cancer Fund and managed to complete the 5km target by taking turns to swim 20 lengths and beat the fund target of £500.
- On Saturday night 10th May, the Playtex Moonwalk around London charity event took place to raise money for this cause. Five villagers from FELSTED; Paula Hatcher, Lisa Pearce, vicar's wife Sylvia Taylor, Sue Vernon, and Jacqueline Butler, all knew people touched by breast cancer.
- On 11th May, adults took part of the charity event Walk4Water of an entry fee of £2 from FELSTED Church to Little Dunmow and back, 4 miles, with quizzes, information along the route and a picnic stop in Little Dunmow. This is the average mileage women and children walk daily to collect water. The fundraiser, for Samaritan's Purse, Christmas Shoe Box Appeal, was to raise awareness for 1.1 billion people worldwide who have no access to safe drinking water.
- FELSTED Aide for Deprived Children charity loaded a lorry of 13,988kg of bedsteads and wheel chairs to Chernigov in Ukraine for the Chernobyl sufferers. There second trip of humanitarian aid included donations for toilet rolls, sanitary wear, disposable nappies, disinfectant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, soap and children's clothes. School's and Churches in FELSTED, organizations and individuals helped out to raise money to fund the travel cost. On 19th November, they also arranged a book sale at Memorial Hall to raise further funds.
- On 25th July, the UK'S first 7.5 ton mobile hospice came to FELSTED parked outside the Memorial Hall or Chequers Pub close to GP surgery so it can provide appointments with doctors as well as nurses. It also provided counselling, referrals to other services and information library. The HOP is expected to provide services for 40 people in FELSTED and its operation will be reviewed after six months.
- On Saturday 25th October, United Reform Church Hall helped pack 126 shoe boxes filled with

Christmas gifts for boys and girls towards the Operation Christmas Child as part of the Samaritan's Purse. FELSTED Primary school also took part of this appeal.

FELSTED SPORTING NEWS:

- In January, FELSTED dart team the 'Chequers' joined the 'Retreat' team at the head of the North Section after another exciting week in the Ridley Darts League and in February 'Chequers' team sent the Ridley League's North division table into potential meltdown, leaving first place defeating half-a-dozen contenders.
- In February, FELSTED Rovers scored six without reply in the first half at home to Byfleet Rangers Reserves, and went on to win 8-2. Danny Sheppard (5), Dave Butler-Smith (2) and Steve Hills were FELSTED'S marksmen and in November,
- In June, FELSTED Chequers gave another outstanding defeat by winning their fourth dominoes trophy success in five years. **Results:** Dominoes League play-off: Black Bull (Margaretting) 4 Chequers 5
- On 13th July, 450 runners arrived to the Grange FELSTED annual 10kms race started 11am at FELSTED Primary School. Tiptree Road Running Club set personal bests and Carolyn Bownes finished in 50:00 with Carolyn's time on improvement of 5 ½ minutes on the same run as last year. She also set her 12th personal best of the season with 39:14, an improvement of nearly 30 seconds. The weather later turned fine.

OTHER FELSTED REPORTING MATTERS:

- On the 9th January, a Sheep caught in a fence was rescued by a passer with her two dogs.
- 11th January, campaign against 3000 new homes since 30th November 2007 finally came to an end.
- In January, the glebe, fields, public footpaths and bridge were flooded and on 23rd January at Hollow Road, a Calor Gas delivery truck was stuck in the wet mud. Fortunately, another truck passed by helped it out.
- On 21st February, another property was built on a small piece of land in the heart of the village of FELSTED located at the corner of Bury Fields.
- On 28th February, there was an overwhelming objection by the inhabitants of FELSTED greens, Rayne, the Salings, Stebbing, and Stebbing Green, to the eco-village housing estates proposed for the open country between Dunmow and Braintree.
- On the 28th February, the largest earthquake tremor for nearly 25 years was felt across much of England and Wales which included FELSTED and Little Dunmow. The British Geological Survey (BGS) said the epicentre of the 5.2 Richter scale's magnitude quake was near Market Rasen in Lincolnshire.

Two statements taken by locals;

Mrs. Emma Clarke, Braintree Road, FELSTED

"I was woken at the early hours of the morning by what I can only describe as vibrations. I was completely unsure as to what was happening. I remember sitting up in bed and movements continued for a few seconds. It was only when I switched the radio on later in the morning that I realised I had experienced an earthquake."

Mr. & Mrs. Brown, Oakwood Park, Little Dunmow

"Around 1am on 28th February 2008, my husband Warren and I were woken by a loud banging noise. This noise, which sounded like someone running along the hall landing and banging the walls, went on for 10-15 seconds. We also heard a noise which sounded like smashing glass from downstairs. On investigating this, we found that our bay windows downstairs had been shattered."

- On 5th March, the Flich Way joining the back of the old FELSTED Station, now someone's home, and passed a legal travellers site, the path was scattered with unsightly and dangerous rubbish such as asbestos sheets, dirty nappies, old bath towels to broken glass window and frames. This path is used by many walkers, dog walkers, mums with their children and cyclists.
- On 12th March, a regular walker from FELSTED was confronted by Mr. Hutley from Pond Park Farm today who threatened to shoot her dogs if they strayed off the public foot path and trespassed on his land. Though she apologised and explained that her puppy was still under training he demanded for

her name and address details in order for him to prosecute. He then threatened to follow her home to find out where she lived. She later challenged him over the signage as miss leading by that point he said he will let her off.

- On 25th April, passing Thistley Bridge and heading towards Bannister Green, a white van without the driver was spotted down the ditch. This is not a usual story; annually there is either a vehicle down the ditch and/or a bridge or road sign to be fixed.
- On 14th May, motorists exceeding the speed limits in FELSTED was checked by the manufacturers and found a fault with their database.
- FELSTED's three traditional red telephone boxes; Chelmsford Road (listed); Garnetts Lane and Evelyn Road in Willows Green, and a non-red telephone box in Green Villas, Bannister Green. All except the one listed were seen unprofitable by BT. On 16th June Jules Wallis, contacted English Heritage to have all red telephone boxes listed. English Heritage refused as there were not enough listed buildings around them.
- On 14th July, the Food and Drink Awards judges' met at the Essex Chronicle Media Centre to select the finalists in each category after the public voted the finalists. Reeves Restaurant from FELSTED was placed into two categories Restaurant of the Year and Chef of the Year, Chris Jagger.
- Bee keepers in FELSTED have seen a decline in bees and three hives at Hollow Road had died too thus adding to the British bees decline that affected our honey stock and the pollination of crops, wild life and garden flowers. In August 2008, a nest of European bees (larger than Honey bees and smaller than hornets) were found nesting in a hollow tree trunk by a gate at Hollow Road, FELSTED and swarmed viciously and ferociously. The home owner called the council who later destroyed the nest.
- On 9th September, the old gas posts were replaced for brighter, taller and more obvious gas poles.
- About 80 magazines were submitted for the annual competition and standards were very high where FELSTED and Little Dunmow villages won the best new entry category in this year's community magazine awards, run by the Rural Community Council of Essex. Robert Stone of Oxney Villas at Watch House Green is the editor of Interface magazine, which covers the two villages. He was born in Frenches Green and grew up on the FELSTED sugar beet factory site.
- FELSTED and Little Dunmow Parish councillors had both felt let down by Ryan Sherer their district councilor as he failed to attend any of the meetings. At 22, Ryan Sherer worked as an insurance broker in Kelvedon and lived in FELSTED when he was selected as a candidate for the 2007 district election. He now works in London and lives in Braintree and has arranged with his employers that. FELSTED and Little Dunmow ward was also represented by Elizabeth Bellingham-Smith who attended meetings of both parish matters.
- On 16th Dec, FELSTED Surgery announced the campaign to close the pharmacy within the surgery will not go ahead and staff jobs to be safe. The government aim was to close all pharmacies in surgeries. A petition was set out for patients to sign to oppose this decision.
- Hartford End Ridley's Brewery, Mill Lane, FELSTED was in the past a place of employment for local residents before it closed. A possible scheme for an elderly residential village for 57 residential units and 50 bedrooms together with a restaurant, swimming pool, gym, fitness studio, hair and beauty salon, an outdoor bowling green and shop is on the agenda.

FELSTED SCHOOLS:

FELSTED School

- **GENERAL:** On 11th September, Dr. Michael Walker became the new Head for FELSTED School who was head at King Edward VI Grammar School in Chelmsford for 19 years, 10 years as Head. He has moved into the Headmaster's house with his wife Corinne and their pet dogs. 98% achieved 5 or more at grades A-C including Maths & English. Stephanie Farr aged 16 and 5ft 10in, a student studying two foreign languages, English, economics, maths and biology became one of the youngest of 24 girls selected from 500 entries finalists in the Miss Top Model UK 2008 contest. Nicolette Ester, 16 years, a future A'level student was selected to take part in a new interactive C4 TV and internet project for a year that follow the lives of 15 young people of 16 to 20 year olds. She will update her progress through blogs and video diaries throughout the year. There will be 30 half-hour programmes broadcast in C4's education schedule between September 2008 and June 2009. The online part of the project was launched last week at www.yeardot.co.uk.

- SPORTS:** On 13th March, FELSTED School was included in the London 2012 Olympics' pre-games training camp guide for archery training. On 26th March, under 16s rugby squad finished on top by winning the Hertfordshire 7's tournament by three scores. On 15th April 2008, William Palmer, 9 years old, won four gold medals and a bronze at a national dwarf competition in Birmingham for Dwarf Athletic Association (DAA'S). On 9th April, FELSTED's 17-year-old racing driver Michael Lyons stood proud on the podium in the Derek Bell Trophy at Donington Park by finishing third in the historic car race at the East Midlands circuit after taking to the wheel of a classic Hesketh 308E Formula One car owned by Hillspeed Racing; recording a fastest lap of 1 minute 09.345 seconds, two tenths of a second off the fastest lap of all. On Sunday 7th September, at Thruxton FELSTED's Michael Lyons looked to achieve a top 10 points finish until his car was hit by mechanical problems late in the race. This set back in the race had put him back from 9th to 11th and was just a second away from 10th place. Michael Lyons now stood at 14th place in the Formula Renault BARC Championship. In November he managed to finish 10th in the third round at the Formula Renault UK Winter Championship series. However, in round four he suffered a disappointing result as he was forced to retire on the opening tour. He was 15th in the series on 25 points.
- EVENTS:** Annual arts festival from 19th to 21st February, welcomed singers, musicians and artists from across the country and received help from local sponsors and volunteers. An annual treat for all theatre lovers and music and magician fans. Sunday night 7th March, music night at FELSTED Chapel where pupils performed Mozart's Requiem Mass by and Bernstein's Chichester Psalms. The choir sang a rousing full-scale rendition of Mozart's timeless classic the Requiem Mass as a grand finish. Ryan Hepburn performed Mozart's Fantasia and Fugue in F Minor on the organ followed by some jazz-infused Americana in the way of Chichester Psalms. The 20-strong FELSTED School Chamber Choir, teamed up with Amadeus a group of musicians from Cambridge University and the Royal Academy to a crowd of around 200. On 6th April, Essex Chamber Orchestra performed an English night of music at Lord Riche Hall. On 24th April, 28 drama pupils aged 13 to 18 spent 10 days in USA and performed 'A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum', at three independent schools. The fourth and final performance was at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility for Women, in New York City, to 250 inmates at a maximum security American prison. In the visit, believed to be the first of its kind, most of the inmates were lifers who had committed murder, more than 25% have AIDS and a quarter of them worked as prostitutes. Five hour summer's musical evening with more than 100 pupils held at Lord Riche Hall in front of 450 audiences. On 14th May, the school organised FELSTED Carnival. All 3 schools took part in front of 2,000 people. A successful day with lots of traditional games and stalls for all ages, live performances from Shelly Woods' Gymnastic Club gymnastics to Cheerleaders, bouncy castles, golf game, a production by 4-8 year old pupils from FELSTED Pre-Preparatory performing Rock the Boat which is focused on the story of Noah's Ark, food stalls and the aromas from the BBQ and pop corn floated in the air. The overwhelming supporters watched as the Carnival Procession lead by FELSTED Aid for Deprived Children walked through Stebbing Road displaying their vibrant costumes before they entered FELSTED School grounds. The Carnival Procession included FELSTED School dressed as Samba Bandits, Olympic Theme, Robots and the finale as Bugs and Insects, FELSTED Preparatory School based their theme with water and so the pupils were dressed with their uniform with wildlife animal face masks, FELSTED Primary School dressed in animal costumes, FKS School dressed in uniform with mice masks lead by the Piped Piper, Friendship Club members dressed as War Veterans, Garden Club members displayed their flowers and vegetables, Eagles Cheer Leaders from USA and British Cheer Leaders jointly demonstrated their skills and many other locals all were involved as one big happy family.
- CHARITY EVENTS:** on 14th May, a variety of musical entertainment from piano and oboe duets to string and vocal groups raised £1,000.00 for the 'Down's Syndrome Association charity'. Chris McLeod, head boy at FELSTED School, worked hard to help put the concert together. On 25th June, 32 ladies played in a charity tennis tournament and raised close to £1,200 funds for the Essex Air Ambulance. Katherine Wilkes and Meena McNamara, are dedicated parents who regularly support charity events, enjoyed the tournament together with a light lunch and a raffle. On 3rd July, 7 sixth former girls took part in a business scheme and came up with the idea to make and sell jewellery to their classmates and raised a profit for £507.00. They also made extra money by holding as Valentine's Day Ball that topped up their total profits to £1,988. All their profits were donated to Macmillan Cancer Support charity. On 12th October, Martin Donald, 53, a music teacher suffering from Bowel cancer performed a one-off concert at Halstead Empire to raise cancer awareness. All of his proceeds went to Cancer Research UK. It was Martin's way of saying Thank you to all the nurses and staff for the care he received in Broomfield Hospital and to all his family and friends for their support too.

FELSTED Preparatory School

- **GENERAL:** On 10th March, due to a growing demand for further places at FELSTED Preparatory School, a new reception and year three class will be going ahead for September 2008. Also in plan a new music room and a sports hall too. In July, A report about the unannounced visit by Ofsted inspectors at the school made no recommendations for improvement because of quality and standards of nursery education were found to be outstanding.
- **SPORTS:** On 2nd March, boys and girls U11's teams secured fine wins, the boy's team became Mini Essex champions for 2008 winning against other schools and clubs from across country. The girls' team secured a silver medal in the same event but then won the FELSTED U11 tournament. The U11 and U13 teams were national champions last year, the U18 girls have been national finalists for the past 4 years and the U18 boys are and have been east champions from 2003-2007. On 23rd April, Kieran Norris, 12, once again represented his school in the Inter-School Ski Challenge, the Scottish and the 2008 British Land National Ski Championships. He got 23rd place out of 54 boys who entered in the giant slalom but unfortunately crashed in the slalom. He then claimed 33rd in the British Championships slalom despite the poor snow conditions and his low start number and 36th in one of the giant slalom races out of 58 competing. Despite the fact this was Kieran's first Championships with only five weeks training, the British Ski Academy stated that his good technical ability and performance will help to improve as he gains strength and fitness. Kieran is also a key rugby player and played hockey, cricket and tennis. On 23rd April, 14 talented pupils took part in their first cricket tournament to Dubai over the Easter holidays. The players, aged 12-13, were joined by coaches Richard Barnes and Charles Allen during the 10-day trip to the United Arab Emirates. The FELSTED boys claimed a strong win over The Royal Delhi Private School but were unable to match the more experienced years of the combined Dubai College/Jumeirah College team.
- **EVENTS:** Sunday 2nd March, Essex Chamber Orchestra Concert performed at The Lord Riche Hall at FELSTED School. The programme started at 7:30pm and included music from Edward Elgar and Malcolm Arnold. In October, 13 schools across Essex, that included FELSTED Preparatory and FELSTED Primary Schools, took part in the Very Able Day designed for their most clever nine year old pupils HEL. The 65 youngsters took part in a science workshop which involved them to save survivors of an imaginary plane crash, using their understanding of nutrition, electricity. The circulatory system and solar energy. Also, they learned Spanish and Hispanic culture and history.

FELSTED Primary School

- **GENERAL:** On 24th April, FELSTED primary school was not one of three primary schools in the Hertfordshire & Essex area closed today due to a teachers strike. It is the first strike for 21 years. The N U T had rejected the Government's offer of a three-year deal of 2.45 per cent pay increase from September and 2.3 per cent in subsequent years. It wants 4.1 per cent. On 31st January 2007, a pupil Ryan Johnson discovered an acting career after taking part in the school's Panto 'Jack and the Big Stalk' as Jack's mother. Having thoroughly enjoyed acting and giving everyone a glimmer of his talent he joined Dunmow's Scene II Theatre School and has loved every minute of it. From this theatre group he has appeared a taste of fame after appearing in a popular TV show in September 2008.
- **EVENTS:** On 16th October, students collected non-perishable food items and distributed them in boxes to the elderly residents of FELSTED.
- **SPORTS:** On 28th February, girls aged 7-11 years had been coached and supported by the F A for three sessions in order to encourage primary-age girl's football team in the Dunmow area On 2nd May, Chloe Norris, 11 years old, was selected for her football design in the national FA competition. Her design of children holding hands around a ball won her two FA Cup final tickets to Wembley, to be used on children's football kits, tracksuits and school uniforms and displayed at the FA London's headquarters. FELSTED Primary School also benefited with a presentation from the FA to all pupils and received sports equipment from Umbro. On 22nd May, Daniel Bentley, 24, and his father visited FELSTED Primary School arranged by Ms. Holly Miles, year 3 teacher and PE Co-ordinator. Daniel spoke about the game Boccia and gave a demonstration before Ms. Miles had a go. He also talked about his achievements before setting off to take part in representing GB Boccia team member for the Paralympic Games in Beijing 2008. Daniel Bentley had a wonderful day as the response from the students was very engaging. In September, Matthew Hatcher and Jacob Grew from Felsted Primary School took part in a team of 13 to the National Tang Soo Do competition in Sawtry, winning as a team 10 trophies. On 16th September, Daniel Bentley, aged 24, visited the school to show the pupils his gold medal won with the GB Boccia team as they beat Portugal 8-4 in the final of the mixed team

BC1/BC2 event in Beijing 2008 Paralympics games. This was the most successful Paralympics ever with over 100 medals (42 in gold) and a second place finish in the medals table. Daniel donated a GB T-shirt and explained his experiences. The students awarded him with a large congratulation gold medal made by the pupils to celebrate his achievement and asked many questions.

FELSTED CRIME REPORT:

- In January, vandals targeted six lights at FELSTED School's hockey pitch.
- In March, a locked shed was broken into and a £100 Honda petrol lawnmower and a £400 dirt bike were taken.
- Burglars broke into a house in Chelmsford Road.
- On 13th March, CCTV footage revealed another catalytic converter stolen. Police were investigating the theft from Gates Garage on Chelmsford Road when the £500 car part was stolen from a Mitsubishi Shogun at midnight on Monday. The case is the forth of its kind in the area and none were seen or heard until now. So far two were taken from FELSTED School and one from Stansted.
- An alarm was triggered off when burglars broke into the former Hartford End Brewery.
- Thieves stolen a 10ft metal pipe from the sewage works in Station Road. The theft was discovered when a wheelbarrow used to move the pipe was found in a neighbouring field.
- In April, a gas meter was stolen from a home in Stebbing Road.
- A home in Chelmsford Road was broken into twice while the occupants were away. A door was forced and a conservatory window smashed by burglars who stole computer games and other items.
- On 15th April, Tony Smith aged 36 from the travellers' site in Gypsy Lane, FELSTED, stole hubcaps from two minibuses belonging to FELSTED School was jailed for one month. He admitted the charges of theft after being seen by a police officer riding his bike towards the travellers' site. The officer stopped him as he noticed there was something unusual under his jumper and was searched to find two hubcaps and a screwdriver. Tony Smith was also currently serving a five-month prison sentence for aggravated vehicle taking, driving while disqualified and drink driving. His one month sentenced ran consecutively to his current sentence.
- In May, a brick was thrown through the rear window of a Ford Focus in Stebbing Road, FELSTED.
- Burglars had taken on 14th May burglar's Broke into a home in Mill Road by forced entry breaking the front door frame and taking the keys of a Land Rover Sport car. Police said the burglars unsuccessfully tried to find the vehicle's tracker system before abandoning the car in Rayne.
- A pair of 5 bar gates had been stolen from an entrance next to the top of the FELSTED slip-road, off the A120.
- Thieves stole ½ tonne of coal from a garage in Chaffix.
- A window on a rear door was smashed in Ravens Crescent; police believed this was an attempted burglary.
- Rings from a jewellery box after searching a bedroom in Chelmsford Road.
- On 30th May, night time, vandals kicked down the doors of a new plastic shed, fixed behind FELSTED'S Memorial Hall to store recycled rubbish to prevent rats getting to eat before it was collected, just after 17 hours it was erected.
- In June, thieves took from Mr. and Mrs. Brown's spare wheel under a Nissan car in Cock Green.
- Bikes stolen in FELSTED.
- On 24th July, a red Citroen AX was reported stolen from Cobblers Green between 10:15am and 4:30pm today in FELSTED.
- On 12th July, police investigated the theft of a catalytic converter from a Ford Ranger at the Oak service station in Dunmow Road.
- On 19th September, money was taken from a purse left in the staff room at FELSTED Primary School today. The person suspected was suspended during the investigation.
- Police seized a Ford Kia car on the A120 after a driver could not prove he had insurance.

- On 14th September 2008, at Cressage Close in FELSTED a suspicious bungalow fire was investigated by police as two fire crews from Dunmow were sent to tackle the blaze.
- In October, thieves had stolen a Mitsubishi Coupe car worth £1,000 from Station Road, FELSTED.
- Jewellery and laptop computer were stolen fro a home in Braintree Road, FELSTED.
- On 1st November, between 6pm tonight and 9am Sunday morning a Vauxhall Astra van worth £5,000 was stolen from the grounds at FELSTED School. The police had no description of the suspect.