

Special Feature

Hey Good Looking...!

The scent of delicious cooking fills the air on Thursday nights at Burford School.



Oxford Inspires, the cultural development agency for Oxford and Oxfordshire, invited schools in the county to join the 'First Food Festival for Children', to be run for a year leading to a County Food Festival in July 2007, when Oxfordshire celebrates one thousand years. *Burford School was the only school to accept the challenge!*

Cooking Up a Storm

25 students from Year 7 joined a cookery club organised by me and run on the same lines as 'Ready, Steady, Cook' on Thursdays after school. A box of fresh locally-produced food is delivered each week from nearby Foxbury Farm. The students are divided into four teams and challenged to make a meal from the ingredients in just one and a quarter hours, with half an hour to eat the meal and tidy up.

On Thursday 11th May, the group had a visit from Gavin Alcock, head chef of the *The Fleece* in Witney. His job was to help and inspire the groups to use the ingredients in the most imaginative way. You may have seen Gavin and the students that evening on BBC South Today or even heard them on BBC Radio Oxford. When asked whether he preferred cooking in his restaurant

kitchen to working with twenty-five 11-12 year olds Gavin said, "No competition, the restaurant wins every time!"



Two comments from student participants:

"The tiny potatoes turned out to be not so lovely they were a nightmare to peel! But it was very tasty and I very much enjoyed making everything." Maddie Harris.

"My group made lamb & vegetable burgers with a mint dip. We also made drop scones covered in sugar and raspberry jam" Charlotte Allcock.

One group's menu consisted of:

- Quails' eggs on a bed of wilted spinach
- Lamb stir fry
- Bread and butter pudding

Now Wychwood School Year 6

Soon students from **Year 6** at **Wychwood School** will be given the chance to enter this cookery challenge at Burford School, but **only** if funding can be found. The programme will run for 6 weeks and each week the food costs £50. So if you could donate towards or sponsor our cookery challenge we would be extremely grateful.

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