

## Burford School News

The Department of Education's validated results for the GCSE and 'A' Levels taken in 2014 were announced in February. They confirmed that Burford School is academically the best performing school in West Oxfordshire and is also within the top six schools across the county. It stated on its website, *"There is no statistically better performing school within a 75 mile radius."*



sharing a rich and exciting week with plenty of snow and lots of personal progress. Our 'AS' and 'A' Level History students visited Berlin and Krakow where their itinerary included the Neue Synagogue, Goering's Air Ministry, Schindler's Factory, Auschwitz-Birkenau and the Wieliczka Salt Mine.

### Swim Records

Our swimmers triumphed in the Oxfordshire District Swimming Gala winning seven first places and setting five new District records. The U14 girls will now go on to the Oxfordshire School Games in the summer. The boys also set new records in Butterfly and Breaststroke.

The Headteacher, Mrs Haig, subsequently received a letter from the Rt. Hon. David Laws MP, Minister of State for Schools, which read, *"Your school has proven to be one of the top 90 in England. I would like to congratulate your staff, governors, parents and pupils for their hard work and success, and thank you for your leadership in making such a difference to the future success of your pupils."*

This is a fantastic accolade for both students and staff and a great boost to those whose efforts, at this time, are on keeping focused and achieving just that bit more, during the final few weeks before this year's exams.

### Trips Abroad

The annual ski trip kept some busy over half term. Forty five students took part,

### Short Story Winners

Burford Library held a lovely event for winners of their Short Story Competition. Prizes were awarded by the school's Patron of Reading, Jo Cotterill (see photo). The annual event chose the theme of *Myth* this year. Phoebe Haywood, in Year 9, won first prize with Lucy Taylor, in Year 8, and James Webster, in Year 7, as runners up. Phoebe's wonderful winning entry about Cerberus, the three-headed dog guarding Hades, is on our website at [www.burford.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.burford.oxon.sch.uk)

**Sarah Duckworth**

**[s.duckworth@burford.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:s.duckworth@burford.oxon.sch.uk)**