



The
CHATHAM & CLARENDON
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
Federation

Chatham House Grammar School

NEWSLETTER N^o 2

March 2011

80s Musical Turns Back the Clock

Iconic figures and outstanding music from the 1980s are under the spotlight in a show of pure nostalgia. The trip down memory lane will feature images and songs that shaped a decade including Michael Jackson, Adam Ant, Freddie Mercury, Madonna, Frankie Goes to Hollywood and many more. The musical Back To The 80's is staged by around 100 students and staff at the Chatham and Clarendon Grammar School Federation in March and is one of a long line of successful joint performances. The main school hall at the Chatham House site will be dressed to look like a school disco from the period with large wall canvasses of stars from the era – and graphics of Pac Man, Knight Rider and Space Invaders - made by students and staff.

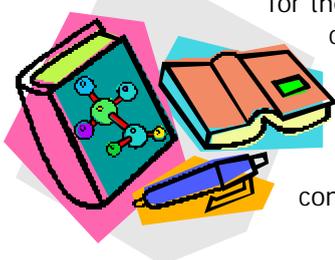
Miss Lewis, Head of Drama and Theatre Studies, is producing the show. She said: "This is a real feel good show. It is full of colour and energy – the perfect antidote to the grey weather and the gloomy economy. Everyone is working hard to ensure the 1980s is brought back to life for a few nights. Themed refreshments will be on sale, props and costumes can be bought on the night such as air guitars and giant pointing fingers, and our audience is invited to come in fancy dress. I want everyone up on their feet dancing their socks off to make it a real night to remember."

The musicians will play their part too – dressing for the occasion with mullet hair style wigs and using electronica equipment including synth drums to get the authentic sounds of the period. Songs featured will include Michael Jackson's Man In The Mirror, Tiffany's I Think We're Alone Now, Hey Mickey by Tori Amos, Material Girl by Madonna, Footloose by Kenny Loggins, and the grand finale of I've Had The Time of My Life by Jennifer Warnes from Dirty Dancing. Costumes are being made by Mrs Youle, choreography is by Mrs Rockall and Mrs Pedroso-Garcia, musical director is Miss Weedon, posters and publicity material are by Mrs Kemp, while the art design is by Mr Ashdown and Mr Laven.

Charity donations will be collected at all the shows for Leukaemia Research. The show can be seen on March 10, 11 and 12 at 7.30pm with a 1.30pm matinee on March 12. Tickets are £5 for adults and £2.50 concessions. For ticket information contact mlewis@clarendonhouse.kent.sch.uk or telephone 01843 591074/591075.

High Interest in Twilight Courses

It has been very heartening to see the level of interest in these courses that we are intending to offer for the first time next year to all pupils/students. We intend to offer a range of courses which can culminate in a GCSE qualification if students so wish, immediately after the end of the school day. We have not finalised the courses to be offered yet, but possible choices include Astronomy, Statistics, Economics, Psychology, Latin, Spanish and Rugby Academy. Further details will be made available about these courses once we have consulted the students.



Results of Governor Elections

Staff

57 votes received - 48 valid and 9 invalid

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| Mrs Wilding | 32 |
| Mr Widdus | 16 |

Mrs Wilding is therefore elected as the Support Staff Governor.

Parent

151 votes received - 127 valid and 24 invalid.

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| Robert Eager | 48 |
| Andrew Warrilow | 37 |
| Neil Piper | 23 |
| Joseph White | 19 |

Robert Eager is therefore elected as a Parent Governor

National Biathlon Final Beckons

Biathletes Ben Pond, Jake Davies and Alex Kirkpatrick will fly the flag for Chatham House in the national competition finals at the end of March.

The Year 10 athletes came second overall in the team category in the semi finals at Crystal Palace, beaten to the top spot by the Judd School.

In the countrywide rankings where the top 40 boys get through to the finals, Ben is 13th, Jake 15th and Alex, 30th. This is a fantastic achievement. Good luck to them all in the final.

On Top of the World

Four students from the Chatham and Clarendon Grammar School Federation have been selected to take part in the 22nd World Scout Jamboree in Sweden this summer.

Marianna Zalewski, 16, Alex Kirkpatrick, 15, and 14-year-olds Josh Clarke and Gavin Ward say they are "counting the hours" until they take part in the adventure of a lifetime as part of the Kent team.



Marianna is a young leader at the 1st St Peter's Sea Scouts, Alex is representing the Broadstairs Explorers unit, while Josh is from Holy Trinity Sea Scouts, and Gavin is with St Lawrence Explorers.

The World Scout Jamboree happens every four years in a different country, and is a gathering of Scouts from nearly 200 countries, more countries than the Olympics!

The 32,000 young people and adults will live in tents on sub-camps in southern Sweden near the city of Kristianstad. For two weeks from July 27 they will take part in a wide variety of activities with Scouts from other countries and cultures.

The cost of the Jamboree for the team is £2,250 each and they have received sponsorship and donations, as well as carrying out a range of fund raising activities that have so far included baking cakes for sale, quiz nights and a sponsored hike.

Thanet District Scout Council has also been presented with a total of £1,000 from two of the school's Former Students' Associations to help with funding the trip to Sweden. The Associations believe that the Jamboree is important as it helps with personal growth and development, encourages teambuilding and widens horizons.

Top Win for Golfer Max

Sixth form student Max Orrin continues to push towards his dream of playing golf on the pro tour. He recently won the Andalucia Junior European Open, the premier event for young golfers in Europe. Max has represented England and plays locally for the North Foreland club.

Swimmers are Best in Kent

Chatham House swimming teams competed recently at the Kent Schools Gala recording an impressive range of medal-winning and personal best performances.



Kent Team Champions: Senior girls freestyle relay, medley relay; Senior boys freestyle relay, medley relay; Inter Boys medley relay

Individual Kent Champions: Charlotte Davies, 100m butterfly; Louise Gates, individual medley.

Team members were: - Girls – Louise Gates, Charlotte Davies, Samantha Woodbridge, Kirsty Thorpe;

Senior Boys: Jack Little, Kieron Piper, Rhys Goldhawk, Khan Chung;

Inter Boys: Ben Pond, Charlie Gambrill, Alex Kirkpatrick, Jake Davies;

Junior Boys: Ed Kirkpatrick, Bowen Goldhawk, Charlie Eshelby, Jordan Butler

Congratulations to all who competed.

Solid Start Shows Much Promise

It has been an interesting first half of the season for Chatham House hockey teams. Most had a slow start, facing strong opposition in Kent College and Simon Langton but learnt from these results and have since shown some very positive performances and results. The under 12s, many of whom have never held a hockey stick before they joined the school, have won their last three matches which is a great achievement. The first XI has won their last two games as have the under 15s.

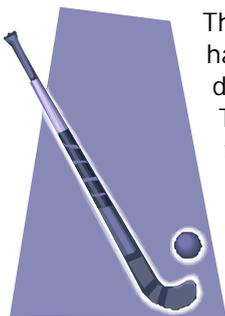
The under13s are undefeated in their last two matches and the under14s are beginning to show some promise. Overall it's been a steady start to the season and one which provides a solid platform to build on for the fixtures after half term.

Staff Maintain Hockey record

The annual staff versus students hockey match took place on the Wednesday before half term. As always this was the lunchtime spectacle and all who watched were not disappointed.

The students worked hard throughout the match, creating various opportunities only for the staff goalkeeper to make some great lunging saves. The staff eventually showed their experience and competitiveness and started creating various opportunities. The staff pulled away towards the end to win the match 5-2.

Thanks to all staff and students alike for a great match which leaves the staff record unblemished as they are undefeated since the event started in 2009.



Young Consumer Title Defence Under Way

Chatham House begins the defence of its national Young Consumer of the Year title in March.

The year 12 team of Nick Packham, Jacob Willey, Connor Brown and Sean Barber has qualified to represent the combined sixth form in the Kent final in Maidstone on Friday, March 4. This is a university challenge style buzzer competition which tests the students on their consumer law, European, environment and general knowledge. If successful, next step will be the regional finals and ultimately the national final in Bournemouth in the summer.

Getting Ready for Dragons Den

Year 10 students are hard at work designing and creating entries for a new product to be judged in a Dragons Den style business competition.

Each then has to devise a comprehensive marketing campaign and present it before a team of 'dragons' invited from Thanet's business community. The combined schools final (Chatham and Clarendon) will see the overall representative bid for honours in the area's inter-school final is on April 26.



It's a dog's life!

As part of the PHSE programme we are fortunate to have our Police Liaison Officer delivering drugs education. As part of Kent Police drug education programme, drug dogs and Police Safer Schools Officers visit schools around the county to give a demonstration of the work of the dog units. We are hoping to have a visit from the dog team in assembly during the next few months. Our Safer Schools Officer PC Jacky Whitehead said, 'bringing our drug dogs into school as part of our education programme allows young people to see first hand how effective drug dogs are in the detection of illegal drugs'. If you have seen the TV programme 'Send in the Dogs' you will know how clever they are. This should be both a highly entertaining and educational assembly.

Fascinating Reward Trip for Hard Working Scientists

GCSE Triple Science is hard work, and the recent module exam fell right in the middle of mock exam week in January. So the Science department felt it would be a fitting reward to take 50 of our scientists to the GCSE Science Live event at the Institute of Education in London.

The group was treated to a series of short but inspiring lectures from some of the most famous and influential scientific communicators in the country. The chief examiner from the AQA exam board also provided helpful tips on maximising examination marks.



The first lecturer, Dr Kate Lancaster, works on the HiPER project at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in Oxfordshire. She energetically explained how they are trying to engineer nuclear fusion using powerful lasers, which will hopefully become a viable energy source in the future.

Prof Brian Cox, famous for presenting the BBC's 'Wonders of the Solar System', described his work at the Large Hadron Collider's ATLAS experiment, which is shedding light on the smallest particles ever discovered, and helping people understand what happened at the Big Bang.

Prof Richard Dawkins provided a fascinating look at the evolution of our species, with pictures of what our ancient ancestors may have looked like – many thousands of generations ago.

The last lecturer, Dr Ben Goldacre, writes the Guardian's 'Bad Science' column. He talked humorously about his famous and ongoing dispute with "doctor" Gillian McKeith, and why he believes it's important that anyone making "scientific" claims is held to account.

All the students and teachers enjoyed the day, finding it informative, fun and inspiring, and we hope that it gave the pupils some encouragement to continue studying Science at sixth form and university. It is hoped to run a similar trip next year.

A Matter of Life and Death

This year 65 Sixth Form Students from the RS A Level course enjoyed a trip to Bloomsbury Baptist Church in London to hear key authors on Religious Ethics (Peter Vardy and Bob Bowie) lecture on theoretical and applied ethics.

This allowed the students to consolidate their current learning and take part in a debate about whether 'assisted suicide should be legalised in the UK.'

The objective of the day was for students to realise how ethical systems whether religious and secular have an impact on human rights legislation and in the field of medical ethics especially when we consider the dilemmas posed by new technologies such as cloning, stem cell therapy and including the perennial arguments regarding abortion and euthanasia.

All students received revision packs and their feedback suggested that there had been a utilitarian outcome where the benefits of the many outweighed the benefits of the few.

