



The
CHATHAM & CLARENDON
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
Federation

Clarendon House Grammar School

NEWSLETTER - March 2011

Dear Parent/Carer

I thought it was time I put pen to paper to keep you up to date with all the events and activities which students have been involved in over the last three terms. In future I intend to make the newsletter available both by e-mail and via the school website in order to support the environment for a sustainable future. If you would like a paper copy sent to you via your daughter, please let Mrs Epps in the office know, admin@clarendonhouse.kent.sch.uk

Results of Governor Elections

Staff

57 votes received - 48 valid and 9 invalid

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.

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

Robert Eager is therefore elected as a Parent Governor

Twilights

It has been heartening to see the level of interest in these courses that we are intending to offer for the first time next year to all students. As you will be aware, we are intending to offer a range of courses which can culminate in a GCSE qualification if students so wish, immediately at 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 to you about these courses once we have consulted students.



STEM Club

STEMNET is an organisation, set up to promote interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. This academic year some of our Key Stage 3 pupils have been participating in challenges run by the STEM Clubs network. The first of these was to put together some environmentally friendly travel plans to the venues for the 2012 Olympics.

London 2012 is working hard to make sure that spectators have many different public transport options to choose from when travelling to the Games. This challenge helped young people think through the most sustainable transport options

Students were required to complete the Challenge using methods connected to the curriculum. An awareness of how to handle data and work critically with evidence were essential Maths and Science skills used by the teams to find sustainable means of travel.

The final took place at Reading University. Teams presented their plans to a panel of high-profile judges including: Lizzie Armitstead, world-champion cyclist; from BP, the Challenge sponsors, Ian Duffy, Manager of UK Education Programme and Tony Gilling, Director of Sponsorship and Marketing for London 2012; and Jon Foley, Sustainable Transport for London 2012 (ODA) and Kelly Clarke, Sustainable Transport for London 2012 for London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games (LOCOG).

Clarendon House Grammar School came third, impressing the judges with their focus on making policy recommendations to the London 2012 organisers and transport companies. These recommendations considered how to provide customer-friendly options that promoted sustainability. They won £500 worth of equipment for their STEM Club and a set of Science Museum Club boxes.

The next challenge was to design a wetsuit for a paratriathlete who had no muscle movement below his waist and therefore had problems swimming in a streamline fashion and keeping warm in open water.

We entered two teams from Key Stage 3. The team comprising of Rosa Brakenborough, Jennifer Gann, Amber Yoofoo and Maizie Ferrett produced a full sized prototype with the help of Mrs Gower and were commended for how quickly they had learnt to sew so well. Rosa and Maizie managed to talk about their design and the reasons behind their decisions, answering the judge's questions. They acquitted themselves very well. However, there can only be one winner and Rochester Grammar School put on a very impressive presentation. However the presentation from our second team of Susannah Grace, Charlotte Crabb, Keziah Ridley and Rosie Evans was not to be beaten on this occasion. The feedback, from the judges said they had good ideas and were confident and humorous. At the moment we don't know whether they will go through to the national finals as it is dependent on the marking of the other regional finals. Watch this space!

PTA News

The Christmas raffle run by the PTA raised £570 for PTA funds. A Big thank you to everyone who bought tickets.

From September there will be a single PTA across both schools, more information available soon.

Music News

We have some very talented musicians in the school and in January we found out that they had passed a variety of Music exams. Flute: Hannah Scholes in Year



13 passed her grade 8 Salome Hauptfleisch in Year 8 passed grade1 with a Merit, Eleni Theodorou in Year 9 passed her Grade 4 and Sophie Woodin in Year 11 passed her Grade 5.

Singing: Evan Pepper in Year 8 passed her Grade 4 singing with a very good merit, Eleanor Martin in Year 10 passed her Grade 4 singing gaining a Distinction with a very high mark.

Clarinet: Chloe Spellman in Year 11 passed her Grade 4 and Christie McCormack in Year 8 passed her Grade 2.

Violin: Rosie Evans in Year 9 passed her Grade 4 with a Merit.

RAF Squadron Band: On 15th February we were very privileged to host the RAF Squadron Band who entertained musicians from across the Federation for an hour with a range of rousing Jazz/Swing numbers. The audience were very attentive and applauded with gusto and it was also nice to see some of our parents attending. It was a great way to start a school day and we look forward to seeing them again in the future.

Drama News

As X Factor judges were still popping corks and the Nation's youth was rejoicing in the winner, Clarendon House students were stepping up and dressing up to impress their audience (and the judges) in the popular and traditional House Drama Competition, on Monday 13th December. Whilst the number thirteen is unlucky for some, this was not the case for the participants who took to the stage, vying for the coveted House Drama trophy!



The judges, Ms Lewis and Mrs Magill were thoroughly entertained by four original pieces of drama that were produced and directed by Year 13 House officials. The standard was very high, showing flair for a consistently creative approach towards traditional story-telling. Altogether there were in excess of eighty students from across the school who participated. The performances were as follows: 'The Wizard Of Oz', 'Beauty is the Beast', 'Alice in Wonderland' and "Moontel 6".

The Trophy was won hands down by Somerville House, whose production was 'visually beautiful', used a large cast and displayed excellent use of costume and set. They also won Best Design, with credit going to Poppy-Ann Medhurst and her team, who wrote, produced and directed 'Alice in Wonderland'.

Other winners were: Hope Smithers, (Rothschild House) who won Best Supporting Junior and Roisen Strang, (Sharman House) who won Best Junior Actor. In the senior category: Best Supporting Actor was won by Tom Lloyd (Knight House) and Best Senior Actor by Emma Overy (Somerville House) who could easily challenge Johnny Depp with her outstanding performance of the Mad Hatter.

Students who were highly commended were: Evan Pepper, Nicole Halsey, Olivia English, Katie Avery, Jenny Denning, Lauren Smith, Alice Sims and Cassie Elswood.

The school and judges wait in anticipation for next year!

British Schools Karting Championships

For the second year running we entered 3 teams of students from Year 11 and 13 into the British Schools Karting Championships at Streatham, London. The practice sessions took place on 25th January. Most of those involved had never been karting before so it was an experience for them all, one which apparently led to them breaking the rules and being told off for reckless driving, crashing into the course barriers and gaining some painful bruises!

On the 1st February the regional finals took place, unfortunately one member of the Year 11 team was ill so we had to find a last minute replacement and two members of the Year 13 teams were unable to attend and were duly replaced. I think it's fair to say we didn't win but we did participate with lots of enthusiasm, we drove with style and we were the only school to enter teams which included girls. Well done to all those involved.

Art News

In November work from three of our students; Josh Curtis, Claire Moore and Sophie Taylor were accepted and exhibited in the John Downton Arts awards at County Hall Maidstone which included work from schools across the county. Sophie Taylor won the prize for best drawing!



The Art Faculty held its annual exhibition from 14th to 18th February in the Assembly Hall at Chatham House. As someone with no artistic talent at all I am always impressed and amazed by the quality of the work and the range of talented artists we have in the school. The work ranged from students in Year 8 to examination pieces from Year 11, 12 and 13 students. Congratulations to both the students and their teachers for all the hard work in putting the exhibition together.

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.



Polite Reminder

Could I ask you not to park in Clarendon Gardens when dropping off or picking up students. There are usually parked cars along Clarendon Gardens belonging to residents which makes it very difficult to turn round. There was a very unfortunate incident when a parent manoeuvring their car reversed and knocked a small child off their scooter. Fortunately on this occasion the child was unhurt.

Forthcoming Events

Back to the 80's school production, 10th evening performance, 11th evening performance, and 12th March matinee and evening performances. Tickets now on sale at both Chatham House and Clarendon House, £5 for adults £2.50 for children. Not to be missed if you like music from the 80's! Feel free to dig out your old clothes and come dressed up, leg warmers, frilly shirts, ra-ra skirts, dungarees (for fans of Bananarama) and face paint (for fans of Adam Ant).

PTA Wine and Wisdom: Friday 1st April 7.30pm, pay on the door (price to be announced), in the main Hall at Clarendon. Please come along to support our PTA and beat the teachers who enter a table (especially the mathematicians who **always** win). These evenings are always great fun so why not bring your friends along, it's a cheap night out and we need someone to beat the mathematicians!! Please contact the office if you would like a table. 6th Form students are welcome to enter a table!

Comic Relief Week – The Year 12 Citizenship Students are busy planning a week of lunchtime events to raise money for Comic Relief including, guess how many sweets in the jar, cake sale, talent show on Thursday and culminating with a red themed non-uniform day (£1) on Friday 18th March. We have ordered Comic Relief Red Noses and will be selling them during the course of the week.

Music Cup – The House Music Cup Competition will take place on Tuesday 5th April. If your daughter or son can play a musical instrument or sing, please encourage them to get involved in representing their House.

British Heart Foundation – If you have any unwanted items of clothing, toys, books, CD's, DVD's we have a bin for donations in the main hall, please feel free to send any items in with your daughter. On 1st April Mr Goodwin, Head of the PE Faculty, is running a marathon around the school field at Chatham House in aid of the British Heart Foundation. There will be a federation wide non-school uniform day to help raise money (£1).

Thank you

A big thank you to you as parents in supporting our events, particularly the significant numbers of charity fundraising activities the girls get involved in, as I am sure you are called upon to provide the funds for those. It is much appreciated in the current economic climate.

With Best Wishes

Debra Liddicoat
Vice Principal