

LOCKERS PARK NEWSLETTER



Issue 6 February 18th 2011

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY

Sun 27th 7.00 pm Boarders & Flexi-Boarders return
Mon 28th 8.20 am Day Boys return

MARCH

Tue 1st 8.00 am C3G, C4E & C4T to Science Action Centre at Bishop's Stortford College
2.40 pm Debating Skills Masterclass – Peter Blair (Haileybury School)

Weds 2nd 2.30 pm 1st XV (a), 2nd XV (h), Colts A XII (h), Colts B XII (a), Colts C (h), U9 A & B IX (h), C & D VII (tag) (a) v Westbrook Hay
7.00 pm Senior Schools' Presentation Evening

Thu 3rd 6.30 pm B6D Parents' Reception

Sat 5th 2.30 pm 1st XV, 2nd & 3rd XII (a), Colts A XII, B & C (h) v Edge Grove

Sun 6th Boarders' Canoeing Trip
12.30 pm U9 Rugby Tournament at Edge Grove
6.30 pm Chapel: Thomas Garnier, Headmaster, Pangbourne College (B7P to attend)

Tue 8th 5.30 pm Governors' Meeting

Wed 9th 8.30 am Ash Wednesday Service
Rev J Reveley
2.30 pm 1st XV (h), 2nd XV (a), Colts A XII (a), Colts B & C (h) v Beechwood Park

Thu 10th 2.00 pm U9 Rugby Festivals – A IX & B VII at Westbrook Hay. C & D VII (tag) at Lockers Park

Fri 11th 10.45 am Informal Concert for Chestnuts & Years 3 – 5
12.35 pm Exeat begins

The first half of this term has brought a number of triumphs: an academic award to Bedford for James Hughes and Music Exhibitions to Stowe and Shrewsbury for Angus McCrorie-Shand and George Panayi. On the rugby pitch, the 1st XV, 2nd XV and Colts 'A's are unbeaten but, more importantly, most of the boys have represented the school. Equally encouraging is the 40 plus boys who have signed up for the Senior Play. (A quick thank you to all those parents whose help is so valuable to this production.)

What really stands out for me though is the number of guests we have looked after these last few weeks, be they visiting teams, prospective parents or retired Headmasters. All have mentioned how welcome they have been made to feel, they have been charmed by the boys' manners, infectious smiles and enthusiasm. And they are right to take those thoughts away with them.

Finally I am delighted to bring to your attention the wonderful news that Cathy McGregor has said yes to a proposal of marriage from Terry Lees. We all wish the two of them a long and very happy life together.

FROM THE HEADMASTER

As I sit here watching the rain, I must admit to a tinge of envy when I consider that on some sun-baked pitch in Cape Town a very lucky group of Lockers Park boys are honing their cricket skills.



The cricket tour departs

BOARDING HOUSE APPEAL

If you have any unwanted, good quality books, DVDs, board games, lego and annuals, that are suitable for boys, we would be very pleased to provide a home for them. Please drop off in the office. Thank you. **BTF**

SPONSORED WALK

This year, the sponsored walk will support Macmillan Cancer Support, which is in its 100th year. We already donate to this charity in a small way through the Staff Coffee Morning in September.



You will find a sponsor form in your half-term envelope, or you can download one from our website.

Please encourage your son(s) to obtain as many sponsors as possible. Half-term is a great time to see friends and family, and twist a few arms.

As usual, we welcome family members (including dogs) to join us for our 6 mile stroll to Pouchen End and back. Lovely weather is guaranteed and this is a great way to end the term. **MRD**

P.S. Yes, there will be a coin trail!

STAMP CLUB

The inaugural meeting of the Stamp Club was most encouraging; 40 boys attended from Chestnuts to Year 8s. It is an ongoing organic club and boys are welcome to bring in their collections at any time. All advice is free and, hopefully, accurate!

The next meeting is on Friday 4th March at 4.30 pm when there will be stamps for sale in units of 50p. If you want your son to take advantage of this, please let me know how you want to make payment.

Thanks, **MRD**

(One of these may cost more than 50p!)



SENIOR SCHOOLS' PRESENTATION

EVENING

Wednesday 2nd March 2011

7.00 pm – 9.00 pm in the Library

This is a one-off opportunity to meet these schools and we need plenty of support to ensure that the senior schools continue to consider it worthwhile attending.

This year, the following schools will be represented.

Culford School	Shiplake College
Harrow School	St Edward's School
Oundle School	Tonbridge School

Please remember to return your response slip to let us know if you are able to attend. You should have received this in your envelope at the last exeat but it can also be downloaded from our website. **CJM**

JAMES HONEYBORNE LECTURE

Listening to James prior to his talk, as we set up, I got the impression that at Lockers James was nothing special – few Gs in the effort grades and just about managing to avoid the slipper that was an occupational hazard at that time. Colin Parkin, his science teacher, put me right. “A brilliant student – always very modest”.

James got into wildlife photography when he was on holiday in Africa with an uncle and a BBC crew turned up to do some filming. In the BBC archive is an old reel of film marked “Unusable – tourist interference!” – his first experience with filming. Anyone who was at his talk on Friday was given an insight into wildlife filming in a most illuminating way. He showed us clips of documentaries and photos that he had taken. The fathers, I felt, were particularly interested in Tanya Streeter, a free diver who featured in several photos and clips.

James stressed that wildlife in Africa was in more danger now than ever before – rhinos being hunted by helicopter and 33,000 elephants being slaughtered every year. He also spoke about the dangers of filming – dust devils, disease, land mines, being arrested as spies etc. My everlasting memory is of how to deter a tiger shark – you quite simply take some plumbers plastic piping with you when diving. When the shark starts to get friendly (attacks you) you dig the pipe into the sand and let it hit that rather than you. Simple! Rather James than me!!! If you didn't make the talk you missed a fantastic evening with an inspirational speaker. **SG**

CHILDREN'S TRUST CONCERT

On the 6th of February, the Chapel Choir gave up their whole Sunday to sing for the Children's Trust Charity at St John's, Smith Square, London. This was certainly not the first time that Lockers Park has been part of this excellent event and as ever they did the school proud. There were eight schools in total taking part and there was quite a variety of performance.

The programme we chose was an ideal way to finish off the concert. First, Luke Campbell sang the opening lines of Britten's Old Abram Brown, a haunting refrain that grew into a stunning four part canon. After this came the funky 'Street Seller', short and to the point! To finish off the whole event, the choir didn't sing a note. Before you scratch your heads, this was because the piece 'Double Talk' is entirely spoken – well, spoken, spluttered, hummed, stuttered and all manner of exotic noises that form a most entertaining piece to round off a splendid event. It must be said that the boys conducted themselves extremely well, listening sensitively to the other schools' performances, before their own performance lifted the roof. Congratulations to the Chapel Choir, Mr Shaw and the conductor Mr Phillips.

The Cs Musical Assembly – 7th February



MATHS CHALLENGE

On a Tuesday afternoon Mr Shaw, Matthew Chapman, Jamie Woodley, Tom Tribble and I (William Latham) went off to Eagle House to have a great day of fun competing in a maths challenge.

39 schools turned up and each school had 2 groups of 2 so there were 78 pairs. The 78 pairs were split into 2 sections a red and a blue section. So Tom and Jamie were in the blue section (Lockers park blue) and Matthew and I were in the red section so we were (Lockers park red). There were 10 rows of tables and you got a number and letter so you could figure out where to sit. The first section was on Mental maths. It was not that difficult but you did have to concentrate very hard. If you did not, you could of made some very silly mistakes. The next part was a Countdown section which was a third of the whole challenge so if you did not know the countdown you were in a bit of trouble. There were 26 count down questions for you to do in 20 minutes some were very hard but some pretty simple. The key was to do the easy ones first. The final stage was some puzzle sort of questions they were harder and harder as they went along. We then had a drink and biscuit and got our results. Tom and Jamie came 20th in the blue section and Matthew and I came 11th in the red section. I was quite disappointed but Mr Shaw was very happy. It was great fun and I want to do it again but unfortunately my time is over.

William Latham, B7P

SCIENCE LECTURE AT BEDFORD SCHOOL

On February 10th, the Deputy Head of Bedford School, Dr Irfan Latif, gave us a talk on “Absolutely Nothing”. I know it sounds dull but, trust me, it was anything but. To start off the lecture, he talked about hydrogen and helium, which is what the Earth’s atmosphere used to be made of. There was a balloon with hydrogen in it and he put a flame to it and it made a tremendous bang. He showed us a video of the Hindenberg disaster and explained why helium is used in air ships today and not hydrogen. Later on, he cut a tiny hole in a helium balloon and sucked in the helium. Suddenly his voice went very high!

Then Dr Latif moved on to nitrogen. He chose a guest from the audience – luckily it was a Lockers boy, William Hargreaves. “You are meant to put ice cream in the freezer for 24 hours,” he said “but we are going to make it in 20 seconds!” Then he got 4 eggs, some milk, cream and sugar and put it all in a big bowl. Then he added some summer fruits and about 3 flasks of liquid nitrogen. He told William to stir rapidly. Every few seconds, he put in some more liquid nitrogen. After a while, William could hardly stir any more. So he put some in a cone and gave some to William to eat. “Delicious!” was his reply.

Dr Latif also put some rubber tube and a rose into the flask of liquid nitrogen. When they had been in there for a while he pulled them out. The rubber tube was completely brittle. Then he asked “What do you think will happen if I flick this rose?”. So he did, and it shattered like glass!

Dr Latif went on to talk about the other gases in the air – oxygen, argon and carbon dioxide and another Lockers boy, Ewan Molloy got to blow into some limewater and made it go cloudy. Finally he explained that it was up to us children to find some new energy

resources that would not cause global warming and would not run out.

It was a very enjoyable lecture and we all learned a lot. **William Latham, B7P**

MACBETH AFTERNOON

The Year 8s and 7s were lucky enough to have Mr Parkin come to do a production of Shakespeare’s Macbeth for us in the Centenary Hall. Mr Parkin is an English teacher at Haileybury School who came specially to talk to us about the famous and grim play. He acted out the parts with incredible enthusiasm; he retold the whole play by himself with no props to help him. The most impressive thing was that he managed to keep us interested for over an hour! We all really enjoyed the afternoon, and I’m sure we won’t forget it. A huge thank you to Mr Parkin for coming all this way to talk to us and also to Ms McGregor for organising the event. **William Brecknell, A8M**

ART DEPARTMENT

Mendi patterns



The new tree INSIDE the Headmaster’s study



BOARDERS' ACTIVITIES

Chinese Supper



The Boarders were treated to a themed banquet, all things Chinese. Despite bringing in the Year of the Rabbit, this was about the only thing left off the menu. Nonetheless the kitchen staff all were kitted out in style, and many boys wore the natty hats they had made in the Art Room two days earlier. It was great fun watching them eat with their chopsticks – some did better than others!



After supper the Sports Hall was opened up and the boys were able to let off steam from the noodles before sitting down and watching England conquer Wales in the Six Nations rugby. **CP**



*Many thanks go to CP for organising the evening and to Paul Wilson and his team for the wonderful selection of food. **CJM***

Tenpin Bowling

On Sunday, February 6th the boarders plus Valda and Mrs Dungworth, went to Hotshots, at Jarman Park, to do some tenpin bowling. When we arrived at the bowling alley, we had to write our names on the little computer thing that keeps the score. Then we started bowling. At first I bowled really well but then I held back a bit because I got tired of swinging my arms. At the end of the first game, Kumar won and did his funny little dance. In the second game, I was good all the way through and won on our team. Lots of people got strikes and spares.

At 12.00, Mr Gilden came to pick some of the people up from the bowling alley to take us back to school and the rest went in Mrs Dungworth's car. **Carl Watson, C4E**

Go Karting

Last Sunday afternoon, all the boarders were taken by Mr Stephens and Mr Shaw to the indoor go-karting centre in Aylesbury. At the beginning, the boys were kitted out so that they looked like fledgling Formula 1 drivers, shown a safety video, then given their helmets to prepare for the races. They were divided into two groups: the novices and those who claimed to have some experience.

The novices went first and gingerly made their way around the windy circuit trying to negotiate its intricate turns and inclines. Despite one or two pile ups, their confidence rose and they began to race each other with James Hughes emerging victor. Then came the second group. This lot were extremely competitive and went for raw speed from the off. Again there were some (amusing from the spectator's position) misjudgements and crashes into the tyre wall but it was clear from the first lap that William Richards is going to be the next Jensen Button. For 90 minutes Lockers boys had this circuit to themselves and a great time was had by all. Every boy I spoke to wanted to do this exciting trip out again in the future. **VGS**

1ST XV

The first XV continue a fine run of form and remain unbeaten this season. Since the exeat the team has one draw against Beechwood and wins against Heath Mount and Aldwickbury. Against Heath Mount the final score was 39 – 21 with tries from George Panayi, James Sibley (2), Christopher Bracewell, Kwaku Antwi and Ben Ramsay (2). Charlie Lupton kicked 2 of the 7 conversions and led the team as captain.



Against Aldwickbury the final score was 26-15. The first try was scored by Charlie Lupton after a great break by Panayi. They were able to stay in the game due to the huge numbers of penalties from the whole team. But two tries from James Sibley and a dominant display from the forwards allowing James Hughes to score meant that we were able to remain ahead for the whole game.

The drawn match is the closest the team has come to losing this season and after a poor first half performance it looked ominous. The team began to play better rugby in the second half and dominated possession and territory. Tries from James Hughes and Ben Ramsay kept us in the game and we could have sneaked a victory at the end with some good opportunities. A great first half of the season. **GT**

2ND XV

The 2nd XV have continued to sweep through all opposition. The highly anticipated match against Aldwickbury ended up as a celebration of one-way traffic, emerging the

24-0 victors as the opposition were unable to stop the relentless forwards charging at them. This physical intimidation was matched as ever by tremendous speed on the wings and at full back so there could be no escape! Heath Mount were only able to put up token resistance with a much smaller team comprising of mostly Year 7 boys (so we must be wary next season!). James McCran proved so unstoppable, he ran his way into the 1st XV by the end of the game and will doubtless remain there for some time to come. Sadly, injuries took their toll and we lost the services of Beau and Ben by the time we played Beechwood. No matter, it gave us the chance to play some '3rd XV' boys who made every opportunity to make their mark. On top of the usual stars (especially Jasper and Nathan in the forwards, Alex and Antony in the backs), well done to Matthew Brown and Nic Sheaf who had fantastic games. Also we had a debut with William Richards on the wing; what he loses in speed he gains in size! And of course we mustn't forget Terence Cheong – I don't know how much he understands about the game but he can tackle and he runs quicker than a leaping gazelle!

Rugby is all about commitment; to the ruck, to the tackle, to the breakdown and most importantly, to the team. It is great to see so many boys doing their utmost to support each other. **CP**

COLTS A RUGBY

The Colts A XII have had an impressive start to the 2011 season, winning 3 matches and drawing 1. The style of rugby the boys have played has been both entertaining and of a very high quality. The team ethos has been evident in the number of unselfish passes made to put others in scoring positions. The forwards have been led by Hugh Phillipson, who has tackled everything that moves and set up solid ruck situations.



The backs have been outstanding, with the main play maker being George Garrett, ably supported by the centres Jamie Woodley and Freddie Deane. The handling of the 3/4s has been the best I have ever seen at prep school level.

I am looking forward to the second half of the season with anticipation. **DD**

COLTS B RUGBY



There have been two matches since the last newsletter and both ended in defeat. Nevertheless, much progress has been made. Boys are learning the game all the time and are certainly enjoying themselves, despite the scores!

To supplement their rugby education, I would encourage your sons to join a local rugby club. They meet on a Sunday morning and involve training, coaching and matches. This will be of definite benefit to them and, indeed to the school teams. **MRD**

U9 RUGBY



At the start of the season I felt that the U9 A team was probably the strongest I have seen. Unfortunately we have not managed to field a full squad due to illness. Despite this, the A team has done itself proud, producing rugby of real quality. A hard fought match v Heath Mount resulted in a loss of 10-0. If we had had the full squad it would have been a different story! Unfortunately we were expecting a Heath Mount B side who did not show up, so the majority of the B team had a spell with the As. Against Manor Lodge both the A and the B team had convincing victories – so convincing that we had to restrict scoring to the wingers on the A fixture. What is particularly good about the U9 team is that for many boys it is their first experience of rugby. This is a very steep learning curve! I particularly like the enthusiasm with which the majority of boys take to the game. **SG**

.....
 All forms mentioned in this newsletter can be downloaded from our website by clicking this link.
<http://www.lockerspark.herts.sch.uk/forms-to-download.php>
 We send out the newsletter via email as part of our drive to reduce the amount of paper we use. If you would like to receive a paper copy of the newsletter, please email us at sjohnson@lockerspark.herts.sch.uk
