



1666



SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL

NewsREEL

March 2005

Our Sixth Form Open Evening last month was, as usual, extremely busy. We have received a large number of applications for entry to our Sixth Form in September. After several years of having 105 to 110 students in each Sixth Form year, we thought last year that our intake of almost 140 into the Lower Sixth was exceptional – it now looks as if it will be repeated. With our Year 7 entry assured, despite a difficult new application process, it is a case of success breeding success. We are keeping a careful eye on total student numbers to ensure that we do not lose the good relationships which underpin the very success which makes us popular.

School Uniform

Replacement uniform can only be ordered through school. Any pupils requiring new items of uniform for September should order now to ensure sizes required are available. Members of the Parents' Association will be available on Thursday 14th April between 3:30 and 4:00 pm. Pupils can come along to be measured for uniform without parents if necessary. If this day and/or time are not convenient please ask your son/daughter to see the School Secretary to arrange an alternative time. Payment for any items of uniform ordered will be required on collection.

Senior ties have to be worn in Year 11 and these will be available for Year 10 pupils to purchase during the lunch break on Friday, 15th July (price £3.00 each).

If you have any query regarding the above, please telephone Mrs. P. Lancaster on Gloucester 530838 or the School Secretary, Mrs. J. Brown on 338400.



Nearly New Uniform

MONDAY 18th APRIL 2005

6:30 - 7:30 pm

SATURDAY 2nd JULY 2005

10:00 - 12:00 pm

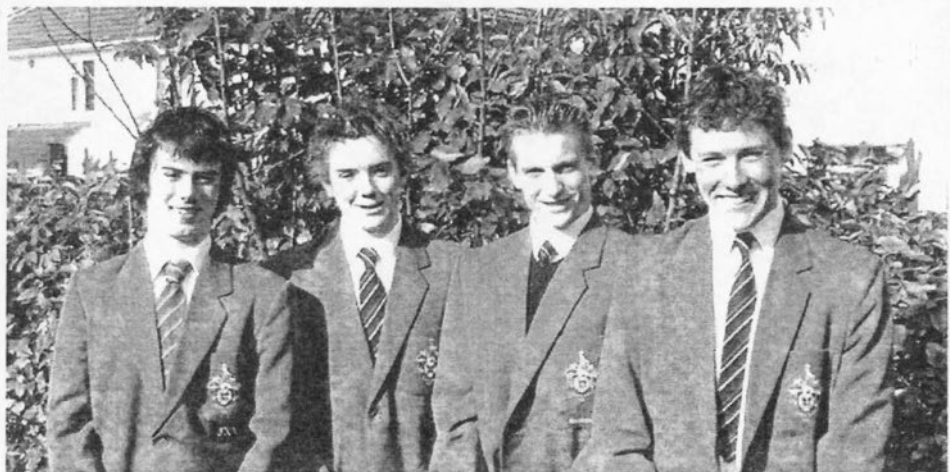
THANK YOU to all who have supported us this term. We have a few short-sleeved white shirts - ideal for Spring/Summer.

If you require items of school uniform, including football boots, please visit us at one of the sales or telephone **Bev Hughes on 01242 524344**

We are very grateful to our current helpers and if any parent would like to help for only an hour one evening, we would be most grateful for more helpers.

**ALL SALE ITEMS
REQUIRE A SALES SLIP**
obtainable from the School Secretary.
Please complete and return sales slip
together with sale item to
the School Secretary

Sir Thomas Rich's, Oakleaze, Longlevens, Gloucester, GL2 0LF.
01452 338400



Rob Payne
Jack Mullins
Tom White
Will Middleton

Swimming Success

Congratulations to the school's Intermediate Boys' swimming teams: **Rob Payne, Kit Turner (Year 10), Jack Mullins, Will Middleton and Tom White (Year 11)**. At the regional championships, held at Millfield School, they qualified for the National Schools' Finals. These were held at Middlesbrough, where the Freestyle Relay team finished 4th in their heat and 9th overall. The Medley Relay team came 2nd in their heat and thus qualified as 5th fastest for the final, where they swam even better to finish third. Tom White swam the fastest time of the day.

Year 10 Art Trip

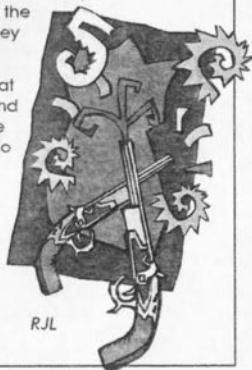
OXFORD

Shrunken heads, Samurai warrior swords and a display of historical guns, what more could a Year 10 boy want from a museum? The Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford offers all these and thousands of other exhibits, making it an ideal place to start our second GCSE Art coursework unit.

Before our trip on March 1st, each pupil had done some initial research and had chosen a country or culture on which to base his study. This went some way to help in navigating round the museum on the day and enabled them to focus on a few objects, which they then drew in a range of materials.

This year's visit coincided with some major re-building work at the museum that had necessitated the closure of the first and second floors, but the ground floor displays still offered more than enough to keep the pupils occupied during the day. To their credit, the boys did show very good focus, with everyone producing at least six pieces of work in their sketchbooks.

Despite a shortened lunch-break in the local park, caused by persistent rain, the visit was once again a very enjoyable one and should also prove to be a valuable element in this unit of the GCSE coursework folder.



Cheltenham Rotary Club

Public Speaking Competition 3rd March 2005

A team consisting of Peter Butler and Richard Duxbury took part in this event, which takes place at the UCAS headquarters in Cheltenham every year. The adjudicators took twice as long as expected to make their decisions, and this reflected the very high standard of performance from the various teams.

The closeness was shown in that, the adjudicators made clear that they wished to create a 'highly commended' category in which to place Peter's contribution. Richard is to be commended on taking on, at short notice, the dual role of chairman and proposer of thanks, as Hannah Healey, who had been due to take on the role, was unfortunately ill and could not take part.

SP

English Department Trip

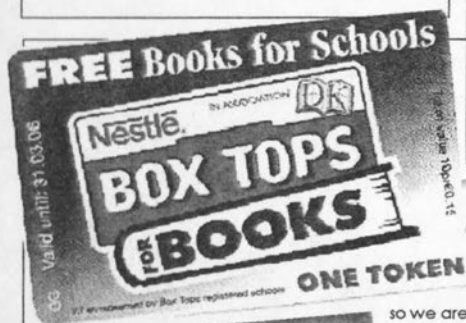
Starlight Express

On February 8th, Mrs Spilsbury led her group of Upper Sixth theatre-goers to Bristol Hippodrome's production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's 'Starlight Express', following the success of the previous year's 'Miss Saigon' trip. The musical adapted for stage from the West End told the story of a showdown between a diesel, electric and steam train, with an ongoing romance developing between two of the trains' carriages.

The energetic dance numbers, performed entirely on roller skates, were intermitted by futuristic train races created in 3-D video with use of 3-D 'safety glasses'. The show was thoroughly entertaining with rousing numbers such as 'U-N-C-O-U-P-L-E-D' and 'Light at the end of the tunnel', which gave way to the large audience participation, particularly among the self-titled 'STRS girls!'

The fast paced action scenes drove the plot forward and there were some particularly impressive break dancing moves and 360 degree flips off the edge of the scenery. The entertainment didn't stop at the Hippodrome though, with the singing continuing long into the journey home, even if we sixth formers couldn't quite match the singing talents of the stage performers! The trip was enjoyed by all so a big thank you goes to Mrs Spilsbury who organised the event and to all the staff and students who supported it.

S Mason (L6)



Supermarket Vouchers

'Tesco computers for schools'

Last year we collected and banked over 11,000 tokens, so we are aiming to beat this, to enable us to buy more computer equipment this year. We hope to continue to make the most of this valuable scheme and your continued support is greatly appreciated. Vouchers can be placed in the collection box sited in the reception foyer or passed directly to Mr Hancock or Mr Peffers.

We are also collecting 'Sainsbury's Active Kids' and Nestlé 'Box Tops for Education' vouchers which can be placed in their appropriate collection boxes sited in our reception foyer.





Visit by the European Theatre Company

On Monday, 7th March, pupils from Years 7, 8 and 9 enjoyed a performance in French of Arsène Lupin. This famous gentleman crook hero in Leblanc's novel of crime and detection has captivated the French population since 1905.

A cross between Robin Hood and Don Juan, Arsène Lupin is nicknamed a gentleman-thief. He can change appearance at will, disappears like the wind and has a tremendous number of identities. This version was newly adapted for the stage by the European Theatre Company and was aimed at young learners of French, fuelling their interest in French language, theatre and culture. This was an interactive production and credit should be given to those pupils in 8B who most ably contributed to the play. We were pleased to welcome to the performance pupils from Barnwood Park High School.



Teachers from Germany visit STRS



The school was visited on Thursday, 17th March, by a group of German teachers following an international Study Programme. It was an opportunity for them to look at our educational system, to observe lessons and talk to teachers and pupils. We hope they had an enjoyable day and that they return to Germany with very positive impressions of STRS.

German Exchange

Work Experience

Rich's hosted eleven German students to a week of work experience. Many thanks to all those local employers who ensured that our guests had a very productive week. Placements ranged from *British Energy* to *Eurojet* and the *Wood Veterinary Group*.

PDL

JH

Duke of Edinburgh Report

Orienteering

The Orienteering Activity happened on the 6th March at the Splinter Orienteering course in Cinderford.

The activity started in sunny weather but it soon turned cold and even snowed at one point so participants were glad to be wearing warm water-proof clothing.

Sam Horder, Dan Watkins and Will Lutter should be congratulated for achieving the highest points total of 155. Well done!



All sponsor money should have now been handed in to reception. If any monies remain outstanding, please make every effort to get it here now.

Expeditions

The unit has a busy few months coming up. Easter holidays will see one Silver group complete their assessed expedition in the Gower peninsula while two other Silver groups complete practice expeditions in the Forest of Dean. In early May three Bronze groups will complete practice expeditions in the Cranham area. If groups need extra route-cards or other forms these can be downloaded from the Duke of Edinburgh's Award area (under Activities) of the school website.

Training

Bronze participants have undergone training in country code, navigation, route planning, first aid, equipment and emergency procedures/weather. They will undertake further training before expeditions commence in May. Thank you to all staff involved in the training and supervision of participants and also to parents and assessors for giving up their time.

DD

**Ryan Moore of 9T
on the Sponsored
Orienteering day**

Reminder to everyone REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE

that we as a school are committed to recycling where possible.

All paper is recycled, mobile phones and printer and toner cartridges can be deposited at school in aid of **Winston's Wish**.

We also collect Christmas cards for charity and there is a box for Used stamps in the entrance hall in aid of Guide Dogs For The Blind.

Charities

The Free Dress Day just before half-term raised £650 which, together with £12.50 collected by **Jack Keavill (U6R)** busking, was sent to the Disasters Emergency Committee for their Asian Tsunami Appeal.

Our fund raising last term collected £1,000 for The Pied Piper Appeal. We welcomed Jane Bruton, their Community Fund Raiser, to our assembly to receive the cheque and to tell us about the Appeal's work. This term's nominated charity is Beating Bowel Cancer.

We also aim to raise £3,500 to sponsor the education of 20 girls at PIMM School, Jinja, Uganda. Pupils organise events, advertise and run them during Founder's Week and in the following days. It is a challenge to raise such a sum but we have managed it for the last two years. It is our way of recognising Sir Thomas Rich's benevolence in founding the school in 1666 for the education of 20 poor boys.



◀◀◀◀ Forthcoming Production

Tickets available from our reception
**£2.00 per adult, £1.00 per minor
 or a family ticket for £5.00.**
Tuesday 26th April, 2005.
**Come along and support our cast
 in their quest for stardom.**

Year 10 Citizenship & Careers Day

All Year 10 came off timetable for a day to attend workshops and a theatrical based production. They had speakers from INFOBUZZ and The Public Defenders Office on the theme of 'Drugs and the Law'. There was a drama workshop on leadership and team making skills, a session on 'Being a European Citizen', a session on 'Personal Finance' and one on 'Sustainability, and what the students could do'. We ended the day with a performance on Work Experience which was very entertaining.

JMA

Year 8 Study Skills

Bullying Day

On Tuesday March 8 two educational consultants ran 2 very interesting and successful courses on Study Skills and Bullying for the whole of Year 8. The Study Skills Course involved some extremely useful advice on developing one's memory and in the Bullying Session in the afternoon the students developed their understanding of this problem through a range of thought-provoking activities. The written feedback from the students on the day was very positive.

CDAC

Uganda Fund Raising

The Lower School Disco held jointly with The High School in the School Hall raised over £500 for our Uganda Fund. Well over 200 attended and a number of our Sixth Form helped supervise the event.

CDAC

SIR THOMAS RICH'S
 SENIOR DRAMA GROUP
 PRESENTS

JESSIE PYWELL MATT BICK SCOTT YEARSLEY
 IN TERRY PRATCHETT'S

Men at Arms

ADAPTED BY STEPHEN BRIGGS

VENUE:
 SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL HALL

Tuesday 26th April 2005

7:30 PM
 TICKETS:
 ADULT £2.00 MINOR £1.00
 FAMILY £5.00

www.thomasrichs.org.uk

Sutton Seeds Catalogue Sales

The PA would like to thank everyone who kindly ordered seeds and plants from the catalogue sent home with the previous NewsREEL. The total order value reached nearly £700, with commission of £144 donated to the CAD CAM Appeal.

PA's request for help

The Parents' Association are seeking a team of four volunteers to take up the running of the highly successful 'Silent Auction', which Mr and Mrs Young set up and organised so well for two years. We need people who can concentrate on business in the Cheltenham and Gloucester areas. The 'Auction' forms a major part of the annual Christmas Fayre in early December, raising the superb sum of over £1900 last year.

If you would like to help with this fundraising event please contact Mr Carter at school 01452 338400 or Mrs Sali Gray on 01452 621775.

CDAC

Race Night

The Parents' Association are organising a 'Race Night' on Friday June 10 starting at 7:00 pm. The first of the 8 'Big Screen' Races will start at 7:30 pm. Tickets are £7:50, which will include food, and can be ordered through Mrs Sheila Johnson on 01242570319 or by e-mail at ajohn000@aol.com. We are also looking for 8 Race Sponsors and 64 Racehorse Owners. Race Sponsorship will cost £50 and to be a Racehorse Owner for the night will cost £10. The names of all Sponsors will be included in the programme and in our next NewsREEL, and the winning Owner will receive 50% of the income from the Owners Fund for the race. Please ring Mrs Sali Gray on 01452621775 or 07974771746 if you are interested in either sponsoring a race or owning a horse.

Car Boot Sales

The first 2005 Car Boot Sale was held on Saturday 19th March when we raised approximately £200.

Please support these future events by either 'bringing a boot' - an excellent way of clearing clutter, or simply come along on the day. You may find just what you've been looking for or even better a hidden treasure.

Forthcoming dates:

Saturday 21st May

Saturday 9th July

2:00 - 4:00 pm

SATURDAY
15th October 2005

Don't forget
to put the
date of the
next Autumn Ball
in your diary

SPECIAL THANKS

To everyone who helped deliver the Car Boot flyers locally.

More volunteers are needed for this task so if you feel you are able to spare an hour or two in the week leading up to either sale, please do contact me, Sali Gray on Gloucester 621775.

From first hand experience, I found it to be an excellent opportunity to keep fit.

Music Concerts

Spring Concert

The annual Spring Concert last Thursday presented yet another display of the pupils' musical talents in a variety of solos, ensembles, styles and moods. The main groups – orchestra, wind band, fiddle band, senior string group and jazz group all performed, interspersed by soloists from all parts of the school – **Nicholas Thompson** (Violin) from Year 7, **Jordan Wynn** (Piano) and **James Ruffie** (Violin) from Year 8, **Ellis Thompson** (Bass guitar) from Year 9, **Sam Grant** (Bass guitar) from Year 10, **Tom Towers** (Clarinet) and **Michael Duxbury** (Piano) from Year 11, **Jessie Pywell** (Soprano and Double Bass), **Jon Roskilly** (Tenor and Trombone), and **Scott Yearsley** (Tenor) from the Lower Sixth and **Richard Phillips** (Bass and Cello), **Alisdair Bond** (Piano), **Tom Grant** (Piano and drums), **Tim Dalton** (Drums), **Luke Leighfield** (Piano), **Peter Blencowe** (Piano), **Kun Hu** (Violin) and **Jack Keevill** (Guitar) from the Upper Sixth.

Choral Concert

Your attention is drawn to the Choir's annual concert, this year to be held at Holy Trinity Church, Longlevens on **MAY 12th at 8:00 pm:**

MOZART REQUIEM

(Admission by programme at the door)

The School Choir will be joined by professional soloists and orchestral players to perform this beautiful work next term. Please come and support them if you are able and enjoy some wonderful music.

JWT



SUMMER TERM 2005

Mon 11 April
Mon 11 – Fri 15 April
Mon 18 April
Mon 18 April
Tues 12 April
Mon 2 May
Tues 3 – Fri 6 May
Thurs 12 May
Mon 16 May – Fri 10 June
Mon 30 May – Fri 3 June
Fri 10 June

Mon 23 May – Mon 27 June
Mon 13 June – Fri 1 July
Wednesday 15 June
Thurs 23 – Weds 29 June
Thurs 30 June
Sat 2 July
Mon 4 to Fri 8 July
Thurs 7 July
Sat 9 July
Fri 22 July

Next term starts, for pupils, on Tuesday 6th September 2005 at 8:40 am.

RECENT MUSIC EXAM RESULTS

Trinity-Guildhall (Jazz Syllabus)

Matthew Wright (Alto Sax) Grade 6 – High Merit

Andrew Jones (Alto Sax) Grade 5 – High Merit

Pupils will be taking Associated Board Grade exams on Monday 20th March.

Sports Update

Year 7 'A' Team Rugby

P	W	D	L	F	A
9	5	-	4	182	100

This has been a challenging season for the 'A' team with the majority of matches being close and fully competitive.

The team has shown a willingness to learn and to try to play a 15-man game. To their credit they have very much achieved this and all players have contributed to the performances and to the term's progress. Even in defeat they competed well and showed the necessary determination to make life difficult for the opposition. They can be pleased with their season and if they continue to work hard they will be a challenge to all opposition.

IJG

Silver Level Cycling Award

During the first week in March, one of the coldest for some time, 21 intrepid Year 7 & 8 students completed and passed the LEA's Silver Cycling Award. Well done to all concerned, particularly considering the Arctic conditions which prevailed for the whole course!

CDAC

Dates for the diary

Start of term, 8:40 am

Trial AS examinations (Lower Sixth)

L6 & Parents, H.E. evening, 7:30 pm

Nearly New Uniform Sale, 6:30-7:30 pm

Year 8 Parents' Consultation Evening, 5:00-8:00 pm

Bank Holiday

SATs examinations (Year 9)

Choral Concert, 8:00 pm

AS examinations (Lower Sixth)

Half-Term Holiday

Parents' Association "Race Night"

GCSE examinations (Year 11)

A2 examinations (Upper Sixth)

Sports Evening, 6:30 pm

School examinations (Years 7 to 10)

STAFF TRAINING DAY (non-attendance for pupils)

Nearly New Uniform Sale, 10:00-noon

Sixth Form Induction Week

'New Year 7' Induction Day

Parents' Association Car Boot Sale, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Term ends, 12:45 pm