



The highlight of this half-term has been our Founder's Week, held last week. It is always impressive that so many pupils and staff willingly take part and help to raise funds for our 20 sponsored girls. It seems a fitting way to mark our School's foundation that we attempt to enter into the spirit of Sir Thomas Rich's generosity, compassion and belief in education as a fundamental means of betterment for individuals and society. I am proud that our pupils, who benefit from such excellent educational opportunities, allow 20 girls to similarly raise their aspirations.

## FOUNDERS' WEEK

Last week saw our attempts to raise over £4,000 to sponsor 20 girls at PMM School, Uganda, to emulate Sir Thomas Rich's foundation of our School by bequeathing funds for the education of 20 poor boys. I am grateful to all those individuals, groups and Forms who organised events and to all who contributed.

Events included: cake sale (**8S**), penalty shoot-out (**10S**), Teachers' Rap Battle (**10T**), Battle of the Bands (**L6G**), darts (**U6T**), costume day (**7R**), sponsored dyed hair (**Callum Bird**), swimming (**Will Middleton**), silence (**Kingston Myles**), sweets quiz (**8R**), skateboarding (**Y7**), Grenadier Guards rifle range, No Homework Day and next term's two Free Dress Days.

PMM School has informed us of the exam results of the girls who took their 'O' and 'A' levels last year. Seven girls were in S4, the equivalent of our Year Eleven, all took 'O' levels at the end of their school year in December. Two have progressed into PMM's Sixth Form and three have moved to other schools or colleges. Two girls were in S6, their U6th, each passed three or four 'A' levels and have thus qualified for entry into higher education. It is heartening to know that our sponsorship has helped these girls to fulfil their potential.

Phil Hanson is currently at PMM School, during his GAP year. He left our Upper Sixth last year and will start at university this October. We hope that he will be the first of many Richians who spend time during GAP years at PMM School. Miss Preen will be visiting PMM School in July as part of our teacher exchange, we hope to welcome a PMM teacher next term.

# NewsREEL

## iPODS

The School Rules state that : your son/daughter should not bring into school electrical equipment other than a calculator. This includes iPods, MP3 players, CD-players and suchlike.

The principle is that pupils attend school to work, not to listen to entertainment – and such items are small, expensive and desirable which can lead to problems of damage or loss which then take up disproportionate amounts of senior staff time.

Please help support the school in our policies and maintain standards.

## STUDENTS' SURVEY

We undertook a parents' survey last April, which confirmed support for and satisfaction with all aspects of Sir Thomas Rich's. The response comments were also helpful – as a result we now have appointment systems for parents' evenings, we are reviewing our assessment and marking procedures and the provision of healthy food in the canteen has made further progress (see page 13 of this NewsREEL). Having found that process helpful, last week we undertook a survey of students' views. The completed questionnaires have now been sent to the same company which produced our parents' survey report.

## NOTIFICATION OF ABSENCE

Most parents ring in to notify the Form Teacher their son/daughter is/will be absent from school. A growing number are now e-mailing the school at [Office@strs.org.uk](mailto:Office@strs.org.uk), which is perfectly acceptable, and in due course is forwarded to the Form Teacher.

Please bear in mind that the e-mail method is slightly slower than using the telephone as it has to pass through two mail boxes.

In either case could parents please follow up with a letter to the Form Teacher giving details of the absence when the pupil returns.

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## ASSEMBLIES

During assemblies this half-term we have listened to two of our 'A' level Music students perform: **David Dorey** (piano) and **Daniel Croose** (drum kit). We were pleased to present **Joshua Wilcock** (U6G) with a framed certificate confirming his award of a prestigious RAF Sixth Form Scholarship. At the time of writing we are hoping that a Cheltenham Town FC footballer will join us in our final assembly of term to present cups, colours and certificates.

## WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPH

A photograph of all school students and staff was taken last week. We take a whole-school photograph every five years, the intention is that each pupil should appear on at least one such photograph. We plan to display a copy in the entrance foyer and inform parents of how to obtain a copy immediately after the Easter holiday.



## NewsREEL

Sir Thomas Rich's School presents...

**Nightshriek**

- A rock musical version of Macbeth -



March 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7:30 pm, School Hall  
 Starring Scott Yearling as Macbeth and Theresa Turner as Lady Macbeth  
 £5.00 adults / £2.00 children & concessions  
 Directed by Mrs Briscoe and Mr Crumblehulme  
 Musical Director Jon Roskilly



On March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> this term, the Senior Drama department took to the stage with the musical **'Nightshriek'**. For just over two months, the cast of over 30 students had worked extremely hard to put together the complicated show, which is a rock musical version of Shakespeare's Macbeth. The musical acts as a rock/gothic vehicle for the story of betrayal, murder, the paranormal, villains and heroes. **Scott Yearling** starred as the troubled Macbeth, with **Theresa Turner** as the dark, manipulative character of Lady Macbeth. Joining them, in other leading roles were **Joe Patel**, as the valiant Macduff and **Nafisa Sayani** as Lady Macduff, Macduff's loyal wife. They were supported by a strong cast of witches, soldiers and a chorus of attendants and messengers. All acted, sang and danced superbly and provided excellent entertainment to over 160 people across the two nights. Many other students and staff supported the production in terms of stage crew, lighting and sound, set design and costumes, but Mr Crumblehulme and Mrs Briscoe were most grateful to **Jon Roskilly** who, by himself, directed an incredibly talented rock band with a complicated score (in only three weeks!). Hopefully, a DVD release of the show will be available after Easter for anyone who missed the performances, or wants to re-live them over and over! Profits made will be donated to charities, including PMM School in Uganda. Thanks again to all concerned for making this production a success.

S Crumblehulme



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## NewsREEL



Nine members of our Lower Sixth formed a committee to take part in a debating competition at St Hugh's college, Oxford University. This was a regional heat with the prize being the opportunity to participate in the National forum over three days in Durham in September. The task set was challenging. A range of five motions had to be researched, main speakers found and teamwork developed. The group showed admirable ambition, working together with only limited support and travelled to Oxford well prepared. They performed admirably. Speakers used notes rather than read and argued fluently. The whole team participated with all taking turns to speak from the floor, supported by notes and ideas conceived in response to arguments raised by other teams. We were delighted to find that we were one of two Schools to qualify for the regional final a month later.

We returned on 17th March, having undertaken further bouts of independent research. Abingdon school were worthy winners but the standard of debating from Rich's and the other two schools was high. This was an exciting, stimulating opportunity for our students which they grasped fully. It has also offered them a valuable insight into the European Union and its priorities, to mention the atmosphere of an Oxbridge college.

#### Participants

*Katie O'Dwyer, David Anderton  
James Darrell, Michael Duxbury,  
S Stefan Farahani, Paul Gladwell,  
Tom Hards, Rob Jeffs and  
Will Middleton.*



## GÖTTINGEN EXCHANGE 2006

Once again fourteen of our Year Ten boys took part in the exchange with our partner school in Göttingen. The German partners were impressed by the hospitality of the host families and our school. Their intensive schedule included: a day trip to London and Bristol, a bowling trip together with their English partners and a day out in Gloucester, including a reception with the Mayor and a guided tour of the Cathedral.

The highlight was as usual the joint Barn Dance held in the School Assembly hall.

Our Year Ten boys will travel to Göttingen from the 6th to the 16th of June together with 21 girls from Denmark Road.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank our host families and all the staff involved for their contributions which culminated in an unforgettable experience for all concerned.

*Mrs B Tesloni-Ranken*

**German Exchange students  
spend a day in London**

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# NewsREEL



## SIXTH FORM VISIT TO WATCH THE GERMAN PLAY AT BRISTOL UNIVERSITY

**"Die schlimmen Buben in der Schule"**  
"The bad boys in school!"

This Austrian Play, written by Johann Nestroy in 1847 and set in Vienna, showed that misbehaviour is not a modern phenomenon. Boys will be boys or so the saying goes. The play was performed with obvious enjoyment and panache by students of the German department at Bristol University. It was an excellent opportunity for our sixth formers to see this piece of drama. However, their roles were not simply restricted to that of appreciative spectators for they were to provide the modern interludes and perhaps an answer to the question: Has behaviour in schools changed since 1847?

The Lower Sixth wrote and performed a short sketch which outlined all too clearly the boredom from which pupils can suffer at the hands of a boring teacher. The sketch depicts the escalation from boredom through misbehaviour to desperation. Excellent performances were given by all.

The Upper Sixth played students for whom school no longer had any relevance.

Der Unterricht hängt uns zum Hals 'raus!

(We are sick and tired of lessons)

Lehrer, haben Sie doch mal ab!

(Teacher clear off)

To the music of Pink Floyd they hurled accusations at the timid teacher. It was a convincing performance belying of course their real enthusiasm for lessons, in particular their German lessons.

Mrs J Hewell

Mrs J Hewell



## VISIT BY SLOVAKIAN TEACHERS

In February we were pleased to welcome to the school for the day teachers from Slovakia. They were interested in observing lessons in an English school and finding out about our education system. In return pupils were able to ask the teachers questions about Slovakia. e.g.

What is the population? (approx. 5 million)

What is the capital? (Bratislava)

What language is spoken in Slovakia?  
(Slovakian)

What currency is used in Slovakia?  
(Slovenska koruna- Slovak crown)

The school made an excellent impression. Our wonderful facilities, well-behaved pupils and smart uniform were all commented upon. Unusually the English weather also drew favourable comments. The average temperature in Bratislava in February is minus 2 degrees but has been known to reach minus 23.



## CHINESE MORNING AT MILESTONE SCHOOL

Links between Sir Thomas Rich's and the Milestone continue to thrive. On Friday, 24th March nine of our Year Ten boys visited the Milestone school to support their Chinese Morning. A number of activities had been arranged for the pupils - an introductory lesson in Mandarin Chinese given by R. Brookin, Tai Chi led by Kaihong Lin from the University of Gloucestershire and Chinese Cookery and Calligraphy classes taken by Lili Zheng, also from the University of Gloucester. The Art Department at the Milestone also contributed by making a giant dragon. It was an excellent opportunity for the Milestone pupils to explore a different culture and we are grateful to the Year Ten pupils for joining in with the sessions and lending their support.

J Hewell

## SIXTH FORM GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP

Upper Sixth Geographers recently travelled to Snowdonia, spending a couple of days studying the glacially formed landscapes of North Wales. Icy winds and frequent snow showers helped put the landforms into their proper context. No one actually got frostbite and a great deal of useful work was completed by a very committed group of students.

Our congratulations go to Mr Pilbeam on the recent publication of his new book 'Landscapes of Gloucestershire', published by Tempus at £17.99. Past and present geographers will need no introduction to his expertise in this area. The volume is a most readable and beautifully illustrated account that will be of interest to anyone who wishes to know more about the countryside and scenery of our county.

**HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!**

S W Pack

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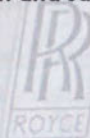
## TESCO COMPUTER VOUCHER SCHEME 2006

The fifteenth year of the Tesco computers for schools scheme for 2006 is well under way. We have already collected over 1000 vouchers and we look forward to your continued support again this year. A collection box is placed in reception or you can pass your vouchers directly to Mr Hancock or Mrs James where they will be gratefully received. My thanks also to the 'volunteers' who count and parcel the vouchers.

## ROLLS ROYCE

*S Hancock/S James*

**On Wednesday the 29th March we are taking a group of AS and A level students to Rolls Royce in Bristol. The visit has been arranged with the kind help and support of the Industrial Trust, a group set up to improve links between industry and education. The aim of our visit is to bring to life some of the topics and issues we have covered in school, such as quality control and assurance, production management and health and safety.**



## SPRING TIME IN D&T

As we approach the end of term and the deadlines for all the examination students, the Design and Technology Department is extremely busy at all hours of the day including lunchtimes and after school. This is a crucial time for our students as they endeavour to complete coursework projects. The workshops are particularly busy with students working to manufacture their designs and complete and update their design development work as the project progresses. We would like to thank all those students (and parents) who have shown great commitment and determination to produce the quality work for which the school has a justly proud reputation. We look forward to these students receiving the grades their efforts deserve this summer.

## ARKWRIGHT SPONSORSHIP

Although only our first year of entering Year Eleven students for this scholarship, amid fierce competition from a field of very able, high calibre students, one of our five students has been selected from his initial application and aptitude paper to go forward to the third and final stage of the selection by interview. The scholarship provides help and support for students studying 'AS' and 'A' levels in Design and Technology. This year there were 803 applicants from 293 schools across the country, therefore competition for places is high. Well done to all five candidates for their detailed and well presented applications in the first two stages. The selection panel have invited 297 candidates from 196 schools for interview in April. Congratulations to **Justin Bramwell** for his success in getting through to the final stage, we wish him well.

*S Hancock/S James*

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# NewsREEL

## UPPER SCHOOL THEATRE TRIP

On February 7th, Mrs Spilsbury took the upper school on her popular, annual theatre trip, this time to see *My Fair Lady* at the Bristol Hippodrome. The musical, adapted from the West End, tells the ultimate rags to riches tale of the common flower girl, Eliza Doolittle, who is plucked from the London streets to be taught how to behave like a lady by Professor Henry Higgins in pursuit of a bet, he had made.

Based on George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion*, the show was thoroughly entertaining, packed with famous numbers, such as 'On the Street Where you Live,' 'Wouldn't it be Lovely?' and 'I Could have Danced all Night.' The show was further aided by an accomplished cast, including Amy Nuttall of *Emmerdale* fame and Gareth Hale from *Hale and Pace*.

The light-hearted plot allowed for many comic moments and the vast detail and engineering that went into much of the scenery was also very impressive for the audience. The trip was enjoyed by all who attended, so thanks once again go to Mrs Spilsbury for her time and effort that went into organising the trip and to the staff and students who supported the event.

S Mason (U6)

### forthcoming Choral Concert



# 'Creation'

Haydn

THURSDAY

May 11, 2006, 8:00 pm

at

SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL

Sir Thomas Rich's,  
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## HOUSE DRAMA COMPETITION

Beautiful Minds was the inspiration for the winner of this year's House Drama Competition. Southgate's success with **Richard Duxbury's** Twisted Reality was a tribute to committed teamwork. Everyone was involved in the writing and acting and it showed. **Adam McNally's** powerful performance as bullied teenager Tom Adams earns him this year's best actor award.

Northgate's 'The Last Laugh' opened the competition and really warmed up to produce a very entertaining show. There was some excellent choreography, well-timed production and all-round acting with the most hilarious banana stunt at the end.

The choice of play can be half the battle and Eastgate and Westgate chose challenging scripts. Super Heroes was well acted throughout, well-produced and made good use of costumes and set. This was a long play with long parts to learn and it lost some impact. Perhaps the most demanding play of the morning was Julius Caesar. An encouraging number of Year Seven joined **Scott Yearsley** and the team to give a clear and bright performance with the most sophisticated opening of the competition.

The occasional untamed wig and flowing locks muted some projection on occasions but this closely matched competition was of the highest standard for House Drama.

Mrs B O'Leary





## 2005/6 INDUCTION ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR SEVEN

### Dec 05 Explore @ Bristol

The whole year group took this end of term trip to Explore@Bristol. The purpose of this trip was to develop pupil relationships but also to visit the centre to support pupils learning in Science and Technology. Whilst there we took in the delights of the Explore centre with its' selection of science exhibits, the Wildwalk with its strong links to Biology and environmental issues and finished the day with a fun visit to the IMAX cinema. All those attending had a most enjoyable day. Special thanks to the Year Seven form tutors for helping with this trip.

**D A Gowler**  
Head of Year Seven

### February Half Term – Paris D A Gowler

Once again Rich's took its annual Year Seven pilgrimage to Paris. The boys and staff had a very busy time taking in the sights of Paris by coach and riverboat. A stroll through the Louvre and of course no visit to Paris is complete without the essential Year Seven visit to Euro Disney!! A fantastic time was had by all those taking part and a great deal of confidence was gained by pupils travelling abroad without parents. My thanks to all the staff helping with this trip; Miss Preen, Mr Haynes and of course Miss Brake whose language skills and experience with Year Seven boys was invaluable. I would also like to add my thanks to the staff and all the boys on the trip who made friends with my son Alexander and made the experience something he remembers and still talks about.

### 25th March – Caving D A Gowler

The venue for the most recent Year Seven activity was Clearwell Caves in the Forest of Dean. Here twenty-seven of our Year Seven boys had the experience of some deep level caving, crawling through tunnels such as the rabbit run and the infamous mouse hole! Special thanks to staff for giving up their Saturday goes to Mrs Banks, Miss Preen, Miss Chang and Mr Kellie.

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SIR THOMAS  
SCHOOL RICH'S



IN CONJUNCTION WITH DENMARK ROAD SCHOOL



# YEAR NINE POST-SAT'S DISCO

# Friday 5 May 7:00-10:00 pm

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM STRS RECEPTION & DENMARK ROAD



## Pitt Rivers MUSEUM in 360°

Anthropology and World Archaeology



### GCSE ART TRIP TO THE PITT RIVERS MUSEUM

The Year Ten GCSE art students took part in the annual pilgrimage to the Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford on Tuesday 28th February. This is the now firmly established starting point for the second GCSE coursework unit, where the pupils study the objects and artefacts of a culture of their own choosing.

The day was spent sketching a number of objects from first-hand observation and the pupils produced some excellent work, despite the low levels of lighting, the slightly cramped conditions and the occasional accompaniment of a group of excitable primary school pupils.

The pupils did get a break at lunchtime, when we walked to the University Park for some fresh air, lunch and exercise (for those that wanted it). This year, thankfully, the day was dry and bright, despite a cold wind, so we didn't have to spend the hour sheltering from the rain as we did last year.

The afternoon session went quickly, with more studies made in the sketchbooks, before the trip back to school and a Year Nine Parents' Evening for the staff! The only negative aspect of the day for a couple of the Year Ten pupils was the fact that the trip coincided with an Under 15 cup match against Brockworth. Sorry about that, boys!

R J Lockey

### COMENIUS PROJECT Art Competition

This was the first joint activity of the Comenius project. Simultaneously in each of the partner schools, England, Bulgaria and Italy, an art competition on the theme: 'Mia Malproksima Amiko' or 'My distant friend' was held. The proposal was to produce ideas that might link pupils and their interests in the three participating schools. Pupils were encouraged to design a poster that contained images from each of the three countries as well as symbols for friendship. Over 100 entries were received and the standard was impressively high, with a lot of time and effort

devoted to each piece of work, both in the planning and execution. Eventually a decision was reached, with the winner's prize going to **Joshua Hope** of 8B. The two runners-up awards went to **Ross Morgan** of 8B and **Fraser Wills** of 8R. The winning entries and a number of other short-listed entries can be viewed on the school website and will be taken to Italy in April.



R J Lockey / J Hewell

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# NewsREEL

## ENGLISH SPEAKING UNION Public Speaking Competition – Gloucestershire Round - S Pickard

On Tuesday 7th February the STRS public speaking team went into action in the council chamber in Cheltenham, having won through from the local area rounds. Facing very strong competition from four other local schools, our team – **Tom Chapple**, **Jon Maxted** and **Adam McNally** – gave an excellent presentation on the topic 'Eccentricity is a quality to be valued'.

**Adam McNally** was presented with the award for 'best questioner', and a number of those present commented on the very high quality of the team's overall performance. Over the course of a number of these competitions each member of this team has now been awarded the 'best' speaker/chair/questioner award.

Our current team had the best chance of going further than any team with whom I have worked in the past few years – but it was their misfortune to come up against one of the strongest teams the Cheltenham Ladies' College has recently produced, and it will be the Ladies' College who go through to the regional round.

## Y8 GEOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Year Eight Geographers were given the opportunity to enter a local competition as part of the River Severn Community Flood Forum'. They were asked to design a poster which covered an historic flood on the Severn or was an account of someone's experience of a flood on the Severn.

STRS took a total of thirty entries to the University of Gloucestershire. Seven of the boys were either winners or runners up in a range of categories and collected book tokens in Tewkesbury at the Flood Forum on March 11th.

Well done to the following for their success in this competition:

**Ben Caswell-Midwinter,**  
**Matthew Wood,**  
**Daniel Gilberthorpe,**  
**Henry House, William Lee,**  
**Ross Morgan and Jim Neate,**

*Miss M Preen*



## CHELTENHAM ROTARY CLUB Public Speaking Competition

On 7th March, the Cheltenham Rotary Club Public Speaking Competition took place at the UCAS headquarters. Our team on this occasion was led by **Peter Butler** (U6) as speaker, ably supported in this event by **Adam McNally** (Vote of Thanks) and **Tom Chapple** (Chair). The Ladies' College team came to this event too, and once again they won overall. However, Peter was judged 'Best Speaker' and was awarded the Speaker's Cup, which has now been inscribed with the school name. Peter was invited to address the Rotarians at their next meeting. Peter will have left the school this time next year, so it's particularly pleasing that he was able to win an award this year.

*S Pickard*

*Sir Thomas Rich's,  
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## CATERING

You may have read of the Government's White Paper on school food. Our catering company, **Alliance in Partnership**, has already adopted the proposed nine food-based standards and will be fully compliant next term. These are: confectionary and savoury snacks will no longer be available; not more than two deep fried products per week; no processed foods; at least two portions of fruit and vegetable per day, at least one being fruit; easy access to drinking water; selection of breads available; oily fish served at least once every three weeks; highly salted condiments and salt not available; the only drinks on offer to be water, skimmed or semi-skimmed milk, fruit juice, yoghurts and smoothies.

There are a further fourteen nutrient standards proposed by the Government – our caterers will meet these standards by September this year. Alliance in Partnership is planning to provide web-based information to enable easy access to nutritional make-up of meals, forthcoming menus and, in due course, cashless payment systems.



## Changes to Criteria for FREE SCHOOL MEALS

As from April 6th, 2006 there will be a change to the income 'threshold', which forms part of the Child Tax Credit free school meals eligibility category. The new threshold figure will be £14,155.00. There is also an additional benefit that will give parents entitlement to free school meals for their children (see below).

From April 6th, 2006, children whose parents/guardians receive the following support payments are entitled to receive free school meals:

- **Income Support**
- **Income-based Jobseekers Allowance**
- **Support under part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999**
- **Child Tax Credit provided they are entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income, as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs, that does not exceed £14,155.00.**
- **The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit.**

**IMPORTANT - If any amount of Working Tax Credit is received, regardless of whether the annual income is below £14,155, the child will not be entitled to claim Free School Meals.**

Students who receive Income Support or Income-based Jobseekers Allowance in their own right and attend a Sixth Form school are also entitled and will need to submit a claim themselves.

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## NewsREEL

HEAT	SECS	FINAL	SECS
T Burlinson	28.48	T Burlinson	28.75
R Payne	26.89	R Payne	27.08
C Turner	26.68	C Turner	26.94
J Broady	25.75	J Broady	25.44

## BAZUKA RELAYS

On Saturday 11th February the intermediate team of **Tom Burlinson, Kif Turner, Robert Payne** and **James Broady** travelled to Macclesfield to compete in the finals of the Bazuka National Swimming Championships.

They were to compete in the medley relay, but unfortunately could not repeat the form of the heats and were disappointed to swim a slower time and to finish in ninth place.

They also travelled as reserve for the freestyle relay and were invited to swim as two teams had dropped out through illness. Despite not being at their best, they swam well in the heats to qualify in the final and came a creditable seventh place with an improved time of 1 minute 48.21 seconds. Although they were disappointed with their performances they should be congratulated for achieving top ten placing in a National Competition.

*I J Gallagher*

## WEST MIDLAND ROWING SELECTION FOR TOM NOBLE

**Thomas Noble** of 9B, rowing as part of a coxed quad for Evesham Rowing Club, was selected to represent the West Midlands at the recent Junior Regional trials. He will now row at the Junior Inter-Regional Championships to be held at the National Water Sports Centre in Nottingham in May.

The same quad achieved fifth place out of a field of 32 at the National Schools Head at Henley at the beginning of March.



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# NewsREEL

## YEAR SEVEN 'A' RUGBY

The Year Seven 'A' team have enjoyed an excellent season and with one match to play the results are as follows:

**P/8 W/7 D/- L/1**

**Points for 262 Points against 53**



## YEAR SEVEN 'B' RUGBY

**P/7 W/5 D/1 L/1**

**Points for 150  
Points against 32**

A very promising season for the 'B' team. 33 players trained and competed for a starting place in the team. All squad members took part in the matches and all contributed to the success of the team.

A narrow 7-5 defeat aside, it was a highly successful season with many entertaining tries scored. Well done to all players and particular thanks to Captain **Evan James** for his leadership on and off the pitch.

**R Sims**

## SECOND XI FOOTBALL

The second XI won three and drew one of their seven matches. They played with both enthusiasm and commitment, but sometimes suffered as a result of a failure to convert sufficient of the many, many goal scoring chances they created. The team reflected a mixture of youth and experience, which often blended well and the younger players should benefit from the experience as their school football careers develop.

**M A Seales**

### v BOURNSIDE

The team began their season very well with a convincing 49-0 victory. A combination of good driving forward play and good handling from the backs proved too much for Bournside. Excellent defensive work also made things difficult for Bournside and the school were able to pressure them into mistakes.

### v MARLING

This was a close hard fought match despite the 31-0 score line to school. The Marling forwards had the better of the early exchanges and Rich's were forced to defend for long periods. However, when Rich's had possession there was too much pace in the back line and they were able to score at regular intervals.

### v BRISTOL GRAMMAR

Bristol put Rich's under pressure from the outset and it was only two long range breakaway tries that kept us in the game. Turning around leading by 14-10 was very much against the run of the play. The second half was much improved as the forwards began to dominate and so created more space for the backs. Two further tries for the school and a late score for Bristol completed what was a very high quality game with the school victory of 24-17.

### v PATES

In an excellent game of Rugby in which both teams played their parts to the full, it was the extra pace and striking ability of Rich's backs that made the difference. The final score of Rich's 34 to Pates 5 did not reflect the run of play but showed the good defensive work of the school combined with a potent attack.

### v NEWENT

In difficult conditions the school managed to overcome a spirited Newent team. From the outset Rich's dominated possessions and were able to pressure Newent in both tight and wide play. Scoring at regular intervals the school made the most of their opportunities whilst some good defence prevented Newent from crossing their line. The final score was Rich's 41 to Newent 0.

### v CRYPT

In a game which both teams committed themselves to the full it was Rich's ability to turn pressure into points which made the difference. Both teams defended with great spirit and so Rich's score 40 to Crypt 0 reflected our greater continuity and scoring ability. This was another very good performance from our year sevens.

### v MONMOUTH

From the outset Monmouth put Rich's under pressure in both attack and defence. They moved the ball quickly, supported each other well and always looked dangerous. When Rich's had the ball they were given neither space nor time and were kept on the back foot. As a result we were chasing the game throughout but we never looked composed enough to worry Monmouth despite their best efforts. Final score Monmouth 19 Rich's 5

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# NewsREEL

## Dates for the Diary

### SPRING TERM 2006

Friday 31 March

Term ends, 12:45 pm

### SUMMER TERM 2006

**18 April (Tuesday)**

18-24 April

19 April (Wednesday)

24 April (Monday)

1 May (Monday)

2-5 May

5 May (Friday)

11 May (Thursday)

15 May - 9 June

22 May (Monday)

12 - 30 June

22 - 28 June

**29 June (Thursday)**

Saturday 1 July

3 - 7 July

6 July (Thursday)

18 July (Tuesday)

**Friday 21 July**

**Term starts, 8:40 a.m**

Trial AS exams (L6)

Y8 Parents' Evening, 5:00 pm

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

May Day Bank Holiday

SATs exams (Y9)

Y9 Post SAT's Disco, 7:00 pm

Choral Concert, 8:00 pm

'Creation' by Haydn

'AS' exams (L6)

GCSE exams start (Y11)

'A2' exams (U6)

School Exams (Y7-10)

**In-Service Day**

**(no school for pupils)**

Nearly New Uniform,

10:00-12:00 am

Sixth Form Induction Week

Sports Evening, 6:30 pm

Summer Concert, 7:30 pm

**Term ends, 12:45 pm**

### NEARLY NEW

**24 APRIL**

6:30-7:30 pm

**1 JULY**

10:00-12:00 noon

**Anything to sell?**

**Please pick up a sales slip from the School Secretary.**

**If you are in need of any particular item/s but are unable to attend the sale, please telephone Bev Hughes on 01242 524344.**

### CAR BOOT SALES

**13 MAY**

2:00-4:00 pm

**8 JULY**

2:00-4:00 pm

**16 SEPT**

2:00-4:00 pm

### QUIZ NIGHT

**21 APRIL**

7:00 pm for 7:30 start

**ASSEMBLY HALL**