



A highlight of the year for me is always our Founder's Week when I never fail to be impressed by the initiative, energy, enthusiasm and generosity of our pupils. They come up with a whole range of superb ideas for fund raising whilst never losing sight of the aim of helping poor students at our link school in Uganda. This term has also seen the talents of our students on display across sport (our First XV recorded outstanding displays to progress to the Daily Mail Vase quarter final where they lost narrowly and frustratingly at Hampton School), drama (superb performances of The Haunted Cabin, written by Mr. Lynch) and music (a marvellous House Music competition featuring large numbers of students performing an impressive range of music). Well done to all who contributed to an exciting term.

FOUNDER'S WEEK

Well done to all students who came up with the ideas, organised events and ran them – and to all who contributed. The sum raised will ensure 'our' twenty sponsored girls at PMM School receive a good deal of education, at around £1 per day, which they would otherwise not be able to afford.

The figures to date are:

Can Can (7B) £9, No Homework Day £100, 7S & 7T Collection £14, Battle of the Bands (9T) £30, Penalty Shoot Out (9S) £62, MP3 Day £8, Netball v 1st XV teams £26, Confectionery Sales (8R) £49, Talent Show (8R) £34, Soak the Teacher (7B) £53, various general registration collections £39, Crazy Hair Day (7B) £121, 8B's Sponsored Silence £3.

There are some monies which have yet to be collected – and, at the time of writing, several events to come e.g. Tombola & Shop (9B), American Football, Fancy Dress Dodgeball, Free Dress Days next term, Fancy Dress Day (9R).

RACE NIGHT & AUCTION

On Saturday 9 May we are holding another Race Night and Auction; the last one in 2007 proved to be a great success and a very enjoyable evening for all involved.

There are still plenty of horses to be sold before the evening [winning horse owners will receive a prize of £40], and there are four races still to be sponsored [sponsors will be advertised in the Race Programme]. Horses cost £10 and to sponsor a race the charge is £25.

We now have an impressive list of Auction Lots including:

- 1] A year's membership at The Riverside worth £400**
- 2] A man's Seiko watch worth £100**
- 3] A lady's Seiko watch worth £100**
- 4] Two '1873' tickets [padded seats in new stand on the half way line] for any Gloucester Premiership game next season.**
- 5] An England Rugby Nike all weather hooded training top.**
- 6] An England Rugby Nike all weather v-necked training top.**
- 7] An England Rugby shirt signed by Phil Vickery.**
- 8] A man's 'cut and blow' at Toni and Guy's Gloucester salon**
- 9] A lady's 'cut and blow' at Toni and Guy's Gloucester salon**
- 10] A rugby ball signed by Gloucester RFC**
- 11] A football signed by Cheltenham Town FC**
- 12] Kieran Bracken's 38th Test's shirt.**

Tickets for the event are £6 which will include a hot supper and can be obtained from myself or Reception. If you would like to buy tickets, buy a horse, sponsor a race or put a bid in for one of the above lots but are unable to attend, please call Reception.

Results Day: AS, A-Level, additional maths Thursday 13 August
Results Day: GCSE Thursday 20 August

NewsREEL

SIXTH FORM DRAMA

The Senior Drama Group captivated audiences for two nights with a tale of suspense and super natural. The Haunted Cabin, a new play by Mr Lynch (author of The Murder of Arthur Bennington), was set on an isolated mountain peak far from help and civilisation. It provided a refuge not only for a group of teenagers who became stranded in a snow storm but for the dead too. Mr Lynch and Mr Crumblehulme would like to thank all who made the show possible, especially the strong cast and the backstage team (sound lighting and make-up) who all made the production a huge success. Thanks also to the audience and for the letters of

congratulations received following the last performance. As a result of the audiences' enthusiasm, both Mr Lynch and Mr Crumblehulme are planning to produce this play on a larger scale in a local theatre, here in Gloucester. Should this be viable, it is hoped that you will come along to jump, laugh and take part in an enjoyable evening.

S J Crumblehulme



NewsREEL



HOUSE EVENTS

Thanks go to Mr. Dempsey for running the General Knowledge quizzes. The Junior event was won by Westgate from Eastgate, with Northgate and Southgate tied for third. The Senior event was almost the reverse, a win for Southgate from N, E, W.

The Senior House Cross Country race was won by **Matt Adair** of Y11 ahead of, **Adam Gouha** and **Will McKemey**. In the girls race **Rebecca Gaston** came home ahead of **Josie Ashworth** and **Leah Jones**. The competition was won by Southgate from N, E, W.

Thanks to Mr. Brown and Mr. Lloyd for running the House Badminton. Westgate narrowly won the Junior event from E, S, N.

ASSEMBLY PRESENTATIONS

At the time of writing we are hoping that a Cheltenham Town FC footballer will join us at our final assembly of term to present colours, cups and certificates.

At the start of Founder's Week we welcomed James Forrester to our assembly. James retired from first class rugby last year after playing 134 times for Gloucester RFC. He played for England Under 21s, England Sevens and gained two full England caps. James presented colours to our successful First XV rugby squad players, certificates to our badminton team players and House Cups for Music (to **Leah Jones** for Westgate), Senior Cross Country (**Will McKemey**, S) and Junior Badminton (**Felix Yates**, W).

NewsREEL

STRS WELCOMES INTERNATIONAL TEACHERS **24th February,**

It is always a pleasure to welcome foreign visitors to the school, especially when they are so keen to learn about our schools and engage with our pupils. On this occasion we hosted for a day three teachers from Italy, Poland and Turkey. The visit to schools is part of an educational programme for foreign teachers which enables them to gain a better insight into our English education system, our culture and language. During the day the teachers had the opportunity to visit lessons and talk to staff about their work. The day certainly made a strong impression as the following comments reveal:

Anna Maria Marcovecchio, teacher in a Secondary School in Tuscany: *"Thank you for everything. We were very satisfied with your hospitality and the opportunity you gave us to compare out teaching experiences with yours".*

Cevriye Balci, teacher at a Vocational school in Osmaniye Turkey: *"Students of Sir Thomas Rich's School, please be aware of your luck as you really have better educational materials and social activities, sports activities than the students in Turkey. Use this chance to improve yourself and please work for peace and a better universal world."*

Piotr Frac, teacher in a Grammar School in Końskie in Poland: *I'm really impressed by the school visit. I hope that one day I'll visit your school again. You've got interesting and enthusiastic teachers, excellent students and great facilities."*

J Hewett





U18 SEVENS TOURNAMENT

Gloucestershire schools 19 March 09

The school opened their competition with a shaky win over Wycliffe College. Neither team settled into a pattern but the school showed enough composure to win by 14 – 7.

The next match v Backwell School was a real disappointment. After moving to a comfortable 14 – 0 lead the school relaxed, lost their shape and conceded three tries to lose 15 – 14.

The penultimate match v Bristol Grammar saw the school fight to retrieve some pride against a well organised team. In a close game the school played with real heart and intensity and did enough to justify the 21 – 19 victory.

In their final match the school came up against the group favourites, Hartpury College, and despite an improved display were unable to stop Hartpury from winning 38 – 7.

I J Gallagher

FOOTBALL REPORT 2009

UNDER18'S – 1st XI

The 1stXI should be proud of their hard work and commitment throughout this football term in getting through to the quarter finals of the County Cup, only to lose to probably the best U18 school team in the County.

The freezing weather and unplayable pitch conditions earlier in the term fragmented developmental opportunities. However, the squad only lost two matches, both in Cup runs, despite playing with a young squad also containing a few Y11 boys.

We look forward to further progress next year.

A J Barton

COLTS XI FOOTBALL

P	W	D	L	F	A
4	3	-	1	10	3

Despite the loss of three fixtures the Colts XI showed commitment and promise throughout. After a disappointing 1 – 0 defeat at Worcester R.G.S. in the first match, despite dominating the game, the team went from strength to strength.

A close 1 – 0 victory at home to Marling was followed by very positive victories against Pates, 5 – 1 and Newent, 4 – 1.

The team was well captained by **Luke Andrew** who led by example showing both skill and intensity in his play. He was ably supported by the rest of the squad with notable contributions from Matt Jones and Luke Barker in particular. Well done for a positive approach and for playing some attractive football.

I J Gallagher

SENIOR SEVENS TOURNAMENT

King's School, Worcester

18 March 09

The squad travelled to Droitwich Rugby Club to compete against some very good rugby schools. This was a difficult task for a young squad but they committed themselves well and despite losing all three pool matches they showed promise in attack and caused all their opposition problems. However inexperience in defence left them open and the opposition took advantage.

v Blundells' School	lost 38 – 28
v Warwick School	lost 35 – 12
v Bromsgrove School	lost 29 – 17

I J Gallagher

U13 'SEVENS'

The U13s took part in the prestigious Warwick Sevens for the first time and although they did not progress to the knockout stages gave a very good account of themselves.

In their first game they played Old Swinford Hospital and lost by the narrow margin of 10 – 7. We had enough chances to win the game but a combination of desperate Old Swinford defence and bad luck cost us the game. In the second of our three Group games we played 'sevens' rather than 'fifteens' and secured a fine win over King Edward's Aston by 15-7. To reach the final stages we needed to beat Nottingham High School but despite a sterling performance both in attack and defence we lost the game by 19-12. Nottingham went on to play Old Swinford Hospital in the Final illustrating the high quality of our performance in the competition. Well done to all of the squad.

C D A Carter



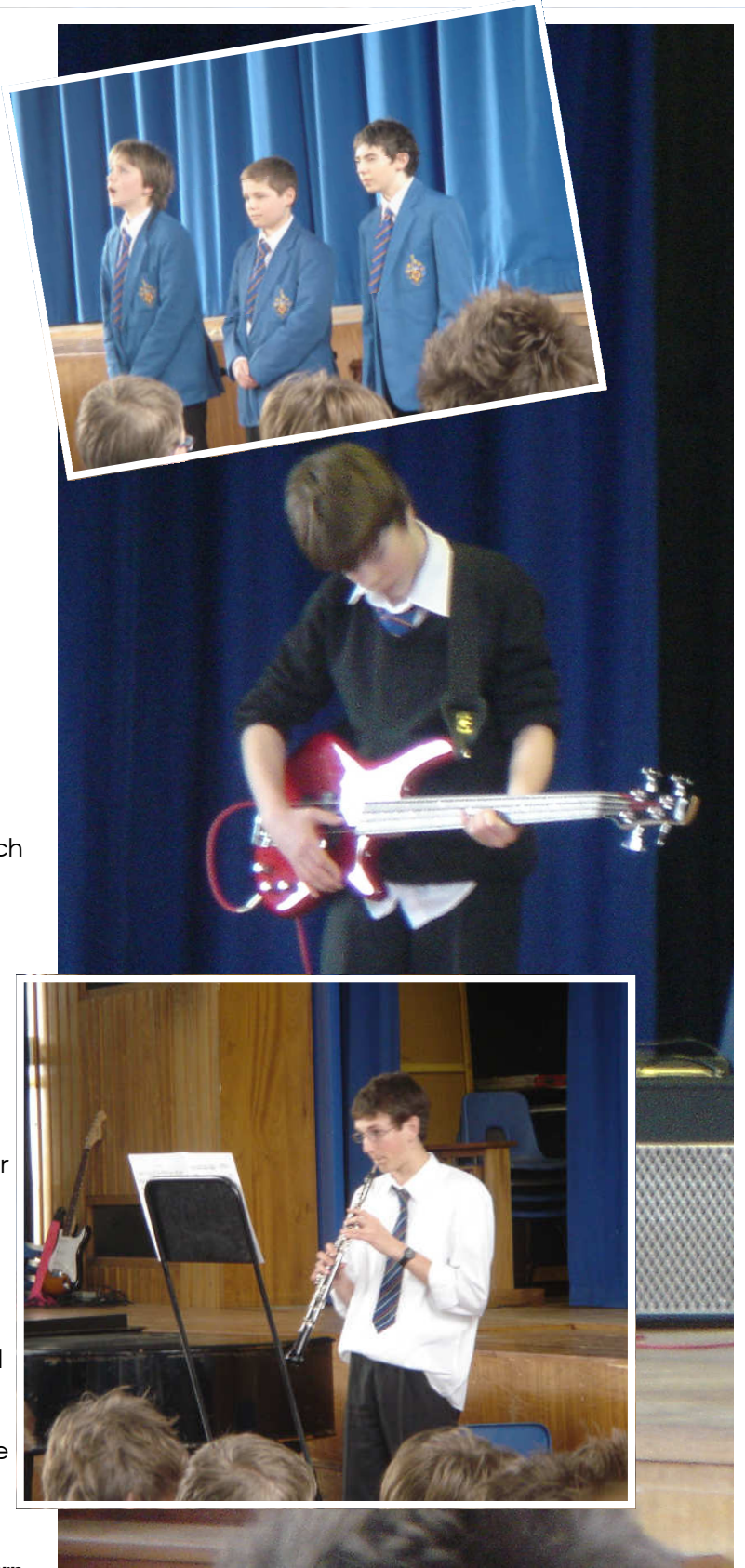
HOUSE MUSIC

On February 12 an audience of the whole of Y9 gathered in the Hall along with all the performers to witness what turned out to be the best overall House Music event of the many which, over the years, I have had the joy and privilege to judge. In previous years almost all the entries in the Ensemble and Open categories (twelve out of a total of twenty) have been from aspiring rock bands, but this year there was some welcome and entertaining variety. The Eastgate juniors led the way with a serene performance of a vocal arrangement of "In Dreams". Lucy Watson and Georgina Smith treated us to a bold but sadly underprepared rendition of the beautiful "Pie Jesu". The Southgate offering in the Open category was a creative and enjoyable performance of "Dream a Little Dream", but the highlight for me was Eastgate's wonderfully exuberant and spontaneous delivery of "Gypsy Medley", which achieved the highest score of all the entries. Having said all this, I am pleased to report that the standard of this year's rock bands was easily the best we have ever seen. Unfortunately there were some problems with sound and balance, always a challenge with this kind of music, but the level of skill on show was such that it would not surprise me at all if some of the performers turn out to have some kind of future in the business.

Among the other highlights was a surprising performance of Elton John's "Your Song" by the talented Robin Ford – surprising because I had no idea that he had it in him! Less surprising was a skilful piano solo from Josh Reid. The unusual title of his composition was "Our Heavenly Mower", which turns out to be an anagram of "We Love Mr Hearn". Naturally I was unmoved by this, and by the two M&Ms with which Josh tried to bribe me. The Fraud Squad have not been involved on this occasion.

In the end the result was extremely close with Westgate emerging as worthy winners, just ahead of Eastgate and Southgate, who tied for second place. All that then remained for me was to face the music from those who felt hard done by (there are always one or two!) and enjoy the gratitude of those who were pleasantly surprised by the outcome. I prefer the latter.

A P Hearn



Music



NewsREEL

Y11 VISIT TO THE HOLOCAUST EXHIBITION

'The trip we experienced last week was a truly enlightening experience as I began to understand the true extremities of the dictatorship of Adolf Hitler. Once off the coach we were given thirty minutes to look around the main museum area to stretch our legs after a long and mildly entertaining journey. We then proceeded to the exhibition of the Holocaust where we were surprised to find Sally, Mr Pitel's mother! This was a shock and we were very interested to find out her opinions of our esteemed teacher. We were met by Ruth, our workshop leader, who experienced first-hand the chaotic occurrences of the Holocaust. We learnt that, tragically, her father died in the early years and she then fled with her mother to Britain after queuing for hours to be allowed to travel from Czechoslovakia. We proceeded to walk around the exhibition, armed with headsets, in a very sombre mood due to the atrocities we were witnessing. One of the exhibits that particularly troubled me was the collection of children's paintings that were obtained from an old children's home that was set up for young Jews. These paintings had been the last memories of the parents who in later years discovered that their children had been heartlessly murdered during the war. This and many other atrocities touched me deeply and really demonstrated how lucky we are to live in an era of relative peace and prosperity.'

D Gilberthorpe 11B

HISTORY EXHIBITION AT FOLK MUSEUM

A group of Y9 boys has worked with the History Department to mount an exhibition of the school's history at the Folk Museum. The boys researched photographs from the archives, old school magazines and the museum store to mount a colourful record of the schools' past accompanied by a sound loop of interviews and readings.

The school was one of nine city secondary schools to take part in a local history project organized by Andrew Fox of the City Museum. The product of eighteen months' planning and research, it is entitled 'Look Behind You' and is open at the City and Folk Museums until the 18th April.



Year 7 Lakeside Residential Trip

YMCA LAKESIDE 2009

We arrived at school weighed down with our luggage ready for our trip to the Lake District. We lugged our gear to the coach and we all wondered what would be in store for us when we arrived at our destination?

We arrived at the YMCA youth hostel at around five and wandered around trying to summon the life back into our legs. After our supper we got into our groups of roughly twelve and lined up for our first activity. My group had orienteering first. We were given maps and then had to find our way around the site trying to find the lettered numbers. We managed the first challenge all right but when it came to the harder challenge our group got completely lost.

Day 2

Ahhh! awake already as we woke up at seven and got dressed for the morning's activity. Our activity was raft building and all of my group were really enthusiastic. We thought we would

win the challenge without getting our feet wet, but it didn't turn out the way we wanted; our raft expanded and drifted away. Instead of just getting our feet wet we got our necks and heads wet as well.

After our unsuccessful raft building session we had canoeing. We didn't fancy getting wet again and luckily it was only our hands that got wet. We had a great time chanting and singing as we rowed and found that activity most enjoyable. Then after we had done the canoeing we did 'The runaway'. 'The runaway' was a huge zip wire that you had to climb a ladder to get to the platform which was about twenty metres above the ground, then you shot down the wire screaming.

Our night activity was 'the fell walk' where we walked up the little hill (fell) behind the campsite. We each had a sip of warm grapefruit squash and a Maryland when we reached the top.

Day 3

Up at dawn again! We woke up for another start to a superb sunny day of activities. My first activity was kayaking which we all really enjoyed as we splashed each other and did races. We then paddled into a little bay and played Cops and Robbers and I almost capsized trying to catch Tom, our group leader. We all enjoyed the kayaking even though we all got really cold. Then **James Adnet and Harry Schofield** and I had the longest shower in history: One hour of solid showering bliss as we finally got warm.

After our episode of showering we had lunch and then put our kit on for rock climbing. Again this was fun as our group tried to reach the highest point on the climb.

Our final activity was watching the Simpsons Movie where we had time to chill out and relax.



Y7 Residential Trip - Windermere



Year 7 Lakeside Residential Trip

Day 4

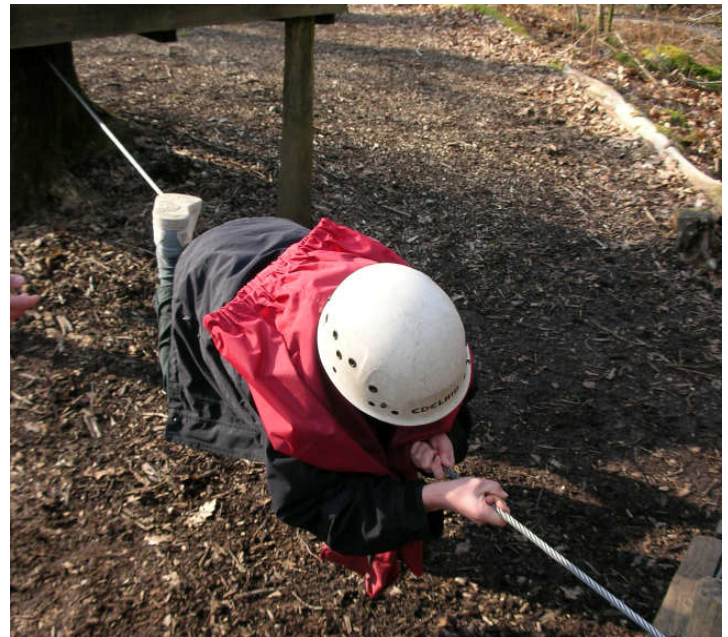
Our Last and Final Activity Day

We woke up and went down to the basketball courts and waited for the instructors to come and tell us our activities. My group had 'the rocket project': this was where you had to do several activities to earn money to buy things for your rocket. My favourite activity was the giant marble run where each person in our group had a piece of guttering and they joined it up and a marble had to travel along it all the way around the basketball court. When we finally made our rocket our test pilot, an egg, hit the wall and smashed to pieces. Our rocket went the furthest but our egg failed to survive!

My second-last activity was the 'challenge course' where you started on platforms on the trunk of a tree and you had a wire stretched between two trees. The aim was to get across to the other tree without touching the ground using the apparatus to aid you.

My favourite and scariest activity was 'the king swing'. This was where you were suspended on a harness between two trees and the people on the ground winched you up to a certain height, you then pulled a lever and did a massive swing about fifteen metres off the ground, yohweeee!

J Harper



When I went to the Lake District on the Y7 trip, I expected the experience to be enjoyable but was amazed at how much fun I had over the four days.

We stayed in lodges in small groups, the food was enjoyable and the activities great. Some of the challenges we had a go at were; kayaking, night line, raft building, climbing and abseiling.

My favourite part of the whole trip was when I went on the zip wire. I thought this was the most enjoyable part because I had a challenging but incredible experience. I also found it the best because everyone in my group including Mrs Spilsbury had a go even though some were a little apprehensive.

Overall, I found the trip very worthwhile, not only for the activities but the team building challenges as I have come away having made new friends and learnt from new experiences. I would definitely recommend the forthcoming Y7s to go to Lakeside, as it is a fantastic opportunity and a very valuable trip.

A very big thank you goes to Mr Daniell for organising the trip and to all the teachers and helpers that participated.

J Lee - 7S



BADMINTON

Y9 FOOTBALL

Both our Junior (Under 14) and Intermediate (Under 16) school teams represented Gloucestershire as county winners at the National Schools Championships in the South West Region Finals held in Exeter. The teams competed well against very strong opposition. The U16s came close to reaching the final play-off but had to settle for fifth place, the U14s came seventh.

Well done to both teams:
 U14s – **Kit Kirby, Felix Yates, Sammy-Lee Baker, Sandeep Patel.**
 U16s – **Freddie Speed, Amit Patel, Dan Gilberthorpe, Rob Hewlett, Myles Williams.**

The football team enjoyed a fantastic term with 3 wins from 3 including RGS Worcester and Pates Grammar. Every player who was involved in the set up gave 100% to both training and game days. There were however two outstanding performers, Captain **Peter Haines** and **Henry Stanimeros**, both of whom played exceptional roles in creating the three wins. Particular thanks go to Mr Lloyd for the organising of the games and the mini buses and all the parents who supported the boys on the fixtures. I look forward to having the same success with the Y10 rugby team next year.

Mr R M Davies

CONGRATULATIONS

We are delighted to congratulate two members of our Lower Sixth:

Julianne Courtice (L6G) has been selected to represent England in the European U19 Squash Championships in Germering, Germany in the Easter holidays;

Tom Grogan (L6B) has been awarded an Army Scholarship after attending the Army Officer Selection Board at Westbury.

GO-KARTING

In January five teams [three drivers per team] entered the Local Round of the British Schools Karting Championships held at JDR Karting in Gloucester. All five teams competed very well and the team of **Chris Halliday** [Y13], **Matt Dobson** [Y12] and **Harry Finch** [Y10] qualified for the South West Regional Final. The Regional Final was held in February at M4 Karting at Hullavington, near Malmesbury in Wiltshire, and the boys gave a very good account of themselves finishing in a highly creditable 10th place out of twenty-two competing teams from the South West and South Wales. Watch out Jenson Button, the 'boys in blue' are in your slipstream!

C D A C arter

CLIMATE CHALLENGE



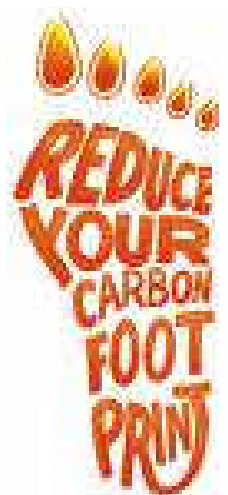
The National Climate Challenge is a national Y7 competition that our school is entering. We have chosen a team from 7T (**Jack Abbey, Will Nunn, Tyler Wells** and **Macaulay James**) and 7R (**Sam King, Dominic Troff, George Dickinson** and **Peter Dory**) which is eager to reduce the schools' carbon footprint.

The way we propose to do this or through:

- a poster competition (making an environmental poster);
- a suggestion Box and encouraging car sharing.

We are also planning a green initiative week in which the above green activities will take place (Please let us know in F1 if you think this is a good idea, and/or you have any suggestions for the week)We would love your support and ideas!

For more info please see the team members in F1 in any form period.



L M McRitchie

NewsREEL



GLOUCESTER SCHOOLS SWIMMING GALA

The school entered a full boys team into the City Gala along with a team of six girls who competed in the senior races.

There were some excellent swims from all age groups with the following winning their individual events:

J Harper	25m Junior Backstroke
D Graaf	50m Intermediate Breaststroke
T Grime	50m Intermediate Butterfly
S Howarth	50m Intermediate Backstroke
J Broady	50m Senior Butterfly
M Fatica	50m Senior Front crawl
J Bell	25m Senior Butterfly
C Westlake	50m Senior Girls Butterfly
H Robertson	50m Senior Girls Breaststroke

The boys' teams showed their strength in depth by winning all the medley and freestyle relays.

Following this the Boy' team won their competition and when combined with the Girls score came third in the Mixed Schools Competition.

Boys Competition		Mixed Competition	
1st	STRS 185pts	1st	Kings Sch 238 pts
2nd	Churchdown Sch 141	2nd	Chosen Hill Sch 203
3rd	Kings School 121	3rd	STRS 200

Well done to all involved.

I J Gallagher

STRS v BOURNSIDE SCHOOL (29 -33) 11/3/09

Rich's made an explosive start to what was a closely contested and high octane basketball fixture. Rich's were keen to avoid a repeat loss against Bournside and kept the score line close throughout.

The first quarter was hectic to begin with but eventually settled into a regular scoring rhythm with Rich's never more than two points behind and ended with a narrow deficit of 12-10. Tactical substitutions throughout allowed Rich's to play harder for the entirety of the period leaving energy for later quarters.

The second quarter saw a good team effort in defence which resulted in a small advance in the score line but overall finished much like the first at 19-17.

The second half continued this high-energy battle between the two sides, with both teams unrelenting in their resolve to win. Rich's did well to keep the scoring to a minimum and it was felt that the side was taking a stand in the third quarter and were never ready to give up. Excellent offensive efforts by **Oliver Ellis**, **Philip Drewett** worked in combination with good defensive prowess demonstrated by **Jim Bell** and **Chris Halliday**. This style of play allowed Rich's to maintain momentum and not allow a point deficit to develop. The quarter ended Rich's-23, Bournside-25.

The fourth saw a herculean effort by the team to try and take the lead, with all of the team playing to their best in the last six minutes of the quarter. Despite the tremendous physical efforts of all, Rich's were incapable of recovering the score and eventual lost 33-29 with two points narrowly missed in the dying seconds of the game. Many thanks to all who participated, spectated and helped officiate an enjoyable and well-contested match.

D J Woolf



成人國語班

Mandarin Chinese for Adults

春季課程

Spring Term 2 0 0 9

Level	Beginners
Starting date:	Thursday 26th March 09
Time:	19:00 – 21:00
Venue:	Veale Language Centre, Sir Thomas Rich's School, Oakleaze, Longlevens, Gloucester. GL2 0LF.
Course details	10 sessions x 2 hours - This course does not require previous knowledge of the language.
Tuition fee	£60 - Reduced fee for people on mean-tested benefit.

This course is run in partnership with
Sir Thomas Rich's School

Enquiries: Jacky Hewett: jackyhewett@strs.org.uk

Tel: 01452-338405

Gloucestershire Mandarin School

www.glos-manda

Enquiries: Hing Yee Pobjoy:

mandarin_school@hotmail.com

Tel: 07720-637976

U12's Rugby

The U12's have played some excellent rugby this year and have produced some very encouraging results. However the most pleasing aspect of the year has been that seventy-four boys have represented the school in competitive fixtures this season, in the A, B, C or D team.

The A team has played eighteen games, winning ten, including victories over The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School, Marling, Chosen Hill and King Edward's Bath. They drew a closely

contested game against Bristol Grammar and lost narrowly to some of the most prestigious rugby schools in the country, including Colstons 22 -12, Monmouth 15 – 12 and Warwick 22 – 0. Well done to captain **Callum Dean** and his team!

The U12 A VII competed very well in the 41st Warwick Invitational Sevens, they defeated Nottingham H. S. and King Henry VIII Coventry in their group. Rich's then enacted revenge on Monmouth School who defeated them at 15-a-side by recording a 35- 7 victory in the quarter final. However in the semi final Rich's lost to hosts and eventual winners, Warwick 7-5 in a very close game.

The B team has also progressed well this year, they played fourteen games, winning seven including victories over King Edward's Bath, John Kyrle, Pate's, BHBS, Tewkesbury and Marling. Their defeats also came against very strong opposition such as Colstons, Warwick and Bristol Grammar. Many of the B team players have represented the A team this year and will be pushing hard for places in the A team next year. Well done!

The C team has played seven fixtures this year; they have defeated Tewkesbury, Pate's and BHBS and have played particularly well in attack all year. They drew a 25-25 thriller with Chosen Hill. However their defeats have been as a result of a few missed tackles, but there has been a dramatic improvement in their defence as the year has progressed. They lost games to Bristol Grammar and Warwick but a number of these players have represented the A and B team this year and will be close to gaining regular places in those teams next year!

The D team played 2 fixtures this year against Warwick and The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School. They defeated BHBS with ease and a number of those players went on to play for the B and C teams. Well done to all the boys who have worked so hard this year in training, games lessons and Saturday fixtures. Good luck next season! Keep working hard!

Special thanks to Tom Grogan, Assistant Coach, for all his commitment during the season.

R G Williams

NewsREEL

SPANISH GCSE CONFERENCE

On 11 February twenty-six boys from Y10 and Y11 along with some pupils from Barnwood Park School attended a Spanish GCSE conference in Bristol. There were nearly four hundred present at the event, which was conducted almost entirely in Spanish by native speakers. The atmosphere was lively and positive as students participated in a number of interactive activities and exercises. The highlight was when *Alex Peterson* responded to the invitation for volunteers to go up on stage. He did a splendid job of interpreting in a situation where somebody needed to buy a train ticket and book into a hotel. It was certainly a useful day for all those who attended .

A P Hearn



GERMAN THEATRE PLAY

In February, the Sixth Form had the opportunity to see a German play, entitled 'Das Konzert', at Bristol University. It was a production by the German theatre group and was an engaging comedy, performed in German. The plot centred around an adulterous piano teacher, Gustav Heink, and it focused primarily on the meaning of marriage as the main characters tried to make sense of their relationships. Although the German was pitched at a very high level, all students managed to follow the plot with its twists and turns with the support of the programme and play synopsis.

J K Hanson



GOTTINGEN EXCHANGE

Last week we said "Auf Wiedersehen" to our Göttingen exchange group. Seventeen Y10 boys and their families were involved in the first leg of our popular exchange with the Otto-Hahn grammar school in Göttingen/Germany, which has been going strong for over thirty years now.

The German pupils enjoyed a varied programme ranging from trips to Oxford and London to an evening of fun and entertainment at a Barn dance in STRS school hall and Bowling with their English partners.

I would like to thank all parents, pupils and teachers involved for being such fantastic hosts and for making the group feel so welcome. We are now looking forward to our trip to Germany in the week after the Easter holidays.

B Testoni-Ranken

CAKE SALE

On 13th February a Valentine's Day Cake Sale took place, in aid of the 'Sudden Adult Death Syndrome' charity and the Upper Sixth Prom. As soon as we set up stall, heart cakes were selling like hot cakes as we enjoyed a successful (but hectic) sale in the morning break. This huge success was continued during lunch, raising a grand total of £206.73: £100 towards the Prom with the remainder donated to SADS. I'd like to thank all who baked cakes for the sale, all those who helped with the selling and, of course, our loyal contingent of customers!

NewsREEL

'TALKING ABOUT PLACES FARAWAY' COMPETITION Council Chamber, Shire Hall, Gloucester Tuesday 10 March

Two teams were entered from STRS to compete in the morning and afternoon sessions against other schools from Gloucestershire. The event was aimed at KS4 pupils and topics were chosen from a list sent to us from the International Education Office at the County Council.



Group One: (from left) **Tom Walsh, Lorcan Bond, William Lee, Myles Williams and Gianluca Di Pasqua**, researched 'Tourism; friend or foe?' and delivered an excellent presentation that focused on the positives and negatives of tourism. They chose a range of case studies as evidence and, even though they didn't win the event, the judges enjoyed the wide range of places discussed (Antarctica, Kenya and local tourism in Gloucestershire).

Group 2 (from left) Ben Blackman, Leo Kirby, Matt Wood, Brett Abram, Matt Wright, Arun Ulahannan and Henry House, also delivered a professional and detailed presentation titled 'The role of women in reducing poverty'. This was a challenging title to have chosen and the boys used music, power point and well rehearsed lines to enhance their delivery. They were a close second. Well done to both groups for all their hard work and effort.

M F Brown



PA Car Boot Sales

dates for this year:

April 25, June 02, June 20, July 11.

Could you help deliver leaflets?

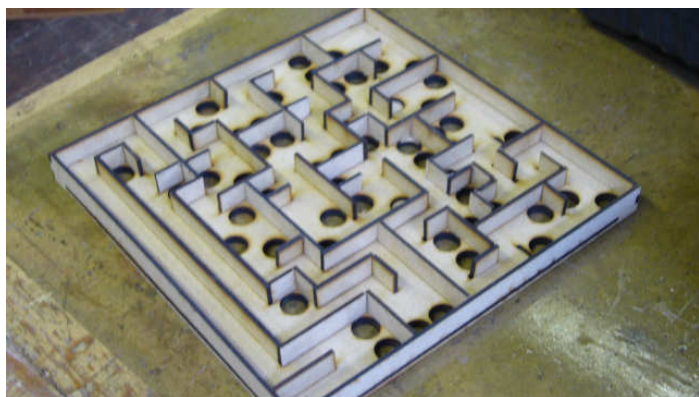
contact Julie on 01452713177,
melvins4@btinternet.com

and also ask for people to deliver flyers to the local area.



D&T NewsREEL

THE FINAL COUNTDOWN



As the end of term approaches, the examination students are working hard to ensure that they get their course work completed. Most of the projects are nearing completion, but will require careful finishing if they are to achieve all the marks their efforts deserve. 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. Good Luck!



ARKWRIGHT SPONSORSHIP

Congratulations to **Sean Creed** and **Arun Ulahannan** who have successfully passed the first "Exam" stage of their applications for Arkwright Scholarships. They have now been invited for interview in April. Good Luck to them both!



TESCO COMPUTERS FOR SCHOOLS 2009

The eighteenth year of the Tesco computers for schools scheme for 2009 is now well under way. We have started off very well with four hundred and twenty vouchers collected in the first two weeks. 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.



NewsREEL

NEARLY NEW UNIFORM SALES

GREEN RUGBY SHIRTS – We are in great need of green rugby shirts! If you have a rugby shirt outgrown or no longer used, please send in to school for us to sell. Also, any cricket kit that will no longer be needed, let us turn items into cash for you.

Sale slips are available on the school website or from the School Secretary's office. Please return slip(s) with item(s) to the School Secretary.

FUTURE SALE DATES:

Mon 27 April

6:30 – 7:30 pm.

Sat 4 July

10:00 – 12:00 mid-day

(New Y7 meeting for parents/pupils)

Thank you for all your support.

CHESS CLUB REPORT

The chess season is drawing to a close with Rich's team performing well in the North Gloucestershire Adult Chess League and Cup.

The league team are currently fourth in division 3, having won four and lost five of their ten matches. The team is usually comprised of one teacher together with four pupils, with matches played in the evening. Regular team members are **Sam Loveridge** and **Alex Spencer** from U6th, **Tyler Wing** from L6th and **Ed Burgess** from 9R. The highlight of the league season was victory over the league leaders, a 3-2 win against Cheltenham Cetera.

Once again the school team enjoyed success in the handicap knockout cup. Having been only the second school to win the trophy last year, we once again reached the final this year with wins over Forest of Dean in the first round and Musketeers in the semi-final. The final was against Cheltenham (their first team being top of division 1). As Cheltenham are such a strong club we decided to field a team of Mr Robson, Mr Stewart (a science technician) and Mr Swann with Ed Burgess, Alex Spencer and Tyler Wing. A number of the games were very close, all three pupils played accurate high quality chess with Ed's game lasting nearly three hours. However, Cheltenham were too good for us and they finished as comfortable winners.

Next year the team will lose some of its older pupils. We have some pupils in Y7 who have the talent to play in the adult chess league, but we need more players. Are there any other budding grandmasters out there?

Mr Robson

STRS FENCING CLUB

*Open to all pupils every Monday
lunch-time.
(term-time only)*

*Delivered by probably the best
Fencing coach in the County.*

*Places can only be booked
and paid for through the
Sports Centre Office.
For more information
call Mr Barton or
Mrs Hemming
on 01452 338439.*



SUMMER TERM 2009

Monday 20 April

20 – 24 April

Sat 25 April

Mon 27 April

Mon 4 May

5 May - 12 June

Tue 5 May

Thu 7 May

Fri 8 May

Sat 9 May

Mon 11 May

Wed 13 May

Mon 18 May

25 – 29 May

Sat 02 June

Mon 8 June

Mon 15 June

Sat 20 June

22 – 25 June

Fri 26 June

29 June – 3 July

Thu 2 July

Thu 2 July

Sat 4 July

Sat 4 July

Sat 11 July

Fri 17 July

Term starts, 8:40 am

Trial A2 exams (U6th)

PA Car Boot Sale, 1:00 - 3:00 pm

New Uniform Sale 6:30 - 7:30 pm

May Day Bank Holiday

L6 Study Leave and AS exams

Dress Rehearsal for Choral Concert, 7:00 pm

Choral Concert, Carmina Burana, School Hall, 8:00 pm

Y11 to Alton Towers

(Y11 Study Leave commences)

Race Night & Auction, Hall, 7:30 pm

(Australia tour fund raising)

AS examinations start (L6th)

GCSE examinations start

U6 Study Leave starts

Half-term holidays

PA Car Boot Sale, 1:00 - 3:00 pm

A2 examinations start (U6th)

L6 return to lessons

PA Car Boot Sale, 1:00 - 3:00 pm

School examinations (Y7-9)

INSET Day (**no school for pupils**)

Sixth Form Induction Week (Y11)

New Y7 Induction Day

Sports Evening, 6:30 pm

New Y7 Parent/pupil Meeting, 10:00 - 12 noon.

New Uniform Sale, 10:00 - 12 noon.

PA Car Boot Sale, 1:00 - 3:00 pm

End of term, 12:45 pm

SIR THOMAS RICH'S ACADEMIC YEAR 2009/10

Thu 13 August

Thu 20 August

Results Day: AS, A-Level, additional maths

Results Day: GCSE

AUTMUN TERM 2009

Thu 3 September

22 – 30 October

Fri 4 December

Fri 18 December

Term starts, 8:40 am

Half-term holidays

INSET Day (no school for pupils)

End of term, 12:45 pm

SPRING TERM 2010

Mon 4 January

15 – 19 February

Mon 1 March

Thu 1 April

Term starts, 8:40 am

Half-term holidays

INSET Day (no school for pupils)

End of term, 12:45 pm

SUMMER TERM 2010

Mon 19 April

Mon 3 May

31 May – 4 June

Fri 2 July

Fri 23 July

Term starts, 8:40 am

May Day Bank Holiday

Half-term holidays

INSET Day (no school for pupils)

End of term, 12:45 pm