



FROM THE HEAD MASTER

Dear Parent or Guardian,

With the inspections in September and then the outbreak of suspected Swine 'Flu' after Half Term, this has been a more eventful term than most and I'm sure that staff and pupils are thoroughly looking forward to the Christmas break.

For all that, the term has finished on a very positive note with a lively and engaging production of *Anything Goes*, yet another wonderful Big Band Concert and then two moving Christmas Carol services. Amazingly, it was often the same committed pupils who played key parts in each of these performances or services and to them and the staff involved, I offer my grateful thanks.

This year's Christmas Fayre, organised by Jasmine Porteous and her willing team of pupil helpers, raised the extraordinary sum almost of £2,000. Well done to them and to all those pupils who have helped raise much-needed funds for worthy charities this term.

Staff.

As term finished, our two GAP students, Katie Peter and Joel Biddle returned home to Australia to take up their university studies. I am most grateful to them for their hard work and their enthusiastic support over the past year. Our thanks also go to Dr John Cole who has been teaching Physics for the past term. Mrs Verity Dutton, who is currently at St Bede's School in Hailsham, will be joining us in January to take up this role on a permanent basis.

On a more general note, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our teaching staff for their efforts on behalf of our pupils over the course of this term, or indeed over the holidays with various school trips and expeditions.

Parents' Consultation Evenings.

21 st February	GE Parents' Meeting, Prizegiving and A-Level Choice Consultation: Big School	5.30pm
14 th March	LE Parents' Meeting and Prizegiving: Big School	5.30pm

Public Examinations.

Modular AS/A2 exams will take place from Monday 11th January to Tuesday 2nd February. Mock GCSE Examinations will take place during the second week of term. GE students are reminded that they have to bring their own equipment including **black pens**.

The Blue.

'The Blue', which is our annual school magazine, will be sent direct to all parents during the Christmas holiday together with a CD of music that reflects the year gone by. Additional copies of the magazine and the CD are available at a nominal charge. Please email Mr Stannard (ins@christs-hospital.org.uk) for more information.

Christian Union.

There is a Senior Urban Saints (UF to Grec) trip to the Forest of Dean from 1st to 4th April 2010. If your son / daughter is interested in attending, please e-mail rmc@christs-hospital.org.uk or call Mr Castro on 01403 247524 to request a brochure and application form.

Intimate Relationships Code of Conduct.

Please note that there is now an amended Code of Conduct for Intimate Relationships which can be found in the Parent Handbook on the school website and also in the School Calendar from next term. Both pupils and parents should be in no doubt that sexual activity between pupils is not appropriate at a co-educational boarding school and that if caught, pupils will almost certainly be asked to leave CH.

The Tanbridge Link.

The Tanbridge Link group, who are raising money for young victims of genocide in Rwanda, need donations of clothing, fabric or sewing materials (buttons etc) for their "Something out of Nothing" fashion show. They will be remodelling clothes, and making innovative outfits from the materials you donate. The theme is 'Helping Each Other, with a budget of ZERO!' If you have anything suitable which you can send back to Ms. MacKenzie c/o the Library after the holidays, we would be very grateful.

Academic Buttons.

Academic buttons are the highest award made to pupils at CH for academic endeavour and I am pleased to announce that John Ash GR E has been presented with his buttons.

Next Term.

The Lent Term begins on Sunday 10th January, 2010 at 6.30pm.

Finally.

Kim joins me in wishing you and your family a happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

With every best wish,



John Franklin
Head Master
December 2009

SPORTS REPORT



GIRLS HOCKEY:

Despite the injury and illness that we have had in all the hockey teams this term, it has been a much more successful season than we ever anticipated. Standards have been high, commitment exceptional and the majority of girls must be commended on their positive approach to training, their determination to improve on their skills and tactics and their great sportsmanship

Results do not always reflect the amount of work and preparation that goes into each match, but the girls have recorded some significant wins as well as some challenging losses and there have been some good results in the County Tournaments.

The U16 squad in particular played some inspiring hockey to reach the final of their tournament and although they lost to a much more skilful side (which did have an England player and 2 South players in it) they still qualified to represent Sussex.

The U13B team have had the best results this term losing only 1 game and Monica Kapodia must be congratulated on being the top goal scorer in the school, scoring 26 goals for the U13 A team this term.

The house hockey has once again been played with great enthusiasm throughout the term. The final results of the competitions are:

Junior Hockey Cup Ties	Leigh Hunt A
Intermediate Cup Ties	Barnes A
Senior Cup Ties	Leigh Hunt

Hockey Colours are awarded to the following for their commitment to the sport and for reaching a good standard of performance: Michelle Kalu; Jodie Lovett; Hannah Heslop and Lily Hayes

Netball:

Only the 2nd and 3rd form play netball this term and they have been competing in the Junior Leagues every Saturday afternoon. The winners of various leagues were as follows:

- 2nd Form Leagues: Leigh Hunt B
- 3rd Form Block Leagues: Thornton
- Overall winner: Coleridge A

Rugby:

It has been a tough season for most of our rugby teams and the new block fixtures against Sevenoaks, Brighton and RGS Guildford, which are much bigger schools than CH, have been particularly challenging. There have been some successes though, and the U13A XV have remained unbeaten, recording nine straight victories and a draw thus far.

The U15A and U16A sides won 50% of their matches; and the U15A won their Daily Mail Vase match against Amery Hill School 19-10 earlier in the week and now go through to the 6th Round. Well done!

Congratulations to the following boys who are currently in the Harlequins School of Rugby: Arthur Elmes, Dean Nyarko-Mensah, and Toby Lane.

Congratulations also go to Ahmed Mshelia, Calvin Williams (U16), Gideon Hammond (U18), Tom Wathey (U18), and Alex Marsh (U18) who have all represented Sussex this season.

Rugby Colours are awarded to: Sebastian Streeting; Ollie Lewis; James Longman, Alex Marsh and Alex Satterfield.

Squash:

Bryony Johnson is currently the Sussex Girls' Under 19 champion and is placed 16th nationally in the Under 19 girls. She has won the Under 19 Birmingham Open Squash competition and is currently training for the British Open Squash competition. Well done Bryony and good luck.

Football:

Appointments for next term are as follows:

- Trevor Segbefia & James Longman have been appointed as joint Captains;
- Last year's player of the season, Jesse Simpson, has been appointed vice captain; and
- AJ Odulaja has been appointed Club Secretary.

Over the Easter break at the end of next term, a senior side will be competing in an International Tournament in Italy in the school's first ever major football tour.

Pearey Trophy and Sillett Cup.

There are two major boys trophies awarded for house sport this term. The winners of the boys' Rugby block competitions across all age groups receive the Pearey Trophy. This year's runners up were Peele and the winners were Middleton.

The prize for overall performance in block competitions in all sports across the term is the Sillett Cup. Each of the houses won at least one of the boys block competitions this term with Maine winning at U13, Lamb at U15 and Peele at Senior level. Middleton won at U12, U14 and U16 level.

4th place:	Maine
3rd place:	Lamb
2nd place:	Peele
1 st place:	Middleton won the Sillett Cup for Michaelmas 2009.



DIRECT ENTRY

Many of our applicants are recommended to Christ's Hospital through 'word-of-mouth'. This valuable form of communication amongst parents, pupils and Old Blues is very much appreciated as it ensures that families, particularly those in need, are aware of the educational opportunities offered at CH.

The economic downturn has meant that we have had to make some changes to our full fee paying method of entry, currently known as 'New Foundationer'. We are now offering a limited number of 'Direct Entry', non-competitive places at age 11, 13 and 16 to academically able children whose parents may wish to pay an all-inclusive fee without our usual means testing. The introduction of Direct Entry pupils, limited to 12% of the School population, replaces the New Foundationer method of entry for new pupils to the School.

Direct Entry pupils will be accepted from September 2010 and integrated across all boarding houses over the next five years. The fee charged in 2010/11 will be £24,000 pa (subject to review to reflect inflationary pressures).

Direct Entry offers significant advantages for higher income families; including:

- It is not competitive, but guarantees a place for a child that meets the standard CH academic criteria (on a first come, first served basis).
- It enables entry for children whose net assessed family income exceeds the current offer limit.

Christ's Hospital will continue to provide means-tested support to existing pupils (currently 97% of total enrolments) in the usual way but please bear in mind this new method of entry when you are spreading the word about CH. It is anticipated to be of particular interest to higher income Old Blues. I am grateful for your support and please refer interest from families to our Admissions Office on 01403 247409.