



FROM THE HEAD MASTER

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In spite of the disruption caused by the heavy snow at the beginning of the term, the past five weeks have been a busy and productive time for all at CH. With their modular or mock exams now safely behind them, our public exam pupils (ie the GE, Deps and Grecians) are back into their normal routine, doing all that they can to ensure that they gain the best possible marks in the summer exams. The pupils in the other year groups have, of course, all been working steadily since the beginning of term.

Beyond the classroom, a great deal has been happening with our busy sporting programme and with our Music, Art, Drama, CCF, D of E, Scouts and Community Action.

Highlights of the term so far have included:

- The “Blue Nights” Jazz Concert before Leave Weekend;
- The Spital Sermon in London at which the *Schola Cantorum* sang so beautifully;
- The House Part-Singing Competition;
- The “Run for Rwanda” charity fund-raiser;
- The Annual Bluecoat Concert at St. John’s, Smith’s Square, which is one of our major public performances for the year and provides a showcase for our most talented musicians; and
- Our annual St. Valentine’s Day celebration which is unique to CH and a very entertaining day for all concerned.

Sports Report.

Details of our pupils’ sporting triumphs and tribulations are attached at the end of this letter.

Music events in the second half of term.

There are three big events in the Music School calendar for the second half of term, all of which you are warmly invited to attend. On Sunday 28th February at 3 pm in Big School, Christ’s Hospital’s ever-popular Concert Band is “in concert” in what will prove to be a very entertaining afternoon. This is always a superbly entertaining afternoon and I would urge you to book your tickets (£6, £5 concessions, £4 Friends of CH and Children free) in advance from the Box Office on 01403 247434 to avoid long delays on the door.

We then have the *Angus Ross Memorial Concert* on Sunday 21st March in Big School at 7.00 pm. The Christ’s Hospital Choral Society and the Chapel Choir, accompanied by the Christ’s Hospital Sinfonia, will perform *The Dream of Gerontius* by Edward Elgar. This is a concert not to be missed and again I strongly advise you to book early to avoid disappointment.

Our very best choristers, *Schola Cantorum*, have been invited to sing at St Paul's Cathedral on Monday 15th March at 5 pm. Admission to the service is free, so please do come and enjoy some beautiful music in one of London's most iconic buildings.

School Sportswear.

After trying out a system of ordering sportswear online, we feel that this has not provided the level of service that our parents require. As a result, Broadbridges in Horsham are now going to stock all items of CH sportswear, including the Kukri range, for all ages of both boys and girls. Broadbridges will have a stand here at the New Entrants Day in May to take orders and if you require any further items please contact the shop directly at: Broadbridges, 6 Piries Place, Horsham. Tel: 01403 259620 or Email: Broadbridge.shop@tiscali.co.uk .

Clay Pigeon Shooting.

Clay Pigeon Shooting is a Sunday activity for UF and above (12 places) and a Monday activity for Third Form and LE (also 12 places). There is a charge of £70.00 per term per pupil to cover the cost of clays and cartridges. If you wish your son/daughter to take up this sport, please leave a message for Mr R A Smith on the CCF answer phone, 01403 263530, for further information and an application form.

Luggage.

Pupils travelling by coach or train either side of Half Term have been asked to restrict their luggage to one piece only in order prevent inconvenience to other passengers.

Parents' Consultation Evenings.

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

14th March: LE Parents' Meeting and Prizegiving: Big School - 5.30pm

Finally.

Can I remind those of you with pupils preparing for the GCSE, AS, and A2 exams next term that a balanced programme of rest and revision is essential over the Half Term break.

With every best wish from Kim and myself,

Yours sincerely,



John Franklin
Head Master



SPORTS REPORT

February – 2010



Netball:

Despite cancellations due to the weather the girls have managed to play 45 fixtures. The seniors have recently been hit hard with illness and injury, but despite this they have worked tirelessly on the court for each other and had some encouraging results. Michelle Kalu has been exceptionally impressive on the 1st team and Alex Henshall must be commended for stepping in as the 1st team shooter and certainly rising to the occasion. St Bedes proved a might too strong for the majority of teams in the triangular match last Saturday, but most of the teams had narrow wins over Ardingly. The U15B team are as yet unbeaten as are the 3rd V11. There is a very busy half term ahead which hopefully will see all squads back to normal strength.

Football:

Only 33 fixtures have been managed in the first half of term thanks to the weather conditions which also cost us the pre-season training schedule. A mixed start with 13 wins, 5 draws and 15 defeats so far this term across all the teams. The 1st XI and U13A side remain unbeaten with five wins and two draws between them so far. A particular highlight being the 1st XI's 2-all draw with an extremely successful Reigate College side. The U14A team also achieved an impressive victory against St Bede's. Nearly 60 fixtures await us after the half term break. Boys who have particularly impressed so far this term include: Arthur Elmes, Olubi Olusina, Ede Obhiagbon, Matt Dudek, James Longman and Stuart Whittingham.

Boys Hockey:

After three cancellations the senior boys played their first match on Saturday. A last minute goal gave them a 2-1 victory over a strong Hurstpierpoint U16 side.

Rugby:

The U12 Rugby has progressed well this term and all 3 teams are now involved in fixtures now the weather has relented.

The A team improves as they gain greater knowledge of the concepts of the game through playing regularly. Despite an early set back against a strong Skinners XV they bounced back to defeat Warden Park and Chichester and Reeds. They now face a strong Angmering School in the quarter final of the Sussex Cup after half term.

The B XV have found it a difficult game when playing with little possession against bigger, stronger and faster teams, however they have battled well in adversity and gained a creditable draw against Reeds, 5-5!

The C XV recorded their first victory with a win against Weald school 33-0.

The Girls have shown a keen interest with a good attendance at all sessions and are now relishing their fixtures after half term.

Fives:

The results so far this season are:

Played 18 Won 10 Lost 7 Tied 1

Particular high points have been the 1sts continuing 100% record against all-comers including Tonbridge, Eastbourne, and Alleyn's, and a very creditable performance against a strong Old Blue side. Results at the junior end have been more varied as always but several beginners or near-beginners at U13 and U14 level have developed a lot over the course of recent matches. Special mention must go to the performances of Conor Morgan and Rowan Dinwoodie.

The 1sts have been fortunate enough to be visited by a fives VIP in the form of current and 6 times National Doubles Champion Hamish Buchanan. All of the boys put in very mature and impressive performances as they struggled to score a few points against Hamish and Mr Hatton. Better luck next time lads! Hamish was also impressed by their performances and offered some very practical advice, as ever.

On Saturday Luke Thomson and Seb Stracey set off to the West of England tournament; Luke as 2nd seed in the singles and both a 2nd seed in the doubles. If they maintain the maturity and determination that has characterised their play so far they can do very well indeed.

Hazel Rowland-Jones,
Director of Sport.