



## Bournemouth School



### Newsletter – March 2007

#### From the Headmaster

The job of a headteacher could never be described as 'boring', if only because of the unpredictability of life in a school. Many of the unplanned events which hit me on a daily basis give rise to the greatest possible sense of pride and pleasure – most of these revolve around the huge range of achievements of the boys. Others things are less welcome. The highs of the term have included the successes of our sports teams (the Y8 footballers spring immediately to mind), the increasing range and quality of music being played around the school, the biennial CCF parade, the number of boys who achieved full marks in January GCSE and A-level modules and, of course, the opening of the new teaching block – after many years of planning and false-starts.

On the less welcome side there has been the continuing worry about Greg Love, who was involved in a terrible road accident in early December, which resulted in very serious head injuries. Greg is still in hospital and our thoughts and prayers go out to him and to his family. His parents have asked us to implore parents to ensure that their sons are safety-conscious whenever they take to the road – Greg is believed to have been listening to his Ipod when the accident happened.

On a different level, on the Monday morning immediately after our half term break I received the telephone call which all headteachers fear; Ofsted were to come in to inspect us – with less than 48 hours notice! As you will be aware by now, we were delighted to be found to be a 'good' school, with a number of outstanding features. Whether or not it is good use of taxpayers' money for four highly-paid people to spend two days establishing this fact is a debatable point! One aspect of the inspection which causes me concern is that a number of parents contacted the inspection team with comments which were critical of aspects of the school. This causes me a considerable sense of frustration because I know only that comments were made; I have no information about the details of those comments, nor about the context in which they were made. This makes it almost impossible for me to respond or to try to make improvements. Can I implore you – yet again – to contact me if you have any concerns about the school. I cannot promise to resolve every matter to your total satisfaction, but I can assure you that the school will do everything possible to continue to work to make Bournemouth School even better than it already is. Of course, if you feel that I do not address your concerns adequately then there is a clear Complaints procedure which the governing body has adopted. Parents may not be aware that members of the school's governing body are present at almost every parents' evening; they are keen to hear your views about the school.

Finally, may I wish you all a very happy Easter break.

John Granger

#### Mobile phones/cameras etc

It is very difficult for our society to keep up with the rapid progress in personal technology. A few years ago, mobile phones were rare, expensive and bulky; now, almost everyone seems to have one, they are very small and they contain many different functions, including relatively high-quality cameras and sound recording facilities. These – together with the rise of internet-based sites such as YouTube – raise very real issues for all those of who are concerned with issues of civil liberties, privacy and bullying. In recent months we have become aware of a number of incidents in which pupils have used their mobile phone-based cameras for inappropriate purposes. In every case that we have uncovered, parents have been fully involved and have been totally supportive.

In order to address this issue we have raised with every pupil the implications of the misuse of technology – possibly legal implications - and the risk that their activities can quickly put them in the position of breaching our anti-bullying policy. To help them to avoid finding themselves in this position I have made it clear that mobile telephones – and other items which are capable of recording sound or vision – must not be used in the school other than at the express instruction of a member of staff. Teachers have been asked to confiscate any items which they believe to have been misused and to pass them to the Headmaster. In serious circumstances, confiscated items will only be returned to pupils via their parents.

We hope that all parents will support us with the implementation of what we believe to be a pragmatic approach to a growing problem.

#### Study Leave

##### Y11 Study Leave

Since setting the provisional dates for study leave for Y11 pupils we have received the final timetable for examinations. It is now clear that some pupils may be disadvantaged if we keep to the provisional dates. Therefore, *those pupils studying Latin* may remain at home on the morning of Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May; they must report to the examination room by 13.00.

Study leave for all Y11 pupils will now begin at the end of school on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May. Teachers will, however, be available during normal Y11 lesson on 17/18<sup>th</sup> May for those pupils who wish to attend, or who need to remain on site between examinations.

Lower Sixth Leave of Absence is *only* for the period shown on the calendar – that is from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May until Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June.

From Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June, students will be starting the A2 part of their A Level courses and attendance is essential right through to the end of term. Permission for holidays would therefore not normally be given as it would clash with this crucial phase of their A Level work.

## ACTIVITIES/ACHIEVEMENTS

### Pantomime

The pantomime Aladdin held on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> December was well received by the 450 parents and children who attended. The entire production was organised by a team of students and it is the greatest tribute to their skills and enthusiasm that a two hour show with a large cast could be run in such an accomplished manner. Lee Redwood, David Nicklas, James May and Charlotte Marchant-Jones were the production team, supported by the in-house technical and stage crews under the direction of Laurence Upshon and Kevin Smith. Congratulations to all those who took part.

### Noye's Fludde

Congratulations to all the staff and pupils involved in the recent production of Noye's Fludde which was held at St Francis of Assisi Church on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> March; the church was full for both performances.

There were over 90 'animals' from three primary schools, 60 of whom wore masks made in our Art department by Jo Davies and Jenny Gardiner. The masks looked wonderful and will be on display in the school foyer. The set was designed and decorated by the Art and Design & Technology departments.

The orchestra played some difficult and demanding pieces very well. David Passmore, Ieuen Hillman-Thomas and Lewis Watton were magnificent sons for a splendid Noye (Mr McCabe), and Mrs Hawkyard made a worryingly convincing debauched Mrs Noye. The three Gossips drank and drowned effectively and the light and sound crew was ably led by Robert Paines.

### Senior House Speech Competition

The judges were again impressed by the high standard of preparation and by the good-humoured argument that engaged the audience so effectively.

Houses:	1 <sup>st</sup>	Elgar	246
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Scott	234
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	BSG	222
	4 <sup>th</sup>	Newton	221
	5 <sup>th</sup>	Turner	219
	6 <sup>th</sup>	Darwin	213

Individual: The judges commended the speeches of Chantal Hadley, Rob McKellar and Jon Sims.

1<sup>st</sup> place John Underwood, winner of the Paul Revere Bowl  
2<sup>nd</sup> place Robert Leedham

### Biology Olympiad

Six students from Upper Sixth sat the examination at the end of January. Hussam Rostom achieved a silver award whilst Neil Clark, Brendan Laing and Michael White all achieved bronze awards.

### Business Studies

Over the past year the business studies department has successfully coordinated with Dorset Enterprise and Skills (DES) in order to bring enterprise activities to many students. Many of the lower 6th students successfully took part in the Enterprise Challenge. Similar in concept to Young Enterprise, it provides a three month opportunity for students to engage in the management of their own company, dealing with the real world of business in search of profits, and perhaps more importantly, knowledge, in the context of both teamwork and business structure and operation.

Eight companies competed in the Finals for the most coveted of prizes which was Best Overall Company.

Prometheus won the coveted Best Overall Company award, as well as those for Best Finances, Best Managing Director and Best Trade Stand. Company members included Stephen Barratt (Managing Director), Christopher Bryant and Jonathan Hazell (Finance Directors) and David Giles (Personnel Director).

Another highly successful company was Exoro, who produced the 'Hard Card' which is a bottle opener which slips inside a wallet. Exoro won the award for 'Most Innovative Product'. Company members include Ben Bridgeland (Finance), Morgan Robbins and Alex Reilly.

The Upper 6th also made an impact at the DES Business Masterclass winning 2 competitions, resulting in 5 students visiting the new Captains Club Hotel in Christchurch and the Design Group offices in Poole.

### The National Academy for Gifted and Talented Youth (NAGTY)

By the very nature of our school, many of our pupils fit the description of being gifted and/or talented. NAGTY has been established by the Department for Education and Skills to provide additional resources and challenges for young people who fall into these categories.

The Academy, which is based at Warwick University, has an excellent web site at [www.nagty.ac.uk](http://www.nagty.ac.uk) from which full details can be obtained. According to their criteria for membership, well over half of our pupils are automatically eligible and it is likely that many others could demonstrate their eligibility. If you are interested in gaining membership for your son, please contact the Headmaster by letter or by e-mail; the school is very happy to support applications from all eligible pupils – a number of boys are already members. Unfortunately, we are not in a position to make financial contributions to assist pupils in attending the Academy's activities, though we will always consider requests for assistance for those who can demonstrate hardship.

### Arkwright Scheme

Congratulations to Alex Watts who has reached the interview stage of the Arkwright Scholarship scheme.

## **Mathematics**

Within Mathematics, it is good to be able to record the Department's pleasure (and relief!) at once again having a 'home' - and a rather special one at that! The new classroom block has – after many years – brought the department together in the best-equipped classrooms in the school.

The results of the recent Intermediate Mathematics Challenge were particularly favourable, with 20 Gold, 22 Silver and 40 Bronze award winners from an entry of just over 100. Some 12 pupils will proceed by invitation to the next rounds of this event. The Department will be taking 20 VIth Form students to Southampton University to attend a series of talks on the application of VIth Form mathematics to real situations: the talks are entitled The Mathematics of Crime (no practical work!); Catastrophe, Chocolate and the Electric Guitar and From Peace deals to Penalties.

## **Senior Maths Challenge 2006**

The SMC results for this year show an overall level of success above the national expectations, with a pleasing number achieving gold awards – better than in recent years.

Some 70,000 students entered the competition across England, Wales and Scotland from which about 1,200 qualified for automatic entry to the Olympiad event – a significant achievement in itself, and three students were placed in this category: Hussam Rostom (who also achieved Best in School), Alex Clarke and Mark Gilbert.

Congratulations also go to Peter Butters, Leon Goldney Sidley, Daniel Malins, Timothy Bowdler, Chris Hadnutt, Paul Smith, Jason Wong and Toby Dimmick.

## **Aerospace Careers**

Once again Technology and Maths are linking to take 20 students to the annual VIth Form conference run by the Royal Aeronautical Society entitled The Ballantyne Lecture. The purpose of the day is to introduce students to the possible career opportunities in aerospace through a series of lectures and workshops run by some of the major employers in this field of engineering.

Perhaps the most exciting venture to be under consideration is a further link between Technology and Maths to build and fly a Human Powered Aeroplane, to a proven design supplied by the Royal Aeronautical Society, in a National Schools Competition. Plans are at an early stage, but there is much enthusiasm among students for this innovative project, and information will be published as details become available.

## **Literacy**

14 boys from the school attended the 'Playing for Success' literacy course at AFC Bournemouth. They committed themselves to 5 after-school sessions, each of four hours' duration. An exciting variety of activities helped the boys to improve the standard of their literacy. One should not underestimate the motivational impact of the venue and opportunities such as interviewing a player! The Headmaster and Mr Pyke attended a Celebration Evening at King's Park which followed the boys' successful completion of the course.

The school's participation in this initiative is now an established and regular annual occurrence.

## **SPORT**

### **Rugby**

The rugby team again proved to be successful with upwards of 120 boys practicing and playing regularly. The 1<sup>st</sup> XV reached Round 4 of the Daily Mail Vase which was a fine achievement and reflected the boys attitude to hard work and commitment.

The Junior rugby teams continue to be successful, with Year 7 team winning the Dorset and Wilts emerging schools rugby festival. The Year 11 team were joint winners of the District Cup, a team that contained some year 10's as well.

### **Football**

The football season has gone well so far with all teams looking to progress to the town semi-finals. Year 7 and 10 are still in the County Cup, both at the semi-final stage, whilst Year 8 lost in the final but have reached the last 4 in the South West Minute Maid Cup, having just beaten Torquay Grammar School 3-0. The town league is continuing.

The town cross country in December went extremely well, with our boys winning the Year 7, Junior and Intermediate competitions. This is an excellent achievement, with nine boys making the county side.

The 1<sup>st</sup> XI and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI football teams have had a hard year and now both teams, having improved significantly, are scrapping for every point in the Hampshire League.

The Year 8 team have had an excellent season. Seven members of the team who beat Torquay Grammar to reach the last 16 of the Under 13 National Cup on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March, also played in the Roko 5-aside tournament on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March.

The team dominated the competition, winning all of their games and in the process scoring more and conceding fewer goals than any of the other teams present. Particular highlights included a 10-1 thrashing of King's High and a 4-0 beating of Highcliffe in the group stages. The team met Highcliffe again in the final, and won 2-1 with a Toby Ambrose 'golden goal'.

Bournemouth School therefore secured the trophy for the first time since 1973. Squad: Richard Green (captain), Jason Fry (goalkeeper), Chris Jones, Young Ik Joo, Ed Shrimpton, Will Muncer and Toby Ambrose.

### **Tennis**

School Tennis commitments for the coming season are in line with past years, where entries for the National Schools competitions at Under 13 and Under 15 have been made, in addition to the Glanvill Cup, the major Open event for all abilities.

Friendly fixtures have been arranged against Canford, Bryanston and Sherborne at 1st VI, Under 16 and Under 15 levels, complementing a pre-season fixture against Millfield at Under 13.

Within school, the Road to Wimbledon event is being run again, and Junior House Tennis will take place during the summer term.

### New sports and activities

This term has seen dance introduced in the Year 7 curriculum, along with the new after school activities of boxing, Jujitsu, table tennis and a Badminton Leaders Award. The Community Sports Leadership Award (CSLA) group have helped organise a multi-skills festival and will soon be organising a disabled athletics event. A Step Into Sport group has also been formed.

### Swimming

A team of Y9 boys entered themselves as the school team in the national Bazuka 49th Swimming Championships for Secondary Schools which was held at Harrogate on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February; all the team members achieved personal best times, coming 5<sup>th</sup> overall in the Freestyle relay and 6<sup>th</sup> in the Medley Relay, against very stiff competition from schools such as Millfield.

Congratulations go to Craig Freeman, Charles Spencer, Dan Bridges, Taylor Priest and Chris Wignall.

### Key Stage 3 SATs 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> May

Parents of boys in Year 9 are requested to make every effort to ensure that their sons are present in school for these important national tests. It is not possible to re-arrange the dates of the tests.

### Lockers

Lost locker keys cause considerable additional work for members of the support staff. In an attempt to address this we intend to issue two keys to each pupil when they join the school; one of these should be kept at home as a spare, from which replacement keys can be obtained by parents. If a boy loses his key we can, in emergencies, use a master key to give him access to his locker. If he needs us to obtain a new key (because the spare has been lost) we will now have to levy a charge of £10.00 to cover part of the costs to the school.

### Star Awards

#### 150 Stars

Thomas Murray	7D
Tristan Yonace	7E
James Aitkenhead	7S
Jason Manqui	7S

#### 200 Stars

Tristan Yonace	7D
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### Parents Association

#### Lottery

Ticket Winner Drawn by

December 2006

453	Mr P G Mitchell	Dominic Braybrook (11T)
262	Mr & Mrs C Mower	Tom White (11S)
219	Mrs C J Hauser	Robert Hope-Inglis (7E)

Amount: £102.00

January 2007

265	Mr & Mrs C Mower	Chris Penny (8N)
480	Mr & Mrs A Johnson	Liam Smith (7N)
60	Mr B J Sanders	Rhys Jones (8N)

Amount: £99.00

February 2007

637	Mr & Mrs A J Kirby	} all numbers drawn by } quiz night participants }
647	Mr L W Marsh	
508	Mr & Mrs A O'Leary	

Amount: £93.50

### End of Term Arrangements

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2007

School finishes at 12.10 pm

No school special Yellow buses will run in the afternoon. Shamrock Services 36 (Penn Hill), 87 (East Dorset) and 89 (Bransgore) will leave BS after school to collect from BSG at 12.35 pm.

Canteen will only be open until mid-morning break.

Packed lunches will be available for boys entitled to free school meals.

End of Term Detention  
12.30 – 15.30

### Start of Term Arrangements

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2007

Timetable is Week 1

Start of School 8.20 am

School buses will run as normal in the morning and afternoon.

## **BOURNEMOUTH SCHOOL SCOUT GROUP**

*35<sup>th</sup> Bournemouth Scouts, Sea Scouts and Explorer Scouts  
RN Recognised Unit No 47.*

Another term flashes past and already we are having to deal with the paperwork associated with four forthcoming activities! But what have we been up to during the Spring Term?

For the first time in many years we were able to get up a full team for the Royal Navy Swimming Gala held at HMS Raleigh at Torpoint. We won no trophies against much more experienced competition but were represented in most of the Finals. Our team of PL Adam Kidman, James Taylor, Georgia Hughes, Maitham El-Arbash, James Aitkenhead and Yefren Nye put on some fine performances and are keen to try again next year.

For no obvious reason we were invited to enter a team in the County Cooking Competition without going through the formality of taking part in the earlier heats. We only had a few days to prepare but still managed not to come last. Well done to all concerned!

The first week end of half term found us at Burley for our annual 'Junior Scouts' Camp'. This is one where the Scoutleaders can sit back a bit; the Patrol Leaders devised the activities, Catering was undertaken by the Explorer Scouts and the APLs had the chance to be Patrol Leaders. Once again our thanks are due to 1<sup>st</sup> Burley Scouts for letting us use their HQ for our 'camp'.

A change of date for Field Day caught out our organising team a little especially since it coincided with Jumble Collecting Day! However we had an interesting day at Moors Valley Country Park where the Scouts attempted the Orienteering Course before going on an incident hike arranged by the Explorer Scouts. Our thanks are especially due to Mrs Platt who, having used Moors Valley with her Beavers, helped us in our on-the-spot organisation.

We collected Jumble that evening despite a torrential downpour which started as we did and finished at the same time. A passing gale ensured that the horizontal rain drenched every part of everybody.

We were represented in the District Night Activity once again but find it hard to have much success against some inexplicable decisions by the organisers. Try again next year!

Michael Du Lieu, Charlie Bainton, Matthew Austin and Ciaran O'Connell joined with other Bournemouth Scouts for a TV item for Meridian TV's evening news programme.

The Scout Group has provided refreshments for staff and parents at all seven School Parents' Evenings this year. Mr Cudmore's suggestion about adding home-made cakes to our 'menu' has proved very popular and made some regular customers from the staff. Thank you all for your support, especially to the cake-makers. We have made a profit of nearly £300 this year.

We are also collecting Sainsbury's 'Active Kids' vouchers. For the first time the scheme has been extended to include Scout Groups and we hope to collect enough vouchers to pay for a new Mess Tent. Please remember us when shopping at Sainsburys – we have a collecting box on the School's Reception Desk.

So what are we going to do with all this wealth?

At long last it is possible that we can undertake the repairs needed to get our Scout Hut back into action. This will give the Scouts somewhere to go at lunchtime for patrol meetings and other activities. We also hope to renew our fleet of canoes and invest in some modern sailing dinghies. Lifejackets, too, only have a relatively short life and Scout HQ only favour the most expensive!

By the time that you read this we will be off to Summer Camp! 'Summer' has had to be moved to 'Easter' in order to accommodate other events later in this special year. We are returning to Ditsworthy Warren on Dartmoor courtesy of the Royal Navy for a programme which includes climbing, abseiling, sailing, canoeing and possibly pony-trekking.

At Whitsun nine Scouts will be back on board HMS Bristol for the annual RN Recognised Troops' Summer Camp which is always great fun.

Just after the end of the Summer Term we will be joining the Scouts of Dorset for their Centenary Camp GOOSE 2007, for a week of interesting land, sea and air activities. This includes a visit to the World Jamboree at Hylands Park, Chelmsford, where Alex Bell will be representing us. The Explorer Scouts are off to Canada for their summer expedition.

Our numbers have increased steadily all term and we have had to increase the number of patrols; 'Owls' and 'Kestrels' have come out of retirement. Being a more 'professionally run' group than most we have no 'waiting lists' and can always find room for new members of all ages. Mr Cudmore can provide more details – or just ask any of our 30+ members why they bother to come along on Friday evenings at 7.00pm. About a dozen of next year's Year Seven have already staked a claim and are coming along to find out what the magic of Scouting is.

J. Preston  
Scoutleader