



Bournemouth School

Newsletter – March 2008



From the Headmaster

This has been – to the best of my recollection – the shortest school term I have worked since I started teaching, over 30 years ago. Whilst it is always good to know that a holiday looms, this 4-week half term really has been too short and we have really struggled to fit in all of the activities that normally take place during this term. Sports fixtures have regularly disrupted the planned organisation as the various local sporting bodies try to complete cup competitions before the sports fields are marked up for summer sports. One casualty of the short term has been the Interim Reports; our admin support team – who have been under-strength for some time – have been fully occupied with admissions, exam entries and the myriad other things that hit them; we now hope to issue the reports by the end of the first week back after the Easter break. As a point for the future, we are planning to adopt a ‘week’ based rather than ‘term’ based system for reports from September; we have also appointed two new members of the admin team.

I am delighted that this Newsletter – yet again – highlights so many successes for so many of our pupils. However, I am aware that it scarcely scratches the surface of the talents of members of Bournemouth School. Each time I speak to a boy I seem to hear of yet another achievement – in sports such as golf, sailing, trampolining, badminton, hockey, in community-based activities, in enterprise activities, in music and acting – the list is long and impressive. My congratulations go to all those who push themselves to participate and to excel.

Finally, may I wish you all a very happy Easter break. Please make sure that your son is in prime condition to come back to face what will be one of the longest terms that I have ever worked!

Schoolcomms

Many of you will have received this Newsletter electronically – and on time! Others may be reading this having trawled the crumpled sheets from the depths of a bag, months after the publication date. We have been delighted by the response to our request for parents to register their e-mail address with Schoolcomms – at the time of writing, over 600 parents have taken advantage of this facility, and have been receiving e-versions of documents. We would continue to urge every parent who has access to e-mail to register; details were sent out via Royal Mail, but if you have mislaid your details please e-mail office@bournemouth-school.org and we will send you another copy by e-mail. We hope to be in a position to dispense with almost all paper copies of general information documents such as this Newsletter, but we need even more parents to register before we can do this.

Please be reassured that we do not plan to use e-mail for urgent communication – we will always try to contact parents by phone if we need to speak to you urgently.

Study Leave

Since setting the provisional dates for study leave 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, study leave for Y11 pupils will now begin at the end of school on Monday, 12th May and for Upper Sixth at the end of school on Friday, 9th May.

Lower Sixth Leave of Absence is *only* for the period shown on the calendar – that is from the end of school on Friday, 9th May until the start of school on Tuesday, 17th June.

From 17th 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 will therefore not normally be given as it would clash with this crucial phase of their A Level work.

Key Stage 3 SATs 6th – 9th 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

ACTIVITIES/ACHIEVEMENTS

Oxbridge

I am delighted to be able to report that 10 students from U6 have been offered conditional places at Oxford (6) and Cambridge (4). Additionally, Jonathan Sims (from last year's U6) has gained a place at Oxford, having reapplied after gaining straight A grades at A-level. This is, by some margin, our largest number of successful applications for many years.

IFS Student Investor Challenge 2008 - Regional Finals

Our school team ‘Team Raptor’ has won a place in the IFS School of Finance Student Investor Challenge Regional Finals. A team's place at the Regional Final is earned by their performance in the Portfolio Challenge; twenty-five teams have been selected to go through to the South West England & West Wales Regional Final which will be held in Bristol this month. Congratulations to the members of Team Raptor Jeremy Ferguson (10N), Nathan Holder (10S), Christian Brunet (10D) and Henry Schofield (10N).

The two winning teams from each of the four Regional Finals will go through to the National Final to be held in London on Wednesday 30th April 2008. The winning team will receive an all expenses paid educational trip to New York in July/August 2008.

Toyota Technology Challenge 2008

Mr Heyes has just learned that our entry into the PIC category of the 2008 Toyota Technology Challenge has made it through to the regional finals to be held on 23rd April.

House Speech Competition

The Intermediate round of the annual Speech Competition was of a particularly high standard this year. Each House provided four very well-prepared speakers.

Individual results:

3 rd	Alex Bell (S)
2 nd	Ben Hudson (T)
1 st	Ben Clayton (S)

House Team results:

5 th	Darwin	343 points
4 th	Newton	350
3 rd	Elgar	363
2 nd	Turner	384
1 st	Scott	398

In the Senior round the judges felt that although they listened to many well-organised and thoughtful speeches this year, the standard was not quite as high as we have come to expect in recent years, with participants not engaging the audience with quite the degree of energy and vitality as last year.

Results:

Houses:	1 st	Darwin, Elgar	76 points
	3 rd	BSG, Scott	75 points
	5 th	Turner	66 points
	6 th	Newton	52 points

The leading individual speakers were, Ben Sundell, Matt Aldous and Timothy Bowdler.

Thanks to Mr Bonds and Miss Sellars for helping to judge the competition.

Art

Several students in years 9 and 10 currently have photographic work exhibited in the Lighthouse, Poole, supporting an exhibition entitled 'Home' that is being exhibited in the Study Gallery 2nd February - 5th April by the photographer, filmmaker and writer Robert Golden.

Examples of students work was also exhibited recently at a Specialist Schools Art Exhibition at the BIC.

Economics/Business Studies

Four U6 economists, Ben Bridgland (U6S), Henry Mower (U6S), Jonathan Peters (U6T) and Alex Reilly (U6S) achieved the runners-up place in the regional final of the Bank of England's 'Target Two Point Zero' interest rate decision competition which took place at Avington Park, Hampshire in December.

Ten 6th form students took part in this year's Enterprise Challenge, run by the Enterprise & Skills Company, winning a number of trophies at the presentation evening including that for the Best Company. Since the presentation evening we have received a letter from the organisers which includes the following comments: 'Your students have left a very positive impression, displaying exemplary behaviour at Board Meetings, Trade Fairs and the finals evening. Without exception the level of social pleasantries, camaraderie and respect was a great credit to the school and their teachers. Our employers, who helped to advise the student companies, often commented on the students' initiative and dedication'.

Music Department

The annual Carol Service was a great success, as evidenced by a large congregation and the number of boys who took part. There is a report on it, with photos, in a recent copy of the East Way Echo.

Performances this term included the first outing of the Friends of Bournemouth School Choir, a group of 25 parents, teachers and friends who performed Vivaldi's *Gloria* with our school choir and Chamber Orchestra. Any parents who would like to join the choir would be most welcome – whatever your standard. The choir sings for the pure joy of it, and meets in the music room every Monday evening (during term time) from 7 – 8. Please just turn up and join in.

This week we have a fund raising concert given by the Big Band and Concert Band. Music is a major expense, with sets of parts costing up to £70 or more for more popular numbers from current shows and films.

The Concert Band now numbers about 40 players, with a Junior Concert Band to feed into it of nearly 20. The Concert Band has players from across the age range of the school. Even when the examination season starts we will have enough players to put on a reasonable performance in the summer months, which is a considerable step forward. Mr Ruffer hopes to book a Bandstand performance for the band in the Lower Pleasure Gardens in early summer.

Our Summer Concert is on 1 May to give leavers a chance for a final bow before their examinations.

We continue to bring groups in from Primary Schools for gamelan workshops. Recently Queens Park Junior visited for the first time.

English Department

A group of Year 9 pupils have opened up a correspondence with Sir Nicholas Winton, who saved over 600 children in 1938 from almost certain death in Nazi concentration camps.

Senior Maths Challenge 2007

Across the nation some 75,000+ students took part in the Senior Challenge, with the top 1200 scorers being invited to take part in the British Maths Olympiad, placing them in the top 2%. Four students from the school achieved this standard and are to be warmly commended – they are Mark Gilbert (U6S) (who was also Best In School), Alex Clarke (U6E), Timothy Bowdler (U6S) and Toby Dimmick (L6T). The results of the Olympiad are awaited and others who achieved scores resulting in the award of certificates will be presented with their accolade during House assemblies.

Arkwright Scholarship

Congratulations to Nathan Au, Andrew Argyle and Gen-Nam Lam who each have been invited for interview for the 2008 Arkrwright Scholarships.

East Way Echo

We are indebted to Mr Ruffer for editing this journal; it is an important additional means of communication and celebration for the school and we hope that it will continue to thrive and expand. It would benefit from being printed in colour, so we would love to hear from any parents with links to the printing industry! Mr Ruffer hopes to produce another issue before the end of term.

Languages

Year 11 German pupils were given an intensive revision day in preparation for their GCSE. The day concentrated on exam techniques and ways to improve current grades. Staff and pupils were joined by Mrs Gill Beckett who is a senior GCSE examiner and Mr Alex Pickering of the Goethe Institute. Boys have reported that they found the day enjoyable and very informative.

All Year 9 boys recently spent a day using their language skills in a business context. In small groups they chose a local business to advertise to foreign companies. Pupils had to prepare a Powerpoint presentation and speech in the target language and present their company to staff and visitors in the afternoon. We were lucky enough to have visitors from two local businesses, Chewton Glen Hotel and Brewers Quay. Having actual employees from the business gave the boys a boost and a live resource. Prizes were awarded to winners in each language.

The group winners were:

French: Ieuan Thomas-Hillman (9D), Nathan Possante (9T), Philip Pope (9S), Daniel Ward (9E), Michael Davies (9D), David Passmore (9S), James Gillingham (9D), Matthew Short (9E) and George Shorey (9T)

German: Peter Musson (9E), Francis Granfield (9T) and Daniel Selwood (9N)

Spanish: Ammar Al-Hilali (9S), Chris Jones (9E), Oliver Bastow (9E), Jordan Au (9S) and Dario Montes-Rodriguez (9N), Liam Cullingford (9S), Louis Luke (9N), James Atkinson (9D), James Steel (9T) and Tom Shrewsbury (9E)

Spanish A-Level students recently spent a fantastic five days in Barcelona, visiting places of interest such as museums, the famous beautiful architecture, seeing local shows such as flamenco, experiencing local culture within the markets and cafés, tasting traditional local foods and throughout it all, of course using and practising their Spanish! It was a valuable experience for staff and pupils.

A-Level German students will be going to Nürnberg to experience their way of life, food and drinks, visit places of interest and of course practise their German.

Y11 and sixth form students will visit Friends House in London to hear speakers and gain valuable resources to enable them to revise for their French and Spanish examinations. These conferences have proved very valuable in the past and have given the students a boost of enthusiasm.

Our work with primary schools is progressing well, with excellent feedback from the school and the Local Authority. Pupils from partner primary schools have been coming to Bournemouth School this term to participate in taster Chinese lessons. These are proving to be very enjoyable and successful.

Ex-pupil Success

Congratulations go to James Kidman, who is currently studying for a degree in nutrition and food science at the University of Reading and has just been awarded a £2,000 Entrance scholarship towards the costs of his first year studies by the University.

Exchanges

I am very sorry to have to inform parents that we are currently unable to run the foreign exchange programme of which we have been so proud. After more than 30 years of excellent exchanges, changes to national guidelines have caused the school's insurers to require us to ensure that every person above the age of 18, in each host family, has been checked by the CRB (Criminal Records Bureau). We cannot, at this stage, see how we can comply with this requirement, so we have had to inform our partner schools that this year's exchanges must be abandoned. We will continue to try to find ways to ensure that pupils can gain the sort of valuable experience that the exchanges have provided to previous generations.

Charity

Mr Heyes persuaded a number of his colleagues to cycle on gym bikes, which were placed strategically in the main entrance foyer, to raise money for a school that we are supporting in South Africa. The event raised around £600 and also, perhaps, persuaded some of the boys that their teachers did, indeed, have lives outside the classroom. Competition between staff was so fierce that one of the two bicycles being used was broken.

Parents will be aware of the dreadful road accident last year in which one of our pupils, Greg Love, was hit by a Police car which was answering an emergency call. Greg is now severely disabled and is no longer on the school role, having transferred to Victoria School. Recently we held a non-uniform day which raised over £1100 for the school.

The school also supported a Fun Run held recently along the sea front for the Steve Bernard Trust. A number of staff and pupils – many in fancy dress – ran from Durley Chine to Boscombe Pier and back. Steve Bernard was an outstanding sportsman whilst at the school and was training to be a PE teacher when he and two university friends were killed in a car accident. The Trust which his parents set up, and which is organised to a large extent by ex-School Captain Craig Mathie, has already raised over £40,000 which it has used for local sportsmen and sports organisations (including Bournemouth School).

Army Scholarship

Congratulations to Thomas Andrews (L6D) who has been successful in gaining an Army Scholarship, one of only 50 scholarships awarded per year.

Congratulations

Tim Bowdler (U6S) has won a Gold Award in the Biology Olympiad, which puts him in the top 68 Year 13 Biologists who sat the Olympiad this year. An excellent achievement!

Radio Solent

Early-birds may have heard Ben Smith (10T) being interviewed recently by Julian Clegg on the Radio Solent breakfast show. Ben is keeping listeners updated on what it's like to be at school nowadays; he is due to appear regularly over the coming months.

CCF

As I begin to get a feel for what has to be done in order to run the CCF I can reflect on the fact that I have at least survived the challenge without causing too many problems to the myriad of people involved. The main thing is that the Cadets are still getting a huge amount out of being in the CCF and as a reflection on this the applications to join the CCF this year were well over a 100.

Our Adventure Training to Dartmoor in October was very successful and we have two more planned for this year. Our Ten Tors training headed by Cpl Lowry, Cpl Andrews and Cpl Shaw is going very well and we had 25 cadets taking part in a initial load carry from Hengistbury Head to Sandbanks car ferry on the 8th Dec in what can only be described as challenging conditions. A trip to Dartmoor in Feb was very well attended and all the Cadets (22) learnt a lot about navigation and basic expedition skills plus the fact that to date Jesus is the only one that is able to walk on water!

Once again this year the RAF have done well in the ground training competition coming a commendable third whilst the Sigs did well in the Nat Net competition by winning the competition for the first time. The Sigs section went on to do very well in the Cadet National Signalling Challenge with our team coming Third overall in a very tough event. A notable achievement was that Sgt. John Terry got the award for being the best cadet in the competition.

Forthcoming events that we are preparing for are Field Day in March during which each of the sections have events planned, another Adventure Training in April, Cadets off to Cyprus over Easter, Ten Tors training together with various camps and courses. Plus an inspection day in April during which I hope we might have a Governor or two in attendance.

The amount that has been achieved is really too great to list needless to say we are constantly looking at ways to improve the experience of the cadets. I am looking forward to the remainder of 2008 and all the challenges that it will bring; as I am sure we all do.

Major McAulay

Adventurous Training Course – Dartmoor National Park 21-23 October 2007

Over the autumn half term, some adventure seeking Year 10s from both BS and BSG, headed south west to the wilds of Dartmoor. The outlook was good – some exciting activities planned and a sunny weather forecast.

The first afternoon saw the group split into two activities, either to reach great heights and test agility by climbing or to plunge underground (essentially to get very wet and muddy) in some nearby caves. Both groups thoroughly enjoyed the activities, experiencing new things and testing their limits. On arrival at broadleaf camping and training centre, the cadets were briskly walked up the nearest tor by Major McAulay – to get some fresh air and their bearings.

The following day the cadets swapped over activities in the morning followed by a search for orange flags in the orienteering exercise later in the day. A cold, early start gave way to gorgeous sunny weather for the final day's activity, where the cadets led staff in a 6 hour hike among the tors; I am pleased to say that all groups were very successful!

Excellent behaviour and good humour ensured the Adventurous Training Course was a great success!

Amy Johnson

SPORT

Rugby

The Y7 rugby squad have had an excellent term, with the A team beating the B team 5-2 in the final of the annual 5 a-side competition at Rokko Sports Centre. Both sides won their pools before meeting in the final.

In the same week they came away with the trophy for the Dorset and Wilts county tournament, played at Salisbury Rugby Club. They played 8 matches and did not concede a try throughout the tournament. Staff commented that the squad comprises very talented boys, who play the game in the right spirit and to a very high standard.

Badminton

Before half term two teams were selected to represent the school in the first round of the Schools National Tournament sponsored by Badminton England. Both the senior and junior teams were successful winning through to the second round which was played against other Dorset schools in our Sports Hall in February.

The Senior Boys team played brilliantly against strong opposition but were very narrowly beaten into second place by a team from Ashdown. Overall point scores were the same as the winning team in both the match and the competition as a whole.

Senior Team: Adam Kidman (11T), Ethan Fox (11E), Sam Emberson (11T), Hugo Parker (11S) and Sean Jordan (11S).

The Junior Team played extremely well, beating their opponents in every match played and have secured a place in the next round of the tournament which is to be played in Exeter in March.

Junior Team: Jonathan Osborne (9S), Rory Lindsay (7T), John Spawton (7S) and Edward Yorke-Saville (9N).

Members of both teams, assisted by some of our badminton Junior Helpers, also acted as match officials throughout the day. Ryan Crooks (10E), Amien Al Sadi (10E) and Robert Watts (10S) deserve special commendation for their work throughout the day.

Karate

Congratulations to Damian Aries (8S) who has achieved his Black Belt this month.

Step into Sport Community Volunteering Award

Students taking part in this Award arrange their own community based volunteering placements and work towards a bronze, silver or gold award which require 50, 100 and 200 hours respectively – for FREE!

Tom Clarke – 107 hours accrued – Silver Award
Tom worked as a swim coach for their junior team within the Bournemouth Swimming Club.

Jonathan Rake – 108 hours accrued – Silver Award
Jon worked at Parley Cricket club coaching their juniors and helping with the ground maintenance staff.

Clinton Norris – 200 hours accrued – Gold Award
Clinton split his time between two placements. The first was at Sturminster Marshall Golf Club working with their 'Sunshine Kids' coaching academy, the second with AFCB's Disability Football programme. Congratulations go to all three, whose efforts have made a big impact on other children in the local community. Well done!

Lost Property

It would help enormously if parents could label **all** items of clothing – particularly PE kit, including football/rugby boots and trainers. The amount of lost property is considerable. All labelled items are returned to their owners as soon as they are received.

Parents Association

Lottery

<u>Ticket</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Drawn by</u>
December 2007		
695	Dr Zaidman	James Triggs (11T)
615	Mr and Mrs Burr	Alexander Earth (7T)
187	M Stewart	Jacob Parker (11T)

Amount: £90.00

January 2008

621	Mrs Sarel	Corbin Spicer (10T)
89	Mr & Mrs K Wright	Christian Frampton (10E)
25	S Knowles	Shamil Nunhuck (10E)

Amount: £90.00

February 2008

697	Dr Zaidman	Mohammed Elhenawy (9E)
414	Mr J Bedford	Huw Williams (10D)
144	Mrs Gheissari	Gareth Fielden (8D)

Amount: £90.00

Star Awards

150 Stars

7N

Michael Boucher
Luke Harvell
Jack Helyar
Philip Mylankal

7T

Thomas Kidman

200 Stars

7N

Michael Boucher

End of Term Arrangements

Thursday 20th March 2008

School finishes at 12.10 pm

Shamrock 36 & 89 will run am and pm
Shamrock 54 – will run am only
Roadliner East Dorset will run am and pm
Shamrock – 53 and 60 School Specials will run am only

Canteen will only be open until mid-morning break.

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

Start of Term Arrangements

Monday 7th April 2008

Timetable is Week 2

Start of School 8.20 am

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



BOURNEMOUTH SCHOOL SCOUT GROUP

35th Bournemouth Scouts, Sea Scouts and Explorer Scouts

RN Recognised Unit No 47.

A short Spring term which started with the annual Bureaucratic Battle with our double Census filling Session. The Royal Navy require lists of badges gained during the year whilst the Scout Census requires entries in order of dates of birth. (As usual two Scouts were found to be celebrating their first birthday in 2009!). The good news from both lists was that our numbers are up yet again.

The year started with two 'Patrol Activity Nights' for which each Patrol 'went somewhere' on one Friday and organised a 'training activity' at school on the other. The latter went a little off target when the patrols were challenged to a Chariot Race which involved practical pioneering and a lot of shouting. Nobody was fatally injured.

The Bournemouth District Swimming Gala collided with the RN Sea Scout Gala which weakened both teams. Our contingent to HMS Raleigh's great pool did well in many events whilst at Littledown some last minute let-downs left James Aitkenhead trying to save the day by entering as many events as he could persuade the organisers to let him take part in. He did very well and reached the finals in several events.

Our Annual Junior Scouts' Camp took place at Burley Scout Hut over the first weekend of Half Term. The majority of the Troop took part and found themselves on an incident hike and a night activity interspersed with the usual badge testing and training sessions. For these camps the Explorer Scouts do all the catering whilst the Patrol Leaders run the activities and Assistant PLs take over their patrols. The Ancient Scoutleader sits in a corner and tries to look as if he knows what is going on. (And who was it who forgot that he'd invited the District Commissioner to join us for Sunday Lunch?) Many thanks to the Explorer Scouts for using their initiative on this!

The Competition for the Connaught Trophy was won by 'White Patrol' of APL Billy Coleman, Richard Lamb, Daniel Ward, Keanu Ghorbanian and Luke Emmerson.

On Field Day the Scouts went on an 'overseas voyage' (to the Isle of Wight) in search of the long lost treasure of one Josiah Screwbucket. This involved a photographic hunt round the streets of Yarmouth until the treasure was located at Yarmouth Railway Station. Thanks again to Mrs Platt who helped ride shotgun on the journey and to Mr Cudmore who kept finding boys who had fallen off the station platform and needed first aid.

Last year our 'Summer Camp' moved to Easter to accommodate the many Centenary activities in the summer. The camp on Dartmoor proved so popular that it is being repeated this year for Patrol Leaders and Explorer Scouts – and the ubiquitous James Aitkenhead!

Several Troop Meetings have been involved with progressing the Scouts through the requirements for the stages of the Emergency Aid badges. Alex Bell is to be congratulated on completing the Chief Scout's Gold Award. Together with four other members of the Troop he should be receiving his Certificate at this year's St George's Day Service.

Finally may I draw the attention of all Scouts, ex-Scouts, Parents and Friends to the fact that we are having an 'Official Re-Opening of the Scout Hut' as part of a special Open Evening on Friday 25th April. This will also include an attempt on the world record for the fastest legal AGM – and free refreshments!

The floor of the Scout Hut at Bournemouth School has been replaced recently and is now a plain, level plywood surface. We need to add a covering to this. Rubber safety floor tiles are available that would be very suitable and provide a durable, long lasting surface and allow an historical record to be made of our group to become our centenary time capsule. To enable this to take place we need to purchase 200 tiles.

We would like to give everyone connected with the Group past or present the opportunity to purchase a tile at the cost of £10 per tile. In return, you will have your name and the possibility of writing, or have written for you, a time capsule message on the back of the tile that can be read by future generations of Scouts. Tiles are 500mm square so an A4 sized sheet may be stuck to the reverse of the tile. You also have the pleasure of being able to say that Scouts have stepped on you for years to come!

If you provide an email address then you will receive a copy of the location of your tile(s) when the floor is laid. There is also a competition to design a pattern for the layout of the new tiles as these come in colours similar to the troop neckerchief. If you would like to enter this you will need to have purchased a tile and to contact Mr Cudmore for an entry form. The winning design will be used as the floor layout chosen from all entries received.

J. Preston
Scouter in Charge