



Trinity School

Headmaster's Newsletter

Week ending: Friday 23rd September 2011

From the Headmaster

Dear Parents,

Outward Bound

I am delighted that today the school was handed an incredibly generous cheque for £250,000 by Mr Dick Boetius. Dick was educated at Whitgift but then came to teach Biology and coach rugby at Trinity. However, his main passion was outward bound activities and for many generations of Trinity boys their first experience of climbing, caving, canoeing and trekking came from trips organised by Dick. He retired several years ago but has always kept a real interest in the school and has asked that his donation be put towards the purchase of an Outward Bound Centre which will be called The Boetius Centre. This is a wonderful gift which will, I trust, be of lasting value to the school.

Chinese News

It is a measure both of the growing commercial ascendancy of China and the interest generated in the Chinese language and culture at Trinity, that this year three of our recent Upper Sixth leavers have gone on to study Chinese at University including one who is actually spending three years at a Chinese University under the auspices of Nottingham University.

Our recent 5th Years also performed very strongly at GCSE with two boys **Josh Meyer** and **Lloyd Abbott** achieving 100% in their Mandarin GCSE.

We also heard recently from an old boy, **Peter Dolby**, who came first in the UK in a competition which led him to the global final which was held in China over the summer. With 130 students from just over 60 countries, Peter gave an outstanding performance, which consisted of a debate, a play and a random question session, all in Chinese, in which he came a very creditable second. He was also recently awarded a Chinese Government Scholarship and is now reading a Masters in Classical Chinese Literature at Fudan University in Shanghai.

Sports Results

Rugby v Wimbledon College

1 st XV	Lost	7-37
2 nd XV	Lost	5-33
U16A	Lost	26-48
U15A	Won	21-8
U15B	Won	33-7
U14A	Won	29-27
U14B	Lost	0-63
U14C	Won	49-24
U13A	Won	41-0
U13B	Won	54-0
U13C	Won	36-0
U12A	Won	32-5
U12B	Lost	5-10

Girls Hockey v St George's

1 st XI	Won	5-1
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Football Independent Schools' Cup

U15	Won	4-1
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v Alleyns

U13	Won	4-1
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U12	Won	2-0
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Learning Skills

You may recall in my letter at the start of this term that one of our key priorities for the year is to help our students take responsibility for the organisation of their work. This week we have organised a session on learning skills for boys in the Junior Year run by members of staff and a half-day on independent study skills for pupils in the Lower 6th run by a team of outside experts. In the Junior Year topics covered included time management, planning and effective ways to find, record and present information, whilst the focus for our more mature students has been to develop and enhance existing study skills.

Music

During the last academic year a total of 131 boys took Associated Board Music Exams at various grades with 22 distinctions and 36 merits awarded. Particular congratulations to **Stefan Leadbeater** (3rd Year) who received a distinction in Singing (Grade 6) at the end of the summer term and **Ben Richardson** (5th Year) who received a distinction in Piano (Grade 8).

Sport – Girls Hockey

The sporting highlight of this week was unquestionably our girls' hockey team who in their first ever hockey match played St George's, Weybridge. They played some great hockey and displayed real teamwork to win 5-1 with four goals from **Alice Gallop** and one from **Sarah Bingham**. Many congratulations to all the girls on this winning start.

Rugby

There were a number of close fought games last week and it was good to see the overall improvement on last year being maintained. In the fixtures a year ago against Wimbledon College we won just 5 matches, but this year the total has risen to 8 with pride of place going to our Under 13A team who won 41-0 having drawn 17-17 last year.

Football

This is the first year that we have had a full-time Head of Football and a full fixture list for all the younger years and it has been very pleasing seeing the boys get off to a flying start.

Kickboxing International

Congratulations to **Jarrold Nelson-Robb** (3rd Year) who has represented Great Britain in kickboxing. In a tournament last weekend, Jarrold came up against and actually beat the current Under 14 World Champion.

Headmaster's Summer Project

Over the last couple of weeks I have again received some really outstanding and inspiring submissions for the Headmaster's Summer Project Prize from boys in the Lower School. It is always a particular pleasure seeing creative work that has been done voluntarily by the boys. Particular congratulations to the prize winners:

- 1st Place: **Henry Aldridge** (2nd Year) who made an exceptional model of Doctor Death from the time of the Black Death;
- Joint 2nd: **Alex Howat** (2nd Year) who made a wonderfully innovative DVD and **Shea Brennan** (2nd Year) who produced an excellent piece of creative writing;
- Joint 3rd: **Afzal Ahmad** (1st Year) who made a large and impressive model aeroplane and **John Ritchie** (3rd Year) who wrote an intelligent and perceptive review of books and films he had encountered over the holidays.

Future Events

Celebrity Recital

Lucille Burns (flautist and tutor for the National Children's Orchestra) and the **Frank Ensemble** will be performing in the Concert Hall on Monday 26th September from 7pm. The performance will include works by *Villa-Lobos*, *Tomasi* and *Ravel* for flute, clarinet, harp and string quartet. Entry is free and I hope that some of you will be able to attend.

Sixth Form New Entrants Evening

Our Open Evening for prospective 6th Form girls and boys will be held next Thursday 29th September at 7pm in the Concert Hall. This is not an evening for current Trinity boys. However, if you know of anyone who might be interested in their son or daughter transferring into our 6th Form in September 2012, please do encourage them to attend.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Family and friends are invited to a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support on Thursday 29th September from 8am–11am in the Mitre Theatre Foyer. If you are unable to attend and would like to make a donation, please send it in an envelope marked 'Macmillan Cancer Support' to the School Office with your son or daughter.

Archivist's Assistant

Over the last few years our Archivist, Mrs Annie Fairley, has done a superb job of collecting, organising and presenting some fascinating material concerning the history of the school. We are now looking to provide some additional, very limited but important, support to further this work. The ideal person would be someone who has a prior association with the school (e.g. an old boy or parent), who has good people skills with some organisational and ICT ability and who has some creative skills to produce imaginative display work. The total hours over the year would only be around 80 (i.e. c. 10 full days) and so a willingness to work flexible hours would be welcome. In the first instance this would be a temporary post just for one year but it might be possible in the future to see the role expand. If you are interested in finding out more, including the rate of pay, do contact Annie on adf@trinity.croydon.sch.uk

New Bike Sheds

This week we took delivery of two brand new bike sheds which have been donated to us by Transport for London. If boys do cycle to school they should ensure that their bikes are stored in these new sheds.

With kind regards

Mark Bishop