



*Striving for Excellence*

# Cirencester Kingshill School

*Head: Christine S. Oates*

## NEWSLETTER - MAY 2009

Dear Parent,

I hope that your son/daughter has informed you of the new canopy that has been built at the back of the school. This was at the request of the pupils to provide some under cover area while waiting for the buses. We have also had more heaters installed in the main entrance, the concourse and the science corridor ready for the winter. These areas of the school were particularly cold last winter.

At the end of this term Mr Chris Bream will be leaving Kingshill, he has been promoted to Head of Design and Technology at Cleeve School. We wish him well in his new post.

Mr Edwards will be stepping into Head of Year 10 from June, once Year 11 have left. Mr Edwards is a very experienced Head of year and will continue to be the head of year when Year 10 move into Year 11.

I hope you and your families enjoy the May break. School starts back on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June.

Miss Christine Oates - Headteacher

### **Important Dates for Year 10**

Year 10 end of year examinations will be from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June until Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June. These will take place in the Sports hall and each exam will last 1½ hours. Individual timetables with the exams and seat numbers will be issued to the Year 10 pupils after the May break.

Mrs S Little - Assistant Head

### **GCSE Examination for Science**

Reminder to parents that the final two modular science exams this year for Year 10 pupils are on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. These count for 25% towards either their core science GCSE or towards their appropriate triple science courses. Please support and encourage your child to revise as fully as they can for these papers.

Mrs S Pearson - Director of Science

### **Kingshill link with JNV Talodhi School India**

Miss Oates and Mr Green spent a hugely enjoyable week at our link India school, JNV Talodhi, just after Easter. We were there to develop a partnership plan to be put into place from now to the run up to the Olympic Games. As well as developing the joint action plan the Kingshill staff were able to watch displays of traditional sports kho-kho, Kabaddi and Malalkhamb as well as lessons including an inspirational Mathematics class using abacus.

We look forward to an enjoyable and useful link between the two schools over the next two years.

Mr O Green - Director of Sport

### **Raising the profile of Engineering**

The Science, Mathematics and Design Technology Department are starting a new cross-curricular club in the Summer term to promote their subjects along with engineering design. A small group of keen pupils from Year 7 will be selected to take part in the activities that will run once a week after school. If there are any parents who are willing to come along and either talk to the group about their jobs within these areas, or who would be willing to help out with the club, please contact Mrs Pearson, Director of Science.

### **Use of Pupil Planners**

The school's pupil planner provides a number of important functions:

- It enables pupils to record and organise their homework and for parents to be more able to maintain an overview of it.
- As a means of subject staff communicating praise or concerns to parents.
- It allows tutors to monitor patterns of homework and to share information with parents.

With this last function in mind, tutors are asked to regularly check and sign pupils' planners. Could we please also politely remind parents of the request to sign planners on a weekly basis to indicate that you are monitoring the completion and quality of homework. Of course, if you should have any concerns in this regard, do please contact your child's tutor or the subject teacher direct.

Mr C Patrick - Head of KS4

### Year 7 – Whitemead Trip

Year 7 are looking forward to their residential trip to Whitemead in the Forest of Dean during term 6. During the week of 29<sup>th</sup> June – 3<sup>rd</sup> July, all six tutor groups will be enjoying a variety of activities to encourage team building and teacher/pupil/peer relationships

- From Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June to Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July, tutor groups 7NB, 7MH and 7MC will be at Whitemead.
- From Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, tutor groups 7MT, 7GA and 7VR will be at Whitemead.

Pupils not going on the residential trip will attend school as usual.

### Year 8 Visit to France

Between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of May 2009 thirty two Year 8 Pupils enjoyed a fabulous visit to the Chateau de Chantereine in Northern France. From the moment they arrived to the time they left pupils enjoyed a variety of activities and excursions both within the Chateau's beautiful grounds and in the surrounding areas. From seeing first hand how cheese and cider are produced in the local area to a thought provoking day exploring the World War One trenches at Vimy Ridge, pupils were kept busy from dusk 'till dawn. There was plenty of time for fun though, and most important of all eating! Whether this was the amazing variety of local cheeses that found their way on to the dinner table every night, the frog's legs and snails at the tasting dinner, or the chocolate crêpes purchased in the local crêperie, Kingshill's pupils were certainly well fed! A great time was had by all, the sun shone, plenty of French was spoken and Year 8 were both a credit to themselves and their school.

Mrs C Watson

### Rhineland Visit

This Easter break saw another successful Year 8 visit to Germany. 43 pupils and 5 members of staff enjoyed a 6 day visit to the Rhine area, where they were able to experience German culture first hand. Visits included a day out in Cologne where all 48 of us climbed the 509 winding steps up to the top of the cathedral, followed by a visit to the Lindt chocolate museum where we were able to replace all the calories we burnt off climbing the steps! There was also plenty of time for shopping and visits to local towns where pupils were able to practice their German speaking skills with the locals. Our evenings were filled by practising for the talent show, playing rounders and football or at a local swimming pool. The final day was spent at Phantasialand where many of us got extremely wet on the water rides, but all had great fun. All pupils and staff thoroughly enjoyed the trip.

Mrs J Davies - Acting Head of Modern Languages

### Year 9 Trip to Swindon Town Football Club

The Year 9 trip to STFC was a great success. Forty-five pupils from Year 9, Mr Ryder and other staff were taken to the club ground for a VIP visit and guided tour (including some training from the coach!).

The sun was shining and excitement was high as we boarded the coach to Swindon. The pupils clearly had a fantastic time watching the professional footballers train for a match, taking a look around the changing rooms and being shown a few top tips from the coaches.

Each and every pupil got to train on the ground, recreating the training drills that they had just seen from the professionals, followed by a question and answer session with a couple of the Swindon Town players.

The pupils are currently writing reports of their visit to STFC for a competition to win a signed Swindon shirt.

Mrs A Bateman.

### Change of Circumstances

It is very important that the school has up-to-date contact details for all pupils, including their correct address and parents' home, work and mobile phone numbers. This obviously means that communication between home and school runs effectively and is of course vital in the event of an emergency.

Parents are therefore requested to inform the school as soon as possible of any changes of circumstances or contact details so that pupils' safety can be assured and we can avoid embarrassing phone calls to numbers that are no longer applicable.

Thank you for your co-operation.



### Tennis Academy.

Following on from the success of the Tennis Academy last year, the early morning sessions are continuing to be popular. Local coach Simon Hutchinson coaches all year groups every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 7.30am – 8.30am. Everyone welcome.

### Activities Day

Activities Day is on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July for Years 8, 9 & 10. This is intended to be a social day when each Year Group can celebrate a year's hard work with their tutors and friends. Please ensure that you are there promptly to collect your child at the allotted time.

### Y11 U'16 South Cotswold League Football Final

Kingshill beat Deer Park in a thrilling schools cup final, 3 goals to 2.

We couldn't have wished for a worse start, Deer Park scoring within a minute from kick off, this inspired us to greater heights. Our reward came a few minutes later, Max Risby firing a shot into the top corner.

Continuous pressure and determination brought us our second goal, Ellis Dunton sliding the ball past the Deer Park goalkeeper, making the score 2-1.

The desire to win was becoming all more evident. James Bayliss and Ed Brown prevented attacks down the wings, whilst Matt Berry and Chris Jenkins defended brilliantly, taking the two Deer Park strikers completely out of the game.

Chances came and went for both teams but then with a fantastic header from Luke Fallows we went into a 3-1 lead going into the final fifteen minutes.

All the Kingshill supporters who turned out to watch created a great atmosphere.

At 3-1, we were hoping that would be enough to clinch the match. Deer Park constructed a well worked goal, Aiden Bennett sliding the ball into the bottom corner, with just minutes to go.....

With sustained pressure from both sides, the intensity rose towards the final whistle, and when that whistle went, the crowd erupted and the celebrations began.

As we went up to receive our medals, and as Captain Ollie Pitt lifted the plate, we were all very proud of what we had achieved as a team.

Tom Finnie - Year 11

### Friends of Kingshill School

Charity begins at school? 100% increase in raffle proceeds.

You've done it again. There was no egg on our face when we revealed the Easter Raffle proceeds this week. A massive £2,400. School is where the heart is and despite the credit crunch you've prioritised and remembered Charity begins at school. Our goal "to enhance the lives of our children at school by providing those luxuries otherwise not available from LA funding"

Thank you and happy half term.

Friends of Kingshill School.

### School Uniform

REMINDER!! Summer uniform is plain black trousers or knee length skirt and navy school polo shirts. Navy blue or white t-shirts may be worn underneath the polo shirt. You may wear white shirts and ties if you wish but the shirt must be tucked in. If the weather is cool, school sweatshirts should be worn NOT other jackets or cardigans. Thank you for your support in upholding the high standard of uniform.



Year 11 Football Team