



*Striving for Excellence*

# Cirencester Kingshill School

*Head: Christine S. Oates*

## NEWSLETTER - MAY 2010

Dear Parent,

I hope that your son/daughter has informed you of the new wide path that has been built from the sports hall to the tennis courts and the new double gates at the end of the tennis courts. This will hopefully cut down on the mud walked into the sports hall in winter. The new path and gates will also ensure that pupils are safer as they will no longer need to walk along the road around school when going from the sports hall to the tennis courts.

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 7<sup>th</sup> June.

Miss Christine S Oates - Headteacher

### Year 10 Science Module Examinations

The last two formal GCSE module examination papers for all Year 10 pupils are on Monday 28th June. It is essential that pupils are in school for these examinations. Please encourage your son or daughter to revise hard for these papers so that they can boost the marks they have already gained throughout the year.

Mrs S Pearson – Director of Science

### 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or contact details so that pupils' safety can be assured and we can avoid embarrassing phone calls to numbers that are no longer applicable.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.



### Tudor Cirencester comes to Kingshill

On Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April and Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April all Year 8 students at Kingshill had a wonderful Tudor learning experience when staff from the Corinium Museum came to the school bringing with them a whole range of Tudor artefacts. Students were given a hands on learning experience of handling Tudor artefacts and examining documents from Tudor Cirencester. The activities the students participated in brought to life what it was like to have lived in Tudor Cirencester and enhanced their learning of their local history. I would like to thank the Corinium museum for making this such an enriching experience for everyone involved.

Mr K King – Head of History



## **Sport Relief 2010**

In March the whole school took part in our Sport Relief event: 'run a mile'. Kingshill pupils participated wearing various costumes and using diverse methods of locomotion; hands and knees, three-legged, backwards to name but a few! House points were awarded for Year group winners and for effort with costume. We also awarded a House point for every sponsorship form returned and we matched each pound raised with a further House point. Through the Sport Relief event alone, Hurricane House achieved 674 points, Gauntlet House 489 points and Meteor House 478 points. The Sports College would like to give a special mention to Jake Barry, Emily Peter, Ryan Curtis, Molly David, Toby Twinning, Sam Edis and Tim Foley who raised over £30 each in sponsorship money. Congratulations also to Dan Shrigley whose sponsored 50km cycle ride raised £155.50 for the charity. The overall figure raised for Sport Relief by Kingshill School was an impressive £882.12.

## **House System**

Several House events were held at Kingshill during the Spring term. The PE faculty organised House competitions in gym, freeball and football and House points were awarded for involvement with the Dance Evening. The Mathematics, English and Science faculties each held their own House event and pupils who achieved success in the Rotary Young Chefs Competition were also acknowledged. Our Year 11 Heads of House were provided with training to create and maintain their own House websites and we hope to provide the rest of the school with access to these by the end of the year. The current scores are as follows: in 1<sup>st</sup> place Hurricane House with 4003 points; in 2<sup>nd</sup> place Gauntlet House with 3866 points and in 3<sup>rd</sup> place Meteor House with 3631 points.

## **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.

**Uniform is available for sale from Reception Monday to Friday between 12.00-1.30pm.**

## **Swimming Championships**

Swimmer Sophie Brown in Year 10, brought home five medals from Millfield at the British Gas ASA South West Regional Youth Swimming Championships held over the May Bank holiday weekend.

Sophie, reached the finals in all her six individual events. She had some impressive swims over the three day competition and returned with silver medals in the 50m and 100m Backstroke and bronze medals in the 100m and 200m Butterfly.

Her fifth medal was as part of the Gloucester City 4 x 100m Freestyle relay team, where the girls were pipped into 3<sup>rd</sup> place, beaten only by strong teams from Plymouth Leander and Bath University. The girls are hoping their times in the freestyle and medley relays are fast enough to qualify them for Nationals.

Sophie will be attending a six day pre Nationals training camp in Cardiff at the end of the month, in preparation for the National Championship to be held in Sheffield during August.

Also, Jordan Thornton, Year 9, participated in the county competitions again this year in February and March. He has again improved on last year, gaining five gold, two silver and a bronze medal. Overall, across all disciplines, he was 2<sup>nd</sup> in his age group in the county.

Jordan has achieved qualifying times for regional competition in six events, which take place at Millfield school in June.

Good luck to both of them

## **2010 Playground to Podium Programme**

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been selected to progress to the County stage of the 2010 Playground to Podium Programme, Ellen Craddy, Francis Hopkins and Rosa Spencer.

## **District Football Tournament**

Congratulations to the Year 10 Football Team who recently won the U'15 Stroud and Cotswold Schools District Tournament.

The success of the Year 10's was closely followed by the Year 8, 9 and 11 teams who were all losing finalists. Four out of five teams reaching the district finals is a great achievement by all who represented the school football teams this year.

Well done!

## Results of Year 11 Parents' Survey

As parents will know, we issue Surveys once each year along with one of your son/daughter's progress reports. Thank you to all parents who take the time to complete these – the information is always analysed by the Senior Team and action planned where appropriate.

Below are the results of the Year 11 Parents' Survey:

	%Agree/ Strongly Agree
My child has been helped at school to plan their future after Kingshill	88%
My child is being well-prepared for their GCSE exams	95%
The school keeps me well informed of my Child's progress	93%
The school provides a good range of extra-curricular activities	96%
My child receives an appropriate amount of homework to support his/her GCSE studies	83%
A high standard of behaviour is expected from pupils at Kingshill	93%
My child enjoys going to school	84%
I am pleased with the progress my child has made so far in Year 11	81%

Mr C Patrick – Head of Key Stage 4

## Year 8 Visit to France

Between the 31<sup>st</sup> March to 4<sup>th</sup> April 2010 Seventy Year 8 Pupils enjoyed a great visit to the Château 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 Château'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 dawn 'till dusk. There was plenty of time for fun though. A great time was had by all, even though the sun didn't always shine! Plenty of French was spoken and Year 8 were both a credit to themselves and the school.

Mrs J Davies - Head of Modern Foreign Languages

## Spelling Bee Competition

With the Kingshill House Spelling Bee in the bag, our team of Year 7 spellers went off in search of further competition last month when they took part in the regional heats for the national Times Spelling Bee Championship. The teams held up well under the pressure of the spotlights and 7 other teams fighting for a place in the semi-finals. However, the competition was strong and our 'Cirencester Kingspellers' weren't quite able to progress to the next round. Nevertheless, a very respectable third place finish and a nail-biting competition made for a thoroughly enjoyable day out. Well done to Nick Desmond, Rebecca Giles, Callum Handy and Josh Wright for their efforts!

Mr A Coates - Head of English

