

# MARLBOROUGH HOUSE SCHOOL NEWS

25<sup>th</sup> June 2010

Issue No. 510

## !!!!ACTION!!!!ACTION!!!!

- **Staff v Parents Cricket and Rounders** – A reminder that if any mothers or fathers would like to play in the parents v staff rounders and cricket matches next Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July please call Melissa and/or Mark Russell-Vick on 01622 831515.

- **Benenden School entry 2013** - Please note that Benenden will shortly be closing their 13+ list for entry in September 2013 and opening a Waiting List. If therefore any Year 5 parents are thinking of Benenden for their daughters they would need to register as soon as possible.

- **Years 5 – 8 Inter-House Athletics** – A reminder that all children in Years 5 – 8 will be involved in the Inter-House Athletics tomorrow, Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June. The children should arrive no later than 10.15am in their games kit with their House top.

- **MHS Second-Hand Shop** – Mrs Jenny Skinner, who kindly runs the MHS second-hand shop at school, would be delighted to hear from anyone who would be able to man the shop on Friday mornings from September from 8.15am – 9.15am. Please contact the office or Mrs Skinner on 01892 724846.

- **Year 3 and 4 Inter-House Athletics**- All parents are very welcome to come along to support the Year 3 and 4 children in their Inter-House Athletics competition on Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> July from 1.30 - 4.00pm.

- **Informal Concert** – There will be an Informal Concert in the Music Room on Tuesday at 6.15 – 6.45pm. All welcome.

## GENERAL

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Many congratulations to Aaron Sutton (one of our groundsmen) and Louise, who are now the proud parents of their third child, after the arrival of baby Sam on Monday night.

We have been very pleased to welcome **JJ and Holly Emerson** back to MHS this week. JJ has been in 3N and Holly in Year 5. They left MHS last year and are spending 18 months in India before returning to MHS and England next Summer.

### **Visit by the Army Cadet Training Team**

As part of the Leavers' programme we had a visit on Tuesday by a team of soldiers from No 7 Army Cadet Training Team based in Chatham with the Royal Engineers. The team was led by Captain Ollie Jackson of the Royal Engineers who told the leavers about opportunities to join the Combined Cadet Force (CCF) at their senior schools and how this might lead to an Army Bursary at university and a place at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. He gave a short talk on his own career including operations in Afghanistan before the 'Year 8 leavers' squad' was taken out for a spot of drill with Sergeant Plank of the Royal Signals in full military uniform complete with medals! The remainder of the morning was spent on a rations and weapons demonstration, a stalking exercise in the Dell and a leadership and initiative challenge involving camouflage nets, buckets, bits of rope and bollards. A lot of fun was had by the children and the Training Team were very complimentary of the good manners and enthusiasm of all our Year 8's.

## Bewl Trip

Mrs Perrin, Mr Tooze and Mrs Greenwood (former Head of Girls' Games) joined Mrs Fox to set the challenge to the Year 7's of walking the 12½ miles around the edge of Bewl reservoir. The children were slightly nervous about the prospect but readily rose to the challenge and at 9am on Thursday morning they headed off. Mr Tooze set a fast pace and the children were at his heels all the way. They had a few mini stops on the way and then had a lovely break at Mr and Mrs Bentsen's house for lunch. Amazingly the children still managed to find enough energy to play on the adventure playground (and so did the staff!) before heading off again for the final stretch. They walked it in record time and without any moaning about the distance or blisters! Well done to all the children, the staff thoroughly enjoyed their company and the positive attitude. Thank you to Mrs Fox for her idea and for organising the walk.

## LOST AND FOUND

The following items are currently missing:

- ❖ Otilie Sandford (7P) has been missing her tracksuit bottoms since before half term.
- ❖ Hugo Godwin (8J) is still missing his watch. It is a Timex Sports Watch, chunky with a black strap – it has his name written on the strap but it is hard to read!

Please check your children's items to see if they have any of these by mistake. Many thanks.

***The children enjoyed their 'Walk to Africa' this morning! Full details will appear in next week's Newsletter.***

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:** Archie Wilson (25<sup>th</sup> June), Ben Mathewson and Jessica Fox (29<sup>th</sup> June), Myles Denbow (30<sup>th</sup> June) and Henry Killick (1<sup>st</sup> July).

## Year 6 Camp

The Year 6 camp this year was blessed with great weather and great children! All 39 of them participated with whole-hearted enthusiasm and threw themselves into all the tasks (raft-building, orienteering, rock-climbing & abseiling ... even cooking). There was very amusing evening entertainment, with various raps, jokes and dances and the camaraderie and team spirit were excellent at all times. It was a measure of how involved they all were, that none even noticed they were missing that miserable England - Algeria match!

Well done to all the children, and big thanks to all the staff; Mr Phillips, Mrs Walker, Miss Reeves, Mrs McWilliams, Mrs Bryan, as well as the two Gaps, Patrick and Chris, all of whom gave invaluable help, despite some being a bit poorly – and all of whom deserved a long hot bath on Saturday afternoon – well, that's what Mr Davidson had, anyway!

A big thank you goes to Mr Davidson for organising the camp once again.

### ***Well done to the following who achieved 3 or more Good Marks last week:***

**AWDRY:** Amelia Sandford, Kitty Skinner, Charlie Horlick, Otilie Sandford, Isobel Spence, Louisa West, Daniel Ball, Joe Briley, Harriet Dipper, Freya Desoutter, Eloise Gare, Katherine Reid, Ben Fox and Sam Wheatley.

**DUNBAR:** Patrick Boland, Polly Forbes, Natasha Gale, Alice Richardson, Georgia Bickerton (2), Phoebe Gale, Sophie Lunshof, Natasha Machin, Flora Macpherson, George Marshall, Sam Huggett, Mollie Oliver and Bea Walker.

**EGAN:** Isobel Locke, Rose Down, Hamish Heilbron, Millie Poole, Cara Fuller, Serena Rawlings, Isobel Cloke and Alice Locke.

**HAWKINGS:** Cornelia Bentsen (2), Charlotte Ross, Jacob Perrett, Elizabeth Weighell, Ella Williamson, Elspeth Gordon, Henry Poole, Olivia Jones, Hannah Anderson and Angus Anderson.

The winning House was **AWDRY**.

### **Nursery and Pre-Prep Sports Day**

The weather for the Nursery and Pre-Prep Sports Day on Tuesday could not have been better. In the morning, the Nursery and Reception children charmed parents with their relaxed attitude – waving to their parents as they ran and enjoying the races including a 'Funny Face' Relay for Nursery and a 'Ladybird' Relay for Reception. Parents enjoyed a glass of Pimms on the lawn at the end of the proceedings.

In the afternoon the Year 1 and 2 children all did so well, some earning first place certificates and all receiving a sticker, an achievement certificate and an ice lolly!

Many thanks to Mrs Liz Chacksfield who worked behind the scenes producing all the certificates as soon as the races are finished, to the games staff for their smooth organisation, to Mrs Sheila Payne and Mr Hopkins for handing out the certificates and stickers and finally to Mr Lockyer and his staff who provided the delicious refreshments for parents on the lawn.

### **Year 7 Clay Day**

The Year 7 children thoroughly enjoyed their "Clay Day" last Friday, a fun day after their exams. They looked at cacti and other succulents for their inspiration and created some wonderful pots and objects under the supervision of Sue Fields and Rowena McWilliams. Otilie Sandford managed to make a pot that is bigger than the MHS kiln! Piers Crowther worked particularly hard on his cactus. Everyone produced successful pottery and worked really well – the best behaved Year 7 ever! Well done to all.



### **Year 5 Science trip to Herstmonceux Science Centre**

The annual Year 5 Science trip to the Observatory Science Centre in Herstmonceux took place last Friday. The weather was just right – not too hot or cold – or rainy! As usual, there were lots of things to rattle, bang, hit, pull, twist and turn, jump on etc. The water section was particularly popular, with its Archimedes screw and other methods of moving water from one place to another. It is always exciting to see the great doors of the domes opening to allow the telescopes a clear view of the sky, and the large size of the telescopes never fails to impress. The Year 5 pupils made the most of all the exhibits, carefully reading the information so that they were able to get the most out of their visit. Many thanks to Mr Norris and Mrs Perrin for accompanying them and also to Mrs Guye-Johnson and Mrs Poole for gallantly helping out too. A great time was had by all and Mrs Perrin can't wait for next year!

### **Pupils' Golf Competition**

Twenty children took part in the Competition this year on a beautiful summer's evening. The Senior section was won by Sam van der Gaag (35 pts), 2<sup>nd</sup> was Laird Shepherd (33) and 3<sup>rd</sup> Henry Petch (31). Charlie Russell-Vick won the Junior Section with 31 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> was Will Jex with 26 and 3<sup>rd</sup> was Nicole Stewart with 23. Many thanks to the parents who marked cards and came along to support and to Mr Paul Tooze for organising the Competition.

### **Cranbrook School Family Science Extravaganza**

A reminder that all are welcome to the Family Science Extravaganza on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July from 4 – 8 pm at Cranbrook School. Grand opening of the scale model of the solar system, Herstmonceux Science Centre experiments, Moon rocks, Cosmic chemistry, Daleks, Astrodome Dinosaur show, Magician, Bouncy Castle and refreshments. All events are free.

## Skern Lodge

The Year 8 trip to Skern Lodge in Devon last week was another stunning success. The weather proved to be the icing on the cake with the skies clear and cloudless for four of the five days. The children were privileged to be able to take advantage of so many different activities in such stunning surroundings; abseiling from the cliffs, coastal traversing, climbing, high ropes, surfing, rafting, quay jumping, building and sleeping in the overnight bivi, cooking out in the fields, assault course and the exciting tunnels all proved to be a real test combined with fantastic fun! The children had a great disco on the last night - socialising with another Prep School from Norfolk. The instructors were superb, as always, and a special thank you must go to Mrs Sturdy who completed her tenth trip to Skern. It was one of the very best she can remember. Thanks also to Mr Judd who was delighted to see the achievements of his Year 8 charges and of course to Mr Mathers for organising and accompanying the trip once again.

## Tennis Coaching

Iden Green Tennis Club will be running some tennis clinics at the beginning of the holidays organised by Tony Cherry, the club coach.

Monday, 19th July - Pre-Benenden Tennis Tournament Doubles Clinics, Year 7 & below 10am-12pm and Year 8 & above 12-2pm £12 per player (discounts for siblings).

Monday/Tuesday 26th/27th July - 2 Day Camp, drills and mini competitions, Year 7 & below 10am-12pm and Year 8 and above 12-2pm £12 per day or £20 for both days.

Places will be limited to 12 per session so book early to avoid disappointment. Please ring or email Amanda Petch 01580 240576, [petchfive@aol.com](mailto:petchfive@aol.com).

**Work Experience Pupils** – Next week we are looking forward to welcoming **Boo Tooze** and **Becky Proud** from Cranbrook School who are coming to spend a week in the Sports Department.

## Staff Profile

### Mrs Jenny Brightling

Role at MHS: Assistant Bursar which includes anything from accounts, end of term bills (sorry!), to minibus driving and anything and everything else!

Length of tenure: 6 years

Background: Started in retail and hotel management, moved on to do accounting work and did a degree in Business Studies. Survived working for Roger Dipper which led to her being 'head hunted' to work at MHS!

Family: Married to David, ex Point-to-Point jockey.

Interests: Dog agility, riding, horse racing, has a small holding with sheep, horses and ponies and is overrun with wild rabbits who eat all the grass!

Other: Twice ran the London Marathon (still says never again, but you never know!). Travelled round Australia and New Zealand in her youth and did a jump off the original bungee jump bridge.

Ambitions outside work: To run one of her dogs at Olympia or Crufts.



Result: MHS won by 39 runs

## MIXED

\* Girls' and Boys' Tennis v Benenden School – The senior tennis players went over to Benenden on Wednesday afternoon to play their final match of the season. It was a lovely day and the teams did very well indeed. All the boys won both their matches. The senior girls' pair of Sophie Walters and Jessica Fox won both of their matches and the other pairs all won one and lost one. It was a superb atmosphere with our boys playing some mixed doubles with the girls from Benenden at the end. Not only that but they could hear the cheers as England scored!

Result: MHS won 12 Sets - lost 5 Sets.

## BOYS

*Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June*

\* U8A & B Cricket v St Ronan's - The A team played a very close match and, although not a high scoring one, the quality of cricket was good. MHS managed to win in the end by just 2 runs but everyone had played their part. Special mention must go to Ben Fox for an absolutely brilliant catch.

The B's struggled a little and gave too many runs away from wides and no-balls. However they batted well, and have certainly learnt a lot from the experience and enjoyed the afternoon.

Result: U8A – MHS won by 2 runs

U8B – St Ronan's won by 46 runs

\* U9A Cricket v St Ronan's – The A team ran up an impressive 164 runs with Jake van der Gaag, Rufus Ross, Tom Stewart Blacker and Freddie Horlick batting particularly well. Their bowling was also excellent, Rufus bowled a maiden and wickets were taken by Tom, Oscar Plomer-Roberts, Freddie Latham-Coyle and two wickets from William Wright. Well done everyone!

\* U9B Cricket v St Ronan's - The U9B team played some very good cricket against St Ronan's last Thursday. MHS bowled first and really put the St Ronan's batsmen under pressure with some excellent straight bowling. Our boys managed to restrict them to 120 which really was a good effort. When it was their turn to bat they had a good solid start and always kept up with the score. MHS only lost two wickets in their innings and managed to score 158 at the end of their overs. This was a solid performance. The pleasing aspect for their coach was the improvement from the last game which is a really good sign. Well done.

Result: MHS won by 38 runs

## GIRLS

*Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June*

\* Years 3 and 4 Inter-House Rounders – This was another really close competition with the results being decided on the number of rounders scored for and against. It was very nice to see that both the Year 3 and 4 girls were swapping positions and all having a go as bowler and backstop and supporting each other throughout the afternoon. There were some really good rounders scored during the afternoon and a good catch by Olivia Tomalin.

A special thank you to Georgie Estall, Freya Gordon and Amelia Cornish from Hawkings who each played one game for the opposition to enable all the girls to play all the matches.

Result: 1<sup>st</sup> Hawkings, 2<sup>nd</sup> Awdry, 3<sup>rd</sup> = Dunbar and Egan