

A WORD FROM THE HEADMISTRESS

Spring finally seems to have come to Kirkstone after what has been a very hard winter; the snowdrops are out under the trees and the nights are certainly getting lighter. However, cold weather hasn't affected our activities and this term has seen lots of sporting activities, a highlight of which was the success in the South Lincolnshire U15's Indoor Hockey Tournament. Another exciting initiative has been the setting up of the Kirkstone House Youth Theatre which is proving to be very popular indeed. We welcomed potential pupils on our Entrance Assessment Day and despite the fact that there were a few nervous faces, everyone enjoyed the afternoon's practical lessons in science and drama. We are now looking forward to welcoming the pupils back for our summer induction Day. We soon move into the examination season and I wish all pupils the very best of luck. I am sure that their hard work will reap the rewards of success.

Cosmie Jones.

SPORT FOR ALL AT KIRKSTONE

HOCKEY CHAMPIONS



Kirkstone House U15 indoor hockey team were recently crowned champions in a South Lincs area tournament. The girls played exceptionally well beating local schools. All the matches were very close including a 2-2 draw with Robert Manning, the deciding match was a win against Spalding Grammar by 3 goals to 1 which gave Kirkstone the superior goal difference to win the tournament. Goals were scored by Grace Thory and Emily Stevens with some stunning saves from both Hanna Williams and Libby Tracey our two Goal Keepers. Playing 4 very quick and energy sapping games the girls deserved their well earned success. Well done girls a performance to be proud of!

ISA EAST ANGLIAN CROSS COUNTRY



The ISA Cross Country Championships were held at Princethorpe College on the 3rd February with Year 9 and Year 10 boys finishing 3rd overall out of 12 schools. William Watkins, Isabella Castle, Emily Stevens and Marcus Thorpe-Codman all ran for East Anglia at the National Championships.

ALL ENGLAND BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIP

Year 10 GCSE PE group were taken on the 10th March by Mrs Thurlow to the All England Open Badminton Championship at the Birmingham National Indoor Area. They observed elite performers and various components of fitness required for the sport, and were very fortunate to see the Chinese World and Olympic Champions both male and female as well as seeing the top British women seeds win their first game. Year 10 have truly observed some elite performers.



NETBALL RESULTS

U12 Kirkstone v Kimbolton 3-11
U13 Kirkstone v Kimbolton 9-6
U15 Kirkstone v Kimbolton 13-21

We welcome the support of parents who are able to attend our home and away matches for any events. A match tea always follows in the dining room and is an excellent opportunity to meet other parents and share in their children's activities and achievements.



KIDS ON THE CAT WALK FASHION SHOW

The Parent Guild organised their first 'Kids on the Catwalk' fashion show on the 27th November. The company concerned have been organising fashion shows since 1994 and their aim is to create a fun event for children whilst raising their self esteem and confidence. All thirty children who took part had a fantastic time whilst displaying their modelling skills and dance moves to parents and friends in the audience.

Thank you Parent Guild for making the show such a success and for raising £320 towards the Youth Theatre, they have also matched this with existing funds making a total of £640.



FUNDRAISING FOR HAITI

Both Senior and Lower School had a non-uniform day on the 5th February to raise money for the victims of the Haiti disaster. Various other activities went on throughout the day including 250 curry pasties which were baked by 'senior chefs' then sold for the cause.

The Junior Stickle Brick challenge was also a fun fundraiser. Pupils were challenged to build the highest tower possible in 30 seconds. The tower had to be made of stickle bricks and could not be supported in any way after the time limit. The winner was Harvey King with a 50 cm construction.

In total £500.00 was raised a fantastic amount thank you to everyone who contributed.



'YOUNG VOICES' 02 PERFORMANCE



The Kirkstone House School Choir were invited to perform at the O2 Arena on the 1st December. They rehearsed a programme which consisted of many popular classics and the event which was held in the evening was an unforgettable experience for everybody involved.

The children who were the stars of the show performed to an audience of thousands including many proud parents who supported their children and of course their teachers who witnessed the fruits of their hard work.



OUR NEW YOUTH THEATRE



Pupils from years 5-11 were invited to join the Kirkstone House Youth Theatre and this has proved to be very popular indeed. The Junior Youth Theatre meets every Friday after school and the Senior Youth Theatre meets every Tuesday. Our venue is the pavilion and it is already becoming a 'theatrical home'! The Youth Theatre is currently being directed by Mrs Jones' husband, Mr Richard Jones who has many years experience of running Youth Theatres in the West Midlands.

Emphasis is on developing drama skills and the workshops enable pupils to work with those in other Year groups. The Juniors have already had some experience of operating lights and a new lighting board will provide further opportunities for developing technical skills.

The Youth Theatre is entirely inclusive and all pupils are welcome irrespective of previous experience or ability. It is a fun experience that gives pupils the chance to develop confidence as well as performance skills. Later this year pupils will be working on pieces which will be performed to an audience. Many thanks to all parents who have kindly volunteered to help with the future work of the Youth Theatre.



VISITS KIRKSTONE

During February Zoolab came to visit KHS. The Zoo lady brought us lots of animals that live in the rain forest. Our rain forests are being destroyed by people wanting to build on the land so lots of the animal's homes were destroyed. She brought in a lizard, rat, cornsnake, tarantula, two African land snails, two hissing cockroaches and a green frog that was actually blue! We had a chance to touch all of the animals apart from the spider and the frog. We all had a really good time and we all want Zoolab to come back next year.

Written by Emily Hawkins Year 8

INTERHOUSE CHAMPIONSHIPS

This term Drama and Music competitions have taken place. The Drama was a very close competition with Year 7 to Year 9 performing some excellent short pieces. However it was Truesdale who were victorious in the end – it might have been the very realistic bloody nose that James Perks had!

Final positions were: 1st Truesdale – 10pts; 2nd Stowe – 8pts; 3rd Rafeland – 6pts; 4th Pavenham – 4pts.

Music was once again a very high standard. As a result of the heats two pupils represented their houses on the evening of the 5th March.

Judges Mrs Jones and Mrs Thurlow were impressed and delighted with all the musicians making their job extremely difficult. All of the pupils were highly commended for their performances. In 3rd place was Thomas Atkinson singing O Waly, Waly by Alexander L'Estrange. In 2nd place was Rosalind Winfrey on the piano playing Kindscenan No.1 by Schuman. The judges could not separate Joe Vergani and Darren Major, two pianists who played beautifully and were awarded joint 1st place.



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2nd Rafeland – 8pts
3rd Pavenham – 6pts
4th Stowe – 4pts

These two competitions put Truesdale two points ahead overall. Will they stay there with football and netball competitions still to come?

STUDENT COUNCIL

The student council has gone from strength to strength since it's formation in the autumn term. Chairperson Tom Slinger leads weekly meetings with representatives from each of the eight senior school forms. Suggestions on a range of issues have now been passed to Mrs Jones with the expectation that some of the ideas can be implemented over the summer holidays in time for the new academic year. Mr Brocklesby the link teacher working with the council has been very impressed with their hard work and highlights not only the importance of a student voice at Kirkstone but the skills that the members of the council have been able to acquire along the way. The School Council also found time to organise a social event with the first annual Christmas party at Pizza Hut followed by a film at the cinema – a great time was had by all.



WILDLIFE TRUST PRESENTATION

On the 25th January pupils from Junior School presented Linda Marshall with a cheque for £1,380.07 to add to The Local Wildlife Trust fund. The children raised a total of £461.22 and the Parent Guild Summer Ball kindly donated £918.85. Everyone enjoyed inventing different competitions in order to raise money for this worthy cause. They held raffles, created treasure hunts, held cake sales and organised many other events. Mrs. Fallowfield, said, "I am always amazed at how the children continue to be very inventive and think of new ways to raise money. They always support their chosen charity with great enthusiasm."



CHARITY SPORTS WEEK

This fundraiser involves staff putting their aged bodies and minds against the young, much fitter children of the Senior School. The scores were much closer this year but it was still a resounding victory for the staff. Haydn Johns did manage to beat Mr Adamson in the much anticipated press ups competition. Staff were victorious in the badminton, volleyball and outdoor 5-a-side football. The outcome of all this effort was another £50.00 in the pot for the Senior School charity, SENSE.



Intermediate Maths Challenge

Congratulations to the following mathematicians who received Bronze certificates in the Intermediate Maths Challenge in February: Ben Moshy (Best in School), Chris Wood, Isabella Castle, Chris Nicol, Darren Magor, Stefan Grys, Jordan Finding and Alex Taylor.

FORTHCOMING DATES

Trip to Colorado – Easter 2010

Italian Study Trip to Rome – 3rd July 2010

Finally we would like to wish everyone a very Happy Easter Holiday

CLUBS

Schools' Fantasy Football League

What is Schools' Fantasy League?

You select and manage a team of Premier League footballers and compete against your fellow pupils & teachers for real trophies, medals and certificates. Follow your teams progress over the nine-month season in your over-all school league, against your closest rivals in your year group and your friends in your own mini-league. Twenty three pupils and teachers are currently fighting for the prestigious title of Manager of the Year. The winner will be announced in May. At the moment 5 of the top 6 places are held by teachers!

Chess Club

This term the school has been competing in the British Land Chess Challenge. Fifteen pupils have been battling it out for a place in the regional Megafinal which will be held in May. Last year there were 40 Megafinals all over the UK, and about 7500 children took part. After 7 rounds of matches our overall winner was Thomas Henry.



Fencing Club

The Fencing club continues to gain momentum with the more experienced members experimenting with different weapons. Foil is the beginner's weapon; epee and sabre for more advanced fencers. Good luck to Ben and Rory who will be competing in the Eastern Regional Championships on 27th March.

