

The Rydes Hill Times

... our newsletter keeping parents in touch



Letter from the Headmistress

Welcome

Dear Parents

I hope you had a happy Easter and that the children are rested and refreshed ready for test week and SATs in Upper Transition and Form One next week. A warm welcome back to school for the summer term.

We have many new families this term and we hope your children will settle in happily and blossom at Rydes Hill.

What a wonderful start to the new term we had with Bishop Kieran's visit to Rydes Hill on Friday 1st May for the May procession, crowning of Our Lady, followed by Mass. Many prayers had been made for fine weather and we were blessed with the most beautiful sunny day. A full account and thanks to all the team is on pages 2 and 3.

The Friends have planned many exciting events again this term with a Quiz Night this weekend on Saturday 9th May, which is always highly entertaining and fun. We also look forward to a new event, the Friends Clothes Swap on Thursday 11th June (flyer attached). There is also a Family Picnic on Sunday 5th July.

The Friends are calling on all parents to consider standing as the new Chairman and Deputy Chairman from September 2009. If you are interested or want to talk about these roles, please contact names removed. Huge thanks to our current Chairman, and current Deputy, for their fantastic work and very successful fundraising, as well as the fun of the Ball, Christmas Fayre, Family Fun

Day and many other events. Their enthusiasm and hard work during their tenure has been impressive. Thank you to names removed for continuing as outstanding Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

This term's Calendar of Events shows key dates for the term ahead. Each class has a special coffee morning in school and important dates include: Sports Days, Pre-Preparatory Sports Day on Wednesday 17th June, Preparatory Sports Day on Thursday 18th June, Summer Musical Production on Thursday 2nd July and Friday 3rd July at 7:30pm, Nursery Prize-Giving on Wednesday 8th July at 11:00am, Pre-Preparatory Prize-Giving on Thursday 9th July at 2:00pm and Preparatory Prize-Giving on Friday 10th July at 2:00pm. "Moving on" day and new and second-hand uniform sale is on the afternoon of Monday 6th July. We hope the Calendar reached you safely last week; there are spare copies outside Mrs Smith's office and Mrs Hatherley updates it regularly on our website.

Finally, the first Friends meeting of term announced that the Friends have raised a further £10,000 for the school to go towards the next big project. This is a fantastic achievement yet again and all the teachers, staff and governors join me in thanking you all for your generous support. More news soon on the next new project!

God bless,

Stephanie Bell

Headmistress

A very warm welcome to the Rydes Hill Community to eight-new pupils and their families:

Nursery

Charlotte
Edward
Sophie
Caterina
Giovanna
Lauren
Francesca

Upper Transition

Duha

Congratulations



Congratulations to Mr & Mrs name removed on the safe arrival on Maya on 7th March 2009, a sister for Sophie in Nursery.

Cake Sale



Former Rydes Hillian, Franny is holding a "Pink Cake Sale" at Rydes Hill on Friday 15th May at 3:15pm in aid of Breast Cancer.

Franny and her mother are also taking part in the 13-mile "Moonwalk" through London on May 16. They aim to raise at least £100.



Bishop Kieran visits Rydes Hill

Rydes Hill Preparatory School's annual May procession to crown Our Lady with flowers took place in glorious sunshine on Friday 1st May. It was an extra special day this year as Rydes Hill Preparatory School and the Parish of St Mary's were honoured by the presence of the Rt Rev Kieran Conry, Bishop of Arundel and Brighton.

The children processed from the School Dining Hall through the newly renovated Victorian Conservatory, dedicated to the memory of the late John Wightman, former Chairman of Governors, to Our Lady's Lawn where there was musical accompaniment, with prayers and singing and the crowning led by Lucy.

The school was delighted to have Father John, Father Aaron, Father Mike and Deacon John concelebrating. Other noted guests included the Headmistress of Farnborough Hill School, Mrs Sarah removed, the Development Director of Farnborough Hill, Mrs Clare removed, the Headmaster of Cranmore School, Mr Michael removed and his wife, name removed, Mrs Mary removed, Director of Education at the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton, as well as former governors, including names removed. Current governors present included names removed, and Chairman of Governors, name removed whose words opened the event, as well as name removed, former teacher Miss name removed, and 93 year old former founder teacher Mrs name removed, not to mention the many parents!

While singing traditional hymns, 'Bring Flowers of the Rarest', and 'May is the month of Mary', everyone processed into St Mary's Church, adjacent to the School. Mass was led by Bishop Kieran. Mrs Tessa Forbes, Rydes Hill School Director of Music, arranged and led the beautiful music throughout. Many children as young as 7 played instrumental accompaniments and Bishop Kieran commented on the high standard of the music and singing. The Liturgy was prepared by Mrs Susan Kelly, Deputy Head, and Middle Preparatory (Year 4). As it was a whole school occasion, Mrs Kelly chose a pupil from each class from Kindergarten to Form One (Year 6) to read the 'Prayers of Intercession'. Mrs Kelly was delighted that the pupils read with great confidence and reverence. The pupils in Middle Preparatory performed a 'Movement through Prayer' sequence. Afterwards, several parents said they had shed tears because it was so beautiful and meaningful.

Molly, a pupil, said, 'The Bishop did not just talk to us; he asked us questions and made us laugh and he explained the Bible reading in an easy way we could all understand. He helped us to imagine how Mary felt when the Angel Gabriel told her she was chosen to have baby Jesus.' Annabel said 'Isabel and I were honoured to be chosen to be altar servers for Bishop Kieran.'

Children, staff and guests enjoyed buffet lunches in the Dining Hall, Conservatory and gardens afterwards and Bishop Kieran spent time talking both to the adults and the children. Altea said she and her sister Maria-Louisa wished he could be at Rydes Hill every day!

Bishop Kieran also took the extra time to tour the whole school informally in the afternoon, talking to every teacher and to all the children in the classes. Bishop Kieran brought Greek vocabulary into the Lower Preparatory Geography lesson and helped the children with the art classes in Higher Preparatory and Form One. Children from Kindergarten and Lower Transition lined the drive to wave goodbye to the Bishop as he drove away.

At the end of the day the children were excitedly talking about the whole event and many parents commented on what a memorable day it had been.

Headmistress, Mrs Stephanie Bell said, "The whole day was both joyful and prayerful. Our grateful thanks go to all who took part and all the staff who did so much especially Mrs Tessa Forbes, Director of Music, Mrs Susan Kelly, preparing the leading the Liturgy, Chef Jane Harcourt-Smith, Bursar Mr Charles Hurlley, Caretaker Mr Graham Halling, Deacon John Lamb and all the team at Rydes Hill but especially to Bishop Kieran who was so inspirational with the children and has left them with wonderful memories of such a special day"



Laying flowers at the foot of the statue



The Form One girls waiting in the Dining Hall to lead the procession



Last year's First Holy Communion girls with L to R, Fr John, Fr Mike, Deacon Lamb and Bishop Kieran



Our Lady being crowned by Lucy

Bishop Kieran visits Rydes Hill



Laying flowers at the foot of the statue



Governor, Mr Michael name removed, Mrs Stephanie Bell and Fr Aaron



L to R. Mrs Liz removed, Mrs Stephanie Bell, Bishop Kieran and Mrs Lorraine removed



L to R. Mrs Jo removed, Mrs removed (wife of former Chairman of Governors), with the current Chairman of Governors, removed



L to R: names removed

Debating Club

Week ending 24th April 2009

Form One
Speaker of the Week: Isabella

The Motion was:
 1. "This House believes in the Jury system."

The Floor was undecided and there was no decision

Higher Preparatory:
Speaker of the Week: Lucy

The Motion was
 1. "This House believes we live by too many rules."

The motion was carried.



Week ending 1st May 2009

Form One
Speaker of the Week: Ali

The Motion was:
 1. "This House believes that prison does not work."

The motion was carried.

Higher Preparatory:
Speaker of the Week: Holly

The Motion was
 1. "This House believes that texting is bad for the English Language."

The motion was carried.

Senior Schools

Congratulations to the Form One Girls who all gained entry to their preferred Senior School.

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| Katherine | Tormead |
| Elena | Tormead |
| Annabelle | St Catherine's |
| Jessica | St Catherine's |
| Isabella | Farnborough Hill |
| Pankhuri | Tormead |
| Kate | Tormead |
| Francesca | St Catherine's |
| Shashini | Gordon's School |
| Eve | Tormead |
| Isabel | Farnborough Hill |
| Melissa | Tormead |
| Ali | Guildford High |
| Shriya | Guildford High |
| Ianthe | Guildford High |
| India | Leweston School |
| | Sherborne Dorset |
| Demi-Marie | Tormead |
| Polly | Farnborough Hill |
| Harriet | Guildford High |
| Isabel Watson | St Catherine's |

We wish all the girls every success at their new schools and Godspeed to India and her family as they move to Dorset



Eco Club



Francesca and Eleanor enjoy making a fairy house.

Ballet Examination Results

Congratulations to the following girls for their success in their Ballet Examinations.

AUTUMN TERM

Pre-Primary Passes

Gaby
Willow
Lana
Charlotte
Charlotte
Grace
Stephanie
Georgia

Primary

Habiba Merit
Georgia Merit
Isabella Pass

Grade One

Emma Merit
Charlotte Merit
Rose Merit
Eryl Merit

Grade Two

Hannah Merit
Lucy Merit
Beate Distinction

Grade Four

Isabella Distinction
Harriet Merit

SPRING TERM

Pre-Primary Passes

Tamsin
Giada

Primary

Isobel Merit
Josie Merit
Stephanie Distinction
Mia Merit

Grade One

Fiona Merit
Francesca Merit
Thea Merit

Grade Two

Salma Merit
Ella Merit
Elissa Distinction

Grade Three

Jessica Merit
Eve Pass

Grade Four

Polly Merit

Fantastic Results!
Well done also to Miss Anna!

Mrs Bell

Business Directory

During these difficult time, we want to try to support each other's business, where appropriate. We have published details in previous newsletters. Please make a note of the following:

John F Ford

Modern & Antique Jewellery

2-4 High Street, Cheam, Surrey SM3 8RL

(also re-stringing of necklaces)

Tel: 020 8643 1173

Nationwide Autocentres

Mr Jon Morgan

Regional General Manager

There is a discount voucher available for an interim service with MOT for £99. Please email Mrs Hatherley on admissions@rydeshill.com if you would like one of the vouchers to print off to use as the voucher below is not full size.



CHILDREN'S SECTION

Silver Book

Week ending 26th April 2009

Excellent Work

Anastasia
Issie
Isobel
Charlotte
Molly
Lucy
Francesca

Excellent Conduct

Arya
Charlotte
Giada
Alexandra
Altea
Grace
Melissa

Music Award

Abby for enthusiasm and commitment to her violin playing

French Award

Isabella for hard work during the lesson

PE Award

Heavenli for determination and good attitude

Special Girdles

Anna for her beautiful Easter Poster

House Points

Week ending 26th April 2009

CAMPION	119
GERALD	117
PATRICIA	75
PETER	55

Winning House: **CAMPION**
Well done everyone!

Birthdays

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

April

22nd	Josie
28th	Charlotte
28th	Heavenli
30th	Holly

May

3rd	Grace
4th	Maria

Thought for the Week

Morning Offering

Grant, O Lord,
That none may love you less
this day because of me;
That never word or act of mine
may turn one soul from thee;
and, ever daring, yet one more
grace would I implore,
That many souls this day,
because of me,
may love thee more.
Amen

Saint Benedict's Prayer Book

