

The Rydes Hill Times

... our newsletter keeping parents in touch



Letter from the Headmistress

Thank you

Dear Parents

The first half of the summer term has been a whirlwind of exciting events, educational visits, District Sports at the Spectrum, Boys Sports at Lanesborough, not to mention SATs examinations in Upper Transition and Form One and school tests in the Preparatory Department. More reports on these events will follow with photographs after half term.

The parents have been just as busy, hosting a fantastic Quiz Night on Saturday 9th May. Thank you so much to the Friends for this highly entertaining and fun evening. Very special thanks to the Quiz Master, names removed

Thank you to my staff team: Mrs Kelly, Mr Hurtle, Mr & Mrs Forbes, Mr & Mrs Herbert and Miss Boyle and well done to the Form One girls for taking part. One of the questions asked which film character used the words, "positively shocking" and while most of the parents answered correctly, James Bond, we enjoyed the Form One girls' answer of Mary Poppins! I was also impressed by the way the Form One girls were certain that Miss Boyle would know all the answers to all the questions!

Congratulations to the Friends on raising £170 for CHASE; Mrs removed's Plant Sale raised £248.33 which means that over the course of the year, Mrs removed Plant Sales have raised £411; thank you Mrs removed!

The Friends' Scottish Ball in March, organised so smoothly by Mrs removed, made a profit of

over £2,000 as well as providing a wonderfully memorable evening for all who attended. The Friends have offered another £10,000 to the school for our next project, which we shall plan after half term. Thank you all so much for being such generous parents and supporters of Rydes Hill.

While we shall be sad to say farewell to Mrs removed over the summer, exciting news today is that Mrs removed has kindly offered to stand as the next Chairman of the Friends of Rydes Hill and Mrs removed has volunteered to stand with her as the Assistant Chairman from September 2009. Thank you both very much.

Last term's collections for former Rydes Hill teacher, Mrs Julia removed's charity in Mauritius raised a total of £590.30. Mrs removed was delighted.

The teachers and staff join me in wishing you all a very happy and restful half term.

God bless

Headmistress

Welcome

A very warm welcome to Cordelia (known as Coco) in Lower Preparatory, and we welcome her family to the Rydes Hill community.

Thank you to the following mothers for generously donating toys for use by the children in the Nursery. Mrs removed, mother of Benjamin and Sarah—toy pram Mrs removed, mother of Olivia—Wendy House; Mrs removed mother of Rebecca and Julia—Playmat; and Mrs removed for a donation of lovely artificial flowers

Purple Mufti Day

This term's Mufti Day will be on **Friday 19th June** and the Bishop's colour purple has been chosen. All the money raised will go towards Bishop Kieran's charity.

Cabrini Children's Society

The school's Good Shepherd appeal on behalf of Cabrini Children's Society raised £530.00 this year. The Society has been in touch to ask us to pass on its appreciation for your continued support. It may be of interest to note that 97% of all the donations raised goes directly to the projects. If you would like to find out more about their work or get involved in any fundraising, you can contact Ann removed on removed or email her at removed. You can also visit them online at www.cabrini.org.uk.



Debating Club

Week ending 8th May 2009

Form One

Speaker of the Week: India

The Motion was:

1. "This House believes the Police should carry guns."

The motion was carried.

Higher Preparatory:

Speaker of the Week: Amie

The Motion was

1. "This House believes that politics is boring."

The motion was carried.



Week ending 15th May 2009

Form One

Speaker of the Week: Shriya

The Motion was:

1. "This House would rather not grow up."

The motion was defeated.

Higher Preparatory:

Speaker of the Week: Georgina

The Motion was

1. "This House believes we have too many tests."

The motion was carried.

Boys New Schools

Congratulations to the following boys for obtaining places at their chosen school.

Aldro School

Christoph

Lanesborough

Daniel

Zak

Lewestone Preparatory - Dorset

Jackson

We wish all the leavers well and wish Jackson and his family Godspeed as they move to Dorset in the near future.

Ballet

Isabella performed with The Royal Ballet School at the recent Hendon St Mary's Parish Church "Great Anniversaries Weekend"

The dancers from The Royal Ballet School performed a series of 18th-Century English dances, while the world-renowned Fitzwilliam String Quartet played Purcell's Fantasias, Chaconnes and Jigs—with audience participation!



Second from right, front row. Isabella with her fellow dancers from The Royal Ballet School

Amendment to Ballet news in the last newsletter. Beate gained a Distinction in her Ballet Examination and not a Merit, as stated.

Rounders Matches

The U9, U10 and U11 Rounders Teams have had some great results in their matches this term:

Rydes Hill –v– The Duke of Kent

U11s won 11 - 7½

U9s lost 8½ - 9½

Rydes Hill –v– St Catherine's

U11s lost 10 - 11½

U10s lost 14½ - 15

Rydes Hill –v– St Teresa's A & B side

U11s won 3 - 1

won 6 - 4

won 14 - 7

The girls are to be commended on their determined play and for achieving such encouraging results. The U9s had particularly close results and the match experience this year will be of benefit to them as U10s next year.

Well done girls!
Mrs Vicky Henry



Music News

Individual Music Lessons

Parents in classes Lower Transition to Higher Preparatory should have received a letter this week about applying for individual music lessons from September. I would be very grateful if the completed forms could be returned by Friday 22nd May.

Interesting Research

Some of you may have seen the recent programme on BBC2 where Prof Lesley Regan investigated the 'Mozart Effect': the claim that listening to classical music increases a child's intelligence. Sadly Prof Regan couldn't find any evidence to uphold this assertion, but she has confirmed that learning a musical instrument from an early age does have a very beneficial effect on the child's brain, and can increase IQ levels.



Form One,
Higher Preparatory and
Middle Preparatory present

Dream On

A sparkling musical
adaptation of

"A Midsummer
Night's Dream"

by William Shakespeare

Thursday 2nd July

and

Friday 3rd July



Music News (cont'd)

Dream On

This year's summer production is a musical version of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" wittily entitled "Dream On". Rehearsals are well under way for performances on Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd July at 7.30pm. Make sure you have the dates in your diary – this is a production not to be missed! Miss Boyle, our Wardrobe Mistress, would be delighted to hear from any parents who can help with sewing costumes. We are also looking for large beanbags and a substantial amount of plain green material – would anyone have any throws/curtains they could lend us? Please let us know as soon as possible! Many thanks.

Mrs Forbes

The Pink Cake Sale



My Mum and I, together with 14 others from my school, (Tormead) participated in the Moonwalk through London, on Saturday 16th May. The walk started at 11pm, from Hyde Park, and we had to walk 13 miles, (we were doing the half moon) in just our bras and tracksuit bottoms! We finished at 3.57am! The cake sale at Rydes Hill raised an amazing £106 and we sold out after 15 minutes. SO THANK YOU EVERYONE! All of the money raised goes to Breast Cancer Research.

Franny former Rydeshillian



Mrs removed and Franny, with her sister, wearing their special "breast cancer awareness" T-shirts

Second-Hand Uniform

In addition to opening every Monday morning, the Second-Hand Uniform Shop will also be open on Monday 6th July from 2:30pm (moving on afternoon).

If you need any assistance, please contact Annalisa

The Wightman Conservatory Garden

Enormous thanks to Chairman of Governors, Mr Bernard Stevens, and Mrs Stevens for all their hard work and inspiration in the Conservatory garden and beyond. It is going to look and smell absolutely beautiful in a few weeks time.

The Arbour Beds

Climbing rose "Penny Lane" has been planted each side. This variety carries abundant, fragrant honey-champagne flowers that blush to pearl in late season. As a companion, a clematis, "Victor Hugo", which bears a profusion of rich violet flowers throughout the summer and early autumn, is planted beside each rose. The roses and clematis are under-planted with two varieties of deliciously scented old fashioned pinks (Dianthus), Mrs Sinkins (frilly white flowers) and Gran's Favourite (raspberry ripple coloured flowers)

The Porthole Trellis Beds

Both beds are planted in the same style with the miniature, but vigorous, climbing rose "Gloriana", which bears small deep pink-red flowers with foliage from top to bottom. Clematis Jackmanii Alba (bearing both double and single bluish-white blooms throughout the summer) and Clematis Belle of Woking (light mauve double blooms in June followed by decorative seed heads). Mrs Sinkins and Gran's Favourite provide further scent and continuity with the arbour beds. Jackman's (now Wyevale's) was a famous clematis nursery, initially founded by William Jackman in 1810 on 50 acres in St John's, Woking. The Jackman family started to hybridise clematis in 1858. The nursery moved to Mayford in 1960.



The Path to the Wood

The narrow bed opposite the conservatory and then leading down towards the wood has been planted with ferns, a great favourite in Victorian gardens. Polypodium Vulgare (the common polypody)

Dryopteris Affinis Cristata (the king fern)
Asplenium Scolopendrium (hart's tongue fern, an evergreen)

On each side of the entrance to the stepping stones is Osmanthus delavayi, an evergreen rounded bushy shrub with arching branches. It has small glossy dark green leaves and a profusion of very fra-

grant tubular pure white flowers from mid to late spring. Around the osmanthus are lily of the valley (convallaria majalis) with sweetly perfumed sprays of small bell shaped pendulous white flowers, with dark green leaves which should spread to form a dense carpet over the years.



As extra groundcover, hardy geraniums of assorted colours (blue, white, pink) have been planted along the edge of the stepping stones. Once established, they seed themselves around and provide a haze of pastel coloured flowers in late May to the end of June. Some snowdrops (Galanthus nivalis, the common snowdrop) were planted "in the green" to provide interest in January and February.

Plants were sourced from:

Roses – Hill Park Nurseries, Long Ditton, Surrey

Clematis, Osmanthus, Dianthus and Convallaria – Spring Reach Nursery, Ockham, Surrey

Ferns – Fibrex Nurseries, Pebworth, Warwickshire

Snowdrops and Geraniums – seedlings from my garden that had outgrown their welcome!

Mrs Carol Stevens, wife of Chairman of Governors

We have also had a beautiful tree seat made to go around the tree in the Conservatory garden, designed by Mr David Thompson (Governor) and paid for by the Friends.



Thought for the Week

Jesus said, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth" After He said this, He was taken up before their very eyes and a cloud hid Him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as He was going, when suddenly two men in white stood beside them, "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus who has been taken from you into Heaven will come back in the same way you have seen Him go into Heaven." Happy Feast of Ascension Day on Thursday 21st May 2009.

Acts ch.1 vs. 8-11

Prize Competition

Mrs Hatherley is offering a special prize for this competition as, although it is rather difficult, it is also great fun and very rewarding when you find all the books, if you manage it!

Take a copy of the Bible and near to the front you will find a page that lists the 66 books that make up this holy book. In the following passage you have to find 18 books of the Bible. To show you how it is done, I have marked the first three in red to get you started. The closing date for the competition is Friday 1st June to give you plenty of time. I hope that you will all enjoy searching for them and that I will have lots of entries. If enough enter, there will be a prize for the Pre-Preparatory and the Preparatory Department.

FIND THE BIBLE BOOKS IN THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE

"Someone once remarked upon the hidden books of the Bible (merely a fluke). It kept some people looking so hard for the facts and for others it was a revelation. Many were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalised. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers, though to other it was still a hard job and they chose a different strategy. We want it to be a most fascinating moment for you. Yes there will be difficult ones to spot. Others will require the brains of judges to help identify them. One lady says she brews a cup of tea so that she can concentrate better. We will admit it usually takes a minister to find the last of them. There will be loud lamentations until it is found. See how well you can compete. Relax now, for there really are eighteen books hidden in this paragraph. One vicar found seventeen books in twenty minutes but it took him three weeks to find the eighteenth – in his biblical CD-Rom answer file."

CHILDREN'S SECTION

Silver Book

Week ending 8th May 2009

Excellent Work

Maria Luisa
Lottie
Josie
Fionnuala
Rebecca
Sophie
Eve

Excellent Conduct

Charlotte
Danielle
Georgia
Eryl
Hannah
Kitty
Polly

Music Award

Lucy for excellent progress in flute and commitment to the Orchestra

PE Award

Hannah for taking four catches in Rounders

Special Girdles

Stephanie for Distinction in Ballet after just 10 lessons

Week ending 15th May 2009

Excellent Work

Carrie
Grace
Habiba
Holly
Salma
Eleanor
Pankhuri

Excellent Conduct

Max
Barnaby
Taya
Isabelle
Lucy
Amie
India

Music Award

Harriet for an excellent result in her Grade II Pianoforte Examination

PE Award

Altea for excellent effort and all-round improvement

French Award

Abby for good work in the lesson and remembering vocabulary

Special Girdles

Coco for a positive and cheerful attitude whilst commuting from London every day

House Points

Week ending 8th May 2009

CAMPION	154
GERALD	195
PATRICIA	150
PETER	165

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

Week ending 15th May 2009

CAMPION	124
GERALD	115
PATRICIA	99
PETER	80

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

Prize Competition (cont'd)

Someone once re**MARK**ed upon the hidden books of the Bible (merely a **fLUKE**). It kept some people loo**KING** So

Clue: you may find it easier to re-write the passage leaving no spaces between the words. This makes it easier to spot them.

Good Hunting!

Birthdays

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

May

10th	Daniel
13th	Edward
15th	India
21st	Shasha
25th	Jackson
27th	Phoebe
29th	Fionnuala