

# The Rydes Hill Times

... our newsletter  
keeping parents in touch



## Letter from the Headmistress

Dear Parents

Following detailed discussions and meetings with architects and builders, we are delighted and very excited to announce that the complete refurbishment of The Lodge is about to begin and it will be converted into a stunning new Music and Performing Arts Centre to be opened in September 2010. This will enhance further this dynamic department at Rydes Hill. Mrs Forbes said, "I am absolutely delighted with the prospect of the new Music and Performing Arts centre. The new facilities will provide enlarged space and great scope for enhancing the teaching of music at Rydes Hill."

More exciting news is that we are creating an additional Early Years Reception class in September 2010 to meet additional demand for places in this year group. We currently have 30 children registered which will make 2 classes of 15 children.

Huge thanks to Mrs C and the Friends of Rydes Hill for the cheque we have just received for £6,000 to go towards the total refurbishment of the ground floor children's loos. Our Bursar, Mr Hurtley, is booking this project to begin as soon as possible in the holidays. Thank you also to all the parents for your generous support at Rydes Hill events.

On Saturday, 27th February, Miss Maureen Galea, one of our wonderful Music teachers, gave a Piano Recital for parents and guests of Rydes Hill.

Miss Galea raised over £200 for the Music Department at Rydes Hill and provided a memorable evening for everyone. There is a beautiful photograph on page 2.

We look forward to a Pink Mufti Day this Friday, 5th March, in aid of MacMillan Nurses which is taking place with a Coffee Morning for parents in the Dining Hall from 8:30am to 10:00am. Thank you to the Friends for organising this event and to Chef Jane for baking some extra cakes.

On the following Friday, 12th March, we are having a Mufti Day in House colours in aid of the Cabrini Children's Society for our "Good Shepherd" Lenten Appeal this year and this is the same day as our House Singing Competition.

Book Week begins on Tuesday, 2nd March, with a sale of books in the Entrance Hall and a Handwriting Competition for the pupils.

On Tuesday, 2nd March, Upper Transition will be dressing up as Victorians and visiting the Victorian School Rooms for the day which is linked to their History studies.

On Tuesday, 9th March, Kindergarten and Lower Transition are visiting HMS Victory and The Sea Life Centre in Portsmouth.

The Music Department is busy with the Senior Choir singing at The Godalming Music Festival on Tuesday, 9th March and Mrs Forbes is leading the

House Singing Competition on Friday, 12th March.

Thank you to Mrs B for the generous donation of six dressing up costumes for Nursery. Thank you also to Mrs S for the huge bag of Duplo bricks for use in Stay & Play. These are great additions to our resources.

A reminder for your diaries that it is our Founder's Day on Wednesday, 17th March, with Mass at 9:00am and our Founder's Day Concert at 6:30pm. It is also Founder's Day Open Day on Saturday 20th March from 10:00am - 12 noon and this is the only Open Day in the academic year which is open to all parents to attend with your children to enjoy looking at the displays and seeing their classes.

God bless,

Mrs Stephanie Bell M.A. (Oxon)

## New Pupils

A very warm welcome to the following children and their families, who started in our Nursery this week: **Samuel A and Leo F**

## Speech & Drama

Pupils from Upper Transition to Form One have been given Speech & Drama Examination forms. Please note that the closing date for entries is 15th March 2010. No entries can be accepted after this date.

All pupils taking part in Speech & Drama lessons must have a folder to keep their work in.  
**Miss Tina Quinn**

### Week Beginning 1st Mar

Tues 2nd	Book Fair begins
	Upper Transition visit The Victorian School Rooms
	U10 & U11 Netball -v- St Catherine's (Away) 4:15pm
Thur 4th	Kindergarten Assembly 10:15am
Fri 5th	FRHPS Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan 8:30am - 10:00am
	Book Fair ends

### Week Beginning 8th Mar

Mon 8th	U11 Netball Tournament at Hoe Bridge (3:15pm)
Tues 9th	Kindergarten and Lower Transition visit to HMS Victory and Sea Life Centre, Portsmouth
	No netball training after school
Thur 11th	U10 Hockey -v- St Catherine's (Away) 4:15pm
	FRHPS Committee Meeting 7:45pm
Fri 12th	Mufti Day in House colours for the "Good Shepherd" Lenten Appeal
	House Singing Competition

## Music News

### Music News

March is going to be an exceptionally busy month for music at Rydes Hill!

### Godalming Music Festival

The newly-formed Festival Choir will be taking part in the Godalming Festival, performing in the wonderful setting of Charterhouse Chapel on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 3.00pm. Supporters would be very welcome at the competition.

### House Singing Festival

For the first time we are holding an inter-House Singing Competition at Rydes Hill, on the afternoon of Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March. Every child in the main school will be taking part, with House Choirs in two categories: Pre-Prep (Kindergarten-Upper Transition) and Prep (Lower Preparatory-Form One) and soloists from Lower Preparatory to Form One. All the children are invited to wear mufti (in House colours)

### Founder's Day

Founder's Day is on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March. This is a very special day in the school calendar, where we particularly remember the founder of Rydes Hill School: Sister Patricia. Mass will be at 9.00am in St Mary's church, to which all parents and friends are warmly invited. The children will be enjoying a variety of dance workshops during the day, and everyone is invited to Founder's Day Concert at 6.30pm. A separate letter will be sent with further details of all the Founder's Day celebrations.

### "Vienna's Golden Era"

Those of us who were able to attend Miss Maureen Galea's piano recital at Rydes Hill Last Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> February, were privileged to hear piano playing of the highest calibre in a programme full of interest and variety. Miss Maureen is currently studying for a PhD in performance at the University of Study, and her chosen field of research is Bohemian piano music of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Beethoven and Schubert are very well known to all, but Miss Maureen also introduced many in her audience to the music of Vorišek ....., which was absolutely delightful. Just over £200 was raised for further development of music at Rydes Hill. See photograph opposite

### A Diary Date

I am delighted to tell you that the peripatetic music teachers are preparing a special concert for parents and children on the evening of **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May**. This will be a very rare opportunity of seeing and hearing all the music teachers in performance! Please put this date in your diary, and further details will follow soon.

**Mrs Forbes - Director of Music**



## Eco Club



Thank you to all parents who took part in recycling mobile phones and ink cartridges before Christmas. We will shortly receive a cheque for £36.55 and this will

be put towards more environmental projects around the school. Please continue to place your used mobiles and ink cartridges in the box at the end of the Nursery corridor - thank you.



**Mrs Yvette Deacon**



## Cabrini Children's Society

During Lent, we are asking your child to get involved by donating some of their treat money or by helping others and giving the money they ear to Cabrini. Cabrini is a social welfare charity that works with particularly vulnerable children and families and with adults with learning disabilities. Our mission is to encourage, inspire and support the individuals we work with to find their way in the world. We work in the south east of England, providing a highly successful adoption and fostering service, running neighbourhood projects (nurseries, extended schools and drop-in centres aimed at families and children), operating a schools counselling service and providing round-the-clock care and support for learning-disabled adults. To find out more about the work of Cabrini, please take a look at their website - [www.cabrini.org.uk](http://www.cabrini.org.uk) or to support the work by donating online, please visit [www.cabrini.org.uk/cabrinir\\_how\\_you\\_can\\_help.htm](http://www.cabrini.org.uk/cabrinir_how_you_can_help.htm) Thank you for giving generously.

## Pupil Council Meeting

A meeting of the Pupil Council took place on 1st February 2010. This term's class representatives are: Georgina B and Lois B (Form One), Lucy W and Beate W (Higher Preparatory), Emma A and Eryl H (Middle Preparatory), Sofia F and Stephanie S (Lower Preparatory). Some excellent ideas were raised including:

Class Sales instead of/ or as well as Cake Sales  
A Breakfast Club  
A Talent Show, once a year (run by the Form One girls)  
The noisiest table at lunch should stay behind and help Mrs Bookham clear up toys in the playground  
Pegs in the classrooms for "special girdles" - Deputies and Head Girl to collect from these pegs before Merit Assembly  
Italian Lessons and possibly German, Dutch, Russian and Mandarin  
House Art competition

**Mrs Jo Smith**  
Deputy Head Pastoral

## First Aid Course



In the past we have arranged for a number of parents and Friends to take a First Aid Course. The Friends will not be organising this again, however, if anyone is interested in taking one of these courses, the St John's Ambulance run a number of excellent courses in various aspects of First Aid. They can be contacted directly on Surrey St John Ambulance Training on 01483 450000 or email [training@surreysja.org.uk](mailto:training@surreysja.org.uk) They also take group bookings if a number of parents wanted to get together to attend. There are also courses available for young people.

**Mrs C**



## Silver Book

## CHILDREN'S SECTION

Week ending 5th February

**Excellent Work**

Fabio  
Chressi  
Julia  
Isobel  
Emma

**Excellent Conduct**

Rosa  
Erin  
Barney  
Georgia  
Sofia

**Music Award**

Grace for excellent progress in the violin

**PE Award**

Sophia for improving her netball skills

**French Award**

Edward for hard work during the lesson

**Special Award**

Georgina for being awarded an Academic Scholarship to St Teresa's

Congratulations - Mrs Bell



Week ending 12th February

**Excellent Work**

Iain  
Sienna  
Tamsin  
Charlotte  
Hanna  
Imogen

**Excellent Conduct**

Olivia  
Dixie  
Thrinethra  
Elodie  
Sara  
Mona

**Music Award**

Rebecca for excellent progress in singing

**PE Award**

Sally for scoring 11 out of 13 goals in the Netball Tournament at the Duke of Kent school

**French Award**

Lucy for excellent written French

**Special Award**

Sophie for being awarded a Sports Scholarship to Prior's Field  
Grace for being awarded a Drama Scholarship to Prior's Field

Congratulations - Mrs Bell



*Happy Birthday To:*

**February**

22nd	Sophie
23rd	Cecilia
25th	Issy
27th	Francesca

## House Points

Week ending 5th February

CAMPION	106
GERALD	158
PATRICIA	122
PETER	127

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

Week ending 12th February

CAMPION	116
GERALD	157
PATRICIA	152
PETER	120

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

## Thought for the Week



**THROUGH ME**

Through me let there be kind words  
a warm smile, and a caring heart  
Through me let there be a willingness to listen  
and a readiness to understand.  
Through me let there be dependability,  
steadfastness, trust and loyalty.  
Through me let there be compassion,  
forgiveness, mercy and love.  
Through me let there be every quality I find,  
O Lord, in Thee.

-Unknown

