

CHW VALLEY SCHOOL SCHOOL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER MAY 2009

Important Dates for Exam Students

Examination results will be available for collection on the following dates:-

GCE – Thursday 20th August in the Library (A2 9am; AS 9.30am)

GCSE – Thursday 27th August in the Main Hall (9am)

Free Books for the School Library

Thank you to everyone who has been saving Books For Schools tokens from The Times and Nestle's Box Tops for Books. We received our first consignment of free books this week. Both schemes are continuing so keep the tokens rolling in!

Bookings for Music Lessons for Term 1 & 2

The students already having music lessons will receive letters home in the first week after the holiday. We are currently accepting bookings for peripatetic music lessons for Term 1&2 2009 - including guitar, voice and piano lessons. Please see Suzanne Gaved in the Performing Arts office (or call 01275 332 272) for an application form. Payment must reach the Finance Office at Chew Valley School, by Friday June 19th 2009 in order to secure a spot for Term 1&2.

If you have any questions regarding the programme or wish to obtain an instrument please don't hesitate to contact us.

Year 7 News

Preparations for our week in Swanage are now well under way and, with less than three weeks to go, the excitement is growing. Parents should have received a letter detailing arrangements for the week and also a "kit list". Those not going to Swanage will have the arrangements for their week explained to them before we break up for the end of this term.

Congratulations (and commiserations!) to our Spelling Bee team – they made a valiant effort in the regional heats but the standard was very high and, sadly, it was not to be. Shannon Jones (7L) did particularly well, getting down to the last six in the "knock-out" round. Hopefully, we will get the opportunity to compete again next year.

Jemima Gregson (7V) took part in the Avon Schools golf competition at Chipping Sodbury Golf Club on Monday 27th April. The schools that entered the competition came from Avon and BANES. Jemima and her partner, Vicky Watts (9H), won the best girls' team event. Jemima came third in the individual event (competing with girls as old as 18) and has now been invited to play in the South West Schools' Championship with two other girls. This will be held at Wells Golf Club over a two day period at the end of May. We wish her the very best of luck!!

At the end of last term, Chew Valley School's year 7 girls hockey team entered the Bath and North East Somerset hockey tournament. They won their first three matches and then waited

nervously for the results before learning that they were in the finals. They played an extremely difficult match against Ralph Allen School. They played the ten minutes and the final score was 0-0. The referee decided to play for another five minutes or until the first goal. After four nerve-racking minutes, captain Vicky Vipond scored the winning goal and Chew Valley won the tournament!!

Congratulations to Laura Finch, Ashleigh Ridding, Becky Fenn, Vicky Vipond, Jack Tibbs, Rob Wembridge, Joe Clark and James Ryan who all represented Chew Valley in the BANES district athletics championships last week – it was a valuable experience and bodes well for the future!

The year 7 football season came to a disappointing conclusion with a 1-0 defeat in the district finals to a good Wellsway side at Bath City's Twerton ground. In the first half the boys played within themselves, overawed by the occasion perhaps, or distracted by the sight of some local lads on a nearby hill chasing horses! In the second half Chew were the stronger side, but conceded a goal with 10 minutes to go, and never really threatened to score an equaliser, although Ryan Parfitt went closest with a good strike from outside the box. Corey Tainton saved a penalty after Ed Stowell brought down a Wellsway forward- his only mistake in another excellent performance.

Since the last newsletter, the side completed their league fixtures with victories against Culverhay and Ralph Allen. Harry Sparkes, Sam Lewis and 'Reg' Parfitt, with the cheekiest of back-heels, scored the goals in a 3-0 win, the defence again doing its usual sound job. They weren't so comfortable on the wide, open spaces of the 'big pitch', conceding 3 goals in an entertaining game against Ralph Allen. Thankfully, the forwards scored 6, with hat-tricks for James Heron and Parfitt. In the B team fixture on our cosy little pitch, we won 2-1, with goals from Liam Collins and James Huish. Both sides contributed to an excellent game, accepting substitutions with good grace as large squads were rotated.

The same enjoyment and enthusiasm were evident in the lower-school tournament on the Astro to finish the season. The competition was predictably won by a year 8 side, but it was pleasing to see the school-team lads entering sides with their friends and fellow tutees, rather than trying to create a 'dream team'.

To conclude, the whole squad have been a pleasure to work with and we look forward to another successful season next year, the end of season report just calling for a little more nastiness on the pitch if we're to be all we can be (in the nicest possible way of course!)

Lastly, the Fundraising Team is planning to organise a car boot sale at school towards the end of June (more details to follow). It would be wonderful if Year 7 could run a "table". In order to do this we need stuff to sell so please dig out any saleable items that you no longer need (books, CD's, cuddly toys, games, DVD's etc) and send them in!

Year 8 News

At the time of writing the Year 8 Parents evening has just taken place. Thanks to all parents and carers for making the time to attend. It is a valuable experience for all concerned and I know

that the staff really looked forward to the opportunity to speak to parents, carers, and students about the progress that is being made. It was a very positive evening for all the staff and I am sure, of great benefit to all Parents and Carers who attended. It was excellent to see so many in attendance and really good to meet you all. If anyone could not make the evening and has any concerns that need to be addressed please contact me, Mrs Trinder, here at school to make alternative arrangements if required. The students have admitted that they found the evening as useful as all the staff did and it was not as bad as they had anticipated!

On 7 May a Dodge-ball tournament was arranged by students in Year 10 as part of their Sports Leadership awards. This involved two teams of 5 students from each tutor group. It was overseen by Mr Monk and 8V who were in attendance throughout and witnessed some hard fought games after the rules had been clearly explained. A good time was experienced by all the students who took part and provided valuable evidence for the students completing the study. The competition was very enthusiastic with some tight games and wonderful support from 8V. 8W were overall winners with 8V close runners up in a hard fought competition. Thanks to the girls who organised the event and Mr Monk who supervised the 70 students in the Sports Hall for the lesson

There are some exciting things arranged for Year 8 in the coming weeks as well as some necessary evils!

On 3 or 4 June it is the final round of inoculations for the girls Human Papilloma protection. This has been timed so that at least 6 months had elapsed since the first stage. That brings us to the end of term 5 and then we have Enrichment week to look forward to as well as the annual award ceremonies.

The year will be completed with a theatre performance of 'Gemma's Wardrobe'. This is a production that will lead us into the topics that are to be studied at the start of Year 9 in PHSE and will give a valuable insight for the students to recall when the topics are studied. There will be more news about that later in the term.

Year 9 News

Our Football team is in the BANES District Cup Final against Beechen Cliff on Friday 15th May and we all wish them success. Harry McDonald, Ed Jones and Henry Chamberlain all took part in Ten Tors last weekend. Well done to them! Vicky Watts won a golf trophy with a Year 7 pupil, Jemima Gregson, and should have her photo in the newsletter, if all went to plan!

No official SATs this year but assessments in Maths and Science took place last week in order to help with setting in Year 10. It all went very smoothly.

Year 9 trip to Alton Towers

It has been our year group's tradition to go to Alton Towers and last Saturday saw 79 students and 7 staff brave the long journey to the North for a day of fun and fresh air. It was a great day out and, as the weather was changeable, many of the rides did not have long queues. Some of the students went on Oblivion nine times! The odd showers did not stop anyone from going on the rides or from enjoying themselves, so that was a bonus. We did not lose anyone and left on time (almost). Well done to the students for behaving so well and thanks to the staff who

accompanied the students, particularly Mr Jory, who organised the trip.

Year 10 News

It's been a busy and short term and we are now the most senior students at Chew Valley below the Sixth Form. Just before Easter the Lower School put on a quite insane production of 'Ubu Roi' with extra scenes (and some corny jokes) added by Ms Wall's Writer's Workshop – well done to Anna Lim, Beth Calverley, Louise Harrison and Rhiannon Slatcher.

Training for the Ten Tors event continued over Easter and eventually ten students completed the challenge, surely a record number for a single year group. The school team of Rosie Gay, Jess Boardman, Will Saunders, Jamie Batt, Jamie Braidley and Adam Pollett finished their 35 mile yomp looking fit and ready for more at 12.30 on the second day. Meanwhile, Teifion Luckett, Matt Tattersall, Tim Head and Jay Willis represented groups of Scouts and Rangers. They all had to be self-sufficient, carrying everything they needed to survive two days on the moor. Congratulations to all of them and a big 'Thank You' to the staff who made it all possible – Miss Hibbert, Mr and Mrs Garston, Mr Hawkins, Mr Gaynor, Mr Parfitt and Mr (History) Brown – the experience really has been life-changing.

In late April, 15 students went to Filton College to help organise and run the Special Schools Athletics, as part of their Sports Leadership Award. Again this was a special occasion as they helped disabled athletes to reach their goals and aspirations – inspiring stuff!

The boys' football teams reached the BANES final at Twerton Park, only for Writhlington to 'forget' to send a team. We hope to have played them by the end of term.

Meanwhile there were several encouraging performances at the BANES District Athletics at the University of Bath. James MacDonald came 2nd in the discus, Nathan Berkley took silver in the 100m hurdles and Jake Hepburn was runner-up 'to a giant' in the high jump.

Back at school, budding screen writer Owen Wintle has written a soap opera called 'Valley High'. With Mr Conway's help, Owen has also organised auditions and it is hoped that the show will be filmed over the Summer.

Finally, it is now four months since Fred Cotterill was elected as Member of Youth Parliament for BANES. Whilst strenuously denying allegations that he has claimed dodgy expenses for hair-care products and a daily subscription for the 'Socialist Worker', Fred has been busy in his role.....

The exploits of an MYP

"Since the last newsletter came out I've been up to a fair few things in my efforts as the Member of Youth Parliament. In attending local youth group meetings, I've met many youth workers and figures from public bodies such as the Police and Connexions, all of whom come into contact with young people on a regular basis. Building a good working relationship with them is essential in order to get recognition for the views of young people. I also attended the latest full B&NES council meeting as part of my effort to keep in contact with the authorities who can

help in funding and supporting Youth Parliament campaigns, both local and national. Regarding buses and the lack of access young people have to them; I've been in correspondence with the B&NES council, who whilst being very informative and polite, also informed me that the lack of money available to them in the transport budget will limit what they can do. Following this I wrote to FirstBus to see what they could do and it must be said, they weren't exactly forthcoming in their reply. Two lines informing me that I was being referred on to a different area of management wasn't exactly what I was hoping for... On a brighter note, I'm circulating a petition in the school to gain support for the campaign against university tuition fees in advance of the upcoming government review. If you see me around make sure you sign it! Your futures could rest on the outcome..."

STOP PRESS

The Year 10 team finally realised their potential when they beat Writhlington 3-0 in the final of the BANES Schools Cup. A stirring second half saw two goals from George Mitchell and one from John Pearce. Congratulations for a well deserved victory and a big 'thank you' to Mr Edwards, who we have now converted from rugby to football!

Year 11 News

Year 11 have begun their exams and their study leave and will from now on only be in school for examinations. We wish them well.

The Year 11 Leavers Dinner is on Tuesday 23rd June at Ashton Court Mansion. It promises to be a splendid occasion with dresses bought, suits hired and limos booked.

Zambia Visit

Our link with Butondo High School in Zambia was strengthened over the Easter break when three members of staff had the opportunity to visit the school during a ten day visit. Miss Straw, Miss Parry and Mrs Woodward spent a week in the school, observing lessons and teaching pupils. They were impressed by the warmth of the welcome given by both staff and students. Although resources were limited and student numbers in lessons high, it was evident that education was seen as really important as a way to a better future for all. Pen friend letters were written by Chew Valley pupils and were enthusiastically welcomed by the students in Zambia. It is hoped that future correspondence will continue on a more regular basis. Next year a group of 19 students will visit the school with staff as part of their project phase on a World Challenge Expedition. The project will involve redecorating and refurbishing a classroom in the school, and fundraising has already begun in earnest. It is hoped in the future money can be raised to provide books for a much needed library in the school.

If anyone is interested in helping in any way please contact Miss Straw.

Golfing Success

Jemima Gregson, Vicky Watts, George Patch and Chris Shanks all qualified to represent Somerset after winning the Fourball Tournament on Friday 15h May.

Vicky Watts and Jemima Gregson won the best female pairing in the Avon Golf Tournament.

Well done everyone!

36 Women and a Small Piano

On Saturday 13th June 'Better than Chocolate' (the singing group funded by Chew Valley School's Community Arts Budget) will be holding a musical evening in Chew Stoke Church featuring songs from the shows, classic hits ... and cake!

Doors will open at 7pm with the concert starting at 7.30pm. Tickets priced at £5 adults and £2.50 under 18s/OAPs (to include a glass of wine and chocolate cake) are available from Lizzie on (01761) 221320.

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET PARENT PARTNERSHIP SERVICE

PARENTS' FORUM

An opportunity for parents to meet and discuss educational provision for children with additional needs in Bath and North East Somerset

What is ADHD?

GUEST SPEAKER: DR ROSEMARY JONES, COMMUNITY PAEDIATRICIAN, THE ROYAL UNITED HOSPITAL

**Wednesday 10th June
10am - 12 noon**

The Library, Somervale School, Redfield Road, Midsomer Norton

Please telephone Chris Jorgensen on 01225 394382 or Julie Tweedie on 01225 394476 to confirm attendance

Chew Valley Helpers

Do you need help from young, talented enthusiasts?

Chew Valley School achieved specialist arts status back in 2003. The accolade is a reflection of the whole school focus on creativity which has resulted in high standards of performance across the curriculum. But specialist school status is about much more than recognition of the excellence of drama, dance and music. Any school that has a specialism is required to encourage and support the local community and we have worked on many projects within the community to date - including intergenerational projects.

We recognise that the world of Performing Arts is not only about theatrical performance but primarily about confidence and self esteem. It is about ideas, opinions, public speaking, initiative, independence, communication, problem solving and risk taking. It promotes resilience, determination and emotional intelligence. It develops skills for life and in so doing, it promotes those skills and attributes that employers are so desperate for.

In order to continue in our support for the local community our students are offering time to your business. We are open to suggestions so if you have an idea which you'd like to discuss please contact Suzanne Gaved (Community Arts Co-ordinator). We are also looking to offer evening classes for members of the community in Mac skills, Recording & Composition and Basic video skills. To register your interest in any of the above classes please contact Suzanne on 01275 332272 ext. 243, or email Suzanne.gaved@chewvalleyschool.co.uk

UK Maths Challenge

Once again students entered the UK Maths Challenge competition. This year, there were 8 GOLD, 12 SILVER and 25 BRONZE (total 45) Awards. Congratulations to Lydia Sinclair in Y8 who was 'Best in School'!

Sister-Act Entrepreneurs!

The latest Dot.Com phenomenon has been born and bred here in the Chew Valley! Sisters Elysia (Y7) and Jasmine Williams (Y9) have started their own business and early results suggest they may have hit on the NEXT BIG THING!!!!

They have acquired the UK franchise for an American multi-million dollar phenomenon called 'Coloured Wrap' (a product for tying back long hair for sports activities and a fashion accessory in a stunning colour range). Sales are beginning to pour in! Their story is an inspirational one:

'We are teenage entrepreneurs and what started as a fun hobby for us has turned into a really enjoyable business experience. Today we sell rolls of Coloured Wrap the length and breadth of the UK. Our satisfied customers have made us their first choice supplier because of the high quality of our product and the speed at which we can deliver to them.

'Our mission is for Coloured Wrap to be the natural first choice for hair wherever you are and whatever you are doing. By bringing fun, passion and colour and encouraging both teamwork and individuality we will make a difference to people's lives.'

We're often asked how we started our business. More than anything it was probably out of necessity. Over the years we've tried (and thoroughly tested, because we do lots of sport and dance) every hair band, clip and tieback we could find. We've had varying levels of success but nothing ever really worked with clips digging in and headbands slipping off. Then we noticed sportspeople using a thin headband we'd not seen or tried before and started looking for it.

After many visits to shops, numerous telephone calls and much time on the internet, we concluded we could not get what we wanted in the UK. Several weeks later we managed to track down Coloured Wrap. We tried and tested the Wrap ourselves and we agreed that this was the best hair tieback we'd ever used. Its easy to use, looks good and it works.

At first we just used the Coloured Wrap to create simple headbands for ourselves for sport. Encouraged by the news from the States of its growing popularity and the developing craze we showed it to our friends who also thought Coloured Wrap was great.

We then began experimenting with the wrap and found that it's softness, strength, flexibility and elasticity made it an ideal versatile and fun material to style our hair whatever we were doing.

We decided to share what we had found with others and make this must have item easily and quickly available to others like us in the UK. And that's how our business and this website (www.colourwrap.com) came about.

Check out the web-site to see just how professional this sister-act is. I think even Sir Alan would be impressed!

New Sports Camps for Children aged 5-14 years from
Tuesday 26th - Friday 29th May
10am-3pm – Sports Camp
8.30am-4.30pm – Sports and Activity Camp
Prices from £12 per day
Up to 80% off with Family Tax Credits.

To book or for more information contact 0117 3027557 or visit www.sportrecruitment solutions.com

Coming Soon

New Kids Football League

Thursdays from 4pm, for under 12's and Under 14's, for more information or to register a team, please contact Kids Leagues on 0845 0178835 or visit www.kidsleagues.co.uk

This June

Free Fitness Suite Inductions, to book your induction please call 01275 333375

E-Safety

Information evenings for parents to help keep your children safe online

7.00-8.30pm all welcome

Midsomer Norton – Norton Hill School
4th November 2009

Keynsham – Wellsway School
7th July 2009, 15th September 2009

**Bath and North East Somerset
Local Safeguarding Board
In partnership with South West Grid for Learning
(SWGfL)**

Contacts for the School Society

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