



THE BUGLE

December 9th 2011
Issue 382



*The Headmaster and Staff
wish all pupils and parents a very Merry
Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous
New Year!*



Boys' Section Cross-Country

On Monday afternoon boys (and two girls who were keen to join in) in Years 5 to 8 ran a section cross-county race. This took place over a 2km course on Beacon Hill where the windmill stands overlooking Rottingdean. Thirty-three children were running; every runner's position was counted, the positions totalled for each section and averaged to take account of varying numbers from each section. The top ten runners were:

- 1st Joe French (Musketeers)
- 2nd George St John Loder (Musketeers)
- 3rd Seb Ayris (Templars)
- 4th Amaury Salomon (Vikings) - the leading Year 7
- 5th Tom Awdry (Musketeers) - a phenomenal performance from a Year 5
- 6th Tom Hildick-Smith (Vikings)
- 7th Freddie Sywak (Musketeers)
- 8th Will Bucknall (Crusaders)
- 9th Harry Drew (Crusaders) - the leading Year 6
- 10th Dylan Gifford (Templars)

The final section positions were:

- 1st Musketeers
- 2nd Vikings
- 3rd Templars
- 4th Crusaders

Well done to all of the runners.

Mr Hitchings

Pre-Prep Superstars

Last week's superstars were from Reception.



Superstar awards were given to James Withey for excellent maths work with money, Charlie Cleveley for effort with learning his sounds, Hassan Majid for excellent phonics work, Jasmina Laurillard for fantastic progress with reading and Poppy Tostevin for making a great effort with everything she does!

Good behaviour stickers were given to Flynn Moussavi, Tallak Hudson, Eliana Trossino, Millie Foster
Congratulations to all of you!

Senior Drama Showcase

The end of term Showcase this year began with some Year 7 and year 8 pupils performing a selection of pieces from their recent LAMDA examinations. There was some great entertainment throughout the evening and a few very strong performances. Congratulations to Nandi who opened the showcase with *Dreaming the Unicorn*, and her first public performance on the St Aubyns stage. George was brilliant as a football crazed teenager who was trying to impress a potential girl friend. His energy and accent were superb and Alabama's improvised role as the potential girlfriend was just brilliant. Congratulations to all the boys who performed duologues - Ed and Dan, Ash and Cameron and Joe and Luca. I felt they all gave strong and focused performances. Jacob brought the first half to a magnificent ending with an extract from *The Porridge Trauma Incident*. With his huge fur coat and some brilliant face painting from Miss Templeton, Jacob really looked the part of Daddy Bear and made the audience laugh out loud with his humorous antics. I was delighted with all the performers and the hard work they had put into their work this term really showed.

The second half was a piece of theatre partly devised by the Drama Club - a big thank you to Suki who came up with the original idea. The show was such great fun and the cast were bubbling with just the right amount of energy. The children were playing school children with attitude! They really brought the humour out of the scenes but also played the refugee scene with great sensitivity.

I thoroughly enjoyed watching them all and was proud of all that they managed to achieve. Well done!

Miss Spink

Pupil Competes against County Swimmers

Boden Simpson-Maher (Year 6) has been swimming with Lewes Swimming Club since January this year. Over the weekend, Boden represented his Club in the '10 years old and under' category in the Eastbourne Inter-Club Gala. Six teams from across East Sussex competed involving some of the best young swimmers in the County. Boden represented his team in a number of breaststroke and freestyle events including an individual swim and relays. Boden's squad trains on Sunday evenings at Seahaven Swimming pool (Newhaven). This was his first County Team Gala competition. Well done, Boden!

ABRSM Music Results

Congratulations to all of the following who took and passed their ABRSM music exams this term:

Ben Bishop	Piano Pre Test
Torben Kempa	Piano Pre Test
Noah Harries	Piano Pre Test
Connie Brown	Singing Grade 2 Pass
Rosie Collard	Singing Grade 2 Pass
Lalita Spink	Piano Grade 2 Merit
Oscar Frost	Singing Grade 2 Merit
Daniel Hobden	Singing Grade 2 Merit
Freja Holmstrom	Clarinet Grade 3 Merit
Henry Liu	Violin Grade 2 Distinction
Natacha Rodrigues	Saxophone Grade 2 Distinction

NB

Christmas Trees!

For the second year running, we are participating in the 'Christmas Trees for Schools' scheme, run by the Hanover Christmas Tree Company. The company gives participating schools a half price tree and for every tree purchased by a customer after that who votes for St Aubyns, further money is deducted off the final amount we have to pay. The trees are high quality and we are very happy to be able to promote the company once more this year. If you are interested in buying a tree from them, their website address is www.hanoverchristmastrees.co.uk



Team Kit Recall!

Please could all those who have had a football team kit this term return it to Miss Jackie as soon as possible. Thank you.

Inter-Section Christmas Singing Competition 2011

For the second year running, this competition provoked enormous rivalry from not only the pupils of each Section but also their respective Section Teachers. Last year's winners, Templars, superbly led by Mrs Sykens and Mr Travis, were clearly going to be faced with a challenge, with the gauntlet thrown down. A lot of furtive comments and seeming disinterest in the Staff Room concealed an underlying desire to trounce the opposition and it was clear early on that a battle was brewing. So much for the "Christmas Spirit".

The competition consists of a compulsory song - this year it was "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" - followed by an individual choice. In the capable hands of our Musical Director, Mrs Bunker, lyrics were produced and the scores written to suit the requirements of each Section and it was left to pupils and staff to devise their own choreography, props and "secret weapon" with which to wow the judges, Mrs Bunker and Mr Hitchings.

First on stage were the Templars (Sykens, Travis), equipped with festive lanterns, woolly hats and scarves and dancing to an arrangement devised by Tamsin Ayris and Alabama Barnard. Always a difficult thing, opening the show, and Templars only managed 3rd position in this round. Musketeers (Ndau, Rowland) put on a brave attempt to beat this but, like Moses in the desert, they only came fourth (ouch!). Vikings (Edwards, Gartland, Briggs) came on with plenty of tinsel and smiling faces and gave a strong vocal rendition of the classic song, but Crusaders (Templeton, Gaughran) stole the round with their carol singers, conducted by Teddie Carr, versus grumpy old man - Patrick Northmore - and an "X" Factor voting gadget.

So, into the second round with each Section singing in the same order. Templars sang "Santa Claus is Coming to Town", at one stage turning their backs on the audience to waggle their posteriors to the words "he knows if you've been good or bad". It concluded with Will Blair from Year 3 going for the sympathy vote by hobbling on a crutch onto the stage as Tiny Tim (the Dickens character, not the "tiptoe through the tulips" 60s singer). Musketeers sang their version of Wizard's "I Wish it Could be Christmas Every Day". Tom Awdry provided an awesomely loud echo response to every line and George Loder hammered away at the drums in search of extra votes. Vikings delivered an original version of Winter Wonderland, spiced up with a fusion of cha cha cha and ska. A sledge and a snowman (Will Jeffery) added to the atmosphere and Boden Simpson on oboe and Dan Hobden on trumpet added to the cacophony and energy of some very strong vocals. Lastly, Crusaders with "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer". This version had the audience really going - it had everything the judges were looking for. For sheer entertainment value alone, Henry Liu with a flashing red nose, antlers and bouncing around like a rabbit having drunk too much mulled wine, Jonny Gannaway leaping up and down in the background dressed as a mad scientist, and Niloy Sil as Father Christmas with an over-stuffed belly (didn't we see that cushion used in a recent play?).

And so, to the results: to rapturous applause, Crusaders came first (and rightly so, in my unbiased opinion) with 110 points out of a possible 120. Vikings came a creditable 2nd with 97 points, Templars 3rd ("you woz robbed" Miss Templeton condescendingly chirped in) with 95 and Musketeers, still out in the wilderness doing the Moses thing, 4th.

Inter-Section Christmas Singing Competition 2011 continued...

This was a splendid afternoon's entertainment and the children and staff are all to be congratulated for their hard work over the past few weeks. As a competition, it has become a highlight of the school (advent) calendar and it is clear that, as in the local butcher's shop where the meat is kept on the top shelves, the stakes are getting higher! Hopefully, with puns this bad they won't call me back next year.
RT (Templars!)



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