

THORNGROVE NEWSLETTER

6th May 2011

It was lovely to welcome the children back to a sunny summer term. The start, however, was rather different with a long weekend to celebrate the Royal Wedding. The children were very excited and the Lower School even had their own 'street party' with trestle tables stretched out along the back veranda. I am sure that most of us watched the wedding glued to the television. Mrs Willis's nephew was in the choir at Westminster Abbey (sitting opposite David Cameron). What a lucky chap!

I would like to inform you of some **staff changes**:

After many years of outstanding service, Mrs Cartey, has decided to retire. She has worked in the Lower School since 1997 and more recently as Head of the Lower School. Her calm and caring nature have endeared her to children and parents alike. I wish her well in her retirement and hope that I can persuade her to return to Thorngrove to do the odd Art workshop or two.

Miss Kitaruth, our Form 1 teacher, has also decided to move on after 12 years of loyal service. Many children have benefitted from her imaginative and inspirational teaching giving them a wonderful start to their life at Thorngrove. I wish her all the best as she takes up her new post at Cheam School in September.

From September 2011 I have asked Mr Webb to take on the role of Senior Master and Mrs Worrall to take on a new role as Curriculum Director. Due to Mrs Cartey's retirement, I have appointed Miss Byrne as Acting Head of the Lower School.

The **ski trip to Les Menuires** was a huge success. Although the snow was disappearing fast, the skiing was still fantastic and everyone enjoyed the camaraderie at meal times and during evening activities. Can you believe that due to the warm temperatures a couple of Dads decided to ski topless! They shall remain nameless-although I do hope to see Mr Boulton and Mr Davies at breakfast on Friday. I hope to book up another ski trip for Easter 2012 and will be advertising it shortly.

You will be pleased to hear that last term the disco for children in Form 5-9 raised £335. Funds were split between the FOT and sponsoring a pelican in memory of Eleanor Clarke. Mr Mes also arranged a fabulous coin competition culminating in some elaborate coin sculptures on the astro. This raised an impressive £927.19 which the children's committee decided to donate to the charity 'Children with Leukaemia'.

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I have appointed 7 **prefects** this term: Faiq Bolkiah, Nathan Bhomer, Amelia Beck, Harry Mills, William Hamilton Stubber, Ben White and Ukasyah Wallace. I am sure that they will continue the fine work of the prefects last term and act as excellent role models.

Mrs Reid took Form 8 pupils to **France** last week. She reports that:

'We spent last week in Normandy on our annual French trip to the Chateau de la Baudonniere. We visited Le Mont St Michel, a market in St Hilaire, the Bayeux Tapestry and Arromanches. We took part in a multitude of activities, including orienteering, climbing, fencing and bread-making, to name but a few.

A native French speaker spent the week with us and spoke French to the pupils throughout her time with us - suffice to say that their understanding and use of the language developed, giving them all a real confidence boost.

We returned last Friday tired but happy, and we were even able to watch a certain wedding on the big screen on the ferry! A good time was had by all!

Please feel free to come and see a display of our trip in the corridor outside 6R, and also watch out for a slide show in the display cabinet in Reception.

Matthew Barrett, our assistant groundsman, is getting married (to Emma) on Saturday. I would like to congratulate them both and wish them every happiness for their future.

Individual **Speech and Drama lessons** are starting next Monday. There are still some places available if you are interested.

FOT Matters:

The FOT would like you to know about an easy way to raise funds. Please see the attachment about signing up to the 'easy funding scheme'. You can shop and help the Friends of Thorngrove!

On the same topic, I would like to expand the FOT Committee. If you would like to join the Committee for a period of between a year and two years, please put your name forward by contacting either a member of the current committee or giving your name to Mary in the office.

Finally, I do hope you can join us for a fun day of sports on Saturday 21st May. The office have emailed you with the details .

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There are still places available on our **summer multi-activity courses**. Unfortunately due to lack of numbers the cookery course has been cancelled.

Please make sure you sign the **homework diaries** on a nightly basis if your child is in Forms 4-9.

Drop off time in the morning is 8.15am, unless you go to breakfast. Please make sure that your child does not arrive any earlier as their form teacher will not be there!

Next Friday we welcome the well-known **children's author** Geraldine McCaughrean to the school. She will be taking assembly and conducting workshops throughout the day. I'm sure the children will benefit greatly.

Best wishes,

Adam King
(Headmaster)



Form 8 children outside the chateau in Normandy

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Boys' results

1st XI v. Abingdon U13B

TH: 103-8 (18.1 overs)

AB: 99-8 (20 overs)

Won by 2 wickets

2nd XI v. St.Francis 1st XI

TH: 53-7 (16 overs) Saint 15 runs

STF: 55-7 (13 overs) Harris 4 wkts & Cheesman 2 wkts

Lost by 3 wickets

U11A XI v. Chandlings Manor U11A

CHM: 117-3 (20 overs) Oretti, Warren & Riley 1 wicket each. Hebbes 3 catches.

TH: 70-7 (20 overs) Hebbes 21, Warren 11, Knight 11 & Mitchell 5 runs

Lost by 47 runs

U10A XII Pairs v. St.Francis U10A

TH: 218-11 Cardno & Fanning 18 runs

STF: 271-6

Lost by 53 runs

U10/11B XII Pairs v. St.Francis U10/11B

TH: 189-6

STF: 244-12

Lost by 55 runs

Girls' results

To follow next week