

THORNGROVE NEWSLETTER

25th September 2009

It was wonderful to escape from my study on Wednesday and stroll across to the pitches to see so many boys and girls playing matches against Daneshill and the Oratory. I have to admit that a rousing shout of 'Come on Thorngrove!' does one a world of good and seems to spur on the children. It was also lovely to see so many parents supporting too and enjoying the autumnal sunshine. At the moment the grounds are looking quite exceptional and this is solely due Sean Roberts and his team (well-Matthew Barrett to be precise). Both of them work tirelessly to keep the buildings and grounds looking in tiptop shape. They are currently replacing the rather worn out stairs either side of the nursery. Is there no end to their talents?

On Monday I was delighted to appoint Elliot Wood and Catriona Suttie as head boy and head girl. I also appointed the following children as school prefects: Gareth Bown, Maia Patrick-Smith, Cara Adams, Emilie Butter, Micaela Adams and Harry Atkins. Last, but by no means least, the following children have been appointed school monitors: James Baker, George Bevan-Thomas, Miles Brown, Lara Dent, James Hassell, Tamzin Howard, Lulu Parry-Clarke, Yasmin Shaikh, Harry Tanner, Jack Willis, Eleanor Adams, Norman Box, James Illsley, Natalie Jones, James Lewis, Tom Shaw Stewart and Thomas Teece. They all squeezed into my study on Tuesday morning and I talked them through their responsibilities and duties and handed out their badges of office. I'm sure that they will all be outstanding role models for the younger children and ambassadors for the school.

Form 4 had an interesting and enjoyable trip to Butser Ancient Farm on Wednesday. They returned to school with big, beaming smiles on their faces and were spattered with mud and clay. They've been busily writing about their experiences in class and I hope to include a few pieces of work and some well chosen photographs in my next newsletter.

Earlier in the week I popped across to St. Helen and St Katharine (it's a good thing they've shortened the website to shsk!). I had a lovely tour with a couple of sixth formers, one was an old Thorngrover and had a chat with the head; a the very 'down to earth' Miss Edbrooke. In these tough economic times it is becoming a popular choice and Miss Edbrooke is only too happy to have ours girls at 13+ once they've completed their education at Thorngrove.

Whilst I'm on the subject of senior schools; I intend on having an open evening at Thorngrove towards the end of the spring term and will be inviting several heads from these schools to chat informally about what their schools can offer you and more importantly your children. This will be for parents in Forms 6 and above.

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The school featured in the education section of the Newbury Weekly News, together with a swanky new advert promoting our forthcoming **Open Morning on 16th October**. I have also produced some flyers. Please feel free to take a few from reception and either pass on to friends or perhaps pin one to your local village notice board. The more visitors the merrier!

On Tuesday I will be chairing my first form representatives' meeting. Please see Mary McQuillen if you are interested in being a form representative.

A quick reminder to all those budding, or not so budding, singers out there. Every Tuesday evening (in term time) between 7.30-9.30pm the Newbury Chamber Choir meet in our New Hall. We are keen to recruit a few more members. It is a lot of fun and quite a few parents and staff make up the numbers. If you'd like to join us or just come for a taster evening please see either myself, Mrs. Gough or Mrs. Teece (Tom and Adam's mum).

In my assembly on Monday I will be reminding the children about personal hygiene. Making sure that they wash their hands regularly and using and binning tissues. It is important that you reinforce this with your child or children at home.

Finally, Claire (my wife not my Deputy) would like to thank all those parents who came to our house on Friday for the MacMillan tea and cakes party. We raised a rather splendid £143 for this most worthy charity.

I'm off to Cambridge on Saturday to visit my old school, St. Faith's, which is celebrating its 125th anniversary. Although Thorngrove is so much younger I know that it will be around for just as long. The only sad thing is that I won't be here to celebrate its 125th !

Best wishes,

Adam King
(Headmaster)

N.B. Please look at the next sheet for fixture changes and match results

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Fixture Changes for Next Week

U11 A and B @ Elstree (travel by coach) – **change in calendar (B team is now away)**

Match Results

Football Results

U8 v. Daneshill	Lost	0-2
U9 v. Daneshill	A	Drew 1-1 (Frisby)
	B	Lost 0-5
U11 v. Daneshill	A v. A	Drew 2-2 (Winch & Patrick-Smith)
	B v. A	Lost 1-6 (Forsyth)
	C v. B	Lost 0-3
	D v. C	Lost 1-2 (Embleton)
1 st XI v. Daneshill	Lost	1-3 (Bolkiah)

Hockey Results v The Oratory

Under 13A	Drew	2 - 2
Under 13B	Won	8 - 0
Under 11	Lost	4 - 0
Under 10A	Lost	3 - 2
Under 10B	Won	2 - 1