



The Royal High School, Bath

Newsletter - Week ending 7 September 2007

The summer may have brought disappointment to sun seekers, but many of our students and staff have good reason to celebrate their achievements and experiences.

Public examinations Our A Level results have been outstanding this year. The candidates achieved an overall pass rate of 99.5% with 76.2% of the grades at A and B. Seven students achieved 4 A grades, and a further nine gained 3 As. **Alex Cheung** achieved a remarkable tally of six A level passes, including 5 As. **Cecily Rainey** gained one of the top five marks in the country in Art and Design. We are delighted to report that over 80% of this year's leavers gained a place at their first choice university.

Equally impressive were the GCSE results. The pass rate A* to C was 98.8% with 100% of students gaining 5 or more passes at the higher grades. 61.5% of the passes were at A* or A grades. The Modern Languages results were quite extraordinary with no less than 6 girls achieving top five marks in the country: **Charlotte Outen** in Spanish and Italian, **Emily Rees** in French, **Sam Elson** and **Victoria Price** in German, **Amy Lyddon-Towl** in Italian and **Emma Ferguson** in Spanish.



China and Tibet Expedition Miss Lowe lead this year's expedition for Year 11 students, taking in 3 weeks of trekking in the Himalayas at altitudes of over 5000 metres. The party stayed in a number of Buddhist monasteries along the way, including Sabaye in Tibet, which is the oldest monastery in the country. The students spent a few days working in a nearby primary school, decorating and refurbishing classrooms and constructing a swing for the children. The party brought out some badly needed packs of stationery and some individual gifts for the children. The trekkers also had the chance to visit some of China's famous sites, including the Great Wall, Forbidden City and the Terracotta Army.

Sixth Form College News We have completed the first stage of the development of the Winfield Centre ahead of next year's opening of the co-educational Royal High Sixth Form College. We have new and bigger teaching rooms, and existing rooms have been fully refurbished. Sixth form students will soon be in possession of their 'tablet' laptops which will greatly enhance study facilities, with wireless access to our own learning network as well on-line resources

Return to the Philippines Mrs Harvie, our Head of Careers returned to the Philippines this summer to set up a dental clinic with the £800 raised by the school last year. She also helped to get another house built, providing a home to a family of eight. She also found herself at the sharp end of delivering dental treatment to many of the children.

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Expedition Well done to our 12 sixthformers who successfully completed their four day, 80 km expedition on Dartmoor at the beginning of the holiday. The group was highly praised by their assessor who was most impressed by their planning and preparation.

Maths Success Xenatasha Cologne-Brookes was invited to join the week-long National Maths Summer camp at Birmingham University, as she came in the top 40 nationally in the Intermediate Mathematical Olympiad. This is the follow-on round of the UK Maths challenge which is sat by around 250000 pupils in Years 9,10 and 11.

New Sports Champions Congratulations to **Georgie Pool**, who won the Wiltshire Under 12 Girls' Singles Tennis Championship. **Alex Warren** notched up a further international swimming success in the European Junior Championships in Antwerp. Alex was part of the gold medal winning 4 x 100 metres relay team which set a new European record for the event.

Calendar

Mon 10	4.00 -5.30 p.m.	1st Netball Coached Game v KES	Home
Tue 11		Spanish Exchange party arrives	
	4.00 - 5.30 p.m.	U16A Netball Coached Game v KES	Home
	7.00 p.m.	Holland Hockey Tour - Parents' Meeting	Hudson Centre
Wed 12	4.00 - 5.30	U14A Coached Netball Game v KES	Home
Thu 13	Today	Individual Student Photographs	Sports Hall
	12.30 - 1.30	Opro Mouthguard Fitting	Medical Centre
	4.00 - 5.30	U16A Netball Coached Game v Kingswood	Home
	4.00 - 5.15	1st Hockey v Monkton Combe	Home
Sat 15	8.30 - 11.00	U12 ABCD Hockey v KES	Home
	9.30 - 11.00	Royal High Activities Programme Session 1	
	Morning	U14/U16 District Netball Tournament v Wellsway	Away
Sun 16	Today	Orienteering League Event	Ashton Court

Staff News We welcome the following new members of staff this term:

Mr Tom Morrison	Head of P.E.
Mr Paul Murphy	Chemistry & Maths Teacher
Mr James Nowak	Biology & Psychology Teacher
Mr Ben Pender	Drama Teacher
Mrs Pat Lunter	Biology Teacher (one term)
Mrs Eileen McAllister	Biology Teacher (one term)
Mrs Joanne Isom	Geography Teacher (part-time)
Mrs Melissa Fieldsend-Danks	Art Teacher (one year)
Mrs Melanie Cook	Religious Studies teacher (part-time)
Miss Rebecca Key	Performing Arts Technician
Mr Christian Duckworth	Art Technician (part-time)
Ms Karen Skeates	Biology Technician
Miss Zoe Tinkler	Resident Boarding Assistant (one year)
Mr James Kellock	Hockey Coach
Mr Evan Green	Peripatetic Music Teacher - Electric Guitar
Mrs Vanessa Hammond	Peripatetic Music Teacher - Oboe
Mrs Judith Hobbs	Peripatetic Music Teacher - Piano
Mr Mark Swinton	Musical Accompanist

Congratulations to Mrs Zoe Sheffield (formerly Miss Tucker), our Director of Sport, who got married in Durham Castle over the summer. She also successfully completed the 128 mile Bristol to London 'Action 100' cycle ride on Bank Holiday Monday. We also offer our congratulations to Mrs Emma Joy, one of our Art teachers, who gave birth to a son, Ambrose in the holidays.

School Uniform Shop Now located at the back of the Old Chapel. Open weekly in term time on Tuesday (12.45 - 1.45) and Thursday (3.45 - 4.30). GCSE Art Packs are also available from the shop, priced £45. For more information ring Vicky Emery on 01225 873767 or 07790 323403.

If you have placed an order with Scholars of Bath for **short sleeved blouses** they will be available for collection from school on Monday 10 September. Goods must be paid for on collection, cheque payable to Scholars.

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 13 September

Individual student photographs in the Sports Hall

Tuesday 25 September at 7.00 p.m.

Sixth Form College Open Evening (International Baccalaureate Evening) Come and find out more about our exciting plans to introduce the I.B. Diploma next year

Visit our *new* website at www.gdst.net/royalhighbath