



The Royal High School, Bath

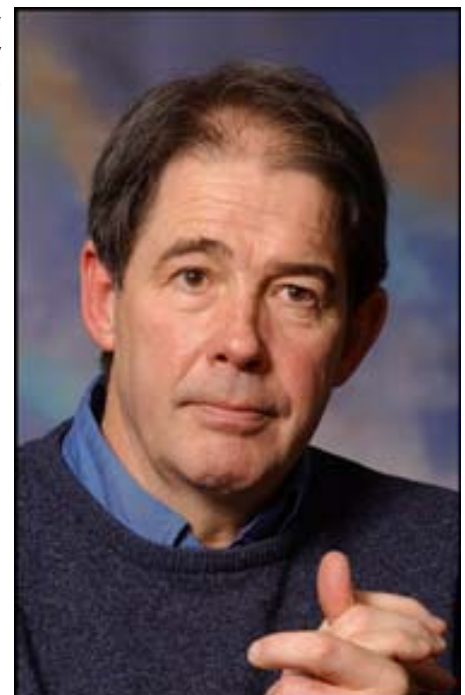
Newsletter - Week ending 28 September 2007



Battlefields trip: Year 10 History students studied World War One on site last week, travelling through Belgium to the Ypres Salient of the Western Front. They visited Sanctuary Wood and Hill 62, traversed the trenches and explored the museum, before comparing the British and German designs of monuments and war graves at Tyne Cot and Langermarck. Using the poetry of the soldiers and diary extracts, the students retraced the steps and re-read the poems of the British and Empire forces, finishing the first day in Ypres under the mighty and humbling Menin Gate, monument to the lost. On the second day the party travelled to France and studied numerous sites on the front line of the Somme offensive of 1916, comparing Canadian, South African and British memorials as well as extending understanding of the tactics employed in the battle. The third day included a visit to the newly restored Canadian sculpture on Vimy Ridge.

Upper School Reading Group: As well as the weekly Literary Lunches for the Sixth Form, we now have a new Upper School Reading Group that meets every Thursday. Launched this week by Mr Hayward, students were offered copies of three works of contemporary world literature – *Kitchen*, a modern Japanese novel by the wonderfully-named Banana Yoshimoto, *The Kite-Runner* by Khaled Hosseini, a novel exploring childhood in Afghanistan, and *The House of the Spirits*, a South American novel by Isabel Allende. The aim of the group is to tap into the delights of contemporary world fiction and to broaden horizons a little. All students in years 10 & 11 are welcome.

Jonathan Porritt speaks to Young Leaders: This year's Young Leaders Conference, held over the weekend at The Royal High School provided the opportunity for over 100 sixth form student leaders from GDST schools across England & Wales to develop environmental initiatives in their schools and communities. Green activist Jonathan Porritt, who gave the keynote speech was one of a number of business leaders and environmentalists contributing to the conference. Jonathan challenged the students to go back to their schools to promote long-term sustainability among their fellow students. They will report back before Easter on their achievements. Commenting on the conference, Jonathan said "*The sort of practical, ground-level projects that the Sustainability Challenge is encouraging will each make a small but significant difference locally, and the combined impact of these initiatives across nearly 30 schools will help to make a real difference nationally, and encourage other schools to do the same.*" The conference is an annual event for some of our most talented young people to engage with an important issue and develop team work, problem solving and leadership skills. They had to work very hard over the weekend and it was a real test of their ability to work under pressure to come up with viable proposals. We look forward to hearing about their initiatives in the new year.



Calendar

Mon 1st Oct		Year 7 (B&D) residential trip departure to Heatree House (Devon)	
	1.00 p.m.	Lunchtime Concert	
	4.00 - 5.30 p.m.	Drama Rehearsal (Buggy Wars)	Memorial Hall
	4.00 - 6.00 p.m.	U16 Hockey v KES 2nds	Bath University
Tue 2nd	4.00 p.m.	Film Society meeting	Hudson Centre
	4.00 - 5.30 p.m.	U13 & U19 League Netball v Ralph Allen	Home
	4.00 - 5.30 p.m.	Drama Rehearsal (Girl Gang)	Memorial Hall
Wed 3		Year 7 (A&W) residential trip departure to Heatree House (Devon)	
		Year 12 Theatre Studies trip to London	
	P.m.	Year 7 (B&D) return from residential trip to Heatree House (Devon)	
	4.00 - 5.15 p.m.	Science Society	
	4.00 - 6.15 p.m.	U13 Hockey v Prior Park College	Home
	4.00 - 5.20 p.m.	U15 Hockey v Downside	Home
	7.30 - 8.30 p.m.	Year 11 Music Showcase Evening	Memorial Hall
Thu 4		Italian Exchange Party arrives	
	4.00 - 5.15 p.m.	1st Hockey v Colstons	Home
	4.00 - 5.30 p.m.	Drama Rehearsal	
Fri 5		Jeans for Genes Day (half mufti)	
		U19 Hockey tournament v Clifton College	Away
	p.m.	Year 7 (A&W) return from residential trip to Heatree House (Devon)	
Sat 6	a.m.	Bath & Royal High Od girls' Guild AGM	Hudson Centre
	9.30 - 11.00 a.m.	Royal High School Activities Programme Session 3	
	8.00 - 12.00 noon	U12 A&B, U14 A&B, U16 and 1sts Netball v Redmaids	Away
	8.00 - 12.00 noon	U13 & U15 Hockey v Redmaids	Away
Sun 7		Orienteering League Event at Ski Centre	Lyncombe

Physics Photo Competition: Are you artistic? Can you spot a good photograph? If so, you will want to enter the Physics Photographic Competition. The first prize is a poster-sized enlargement of your photograph to be displayed in the science department, and a £25 voucher to spend in Jessops. Light is an important aspect of physics, and plays an essential part in how we communicate. However the reflection of light often forms beautiful artistic images. The competition is looking for any photograph showing a reflected image. The more imaginative you are the more likely that you will catch the judges eye. Entries must be in by the end of term. Contact Mr Moyle for more details.

Sports News: Congratulations to Rachel Li (Year 8) who was selected to swim in the North Bristol Open Meeting at the weekend, competing against 57 other girls in her age group. She recorded a personal best in the 100m backstroke, taking 3 seconds off her time and finished in 3rd place overall. Our U19 Netball squad are also celebrating their success in getting through the 26-strong District netball round in Bristol this week. They are through to the County Round on October 13th.

Students travelling on buses: We are concerned by reports that students have been seen out of their seats on buses travelling to and from school. We have raised this with the relevant coach operators, who tell us that students ignore the requests and it is difficult for a driver to remedy the situation once the journey is underway. We have given our support for them insisting that students observe the rule about staying seated and wearing seat belts as a condition of travelling on that bus. Could all parents please support us in this and remind daughters about the importance of safe travel.

Garden tools wanted: We are going to develop a school allotment and are on the look out for any garden tools that are usable and safe but perhaps aren't in the first flush of youth and are about to be replaced. If you have any such items then please contact us via email at royalhigh@bat.gdst.net.

School Shop: Open on Tuesdays 12.45 - 1.45 and Thursdays 3.45 - 4.30. We have a good collection of football boots in various sizes to fit sons or daughters. We also have a wide range of study guides for GCSE and AS/A2 subjects. Our lost property room is overflowing. If you have lost something, please come and look. We are open on Thursdays at break time. For more information about the school shop please ring Vicki Emery on 01225 873767.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 9 October 6.30 - 8.30 p.m. Sixth Form College Information Evening

For Year 11 students and parents to discuss A level and IB options with staff

Saturday 24 November 10.a.m. Friends of The Royal High School Grand Christmas Bazaar

In the Sports Hall at the Senior School. Please support this fundraising event.