

Rejoice in the presence of children and young people...and recognise the gifts they bring. (Advices and Queries 19).

Issue 390
23rd September 2011

From the Head

I should like to express my sincere thanks to parents, pupils and friends who have sent me so many messages over the past three weeks while I have been away from school. They have all brightened up my day and helped me along the road back to health. I hope to be back in school from next Monday and am looking forward to seeing everyone again. My thanks too, to Anna Chaudhri, Sarah Westerhuis and Eleanor Mackenzie-Lambert and all the staff for ensuring that the new year has got off to such a cracking start during my absence.

With kind regards,
Graham Wigley

Exceptional Sporting Achievements of Pupils

William Palmer, Year 7, travelled to Swansea where he took part in a unique sporting event. On 16th and 17th September, he undertook swimming technique and skills training with Eleanor Simmonds, MBE (double paralympic gold medallist and BBC Young Sports Personality of the Year), and Matthew Whorwood (paralympic medallist from 2008). Will was invited along with the other most talented dwarf swimmers from all over the UK. He currently trains with Colchester Phoenix three times a week and he aspires to compete in the 2016 Paralympics.



The first picture shows William being encouraged by Eleanor, after he swam against her in a race at the Dwarf Games. Here, he is also swimming against the Olympic silver medallist Matthew Whorwood. In the second picture, the young sportsman is shown at the start of a race and finally he is seen at a medal ceremony, where William is rewarded a gold medal for athletics.

Charlotte White, Year 10, has distinguished herself in various sporting competitions during the summer, and attained the following national rankings:

- Javelin; first in the country for her age group and she has matched the record of Goldie Sayers.
- Shot Put; third in the country and first in the county.
- Swimming; third in the county.

These are impressive achievements and we wish Charlotte every success in her ambition to compete at the Brazil Olympics in five years time!



Hill Construction

The manager from Hill Construction spoke in Assembly about the health and safety of the site. We are very excited to be involved in an eco-friendly project and we look forward to the prospect of our students being involved in the development.

Cultural Exchange

We are thrilled to welcome our German friends from Lloydgymnasium in Bremerhaven. We wish them a pleasant stay and we look forward to hearing about all the exciting activities which will be taking place during their visit.



Note on parking

We apologise for the inconvenience caused in the morning when dropping off your children. As the St. Johns Close end of the Avenue is for the sole use of Hill construction and school staff, for safety reasons, Junior school parents have been asked to continue to use the tarmac parking area by the Sports Hall. We appreciate your ongoing use of the front driveway for dropping off and collecting your children.

Forthcoming events:

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| Monday 26 th September | 19.00 - Introduction to GCSE for Year 10 and parents |
| Tuesday 27 th September | Year 11 Careers interviews
16.15 - School Council

15.30 - U15 Rugby v HRS (A)
16.15 - U15 Hockey v St. Mary's (A) |
| Wednesday 28 th September | 16.00 – 1 st XI Hockey v Leventhorpe (A) |
| Thursday 29 th September | 16.00 - Year 7 parents and form teachers consultation
16.30 - ESOL trip to Billy Elliot, London |