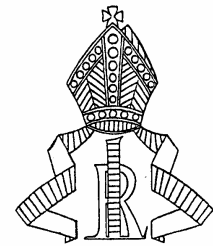


# Bishop Luffa School

NEWSLETTER 3  
DECEMBER 2009



*Dear Parents*

*And so we come to the end of a particularly eventful term. We have seen the opening of the Creative Arts Centre, the memorable Big Walk, an exhilarating Exploration Day, the Christmas Concerts in the Festival Theatre and this week's moving Carol Service. And in between these high points pupils and Sixth Form students have worked hard in lessons and at home. Many visitors whom I have shown around the school have commented on the calm, purposeful and positive atmosphere, and on the warm working relations they see between pupils and staff. The school is thriving!*

## **A truly BIG total**

When the Big Walk was announced at the whole school assembly in September, the slogan was "10k for £20k". So far the amount raised stands at £28,627. Many donations took the form of gift aid; the tax from these gifts is recoverable and will bring in a further £4,000. Many thanks to everyone who walked on that beautiful October day, and to all the parents, family members and friends who sponsored our young people. It is an amazing amount to have raised for the Creative Arts Centre, which is already proving its worth.

**Mr Mark Nicholds, Business Manager**

## **Exploration Day**



This term's Exploration Day has been perhaps the best yet. Throughout the day I saw pupils completely absorbed in their activities. Half of Year 7 (BBKO) in D&T created a whole airline – plane, logo, uniform and food – while the other half (RSSW) designed their own webpage and explored identity through a workshop on heroes. Year 8 shared their day between English and Maths, with BBKO engaged in Creative Writing inspired by a trip to the Cathedral, while RSSW were challenged by the problem of finding Pi on the playground. Year 9 travelled around the world, tasting Japanese food, trying on Nigerian dress, learning to sing "Mama Mia" in Swedish. . . while the second half of their day in taster sessions in preparation for choosing GCSE courses. Year 10 pupils split their day between Urban Arts - learning hip hop, playing a melody over a bass guitar riff, designing graffiti art and the craft of the DJ - and PE: golf, yoga, free running and curling. Year 11 spent their time finding out about how their favourite subjects develop after GCSE: a series of taster sessions gave a flavour of A Level lessons. Some pupils also used the day to catch up on coursework. Meanwhile, the Sixth Form explored their A Levels in a deeper and richer way in the Science lab, on a train to Arundel, inside Pallant House and elsewhere. It has been an exhilarating and exhausting day. Many thanks to all staff for a truly memorable experience.

## **Member of Mensa**

Congratulations to Annie Slater 8 Bell, who, having recently completed a supervised test at Worthing, has been accepted as a member of Mensa, the High IQ Society.

## Library Christmas Competition



A Christmas Competition was held in the Library in which pupils had to guess which characters from Christmas Stories had been invited to dinner in the Library. A table was set for Christmas dinner with clues to the character at each place setting. It was very popular but only two pupils gave all the correct answers. Samson Charles 7 Story and Rebecca Wilson 7 Wilson won a selection of books each.

**Mrs Margaret Bone, Librarian**

## Holocaust Speaker



On Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> November, the RE Department were privileged to have Rudi Oppenheimer come to Bishop Luffa to talk to our Year 9 pupils. Rudi is a Holocaust Survivor and a volunteer who works through the London Jewish Cultural Centre. Rudi is an inspirational speaker, used to retelling his story in an educational setting, and he kept the whole Year Group transfixed to his testimony for two hours, with just a short break in the middle. His visit supported the unit studied in RE of "Challenging Racism: Understanding Difference" where one of the areas is the Holocaust. Some of the comments made by

the pupils when reflecting on Rudi's visit were: "His story really opened my eyes." "I can't believe what he and his family had to go through" and "Rudi's right – that we should never forget."

**Mrs Rachel Wesley, RE Department**

## Bishop Luffa Juniors show clean pair of heels to West Sussex West



On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December Year 7 & 8 took part in a Sports Hall Athletics competition at Westergate School. Following on from the excellent results in the District Cross Country Championships the team spirit was very high going into the competition. The teams were competing against the best that The Chichester High Schools, Bognor Regis Community College, Westergate and St Philip Howard had to offer.

The boys started the competition well with wins from Charlie Tyrell (8 SH) in the B string 2 lap race, and James Waters (8 OT) in the A string 4 lap race. The mixed year 7 & 8 boys knew that they faced much bigger, quicker and experienced opposition consisting

of mainly Year 8 teams from the other schools. However, a series of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places allowed the boys to claw their way into 3<sup>rd</sup> place by the final relay event. A hotly-contested 4 x 2 lap relay followed with the boys doing well to take 2<sup>nd</sup> place against teams with arguably greater foot-speed in a straight line and cemented their 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish overall with 118 points.

The Bishop Luffa girls were without a doubt the dominant force on the day. On the track the team won every race that was contested, showing consistency over both sprints and middle distance events. In the speed bounce Holly Van Driel (8 Sh) surpassed all competitors' scores (both boys and girls) in achieving 86 bounces in 30 seconds. This was without a doubt the individual performance of the day. The overall score for the girls was 158 points - just two short of the maximum 160, once again underlining the strong display by the girls. The teams' aggregate score of 286 was 20 points clear of the combined Chichester High school's 1<sup>st</sup> place score. A great display by all the athletes: well done!

**Team:** Holly Van Driel, Ellie Overton, Emma Maynard, Ellie Deleaney Stone, Mary Lack, Emefa Satranah, Abbie Edwards, Gerogia Sutherland, Amy Brown (Team manager), James Waters, Charlie Tyrell, George Dempster, Will Minton, Tristan Bracken, Ed Gerwat, Alfie Shaw, Joe Gallop.

**Mr Allan Thompson, PE Faculty Coach**

### PE Update



All the sports teams have continued to build on their positive start to the year. Multiple fixtures have been played in Netball, Hockey, Rugby, Badminton and Football. Bishop Luffa pupils have also participated in the West Sussex West Cross Country Championships (Please see school website), Area Sports Hall athletics and Sports Partnership Dance leaders festival. At present the Year 11 girls and Year 9 girls look as if they will be heading their West Sussex West Netball leagues when all of the results are collated. The Year

10 girls are halfway through their campaign, whilst the Year 7 & 8s are due to begin after Christmas. In Rugby the Year 9 and 10 teams look to have made a very good start in the South Hampshire leagues, losing only one match each, and they hope to finish in contention for one of the league cups.

The pupils have also completed their first two inter-house activities which saw Otter House win the Cohort B trophy and Sherborne House win the Cohort L Trophy. (Once again individual results are available on the school website). Meanwhile the Girls Netball Cup has been won by King house, and the Boy's Football Cup has been won by Ridgeway House.

Next term we look forward to starting a new gymnastics club on Monday evenings and Yoga will also be running on a Monday evening from 11<sup>th</sup> Jan. Both activities use external coaches therefore there will be a charge of £1.50 for each session. Cricket Club will also begin on Wednesday nights all students welcome. A Girls indoor league Cricket will begin in February.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dan Munroe, Simon Patterson, Paul Colley and Paul Moss for their work coaching students this term. If there are any other parents who feel that they could help with any extra-curricular activities (subject to statutory checks) then please feel free to contact Mr Brown.

**Mr Tim Brown, Team Leader PE**

### Duke of Edinburgh Award - Silver Assessment Expedition in the New Forest



Seven young people from the school started their qualifying expedition on Monday 26 October and camped out overnight on two nights in the New Forest. As a requirement of the Silver Award each group member carried their own food, water, stoves and camping gear for the entire expedition and had only remote supervision from leaders. Whilst completing each day of walking from

one campsite to another the group had to fulfil their award aim and comply with their pre-planned route cards and designated check points. This group successfully achieved everything that was required and the external assessor very happily passed each member. Each member of this group very much deservedly passed their expedition element of the award.

The picture shows the group at the end of day three when they all finished, having completed their 3 days of walking and arrived at Tile Barn in the New Forest. Well done to all of them - a great achievement!

**Miss Kirsty Leighton, Duke of Edinburgh Volunteer**

### **Burns Night Banquet**



Bishop Luffa PFA present the Burns Night Banquet on Saturday 24 January 2010. Traditional piping of the Haggis and six course Banquet. The evening starts at 7.15pm for 7.45pm to 11.30pm. Tickets cost £22.50 each. Kilts and Black Tie are encouraged. There is a fully licensed Bar. Please order tickets for this popular and very enjoyable event from Mrs Linda Green at the school, using the order form available at [www.bishopluffa.org.uk/blog/ParentsFriendsAssoc](http://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/blog/ParentsFriendsAssoc)

### **Dates for your diary**

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Monday 4 January         | Spring Term starts                           |
| Tuesday 5 January        | Year 10 Eucharist                            |
| Thursday 7 January       | Sixth Form Open Evening                      |
| Monday 11 January        | AS & A2 exams start                          |
| Thursday 21 January      | Year 9 Information Evening for 14-16 courses |
| Thursday 21 & 22 January | Year 10 Geography Fieldwork                  |
| Thursday 28 January      | Year 11 Parents Consultation Evening         |
| Wednesday 3 February     | Year 9 Eucharist                             |
| Friday 5 February        | UNICEF Non-Uniform Day                       |
| Tuesday 9 February       | Year 11 Poetry Day                           |
| Thursday 11 February     | Year 9 Parents Consultation Evening          |
| Friday 12 February       | INSET day                                    |

**The Governors and Staff wish pupils, students and parents a very happy Christmas!**

*Yours sincerely*

**Nick Taunt**  
**Headteacher**