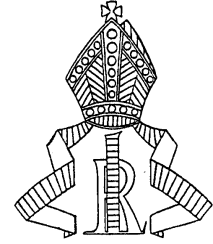


# Bishop Luffa School

NEWSLETTER 2  
OCTOBER 2011



## *Dear Parents*

*Year 7 pupils have now returned from their Isle of Wight residential with many stories of new friendships forged, new experiences tried, new learning tasted. Some have found the time away from home difficult, but return stronger for having overcome their homesickness. Tutors and Heads of House also return with an enhanced sense of their pupils' personalities and potential. All of them give me an impression of excitement and exhaustion..*

*We have enjoyed a busy first half of term. It has been good to see newcomers settle in quickly to the school's routines - and to watch old hands help them to become established. The views of those outside the school reinforce the sense of working hard and together. We enjoyed a packed Open Evening earlier this month, when parents of prospective pupils commented on the politeness and zest of our young people and staff. This week, a distinguished visitor, Her Honour Valerie Pearlman, CBE, was impressed by Sixth Formers' enthusiasm, intellect and debating skills as they rehearsed for the forthcoming Bar Mock Trial competition. Another visitor, Mrs Mary Hands, on her induction training as a new governor at the school, was struck by how quiet the school was when students showed her round. These two comments apply to the school's lively and purposeful seven weeks, impressions that the following selection of reports confirms.*

## **Year 11 Reps announced**

The Year 11 Eucharist ended on a high note with the announcement of the secret ballot for the



Year 11 representatives. Jeremy Costello and Ruby Kane both from 11 Burrows were elected as male and female Year 11 reps, with Lucie Mirams and Kyle Ellis from 11 Wilson as Deputy female and male reps. They will represent Year 11 on the School Council and take responsibility for the organisation of the Year 11 Prom and Handbook. Congratulations to our four elected Year 11 reps!

**Mrs Anne MacDonald**

**Assistant Director of Pupil Learning KS4/5**

## **International Sketch Book Project**

Open Evening provided an opportunity for Year 7 pupils to begin work on the International Sketchbook Project. Through the swapping of sketchbooks, the 'Cultural Olympics' project fosters ideals of international co-operation and information exchange. Year 7 pupils have been invited to create sketchbooks to exchange with Burmese refugee children in Thailand.

The first workshop took place during Open Evening; subsequent ones will follow the work up after half term.



Meanwhile, in Thailand, staff working for the Khao Lak Community Appeal and Grassroots Charities in Southern Thailand engaged a group of Burmese refugees in the same project. These children live with their parents who have fled the repressive military regime of Burma



(Myanmar). Most can't afford to attend school and are awake at 4.00 am each day to work on the rubber plantations in the Thai jungle. Their sketch-books will be very different from ours. Once the sketchbooks have been exchanged, ours will be exhibited in Khao Lak, Thailand, whilst the Burmese books will join an exhibition at Pallant House Gallery in Chichester. We hope to continue the project after this and already have plans to exchange further sketchbooks with Mokken (sea gypsy) children in Thailand as well as children in Spanish and Australian schools.

**Mrs Elaine Morgan, Team Leader Art**

### **Blossoming Success!**

A huge "Thank You" to all parents, pupils and teachers who came and helped at the 'Autumn Tidy' on Saturday 8 October. Being blessed again with lovely weather, a fantastic fun day of gardening was had by all involved, including some new year 7s who came to take up the challenge and learn some new skills. Thanks to everyone's hard work Bishop Luffa's gardens are back looking beautiful ready for the seasons to come. We look forward to seeing more parents at our next gardening event on 'Spring planting day'.

#### **The New Eco-Reps**

Next half term will see the launch of Eco-Reps in each form in Years 7, 8 and 9. We very much look forward to seeing new faces at our Eco-School club. Perhaps we might find some keen environmentalists to make Bishop Luffa become more sustainable and help us to reach Eco-School Green Flag status. All pupils are welcome to join Eco-Club every Tuesday lunch time in Room 37.



**Mrs Shona Charge & Mrs Diane Rogers, Eco Club Co-ordinators**

### **"A Different Perspective on Poverty"**

These were the words of one Bishop Luffa student evaluating the recent Year 12 RE conference. Students took on the role of President of a fictional country for a day. Presenter Rebekah Legg, from Damaris trust, praised students for their attentiveness and lively and intelligent debates. Other students commented that, "I learned that everyone's voice and opinion counts and world



decisions make a huge difference to so many people's lives."

"That it is not just down to a country to pay its debts, it's also down to the countries that lent them the money".

"Poor does not mean you have no money, it means you have no options."

This year's conference culminated in a special presentation from our Year 13 peer education team –

STS (Students Teaching Students) – who gave an insightful and challenging presentation and interactive quiz on the issue of high maternal fatalities in the developing world. During the 36 minutes of the presentation it was estimated that on average 18 young women would have died in childbirth, which was vividly portrayed by images drawn as the presentation took place. We are again grateful to Chichester Baptist Church for allowing us use of their buildings for the event.

### Making an ..... IMPACT



This year the Sixth Form Christian Union leaders have renamed the group IMPACT. They have already had a concert (Impact LIVE) and held a charity cake sale raising over £130. A group of about 12 Sixth Formers make up this year's leadership team. Peter Hopkins, one of the group said, "We're aiming to do lots of fundraising events that everyone can get involved in, as well as raising awareness and campaigning against injustice. We're planning to do all this alongside our weekly meetings on

Wednesdays where anyone who wants to be involved can come along and hang out with us and be a part of what we're doing."

**Mrs Angela Smith, Team Leader RE**

### Film Club Frenzy



Bishop Luffa Film Club, now in its fourth year, has been through some exciting changes recently that have made it even more accessible to our pupils.

- Film Club is now essentially FREE (the £10 annual membership fee is now a voluntary contribution which goes towards popcorn, comfy beanbag chairs and movie prizes)
- Film Club is now open to ALL year groups including Year 7.
- After weeks of requests from our older students, there are now Year 11 ONLY screenings where pupils can enjoy more challenging, controversial and mature cinema.

Film Club is a government supported initiative which promotes appreciation and understanding of film. Bishop Luffa was amongst the very first schools in the country to get involved with the scheme. An exclusive school film club website enables students to write and share their reviews of the films they watch, augmenting listening, social and literacy skills. Some of the scores of films we have watched so far include *Jaws*, *12 Angry Men*, *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *The Social Network* and Charlie Chaplin's *The Kid*.

Film Club takes place straight after school every Tuesday in rooms 18 and 19. Finish times vary so pupils should pay attention to the posters and adverts put up around school each week to find out when a screening ends. A letter with more information and a consent form is available at screenings (so just come along!) or from Mr Evans. We look forward to seeing your child at Film Club or our Year 11 ONLY screenings.

**Mr Gareth Evans, Arts Faculty**

### Pupils receive Food Hygiene Certificates



Congratulations to all Year 11 Food Technology pupils who gained Level 1 Food Hygiene Certificate. Pupils attended an intensive training course on the last Exploration Day which involved a written examination testing their knowledge of food safety and hygiene. This is a nationally recognised qualification which allows pupils to handle food in any catering establishment. Some pupils have already managed to secure Saturday jobs working in local restaurants.

**Mrs Anne MacDonald, Team Leader Food Technology**

## A Level Religious Study Day

**Learning across year groups** - 25 pupils from Years 11, 12 and 13 were privileged to take part in the A Level study day at Chichester Cathedral, on Wednesday 5 October. This was enrichment to their courses and students participated in debates and workshops on a variety of topics including freewill, miracles and 'just war' theory. Pupils commented that it "was fantastic!" ; "It expanded my knowledge"; "I enjoyed being ...given the chance to learn independently"; "it personally helped me develop my original ideas that I had gained from AS Religious Studies at school". Our thanks to the team of speakers and the Cathedral education team for hosting such a valuable day.



**Mrs Angela Smith RE Team Leader**

## Chilli & Barn Dance evening



The PFA are running a Chilli & Barn Dance evening on Saturday 12 November at 7.30pm. Music is by 'Rufus Return'. Tickets cost £10. If you would like to come along please use the tear off portion on the flyer which has been sent via parent and satchel mail or contact Mrs Jane Lewis in the school's Finance Office.

## What a Start!



Bishop Luffa's hugely talented Year 9 pupils have started the sporting season with success at County level. Already this year the Girls have won their first round of the County Cup in Netball. Not to be outdone the Boys have also won through to the second round of the County Football Cup after a 3 – 2 defeat of Angmering Sports college. The Rugby team have also succeeded in winning through to Round 2 after a preliminary round win over Angmering 38 – 29 followed by a comprehensive round 1 victory over St Andrews school 36 -5. Meanwhile, the joint Year 9/10 boys and girls Cross Country squads have succeeded at gaining 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> places in Round 1 of the National Cross Country Cup. The outstanding boys result means that Bishop Luffa will now be represented in the South East England finals in November despite five of the six runners being Year 9 pupils. All the squads are now looking to build upon their initial success as they enter the very busy run up to Christmas.

**Mr T Brown, Team Leader PE**

## Football & Rugby News



**Football** - All Year groups are entered into the West Sussex West Football League where they have 7 fixtures in a league programme. They have also been entered into the County Cup. Year 11 progressed into the second round of the county cup beating Midhurst Rother Academy 4-0 and the Year 9 team beat Angmering 3-2 in their first round game. Unfortunately Year 10 lost their game to Midhurst Rother Academy 5-2. Congratulations go to Curtis Poole in Year 11 who has been selected to be in the U16 Sussex School's squad. All the latest

results can be found in the Sports Bulletin on a weekly basis.

**Mr Andy Jackson, Faculty Coach PE**

## Success in National Essay Competition

The Schools Bible Project is a Religious Education project for secondary school students across Britain, with pupils studying the New Testament and writing essays which are assessed by a panel of judges at the end of the Summer Term. Entrants are invited to imagine themselves present at a major event in the life of Christ and to write about its impact.

Mrs Joanna Bogle, chairman of the project, writes, "We have literally thousands of entries. Those who have won Bibles should know that this means their work as of an exceptionally high standard. Those who have won certificates of Merit or Special Merit also produced excellent work, with essays showing insight and understanding."

We are pleased to announce that five Year 9 Luffa pupils have been awarded Bibles : Jessica Dawling (Otter) ; Georgia Martin (King) ; Hamish Rosewarne (Bell) ; Mary Salt (Burrows) ; Hamish Scott (Otter); Certificates of Special Merit were achieved by Year 9 pupils Hannah Baxter (Ridgeway) , Bronwyn Flower-Bond (Otter) and Vicky Hills (Bell). Year 9 Recipients of the Certificate of Merit are Lea May Ewers (King) ; Sabina Goldsmith (Otter) ; Imogen James (King) ; Laura Kane (Burrows) ; Imogen Marley (Ridgeway) ; Emma Ward (Sherborne) ; Romy Welch (Bell). Pupils should be especially proud of their achievements, as they were all in Year 8 when the competition was judged. Well done!

**Mr Richard Shurmer, RE Department**

## Cycling Events from Chichester District Council

26 October at 9.30am – Chichester to Itchenor . Come and enjoy a late Summer's day cycling. Our guided bike ride follows rural roads and cycle paths around Chichester Harbour with a choice of a 15 mile route from the Chichester Westgate Leisure to the village of West Itchenor or a shorter, child-friendly route of 7 miles that's perfect for families. Upon return you can buy food and refreshments at Cafe Ravenna. \*£2.50pp (over 8's), family ticket £7 (2 adults, and up to 4 children).

Limited places! To book your place email [cycle@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:cycle@chichester.gov.uk) or call 01243 534598. For further information visit [www.chichester.gov.uk/cycling](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/cycling). Bike maintenance courses for adults and children also available. Do ask for details.



## Dates for your diary

Tuesday 1 November–Friday 11 November	Year 11 Mock Examinations
Tuesday 8 November	Piano Concert starts at 7.00pm
Thursday 10 November	Year 10 Parents Consultation Evening
Friday 11 November	House Charity Non-Uniform Day
Monday 14 November–Friday 18 November	Interhouse Sports
Wednesday 16 November	Sixth Form Eucharist
Thursday 17 November	Year 13 Parents Consultation Evening
Monday 21–Wednesday 23 November	Sixth Form Fashion Show
Friday 25–Sunday 27 November	Year 13 Media Trip to Paris
Wednesday 30 November	Year 7 Trip to the Cathedral
Thursday 1 December	Year 12 Parents Consultation Evening
Monday 5–Friday 9 December	Presentation Assemblies
Wednesday 7 December	School Council meeting
Tuesday 13 & Thursday 15 December	Exploration Days
Wednesday 14 December	Festival of Lessons and Carols in Chichester Cathedral 7.30pm
Friday 16 December	Last day of Term

*You will have noticed that we have set up a new website. Still at the same address [www.bishopluffa.org.uk](http://www.bishopluffa.org.uk) it is in its development stage as the pages behind the homepage gradually fill up. Please let us know what you think of it.*

*I hope you enjoy a restful and relaxing half-term break.*

*Yours sincerely*



**Mr Nick Taunt**  
**Headteacher**