



Lower School Recital

On Thursday 1st December students from Years 7-9 took to the stage to perform a solo or as part of a school ensemble. For many, it was the very first time they had performed in front of a live audience and indeed all of them more than exceeded expectation. The Year 7 Choir gave convincing and lively performances of *While Shepherd's Rock* and *Got to Pick a Pocket or Two*, whilst the School Orchestra, Guitar Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble and Concert Band also entertained audiences with a festive and varied repertoire. A big thank you to everyone who took part and helped to make the concert such an enjoyable and successful evening.



Wassail

The highly anticipated bi-annual Wassail production took place on Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th December and surpassed all expectations. A fully packed hall, a sparkling Christmas tree, twinkling tea-lights and numerous Christmassy backdrops provided a truly festive setting for various musical and theatrical numbers. Musical performances included those from the School Orchestra, School Choir, Concert Band, Guitar Ensemble and Miss Brack's Jazz Quartet; as well as a Staff Song to the tune of *It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year*, a lovely rendition of *Silent Night* sung in German by Mrs Tapp, a Sixth

Form version of *Jingle Bells* and a comical piano duet by Miss Brack and Mrs Donegan.

Humorous and entertaining drama sketches included *Cinderella*, *Immobiles*, *Will's on First* among others. The spiced mulled wine and hot mince pies certainly fuelled the festive spirit in time for the singing of Christmas carols to draw the evening to a close. Many thanks to Mr Bromley for his fantastic efforts as compere, all Front of House helpers, Mr Bader-Clynes and Miss Jones for the drama and to Miss Brack for ensuring that both evenings were thoroughly enjoyable and entertaining.

Mrs K Donegan

Year 7 Art

Congratulations to all Year 7 Art students who have spent this term exploring the theme of portraiture.

Having learnt the rules of portraiture **and created their own 'Pop Art' self portrait** they then created their own stunning Memory Frames reflecting their ideas of self.

The framed self portraits have formed an eye catching display in the Tudor Lounge for the whole school to admire.

Mrs E Shepherd



Headlines

This has been an exceptionally busy second half of term both inside and outside the classroom. With that in mind, we can all be grateful that matters were not complicated (at the time of writing) by adverse weather conditions as they were last year! Without question a great deal has been achieved by staff and boys as we now contemplate the beginning of a New Year.

The impact of the 'New Building' on the teaching and learning environment continues to have positive effect as you would expect. The opening up of both the dining area and the Sixth Form recreation area have really allowed us to fully appreciate our surroundings more completely. Further developments and embellishments are yet to be made to the site over months ahead. It is most certainly an exciting time to be at Ewell Castle as a pupil and as a member of staff.

As the last couple of months have been so mild it has meant that the sporting programme has been able to continue without interruption. A great deal of rugby, and some football, has been played. It has been good to see so many individuals getting the opportunity to represent the school.



Tower of London

On Tuesday 1st November Year 7 travelled to the Tower of London to study castles. This is an annual trip but we have been to Bodiam Castle in recent years, so it was nice to ring the changes. The students participated in a workshop focusing on how to attack a medieval fortress, in particular The White Tower. The answer was, of course, with great difficulty; well-built medieval fortifications were nigh on impregnable. Any attack would have been lengthy, difficult and very costly in lives. We toured the White Tower with its great displays of arms and armour, looked at the Crown Jewels and even managed to see the Tower ravens. A great day out, which will be used to good effect in a project on castles that the boys will be doing later in the term.

Mrs E Harrison

On the stage, we enjoyed an outstanding production of **Moliere's 'The Hypochondriac'**. **Three sell out performances** were wholly appreciated by a discerning audience on each night. The Lower School Music Recital was also another sell out event which saw a fair number of individuals performing for the first time on stage. I hope that it will be the first of many appearances for them! A further highlight were the two Wassail Evenings, as pupils and staff combined together to produce an extravaganza of light entertainment. It was tremendously well received! With all this done it only remains to bring the term to a close with the Carol Service, which I have little doubt will do us proud.

Matters have been getting rather serious in the classroom for some year groups in particular. There have been a fair number of orals and controlled assessments; modules have been completed in readiness for public examinations in **January as well as the 'trial' examinations at the same time**. These pupils should all be looking to make a declaration of intent as we propel ourselves ever closer to **'Judgement Day' in the summer**. The vacation period should be used, at least in part, to ensure that all the appropriate preparation has been completed to allow each individual to acquit themselves well enough to feel confident about what has to be done in the time remaining. I urge those boys most earnestly to use their time wisely and to ensure that they have their priorities right.

On that most serious note I will close, but not before taking this moment to wish you all an enjoyable break and a happy New Year. I look forward to seeing everyone back at school in January fighting fit and ready for the challenges of the Lent term. It promises to be every bit as hectic and as exciting as the term that we have just left behind us! The boys, I hope, will see this as an **opportunity.....a chance to make a mark and show what they can do!**

Mr M Holder-Williams

Artist of the term

Year 7 Winner Will Harding
Runners up Matthew Davies and Sean-Harry Pritchard
Year 8 Winner Daniel Straw
Runners up Bertie Taylor and Dylan Jethwa
Year 9 Winner Ramish Aziz
Runners up Oliver Bolton and Thidas Hewamana
Year 10 Winner David Lee
Runners up Alex Devane and Jack Hazell
Year 11 Winner Jem Wraith
Runners up Cameron Tempest Hay and Han Sol Lee
Year 12 Winner Jamie Brown
Runner up Harry Keohane
Year 13 Winner George Bell
Runner up Emmet O'Mahoney

Mrs L Morton

Staff News

After only four terms at Ewell Castle, circumstances have compelled us to say goodbye to Mrs Mary Thomas. She will be returning to New Zealand to take up a position at Taumaruni High School. In her short time with us she has made a valuable contribution to the life of the school in various capacities. She was an enthusiastic member of the Science department teaching Chemistry. She also put a great deal of time into her pastoral responsibilities as a Year 10 tutor. Beyond this, and like all good teachers, there were her extra-curricular commitments which included costumes in the main school drama productions, playing in the orchestra and involvement in the Gardening Club. We wish her well for the future.



Also departing is Mrs Ann Scambler, who has been with us rather longer. Indeed, she joined the staff in January 1995 as a Science Laboratory Technician. She later became the Senior Technician. She has been an integral part of the Science Department as experimentation does need thorough thought and preparation. Her support to the teaching staff in this area has always been excellent. Outside the classroom she enjoyed her involvement in the Water Rockets projects; in the building stage as well as being at the competition held at the National Physical Laboratory in Teddington. We wish her well as she now contemplates retirement in Devon and no doubt will

be able to give plenty of time to perfecting her golf swing!

Mr M Holder-Williams

The Castle Society

This half term saw three meetings of the Castle Society. Mr A Woodward spoke with authority about the **'Arab-Israeli Wars'**. Mr S Bromley asked the question **'Crisis? What Crisis?'** We spent our time reflecting on the current economic crisis and gave it national, European and global consideration. Finally, Mr J D'Souza went **'Beyond the Pale: My Self as the Other'**. It was a well received lecture asking individuals to analyse themselves and to avoid being judgemental. By understanding yourself allows you to understand others better.

Mr M Holder-Williams

Royal Philharmonic Concert Trip

On Tuesday 8th November, GCSE and A-Level music students from Years 10-13 had the opportunity to attend a fantastic concert by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall in London. The program consisted of a Berlioz Overture, Barber's Violin Concerto and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 in E minor. The boys thoroughly enjoyed the experience and were totally enthralled throughout, especially when the solo violinist came back on stage to perform a very impressive encore!

Mrs K Donegan



Under 12 Rugby

The second half of the term was another busy schedule for the Under 12 team. With tough matches played the team were defeated by Gordons in the first match after the October break. The following weekend signalled the start of a winning streak that included wins against: Claremont Fan Court School, **Carshalton Boys, St George's, Halliford, Saint John Bosco** and St James.

The team have shown real promise as the season has gone on. Players have begun to understand the game more and the demands of several positions played. Winning breeds confidence and the team have shown great self-belief and determination week in week out.

Well done to all of the boys involved in all the matches and a massive thank you for the wonderful support of the parents from the sidelines and Nathan Burns (Year 11JB) for his coaching and assistance on match days.

Mr J Grindrod

Under 13 Rugby

The rugby term has been a steep learning curve for the Under 13 squad. Midweek matches have been won and by some margins at times, however the true **test of the team's abilities on a Saturday has led to** some tough encounters.

Generally the level of commitment has been good and the number of boys who have represented the school has been encouraging.

Unfortunately the sheer size of our opponents has led to a number of convincing wins for the opposition. In these matches the Ewell Castle teams have been found wanting when it comes to defensive prowess; a willingness to tackle is essential in order to be a good rugby team.

The boys have definitely made strides forward in their understanding of how the game should be played and are without a doubt a stronger side now than they were at the start of the year. In order to become a true rugby team some of the basic errors need to be eradicated and the individual, passing, handling and tackling skills must become second nature.

Despite what appears to be a report focusing on ways to improve, I must stress that the boys have the potential to become a winning team with hard work and the correct attitude next year in Year 9

Mr N Turk

Under 14 Rugby

The Under 14 rugby team have enjoyed some good success this half-term with a record of 4 wins, 1 draw **and 2 losses. The first match was against Gordon's School.** This was a 17-all draw with some lapses in concentration early in both halves allowing tries to the opposition. The next match was a 38-31 win against Claremont. The boys recovered from a half-time deficit to take control of the match with three tries in the second-half and a 31-19 lead. However some extremely poor tackling allowed Claremont to score two quick tries to take the lead with just a couple of minutes remaining. The Ewell Castle team kept their composure though and with some strong lead up running, Dyka Sudaryanto dived over for his second try to win the match.

The following week a 71-0 win was recorded over Carshalton Boys School with Nathan Baker scoring 31 points. A mid-week fixture against Saint John Bosco College led to a 33-14 win with Nathaniel Richards-Martin scoring 4 tries. Another big win was also **secured against St George's with Charlie Hall scoring 5 tries** in the 57-14 win. Halliford proved to be a much tougher opponent and even though Ewell Castle was very competitive throughout the match, defence was again a problem and the match was lost 38-24. Another mid-week fixture against Greycourt also ended in defeat by 24-14. Well done on a very good season for all players involved.

Mr P Krause

Under 15 Rugby

It has been a long term and with eleven games played we have managed only two wins. Regardless of this fact there have been improvements. The team does retain its shape throughout matches, but is not physical enough to assert itself for sustained periods of time. Continued refinement of basic skills, greater competitiveness in loose situations and better tackling are the key elements that will allow this willing group of boys to make the progress that they desire. With one match to play it will be hoped that we can finish with a victory.

Mr M Holder-Williams

1st XV Rugby

The 1st XV was a season of two halves. The boys played good rugby and showed continued improvement, especially in the tight game which was led by the experienced players such as **Chris Chipperton, Emmet O' Mahoney, Ben Fifield, Adam McGrory, Harry Keohane** and Richard Cruden.

As we progressed, the backs played a more expansive game and got due rewards for their efforts including some fantastic tries from, Le Lay and Bell against Claremont and Charterhouse.

Well done on all your efforts this season.

Mr S Casey

Under 14 Football

King`s College (Guildford) – ECS: 1 – 7 (0 – 3 at half time) 19 September 2011: The boys were very organized on the pitch and we managed to impose ourselves very quickly. I was very pleased with that first performance, knowing that we had very little time to train and practice before the game.

Langley Academy (Slough) – ECS: 2 -2 (0 – 2 at half time) 29 September 2011: On Thursday 29 September, we went to confront a team which comprised very athletic and talented players. Charlie had the best chance in the second half of extra time

6th Form Enrichment

Over the last term, the Sixth Form have benefitted from the Enrichment Programme. Throughout the last term, as well as finishing off our university applications we have been able to listen a variety of talks and speeches whether it be close to home with **the entrancing words of Mr D’Souza or from further afield with the likes of: Chris Grayling, Minister of State for Work and Pensions or the MP for Epsom and**



Ewell and former golfer, John Hoskison. Both were well received.

Mr Grayling informed us of the most up-to-date information from within the Coalition as well as answering some testing questions covering a range of topics such as unemployment, pensions and government cuts. The Sixth Form found his visit informative and interesting. Mr Hoskison told us of his **eventful life story and the importance of saying ‘No!’**

but he certainly did not miss his penalty in the penalty shootout session. Justin made a fantastic save and we won 4-3 on penalties

Harris Academy (Beckenham) 3-0: On Tuesday 18 November, the Ewell Castle U14 football team played Harris Academy, Beckenham. The overall result 3-0 reflects the combative spirit of the team on that day. Well done boys and the better team won!

Mr N Saadallah

Autumn Term Football Option XI

A squad of seventeen Year 11 and Sixth Form students were involved in seven matches resulting in three wins, three losses and one draw. Most fixtures were enjoyable encounters, the best team performance being in the match against Reigate GS 1st XI. Player of the term: centre back Danny Archer, leading goal scorer Joe Van den Berg.

Mr K B Peto

The Sixth Form look forward to what the New Year has to offer them...

Mrs E Thomson

Drink Driving not only kills lives, but kills your life.

Presentation given by John Hoskison on Friday 2nd December 2011

The Sixth Form gathered in the hall having the **thought of ‘home’ in their minds, but had not** expected to walk away from that hall shocked and emotional as I was. John started off his talk with his life story, how he became a professional golfer. He had his own academy, a golf shop, and an opportunity to play internationally, but did not know that his life was about to change. After celebrating one night in the pub, he drove home, only five minutes down the road. He had an accident with an old man, killing him instantly. He knew him well. John was sent to prison for three years. He told us that in the prison after 11pm there were screams all night, and he witnessed someone being stabbed. That told us not only drinking and driving is bad, but the consequences are worse as he proved. Prison changed John, who now goes to schools round the country telling students like us, who are starting to drive, his life story to save lives

Jonathan Keung

Wassail 2011



THE SOMME BATTLEFIELDS TRIP (YEAR 9)

On Thursday 10th November, Year 9 students departed on our annual trip to the Somme Valley, to study the battlefields of World War One. We always try to make it a little different every year, and this time there was a new hotel and we would be there on Armistice Day. We left in good time and managed to get an earlier ferry which makes all the difference. At Notre Dame de Lorette, Mrs Kennedy spoke of the French contribution, and we then went to Vimy Ridge to look at the preserved trenches and the impressive Vimy Ridge Canadian memorial. The weather was great, clear and cold, and the boys were able to appreciate the strategic significance of the Ridge as it dominates the surrounding land. A trip down the tunnel complex under Vimy completed the day

We stayed in a great hotel in Albert and ate out at a local restaurant.

Travelling on Armistice Day adds a new dimension to the trip, and we were determined to make the best of the opportunities. After a quick visit to the Newfoundland Memorial at Beaumont Hamel, we attended the British Legion's incredibly moving service at the Thiepval Memorial. Mrs Harrison was interviewed by French national television. I stayed out of the limelight, preferring to help a boy find the name of his relative on the Memorial.



The rest of the day was spent visiting a number of sites on the Somme battlefield, including Pozieres Cemetery, where we laid a wreath, the Lochnager Crater and Delville Wood. The downside of choosing Armistice Day was that the Tommy Café in Pozieres was too busy to accommodate us, but we found a very acceptable alternative run by a retired English teacher, **who spoke highly of the boys' motivation and behaviour.**

Going on Armistice Day was a real plus, but one we will only be able to do fairly infrequently so long as Thursday and Friday are the preferred days

The boys learnt a great deal, which they will be able to use to good effect in a project on trench life and their essay work on the Battle of the Somme.

Thanks to my colleagues who went on the trip: Mr Krause, Mrs Harrison, Mrs Kennedy, Mrs Morton and Mr Ashby. As ever thanks to Mrs Kaegler for her flawless organisation.

Mr J C Blencowe



Languages Day

On Friday 18th October Year 8 took part in a day dedicated to languages.

On Friday morning the whole of Year 8 grouped together in Glyn House Hall ready to watch a Spanish play. It was about a woman who wanted to meet a boy and the boy wanted to meet a girl. Throughout the performance they kept looking at the time and thinking how they look and how they dress. Throughout the performance there was a little bit of audience participation; a little more some more than others.

Later on during the day we went around various countries (not literally) they were:

Italy—Mr Blencowe, French—Miss Kennedy,
Ireland — Miss Cronin, Japan—Miss Lunn

We learnt how to say things, in the languages and we also learnt about the whole country.

In Ireland we learnt basic sayings in Irish such as:

Hello 'Dia duit'

How are you? 'Conas ata tu'

What's your name? 'Cad is anim duit?'

Goodbye 'Slan'

We then went to Italy with Mr Blencowe. There we looked at a few pictures of Italy. After that we were given a map and we had to fill in all the countries or towns near Italy. I enjoyed learning about Italy as I did not know much about it apart from the basics (they make good pizzas and the Leaning Tower of Pisa.) I found it really interesting and it made me want to go there with my family. The one thing I would most want to do there would be to see Venice while I can because soon the water might take it over.

We then had a long flight all the way over to Japan. When we finally arrived there we learnt how to say the basics such as:

Hello= Konnichiwa

Goodbye= Sayonara

After learning the numbers 1-10 we had a quick quiz on everything we have learnt so far. During the quiz we had cards to hold up, on one side of the card



there was a red cross and on the other side was a blue circle. If the answer was wrong we would hold up the red cross and if the answer was right we would hold up the blue circle.

After Japan we had another long flight (walk across the corridor) all the way to France. When we arrived in France we were greeted by Miss Kennedy who told us to get into groups of three. When we got into groups we were told that we were going to get quizzed about France. We answered all sorts of questions from "what car make is not French?" to "which one of these rivers does not go through France?"

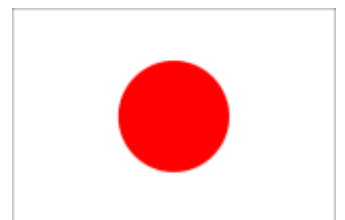
After some cuisine (lunch) we went back to Glyn House, where we watched a movie all about languages. Throughout the movie we had to answer questions about it. After watching that video we went on to rehearse a play.

Afterwards, we had a mini rewards ceremony. Mr Tibble also was there! The rewards were for Top in the French Quiz and Best at Answering the Questions from the Movie. I won the best questions prize.

After this the staff said that we had been so good so we deserved some food and drink. We got a drink and a croissant or pain au chocolat.

We would just like to say thank you to all the staff for making this day so enjoyable for all. These are: Mr Saadallah, Miss Kennedy, Miss Cronin, Mr Blencowe, Miss Lunn

By: Joshua Miller, Alex Moore (8JCB) and Choong Hwan Seo (8DL)



"If more of us valued food and cheer and song above hoarded gold, it would be a merrier world"

J.R.R.Tolkien, author of The Hobbit.

Like much of Tolkien's fiction the saying has an element of truth. In order to further our enjoyment of food, and to benefit from one another's culinary secrets, the school has created an online cookery book. We invite contributions from all students, parents, and staff.

They should include

- Name of the dish
- Photograph of the dish, perhaps in its finished form, or at a crucial stage of its manufacture
- Ingredients, stating quantities and how many people it will feed
- Instructions on how to prepare the dish, with tips on how to ensure successful delivery
- A few words about the dish – e.g. where you came across it, or whether it holds particular memories, or because it is unusual in some way.



Engineering Construction Industry Training Board

Year 9 was treated to a visit by the ECITB Roadshow. They heard in an interesting and humorous way about the role of engineering construction in today's world and the possibility of apprenticeships and employment in the industry.



More information can be found at:
www.ecitb.org.uk

The Career Roadshow video can be found at:
<http://www.ecitb.org.uk/CareerRoutes/CareerRoadshowVideo/>

- Time to prepare the dish (excluding time on the stove or in the oven), and the time to cook it on the stove or in the oven.
- A comment on how easy/difficult it is.

To avoid copyright issues, please do not just cut & paste pictures and recipes. Your own pictures, and recipes you have worded yourself, no matter how close to other recipes, are fine.

The cookery book is already online at <http://castlecookbook.blogspot.com/>. Here you will see some recipes contributed by our Year 8 PSHE classes over the last few days.

Christmas is a time famous for eating, so we hope you will find inspiration in your kitchens over the holiday. The cookbook will grow and evolve, so please continue to contribute your recipes throughout the year.

Contributions should be submitted by email to Mr.Aruliah at j.aruliah@ewellcastle.co.uk

Mr J Aruliah

Congratulations

Brandon Hammond

Congratulations to Brandon Hammond of 7JRW who was selected to play for the Surrey Elite U12 Golf Team in a match against Essex at the Maldon Golf Club. Surrey won 6 – 3 with Brandon and his partner winning their match on the 18th green.

James Campain

Graduated from Loughborough University in July 2010 with a 2.1 BSc in Management Science and gained a Masters in IT in September 2011.

James has gained a graduate position with Santander UK from September 2011

Louis Yapp-Davies

Louis of 8DL plays for the U14s at Croydon Amphibian Water Polo Club. The club played in the winter league championship and won all their games. They had a match recently and won again, Louis was particularly mentioned in the Croydon Advertiser for his strong goalkeeping and determined defence.

Notes For Your Diary

January

- Thursday 5th Term Starts
- Monday 9th 6th Form external Modules commence
Year 11 Mock Exams and Study Leave commences
- Tuesday 10th History Trip to Imperial War Museum Duxford
- Tuesday 17th **Year 9 Parents' Evening**
- Thursday 19th Duke of Edinburgh Presentation to Year 10 Pupils and Parents
- Wednesday 25th **Year 10 Parents' Evening**
- Saturday 28th PSFA Trivia Quiz

February

- Wednesday 1st Senior School Open Evening
- Thursday 2nd **Year 11 Parents' Evening**
- Monday 6th Year 9 Classical Civilisation Trip to Fishbourne
- Monday 13th—Friday 17th Half Term Week
- Tuesday 28th **Year 8 Parents' Evening**

March

Monday 5th—Friday 9th
Arts Week

Ski Trip 2012

Please hand in your passports (with relevant visas) and EHIC cards to Mr D'Souza by the end of January 2012



A Word from the PSFA

Our first PSFA event of this academic year was the annual fireworks display at the beginning of November. This occasion was again a great success and still proves to be one of the most popular events in the PSFA calendar, with over 400 people enjoying the food and spectacular fireworks, mixed with the wonderful music. We would like to thank Miss Brack for supplying the music again.

Our next event will be the Quiz Night on 28th January 2012. Please go to the PSFA section on the School website, to download your application form for this event.

100 Club Winners

Congratulations to the winners of the first 100 Club **Draw (November)**. **It's not too late to register;** download a form from the PSFA area on the school website.

If you can help out at any future events please email the PSFA.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Ewell Castle PSFA

Traffic in Church Street

In order to help our neighbours and provide easier access to Church Street could all parents use the one-way system as shown below entering Church Street from the village and exiting via the Church end.



Could all parents dropping or collecting pupils please park responsibly, taking note of the parking restriction in force in Church Street

Thank you.