



### HEADLINES

A very warm welcome back to everybody after what I hope was a thoroughly enjoyable summer vacation. Let us anticipate a wholly productive Autumn Term now that the batteries have been recharged. During the break the opportunity was taken to refurbish and decorate different parts of the school. Unfortunately progress was slowed in the wake of the fire in Glyn House, and we are very grateful to the Site Team for all their efforts to ensure that the building re-opened in time for the new term. Nevertheless, the improvements, particularly on the corridor of the first floor of the Castle building, are clear to see. This will be another year for individual and team accomplishments in every area of school life. All of our students must appreciate the

opportunities that they have and from the outset steer a course that will see their potential realised. I look forward to acknowledging and applauding many performances be they academic, intellectual, sporting, musical, aesthetic or cultural. It is the diversity that helps to make a good school.

This year will also represent the beginnings of an important change for Ewell Castle. I refer, of course, to the arrival of girls into the Sixth Form. Presently they are few in number which does represent a cautious beginning. This was to be expected, but I have little doubt that their numbers will grow significantly in the years ahead. In the context of history these young ladies will represent the standard bearers for



those who will choose to follow. They are most welcome.

To all of our new boys, parents and staff I also extend the warmest of greetings. I am sure that you will enjoy and benefit from this association that has now begun with Ewell Castle Senior School. There is so much to look forward and the time will go oh so quickly....! Good luck and best wishes....!

**Mr M Holder-Williams**  
*Head of the Senior School*

### EXAMINATION RESULTS

We are pleased to be able to report success in the public examinations. At 'A' level there was a 98.3% pass rate with 78% of the grades at A\*- C which constituted a record performance.

Furthermore, nearly all of our leavers have either been accepted on courses of their choice at university or college. This year's top performers Young Ho Kang, Tristan Jarrett and Sam Cousins took up their places at Imperial College (Mathematics), King's College, London (Geography) and Nottingham University (History). Good luck to them and all the others who will take up their places later this month.

At AS Level the overall performance was 78%. Clearly there is more to be done in this area in

the months ahead. I am confident that those involved will set to the task diligently with the guidance of their teachers.

At GCSE the performance was in line with expectations. Overall, the pass rate at A\* - C was 87%. This represented 8.53 passes per candidate. 87% of the candidates also achieved the national benchmark of 5 at least 5 A\*s-C. Congratulations to all those individuals involved. The strongest performers in this year group were James Mackay (9 A\*s, 3 As), Jack Hazell (5A\*s, 4 As & 2 Bs) and Simeon Carter (4 A\*s, 7 As, 1 B & 1 C).



## STAFF NEWS

As with each year there are new members of staff to welcome to the Ewell Castle Common Room. Mr A Assen becomes Director of Music with Miss V Holden also teaching in that department. Ms C Hoddell and Mrs J Wilson will join the Mathematics Department. The Modern Foreign Languages Department acquires the services of Mr J March (French & Spanish), while Mrs M Walsh will teach ICT. The EAL Department will benefit from the presence of Mr S Brooks; while Mrs P Prieto-Maturana and Mr A Coupland will teach English and Physics respectively. Mrs P Conibear will join us as a Teaching Assistant, Mrs M Price joins the History Department and Mr A Booth joins the Sports Department.

Please note that Mr J Grindrod will be Head of Year 11 and Mr S Leigh Head of Year 10. Mrs E Harrison resumes responsibility for Raleigh House. In a non-teaching capacity Mrs K El-Dahshan is now the Registrar and the Principal's Personal Assistant.



## MULTI SPORTS CAMP

During the first week of the summer holidays, over 30 children from Years 4 – 8 attended the ever popular Multi-Sports Camp. With temperatures reaching record breaking highs, it was all set up for all pupils to enjoy lots of their favourite sports. From tag rugby, to kwik cricket everyone really got involved and had a fantastic time. There was even time for a ten-pin bowling trip and a visit to Lazer Quest. Well done to everyone who took part and we look forward to seeing you all next year.

## PUPIL APPOINTMENTS

The following appointments have been made for this academic year:

<b>Head Boy</b>	Daniel Archer
<b>Deputy Head Boy</b>	Hugo Bromley
<b>Senior Prefects</b>	Zain Ahmed Oliver Higgs Amer Nazir Jonathan Oshinowo Shamin Patel Luke Sharma Joe Sheffield Kavien Sribal Krishnan
<b>Captain of Rugby</b>	Gregoire Le Lay
<b>Captain of Music</b>	Kieran Blyth
<b>Vice Captain of Music</b>	Connor Hiza
<b>Captain of Drama</b>	Louis Tait

<b>Captain of Art</b>	Yonghwan(David) Lee
<b>House Captain of Castlemaine</b>	Shamin Patel
<b>House Captain of Essex</b>	Louis Woollen
<b>House Captain of Raleigh</b>	John Duggan



Daniel Archer (left) and Hugo Bromley (right)



## DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS SCHEME

The assessed expedition of the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award took place in July, and despite high temperatures and the odd navigational error the boys climbed Leith Hill and the North Down ridge twice covering some 16 miles with full pack on the first day. Moving through checkpoints the boys finished at Epsom racecourse. An excellent challenge that was highly beneficial to all.

## CYCLING TO SCHOOL

We encourage pupils to cycle to school and have new racks which provide safe storage areas. All cyclists should complete a registration form (available from the School Office) - whether they cycle occasionally or regularly.



## ARRIVAL / DEPARTURE AT SCHOOL

Senior School pupils should be dropped off and picked up in Ewell Village car parks, in the A24 by-pass slip road or on London Road and walk up to the School.

Any cars which have to come into Church Street should adhere to the voluntary 'one-way' system:

Drive up Church Street from 'Il Laghetto' and down by the side of the Church towards London Road. Holman Court is a private residence and should not be entered.

Please do not park carelessly in Church Street or Glyn Close as this will inconvenience the residents and cause safety hazards for the pupils.

## MEDICAL MATTERS

Please ensure you have notified the school of any new health issues concerning your child. An individual pupil health plan should be completed for any pupil who has a long-term medical condition of which the school should be aware (available from the School Office). Epipens, asthma inhalers, etc. should be carried by the pupil at all times but a named spare must also be left in the School Office.



## WALES RUGBY TOUR

With the up and coming mid-season Rugby Tour to Cardiff only a matter of weeks away the tour is almost full up. It is proving to be a very exciting trip with 2 matches planned for each team, a tour of the Millennium Stadium followed by a ticket to a Cardiff Blues match. If that wasn't enough, the boys will be coached by a Cardiff Blues player in a private training session. A reminder please to parents, that the remaining balance of £200 is due no later than Friday 27th September.

## SCHOOL MEALS

The Ewell Castle Breakfast Bar is open 07.50am to 8.20am in the Budgell Building. A selection of fresh food is available for cash purchase each day including: bacon or sausage baguettes, beans on toast, wraps, croissants, muffins, cereal and milk, hot chocolate and fruit juice.

Ewell Castle Lunches are available each day at a cost of £200.00 per term. All food is cooked freshly on the premises by Ewell Castle catering staff. We offer delicious nutritionally balanced and imaginative menus with vegetarian options available each day, all meat is supplied from a local quality butcher and chicken dishes are prepared from superior cuts of meat. There is a choice of dessert each day which includes fresh fruit supplied direct from Covent Garden Market.



## 2014 SKI TRIP INFORMATION EVENING

We would like to invite all of the skiers (and their parents) who have a place on February Half Term's ski trip to the Ski Welt Area of Austria (Gasthof Kammerhof, Angath) to an information evening from 7-9pm on Tuesday 12th November in The Budgell Building. There will also be a chance to hire or buy ski wear from [www.ski3up.co.uk](http://www.ski3up.co.uk)



## MUSIC AT EWELL CASTLE

The Music Department undergoes a dramatic change in staffing this year with Mr Assen (previously at Caterham School) joining as new Director of Music and Miss Holden as Assistant Director of Music. Mr Assen and Miss Holden would like to know of every student who plays an instrument or sings, and those who would like to know how they can get involved without playing an instrument.

## UPPER SCHOOL RECITAL THURSDAY 17TH OCTOBER

The Upper School Recital will take place on Thursday 17th October, 7.30pm. This cultural and thoroughly entertaining evening will showcase the talents of the musicians from Years 10-13 and cover a variety of musical genres.

## INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS

Private music tuition is available for pupils throughout the school day in most instruments. Please see the Music Department tab on the School website 'Individual Tuition' page for all details regarding private tuition, application form and extra-curricular activities to join. Please ensure that if your child brings their musical instrument to school it is both clearly named and covered by your home insurance.



## CASTLE CHORUS OPEN TO PARENTS AND STAFF

Following the success of the Castle Chorus, we would like to invite more parents to join in this fun and friendly choir. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings in the Castle Hall.

## LANGUAGES

The Modern Foreign Languages Department will be pleased to join the rest of Europe in celebrating the European Languages Day at the end of the month!

## DRAMA

The Drama Department has already started rehearsing for their next upcoming production of 'Run for your Wife' by Ray Cooney. It promises to be a great production with some of the finest actors in the school. On another note, auditions for Miss Jones' play will be announced shortly on the Parents Portal and we would like to encourage Year 7 to 10 boys to come to them. In the past various new boys, especially those in Year 7 have felt apprehensive about auditioning, feeling that they were not good enough! This is totally contrary to what we would wish for. The Drama Department positively encourages as much participation in productions and theatre events as possible and would heavily encourage all enthusiastic students from Years 7 onwards to come and try out for a role.

On a final note we will soon be starting rehearsals for Wassail and hope that we can get as many pupils involved in this fantastic evening of festive celebration. So please do look out for all the updates of auditions, productions and theatre trips on the Parent's Portal!

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS

We were delighted that The Right Honourable Chris Grayling MP, Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice found the time in his busy schedule to pay the School a visit during the Summer Term, and officially open The Herbert Budgell Building, The Gadesden Library and The Harbour Suite on the 23rd June, which have enhanced the daily life of everyone at Ewell Castle School.



We are pleased to record the completion this summer of the corridor refurbishment on the 1st Floor at the Castle encompassing the Modern Foreign Languages Department. The work commenced on the 1st floor with the corridor leading the Library and the Library itself some eighteen months ago and, followed by works on the ground, mezzanine and top floor, we have now completed this phase of the Castle refurbishment save for the glass doors and screen in the Tudor Lounge which should be undertaken at Half-Term (October).

We have also refurbished the girls' changing room in the sports hall and created a locker room for the Sixth Form girls, whilst retaining the sports changing aspect. Plans are now underway for the refurbishment of the Pledger Building.

The new Nursery Building has been completed on schedule for the beginning of the new term. We applaud the contractors who took possession only at the end of last term, demolished the old building and have now handed over a wonderful building of high specifications. It was only six weeks ago that Mr Tibble joined a gathering of local parents and children who had observed the arrival of the giant crane, and together they watched the units being lifted dramatically over the trees at Chessington Lodge. We also applaud our Nursery staff who have been working alongside the contractors over the last few weeks in preparation for 'opening the doors'! The building is a beautiful and wonderful addition to our accommodation and will serve Nursery and other children at Chessington Lodge. We trust that parents will be equally enthusiastic to see the inside as well as the outside of the building.



## PSFA

Ewell Castle is a small school with a wonderfully fluid relationship between pupils, staff and parents. One of the main aims of the PSFA is to tap into this relationship with a view to fostering a strong sense of community for all those involved with the school and to engender an environment where everyone feels valued and included.

The Social and Fundraising Committee has, over the years, organized an array of events - some of which have been well attended and others which have been less successful. The primary aim is to provide a SOCIAL setting where parents/guardians/families can come together, get to know each other and have a great time. Please consider becoming involved in the PSFA and look out for information in the weekly school bulletin.

In the meantime, please put the following dates in your diary and further information will follow in due course:

### PSFA Forum

Tuesday 8th October      7.00pm      The Castle

### Fireworks Display

Friday 8th November      6.00pm      The Castle

### Trivia Quiz Evening

Saturday 25th January      7.30pm      The Castle

## SCHOOL HOUSES

When pupils join Ewell Castle School, they are put into one of three Houses; Castlemaine, Essex and Raleigh and there are regular House and inter-House activities and competitions. A pupil transferring from the Junior School will remain in the same House, as will siblings. House competition is principally of a sporting nature; however Chess, Music, Drama and Debating currently flourish. House meetings are held fortnightly. All members of teaching staff are assigned to a House and offer support to the Head of House with House activities. Pupils are expected to support their Head of House and House Captain in an appropriate fashion. Head of Raleigh House is Mrs E Harrison, Head of Castlemaine House is Mr S Casey and Head of Essex House is Mr J Grindrod.



### Sir Walter Raleigh (1552-1618) English explorer, soldier and writer.



Before serving in the Huguenot army in France he studied at Oxford, and became a favourite of Queen Elizabeth I after serving in her army in Ireland. He was knighted in 1585, and within two years became captain of the queen's guard. Between 1584 and 1589 he established a colony near Roanoke Island, which he named Virginia. In 1588 he took part in the victory over the Spanish Armada. He led other raids against Spanish possessions and returned with much booty. However, Raleigh forfeited Elizabeth's favour by his courtship of and subsequent marriage to one of her maids-of-honour, Bessy Throckmorton. He led an abortive expedition to Guiana to search for El Dorado and helped to introduce the potato plant and tobacco use in England and Ireland. Elizabeth's successor, James I, distrusted and feared Raleigh, charged him with treason and condemned him to death, but commuted the sentence to imprisonment in the Tower (1603). There Raleigh lived with his wife and servants, and wrote his History of the World (1614). He was released in 1616 to search for gold in South America. Against the king's undertaking to the Spanish, he invaded and pillaged Spanish territory, was forced to return to England without booty, and was arrested on the orders of the king. His original death sentence for treason was invoked, and he was executed at Westminster.



### **Robert Devereux, 2nd Earl of Essex (1565-1601)** **Soldier, courtier and favourite of Elizabeth I.**



Handsome, witty, arrogant and ambitious, Robert Devereux was a favourite of Queen Elizabeth I. Their relationship has been seen as romantic, but Queen Elizabeth was 34 years older than Devereux. In 1590, he incurred the Queen's severest displeasure by marrying Frances, the daughter of Sir Francis Walsingham, but she forgave him and accepted him back at court. Essex was made Lord Lieutenant of Ireland - a post in which he failed dismally. In 1599 the Earl of Essex travelled to Ireland with over 17,000 English troops. Many of the English troops died of various diseases and the Earl of Essex agreed an unauthorised truce with O'Neill, the leader of the Irish rebels. His relationship with the Queen deteriorated and he led a rebellion against Elizabeth and attempted to seize control of the City of London on February 8th 1601. Arrested and convicted of treason, Essex was executed at the Tower of London on February 25, 1601.



### **Barbara Palmer, 1st Duchess of Cleveland (1640-1709)** **Countess of Castlemaine.**



Barbara Palmer (née Villiers) was the most notorious and powerful of the many mistresses of King Charles II of England. She had five children by the King, all of whom were acknowledged and subsequently ennobled. Her influence was so great that she has been referred to as "The Uncrowned Queen". Her extravagance, foul temper and promiscuity provoked diarist John Evelyn into describing her as the "curse of the nation", whereas Samuel Pepys often noted seeing her, admiringly. By 1662, Barbara, the King's mistress, had more influence at the court than his queen consort, Catherine of Braganza. In June 1670 Charles created her Baroness Nonsuch (as she was the owner of Nonsuch Palace). She was made Countess of Castlemaine and Duchess of Cleveland in her own right. As the result of the 1673 Test Act, which essentially banned Catholics from holding office, Barbara lost her position as Lady of the Bedchamber, and the King cast her aside completely from her position as a mistress, and advised Barbara to live quietly and cause no scandal. She died in 1709 at the age 68 after suffering from an edema of the legs, with congestive heart failure.

## **FORTHCOMING DATES...**

### **Lower School Recital**

Thurs 5th December, 7.30pm

### **Christmas Wassail**

Weds 11th December and

Thurs 12th December

### **Carol Service at St. Mary's Church, Ewell**

Fri 19th December, 11am



**EWELL CASTLE  
SCHOOL**  
Achieving Each Child's Potential

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