



HEADLINES

This has been an extremely busy Michaelmas term. The advantage of this is that it means a considerable amount can be done with significant accomplishments to note.

On the Games field the rugby teams have found the going to be rather challenging. In some cases, a lack of experience and physical presence were telling factors. Nevertheless, spirits remained high and admirable commitment shown by boys at all levels. The New Year will also usher in the football season and with its high expectations in some quarters. In the football played this term there have been some promising signs.

In the classroom academic matters are proceeding to schedule as teachers work hard to inculcate a positive and productive work ethic. The Academic Review Day was well attended and served as an excellent way to reinforce the primary objectives of being at school. With agreed targets set, it now remains for teachers and tutors to monitor the efforts of the pupils in our care and to provide guidance.

Once again we are able to applaud the thespians in the community. This year's production of 'Run for your Wife' was a tour de force! The comedy by Ray Cooney was hilarious as all involved delivered their lines to perfection. Accolades must also go to those who directed, produced, prepared the impressive set and the effective sound and lighting. Three most enjoyable evenings!

The Music Department, under new management, has also been making its mark. We have had two musical evenings which were very enjoyable. There has also been a real focus on developing choral music which is beginning to show very encouraging signs! Well done to all involved. At the time of going to print we still have

the Carol Service still to look forward to!

With the vacation ahead of us, I will take this opportunity to remind some of our number that they will need to use their time judiciously. When we return, there are mock examinations to attend to. This will require thorough preparation by those concerned if they are to acquit themselves well.

With that said I wish you all an enjoyable vacation and a Happy New Year!

Mr M Holder-Williams
Head of Senior School



LIFE AS A SIXTH FORM GIRL

- Woke up early all a bit nervous!
- Get dressed, breakfast and in the car
- Arrive at Ewell Castle 8.15am
- Met by Mr. Bromley knees still shaking and stomach doing somersaults!

So starts my first day at Ewell Castle - I walked into the 6th Form block with Mr. Bromley who introduced me to the at the time Lower Sixth to become the new Upper Sixth Form with me. Firstly total silence as all the boys just looked! Then all nerves disappeared as one of the boys came up to me to say "hello" followed by others. I couldn't have wished for a more welcome start. Every day the boys took it in turns to walk me to class as I had no idea where anything was, and took me down to the Village each day to get my lunch. Then came the first Games lesson as the only senior girl in the school, so I thought should I just sit this out and wait till the other girls started in September? No that would be boring so I put on my tracksuit and went out to the tennis

courts with the boys and enjoyed the lesson, I know they were only humouring me as I can't play tennis!

I made the point of doing every available activity/event in the two weeks before the end of the Summer term so I got to know all the Sixth Form boys and staff.

Now I can't believe it is nearly Christmas I can say I have really enjoyed my first months being at Ewell Castle and the boys and staff could not have been more welcoming and helpful.

If anybody wants to ask me anything about being a girl joining the Sixth Form at Ewell Castle please do, I'm the short blonde one behind all the Upper Sixth boys!

Maddie B



EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

Students of Ewell Castle celebrate European Day of Languages 2013 by sampling a few tasty treats from other European countries, trying a language taster session (including Russian, Japanese, Arabic and Mandarin) and taking part in a variety of games and activities with the added bonus that House points are awarded for taking part in the competitions. Buena suerte a todos!



PICTURE OF THE MONTH

September 2013

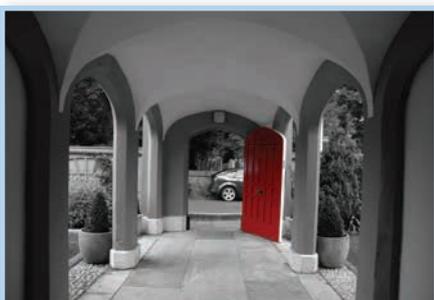


“On a cold night I went outside with my camera and set it up on a tripod. I pointed my camera northwards and set the shutter speed to every 30 seconds

and the ISO to 1600. Then using my remote control, I set my camera to automatically take a photograph every 30 seconds and I let it run for 1 hour. After I used the Starstax program to stack all of the photographs together and show the beautiful star traces. Finally, with Photoshop I made the star trace sharper.”

David Lee, 12KBP

October 2013



“I took a series of photographs of the Castle, specifically parts of the Castle that had very bright colours. For this photograph I edited it in

Adobe Photoshop CS6, firstly changing it into black and white and then using the eraser tool to pick out the redness of the door.”

Alex Churcher, 12VH

November 2013



Cameron set his camera to take quick photographs whilst the subject was moving. He then put these into Photoshop and selected the

cyclist so that the images could be put on top of each other as layers. The final shot shows the movement of the cyclist as he jumps.

Cameron Mathieson, 13 EM

December 2013



At the beginning of Year 10 the students studied still life. In this piece Mrs Shepherd asked the boys to use a range of small objects and to focus on

line, tone and colour. Water colours were used for the background so that the objects stood out. Jack's was very pleasing highlighting his excellent drawing skill base.

Jack Fitch, 10 EMC

BERTOLT BRECHT

On Wednesday 4 December the GCSE and A-level Drama students were treated to a master class in acting by Henry Goodman, who portrayed Hitler in the 1930s Chicago gangster parody of the dictator's rise to power. 'The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui', by Bertolt Brecht, it was an evening of thought-provoking drama interspersed with slapstick humour, culminating in a chilling end, in which the audience is woken up to the fact that we are all responsible for the rise of evil in the world! The boys learnt much from the staging and direction of one of the classics of western theatre!



CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

On 15 October, we enjoyed a magical evening of both sound and spectacle in which one of the fondest childhood books came alive. The boys were in awe of the production with its technical wizardry!



The Ewell Castle School scarf is back!

Featuring the School colours and created using pure new wool one side and a soft fleece backing on the other side, it's perfect for chilly winter days.

Scarves are available to purchase from Lester Bowden in Epsom or from their website.

www.lesterbowden.co.uk

CHARITY UPDATE

It has been a busy first term for the Charitable Works Committee, with regular weekly meetings taking place to discuss charitable endeavours and much effort and enterprise undertaken to support worthy causes. As usual volunteers (from all year groups) have given their time to help in the 'Oxfam' shop in Ewell Village on Fridays after school; volunteers from Years 10 and 11 have also given their time to support the 'Charitable Works Reading Scheme', volunteering at the Junior School to help our younger pupils develop as readers. The usual bi-weekly tutor group cake sales began towards the end of September, with five tutor groups holding their sales so far; each raising money to support their chosen charity. 11SG's cake sale raised £58.86 for Cancer Research. 11JCB and 11SM both supported 'Street Child Africa', a small local charity (based in Thames Ditton) committed to ensuring African Street children are safe, loved and reach their potential; these tutor groups raised £76.46 and £73.75 respectively. Finally, following Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, 10EMC and 10JR decided to raise money for 'ShelterBox', a charity that provides emergency shelter and life-saving supplies for families affected by disasters around the world. These tutor groups raised £174.58 and £153.56 respectively; the money they raised will go directly to rebuilding lives in the Philippines. In addition there have been two multi-days this term: the first (in October)

raised money for 'Jeans for Genes'; the second (in November) was in response to Typhoon Haiyan and raised more money for 'ShelterBox' – on this occasion, although the minimum multi donation remained at £1 as usual, pupils were asked to be particularly generous, as the need was severe and the cause worthy. The pupils of Ewell Castle did not disappoint, raising in excess of £850. Also, in November, a group of enthusiastic boys from the Charitable Works Committee sold poppies in the days leading up to the school's commemoration of Remembrance Day and raised in excess of £150 for the Royal British Legion.

Mr S Leigh



THE 5 PRACTITIONERS SIXTH FORM CONFERENCE

This was an excellent day in which the Sixth Form drama students could immerse themselves in the theory and practise of the following theatre practitioners; Stanslavski, Brook, Grotowski, Brecht and Artaud.

SNOWDONIA TRIP

At the start of the half term we took a party of Lower Sixth walking in North Wales. We stayed in Bangor facing the Menai straits. On the first day we warmed up with the ascent of Y Garn and on the second day we climbed Carnedd Dafydd and Carnedd Llewelyn. The rain was heavy that day but when it cleared on the descent, the sight of the waterfalls streaming off the summit made it all worth it. The final day was the reasonably straightforward ascent of Snowdon along the Pig Path. However a hundred metres from the summit ridge, with the wind gusting to 75 mph, Messrs Bromley and Blencowe came to the unanimous decision that discretion was the better part of valour, and we retreated leaving the mountain for another time. A visit to Beaumaris Castle rounded the trip off nicely – an excellent expedition with the boys showing commendable fortitude. Thanks to Mr Rapinczuk for his invaluable assistance.

Mr J C Blencowe



RAY STEVENS OLYMPIC JUDO SILVER MEDALLIST

Ray Stevens, Olympic Judo Silver Medallist, paid the School a visit this term and brought along his London 2012 Olympic Torch to show the boys. He was here to promote his new Judo Club at Ewell Castle School.



CAMERON BELL

Cameron Bell has been selected for the England Golf South Region U16 Squad. He started training in October at Woodhall Spa, where he trains with boys from all the other regions.

HENRY BLOODWORTH

Congratulations to Henry Bloodworth who has become the new U17s UK Windsurfing Association Cup Series Champion.

The 15-year old competed over six weekends at venues including Bridlington in Yorkshire, Weymouth in Dorset and Pwllheli in north Wales. He has been a member of the RYA Junior National Squad for three years, and he won the same title at U15 level last year.





MUSICAL SHOWCASE

If you weren't at the Castle on the evening of 17th October then you missed a treat. The Musical Showcase, featuring pupils from throughout the Senior School, included a Guitar Ensemble, Drum Kit, Castle Choir, Lower School

Choir, Ukulele Group, Piano, Percussion Group, Year 10 and Year 12 Band and The Concert Band. Look out for the next Musical Showcase and get your tickets early as it's sure to be a sell-out.

PSFA FIREWORKS

This year's Ewell Castle PSFA Firework display was a sell out and a fantastic social event, on what turned out to be a chilly but thankfully dry evening. Pupils, parents and staff were able to enjoy a wonderful, colourful and musical display of fireworks together with some delicious food prepared by external caterers. The event also raised funds for the School which is an added bonus. Be sure to get your tickets early for next year's event as it's sure to be another sell out, and to avoid disappointment!



INDIVIDUAL SENIOR MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE

Nine students took part in the individual Mathematics Challenge for Years 12 and 13. This consists of 25 multiple choice questions increasing in difficulty with points lost for incorrect answers. Congratulations to Tom Evans for his Gold certificate, Best in School and going through to the next round. Silver certificates were awarded to Jonathon Campbell-Slaughter, Jack Hazell, Sinthujon Morgan and Adam Venables. Bronze certificates were awarded to Dong Hoon Lee and Shokhrukh Inamov. Well done to all the participants.

SENIOR TEAM MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE

On Friday, 22 November four students took part in the Surrey Team Mathematics Challenge. After three gruelling rounds of a crossnumber, ten questions as a group and a race against time to complete questions in pairs, the group came 15th out of 24 teams. Congratulations to Jonathon Campbell-Slaughter, Jack Hazell, Tom Evans and Adam Venables.





SENIOR SCHOOL RUGBY

The Under 12's have had a very trying season, finding the step up from mini rugby to 13-a-side quite difficult. Heavy defeats to Sutton Grammar and Royal Alexander and Albert have been a severe test for all involved. Bright sparks have come from the hands of Kean Walker-Todd and Andrew Thomas, with Captain Joe Forrester always a threat with the ball in hand. Moving forward, the team must work on supporting players with the ball, linking phases of play together and tackling 1 on 1. This term has been a learning curve we hope the team will work through.

The Under 13's rugby team have had a testing series of contests. They have trained hard and developed a range of individual skills but struggled to apply these into match situations. As a result of this, the team have suffered a number of defeats. Collectively the players need to continue to increase their confidence in tackling and ball handling but have improved significantly within the breakdown area. What has been pleasing is the continued efforts from all to better themselves despite the difficulties that come with being on a losing run. The recent fixture against Esher High contained the best technical rugby the team have produced so far. Standout performances have come from fly half Ollie Noon who is imperious in the tackle.

The Under 14 team have had an impressive season with 6 wins out of 9 matches played. One of the highlights of the

season was a match against Reigate Grammar School 'A' team in which both sides scored four tries each and the lead changed hands several times. Unfortunately Ewell Castle lost 28 – 26 but it was a great performance led by Captain Lachlan John, who has also recently been selected in the Harlequins squad. The forwards have set a great platform for many of the tries scored with Louis Bramwells, Edward Jackson and Prasanna Uthayanan making strong runs and tackles. In the backs, Will Harding at scrum half has moved the ball quickly to allow room for the pace of George Whalley, Henry Macquire, Chauncey Taylor and Trocon Barchue to score numerous tries throughout the season. The boys are to be congratulated on their fine play, commitment to the team and willingness to listen and improve their skills.

This term for the Under 15's has been pleasing. It was a bright start to the year winning both





of their first home games against Reigate Grammar and Halliford, but subsequent defeats to Wimbledon College, Royal Alexander & Albert and Richard Challoner led to 3 defeats in a row. Since then however, the team

have turned a corner and have won 5 of their last 6 matches, playing some fast flowing rugby and impressive team play. Captain Julius Banks has been magnificent this season as has Will Ellis and Keith Marange. Many of the squad have contributed in a positive way and had big impacts in important matches. The recent 38-24 win against Esher High was perhaps one of the best displays the team have shown this season thanks to strong rucking from the forwards and good passing and line running from the backs. Well done boys!

The 1st XV have had a tough season thus far with some great performances equally matched with some less impressive displays. The squad itself lacked fitness early on in the season and as a result had a pattern of performing well in the first half and losing momentum in the second, which unfortunately led to two or three tries leaking in.

We had some fantastic performances against Reigate Grammar and St Bedes where we came away with a draw, as well as solid performances against Howard of Effingham, Claremont, Reigate College and Ashcombe in which the team narrowly lost out! As the team have progressed throughout the season, so too has the boys' fitness levels, with the standard of rugby on display being vastly superior to that which we played back in September. A positive shift in player attitude is now evident in every game, we have just been unlucky against tough opposition not to have had a few more wins.



SENIOR SCHOOL FOOTBALL

The 1st XI have just had Cup games to keep them occupied this term, beating St John Baptist School 5-0 in the first round of the County Cup (Mark Goulder scoring a hat-trick) but losing in the second round to Glyn 3-2 (Charlie Hall with a brace) . There is much anticipation from players and Mr Grindrod for the season ahead in the New Year.



The Option XI coached by Mr Peto have had a mixed season, playing 4, winning 2 and losing 2. The highlight of the term was a convincing 3-1 win against Whitgift 2nd XI with solid performances from Michael Slavin, Jamel Johnson and Jack Newton.

SENIOR SCHOOL TENNIS

Surrey Senior Schools League

This is the first year the School have entered this competition even though it has been running for ten years. Our draw included none of the schools we have previously played but we knew that Whitgift would be our toughest match. It is unfortunate that we played them first. The fixture was extremely close and we lost narrowly on the tiebreak. This left us knowing that we would have to win convincingly against our other two opponents. The second team we faced was Overton Grange and they proved to be strong opponents. We battled hard and managed to win the fixture 10-2. Our final match was against Richard Challoner School who looked very useful. It was a bad tempered affair but we came away with a 12-0 victory, which did not reflect how close the matches were. This left us lying in 2nd place. We will now have to wait to see if we have done enough to move into the final rounds. Well done to Robin Bolt (Team Captain) Sam Wilton, Cameron Bell and Joe Sheffield who all played extremely well.

ARTISTS OF THE TERM



Jamie Campbell 7PH



Matt Davies 9RI



Luke Steeper 10SB

winners
runners up

Yr7

Jamie Campbell 7PH

Kieran Baynes 7MW
Kean Walker Todd 7MW
James Wilson 7PH
James Suri 7PH

Yr8

Harry About 8MA

Luke Hadley 8MA
Hansen Han 8NT

Yr9

Matt Davies 9RI

Juhwi Kim 9LBC
Alex Rose 9LBC
Will Harding 9LBC
Mitchell Jenkins 9JB
Naym Ali 9JB

Yr10

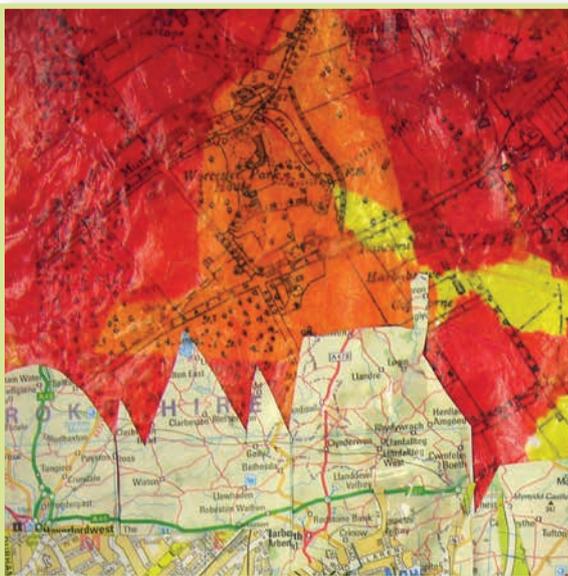
Luke Steeper 10SB

Faaris Sheikh 10JR
Matt Robertson 10JR
Jack Fitch 10EMC

Yr11

Josh Newsome 11SG

George Heading 11JCB
Peter Ku 11JCB



Harry About 8MA



Josh Newsome 11SG

ICELAND TRIP

On 24th October, 21 students (in addition to Mrs Din, Mrs McManus and Mr Bromley) from Years 10 and 11 set off to Iceland.

Reykjavik is a small city-but it is also a unique and interesting one. With views of the sea and the mountains, Reykjavik has outstanding views from so many angles. The architecture in the city centre is typically Nordic – although the concrete cathedral at the top of the hill is unusual even for a quirky country like Iceland. The following days consisted of witnessing fascinating things such as the Northern Lights – at first, the prospect of seeing them at all seemed very slim; but out of nowhere, from the silhouette of the mountains beside us, a faint green glow began to rise up. That was truly special.

We also got up close to a beautiful, enormous water fall; a rainbow crossing it clearly in the pleasant sunlight made the experience that much more mesmerising. This was not the only waterfall we witnessed: another allowed us to carefully navigate ourselves behind the water, and a third was so vast and beautiful in size it was a major attraction in its own right.



In addition to this, we visited the Thingvellir National Park, a place where the eastern tectonic plates meet the western ones. Near the national park were active

geysers surrounded by the orange tinted colour of the ground, every now and then these bubbling geysers let out vast volumes of sulphur and water. Even the beaches are totally different to ours. One, in Vik, consisted of black stones on the shore, in front of a large cave with unusual patterns to it. The sunset was reflected into the beautiful coloured sea water, leaving an orange glow melting into the blue of the sea.

During the morning of our final day, we all swam in the Blue Lagoon; a place where eye catching blue natural warm water is located - surrounded by the dark rocks of the volcanoes around it. Upon returning back in Surrey, I'm sure everyone was holding on to their brilliant Icelandic experience.

Seb Monblat Y11

BATTLEFIELDS TRIP - YEAR 9



On 7th November Year 9 went to the Somme on the only 83 seater bus in the UK. We visited Vimy Ridge and Notre Dame De Lorette on the first day. After a comfortable night in Albert we concentrated on the Somme battlefields, looking at Beaumont

Hamel, Ovilliers and the Lochnager Crater. We also had lunch in the Tommy Café and looked at the museum and realistic trench diorama. A real highlight was finding the names of Issac Newton Mason and Charles Goodship, both Ewell men who died on the Somme and are inscribed on the Thiepval Memorial. I did some research on them and Mr Manley and Mrs Harrison read out some details of their lives and families in Ewell before the war and the battles they died in. I am sure the boys will use the experience to provide some excellent written work on World War One. Thanks to my colleagues whose hard work was vital in making the trip such a success: Mr Krause, Ms Hernandez, Mrs Buckley, Mrs Price, Mrs Harrison and Mr Manley.

Mr J C W Blencowe

TOWER OF LONDON

The Tower of London is almost the perfect destination for history students. The vast array of artefacts and buildings within the castle walls complemented by the modern architecture surrounding the site cannot help but to inspire a sense of awe and wonder at our country's rich past.

The Year 7 students on this trip were focussing on the medieval aspects of life at the Tower. They studied the reasons for building the White Tower and the impact this ninety foot stone building would have had on Londoners. The students also met a half Norman half Saxon Knight who demonstrated his sword skills and shared some of his techniques! We were also able to have time to explore the Medieval Palace and look at the site where it is believed that King Henry VI was murdered.

Despite the cold day the students all took part in the trip with enthusiasm and hopefully engaged with just a fraction of our past.



Mrs M Price



REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

Pupils and Staff of the Junior School and Senior School came together shortly before 11am on the 11th November for a Remembrance Day Service, to pay their respects and remember all those who have died for their country in the many wars and conflicts since the First World War. In particular they remembered the twenty four Old Ewellians including Flight Sergeant Edward Budgell, Able Seaman Ronald Ayton and Flight Sergeant Richard Alderton who were killed during World War Two, whose names are engraved on the plaque that is displayed in the Tudor Lounge in the Castle Building, and who we remember each year at this time.

CASTLE SOCIETY

This term the Castle Society has continued to flourish providing the membership with the opportunity to listen to lectures, ask related questions and discuss pertinent issues. Mr M Holder-Williams raised the question of 'Limited War'. Mr S Manley gave thoughtful consideration to 'The Seven Character Traits of Highly Effective People'. Mr S Leigh, a regular contributor, gave 'A Brief History of Censorship and Certification'. By contrast, Mr J Aruliah spoke for the first time, and considered 'The Art of Lying'. The final presentation was given by Mr S Bromley who focused our attention on the 'Global Crisis and how it has affected Us!' All were well received.

Mr M Holder-Williams



UNDER 14/15 RUGBY TOUR – WALES 2013

On Friday 18th October 33 boys from Years 9 and 10 travelled to commence a four day midseason tour of South Wales. On the day of arrival the players played their first fixture against Cayfartha High School which were tough but thoroughly entertaining. The Under 14's lost 36-18 and the Under 15's lost a very tight game 17-10. The following day both teams had a training session with some Cardiff Blues coaches before heading on to Cardiff Arms Park to watch the Cardiff Blues take on Toulon.

Sunday was match day and we travelled to Merthyr Tydfil to play their club teams. This proved to be a much tougher contest and unfortunately both teams were defeated, Under 14's losing 36-0 and the Under 15's 28-0. Still, an experience to savour and a learning process the boys can use in the future. In the afternoon the group enjoyed a guided tour of the Millennium Stadium and then an evening of ten pin bowling.

The following day was home time, bags packed and heading back to School. This was the first of many tours for a lot of the boys, and one we hope they will remember for many years to come.

Mr Grindrod

1ST XV RUGBY TOUR – GLOUCESTERSHIRE

At the beginning of November the 1st XV took part in a mini tour to Cirencester, Gloucestershire. The tournament was hosted by Rendcomb College where we competed in a competition with 8 schools, and for the most, the standard of rugby that was played was sublime. We played Newcastle College, St David's, Kingsley School Devon and the hosts Rendcomb. We narrowly lost by a try to Rendcomb and three tries to Newcastle, we won the other games comfortably. From these wins on the first day we qualified higher up the table for the second day, we met Rendcomb in the semi final again where we lost by 1 point in injury time, heart breaking to say the least. Overall we finished 4th.

Some notable mentions should go to Dylan Walker-Todd, Leo Adolph, Tom Palmer, Khaya Mtunzi, Jon Oshinowo, Greg Le Lay, Nayaab Ali, Adam Venables and Daniel Crego-Bustelo who have been the cornerstone of the team throughout the season.



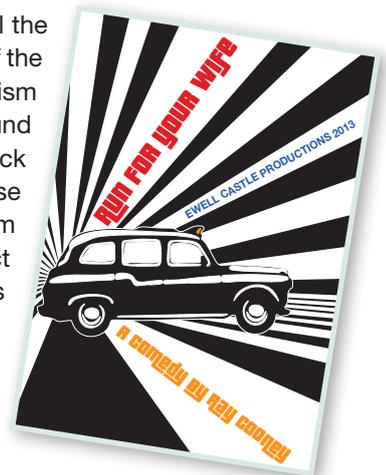


RUN FOR YOUR WIFE DRAMA PRODUCTION

I was very impressed with all the outstanding performances of the actors and the professionalism of both the lighting and sound operators as well as the back stage crew. As all those involved know, I treat them as professionals and expect professional standards from them. Not content with a typical school play performance I believe that by setting higher goals the boys can rise to the challenge. From all the complimentary emails from Governors, teachers and parents the boys should be very proud of their achievements. Several people commented that they saw the original version of the play when it was in the West End and they preferred our Ewell Castle production!

All I can add to this is that I am extremely proud of the boys and would like to thank everyone for supporting this production. Now the challenge is to find an equally good text for next year!

Mr Bader-Clynes





MUSIC RECITAL



This year the Music Recital was relocated to St Mary's Church and accordingly the concert featured our solo classical performers, from all years as well as our ensembles such as Chamber Orchestra and Castle Ravens. Two of our new choirs also performed, Chapel Choir and Senior Boys' Choir, the latter performing a beautiful rendition of an old spiritual, 'Shenondah'. Soloists performed on a variety of instruments that included trumpet, viola, cello and piano. Notable performances were given by lower school students; Edward Smith (Year 9) who performed a movement

from a Haydn trumpet concerto and Jason Lui (Year 8) who performed a demanding piano piece by Hassler. Senior school similarly had notable performances including cellist Leo Nam who performed Prelude from Suite No 1 by J.S Bach and Doyun Kim who performed a complex guitar solo by Villa-Lobos. The evening was made even more enjoyable with the addition of canapés and sparkling wine- a perfect addition to the high standard achieved by all performers and ensembles who performed.

Mr Assen





WASSAIL

What a great evening of Wassailing we had! The glasses were full, the mince pies were steaming and the tinselled festive season started with an almighty bang!

The Drama department was very happy with the quality of all our performers with many notable performances. The evening started with the talent's of Paul Heffernan multi-roling numerous family characters responses to receiving Christmas presents then we moved through a series of satirical, comedic and festive sketches starting with Year 7 and moving our way towards year 13. Roald Dahl made 2 appearances in 'The Three Little Pigs' and 'Television', Monty Python was represented in the Year 12 and 13 'Restaurant sketch' and there was a fantastic piece of writing in 'Soldiers of War' by Jack Stace and Charlie Sumeray. Congratulations should also be made to our dedicated tec team, in Simeon Carter, Jonathan Campbell-Slaughter, Adam Gostelow and Joshua Miller.

In true traditional 'Wassail' form, a varied musical display was enjoyed by the enthusiastic audience. Lower School and Senior Boys' choirs provided atmospheric and moving vocal performances of traditional pieces such as 'In The Bleak Midwinter' and more modern Christmas song such as 'Bethlehem' from 'Martin Geurre' the musical. Student band 'Out of the clouds' entertained with the Lumineers 'Ho Hey' and a joint Year 10 and 12

band amused all with their swing version of 'Away In A Manger'. The Staff, Student and Parent choir 'Castle Chorus' delivered a powerful message in their performance of 'Something Inside So Strong' whilst the Ukulele Group accompanied the Staff Choir in a rousing rendition of 'Fairytale of New York'. The evening was rounded off with the audience joining in The 12 Days of Christmas as per the tradition in the school and finally together with Concert Band, Slade's classic hit 'Merry Christmas Everybody'.



POLITICS CONFERENCE

On 2nd December 2013, nine A-Level Politics students attended Westminster Central Hall for a Politics conference featuring an array of politicians including the House of Commons Speaker John Bercow, International Development Secretary Alan Duncan and Deputy Liberal Democrat Leader Simon Hughes. After taking pictures outside the Houses of Parliament, we listened to a diverse range of views from politicians across the political spectrum. These ranged from Simon Hughes' strong views on international development and support for working-class children with aspirations to attend university to Tristram Hunt's socialist Labour ideals of cutting the bedroom tax and highlighting the benefits of state school education. A thoroughly enjoyable day was had by all with lower-sixth student Sean Farley bravely asking a question of Conservative MP Nadine Dorries about her appearance on the ITV reality show 'I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out of Here' and neglecting her constituency during her time on the show! I would like to thank Mr. Krause on behalf of the boys for arranging such a fantastic day and wish him the best of luck in his move back to Australia; you have been a great teacher! Thanks to all the boys for making the day enjoyable with a great time by all involved.

By Danny Archer

PARKING OUTSIDE EWELL CASTLE SCHOOL BUILDINGS

To all parents and guardians parking outside the School buildings, please note that Traffic Wardens patrol the area both mornings and afternoons, and you are kindly requested not to park in any way which; causes an obstruction, is illegal or places your car across the driveways of our neighbours. Thank you for your co-operation.

BADMINTON

A set of 22 badminton matches were played by a mixed group of students from Year 8 to Year 12 away at Glyn, who had eight Year 12 students. It took some time for the Ewell Castle students to warm up, losing all their first four matches, but they persevered. Faaris Sheikh and Alex Bygate went on to win a number of matches. Ben Baulkwill and Chan Woo Kang performed well considering this was only the fourth time they had played since joining the School. Two Year 8's Michael Da Gama and Mithiran Elangco with Year 9 Paul Heffernan were a team eager to win at least one match, which they managed to do. A group of Year 11's Doyun Kim, Siu Loon Lam, Peter Ku, Hyunjae Lee and Juho Lee all played well with varying degrees of success. All of the matches were hard fought. The scores finished 11-11. Well done to all the students who participated.

Mr Vijapura



TABLE-TENNIS

In an exciting match where the lead changed hands on several occasions, the team of James Dailey, Dan Straw, Alex Streeter, Jack Dickens, Jiayuan Jin, Jack Sledger and Srihari Srithasan took on a Sixth Form team at Glyn School. At the end of 36 singles matches, many of which were very close, Ewell Castle were victorious by 19-17 with James Dailey being successful in all his matches, but all the boys contributing to the overall success.



UPPER SIXTH FUNDRAISING SOCIAL EVENING AT IL LAGHETTO RESTAURANT

14th January 2014

The Upper Sixth are organising a fundraising quiz (teams of 4-6) and social evening for members of the Upper Sixth and their families, in aid of ShelterBox charity, which provides emergency shelter for families in The Philippines. The event which includes a 3-course meal, quiz, raffle, donation to the charity and prize for the winning quiz team will be at Il Laghetto, 17 High Street, Ewell on Tuesday 14th January at 7pm.

Cost per person is £20 and the Quiz Master is local quiz legend Simon Edmands.

For more information and to book your tickets contact the Senior School office.

PSFA QUIZ NIGHT

Firstly, thank you to everyone who supported the Fireworks Evening in November. Despite the torrential rain, which did not stop until just before the gates opened, it was a fantastic evening and for the first time in recent years, it was a sell-out! Our next event is the Quiz Night, which will take place on Saturday 25 January 2014. Tickets will go on sale after the Christmas holidays but now would be a good time to start thinking about your teams, as places are limited to 100 tickets - teams of 8 maximum please!

We are aiming to come up with a selection of new events during 2014 and we will promote these through the PSFA section of the website and via the weekly email bulletin. As ever, if you would like to know more or make any suggestions for future events, it would be lovely to hear from you.

Please email me at
v_craig@hotmail.com

Vicki Craig

SAFE DRIVE, STAY ALIVE – EVENT

During enrichment, we took Year 12 to Dorking Halls to experience this year's "Stay Alive" event, organised by a road safety partnership aiming to reduce the number of deaths on our roads. It is a 'hard-hitting experience', which conveyed to the audience the dangers and pitfalls of dangerous driving. Speakers included the Emergency Services as well as people who had been directly affected by terrible and life changing traffic accidents. We were exposed to some vivid events by means of storytelling whilst in the background, there was a video playing of a fatal crash. The stories were very moving, and when the Sixth Formers were asked what they thought of the event, and what impact it had had on them, the majority said that they would be far more careful on the roads.

NEW PRINCIPAL MR PETER HARRIS

Mr Harris, who joins us as Principal in January 2014, is currently Vice-Principal at Bournemouth Collegiate School. He has experience in both the Independent and State education systems, and in Day and Boarding schools. Prior to becoming Deputy Head at Uplands School, which merged with Wentworth College in 2009 to become BCS, Mr Harris was Head of Geography at Birkdale School in Sheffield. Mr Harris is married to Caroline and has three children between the ages of 8 and 15. Mr Harris enjoys outdoor pursuits including cycling, climbing and sailing, and is a member of his local Anglican Church.



Invitation to meet the new Principal

We would like to invite all parents and guardians to meet our new Principal Mr Peter Harris, on Wednesday 15th January 2014.

The reception for Junior School parents will be at 2pm in Glyn Hall, and reception for Senior School parents at 7pm in the Budgell building.

More information will be provided in the New Year.

STAFF ARRIVALS JANUARY 2014

We welcome a number of new staff in January. Mrs Caroline Ellingham and Mrs Sarah Stallard will be joining as Learning Support Assistants. Mr Kevin Hungsraz is appointed Senior Physics teacher. Mr David Lea will take responsibility for Economics, Business Studies and Politics. The Physical Education and Games Department will benefit from the services of Mr Brendan O'Connell. Outside the classroom Mrs Deborah Manville has been appointed Data Manager and Examinations Officer. I have every confidence that they will enjoy their time with us at Ewell Castle.

STAFF LEAVERS DECEMBER 2013

Michael Ashby

Mike Ashby was appointed to teach Physics in September 2010. He came to us via New Zealand and France. He has made a valuable contribution to the Science Department, not forgetting a little Mathematics as well. He also contributed usefully outside the classroom as a Form Tutor at various levels. His efforts on the rugby field were also appreciated. He addressed the Castle Society, went on a number of the Battlefield Trips to The Somme as well as organising a number of Physics conferences / workshops for 'A' level candidates. He returns to New Zealand to teach at Mount Albert Grammar School.



Stephen Casey

Steve Casey joined the staff in September 2006 as a member of the Physical Education Department. He brought with him the experience of someone who had taught in a large maintained school. It was not long before circumstances were such that he assumed responsibility for the Department and the Games programme. He was busy and always positive and enthusiastic. Eager to maintain the profile of sporting activities in the School, sports tours were a regular feature (Tenerife, Antigua, Biarritz, Italy and Dublin). At different times he also shouldered pastoral responsibilities and was Housemaster of Castlemaine. He moves on to teach at Lingfield Notre Dame School.



Paul Krause

Paul Krause was appointed Head of Business Studies & Politics in September 2006. He came to us from Hinchley Wood School having been educated in Australia. He has worn many hats at Ewell Castle including Head of Year 9, 1st XV coach, organiser of the Christian Union, GCSE Examinations Officer and a member of the Choir. In more recent times Economics was introduced and this also came into his orbit. He also taught Religious Studies, went on seven trips to the Battlefields in France and three rugby tours! A genuine schoolmaster! He returns to Australia to teach at the faith Lutheran College in Queensland.



Mrs Deborah Tibble

Mrs Deborah Tibble has worked at the school in various capacities for the last 14 years. She has assisted in the Administration Department, the School Office, the Bursar's Office, supported the SEND Department and, most significantly, has been for the last seven years the Examinations Secretary. The latter task being of considerable importance as the public examination programme became extraordinarily complicated requiring increasing amounts of time to ensure all was as it needed to be! We have been grateful for her industry & attention to detail.

We wish them all well as they move on to fresh challenges.

FAREWELL – PRINCIPAL A J TIBBLE

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Ewell Castle, and for that I am grateful to so many parents, pupils and colleagues. My only sadness is that these words will only reach a proportion of those people without resorting to social media – which I will resist!

I leave after some twenty-one years, eleven as Principal, with mixed emotions. One does not work in an environment like Ewell Castle for this amount of time without forming strong attachments, but I feel fulfilled in what I have achieved and that towards which I have contributed. I am confident of future success of the school under the leadership of Mr Peter Harris and the colleagues I leave behind.

I am enthusiastic and excited about the future for my wife Deborah and I, as we both leave Ewell Castle. Deborah came to help out in administration for a day a week some fourteen years ago, since which time she has also assisted in the Bursary, and for the last seven years has been Examinations Secretary. Our children, Ben and Harriet, also remember their time at the Junior School fondly.

I am grateful for the kind words offered and the presentations made on behalf of parents by the PSFA, and by colleagues and Governors. The future of the PSFA, incorporating 'Friends' of Ewell Castle, and the developments of the Old Ewellians Association will be of great benefit to the school and all those involved. I am proud of the building development programme that has been sustained through good and more challenging times. Our success in this regard has been in no small way the result of wise counsel and direction offered by the Governors (and Trustees) of

the school. I am particularly grateful for their voluntary contributions and welcome support.

Rising academic standards and a vibrant extra-curricular life of a school are that to which we aspire. We achieve both, but most of all we retain the focus upon pastoral care which is the foundation of all we do. Increasing percentages, international athletes and professional artists in the world of music and drama give great satisfaction, but we have always, and will continue to, take the greatest satisfaction from Value Added measures and the development of someone less fast or not quite 'note perfect' ie. pride in all the blossoming young men and women that leave the school.

For me personally, it has been a most rewarding experience to have spent some thirty-six years in service in schools. It has been an opportunity for which I feel blessed. Teaching is a true vocation and you and others represent much of an extended family. Apart from perhaps the fields of medicine, the armed or emergency services, where else could one gain so much satisfaction in the service of others, and in our case with young people in particular.

We view retirement as the next phase of our lives. I feel a little less anxious than at the beginning of other phases, in good health if a little slower, and excited at the prospects. My children have extolled the value and pleasures of a gap year(s), so here we go! You will appreciate that we have every reason to be grateful to you and Ewell Castle School, and we offer you all our very best wishes for the future.

AJT

