



HEADLINES

The Spring term is the one that seems to pass by so very quickly and this year it has been no different. The main reason is that it starts with real academic focus. The mock examinations have to be completed, marked and de-briefed and the whole process takes about three weeks. By the time a normal whole school weekly routine is established it is half term! While all this is happening there is a race against time to complete examination courses at all levels as well as prepare for any number of key school events.

The pressure always seems to be on whether you are a pupil or a teacher. There are deadlines which need to be met! The well organised and efficient manage this with something to spare. Alas, not everybody in the school community is so blessed. Nevertheless, things do get done even if there has to be some 'pushing and pulling'. It has always been the case that academic pursuits come first, but there has to be a balance. Outside the classroom a great deal has unfolded.

On the football field the weather has done us few favours. The incessant rainfall has led to the cancellation of many fixtures and training sessions. Nevertheless, spirits remained high and some matches have been played at all age groups with varying success. The important thing is that pupils are out there representing the School. We have also been represented on the rugby field at 7-a-side tournaments. The success of the Under 14s at Surrey Tournament (Vase Competition) is certainly noteworthy.

More cultural pursuits were highlighted during Arts Week. As usual there were a variety of activities which show-cased the talent of those involved.



The Art Workshop and the willow sculptures, the Reading Competition in which the standard improves annually, the lunch time music concerts, the Drama presentation and the 'This is Africa' extravaganza all come swiftly to mind. Yet there was more besides and I applaud the prodigious efforts of all involved as organisers and performers.

I am delighted to say that the abundance of co-curricular ventures has been sustained with theatre and art gallery trips, subject related conferences and Mathematics Challenges. More physically demanding is the preparation for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. The House Competitions are building up to a thrilling finale as the points accumulate with the completion of yet another competition! This competition is not just about sport, everything is taken into account including the annual Arts Quiz which saw Castlemaine emerge victorious yet again! Particularly exciting though was the House Swimming Gala which as usual saw a large number of individuals make a useful contribution regardless of the position they finished in their particular race.

As the vacation period approaches I call quickly to mind the success of the School skiing trip to Austria at half term. Few casualties and lots of good stories to relate! No wonder next year's trip is already booked up! On that cheerful reminiscence I will draw this brief note to a close. I will entreat all those 'Ewellians' who have public examinations in May and June to utilise the time ahead wisely. Recharge the batteries, but do not forget what your primary objective is next term! To everybody, I wish you all a most enjoyable holiday!

Mr M Holder-Williams
Head of Senior School

CASTLE SOCIETY

The Castle Society met regularly this term and as usual there were a variety of lectures to stimulate the mind. Mr S Getty began by considering 'The Language of Things'. This was followed by Mr J D'Souza's consideration of 'Twenty First Century Masculinity'. Mr J C Blencowe returned to hallowed antiquity and analysed the career of 'Gaius Julius Caesar'. During Arts Week Mr P Pickering visited the School and gave a presentation that called for an appreciation of the 'Art of the First World War'. The final offering of the academic year was delivered by Mrs R Iksilara covering 'Emotional Intelligence'.

STAFF NEWS

Mr Jekhan Aruliah will be leaving us at the end of this term. He joined the Mathematics Department in September 2010 having gleaned 22 years experience in industry (ICT – Financial Services). He has contributed positively to the life of the School both inside and outside the classroom. Most prominent in the latter area has been the Castle Ravens and the Robotics Club. His work as a Sixth Form tutor has also been of great value for those pupils who benefited from his guidance. We wish him well and thank him for his good work.

YEAR 10 HISTORY TRIP

On Tuesday 4th February the Year 10 History students travelled to Duxford in Cambridgeshire. A converted air base, it now forms part of the Imperial War Museum. We attended a Cold War presentation and had a look at some impressive aircraft including Concorde and a York that took part in the Berlin Airlift. There was a huge collection of World War Two and Cold War aircraft including a B17 Flying Fortress, a B29 Super Fortress, a B52 and two spy planes; the Blackbird and the U2. We finished by a section of the Berlin Wall and a cruise missile launcher, reminding at least one of us how personal history merges with world history and current affairs.

Mr J C Blencowe



IMAGE OF THE MONTH



January

Charlie Westmoreland-Burns created this image in his AS Level Photography exam. He was asked to pick a theme from his Autumn coursework portfolio and take a photoshoot to bring in to the exam. Charlie was inspired by Ansel Adams and chose London as his theme. This particular shot freezes London in a moment in time.



March

This photograph was created by David Lee using photographs taken from real life and then layering them in Adobe Photoshop to make a fantasy landscape.



February

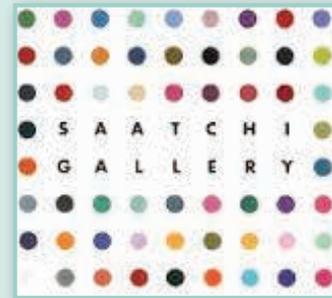
The photograph of David Lee by Alex Churcher, was taken in the photographic studio and then edited in the Art rooms using Adobe Photoshop 6.



April

Cameron Mathieson created this picture by drawing Alex Churcher and then scanning it in to the computer, so that he could create a transfer that was later ironed onto fabric.

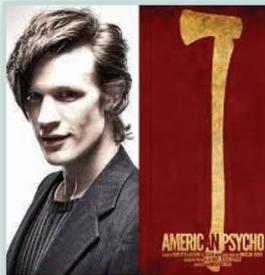
EWELL CASTLE ENTERS THE SAATCHI GALLERY / DEUTSCHE BANK ART PRIZE FOR SCHOOLS



Seven pupils from the Senior School had their work entered into the competition, open to schools from around the world, where there is no prescribed theme for works entered nor is there a restriction on media used (sculpture, painting, installation, photography and mixed media art works are all eligible and welcome). The shortlist of schools and entries was featured in an exhibition at the Saatchi Gallery in February 2014. Whilst we didn't win, the quality of the student's art was very high and should be commended.

DRAMA & THEATRE PRODUCTIONS

In the last couple of months we have seen four London shows: 'One Man Two Guvvners', 'Henry V' with Jude Law, 'American Psycho' with Matt Smith and Joan Littlewoods's celebrated 'Oh What a Lovely War'. All the plays have been very well received by the pupils and have helped them to understand recent theatre coursework in a professional context. We have been entertained, educated, shocked and reminded of the terrible atrocities of the Great War. On all occasions the pupils asked when they were going to see another production!



Next term we have two in-house productions: 'Red Riding Hood', the Years 7 to 9 play, directed by Miss Jones and the Year 12 play 'Singer', directed by me. Tickets are selling out fast so please buy yours as soon as possible!

Both Miss Jones and I would like to wish you all a lovely Easter Break.

Regards from the Drama Department

Mr L Bader-Clynes

CHARITY FUNDRAISING

Once again it has been a busy term for the Charitable Works Committee. As usual volunteers (largely from Years 7, 9 and 10) have given their time to help in the Oxfam shop in Ewell Village on Fridays after school; volunteers from Year 10 have also given their time to support the 'Charitable Works Reading Scheme', volunteering at the Junior School. The usual bi-weekly tutor group cake sales have continued, with a further five tutor groups holding their sales this term, each raising money to support a charity chosen by them. 11SB's cake sale raised £102.61 for Shelter; 9CH raised an impressive £197.25 (the highest amount this year so far) in support of ShelterBox; 9JB raised £128.38 (the fourth highest amount) for Save the Children; 9LBC raised £113.12 for Cancer Research, and 8KH raised £72.31 for The British Heart Foundation. In addition there was a multi-day in February with all proceeds going to Street Child Africa, the charity also supported in the recent 'This is Africa' concert organised by the Music Department. At time of writing the Charitable Works Committee are organising an Easter Raffle for pupils. The proceeds of this will support The South West Thames Kidney Fund.

Mr S Leigh



SIXTH FORM CHARITY FUNDRAISING DINNER

The inaugural Sixth Form Charity Evening was a resounding success on Tuesday 15th January. Staff, Sixth Formers and their parents joined together to enjoy an evening of fabulous food, challenging quiz questions and much fundraising for ShelterBox. At the end of the evening we had raised over £460 for ShelterBox. This brings the total number of Shelterboxes for families in the Philippines that Ewell Castle School has bought to three, which is a wonderful testament to the positive difference the School is determined to make to the lives of others.

We would like to thank Antonio at the Il Laghetto restaurant, for being so welcoming and generous with his contributions to ShelterBox, local quizmaster Simon Edmands who organised much of the evening, Hugo Bromley (Deputy Head Boy) for his splendid project management and Danny Archer (Head Boy) for the most amazing raffle.





TEAM MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE 2014

Ewell Castle attended the South Surrey Team Mathematics Challenge in Crawley on Tuesday 11th March. They were apprehensive about the competition as they wanted to do well, but did not know how good the competitors would be. The first round went well, with a top score of sixty out of sixty. The second was another strong round, but the third and fourth were a little more difficult. The students finished fourth out of twenty-two. Well done to Leo Nam (Y9), Alistair Springer (Y9), Oliver Carter (Y8) and Oliver Noon (Y8). An excellent result against some tough competition.

Mr D Vijapura

DONUTS TEAM WIN APPRENTICE 2014

It was close, but eventually the judging panel decided that the winning team in the 2014 Sixth Form Apprentice Task was the Donuts Team. They demonstrated good business acumen, a sound knowledge of their product and good stock control, as well as creating good advance publicity for their quality product. The Donuts Team sold out of their product and ended the day in profit. With an engaging presentation that included their business strategy and some key learnings, the team were worthy winners. Congratulations to all the other teams, we loved your ideas and presentations.

All profits will go to the charity Meningitis UK.



SKI TRIP TO AUSTRIA

Forty-two Years 8-13 skiers skied Austria's Ski Welt region for the week of February half term, a week of skiing in clear skies and sunshine, cloud and limited visibility, powder snow and even grass for some, as we skied out of Hofgarten and Soll. Our beginners group made spectacular progress, making it to the top of the mountain and attempting their first red run by day 2 and every boy competed in a slalom competition on the trip's penultimate day; special congratulations to Ewell Castle's gold, silver and bronze medal winners: Matt's Advanced Group A - Cameron Mathieson (Gold), Jack Newton (Silver), Cameron Bell (Bronze); Steve's Advanced Group B - Ollie Rickus (Gold), Jonathon Campbell-Slaughter (Silver), Matt Mealin-Howlett (Bronze); Chris's Intermediate Group - Pat Bell (Gold), Joe Chowdhury (Silver), Toby Wright (Bronze); Martin's Beginners - Lucas Coker (Gold), Josh Pasley (Silver), Ollie Noon (Bronze).



As if 5 hours skiing per day was not enough of a challenge, pupils swam, ice-skated, bowled and took part in quizzes and challenges every evening too, some even daring to take on the daunting L2 double loop the loop waterslide, which begins with a terrifying 14metre vertical drop. Pupils both amazed and embarrassed themselves on a constant basis, Daniel Crego-Bustelo (2014's Skier of the Week) presenting awards on a daily basis for ridiculous behaviour, ungentlemanly behaviour and, of course, to the majority who skied with skill and made impressive progress through their 5 hours of ski school per day. After 6 years, next year we move from Ski Welt to Saalbach - anticipation of another great trip is already growing.

Ms K Wallace

TATE VISIT



On Monday 24th February the Art Department took a trip to the Tate galleries. First stop was the Tate Britain to take part in a workshop where the groups looked at paintings and used them to inspire a film or newspaper headlines. Then we moved on to

the Tate Modern to have lunch in the sunshine. After a much needed rest we moved into the Tate Modern to look around the open galleries and then to see the Paul Klee exhibition. It was a fun packed day with lots to see with Years 10 and 11.

Ms L Morton

FRENCH CONFERENCE

On Wednesday 5th March, seventeen Year 10 GCSE students went to a French Conference Trip in London.

During the day, they were given tips by experienced professionals and examiners on all four skill areas.

They also had the chance to practise their French and to see how to improve their work from a C/D grade to an A*.

Of course, the pupils did not enjoy the Conference as much as the food they got from McDonald's or KFC at lunchtime, which was obviously the highlight of the day!

Mr J March and Miss P Hernandez



CHESS COMPETITION - EWELL VS GLYN

On Friday 28th February ten students came to Ewell Castle to play three 20 minute games of Chess. The top four students were ranked and played each other. The others were then randomly chosen to play each other for the first round. The next two rounds were based on their previous scores.

The first two rounds were very close with the score tie, but in the third and final round Glyn pulled ahead winning overall. Well done to all the students who took part and Jonathon Campbell-Slaughter and Simeon Carter for organising the competition.

Mr D Vijapura



NEWS FROM THE PSFA

Thank you to everyone who attended the Quiz Evening in January. As usual, it was a thoroughly enjoyable night with just about the right amount of competitive spirit! The event raised around £350 which will be used towards friendship benches across the three sites.

Attention has now turned to arrangements for the 'Midsummer Night Ball in the Marquee', which will be held in the grounds of The Castle on Saturday 28th June. The ticket price includes a welcome glass of bubbly and a two course buffet and coffee. There will be a DJ and a fully licensed bar, serving a wide range of drinks, including beers, wine, spirits and cocktails.

Tickets will be on sale after Easter - priced at £37.50 per person. Please watch out for the announcement on Twitter and the Weekly Bulletin - it will be an ideal way to celebrate the end of another School year!

Ms V Craig (Chair)



MATCH REPORTS

U12 FOOTBALL

Saturday 11th January v Wilson's (1-5)

Our first fixture of the season, played at Ewell in surprisingly clement weather, and against a team that had a term's fixtures behind them, had our inexperience and lack of match time evident in the early stages. Playing with the slope, we conceded early but then settled and from a breakaway, we equalised only to concede just before half-time. Three quick second-half goals from Wilson's stunned the home team but we rallied well in the final twenty minutes and did not concede again before the end.

Saturday 1st March v Kingston Grammar (9-0)

The desperate weather this year meant that we had waited seven weeks for our second game. A weak KGS team were easily dispatched after a tentative first fifteen minutes until we opened the scoring. 3-0 at half-time was extended to 9-0 by the end in a totally dominant second-half display.

Friday 13th March v Cedar's (1-5)

Again after another cancellation the team headed to Croydon and despite some good moments we were easily beaten, with some of the defence playing particularly well.

Saturday 14th March v Richard Challoner (0-8)

Against a team playing their 34th fixture of the year, we were always likely to find the opposition tough, and I think being a little overawed, particularly as they quickly went 2-0 ahead, did not help our cause. Against a much superior squad we battled gallantly and did well to keep the score down.

Saturday 21st March v Halliford (3-1)

This is always the closest game we play all season and the result was only settled inside the last 5 minutes. Outstanding defending kept the score at 0-0 until a Ewell Castle breakaway led to our first goal. A similar breakaway later in the half led to a 2-0 half-time lead. Halliford pressed hard and after reducing the score-line to 2-1, were awarded a penalty. However this was magnificently saved by Nick Palmer and soon afterwards we broke away again to seal a 3-1 victory.

Squad. N. Palmer, O. Mooij, K. Baynes, O. Hawkins, M. McShee, A. Thomas, J. Suri, T. Krzystyniak, T. Okuwa, J. Yang, M. Rao, C. Roff, J. Forrester, J. Davies.

Top scorer: Max McShee

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals for	Goals against
5	2	0	3	14	19

U13 FOOTBALL

The U13 football squad have enjoyed considerable success this season despite the poor weather conditions leading to a reduced fixture list. Winning half of the matches and only losing one is a statistic the squad should be proud of. The opening game of the season saw the U13 team face Wilson's away, a traditionally tough fixture, which resulted in a 2-1 victory with Ed Cribb making some excellent saves (a feat he was able to repeat regularly this season). Our next fixture came a month later at Kingston Grammar School. This game saw the U13 team 1-0 behind at half-time but thanks to a Vuyani Khaka hat-trick and a superb 'Man of the Match' performance from Tom Gill, the U13 team managed to finish the game with a 3-1 victory. The next victory came, at home, to St James School thanks to an excellent 'Man of the Match' performance from Guy West (Captain) and two goals from Tom Gill, they managed to win 2-1. Well done to everyone involved in the squad this season and thank you to everyone who came to watch and support the U13 team.

Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	G/d	Points
6	3	1	2	+3	11

1ST XI FOOTBALL

As with the other football teams in the School, the 1st XI team's season was badly affected with cancelled matches due to the weather. Early losses in January against Wilson's and RGS Guildford were not a good way to start the season. A goal against RGS Guildford from Charlie Hall was the only bright point to two disappointing defeats.

Once the weather improved the 1st XI took to the field to play Kingston Grammar School but a Cameron Bell goal wasn't enough to see the side lose again 3-1. Eventually a win against St James was something positive for the team. Seven goals were netted in total with Dyka Sudaryanto and Felix Sanderson scoring a brace each and Charlie Hall, Cameron Bell and Danny Archer adding to the score line. Unfortunately the team could not maintain the momentum in the next match against Grey Court, going down 3-2. With 3 scrappy goals conceded, the team fought back well in the 2nd half with an own goal and a good finish by Charlie Hall setting up a close finish. Ewell hit the woodwork 3 times and knew when the final whistle went it just wasn't their day.

The team still have two matches left where they hope to finish a disappointing term on a high.

Mr J Grindrod

2ND XI FOOTBALL

The term's opening fixture against Wilson's 5th XI was a defeat against too strong a set of opponents. Losing only 1-0 at half-time was testament to the endeavour of those playing and a series of important saves by keeper Nick Radley. Felix Sanderson, Adam Venables, Dan Crego-Bustelo and Khaya Mtunzi impressed individually but the skill and physicality of the opposing team was ultimately to give victory to Wilson's by a margin of three goals.

Kingston GS was a more enjoyable encounter with Ewell deserving their 1-0 lead until ten minutes from the end of the match when Kingston scored from a deflected free kick. Felix Sanderson, Ewell's top goalscorer, was outstanding playing in midfield and ably supported by the tireless running of Jack Dyer and Adam Venables.

The defence was "solid" throughout with Dan Crego-Bustelo proving to be an immovable object in more ways than one! Nick Radley made a series of important saves whilst Khaya Mtunzi's goal line clearance in the first half was crucial to the result of the match.

Mr K B Peto

U14 FOOTBALL

This season will be one the boys will not fondly remember. Having managed a positive opening game against Wilson's, in which the boys competed well and enjoyed watching George Whalley score a magnificent goal from 30 yards, they were unlucky to concede a late equaliser in the dying minutes to finish 1-1. The season unfortunately did not progress due to practise sessions being cancelled, as a result of the weather, until after the mid-term break.

The lack of practise was reflected in the side's general lack of match fitness and it was difficult for the side to develop any continuity in their play against other teams. Results against Kingston Grammar, Richard Challoner and Lingfield all ended in loses with the scores in the final two games being ones that the boys will wish to forget.

Mr B O'Connell

U15 FOOTBALL

The majority of the 2014 season was lost to inclement weather and so only four games were possible. The season started back in January before the rains came and the team lost 1-0 away at Wilson's despite playing well. In this fixture we dominated possession but did little with the ball in front of goal and were punished late on in the first half.

The second game of the season saw KGS travel to Old Schools Lane and come away with a narrow 4-3 victory. This game included a Woodcraft hat-trick which should have been enough to win the match but poor defending of the high ball cost us three second half goals when we were on top.

Richard Challoner were far too strong in both A and B team fixtures running out comfortable winners in both matches.

The last game of the season is away at Teddington and the team is hoping for a positive result.

Mr N Turk

HOCKEY

Over the Spring term one of our emerging sports, hockey, has taken off. We have had fixtures at Under 12/13/14 and 15 age groups and we have developed our playing squads in participation of school fixtures and in terms of the quality of performance shown by the pupils.

We have had victories over Moon Hall College and Grey Court School by the Under 12 and 13 teams. Away victories at Harrodian School by the Under 14 and Under 15 teams and strong performances against St George's Weybridge and KGS.

Mr J Grindrod



EWELL CASTLE WIN U14 RUGBY SURREY SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIP

Ewell Castle's Year 9 Rugby 7's team attending the Surrey Schools Championships on Tuesday 11th March at John Fisher School, came away as champions and brought home the Championship vase.

Mr J Grindrod





RALEIGH HOUSE OVERALL WINNERS OF SENIOR SCHOOL SWIMMING GALA

There was fierce competition and rivalry between the three School Houses, during the Senior School Swimming Gala, held at Cheam Swimming Pool on Wednesday 5th March. The team with the noisiest and most enthusiastic supporters wore the green tee shirts of Raleigh House, and this vocal support certainly reaped benefits in the water, where after some thrilling and closely fought races, Raleigh were declared the eventual winners for both the Lower and Upper School.

Essex (purple) and Castlemaine (orange) Houses will be looking to improve their performances during the next House competitions.

Mr J Grindrod



ROAD SAFETY ROADSHOW

Surrey County Council brought their Road Safety Roadshow to the Senior School earlier this term. Year 7 and Year 8 pupils were involved in an interactive presentation on how to be more road aware and continue to stay safe.

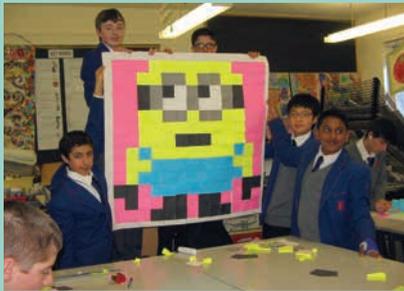
Mr G Sandhu



ARTS WEEK

Arts Week provides Ewell Castle School's pupils with the opportunity to engage in different forms of creativity.

The week-long events, visits, performances, competitions and House Arts Quiz, are curated by the Art, Design and Technology, Drama and Music Departments. They are a fantastic opportunity for pupils to enjoy and engage with new creative mediums which enrich them academically and socially.



In the week beginning 10th of March, Arts Week landed at Ewell Castle School. The week began with the artist Sara Holmes visiting for a two day residence, setting out to make

five large sculptures out of willow with over 150 students in the Senior School. On the first day the sculptures were slowly built up over a metal frame with the Lower School students. It was amazing to see the forms starting to take shape. By the second day the older students were able to refine and add details to the work with the help of Sara. The cyclist began on the bicycle frame and slowly we were able to see the other sculptures taking shape with a real violin added to the musician, a book to the reader, a cricket bat and a croquet mallet to the other sculptures. Now that the work is finished they will be dried out and then treated with a preservative. Their final home will be around the grounds of the Senior School.



The Art Department also led workshops in the Year 8 lessons with 'post it' notes, creating large pieces of work that will go on display in the ICT Department. Year 7 took part in transfer printing workshops and Year 9 created Giacometti wire sculptures.

It was a really fun packed and creative week. We felt very proud of how well our students worked with the visiting artist.

Mrs L Morton

SENIOR SCHOOL – ARTISTS OF THE TERM (SPRING 2014)



YEAR 7

Winner Dilan Jayasena 7MW

Runner Up John Yang 7PH



YEAR 8

Winner Luke Hadley 8MA

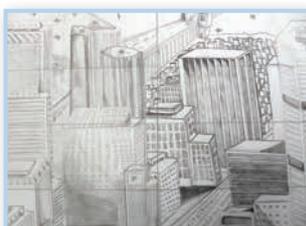
Runner Up Toby Wright 8NT



YEAR 9

Winner Chanhyuk Park 9RI

Runner Up Louie Cook 9LBC



YEAR 10

Winner Jack Fitch 10EMC

Runner Up Bertie Taylor 10JR



YEAR 11

Winners Jay Lee 11JCB and Will Faust 11SG

Runner Up Peter Ku 11JCB



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

The Year 10 Design & Technology GCSE group spent a day visiting Mercedes-Benz World and Brooklands Museum. Highlights included the exploded F1 car, the Sultan of Oman's VC10 and Concorde. Hopefully they'll use their sketches and photographs to act as inspiration for their Year 11 coursework.

Mr S Getty



READING COMPETITION 2014



I was very pleased to be asked again to be the adjudicator for the Reading Competition, which took place during Arts Week.



I was most impressed by the diversity of the choice of pieces and the audience was treated to a feast of the spoken word.



The communication of the written word by effective speaking is of great importance in many situations. The audience needs to be involved immediately in the story or poem. Several of the competitors had excellent expression and read in a lively manner. We were entertained by pieces ranging from Roald Dahl's poems "The Crocodile" and "Dear Friends We Surely All Agree" and Lewis Carroll's "Jabberwocky" to Sir Patrick Spens' "A Scots Legend", dramatically read for us with a strong Scottish accent by

Adam Thornton .

Paul Heffernan's interpretation of "Gift for the Darkness" from "Lord Of The Flies" was compelling and the performance was sustained throughout . The extract from "Shada" by Douglas Adams was brought alive by Simeon Carter, the audience was immediately involved in the action through excellent vocal technique and communication.

Well done to all the participants, and do continue to develop the joy of reading aloud!

Mrs E Hannah

DRAMA





MUSIC

The main focus of 'Arts Week' for the Music Department, this year, was to showcase and reinforce the growing popularity of vocal music in the School. Leading up to this annual event, every lower school music lesson consisted of some element of singing, while the number of pupils involved in a choral ensemble or performing as a vocal soloist steadily increased. But it was our mission to engage and inspire those remaining pupils who had escaped our radar, and prove that singing and music making in general, *could* be 'cool'!

Mr A Assen

'THIS IS AFRICA' - EVENING CONCERT

The highlight of the week was our concert, 'This is Africa', which displayed the musical talents of students from the Junior School right up to the Upper Sixth and the Castle Chorus. Featuring Mauritian Sega band, *Omaz*, songs such as *Waka Waka* (Year 9) and *All Night Long* (Year 8) really came alive, and this was reflected in the energetic and impressive performances given by these two year groups in particular. Sean Farley and the Concert Band had the audience on their feet with their rendition of Paul Simon's *Call Me A*, while members of The Ravens moved us with their poignant arrangement of Peter Gabriel's *Biko*. Also deserving of particular recognition are the members of the Senior Boys Choir, who performed a challenging six-part a cappella arrangement of Toto's *Africa* from memory. Other notable performances included the Guitar Ensemble's version of *Wimba Way*, the collaboration of the Chamber Orchestra and the Year 7 choir with Jenkins' *Adiemus* and the range of traditional African songs displayed in *Zimbe* by various year groups. Despite the performers overflowing into every nook and cranny of St. Mary's Church, the evening ended perfectly with the powerful culmination of all the ensembles singing *Something Inside So Strong*.

WORKSHOPS

In preparation for this concert, the Senior Boys Choir had the privilege of working with the award-winning male a cappella group 'All The King's Men'. Their stunning close harmonies, complete with jaw-dropping dance moves, inspired our boys to inject some energy and fun into their performance. Not only did they win over the Choir, but they also gained a new fan base in the packed audience of pupils and staff who were drawn into the Castle Hall for the lunchtime concert.

The vocal percussion (or beat-boxing) workshop that followed, led by professional teacher Jack Blume, attracted a crowd of pupils from all year groups, eager to learn the skills to impress. Jack's incredible performance earned him huge respect from the pupils who were delighted by his 'dubstep' impression and the various other extraordinary sounds that came from his mouth!



LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

Rather more contrasting in nature, the Scholar's Concert demonstrated various solo performances from our most talented musicians during a lunch time in the Castle Hall. Organised in order to raise the profile of music scholars in the School, the pupils were offered a more formal platform in front of staff, students and parents on which to perform. Notable performances came from our AS Level musicians Kieran Blyth (electric guitar) and Khaya Mtunzi (piano), as well as from pupils further down the School including Edward Smith (trumpet) and Jamie Wilkinson (violin).



Our busy week came to a close with the 'Big Jam' – an open mic session held at lunch time in the Castle Hall, open to bands or soloists who wanted to perform in an informal setting in front of their friends. Featuring mainly the Lower Sixth, this was a hugely successful event, allowing the pupils to try out new material or have a go at singing with their friends. Perhaps next time we might be able to attract some of the lower years to join in too!

A huge thank you and congratulations must go to all the pupils involved in this busy week. Our mission to raise the standard and increase the numbers of singers in the School following these events has proved successful so far, with even more students involved in our choirs or performing in bands. Well done everyone!

Miss V Holden

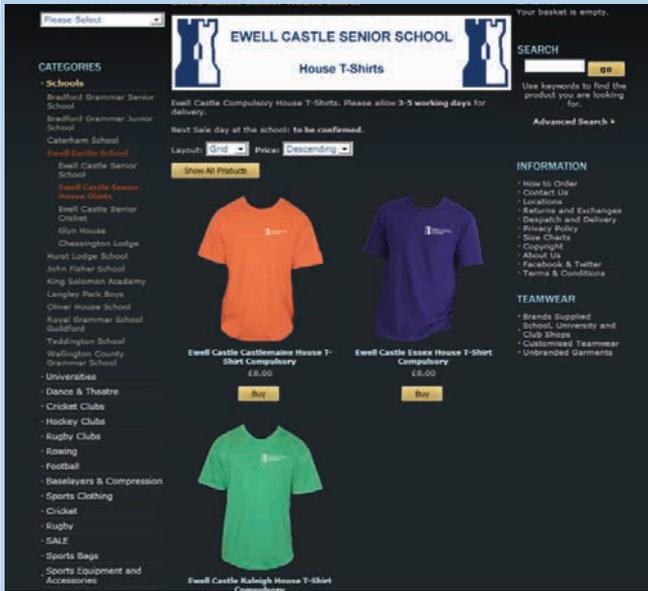
TWITTER

We launched our School Twitter feed this term and already have over 200 followers. To get the latest School news and updates on events, trips and notices follow us <https://twitter.com/EwellCastleUK>.



SENIOR SCHOOL HOUSE T-SHIRTS ARE COMPULSORY

From January 2014, Ewell Castle School House T-shirts are compulsory for all Senior School pupils. Place your order online with Tacklebag as soon as possible.



PARENT PORTAL

Don't forget to read your weekly E-Bulletin emailed on Thursdays and log onto Parent Portal to access and download all letters and forms.

PRINCIPAL'S BREAKFAST

We held two 'Breakfast with the Principal' events this Spring term, which were well attended by parents. The informal sessions offered parents the chance to talk to our new Principal, Mr Harris, and other members of School staff, to catch up with each other over coffee and pastries as well as to make use of our Parent Portal and Twitter Help Desk. The second event also included a very successful pre-owned uniform sale. We hope you'll join us at one of our future events with Mr Harris.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH

The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award for Year 10 has got off to a great start. Sixty three pupils are signed up - the highest ever. On Sunday 16th March we did a practise walk in the hills above Reigate. The pupils all walked some 9 1/2 miles and practised their map reading. The weather was fantastic. We are now busy preparing for the two overnight expeditions next term.

Mr J C Blencowe

