

December 2011 / Issue 13

## Working in partnership with the wider community

Earlier this week I had the pleasure of welcoming Andrew Mayer and Rob Bonassisa from the BMW group in Oxford to Gosford Hill. We toured the school and discussed ways in which BMW and our school could work together.

We already have good links with BMW through their 'Inside Manufacturing' project. Many students have benefited from visiting the vast plant in Oxford. On my visit earlier this year I saw a very modern manufacturing base with state of the art technology.

Gosford Hill is one of only five secondary schools in Oxfordshire to be in partnership with BMW and I hope to share with you new projects involving our students in 2012.



**Steve Bizley**  
Headteacher

### Can you help please?

My name is Sam Soroya, I'm currently a first year physiotherapy student at Nottingham University. Before this I was a student at Gosford Hill School from Year 7-13. In July 2012 I will be climbing Kilimanjaro for a charity called Childreach to supply support and aid to children in third world countries. I am in the process of raising money for this event and would be grateful for any donations anyone would be willing to give. The link for donations is:-  
<https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/samsoroya1>  
Many thanks



### Congratulations!

Congratulations to Matthew Walker (Year 7) who has been named as English Student of the Month for November, earning valuable house points for Evenlode.

Matthew has worked very hard in English recently and produced some excellent work. He chose his book prize and this week was presented with a copy of Edward Bloor's football thriller 'Tangerine'. Well done Matthew and keep up the good work!

**Ben Whittaker – English Faculty**



## National Center Parcs Badminton Championships Round One School Games Level 2 (Inter School Competition)

Harry Whitehead, Sam Butler, Scott Willoughby, Aaron Cripps and Ieuan Llewellyn took part in the above competition held at Blessed George Napier School on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December. They won two of their three group matches and narrowly lost to Banbury in the play off for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place. All boys played well and were a credit to the school.



**Pam Selby – School Sports Co-ordinator**

### SPORTS WEEK UPDATE

It has been a fantastic week so far with whole year group, house competitions - even the cold weather has not dampened the students' spirits! The competitions have been competitive yet fair, and have been to an excellent standard. The students have embraced the spirit of the games.

By the end of the week the boys in each group will have completed a tournament in Rugby, a cross country run and a Shuttle Relay taking place in the Sports Hall. The girls in each year group will have completed a tournament in Hockey, a cross country run and the Shuttle Relay. There are 2 teams in each House for each year group and the scores for each event will be added together to reach a total score. We have some scores already available:

#### **YEAR 8 HOCKEY INTER HOUSE RESULTS: (The positions of both teams were added together)**

Cherwell 1<sup>st</sup>; Windrush 2<sup>nd</sup>; Evenlode 3<sup>rd</sup>; Thames 4<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations to everyone who took part and particularly to Abbey Butler who scored the goal of the tournament.

#### **YEAR 7 INTER HOUSE HOCKEY RESULTS:**

Cherwell 1<sup>st</sup>; Evenlode 2<sup>nd</sup>; Windrush 3<sup>rd</sup>; Thames 4<sup>th</sup>

Players of the tournament Jade O'Dowda, Hannah Garcia

#### **YEAR 9 HOCKEY:**

Cherwell 1<sup>st</sup>; Evenlode 2<sup>nd</sup>; Windrush 3<sup>rd</sup>; Thames 4<sup>th</sup>

Player of the tournament Rebecca Hallam

#### **YEAR 8 GIRLS SHUTTLE RELAY RESULTS**

Cherwell 1<sup>st</sup>; Thames 2<sup>nd</sup>; Evenlode and Windrush joint 3<sup>rd</sup>. Everyone who took part worked really hard to produce some very close races.

Well done to all who has taken part so far - a full report with all of the results plus photographs will be in next week's newsletter.

**Vicki Rose**

**The PE department**



### **Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Harry Ackland who has been selected for the County Squad for Cricket. This is a fantastic achievement, well done Harry!

## Literacy event at Gosford Hill School

On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December we launched an exciting aspect of the Gosford Hill literacy programme involving a reading and writing workshop where three different year groups worked as a team competing against each other.

We welcomed to Gosford Year 6 students from North Kidlington School with their teacher Miss Ling and after the initial shy introductions, everyone was put in a team led by one of the year 12 Language and Literature students - Kelly, Cara, Jordan and Teo. Their first challenge of the day was to analyse the poem "The Hero" by Siegfried Sassoon and answer four reading and comprehension questions. It was fantastic to see how each team chose a different approach and how well they worked together to identify subtle meanings especially when it came to the last, hardest question!

The students had a lunch break getting to know each other better by finding out three facts about everyone in their team while enjoying some delicious sandwiches and cakes kindly prepared by the catering team. The second part of the day was a creative writing workshop where each team had to produce a descriptive piece about their own interpretation of a hero. Again, each group became really competitive aiming to use many linguistic devices to enhance their detailed descriptions. They then read out they crafted paragraphs and were awarded certificates.

Here are some of the student comments:

"I enjoyed working in a group as we got on well together and helped each other" - Year 7 student

"I have learnt to share my thoughts with people even if I don't think they're good. I will use this in school and even when I'm older" - Year 6 student

"I have learnt how to use the rule of 3 and will try to use it in most of my writing back at school" - Year 6 student

"I enjoyed leading a group of people you don't know and listening to everyone's individual thoughts" - Year 12 student

It was an amazing opportunity to see students working and being joined by their love and passion for English. Both myself and Miss Ling have been so impressed by the quality of their work and we are looking forward to part two in May 2012. Well done everyone!

**Miss C. Marin - Assistant Team Leader for English and Languages**

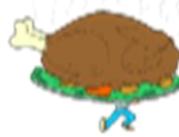


**Christmas Lunch**  
**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December**

Students are invited to the GHS Christmas lunch on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> December.

There will be a turkey or quorn roast with all the trimmings served, followed by Christmas pudding, trifle and ice cream, cost £2.00. Students will pay in advance and receive a lottery ticket. The 'waiting on' will be undertaken by some special guests.

There will be a normal café service at break time and baguettes along with the Christmas lunch will be available at lunchtime. Students bringing packed lunches will be located in the main hall as usual.



**Dates for your Diary**

Christmas Carol Service, St Mary's Church, Kidlington – **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 7.00pm**

The school will be closing at **12.30pm on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December.**

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2012 – **Inset Day**

Start of Term 3 **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2012**

**CONTACTING YOUR SCHOOL**

Your views are very important to us, whether they're about your child, school activities or wider community issues. For all contact details telephone School Reception.

**If you have a concern about your child contact:**

- **The subject teacher** - if it concerns learning in a particular subject. Contact Reception to leave a message or alternatively, if you have internet access, you can ask for their email address.
- **The Head of Faculty** - if you wish to discuss any matter in greater detail.
- **Their Form Tutor** - if it is a more general issue about your child's well being.

Staff will endeavour to phone you back as soon as possible. All information is treated in the strictest of confidence. If you want to raise an issue or query about a more general area of school activity or a community matter contact a Parent Governor. (Telephone numbers available from School Reception)

**SCHOOL RECEPTION: Telephone: 01865 374971**

**SCHOOL EMAIL: [office.4060@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.4060@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk)**

**SCHOOL WEBSITE: [www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk)**

**ABSENCE LINE: Telephone: 01865 855378 (please use this number to report absences)**

or

email – [absence.4060@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:absence.4060@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk)

The Parent Support Site has information on supporting your child(ren) in a number of curriculum areas.