

November 2011 / Issue 10

Life Drawing



The students studying AS and A2 Art and some gifted and talented GCSE Art students are at present completing a four week life drawing course after school. The courses are led by Mary Knowland, a local artist who is currently exhibiting her work at Woodstock Museum, and assisted by Miss Drewett. The students are all working exceptionally hard as the concentration required for 2 hours of drawing is demanding. However their hard work is being rewarded as the standard of drawing is impressive and improving each session.



The Sixth form students will be using their drawings as part of their coursework and in their portfolios required for university interviews. The Year 11 students will also be able to include this work as part of their GCSE coursework.

Miss C Drewett – Art Faculty

EXAMINATIONS UPDATE

Timetables – All final timetables for public examinations at Gosford Hill School are now on the website – January, March and June 2012. The Practice Exams for Years 11, 12 and 13 will take place between 5th and 16th December, and full details will be issued to students next week.

Summer 2011 Certificates – unfortunately 2 awarding bodies have advised of distribution problems which is causing this year's unusual delay. We're assured they will be with us within the next 2 weeks and we'll post a notice on the school website just as soon as they're received. Most will be distributed via Registers, the remainder should be collected from Reception.

If you have any questions about examinations, please contact me.



Alison Dunnill - Examinations Officer

Gosford Hill School Community Fair – Update

Now that the dust has settled and the money raised has been counted, I am delighted to announce that the Community Fair raised £130.12 which will go towards our Children In Need appeal. Thanks to everyone who supported us on the day either by helping out, or providing us with entries or donations.

**Chris Hall
Assistant Headteacher**

**Level 2 School Games
Year 5/6 Partnership Tag Rugby Festival 2011**

Gosford leaders were invited to officiate in the Partnership Tag Final held at Stratfield Brake on Thursday 10th November. Edward Feild School and North Kidlington School were representing Kidlington and they faced the winners and runners up from the Bicester and Banbury festivals.

The leaders ran the festival as time keepers, team leaders, referees and scorers.

Deddington School won the competition and Edward Feild were runners up.

Both schools will go through to the Chairman's Cup in 2012.

**Mrs P Selby
School Sports Co-ordinator**



Year 7 Rugby Tournament

The Year 7 Rugby team played in a round robin tournament at Gosford All Blacks RFC on Monday 14th November and won both their matches against Bartholomew School and Marlborough.

They also received a coaching session from Gary Morris - Oxfordshire Development Officer.

Mr P Catling – P E Faculty

Team

Ben Druce
Harneek Singh
Joe McKenna-Jones
Alex Carvell-Turner
Jeremy Agha
Jeremy Mbararia
Ed Hutson

Matty Hughes-Dahill
Matty Comley
Ricardo Dines
Tom Keppie
James Dixon
Reece Clack
Konrad Krzych



Safe Drive, Stay Alive

On Wednesday November 16th all Year 13 students attended the annual hard-hitting road safety campaign aimed at young drivers and passengers called 'Safe drive, Stay alive'. This initiative run by Thames Valley Police in association with the other emergency services is designed to inform young people of the reality of a Road Traffic Collision. It aims to reinforce the dangers of driving and gives students the opportunity to examine their own beliefs, attitudes and behaviour with regard to their responsibility as a driver or passenger.

This is the sixth year the graphic show has been staged in the County and it always leaves a lasting impression with audiences. While many find it 'haunting' it is undoubtedly compulsive viewing and has become an established part of Gosford Hill School's programme.

Safe Drive Stay Alive is a theatre project which encourages young people to take care on the road and hammers home how tragic road accidents can wreck lives.

Students experience a chilling ride as a re-enactment of a crash involving a group of young people is shown on film. The film is interspersed with talks from people affected by such incidents - emergency services, victims and the bereaved – who 'step out' of the film to speak openly about their feelings, experiences and life afterwards.

The 'Safe Drive' initiative aims to reduce the number of road deaths and accidents and increase this age group's awareness of the dangers that exist on our roads. It succeeds admirably in this aim.

Some comments from Year 13 students after the presentation:

'Having the personal experiences sends a powerful message because you can see and almost feel their pain'

'Sends awareness of the dangers of driving. Seeing someone personally telling their story was eye opening and you could see the amount of grief suffered'

'Emotional – very useful before I begin to drive'

'Heart touching'

'Very moving – makes you think!'

'Very moving and really makes you think about your actions'

'Definitely worthwhile! – I found Shelley and her mum's appearance the most hard hitting'

'I thought it was a solid presentation and will definitely make teenage drivers think twice about speeding'

'Made me aware of the implications it can have on your friends, family and yourself if you do not drive safely'

Mr P Catling – Sixth Form



'Oliver'



As you can see, 'Oliver' rehearsals are well under way and going extremely well. The cast are working hard to learn their lines and pick up the difficult choreography that Mrs. Whitford has created. Make sure you keep the first week of February free to come and support the school in this wonderful extravaganza.

Mrs H Whitford – Team Leader, Drama

Parent Governor Election

The ballot count was held in school on Thursday 17 November 2011. Ms. Rachel Foord, Dr. David Hopkin and Mr. Paul Whitford were elected to serve as Parent Governors of Gosford Hill School for a four year term.

Many thanks to all those parents/carers who returned their voting papers. The response was very encouraging with a higher percentage of ballot papers returned than in previous years.

Doreen Rose - Chair of Governors