

March 2012 / Issue 22

## Ofsted Judgement Ofsted Judgement Ofsted Judgement

**'Good' in every category!**

I am pleased to share the official judgements from Ofsted after their recent inspection visit to Gosford Hill School. Within the new, more rigorous and stricter framework, our school was judged as follows:

|                                |      |
|--------------------------------|------|
| Overall Effectiveness          | Good |
| Achievement of pupils          | Good |
| Quality of teaching            | Good |
| Behaviour and safety of pupils | Good |
| Leadership and Management      | Good |



### What Ofsted said:

- Gosford Hill is a good school
- Achievement is good
- Students' rate of progress is rapidly improving
- The picture in the Sixth form is an increasingly positive one
- Good behaviour in lessons and around the school is a strong feature of the school
- Student and teacher relationships are strong
- No inadequate teaching
- The majority of teaching is good and better
- Good behaviour in lessons enables teachers to deliver high quality lessons
- Safeguarding of students is robust and effective
- The curriculum is effective in meeting the needs of all students
- Many students participate in the wide range of after school activities

### What next?

Ofsted have set us the next challenge: to be an outstanding school. We look forward to meeting this and will work tirelessly with parents, local community groups and students to ensure we reach this target by the next inspection. If we feel we are outstanding before then we will invite Ofsted in early.

Thank you to all the parents who contacted the inspection team to say how pleased you are about our school.

Well done to everyone for such a well-deserved outcome.

**Dr S Bizley - Headteacher**



### Visit from David Rodigan

It was a pleasure to welcome back ex-student David Rodigan MBE to Gosford Hill earlier this week. David talked about his music, TV and theatre career and chatted to groups of students. He was delighted to receive the book of the history of the school (written by ex Deputy Terry Tossell).

Look out for a future article in the Oxford Mail about David's visit to his old school and how Gosford Hill inspired him to success.

**Dr S Bizley - Headteacher**



### The top ten things that probability says about the real world

Year 12 students studying AS level Maths had the opportunity to attend a lecture at the University of Oxford Natural History Museum on 3 February. The fifteen students listened to David Aldous from the University of Berkeley in California who spoke about the links between probability and the stock market, coding, and global economic risk. The lecture allowed students to compare their studies in school and wider global issues.

**Mrs R Sandland – Team Leader, Maths Faculty**



### Kidlington Year 4, 5 and 6 Gifted and Talented Swimming Gala

On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February the roof of our swimming pool was nearly lifted by the cheers for the competitors involved in the gala races. All five Partnership schools were represented in the festival and the children were asked to think about the values of the Olympic Games focusing on friendship, respect and excellence.

The competition was organised into two heats. Edward Feild and West Kidlington challenged each other with West Kidlington winning by 8 points. North Kidlington, Dr South's and St Thomas More swam against each other in the second heat. St Thomas More were clear winners followed by Dr Souths and then North Kidlington.

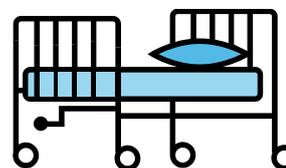
Feed back from primary staff showed that once again our Leaders from Gosford Hill did an excellent job in leading the afternoon.

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

#### Request from the Drama Department

The Drama Department would like to borrow a hospital bed for a Year 11 final performance. If anyone knows how we could obtain one by March 15th please could they contact me at the school.

**Miss E Woodrow – Creative Arts Faculty Leader**





**Friends of Gosford Hill School**

present the School's annual

**Quiz Night**

With prizes for the winning team

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2012**

**Gosford Hill School – Main Hall – 7pm**



***Ploughman's Supper included – Bar available***

Desserts for sale by the World Challenge Team

£30 per team (maximum of six)

£18 for a student's only team

*Smaller teams are welcome to join together on the night*

***Advanced booking essential***

For team registration drop into School Reception

or call 01865 374971

**Year 7 Marlow Camp 2012**

You should by now have received a letter inviting your child to attend Marlow Camp from 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> July 2012. The Longridge Outdoor Activity Centre provides a range of exciting water sports and land based activities for young people of all abilities. The trip has been running successfully for over seven years and students all benefit immensely from the opportunity to develop water skills, self discipline, confidence and respect.

We are asking for a voluntary contribution of £70 per student to cover the cost of transport, food and activities. If insufficient contributions are received the trip may have to be cancelled. Cheques and cash are acceptable.

This can be paid in two instalments:

|         |     |                                   |
|---------|-----|-----------------------------------|
| Deposit | £35 | <b>26<sup>th</sup> March 2012</b> |
| Balance | £35 | <b>1<sup>st</sup> June 2012</b>   |



Cheques should be made payable to: **Oxfordshire County Council** ensuring the student's name is on the reverse of the cheque.

Should you have any specific questions that are not answered in the letter then please contact either one of us via email or telephone.

We are very much looking forward to the camp and are hoping for 100% attendance!

**Miss R Jones – SENCo and Mr T Manthorpe – Thames House Leader**



Latest News from Simply Schoolwear - February 2012

## NEW ORDERING SYSTEM

Dear Customer, I am very pleased to announce that we have just launched a new stock management system and upgraded our ordering service.

There are a number of improvements, shown here, and there is also *action required by you (see below)*:

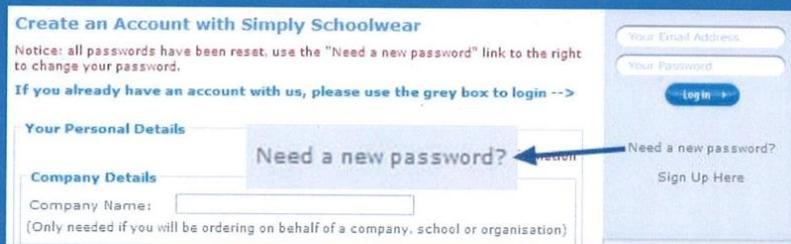
**Photos of uniform in correct school colours**  
*plus easier school and product navigation*

**Accurate lead times for every product**  
*plus regular order status updates*

### IMPORTANT - ACTION REQUIRED

As with every new system, security is key, so before placing an order you will need to *reset your password*:

- Simply click on 'need a new password' in the grey box on our website (shown below) and follow the instructions
- We'll email you a new password which you can then use to log on
- [You can click here to go to the 'new password' set-up](#)



You can also place your order by phone:  
just give us a call on free phone **0800 404 6644**  
[www.simplyschoolwear.co.uk](http://www.simplyschoolwear.co.uk)

### 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.