

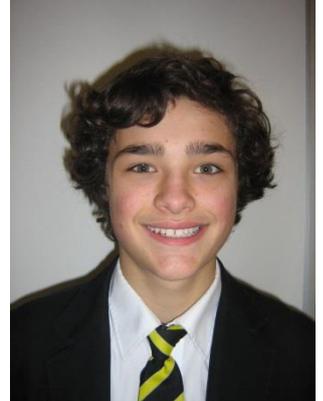
December 2013 / Issue 13

## KARATE SUPERSTAR!

Gosford Hill has its very own karate superstar in the form of Evenlode's Rico Dines. Training six times a week, he has taken part in numerous competitions, both national and worldwide.

Nationally, Rico competes in Loughborough, and in the past few years has returned with both gold and silver medals, something he deserves to feel very proud of.

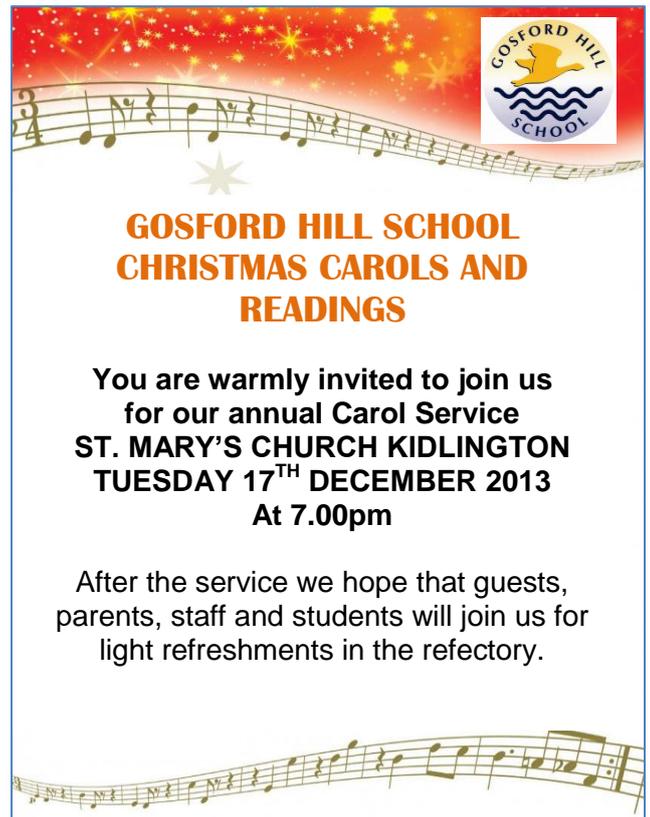
Last month, he took part in the first IKU World Cadet & Junior Championships in Venice, Italy. Competitors from England, Italy, Brazil, Ireland and Wales took part. Rico trained specially for the event, both at home in the UK and in Italy in preparation for the event. Unfortunately, he missed out on progressing into the second round by just one point, but the most important thing is that he actually made it to the world championships and is able enough to compete at that level!



Whilst talking to him about his sport, Rico said that karate is something he just really enjoys; not only did he tell me that he sees the sport as a challenge, and that he gets a 'kick' of adrenaline when he steps out onto the mat ready for a fight, but that he loves the build-up before a match, and generally just loves taking part. I think it's important that every young person has something creative or active that they enjoy taking part in – it's a great outlet of energy and a positive thing to look forward to. There are so many local opportunities – all you have to do is ask!

Finally, well done Rico, and congratulations on your success so far!

**Lucy Truman – Year 12 Senior Prefect, Evenlode House**





**GOSFORD HILL SCHOOL  
CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND  
READINGS**

**You are warmly invited to join us  
for our annual Carol Service  
ST. MARY'S CHURCH KIDLINGTON  
TUESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2013  
At 7.00pm**

After the service we hope that guests,  
parents, staff and students will join us for  
light refreshments in the refectory.

### Invitation from Brookes University to Parents of Year 11 Students

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 6.00-7.00pm Parent Lecture.  
Guest Speaker Tim Campbell MBE, winner of the first  
series of the Apprentice.

Further Information Gosford Hill School website.  
Please confirm your attendance to  
[parentlecture@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:parentlecture@brookes.ac.uk) stating the school name  
and number of attendees.

**Mrs E Hounsell - 14-19 Student Pathway Manager**

## Antarctic Adventures

On Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November, Matt Dickinson visited Gosford Hill School for the second time. He is an award winning author, adventurer and film-maker. Matt gave a talk about his trip to Antarctica to a group of Year 9, 10 and 11 'Most Able' students. During the talk he told us about the reasons behind his trip, which included a connection to his father who had spent two years in Antarctica during his National Service with The Royal Navy forty years previously. Matt spoke about how he and eight others made the hazardous voyage through treacherous conditions on a small boat. He also told of an attempt to climb the highest peak on Antarctica, one which his father had not succeeded, but after a couple of tricky ascents, Matt and his team finally accomplished it. The presentation carried an underlying message of determination, motivation and perseverance.

Matt is currently working on writing a book on his iphone with only 68 word chapters! We took a mini master class in writing a 68 word chapter about victims. Our finished copies will be entered into a competition to win itunes vouchers and signed copies of Matt's books. It was a great morning, enjoyed by the 'Most Able' students.

**Rhiannon Tomes 9WJCX & Jeremy Mbararia 9WJCX**



## Christmas Lunch Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December

Students are invited to the GHS Christmas lunch on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December. There will be winter tomato soup and a crusty roll followed by roast Norfolk turkey or ratatouille & mozzarella cheese parcels with vegetables and all the trimmings. This will be followed by Christmas tree ice creams or Christmas pudding with cream, cost £3.00.



Students will pay in advance and receive a lottery ticket. The 'waiting on' will be organised by some very special guests. There will be a normal café service at break time, including baguettes. Only the Christmas lunch will be available at lunchtime. Students not wishing to have a Christmas lunch should bring a packed lunch or buy extra food at break time. Students bringing packed lunches will be seated in the main hall as usual.

## C. Hall - Assistant Headteacher

### Follow us on Twitter!



Remember that you can now follow the school on Twitter! I have a Gosford Hill Headteacher Twitter account. I will use this to give brief updates and snippets of useful information about the school. It's also a great way for families to 'keep in the know' about school activities! (see example for details).

Tweets will also appear on our website but I will be unable to reply to any individual tweets. The tweets replace my Headteacher blog. The twitter account will be reviewed, and if successful, will become a permanent part of our communication system.

Kind regards and get following!

## Dr S Bizley - Headteacher

### 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 general
- **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.**