



CATERHAM SCHOOL

February 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians

A WINTERS' TALE AN INTERESTING BUT SUCCESSFUL HALF TERM

Although the first half of term has only been six weeks in length a lot has been achieved in this time despite the fact that, for the first four weeks, both internal and external examinations have been a priority for many boarders. The following are the key highlights of the term.

Oxbridge successes – seven out of the ten pupils who successfully achieved places at Oxford or Cambridge for the next academic year were boarders. Our congratulations to Samuel Choi, Kate Kinoshita, Jan Nieheus, Tonya Semyachkova, Jieni Shen, Bo Shi, Nydia Zhong.

British Physics Olympiad 2009 – nine out of the ten Upper Sixth pupils who gained awards in the Physics Olympiad were boarders. Particular congratulations go to Samuel Choi, who was awarded a Gold Medal, and to Nydia Zhong, who was awarded a Silver Medal.

Surrey Maths Challenge Competition – over forty schools recently took part in this competition, which was won by Caterham School. Four of the five members of the winning team were Lower Sixth boarders. Congratulations go to Jacqueline Hu, Angeline Lou, Yong Wu, Dan Zhexemaliyev.

Trips – there have been three successful boarding trips. In early January we went to the outdoor ice skating rink at the Natural History Museum in London. In February the annual popular Paintballing trip took place. Both of these trips were thoroughly enjoyed by all pupils who went on them. On the evening of Sunday 1 February the First and Second Year boarders went on a trip to the cinema in Purley and that was the start of another story **SNOW !**

Snowed up! As a result of the heavy snowfall at the start of February the School was closed for two days. We arranged a programme of different activities for the boarders during this time, including an arctic expedition to View Point. Several of our Sixth Form boarders helped out in the local community by helping to clear driveways of snow. We even had an unexpected but welcome guest for two nights, who became stranded after returning her children to School. Our community work and stranded parent hit the headlines in the local paper! I would like to thank all of the boarding staff and pupils for their help and support during these two days. The attached newsletter gives you a taste of what went on.

I hope that you will have a good Half Term break.

Yours sincerely

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Senior Teacher and Head of Boarding

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