



▲ by Beth Prosser (GCSE Mask)



CATERHAM SCHOOL

# newsletter

July 2010

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## Another Award at the Leatherhead Drama Festival



Rebecca Ward, Hannah Spence, Anjali Bhat, Emma O'Brien, Imogen Ware with Sir Michael Caine

Drama students performed at the **2010 Leatherhead Drama Festival** in May and were delighted to collect the **Richard Houghton Award for Outstanding Contribution**.

The award, which was for the opening sequence; the visual effect, movement and make-up, was presented to the Sixth Form students by Sir Michael Caine CBE at the Awards night on Saturday 15 May.

The play that they performed was "Silent Scream" which was written and devised by the students for their A-Level Drama and Theatre Studies coursework. They were naturally delighted that their work was also nominated for the "New Writing" Award.

The students who performed were Rebecca Ward, Hannah Spence, Anjali Bhat, Emma O'Brien and Imogen Ware.

The Leatherhead Drama Festival is the largest of its kind in the UK and takes place at Leatherhead Theatre over two weeks with three different groups performing each night.

Head of Drama at Caterham, Lisa McMullin said, "I am absolutely delighted with the students' achievement. This is the second year running that this group of students has returned from the festival with an award and all credit goes to them for their commitment and creativity in producing a piece of innovative theatre."

# Headmaster's Report



*Dear Parents,*

Whenever I sit down to pen a few thoughts as introduction to a newsletter, I am always rather overwhelmed by just how much has been achieved in only a single term at Caterham School. This latest term is no exception and I'd like to pay tribute to the students and staff who have, yet again, put in so much time and commitment to make this the very special school that it is. This special atmosphere was most evident during the final 'official' week that the Upper Sixth were with us before they embarked on their period of study leave. It was a truly uplifting week which culminated in a memorable final assembly and a very moving leavers' service.

This newsletter will give you a flavour of the other highlights of the term – and will show you the cultural, sporting and artistic talents of so many of our students. To think that in just the last couple of months, Caterham students have excelled on the sports field (even defeating the staff in the annual leavers' badminton match!), have staged a highly professional CCF Annual General Inspection, have wowed audiences yet again at the Leatherhead Drama Festival, have performed wonderfully at a number of music concerts, have hosted some high profile visiting speakers, have trained for expeditions to Tanzania and the Ukraine – all whilst preparing for important exams and maintaining the highest academic standards.

Before we head off on our summer break I would also like to thank the parent body for its valuable support. The PA has worked tirelessly again this year and so many of you have contributed to school life by assisting with or attending careers conventions, art classes, internet safety talks, Non Verbal Intelligence courses – not to mention cheering from the sidelines and applauding in the Humphrey's Hall. Thank you for all that you do for Caterham and enjoy your summer holidays.

*Julian Thomas*

## The UK Junior Maths Challenge took place in April...

...so it was heads down for over 100 students from the First and Second Years.

The results gave us a good haul of Gold, Silver and Bronze certificates as usual but the highlight of this year's competition was that the two best performers in the School were First Year pupils Tilly Ip and Lucie Prego who outperformed nearly 50 Second Year pupils.

### **GOLD CERTIFICATE WINNERS:**

**First Year:** Lucie Prego, Tilly Ip (joint 'best in school'), Anthony Baston, Tobi Ibuoye

**Second Year:** Carys John, Jodie McDonagh, Henry Davies, Joe Young.



Lucie Prego on the left and Tilly Ip on the right



## A Good Start ...

# Tanzania Team run to raise money for Lerang'wa School

On Sunday 16 May, the 2010 Tanzania Team of students and teachers dressed as their favourite superheroes and went to Brighton to join over 1500 runners in the annual charitable event, the Heroes Run.

As usual the visit to Lerang'wa Primary School, Tanzania will take place in summer as part of the ongoing charitable project. The purpose of the run was to raise money for Lerang'wa School and to test their fitness for the challenging climb of Mount Meru, which is also part of their itinerary.

Every member of the team completed the run with Tom Ganley and Lisa Mill winning the men's and women's 5km events.

The funds raised for Lerang'wa Primary in previous years have provided money for books, desks, accommodation for teachers, solar panel electricity and food. The current building project is the new kitchen to be followed by a dining area. The Caterham School teachers and students will undertake practical tasks around the school, teach some English, play

“ Funds raised for Lerang'wa Primary in previous years have provided money for books, desks, accommodation for teachers, solar panel electricity and food. ”

sport with the pupils and learn about the Maasai culture. The teaching staff will also assist with training the teachers and examine future possibilities for the project. So far the team have raised over £6,500 this year.

Headmaster Julian Thomas, who is one of the team going to Lerang'wa School this year and who took part in the 10K run, said “I was so proud to see the Caterham Superheroes in action. I am always impressed by the time, effort and energy that our students will freely commit to charitable causes.”

# Three Good Schools Guide Awards for Teaching Excellence...

The **Good Schools Guide** has just announced its awards for 2010 which are based on A-Level and AS Level results in 2009.

This year the A level awards are:

- Best results at A level achieved by Boys taking Human Biology at an English Independent School
- Best result at AS level achieved by Boys taking Physics at an English Independent School
- Best result at AS level achieved by Girls taking Physics at an English School

The awards were begun in 2004 and Caterham has consistently won Good Schools Guide awards over the years including winning an award for Biology every single year.

The aim of the awards is to highlight excellent teaching in individual subjects. The awards are based on a complex process of review and, in particular, on the basis of the popularity of each subject relative to similar schools and of the success that pupils achieve relative to the other examinations that they take.

Headmaster Julian Thomas remarked: "Over the years we have won Good Schools Guide awards for a variety of subjects but this is the sixth consecutive year that the school has received an award for Biology and we have won awards for Physics in four of the last five years. All our



Matthew Clare, Alayna Kenney (Fourth Year) and Mr Dan Quinton, Head of Science and Head of Biology.

academic staff obtain a great deal of satisfaction from enabling the students to achieve their potential but it is very rewarding that their efforts have been recognised by an independent organisation. Consistently excellent A level results mean that all our students can progress to university, with 84% going to one in the top tier."

## Award Winning Author Mal Peet

Successful author of four books, Mal Peet, visited the School on 18 June to talk to pupils in the First and Second Years about his work and his approach to writing.

His first novel *Keeper* was published in 2003 and won the Branford Boase Award. This was followed by *Tamar* in 2005 which won the prestigious Carnegie Medal. The third novel, *The Penalty*, was short listed for the Booktrust Teenage Prize and the fourth novel *Exposure*, which was published in 2009, won The Guardian Children's Fiction Prize.

Mal Peet resists being labelled as writing for young people as his books can be enjoyed by readers of any age. Although he had been involved in children's writing previously through collaborations with his wife Elspeth

Graham, it was with his first full-length book, *Keeper*, that he made his mark. It has an unlikely combination of themes – football, foreign lands, environmental destruction, ghosts and indigenous myths. It also introduced a main character, Paul Faustino, who would re-appear in his third and fourth books.

His second book had a very different setting as *Tamar* is set partly at the end of the Second World War and partly in contemporary Britain. In a study of the pervasive and dangerous nature of secrets, teenaged Tamar has to piece together clues about her grandfather's role as a Special Operations Executive in Holland.

In *The Penalty* the story returns to the South American location of *Keeper*, and sets a modern-day story of crime and corruption against an historical narrative of slavery and occult religion. His latest novel, *Exposure*, is a modern re-telling of Othello.

A graduate of Warwick University, Mal Peet said: "I write to entertain and I have a rather passionate belief in our need to be connected to – and to learn from – history. My novels are about people whose lives are altered or shaped by events that took place in the distant past; events of which they are, at the outset, unaware. I try to write stories that will attract younger readers and make them feel part of a wider readership. If I were to try to describe the way in which I write, the only word I would use without qualification is slowly."

# A wonderful evening celebrating Musical Theatre...

On 4 May, as a precursor to Music Week, students took an audience of staff, parents and friends on a whistle stop tour of musical theatre from the 1910's to the present day.

Whilst many of the most popular musicals like Chicago, Cats, Les Miserables and Phantom were well represented, so were less well known ones such as Finian's Rainbow, Pippin and Moby Dick.

Pupils from every age group participated, accompanied by the house band. For some it marked their first public performance whilst for some Sixth Form students it will be their last performance before leaving for university.

As one parent commented: "This was a fascinating serenade through the history of American and British musicals. All the pupils seemed inspired."

Helena Buckles - Cell Block Tango



Left to right: Daisy Hopkins, Hannah Spence, Sam Moore, Emma O'Brien, Helena Buckles and Jess Davidson



Left to right: Hannah Spence, Sam Moore, Emma O'Brien and Helena Buckles



Mrs Helena Richards and Mr Stuart Terrell sing 'Tonight'



Louise Gardner sings 'Wouldn't it be Lovely'



Emma O'Brien sings Adelaide's Lament

# Author and Broadcaster Simon Singh MBE visits...

On 10 May, Simon Singh MBE visited the School to deliver a lecture on Science in the Media.

His presentation explored the difficulty the media can experience in seeking to report scientific studies and gave an insight into how the media can, through omission or exaggeration, misrepresent these scientific achievements.

Simon Singh is a scientist and mathematician who is a leading author, documentary filmmaker and journalist. He attended Imperial College London, where he studied Physics and then he completed a PhD in Particle Physics at Emmanuel College, Cambridge and at CERN, Geneva. He has worked for the BBC on programmes such as Tomorrow's World and Horizon. In 1996, he directed Fermat's Last Theorem, a BAFTA award-winning documentary about the world's most notorious

mathematical problem. He has also presented The Science of Secrecy, a five part series for Channel 4 and written several books, including Fermat's Last Theorem, The Code Book, Big Bang and Trick or Treatment? Alternative Medicine on Trial.

Headmaster Julian Thomas commented: "Simon has established a well-deserved reputation for presenting scientific and mathematical topics in an accessible and entertaining way. He also explained that scientists can sometimes be hesitant about publishing scientific facts for fear of litigation by large organisations and corporations. His lecture was witty and thought provoking. I think the audience will have taken the message that we should be sceptics about claims for scientific achievement until all the facts have been established."



Simon Singh

## The Moncrieff-Jones Society

The Moncrieff-Jones Society is a student-lead science society of pupils which has existed for over 40 years. Every two weeks a member of the society, usually a student in the Sixth Form, presents a topic of their choice which they have researched independently in a great deal of depth. The half hour presentation is followed by half an hour of questioning on the topic by staff and other students.

Ollie Claydon (*Lower Sixth*), Simon Singh, Alex Hinkson (*Upper Sixth*), Sally Ko (*Lower Sixth*), Alex Clark (*Upper Sixth*) showing the latest edition of Quantum Ultimatum, the magazine of the Moncrieff-Jones Society.



# CONGRATULATIONS!



Beth Hutchings (Lower Sixth)

## Gymnastics

**Beth Hutchings** represented Caterham School as part of the South East Region Schools Gymnastic Team at the British Schools Gymnastics Association Championships in Stoke on Trent on 8 May. Beth came 3rd in the U19 tumbling competition despite some very tough opposition.

Tumbling as a discipline is truly spectacular and requires dynamic reactions, spatial awareness, co-ordination, power, strength and courage. The action takes no more than a few seconds but requires years of hard work. The gymnast gains speed and power by running along a 25 metre track and performing a series of somersaults and twists.

## Cricket Success

**Chris Starns** and **Ryan Dale** played for our U14A cricket team on 22 May and managed to out bat the whole of the Ardingly College XI scoring a fantastic 68 and 82 respectively.

**Joe Percival** (Second Year), who hit 144 not out for the U13A XI against King's College School, Wimbledon on May 18. This magnificent total included one over in which he made 34 runs by hitting 5 sixes and a four.

**Ross Powell** has been selected to play for the Surrey U13 cricket team in a match against Suffolk. Ross captains our successful U13 side and also opens the batting.

**Ben Fullard** has been selected for the Surrey U14 cricket squad.



Joe Percival



Ross Powell



Chris Starns and Ryan Dale

## Athletics

**Fifteen pupils were selected to represent South Surrey** in the Surrey Schools Track & Field Championships on June 12 at Kingsmeadow Athletics Centre. This was an Inter District Competition so competition for places was strong.

**Rosie Clarke** – high jump, **Loulou Rowlands** – 1500m, **Max Baart** – javelin, **Mads Kjaersgaard** – 1500m, **Ollie Henke** – high jump, **Callum Thompson** – 200m, **Ben Foreman** – 1500m, **Nathan Brown** – shot putt, **Adam Atkins** – 800m, **Zoe King** – discus, **Emily Lock** – long jump, **Ella Hodgkinson** – hurdles, **Imogen Fitzgerald** – high jump, **Erika Barron** – javelin, **Steph Hibbert** – 100m

Director of Sport, Rob Clarke said: "These athletes have shown tremendous ability in their chosen events. It is a great honour for them to be selected to represent their district."

Callum Thompson, Ollie Henke, Max Baart, Mads Kjaersgaard and Ben Foreman



## National Youth Theatre

**Alex Gordon** in the Upper Sixth was one of over 4000 who recently auditioned for the National Youth Theatre. He has been accepted on a course which takes place this summer.

## A Walking Holiday...

This summer Nancy Dawrant is raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support and the British Heart Foundation by walking the 1150+ miles from John O'Groats to Lands End within 57 days.

Nancy Dawrant said: "This is going to be a massive challenge, both mentally and physically. My aim is to raise at least £5,000 in total for these charities. I would really appreciate any support that can be given by way of small donations to my chosen charities as every pound helps."

It is easy to donate using a JustGiving page:

<http://www.justgiving.com/Nancy-Dawrant> (her Macmillan page)

<http://www.justgiving.com/Nancy-Dawrant-BHF> (her BHF page)

## Pupils selected for the Surrey County Netball Academy

Four pupils have been selected for the 'long squad' at the Surrey County Netball Academy which is for the top 14-18 year old netball players in Surrey:

Tatiana Aspinwall  
Hattie Shaw  
Daisy Hopkins  
Connie Shaw (*one of the youngest selected*)

There were originally over 100 players in the first trials. This was reduced to 55 in the second trial and a 'long squad' of 30 was selected during two trial days. The four pupils will now attend further training sessions in June and will find out in July if they have made the final squad.

The county academy is the first step towards national representation as players in the county academy can be selected for the regional training programme and then for the national training programme.

**PARENTS!** Are you a former pupil of Caterham School or Eothen School?

If the Old Caterhamians' Association do not have your current information, please contact Alina Rennie to make sure that you are kept informed of all the events and news.

Contact either through reception at the school or via email: [alina.rennie@caterhamschool.co.uk](mailto:alina.rennie@caterhamschool.co.uk)

## St John Ambulance



**Camilla Clark** (5R) has been selected as Cadet of the Year by **St. John Ambulance** in Surrey

This prestigious role will require her to participate in a range of ceremonial duties including meeting visiting dignitaries from across the country. Cadets take part in a programme that enables young people to learn important life skills in a fun and safe environment, but with challenges and excitement appropriate to their age. She has also been selected to participate in the national Cadet of the Year competition in March 2011. Well done and good luck.

## Amazon Shopping to Benefit Caterham School

If you wish to buy something from Amazon please use the link on the school web site

[www.caterhamschool.co.uk/links.htm](http://www.caterhamschool.co.uk/links.htm)

The school will receive 5% commission for each purchase you make. This income will be directed to school projects and/or trips. As there is no cost to you, it is a very easy way of raising funds for the School.