



CATERHAM SCHOOL

newsletter

February 2007

New Science Block Open for Learning

The £6.5m building that contains thirteen science labs opened for learning when pupils returned from the Christmas break

This investment reflects the importance Caterham School attaches to science and our vision for the future. We know that this is very much against the national trend but we believe that the sciences are not only important for the future of the country but also they are exciting subjects that pupils enjoy studying. We were one of the first schools to adopt the International GCSE for all sciences as part of our desire to make the subjects challenging. Unlike many schools where teachers can only demonstrate the latest cutting edge equipment, Caterham pupils will have hands on experience of using, for example, the Pasco data logging equipment.

These are big, state of the art labs with plenty of space to produce a better working environment for the pupils and the teachers. Perhaps one of the more unusual aspects is that one lab is dedicated to long term 6th Form projects that will run for years covering generations of pupils. We believe that this will provide



Left to right: Sam Curry, Joe Thompson, Alia Ardron, Tara Masilamani with Dan Quinton who is Head of Science and Head of Biology.

enrichment for Oxbridge students, future engineers and those wishing to study medicine.

It has taken 18 months to build and incorporates all the latest thinking in

“These are big, state of the art labs with plenty of space to produce a better working environment...”

terms of construction and facilities. The labs are purpose built to the specification of the science staff and include a set of the latest equipment for each class. Each department has its own prep room, which means that there is a much faster turnaround of

work and the lab technicians have an excellent environment in which to prepare practical work.

An illustration of the technology used in construction includes light sensitive illumination. When someone enters a lab the room lights come on, but the light sensors determine which fluorescent tubes should illuminate. So the lights near the window may stay off whilst the ones near the wall come on. The skylights in the prep rooms mainly rely on natural, reflected light that avoids the heating process associated with direct sunlight.

The building also houses the new refectory that will accommodate the eight chefs who prepare over 1000 meals a day.

Headmaster's Report

Dear Parents,

We are understandably delighted, as a whole school, with our new Science block and refectory and many parents have also said how much they have enjoyed post match teas in such impressive surroundings. We are also excited by the prospect of the old North Wing (opposite the new block) being knocked down at Easter as we start the process of building a new 6th Form centre for completion in Summer 2008.

This year twelve pupils have been offered places at Oxbridge, which compares favourably with the exceptional year in 2005. I believe that this is indicative of the high number of offers for places in 'Top Tier' universities that are being received by the Upper Sixth. This is a true measure of the ability and hard work of both students and teachers.

Interest in the school continues to be very high with large numbers of excellent candidates for both the 11+ and 13+ entrance examinations. Many of the applicants are coming to us through parental recommendation, which we truly appreciate.

At the end of this term we will attend a service at Southwark Cathedral to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the birth of our founder, John Townsend. We will be joined by the Royal School for Deaf Children Margate as Rev Townsend was a co-founder of that school. There are a limited number of seats available for parents who would like to join us. Please contact my PA, Mrs Jean Carney, if you are interested.

Yours

Rob Davey

Malorie Blackman, Award Winning Author Visits the School

Multi-award winning author, Malorie Blackman, visited Caterham School last term to speak to the 3rd and 4th Years. She spoke about her life as a writer but the main focus was on her new book, 'Check Mate' which is the final part of her award-winning Noughts and Crosses trilogy.

Rob Davey said 'We have been fortunate to be included in Malorie Blackman's publicity tour for the paperback launch of Check Mate, particularly as we understand that she will not be undertaking many tours in the future. We believe that it is quite inspirational for pupils to meet working authors and to improve their understanding of the creative process.'

The Noughts and Crosses trilogy is a tale about love, hate and hope across a race-divide. It tells the story of two friends Sephy and Callum, one a cross and the other a nought. The trilogy is quite shocking at times but it provides an emotional and thrilling read with many twists and turns. Noughts & Crosses was voted one of the nation's 100 favourite books in the BBC Big Read survey.



Malorie Blackman receives a thank you gift from pupils Lily Schuck and Harrison Smith.

Malorie Blackman was born in 1962. She qualified in Computer Science and followed a successful career in computing, before becoming a writer at the age of 28. Her first published book was *Not So Stupid!* (1990), a book of short stories. Since then she has written many books for children of all ages and her popularity has rapidly increased. She has won over 20 awards for her writing including, The Children's Book Award, The Nestle Smarties Book Prize and more recently the Eleanor Farjeon Award. Malorie has also written many scripts for both stage and television.

School recognised as an Investor in People

Caterham School has just been awarded Investor in People status.

The award formally recognises the school's commitment to training and development.

Investors in People is the national standard which sets out a level of good practice for the training and development of people in order to achieve business goals. It is a proven framework for delivering improvement in organisations through staff. The expansion of the standard is a key element of the Government's Skills Strategy and it has been a major success story in schools and

other organisations since its introduction in 1991.

Headmaster Rob Davey said: "Education is a people business. We have long recognised that the effort we devote to supporting staff development is reflected in the quality of education and the good results that pupils achieve. The Investors in People programme enabled us to focus on what we were doing to provide training and development and put it into a formal structure. This structure is based on developing strategies to improve the performance of the school, implementing those strategies and then evaluating the impact."

Girls win School Catapult Competition - Again!

The annual 1st Year Catapult Competition was held last November.

The competition is an extension of History classes and evolved from the study of castle design in the Medieval Period. The catapult was the weapon of choice for armies attacking castles in the Middle Ages and the 1st Year pupils are invited to design a catapult.

The pupils can work alone or in pairs to prepare a design portfolio and then to build a working catapult capable of launching a lump of blue tack as far as possible, powered by elastic or a spring.



Georgia Fitzsimmons & Katie Fenton

Two prizes were available: one for design and the other for distance. This year 20 pupils entered in 11 teams.

Georgia Fitzsimmons & Katie Fenton's very pink 'F Factor' won the competition with a most impressive launch of over 10 meters, just holding off 2nd and 3rd placed David Gardener & Alex Nierman and Ryan Greenhalgh & Alex Blair who both managed over nine and a half metres.

This is the second consecutive year that a female team has won the competition, using a pink catapult, in what has traditionally been a bastion of male dominated success in the past. This year the design portfolio was won by Sam Jarman with an excellent series of designs, drawings and explanations.

Pupils Present 'A View from the Bridge' by Arthur Miller



(Left to right): Alex Kerr as Eddie, Matt Lunn as Marco, Ollie Buchanan as Rodolfo, Rosie May as Catherine and Katie Atkin as Beatrice

On Wednesday 13th December and Thursday 14th December, eight pupils from Caterham School 5th and 6th Forms performed A View from the Bridge, written by Arthur Miller.

The plot revolves around Eddie Carbone who, with his wife Beatrice, houses illegal immigrant cousins from Italy. One of the cousins falls in love with Eddie's niece Catherine, whom Eddie desires. To prevent the marriage of his niece and cousin, Eddie betrays his family and calls the Immigration Department who arrest the illegal immigrants. The play explores the allegiance to community law and irrational human behaviour.

The play was performed in the school's Humphreys Hall which has a capacity for an audience of 450. The building was completed in 2000 at a cost of £1.2m and it provides full facilities for theatrical and musical performances.

Drama is one of the many subjects that we offer at both GCSE and A-Level. However, it is also one of nearly forty extra curricular activities and it attracts a number of pupils who enjoy participating in performances whether it is on stage or behind the scenes. It is all part of our philosophy of seeking to develop the all round ability of each pupil. This is an extremely difficult piece to do well and the cast all did an amazing job.

Girls' Swimming Team remain undefeated

At the end of the Autumn term all our squads swam against Woldingham, in junior, inter and senior categories. Fifty Caterham swimmers took part and we were victorious in all age groups.

The junior girls (comprising our U12's and U13's) won by a massive 20 point margin (47 points to 27). Individual victories went to Laura Parkin-Brown, Georgia Sturm and Alayna Kenney, and we came 1st and 2nd in both relays!

The inters (comprising our U14's and U15's) were also outstanding winning by a 10 point margin. We achieved 1st and 2nd places in all but one individual race: Phoebe French and Rosie Clarke in Backstroke, Tatiana Aspinwall and Sarah Edwards in Breaststroke and Hannah Wright and Loulou Rowlands in Fly. The Caterham relay teams forced Woldingham into 4th position in both the relays!!

The Open age group was very closely fought throughout the gala. 1st places were achieved by Alex Kasza-Martin and Abbey Martin and it was a draw at the end of the individual races, however our U16 A and Open A relay teams came 1st and 2nd in both relays and Caterham triumphed by 2 points.

This fabulous result means that the girls' team were unbeaten in the Autumn term.

Pupils raise £1874 on Mufti Day

Pupils raised a record £1874 in one day last December as they abandoned their school uniforms to wear casual clothes, providing they gave money to a good cause.

Apparently, 'mufti' day dates back to the 1970s, when schools introduced 'casual wear days' as a change from sponsored walks and fetes.

It has been reported that "Mufti Day" was originated by General Mufti, who believed that sagging morale in the British Army was boosted by the policy of allowing the men to wear civilian clothing instead of uniforms on certain days of the year.

The money raised will be donated to Lerangwa School in Tanzania. This is a small, rural school with very limited resources. Caterham School has decided to establish a long-term link with Lerangwa which will involve staff and pupils visiting Tanzania to help with a variety of projects including teaching, sports coaching and building maintenance. The original introduction came through John Grimshaw, an Old Caterhamian, who asked the school to help him and support the initiative.

Whilst the school has a long tradition of raising funds for charities, both local and national, we have tended to look to the short term. We will continue to raise funds for charities such as Marie Curie but this scheme with Lerangwa School is a long-term project to which the whole school will contribute. It is part of our Education for Life philosophy that all pupils should have an understanding of, and compassion for, those less well off than themselves.

Lacrosse Successes

It was an outstanding day for Caterham players at the South of England U18 trials in November. Izzy Finlayson, Laura McCartney, Anna Murch, Georgia Shrimpton and Katie Watson were all selected for the squad and played in the Junior Territorial Tournament in January. This is the highest number of players Caterham has ever had in the squad at any one time and, furthermore, the squad contains more Caterham players than any other school! Many congratulations to these five girls.

At the end of November the 1st XII took part in the South of England Schools' Championship. Undefeated in their section, they met Lady Eleanor Holles School in the semi final, who were one of the favourites for the title. Caterham produced a very controlled performance to deny LEH any



Lacrosse 1st XII squad

opportunities and came through to win 3-0. The final was against old rivals Guildford High School. We appeared to have the upper hand but Guildford levelled the score at 2-2 just before the final whistle. Extra time was not possible as the light was going so the title is shared. This is the first time that we have won a lacrosse title at Senior level so congratulations to all the team.

Recent CCF Promotions and Positions

The CCF usually announce the senior positions earlier than the second half of the Autumn term but there was such competition that it took a little longer!

The senior cadets have served 4 years with the unit already and have passed a number of courses, tests and qualifications, including a 10 week course run by the army called the 'Methods of Instruction' course which they must pass in order to become an NCO.

Therefore it is no mean feat that they have managed to achieve as much as they have and to become an U6th senior NCO.

The NCOs teach lessons – they have to prepare and implement different lessons every week and are responsible for drill, turnout, uniform, discipline and the implementation of the training programme. The lessons they teach cover a vast array of subjects and require a great deal of knowledge and understanding. They have done extremely well to get to the position they are in and we firmly believe that they fulfil roles which no other students do.

We have a very strong group of 6th formers and the current U6th include: Henry Jones, Tim Jones, Alice Budge, Heloise Morle, Chris Atkin, Phil Tzourou, Greg Walkinshaw, Ben Kershaw, Dougie Ippercil

The senior promotions are:

Cadet Warrant Officer (Senior Cadet and Head of the Unit) Henry Jones.

Sergeant Major (2ic unit and Head of Recruits Training) Heloise Morle.

Colour Sergeant (Head of Army Section) Tim Jones

Flight Sergeant (Head of RAF Section) Greg Walkinshaw

Flight Sergeant (Chief Clerk) Philip Tzourou

We are very proud of these cadets and are sure they will continue to lead by example.

Study Skills day for 4th Years

Last term the whole of the 4th Year were taken out of lessons for the morning to attend a conference run in conjunction with the Life Skills Company. The theme for the morning was "Maximising Success at GCSE". Students made the most of a series of highly enjoyable and interactive presentations on such topics as their Learning Styles (Visual, Auditory or Physical) and were provided with a simple but effective system for learning (Reading and Understanding, Condensing, Memorising and Reviewing). They put their newfound skills into practice with a video and biography of Jamie Oliver and a Physics passage on Reflecting Light.

Feedback from students after the conference was excellent – "I learnt many fantastic techniques", "I found out what kind of learner I am and now I can use that to help me", "It taught us how to revise in the way that suits us best", "It taught really valuable skills that will in the end help your grades".

Netball Players Selected for National Trials

Three pupils who play netball in the school Under 16 team have been selected for National Trials.

The three girls have progressed through the County Team and the London & South East trials to reach the National Trials. If they are successful in the trials, they will be selected for the England U16/18 team.

The three girls are part of a successful U16 team that is undefeated this year and they are through to the next round of the National Schools Tournament which takes place in January.

Headmaster Rob Davey said: "We value sport as part of the curriculum but also as an extra curricular activity which helps to develop the teamwork and leadership skills which are so valuable in later life. The school has a tradition of developing excellent



(Left to right): Charlotte Gregory, Caroline Buckland, Emily Buckett.

netball players and this year is no exception. What is exceptional though is to have three pupils reach the national trials."

U16A Rugby Team Complete an Undefeated Season

The U16A rugby team completed a successful season last term when they beat Cranbrook School in their final match.

They played 11 matches and won them all. The last time that the U16 team went a full season undefeated was in 1971 when Angus Deayton was captain.

The team was led by Chris Munns who has been selected for the Sussex U18 rugby tour to Australia in July 2007.

Rob Davey said: "This is an excellent performance by the whole squad against eleven very good teams. It was also encouraging that the U16B team did well only losing two matches which shows that we have some strength in depth. Whilst Caterham School has a



From left to right: (back row) R Bayley, J Weller, B Carew-Gibbs, M Foulds, G Whitley, A Brown, R Leatherby, T Murphy, C Munns (captain), C Elliott, B Davidson (vice captain), F Page, (front row) J Miles, C Moore, Piet Du Toit (Coach), B Doney, S Fullalove.

reputation for high academic standards, we take the concept of all round ability very seriously and we see sport as one of the ways of helping to develop the whole pupil. It is very encouraging to

have a squad of players so full of promise in the 5th Year as it indicates that we will have strong 1st and 2nd XV squads for the next two years."

Associated Board (Music) Exam results

Many congratulations to the following on their excellent music exam results. We have only listed those who achieved distinction or merit, many more passed.

Candidate	Subject	Grade	Mark	Result
EMILY ASHMORE	SINGING	03	125	Merit
JENNY BANNISTER	PIANO	06	127	Merit
ANTHONY BATKI-BRAUN	TRUMPET	02	123	Merit
LUCY BLACKWELL	SINGING	04	134	Distinction
REBECCA BRIDSON	CLARINET	02	120	Merit
ELEANOR BUDGE	ALTO SAXOPHONE	03	121	Merit
CHUNG KI CHAN	GUITAR	02	126	Merit
CAMILLA CLARK	SINGING	04	130	Distinction
CALLUM CONNOLLY	FLUTE	01	124	Merit
ELEANOR CROFT	SINGING	07	120	Merit
CHLOE DOWNES	VIOLIN	01	130	Distinction
MATTHEW FENTON	PIANO	01	132	Distinction
MATTHEW FENTON	CLARINET	07	130	Distinction
JAMES FLANAGAN	PIANO	03	123	Merit
AMY FLOWER	SINGING	04	120	Merit
BIANCA GAMBLE	SINGING	03	122	Merit
GLEN-OLIVER GOWERS	TRUMPET	02	124	Merit
GRACE GOWERS	SINGING	05	116	Pass
RYAN HARRISON	SINGING	04	120	Merit
HOLLY HENDRON	SINGING	03	133	Distinction
KRISTINA HILL	PIANO	01	122	Merit
DAISY HOPKINS	SINGING	04	139	Distinction
EMMA HOULDEN	FLUTE	02	122	Merit
CHARLES HUKU	SINGING	04	120	Merit
CHARLIE JONES	SINGING	04	126	Merit
KATHE KINOSHITA	FLUTE	04	131	Distinction
BENJAMIN LITTLEJOHNS	PIANO	02	130	Distinction
JEREMY LLOYD	PIANO	08	132	Distinction
JEREMY LLOYD	DOUBLE BASS	05	131	Distinction
TARA MANI LUNDIE	VIOLIN	06	124	Merit
STELLA MATIAS-WILES	SINGING	04	137	Distinction
DOUGIE MCCLUMPHA	SINGING	04	131	Distinction
AMY MILES	FLUTE	04	126	Merit
JASPER MOORE	SINGING	02	130	Distinction
JASPER MOORE	VIOLIN	04	126	Merit
SAMANTHA MOORE	SINGING	05	127	Merit
ELIZABETH MUNNS	SINGING	05	132	Distinction
ANNA NESHINA	PIANO	01	120	Merit
LACHLAN ORR	VIOLIN	02	124	Merit
HANNAH PAGE	ALTO SAXOPHONE	08	125	Merit
HANNAH PARKER	VIOLIN	01	130	Distinction
DUKE QUINTON	SINGING	04	134	Distinction
JEMMA RICHES	ALTO SAXOPHONE	08	136	Distinction
SAMUEL ROBERTS	VIOLIN	01	121	Merit
SARAH SLATER	DOUBLE BASS	02	130	Distinction

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

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.

Resources for parents of pupils with Special Needs

- Aspergers Syndrome Parent Support Group: 01737 287002
- Hyperactive Children's Support Group Workshops (dyslexia, ADHD, brain gym, autism): www.hacsg.org.uk
- ADHD: www.k12academics.com/addadhd.htm

Future Events

Hockey, Lacrosse, Netball and Swimming matches

As usual we have a number of competitive fixtures throughout the term across most age groups. These matches are detailed in the Spring Term Calendar. Occasionally fixtures change when a school cancels or alters the timing. We update the fixtures on the web site (Activities – Sport) on a weekly basis to try to keep an accurate fixture list. Please do come along to support the teams.

Please note that if a pupil is included in a team list for a School fixture he or she is expected to make the fixture his or her first priority and be available to participate.

Charity Talent & Fashion Show –

Saturday 24th February 2007 in Humphreys Hall. 7.00pm

Science Rocks –

Friday 9th March 2007 in the new science labs. 7.00pm

Spring Term Concert –

Tuesday 13th March 2007 in Humphreys Hall. 7.30pm

Parents' Association St Patrick's Day Disco –

Saturday 17th March 2007 in Humphreys Hall. 7.30pm

Parents' Association Summer Fete –

Sunday 10th June 2007 on Beeches Field.

Parents' Association Summer Ball –

Saturday 7th July 2007. Marquee.

Miscellany

- Congratulations to Alisdair Jessup, U6A, who has been awarded a Deloitte Scholar Scheme. The award has a number of benefits including a paid placement and travelling bursary.
- Congratulations to Camilla Clark, 2W, whose design has been chosen for one of two Cudham Camp Badges for the Guiding Movement's centenary year in 2010.
- Twelve pupils have been offered places at either Oxford or Cambridge. Three of the places are for Economics, which is a new record, and one place is for music offered to Gemma Riches.

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