



Easter Term 2011 – Issue 62



NEWSLETTER

The Wolfson Laboratory



Dr Laura Grant officially opened the refurbished, and renamed, Wolfson Laboratory. Dr Grant, a Physicist, spoke to Year 8 & 9 students about her career, demonstrated a selection of experiments and explained how she had used experiments to enthuse disaffected students from a low attaining London school in 'The Big Experiment' on the Discovery Channel.



'Serious fun on Saturdays'



We are delighted to have secured funding from the Shine Trust to develop an exciting programme of activities for local Year 5 children on Saturday mornings. The project aims to complement and support the learning of 25 boys and girls from four local primary schools. The programme includes sessions in science, mathematics, art, English and drama, PE and the humanities. They are planned and delivered by Farnborough Hill staff, ably assisted by our team of Sixth Form Mentors, (pictured top and bottom right are **Chloe Metcalfe** and **Mahim Husnain**). It is hoped that the children will develop improved literacy skills and grow in self-esteem and confidence. We are the first independent school, outside their established London and Manchester locations, to be granted funding by The Shine Trust for a programme such as this.





Alice's Adventures in Wonderland



A very special tea party...

In this year's school production we followed Alice down the rabbit hole on an enchanted journey. Amid the madness underground we met a menagerie of quirky characters. We entered a surreal and fantastical world of magic, song and riddles.

The cast were all very excited about acting in our newly refurbished performing arts space, complete with tiered seating. The audiences were not disappointed; the costumes, characters and performances were enchanting.



GCSE DRAMA

Year 11 GCSE Drama students performed 'The Pomegranate Seeds' and 'Chumleigh Towers' in DI. These two entertaining comedies wowed the audiences and provided a varied and

highly entertaining evening. The professional performance space and auditorium created a superb environment for the GCSE show case.



The Pomegranate Seeds



Chumleigh Towers



The Careers Event

We were delighted to welcome almost 40 speakers, many of whom were Old Girls, (pictured l to r are: Mrs de Winter, Head of Careers, Olivia ten Kate and Mrs Craven) to give presentations at The Careers Event. The school was buzzing with excitement and one parent said, "It brought the world of work alive for my daughter and she came away with a real enthusiasm for the future."



Award-winning Author Visits

Girls and staff were delighted to welcome Theresa Breslin to school. Mrs Breslin has won over ten literary awards, including the Carnegie Medal. Her visit was part of the school's prize for winning the National Drama 'Page to Stage' competition; the school was also awarded £1,000 worth of books for the library.

THINK TANK



Oxford University's all-male a capella group, Out of the Blue, gave a captivating workshop for members of the Chamber Choirs followed by a packed lunchtime concert in which the girls joined them to perform 'The Lion Sleeps Tonight'.



Royal Holloway Classics Professor, Boris Rankov, intrigued students with his talk about building an authentic Greek trireme ship. His involvement stems from his Classics expertise and his six consecutive wins with Oxford in the Boat Race. **Ruth Simmons** said "It is fascinating that sources, both archaeological and literary, can be so detailed that we today are able to produce something that has been inexistent for nearly 2,500 years."



Bishop Richard Moth gave a very insightful talk on 'Christianity and War'. As Bishop to the Forces he is well qualified to speak about the Just War Tradition, conscientious objection, rules of engagement, the use of torture and the current conflict in Afghanistan.



Former Head Girl, Grace Huxford, gave the girls an insight into life as a postgraduate History student at Warwick University, her specialism being the memorialisation of the First World War.

Young Enterprise

Congratulations to our four Young Enterprise companies, Honey Honey, Electroretro (Year 10), Infinity and HeyZeus (Sixth Form) who competed against other schools and businesses in a trade fair at Princes Mead shopping centre. The standard this year was particularly high and the feedback from customers, judges and other businesses at the centre was extremely positive. The winner, with the highest score for the stand, products, team-working and innovation skills was HeyZeus, led by Managing Director **Maria Rhodes** (bottom picture, second from right).



Rushmoor Photographic Competition

Victoria Merrett won the over-16 award for the best picture (top) in the Rotary Club of Rushmoor’s photographic competition. **Charlie Preston’s** photograph won the ‘best use of light’ category.



A Classical Success!

We were delighted when **Paloma Vince** came first in the prestigious national Jowett Sendelar Essay Competition. Students had to write 1,500-2,500 words on topics ranging from Greek Gods to The Early Heroes of Rome. Paloma’s cartoon style entry so impressed the judges that they declared it ‘a remarkable piece of work’.



Paloma (centre) with **Rebecca Eva**, who was commended for her essay, with their Classics teacher **Miss O’Laire**

Public Speaking



Kathryn Morris with her speech on ‘South Africa: a land of tranquillity and transgression’, **Jessica Lane**, as Chairman, and **Sophie Crisp**, as Vote of Thanks, won first place in the Rotary Area Youth Speaks competition in Guildford.



Half Energy Day

Sixth formers visited local primary schools to talk about this unique energy-saving initiative. Primary schools nationally have received an email inviting them to join in and also to participate in the HED poster competition. In school, the girls have contributed towards a collection to plant six flowering cherry trees, along the school drive.

House Music Competition



The House Music Competition was a 'Festival of Performing Arts' according to judge, Richard Whennell, founder of Glee Clubs UK. Becket House won the competition with a 'Legally Blonde' vocal and 'Michael Jackson Medley' instrumental piece. Well done, everyone!



YEAR 11

Retreat Week

The **Retreat Team** from SPEC led the Year 7 - 11 retreats. The students were invited to focus on the 'Light of the World' theme through various activities, reflections, meditations and a closing liturgy. As you can see from the pictures, these sessions were very lively and great fun.



YEAR 7



YEAR 10



YEAR 8

CISC Mass Mrs Buckle was very proud when Mrs Phillips and Miss Farmer led singers, servers and readers from the Salesian College, Alton Convent, Farleigh School and Farnborough Hill in the Mass at the national Catholic Independent Schools' Conference (CISC) in Winchester. Mrs Phillips reports: "It was a wonderful experience for us all to join together in this service and I enjoyed working with the choirs who sang beautifully!"



Barcelona Choir Tour

The Senior Choir's fund-raising concert, in aid of this summer's tour to Barcelona, was a huge hit with the audience in Chapel generously donating £715.95.

The RE department hosted **GSUS Live**, a mobile classroom offering a multimedia learning experience. This included a 3D film as part of an interactive lesson on various Christian themes. Year 6 students from St Patrick's, St Bernadette's and Cherrywood primary schools also joined us during the week so that they too could take advantage of this exciting opportunity. *To learn more about GSUS Live*, see www.gsuslive.co.uk



Please have a look at the new diocesan website for schools <http://www.portsmouth-catholic-education.org/>. One of the new initiatives is a Lenten Calendar and our girls have made 'thought for the day' presentations for three days during Lent, which can be seen via the website.



PARENTS' DIARY 2010/2011

SUMMER TERM

26 April	Special programme for Years 11 and 12
27 April	School re-opens for all students Year 10 exams begin
29 April	Royal Wedding holiday
2 May	May Day Holiday
6 May	Junior Maths Challenge
7 May	Choral Concert
10 May	Open Afternoon for Prospective Parents
14 May	Open Morning – compulsory for all students in Years 7-9
27 May	Attainment & Effort Assessments – Years 7-10 Half Term begins
6 June	Half Term ends School Examinations begin Years 7-9
9-10 June	Lower Sixth Retreat
14 June	'Busy Bees' Taster Day for Prospective Pupils
15 June	Induction for new Year 7
16 June	Musical Soirée in Grand Salon
18 June	Friends of Farnborough Hill Evening on the Hill
21 June	Year 10 GCSE Drama Day Year 10 GCSE Drama Performance to Parents
24 June	Sixth Form Taster Day for Year 10 students
27 June	Sixth Form Taster Day for Year 10 students
27 June - 1 July	Year 11 Work Experience Week
28 June	Futurewise Profile for all Year 10 students
1 July	Inter-House Sports
2 July	Sixth Form Leavers' Ball
6 July	Attainment & Effort Assessments – Years 7-10 Records of Achievement – Years 7-10 Term Ends Leavers' Mass
7 July	Len Smiths Uniform Suppliers in school – 12 noon - 6.00 pm
9-15 July	Senior Choir on tour to Spain

Gymnastics

In the Southern Regional Floor and Vault Competition we scored a total of 71.6 out of 80 in the Under 19 competition. This was a superb score and only three points behind 1st place. Congratulations to all the girls!

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Netball

Aldershot and District Netball Tournament:

Year 7 (top picture) are District Champions.

Congratulations to:

Caroline Garrad,
Penny Somper,
Leigh Beale,
Eleanor Hanley,
Connie Wemyss,
Emelie Langdon, Eloise Young,
Joanna Wootton, Madeline Dean and Maddie McQuoid.

Year 8 team: **Katie Fretwell,**
Laura Smolinski, Liberty Burnett, Hannah Mansell,
Gemma Glasscock, Georgina Hennah and Lily Rowlands were runners-up but scored an impressive 46 goals.



Cross-country

Junior District Championships:

Our Year 7 team came 3rd with **Lucy Spence** qualifying to represent the district at the County Championships. Year 8 came 2nd with four girls going on to the County Championships: **Nathalie Bretherton, Polly Spence, Liberty Burnett,** and **Georgina Hennah.**

National Biathlon



Four Farnborough Hill girls have made it through to the finals of the National Schools' Modern Biathlon competition which will be held at Crystal Palace: **Hannah Archer, Caroline Garrad and Leigh Beale** (Year 7 team pictured l to r) and **Malka Reuben and Leigh Beale** (individual).