



Theale Green
Community
School

TIMES

December
2010



www.thealegreen.org.uk

Diary Dates



Friday 17th Dec	School closes @ 12.30pm
Monday 20th Dec - Tuesday 4th Jan	School holidays
Wednesday 5th Jan	School returns
Thursday 6th Jan	A Level Presentation Evening
Monday 10th Jan	AS/A2 Exams begin
Wednesday 12th Jan	6th Form Open Evening
Thursday 19th Jan	Year 11 Parents Evening
Tuesday 25th Jan	Year 9 Parents Evening - KS4 Options Year 8 Science Trip to Marwell Zoo
Wednesday 26th Jan	Year 8 Science Trip to Marwell Zoo Battle of the Bands
Monday 7th + Tuesday 8th Feb	Year 8 Geography Trip Cheddar Gorge
Wednesday 9th Feb + Thursday 10th Feb	Residents Show South Street
Friday 18th Feb	School closes for half term
Monday 21st Feb - Friday 25th Feb	Holidays
Monday 28th Feb	School returns

Celebrating Key Stage 4 success



We recently celebrated the outstanding achievements of students in last summer's GCSE examinations. Prizes and certificates were presented by guest of honour Nick Harrison a former student at Theale Green Community School. Nick attended Theale Green from 1984 to 1989 and successfully runs his own business as a carpenter and joiner. During his teenage years, Nick suffered from a serious stammer, but since joining the McGuire Programme to learn how to manage his disability, he has transformed himself and is now helping others on their recovery.

Head teacher, Sue Marshall, congratulated students on the outstanding results at Theale Green. She paid tribute to the hard work of students and staff and to the support provided by parents.

The John Davies Trophy for Academic Excellence was jointly won by Emma Hills and Emily Redzepi and the Year 11 Progress Award went to Matthew Coombe and Lucas Drewitt. Kizzy Bebbington received the John Madjeski Trophy for Endeavour, donated by Mr Madjeski who was guest of honour in 2007.

6th
Form

Open Evening

Wednesday 12th January 2011
@ 6.30pm

Come along and discover the exciting range of courses available, meet staff and students and visit our facilities.

For more information please call 0118 930 8516

Carol Service

Reading Minster was again the venue for this year's Carol Service on Monday night. Traditional Christmas Carols were sung beautifully by Junior and Senior Choirs, and the Orchestra played their hearts out! The congregation joined in with a roof raising performance of 'O Come all Ye Faithful'! The sermon was delivered by Canon Brian Shenton, Area Dean of Reading. It was a lovely start to the festive season.



Students Childminding Course

In January, there will be a course running for Y10/11 students called 'Looking after Other People's Children'. This will be held on a Wednesday starting 12/1/11 to 16/2/2011 from 3.15pm to 4.45 pm in the Gateway Library. It is all about baby sitting and covers accident prevention, laws, emergency situations and first aid, how to deal with challenging babysitting situations and practical sessions.

Students interested will need to get a consent form from Lynda Bolster in the ASD unit .



Children in Need

Donation of IT Equipment

The school would like to thank Mr. Paul Slade, IT Manager at Berry Bros and Rudd, for his company's generous donation of Cisco networking equipment which has been used to maintain and expand the schools computer network.



Raising money for Children in Need this year seemed easy for the Head Team who organised the 'Theale's Got Talent' show held in school. Guest Judge was Danyl Johnson from last year's X-Factor. See page 3 for more pictures and the winners!

Alongside their efforts was Cameron Smyth, year 12HB, who raised £43 in two ways. Firstly, Cameron bravely came to school dressed in his old school uniform and asked people to donate for his humiliation! Secondly, Mrs Green ran a jukebox in her class where students had to donate to play a chart song or she played classical music until they donated! Well done!

A total of £2300 was raised between the show, non-uniform day and Cameron!

ART...

The Art Department was very fortunate to have professional Manga artist and illustrator Sonia Leong visit Theale Green to work with students from years 7 and 8 to share some top tips and ask questions on what it is like to work as a professional Manga artist.

Everyone including staff were all captivated by Sonia's extraordinary talent and passion and quickly she had all the students producing their own Manga characters.

The day was such a success that many of the students involved have started up their own weekly Manga meet and are currently developing their own characters to enter Theale's very first Manga Comp.



Drama



Theale Light Night

On Friday 3rd December Theale Pop Choir made its debut appearance at Theale Night Light singing fantastic renditions of "Cry me a River" and "Santa Claus is coming to Town" in the sub-zero temperatures. Mr Lambert (clad in dickensian garb) organised all of the entertainments from the Holy Trinity Choir to Theale Primary School and the Salvation Army. The evening climaxed with the crowd of 600+ raucously singing carols to make the lights come on. After this Mr Lambert and Mr Lucas performed a 10 minute rendition of "A Christmas Carol" that has also been touring around Primary assemblies this month. This was a unique event that was well received and filled the hearts of all around with Christmas Cheer.



CRIME DOESN'T PAY

Year 9 students in Crime and Consequences Project -

In November an intrepid band of Year 9 students including Alan Yeo, Peter Spriggs, Amy Rushent, Rebecca Braidwood, Oliver Coltart, James Miller and Duncan Lawrey created a piece that explored Crime and Consequences. The piece was first performed in house assemblies to very positive audiences and tackled the topic of knife crime in a performance that was sad, funny and disturbing in equal measure. Then on November 23rd the students took the show to the Newbury Corn Exchange and performed alongside other West Berkshire Schools. It was a great day and overall a fantastic experience.

Circus of Horrors and Myths and Legends

Year 11 Drama students stunned Year 10 audiences with their excellent exam performances last month. Exploring the worlds of Horror and Mythology these plays scared and entertained in equal measure. The year group's final performance will be a performance of "The Odyssey" at South Street Arts Centre in February next year.

Ward 24 and Hideous Guests

Audiences were disturbed and challenged by the exemplary performances that Year 13 Drama performed at the start of December. These plays tackled the mental asylums of the 1960's and explored the peripheral characters of Frankenstein.

Deadman's Lane Radio Play

The cast of "Deadman's Lane" from last summer reformed on Thursday 9th December to record a Radio version of that spooky play. This was done with the assistance of Sam Crane stage, TV and radio actor (who will be appearing in a major role on "Murder on the Orient Express"), Christmas Day on ITV1.



English Trip

This year the English Department took a group of Year 7 students to an 'Oliver' production in the West End of London. It was very well received by the students and staff. It was a very late night for the staff and students but well worth the event. We were commended by the theatre on the way our Year 7's presented themselves. Well done to all those involved.



Dance

Richard Alston Theatre Trip, Wycombe Swan

A group of students from years 7 to 13 went to see Richard Alston's latest repertoire at the Wycombe Swan Theatre. This trip is in preparation for the master class which A level dance students will take part in. Richard Alston has recently been described as 'simply one of the most musical choreographers in the world – every step he makes lives and breathes the spirit of the music he chooses.' Alston's latest tour consisted of three works 'Even More', 'Light Flooding into Darkened Rooms' and 'Overdrive.' Overdrive uses the powerful rhythms of the keyboard study by Terry Riley, in which the dancers are constantly moving, shifting and changing direction, curving under and over each other and appearing to never pause for breath. Light Flooding into Darkened Rooms, inspired by the paintings of Vermeer and 17th Century lute music created an intimate feeling by the dancers performing in a small space marked out by light spilling through a window. Finally, 'Even More' explored the complex contrasts in character of the composer Prokofiev. Students were treated to a pre-performance talk by Alston who gave an insight into the stimulus for the work and his method of choreography. Students were fascinated to hear that Alston loves to listen to the music on repeat whilst washing up and this is where he thinks of all his best ideas.

Merce Cunningham, Barbican Theatre



FuzzyLogic Masterclass and ManMade Performance Platform, Newbury Corn Exchange

Oli and David from FuzzyLogic Male Dance Company came to Theale Green to deliver a whole day master class to students from years 7 to 12. FuzzyLogic aims to push the boundaries of male dance through a unique style of high tempo and energetic contact work fused with exciting narrative contemporary dance. The students were physically and technically challenged from the first exercise as they learnt the warm up exercises that FuzzyLogic dancers do weekly. Oli and David then demonstrated and taught a variety of lifts using ledges, bases and hoops. The students were focused and motivated throughout and the quality of the work produced was excellent. The level of enthusiasm and adrenaline was infectious, by the end of the workshop students had choreographed a piece using set material from the company's latest work and the lifts taught in the workshop.



On Wednesday 24th October, the piece choreographed in the master class was performed alongside the company's latest repertoire in the Corn Exchange's male dance platform ManMade. The boy's performance 'Reverse Windmill' was thoroughly enjoyed by all. It was fast paced, dynamic, included numerous changes in relationship and at times physically demanding due to the lifts and fast travelling sections. Students had an insight into Zoie Golding's process of choreographing work on the FuzzyLogic dancers when she demonstrated her use of improvisation and basic narratives, students were surprised at the level of trust needed between the dancers and the variety of lifts dancers could do with no prior planning or conversation.

Congratulations to all students who took part in the master class and performance.

- The Dance Department took 12 students from Years 11 – 13 to London to see Merce Cunningham's final, celebratory 'Legacy Tour'. This tour was to be the company's last, encompassing more than 40 cities worldwide and offering a final chance to see Cunningham's choreography performed by the company he personally trained.
- Students watched 'Nearly Ninety', choreographed in celebration of Cunningham's 90th birthday and this was his final creation. The piece explored Cunningham's passion for technology including a multi-level structural set and video art.
- Students were also lucky enough to see a rehearsal of Second Hand, a work in which Cunningham had original choreographed as a solo.
- In the final version Cunningham himself danced a role which meant he never left the stage, and this time it was performed by one of Cunningham's oldest and longest standing company members.



Talent was in abundance as students from all years took to the stage in front of a packed audience to show their skills in dance, singing, music and magic in the

Theale's Got Talent competition. There were drummers, dancers, violin solos, a "Diversity" tribute act from some of the Sixth formers and a dance group who mixed between ballet, hip hop and tap! The judges were Mr Mark Shears, TG Assistant Head, Mrs Eloise



Lauren Bamford

Goodhand, TG Music teacher and from last year's X Factor, Danyl Johnson. Danyl, despite being in the middle of a busy schedule, managed to fit this event in, was very impressed by the talent on show. Their task was made extremely difficult with the high standard of talent on display, but with the night drawing to a close, decisions had to be made....the winners were: **1st – Oli Cox – on drums, 2nd – Lauren Bamford and Olivia Melvin on piano and singing and 3rd – Bethan Rowlands – who sang a solo and played guitar.**

The success of the night was due to the fantastic organisation by the Sixth formers and the help from all the technical staff who provided the life-like "Britain's got Talent" intro sounds and screens for the show.

Everything went very well and the total raised from the night and the non-uniform day on Friday was in excess of £2300. The Head Team have worked tremendously hard to produce the show and the queue that was out the door is tantamount to that success.

The Judges!



Just Believe



Oli Cox



NEW 6th Form Building

We are delighted to advise you all that work has started on the new 6th form and the plan is for the building to be finished in October 2011. Health and Safety of our students and workmen is a priority and we will inform them of the dangers of the area in assemblies and in tutor period.

Any student found entering the builder's compound or throwing articles will be dealt with accordingly. Please can you reiterate the importance of the dangers of building sites to your son/daughter?
I shall be updating you in each TG Times how the building is progressing and we look forward to moving into the new building in Nov 2011.



Design and Technology



Sixth form design students were introduced to young professional Designer in Industry Mr. Nathan Murphy, Director of Repskan. He spoke realistically about the highs and lows of his profession, the challenges and rewards it has presented him with, over the last 5 years. This comes at a useful point in time for the students as they prepare and consider their options for University.

Mr. Murphy (a graduate from Brunel University in 'Industrial Design and Technology') has had experience working in leading pharmaceutical consultancies such as GSK and IMI. Nowadays he manages his own design consultancies, alongside his brother, with teams based in both in London and Kuala Lumpur.

He shared with the students a range of experiences from University projects and competitions, to his own present day consultancy projects.

For the students involved, his visit helped them recognise and understand the significance behind the design skills they are taught and the real world.

Ms Kate Reeves

Design a Tie Competition

Students were asked to design a tie for Head of Piper house and Art teacher Mr Upton and ICT teacher Mr Bate. The winners and runners up designs are below. These designs will be made into a real tie for Mr Upton and Mr Bate to wear. Photo to follow in the next edition of the TG Times!



The winning design for Mr Upton was created by Jessica Lewington year 9HA and the runner up was by Dominic Chodounsky 8PB.



The winning design for Mr Bate was created by Natalie Griffith in year 9PA. The runner up was designed by Fiorella Illes of 9SC.



News from the Gateway Library

Together with the English department we introduced a new reading scheme for year 7: the Rollercoaster which encourages students to broaden their reading. Coral Rumble, our visiting poet ran an exciting workshop to introduce year 7s to some of the techniques involved in writing poems. Here are some of the comments from the year 7s:

"I enjoyed Coral Rumble's visit because she really knew how to get our attention and get the whole class involved. From her visit I learnt how to plan a poem and how to write it. I am already using these new skills in English."

Some students in Year 9's and 10's attended a creative writing workshop with the author Lesley Wilson, and two teams of year 7 and 8 students represented the school at the Oxford Heat of the International Kids Lit Quiz .

The highlight of the term was the workshop by our visiting manga author, Sonia Leong, (The report is on page 2.)



THE ZONE

Every Monday lunchtime in Dance Studio
(former Youth Centre)

For advice on all aspects of health.

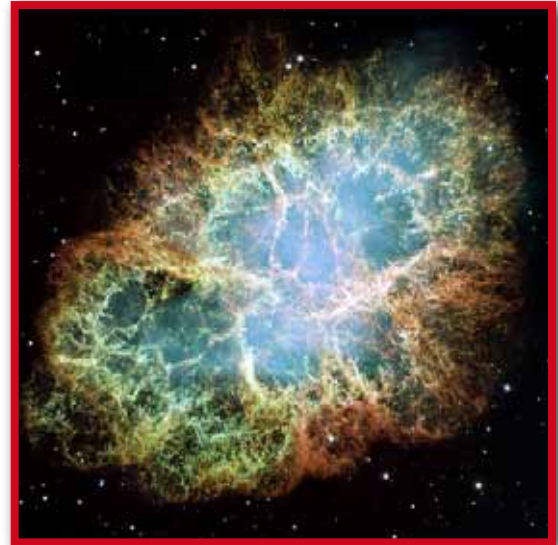




Science

Astronomy Masterclass

A group of our year 10 gifted and talented students recently had the opportunity to work with David Boyd from Newbury Astronomy Society in a four week project to collect data on our solar system. In the first week students produced stunning images of the birthing grounds of stars (known as Nebulae) including the particularly interesting Crab Nebula which is actually the remnants of a star that has gone super nova. In subsequent weeks the students examined the size of a jet of matter and energy escaping a black hole, monitored the passage of a super nova explosion and estimated the age of a cluster of stars. The students have presented their work in the form of a scientific poster entitled 'The Life Cycle of a Star' and this will be exhibited around the school.



Students were able to observe the sun (a rare opportunity given the current weather!) through a telescope equipped with special filters. They identified two sun spots and several prominences (small out bursts of burning hydrogen gas).

Theale launches its first Stem club

The Technology and Science departments have teamed up to run our first Stem club. Mrs Green from Technology and Miss Bell from Science recently helped a group of year 8 students to design and build a 20 metre long marble roller coaster that included loops, spirals and elevators. As well as having fun, they calculated the minimum height required for the marble to complete a loop or travel a series of humps. The boys investigated undulations, loop-de-loops and corkscrews using foam pipe insulation and marbles. The year 8 students are now going on to look at car design. Well done to Ewan, Charlie, Tommy, James and Matt in year 8 who participated!

NEW!!

Year 7s – Next term we are launching our 2nd Stem club which will involve building robots from Lego mindstorms. See Miss Richards or Dr Rose in science for details.

Dr Rose Visits Basildon Primary School

Dr Rose recently visited Basildon primary school to teach them about insulation. In a project entitled "How to keep a cappuccino warm in the North Pole" (quite fitting, given it was snowing everywhere except in Berkshire!). The year 5 and 6 group produced podcasts about their investigation into insulation and cooling. At the end of the day the students made ice cream.... Which did not take too much cooling!

Master classes

Here are the proposed dates for the year's Master class programme for Science. You will be notified of the forthcoming events.

Year Group	Topic	Proposed Dates
Year 7	Creepy Crawlies	16th, 23rd + 30th June + 7th July 2011
Year 8	To be confirmed	5th, 12th, 19th + 26th May 2011
Year 11	Robotics	12th + 13th January + 19th + 20th January 2011



Year 10 Enterprise Day

At this year's first Y10 Enterprise Day on 16 November the whole Y10 cohort competed in teams to create the most enterprising and profitable travel concept they could sell to real travel agents. It was as usual very difficult to find a winner from a strong field of entries, but Elliott Bedward, Chris George, Luke Jamieson, Lauren Bamford, Conway O'Neill, Hettie Macleod and Chloe Dueck scooped the prize with their comprehensive holiday in the Big Apple.



HOUSE NEWS.

BENYON HOUSE

A festive hello to all Benyon students and parents.

House Points: It's been phenomenally close all term and as we go to press Scott are leading the way but we're only 100 behind in 2nd? Can the students make one last push to steal it at the end?

House Evening: Thanks to Fred, Hugh, Tilly and Jack in particular for organising this year's House Evening, highlight of which was undoubtedly the yr 13 boys' replication of Beyonce's video for Single Ladies. Jaw dropping doesn't begin to describe it!

House Matches: All Benyon students rallied to the House Match cause this year. Several matches were very closely contested and a huge thank you to everyone who took part and especially to the 6th Form Games Captains for their hard work. Thanks also to Mr Blinco and the P.E. staff who made these House Matches the best yet.

Presentation Evening: Congratulations to all the students who received certificates in recognition of their achievements at GCSE - you've done yourselves proud!

Exams: Much as though they're dreaded, we'd like to wish good luck to all students who are doing exams in January, and well done to the Year 11s for completing their mocks.

House Dance Festival: Congratulations to all our year 8 girls who participated in the 2nd House Dance Festival. The standard of the performances eclipsed last year's high standard. Thanks to Mrs Butler and Miss Stannard who organised a great event - we look forward to next year's!

PTFA: The next PTFA meeting is scheduled for 9th February and as usual, all are welcome. We meet in The Volunteer in Theale for a more sociable atmosphere.

As ever, you can contact us on 0118 9308509 or email us at mshears@thealegreen.org.uk and alanham@thealegreen.org.uk

Have an enjoyable, relaxing and thoroughly mulled Christmas break!
Mr Shears, Ms Lanham and the Benyon Pride.



HUNT HOUSE

A festive hello to all Hunt students and parents.

House Matches: These took place in late November and we would like to congratulate all of the students who took part. We fielded full teams in all year groups with some strongly contested matches. Well done to the year 8 girls and year 10 boys for winning their respective competitions. A huge thank you must also go to the House Captains for all their hard work and enthusiasm in organising the teams.

Presentation Evening: It was fantastic to welcome back so many of our former students during our recent presentation evening and congratulations go to all of them on their fantastic achievements and awards.

House Dance Competition: Well done to all of the Hunt students who represented the House in the 2nd annual House Dance Competition. The Yr 9 team of Erin Tingle, Robyn Toner, Chloe Hodgetts and Lucy Harverson won the Y9 trophy and Georgia Brown and Clarice Burton won the Sixth Form Award. Alongside this there was a superb individual performance by Rebecca Braidwood helping Hunt to win the overall House Award. Well done to all of the students involved.

Upcoming Exams: We'd like to wish good luck to all students who are doing exams in January and to the Year 11's who have just successfully completed their mock examinations.

Hunt House PTA: Our PTA has been as active as ever. On a very cold 27th November 51 people joined us for our annual shopping pilgrimage to Harrods. We also held our annual social evening on the 30th of November with our now traditional meal and some bowling. If you'd like to join us and get involved in organising our upcoming House Evening then please contact us in the House Office on 01189 308510 or mcollins@thealegreen.org.uk

**We wish everybody a very enjoyable and relaxing
Christmas and a very happy 2011.**

Mr Collins and Miss Skillin



PIPER HOUSE

All the news that is fit to print from Piper House

Staff: Well done to all our new Piper staff who have got to Christmas - just about in one piece - they have contributed superbly to the Piper Way

Assembly News: Excellent behaviour in house assemblies again this term; we hope everyone enjoyed our efforts - not a cup of tea or bag of chips in sight - and learnt something about: Piper's new tutors, how great Piper is, knife crime, taking things for granted, a few of Mr Upton's Christmas Memories, Children in Need, rubbish and school and, oh yes, Piper is Great!

House Matches: Well done to all our fabulous Piper sports people, especially the girls. Thank you to the Games Captains who organised the teams and made things happen

Theale's Got Talent: And so has Piper. Lots of Piper students taking part and the overall winner was Ollie Cox, from Piper - fantastic!

House Dance: Another superb evening and another very big well done to all the Piper students who took part, especially the Piper year 7s who won their section

Carol Service: Lots of talented Piper students taking part this year - well done!

Piper House PTA: The next meeting will take place in January on Thursday 3/2/11 at 7.30 in the Volly in Theale. We hope to hold a Piper/Benyon skittles night on 24th March. Thank you to those who attended in September and December - very positive and enjoyable meetings - looking forward to an excellent new year ahead. If you are interested in joining the Piper House PTA, please contact Mr. Upton on 0118 9308511 or at dupton@thealegreen.org.uk

Piper House Newsletter: Please make sure you collect your copy of the Christmas edition of the Piper Newsletter from a Theale Green student in a house near you

**...and finally, a Very Happy Christmas from
Mr. Upton, Mrs Martin & Mr. Spike the 'Santa Baby' Dragon**

SCOTT HOUSE

House Evening: Congratulations to the Sixth Form Prefect Team which organised a fantastic Flower Power House Evening on November 4th. The Hall looked fabulous decorated with the obligatory flowers; the organisation and execution was seamless- well almost!! A huge amount of money was raised and both parents and students alike were very impressed with the evening. Many thanks to Kath, Miss Clark, Miss McAuley and Mr Hull for their amusing rendition of Big Yellow Taxi. Thank you and well done to all involved!

House Matches: Scott boys have absolutely smashed the other House teams in their recent rugby matches, with Years 7, 8, 9, 11 and Seniors being victorious! Year 9 girls were also celebrating a win in their hockey matches and Years 7, 8 and seniors gained a very respectable 2nd place. Well done to all those who participated!! Let us hope for similar results in the Spring and Summer term and keeping our hands on the Goodhall Trophy for Top Sporting House!

House Points: Further congratulations are necessary as we continue to do well in the House Points. Currently we are in first position with 1300 House points submitted. Hurrah!! It is a real measure of your continued hard work in lessons.

Presentation Evening: It was delightful to see the Year 12 Scott students dressed in their finest for the evening. Congratulations to all Scott students who excelled in their GCSE examinations. Particular congratulations go to Tom Allison as the recipient of the Geography Achievement Award, Bianka Lenk for receiving The Cope Progress Award, Alec Parcell for being awarded The Technology Achievement Award, Lucy Prince who was awarded The Drama Progress Award, Ben Parker as the recipient of The Drama Achievement award, Gary Chandler who received the History Progress Award and last but not least to Lucas Drewitt who was awarded both the Science Progress Award and the Year 11 Progress Award.

Scott House PTA: Many Thanks to the Scott House PTA for their contribution to the smooth running and planning of the Evening. We are always indebted to you for your support. If you would like to join our PTA or would like further details about PTA events, then please contact Mrs Jarvis at school on 01189308 512 or njarvis@thealegreen.org.uk. Details of our next meeting will be on the website soon.

Merry Christmas from Mrs Jarvis and Miss Southall



Boys Football

The First XI football team was unfortunately knocked out in round 4 of the National Cup by St Clement Danes School from Watford. The first half was very much a one sided affair, with our team dominating possession and creating many goal scoring opportunities. In the second half we let our foot off the pedal and lost focus in vital areas of the pitch allowing the opposition to get back into the game and score three goals without reply. It was very much a game of two halves, leaving us to rue the missed opportunities earlier on. In the County Cup we got back

to winning ways beating Langley Academy from Slough 3-1. Both our strikers, Jordan Lovelock and Reece Browne were left frustrated by the acrobatics of the opposition's goalkeeper and defenders clearing the ball off their own goal line. Against the run of play, our opponents scored a break away goal to lead the game 1-0. This only seemed to strengthen our resolve; Callum Gallimore was pulled from the bench to equalise with a superb jump at the back post. After the interval we continued to press Langley, pinning them back into their own half and creating lots of chances. A second goal from Callum Gallimore and a cool strike from Josh Bains led us to victory. In the quarter final of this competition we face Wokingham and Bracknell College and have drawn Mary Hare (Newbury) in round 1 of the Berkshire and Buckinghamshire Cup.

Year 8

The Year 8 team beat John Madejski 6-0 in round 3 of the National Cup. It was a very good team performance, reducing our opposition to very few goal scoring opportunities. Lewis Hayes was lively up front bagging two goals and Reid Browne adding two more - his last goal being a 20 yard screamer in the top corner. Captain Ross Stewart and the silky skills of Aaron Harrison added a goal each to win the game comprehensively. In round 4 we have been drawn against Brune Park from Gosport, Hampshire. This game was cancelled recently due to the bad weather.

Year 9

The u14 boys have been involved this term in the National Football Cup progressing to the 4th round with great wins against Kennet and a 8-0 thrashing of The Oxford Academy before losing against a well drilled team from East Barnet. Well done boys for all your efforts. Had we fielded an injury free team we might have beaten these boys as well. Three boys were sent to county trials and are through to the final trial. Good luck to them and to the boys for the forthcoming football season.

Year 7+8 Girls Football

Since the last newsletter went to press, the Year 7+8 girls football team has gone from strength to strength in the National Cup. On the 21st October we travelled to Winchester to play Thornden School in the 3rd round. We expected a tougher test than in the previous rounds, but nonetheless the girls started the game confidently and with determination to get an early goal. This fantastic attitude soon paid off when Molly Holland put Theale 1-0 up. This was shortly followed by a great goal from Lauren Hollingsworth and another from Georgia Burton. At half time Theale were in a comfortable position with a 3-0 lead. In the 2nd half Thornden started to get a grip on the game and Alice East on a few occasions had to be alert to some dangerous Thornden crosses. Their pressure resulted in a goal to make it 3-1. However Molly Holland soon grabbed her second and put Theale back in control. The 5th goal didn't take long in coming and it was a fantastic solo goal from Lauren Hollingsworth, who ran the length of the pitch to score her second. This finished Thornden off and Sophie Castle went on to score to give Theale a 6-1 victory. The 4th round saw us drawn away to Maiden Erlegh. The girls had so much to play for and took an early lead through Lauren Hollingsworth with a close range goal. This gave Theale the confidence to push forward and Molly Holland quickly made it 2-0. Maiden Erlegh had some creative players but with excellent defending from Cheyanne Jones they were limited to few goal scoring opportunities. Molly Holland and Sophie Castle soon made it 4-0. The girls went into the 2nd half buoyed by their performance and Cheyanne Jones was soon rewarded with a goal after a brilliant performance to give Theale a 5-0 victory, sending them into the last 32 of the National Cup. Our 5th round game is against St Martin in The Fields High School, which we are due to play next week.

Squad: Alice East, Louise Shepherd, Bryony Melvin, Lucy Why, Ciara Wooller, Shanna Ellis, Georgia Burton, Janelle Branker, Sophie Castle, Lauren Hollingsworth, Molly Holland, Neroshi George, Ana Fewtrell, Cheyanne Jones and Tayla Matthews.



PE

Year 7 Rugby

The Year 7 squad has made excellent progress this year. They have begun to develop into a team which plays fluent, attacking rugby. The season started with the Reading Rugby league in which the team finished third with a good



victory over Prospect and an incredibly tense draw with Little Heath. Fraser Pincock showed a lot of potential throughout this league. The team was then entered into the Aldermaston cup with four other schools. They finished joint 2nd beating Denefield and Little Heath and drawing with the Downs. Callum Pearse played exceptionally well throughout. The highlight of the year was the Berkshire Rugby Festival at Bluecoat School where forty teams compete in a county wide competition. The first game resulted in a close loss to Charters. The second game against Bluecoat B, started with a poor first half and they went in at 3 tries down. Half-time was the turning point, Will Hambridge was switched to scrum-half and it was fair to say that he set the tournament alight. He scored one try in that game and then in the remaining two league games he was the catalyst for the teams change in form, scoring freely and passing beautifully. Callum Pearse then arrived and the boys really kicked on with 2 victories over Edgebarrow and LVS 'B'. The team finished 3rd in the group going into the vase competition. The boys beat Prospect in the quarter finals, and then played their best game of rugby all year against Wargrave Piggott in the semis. Charlie Shacklford, Charlie Lawson, and Will Hambridge were influential throughout. Unfortunately, the boys ran out of steam and lost in the final to a strong LVS 1st team. The squad did the school proud with their conduct and spirit throughout the tournament. There are still a number of fixtures to play in the Newbury Floodlit League and the Year 7 squad have a promising future ahead.

Year 8 Rugby

The year 8 rugby team have had a fantastic season so far. They remain undefeated and look untouchable. Last year they won all four tournaments in the county and hopefully they will retain this. They started of their campaign by winning the Reading League earlier in the season. Following this they competed in the Aldermarston's 10's Tournament where they brushed away opposition scoring 36 tries and only conceding 3. In the Berkshire Cup we are through to the quarter finals against Park House, after beating Garth Hill and Slough Grammar in earlier rounds. Hopefully the team will surpass last year's efforts and if the likes of Ross Stewart, Reid Brown, Lewis Hayes, Lewis Graham, Mark Russell and Tyler Wint keep running in tries and James Murphy, Joe Swaine, Jack Cox, Josh Beale, Bradley Cowen and Ewan McGreedy continue to do the dirty work like a baddy in Eastenders the team will have a very bright future.

Year 10 Rugby

We got the season off to a good start beating local rivals Little Heath 12-5. Despite playing against a combined Year 10/11 team the boys dominated play. Against Maiden Erlegh we recorded our only loss to date, going down 26-14. Fielding a depleted team we struggled to combat the pace of the Maiden Erlegh's backs. The performance of Scott White (year 9) was outstanding in this game. In the County Cup we were victorious against Brakenhale School, winning 12-7. It was a hard fought game, with our captain Matthew Woodrow and Chris George leading from the front. Ryan Paxford scored an excellent try from inside his own half and Michael Hawkins on his debut, made a try saving tackle right at the end of the game. In the next round we produced our best performance of the season, beating a strong Edgebarrow team 17-5. As this newsletter goes to press we are due to play Maiden Erlegh in the semi-finals. With a full strength side, we hope to reverse the result earlier in the season.

Squad: Matthew Woodrow (Capt), Andrew Troani, Mason Bourne, Simon West, Chris George, Sean Stinson, Jo Butcher, Lois Daniels, Lee Reid, Luke Grifferty, George Bicknell, Taylor Stephens, Scott White, Ryan Paxford, Adam Stout, Matthew Mallia, Mark Green, Markoss Bertoux.





Back Row: Henry Winstanley, Taylor Stephens, Ollie Kitcher, Dominic Coakley, Jacob Holroyd, Joe Postle, Hong-Pang Soh, George Lenton-Hall, Harry Richie.

Front Row: Joe Sumner, Freddie Grant, Scott White, Scott Parker, Joe Nunn, Ed Homewood, Callum Wooler.

Absent: Matthew Smith, George Bucknell, Callum Jay and Alex Woodward.

Under 14's Boys Rugby - 1st Team

The under 14 boys rugby team has excelled once again. The quality of play shown this season has been outstanding. The boys have built a reputation in the county as a team to fear and our demolition of teams have mirrored this view. The forwards have now learned to scrummage as a unit and have dominated in all games played while the backs are showing great fluidity in their play and now play a very strong running and passing game. Some of the tries scored this season have been special with both forwards and backs combining to score tries from their own 22m line. They are a very entertaining team to watch now. Having played and beaten most of the local teams we now await Forest school in the semi final of the County Cup competition. Congratulations to all the squad for their loyalty and hard work throughout the term and let's keep trying to develop out an individual game in readiness for entering the Daily Mail national competition next season. Well done all. You are a credit to the school boys. A special mention must go to Scott White for his selection into the county and London Irish rugby academy squads and also to Taylor Stevenson in his selection to the Oxfordshire county squad.

House Matches

The autumn house matches saw the boys compete in rugby and the girls in hockey. They were fiercely contested as ever, with the bragging rights going to Scott and Piper. On the boy's side, Scott won a staggering five out of the six year groups – what a start for Mrs Jarvis! For the girls, Piper reigned supreme, winning four of the six age groups – it was reported that Mr Upton used the good form of Sheffield Wednesday to inspire his teams.



Girls			Boys		
YEAR 7	1ST HUNT 2ND SCOTT 3RD PIPER 4TH BENYON	HOCKEY	YEAR 7	1ST SCOTT 2ND HUNT 3RD PIPER/ BENYON	RUGBY
YEAR 8	1ST PIPER 2ND SCOTT 3RD BENYON 4TH HUNT	HOCKEY	YEAR 8	1ST SCOTT 2ND HUNT 3RD BENYON 4TH PIPER	RUGBY
YEAR 9	1ST SCOTT 2ND BENYON 3RD PIPER 4TH HUNT	HOCKEY	YEAR 9	1ST SCOTT 2ND PIPER 3RD HUNT 4TH BENYON	RUGBY
YEAR 10	1ST PIPER 2ND HUNT 3RD SCOTT 4TH BENYON	HOCKEY	YEAR 10	1ST HUNT 2ND BENYON 3RD SCOTT 4TH PIPER	RUGBY
YEAR 11	1ST PIPER 2ND HUNT 3RD BENYON 4TH SCOTT	HOCKEY	YEAR 11	1ST SCOTT 2ND PIPER 3RD HUNT 4TH BENYON	RUGBY
6TH FORM	1ST PIPER 2ND SCOTT 3RD HUNT 4TH BENYON	HOCKEY	SENIORS	1ST SCOTT 2ND PIPER 3RD HUNT 4TH BENYON	RUGBY

Key Stage 3 Hockey

As the hockey season draws to a close for years 7, 8 and 9 it is great to look back at a very successful season. The year 9's have gone from strength, with a number of new players such as Alex Dunn, Jennifer Banfield and Alicia Gilbert showing great commitment to training and adding to the strength of the squad. Unfortunately a number of their games recently have been cancelled due to frozen pitches, but they have had good wins over Kennet, John O'Gaunt and Park House and a close draw against St Gabrielle's. The year 8s have shown great commitment throughout the season and have had a great set of results. They have beaten Kennet, thrashed Park House 4-1 and also won against St Gabrielle's, John O'Gaunt and The Clere. In their West Berkshire District Tournament they played really well, on a freezing night, to finish third overall having lost no games, and narrowly missing out on the final. Special mention must go to Grace Hunt, Amber Bromham and Emily Pither for a great season and really improving their skills. The year 7s have undoubtedly been the team of the season. The numbers at training each week has been brilliant and this has been reflected in an unbeaten season. They came first and second at the year 7 tournament in September, thrashed Kennet indoor 13-4 and 9-3 outdoor, beat St Gabrielle's 2-0, won against John O'Gaunt 8-0 and beat Park House 6-0 to highlight just a few of their results. Unfortunately they were unable to attend the West Berkshire district tournament as it clashed with academic mentoring day but I am confident they would have achieved great results there as well. Special mention must go to Amelia Hodgetts and Emily Macleod who have been solid in defence all season as well as Min Clarke, Charlotte Crawford, Louise Sheppard, Steph Read, Megan Halfacre, Sophie Caastle, Tilly Meighen and Alice Chapplin.



A special thank you must also go to the year 11s who have help with practices after school and Cleo Browne in year 10 who has come every week after school to help train the younger teams.



Don't forget training for years 10, 11 and 6th form starts after the Christmas holidays on a Monday night 3 till 4.10. Everyone is welcome. Let's see if you can have as successful a season as the younger years.

Inter Tutor Indoor Rowing Competition 2010

As the build up to the 2012 Olympic Games in London gathers pace Theale Green students have started their own preparations by competing in an inter tutor rowing competition. Indoor Rowing has really taken off at Theale Green in the last year and our pupils have been fortunate to have coaching from Beth Rodford, an Olympic rower and recent Gold medallist at the World Championships. As a result we decided to start our countdown to the games with our own competition.

Every tutor group in year 7,8 and 9 were invited to take part and were able to enter three teams consisting of 5 rowers, two of whom had to be girls. The response was excellent with nearly 300 pupils signing up to take part.

The races would involve each team rowing over a set distance, 2012 metres, and the fastest 3 teams in each year would proceed to the finals day to be held at Dorney Lake, the venue for the 2012 Olympic Rowing events.

The year 9 event took place first and the enthusiasm of all pupils was excellent, every race was extremely close and as a result very exciting. There was a lot of noise in the gym!!

In a very close set of races the tutors who progressed to the finals were 9HA, 9BB and 9SC.

The year 8 event was just as successful with a total of 14 teams competing over two lunchtimes. Again it was a tightly fought battle and one of the races was decided by a split second. The teams progressing to the finals from year 8 were 8PC, 8BC and 8HA.

Year 7 rounded off the qualifying events and this was the most fiercely fought contest with 16 teams taking part, one team had even gone to the trouble of creating their own cheer for the race, much like the Haka!! The 3 teams that progressed were 7BB, 7SB and 7HA.



Finals Day at Dorney Lake

After progressing through the qualification event 9 teams took the trip to Dorney Lake, venue of the 2012 Olympic Rowing Events. On a very foggy morning the pupils set off on the coach hoping to possibly catch a glimpse of an Olympic athlete in training, unfortunately our luck was out and the weather wasn't much help.

On arrival at the lake the pupils were treated to a tour of the boathouse by the resident rowing coach. The pupils were able to ask questions about all things rowing as well as get a close up look at an actual rowing boat and all other equipment used when racing.

After the tour the pupils were given refreshments before preparing for the main event, the finals! After a quick recap on the finer points of the correct rowing technique all pupils were given the chance to warm up.

The Year 8 and 9 race started off proceedings and in a very tight race over a shortened distance of 1500 metres. The Year 8 team from 8HA took the victory and the Golf medal. The year 7 final was again a very close race with 7HA just pipping 7BB to win the medals. To finish the day we held a timed individual race for all the pupils. The year 9 pupils were to row for 4 minutes, year 8 pupils for 3 and the year 7's for 2 minutes and the winner would be the person who had rowed the furthest. There were some excellent distances rowed and the winners were: Year 9-George Bicknell and Keira Gavaghan, Year8-Jack Cox and Anja Owona and Year 7 James Harvey and Jessica Haywood.

The whole competition from the heats to the finals at Dorney Lake was an excellent opportunity for the pupils to try something a little different and see how an Olympic venue will look in 2012. Following on from the success of the competition we will be introducing handball, another Olympic sport, after Christmas so look out for further info on this very quick and highly competitive sport.



Primary Bisi Badminton Festival

Theale Green recently hosted the West Berkshire Bisi Badminton Festival for primary schools. Seven primary schools from around the region attended and took part in a series of badminton challenges. This involved pupils moving around stations that worked on agility, balance and coordination in a badminton themed drill. Each team spent 4 minutes at each station where their team score was recorded and added together to give an overall score and winning team. The event ran extremely smoothly and this was down to the excellent work of the 14 Year 10 GCSE P.E pupils who were leading the stations. They were excellent throughout, offering advice, help and encouragement to all the pupils and making the whole afternoon a fun filled experience. Bradfield primary school took the gold medal and will now move on to the county final.



Every pupil who took part left with a smile on their face and the parents with many a good word about the year 10 pupils who helped. Good luck to Bradfield primary school and well done to all our Year10 Leaders!!