



The Lake Odyssey 2011 project is off to a great start giving students at Chew Valley and the cluster of nine Primary Schools an opportunity to explore local history through the arts. The focus is on the 1950's when teenage culture was really coming into its own, and also when the lake and school were built. Students are exploring these themes in a creative way and will get the opportunity to show their work in a day of celebration and performance at Chew Valley Lake on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July. The Lake Odyssey 2011 project is supported by a grant of £12,300 made under the Heritage Lottery Fund's Young Roots scheme.

The first in a series of workshops took place at Bishop Sutton Primary back in late March. Working with Leo Holloway, Swallow class composed lyrics and music for a song inspired by the history of Chew Valley Lake and their experience of visiting the site. After composing the song, Swallow class had the opportunity to record it. You can see the song performed live at the Lake Odyssey event day, or if you can't wait until then, you will soon be able to listen to the complete song online at <http://www.bishopsutton.bathnes.sch.uk/Lake-Song/>

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May saw another workshop take place in the run up to Lake Odyssey. Fifty- six year 6 pupils from across the Primary Cluster joined together at Cameley Village Hall with No Added Sugar for a day of sculpture making ([www.noaddedsugar.org](http://www.noaddedsugar.org)). Pupils made figures from a 1950's dancehall, creating sculptures of a band and dancers. Thomas Stewart from Winford Primary School said that it was 'a great experience and I'd love to do it again'. The figures will be displayed in each Primary School leading up to Lake Odyssey and will then be displayed onsite for the duration of the event day.

Chew Valley Youth Theatre have been busy conducting research for their upcoming show, finding out about local life in the 1950's. They have been interviewing residents of the Chew Valley area and discovering local stories, myths, and legends. These interviews will be archived with the Bath and North East Somerset Record Office. Jasmine Loveys, community arts co-ordinator says; 'Oral history interviews are a great source of research for our students and for the Lake Odyssey project to make links with the local community. Some older members of the community have got amazing stories to tell and it's important that these are properly documented and archived'. If you are interested in being interviewed as part of the project, please contact [Jasmine.Loveys@chewvalleyschool.co.uk](mailto:Jasmine.Loveys@chewvalleyschool.co.uk).

There are many more exciting things to come from the Lake Odyssey 2011 project ending with a spectacular display of creative talent at the Lake Odyssey free festival event at Chew Valley Lake on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July. Join us for a great day out for all the family!

## Year 11 News

The sun was shining on May 13<sup>th</sup> as Year 11 enjoyed their last day of school before study leave. After spending the day signing shirts, writing messages in the Year Book and seeing teachers for last minute revision tips!, students enjoyed their 'Leavers Assembly' with Mr Mallett who entertained them with extracts from the letters they wrote in Year 6, and the year team. Exams started on May 13<sup>th</sup> and will last until the Year 11 Prom which will be held at Ashton Court Mansion on June 28<sup>th</sup>. We wish them every success in their exams and send our best wishes for a bright and happy future.

## Year 10 News

Year 10 activities this term were dominated by the success in the Ten Tors challenge. A group of six hand-picked students have completed the gruelling walk with flying colours. The six students – George Worle, Peter Miles, Katie Purchase, Emily Haberfield, Owen Burnell and Jake Rogers – spent two days trekking 35 miles over Dartmoor, carrying a full backpack and camping out overnight.

The selection process had been an arduous and unenviable one for students and Miss Hibbert. The good attitude was summed up by first reserve Alex Lowe who thought only of the team and was happy to be on standby were there a late injury.

On the morning of Friday 13<sup>th</sup> the team met up and were driven to base camp at Okehampton where they had to undergo a strict scrutineering operation by the Army to ensure that all the equipment was up to scratch. They were also given their route and spent the afternoon planning how to best approach the challenge of scaling the designated ten tors (hills) in order. Much pasta and chocolate was consumed before an early night.

Awoken at 4.30am on Saturday the six ate a hearty breakfast and got to the start ready for the cannonfire at 7am. Now they were on their own. At each tor they were checked in by the Army and anxious parents could follow their progress online. They aimed to sleep at Tor 8, but were just too late and had to set up camp at Tor 7. This enabled a good long sleep before rising at 4.30am on the Sunday. They left at 6am for the final trek. Leader George Worle offered to carry a second rucksack on his front to help one of the team and ploughed on despite being unable to see past this rucksack!

Meanwhile, a group of supportive teachers were joined by parents at the finish line. Scanning the horizon with binoculars they searched keenly for the bright green shirts of the Chew Valley team. Eventually, at 1.10pm the team were spotted on the brow of the hill. As they yomped towards the finish, Peter's 8-year-old brother David ran towards them with the school's flag. This was flown proudly as they crossed the line, exhausted, relieved but also exhilarated. The Army provided pasties and drinks and a formal presentation of the coveted medals and team certificate.

It is very difficult to define the impact that this challenge has had on our young people's lives. They have fulfilled the Ten Tors saying that, "They are heroes. Without heroes we are all plain people and don't know how far we can go."

The team are incredibly grateful to all the staff who have given up so much time for them this year. Miss Hibbert has led them with drive, vigour and determination, ably supported by Mrs Nunn, Mr Hawkins, Ms Bailey, Mr Parfitt and Mr Gaynor. Ex-teacher Mr Tucker has also helped with the training sessions. Without this dedication none of the above would have been possible. Chew Valley School has a long and proud history in the event and Year 10 have shown that the future is in very capable hands too.

In late April, Year 10 athlete Lewis Nightingale was one of ten local youngsters selected to receive financial aid from the Arthur Dagger Memorial Fund. He was chosen from a long list of applicants after persuading the trustees that he deserved support from the fund. Lewis says that it will help his training and also with transport costs, such as when he competed in Nottingham earlier in the year. It will help him receive the best teaching, coaching and resources possible as he seeks to improve.

Lewis was one of many athletes to represent Chew Valley at the BANES district event held at the new Whitehall track in Bristol. He won the 3000m to join the following successful competitors:

Oliver Edwards - 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 100m Hurdles

Dani Radford - 1<sup>st</sup> in the 1500m

Connor Kendal - 1<sup>st</sup> in both the 100m and 200m

Claire Hammett - 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 3000m

Lewis Cook - 1<sup>st</sup> in the Long Jump

All six students have been invited to represent BANES at the Avon Championships on Sat June 11th at Yate, as many youngsters who represented the entire school at last year's event. What a talented year group!



## Year 9 News

On Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May we were given a presentation by Gary Lewis from Avon and Somerset Police on the theme of "Child Exploitation Online". This was an extremely worthwhile and important experience for the students and one that also offered them the opportunity to ask questions relating to issues that concern them.

The SATS examinations for year 9 in Maths, English and Science are almost at an end. The students are to be commended for their positive behaviour and attitude towards these important assessments.

We have now ordered some sports equipment that will be available for our students to use at lunchtime. This has been made possible by the efforts of students and parents in contributing cakes to our sale last term. Thanks again to all those who contributed.

A big thank you to Alicia Showering, Healey Loader and Lewis Horseman, along with other members of the "Pond Team" are currently working on a project to clean and maintain the pond next to the dining hall.

We would also like to thank Dan Baxter and Patrick Hall who have volunteered to collect litter from around the school during afternoon registrations.

## Year 9 Rugby 7's Champions!

Chew Valley recently returned from the Wellsway 7's tournament with their heads held high. The thirds reached the semi-final of the bowl, seconds reached the final of the bowl and the first team won the overall competition. All three teams demonstrated an outstanding level of commitment in defence whilst showing impressive handling and evasive running skills in attack. Although all 27 pupils played well, particular mention must go to men of the day - Charlie Hacker (First Team), Jack Mead (Second Team) and James Phillips (Third Team) - who all demonstrated a superb level of work rate and 7's magic! I would also like to thank all the players for their fantastic behaviour and attitude during the day and for their commitment to training this year. After a frustrating season of nearly winning both the county and AVON cups this was a much deserved and hard fought win for all the pupils involved. *Mr Jones*



Approximately 60 girls have been turning up to rounders practice this term. There has been one match so far - Chew Valley beat Writhlington School by 22½ rounders to 10 and the "girl of the match" was Laura Finch. Well done girls - it's great to see so much enthusiasm! Congratulations to all those students who participated in the District Athletics. Details of their individual successes will follow in the next newsletter.

## Year 7 News

This may have been a short term but there has been lots going on in Year 7!

### Matthew James

A special memorial service was held on Thursday 26th May in memory of Matthew James from 7C. The memorial was attended by Matthew's family, teachers and friends, Year 7 students as well as other year groups. The students put together a beautiful and very fitting service including music from Jasmine Lear (7C), readings from Kierra Greenslade, Charlie King, Tom Stone (7C), Siobhan Coles (7V) and Archie Simpson (7W). Tommy Bloomfield (7H), Jasmine Chappell and Rosie Pope (7C) also contributed poems they had written themselves.

The service was followed by a short ceremony to unveil a picnic bench in Matthew's name. The bench was bought with money raised by Tom Stone and Connie Timmouth from the School Council's fundraising team.

Mr Edwards and Miss Parry are really proud of the manner in which Year 7 have responded to the tragic events of last month.

### Battle of Hastings

Swords at the ready! 7W, 7L and 7E recently took part in a re-enactment of the Battle of Hastings. In a follow up to a topic studied in class, the pupils got a chance to experience the Battle as either a Norman or Saxon. Much care was taken in the design of costumes which had to include a helmet, weapon and shield. Thanks to Miss Yana and Mr Webber for organising this activity.



### Enrichment

This enrichment challenge this term was to run one mile. The challenge, as expected, was met head on with some pupils even completing an impressive two miles!



### District athletics

Congratulations to Reanna Nutland, James Vipond, Demi Spatchurst, Grace Harding, Freddie Saunders, Toby Harding and Abby Bray who represented the school at the district athletics at Whitehall track. All the pupils competed valiantly in the first competition of the season.

### Get Set to Boogie

If you see pupils dancing in their form rooms at 8.45 in the morning you are not imagining things! On the 8<sup>th</sup> July, Year 7 will be taking part in Get Set to Boogie and are getting in some much needed practise. The activity will involve pupils (and tutors) dancing continuously to some all time classic dance songs in an initiative based on the 2012 Olympics.

### School Council

Congratulations to the Wildlife team who have managed to secure funding to start building the nature trail in the woods behind the memorial garden; we look forward to some exciting developments in the woods too!

In other school council news, the new Reptile Team have been trained and its nice to see so many Year 7 pupils getting involved, exotic school pets seem to be in the pipeline!

### Rounders

Well done to the year 7 girls Rounders team who have made a great start to training, with over 30 girls showing their commitment; and many new faces to school sport! The team narrowly lost their first match but are working hard at practice for the matches to come.

### Tennis

Well done to the large numbers of year 7 girls and boys who have been attending tennis practice this term! Well done in particular to Ailsa Mackie, Yanni Greaves, Emily Treneman & Ellie Tattersall who recorded a draw against Writhlington in their first match, only narrowly missing out on the win. Ailsa has also been part of the Year 8 tennis team who won against The Redmaids School in their first league match, well done girls!

### Plea from the Textiles Department

If you have any of the following unwanted items at home, they would be gratefully received and put to great use by the textiles department:

Fabric, Yarn, Threads, Buttons, Braid, Old Patterns, Lace, Zips or any other Textile Sundries.

The Textiles department would also like to thank all those who have donated materials - they have been used creatively by pupils in all years. Thankyou

### The German Exchange 2011

Just before Easter Chew Valley School joined forces with our neighbours at Backwell School to welcome our guests from Camerloher Gymnasium in Freising, near Munich.

Everyone was a little nervous on the Friday evening as we waited in the Arrivals area of Bristol airport and questions such as "How do we greet our exchange partners? With a handshake? A kiss? A nod of the head?" were running through our minds but any awkwardness

vanished as soon as we actually met in person and over the weekend we were able to get to know each other really well. Some families went to places of interest such as Wells Cathedral, Weston Pier or Lacock village but after comparing stories, the most popular activity seemed to be shopping!

Our German guests came with us to school on Monday and were treated to some House matches as well as being put on the spot and interrogated in a German lesson. The rest of the week was packed with excursions to the Suspension Bridge and the SS Great Britain in Bristol, the Roman Baths in Bath, St Fagan's open air museum in Wales and the Victorian Pier in Clevedon but no matter the venue, the favourite activity still remained....shopping!

After a hectic week it was time all too soon to say our goodbyes and exchange promises to keep in touch and we are now looking forward with huge enthusiasm to the second leg of the exchange when we will spend a week in Bavaria.

### Oh What A Lovely War!

The Compton Martin players are looking for 6th form male actors to join the company. Rehearsals on Thursdays. Ring Dick Smith on 01761 221264 for further information.

### Host Family Sought

A bilingual French and German family resident in Bonn are seeking paid accommodation for their 16 year old son in the Autumn Term who will attend sixth form classes in school. The family also speak excellent English. A reciprocal arrangement will be available in holiday or term-time for a student wanting to improve their French or German. If you are interested, please contact Mr Mallett at the school who can supply further details.

### Parents' Questionnaire

Would you like to contribute to government thinking as they consider changes to schools and the curriculum?

*Coalition for Education in the 21st Century* is a group led by academics from The Open University and the University of Exeter, and a representative of Birmingham Local Authority. They have designed an on-line questionnaire that you can fill in. They will prepare a summary to submit to government ministers who are consulting about the future of what should be taught in schools. If you wish to participate you can find an online version of the survey at [www.c4e21.org](http://www.c4e21.org) or, if you prefer you can download and print a pdf version from here. **The deadline for completion is May 30th.**

### Parking on Chew Lane

Please could parents/carers avoid parking on the yellow zig-zag lines on Chew Lane. This causes obstruction to the entrance/exit of the school drive and a potential risk to the safety of our students.

### Student Absences

If your child is absent from school it is very helpful if you could telephone before 8.30am and leave a message on the answer phone. Please give your child's name and form and the reason for absence.



### School Society

Contacts:

Chair – Kate Wright (01275 333646); Treasurer – Suzy Matthews (01275 333765); Secretary – Jane Heeley (01275 332621); Newsletter - Liz Dagger (01761 453210) & email [liz@lowernorthend.plus.com](mailto:liz@lowernorthend.plus.com)