



Sixth Form News

As ever, Chew Valley 6th-formers are combining their academic studies with a large number of extra-curricular events. Under the expert guidance of Miss Hibbert and her team a number of students have spent recent weekends hiking impressive distances and sleeping under canvas in training for the upcoming Ten Tors event. In addition the 6th-form girls netball team has just played their last fixture of the school year – a convincing 15-10 victory over the Kings of Wessex School. For many of the team in Year 13 this was their last official fixture representing the school – many thanks to them and to the rest of Year 13 for everything they have put in to school sport over the years. An uncharacteristically lower standard of netball was in evidence when the 6th-form boys were allowed to join in as part of the 6th-form Tutor Group Challenge – 12W ended up victorious!

You will have read elsewhere of the tremendous victory of Harriet White, Jenny Cook and Daisy Ajderian in the Great Shakespeare Debate. Another notable achievement by our debaters was that of Cora Salkovskis and Fred Cotterill – see **Public Speakers** further on in this issue

The entire 6th form was entertained by visiting speaker Chris Matthewman during a recent Enrichment period. Focusing on the qualities needed to get the most out of life generally – and education in particular – he delivered a fantastic presentation which amused and informed in equal measure.

In terms of planning for the next steps after 6th form Year 13 students have just received a booklet from Student Finance England which details how to apply for financial support if starting university in September this year. Our current Year 12 students will be the first year of the new funding regime, and on Wednesday 6th April they visited the UCAS Higher Education convention to continue their research into university in order that whatever decisions they make will be as well informed as possible. The sixth form recently took part in a workshop, French through Drama led by Audrey Johnson, Drama Teacher.

Here are some of the student comments:

Audrey was full of energy and enthusiastic the whole time"

She really encouraged us to completely open up" it was a brilliant way to improve our language and pronunciation and a nice break from stressful A Levels."
Audrey didn't feel like a teacher but that she was one of us having fun with French"

We did great improvising activities which really improved my confidence!

Year 11 News

Drama rehearsals, lunchtimes in the Tech block and evenings on the Mezz have left little time for other more relaxing activities so well done to those of you who have managed to keep up your excellent extra – curricular contributions this term. On the sporting front, the Year 11 football squad have beaten Culverhay, Wellsway and Somervale convincingly this season. More recently, an excellent header by Jack Morris and a committed team performance against St Gregs, which ended in 1-1, now puts the team in the BANES League final. The Year 11 netballers are also in the League final after beating St Gregs (35-14) and Wellsway (34-15). Good luck in the remaining matches!

B&NES SSP Leadership Academy Students Shine at Local Event

Students from the Leadership Academy were invited to volunteer as part of the events team at the Bath Half Marathon 2011. 20 students from schools across B&NES attended and the team were allocated the Goody Bag Station. On the day they distributed 12 000 goody bags to runners as they completed the 13 mile race.

The day started early with the students setting up the area in a very quiet Runners Village. But by early afternoon the sun was shining and the buzz had started as the runners began to stream in collecting their much deserved goody bags. At the peak time 150 bags per minute were being distributed.

Volunteering at this huge event and seeing first hand the organisation was a fantastic opportunity for the students. It was an extremely busy but rewarding day. The Leadership Academy students will continue to volunteer in their own schools and community clubs, as well as being given additional experience at local events. Well done to the Year 11 students involved: Cat Shaw, Ellie Finch and Nik Terrell



Congratulations also to Connie Sheppard who has been selected by Sync Swimming for the I Excel Programme. This is a government backed programme that recognises and supports school aged young athletes who perform at a National Level, aimed at encouraging them to excel in their sport and future career.

Remembering Mr Mallett's assembly on the importance of balancing the mind, body and spirit this year, Year 11 took part in a whole year run during our Enrichment period at the end of March. Despite some initial grumbling and protests of, 'A lap being too far for us to run!', the inter tutor group relay was fiercely fought with 11A emerging as victorious. This may have been because Dan Bray had to run 4 laps to make up for missing tutes! Never mind: well done for raising over £50.00 for Comic Relief and for an entertaining morning.



Mr Sinclair starts optimistically for 11C!

Congratulations to Annie Cowell (11E) who was awarded with the Princess Diana award last year. This prestigious prize is presented to students to celebrate students' outstanding contributions to their school community. As part of the award, Annie, who suffers from diabetes spent the day at County Hall in Westminster on March 23rd where she met other award holders. The UK Climate Coalition were also present to inspire young people to make a difference to their communities.

Finally – just a reminder that, having completed their last full term in school, the focus for the next six weeks for Year 11 has to be revision and exam preparation. Whilst half of the year group will be returning to school next week for 'Study Camp', students are also expected to be revising independently for the rest of the holidays. Work hard, Year 11 – the end is in sight!

Year 11s have been issued with their final examinations timetable starting in May. We would ask that you check and double check the dates and times to ensure punctuality and to keep this timetable somewhere safe! Use the Easter holidays to purchase the correct equipment: black pens, pencils, rulers, calculators etc.

Year 10 News

Year 10 have had a busy term, packed with examples of teamwork accentuated by individual flair.

In the middle of February, two groups performed every night at the hugely popular Dance Festival. There was an Excellent 'Fame' routine by the seven GCSE Dance girls, complete with neon leg warmers and tu-tu shirts. Meanwhile the Year 10 rugby team performed their crapshooters routine (see below) to whoops of astonishment and delight. Both dances were choreographed and rehearsed by the imaginative and dedicated Miss Cooke – many thanks to her.



The start of March saw the culmination of six months' hard work, perspiration and occasional tantrums. "Guys and Dolls" had 98 participants in total, about half of them from Year 10. Ingrid Counsell doubled up to play trumpet and the Irish Salvationist Arvide Abernathy, including the telling line, "Why? Because it's the greatest reward that woman or man can have on this earth. To love and to be loved". Also in the Sally Army were Helena Turner, Emily Turner and Emily Haberfield. Oliver Edwards charmed us with his comic twitches as Rusty Charlie; Kate Lodite sang beautifully as Sarah Brown, falling for the master gambler Sky; Rory Ellis as Harry the Horse; Oliver Harper as straight and fierce Lt Brannigan; Alex Lowe as scheming and ruthless Big Jule. Dancers in the Hot Box Girls included Leah Thomas, with Sian Berkley as voluptuous temptress Mimi. Becky Green was the MC for the dance troupe. Natalie Elias, Paige Farnham-Bywater, Rosie Filer and Amy Chard also danced as "Cuba". The rugby boys' crapshooters dance is now the stuff of legends. Behind the scenes, Claire Hammett and Julia Lawson-Johns were Stage Mangers, with Stage Crew of Sophie Cotterill, Jess Hosier, Chelsea Maggs, Lucy Radford and Jenny Williams. Lydia Sinclair was in charge of costume, including a quick donning of a wedding dress in the boys' toilets at the end! Emerson Kent was in charge of lighting while Richard Stratford-Tuke and Hardy Lipscombe-Mills manned the Follow Spots. Alasdair Dagger assisted with the impeccable sound. In all, it was a very uplifting and humbling experience. As Mr Conway summarised, "We put school plays on because they allow our young people the chance to work together, develop self-confidence, creativity, trust and understanding of others." Guys and Dolls did all that, and more!



The year group are starting to see long-awaited sporting success. Miss Butcher's netball team have had a great end to their season; winning their last two matches and finishing a very respectable 4th out of 9 schools in the BANES end-of-season tournament. These recent results have proven the determination and resilience of the team, who suffered very close losses before they hit their stride, so 'well done' girls! Star performers have included Nehanna Probert, Vicky Jelfs and Katie Purchase.



The footballers won 5-3 against Somervale, Lewis Cook scoring three, George Worle one and Harry Browning one, with Pete Miles man of the match. After losing 3-1 against Wellsway (Lewis Cook scoring, with Harry Browning man of the match), they beat St Gregory's 4-0 with Lewis again scoring twice. Goalkeeper Aaron Greatbanks was man of the match with his clean sheet. Manager Mr Jones (a rugby-loving Welshman) also reports that Kieran Whitfield has been superb both on and off the field.

Lewis Nightingale was rightly proud to represent Avon in the English Schools' Cross Country Championships. He travelled to Wollaton Park in Nottingham and was slightly disappointed to finish 294th. However, he must be reminded that this is his position in the whole of England and also that the Inter Boys includes those a year older than himself. Lewis will continue to train hard and seek to improve on his encouraging performance in next year's championships.

Ten Tors training has continued with two weekend expeditions in recent weeks. Students have carried full packs and hiked over large swathes of Dartmoor under the expert supervision of Miss Hibbert, Mr Hawkins, Mrs Nunn, Mr Parfitt and Miss Bailey. There will be a final training camp over the Easter break (including a proper wild camping night!) and then Miss Hibbert faces the difficult job of choosing the six students most suited to represent the school at the 35-mile event in mid-May. Whoever is selected will do us proud, whilst those who miss out will already have had some life-affirming moments in their training.

Budding number-crunchers have received national certificates in the **2011 UK Intermediate Maths Challenge**. Gold certificates were awarded to Peter Miles, Hallam Kelly, Duncan Salkovskis and Lydia Sinclair. Peter and Hallam have been invited to take part in a further challenge, intriguingly named the Pink

Kangaroo! Silver awards went to Reece Boyes, Robyn Darlison, Matthew Lorraine-Francis, Will Merrick, Amy Chard and Julia Lawson-Johns; with Bronze awards for Laura Harrison, Meg Ogborne, Bonnie O'Brien, George Merriott and Sophie Biddle. Congratulations to them all.



As Summer approaches, Year 10 can enjoy a restful Easter safe in the knowledge that they have contributed superbly to the school's progress so far in 2011.

Stop Press: Congratulations to Bilbie who won this term's house matches in both netball and football.

Year 9 News

Planning is well under way for the enrichment day at Black Rock Activity Centre in June. 109 students will be accompanied on this trip by 11 members of staff. Parents will be notified about final details, including balance left to pay, nearer the time.

Many congratulations to Ollie Morgan in 9A who recently competed in the English School Cross-Country Championships in Nottingham. Out of a field of over 350 runners, Ollie finished in a creditable 145th place.

Ollie Morgan and Alex Monk (in 9W) have been selected for the Bristol Rugby Academy (Under 14's). Alex, Ollie, Alex Price, Jack Tibbs, James Ryan, Lukas Gentle, Elliot Joyner and Ryan Parfitt were all successful in being selected for the Mendip Lions under 14's. Well done to all these boys and Charles Pearce, Jack Mead and Nick Manville who also tried out for the Mendip Lions.

The year 9 rugby team returned from a successful tour to Wales having experienced the historical, cultural and sporting side of the country. The tour kick-started with a game against Glantaf, a school renowned for its success in the Welsh Cup and at producing international players. The game began well with both teams showing a real desire to keep the ball in hand and attack, although it was Glantaf who dominated throughout the first half, putting them in a comfortable lead at half time. However, Chew Valley soon began to string some phases together which subsequently saw Nick Manville and Alex Monk score two fantastic tries, making the final score 48-10. Man of the match was awarded to Wes Lewis and Alex Monk, while James Phillips and Luke Williams played well in their first appearances for school. Later that afternoon, pupils went on a tour of the Millenium Stadium before

watching the Cardiff Blues beat Leinster in the newly built Cardiff City Stadium.

On Sunday morning Chew Valley narrowly lost 7-5 against Llandaff RFC, with the boys creating a number of try scoring opportunities only for the final pass to go amiss. Man of the match was awarded to Ryan Harding and Joe Clarke although all the players played extremely well against a well organised and physical team. The rest of the day saw the boys have a guided tour of Cardiff Castle before a bit of shopping and bowling – which Mr Jones won by a considerable margin!

The following three days were spent participating in a range of outdoor adventure activities at Storey Arms, Brecon. Activities included caving, night walking, canoeing, kayaking, orienteering and gorge jumping, all of which challenged the pupils to face their fears and work as a team.

Mr Jones would like to thank Glantaf, Llandaff, URDD Centre and the Storey Arms team for their fantastic hospitality, while also paying a special thanks to Miss Bainbridge, Mr Hawkins and Mr Brown for their help and enthusiasm throughout the trip. A memorable tour in which the boys represented the school well throughout.



The Year 9 football team has enjoyed a reasonably successful campaign in the BANES league. We began with a friendly against Churchill, the highlights of a 7-1 win being a James Phillips hat-trick, a goal from Corey Tainton, getting a rare chance out of goal and a penalty save from our stand-in keeper, Reg Parfitt. In the league we began with comfortable wins against St Gregs (9-0) and Norton Hill (4-0), with a Rooneyesque over-head kick from Phillips the memorable moment in two one-sided affairs. Against Wellsway despite our protestations, we had to play on a plastic pitch against very skilful opponents, nullifying any plans we had to muscle our way to victory. The 2-5 reverse actually flattered Chew, with late goals from Morgan and Cowell giving the scoreline a degree of respectability. In the game against Culverhay a number of those who've regularly attended lunchtime sessions were given the chance to play in a league game and all acquitted themselves well, although we were rather disappointed with a 1-1 draw against a much-improved Culverhay side. We closed our league campaign with a 7-0 victory against King Edward's, the last 15 minutes being used as an opportunity to let our back five loose up front, Corey

Tainton again scoring and skipper Ed Stowell missing a 2 yard sitter that my mother would have put away! Ed was amongst the scorers however, adding to goals from Ollie Morgan, Fergus Bowen, Joe Bishop (2) and James Phillips. Having asked the lads in 9H to furnish me with all of the relevant statistics for this report, I also feel duty-bound to note that Charlie Salter was man-of-the-match against Norton Hill, James Heron scored 2 against St. Gregs, Joe Cowell ended the season as joint top scorer and Alex Price has made pink football socks this season's must-have accessory. Thanks to all the lads in the squad, who remain a pleasure to work with. (Mr Brown)

The Yr 9 Hockey Team have had another successful season, remaining unbeaten in all of their games. In a recent match they beat Oldfield School 4-1.

The highlight of the season was their success at the BANES District Hockey Tournament where they drew one game and won the rest becoming the **BANES U14 Hockey Champions**.

Well done to all the girls who have played this season, and particular thanks to Laura Finch and Vicky Vipond who successfully captained the team.



The yr 9 netball team had a fantastic victory over the Kings of Wessex school, beating them 9-8. Well done girls, in particular Becky Fenn, who was voted man of the match.

Congratulations to all the year 9 students who represented Chew Valley at the Secondary Choral Day of the Midsomerset Festival, Bath. Both the "14 and unders" and the "16 and unders" achieved an extremely creditable second place. Well done to Jo Shaw, Vicky Vipond, Lucy Chard, Ollie Wright, Joe Terrible, Charlotte Fry, Lauren Durnell, Derri Slatcher, Chelsea Cormack, Marths Scolefield-Johnson, Martha Ridding, Shannon Jones, Steph Moreno, Bobbi Spatchurst and Becky Kirby who all took part.

We would like to thank all parents and students who helped by providing cakes for us to sell at our recent cake sale. We raised over £40. We have now started a fund to provide sports equipment, board games etc for the year group to use at lunchtime.

The school production of "Guys and Dolls" was a resounding success – well done to all those students who took part. As ever, the enthusiasm and commitment of all involved is to be commended.

Gifted and Talented Go World Class!

As part of the Physical Education Faculty Gifted and Talented Programme, 13 Year 9 pupils attended Bath

University for an afternoon of gifted and talented workshops. Workshops included speed work delivered by one of the University's Speed for Sport Coaches, reaction time challenges using a reaction wall along with core stability and flexibility work. In addition there was time to discuss the demands and pressure felt by Gifted and Talented students.

The pupils who attended were: Megan Abernethy Hope, Joe Cowell, Becky Fenn, Laura Finch, Jemima Gregson, Julia Head, Elliott Joyner, Alex Monk, Molly Moore, Ollie Morgan, Lucy Reynolds, Brad Saunders and Vicky Vipond.



Year 8 News

Red Nose Day this year was great fun as ever with Y8 taking part in numerous fund raising events. Y8 queued patiently to watch science teachers wax their legs and soaking teachers was just as popular!

The Year 8 hockey team have finished their superb season undefeated in 8 matches, and winners of the B&NES Year 8 hockey tournament! This is an extremely impressive record, and even more so due to the scores they have produced, including an 11-0 win over Somervale. Jess Harding, Hannah Yateman and Holly Hick all were nominated for player of the match throughout the season. Well done to a fantastic hockey Team! Miss Butcher.



At the end of last term, Amelia Sommer 8W won a B&NES competition to produce an Anti-Smoking Poster. Amelia won a prize of £100 worth of PSHRE vouchers for the faculty and a £50 voucher for her personal use. Amelia was invited to a formal event with members of the LA. Well done Amelia!

On Tuesday 29th March, 29 Year 8 students visited the

Tobacco Factory in Bristol to watch The Comedy of Errors. All the students loved the production and would like to say thank you to Mr Blower, Mrs Currie and Miss Mackenzie for taking them!

Hazel Stockwell-Cooke recently won the Lake Odyssey poster competition. Hazel's poster will be part of the advertising for the Lake Odyssey event.

Well done Hazel!

Year 8 released balloons to mark the opening of the Lake Odyssey festival accompanied by the cast and crew of Guys and Dolls.

Year 7 News

Football

After making great summer signing – **Fabio Cordello** and an encouraging friendly at the beginning of the season where the boys played Churchill and won 9-2 things have not gone quite to plan for the Year 7 football team. We played 5 games, lost 4 and drew 1.

Despite the disappointing results, no fewer than 26 players have benefitted from the squad rotation and there have also been some outstanding performances from Toby Harding, Matt Penney, Kai Long and Tom Osborne. Mr Edwards and Cordello are convinced that this group of players will develop into a strong outfit over the coming seasons if they maintain their dedication to training.

Hockey

The year 7 hockey team have had a fantastic first hockey season, with an impressive 4 wins (Oldfield 14-0, Norton Hill 4-1, Somervale 4-0 and Wellsway 4-0), 1 draw and only 1 loss. The good results are testament to the commitment of lots of year 7's, with some practices attracting over 40 players! The player of the match nominations showed the depth of the team with the following being nominated throughout the season: Corinne Bowen, Emily Treneman, Joss Barker, Ailsa Mackie and Yanni Greaves. The team should be proud of a near undefeated season! Well done girls!



Bridge building

This term's inter tutor group competition called upon budding engineers to plan and build a bridge out of only newspaper and paper clips. The bridge that held the most weight would be declared the winner. The weigh-in was held during assembly and after withstanding a mass

of 17 kg, 7H and Mr Pretty were declared engineers of the Year!



New Kids On The Block!

To add some extra incentive to raise money for the Wraxall Children's Hospice, the fundraising team led by Connie Tinmouth and Tom Stone proposed that the Year 7 tutor team wear school uniform for the day whilst pupils attend in casual clothes! The proposal was put before the team by Mr Edwards and after a condition was set that an extra £100 was raised for the embarrassment, the proposal was agreed. The result can be seen below!



Anti-Smoking Presentation

A hard hitting presentation on the dangers of smoking got the attention of the Year 7 pupils during this month's enrichment activity. Cecelia Farren delivered a stark warning of the associated illnesses in a unique and interesting way. Maturity was demonstrated throughout by all pupils with some teasing questions put to Ms Farren at the end.



Tutor group of the term

Congratulations to 7E who have again been awarded the tutor group of the term.

A Hat Trick of Twerton Visits!

After a successful BANES league campaign, where the Yr11 Football team remained unbeaten, the boys have topped their pool and will now play in the BANES Final. This is the third year in a row that this set of boys has made it to this stage of the competition, having won one and lost one on previous occasions. Beechen Cliff will be the opposition again this year having previously played them a couple of years ago when the boys were in year 9. The final is due to be played the first Wednesday back of the Easter Holidays at the home of Bath City, Twerton Park with kick off being 4pm.

Public Speakers

On the 19th of March, two Year 12 students travelled to Richard Huish College in Taunton to compete in the Regional Finals of The English Speaking Union Schools' Mace competition. Having made it through the Area Heat in February, Cora Salkovskis and Fred Cotterill took part in a topical debate over whether information from Wikileaks should be published by the media. The opposition was stiff but, with Cora's precision allied to Fred's dynamism, the pair proceeded through to the next round, the Western Region Final, along with seven other schools.

Requiring the team to take on the format of short-preparation debate, the final proved to be a very different challenge. Given the motion "This House believes the use of solitary confinement as a punishment in prisons should be banned", the team had only one hour to plan their speeches, with no access to the internet or other resources!! Nevertheless, both rose to the occasion and spoke fluently and passionately during their seven-minute speeches, simultaneously rebutting questions from their opponents, two extremely confident girls from Cheltenham Ladies College.

In a fascinating debate that posed the question of rehabilitation or punishment in the prison system, the Chew Valley team clearly gained the upper hand with their compassionate and convincing points. However, only one team of the eight finalists could go through, and Cora and Fred were pipped to the post by an experienced team from St John's School.

Despite the loss, the Chew Valley team remained upbeat – especially Cora, who went home to a long put-off birthday tea! All the judges agreed that the final cut had been an extremely close call, and hopefully both Cora and Fred will continue to hone their debating skills in the future. Congratulations to them for getting this far!

Salamanca 2011!

For one week in the February half-term, Daisy Ajderian, Harriet White, Emily Abrahams and George Mitchell, went to Salamanca with Mrs Woodward and her husband David for an intensive week at a language school in the historic city. And whilst we did spend time improving our Spanish, we spent a lot of time brushing up our tapas-eating and salsa-dancing skills too!

Arriving at Bristol Airport on the Sunday, none of us knew what to expect from Salamanca. It was a big surprise the next morning when we woke up to find outside our balcony a beautiful city, but one that was filled with life. On our walk to school early the next morning we passed by huge, stone buildings. They looked as if they had come from Bath and then given a strange Spanish twist: *Casa de las Conchas*, for example, is a Library covered in carved stone shells, looming above us on the winding street. Walking past little bakeries where the Spaniards were taking their morning *café* was like taking a step back in time, and yet when we arrived at the language school we were hit with reality: 4 hours of lessons, but not before we had done our entrance exam to assess our level!

We were all relieved to discover that our lessons weren't impossible: we had two gorgeous young Spanish girls as our teachers (which was encouragement enough to George...), and although we spoke in Spanish most of the time, our lessons passed quickly without too many 'Que??' moments. Over the four days we did interesting activities like listening to popular Spanish music and listening for the lyrics, preparing our own role-play to perform (we'll never forget Daisy pretending to be a Spanish man, chatting-up Emily at a bus stop!) and even taking a trip to the town's daily food market, where the memorable sights were mountains of cheese, pig's brains, and Salamanca's own claim to fame: Iberica ham. Legs of this ham were hanging in practically every restaurant and market stall around the city, and Salamanca seemed to be obsessed with what they believed to be the tastiest delicacy in the world – it had better be pretty good, at up to 50 euros a kilo!

A large part of our week was spent doing thorough research into Salamanca's cuisine: it was tough work, and 3 course lunches of lentil soup, grilled fish, and *chocolate con churros* had to be slept-off with a Siesta, before heading out for more sightseeing... and shopping. On our last day, we did an *Amigo Invisible* (Secret Santa) with our language school teachers – a perfect excuse to head out in the afternoon and search through stalls lining the streets. The sellers were really friendly and we chatted to them about our first impressions of the city being very chilled out and safe.

We celebrated the end of our time at the language school with a meal out on the *Plaza Mayor* with our teachers, and then went back to the hotel to pack,

carrying our certificates and our *Amigo Invisible* presents, sad to feel that our holiday had rushed by, but excited about our trip the next morning to Madrid!

Madrid was amazing – a Capital city but with a surprisingly relaxed vibe. We strolled through el *Parque Retiro* and ate our packed lunch in the sun, sitting next to the enormous boating lake. We walked to the Royal Palace and got to explore a handful of its 2,800 rooms, and in one of them we stumbled upon the only Stradivarius quintet in the world. Although the King's bedroom looked pretty comfy, silk wallpaper and all, we decided to rest instead with a final plate of *churros* in a café whose customers included Penelope Cruz!

Leaving Spain, we felt lucky for all the great memories we could take away from our trip, and the confidence we had gained in our Spanish. But it was also quite sad to be leaving after what had felt like such a short time, and because we knew our mums would never agree to making three courses for every meal and letting us sleep in the middle of the afternoon.

Harriet White

Badminton Success-Titles Regained

Following last year's successes as BANES and Avon Badminton champions, this year's teams had a lot to live up to. They have not disappointed! They have gained two BANES District titles (U14 Boys and Girls), one runners up position (U16 Girls) and a third place (U16 Boys). It is worth also mentioning the outstanding role played by our young sports leaders (badminton) who did so much to make the home hosted tournaments the sporting success which they were.

In addition to this Chew Valley was one of only two schools from BANES to enter teams in all tournaments indicating both strength and depth in the sport at Chew Valley School.

Following this success both the U14 Boys and Girls went on to represent BANES at the Avon Championship. With this event bringing the best from each of the local authorities together they was an increased level of competition. The boys played well and were placed fourth. The Girls again had an exceptional day beating all comers, including a team that contained the U15 England Ranked No 2, to regain the title of Avon County Champions.

As Avon Champions the Girls had the honour of representing the County at the South West Regional Championship held at Exeter University. This event gathered the best schools from across the South West together to fight it out for the title of Regional Champions. On the day the girls played extremely well against some very tough competition. In their pool they played the best from Devon, Dorset and Gloucestershire finishing third. In the subsequent play off they beat Ridgeway school (Wiltshire) to gain fifth place (out of sixteen) overall.

Badminton Squads 2010/2011

U14 Boys- Elliott Joyner, Harry Sparkes, Tom Cockram, George Bratchel, Callum Riordan.

U14 Girls-Laura Finch, Vicky Vipond, Jo Shaw, Becky Fenn

U16 Boys-Ollie Vipond, Nick Matthews, Harry Bratchel, Liam Wilcox

U16 Girls-Ellie Finch, Cat Shaw, Mel Wembridge, Katy Cook

A Date for your Diary

The Summer Concert will take place on Wednesday 29th June at 7.00pm. More information available next term.

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.

Parent Pay

Our new method of online payment by www.parentpay.co.uk is operating very well. We would prefer that all parents make payments for their child's school meals in this way. However if this is not viable, please forward a cheque for at least one week's lunch and tuck money with your child to be deposited in the locked Post Box provided in the school Reception. It is essential that you:

Write the full Name of the Pupil and their Tutor Group on the back of cheque Make the cheque payable to 'Chew Valley School'. Place the payment in a sealed envelope.

Homework Policy

Governors have recently reviewed the Homework Policy which is now available to read on the school website.

School Society News

You may recall that the School Society has recently been seeking new faces to join the Committee. The role of Chair on the School Society has now been filled by Kate Wright. However, Kate is now looking for a someone to join her and take on the role of Vice Chair – this now being the only remaining vacant officer post on the Committee. New parents (either to the school or School Society) are very welcome to come straight in as Vice Chair and would have the full support of the rest of committee. If you are would like to find out more, please contact Jane Heeley on 01275 332521.

Meanwhile, the latest Lost Property sale (where all unnamed items are offered for sale for a small donation – all donations being reinvested in the School) was held on 7 March and raised just over £70.

The annual Quiz Night which was to have been held on Wednesday 23 March was scuppered by a last minute disruption in the Chew Magna electricity supply that evening, leaving the school in total darkness and which prompted a flurry of telephone calls to alert participants of the inevitable cancellation. However, not wishing to miss out on seeing our local 'bright sparks' in action, the event was rearranged for Wednesday, 6 April - with Mr Loynton as quizmaster and a total of 25 teams attending. (Details of monies raised are not known at the time of going to press.)

These fund-raising activities all mean that the School Society is able to respond to requests for help in purchasing equipment for the school – the latest being to provide money to buy a large 10 berth tent for use by pupils at such events as Ten Tors, D of E and Year 7 Camp. A big thank you for all your support.

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

