



Year 7 News

Gold rush!

Congratulations to Ella Scott in 7V who recently collected two gold medals in the ASA Southwest Regional Disability Swimming Championships. Ella, a keen sportswoman, competed in four events; the 50m front crawl, breaststroke, butterfly and freestyle. Ella won gold medals in the breaststroke (1.22.33) and butterfly (1.35.33). We wish her every success in the future!

Year 7 hockey

The hockey girls have had a great start to the season by recording two wins out of three. In the first game, and the first time out as a team, the girls recorded a remarkable 13-1 victory against Oldfield. This amazing win could be down to the lollipops that Mr Edwards provided before the game! This was followed by a 1-0 defeat to Ralph Allen and another fine 4-1 win against Norton Hill. Corinne Bowen and Ella Gregory caught the eye. Keep up the good work girls!



Mastermind

This term's inter-tutor group competition took on a Mastermind theme! All pupils took part in a preliminary round within their tutor group and the winner was then offered the chance to put forward a specialist subject which they would be tested on in the final. Amongst the specialist areas chosen were Dr Who, Liverpool FC and Elephants. No stone was left unturned with Mr Hildrew donating his Mastermind chair and Mr Loynton providing a fine (if not a bit Welsh!) impersonation of Magnus Magnusson. After a close contest, Tom Stone 7C emerged as the winner!



Spelling Bee

As part of the school's enrichment programme Year 7 were treated to the final of the Spelling Bee. Over 20 pupils from all tutor groups competed in a really tough contest with the eventual winners; Cameron Wiltshire 7V, Rosanna Pope 7C and Bea Banks being put forward to represent Chew Valley in the area finals.



Cheerleading

Year 7 were well represented at the South Classic Cheerleading competition in Guildford. Daisy Dymond, Abby Lawrence, Anna Hester, Annie Clark, Corey Mahoney, Emily Parker, Emma Gordon, Katie Barry, Kirsty Scott and Yanni Greaves all performed fantastic routines. Daisy Dymond was part of the Varsity team that won first place!

Readathon

All of Year 7 will be taking part in a sponsored read next term. The initiative organised by Mrs Currie will involve pupils being sponsored to read a set number of books over the six week term. The current record is 6 books in 6 weeks!

BOGOF is back!

To get the term off to a flying start Mr Edwards brought BOGOF back for the first two weeks of term on commendations. Pupils are really buying into the rewards system in Year 7 and looking forward to the Alton Towers trip being organised by Miss Parry.

Football

The Year 7 football team got their first taste of secondary school football with a 6-1 defeat to a superior Year 8 outfit. In horrible conditions Mr Monk kept the game flowing with no fewer than 24 Year 7 boys and 14 Year 8 players given the chance to impress. Kai Long and Rob Hunt looked comfortable in goal whilst Matt Owen worked hard in defence. The boys' second game is another friendly against Churchill with Mr Edwards now having the headache of reducing the number of players selected. The full league program starts after half term.



Wildlife team

The first EVER all Year 7 team has been created! It is being facilitated by Jake Benfield and George Phillips 7H. Their aims are to attract more wildlife to school and teach people in school about wildlife. They will be creating a trail in the woods behind the memorial garden – good luck wildlife team!

Commendation challenge

Much to the delight of Year 7 (and 8,9,10, 11,12,13 and some staff!) , Mr Edwards lost the commendation challenge which resulted in him having to wear an English rugby top not only to school but to the live Six Nations opening game! The challenge was for Year 7 to collect 250 commendations (from a starting point of 195) in a two week period in order for Mr Edwards to wear the top to school for a whole day and 300 commendations to wear the top to the game itself. Having thought he had set the mark too high, Mr Edwards, a proud Welshman, looked almost disappointed when he announced that Year 7 had

amassed 317 commendations. That works out as 122 in two weeks! To rub salt into the wound he then had to watch Wales lose the game 26-19.

Tutor group of the term

This term's tutor group of term goes to 7W (Miss Butcher) with 7E (Miss Bainbridge) in second place. It was the closest call yet with four tutor groups all very close and in the running for the Robin Pine award. 7W will take ownership of the Year 7 mascot next term!

Year 8 News

Bristol Zoo visit to Chew!

On Wednesday, year 8 geography students were lucky enough to meet some animals from Bristol Zoo. They are currently studying natural environments looking at the adaptations of animals in different ecosystems. Students came face to face with snakes, cockroaches, lizards and a pancake tortoise. It was an incredible experience to be able to meet such unique animals and learn about the pressures that they are under in their natural environment.



Year 8 rugby

After some convincing wins year 8 got through to the B&NES rugby final against Beechen Cliff School. After a tight game, the score was 17 all at the final whistle. Then it went to penalties, Chew Valley not being too experienced in kicking struggled but it was still close with Beechen Cliff only just scraping over a third to defeat Chew 3-2. Although we lost, we had already secured ourselves a place in the Super 8's final. This meant that in the semi finals we had another chance to beat Beechen Cliff. Unfortunately the end result was a seven point victory to Beechen Cliff, shattering Chew Valley's hope for the super 8's victory.

Year 8 hockey

The Year 8 hockey team have recently played matches against other local schools winning all of

them so far. Well done everyone for your dedication to practice every Friday – it's certainly paying off!

Y8 Cheerleading

We set off at 6.30am from school this weekend to take the coach to Guildford for the ICC Cheerleading competition. We were all very nervous and excited as it was the first time we had taken part in a competition together. We had time for a practice of our routine before we went out to perform to try to settle our nerves. We were all very proud of ourselves as we came 4th in our group! We would like to thank the staff who took us to the competition and for all their hard work and support.

Sophie Pearce, Billie-Ann Wedlake.

Year 9 News

Badminton Champions

Many congratulations to Laura Finch, Becky Fenn, Jo Shaw and Vicky Vipond who have been crowned Avon Badminton Champions.



Rugby News

The year 9 boys rugby team narrowly lost 7-8 against Beechen Cliff in the County Cup Final with Lukas Gentle scoring the only try of the match, with a conversion from Ryan Parfitt. The boys demonstrated superb attacking skills with a number of players making some fantastic runs and offloads. The boys were camped on Beechen Cliffs try line for the last 10 minutes of the game but the opposition showed some superb tackling and rucking skills to prevent the boys winning their second county cup.

In addition to this, the year 9 rugby team also lost 14-17 against Priory School in the Super 8's Semi Final with the opposition scoring the winning try with the last play of the game. The game itself was a credit to both teams as they showed an outstanding commitment in defence, with both teams flying into the tackles. The try scorers for Chew Valley included Alex Monk and Lukas Gentle,

which were converted by Oliver Morgan and Ryan Parfitt. Although a disappointing end to the season the boys have once again shown a fantastic commitment to training and games; all of which are being rewarded with an end of the season rugby trip to Wales!

Hockey Victories

The girls' hockey team have had two impressive victories so far this term – they beat Ralph Allen 1-0 and Wellsway 3-0. Becky Fenn was “man of the match” on both occasions. Well done Becky and well done girls!

Cake Sale

On Thursday 17 February, we plan to hold a cake sale to raise funds for equipment that can be used by year 9 students at lunchtime (footballs, Frisbees, board games etc). Hopefully, we will have the usual enthusiastic response from all students in the year group.

Dance Festival

Congratulations to all our students taking part in this year's Dance Festival. This is always a fantastic occasion and is a credit to the hard work of all staff and students involved.

Year 10 News

Controlled Assessments

It has been a very busy term for Year 10 students. The new 'Controlled Assessment Tests' have taken place in both Geography and English lessons. Replacing the outdated coursework, these assessments take place in silence over a series of lessons. This approach is new to both staff and students, but Year 10 have coped admirably with the stress of it all. They have also managed to fit in a wide variety of activities since Christmas.

Cross Country England Call

In mid-January, Lewis Nightingale represented the school at the Avon Cross Country Championships at Failand. He ran the race hard and was delighted with 9th place in the Inter Boys' section (which includes students a year older). Lewis was very proud to have earned his Avon vest and then represented the region at the SW Schools' Championships at Ilminster. He improved his performance to an impressive 6th place and now will run in the English Schools' Championships in Nottingham. Well done, Lewis!

Youth Parliament

Meanwhile, George Merriott stood as the school's candidate for the UK Youth Parliament. George ran on the ticket of 'Your Say in Education'. He argued that every young person should have the right to

have a say about their education, from how issues like bullying, homework, the curriculum and punishments are dealt with, to extra-curricular activities in school, school meals and school transport. George ran an effective campaign and came a creditable second in BANES, pipped by a student at Writhlington.

Diploma Visit to BBC

In early January our Creative & Media Diploma group went to BBC Bristol for a behind-the-scenes tour. They went into the News West Studio, recorded their own radio play and had a 'shout-out' on the Peter Rowell afternoon show. They also had to practice reading the news using autocue which was much harder than it looks! Finally, they looked around the news room and met the researchers, directors and weather presenters. It was exciting to meet them in person and talk about their jobs and how they got involved with the BBC. Everyone was really friendly and very helpful.



Babysitting Skills Course

It has been good to see seventeen Year 10 students attend a babysitting course after school in recent weeks. The course is giving them the knowledge and skills to babysit safely and have the confidence and skills to deal with different situations responsibly. The first Aid aspect of the course was taught over three weeks and was particularly rigorous. Students were taught first aid skills for both life-threatening and minor injuries, including resuscitation techniques for babies, young children and adults. At the end of the course students will receive an accredited award.

Kickboxing

The first weekend in February was particularly successful for the girls of Year 10. Aston Cook was one of over 1000 kickboxing contenders at the Athens Challenge. The competition was fierce and Aston had to contend against all the emerging European stars. She fought brilliantly to claim two individual silver medals and also a bronze for the ladies' team. In the team contest against Norway, with 12 seconds to go and the score at 6-6, Aston was hit in the eye and couldn't see. She came back to school with an amazing shiner!

Cheer-leader Champions

On the same weekend, the Chew Valley School cheerleading squads left at 6am to take part in the southern national finals in Guildford. Many Year 10 girls are involved in the Varsity squad. They put in an incredible amount of hard work in training and it paid off as they achieved first place, with impressive tumbling shown in the very gymnastic display. Participants included Lottie King, Lucy Austins, Natalie Elias, Steph Wade, Shannon Moysey, Sian Berkley, Georgia Dimick, Chelsea Maggs and Leah Thomas. After a very long day, all of the cheerleaders came home with smiles on their faces!

Ten Tors Training

Last weekend, Year 10 students started training in earnest for the annual Ten Tors event. Thirty two walkers spent Saturday walking a 26km course over the Mendip Hills. After some basic training in navigation it was an ideal opportunity to put theory into practice. After choosing the wrong path from the Burrington Combe start point, the first group improved markedly! Miss Hibbert ensured that all walkers were carrying full backpacks, so that it was a test of physical stamina as well as negotiating the route over boggy land and numerous hills.

Thirty of the students completed the whole trek within eight hours. The next expedition will be in a month's time, based in Princetown on Dartmoor, including an overnight camp. Only six walkers can make it through to the final team to walk the 35-mile event early in May. However, all thirty two will agree that it was a genuine challenge at the weekend, good fun, but tough too, bringing a satisfied glow at the end (and a good night's sleep!)



Year 11 News

Where Next?

A quick peek at our final year group photo reminds us that exams are looming ever nearer. Year 11 have been impressively keeping their noses to the grindstone this term. Many students have been selecting their A/S level options whilst, for those who are pursuing vocational routes, the process of applying for college courses has started in earnest. Well done to those of you who have confirmed places for next year sorted – a great incentive to achieve the necessary grades.

Study Camp

Easter Study Camp was announced in assembly (which will run from Monday 11th – Thursday 14th April) for students who may struggle to revise independently. Take up has been impressive to date but there are still places available so, if you are in need of structured revision, return the consent slip as soon as possible!

BAFTA Winner!

You may remember we have been celebrating the film successes of Jess Milverton in previous newsletters. Forget the BAFTAS, Jess and her group have won the Film Nation Short Film award in the Best Fiction category. The award ceremony was held in Birmingham with Jude Law (!) presenting their much deserved award. Their film 'The Olympic Village' will be shown at the Olympics 2012. As part of the prize, Jess will be attending a 3D work shop at Pinewood Studios in March.

Global Citizenship

Thanks to the Year 11 team who were involved in the highly successful Swap Shop on February 10th. The importance of global citizenship was reinforced during our Enrichment Period on the same day when we were visited by a speaker from Oxfam Education. This worthwhile session was an important reminder of the impact climate change was having on people around the world and a wake-up call to Year 11 to be active citizens in making a stand against global poverty.

Netball Success

On the sporting front the Year 11 Netball team have ended their season with an impressive win against Norton Hill (48-8). The team, who have been a loyal unit, since Year 7 played outstandingly well with superb performances all around.

South African Adventure

Lastly, whilst sunnier weather still seems a long way off, a group of Year 11 students have been planning their summer adventure of a life time for the last eighteen months. Thirteen students and two members of staff will be travelling to South Africa for three weeks. During their stay this hardy group will be trekking through the Drakensberg mountains and completing a community project in Lesotho which will involve the building of a well.

On a rainy night in January, the group planned a highly successful pub quiz fundraiser at the Castle of Comfort Inn. Despite some tough questions 'Which country is the largest tin supplier?' the group provided an excellent and entertaining night! Tickets are available for the next event, a Cheese and Wine evening, at the Compton Martin Village Hall on February 26th. Please e-mail jo.hibbert@chewvalleyschool.co.uk if you are interested in coming along!



Dreaming of a safari

Sixth Form News

Presentation Evening

2011 started on a very positive note in the 6th form as we welcomed back our leavers from last year for our A Level presentation evening. It was excellent to see so many former students and to hear what they have been up to since completing their A levels in the summer. From American Studies to Zoology, the range of courses being studied at university is hugely varied, while other former students have started work or are currently enjoying gap years. The event provided a great opportunity for former students, parents and staff to catch up and we are extremely grateful to the Chew Valley Chamber of Commerce for their generous support of the evening.

Visits – home and abroad

As ever January was a very busy month in the 6th form, with nearly all students sitting at least one public exam as part of their AS and A2 courses. Since the exams have finished there has been a range of trips organised by subject teams. Our English students have been to London to see *King Lear*, while Year 12 Business Studies students visited the headquarters of Yeoman Valley. In addition there are two exciting trips planned for this half-term: the History department is running its annual visit to Washington DC while the Languages department has organised a trip to Salamanca for all A level Spanish students.

Affording University

In the last week we also invited Sue Garrett from the University of Bath into school. She gave a very detailed presentation on Student Finance to Year 13 students who will be starting university this September. Follow the Student Finance link on the 6th Form section of the school website to see the full details of her presentation.

Public Speakers

English Speaking Union Public Speaking Competition: Year 10 Team Pipped at the Post in Bristol Final

The talented trio of Sophie Cotterill, Julia Lawson-Johns and Claire Hammett finished as Runners-up in the Bristol Final of the prestigious ESU Public Speaking Competition - a national event for GCSE students.

Competing against teams from Colston's, Red Maids, Bristol Grammar School and eventual winners Q.E.H, the girls acquitted themselves tremendously well against some experienced campaigners.

In her role as Speaker, Sophie delivered a faultless performance, holding the audience captive when addressing the motion: "The media controls how and what we think". Julia fulfilled her position as Chairperson with aplomb, and Claire was deservedly named 'Best Questioner' of the evening thanks to her astute interrogation of the B.G.S speaker.

The team received glowing feedback from the judges, audience members and Event Organiser Vivienne Wilkinson who described the girls as "wonderful", praising their "magnificent effort".

Having just missed out on a place in the South West Final, the girls are already looking forward to

returning to the fray - we're all sure that they can go at least one step further next year!

ESU School's Mace: Year 12 Tandem Progress to Regional Final

In the ESU's senior event, our team of Cora Salkovskis and Fred Cotterill emerged as Runners-up from their First Round Heat, furthering CVS's emerging reputation as Titans of Talk!

A strong field, including teams from Redland High, Q.E.H, Stroud High and hosts Marling School, lay in wait for our first-time pairing. The school vs school debate format saw Cora and Fred proposing the motion: 'National Treasures should be returned to their country of origin', with each student facing the daunting prospect of speaking for seven minutes!

Our team were more than up to the test, working in harmony to out-manoeuvre the Redland duo with a range of well-researched and convincingly argued points. After questions from the floor, Cora gave a four minute summation, sustaining the poise and articulacy that she had shown throughout the evening. Fred, a relative veteran in the world of public speaking, had earlier spoken in engaging and animated fashion, bringing a potentially stale subject to life.

All roads now lead to Taunton on March 19th (yes, it's a Saturday!!) for the South West Final, where our team face the challenge of an initial debate against the hosts, Richard Huish College. We wish them every success!

And finally...

Three of our Year 13 students have been selected to participate in the ESU's Great Shakespeare Debate in Stratford-Upon-Avon in early-March.

Daisy Ajderian, Jenny Cook and Harriet White submitted a video clip in which they performed a Newsnight-esque discussion about the relevance of Shakespeare in the modern world. Their entry was one of twelve selected from schools nationwide, and they now join the likes of Eton College and Magdalene College School (Oxford) for two days of debating.

This unique experience will include opportunities for the girls to meet resident experts of the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, along with an evening at the newly-refurbished Royal Shakespeare Theatre where they will see a production of Romeo and Juliet before meeting cast members.

The School VLE

Though we are in the infant stage of development a good number of resources are already available on the VLE, including links to SAM Learning and content/tasks for Year 7 History and ICT lessons. Those taking Option ICT in Year 10, 12 and 13 are benefitting from the tracked assessment tools to see their coursework progressing. Some students are enjoying adding their own profile picture and creating a blog which others can access.



I would encourage as many pupils as possible to get involved with the VLE by logging into <http://www.vle.me> (or search Google for "vle.me" and click the ChewVLE result). There is a survey on the homepage once logged in asking for your thoughts on what you'd like to see on your VLE, we'd appreciate your responses for the future!

LAKE ODYSSEY

Chew Valley School is pleased to announce the upcoming launch of the Lake Odyssey project supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. Lake Odyssey is going to be a celebration of art and performance to be held at Chew Valley Lake (picnic area 2) on Saturday 16th July. The event is themed around the 1950's and the lake. This is a community wide project involving Chew Valley School, our cluster of primary schools and local community groups. Various workshops and events will be taking place in the run up to the event so keep a look out and get involved!

The Lake Odyssey launch will be held on 4th March and will involve a balloon launch, a performance from our Guys and Dolls cast, and the announcement of our logo design competition winners!

If you have any ideas or want to get involved, contact the community arts co-ordinator Jasmine Loveys on Jasmine.Loveys@chewvalleyschool.co.uk

Jasmine.Loveys@chewvalleyschool.co.uk

Parent Pay

The system will begin on **Monday 7th March 2011.** **From this date no cash can be accepted at the food counter 'Till Point'.** For your convenience a method of online payment by www.parentpay.co.uk has been introduced. 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.

The online payment system will be able to accept payments for school meals with effect from Friday 25th February with a minimum transaction amount of £15.00, if you are paying by cheque please forward the first payment to the school by this date in order for the pupils' accounts to be credited by Monday 7th March. The system is designed to avoid cash payments but if these must be made, they should be delivered by the pupil to the Finance Office window at break-time.

School Society News

Committee members found!

The School Society has received a positive response to the request for new Committee members and is looking forward to its next big event - the ever popular **Quiz**. This will be held on **Wednesday, 23 March** (7.00 for 7.30 pm start) and, by popular demand, Mr Parfitt and Mr Loynton will be returning as quiz masters for the evening!

Don't Miss The Quiz

Last year's event raised a magnificent total of nearly £1,000. This year, the ticket price remains at £7 per head to include a ploughman's supper. Teams comprise 4 or 5 people – so why not make up a team with friends and neighbours and come along? Watch out for a letter to be sent out to all parents on return from the February break and which will give details of how to order your tickets.

Grab a Bargain

The next **Lost Property Sale** is being organised to coincide with the Year 7 Parents Evening on **Thursday, 10 March** in the Lower School Block from 4.00 – 6.00 pm. All unnamed items are sold for a small donation with all donations being reinvested in the School.

Contacts:

Treasurer – Suzy Matthews (01275 333765); Secretary – Jane Heeley (01275 332621); Newsletter - Liz Dagger (01761 453210) & email liz@lowernorthend.plus.com

CHEW VALLEY SCHOOL IN ASSOCIATION WITH JOSEF WEINBERGER PRESENTS

GUYS AND DOLLS



A MUSICAL FABLE OF BROADWAY

BASED ON A STORY AND CHARACTERS BY
DAMON RUNYON

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY
FRANK LOESSER

BOOK BY
JOE SWERLING AND ABE BURROWS



WED 2ND - SAT 5TH MARCH 2011

TICKETS £7 ADULTS
£4 CONCESSIONS

AT 7.30 PM

FORM PERFORMING ARTS OFFICE

