

# NP news *a world class outlook*



## Headmaster writes:

There is a definite Spring-like feel in the air—blessed relief from the snow and extreme cold—and with it a sense of expectancy for most of our oldest pupils as they eagerly wait the results of their 13+ examinations. The early signs are promising: all ten boys who sat papers for Habs. have been recalled for interview this weekend and we wish them every success. We have recently been listed in the Sunday Times top fifty prep schools in the UK on the basis of test results at Key Stage 2 and our entrance exam results support this positioning. I would repeat that this only tells a fraction of the story because these type of statistics say nothing of other vital developmental issues such as resilience, pupil well-being, strength of character and other virtues. We are reminded of Francis Terry's words when he said that sincerity is to be valued as well as scholarship. Something special is also happening on the games field where our first team have not been defeated in either rugby or soccer since last year. We have a special award ceremony and training session planned for next week for the "invincible XV" at Saracens. Come and support them as they take a lap of honour on the hallowed turf of Wembley Stadium on the 13th February.

Kind regards

Dr. Trevor Lee | Headmaster

## House Digital Photo Competition.



This year, in place of the House Art Competition, we will be organising a House Digital Photography Competition. The event will be open to all boys in Year 3 – 8 with separate sections in each age group. **The theme of the competition is 'Water'.** Subjects can range from a drop to a deluge. Images can be manipulated using Photoshop or similar software and boys can be guided and advised by parents, all we ask is that the image is all the boys' own work. Images submitted should be no larger than A4 size in format, pictures must be entered as hardcopy, e-mailed jpegs will not be accepted. A discreet label on the front of the picture should display the boy's name (first name and family name, please), form and title of picture. **The deadline for entry is 9.00 a.m. Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2010.** Judging will take place on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March. Photographic display will be available for viewing from Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March until the end of term. Winning entries will be submitted into the Prep



School Magazine, Young Photographer of the Year competition. As with any activity near water, an adult should always accompany children; boys must not be by themselves. Before allowing your son to explore or play in the area, point out the dangers and explain where they are allowed to go and where they are not.

Mr S Newton | Head of ICT & Design Technology

## Diary Dates

**Mon 08/02/2010**

Y6 Dress Rehearsal Grimm Tales

**Tue 09/02/2010**

St Columba's 13 + Entrance Examinations

Y6 Production 7.00 pm

**Wed 10/02/2010**

Whole School Staff Meeting 8.00 am

Y6 Matinee Production (am)

**Thu 11/02/2010**

4 + Assessments (am) Junior School

Y6/7/8 Disco 7.00- 9.00 pm

**Sat 13/2/10**

Ist XV parade at Wembley prior to Saracens v. Worcester. [2.00 pm]

**Mon 15/02/ - Fri 19/02/2010**

HALF TERM

**Mon 22/02/2010**

Book Week. Past & Present Scholars Visit to British Museum

**Tue 23/02/2010**

Book Week. Author - Shoo Rayner - Y2-Y5

**Wed 24/02/2010**

Book Week. Author/Illustrator - Ronda and David Armitage (of 'Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch' fame) - Nursery & Junior School

**Thu 25/02/2010**

Book Week

Pupil Forum 10.50 -11.10 am

Governing Body Meeting 7.00 pm

**Fri 26/02/2010**

Book Week

**Sat 27/02/2010**

U8 St. Pirans Football Tournament 10 am -1 pm

## MVP & MIP

*Most Valuable Pupil*

This time we congratulate:

**Thomas Beveridge Y7**

**Alex McCormick Y8**

**Henry Douch Y8**

**Roman Mitra Y6**

*Most Improved Pupil*

This time we congratulate:

**Oscar Speller Y3**

**Rohan Kapoor Y4**

**Alfie Collins Y4**

# Car Park Etiquette

*At all times drive with due care and attention adhering to the following conventions, for the safety of all boys:*

### When bringing your son to school:

- ◆ Always reverse into spaces & alight from the car only in parking spaces. Ensure your son is safely out of the car parking area before you depart. No dropping of in the middle of the car parks.
- ◆ Do not wait at the entrance of the first car park. Use both car parks to avoid queues in the drive.
- ◆ Please depart promptly taking care when exiting the car parks.

### When collecting your son from school:

- ◆ Please park your car and collect him from the member of staff at the designated area, in the main car park.
- ◆ If it is raining, boys will be taken to wait for you under the covered way by the Dining Hall (Y3-Y4) or in the Gazebo (Y5-Y8).
- ◆ They are not permitted to wait in any other area.
- ◆ Once you have collected your son/s, please supervise him/them to ensure their safety and that of others. (Do not let children run round the trees).
- ◆ Please depart as soon as possible to allow others to park.
- ◆ Do not park on Moor Park Estate at any time if you are on school business.
- ◆ Please note—for home cricket/ rugby matches, cars are to park on the field where possible.

We are tightening up the security into school and the electric gates will be closed more often. No one can park here during the day without prior permission from the School Office. Cars are parked at owner's risk. The school accepts no responsibility for loss or damage to property whilst remaining in the school grounds or

As we near half term I would like to thank all parents for attending their respective parents' evenings. These are important meetings as it gives staff and parents an opportunity to meet and discuss progress so far. Year 3 visited Verulamium, one of the major cities in Roman Britain, and enjoyed handling artefacts and looking at the wonderful mosaics. Next week is a very busy week with the Y6 production on Tuesday at 7pm and the Y6, Y7 & Y8 disco on Thursday with some local girls schools; always an interesting night!

### General Knowledge

Twenty three boys from Northwood Prep competed in the SATIPS General Knowledge Quiz today and now we eagerly await the results which will be sometime after half term.



### Chess News

Congratulations go to **Roman Mitra** who won the U12 Championships at the Barnet Schools Chess Competition and the South of England Chess Tournament for the U11's.

### Safety

Please may I remind parents to park and collect your son from the designated area and keep him close to you as you go back to your car as it is a busy car park. With so many cars and children around at pick up we all need to be careful and it would be appreciated if parents would not drive whilst on their mobile phones unless it is hands free. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Mr I Rice | Deputy Head

## May the force be with you.....

On 20th January, 30 children from Y4 at St Peter's School in Rickmansworth joined Y4K for an afternoon of Science. Two big "Forces" activities were arranged for the children, one investigating friction and the other introducing air resistance. In addition, Dr Davies kindly opened up his lab and thrilled all 50 children with a demonstration of the rollercoaster and his Bunsen burner—the high point of the day for many of them! We were delighted to welcome our friends from St Peter's and Y4K proved to be extremely good hosts, during the Science activities and the mid-afternoon break. Both classes enjoyed the experience and we hope to continue our link, with more activities next term. I will leave it to the boys to comment on the day: *I liked doing experiments and meeting people.*

*I liked it when Dr. Davies let us see the rollercoaster.*

*I enjoyed it when St Peter's School visited. I think the teachers picked very good partners. I especially enjoyed the K-nex rollercoaster and K-nex cars. My favourite part was when we went to Dr. Davies's room and saw him use the Bunsen burner. It was nice meeting St Peter's and we made some new friends. My favourite bit was when Faron, Max and I let the box go zooming down the board. I enjoyed the whole lesson because I met new people and liked the experiments. The best bit for me was seeing a 1000°C flame and measuring it with the temperature probe. Most of all I enjoyed pairing up with two St Peter's boys. I really enjoyed the experiment where Dr. Davies lit the Bunsen burner and there was a fire which went up to 1000°C! With thanks to: Alec, Joep, Sanjay, Veron, Brij, Alfie, Arran, Adam, Keeran & Michael.*

Dr E Flinn | Science Teacher

After many different entrance/scholarship exams and interviews this half-term, we await news of our 13+ candidates. Winchester School exams in May complete this year's papers.

Year 8 will receive a record of 13+ results once they are declared after half-term. Year 7 will receive setting information by post.

Congratulations to the 1<sup>st</sup> XI Football team for a third impressive and successive win.

The all conquering 1<sup>st</sup> XV Rugby squad have some excitement to look forward to and there is equal anticipation of the annual School Disco next week when we welcome girls from our sister schools. Thanks to Mrs Lee on the boys' behalf for organising this social function.

This week the national prep schools' General Knowledge competition was sat by pupils who qualified from our own quiz. Finally, the House Digital Photography competition is something for the boys to explore during the week's break.

Mr A Crook | 2nd Deputy Head

## Junior School News

In Junior School we have just put up on display the 'Money' homework sheets that parents helped their children to complete at home. These sheets have made a great wall display and we are so grateful to parents for supporting this kind of homework task.

Children of this age learn best through first-hand practical experience, which is why we ask parents to get involved in these activities. It was also fantastic to see that some boys opted to take part in the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch this year. We have been doing some birdwatching at school thanks to our new camera that is linked to a bird table and we have seen all kinds of garden birds feeding near Junior School. The keen ornithologists who also took part at home and who are pictured in the photograph are (from left to right): **Daniel Rowlands, Sachin Vyas, Elliot Craft, Ankit Chadha, Lukas Blom, James Keeney, Taran Chahil, Rahul Patel, Ishan Patel, Jacob Payne and Max Little.** These boys spoke very knowledgeably in assembly on Monday about the birds that they saw.



This week it has been a pleasure to see the parents at the Junior School Parents' Evenings and I am grateful to the many parents who gave positive feedback about these meetings.

Today Year 1 boys are visiting Gunnersbury Park and hopefully there will be some news about this in the next newsletter.

Miss K McNerney | Head of Junior School

## Mask Workshop

On Friday 12th January, Fenella Lee from Trestle Theatre Company ran four hours of mask workshops with Year 5 in the New Barn Theatre. The boys had a wonderful time playing a series of drama warm-up games before exploring the challenges of mask technique. Some of the masks really came to life as Y5 improvised a series of humorous scenarios. A great time was had by all and the boys will now continue to work on their mask project in Drama.



Mr S Hinton | Theatre Director

## Poems

This week, boys from Y3 to Y8 have composed Sports Poems. These have been inspired by the poem FOOTBALL by Jacqueline Emery, but the boys have taken many varied sports as the subjects for their poems. Swimming, Badminton and Pool are among the more unusual sports as well as the more expected Rugby and Cricket. They are being displayed on a new area in the corridor opposite Mme Tlili's room. Come and read them! Maybe you will be inspired too!

Mrs L Mortimer | ISEN Teacher

## Haiti

Many thanks to all of you who sent in donations for the Haiti Earthquake Appeal. You helped to raise just over £400 for the Disasters Emergency Committee. To find out more information about how your donations will support Haiti, you can log on to its website: [www.DEC.org.uk/haiti-appeal](http://www.DEC.org.uk/haiti-appeal)

Miss S Evans | Charity Co-ordinator

# Ricky Aquadome Mile 21/3/10

As part of Sport Relief Awareness, Three Rivers District Council invite you to come on down to the Aquadrome, Rickmansworth and join hundreds of other local people on your Sainsbury's Sport Relief Mile. While you are in the park, why not discover the wealth of wildlife that can be found in and around these former flooded gravel pits, or check out the many exciting sports on display? The Aquadrome is a Local Nature Reserve consisting of two lakes, grassland and woodland and is an ideal place for walks and picnics for the whole family. Enter the Mile, get sponsored and make a real day of it!



Available Start Times (Sunday March 21st 2010)

Event Opens 10am \*See website for full details and entry fees

1 mile events 12.00pm, 3 mile events 12.00pm, 6 mile events 10.30am

Family Discount and all to raise money for Sport Relief! If you're not skiing then get yourself online and make a morning of it!

<http://www.sportrelief.com/the-mile/rickmansworth-aquadrome-mile>

## District Cricket Trials

This year we have even more boys been selected for the Herts Winter Nets, which constitutes 25% of the total, representing NP at the Three Rivers District level. Good Luck to them in their pursuit of area and county representation and beyond:

Y4 Students	Y5 Students	Y6 Students	Year 7	Y8 Students
Abhay Hirani	Ashane Wijesuriya (Area)	Rushil Soni	Krishen Shah (County)	Kishan Radia (Area)
Brij Kantaria	Sahil Shah	Cameron Pegler (Area)	Kellan Ghelani	Teshan Wijesuriya (Area)
Kailum Patel	Nikhil Shah	Thomas Goulde	Khushil Patel	Thomas Beveridge
	Sahil Patel	Neel Kalhan	Dominic O'Tuminu	Chaneil Patel
	Mustafa Khairullah	Robert Willems	Shakil Karim	<b>Total: 28</b>
	Anuj Patel	Rohan Bindra	Gus Machado	
	Shayen Patel		Sachin Kucheria	
			Neel Bhalla	

## Cricket Shirts and Caps 2010



Shirts and caps are available primarily to the senior school. Most of the boys have one; we will be taking orders for the remaining few. The caps are one size, velcro variety, and the shirts complete with school badge range from: 26-28, 30-32, 34-36. It is recommended that you try on a sample shirt for correct sizing before ordering. These are held in the main School Office. As you may know the ECB regulations strongly recommend that all boys be protected from the sun via caps/hats. **The caps will be sold at £9 each. The shirts are available at a cost of £13.** If you would like to buy any of the above, please instruct your son to ask Mr. Horne for an order form.

Mr D Todd | Director of Sport

## Football Trials

A snowy start to 2010 did not put the complete freeze on our football trials, with students working hard to raise their fitness levels regardless of the winter conditions.

**The U13 1<sup>st</sup> XI have made a great start to the season with a 1-0 win over Davenies, an outstanding 4-0 win away at The Beacon School and 3-0 win away at St Pirans. Is this a repeat of the rugby season!!! It's early days!**

Well done to all those who took part in the January Bleep Test – a tough introduction to the Spring Term after such a long and festive break. Congratulations to the following students for achieving "last man/men standing" status in their respective year groups: Spring Term 2010 Bleep Test Results (January 2010)

Alex McCormick (Y8)

Gus Machado (Y7)

Roman Mitra (Y6)

Aanand Daryanani (Y5)

Alfie Collins (Y4)

Arran Taylor (Y4)

Oliver Forrest (Y4)

Harry Saunders (Y3)

Alex Saunders (Y3)

Oliver Withell (Y3)

## Daily Mail

A huge thanks to you all! At the time of going to press the boys have counted a grand total of 983 mastheads with still a week to go in our pursuit of 1000! A sincere thank you to all those who brought them in from home, ripped them out of a relatives copy or forced themselves to go out and buy a copy! Particular thanks go to Mr. MacNamara who has worked tirelessly visiting shops, local business, public houses and even arranged for tube workers to collect them at the end of the night! Also to Mrs. Bhundia who bought several mastheads on eBay which apparently is within the rules (just!). Thank you also to all those who anonymously put them in the boxes around school – we couldn't have done it without you! This means £300 of Gilbert Rugby equipment should be with us ready for next season and means we have even more money to spend on buying new and replacing old equipment!

Mr D Todd | Director of Sport