



Spring Term 2014

Letter from the Headmaster

Dear Parents,

At the start of this term 29 girls and 26 boys sat their entrance exams to a total of 29 of Britain's top senior schools; ranging from boarding to day, single sex to co-education.

I have been delighted with the scholarships, exhibitions and awards that our pupils have won this year. Specific details will follow after our summer entrance exams are completed to St. Paul's, Hampton, Rugby, Charterhouse and UCS. However, I can report that, thus far, 10 girls were offered a total of 20 awards from 9 schools. 13 boys were also offered 20 awards from 8 schools. With these figures we have eclipsed the last bumper year with the number of awards, number of pupils winning awards and number of senior schools making the offers!

However, I would repeat what I say to all prospective parents, please do not judge us by the number of scholarships we secure but rather by the rich diversity of schools to which we send our pupils. The destination of every leaving pupil is unique to their talents and skills and this is the true service of a highly successful preparatory school.

Another highlight was hearing from MTS, that we managed an extraordinary, 100% entry, with all our boys being offered places. Well done to those who have secured their places and good luck to those 6 who are still to write exams in the coming term.

On this note, I would add more numbers before I close, as statistics appear to be something of a theme, January saw us assess 145 pupils for Reception in the coming academic year. The next generation of Orleyans are ready to embark on their journey. I wonder what stories I will be writing in 9 years time about their exploits!?!

However, for now, the summer term beckons full of promise and packed with exciting ventures!



KEY DATES

Future Schools Evening

Thursday May 1st 2014

7.00pm—9.00pm

Saturday

Open Morning

10th May 2014

10.00am—12.00 noon

Expeditions Week

30th June—4th July

2014

Year 5 Showcase

Year 5 gave their parents a chocolaty treat with their showcase performance of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. The audience were entertained as 'Augustus Gloop' was squished up the river pipe, 'Violet Beauregard' blew up like a blueberry and 'Verruca Salt' was mercilessly thrown down the rubbish shoot! The 'Fab Fives' were fabulous as always in their performance of 'Pure Imagination' and most importantly the children



appeared to thoroughly enjoy themselves. What a talented year group!

Maths Challenge Day

Mrs Harrison and Mrs Cliffe organized a Maths Challenge day. There were puzzles, puzzles and more maths puzzles. Maths all day and a 240 mental maths Behemoth.

'use three identical digits in a simple addition sum to make the number twelve. You may not use the digit 4'

Answers on a postcard please.....



Upper School English News

Our Year 7 pupils were able to experience both ends of the cultural spectrum in one afternoon!

A trip to see the fantastic Royal Shakespeare Company performing The Taming of the Shrew (complete with bearded men in dresses!) was preceded by a tour of Queens Park Rangers Football Club's stadium at Loftus Road. The sun shone and the afternoon, which was full of delights and surprises, proved to be most entertaining.

Our Year 8 pupils set off to the Criterion theatre to see the hugely entertaining play, The 39 Steps. This witty and cleverly staged play was a real theatrical treat and the boys thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The culmination of our term in English was the Upper School Verse Speaking finals, held on the morning of Thursday 27th March. Pupils, parents and staff, were treated to a morning of inspirational words and music with the finalists performing their poetry beautifully.

Our adjudicator, Ms Anna Paul, Head of English at The John Lyon School, was truly impressed with the range of poetry and the quality of the performances. Well done to all of the finalists who made the English department very proud, and particularly to the winners: Year 8 – Freddie Tyrrell, Year 7 – Sohil Vishram, Year 6 – Om Chikane.

Charity News

The children have been involved in raising money for the Centre Point Charity. They have achieved this by having a sponsored skipathon.

So far they have raised an amazing £581.86. That is a lot of skipping

Well done!



Year 5 trip to Hampton

Court Palace



Year 5 spent the day at Hampton Court Palace.

The sun was shining as the children were transported back to the time of Henry VIII and his wives. Dressing up in regal clothes from the past was also great fun.

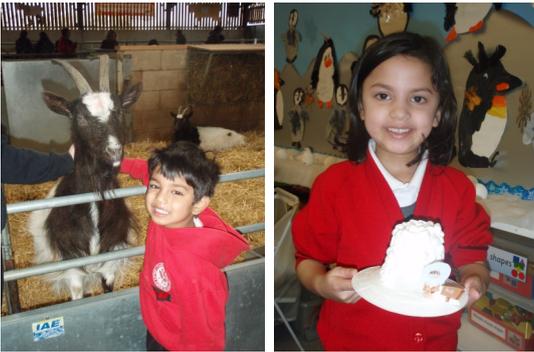
Our Year 5 pupils entertained us when they performed superbly during the Year 5 music competition. Many solo



performances took place on a variety of instruments and then we were treated to 3 doses of 'Tequila!'

This was played amazingly well with each form bringing a slightly different interpretation to their version.

Fun in Reception



Reception have had a busy spring term. They were inspired by the story of 'Immi' and made their own igloos out of marshmallows. As part of our International Day Reception came



dressed in national dress from Fiji. They travelled around the continent of Oceania with their passports.



Spring also brought the arrival of 10 eggs which we successfully hatched. It was incredible to watch them grow and to make small pens for them so they could run around and shake their tail feathers!

We had a wonderful day at Odds Farm Park where the children bottle fed the kids and also fed lambs and goats.

Middle School Verse Speaking



Congratulations to our Middle School Verse Speaking Winners.

We were treated to a very impressive selection of poems punctuated with musical interludes.

Our adjudicator, Mr Philip Rosenthal, was equally impressed and mentioned that his senior boys at Westminster would have been bowled over by the standard of our poetry presentations!



Year 3 & 4 Spring Concerts

The Year 3 and 4 Spring Concert was the perfect tonic for us at this point in the term. The amazing rendition of 'This Old Man' in all 4 parts! Incredible!



Hakuna Matata!

Year 4 had a wonderful time when they went to the theatre to see a performance of 'The Lion King'.



Year 3 at RAF Hendon

Year 3 spent a lovely day out visiting RAF Hendon. The children got to experience a war time classroom which was so interesting and very different from our class-rooms here at Orley. They did some writing with a special ink pen and they made their own gas mask boxes. Our pupils came back with name tags and identity cards so they were like real evacuees! Lots of large war planes were admired and a few even got to see a Chinook landing.



Year 1 National Gallery visit

During their visit they were fortunate to have enough time to walk into Trafalgar Square and dance with a street performer! The children learnt so many interesting facts about the paintings which will no doubt inspire their art from now on.



Boys' Sports Round Up

Despite probably the wettest ever rugby season, we still managed to play a total of 42 matches, winning 19 and drawing 4, and scoring 1380 points in the process (252 tries and 60 conversions!). In rugby tournaments, our 1st XV squad won the Plate Competition in the U13 St. Martin's 7s Tournament and came third in the U13 Durston House 7s Tournament, whilst our Colts A squad also came third in the U11 Durston House 7s Tournament. Brothers William and Luke Seagon created a little bit of history in becoming the first siblings to captain the 1st XV and Colts A teams in the same season – and great jobs they did as well!

Orley Farm Basketball enjoyed another successful two terms, winning five of their regular matches and reaching the semi-finals of the annual Orley Farm Basketball Tournament.

Pictured below are our U8 A rugby team



and also below, our basketball squad...



Girls' Sports Round Up

The girls have been involved in hockey, netball and football fixtures this term, 24 in total. All girls from Years 3 to 7 have represented their houses and almost all girls have played in competitive fixtures against other schools. (It would have



been all girls, if not for the weather related cancellations!). Additionally, we have entered five tournaments, being runners up in the plate at the UCS hockey tournament and coming 3rd at our own hockey tournament here at OFS. In what is traditionally our hockey season we also managed 3rd and 4th places (of eight teams) in the St Benedict's netball tournament. Priyanka Patel (5C) picked up the 'defender of the day' gaining the award out of approximately seventy girls! A fantastic achievement, well done. Our U11A team represented us at the IAPS regional tournament. Finally, we seem to have built fantastic links with hockey clubs outside school, in particular with



Harrow Hockey club. The team consists of ten players, six of whom come from OFS! We are looking forward to next term with lots of rounders and athletics fixtures as well as a lacrosse taster for the older girls.

Congratulations to our Old Orleyans



Dr. Aaron Hughes
(pupil at Orley Farm School 1992-2001)

From Orley Farm Aaron went on to University College School, where he took A-levels in Biology, Chemistry, Maths and Geography. Aaron then went straight on to University College London Medical School, where he did an intercalated BSc. in Pharmacology in his 3rd year, and completed his medical degree in 2012.

Aaron started his Foundation Programme post graduate training at Luton and Dunstable Hospital, and moved to The Whittington Hospital for his second year, in various rotations including general medicine, surgery and A&E. He then applied for speciality training in the field of Core Medical Training (general medical training) and has been offered a job for 2 years at St Thomas's Hospital. His long term aim is a career in Dermatology.

Congratulations to Abhishek Mukherjee who has been accepted to read maths at Cambridge University.