



MAGNUS

May 2011



The Newsletter of Great Baddow High School



Headteacher's Letter



Dear Parents

It was with great sadness that the school received the news that Mrs Law (Head of RE) died last week after a long illness. Mrs Law had worked at Great Baddow High School for twenty years and will be greatly missed by her colleagues and by her students. We will pay tribute to Mrs Law in the next edition of Magnus and we are planning on creating a quiet garden area in her memory. I am sure you will join with us in sending our deepest sympathies to Mr Law and his daughters.

Recently I had the pleasure of joining Year 10 students on the Paris in Springtime visit. Again, further information is in this edition, but I would like to comment on the outstanding behaviour and attitude of the students who took part. We often receive very positive feedback from tour companies and venues etc. when our students go on trips and visits but it was great to experience this first hand. The number of extracurricular trips and visits organised by the staff at Great Baddow is testimony to their commitment but also reflects the excellent relationships between staff and students and the enjoyment experienced by all participants. This term has also seen the ski trip and the Year 12 geography field trip to Swanage take place.

Thank you to everyone who returned the Kirkland Rowell surveys recently. This company conducts surveys on behalf of schools across the country and compares our data with all other schools. The questionnaire issued is a standard one and it is likely that we will repeat it every two years so that we can continue to learn from this form of feedback and see improvements over **time where this is necessary. You will be aware that we also seek feedback at parents' consultation evenings** which gives us specific information about issues relating to that year group.

Following our consultation on conversion to Academy Status a summary and a document containing all Q&A, concerns and comments have been available via the portal since early May. The TUPE consultation (relating to staff employment) will finish on 10th June, after which the **Governors will make their final decision about whether or not to convert. If you haven't had time** to read the post-consultation documents, please be assured that the school would make no changes as a consequence of change of status to e.g. staff pay and conditions, school terms or length of day, uniform or the name of the school.

We have said our formal goodbyes to Year 11 and Year 13 students this week but look forward to seeing them at their proms, both of which take place on July 1st, and on their results days. In the meantime they will be facing a challenging period of exams. Year 12 students have AS exams and Year 9 and 10 students also have some GCSE modules this summer. Our students have worked hard and have been well-prepared for these exams by their teachers in lessons and through additional revision activities. The next few weeks will be demanding for them – and possibly for you! – and, on behalf of all of the staff, I wish them the very best of luck.

Finally, I look forward to seeing many of you at events during the next half term.

With best wishes,

Mrs C Lynch



The London Marathon

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to students and staff for the support I was shown over the past few months, which was overwhelming. The encouragement that I received while preparing for the London Marathon was amazing.

I completed the marathon in 4 hours and 34 minutes, an achievement of which I am very proud.



With the help of staff I completed my fundraising by organising a Year 7 disco. Students enjoyed a fun filled evening and with their help we raised £241 from ticket sales and the sale of refreshments.



In total, and with the generosity of many, I managed to raise £2,300 for a charity that is close to many people's hearts.

On behalf of the Learning Support Department we wish all the students a happy half-term holiday.

Sam Dale,
Teaching Assistant



STUDENT REWARDS - SPRING TERM 2011

The following certificates were awarded to students last term:

Awards	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Platinum	Diamond	Headteacher's Award
Year 7	233	230	207	150	88	3
Year 8	214	185	95	52	18	1
Year 9	52	29	5			
Year 10	28	14	1			
Year 11	22	12				
Totals	549	470	308	202	106	4

SIGNING CHOIR NEWS

The Signing Choir decided that they would like to raise some money for charity and to purchase tee-shirts for the choir to wear to perform in. The chosen charity was Sense – a charity that supports deaf and deaf/blind people.

Lucy Kings, Joshua Looney, Laura Talbot and Katie Rolfe (Year 10) came up with the idea of running an **Easter competition. An enormous Thornton's one and a half kilogramme chocolate bunny was bought,** together with other prizes of delicious Easter eggs. The students gave up their break times to collect donations from students and staff in exchange for an Easter draw ticket. Mrs Lynch kindly offered to draw the winning ticket and the lucky winner of the **chocolate bunny was Mrs Brewster, who runs the school's reprographics** department.

There were nine other winners:

2nd – Mrs. Gee, 3rd – Lee Hart 8N1, 4th – Mrs English, 5th – Mr Chew, 6th – Jack Gair 8C, 7th – Katie Harragan 8E1, 8th – Sam Orrin 7W1, 9th – Miss Wheeler, 10th – Miss Rodea

The students also ran a 'Guess the Number of Eggs in the Jar' competition. Jasmine Smail of 7N1 was the winner - guessing correctly the exact number of eggs in the jar - 241. The students and staff in the RBHS would like to thank everyone for their generosity in supporting these very worthwhile causes. In total the Signing Choir raised £188.85.



A delighted Mrs Brewster with her chocolate bunny!

Miss Wheeler, Mrs Farmer and the GBHS Signing Choir



Mrs Lynch draws the winning tickets.



Sam Orrin of 7W1



The 241 eggs won by Jasmine



Jack Gair of 8C



Mr Chew



Mrs Lynch with members of the Signing Choir

Jack Petchey's "SPEAK OUT" Challenge!



On 26th April, Year 10 School Council representatives took part in a Speak Out workshop, sponsored by the Jack Petchey Foundation. In the morning sessions the students were coached on how to deliver a convincing speech and in the afternoon they were given the opportunity to put theory into practice by choosing a topic on which to deliver a two-minute speech. The topics ranged from "Why I love my Mum," to "The Only Way is Essex". After some very difficult deliberation from Miss Bousfield, Mr White and Miss Rodea, the winners, who were put through to the regional final, were as follows:

	Name	Topic
1 st	George Shaw	Facebook? Disgracebook!
2 nd	Iona Chard	Stage fright
3 rd	Celine Jennings	Harry Potter versus Twilight

The regional final was held at Woodlands School on 5th May and involved fourteen local schools. In a workshop beforehand, Celine Jennings was chosen as one of four reserves from across the region to participate on stage. George Shaw and Celine performed admirably against schools that have been competing for many years. Both were highly commended by the judges and given good marks but unfortunately were not placed in the top three.

This is certainly an event that we will be continuing to support in the future so look out for the next round of competitions.

Many thanks to the supporters who joined us for the event and for their fabulous banners – the cheering and clapping certainly made the public speaking less nerve-wracking!



Continued...



Quotation from George Shaw:

“It was a great experience for me and all the other students who took part in the competition. I spoke about Facebook and the trouble it has caused society. Eighteen students across central Essex from many different schools spoke about a subject that they felt strongly about, from pogo sticks to stereotypes to the effects of smoking.”



All of the speeches were either incredibly funny or very serious and the participating students delivered their speeches professionally and with a lot of confidence.

I hope the Speak Out Challenge continues in our school to give other students the opportunity to stand up and speak about something that they are passionate about.”

Miss S Rodea

Recognising Achievement

The Jack Petchey Foundation is a charity set-up to encourage young people to raise their aspirations, believe in themselves and make a contribution to their society.

Every month, the Jack Petchey Foundation recognises the good work done by young people in London and Essex by offering awards in every school across the region. These awards consist of a badge, a certificate and a £200 cheque which can be used for any project in the school that the winner wishes.

Any pupil in the school can be nominated to receive a Jack Petchey award and these nominations can come from fellow pupils, teachers or parents. The nominations can be for ongoing good work, both in school and in the wider community, as well as sporting achievements, or even a particular event that the young person has been involved in.

There are two ways to nominate: At the school's reception area there are nomination forms and a box for entries, and we have now created a link on the school portal site so that parents and pupils can make on-line nominations.

To make a nomination, please sign in to the school portal site and look for the Jack Petchey symbol. Clicking on this will open a nomination form – fill in your details and the information will be sent to us.

Miss S Rodea



First-Aid/Illness

Please remember our first-aid staff are not medically trained other than to deal with minor **accidents and injuries**. **Therefore if you have any concerns about your child's health you must contact your GP as school staff are not allowed to make judgements about medical matters.** If your child is unwell, please do not send them to school.

Sudden Illness During the Day

With regard to illnesses that develop at school, the first aid staff will make a decision as to whether the student is well enough to return to class or needs to be sent home. If a student needs to be sent home, the school will contact the parents so that you can make the necessary arrangements to collect them. Please note, we will never send a child home without parental agreement.

It is not acceptable for a student to contact you directly to request to be picked up during the school day (first aid staff will do this on their behalf if necessary). Students who are unwell must report to the first aid staff in the student administration office. If this requires a student to leave a lesson, the teacher will issue them with a pass to allow them to visit the first aid staff.

There have been an increasing number of occasions when students have been coming into school when they are already clearly ill. If your child is suffering from sickness and/or diarrhoea, they should be kept away from school for a minimum of 48 hours to reduce the spread of infection to the school community. They should be symptom free for a minimum of 24 hours. The overall health of all of the children and families in our school is very important and therefore we endeavour to prevent the spread of any infectious illnesses.

Please also remember that it is essential that you contact the school immediately to advise **us of your child's absence and the reason for it**. **The school has a voicemail facility on which messages can be left 24 hours a day.**

We are grateful for your co-operation in this matter.

Medication in school

If your child is on medication which they need to take while in school, the medication can be stored safely in the medical room. For reasons of health and safety the following will be required:

- **The medication is to be supplied in the original packaging bearing the student's name and tutor group.**
- A signed letter from the parent detailing what the medication is for and the correct dosage. Please be aware that without parental consent we are unable to dispense the medication.
- Under no circumstances should students carry medication of any sort whilst in school.
- **It is the child's responsibility to remember to take the medication – the school cannot be held responsible for reminding students.**
- If the medication is required to be taken home at the **end of the school day it is the student's responsibility to collect it from the student administration office.**



Food Technology News



YEAR 9 CH&FS ROAD SHOW A visit from Colchester Institute's Centre for Hospitality and Food Studies

Martin Fordham, the chef lecturer from Colchester Institute's Centre for Hospitality and Food Studies, visited the Food Technology Department just before the Easter holiday to present the CH&F'S Road Show to Year 9 students. This was an opportunity for students to find out what further training opportunities exist after GCSE for students interested in hospitality and catering as a possible future career.

Here are some of the views of the students who took part:

"The chef who came in was really good. It was interesting and we even learnt how to cut a chicken. I also enjoyed trying the food and I tasted some new things." *Jack Jordan*



Pat Wilkinson watches how the chef divides the chicken into eight equal portions.



Pat's not quite as keen when the Chef French-trims the chicken leg and the knife scrapes into the bone!



"A chef came into school from Colchester Institute. He showed us how to prepare different meals and explained to us about the catering course and what it can lead on to. It was a very enjoyable day and I would like to do something like it again. My favourite part was the cake competition as it was very funny. The day was informative and the food was lovely." *Abigail Whitby*

"I thought that the chef was very good and he showed us some very interesting foods. The day was made fun and interesting as there were competitions and demonstrations. He taught us some very useful things, like cutting a chicken and how to cook; they will be useful for the future and in life. The food was very nice and it was very interesting and fun to learn and watch." *Flora Compaccio*

"I really enjoyed the Road Show. The chef from Colchester Institute demonstrated how to get the most out of your Sunday chicken. He also cooked a stir fry and apple dessert. But my favourite part was being able to try and make the gateau in four minutes, even though I didn't win." *Sam Cooke*

We all enjoyed the experience and were happy to be asked to do it as one of the only two groups in the year group. It was good to try new foods that a professional cooked, like stir fry and caramelised apples with cream. When he cut and prepared the chicken, it was very interesting. Everybody joined in and had fun and he included people when he asked us which herbs were which and gave out free chef's hats. Also, when he asked for people to race against our teacher, Mrs Athey, and make a gateau. The overall experience was enjoyable and all pupils found it great.

Continued...



For those who remember the programme, the Strawberry Gateau competition was like the one of the tasks from the Generation Game.

Sam Cooke, Chloe Fowler and Mrs Athey had four minutes to assemble the cake and present it to the same standard as the chef had done. As ever, the expert had made it look very easy but the **competitors found it to be more of a challenge, especially as we suspect that Mrs Athey's piping bag had been sabotaged.**

This is what the finished gateau should have looked like.



Martin went on to show us how to make a stir fried vegetable and rice dish which all of the students then tasted. He was interested to find out how much knowledge we have about using herbs and spices to flavour food and we had a quick competition which involved recognising spices from their aroma.

Finally, Martin prepared a dish of caramelised apples which he served with a toffee sauce and whipped cream. Once again the students were invited to sample the food.

All staff and students involved thanked Martin for bringing the road show to our school and we hope he will be able to fit us into his busy schedule next year for a repeat visit.

Mrs Cunning
Head of Food Technology



COVER ARTWORK

Harriet Reynolds

12C

MODERN LANGUAGES

EUROVISION

SONG CONTEST
DÜSSELDORF 2011



Cheesy songs, foreign flags, crazy hats, voting for your neighbours... Yes, it was Year 9's turn to celebrate Eurovision again this year.

In MFL lessons throughout the week prior to the big final in Dusseldorf, Germany, pupils represented one of the forty-five participating countries in Europe. They researched basic facts about the country, made flags and hats and researched some basic words in the language of their chosen country. When it came to the all important voting the results were just as surprising as the real thing.

Pupils really enjoyed themselves and it was a good opportunity to research countries from all over Europe - but it is such a pity so many competitors sang in English!

Mrs Fox
Head of Faculty for MFL



"In German we have done the Eurovision Song Contest which was held in Germany this year. We had our own song contest.

We got into groups of three or four and picked a team out of the hat. My group got France, which was the favourite before the actual show.



We brought in flags, banners, hats and tee-shirts to support our countries. The tension was unbearable. I had to introduce the countries before their songs.

In our class Denmark was the champion but in the real contest Azerbaijan won. Eurovision was the best part of **the year in German.**" Dominic Punt

Continued...

"In our recent German lesson we did the Eurovision Song Contest. We learned about how the voting works and the numbers in the countries' own languages. Each pair of students had to pick the name of a country out of a hat and had to make posters and flags for our chosen nation."
Alex Martin



"In our German class we have been learning about the culture and Eurovision is an important time of year. This year the competition was held in Dusseldorf in Germany. In class we all chose a country within teams and then brought in flags, tee-shirts and banners to support our country. After listening to all the countries using the Eurovision scoring system, in the end it was Denmark that won." Katrina Fox

"In our German lesson on Wednesday, things were not as normal. We were split into groups and each was allocated a European country. We then took part in Eurovision. We learnt about the voting system and listened to many different types of music. Everyone enjoyed themselves and learnt a lot about another culture. Not an ordinary German lesson!" Sam Yates

"On Wednesday 11th May we had a Eurovision lesson. We were put into groups of two or three and each group had their own country. We had already picked our countries randomly from a hat the week before. We listened to the country's songs and afterwards we voted for the best song with the proper Eurovision scoring system. Gemma Andrews and I had Denmark and we won over all. Everyone had also made banners, hats, flags, etc. for their country. It was really fun and a highlight of the year." Laura Talbot

Work Experience

Well done to all those students who have already arranged their two-week work placement for September. All other students need to have a private placement (green form) in place before Friday, 19th June.

Those students who have chosen from the website and received confirmation of their placement must return the student/parent agreement reply slip signed by the student and the parent.

Also, please do not forget to return your medical and consent form to school.

Mr Addicott and Mrs Jeffries





For one week every year schools across the UK help to raise money for The Children's Trust through the sale of doughnuts.

The Children's Trust is the UK's leading centre for children with multiple disabilities and in particular children with acquired brain injury. The



Children's Trust is there to help these children and their families, providing unrivalled care, education and therapy.

As a Healthy School we follow all national food guidelines, of course, however Mrs Perry, our catering manager, felt that during the National Doughnut Week we should make an exception for such a good cause.

Students and staff alike were tempted by the array of doughnuts on offer and enjoyed a rare treat!



The final total raised was £509.20.

Many thanks to Mrs Perry and all the kitchen staff for making this such a successful event.

Springtime in Paris



Twenty five students recently returned from a three day trip to Paris, which they all appeared to have thoroughly enjoyed. We were accompanied on the trip by Mrs Lynch and Miss Lynch. The group were very well behaved, courteous and enthusiastic.

We experienced many traditional Parisian delights, such as the magnificent view and fabulous architecture associated with the Sacre Coeur cathedral. After this we enjoyed the bustle of Montmartre for an hour, looking in shops and taking in the atmosphere. Having climbed by foot to the top of the Arc de Triomphe, we settled for an evening meal at a restaurant very close by. The students were very tired when we returned to the hotel and slept well, in preparation for a full day at the Parc Asterix theme park the following day. One of the highlights of the theme park was a magnificent dolphin display, which many of the students enjoyed. The evening was spent shopping **at the large Val d'Europe centre with its array of familiar and less-known boutiques.**



On our last day we had a tranquil river cruise along the Seine before braving the lifts for the ride to the top of the Eiffel Tower.

Over the course of the three days we were lucky enough to have fantastic weather, a very comfortable hotel, stress-free journeys and most importantly, a delightful group of students. We are confident that this will be a good memory for them in years to come.

Mr N Wilson
Modern Languages

"This hasn't been like work... It has been an absolute pleasure."



Great Baddow Young Fire-fighters



Back in November 2010, six students from Great Baddow High School joined other students from various schools as they embarked upon a journey to become a Great Baddow Young Firefighter while also completing their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award.

Katie Rolfe (10C), George King (10N1), Chantal Lee (10C), Ben Howard (10S2), Hadden Turner (10W1) and Joshua Pemberton (9W1) arrived at Great Baddow fire station on their first evening not knowing what to expect, but they soon learned what they were about to face.

Lead instructors Andy Brown and Martin Hills introduced themselves to the group and then they introduced the other instructors – Carl Pullen, Ean Summerfield, Andy Harding, Mark Wilby, Lee Vandyke and Mick Jakes. They then explained the course to the students, telling them what was to be expected. They then threw them in at **the deep end by giving them all the commands that they had to learn and know by heart along with the 'roll call' drill** that was to be completed on the parade ground at the start of every session.

The group was then shown around the fire station, stopping off at the kit room to see where their 'fire gear' would be stored. It was an absolute mess when they first saw it and Andy made it clear that when they were at the station it would be kept absolutely spotless (which for teenagers is a big ask!).

As the weeks progressed the students went from strength to strength, learning new fire skills each week. They learned a variety of things from pitching a ladder to the first and second floor of a building and lifting a casualty, to building a dam and tying knots to haul a hose aloft.

Then, in May, on the completion of their Young Firefighters' course, the group embarked on their practice expedition walk for their Duke of Edinburgh award. During this they learned yet more new skills, including map reading, compass bearings and how to pitch a tent. While they were camping some of them even learned to cook.

They all did extremely well, however some of them may have underestimated just how heavy their bags were going to be. They returned home to a good meal, warm house and comfortable bed, albeit with blisters, back ache and bruises.

Finally, on Thursday 12th May the entire group marked the end of their hard work by attending the Great Baddow Young Fire-fighters Passing Out Parade, when they were awarded certificates for completion of the course. We are sure you would join us in congratulating this group and wishing the very best of luck for the real expedition.

Mr Butcher, Miss Wheeler, Mrs Batts, Miss Sudnik and Mrs Read

Many thanks to Mrs Rolfe for providing the photographs.



George King's watch takes instructions from course leader Martin Hills.



The group arrives for roll call drill on the parade ground.



Chantal Lee prepares a hose for hauling aloft.

More photographs on the next page...



Chantal Lee and Katie Rolfe work with their watch to haul the hose aloft to put out a first floor fire.



Ben Howard performs CPR on an unconscious patient.



Ben Howard receives his certificate at the passing out parade .



Chantal Lee receives her certificate at the passing out parade.



Katie Rolfe receives her certificate at the passing out parade.



Hadden Turner receives his certificate at the passing out parade.



Mr Butcher is presented with a group photograph for the school.



Mrs Batts is presented with a group photograph for the Resource Base for Hearing Impaired Students

Sports College News



An interesting start has been made to our summer schedule. With what seemed like Bank Holidays galore to start the term, it has taken a long while for the students to get into the summer programme, particularly the athletics. As a lot of the events are very technical, regular attendance is needed to develop in those areas. Our main sessions are after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays for most events and Saturday mornings for field events. We also take selected athletes to the indoor area at Melbourne Stadium on Wednesdays after school. There are a number of other sessions for all activities at various times throughout the week so students must check our club timetable for details.

Having now competed in the first round of the national athletics competition, a positive performance was put in by all four of our teams and hopefully the commitment to training will now increase as we prepare for the second round and the defence of our district titles.

The term started with us concluding a number of events from the winter season. Our Year 9 **boys' football team unfortunately failed to retain their district football title, losing a very competitive game to Chelmer Valley High School. Our U17 girls' basketball team put up an incredibly bold fight at the National Basketball finals in Nottingham with a very depleted side due to injury. Please see the report from Miss Nicholson under the heading Girls' PE.**

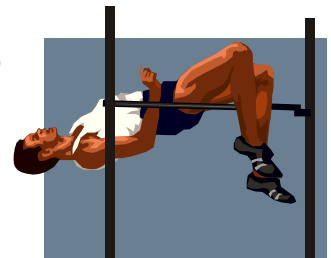
With our summer sports programmes now well underway, we hope there is something on offer that will attract your son or daughter.

Paul Shears - Acting Head of PE

Boys' PE

Athletics

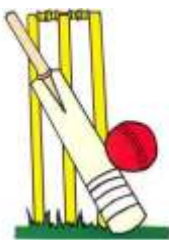
The season is now in full swing with lots of training available to all who want to attend. We have the normal excitement from our Year 7s wanting to try everything, however we do also need the commitment from all our other age groups if we are to successfully defend the clean sweep of district titles that we won last year and give ourselves the chance of reaching another national final.



With the first round of the nationals having taken place and two solid performances by both teams, a serious three weeks of dedicated training by all would give both teams an outstanding chance of reaching the finals.

Cricket:

The cricket season has now started, with all our teams unbeaten and both our Year 7 and 8 teams winning their first round of county ties. We look forward to another successful season ahead from all our teams. Unfortunately, with a lot of club players now part of our squads, we are starting to encounter the problems of fixture clashes. The nature of the competitions is that when we win a round one week we have to arrange to play the next round the following week. Therefore we cannot supply a full fixture list. If club cricketers could supply their fixture lists we will endeavour to avoid any clashes.



Paul Shears (Acting Head of PE Faculty)

Girls' PE

Although a short half term, it has once again been a **busy few weeks for the girls' PE** department.

On Sunday 15th May the **U17 girls' basketball team** travelled to Nottingham for the national basketball finals. The team played Greig City Academy in their first game which unfortunately they lost. This meant they played for third or fourth place against Taunton College. The girls won this game therefore finishing third in the country in this age group.

The team comprised: Megan Parrott (captain), Franki Moody, Ellie Miners, Becky Roberts, Gaby Oxlade, Sophie Hankin, Shannon Matthews, Beth Robson, Amy Rodgers, Louise Corfield and Charlotte Bennett. We are very proud of their achievement and would like to thank all of the parents who supported the girls throughout the season and on this day.



On Tuesday 17th May we took to the track in the first national athletics competition. The junior team combined pupils in Years 7 and 8 and the inter team combined pupils in Years 9 and 10. We had a very successful day of events and there were some outstanding performances.

Special mention must go to Moesha Howard in the hurdles and high jump, Amy Clark in the 300m and triple jump, Zoe Dorrington in the 800m and shot putt and Elona Woodford and Emily Ley in the 1500m. We will find out shortly if the teams have progressed to the regional finals.

Rounders is proving to be very popular and we are looking forward to fixtures and the district rallies in the different age groups. We have also entered the cricket competition this year and were very **lucky to have an England ladies' cricket team** player join our Year 7 PE lesson for some specialist advice.



We are looking forward to welcoming Year 6 pupils (our new intake Year 7) after half term as they start a six-week introductory course. This will allow the pupils to make new friends and also allow our current pupils to put their coaching skills into practice.

Gifted Programme - Meet some of the stars of your school:

Here at Great Baddow we have a number of students who enjoy success in athletics. Five of these students are particularly successful competing at county level or above.

Joe Ellis (Year 7) competes in many different athletic events, specialising in hurdles. He began competing at the age of eight and trains for approximately four hours a week. His proudest moment to date is winning the Essex Championships 75m hurdles, breaking the championship record and gaining UK ranking one for 2011.



Elona Woodford (Year 7) competes in both cross country in the winter and athletics in the summer. Her main event is 1500m and she set a personal best time this month. Elona competes at both county and regional levels, training approximately three hours a week. She also competes at county level in field hockey, training one and a half hours a week and is a level 12 gymnast, training another twelve hours a week. Her proudest moment to date is winning all the Pope and Smith cross country races and leading out the team for the national schools gymnastics championships.



Moesha Howard (Year 9) competes indoor during the winter season and outdoor during the summer season. Her main events are hurdles, sprinting and long jump. She began competing at the age of seven and trains for approximately six hours a week. Moesha has achieved some excellent times and distances and is currently ranked third in the UK for both 60m hurdles indoors and 75m hurdles outdoor. She is also ranked sixth for 200m indoor, seventh for 60m indoor, twelfth for 100m outdoor and thirteenth for 200m outdoor. She has achieved a number of podium finishes at county and regional championships. Her proudest moment to date is competing and achieving standards at national championships last year.



Amy Clark (Year 10) competes in many athletic events, specialising in the pole vault. She began competing at the age of eight and trains for approximately six hours a week. Unfortunately Amy is unable to represent the school in pole vault as this event is not available for girls in the national athletics, in which the school has seen much success. Her proudest moment to date is winning the Essex championships and coming fifth in the inter-counties in her first year.



Ben Clark (Year 12) is very successful in many events including the long jump, decathlon and high jump. He began competing at the age of nine and trains for between eight and nine hours a week. Ben has achieved some excellent times and distances and is currently ranked seventh in the UK for decathlon and eighth for long jump. He is also ranked twenty-seventh at high jump, fourteenth at 60m hurdles indoor, twenty eighth for 100m hurdles outdoor and twenty sixth for pole vault, amongst others. Ben's proudest moment to date is going to the English Schools and reaching the long jump final and the relay final.



We wish all these students luck in their sporting endeavours.

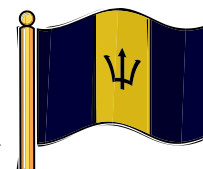
Miss Carter

P E Department



Barbados 2012

Twenty two students will be heading to Barbados from the 8th to 15th February 2012. The visit will allow students to play a number of matches and benefit from the high standard of netball played there. It is also intended that the girls will visit a school for the day to compare it with our school.



Fundraising is going well with £777 raised by the quiz night and £705 from packing bags for shoppers in Asda. Our latest fundraising event was bag packing in Tesco at the start of May which raised a further £600.

We will be holding a Race Night next half term so please check the website for more details if you would like to come.

If you would be interested in sponsoring the trip, or know of any companies that might be interested in sponsoring the trip, kit or equipment then please let Miss Nicholson know (nch@gbhs.co.uk).

We are sure this will be a trip of a lifetime for the Year 7 and 8 pupils involved.

Miss Nicholson

Head of Girls' PE



**Don't
FORGET!**

A REMINDER THAT FRIDAY,
24TH JUNE 2011 IS AN INSET
(NON-PUPIL) DAY.

PARENTS' CALENDAR - SECOND HALF OF SUMMER TERM 2011

Monday	6 June	First day of second half term	ALL
Wednesday	8 June	6.00pm German Exchange Meeting	Various
Thursday	9 June	Year 10 Parent/Teacher Evening	10
Friday	10 June	Year 12 study programme ends	12
Saturday	11 June	Essex athletics championships	Various
Monday	13 June	Regional round of national schools athletics	Various
Wednesday	15 June	Years 7 to 9 girls' inter house rounders	7 to 9
Friday	17 June	SPORTS DAY	ALL
Tuesday	21 June	AS Product Design students to Design Museum	Various
Wednesday	22 June	District athletics at Melbourne Stadium	Various
Thursday	23 June	13:15 to 15:15 Year 11 Clearance Day	11
Friday	24 June	INSET DAY 3 (Non-Pupil Day)	ALL
Monday	27 June	Year 11 Sixth form induction at Mersea	11
Tuesday	28 June	Year 11 induction to Sixth Form at Mersea	11
Wednesday	29 June	Year 11 induction to Sixth Form at Mersea	11
Thursday	30 June	Year 11 induction to Sixth Form in school	11
Friday	1 July	All day technical rehearsal of School Production 13:15 to 15:15 Year 13 Clearance Day Year 13 Prom at Three Rivers Year 11 Prom	Various 13 13 11
Saturday	2 July	National Deaf Signing Choir Event in West Bromwich	Various
Monday	4 July	German Exchange departs – returns 11 July School Production rehearsal RBHIS "Together Day" (actual date to be confirmed) PE Gifted and Talented Day to Danbury Outdoor Centre	Various Various Various Various
Friday	5 July	School Production rehearsal Year 7 reports to parents Year 9 SATs reports issued	Various 7 9
Wednesday	6 July	German Exchange visit departs	Various
Thursday	7 July	Year 10 Business trip (prov) School Production 19:30 Author Visit	10 Various 7
Friday	8 July	PASTORAL DAY 6 School Production 19:30 Year 12 Business Studies residential trip departs	ALL Various 12
Monday	11 July	Year 12 Business Studies residential trip returns Concert Band and Senior Choir depart for tour to Austria (returns 18 July)	12 Various
Wednesday	13 July	German Exchange visit returns	Various
Thursday	14 July	Year 10 Business visit (prov)	10
Friday	15 July	Year 8 rewards trip	8
Wednesday	20 July	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL YEAR	ALL

EXAMINATION RESULTS

Thursday	18 August	AS/A2 Results Day
Thursday	25 August	GCSE Results Day