



# BRIGHTON COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

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## Life goes on, despite the snow!



Although the weather eventually led to the partial closure of the college and its Pre-Prep and Prep schools for day pupils, the large boarding community remained on campus and enjoyed a specially prepared programme of activities including, inevitably, snowballing – under supervision of course!

Everyone at the college appreciates the huge effort made by pupils, parents and staff to get to school this week and ensure minimum disruption to those pupils preparing for examinations. We look forward to resuming a normal timetable as soon as possible.

## Shadow Secretary of State for Defence meets college Cadets



Dr Liam Fox MP, the Shadow Secretary of State for Defence, visited the college at the end of last term and met a dedicated group of cadets who gave up the first morning of the school holiday to demonstrate their capabilities. After visiting the shooting range he saw a climbing lesson before observing two training and leadership exercises on the Home Ground. Dr Fox was briefed by officers of the college CCF and by a senior MoD representative on the important work of the CCF programme nationally. As a result of his visit to the college he has tabled a number of parliamentary questions to the government on future funding and the policy of restricting overseas pupils participating in CCF activities. Afterwards he expressed his admiration for the pupils and remarked that he was particularly impressed by those he chatted with.

## Green Week @ Brighton College

The first speaker in the new Head Master's Lecture series will be Dr Caroline Lucas, Leader of the Green Party and MEP for SE England. Dr Lucas will be speaking in the Rose Lecture Theatre at 6.00pm on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February as part of a number of events which are being organised for 'Green Week'. Her talk will be titled "Do good lives have to cost the earth? The challenges of the economic and environmental crises". Parents are warmly invited to attend, and should collect tickets from Reception. Afterwards, punch and canapés will be served in the Library.

## Lower 3<sup>rd</sup> Performances

The Lower 3rd completed their first term with a well-received theatrical triumph. The whole year group took to the stage in two plays, "Twas the night before Christmas" and "Christmas..Why do we do that?" The audience marvelled at their skills and showed their appreciation of the hilarious representation of historical figures associated with Christmas. Four members of the Common Room, Mr Debney, Mr Dunn, Mr Merrett and Miss Grayling, trod the boards expertly, alongside the pupils, making it an unforgettable evening. We are looking forward to their next major performance in the Summer term!



### ***The Proposal: A Pupil Production.***

A very busy end to the term in Drama saw three plays in a row at Montague on the final Tuesday of term. The two Lower Third Christmas pieces were followed by a production of Chekhov's short comedy, 'The Proposal'. The play tells the story of a nervous hypochondriac attempting to propose to his neighbour's pretty daughter. Relationships crumble as the pair get into two ridiculous arguments, first over land ownership and then over the quality of each of their dogs. The part of Lomov was played by Charlie Hayton, and Natalia by Bella Hornby, with Jonny Amies as her father. The show was directed with aplomb by Oriel Bathurst, the audience very much enjoyed the rows between Lomov and Natalia and the manner in which they gave way to nervous exhaustion on Lomov's part. Jonny Amies was full of blithe confidence as Stepan Stepanovitch.

## Brighton College choristers sing live on BBC Radio 3

Two college pupils and two Old Brightonians were involved in live broadcasts on BBC Radio 3 over the Christmas break. Rebeccah Considine and Chris Waite, both now Choral Scholars at The Queen's College, Oxford performed in a broadcast of Evening Prayer given by the Queen's College Choir in St James' Catholic Church, Spanish Place in London on 23 December and James Way and Patrick Edmond both in the current Upper 6<sup>th</sup> performed as part of the Rodolfus Choir in their live broadcast of Choral Evensong on 30 December. Members of the Rodolfus Choir are selected from participants in Eton Choral Courses and both James and Patrick performed as soloists in the broadcast.



## **Maths Challenge: 54 Gold, Silver and Bronze medals**

College pupils broke their previous record success in the National Senior Maths Challenge, run by the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust. The top 40% of students nationally receive a gold, silver or bronze certificate in the ratio 1:2:3 and each institution receives a Best in School certificate. College pupils scored a tally of 18 Golds, 24 Silver and 12 Bronze medals.



## Tea with Caro King

Bea Carroll, (4<sup>th</sup> Form Seldon) is to be congratulated on being runner up in a writing competition and will be going to a tea party with the author Caro King, at Quercus Publishers next week. The first in Caro King's Seven Sorcerers series was published in 2009, the second, titled *Shadow Spell*, is due for release in April.



## Mandarin speakers reach final

Over the Christmas holidays, Sam Evans, Imogen Riley, Jake Jones, Michael Stevenson, and Jack Rysdale from the Lower Fifth, as well as Jack Wheaton from the Lower 3rd, went to London and took part in the first round of the British Council Mandarin Speaking Competition. They performed a humorous sketch, completely in Chinese, about problems when seeing the doctor, and did an excellent job. They have now been selected to go through to the final round of the competition which will take place in March. Good luck! 加油



## Clock Tower Sanctuary: Thank You!

Emily Aspinall (U6 Williams) has passed on 'A big thank-you' to everyone who sent in donations of cash, clothing, games, lamps and books for the Clock Tower Sanctuary. "I gave all of these to them just before Christmas together with a cheque for £250 for which they were very grateful. I have since had a very nice letter from them in which they ask me to pass on their grateful thanks to you all. Thank you also to the Williams girls who continue to consume vast quantities of crisps and chocolate each week keeping the Tuck Shop in business!"

## Important information on admissions

The college has not experienced such demand for places in living memory and the Admissions staff are dealing with an unprecedented number of enquiries. Families considering Brighton College should call as soon as possible to ensure they do not miss out. Registration for admission to the college at 11+ closes on 15 January (assessment takes place on 16 January). All enquiries can be made directly with the Lower School on 01273-704369. Enquiries about all other age groups should be directed to 01273-704201/2.

# Sports News

## Elite Footballer

Congratulations to Tom Spofforth (4<sup>th</sup> Form Ryle) who has been selected for the U14's Full Elite Football Squad to go to Gothenburg for the World Youth Cup this summer. Prior to this, he will also be attending training sessions at Valencia FC where he will train with their staff - and be treated like a professional footballer for a week!



## Cross Country Bronze

Well done to Tom Holborn (L6th) ran for Phoenix AC in the Sussex AAA's cross country race at Stammer Park, needing three team members to score. He was the third Phoenix runner in (14th position overall) and helped his team secure bronze medals for themselves and club.

## And finally...

Don't forget that Brighton College is one of the few major schools to send updates on news via Twitter. The service has already become very popular with parents and businesses and we hope to expand the service during 2010. Twitter subscribers can follow the college by searching for Brightoncollege.

**Editor: David Gold**



[www.BrightonCollege.org.uk](http://www.BrightonCollege.org.uk)