



The Kings' Messenger

THE KINGS OF WESSEX COMMUNITY SCHOOL *A Specialist Technology College*

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Friends

It is a pleasure to write to you for the first time in my new role as Headteacher of the school. I would particularly like to extend a warm welcome to all new parents. Students in Year 9 have settled into the school extremely well and I have received many favourable comments about their progress. We have, of course, been exceptionally lucky with the good weather at the start of this term which may have contributed to the very positive and busy 'feel' of the school.

In September we held our annual Awards Evening with presentations made by The Bishop of Bath and Wells. It is always very pleasant to join with parents and members of the community in celebrating the success of our students in all the varied facets of school life. Some 140 students actually received awards and their sense of pride in their achievements was evident. Examination successes are of course a significant feature of the Awards Evening and they were reflected in the excellent results achieved by students last year: 69% of students had 5 or more GCSE passes in the A*-C range, and at 'A' Level a very impressive 98% pass rate was recorded.

We have recently received the news that the school will have an OFSTED inspection later this year from December 2nd – 5th. The Inspection will be a short inspection for the main school with an "enchanced" Sixth Form Inspection. OFSTED states that short inspections are for the "most effective schools" and, in essence, these are scaled down inspections which do not report in detail on each subject. However, the Post-16 inspection is far more intensive and will involve a detailed, subject-based inspection of Sixth Form provision. This form of inspection is quite usual and ties in with the Government's focus on Post-16 education. As a school we can look forward to the OFSTED inspection with the confidence that it will recognise and endorse our proven record of success over the years. Parents have the opportunity to meet the Chief OFSTED Inspector and to express their views on the school at an open meeting. I will write

separately with further details, but the date of the meeting is Monday November 25th at 7.30 p.m.

This year we enter the second year of our terms as a Specialist Technology College. The additional funding that we have derived from this has been invaluable in developing our ICT facilities, but what is truly exciting is the way that this is beginning to have a real impact on the curriculum and on students' learning. At our recent INSET day (18th October) the theme was 'ICT and Learning' and teachers were involved in a series of workshops relating to new developments. A special word of congratulations is due to Angela Vivian ("I.T. for the Terrified" or IT4TT!) and Simon Williams (Technology College Manager) for their achievement in winning the social cohesion category of the European Union E-Week Awards in Paris. In addition, they won a special award for the best overall presentation in the face of high powered, multi-national competition.

I should like to ask for parents' support in two areas. Our student planners in which students record their homework are a very positive ingredient in our partnership with parents: please can I encourage you to check and sign them regularly, and thank the many who already do so. A different concern relates to parking congestion in the Leisure Centre and, in the interest of safety, I would ask you not to pick up students from this area.

Finally, a reminder that the school will be closed to students for half-term, and for one Staff training Day, from Monday 28th October to Monday 4th November, inclusive. When we return tickets will soon be on sale for "Christmas Cabaret". Do come along for an enjoyable evening and to support the P.T.A. and the real contribution they make to the school.

Yours sincerely

David Dams
Headteacher

TECHNOLOGY FACULTY - MANUFACTURING CENTRE

The new manufacturing centre, even this early in the new school, is proving to be a fantastic asset to the Faculty. It provides an excellent area for ICT based work, as the centre is roomy, cool and airy in hot weather and very well equipped.

At a basic level it provides a much-needed ICT facility, central to the department for design groups to use. This is useful for whole group work or as a “drop in” for students working on individual projects.

In Year 10, Resistant Materials groups have been learning how to use ProDesktop. This is the CAD (Computer Aided Design) software we have in school. This is very good for generating 3D designs and giving them realistic material effects. When available, CDs for ProDesktop can be taken home for developing skills outside of School.

Year 10 Resistant Materials students have also been learning how to use the software to run the Boxford CAM (Computer Aided Manufacturing) machinery. This has involved the use of the lathes and milling machines. An after-school club runs from 4-5 p.m. on Wednesdays - see Mr Kemp for details.



*Students using
the MT2
Lathe/milling
machine*

When Year 9 start using the facilities later in the year, I hope students will see the potential and be interested in opting for the GCSE Engineering/Manufacturing course next year.

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

Since the last time anything was written about the Award Scheme at The Kings of Wessex, we have had quite a successful summer and autumn:

In July we saw 12 students successfully complete their assessed expedition on Exmoor in wonderfully sunny walking conditions. Six of the students were in the Upper Sixth and have since moved on to University. The other six were in the Lower Sixth and are now planning for their Gold Award. All that remains for these students to do is to complete their logs of their journeys and any other sections outstanding. They can then receive their Silver Awards in January.

This month, and last, has seen a lot of activity. In September we had no less than sixty Year 10 students enrol in the Award. They commence their expedition training as you read this, and in many cases, they have already started their skills, service and physical recreations.

During the first four days of October, nineteen Year 12 students ventured out onto Exmoor for a practice expedition. Base camp was at Burrowhayes near Porlock, and proved to be **extremely** wet! However, it did not dampen spirits enough to stop the students "enjoying" the next three days hiking in the beauty of eastern Exmoor.

The following week the expedition season at The Kings of Wessex was rounded off by two separate assessed Bronze expeditions for 54 students in Year 11. Everyone successfully finished their expeditions, though in some cases, navigation needs to be improved before setting out on the Silver part of the programme. Again, these students need to finish their logs of their expeditions and a deadline has been set for them to have these finished by the end of half-term. They also need to get the service, skills and physical recreation sections finished to gain their Bronze awards and then move on to the Silver award.

Finally, I have emphasised that students need to get the relevant sections finished to gain their awards because there is an Award Ceremony scheduled on **Friday 17th January 2003** at Wells Cathedral School. All those who are, or will be, eligible to receive an award will receive an invitation for their parents and themselves. So please, parents, could you encourage your sons or daughters to finish the bits and pieces of their awards.

Dr. Dave Ellis



SCIENCE NEWS

We welcomed two new teachers, Eric Holdsworth and Jonathan Friend, into the Science Faculty this term. Being able to appoint two experienced Physics teachers in these days of shortages was quite a feat! Both have settled into the Faculty – it feels like they've always been here and we're very pleased to have them.

After half-term we will be joined by Katie Pennicott from Bristol University for four weeks. Another Physicist and a female one at that. She will be helping with several classes.

Several Science trips and visits have been planned for the next half-term e.g. Year 12 and Year 13 to the Bodyworlds exhibition, Psychologists to an OCR Conference, and some GCSE students to the Faraday lecture.

DRAYCOTT CHARITIES

*Educational grants from the Card Educational Foundation are available to any pupil who lives in the "hamlet of Draycott". Grants are given for such things as instrumental lessons, equipment, educational visits etc., but are **NOT** given for transport or ski trips. The amounts vary from £25 - £150.*

Applications should be made in writing to Mrs H. Dance, Leighurst, The Street, Draycott, BS27 3TH, before 20th November. Applications will be heard at the meeting of Trustees which, this year, will be on Monday 25th November.

For help or further information please telephone: 01934 742811

CZECH EXCHANGE 2002

On Friday, 18th October, 31 students and 4 members of staff from The Kings of Wessex take off from Bristol Airport bound for Prague in the Czech Republic. This is to participate in the second leg of the exchange which started back in May when the Czech students visited Cheddar. We are very happy that the exchange is continuing in light of the tragic floods which occurred in August. At the same time we are a little apprehensive about what damage has been caused and what we will see. The citizens of Prague have had to put up with traffic jams every day as the underground system is out of action due to the flooding, but hopefully it will not hinder our visit.

More news when we return

WORK RELATED LEARNING

STUDENTS VISIT JOB SCENE

Eighty-four Year 11 and Sixth Form students travelled to Cardiff International Arena on Friday 4th October to attend *Job Scene*. This was the first such visit made by students to *Job Scene* and students were given the opportunity to obtain information and advice on a wide range of career and further education opportunities.

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

Year 10 students are given the opportunity of organising a placement for a week during the summer term in an occupational area of their choice. Take-up for the scheme is almost 100% which translates to between 250 - 270 placements.

A number of employers, both locally and further afield host our students on a regular basis and we are most grateful for their ongoing support of the scheme. A broad and diverse range of occupational areas are covered and students gain a real insight into their chosen field.

During the second-half of the Autumn term students will embark on finding a placement of their choice for the week commencing Monday 9 June 2003. We already have a large database of placements but are always looking to add to it. If you are an employer or an employee and would like to become involved in our scheme, please contact either

**Diane Cornelius: Connexions Somerset Personal Adviser (Careers) or
Barbara Taschimowitz: Work Related Learning
Co-ordinator (01934 742608)**

From Summer Night's to Midsummer Night's (via *A Little Shop of Horrors*)



After months of planning, and weeks of auditioning, rehearsals are now well underway for this year's production of '**A Midsummer Night's Dream**'.

The incredible talent of our students means that, once again, we have two separate casts, each performing twice. This year we are also using the impressive design skills of a number of students who are designing the set, and, along with Lucy Thorogood's help and guidance, designing and constructing the 200+ costumes needed for the performance.

The performance details are as follows, with tickets going on sale in January:
Wednesday 12th – Saturday 15th February at 7.30 p.m. in the School Hall
Ticket prices : Adults £5.00 Children & Concessions £3.00

Watch this space!

The Covenant Players

On the 18th and 20th September, all of our Year 9 students and our Year 10, 12 and 13 Drama students were able to work with ***The Covenant Players***, a theatre company from North America.

The company, a Christian theatre company who regularly perform in schools, prisons and hospitals in both this country and the U.S.A., provided the Year 9 and 10 students with a mixture of sketches, discussions and games which helped them to question a number of aspects of 21st Century life. The 'A' Level Drama & Theatre Studies groups took part in a much more 'hands on' workshop, looking at some of the more technical aspects of devising and performing.

The actors were full of praise for all of the students that participated, commenting that they were amongst the most creative and imaginative they had worked with in this country.

Many thanks to all those who took part and particular thanks to The Cheddar Valley Community Church for funding the time ***The Covenant Players*** spent here at The Kings of Wessex.

Steve Conway

CHRISTIAN DRAMA GROUP

This touring drama group comprised of two men and two women. Without the use of props or costume they cleverly enacted several short stories which all had an underlying moral basis. The main issue in these dramas was to encourage the audience (the students) to question if their actions in given circumstances were honest to themselves and others. In one sketch a bribe was made to make a gain but as expected the plan backfired on the dishonest character.

I enjoyed the plays but felt personally that our actions and their consequences should be considered for their effects on others as a general rule and not just because you practise the Christian religion. It would be interesting to compare the style of acting with say a drama group from a different religion, e.g. Hindu.

Georgie Wills (Year 9 student)

*On Wednesday 18th September, all forty-two 'A' Level Drama students took part in a workshop led by **The Covenant Players**.*

We all had a really good time and learnt plenty of handy things that will come in useful in our Drama 'A' Level. We played some silly games, watched the actors work and then created our own improvisations involving the Australian Outback, clay, elephants, and the arrest of Adam Walters!

All in all, a great afternoon was had by all – shame about missing double Maths though!

Hannah Desmond (Year 12 student)

Modern Foreign Languages

The New Term begins

This Autumn Term, the Modern Languages Faculty returned to find that construction work for the extension of the LRC was well underway so that Mrs Jones and Mrs Reynolds will soon be joining us in the vicinity known as "Hut Village" to the Languages and Psychology Departments. Lessons are interspersed by the sound of drilling, sawing and hammering but for us "the lessons go on".

While Miss Fogarty has assumed her role as assistant Headteacher she still manages to dash back to her classroom to carry out her teaching commitments. For the second time in two years I find myself in her shoes (a very hard act to follow I might add) but ably assisted by Ms Bottomley as Acting Head of French along with Miss Guest and Mrs Davies. This term we were delighted to welcome Mrs Macadam to the Language Faculty. She joins us on a part time basis and is currently teaching French to Years 9, 10 and 11. We wish her a happy future at the Kings of Wessex and look forward to working with her in the future months.

As in previous years the Faculty is planning a number of study trips for our Year 12 and 13 students who are embarking on the AS and A2 courses

These courses are aimed at helping students develop learning strategies and exam techniques to enhance their performance in the summer examinations and it is hoped that they will take full advantage of such programmes which are lead by leading chief examiners.

In addition it is also hoped that we will be sending a small group of able-Germanists in Year 9 to the popular Kilve Study Course in December where they will experience innovative ways of developing their language skills. The German Department is also in the throes of planning for this year's Cheddar-Felsberg Exchange. All students who have embarked on a German course of study are encouraged to take part in this valuable cultural experience. They will not only have the possibility of staying with families, observe the differences between the two educational systems but also have the ideal opportunity to develop their language skills.

More details will be announced to students in their language lessons after the half term break.



Auf Wiedersehen und Herzlich Willkommen bei der Kings of Wessex Schule

Last summer we were very sorry to say goodbye to Lola Kord and Ngoc Duc Schneeweiss who were two German students spending one year at KOW. The pair achieved outstanding results at AS Level when one considers they were not writing in their mother tongue. Ngoc achieved 3As and 2Bs while

Lola achieved 1A, 1B 2cs and 1 D. This year we are pleased to welcome another German student from Berlin. Adnis Falahkohan will be spending one academic at school studying AS Level German, GNVQ Business, GCSE English and AS Level Food Technology. After experiencing a few hiccups upon

her arrival in England Adnis has settled down to life in England and at the Kings of Wessex. Despite being miles away from her parents and family she always maintains a cheery disposition. Here she give her own impressions of life at the Kings of Wessex.



From Persia to Berlin! From Berlin to Cheddar!

Imagine you would live in Berlin - the capital of Germany. The city which never sleeps! And you would decide to spend a school year in England to improve your English. On a Saturday evening you fly to London only to find that your suitcases don't arrive and that it is impossible to find a coach to Cheddar as they are all full. How would you feel? It was really horrible for me and I was shocked. This was my first 'day' in London.

I was even more shocked on the second day as my host parents showed me Cheddar in no time at all. I couldn't believe how small it was. But very quickly I got used to it, because it is such a very beautiful small village.

My first school day was a little bit strange!!! At first I met Mr. Hayward and he thought that I

didn't understand a word because he tried to use the 'body language', when I didn't say that I could understand him. After that I met my tutor and my tutor group who are all very nice and they helped me find my way around the school to sign up for my subjects. I couldn't understand this because in Germany, we receive our timetables from school office. The highlight of the school day was that I couldn't find the exit. I have never been in such a huge school before.

And it is far better than my school in Germany. The teachers here are very friendly and helpful and they treat you with respect. Once I had a problem with my Business Studies homework and my teacher met me in the LRC and explained everything to me. Believe me, I've never seen it happen in Germany that a teacher is so helpful!!!

Another point is that I'm very glad to be a student of this school and to have the opportunities to use the Learning Resource Centre, the Leisure Centre and many other facilities. I'm very pleased to have the chance to make such wonderful experiences. All I can say is 'I love the Kings of Wessex', it is a great and wonderful school.

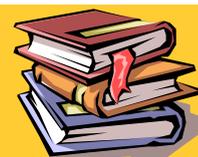
*When I spoke to my family and friends on the phone, they were very surprised to hear this from me because they were used to my complaint that 'I hate school' - but you really can't compare the two. I really love this school and the teachers and I enjoy every **single day in it!!!!***

Adnis Falahkohan 6GR





Languages ICT Suite is one Year old



While the main school continues to expand and modernise, our own ICT suite is now one year's old and our students are very fortunate to experience such a variety of teaching methods. All students are timetabled to have one language lesson in the ICT Suite every two weeks. The quality of students' written and course work has improved considerably as students are able to email work home for completion or can arrange with their class teacher to complete work during lunch times.

In addition we have been able to complement classroom work through courses based on CD ROMS where students can work interactively in listening and speaking exercises at Key Stages 3 and 4 without the full attention of the whole class which can be quite daunting for some.

In the meantime Miss Fogarty, Miss Guest and myself are fast becoming "computer geaks" as we spend hours of our free time finding the most useful websites or in producing our own class pages based on Quia.com language games and word searches with links to other pages. With the help of Graham Pugh in ICT all these resources have been placed on the schools' intranet and will be available for home use when the system is up and running.

Now when we tell a class we are going to learn about transport or holidays we do not only use visual overhead transparencies, text books and tape recorders. Language can now be

presented by Powerpoint presentations with sound. Students can go through the motions of finding the prices of train and flight costs, selecting a suitable hotel or campsite, making bookings and provide a full itinerary of events for a holiday abroad.

This term we have also acquired two new video recorders and one DVD player. As a result we have now started to extend our own library of foreign language videos and DVDs. Students in German lessons have already had their first lessons on a soap opera not dissimilar from the American version of "Friends" The Channel4 website complements the series and students were fascinated to find themselves filling in forms on a data base to find a dating partner and were even more astonished to receive emails from a fictional Dieter, Jens, Anna or Sabina - it was quite a task actually getting the students to log off at the end of the session as many wanted to wait for a response to their emails written in the foreign language.

By the end of the Autumn Term We are also hoping to have Satellite Connection. This will have a huge impact in all Key Stages as AS students will be able to receive authentic upto date News Bulletins while Game shows and Soaps in the foreign language can equally play a vital role at Key Stage 3 and 4.

Our new Year 9 students are keen to make use of the new opportunities available to them and are constantly asking when they are due for their next ICT lesson.



The Fifteenth French Study Trip to Fougères

A group of 42 students will be spending the last week of the Spring Term in Fougères, a pretty town on the Normandy/Brittany border. The purpose of the visit will be to improve students' oral confidence and competence. They will be kept very busy indeed, as there will be both morning and evening classroom sessions, which will prepare the students for various assignments which they undertake during the course of the week. The students will be interviewing local residents, carrying out surveys of shops, local transport, and markets. They are always surprised when real live French people understand them and even a little frightened when they receive a response. However during the course of the week it is a delight to see their confidence grow.

We stay at a family hotel in Fougères where we are always well received and well fed. Our course tutor organises the visits, for example to the police station and fire station

Mrs Bottomley has taken over the organisation of next year's Study trip and would like to remind parents and guardians of those students participating, that the last payment of £70.00 was due on Monday 14th October and that the final payment of £62.00 is due on Monday, 18th November.

Two passport sized photographs will be required for the collective passport and administrative purposes. Please return them with the letter of request as soon as possible.

Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Bottomley if you have any queries.

GCSE and AS Level Language Revision Guides!

Our Year 11 students will begin their Mock GCSE papers on November 18th and this usually goes a long way to focussing them on their studies for the rest of the school year. In this respect, it is important for students to learn from this trial run. An effective revision programme not only ensures good knowledge and understanding but also boosts confidence. The half-term holiday provides a very good period for intensive revision. To aid this process, students from all Years in the Lower School are encouraged to purchase the:

CGP GCSE French/ German Revision Guides for £2.00.

For AS/A2 students there is the: **Philip Updates Revision Guides for £9.95.**

If you wish to purchase a copy take your money to the school office and present your receipts to: Ms Bottomley (French) Miss Rebello (German).

Stop Press:

If there are any Year12/13 students who would like to sell their old dictionaries which are in good order, please bring them to Ms Bottomley (French) or Miss Rebello (German).

CHEDDAR CRAFT FAIR

The Kings of Wessex Community School
Sunday November 24th : 10 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.

The Cheddar Craft Fair – one of the village's most popular events – returns to The Kings of Wessex on Sunday November 24th.

Now in its 12th successful year, and with a proportion of the proceeds donated to the school, the event is always very well supported and attended.

This year's Fair promises an exciting range of top quality art, craft and design, with a wide range of unusual and original gifts for Christmas. Highlights include:

- **wonderful, colourful ceramics from several Devon and Somerset potters;**
- **beautiful stained glass;**
- **landscape and wildlife photography;**
- **stylish silver jewellery;**
- **paintings; cards and prints;**
- **handpainted silk scarves and ties,**
- **elegant knitwear and fashionable hats.**

There are also clocks, bowls, ornaments and mirrors in papier mache, and wood, rustic dovecotes and birdfeeders, and for children, a delightful range of realistic wildlife puppets.

And so that visitors can enjoy a relaxing break from all that hectic shopping, there will be an 'all day' café with gourmet refreshments including hot and cold savouries from around the world and wonderful home-made cakes.

For further information telephone: 01934 813407

ERRATUM:

In the recently published parents' *Guide to Who's Who*, Mrs K. Sharpe was shown as Head of Faculty during Mrs Pascoe's maternity leave. This should, in fact, have shown that Mr N. Kemp is Acting Head of Faculty and Mrs Sharpe joins the Faculty as Teacher of Technology during Mrs Pascoe's absence. Sincere apologies to Mr Kemp and to parents for any confusion this may have caused.

Top European Award for IT Project. . . .



On 27th September 2002 representatives from the Kings of Wessex School and IT for the Terrified made a presentation on the work of IT for the Terrified in the Cheddar Valley. This presentation was the final part of the E-Week awards competition. IT for the Terrified easily won their "Social Cohesion" category, for which they received a spectacular bronze and concrete sculpture.

(www.etw.org/2002/index.htm)

Beating off competition from the 12 other organisations with their enthusiastic presentation Mrs Angela Vivian (IT for the Terrified) and Mr Simon Williams (The Kings of Wessex Community School) also won the overall competition being voted "Most Appreciated Project".

The Kings of Wessex Community School supports the IT for the Terrified project as part of its role as a Specialist Technology College, through the provision of finance and personnel.

The European eWeek, supported by the European Union, greatly extends the outreach and awareness activities for new methods of carrying out work and business, throughout Europe and into the new accession states. The awards recognise innovative practice in the use of Information Technology to improve business and social practices. The presentations took place in Paris at the Ministry for Agriculture Industry and Economics with competitors from all over Europe, some from very large organisations such as Shell and Siemens.

Information on competitors can be found at;

<http://www.etw.org/2002/Html/awards/nominations.htm>

The aim of the project is to empower the citizens of our rural community to access government using Information and Communications Technology. IT for the Terrified (IT4TT) equips citizens with the necessary IT skills. Wired Wedmore provides a developing, locally oriented, portal to government and local information.

The partners in these projects are AVE (Angela Vivian Enterprises), The Kings of Wessex Community School - A Specialist Technology College (KoWSTC), Sedgemoor District Council (SDC), The Learning & Skills Council (LSC), Kings of Wessex Adult Learning and Leisure (KoWALL), Axbridge, Wedmore, Shipham and Mark First Schools (All in the Cheddar Valley area) and a group of volunteer trainers based at the IT for the Terrified Centre in Wedmore village.

The IT4TT project was started in 1999 under the vision and guidance of Angela Vivian. Local people (mostly over 55) were recruited, firstly as trainees and then as trainers following a recipe of "tea, sympathy a little bit of IT and a giggle/gossip," with the IT being provided as one-to-one training according to the needs and interests of the trainees. It has extended into the First Schools of the Cheddar Valley, to Cold-calling at remote homes and farms offering ICT training, developing contacts at local sheltered housing and nursing homes, working with people with disabilities and working with the elderly.

Simon Williams

Assistant Headteacher - Technology College Manager

CHARITIES WEEK 2002

*It's that time of year again, time to dig deep in those pockets because **Charities Week 2002** is upon us.*

*For the new parents amongst you who may not have heard about **Charities Week**, it consists of 10 events taking place during break and lunch times, with a Senior Prom rounding off the week on the Friday for Years 11,12 and 13.*

*The record for the highest amount of money raised currently stands at around **£14,000** - with your help we hope to equal this amount.*

*This year Charities Week takes place between the **9th - 13th December**, and the charities which will be benefiting from our support are:*

Avalon Camp (local charity)
Steps (national)
Operational Sunshine (International)

***Charities Week** is an integral part of the school calendar and we rely on both the support of the students and their parents in order to make it a success. Any help you can give us would be greatly appreciated.*

*With thanks **The Senior Team***

SPORT AT KINGS

SPORT AT KINGS

Senior Rugby

After the initial trials for the Senior Rugby teams, some very difficult decisions had to be made in selecting a 1st team squad to represent the school this term. We now have a very impressive fixture list which includes some of the top rugby playing schools in the County. Well over 30 boys attended the trials enabling us to maintain a good 2nd XV fixture programme as well.

The 1st XV will be captained by County back row player Mike Denbee this year, with Owen Howell (outside-half) as his vice. It is quite a young looking side as many of last year's team have now left the school. The squad has already shown great commitment to training and had the best possible start with a resounding victory at Chew Valley by 50-0. Our next fixture was a completely different affair as we came from behind to draw 7-7 with a very strong Bristol Grammar School side. The highlight of this game was the outstanding defence provided by the team as a whole.

Our next match versus Wells Cathedral was always going to

be difficult, with several players missing through injury and unavailability. However, those lads who filled in, particularly Dave Cook and Will Foster (both Year 11) proved to be more than adequate replacements. Wells ran out eventual winners 26-10 with a little extra help from the man with the whistle! The 1st XV's next game is at home to Churchill.

Meanwhile, the 2nd XV have had a mixed start. Against Sidcot 1st team they ran out comfortable victors by 36-7. However, at Bristol Grammar, a very young and inexperienced side battled well but lost out by 29-12. This season the 2nd XV will be captained by a different player each game so that more boys can experience the joys and despair of leading a team. Simon Jones and Gavin Foster have already had the honour and it was the turn of Tom Merry to lead the side against a very impressive Wells Blue 1st team. Tom led by example with a crucial try as the 2nds ran out winners by 4 tries to 2.



1ST XI FOOTBALL



Following last season's remarkable County Cup run which saw us lose narrowly in the Final, this year's side have a lot to live up to. Nine of the eleven Cup team from last year have now left school resulting in a very young, new-look team this time around. Robin Scanlon will captain the side and has the responsibility of helping some very inexperienced players at this level to find their feet and develop confidence over the season.

Perhaps, not surprisingly, we lost in the first round of the Cup this year at Churchill by 3-1, despite a rousing second half which deserved at least a draw. Many positives could be taken from the defeat, not least, the pace of this year's front men Simon Panes (Year 11) and Randel Walcott (Year 12) who will cause many defences a lot of problems in the coming months. Jim Smith, James Hewlett, Ben Latty and Adam Ziegler were all making their full debuts in defence and acquitted themselves extremely well. The midfield of Dave Heard, Mike Denbee, Martin Davis and captain Scanlon, all worked tirelessly and the 1st XI can look forward to a very promising season despite this early disappointment.

HOUSE ACTIVITIES

The Senior House captains have already chaired their respective meetings to elect captains/vice captains for this term's events. At the time of going to press we are just about to stage our first event of the year with the Senior Boys Hockey taking place over two lunch times.

Senior vice-captains have now been elected and they will have the honour of leading their House next year when they enter Year 13 (see below).

Also in the newsletter is a programme of this term's House Events with dates and times etc.

HOUSE CAPTAINS/VICE CAPTAINS 2002 - 2003		
HOUSE	CAPTAIN	VICE-CAPTAIN
AVALON	Mike Denbee Gemma Filer	Nick McKen Heather Edwards
CAMELOT	Dougie Watson Jenny Tungate	George House Linda Newman
LYONESSE	Iain Walters Emily Woodward	Nick King Jo Burkinshaw
TINTAGEL	Simon Jones Natalie Trudgian	Adam Fotheringham Hannah Laken

U.14 HOCKEY

There has been an excellent turn-out to Year 9 Hockey practices. We have successfully fielded an A and B team who remain unbeaten.

Results so far:

vs. Chilton Trinity:	Won	7-0
vs. St. Dunstan's	Won	7-0
vs. Chew Valley	Drew	0-0
vs. Wells Cathedral	Cancelled	

County Cup matches start this week against West Somerset School.

Well done to Holly Barkus (Year 9) who has been selected to attend further trials for the Somerset U.15 Hockey squad.

We wish her success in the final trial.

***ACTIVE NETBALL** takes place every Monday evening at the Leisure Centre. Students from Years 9-13 attend and it is anticipated that two teams will be selected to play in a Somerset Junior League.*

ROAD SAFETY !!!

With the roads busier than ever we would ask that parents encourage their sons and daughters to take the utmost care when travelling to and from school.

The school entrance is particularly busy with buses coming in and out. We would therefore ask parents not to drop their children off immediately outside the front entrance because it causes an obstruction to the coaches as well as our young pedestrians. Students who are 'dropped off' then tend to cross the road at this really dangerous spot. Please encourage use of the zebra crossing whenever possible.



**THE KINGS OF WESSEX PTA
PROUDLY PRESENTS FOR THE YEAR 2002**

A

CHRISTMAS CABARET

Involving many students performing musical, drama and dance acts, with audience participation for carol singing!

Sograb a partner, bring a friend make it a party

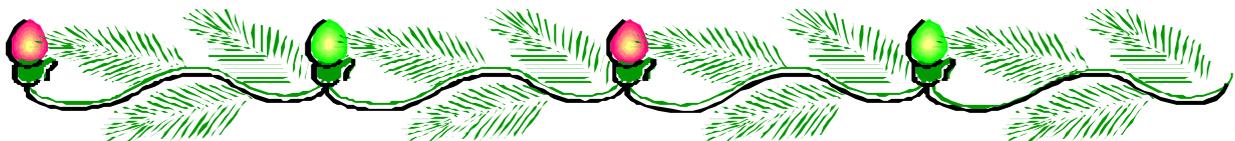
On Thursday 5th December at 7.30 pm

In the school hall

Tickets £10 each (£5 children) which includes

**AN APPETIZING
FULL BUFFET SUPPER**

Tickets available from the school office



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat 26 th Oct – Sun 3 rd Nov incl.	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Mon 4 th Nov	STAFF TRAINING DAY SCHOOL CLOSED TO STUDENTS
Tues 5 th Nov	Year 13 D & T Work Experience week commences Year 11 Exam Briefing P.T.A. Meeting – 7.30 p.m. Conference Room
Wed 6 th Nov	Year 10 Parents' Evening 5 - 8 p.m.
Thurs 7 th Nov	Year 10 DofE Training Day
Fri 8 th Nov	Year 12 Interviews with Tutors
Mon 11 th Nov	Year 9 Citizenship Conference – afternoon
Mon 18 th Nov	Mock GCSEs commence
Tues 19 th Nov	Governors Annual Parents Meeting 7 p.m.
Tues 26 th Nov	Year 12 Conference – Mock Interviews
Wed 27 th Nov	Mock GCSEs finish
Thurs 28 th Nov	Year 11 Citizenship Conference Oxbridge Mock Interviews
Mon 2 nd Dec – Thurs 5 th Dec incl.	OFSTED SCHOOL INSPECTION
Tues 3 rd Dec	Year 11 Citizenship Conference
Mon 9 th Dec – Fri 13 th Dec incl	CHARITIES WEEK
Mon 9 th Dec	Year 12 Biology visit to Techniquist
Tues 10 th Dec	Church Service Years 11/12/13
Wed 11 th Dec	Church Service Year 10
Fri 13 th Dec	Church Service Year 9 Senior Student Prom – 7.30 – 12.00
Sat 21 st Dec – Sun 5 th Jan incl.	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

REMINDER : Homework Club meets every Tuesday and Thursday 4 – 5 p.m. in Learning Support

Extra Curricular Timetable						
Activity	Day	Start time	End time	Location	Available to yr group	Member of staff
Wildlife Club				S1 and Nature Reserve	All	Miss L. Meldon
CAD/CAM Club	Thursday	4.00 pm	5.00 pm	DT 7	Yr 9 / Yr 11	
GCSE Art Session	Wednesday	1.00 pm	2.00 pm	A 1	Yr 10 / Yr 11	Mrs F. Robson
Young Enterprise	Tuesday	4.00 pm	5.00 pm	BS 2	Yr 10 / Yr 12	Mrs L. Lombard
Hockey Yr 9	Thursday	1.00 pm	2.00 pm	Field	Yr 9	Mrs S. Roberts
Hockey Yr 11,12,13	Tuesday	1.00 pm	2.00 pm	Field	Yr 11,12,13	Mrs S. Roberts
School Play	Monday	1.15 pm	2.00 pm	Hall/Drama Studio/Corrick	All	Mr Conway
	Wednesday	4.00 pm	5.00 pm	Hall/Drama Studio/Corrick	All	Or
	Friday	1.15 pm	2.00 pm	Hall/Drama Studio/Corrick	All	Miss Bryan
Duke of Edinburgh Award		1.15 pm	2.00 pm	C1 / H1	Yr 10	Dr D. Ellis
Duke of Edinburgh Award		1.15 pm	2.00 pm	C1/ H1	Yr 11,12,13 as needed	Dr D. Ellis
Holiday Catch Up Sessions	Day in holiday	9.00 am	3.00 pm	DT Food	Yr 11	Mrs S. Ross
Coursework Club	Tuesday	4.00 pm	6.00 pm	DT Food	Yr 11	Mrs S. Ross
Holiday Catch Up Sessions	day in Dec hol	9.00 am	3.00 pm	DT Food	Yr 11	Mrs S. Ross
Holiday Catch Up Sessions	day in Feb hol	9.00 am	3.00 pm	DT Food	Yr 11	Mrs S. Ross
Holiday Catch Up Sessions	day in Apr hol	9.00 am	3.00 pm	DT Food	Yr 11	Mrs S. Ross
Amnesty International		1.30 pm	2.00 pm	H2	All	Miss J. Stevens
Dance Workshop	Nov	contact Miss Bryan			Yr12/ Yr13	
Costume/Set Workshop	4th Nov	contact Miss Bryan				
Concert Band	Monday	1.20 pm	2.00 pm	Music Room	All	Mr E. Bailey
Jazz Folk Band	Tuesday	1.20 pm	2.00 pm	Music Room	All	Mr E. Bailey
Orchestra	Wednesday	1.20 pm	2.00 pm	Music Room	All	Mr E. Bailey
Gospel Choir	Thursday	4.00 pm	5.00 pm	Music Room	All	Mr E. Bailey
Music Technology Club	Friday	1.20 pm	2.00 pm	Music Room	All	
Essay Structure Workshop	Dec	contact Miss Bryan			Yr 11	
Practitioner Workshop	Jan	contact Miss Bryan			Yr 12/ Yr 13	
Drama Club	April/May	contact Miss Bryan			Yr 9/ Yr 10	
Swimming Club	Monday	1.10 pm	2.00 pm	LC SR	All	
Rugby	Monday	1.10 pm	2.00 pm		Yr 10	Mr N. John
Senior Rugby	Tuesday	4.00 pm	5.30 pm		Yrs 11,12,13	Mr T. Clark
Y9 Rugby	Tuesday	4.00 pm	5.30 pm		Y9	Mr J. Friend
Trampolining Club	Tuesday	1.00 pm	2.00 pm	Gym	Y9	Mrs K. Williams
Badminton Club	Wednesday	1.10pm	1.50 pm	LC	All	Mr T. Bennett
Senior Rugby	Wednesday	1.10 pm	1.50 pm		Yr 11/ Yr 13	Mr T. Clark
Yr 11 Rugby	Thursday	1.10 pm	2.00 pm		Yr 11	Mr N. John
Girls Football		Contact Mr Dale or Mr John				
Active Netball	Monday	4.00 pm	5.30 pm	Sportshall	All	Mrs S. Roberts
Danzatak	Thursday	4.00 pm	5.30 pm	Studio	All	Dr A. Brice

