



# CLAREMONT FAN COURT SCHOOL SENIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

No. 6 10/11 End of Summer Term

July 2011

Dear Parents

The end of the academic year has come and we can look back on a year of great progress for our pupils and great success in their work. There have been many highlights – successful enrichment trips for Years - 7, 8 and 9; increasing numbers of players in teams and successes for them; the wonderful *The King and I* production; the excellent rock festival and recitals; the very fine behaviour we have from our students. The various end of year assemblies have been excellent culminating in a very moving Sixth Form graduation held last week in St George's Church Esher followed by dinner in the mansion.

This mailing includes the final exam result grade card for your son or daughter in Year 10 as well as their end of year report for Year 7-10. In addition, the Information Booklet for 2011-2012 is included. This booklet has been extensively edited and I ask that families make sure that they keep this reference to hand and refer to it as necessary.

Summer term is, without exception, an eventful time. This term has been very much focused on exams and we look forward to seeing first class results from our Year 10 pupils taking early modules, and our GCSE and A level students in the summer. Certainly, the reports enclosed with this letter should be a further encouragement to all pupils to achieve their very best next year at school.

This half term has been a very active one, especially in these last two weeks. Lessons and events continue right up to the last moment of term and it is a great pity if pupils miss these last days and we ask again that holidays are carefully planned so that all pupils attend every school day right up to the end of term.

### **Achievement grades on Year 7-9 report and summer grade cards**

In the 2011-2011 Senior School information Booklet, you will find a full explanation of assessments, reports and grade cards. In addition, there is a paragraph relating to this school's academic standards which I hope you will read carefully.

### **GCSE (Years 10 and 11) and A Level (Lower and Upper Sixth) results and review days**

Results of external examinations will be available for collection at school on Thursday 18 August 2011 for A Level results and Thursday 25 August 2011 for GCSE results, from 9.00am. These results days will be followed the next day by review mornings between the hours of 9.30am and 12.30pm for pupils who may need to amend their courses for next year [no appointment is needed]. Ordering of scripts or re-marks by Years 11 and 13 will need to be paid for by cheque at the time of request. Details will be available on results days. Course changes may still occur in the first days of the autumn term.

### **Summer Meeting**

Summer Meeting was held last Saturday and many parents have remarked how much they enjoyed it. This was a wonderful day which demonstrated clear progress from the pupils and the school. Next year's Head Girl and Boy were announced: Robert Hutton-Attenborough and Megan Philip have been appointed and they will be ably supported by their deputies: Scott Hobbs and Rose Kallenberg-Pierce.

Alex Atkinson, Megan Bryce, Diba Behzad Noori, Jack Carpenter-White, Alex Cundy, Alex Forsyth, Caroline Gems, Georgina Greenslade, Will Jones, Hannah Schomberg, Madeleine Taylor, Emily Watson and Alex Young have been appointed as prefects.

There were activities and displays aplenty in the Senior School prepared by staff and pupils which gave parents the opportunity to view the varied and outstanding achievements of this year. Thank you for your attendance on this most important celebratory day.



***Head Boy, James Wright gives his Summer Meeting address 2011***

### **Induction days and first school day of next academic year**

Incoming Year 7 pupils should be in school on Tuesday 6 September at 1.45pm meeting in front of the Mansion. All other new pupils in other year groups should meet on Tuesday 6 September at 2.30pm in the Drawing Room. The Sixth Form must also attend on Tuesday 6 September at 2.30pm in the JGC for timetable confirmations.

All pupils should be at school on Wednesday 7 September at 8.30am. I will write to you at the beginning of September with the meeting rooms for each class.

We wish our leaving staff all the very best for their future: Miss Abbott, Mrs Hinz and Mr Ford. In September we will be welcoming new staff next year in the maths, art, English, science and IN departments. Details of staff changes are enclosed.

**The Good as New Shop**

The Good as New Shop will be open over the summer break as follows:

**Monday 18 July 2.00-4.30pm**

**Tuesday 6 September 2.00-4.30pm**

**Security**

We continue to expect pupils to take care of their belongings at all times. Arrangements for lockers will change for September as follows:

Current Year 7 pupils should remove their locks from both their PE and academic lockers and look after these locks for reuse in September. Year 7 will be allocated a new academic locker in the basement of the Mansion.

Current Year 8 and Year 9 pupils should clip their lock onto the academic locker latch ensuring the door is able to be opened. Lockers will be cleaned over the summer and these year groups will keep their same locker for September.

Year 10 pupils should remove their locks from their academic locker for reuse in September. They will be allocated a new locker in the Year 11 common room.

Any locked lockers over the summer break will have their locks cut off to allow lockers to be cleaned and pupils will be charged for a new lock in September.

If pupils do not have their locks on the first day, they will be issued new locks for which they will be charged. For this security to operate effectively, only school issue locks are used. Master keys are kept in the school office to allow for keys being left at home.

**Update telephone and address details**

Please ensure that telephone numbers, mobile numbers, address and email details, are updated regularly. This information should be written on the Data Collection Form that will be sent to you at the beginning of the autumn term for you to confirm or amend.

**Parents Information Evenings and Sixth Form Parents/Teachers Evening**

The dates for these meetings should be entered in your diary:

**Monday 12 September**

Y11 Parents Information Evening: Study Skills, Great Room, Mansion 7.00pm

**Tuesday 13 September**

Year 7 Parents Information Evening, Great Room, Mansion 6.30pm

**Thursday 15 September**

Y8 Parents Information Evening, Great Room, Mansion 7.00pm

**Tuesday 20 September**

Y9 Parents Information Evening, Great Room, Mansion 7.00pm

**Thursday 22 September**

Y10 Parents Information Evening, Great Room, Mansion 7.00pm

**Tuesday 27 September**

Sixth Form Parents Information Evening, Mansion 7.00pm

**Monday 3 October**

Sixth Form Open Evening, Mansion 6.00pm for Year 11 pupils

**Tuesday 15 November**

Sixth Form Parents/Teachers Evening, JGC

My staff and I wish you all an enjoyable summer. We are already planning a full and comprehensive academic programme for next year including a range of enrichment trips.

I look forward to seeing you and your children in September.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Insall-Reid  
Head of Senior School



*Upper Sixth Graduation Celebrations*

### **Major activities of the Summer Term 2011**

After exams concluded, each year group participated in a range of activities and then began their new syllabus. Some of the key events of this term have included:

#### **Sixth Form Enrichment Week**

Returning from their AS Level study leave the Sixth Form enjoyed a number of day trips during their enrichment week.

Monday 20 June they visited Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, Tate Modern art gallery and Old Bailey law courts.

Tuesday 21 June they visited Fuller's Brewery, Chiswick and Twickenham Stadium, including a talk by RFU head of sports medicine and sports science. History students had a visit to the National Archives, Kew.

Wednesday 22 June the students had a work experience day.

Thursday 23 June they had a cultural visit to Oxford, including visits to Pitt Rivers museum and Christ Church College.

Friday 24 June they visited Reading University for their Open Day.

*Mr Paul Jeffrey*  
*Head of Sixth Form*

#### **Year 9 trip to Venice**

A hot but happy time was had by all in Italy. Year 9 flew into Milan and were greeted with 29 degree heat, blue skies and swallows swooping over the terminal. The air conditioned coach was much appreciated all week (as temperatures climbed to 33 degrees on the day we went to Venice), as was the swimming pool at the hotel for a dip after a hard day's sightseeing.



***Year 9 pupils in Venice***

Sirmione was our first point of call. A picturesque town on the shores of Lake Garda, Sirmione has a medieval castle, cobbled streets and a Roman thermal bath. It also has the best choice of ice cream in all of Italy!

Verona's main attractions were the Roman amphitheatre and Juliet's house. Many pupils had a photograph taken on the famous balcony but quite a few were fascinated by the bronze statue of the heroine in the courtyard.

Venice was swelteringly hot but the tronchetto ride down the Grand Canal quite simply took our breath away. A tour of the Basilica, St Mark's Square and the maze of back streets led us to the Rialto Bridge. The afternoon was spent exploring the Accademia art gallery.

It was a good week for all – teachers and pupils alike!

*Mrs Gill Wilby*  
*Head of Year 9*

#### **Year 8 trip to Arras, France**

During enrichment week Year 8 enjoyed five days visiting Arras, in Northern France. It was a very busy week with cross-curricular activities including work on history, geography, French and art. For history there was an historical tour of the town and a very moving visit to the Wellington Quarry near Arras, where in the First World War a huge number of Allied soldiers were hidden before fighting in the Battle of Arras. The Quarries have been recently excavated and there is fascinating recreation of how they would have looked and sounded during the war.



***Year 8 pupils in Arras, France***

There was also an interesting visit to the Mémorial de la Grande Guerre, a museum of

the First World War. For geography, the pupils carried out a study of parts of Boulogne, including a survey of passers-by (in French!) and also for French the pupils kept some excellent diaries each evening, describing in French what they had done during the day, as well as being encouraged to say as much as possible in French during the visit. For art, pupils did sketches in the centre of Arras, in Nausicaa, the Aquarium we visited in Boulogne and at the First World War museum. There was a range of competitions and prizes such as a treasure hunt in Arras, a competition to speak as much French as possible and prizes for the diaries. The visit also included a day at a theme park just over the border in Belgium, which was also a popular visit with the pupils!

*Mrs Hilary Longman  
Head of Year 8*

### **Year 7 trip to Stratford-upon-Avon and Thames Young Mariners, Richmond**

This year's enrichment week trip took Year 7 to Stratford-upon-Avon for three days. On Monday 20 June we left school and spent the day at Warwick Castle, enjoying a range of shows and displays ranging from a full size working trebuchet (a machine used in the middle ages to fire balls of fire on enemy armies) to Falconry handling. On Tuesday we visited the Shakespeare properties in and around Stratford, beginning with Anne Hathaway's cottage and finishing with Mary Arden's farm. The threatened rain stayed away and the children and staff thoroughly enjoyed an afternoon in the countryside, learning about what life was like in the 1600s. After supper, we boarded the coach again and went ten-pin bowling in Leamington Spa. We packed our bags on Wednesday and headed back to Esher via Oxford.



***Year 7 pupils in Stratford-upon-Avon***

In Oxford we spent the morning at the newly re-opened Ashmolean Museum and were lucky to dodge the showers, eating our lunch in the courtyard of the Christian Science Church next door. We finished the day by heading off to the Oxford University Sports Ground for a game of football and an ice cream, arriving back at school tired but thoroughly enriched by three days of British culture!

Thursday and Friday were completely different, taking Year 7 to Thames Young Mariners, a watersports centre in Richmond-upon-Thames. The children spent an exhilarating two days canoeing, kayaking, dragon boating and raft building. This was a highly successful week, the children were challenged both intellectually and physically and it was delightful to see them blossom and grow in confidence as the week progressed.

*Mrs Sue Barry  
Head of Year 7*



***Year 7 pupils at Thames Young Mariners***

### **More Events**

The Summer art and photography show was held in the Great Room this year and continued the tradition of excellence in art at Claremont. The new venue allowed all years to show their work together so the progression of development could be seen through the exam groups. The GCSE produced a varied and compelling mix of 2D and 3D work and their artist's chair project was a showstopper. The photography continues to be strong and this year the students worked tirelessly to create thought provoking and well constructed images. The Fine Art students were ambitious with their projects and the scale of work was fitting for the large venue. We look forward to seeing what they produce next year.

### Year 7 Travel Show

The Year 7 pupils presented their annual travel show on Thursday 30 June to parents, staff and other pupils in the junior and senior school. The Year 7 pupils worked with a partner to represent different countries from far and wide from Brazil to China and Switzerland to South Africa.



**Y7 Travel Show**

Everyone produced movies, posters, leaflets and power points to entice the visitors to their destinations. There were some fantastic displays and many pupils brought in a selection of food and costumes to help promote their countries. It ended up being a great morning and many thanks to all those who were involved and helped out.

*Miss Rebecca Hoyes  
Head of Humanities*

### Results of Year 7 and Year 8 Inter House Debating Summer 2011

There was some excellent and spirited debating from the pupils in Year 7 and Year 8 when the finals of the Lower Senior School Inter House Debating Competition were held in the JGC on Wednesday 15 June. They had clearly followed the example of the older year groups they had watched debate last term! The issues debated were also very much in the news. The Year 7 motion proposed by Norwood and opposed by Esher, was: "that it is important to know about the private lives of public figures." The Year 8 motion proposed by Esher and opposed by Norwood was: "that, in the present economic circumstances, foreign aid should not be subject to government cuts."

The results were as follows:

Year 7 The best speakers were Eleanor McChesney for Esher; Ben Browne for Norwood.

The winners were: Esher [141 points]  
The runners up were: NORWOOD [131points]



Year 8 The best speakers were: Max Taylor for Esher; Sam Thornton for Norwood.

The winners were: Esher [140 points]  
The runners up were: NORWOOD [135 points]



In each competition, the other houses came joint third as they were eliminated in the first round. Special thanks must go to all the members of staff who helped with the judging and to Mrs Wilby, Head of Year 9, for presenting the house shields to the winning teams.

*Mr Bob Longman  
English Department*

### House Quiz competition

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual quiz took place on Monday 4 July, ably assisted by quizmaster Mr Watters, (fortunately not Claremont's answer to Jeremy Paxman) and Mr Christian.

It was a quiz with a difference, featuring house teams of Year 7, Year 8, Year 9 and Year 12 students, pressing strange sounding buzzers to answer 14 rounds of questions. Some questions were aimed at particular year groups such as correctly identifying the Duchess of Cornwall (Year 8) and the spelling of antidisestablishmentarianism (correctly spelt by Diba in Year 12); whereas

others were fastest finger first! Topics included: phobias, science, sport, TV, chart music, places and riddles on teachers' names! Points were lost for incorrect answers and gained for those which were correct.

The audience was fantastic, biting their tongues when they knew the answers, whilst Norwood established a clear lead from round 5, romping home with 18 points, Esher 10, Radnor 5 and Longcross 2. Congratulations to team members for an entertaining competition.

*Mrs Jan Caruth  
Head of Norwood House*

### **More Events**

Rockfest VIII was another great success with plenty of enthusiastic participation and the staff band performing once again.



***Rockfest VIII 2011***

Year 10 had their mentor training ready for the new Year 7 intake in September. Year 11 Induction Day for the Sixth Form had our returning students preparing early for Sixth Form life; Year 11 and the Sixth Form enjoyed their prom at the fabulous Burhill Golf Club. The final Duke of Edinburgh expeditions were held in the last week of

school. Year 8 had their annual Real Game organised by Mrs Rider, our Head of Careers.

### **Year 10 GCSE Textile students gain an insight into the fashion industry.**

On Thursday 30 June, the Year 10 GCSE textile students visited Kirei, a London fashion design company in Notting Hill which is a supplier to high street retailers. The students were able to gain a wider understanding of the textile industry, when Lisa Friedl, the design director explained how the design predictions boards were constructed for summer 2012. The students were very interested to learn about the factory and construction process in India where the garments are produced. They were surprised by all the vigorous planning stages that are undertaken from the design stage through to the final garment being sold by the high street retailers. Other eye opening elements were that in the Indian factories, the machinists are all men and the women are only employed to complete hand embroidery work. The company have a 'conscience percentage' which means a percentage of their profits goes to their chosen charity which is the Parikrma Humanity Foundation, a school in Bangalore for children who are in need of an education. The Year 10 students then went on to visit the Royal College of Art MA Show which showcases the next generation of fashion and textiles designers as well as product designers and fine artists. An inspiring day was had by all.

*Mrs Tessa Hart  
Textiles*



### **Year 10 GCSE Food Technology students get "ultimate foodie" experience**

The Year 10 GCSE food technology students visited Borough Market. Borough Market is London's most renowned food market; a

source of exceptional British and international produce.

Since its renaissance as a retail market just over a decade ago, it has become a haven for anybody who cares about the quality and provenance of the food they eat - chefs, restaurateurs, passionate amateur cooks and students learning about different types of food.

The market is populated by a community of remarkable individuals from all over the UK, Europe and the rest of the world. Many of the stallholders are themselves producers – people who grow rear or bake the food that they sell. Others are importers with intimate knowledge of whichever corner of the globe they source their products from. As a result, the market has become a vast repository of culinary knowledge and understanding.

Students sampled many new and interesting foods and had a cookery demonstration from the market chef with unusual products available in the market. They came away inspired with new ideas for their GCSE controlled assessment and not needing lunch!

*Mrs Sue Knight  
Food Technology*



### **Year 10 GCSE Graphics students mix with world's leading designers**

On Thursday 30 June, the Year 10 GCSE graphic design students visited the Design Museum and RCA in preparation for their controlled assessment projects which they will begin next term. At the design museum, students were treated to a Wim Crouwel retrospective. Crouwel is regarded as one of the leading graphic designers of the twentieth century. On floor two pupils were delighted to

explore this year's Brit Insurance Designs of the Year exhibition. This consisted of 100 projects reflecting the finest design from the past year. Spanning seven design disciplines – architecture, fashion, furniture, graphics, interactive, product and transport – these ground-breaking projects illustrate the widening scope of design and its influential role in shaping society and fostered creative debate amongst our students. After a short trip on the district line the graphics students met with the textile and food groups at the RCA where they were treated to graduate work from the world's leading post graduate art and design college. Both destinations proved to be a tremendous resources for pupils, offering excellent opportunities for self directed learning and research.

*Mr Paul Gladstone  
Graphics*



### **Tennis News**

For the second successive year, Claremont Fan Court U19 boys' tennis team surprised some of the larger independent schools at the ISTA tennis tournament held at Eton College. The team comprising of Neil Cordon, Tom Bacon, Alex Young and Rob Hutton-Attenborough beat Westminster, Dulwich College and Hampton in the early rounds.



***U19 Boys' Tennis Team***

After losing to top seed Reeds in the quarter finals, Claremont qualified for the Youll shield. They narrowly missed going through to the final, after Neil lost an exciting singles play off 6-4 to decide the result against Abingdon. The team was proud to finish among the top 8 independent school teams again. In particular, Neil and Tom have had a very successful season, winning the Surrey U18 knock out cup and the loss to Reeds being their only doubles defeat of the year.



The U13 boys and girls teams also played at Eton and had some wins. They played well against strong opposition and came away understanding the quality of play at this national competition. Well done to Lottie and Sasha, Arturo and Alex, Jack and Max.

### **Senior School Production 2012**

It only seems five minutes ago that *The King and I* sailed out of Siam/Leatherhead but cunning plans are already very much afoot for next year's extravaganza. We have decided that as usual it will be presented early in February and that it will return to its school 'home' in the Joyce Grenfell Centre. The actual staging will be 'thrust', i.e. most of the performance will happen out on the floor of the hall, with the audience sitting in close proximity to the action around three sides, a little similar to the way we presented *Comedy Shorts* last year.

The big question, of course, to which everybody always wants an answer is, "What is it?" Well, we're going to keep you in 'dramatic suspense' over the summer holiday as we haven't quite finalised the matter. What we can say for certain is that "it" will comprise of at least three one act offerings, one of which will be a musical open to all years. That leaves at least one play for the lower years of

the school and one for the upper. Whatever is finally decided, you can rest assured that there will be plenty of opportunity for everyone to 'strut their stuff'. Open auditions will be held at the very beginning of next term, so watch out for the details as soon as we return!

*Mr Kenneth Kimber*  
*Director of Drama*