

July 2009

Dear Parents and Members of the School

1. Staff Farewells / Arrivals

The end of term sees two long-standing colleagues retire. Mr Tony Smith first came to Manwood's in 1990. For many years he was a very valuable member of the English Department but latterly he has run Film Studies A Level in the school. His expertise and enthusiasm in this area has been reflected in the consistently excellent results achieved by the students, garnering a number of Good Schools Awards for the best performance by students in a selective school. He has also been a keen supporter of football in the school helping to run teams. We wish him all the best in his retirement.

Mrs Shirley Bradberry started part-time in the Art Department and in 2004 became full-time as well as Head of Department. Her commitment and enthusiasm has been reflected in a whole variety of ways: after school life classes, success in the John Downton Awards, expansion into printing, photography and animation, the exciting trips abroad to cities of great artistic merit such as Paris, Florence and Rome...etc. We wish her too, a very happy and fulfilling retirement.

Mrs Maria Burch leaves at the end of term having covered for Mrs Clare Morgan's maternity leave from the Spanish Department.

Mr Chris Ralph, having spent a year with us as Technician to the Sports Department, leaves for university where he will study for a Sports Science and PE degree.

Mr Eric Beer is severing his last formal link with the school as he gives up his role as Non-Resident Tutor at the Grange boarding house.

Mr Sam Hutchings has completed his fixed term contract as ICT Technician with particular responsibility for setting up and developing the Moodle VLE in school.

Mr Matthew Van Poppel and Mr Joe Giles are ceasing their roles as Classroom Cover Supervisors. Mr Van Poppel will now pursue a GTP course in Maths with us next year whilst Mr Giles is going on to study for a PGCE in Primary education at Canterbury Christchurch.

We thank all the above colleagues for their contribution to Manwood's and wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

September will, therefore, see some new colleagues joining the staff:

Ms Joanne Poole	i/c Film Studies
Mrs Jenny Preston	Head of Art
Mr Daniel Davidson	PE Technician

Mr Owen Dyson has decided to give up his position as Head of Sixth Form at the end of this year but he will continue to teach part time in the English Department next year. We are very grateful for his major contribution as Head of Sixth Form and member of the Senior Leadership Team, roles which he first assumed in 1996, and we are very pleased that the students will continue to benefit from his considerable expertise in the classroom.

2. Building Schools for the Future

It seems a very long time ago now that BSF was first mentioned as a government initiative that was going to impact upon Manwood's by providing significant capital investment for enhancing the school buildings and environment. However, in spite of this, it does now seem that things are moving forward and we have been told that the building programme will take place between September 2011 and September 2013.

What this will actually mean on the ground is now being thought through. A BSF team in school is presently meeting with architects and project managers appointed by Kent, in a series of workshops where the school's vision of what it needs to deliver education in the 21st century is gradually being evolved. This is still in its early stages and next term will see this process continue.

As the vision begins to take shape we will endeavour to keep everybody informed and we will also be seeking feedback.

3. GCSE Re-takes – Payment

In 2000 the new modular A level system of AS and A2 exams was introduced. Instead of students taking exams once at the end of the two year course, they were taking exams at regular intervals with the option of re-taking at a later date. As a result the potential burden on the school budget of paying for exam entries became impossible to sustain and a system of students paying for any retakes was introduced and has operated since that time.

Now we are facing a move towards a similar model in a number of GCSE subjects, but not all with the same budgetary implications. From September 2009 we will, therefore, have to extend the policy of requiring students to pay for re-takes to GCSE exams.

4. School Uniform

Our school uniform is deliberately chosen to ensure a smart, business-like image that is practical to achieve, conducive to learning, fosters a pride and sense of belonging to our community and portrays an appropriate impression to those outside our immediate community. We expect all pupils to follow the dress code that is listed in their homework diary and wear their uniform with pride. If you are refreshing uniform over the summer break please bear in mind the following changes and amendments made to our girls' uniform: skirts should be navy blue kilt-style in years 7 to 11 and no more than 4 cm above the knee. If blouses have reverse collars and are fitted they may be worn outside trousers or kilts but should not be visible below the end of jumpers. Cardigans and trainers/canvas pumps are not suitable items of school uniform.

5. Attendance and Punctuality

The school day starts for all pupils at 8.40 am when they register in their form rooms with their form tutor. We ask that you make every effort to ensure that your son/daughter/ward arrives promptly in school and fully equipped for the day ahead. If they do arrive late but before 9.15 am this will be recorded as such in

the register. Registers close at 9.15 am and any lateness after this time, unless there are extenuating circumstances, will be recorded as an unauthorized absence.

If your son/daughter/ward is not able to attend school we ask that you contact the school office as soon as possible on the first day of the illness and send in written confirmation to explain the nature of the illness when they return to school. If the absence is likely to last for more than three days we would ask that you keep us informed and we will endeavour to offer support.

We have a legal responsibility to record, monitor and report attendance and punctuality for all pupils to the local education authority. It should be noted that persistent unauthorized absences will require the support of the Attendance and Behaviour Service and may result in a Penalty Notice being issued.

6. Out of Hours Classes

I am pleased to announce that we will again be running after school courses next year. Since we have specialisms in both modern languages and mathematics and computing, the courses reflect this. The days and times have not yet been decided, so Mr Taylor (Out of Hours Coordinator) is asking you to indicate when you are **not** available. There is a nominal charge for these courses which are open to parents of Manwood's children, and we do ask that if you enroll, you attend regularly to permit the group to progress. We anticipate running courses in the following subjects:

Mathematics: This is for parents who would like to help their children (or keep up with them!) but lack confidence. It is particularly aimed at parents of pupils in Years seven and eight.

Computing: There are several different possibilities here, from the academic to the purely practical. Academic suggestions are the GCSE in Business and Communication Systems, or an A-level in ICT. On a more practical level, the department is willing to consider any suggestions.

Mandarin: This class is for families, where a family consists of at least one adult and one child.

French: This class is for parents who have some knowledge of French, but have forgotten more than they remember.

Spanish: This class is for parents who have little or no Spanish. You may wish to learn it for holidays, or to keep up with your children who are learning it in school.

If any of the above attracts you, please contact Mr Taylor on his direct email address act@srms.kent.sch.uk. All courses will start in September.

7. National Success in Animation

Zach Goodrich in 12TR entered the Manchester University School of Computer Science Animation 09 Competition. The competition attracted over 800 entries nationwide.

Zach won the Runner Up prize in the 16+ category and also the Best Comedy Film for his entry 'The Mathematician'. He won £170 worth of Amazon gift certificates so we hope this inspires amateur users of Alice, Scratch or other animation software in school to take part next year.

Zach's entry can be seen under latest news in Moodle (you will need speakers or headphones to fully appreciate the film) and all the winning entries can be seen on the Manchester University website.

8. Voluntary Work in Germany

Alex Harrington (Year 12) will spend a month in Germany this summer in a work camp where young people aged between 16 and 26 come together from all over the world to do voluntary work.

Alex successfully applied to this international organisation which prides itself on giving the student participants every opportunity to organise everything about the camp, what to do with free time, as well as all the other activities of the camp. Alex's camp is situated in the Alps where he will be doing work to help protect the environment. He will also spend time in Munich.

We wish him all the best in this exciting adventure.

9. Duke of Edinburgh Award

This term has been busy in terms of preparation for the expeditions and the subsequent undertaking of them. Students in year 9 have participated in a practice and qualifying expedition in the Alkham valley and North Downs. 41 students successfully completed both expeditions. 40 students in year 10 and 12 also completed their practice silver expedition in the High Weald of Kent. At the point of writing they are about to embark on their qualifying expedition in the Ashdown Forest. Those students enrolled on Gold undertook a practice or qualifying expedition in the Brecon Beacons, experiencing the best and worst of British weather! A number of students are on the point of completing their Gold Awards which is the first time this will have been achieved for a number of years.

After a very successful term it is now important that students get their record books signed off for each of the other sections as soon as possible so they are able to be presented with the award in the Autumn Term.

10. Year 11 Work Experience

Main weeks 22nd June – 10th July, 2009

Work Experience placements for year 11 students have once again been difficult to find due not only to competition from other educational institutions but now also because the credit crunch has removed some employers from the work experience programme. The school, with support from parents, managed 187 work experience places for 118 students. On the whole these placements have been provided by a range of very supportive local employers who give valuable opportunities for our students year on year. The school is very grateful for the commitment made by these employers and we hope that this partnership may continue for many years to come. We have a number of students on placements in out-of-county locations such as Bristol and London.

Reports coming back from the employers, visiting staff and the students have on the whole been very positive. Students have represented the school with pride, have worked well within their new, short term environments and have benefited enormously from the experience. For some the experience has resulted in a change in career path, for others their career path has been reinforced.

A number of the retail work experience placements have resulted in summer jobs being offered to our students. Some non-retail placements have resulted in part-time work becoming a possibility in the future.

11. Art Department

Once again, the AS and A2 students of Art and Design have produced an exciting and accomplished level of work which culminated in a very successful exhibition. The AS students followed a course which involved a range of short projects such as interiors, natural and man-made forms, life studies and abstraction. They visited Rome and Florence in Italy in order to extend their knowledge and experience of other cultures and traditions in art history such as the Baroque and the Renaissance. The sketchbooks from this group were imaginative and creative, with a wide variety of materials and photography on show.

The A2 students developed ideas based on their AS course and produced work that is highly personal and which engaged the audience with a number of themes relating to art history and modern practice. Some mature and experimental drawing and painting, with a wide range of printmaking techniques were in evidence, plus installations incorporating sculpture, photography and film based media.

The high number of visitors attending the Private View commented on how impressed they were with the quality and range of work in the exhibition, both in terms of aesthetics and the ideas behind them, and are already looking forward to seeing how some of the students will develop in 2010. The Art Department is extremely proud of all the students who took part in the show and wishes them success in the future.

The Art Department have also been involved with two cross curricular projects, Russia being the theme for year 8 involving music and drama, the Industrial Revolution being the other with Year 9, working with History and English. The results from the latter are to be combined into a book which will be displayed in the Library.

In addition, 16 students (12 from Year 12, 3 from Year 10 and 1 from Year 9) attended an Extreme Media course at UKC – working with Flash animation and Maya.

12. Dr David Starkey Debating Competition

The competition for the Senior Shield of the Dr David Starkey Debating Competition ran from October 2008 until May 2009. Twenty four teams competed. Debates ranged from the immediately topical: “Baroness Warnock is right – we have a duty to die.” (3rd October 2008) to “the way we live now” themes such as “The skills learned from playing video games are just as important as what is learned from reading books.” (March 2009). The final took place on 1st May 2009 between Jeremy Tan and Maurice Pomeroy, both representing Knolles, and Pearl Gibb, of Knolles, partnered by Trappes representative Luke Durigan. The motion: “We should introduce a system of presumed organ donation” resulted in Pearl and Luke, who were for the motion, winning the competition.

The Junior Shield Competition took place during the second half of the summer term with an entry of twelve teams. The final took place on the 3rd July between a team from Dorman, Savannah Lord and Bonnie Edgar-Nevill against Josh Newman and Kurt King from Trappes. The motion, “Parent neglect is the source of all social problems” was defended by Savannah and Bonnie who were the winners of the competition.

A full calendar of activities has meant that the Intermediate Competition is still being held with a semi-final taking place this week. The final will now take place during the second week of the new term.

13. Library News

We have had a busy end to the academic year in the Library.

A group of over 40 students from Years 7, 8 and 9 ‘shadowed’ the Carnegie Medal in June. This award is given annually to an outstanding book for young people. Shadowing involved reading the seven books on

the shortlist and deciding which one **we** thought was the best while the 'real' judges chose their winner. We met each week and as well as reading and discussing the books, we posted reviews on our webpage, had a photo shoot(!), made posters and held a quiz.

An encouraging number of students managed to read all seven books in about 6 weeks which showed a real commitment and enjoyment of the books. In our final meeting we voted for our favourite book and 'Ostrich Boys' by Keith Gray came out on top (although every book had at least one person who championed it). The Carnegie judges chose 'Bog Child' by Siobhan Dowd.

Year 7s had an author visit at the end of June which was sponsored by Sandwich Bookshop. Gaby Halberstam gave a thought-provoking talk about growing up in South Africa and the system of apartheid. After many questions, students had an opportunity to buy one of her books and have it signed.

The highlight of the term was a visit from Old Manwoodian Marcus Sedgwick. We were very pleased that he agreed to come back and talk to our Year 8s as he is a very successful and busy writer for young adults. He has written several books – his most successful 'My Swordhand is Singing' won the Booktrust Teenage Prize 2007 and was also shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal that year. His new book 'Revolver' has just been published.

Thank you very much for all the tokens you have sent in this year. We have been able to order a number of free books for the library. Please continue to collect Nestle tokens – and send them in after the summer holidays.

14. The International Dimension

This term has been very busy on the international front. The History Department took 49 students to the Somme whilst the French Department organized visits to Boulogne for Year 8. The Spanish Department visited Barcelona again on a very successful residential trip.

Presently there are two groups of students and staff in China: Mr Stones and Miss Woodhead and 14 students are teaching in our partner school, Hengshui High School, before going on to stay in Beijing. Mr Taylor and Mrs Urquhart and eight students are in Shanghai on a British Council-sponsored Language Immersion Course. In addition to Chinese language lessons they will take part in many organized visits over the three weeks giving them a great insight into life in China today.

We have only just recently said goodbye to a group of students and staff from Hengshui. Their stay here was only made possible by families agreeing to host them and we are very grateful for this support.

In July we had International Week which this year focused on Russia. The students enjoyed Russian dance classes, as well as a cross curricular project involving Art, Music and Drama, Russian language lessons and Russian food available in the canteen.

The future also looks very exciting: preparations are proceeding to take a group of sixth form students to Shree Krishna Pranami School in Rajasthan, India. We are also making enquiries with the British Council regarding a link with a school in Cuba.

Manwood's in the Gambia

On 1st April 2009, 10 students and 2 teachers set out from Sir Roger Manwood's School in a mini bus to begin their journey from Sandwich to a small village in the west of The Gambia named Farato, West Africa, nearly 3000 miles away. On their laps was the allowance of one bag of hand luggage each, a sleeping bag, and a combined 420 kilos of donated clothing, school equipment and toys they had collected through charity work, money-raising events and visits to local schools in and around Sandwich over the previous 2 months.

The 10 day visit was the product of the school's link with GamBLE, a small charity based in Yalding, Kent, that aims to work with Gambians to provide support and improve the schooling and education for children from 3-13 years old in the Gambia. The charity works closely with villagers in Farato (25km from the capital Banjul) to assist in the building of schools and the country's infrastructure: wells, walls and gardens, as well as encouraging cultural exchanges to create links between the school they have already built and oversee in the village and schools and volunteers in the UK. Cue the arrival of the 12 volunteers from Sir Roger Manwood's School, Sandwich, for a visit that would change their lives forever.

After a tiring 10 hour journey, the welcome in Farato was one that no-one could ever forget. The entire school; pupils, parents, teachers and members of the local community came out to greet the group of 12 on arrival in a welcoming ceremony involving songs and dances learned both in the school and from their own culture. This was followed by a short walk to the school, hand in hand with as many pupils as could reach, and a second round of songs exchanged between the school children and the Manwood's students. It was clear that this arrival was exciting for all, and that The Gambia was going to be one of the friendliest countries any of the group had ever visited.

Camping in tents within the Yalding Primary School compound (named after the charity's base in Kent) the Manwood's students worked for 10 days to assist in the teaching of those children lucky enough to attend the school (around 1 in 4 get a place through a locally run lottery-style application process), run their own workshops with the pupils in a range of subjects, and support the Gambian teachers, showing them how to use donated and local materials to support their teaching and engage the pupils in the world around them. When the pupils went home the group would then turn their attention to the school environment, painting murals to support learning both inside and outside of the classrooms, helping maintain the school buildings, and constructing a compost area within the school's garden to encourage the idea of recycling – building from the school's aim to be completely litter free and to make use of everything.

In the evenings, the group had the opportunity to experience new skills and customs, taking part in an African drumming workshop, creating batik and tie-dyed clothing, visiting a local nature reserve, and learning some of the local languages and delicacies, eating only African food made by locals in the village and even visiting the compounds of some of the school's teachers to meet their families and experience the Gambian culture for real.

For 10 days and nights, the small group of 12 from Sandwich left behind a way of life to which they had grown accustomed, and experienced a culture that revolved less around technology and money, but built around friendship and community, where education was valued by all, and where strangers were greeted with handshakes and genuine welcome. Upon leaving, it was clear that both cultures had made its lasting mark on each other.

In addition, Miss Scott and Mr Grimshaw visited Sandwich Junior School last week to maintain community cohesion.

If you are interested in getting involved in supporting the work of GamBLE, or for any more information on the charity, please telephone **01622 814267** or email: gambleproject@aol.com



Farm Africa

Once again GCSE Design Technology students have raised money for this charity which continues to help communities in Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Southern Sudan. As part of their course the students design, manufacture and market products. This year they were able to make sales to a value of £250, an excellent achievement, and one that is now making its contribution to "Giving Poverty the Boot" in Africa.

15. Toyota Technology Challenge 2009

The Sunseekers Team of Year 8 students Grace Keen (8D), Nick Thompson (8D), Zak Thomsett (8D), Hannah Sykes (8D) and Luke Upton (8D), were selected to take part in the South Eastern Regional Final on Monday 27th April at Doxford (The Imperial War Museum). This was a considerable achievement as they were one of only 7 schools chosen from 120, as the basis of their excellent project Folder work.

On the day they finished a creditable 4th being beaten by 2 older teams and last year's winner.

They gave a good presentation and their solar-powered car achieved good times. They have received a certificate to mark their efforts.

16. United Kingdom Mathematics Trust Junior Team Challenge Final 2009

The Final of this competition took place in the Camden Centre in London on 22nd June. Out of 1500 schools that took part country wide 70 got through to the final. Manwood's were defending their title of national champions which they won last year. The day proved exciting and throughout the competition Manwood's team was mentioned as among the top 8 scoring teams at the end of each round. Eventually we took 4th place. This was a fantastic achievement and maintains the tradition of success we have built up in recent years. The Manwood's team was: Sarah Carlotti – 8D, Luke Upton – 8D, Alex Dixon – 9TR, Andrew Carlotti – 9D.

17. Success in the UKMT Intermediate Individual Challenge

A significant number of students gained certificates recognizing their success in this very challenging competition. Outstanding results were gained by Damon Sutton (Gold Certificate and Merit in the Olympiad), Andrew Carlotti (Gold certificate and Distinction in the Olympiad) and Matthew Lee (Gold Certificate and Distinction in the Olympiad).

Gold Certificates were also awarded to: Briony Adams, Jacob Dobbs, Valerie Wong, Joseph Wheeler and Jared Goodrich.

18. Semi-Finalists in The Buzz

Having won their Regional Final, the Musketeers (Dominic Wheeler and Brian Caferro from 7TU, Daniel Nicholson 7TR, Jenna Klaric 7K) travelled all the way to Southampton for the semi finals of the national Times Spelling Competition. In the first round they came second against some very stiff competition. They then had to make a tactical decision whether to opt for medium difficulty words, which would have allowed them to stay in second position overall, or "Go for Gold" and choose hard words to give them the chance to beat the top team. They bravely went for it and were challenged with really difficult words such as bourgeoisie and paraphernalia, and others they hadn't even hear of. They came fourth overall out of ten semi finalists for the south of England, and did a great job of representing Manwood's. Well done.

19. Year 10 Business Enterprise Week

Monday 15th June – Friday 19th June, 2009

The Business Enterprise Week once again saw students working together to find a product or service that they could market. They have worked together in teams developing their ideas, business plans, financial reports, business materials, undertaking research, advertising their product and building prototypes where possible. 24 companies competed on the last day of the week setting up stalls and presenting their ideas to a range of judges from local businesses.

Best oral presentation was awarded to **Eco Plug Ltd** who had the idea of an energy saving plug which would turn off an appliance if there was no variation in current over a period of time. Its members included Jacob Dobbs, Connor Gower, Canaan Ip, Oliver Mackinnon and Kyle Sampson.

Best written presentation was awarded to **Hot Stuff** that had decided that it was time to stop burning your toast and had come up with the idea of a clear sided toaster. The toaster also had some reflective properties so that lost heat energy could be reflected back towards the toast. Its members included Vivienne Hayles, Poppy Mather, Gabrielle Quinn, Lucy Scott, Hannah Skinner and Dominika Szucsova.

Best idea was awarded to **Education Experience** for their “Time Voyage” educational attraction. It would have been a 3000 m² tourist facility with 9 unique educational rooms based in Margate. Its members included Briony Adams, Emily Brooks, Laura Gibson, Katie Janes, Anna Preston and Taylor Smith.

Best overall idea, aural and written presentations came from **Jet** with their child activity Bigglebox designed to provide children with exciting things to do while travelling in a car. Refill packs could be purchased for each trip undertaken with each pack providing a new range of activities for the children. Its members included Erin Clague, Nicole Henworth, Jasmin Keohane, Thomas Mortimer, Alex Newson and Harriet Vince.

Jet were invited to compete against 12 other local schools at Pfizer on Wednesday 8th July. The group had done some additional work on their business model, stand, sample Bigglebox and had refined their presentation. They were the 11th company to give their presentation in the auditorium just before lunch. This is a very difficult time to excite judges to a new idea but Jet approached this challenge with enthusiasm, presenting their idea professionally and tackling the barrage of questions from the judges calmly give clear, well informed responses. There was strong competition for the four prizes from the other companies and in particular **Jet** felt that one company stood out from all the rest. Close judging for ‘The most enterprising idea’ did not in fact give the overall prize to this company but instead to one who had managed to get their product on the shelves in some retail outlets. No prizes were won but the company had an amazing experience and the school gained some interesting ideas to develop for the future.

20. Young Enterprise Company, “Harmedia”, excel

Having been chosen at the “Best Overall Company” at the Dover Area Presentation in April, Harmedia went on to represent the area in the Kent Final in May. Again, they were judged on their Company Report, Trade Stand and Presentation. Although the competition was tough they were awarded “Most Innovative Product” and “Best Overall Company”.

In June they, therefore, found themselves representing Kent in the South East of England Final where competition was even tougher. At the end of a rigorous day they were placed in 2nd place overall, a tremendous achievement. In addition, they were winners of the “Young Enterprise New Media Award”, supported by the Daily Telegraph, for creating the best video advert for their product.

Interest in their product, which aims to teach music through stories, has continued to grow. Publicity in the Daily Telegraph has led to Primary School teachers contacting the Company to learn more – future orders may be on the horizon.

During the course of the competition Harmedia has received enough trophies to justify a new cabinet just for them alone and £500 in cash. The Harmedia Company is made up of the following members of the Lower Sixth: James Windsor, Lewis Millar, Josh Hood, Richard Thomas, Matthew Winkless, Roman Cross-Smyth, Jane Sinnett-Smith, Jennifer Sales, Madeline Vian, Rosie Burnham and Robyn Lewis.

21. Army Scholarship Competition

A limited number of Army Scholarships are awarded to students entering the sixth form. There are a large number of applications nationwide and students undergo a rigorous interview procedure. It was, therefore, excellent news to hear that Tom Newman had been successful in his application – congratulations to him!

22. CCF

In May twenty seven of the cadets deployed to Crowborough Camp in the Ashdown Forest for Exercise Crowborough Carnival. This is an annual event allowing cadets to revise their shooting drills. All the cadets passed a Weapon Handling Test and subsequently fired our Cadet Rifles on the rifle range. After completing the range work the cadets moved onto the Army Training Area for a 30 hour tactical exercise. As well as operating in a disciplined, tactical environment, under camouflaged troop shelters and cooking army rations, the exercise included reconnaissance patrolling and section attacks using blank ammunition and pyrotechnics. The weather was not kind to us all the time we were outside but, with the help of the Cadet Training Team staff, a successful, challenging and enjoyable time was had by staff and cadets. Cadet Ellie Taylor-Nobbs received a prize for the best shooting result with Cadet Olly MacKinnon a close second.

On the 1st July the Headmaster awarded promotions to a number of cadets. A second promotion parade on 15th July will see a few more cadets promoted after demonstrating leadership qualities on the CCF summer camp.

Thirty nine cadets attended Summer Camp in Shropshire in July. Activities included, kayaking, canoeing, climbing, abseiling, hill walking, rifle shooting, army assault course, orienteering, vehicle ambush, command tasks and battlefield casualty evacuation under fire. It was a very busy week led by the cadet Non Commissioned Officers. Special thanks must go to Mrs Carol Wilkinson, Miss Sarah Philpott, Major Howard Pashley, Major Jeremy Wilson and Captain Peter Dean for providing the adult supervision. The camp was a huge success and enjoyed by all.

The CCF Corps of Drums have had a very busy few months with performances for the School, Remembrance Parades and Regular Army unit Parades. Mr Tom Lawton (ex Royal Marine Bandsman) has given a great deal of his time helping the band polish their performances and the standard of music and marching has received acclaim.

Also this term three cadets have attended week long canoeing courses. In the summer holidays six further cadets will attend adventure training courses and expeditions.

NEWSFLASH

Do you want to join the CCF? The new Year 8 intake will parade for the first time on the 23rd September but all pupils (Year 8 and above) and staff are welcome. For more information come along to the CCF Office on a Wednesday or see Mr Waldron in the school canteen.

In September we are visiting the Army Apache Helicopter Force. There are plenty of adventurous training courses you can do if you can spare £30 total cost for a week canoeing, climbing, sailing, ski-ing, mountaineering, etc. Check out our web site srmsccf.com
We have plenty of uniforms for you!

Captain L J Martin RE
Contingent Commander

23. Science Club

This year, Science Club was very popular with many new students joining. The object of Science Club is for students to work on a project, either by themselves or in a group, which they can then win a BA Crest for. This year Amber Rigg (9TU) and Jack West-Sherring (9D) gained their Bronze Award, while Abigail Williams (9TU) and Lydia Sinnett-Smith (9TU) gained their Silver Award. As well as the individual projects,

this year Science Club has run several collective experiments such as flaming methane bubbles which create dramatic fireballs, and a 'whoosh bottle'.

For the second year, Science Club had a trip up to London to visit the Natural History Museum and take part in a Fossils and Geology workshop. We identified different kinds of rocks and minerals, as well as fossilized Ammonites. Both activities were very interesting as they gave an idea of what actual work at the museum is like. In addition to the workshop, we went to the Science Museum Imax cinema, where we watched a 3D under sea film. The 3D technology makes everything seem very real, and was an amazing experience. Before we left we also went on the incredibly realistic rollercoaster simulator. Science Club has had a very successful and very enjoyable year.

24. Kelvin Science Prize

Robert Martin-Short (Year 12) submitted an extended essay investigating the suggestion that "Evolution is the realization of the pretty improbable", to this competition organised by Peterhouse College, Cambridge University.

It was with considerable delight that we heard that he had won joint second prize. The feedback received was that the overall standard of entries was very high but that Robert's essay "stood out for its clear style, level of research and originality of thought".

Robert was invited to Peterhouse in June for the presentation of the awards. Mr Avery went along to represent the school.

25. Good Schools Guide Awards

Each year since the initiation of these awards, the school has been a recipient. The awards recognise exceptional performance in public examinations in individual subjects. This year two subject awards have been gained: A Level Award for Boys taking Film Studies at a Grammar School, GCSE Award for Girls taking Science at a Grammar School.

26. Music Report

The Summer Term has brought another busy but varied and enjoyable programme of musical activities both in school and beyond in the wider community.

Readers of the *East Kent Mercury* will have noticed that our production of *Fiddler on the Roof* won a Try Angle Award last month in recognition of the achievement and participation of over 100 pupils. Luke Breen and Josh Newman performed at the awards ceremony in the Winter Gardens, Margate on 18th June and received the award on behalf of the cast.



The Soloists Concert took place on 2nd July and showcased a tremendous range of talent and contrast of musical style with solo and small ensemble performances from pupils in all years. The standard was as high as ever including fine valedictory performances from Year 13s Tabby Kemp, Ben Worsfold and Luke Breen. It was good also to welcome Tom Sitton back as guest performer who gave a glittering display of virtuosity on the classical guitar.

The end-of-year Rock & Pop concerts took place in the School Hall on 8th & 9th July, again with fine performances from pupils in all



year groups. Thank you to Jeff Alexander and Dudley Ross for all the encouragement they give to the bands over the year.

The School Jazz Band gave a concert at Woodnesborough on 3rd July in aid of the Village Hall which was a great success with the students performing alongside local jazz musicians. Thank you to Dom Shawcross for his directorship of the band over another successful year.

SRMS plays a leading role in the regular Primary Schools Music Festivals which bring together KS2 pupils from all over East Kent to share in music-making. We hosted the most recent event here in the Sports Hall on July 14th welcoming over 350 primary school children for an afternoon of singing and musical activities. Pupils from across the school have been making good progress with instrumental lessons throughout term and 18 candidates entered for ABRSM practical and theory exams in school, with many others taking exams outside of school with a variety of music exam boards. It is good to see so many pupils moving up the grades ladder and getting a lot of enjoyment from their musical instruments.

Congratulations to Josh Newman of Year 9 who has recently auditioned and been accepted to attend the Junior Guildhall, a Saturday school for talented young performers run at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. Amy Holler of Year 13 has also been attending the Junior Guildhall over the past year and it is good that Josh will be continuing the link.

Sadly we say farewell to Les Feast who has taught percussion as a peripatetic teacher at Manwood's for many years. We thank Les for all that he has done for successive generations of pupils over the years and wish him a long and happy retirement. Jason McCluskey will take over from Les as Drum Kit tutor from September.

On top of the major events outlined above there have continued to be performances in assembly, lunchtimes and a miscellany of other occasions. Thank you to all who put on and support musical events in school and further afield throughout the year and we look forward to great things in the new academic year.

Future dates:

- Divertimento Friday 25th September, 6pm
- *Singposium* at Marlowe Academy Wednesday 21st October
- Speech Day Friday 23rd October, 2pm
- Christmas Concert Thursday 10th December, 7pm
- Rock & Pop Concerts Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th December, 7.30pm
- Christmas Carol Services Thursday 17th December, 2pm
- Production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* 4th – 6th February 2010.



Instrumental tuition and ensemble membership are available to all pupils in the school. It is never too late to get involved in the sort of activities and events you have read about above.

27. The Firebird Project

Music, Art and Drama departments joined together on 7th and 8th July with members of Year 8 to produce a multi-arts project based on the traditional Russian tale of *The Firebird* as part of International Week. Starting from the original story, the music composed to a famous ballet of the story in 1910 by Russian

composer Igor Stravinsky and artwork by Maurice Chagall (who designed the scenery for the 1946 production of Stravinsky's ballet), the pupils and staff explored the characters and the narrative to produce performances and artwork which were presented to audiences drawn from members of the school on the second day of the project. The final result was a creative and engaging interpretation and very much enjoyed by participants and audience.



28. Drama Report

We have had a busy, exciting and successful year:- In October the A2 Theatre Studies group with some other students put on a production of 'Journey's End' both at school and at 'The Theatre Royal' in Margate; this was very well supported and we received excellent feedback from everyone who attended. At the same time the A2 students were working on their A2 examined piece from 'Antigone' which was enjoyed by the Moderator.

The Year 12's have completed the first section of the new A level syllabus; they had great fun studying 'Oh What a Lovely War', working as an ensemble and singing and dancing alongside some serious acting and discussion. They also produced their own selected extracts; we had some very challenging choices! But, the focus and professional attitude of the students produced some exciting pieces of theatre.

The GCSE group created five very good pieces for their devised unit; including our first dance based piece, a very moving interpretation of an autobiographical account of child abuse. There was also a piece entitled 'Just Imagine' which received top marks and was put on a second time to support Charity Week.

The new year10's have shown excellent commitment and enthusiasm with, once again, the screams of the hysterical girls in 'The Crucible' ringing through the hall!

The year 9's have just completed 'The Comedy of Errors' as a house drama and have managed to co-ordinate a focused and funny production which was performed both at school and at St Mary's church in Sandwich.

In total the department has organized 25 extra events for five different year groups ranging from local theatre trips, in school workshops and professional performances, and pre-exam breakfast meetings to help the GCSE group refocus on writing from a performance perspective after all their English exams! This has demanded a lot of extra input from all the staff concerned; chasing up returns, making costumes, building the sets, setting lighting and clearing up! However we feel it is worth it due to the response we get back from those involved.

The experience of 'live' theatre is increasingly important on the new AQA syllabus, (both GCSE and A level) and productions are always carefully chosen to enhance and support the courses. A big thank you also to parents who have not only funded the trips, but been prepared to turn out, on occasion, very late at night to meet us on our return.

We look forward to doing it all again next year!

29. Boys' Tennis Report

Despite a relatively short tennis season, as a result of exams and study leave, the Seniors still managed to fit in three fixtures. Our first match of the season resulted in an outstanding victory against a strong team from Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School. Manwood's won the match by six matches to nil, with some exceptional tennis played by Toby Churchill, Charlie Michael, Elliot Brooks and Andrew Symonds. The Seniors went on to beat Dover College by four matches to one, but finished the season with defeat to St Edmunds Canterbury.

For the lower school (Years 7-9) the tennis season was heavily disrupted by the weather, however we still managed to fulfil our Kent Cup commitments. The junior team (Year 7) was drawn against another strong team from Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School. Manwood's lost this fixture by five matches to one, however this score line does not reflect what was in truth a close match. Manwood's number one seed Michael Tawiah, in particular, played some breath taking tennis to ensure victory over his opposite number. The Intermediate Team (Years 8-9) fought out a close match against Harvey Grammar. With the score tied at two matches all after the singles matches, the tie hinged on the doubles matches. Harvey Grammar went on to win both doubles matches and took the match by four matches to two overall.

Manwood's also entered the Dover District Tennis Tournament (for Year 7-10), held at Walmer Lawn Tennis Club. The eventual winner of the tournament was to be decided by overall number of games won across all year groups. This was always going to be a struggle for Manwood's without the presence of our Year 10 tennis players, who were unable to attend as a result of Business Enterprise Week. Manwood's finished a close second behind winners Sandwich Tech. However, Manwood's performed well, despite the absence of our strong Year 10 players, and the boys enjoyed the opportunity to experience playing grass court tennis.

30. Boys' Cricket Report

The U12 and U13 cricket squads played the majority of their games as a combined team in the Dover-Shepway cricket league. As individual squads, we didn't have a great deal of success (the U13's reached the Kent Cup quarter final) but the opportunity to merge into one team proved incredibly successful. The team produced 5 out of 5 wins in the league section producing some huge victory margins including a 90 run victory over Pent Valley and a 145 run win against St Edmunds Dover which saw captain Will Thurgate score his first hundred. We won the group which included Harvey Grammar and qualified for the semi final against Brockhill who had finished second in their group. In a rain-affected match we scored a mammoth 227 runs in 20 overs with both Thurgate and Olly Collins retiring after reaching fifties. The bowlers finished the job in the rain, securing a 155 run victory. The final was played at The Butts against Sandwich Tech. This was the fifth and final meeting between the schools at all levels for the season and with many Sandwich CC players on show it produced a fitting finale to the season. Good batting in particular by Alex Smith and Zack Cole saw the team reach 112 in 20 overs. In reply Sandwich Tech quickly fell behind the run rate before their two best players threatened to turn the game on its head. Only a superb spell and stunning catch by man of the match Smith stopped the flow of runs and we ended up winning by 15 runs. Overall, a fine season although we would like to be more successful as individual teams in the Kent Cups in future, considering the quality of many of our players.

The U14's won 2 of their 5 games, picking up victories against Kent College (7 runs) and St Lawrence College (7 wickets). The U15's won just one out of 4 but it was a 90 run victory against Kent College.

Once again, it was as a combined team that the U14 and U15 squads enjoyed success. They too won all of their league games to qualify for the semi final as winners of their group. Batting first against Harvey Grammar we reached 138 for 9 in 20 overs with Conor Michaels scoring 56. In reply we bowled Harvey out for 72 with Charlotte Pape taking 4 for 17 runs. Playing Sandwich Tech in another local derby in the final proved a high scoring and close affair. Bowling first, Ben Thurgate led the way with 3 for 18 but we couldn't stop them scoring 152 for 6. In reply we managed 147 all out, falling just 5 runs short in a great team effort.

The early start date for public examinations seemed to have an adverse effect more than ever before for the senior squad. Despite matches having to be cancelled due to a lack of availability for us and opponents, the senior squad still managed 10 games. The overall record was won 5, drawn 1, lost 4. It is difficult to analyse this season too closely as we rarely managed the full first eleven – a key example being the 8 wicket loss to St Edmund's Canterbury in the Kent Cup with four of our top six batsman unavailable.

Nevertheless, individually there were some good performances including Tamsin Beaumont's 73 against Kent College in an exciting 1 run win, Josh Tutton's 93 not out in a 7 wicket win over Dover College, Chris Burnap's 50 and Jack Payne's hat trick when beating Chatham House and Joe Willcox's 50 against the Old Manwoodian Veterans. The school even managed to beat the ever improving staff side who can thank Mr Neeve (1 for 17), Mr Acourt (1 for 26) and Mr Ralph (2 for 37) for some fine bowling that kept the game competitive!

The cricket talent in school is extensive and with a number of Year 11's making fine contributions all season, the future remains bright. Silly losses off the last ball against Sandwich CC and the Old Manwoodian's Veterans proved that we still have a lot to learn but these should provide vital experience that the boys can draw on in the future.

Many thanks to all of the staff who gave many hours of their own free time for the benefit of the school's cricketers: Mr Van Poppel, Mr Kilbee, Mr Riordan, Mr Laslett and Mr Pearce.

31. Boys' Athletics Report

The boys took part in five major external competitions this year.

The new Yr 7 Quadrangular held at Astor was a fantastic event to introduce the new students to school athletic competition and we finished 3rd contributing to the overall school victory. The boys deserved a lot of credit as they had only started their athletics programme the previous week.

The Junior Dover College Invitational was a competitive event but had to be cancelled before the end due to a nasty injury to a boy from another school. In the Intermediate version of the same competition our year 9 and 10's came 4th in a field of seven schools.

The South East Kent Championships held at the Julie Rose Stadium proved far more successful with both the Junior and Intermediate teams coming a very close second to Duke of York's. This result was very encouraging and meant we entered the Powell Trophy at the same venue with high hopes. Unfortunately, events conspired against us, and as a result an overall combined effort of 3rd was highly commendable for those who gave their all.

There were a large number of individual successes during the season too numerous to mention here, but Alex Newson and Chris Henry deserve special recognition.

Alex has moved up an age group as a national athlete and is now one of the youngest in his category so next year will be a personal target for Alex in terms of national success. In the meantime, Alex broke the year 10 school record for the 1500m with a new time of 4.25:25 mins.

On Sports Day the year 9 High Jump proved to be the most exciting event of the day. The school record at that age group had lasted for 34 years before Ife Olaloko and Chris Henry went head to head. Ife was first to break the record, clearing 1.63m before Chris went higher just minutes later with a jump of 1.66m. At the end of term, Chris broke the record again and the new record is 1.67m.

Sports Day was a highly successful event this year thanks to the weather, the hard work of the school staff and the efforts of the students. Participation proved the key in picking up points to add to the overall total, leaving Knolles to pip Tudor to the title by just 13 points!

32. Girls' Games Report

As always the girls have had a busy season with matches against other schools in Athletics, Tennis and Rounders. Once again our Athletics results have been outstanding. Approximately 60 girls have competed in the Junior and Intermediate competitions and their talent, enthusiasm and commitment to the teams has earned them the winning trophy in every meeting, which is a remarkable achievement. These have included the South East Kent Competition and the Powell Trophy; both held at the Julie Rose Stadium in Ashford. Two new fixtures were added to the list this year, a Year 7 Quadrangle Competition hosted by Astor School and an U15 Invitation Cup organised by Dover College. Although the 100% success rate has very much been as a result of a strong team effort I would like to mention a few girls who have excelled in their events: Paige Giboin (100m/relay), Kara Squire (HJ), Alex Clay (1500m), Bobby Clay (800m) and Imogen Stocks (100m/200m/relay) who ran a personal best in the 100m in a time of 12.78 secs. There are also some very promising athletes in Year 7 who are keen to continue the strong tradition of athletics at Manwood's.

The Tennis teams have competed in 7 matches this term with an overall result of 5 wins and two losses to their credit. The local state schools no longer field teams in tennis so all our fixtures are against Independent schools. Beating St Lawrence College in every age group was the highlight of the season and something Manwood's hasn't achieved for many years. The success of the squad was helped greatly by the talents of Natasha Roberts, Kirsty and Jessica Greaves and Lucy Roper.

The 2009 Rounders' season has been a very successful one for all four teams. The U15 team won two out of the three matches that were not cancelled by the opposition or subject to bad weather. The girls performed very well and were disappointed when their District Tournament was also cancelled as they would have had a strong chance of winning.

The U14 team finished the season unbeaten. Their run of good play culminated at the District Tournament where captain Casey Moor led her team to victory beating five other schools to take first place.

Congratulations also to the U13 team who notched up six wins against Sandwich Technology, Archer's Court, Walmer, Castle Community and Duke of York's. Their only defeat came in the District Tournament where they finished third overall.

Finally the U12 team have demonstrated that they are a force to be reckoned with winning all but one of their seven matches. The defeat came at the hands of a very strong St Lawrence College team and the girls are already looking forward to a return fixture next year when they hope to change the outcome in our favour. However, their spirits were raised when they walked away with the trophy at the District Tournament in June. Well done to all those who competed in teams this year. Keep up the high standards!

33. Gifted and Talented – The PE Department provision is outstanding

Manwood's is very aware that many of its students are gifted and talented in a variety of different ways and always strives to provide opportunities for such students to develop their interests and talents further. The PE Department has been particularly successful in this regard:

As the Gifted and Talented PE programme develops, so does the number of pupils on the programme. Provision currently is for students across key stages 3 and 4 with a total of 48 students involved.

The programme is designed to recognise the achievements of our best sports stars, whilst allowing them to develop a broader range of skills in sport and to help prepare them for the next stage of their school life.

Key stage 3 students will complete a handbook which:
summarises their sporting achievement across the year;
allows them to plan and record their individual training and progress;
prepares them for GCSE PE through tasks and tests.

In key stage 4, students will take GCSE PE and complete the G&T handbook which involves devising a six week training programme in year 10 and completing a minimum 20 hours of coaching during KS4.

The major benefits of the scheme are the opportunities for the students to gain invaluable experience in sport in the local community. Thanks to the Dover School Sport Partnership (DSSP) our students have been involved in coaching, officiating and running:

- sports festivals
- indoor and outdoor athletic events
- kwik cricket festivals
- tag rugby training sessions
- tri golf festivals

Some of these required leadership coaching prior to the event and Adam Asher (year 11) even completed his RFU Community Leaders Award.

Adam is a good example of the success of the G&T programme. His work with young people and his success in rugby and athletics meant he followed in the footsteps of Grace Wong and Lydia Fuller in becoming a Youth Sports Trust Young Ambassador. After training at Chelsea FC and meeting Olympic athletes, the role requires the students to inspire young people to succeed through sport. Adam was also one of a number of our students who was fortunate enough to spend the day at the David Beckham Academy.

This year has seen a number of our G&T students give assemblies in local primary schools, talking about their experiences and success in sport and sometimes demonstrating their skills. As well as Adam, Katy Morris (Gymnastics), Max Sykes (Cycling), Alex Newson (Running) and Tamsin Beaumont (Yr 13 England Cricketer) have all received glowing praise from our SS Co Ian Hall and a number of the local primary schools they have visited.

The G&T programme will continue to develop next year with the first students entering key stage 5 and the development of a local Leadership Academy. This will involve six of our students who are going into year 10. They will attend a number of meetings during the academic year and will receive leadership coaching and have the opportunity to gain level 1 coaching qualifications in a variety of sports. As a result these students will be among a group in the DSSP who will lead all of the primary events in the local area.

The vast majority of the G&T students on the scheme recognise that they will get back what they put in and their commitment to their own sport and also to their work with other young people is to their great credit. These experiences should prove invaluable for their future and will be looked upon favourably on any student CV.

34. House Report

The House System continues to thrive in school and this term, which is a busy one with exams, the following competitions were held:

House Competition Summer Term

1) David Starkey Junior Competition

<u>Most entries</u>	Dorman	6	=	20 points
	Knolles	7	=	40 points
	Trappes	4	=	10 points
	Tudor	7	=	40 points

Competition

1 st	Savannah Lord & Bonnie Edgar-Neville	Dorman	=	100 points
2 nd	Josh Newman & Kurt King	Trappes	=	50 points
3 rd	Carl Thompson & Jessica Robson	Knolles	=	25 points

Overall

Dorman	=	120 points
Knolles	=	65 points
Trappes	=	60 points
Tudor	=	40 points

2) Girls Rounders

	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Overall
Dorman	3rd	4th	3 rd	4th
Knolles	1st	2nd	1st	1 st
Trappes	4th	3rd	2 nd	3rd
Tudor	2nd	1st	4th	2nd

Total House Points

Dorman	=	70 points
Knolles	=	190 points
Trappes	=	100 points
Tudor	=	140 points

3) Sports Day

	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Seniors	Overall
Dorman	4 th	4 th	3 rd	3 rd	3 rd	4 th
Knolles	2 nd	1 st	2 nd	2 nd	2 nd	1 st
Trappes	3 rd	3 rd	1 st	1 st	4 th	3 rd
Tudor	1 st	2 nd	4 th	4 th	1 st	2 nd

Total House Points

Dorman	=	50 points
Knolles	=	200 points
Trappes	=	125 points
Tudor	=	150 points

4) Merit totals

1 st Dorman	963 merits	=	300 points
2 nd Knolles	920 merits	=	200 points
3 rd Tudor	889 merits	=	100 points
4 th Trappes	659 merits	=	50 points

5) David Starkey Middle Competition

<u>Most entries</u>	Dorman	3	=	40 points
	Knolles	1	=	10 points
	Trappes	2	=	30 points
	Tudor	2	=	30 points

Competition

1 st =	Chris Thomas & Fraser Newgreen	Tudor	=	50 points
2 nd =	Sam Wood	Dorman	=	25 points
	& Josh Ovenden	Knolles	=	25 points

Overall

Dorman	=	65 points
Knolles	=	35 points
Trappes	=	30 points
Tudor	=	80 points

6) Year 9 Drama

	Best Female actor	Best Male Actor	Overall position
Dorman	Helen Jarvis	Adam Evans	4 th
Knolles	Emma Marsh Alex Weaver	Oliver Briscall-Harvey	2 nd
Trappes	Rhian Alldridge	Brandon Higgins	3 rd
Tudor	Florence Atherden	Lewis Young	1 st

Dorman	=	20 points
Knolles	=	60 points
Trappes	=	40 points
Tudor	=	80 points

Final Positions

1 st	Tudor	2797 points
2 nd	Dorman	2748 points
3 rd	Knolles	2650 points
4 th	Trappes	2170 points

In spite of the lengthy nature of this newsletter, it is not an exhaustive account of everything of note that has gone on at Manwood's this term. I apologise to those whose worthy activities failed to get a mention.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody for their hard work over the term, and wish everyone a very happy summer holiday.

Yours sincerely

C R L Morgan
Headteacher