

Headteacher:  
Mr A P Harris BSc MA

Tel: 01453 842227  
Fax: 01453 845480

WWW address:  
<http://www.klbschool.org.uk>

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# KATHARINE LADY BERKELEY'S SCHOOL



## Newsletter 16 December 2010



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May I take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers for your support this year. I hope that you have a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### German Christmas Market 2010

The annual German Christmas Market took place on Thursday 9 December and even more pupils than last year were given the opportunity to visit it. They were able to sample German Christmas cake and gingerbread, purchase crafts and homemade Christmas cards, send messages, listen to live Christmas music and have a taste of this traditional German Christmas event. There was even a BBQ where pupils could buy Bratwurst at lunchtime to recreate an authentic slice of German culture. Our thanks go out to everyone who helped make it such a successful event.

The market raised over £373.52 for Help the Heroes and Cancer Research.



### Japanese Exchange October 2010



Yet another successful exchange to Hikawa High school, Yamanashi, Japan took place at the end of October.

The trip was amazingly fun and educational too with students studying Japanese and learning about the culture (as well as opportunities to shop in Tokyo!) Highlights of the trip included Tokyo by night, karaoke and the shopping in general. We went to museums including a kimono museum which was fascinating. The picture to the left was taken at Asakusa temple, Tokyo. We went there on the first day after our arrival. The students bonded and everyone was sad to leave the school that had been so welcoming towards us. Three sixth formers were on their second trip to Japan and so did slightly different activities such as visiting a primary school and helping out in lessons. The food was incredibly delicious. Ranging from homemade lunches and rice dishes to raw horse for the brave among the group! (not me.) Most of the trip was spent in the host family's house but the last two days was spent in a nice hotel in Narita. Overall, it was an amazing trip and we all want to go again (or even a third time for some.)

By Ellie Clarke and Sophie Dowdeswell

If your child is interested in hosting a Japanese pupil in March, and studied Japanese at Key Stage 3, they may be able to host even if they do not currently study Japanese. Please contact me for more information at the following address: [ndesilva@klbschool.org.uk](mailto:ndesilva@klbschool.org.uk)

### Geography Department

Year 11 Decision making examination:

Students are currently preparing for the forthcoming Decision Making Exercise on the 20 January. They should be working through their pre released materials and be reading widely around the topic. The focus is on the benefits and issues associated with the growth of tourism with a focus on St Lucia. A work booklet has been provided for all students.

## Music Department

The Music department has had a busy term with a number of concerts taking place in a variety of venues. The annual Autumn concerts from the Music and Drama departments took place on 29 and 30 November in the Drama Hall. The first night was opened by a rousing rendition of 'Rock Around the Clock' from the Junior Orchestra and the Singing Group and Samba Band also entertained during the evening. A few brave lower school pupils played solos and Year 9 performed an extract from 'Too Much Punch for Judy'. The second night was the senior's turn and featured items from the Senior Orchestra and Choir. Soloists took to the stage once again and particular highlights included pieces from Alistair Whittle and Laura Jenner.

Our newly formed Jazz band (set up by Emily Jenner in Year 12) had its public debut performance on Saturday 4 December as part of the 'Christmas Under the Edge' event in Wotton. They played a variety of pieces including 'Baby Elephant Walk' and 'Smoke on the Water' and managed to play for an hour despite the cold weather! The Samba band later entertained local residents and was even able to give an encore!

The annual carol service took place on Wednesday 15 December at St Mary's Church in Wotton and featured a number of traditional carols and some which were less well known. The senior choir gave a lovely rendition of 'O Holy Night' and Year 7 sang a rousing version of 'Stop the Calvary'. Readings were given from a variety of pupils across the school which told the story of the Nativity. An enjoyable night was had by all.

Our next concert is on Tuesday 8 February at 7.30pm in the Drama Hall and will showcase items from our GCSE music groups. We look forward to seeing you there!



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## Drama Department

On October 8th, the fabulous Splendid productions who brought us 'Dr Faustus' last year, performed the challenging and thought-provoking work 'The Trial'. This was attended by a large audience of Yr 10, 11, 12 and 13 as well as many parents, friends and pupils from Archway and Malmesbury Schools.



On 2<sup>nd</sup> November, the whole of Year 9 watched Vamos Theatre perform 'Nursing Lives'. Using masks and only the occasional word, they captivated us with a heart warming story of nursing during the Second World War. In lessons, Yr 9 are now enjoying developing our own mask skills to create performances.

'I thought the way they portrayed emotion without speaking was excellent' - Maddie Davies. 'It was very good and takes miming to a whole new level' - Sarah Powell



On Friday 26 November some of our Year 11 GCSE Drama Students performed in the Stroud Arts Festival with their GCSE coursework piece 'Wrong Place, Wrong Time'. The students involved were Harvey Westwood, Sarah Appleton, Emma Travis, Charlotte Dring, and Sophie Reynolds.

The Key Stage 3 Drama club, run by A Level and GCSE Drama students have been working on a dramatisation of 'The Wind in the Willows' and performed this to parents, friends and fellow pupils on Tuesday 14 December at in the School Hall.

Recent theatre visits have included 'Lysistrata' at Sundial Theatre, Cirencester (A Level students); and 'The Red Shoes' by Kneehigh Theatre at Bristol Old Vic (GCSE and A Level students). Both were extremely successful and enjoyable.

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### Anti-Bullying update



This year's Anti-bullying week which began on 15 November, had the focus of 'the bystander'. A group of 6<sup>th</sup> Form Drama students performed a powerful piece in the assemblies to year groups and the pupil group established to campaign against bullying known as the 'B' Team, publicised the support available to students. Credit card style information was given to pupils about ways to get help including the school B team e-mail:

[b-team@klbschool.org.uk](mailto:b-team@klbschool.org.uk)

The school also has a peer support group known as Talk in Confidence (TIC), run by 6<sup>th</sup> Form students where pupils can discuss a range of issues at a daily drop at lunchtimes in R13 or on an appointment basis.

Parents and carers can find more information on bullying issues at:

[www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk) and [www.kidsmart.org.uk](http://www.kidsmart.org.uk)

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### Pupil Voice

The School Council met with Mr Harris and Mrs Hayward the Chair of Governors at the end of November.

Each year group brought items to the meeting which included:

- Year 7 were concerned about the bus park and being able to identify which bus to get and we are planning to create clear signs and designated bays for all buses.
- Year 8 mentioned that they would like some extra clubs to be available and Mr Warren outlined the new clubs which have recently started. These include Table Tennis, Archery, Fitness and Street Dance. These are dependent on funding being available and could only be sustained in the future if pupils were asked to contribute to the costs.
- Years 9 and 10 discussed the movement around corridors and the need to enforce one way systems.
- Year 11 and 12 were concerned about places to be at break and lunch as their rooms were crowded. The allocation of areas would be discussed by the relevant school managers.

A full set of minutes is available on the school VLE. The next meeting is scheduled for 24 March 2011 and pupils should talk to their tutor representative if they wish to have an item taken forward.

The Year representatives are:

Year 7:	Man-Ho Hui, Eleanor Blackie
Year 8:	Katie Jenner, Nicholas Maitre
Year 9:	Matt Dobson, Kobi Merrikin
Year 10:	Luke Holloway, Polly Lynton-Jenkins
Year 11:	Maisie Simmonds, Adam Hanney
Year 12:	Stephanie Spreadborough and Alice Streatfield

Luke Holloway and Polly Lynton- Jenkins represent the School Council at the Governors meetings this year.

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### Library News: Booked Up – free books for Year 7 pupils

All Year 7 pupils have now received their free book. Booked Up's goal is to encourage reading for pleasure and independent choice and is funded by the Department for Education and supported by children's book publishers. The programme is managed by Booktrust, an independent charity dedicated to encouraging people of all ages to engage with books.

At the annual **Book Fair** held in the Library from Thursday 4 November to Wednesday 11 November, pupils spent £800.00 which earned the Library £439.00 in commission to spend on new books. An amazing achievement. Thank you to all who helped make this possible.

## Year 10 Options Evening for parents/carers of Year 9 pupils

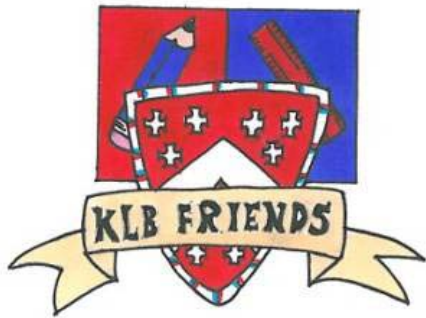
As many of you will be aware, the information evening concerning options for Years 10 and 11 was scheduled for Wednesday 12 January.

Until 2008, the options process did not start until the end of February. In the last two years, it has been brought forward in order to accommodate the complexities of sharing the delivery of the Diploma qualification with other local schools. Over the past few weeks, there has been a range of announcements from central government which will impact on the nature on the Key Stage 4 curriculum. Amongst these announcements is a clear message the Diploma is unlikely to be developed further and there will be no pressure on schools to deliver courses leading to the qualification. There are also other messages which are, at this stage, less clear.

We do not wish to start the options process until the implications of the recent announcements are clear and we have had the time to make any necessary alterations to our Key Sage 4 curriculum. In light of this, the options evening has been rescheduled for Tuesday 8 March 2011.

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### KLB Friends Update December 2010



The Friends provided the refreshments for the KLB Music and Drama Evenings on the 29 and 30 November. Hot and cold drinks and a selection of delicious homemade cakes were served before, and during, the performances to those who attended. This was very well received and once again proved to be a valuable source of income for our fundraising efforts. Thank you to all those who helped or supported the Friends during those two evenings.

At our last meeting on the 16 November the draw for the 80:20 Club was made and the winners for the month were Julie Jenner and Lynn Stride. We also discussed the Summer Fayre which is to be held at KLB on the 25 June 2011, anyone who is interested in helping at, or supporting, the event in any way please contact the

Friends on the email address given below. We are planning to organise a group of people who will be responsible for running the event so please contact us if you think you could be one of those.

The Year 7 Disco is being held at KLB on the 16 December and a big thank you to all those who helping before and during the event. Ticket sales are showing that, once again, the disco is very popular and a great hit with the pupils.

Finally, a reminder that our next meeting is to be held on the 13 January 2011 at the Well Being Centre in Kingswood starting at 7.30pm. Please feel free to come along and join in, all are welcome, fresh ideas are always great to hear and are invaluable in supporting our fundraising efforts.

**If you wish to contact the KLB Friends for more information, please send us an email at:**

[klbfriends@klbschool.org.uk](mailto:klbfriends@klbschool.org.uk)

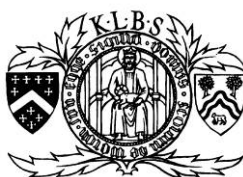
## Dates for your diary

The school calendar can be accessed from the front page of the school website or directly at <http://calendar.klb.org.uk>

17 Dec	Last day of term 2	22 Mar	Year 13 Parents' Evening (2)
5 Jan 2011	First day of term 3	30/31 March	Music and Drama Concerts
20 Jan	Year 9 Parents' Evening	8 April	Last day of term 4
26 Jan	Year 11 Parents' Evening	26 April	First day of term 5
8 Feb	GCSE Music Concert	2 May	Bank Holiday
16 Feb	Year 10 Parents' Evening	27 May	Last day of term 5
18 Feb	Last day of term 3	6 June	First day of term 6
28 Feb	First day of term 4	8/9/15 Jun	Year 6 information evenings
3 Mar	Year 8 Parents' Evening	25 Jun	KLB Summer Fayre – 11:00am – 3:00pm
<b>8 Mar</b>	<b>Year 9 Options Evening</b>	21 July	Last day of term 6
15 Mar	Year 12 Parents' Evening (2)		

## 2011/2012 Academic Year

1 Sep 2011	First day of term 1 – Staff Training (1)	4 Jan 2012	First day of term 3
2 Sep	Staff training day (2)	10 Feb	Staff training day (4) – last day of term 3
5 Sep	First day of term 1 for pupils	20 Feb	First day of term 4
29 Sep	Year 6 information evening – 6:15pm	30 Mar	Last day of term 4
30 Sep	Staff training day (3)	16 Apr	First day of term 5
21 Oct	Last day of term 1	7 May	Bank Holiday
31 Oct	First day of term 2	1 June	Last day of term 5
16 Dec	Last day of term 2	11 June	First day of term 6
		19 July	Last day of term 6



## ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

From January 2011, we are pleased to be able to continue to offer a range of adult language classes.

French:	Daytime Thursday	12.30-1.30pm	Intermediate
	Evening Wednesday	6.00-7.00pm	Intermediate
Spanish:	Daytime Wednesday	1.45-2.45pm	TBC
	Evening Wednesday	6.00-7.00pm	Beginner

The cost for a 12 week course is £85 for evening classes and £50 for daytime classes.

Please contact Mrs Jo Godfrey by e-mail to express an interest in the course at [jgodfrey@klbschool.org.uk](mailto:jgodfrey@klbschool.org.uk) or telephone the school on 01453 842227.