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KATHARINE LADY BERKELEY'S SCHOOL

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Newsletter – 22 March 2011

Year 10 Orientalists share language skills at Balcarras School

8 pupils in Year 10 studying Chinese (Alice Mackinnon, Isabel Tyne, Sarah McRitchie and Mailies Fleming) and Japanese (Jennifer White, Katie Davies, Luke Holloway and Claire Gordon) spent Thursday 17th February at Balcarras School in Cheltenham. They were invited to deliver Chinese and Japanese workshops in calligraphy and language to pupils in Year 8 as part of Balcarras' Curriculum Day.

This was an excellent opportunity for the pupils to use the skills they have been practising at weekly Language Leaders sessions and contributed to the teaching element of their award. They competently shared their knowledge and skills with the Year 8 pupils, demonstrating with ease the stroke order of characters and kanji in the calligraphy sessions. For two hours they confidently taught groups of 3 or 4 pupils basic Japanese and Chinese language in a 'speed dating' type session. Each group was taught intensely for 6 minutes before moving on to the next language. In all pupils were taught a smattering of 8 different languages in an hour; Japanese, Chinese, Polish, Italian, Portuguese, German, Welsh and Serbian.



The KLB Year 10 pupils were the only pupils teaching and were greatly admired for their skills by the other teachers, including Headteacher Chris Healy. Mrs Tate and Mr Thompson were also very impressed by their commitment and enthusiastic attitude.

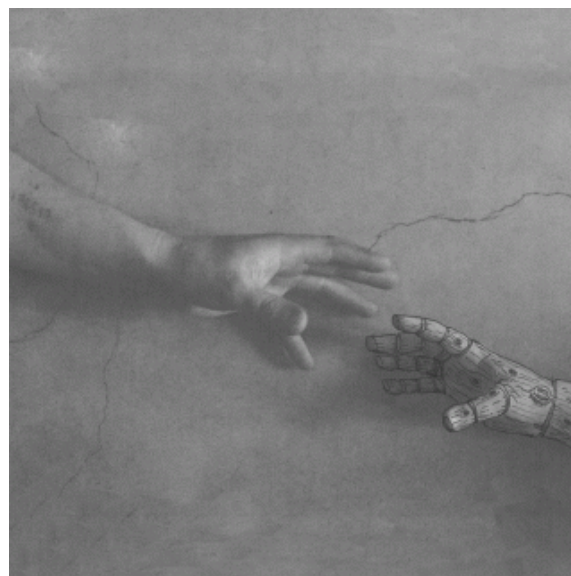
Drama department

On Thursday 24th March, we are very lucky to have the highly acclaimed Cube Essential Theatre Company performing their new production: "GEPPELTO" (written by Jon Welch after the successes of his last play for cube - *The Uninvited*)

In New York's lower east side, in the middle of the 1950s, a teenage girl answers a hastily scrawled, grubby advert on a whim. It invites her to audition for the role of puppeteer in a forthcoming production of Pinocchio. But when she enters the shabby flat where the audition is being held, nothing is quite as she was expecting. Least of all the fact that the odd, foreign-accented, ill-at-ease man she finds there calls himself Geppetto (the name of Pinocchio's father in the original story). Unwittingly she sets off on a bewildering journey through descending layers of deception and dysfunction, a journey which in its own, bizarre, horrific, comic way leads them both to the gates of hell.

The performance will be in the Drama Hall, beginning at 7pm and lasting 2 hours including an interval. Tickets are £5 pupils/ concessions & £6 adults and are available from the drama office or on the door. The production is suitable for Yr 7 upwards.

This is an opportunity to see excellent professional theatre locally and affordably, and we hope that the event will be well supported.



Music and Drama Performance Evenings: 30th & 31st March in the Drama Hall 7.30pm
Do come and join us to celebrate a wide range of our pupils' work.

Forthcoming trips:

Wed 27th April: Year 9 "Blood Brothers" (Willy Russell) New Oxford Theatre

Thurs 28th April: Year 10-12 Journey's End (RC Sherriff) Wyvern Theatre (Swindon)

Both trips are now full. Details of departure and return times will be available nearer the time.

Library News

As promised in the February newsletter, we were joined on Thursday 3rd March by Chloe of The Midnight Storytellers as part of our promotion and celebration of World Book Day. Chloe practised the art and craft of traditional storytelling – legends, myths and folktales – with comedy. Her performances were dramatic and brought to life by the use of a motion detecting sound system. Pupils attending the sessions, including the drop-in lunchtime session, thoroughly enjoyed it saying that it was “brilliant” and that it was “100/100 for magic and amazing storytelling”. They particularly enjoyed the opportunity to “try out” the sound system, making some eerie, spooky and enchanting sound effects for themselves.

New Fiction Books In The Library!



If you haven't visited us in the library lately, then now is the time to do so. We have recently added some fabulous new reads to our vast range of fiction. The books will appeal to a range of tastes including horror, adventure, fantasy, sci-fi adventure, war and historical fiction. There really is something for everyone!

Don't forget, if the book you want is out on loan we can easily reserve it for you. Just pop in and see us.

By the way, we'd also like to remind you that we have a large stock of non-fiction to enjoy and help with homework, as well as a good range of popular films on DVD which can be borrowed free of charge.



New Titles

Artichoke Hearts – Sita Brahmachari

The Blackhope Enigma – Teresa Flavin

Anansi Boys – Neil Gaiman

Odd And The Frost Giants – Neil Gaiman

The Betrayal Of Natalie Hargrove - Lauren Kate

Resistance – Craig Simpson

The Devil's Triangle – Mark Robson

I Am The Messenger – Markus Zusak

Hush, Hush – Becca Fitzpatrick

If I Stay – Gayle Forman

Tall Story – Candy Gourlay

Sigrun's Secret – Marie-Louise Jensen

A Beautiful Lie – Irfan Master

Young Sherlock Holmes – Andrew Lane

When You Reach Me - Rebecca Stead

Iron King – Julie Kagawa

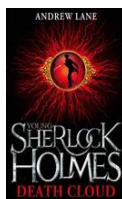
Young Sherlock Holmes

The year is 1868, and Sherlock Holmes is fourteen. His life is that of a perfectly ordinary army officer's son: boarding school, good manners, a classical education - the backbone of the British Empire. All that is about to change; with his father suddenly posted to India, and his mother mysteriously 'unwell', Sherlock is sent to stay with his eccentric uncle and aunt in their vast house in Hampshire. So begins a summer that leads Sherlock to uncover his first murder, a kidnap, corruption and a brilliantly sinister villain of exquisitely malign intent ... "The Death Cloud" is the first in a series of novels in which the iconic detective is reimagined as a brilliant, troubled and engaging teenager - creating unputdownable detective adventures that remain true to the spirit of the original books.



The Betrayal of Natalie Hargrove

Lauren Kate's irresistible first novel, "The Betrayal of Natalie Hargrove", features the most ruthlessly ambitious heroine since Lady Macbeth. Natalie is utterly determined to cement her position at the top of the high school social ladder by becoming prom queen. When it looks like an interfering ex-boyfriend might get in her way, she devises a little prank to humiliate him. But when the prank goes devastatingly wrong, Natalie starts to lose control of her life. Caught in a web of dark secrets, shame and abuse of power, it's not guilt that eventually defeats Natalie. It's fate: the only thing she can't control...



Of Mice and Men at Under the Edge Arts Friday, 1st April 2011 at 7pm

Pupils in Year 10 and 11 who are studying 'Of Mice and Men' as part of their GCSE English Literature course may be interested to know that the Tin Shed Theatre Co are coming to Under the Edge Arts in Wotton with a play based on the novel by John Steinbeck.

Further information is available on the Under the Edge Arts website at www.utea.org.uk

Tickets are £7/£5. Please ring 07791 323869 to book

Gloucestershire Photographer of the Year 2011

This year saw a record entry of nearly 40 Primary and Secondary schools, with 509 entries to select from. KLB students managed an amazing 10 entries for the annual exhibition including 1st prize and Secondary School winner, Alastair Johnstone with a fantastic photograph titled 'Tube Strike'. Daniel Rigg picked up 3rd with a sublime photograph of his dog titled 'Gratial'. A Commended entry went to Charlotte Smith with a stunning black and white photograph of her sister. KLB students also picked up 7 entries accepted for display alongside the club members.

The competition looks for photographic skills in terms of creativity, empathy with the subject and the photographers' individual interpretations. It was noted during the awards ceremony held at All Saints Church in Cheltenham on Saturday that the young photographers work was both inspiring and captivating.



As well as the achievements from the acknowledged students above KLB was also rewarded with the coveted prize of Best Secondary School. Every student who entered should be commended for their time, effort and creativity with all the entries submitted. The Art department was overwhelmed by the diversity and overall quality of all entries this year. We hope to see the same level of inspirational photography next year.

Trilingual exchange – Year 7 pupils teach French students Chinese



On Tuesday 15th March, KLB's Year 7 pupils who study Chinese became teachers for an hour. Students from our partner school in Bois-le-Roi, France, were invited to learn some basic Chinese by joining in a carousel of activities, moving to a new activity every 10 minutes. The Year 7s taught them how to write the Chinese characters for 'happiness', 'luck' and 'love', how to count to 10 and recognise the characters for 1 to 10, how to express basic feelings and how to have a short conversation about themselves in Mandarin. They also learnt a short song to help them remember 'Ni hao ma?'

Henry Patteson and Ashley Langham excelled themselves by trying out their French and using this as a medium for teaching Chinese, which went down extremely well with the French students. The buzzing atmosphere in the classroom was evidence that everyone had a great time whether they were teaching or learning.

Mrs Tate would like to thank the Year 7 class for their enthusiasm and willingness to become teachers of Chinese.

HSBC/British Council Mandarin Speaking Competition Final

Ella Mackay (Year 12), Edward Hill (Year 10), Alice Franklin, Rhion Butcher and Sally-Anne Snowdon (Year 8) competed in the group drama section in the final of the HSBC/British Council Mandarin Speaking Competition held at the British Museum on 10th March 2011. They represented KLB as one of the final 29 schools out of 80 in the country to have made it through the heats to the final competition.

The performance of their drama 'An jing!' ('Quiet!') was applauded loudly and drew comments from the audience such as 'they were so good!' and 'excellent performance! One of the judges Dr Sarah Dauncey, Head of Chinese at the University of Sheffield, said that she thought the KLB group gave the most natural performance of the competition. The pupils were placed third overall behind Calday Grange Grammar School and Whitgift School. They showed fantastic effort, demonstrating a high level of fluent Mandarin Chinese speaking and a passion for drama. Well done!

Year 8 Public Speaking



On 6th March 2011, Miss Turner accompanied the KLB Year 8 public speaking team to the district final of the Rotary Club 'Youth Speaks' Public Speaking Competition in Gloucestershire.

To reach this stage the team, Joe Mockford, Howard Rich and Matthew Glover, had triumphed in the inter-school Year 8 competition against tough opposition. The topic, 'Does technology have a detrimental effect on our lives?' really targeted the audience and made them question their position on this critical matter.

Although not progressing to the next round, the team gave a fantastic performance and should be incredibly proud of this achievement.

March Football Report

The Year 8 girls continue to have a great season. After winning the County tournament, hosted by Cheltenham Town in October, they went on to play in the NPower sponsored South West and Wales finals in January.

Playing against the top 9 teams in the region (a tough day's football!) they started with two defeats – 2-0 to Cardiff and then 1-0 to Bristol (Brimsham Green School). They then went seven games undefeated, beating Exeter, Yeovil, Torquay and Swansea on the way, before narrowly missing a place in the finals by just one goal.



Three of the Year 8 girls stepped up to the Under 14 team, joining with the Year 9 girls, in the Stroud and District Schools tournament on 16th March. Wins against Rednock (3-0) and Maidenhill (4-0) took the team to the semi finals where they beat Thomas Keble (3-0). In a tough final against Archway the KLB side were put under pressure but came out 2-0 winners to win another trophy. Jodie Arkell was again in impressive form with a great hat trick against Rednock and a seven goal tally in the four games. The team now play in the GSFA Schools Under 14 Girls finals on 7th April.



Special Note

Congratulations to our local rivals, Brimsham Green School Girls under 13s (who beat us narrowly 1-0 earlier in the year!). They have had a great run in the ESFA Cup and, after nine wins, will now play in the Under 13 Cup Final.

1st XI Football

After our ESFA success last year (getting through to the 4th round) we disappointingly went out 2-1 to a good Bechen Cliff side from Bath in the very first round.

The Under 18 side have since done well, and have now progressed to the quarter finals of the Gloucestershire Schools U18 County Cup. The highlight so far has been the exciting 4-2 extra-time win against one of the favourites, Beaufort School,

Gloucester. Jamie Evans scored two extra time goals to complete his hat-trick and take KLB through to a tie against Chosen Hill.

Year 8 Boys

This is a strong year group and our hopes were up for a long run in the English Schools FA Under 13 Cup. After four impressive wins, the side eventually lost a 5th round replay against Gordano School. Injuries and illness weakened the KLB side after the first 0-0 draw and, in the replay, Gordano produced a late burst of goals for a deserved 5-2 win.

The Stroud and District campaign is now underway and, although still short of a fully fit squad, the team have won 7-1 against Cirencester Deer Park, 4-0 against Cirencester Kingshill and battled out a 4-4 draw away against Farmor's. The next game is at home against Marling on 31st March.

Girls' Hockey

U12 girls had a 7-a-side match against Winterbourne Ridings and drew 1-1; Millie Wallis scored the KLB goal. The U12 tournament will be at Deer Park on Tuesday 29th March.

U13's also played 7-a-side against Winterbourne Ridings and won 7-0 – an excellent score line which I hope they will repeat when they play at the district tournament on Monday 21st March.

U14 these are in a league at the moment and have had to call on the services of a lot of Year 8 pupils so it is to all their credit that if they win their last league game at Deer Park on Wednesday 30th March they will have won the league. They also have a district tournament on Thursday 31st March at Deer Park.

U15's should have had a practice match against Castle School but they cancelled it. This will mean that some players will go to the tournament on Monday 28th March without having played for a while.

U16's are in the same situation as the U14's, however they have played more games. If they beat Deer Park on Wednesday 6 April they have won the league having beaten the current leaders (Stroud High School) 1-0 on Wednesday 16th March. The U16 tournament is on Thursday 24th March at Deer Park.

Senior Teams

This year the 1st XI have played some matches with varying results, 2 draws and 1 loss. We have played some mixed 1st XI games this year! We beat Winterbourne Ridings last term 6-0 but on the replay on Thursday 17th March we drew 3-3 without a Goalkeeper! However, in our defence, I should mention that they only had 4 girls and so were able to play 6 boys on the pitch and their Goalkeeper was outstanding.

Our other mixed game was against Castle which was a 1-1 draw. On Tuesday 5th April they will have their last game against Farmor's School at Deer Park.

Mrs Chevin

KLB Friends Update March 2011

We are looking ahead to the Summer Fayre to be held on Saturday 25th June 2011. The first two sub committee meetings for the organisation of this has been held and plans are well under way for the event and are progressing well. As a result of the meetings the following has been issued from the sub committee:

KLB Summer Fayre, Saturday 25th June 2011

Raffle Prize Donations and Advertising Opportunities

We have advertising space in our entry programme at a cost of £20 per half page and £40 for a page. This is a fantastic opportunity to spread the word about your business whilst at the same time every penny raised will be contributing to the educational experience of the young people in our community.

In addition, we are looking for donations of raffle prizes for the grand draw. Tickets will be sold ahead of the event and the draw will be held on the day.

If you would be interested in advertising or donating a raffle prize, please contact KLB Friends at their email address or phone 01453 845660 by the end of April at the latest.

We will once again be supplying refreshments at the Music and Drama Evenings. These are to be held at the school on the 30 and 31 March.

Please do not forget that you can support our fundraising efforts in other ways such as the 80:20 club or our monthly donation scheme. Please contact the KLB Friends if you require further information about these.

A reminder that our meetings are held monthly and 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. The date of the next meeting is Thursday 24th March 2011, start time 7.30pm, at the Well Being Centre on The Chipping in Kingswood Village.

If you wish to contact the KLB Friends for more information please email us at 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>

22 Mar	Year 13 Parents' Evening (2)	27 May	Last day of term 5
23 Mar	Parents' Academy status meeting	6 June	First day of term 6
30/31 March	Music and Drama Concerts	8/9/15 Jun	Year 6 information evenings
8 April	Last day of term 4	25 Jun	KLB Summer Fayre – 11:00am – 3:00pm
26 April	First day of term 5	21 July	Last day of term 6
2 May	Bank Holiday		

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

2012/2013 Academic Year

3 Sep 2012	First day of term 1 – Staff Training (1)	7 Jan 2013	First day of term 3
4 Sep	Staff training day (2)	8 Feb	Staff training day (4) – last day of term 3
5 Sep	First day of term 1 for pupils	18 Feb	First day of term 4
27 Sep	Year 6 information evening – 6:15pm	22 Mar	Last day of term 4
28 Sep	Staff training day (3)	8 Apr	First day of term 5
19 Oct	Last day of term 1	6 May	Bank Holiday
29 Oct	First day of term 2	24 May	Last day of term 5
20 Dec	Last day of term 2	3 June	First day of term 6
		19 July	Last day of term 6