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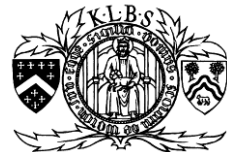
KATHARINE LADY BERKELEY'S SCHOOL



Newsletter 15 December 2011



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A Specialist School for
Languages

May we take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers for your support this year and to wish you a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Oliver

The KLB School production of Lionel Bart's 'Oliver' (28th Nov – 2nd Dec) was a tremendous success. The show, which involved 96 pupils from Years 7 to 13, played to packed houses every night and had sold out days before it opened. This was a real highlight of the year, with an extremely high standard of acting, singing, technical support and instrumental playing. Many of the emails received afterwards commented that it was on a par with a West End show!

Pupils and staff gave up a great deal of their time to make these wonderful performances and are to be warmly congratulated, not only on their success but also the fantastically supportive and collaborative way in which they worked together as a team. In the words of Assistant Headteacher Jo Godfrey, "I felt that the cast was fantastic. Shining lights in the performance were Toni Parker-Smith, whose voice was exceptional and Harvey Westwood who played Fagin brilliantly; his performance would not have been out of place at the Bristol Hippodrome. I thoroughly enjoyed it."

Mrs Clare-Hudson (Head of Drama)

A Production like no other! By Myles Rawstron-Rudd (Year 10)

As you may be aware, Katharine Lady Berkeley's School has recently produced Lionel Bart's famous musical, 'Oliver'. The production was very successful. It was great fun to be a part of the show, making new friends and acting and singing. Mrs Clare-Hudson directed the production and with Miss Sydney, Mr Bull, Mr Lawrence and Mrs Sutton put in so much time and effort. After many busy weeks it all came together and entertained the audiences. Some enjoyed it so much, they came for a second night!

Teachers who had been to see the production gave us great feedback and parents and relatives all gave the production a great review. Harvey Westwood who played Fagin had many comments about his superb performances! Mr Mann spoke after the final performance about the quality of acting, costumes, singing, music and the organisation from staff. Mrs Clare-Hudson, along with all the other staff, spent so much of their time and effort on this production and it was said by Mr Bull the Head of Music that this production was possibly the best he has ever been part of at this school in over a decade and a half. All four nights were most enjoyable and I am sure many of the students would want to be part of a future production.

Art

A Level Art students are holding an exhibition at the Prema Arts centre in Uley for one week. The students who went on the study visit to Barcelona during half term in October have been working to create an exhibition of inspired artworks from the fantastically diverse and creative city. You will see work from all disciplines taught at school with works displayed from photography, graphic art, fine art and textiles students. All work throughout the week will be for sale, offering the students an excellent opportunity to work as professional artists.

The exhibition will close at 4:30pm on Saturday 17th December. Please contact Mr Hall at school for further details.



Chinese Department

'From Silkworms to Gunboats, following the Silk Road' talk – James Trapp

On 29th November the Chinese department invited James Trapp, expert sinologist and art historian from the British Museum, to talk with Year 9–13 students studying Chinese at KLB.

Mr Trapp began by asking the students to take a look at, touch and guess what a selection of Chinese artefacts he'd brought in were. He asked them to try to identify what the various objects were made from, their age, use, and anything unusual about them. These included expensive tea bricks from Tibet, glass perfume bottles intricately painted from the inside, fine porcelain, 100 year old hand sewn dictionaries and a martial arts sword. Mr Trapp then explained the history behind the objects and times when they were made.

The second session, for sixth form sinologists and historians, focussed on the history of the Silk Road with images dating back to the Shang Dynasty. Mr Trapp focussed on the fusion of art in China; some pieces taking their influence from Persia, others from Central Europe, some from Southern Siberia. He punctuated his talk with explanations about rebellions, opium wars, and a fantastic sense of humour.

KLB China Arts Day

On 20th October, KLB School invited artists from the Manchester Chinese Arts Centre to deliver workshops in Chinese musical instruments, ribbon dancing and fan making. Mrs Tate, assisted by the sixth form students studying Chinese, and Ms Tutty, gave pupils in Years 7 – 10 the opportunity to practise their skills in Chinese calligraphy.

As part of our work as a Confucius Classroom, supported by the Schools Network and Hanban (Chinese Ministry of Education), we also invited pupils from local Secondary Schools to attend the event. Pupils from Balcarras School (Cheltenham) and Woodrush School (Worcester) joined KLB pupils for the day, enjoying the chance to 'taste' Chinese cultural activities followed by a Chinese lunch.

Pupils were privileged to hear a Chinese musician play a plethora of authentic Chinese instruments, such as a pipa (like a banjo), suona (a bit like an oboe), erhu (two stringed instrument), bamboo flute and percussion instruments. They were then offered the chance to play them (with varying degrees of success!).

In calligraphy, pupils mastered the brush and ink writing technique to produce characters meaning love, prosperity, luck and beauty amongst others. Each pupil also made a fan using scissors to create delicate designs. In the ribbon dancing workshop pupils were taught how to make the ribbon 'dance' by swirling their own ribbons in a particular way to create shapes in the air.

Mrs Tate would like to thank Ms Tutty and the Year 11 students for their support in decorating the Drama Hall with Chinese objects including lanterns, pictures and qipao, to name a few. Year 12 Chinese students Luke Moreton, Amy Vien and Maisie Simmonds, and Year 13 students Ella Mackay and Michael Wenman also gave up their free lessons to support the event.

British Council Mandarin Speaking Competition

On 16th December, eight pupils studying Chinese at KLB will compete in the first heats of the national British Council Mandarin Speaking Competition held at the London School of Economics.

Henry Patteson (Year 8) and Lois Iddles (Year 10) will compete in the Individual Category, where they are expected to speak in Chinese for up to two minutes on a topic of their choice. They will then be asked to translate unseen sentences from English to Chinese on the spot.

Eloise McAllister, Natalie Werrett and Ashley Moreton (Year 10), Sally-Anne Snowdon (Year 9) Megan Stuart and Jessica Morse (Year 8) are going to act out a five minute play in Chinese called 'What are you wearing?' Briefly, Ashley finds himself caught up in the middle of five girls all vying for his attention and can't make up his mind whether to go running with Natalie, do tai'chi with Sally-Anne or go for a coffee with Megan and Jessica. Ellie walks in late for tai'chi, but has forgotten to change out of her pyjama bottoms! The group will demonstrate a short tai'chi routine during the performance, thanks to Mr Gao's training.

Mrs Tate (Head of Chinese)

Physical Education

Myles Rawstron-Rudd in Year 10 is looking for work experience in sports journalism. Here is an article he has submitted to the Newsletter:

Back to back champions! KLB stand strong against Marling School

The cold weather didn't stop an eager Katharine Lady Berkeley's side keen to defend their Stroud District Championship. The Year 9 rugby team, coached by Mr Daniel, started the season in great form having won six of their last seven games, their only defeat of the school year against Marling (a narrow defeat 19-17). Arguably KLB's strongest player, Tom Freer, was ruled out due to illness meaning the influential winger, who has scored over ten tries this year, was sidelined for the big match.

It took KLB only five minutes to score the opening try against a full-strength Marling side with Finnely McCubbin going over, leaving captain Chris Colston with an easy conversion. Marling came back at KLB with sustained pressure, but KLB maintained their lead until half time. In the second half, Marling continued in the same fashion and scored within two minutes of the restart, Ben Daniels scoring in the corner, leaving a difficult conversion which fell just short. Marling then took a 12-7 lead with a good converted try from fly half Jack Lightfoot. The next try was a long time coming. With just 14 minutes remaining, KLB's Chris Colston, already heading for man of the match, went over in the corner for a debateable try, but referee Simon Collyer Bristow gave the attacking team the benefit of the doubt. The conversion was missed but ten minutes later KLB scored again through scrum-half Dominic Webb. The conversion struck the post leaving the score at 17-12. Two minutes from time, Perry Milan drove through the Marling back line for a great solo try. The score finished at 22-12 leaving KLB the defending Champions. Celebrations began after Captain Chris Colston lifted the Stroud District Rugby Shield for the second time. Mr Daniel said after the game, "That's the best Chris has ever played for school" and the referee stated, "KLB played much better rugby and deserved to win the game".

South West Regional Schools Trampoline Championships 2011



On Sunday 5th December, Emma Cornick (Year 10) plus a team of three Year 7 girls – Emma Benson, Rachel Cornick and Anna Rogers, represented Katharine Lady Berkeley's School at the South West Regional Schools Trampoline Championships 2011 at the City Academy in Bristol.

Emma Cornick completed two successful routines in the U15 Girls' Elite level (competitors compete at either Novice level, or Elite level, but once they have participated in a grading competition - as is the case with Emma - they must compete at Elite level). Emma achieved 8th position, which is an excellent result given the stiff competition.

Emma, Rachel and Anna also fought hard in the U13 Girls' Elite section, hoping they would be able to come through as a team (only the first two teams make it through to the next round). Emma and Rachel train with Cosmos Trampoline Club in Yate, whilst Anna trains with Aspire Springers in Gloucester, so the girls put aside their club rivalry to compete as a team in the Schools competition. However, the opposition was just too strong, including a number of girls who train with some of the most elite and competitive clubs in the region. Nevertheless, all three girls felt it was an enjoyable and worthwhile experience.

Mrs Benson

U14 County Netball Tournament

The Year 8 and 9 girls took part in the U14 County Netball tournament, which was held at Cheltenham Ladies College in November. The girls were drawn in an extremely competitive group with the hosts Cheltenham, Balcarras, Cleve and Wyedean School. They won the game with Wyedean School and narrowly lost against Cheltenham Ladies College but unfortunately did not progress. All the girls played extremely well. The squad comprised of Milly Smith, Lucy Hayward, Sophie Barnes, Grace Baxendine, Amelia Fussell, Beccy Chalmers, Charlotte Rowberry, Elena Azcona and Aggie Adams.

Year 7 District Netball Tournament

The following girls took part in the District tournament, which was held at Rednock School in December: Ellie Parker (Captain), Scarlett Smith (Vice captain), Anna Richardson, Ella York, Imogen Webb, Lara Spencer, Bekki Spencer-Smith, Beth Gordon, Harriet Hunt and Joely Brewer. The girls began the tournament with a very competitive game against Stroud High School which was lost. Then they played Sir William Romney and Deer Park beating both convincingly. The girls then played Farmors B and Rednock who both put out very strong teams and unfortunately they lost both these games. Final result was a third position in Pool 2. Well done to these Year 7 girls in their very first District tournament. They show real potential for next year!

Year 8 District Netball Tournament

The Year 8 netball team attended the District tournament at Wycliffe a couple of weeks ago. They were, once again, drawn in a hard section with some difficult matches. They began with a 1-0 defeat, against Kingshill and, although they had lots of shots on goal, the ball just wouldn't go in the net! The Year 8s had successful wins against Sir William Romney (3-0) and Stroud High School (3-0), which is always nice! Unfortunately they didn't get through to the semi finals, but this was a definite improvement on last year. The squad comprised of Georgina Barter, Corinne Gibson, Lucy Donald, Megan Bates, Chelsea McGuinness, Elena Azcona, Jess Morse, Yvette Westwood, Milly Wallis and Aggie Adams.

Year 9 District Netball Tournament

The Year 9 girls attended the District tournament, which was held at Wycliffe School in December. They played brilliantly and won all of their games apart from a closely fought match with Farmors A team. As runners up to Farmors the girls progressed to the semi-final where they narrowly missed out on a place in the final losing to Stroud High School. The final score of this short 5 min game was 4 – 2 to Stroud. The squad comprised of Milly Smith, Lucy Hayward, Sophie Barnes, Grace Baxendine, Amelia Fussell, Beccy Chalmers, Charlotte Rowberry and Grace Phipps. Well done girls!

Year 10 District Netball Tournament

The team had a difficult group of matches ahead of them, but I was really pleased with how they approached their games; enthusiastic as ever! The girls lost to Farmors and Stroud High School, but won comfortably against Wycliffe (3-1), Kingshill (5-1) and Deer Park (5-2), which was really pleasing. The squad consisted of Safia Gilder-Hodgson (Captain), Alice Barton, Anna Patteson, Zoe Cotton, Elise Clements, Josie Buist, Izzi Mackinnon and Beccy Chalmers. Unfortunately they didn't get through to the semi-finals, but it was a fun afternoon of netball!

Netball League Results

The netball season has officially finished and the league positions for each year group are as follows:

Year 8 = 2nd Year 9 = 4th Year 10 = 5th Year 11 = 2nd

Well done to all the girls for their excellent commitment to training and fixtures. Roll on next season! 😊

KLB Boys' Basketball

KLB Year 9 basketball team has been training hard this term in preparation for what is a very challenging District league. In their opening game KLB took a squad of 10 players over to Archway School. Right from the beginning KLB dominated the game, with our passing and movement being too strong for the opponents. Coaches McAleese and Riggs rotated the subs well, keeping the team fresh on court and the score board ticking over. The final score of 44 – 6 was a good reflection of their dominance. Man of the Match – Tommy McAleese.

Next up for the boys was a tough match against Farmors. Having previously drawn against them last year, KLB were up for another close game. However much like the first game, the movement of the team and the quality of their finishing was outstanding and KLB quickly built a comfortable lead. Farmors did come back in to the game a bit in the second half, but by then the game was won, KLB eventually running out 36 – 12 winners. Man of the Match – Daniel Riggs.

KLB's third game was against by far their toughest opponents. Thomas Keeble School always provide a stern challenge at basketball and their Year 9s were true to form. Their star player had just been selected for the GB

squad and standing at around 6ft 4" he towered above the KLB lads! Despite eventually losing the game by just 8 points, KLB played their best basketball to date, regularly outplaying their opponents. With just four minutes to play KLB held a one point lead, but as legs began to tire a few shots went astray. Thomas Keeble took their chances in the latter stages. Man of the Match – Sam Barnes.

Boys' House Matches

The first round of house matches for basketball and rugby have now been completed. The house match system at school gives all pupils a chance to take part in competitive matches regardless of ability. In Year 7, pupils are put into one of four houses; Berkeley, Durand, Logan and Wellicome. Pupils then play in round robin style tournaments scoring points for their houses.

Year 7

Rugby House Champions – Berkeley

Year 8

Rugby House Champions – Durand

Basketball House Champions – Wellicome

Year 9

Rugby House Champions Logan/Durand

Basketball House Champions – Durand

Year 10

Rugby House Champions – Logan

Basketball House Champions – Durand

OVERALL Result Basketball Champions = Durand Rugby Champions = Logan/Durand

Football

Joe Stokes of Year 9 has been selected for the Gloucestershire Schools FA under 14 side. He has now played two matches in the ESFA County Championship. Joe also plays at Swindon Town FC, the club where former pupil Jamie Stephens (now with Liverpool FC) started his professional football career. Another former pupil making progress in professional football is Charlie Hitchings. Charlie (aged 17) recently made it into Cheltenham Town's first team squad.

Mr Mewse

KLB Spitfires Discover their Battling Spirit in the English Table Tennis Association's National Cadet League

On Sunday 4th December the intrepid team of Michael Barnes, Matty Gillespy, Henry Jones and Katie Trinder once again joined battle against teams from Cheltenham, Stroud and Bridgwater in Round 2 of the National Cadet League.

In the first rubber against top-of-the-league Cheltenham, Henry won all three of his matches and Matty took a hard fought win. However Michael, struggling with a wrist injury, was unable to perform at his best and KLB narrowly lost 4 matches to 5. The second rubber against an improving Stroud was a real dog-fight, with Katie winning one of her matches and Henry taking two matches, breaking his bat in one hard-hitting game! The final rubber against Bridgwater was the most satisfying with some very close games being played and with every point being hotly contested. KLB eventually won by 5 Matches to 4, with Katie taking 2 and Henry winning all his 3 games.

It was very pleasing to see the students enjoying themselves and really giving of their best. They are all developing their tactical play and the improving results are testament to this.

Mr Jones

The B-Team

The B-Team is a small group of students who work with some teachers and governors to promote the anti-bullying message at KLB and provide support for students. The group meets throughout the year to discuss the types of bullying that may occur and where bullying might happen around the school. The group creates ideas for projects to promote the anti-bullying message and part of this year's campaign was the focus on the abuse of IT and phones. During Anti-Bullying Week 2011 (Nov 14th-18th), the B-Team went into assemblies and talked to students about how to stop bullying, and particularly Cyber-Bullying. Every Year 7 student was then given some cut outs of a mobile phone so that they could write supportive messages to people about how to get help, together with messages to bullies to explain how bullying makes them feel. These were then montaged onto the giant words to create a huge mural which will be displayed around the school.



The B-Team

(Emma Benson, Joe Leonard-Walters, Lexi Wilkinson, Jude Padfield, Millie Lynton-Jenkins, Lukas Pace, Selina Starflinger, Jon Hatton, Charlotte Rosher, Miss Mitchell & Mr Warren)

Master Class! KLB Festive Baking

AS and A2 Food Technology students proudly present their finished Christmas cakes.

The students are developing their practical culinary skills to a higher level and this gave them the opportunity to demonstrate their skills and creative ability. They have been studying carbohydrates this term and used many of Richard Bertinet's bread recipes to demonstrate the use of non-starch polysaccharide and fibre in the diet.

Richard Bertinet is a French born boulanger and an expert at using flour and yeast. The students followed his Christmas Cake recipe. Once the cakes were made they covered them with a moist layer of marzipan, and iced and decorated them as a Winter Wonderland scene.

Wow! What fantastic cakes; well done to you all and Happy Christmas!

Jane Cooper (Head of Food and Textiles)

German Christmas Market

On Thursday 8th December, pupils, students and staff at KLB enjoyed the opportunity to get started on their Christmas shopping. The Drama Hall was transformed into a little German Weihnachtsmarkt, complete with Kinderpunsch, traditional German Christmas carols and numerous stalls. This was an opportunity to sample traditional German food and drink and soak up the atmosphere which they could experience in most German towns at this time of year.

It was also an opportunity for pupils to showcase their creative talents, with many of the stalls selling hand-made gifts, crafts, decorations and cards. The market raised over £260 which is being donated to the Help for Heroes charity. A big "thank you" to all the parents who donated prizes for the tombola.



Careers Convention

The Careers Convention on November 24th was incredibly well supported. Hundreds of parents and students crowded the rooms and corridors to visit the stands of over 60 firms and organisations who had volunteered to attend

The feedback from both parents and the firms' representatives was very positive. Many contributors were impressed with the interest shown by the pupils, and the standard of their questions.

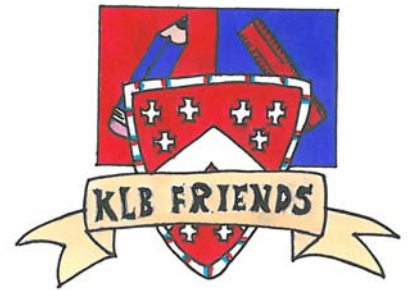
Thanks are due for the hard work and preparation put in by school administrative staff (in particular Helen Isaacs), and to the sixth formers and Year 11 prefects who helped on the day. I would also like to thank the stallholders who freely gave up their time to come and to the many visitors who sometimes had to wait at the exhibitors stands for an opportunity to speak. If you would like to be an exhibitor at our next convention or if you would like more information on finding apprenticeships please contact me at pashford@klbschool.org.uk.



Mr Ashford (Head of Careers)

KLB Friends December Update

The sales of homemade cakes and drinks at the music concert on Tuesday 8th November raised £63.40. The Friends are grateful for any help that people are able to offer; baking and donating cakes or serving at these events are just two ways in which you can get involved. We also provided the refreshments at the productions of Oliver at the end of last month and raised over £400.00 (with a further £216.00 raised through the raffle). The prize of the Christmas Hamper was won by Moira Buist.



The 80/20 draw was made at our November meeting and the winners included Fiona Macmillan and Lynne Stride; well done to them. Please contact the KLB Friends if you require information about the 80/20 Club (which involves monthly payments to win cash prizes), or any of our other fundraising schemes which run alongside individual events.

Our next event is a disco for the Year 7 pupils to be held on Thursday 15th December from 7pm to 9pm, in the Drama Hall. We will also be providing help and support for the Wotton Triathlon to be held on Sunday 24th June 2012. If you wish to volunteer your help please contact the Friends on the address below.

The date of our next meeting is Tuesday 10th January 2012 at 7.00pm and will be held in Ivitae, The Chipping, Kingswood (formerly The Well Being Centre). Meeting dates for your 2012 diary are: Wednesday 22nd February, Monday 26th March and Thursday 10th May.

If you wish to contact the KLB Friends for more information please email us at:
klbfriends@klbschool.org.uk

From the Site Team

Please only use the disabled parking bays if you are entitled to do so. Please be aware that access is required at all times. If you are unable to park in the visitors car park additional parking is available next to the Sports Hall.

Parent Workshop

An introduction to Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) - Monday 30th January 2011, 7.00pm

Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) is a talking therapy that is evidence-based and recommended by the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) as the treatment of choice for a number of mental health difficulties such as anxiety, depression and Post-traumatic Stress Disorder. It is based on exploring how our thoughts, feelings and behaviours affect each other and how, by challenging our unhelpful thoughts and behaviours, we can change our feelings. There are some simple techniques that we and our children can use to help deal with everyday stresses and upsets and this workshop is designed to give you the tools to do this.

Dates for your diary

The school calendar for 2011/12 can be accessed from the front page of the school website or directly at:
<http://calendar.klb.org.uk>

<i>4 Jan 2012</i>	<i>First day of term 3</i>
<i>12 Jan</i>	<i>Year 10 Parents' Evening</i>
<i>17 Jan</i>	<i>Year 9 Parents' Evening</i>
<i>1 Feb</i>	<i>Year 11 Parents' Evening</i>
<i>9 Feb</i>	<i>Parent Focus Group</i>
<i>10 Feb</i>	<i>Staff training day (4) – last day of term 3</i>
<i>20 Feb</i>	<i>First day of term 4</i>
<i>21 Feb</i>	<i>Year 9 Options Evening</i>
<i>8 Mar</i>	<i>Year 8 Parents' Evening</i>
<i>22 Mar</i>	<i>Year 13 Parents' Evening</i>
<i>28 Mar</i>	<i>Year 12 Parents' Evening</i>
<i>30 Mar</i>	<i>Last day of term 4</i>
<i>16 Apr</i>	<i>First day of term 5</i>
<i>7 May</i>	<i>Bank Holiday</i>
<i>1 June</i>	<i>Last day of term 5</i>
<i>11 June</i>	<i>First day of term 6</i>
<i>19 July 2012</i>	<i>Last day of term 6</i>