

St John's College



Junior School

Newsletter March 2009

Dear Parents,

This has been another action-packed term for the Junior School. We hope that you will enjoy reading about some of the highlights of this Lent term.

R10 Assembly

The R10 Assembly in February was a very happy occasion with R10 giving a very thoughtful assembly. Nicholas Cooke, The **Recorder of Cardiff**, presented the certificates and invited questions from the children. Most of the questions centred around the dress of a judge. Some of R10 pupils looked very grand in the judge's wig.



Eisteddfod

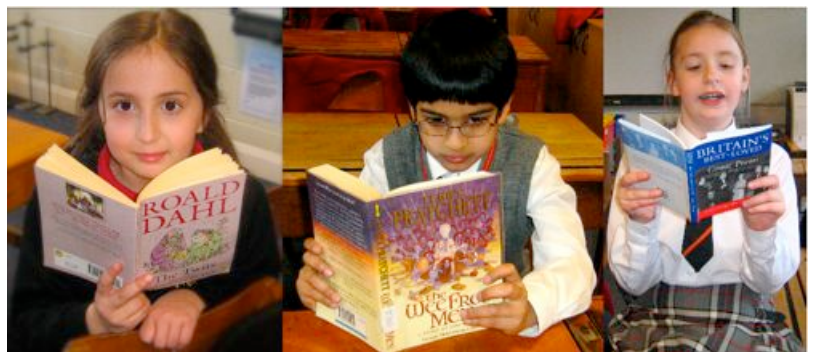
The Eisteddfod on the 27th February was a very enjoyable day. It was an opportunity for outstanding artists, musicians, writers and reciters and hard workers to display their talents. The Bard this year was **Jordan Ambler** – an outstanding winner. **Robbie Griffith** and **Ashleigh Patrick** followed close behind.

Red Nose Day

Enthusiasm and generosity marked the day. We had fun with various activities ranging from limbo dancing, sticking the nose on the dog, badge making to our marvellous joke book. Thank you very much for the gifts which you sent and your support. Mrs Brown will be writing with details of the day.

Readathon

Reading well, hopefully with enjoyment, is the most important skill that children can acquire in their Junior School years. The Readathon, started on the 4th March has been an outstanding success. Fired by the enthusiasm of Mrs Howell and Mrs Cooney, children have been reading with even greater gusto. In addition, a large amount of money has been raised for sick children and other worthy causes.



Floral Wheelbarrow Competition

R9 and the **Nursery** have been working together on a combined project to enter the RHS Flower Competition which is in Bute Park 17th -19th April. The pupils of R9 excelled themselves helping and working with our youngest pupils. There will be a photographic display of the Wheelbarrows in Queen's Arcade a fortnight before the show.

Victory at CSA Sports Festival for Girls' Choir



Choir Schools' Association Sports Festival

On Wednesday, 4th March, our girl and boy Cathedral choristers travelled to Wells Cathedral for the 2009 Choir Schools' Association Sports Festival, followed by Evensong sung by some 160 choristers from the Cathedrals of Truro, Exeter, Wells, Winchester, Bristol, Llandaff, Hereford, and Gloucester, from Tewkesbury Abbey, and from Magdalen College, Oxford.

The boys performed very well, winning two of their soccer matches and scoring well against strong opposition. This year saw the first appearance for our Senior Girls' Choir at the CSA Sports Festival, and following victories in all their netball matches, with successes over **Llandaff (7-1)**, **Wells (6-1)**, **Exeter (6-1)** and **Bristol (12-1)**, the girls were **crowned champions of the entire tournament**. Congratulations to all the girls! We look forward to the current Junior Girls choristers continuing these sporting successes in years to come.

Important Dates in the Summer Term

Monday, 20th April

There is a meeting on **the first day** of the summer term for parents (and children if they wish) at which you may ask Mrs Cooke any queries about the stay in Abergavenny. Sometimes the children have concerns which they may wish you to ask for them. The staff accompanying the children will be Mrs Cooke, Mrs Kloosterman, Mr Morgan (a keen footballer) and Mrs Firth, who as well as being an excellent teacher, is also a qualified first aider and has nursing experience. In addition, the Centre has its own staff to direct many of the educational activities.

Monday, 27th April

Our community officer, P.C. Carol Sullivan will be speaking to R8 and R9 as part of our PSE programme on the subjects of Stranger Danger and Bullying.

Change of Date

The **Junior Disco** with DJ Stirling is on **Thursday, 30th April** from 6pm to 7.30pm in the School Hall. Tickets will be priced at £1.50 and will be on sale at the beginning of term. Drinks and sweets will be on sale and pupils are encouraged to wear their best 'with it' gear.

Cycling Proficiency

In June, in National Safety Week, there is an opportunity for R10 to obtain their cycling proficiency certificate. In order to take part pupils must be able to ride and have full control of a bike. The bike must be in good working order. The pupils must have a helmet and a lock for their bike which will remain in school for the week. Please let us know in good time if there is any difficulty with this. The Easter Holiday is an ideal time to practise riding bikes.

Two Reminders

- Registration is at **8.50am** and the first lesson starts promptly at 8.55. Some pupils are missing almost half of the first lesson each day because of the need to register in the office and then make their way to another part of the school.
- A full list of the uniform requirements is enclosed. I draw your attention in particular to the outdoor wear and to the PE uniform which has been unchanged now for several years.

We hope that you all have an enjoyable and restful Easter holiday.

Yours sincerely,

E.C. Loveland

Dates for the Diary

Tues 24 th March	Easter Concert given by our Boy & Senior Girl Cathedral Choristers at St David's Hall, Cardiff, 1.00pm
Sun 5 th - 12 th April	Cathedral Choristers committed to Holy Week services : Palm Sunday (5th), Maundy Thursday (9th), Good Friday (10th), Easter Vigil (Sat 11th) & Easter Sunda (12th)
Wed 29 th April	Spring Orchestral Concert , 7pm
Fri 17 th - 19 th April	RHS Show Bute Park
Mon 20 th April	Start of term R11 Parents' meeting re.Abergavenny stay 7p.m. room 3.1
Mon 27 th April	P.C. Carol Sullivan , Community Officer with R8 and R9
Thurs 30 th April	Junior Disco
Mon 4 th May	May Bank Holiday
Wed 13 th - 15 th May	R11 Residential Stay
Fri 22 nd May	Last day of half term
Advance Notice	
Mon 22 nd June	Junior Assessments R10 Cycling Proficiency Week
Thurs 9 th July	R11 Parents' Assembly
Fri 10 th July	End of term. Class trips

