



From the Headmaster

Stephen R Borthwick BSc CPhys FRSA

END OF LENT TERM 2011

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April 2011

End of Lent Term 2011

Dear Parents

SCHOOL NEWS

Distinctions

Hui Ying Fam (W) and Rhiannon Tambini-McGee (R) achieved three Headmaster's Distinctions this term.

UCAS

Our pupils are holding pleasing numbers of offers, broadly in line with other year. The early indications are that places through Clearing are going to be very scarce and that next year's UCAS application cycle will be very competitive. It is therefore vital that U6 holding offers should be realistic in the offers they accept, particularly the insurance offer and should discuss their decisions carefully with HMM. Pupils should also be wary of rejecting offers, especially for competitive courses and re-applying next year, as course requirements may change.

Headmaster's Awards

The following pupils were awarded a Headmaster's Award this term:

Jenny Waterman (Rv) and Josh Allen (F) - performances as Actress/Actor

Alex Siba (C) - Lighting and tech team from M'mas term

Alex Nelson (Fa) - tech team in countless events and shows

Nicholas Hammond (H), Max Mayhew (Fa), Patrick Lewis (Rn), Rachel Mewett (R), Max

Austin (F) - service to College as Actors/Actresses

Other Awards

Mathematics Gold Award

This was a good set of results on a challenging paper. The following pupils achieved a gold award: Charlotte Bae (Rv), Michael Faulkner (P), Thomas Simpson (P) and Rhiannon Tambini-McGee (R). Special congratulations go to Rhiannon Tambini-McGee and Charlotte Bae who were invited to sit the next stage of the competition.

Prep School Events

This has been another successful term for events run by Epsom College for Prep Schools in the local area.

January saw our popular Year 6 Quiz for four competing schools.

February was a busy month starting with the Prep Schools Rugby Regional Finals, where over 1500 players and spectators were on campus for a splendid day of high quality rugby played in good spirit. This was followed by our Strings Day where 90 children from 8 schools took part in a warming display of talent and enthusiasm. Later that same week we held our Mathmagical Adventure with 140 children from Wallace Fields and 3 Prep Schools taking part in a day of problem solving, humour and song!

March saw a wide range of events. We held our first ever Blitz Chess Tournament with 24 children from 6 schools taking part in a fast exhibition of top quality chess. This was closely followed by the Prep Schools Rugby National Finals. We were fortunate enough to have two OE's (George Lowe and Christopher York who now play professional rugby for Harlequins) presenting the prizes. The third annual Prep Schools Cross Country Run, with around 80 children from years 7 and 8 took place over the traditional 2 mile course around the College grounds. We hope to be able to extend this to years 5 and 6 next year. Another successful Netball Tournament was followed by our Public Speaking Competition for Year 5 students. This saw 10 schools taking part, with some novel and entertaining topics.

CCF Report

There has been much activity throughout the term. The NCO training group completed their course and winner of the Best NCO Trophy was Rachel Mewett (R)

The main focus this term has obviously been Annual Inspection. The College was delighted to welcome Brigadier Matthew P Lowe MBE Late PARA, Deputy Commander London District, as Reviewing Officer. He was hugely impressed with everything he saw and also commented on the enormous commitment given by the staff. Cadet WO1 Alex Nelson (Fa) was the senior NCO. The day attracted a large number of parents, guests and Old Epsomians.

The morning began with a Guard of Honour (Guard Commander: Sgt Polly Norkett (Rv)), followed by a full parade of the Contingent which this year was supported both by the Band of The Royal Logistic Corps and The College CCF Band (Drum Major: WO2 Christopher Hardy (C)).

The morning concluded with a display by the Drill Team (Guard Commander: WO2 Lucas Smith-Muller (Fa)).

Throughout the afternoon Inter-House competitions were held and the winner of the junior competition was Crawfurd, the senior competition Fayrer with the eventual competition winners being Crawfurd. We were delighted that the prizes were presented by Captain Craig Shephard MC (Old Epsomian).

Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Awards during the term were were made to:

Jade Warner
Natasha Watson
William Lau
James Scott

Charity

The recent Charity Shows were well supported by pupils and staff. Feedback from pupils was largely excellent, with over 400 members of the school attending across the two nights, and in excess of £2000 was raised for charity as a result. Thanks go to the Charity Reps for their help, both in preparation and on the night itself.

Dicken Kong (F)

Che Him Dicken Kong (F) was summoned to a royal command performance at the Guildhall in London in the last week of term. Selected by the prestigious Trinity School of Music to perform at a function in the historic surroundings of the Guildhall, Dicken was one of an

elite foursome of young musicians to play before HRH The Duke of Kent as he met varied assembled dignitaries.

Dicken, who has already achieved his ATCL level grade, which exceeds Grade 8, on the piano, played three pieces, Chopin's *1st Nocturne* and *1st Impromptu* and Beethoven's *Pathetique 2nd movement*, to great acclaim.

MUSIC

This has been the busiest Lent Term the Music Department has ever known, offering an enormous range of performance opportunities for a large numbers of pupils.

Inter-House Solo Instrumental Competition

This competition was held in January, and there were many performances of a very high standard, as could be heard in the winners' concert in February that showcased many fine individual performances across an incredibly varied range of instruments. All performances counted towards the House total, and in the House competition the final result was:

| | |
|-----------------|--------|
| 3 rd | Holman |
| 2 nd | White |
| 1 st | Carr |

Concerts

The first concert of the term involved a spectacular array of over 200 performers in Big School, including Chapel Choir and Choral Society, with a full orchestra, under the direction of Mr Lodge. This was an extremely successful evening, with superb soloists, and was greatly enjoyed by the large audience. The combined forces performed the world premiere of *I am Sanctus* by Epsom composer and parent of two OEs in Crawfurd, Paul Dickinson, with solo contributions from Harriet Smith, Rochelle Smith, Clare Williams, Nicholas Hammond and David Brewis. The remainder of the concert consisted of extracts from Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde* and a complete performance of Brahms' *A German Requiem*.

At the end of term there have been two outstanding concerts that have included most of the ensembles that rehearse each week in the Music School. In the first The Downs Singers and Big Band, both under the direction of Mr Holiday, gave a thoroughly professional presentation that highly entertained the enthusiastic audience. A similar standard was achieved in the ensemble concert, in which the Orchestra, directed by Mr Hampshire, and led by Jim Corbett, playing Beethoven's First Symphony, were joined by Flute Ensemble, Sax Ensemble, Clarinet Ensemble, Samba Band and Percussion Ensemble.

Outside College some junior music scholars gave a well-received lunchtime concert at St Martin's Church, Dorking, and The Downs Singers gave their annual concert at Westminster Central Hall.

Chapel Choir

The Chapel Choir has continued to lead the music in our worship with great skill and dedication, performing a range of complex anthems in a variety of musical styles. To produce such a high quality of performance in Chapel each week requires commitment and hard work from all involved and as a school we are extremely grateful for the way this group enriches our lives each week.

A highlight for them was singing Evensong to a large congregation in the magnificent acoustic of Southwark Cathedral earlier this week. The welcome from the Cathedral staff was incredibly warm and they were thrilled with the singing of the choir, performing music by

Charles Stanford and Maurice Greene. The majority of Chapel Choir travelled to sing three concerts on the Mediterranean islands of Malta and Gozo and we wish them well.

School Opera

Janacek's opera *The Cunning Little Vixen* is usually only staged by the top opera companies but a few weeks ago Epsom College became the first school to mount a production of it. It is a challenging score and the pupil cast rose to its challenges superbly, ably directed by Stephen Oliver, choreographed by Libby Roberts, and conducted by Mr Lodge. The backstage team ensured that the production moved along smoothly. This was an ensemble performance from the cast of 24, many taking multiple roles, and in many ways it is wrong to single out individuals since all gave fine performances. That said special mention should perhaps be made of Abigail Marrow, playing the Vixen, and Nicholas Hammond, playing the Forester - the key characters in the opera. Other significant contributions came from Camilla Green (Fox), Richard Barth (Priest and Badger), Henry Warne (Mosquito and Schoolmaster), Harry Kersley (the poacher Harasta), Rochelle Smith (Dog), Izi Ames (the Forester's Wife) and the splendid dancing of Ying Fam as the Dragonfly. This was a remarkable achievement by all concerned and the talent on display astonished the audiences who were lucky enough to see these performances.

Examinations

Practical examinations were taken this term by a number of pupils following the syllabuses of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, TrinityGuildhall and RockschooL. Not all certificates have yet arrived. Where they have arrived, those successful at a level below grade 6 have received certificates in Houses.

GRADE SIX

Samantha Boddy (Cr) - singing
Camilla Bole (Cr) - 'cello
Andrew Lim (G) - violin
Clare Williams (W) - singing
Rachel Williams (Cr) - flute

GRADE SIX WITH MERIT

Ellouise Bishop (Cr) - oboe
Briana Norris (R) - flute

GRADE SIX WITH DISTINCTION

Jake Seabold (Rn) - singing
Annabel Sen (R) - piano
Isabel Thomas (W) - singing

GRADE SEVEN

Ben Galazka (P) - trumpet
Emily Mason (R) - singing

GRADE SEVEN WITH MERIT

Michael Cobb (P) - piano
Timothy Cobb (P) - piano
Clare Williams (W) - piano

GRADE SEVEN WITH DISTINCTION

Abigail Marrow (Cr) - singing

GRADE EIGHT

Max Austin (F) - singing

Camilla Bole (Cr) - piano
Christopher Hardy (C) - piano
Eric Lee (Fa) - popular piano

ADVANCED CERTIFICATE

Melody Man (Cr) - piano

DRAMA

The second play in the Bernard Shaw season, *Arms and the Man*, played for three nights to very enthusiastic and appreciative audiences just after half-term. A young but talented cast produced outstanding performances in this satire on jingoism and militarism.

As the leads Captain Bluntschli and Raina Petkoff, Patrick Lewis (Rn) and Carys Bainbridge (W) were exceptional and they were very ably supported by the Emily Mason (R) and Max Austin (F) as the hapless parents, Catherine and Major Paul Petkoff, and Ben Grant (G) as the thwarted suitor, Major Sergius Saranoff. Rachel Mewett (R) and Wil Entwistle (Fa) proved a sparkling double act as the servants Louka and Nicola and Anthony Draper (Fa) produced a vocal cameo as the Bulgarian Officer.

SPORT

Boys' Games

Hockey 1st XI

| | | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Summary: | P 9 | W 3 | D 1 | L 5 |
| Epsom v Sutton Valence | D | 1-1 | | |
| Epsom v Cranleigh | L | 8-1 | | |
| Epsom v Eton | L | 2-0 | | |
| Epsom v Tonbridge | L | 5-0 | | |
| Epsom v Lancing | W | 1-0 | | |
| Epsom v Hurstpierpoint | W | 3-2 | | |
| Epsom v Trinity | W | 2-1 | | |
| Epsom v Charterhouse | L | 6-2 | | |
| Epsom v St Albans | L | 4-2 | | |

This was another successful season although the results could have been just a bit more in our favour with some very tight games that could have gone Epsom's way. The team has got stronger throughout the season and in every game, significant improvement could be seen. Josh Allen led the side superbly and there is a lot of talent coming through from the Lower 6th members of the side. The performances of the season came in our away wins over Trinity and Hurstpierpoint.

1st XI Major Colours: Josh Allen (F), Lucas Smith-Muller (Fa), Bradley Smith (Fa), Jonny Malynn (G), James Patston (Fa), Michael Bennett (G), William Brown (H)

Jonny Malynn wins the Crosbie trophy as most improved player.

Hockey: Other Sides

The most successful year group is the U15s with all 5 teams with a greater than 50% win/draw record. The U15B and C teams won all but one of their games and the team spirit within them was superb. The Colts Bs have improved enormously with 4 wins this season finishing with a superb victory over Reeds. That bodes well for the summer tour to South Africa with a number of these players coming. U14s have had little success with results but have also improved enormously since only one or two had played before arriving at Epsom.

Football

1st XI

A good season overall, with two wins and two draws (and five losses) for the 1st XI. What has been impressive is the intensive work rate and level of development in several key players. Ollie Weir (P) and Ed Rosen (P) have been outstanding in midfield, showing flair and creativity in their play, as well as tough and uncompromising defensive play. Sonny Coleman (F) has lead by example as Captain and been a very calm but influential leader all season. Kieran Moore (P) has also been outstanding in defence and Connor Jones (P) has caused opposition defences problems all season. The season ended well and there is much to be proud of over the course of the season. A great commitment from all on 1st Side and it has been a great pleasure to have coached them this season.

2nd XI

A good second half of the season, with lots of L6th developing well this year, which bodes well for a great season next year. 3 good wins and 6 losses overall.

3rd XI

4 wins, 2 draws and 3 losses mark out a very good season overall.

4th XI

5 wins and 3 losses make for a good season and improvement over the latter part of the term is worthy of note.

Player of the Season

A new trophy is instated this year for "Player of the Season" and in its inaugural year two exceptional players share it:

Ed Rosen (P) and Ollie Weir (P)

Ollie Weir is awarded the Captaincy for 2012.

Major Colours: Sonny Coleman (F), Ed Rosen (P).

Full Colours: Andrew Matthews Michael Fraser Kieran Moore James Turner Yoon Song
Ollie Weir Connor Jones Alex Whitehead Tim Clews Eng-How Teo Rahul
Mohan Kumar

Half Colours: Max Daldas Will Stodhart Edward East Ollie Dennis Matt Taylor Martin
Norton - Amor Adam Tarpey

XXXs Caps: Charlie Twyman Joe Button Will Ward Alistair Morris

Winners of the House Senior Football Competition is Fayrer.

Fencing

The Lent term saw another succession of wins for the Epsom Fencing Team, making this season the most successful ever. Throughout the whole season, the 1st team has won all bar one match.

Captained by Darren Tai (G), and including Peter Wilkin (Fa), Philipp Cramer (Fa) and Matt Chen (G), who stood in for Philipp after a snow-boarding accident, the success of the 1st team has meant they have retained the Ian Keeble Foil Trophy for the second year running.

1st team wins this term included: Tonbridge (9 - 0), St Paul's (7 - 2), Worth (9 - 0) and King's Wimbledon (6 - 3).

The 2nd foil team, lead by Matt Chen, and including Rickie Wong (G), Keara Acton (W) and Andrew Lim (G) beat Worth School (9 - 0) but lost to Charterhouse by only two points, and by only one point to Tonbridge.

In addition to school fixtures, several members of the team have taken part in national and county competitions. In January, Philipp Cramer and Matt Chen came 1st and 2nd in the under 18 Foil competition at the Surrey Youth Championships, held at Epsom College. Darren Tai, Peter Wilkin, Matt Chen and Rickie Wong also took part in the Public Schools' Fencing Championships, held at Crystal Palace in March. In the Senior Foil competition, Peter Wilkin and Darren Tai came 20th and 21st out of a total of 90 fencers.

Very many thanks go to Darren Tai for his role as Captain of Fencing for two seasons and, as always, the team would like to thank their coach, Joe Shackell, for all his help and support.

Full Colours: Peter Wilkin (Fa), Philipp Cramer (Fa), and re-awarded to Darren Tai (G).

Cross Country

The teams have enjoyed a good season, competing against the strongest schools in the South of the country, and particularly pleasing to see the emergence of a strong Senior Girls' X Country team, ably led by Francesca Currie (Wh), who also ran for the County. The team recorded second places in the Wellington Relays and the Pat Bagnall Trophy Girls' race at Highgate, with Fran Currie winning the race.

The Senior Boys' team was also ably led by Alex Shammas (Rn), and their best effort was a second place in the Pat Bagnall Trophy Senior Boys' race at Highgate. Ciaran O'Duffy (C) represented the County.

Major Colours: Francesca Currie (Wh), Alex Shammas (Rn)

Full Colours: Ciaran O'Duffy (C)

Squash

Another busy and successful term for boys' squash. The 1st V have played Harrow, St Pauls, Whitgift, Reeds and Reigate in recent weeks, scoring solid victories in the last three matches. These victories alone ensure that we will finish in a highly respectable position in the race for the Surrey Cup tournament. Moreover, the Lent Term has witnessed participation in various tournaments, in which the boys have distinguished themselves with their play and all round graceful demeanour. Neil Frankland's rearranged Epsom Tournament (postponed from Michaelmas due to the snow) saw Jonathan Malynn (G) / Oliver Costain (C) & Ben Kuhler (P) finish a hugely commendable 2nd (to an outstanding team from Wycliffe...who went on to become National Champions). Furthermore, in our annual encounter with the RAC members, in February, our team were just pipped at the post in an enthralling match. Lastly, at the prestigious Roehampton Tournament in March, our 1st V played Eton, St Pauls, Winchester and KCS Wimbledon. Although it was a long day of heartening play and no luck, they deserve great credit for applying such effort on a weekend break.

Well done to the 1st V squad of Captain Jonathan Malynn (G), Joshua Allen (F), Oliver Costain (C), Ben Kuhler (P), Hayden Smith (C), Jodie Koep (R), Alex Moss (C) and Alice Davidson-Richards (W).

Boys' Junior Individual: Oliver Costain (C)

Boys' Junior Player of the Year: Oliver Costain (U4 C) & Ben Kuhler (P)

Boys' Senior Individual: Jonathan Malynn (G)

Most improved player: Jodie Koep (R)

Burrage Cup: Jonathan Malynn (G)

Major Colours: Jonathan Malynn (G)
Full Colours: Joshua Allen (F)
Half Colours: Alex Moss (C), Hayden Smith (C)

Basketball

The team has had a successful year. They finished 3rd in the County League, reached the semi-finals of the County Cup and the final of the Epsom College tournament held recently.

MVP for the Season 2011: Olabode Ogunlana (C)
Interhouse Cup: Robinson

Major Colours: Alex Shammass (Rn)
Full Colours: Olabode Ogunlana (C), Charles Mac Donald (Rn).
Half Colours: Jack Xing (Fa), Sam Ng (C).

Girls' Games

Netball

Under 14E Played 9 Won 0 Lost 9

A challenging season overall. A number of times the girls were confronted by 'B' or 'C' teams from smaller schools. This could have caused a lack of confidence and enthusiasm but it did neither, a testament to the positive attitude of all the girls who played this season. Instead the girls made excellent progress and narrowly lost in the penultimate week of the season to a Pangbourne College B team having been ahead with only minutes to go. Many girls contribute immensely all season but Lucy Upott (Rv) was most consistent of all.

Under 14D Played 8 Won 3 Lost 5

Throughout the term, huge improvements were made particularly in passing and court awareness. Stephanie Boote (R) was outstanding at every match, making the opposing shooters work hard for every goal. Harriet Teasdale's (W) defensive skills improved with every training, and she was both calm and reliable under pressure. Regardless of the score line, the team played with enthusiasm in every match, and never gave up.

Under 14 C Played 11 Won 8 Lost 3

It took a while for this team to get settled in their stride but once they got in a pattern of game play there was no stopping them. All the matches they lost they were very unlucky as they were only by 1 or 2 goals but they had some amazing wins which included their match against Lord Wandsworth college which they won by a staggering 35 - 6 result. The team played well together and have to single out Carla Borkmann (R) and Helen Phizackerly (W) who were the shooters of the game and never let the team down.

Under 14 B Played 13 Won 12 Lost 1

The team have had an outstanding season with only one loss against Caterham. They have gelled as a team and have been led by an excellent captain, Molly Frazer (RV). Player of the term goes to the captain Molly Frazer who has been consistent in shooting and strong in attack. Most improved player goes to Tilly Alexis (RV) who has developed into a very nice centre court player and who always plays with 100% effort.

Under 14 A Played 13 Won 10 Lost 2 Drew 1

The team has gone from strength to strength and are now playing excellent netball. With two very close defeats in the early stages they were determined to finish the half term

unbeaten, which they did. They have had a motivated captain Sophie Mack (RV) who has taken this role in her stride and has been very responsible. Player of the term goes to Emma Chandler (Cr) for her consistent shooting and outstanding movement around the circle. Most improved player goes to Emma Dickinson (RV) who has listened to advice and tried to act upon making her the versatile player she is today.

Inter-House Result

4th Wilson

3rd Raven

2nd Rosebery

1st Crawford

Under 15E Played 5 Won 1 Lost 3 Drew 1

With only five matches this term the girls struggled to find their stride, however they made up for this with bags of enthusiasm. Often playing above their age group the girls all did really well to hold their own against more experienced players. A great win over Eastbourne mid season 23-16 showed that determination and team work does pay off!

Under 15 D Played 7 Won 7 **UNBEATEN**

The team have trained and played hard all season, showing improving play throughout and resulting in winning every game they have played. They have been very ably captained by Ellie Payne (Cr) and Scarlett Brice-Adams(R). Highlights were a closely fought game against Eastbourne where they pulled ahead in the final quarter, and a storming 50-1 victory against Wellington.

Under 15C Played 8 Won 1 Lost 7

This has been a tough term for the squad, taking until the first Exeat to settle down the team members we then started really playing like a team working on centre passes & back line silky moves. Excellently captained all season by Holly Ellis (Cr) who shot some great goals from afar and Lily Allert (Rv) whose goal average has been exemplary. Both faltered slightly under pressure yet the midfield dynamo of Dolan (Cr), Mallardo (Rv), Dawkins (Cr) & Lambrechts (R) kept the pace going and rotated in matches for fresh legs whilst sublime defending all season thanks to Izi Thomas (W) as GD and Lou Reid (R) as GK.

Under 15B Played 11 Won 6 Lost 5

This team should be really proud of their achievements this term, starting the season with 4 losses in a row, and then completely turning it round by the end of the season. The team were a pleasure to coach as they took on board everything they were taught, they displayed a fantastic supportive team spirit, and this showed in their results. Particular mention should go to Katherine Davies (R) and Gabby Watts (Rv) who provided a strong and determined defence in every match.

Under 15 A Played 8 Won 3 Lost 5

The girls were always very unfortunate in the games they lost as they were only ever by a few goals. They had good wins over Kings, Canterbury; Eastbourne and Cranleigh. Ably led by the captain Rebecca Saunders (Rv) and thanks to the solid parental support.

Junior Individual Trophy Awarded Isabel Ashe (W)

Inter-House Result

4th Wilson

3rd Raven

2nd Rosebery

1st Crawford

Under 16C Played 7 Won 4 Lost 3

Captained by Harriet Bantock, Wellington was a particularly good win having already played them earlier in the season and lost. The U16C's played an exciting season with lots of goals and team work. Well done girls!

Under 16 B Played 9 Won 9 **UNBEATEN**

The team have had an excellent season being unbeaten the whole term. Their spirit and urge to win kept them being successful each week. Thanks to our coach leading us to victory.

Under16 A Played 10 Won 6 Lost 3 Drew 1

It took a while for some new players and players changing position to work into the team and add depth in the attacking end. This team enjoys playing Netball and have developed their positional play considerably in a relatively short period of time.

Players have demonstrated they can perform when it counts by winning some closely fought games like the result against Cranleigh and Cranbrook. They have also gained some valuable experience competing against higher standard teams like Charterhouse 1st team and The Downs U19's team.

Most Valuable Player: Olivia Gelardi
Most improved Player: Natalie Edwards

Colt Colours: A Billings (Cr), R Monaghan (R), E Melville (Rv), G Pullman (R), O Gelardi (Rv), S Boddy (Cr), A Warner (W), N Edwards (Cr), H King (Rv)

Intermediate Cup goes to for most improved player: Natalie Edwards

Inter-House Trophy
1st Crawford

4th Team Played 8 Won 7 Lost 1

With a wealth of players, the team found it hard to gel as a unit. However, they played very well at times with good commitment at the matches.

The attack of Janine Zager (Cr), Holly Thomas (Wh) and Amy Gyngell (Cr) worked well together and the squad was well captained by Katie Lang (W).

It was such a shame that the last game was the only defeat out of a very good season.

3rd Team Played 12 Won 12 **UNBEATEN**

Deservedly unbeaten this term, this team has been enthusiastic and committed on match days, putting in good performances in both attack and defence to dominate their opponents. Captains Katie Adam (Cr) and Jade Warner (W) organised the squads well, coping with absences and injuries without problem, whilst motivating the team to keep working hard even when the opposition was not so strong. Most improved player goes to Evie Cody (R) for growing into the role of GK and putting coaching methods into practice. Special mention to Alexia Fenn (R) for a superb shooting performance in the tightly fought match against Wellington, to ensure a 15-11 victory, the closest win of the season.

2nd Team Played 13 Won 10 Drew 2 Lost 1

The girls have had an outstanding season and it was all looking like an unbeaten season had it not been for the loss in the last game of the term against Wellington. Only two goals in it and we just let the pressure of winning get to us too much. The girls have really grown as a team and this has been reflected in their scores. They have learnt to trust each other more and work around each other. Their skills on the ball have improved and this has helped them to maintain a very good record throughout. Emma Albon (Rv) has been a very good captain,

team. It was a hugely successful few months for the senior girls, as they beat Lancing College and Benenden School's teams to secure a place in the U19 National School Championships in Manchester. While Jodie Koep (R) and Alice Davidson-Richards (W) played strong matches against very tough opposition, captain Jenny Watkin (W), Rachel Mewett (R) and Louise Kelly (W) won their matches to take us through to the final against Millfield. Sadly, Millfield took the title as they have done for the last ten years in a row, but congratulations to the girls for their huge achievement in being ranked second nationally.

Half Colours: Alice Davidson – Richards (W), Rachel Mewett (R)

Full Colours: Jenny Watkin (W), Louise Kelly (W)

Girls' Lacrosse

U14A Played 3 Lost 3 Won 0

Many of the U14A girls were entirely new to the game of lacrosse, but with true Epsom spirit the entire M4 year group spent the term working to improve their skills and understanding of the game. The relatively new lacrosse program at Epsom were challenged early in the season with games against national powerhouses Guildford High and Caterham School, but the team used these opportunities to observe and learn from highly skilled and competitive players. Since there was such a large group of talented girls to choose from, the members of the team changed slightly from match to match. However, Emma Chandler (Cr) and goalie Harriet Teasdale (W) were particularly enthusiastic participants who held their own against some of the nation's best players. Hannah Taylor (Rv) and Phoebe Gibson (R) were also key contributors and improve immensely through the season.

U15A Played 3 Lost 3 Won 0

The U15A girls lacrosse team may not have ended their season with intimidating results, but the group proved they were a resilient and extremely talented match after match. The team included some of Epsom's most athletic and determined girls and although they faced two national champion-calibre teams, Epsom managed to score in every game they played. Often combined with the U14 or U16 teams, the U15As also proved they were willing to quickly adapt to new players and positions. Ellie Payne (Cr) and Annie Heijna (W) were particularly keen to adopt new skills and an aggressive style of play, while Emily Hailstone (W) and Lydia Sheils (R) consistently improved while displaying impressive speed and agility.

U16A Played 4 Lost 3 Won 1

As Epsom's most experienced team, the U16As lived up to expectations this season by playing with true heart and impressive skill. Faced with the talented players at Guildford High School, the Epsom team proved that they were prepared to match the team in speed and determination, if not in score. Serena Blackburn (R), Natalie Bartrum (R), and Emily Mason (R) were especially proactive players, often practicing independently to improve their (already formidable) skills and strategic understanding of lacrosse. Olivia Robinson (R) and Anna Halstead (Cr) also improved tremendously as the season progressed, and were especially threatening in the fan as attackers.

Other Games

Table Tennis

The table tennis teams enjoyed mixed fortunes this term. The U19s had a convincing win against Whitgift and Royal Russell and the U16s lost their return match against Coombe. Both teams were defeated by the very strong Wilson's School.

Target Rifle Team

This term, the Target Rifle have been hard at work in preparing for the Country Life competition, which was shot on the 15th March. Results are still awaited, but the squad had

been performing well throughout the term in the Group, Rapid, Snap and Landscape practices for the competition. Shoulder-to-shoulder matches were undertaken against RGS Guildford, Lancing and Harrow, with Epsom winning all three and providing the top scorer for the match each time. Further success should be noted in Henry Awin's (H) call-up for the final UK Cadet Rifle Team selection weekend in mid-March, after which he was formally selected as part of the touring team to the Channel Islands this summer, and awarded Full Colours as a result. The squad has spent the latter half of this term welcoming its new additions and the group are very much looking forward to the fullbore season ahead.

Full Colours: Henry Awin (H)

Swimming

Whilst lacking any inter-school matches the Lent term is an important one for long term training and swimming club continued to show a high level of committed support, even the early morning swims. The highlights of the term were:

The Public School relays - where relay teams from Independent Schools all over the country compete at Crystal Palace for freestyle and Medley trophies. With the diminishing numbers of boys the College is eligible for the small schools competition. A relatively young team worked hard over an unfamiliar long course but failed to reach either final.

Teams from: Henry Awin (H), George Hatfield (Fa), Arthur Hogarth (Capt) (Rn), Oliver Montgomery (P), Charlie Twyman (P), Peter Wilkin (Fa).

The girls were more effective, despite their youth, and the freestyle team of Gabi Orlich (W), Dani Tullett (W), Sean McGrath (Rv) and Jenny Waterman (Rv) reached the final and finished 8th overall. The Medley team (Margeaux Monfared (Rv), Dani Tullett (W), Sean McGrath (Rv), Gabi Orlich (W)) was unable to repeat this achievement.

The inter school galas – held on two afternoons, the boys and girls competed at u14, u15, u16 and o16 levels in all the individual strokes plus a Medley and Freestyle relay. Both events were highly competitive, although the girls' event was spoiled by conflict with other calls on the time of some of the 5th form.

GENERAL

Term Dates

School term dates are published about a year in advance. I would urge parents not to book holidays outside these dates. It is extremely disruptive for teachers and adds a massive extra burden on to them.

Fifth Form Parents

Parents are reminded that they need to let the Bursar know in writing by Tuesday 26 April 2011 if their son or daughter is leaving the College at the end of the summer term, other than at the end of the Upper 6th. Fees in lieu of notice may be charged if the requisite one term's notice is not given.

Finally

I have been delighted and most grateful for the leadership provided by William Brown (H) as Head of School for the Lent Term just ending; I have all possible confidence in Tim Cobb (P) as he takes over for the Summer Term. My congratulations to Peter McCallum the new Propert Head of House.

Can Glynis and I wish all parents and their families a rewarding break at Easter.

S R Borthwick
Headmaster