



Junior News

THE PORTSMOUTH
GRAMMAR SCHOOL



Dear Parents,

The term has ended on a very high note following a week of very special events and experiences; without a doubt the festive season has been well and truly welcomed in!

It all began when we were treated to the wonderful seasonal musical production, 'A Snowman at Sunset', featuring all the pupils of Reception and Year One. The experience can be summed up in one word: **MAGICAL!** The confidence and clarity with which all the children delivered their lines and performed their songs, combined with the very evident happiness and enthusiasm of every child, made this a very special occasion indeed. At one point, the whole audience was spellbound when six year old Rebecca Cleary delivered a delightful solo proving, in spite of her very young age, her to be a singer of considerable talent. I couldn't help but speculate on the very likely possibility of her having a star role in the Senior School Kings Theatre musical in approximately ten years time! The annual Mince Pie concert was our next magnificent Christmas treat. With performances from the Brass Band, the two string orchestras, the newly formed Woodwind band and the various instrumental ensembles and groups, the audience were entertained to a very high standard concert indeed. It was the perfect way to get in the Christmas mood.

At the end of each Summer term when we wave a very fond farewell to the Year Six pupils, I am always worried that the contribution made by the departing instrumentalists could never be repeated and that the orchestras, bands and overall musical accomplishment could not possibly be as good the following year. However, each year, at the Mince Pie concert, my fears are proved to be foundless as I listen to an equally polished performance of an even higher standard than the year before! I was delighted this year to see the addition of the Woodwind band which, although only recently formed, represented themselves very well indeed. The grand finale of the combined string orchestras, with over forty performers, produced a magnificent sound bringing the concert to a most enjoyable close.

Always truly splendid, the Brass Band not only impressed us all with their performance at the Mince Pie Concert but also impressed a wide audience at Gunwharf on Saturday. The Band played Christmas songs and carols while holding a collection for Down Syndrome Education International. The children, as usual, played to a very high standard, and received endless compliments from passers by, all of whom were amazed by the very young age of the performers. It was a wonderful advertisement for the Junior School and it made us feel very proud of all the children. A fantastic sum of £518.82 was raised in a relatively short space of time. Down Syndrome Educational International would like to say a big thank you, to Mr Brown for his tireless enthusiasm, and the children who never fail to impress with their talent. A huge thank you must also go to all the pupils and parents who volunteered to help with the collection.

The children of the Brass Band hardly had time to draw their breath before they were on show once again! On Tuesday evening they were the star turn of the Carol Concert held at Southsea Castle raising money for the Rowan's Hospice; the acoustics within the castle allowed them to create a very splendid sound indeed which contrasted beautifully with the

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enthusiastic singing of the Portsmouth Schools' Music Festival Choir.

Christmas is undoubtedly a time for parties and last weekend the JSA held two super parties for our younger Junior School pupils, firstly for the children from Reception to Year Two and later for pupils in Years Three and Four. Wendy Heyes, most ably assisted by a keen 'army' of mums, made sure that the pupils had a lovely time. The entertainer was greatly enjoyed by the children helping to make the party go with a swing!

The last day of this term would not be the same without Christmas parties and today the younger children experienced a party in their year groups and the older children in their Houses. No doubt, tremendous fun was had by all!

It has to be said that Christmas lunch on Wednesday was a kind of impromptu party as, while we ate, the Brass Band entertained us with their magnificent medley of Christmas music. Eating and singing at the same time is not ideal or indeed easy, however, this did not deter us and the whole occasion was extremely jolly putting us in excellent spirits for the remaining special events of the day. The first of these event being the Kinetic Theatre performance of 'Lady Cecily's Soundbox'. The children were treated to a fast paced story with a strong scientific link to how we make sounds and how sounds travel. It was a great, fun performance for all with staff and pupil involvement in singing and also in confirming scientific knowledge and understanding that was cleverly integrated into the story line. Mrs Crossley, Mrs Pereira, Mr Faulconbridge and Mrs Evans all starred in the show as did James Read, Harry Harrison, Ava Hooper, Anna Caldwell and Olivia Hooper. The children greatly enjoyed booing the villain and cheering the goodies in true pantomime style.

The highlight of Christmas for me each year is undoubtedly the Junior School Carol Service and this year has proved no exception. On Wednesday evening the congregation experienced a truly exceptional Carol Service indeed. From the moment the bell was sounded heralding the start of the Service to the final triumphant notes of 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing' performed by our Brass Band, the Service presented us with one delightful experience after another. With outstanding performances from string players, choirs, brass players, actors and narrators as well as from the one body of Key Stage Two pupils, the occasion was a very special Christmas gift for us all and a memory to treasure forever.

I know that by now many of you will have heard the news that I will be retiring in a year's time. As you can imagine it was, for many reasons, not the easiest of decisions to make, and I know I shall greatly miss my involvement. I am now looking forward to the many special experiences of my final year confident that on my succession the school will go from strength to strength.

On that note I would like to send you my very warmest wishes for a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Philippa Foster

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www.pgs.org.uk





INFORMATION AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



PHOTOGRAPHS

The Year 4 play photographs are now online at www.rossyoung.co.uk/pgs09 and the Year 1 Nativity photographs are at www.rossyoung.co.uk/yr1nativity.

STRING PLAYERS

Both Corelli and Vivaldi Orchestras will start in the first week of term.

YEAR 5/6 SCHOOL AND HOUSE CHESS COMPETITION

This term we have been running a Year 5/6 School and House Chess Competition during lunch times. 56 children entered and the final is being played between Thomas Ross and Ajay Patel who defeated Joe Allen and Jak Waktari in the semi finals. The trophies for individual winner and runner up and the House trophy are being presented in our final Key Stage Two assembly of the term. We will be running a Year 3/4 School and House Chess Competition next term, keen pupils can practice over the holidays.



HOUSE TABLE TENNIS COMPETITION 2009



The final of this competition took place this week and the pupils who made the final showed both a keen interest in the sport and some pleasing skills.

Each finalist had to play two matches up to six points and this meant that the sixteen competitors would be gradually whittled down to the four overall winners.

The last four games were very exciting as the players had similar abilities and this meant that points were evenly matched.

The overall winners were Sam Caldera(Jerrard) Jamie Mellor (Privett) Joe Stirrup(Jerrard) and Meg Dennis(Nicol)

Congratulations to the runners up who battled hard right to the end, these were:-

Hudson- Joseph Allen, Jack Shahrn, Devlin Stigant and George Campkin.

Jerrard- James Cunningham, Kathryn Richardson.

Nicol- Max Greenfield, Jasmine Nash, Harry Harrison.

Privett- Grace Brumder, James Harper, Georgia Henderson, Ethan Hoddle.

All players have earned points for their Houses and should be proud of their achievements.

J.Albuery

 PUPILS' ACHIEVEMENTS

 ★ Congratulations to **Kira Walker** (6J) who has just been selected to represent Hampshire at U11 indoor athletics.
 ★
 ★ Congratulations to **Henry Elphick-Smith** (4S), **Oliver Nash** (4P), **James Lilley** (6S), **Oliver Lilley** (4S), **Joseph Kooner-Evans** (4S) and **Harry Davis-Marks** (4P) on their promotions to Pro-Choristers.
 ★
 ★ Congratulations to **Henry Percival** (6S) for passing his Grade 1 drum exam with merit.
 ★

BADGES

GOLD BADGE

Congratulations to **James Cunningham** and **Joseph Gowers** for gaining their Gold Badge.

BLUE BADGE

Congratulations to **Oscar Cannon**, **Harry Davis-Marks** and **Joe Kooner-Evans** for gaining their Blue Badge.

GREEN BADGE

Congratulations to **Adam Stokely** for gaining his Green Badge.



THE JUNIOR SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTY



HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS

The following Head Teacher's Awards were awarded: **Bhooshitha Balaji** for consistent hard work and effort, **Abigail Brader** for consistent effort and hard work in Science, **Amir Choudhury** for working with greater independence this term, **Annabel Cunningham** for consistent hard work and effort in Science, **Hans Miles Deter** for being a super scientist, **Samuel Elliott** for sustained effort in English, **Mia Glover** for sustained effort and hard work in Science, **Kirsten Goves** for super sentence structure homework, **Douglas James** for sound knowledge and great enthusiasm in Science discussions, **Joseph Kooner-Evans** for continued effort in English, **Max Lancaster** for excellent descriptive writing, **Robert Mitchell** for consistent hard work and effort, **Frederike Rademacher** for her outstanding diary entry, which portrayed thoughts and feelings brilliantly, **Brandon Senior** for lovely descriptive writing, **Kian Souhani** for super work in all areas of the curriculum this term, **Joe Stirrup** for his excellent character profile of a villain, **Lewis Walsh** for his outstanding personification poem, based on the sea, **Sasha Wells** for sustained effort in English, **George Whelan** for fantastic descriptive writing, **Georgia Wright** for her brilliant simile poem, **Jonathan Yang** for consistent hard work and effort in Science, **Judith Jellicoe** for very careful colouring of a Nativity scene, **Jessica Werfalli** for showing initiative in identifying where help is needed and then being extremely helpful, **Claudia Bishop** for being extremely responsive and hardworking in games lessons, **Harry Tyacke** for being a superb ambassador of the School, **Rebecca Alcaraz** for her amazing improvement in her assessment score this term, **Jon Garcia Tarifa** for excellent story writing, **Sean Hill** for working well in ICT, **Alice Leonard** for creating an excellent bracing database in ICT, **Emily Nelson** for excellent Maths work, **Thomas Robertson** for being an exceptionally well mannered pupil, **Emma Watkins** for working exceptionally well in ICT, **Merlin Wright** for making a great effort to improve his written presentation, **Rebecca Cleary** for singing an outstanding solo in the Christmas production

ROLL OF HONOUR KS2

The following pupils signed the Honours Book this week:

English: Will Donworth (x2), Georgia Henderson (x2), Thomas Leggett (x2), Alistair Wilson (x2), Syed Al-Rahim, Jake Austin, James Crundwell, Samuel Elliott, Alexander Gibson, Lotte Hayward, Emma Holmes, Jude Hyatt, Douglas James, Raveena Laly, Oliver Lilley, Evie McAuley, Joseph McAuley, Edward Moger, Jasmine Nash, Helena Pearce, Katheryn Richardson, Charlotte Ross, Tobias Scandling, Oliver Swales-Green, Ollie Tinson, Harry Tyacke, Charlotte Webb, Sasha Wells, George Whelan, Jonathan Yang

English Homework: Milly Henderson (x2), Thomas Austin, Oscar Cannon, Charlotte Dean, Sophie Dennis, Serena Graham, Thomas Groves, Rebecca Hawdon, Max Hill, Reuben Hogg, Matthew Holloway, Harry Hoolahan, Yic-Hin Jim, Sachin Khanna, Jack Norton, Thomas Phillips, Luke Robins, Phoebe Simons

Maths: Grace Acklam (x2), Isobel Fraser-Harris (x2), Raveena Laly (x2), Thomas Atkinson, Holly Baker, Taylor Barrington-Clark, Thomas Crundwell, Yasmin Deter, Will Donworth, Joshua Ellard, William Grandison, Evie McAuley, Ben Nash, Shree Patel, Charlie Pereira, Emma Priory, Oliver Saunders, James Taylor, Benjamin Thomas, Zackary Toh, Charlotte Webb, Sasha Wells, George Whelan, Toby Wingham, Jonathan Yang, Hermione Barrick

Maths Homework: Dominic Chew, Kirsten Goves, Zackary Toh

Science: Grace Goodfellow, Ethan Hoddle, Sachin Khanna, Joseph McAuley, Eliza Sharp, Adam Stokely, Anna Thornell

Geography: Florence Bishop, Joseph McAuley

History: Grace Goodfellow, Alice Leonard

French: Benjamin Brooks, Grace Goodfellow, Georgia Henderson, Emma Holmes, Chi-Yunng Lim, Margaux Welch, Jozef Wragg

Reading: Honor Appleby-Mell

Spelling: Maxim Greenfield, Bhooshitha Balaji, Mia Glover, Emma Holmes, Edward Moger, Alistair Wilson

Great Manners: Cameron Clarke

ICT: Adam Brown, James Read

RS.: Luke Robins

Music: Adam Brown, Thomas Leggett

Dance: Edward Mitchell

Conduct: Will Donworth, Charlotte Ross

Intech: Will Donworth

KS1 HONOURS

The following pupils signed the Honours Book this week: Lucy Albuery (x2), Omar Al-Rahim (x2), James Christensen (x2), Ashwin Elanchchelian (x2), Samuel Head (x2), Louie Howe-Walsh (x2), Milla Macanovic (x2), William Moore (x2), Lauren-Lilly Prentice (x2), Avinandan Sengupta (x2), Amber Bradley, Evan Cole, Toby Foord, Emma Hale, Elsa Hares, Oscar Hung, Edward James, Chi-Yiing Lim, Verity McStay, Max Povey, Joshua Scott, Christian Sim, Michael Stylianou, Sam Tran, William Trise, Monty Wingham, Alia Alayyan, Anithini Aranan, Danny Atherton, Priya Badial, Zavier Barfoot, Harry Barnett, Kirav Behari, Tara Bell, Brynmor Bidwell-Richards, Claudia Bishop, Susannah Boydell, Henry Buckle, Adam Buckley, Ryan Buckley, Lucy Budgen, Jacob Bund, Anna Caldwell, Taariq Cassamo, Joshua Chipper, Amir Choudhury, Rebecca Cleary, Louis Crocker, Tamara Crocker, Emily Curwood, Poppy Davenport, William Davis, George Davis-Marks, Hans Miles Deter, Holly Fisher, Jon Garcia Tarifa, Thomas Gibb, Lily Gibbs, Matthew Grandison, George Gregory, Oscar Hamilton, Jevon Hannah, Ethan Hards, Harry Hellyer, Poppy Herbert, Adam Heyes, Harvey Hill, Charlotte Howard, Sakina Khaja, Ethne Leaver, Grace Loveridge, Frazer Mackenzie, Tess Matheson, Murray McLeod, Hannah Millerchip, Benjamin Nash, Emily Nelson, Maddy Oliver, Emily Parekh, Meha Patel, Joseph Russell, Henry Simmons, Quinn Sinton-Gerry, Kian Souhani, Nahum Stocker, Daisy Summerskill, Grace Taylor, Oliver Thomas, Miles Toh, Matthew Walton, Jessica Werfalli, Frederick Williams Brown





SPORT

SATURDAY SPORT

NO HILSEA GAMES

ON 12, 19, 26 DECEMBER OR ON 2 JANUARY

NO FIXTURES THIS WEEKEND

WEEKDAY SPORT

POLITE NOTICE

There are occasions when weekday games sessions have to be cancelled even when the weather would appear to be fine. We strongly recommend that you make it a weekly habit to telephone the games line number on Wednesdays and Thursdays. The date is always stated on these occasions to ensure that there can be no misunderstanding. It would be appreciated if you could avoid ringing the Junior School Office for this information to leave the office free to deal with other communications.

NO FIXTURES

ANSWERPHONE SYSTEM

In the event of uncertainty due to inclement weather please check above sports arrangements using the answerphone system. Please phone the School on Saturday morning from 8.00 a.m. On weekday games days please phone from 1.30 p.m. **The number to ring is 02392 364266.** In **EMERGENCIES ONLY** please ring the following number: **07738 958314**

Sports Results

Girls' Netball

Team	Opposition	Result:
U11A	Cheam	Won 26-4
U11B	Cheam	Won 20-3
U11C	Cheam	Lost 3-14
U10A	Cheam	Won 16-5
U10B	Cheam	Won 19-6
U9A	Westbourne House	Lost 5-12
U9B	Westbourne House	Won 8-3
U8A	Westbourne House	Lost 2-5
U8B	Westbourne House	Lost 1-5

Pentathlon GB Schools Biathlon Series 2009/10

On Sunday 22nd November on a cold and wet morning a group of year 5 and 6 pupils set off for the Aldershot Garrison to compete in the Regional Qualifying Round of the 2009/10 Pentathlon GB Schools Biathlon Series. This was the first time that children from the Junior School had entered the event. The event comprised of a 50 metre swim and a 500 metre run which was spread out over the whole day with the swim in the morning and the run in the afternoon. There was a total of 20 Schools competing in each of the age groups, with between 70 - 90 competitors in each age group so the competition was very strong. The children's combined times for the two events were added together and converted into points that would give them a final total and position within their age group.

There was a team event and an individual event in each age group, with prizes for the best swimmer and best runner in each age group as well. The Junior School had a very successful day considering this was the first time we had entered the event. The Year 6 Boys team of Luke Robins, James Harper and Thomas Miller came first and Luke Robins was also the Best Swimmer in the Year 6 boys Group.

The Children who competed so well on the day were, (individual place in brackets):

Year 5 Boys - Harry Minall (36th)

Year 5 Girls - Eve Stainton (6th) and Loren Dean (18th)

Year 6 Boys - Luke Robins (6th), Thomas Miller (9th), James Harper (12th), Jonathan Brook (18th), Ben Nash (31st), James Read (33rd), Chester Tagg (34th), Peter Bustin (35th) and Ben Hall (38th)

Year 6 Girls - Michaela Clancy (62nd), Olivia Hooper (64th), Helen Jackson (66th), Georgia Wright (81st) and Imogen Davies (82nd)

I would like to extend my congratulations to all of the children who performed so brilliantly on the day and who were a credit to the Junior School.

