



WHOLE SCHOOL NOTICES

The Headmaster writes...

The Autumn Term is in full flow with four year groups playing against three different schools at rugby, the U'8s played their first ever fixtures and the boys sitting for Grammar Schools had their last formal practice paper. Year 7 have had their first full week in school after a tremendously successful survival week in the woods around Charlbury. Their parents attended last night's Curriculum Briefing, where they learnt not only about Common Entrance but saw, also, photographs of the boys living off the "fat of the land". Year 5 enjoyed this morning's excursion to the Roald Dahl museum and the school listened attentively to our visiting speaker at yesterday's Harvest Festival. On behalf of the Whitechapel Mission, Mr Tony Millar's enlightening assembly helped the boys appreciate where the many gifts donated by the parents go. I would like to thank those families who, in only four days, contributed so generously to such an impressive display.

The Deputy Headmaster writes...

School Car Park

As we are a very busy school, there are often children around and about the car park area so can I please ask everyone to drive with extreme care, and park as sensibly as space allows? Secondly, can I please ask everyone to be extra careful when manoeuvring in the car park as we have had a number of incidents lately where parked cars have been damaged by other vehicles. Already this term there has been three cases of mysterious dents and scratches appearing on parked cars with no apparent culprit!

Sainsbury's Car Park

Many I please ask parents to remind their sons of the need to be extra-vigilant when crossing this very busy car park and walking home? I do appreciate that once the boys have been 'handed over' or produce a 'Sainsbury's Pass', they are under parental supervision; I am, nevertheless, concerned for the safety of all.

Mrs Newell writes...

Operation Christmas Child

After the resounding success of Operation Christmas Child last year, Davenies has decided to register once again for this very worthy cause run by the Good Samaritans. The campaign launched on Monday 21st September and the box collection will take place on Monday 2nd November.

Please start collecting simple gifts to fill a shoebox, and include £2.50 in a small envelope which needs to be given to Mrs Newell when handing in the box by the foyer. This money covers the postage for the boxes to be sent to countries recovering from famine and war. As soon as this has been received each boy will receive an HMA.

Last year's original target was 150 and we managed to collect 250 boxes, a great feat. We are hoping to beat it this year with a new target of 300 boxes.

Mrs Churchouse (Head of Music) writes...

Music Timetables

As always these are taking time to settle down and it has already been necessary to revise a number of them. They are now available to view on the Music page of the Davenies Intranet (though do please check for updates). Thank you for your patience.

Brass and Guitar Lessons

This week we have welcomed Mr Dale onto our team of music staff. Mr Dale will teach our brass players and folk guitarists. He is a particularly versatile musician and I am delighted that he is able to offer tuition on the French Horn. We have not had a teacher for this beautiful instrument previously, however, if your son would like to learn please contact me and we shall arrange for him to have lessons in school.

Woodwind lessons

The Music Department is offering a term's free loan of a school clarinet to anyone who would like to trial the instrument. Tuition will be charged at the normal rate, but if your son is interested in learning to play the clarinet this is a good opportunity to try it

Handbells

Mrs Rusmanis is now running the bell teams. The senior group (Years 5 – 8) rehearses on Monday at break (10:45 – 11:15), the junior team (Year 4) rehearses during Wednesday lunchtimes (1:00 – 1:30).

Musical Soiree for Parents & Staff, Thursday October 15th at 7.30

No doubt you have already made a note of this event in your diary, so this is just a reminder that our musical social evening is going ahead shortly before half-term. You are warmly invited to come along and take part; all levels of experience are welcome on any instrument, including voice – if you happen to be a bagpipe expert that's fine, as is a beginner pianist. A sympathetic audience will enhance the evening, so please bring along friends and supporters; please do not be shy. If you would like join us for the evening, either as a performer or member of the audience, please contact me in order for Chef to know numbers for catering purposes.

Exam Congratulations

A number of boys have been successful in their music grades this summer, very well done to:

James Dexter	Theory	Grade 5	Merit
Eish Sumra	Piano	Grade 4	Pass
Oliver Rolfe	Singing	Grade 6	Merit
John Henry Kelly	Singing	Grade 3	Merit
James McDonald	Singing	Grade 3	Merit
Ruben Sector	Violin	Grade 1	Merit
William Martin	Classical Guitar	Initial	Pass
Alex Colman	Classical Guitar	Grade 1	Pass
Nathan Moore	Classical Guitar	Grade 1	Pass

For further details on any of the above items, please contact me at jchurchouse@davenies.co.uk

Mr Locke-Hart writes...

Saturday Morning Football

This occurs every Saturday morning 9:00 – 10:30 for boys in Years 1 – 6. Entry is via the Sainsbury's Gate, and there is a cost of £10:00 on the day. Please bring trainers and a drink.

Matron writes...

Harvest Festival

A big "thank you" to all of you who generously donated food and toiletries for inclusion in this year's Harvest Festival. Tony Millar, who spoke at our Harvest Festival on Thursday on behalf of the Whitechapel Mission, was extremely grateful for all your kind donations.

PRE-PREP NOTICES

The Head of Pre-Prep writes...

Please may I remind you that Pre-Prep are partaking in Operation Christmas Child also.

On Wednesday 30th September, Zoolab will be visiting the Pre-Prep. This visit will entail the showing and handling of live animals, and all of the children will get the opportunity to handle some of the animals themselves if they would like to. A strict hand-washing policy is enforced at the end of each session.

On the afternoon of Thursday 1st October, the Quantum Theatre Group will be entertaining the Pre-Prep on the theme of rubbish! **Year 2 boys will not be having their games session on that afternoon.**

PREP SCHOOL NOTICES

Mr Gibson writes...

Ski Trip – Austria, March 2010

As mentioned in last week's DWN, the Davenies Ski Team are, once again, heading for the beautiful sun-kissed Zilller Valley for the annual ski trip. This is open to any boy in Years 6 – 8 who wishes to improve their skiing under expert tuition, or indeed, wishes to don the planks for the first time. A letter has been sent by ParentMail, and further details are available on the Ski Trip page of the Intranet. Could I please ask that all remaining deposits are sent in by Friday 2nd October?

House Points – Week 3

Cook	30.65
Shackleton	31.38
Drake	32.04
Scott	32.44

Open Days

Berkhamsted

Friday 2nd October 2009, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm (Senior Boys & Sixth Form)

To pre-register, e-mail: admissions@berkhamstedschool.org or for more details, see:
www.berkhamstedschool.org.uk

Extra-Curricular Skiing with Mrs Horwood

Skiing will occur on the following Mondays:

Monday 28th September

Mondays 5th, 12th & 19th October

Mondays 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th November

Monday 7th December

Mondays 11th, 18th & 25th January

Mondays 1st, 8th & 22nd February

Mondays 1st, 8th & 15th March

Yoga!

Want to learn Yoga? Hatha Yoga Classes run on Friday afternoons, 1:30 – 3:00 at St. Michael's Church Hall, Grenfell Road, Beaconsfield. All sessions are co-ordinated with the Davenies calendar and classes structured for beginners and intermediates – all are welcome. For further details please contact Mary Meikle: 07803 726449, or: marymeikle@btinternet.com