

July '05

From the Head Teacher:

Once again the school year is rapidly drawing to a close and the pace of life in and out of the classroom is no less frenetic. In the last few weeks, the list of the school's achievements have grown longer still and a few examples include:

- Students from across the school very successfully took part in the Research Councils UK Science Race 2005 and this turned out to be a herald of the school's successful designation as a Specialist Science College.
- Mr Milliken was awarded a certificate of distinction in the regional final of The Guardian Award for Teacher of the Year in a Secondary School, being just one of two teachers selected from eight local authorities.
- Our Team from Year 10 won through the Portsmouth and Southeast Hampshire round IBM Website Challenge and then went on to win the regional final which also included schools from Southampton and Southwest Hampshire. They gave an outstanding presentation and designed a superb website after many hours of hard work, planning and project management.
- The school achieved the Healthy Schools award, Rebecca Gough continues to achieve at the very highest national levels in athletics, Crofton students won almost all the MFL prizes at St Vincent College, Year 8 artists produced prize-winning scarecrows, our sports teams are having a successful season, we had two outstanding summer concerts and so the list goes on.

I would like to congratulate every member of staff who supported any activity to enrich the students' experiences here at Crofton and I would like to thank every parent, not least the CSA, for supporting the curricular and extra-curricular activities. But above all, I urge all students to give 100% to their life at school, as so many of the of their peers do, the more you put in the more you will get out.

Earlier this term almost all of Year 7 benefited from a day visit to France and having to speak French for real and many have taken part in a 'Top of the Form' quiz which challenged their 'grey matter' too. In May, Year 11 played an active part in their leavers' assembly and in the 'Prom'. Year 11 acquitted themselves impeccably and with great maturity. It was a privilege for all of us able to participate and see young people at their best.

## **AWARDS**

Victor Ludorum - Thomas Wylde

Headteacher's Award

Joint Winners: Sacha Wason and Matthew Williamson

Nominations:

Clare Blackburn, Kerry Burrows, Christopher Cleeve, Laura Drew, Stephanie Piggott, Samuel Powell, Emma Pym, Lois Styles

Lessels Award

Winner: Lauren Bryant

Highly Recommended:

Megan Travis, Sacha Wason, Maureen Bennett, Thomas Mould

Recommended:

Laura Drew, Nicole Dugan, Victoria Unwin, Catherine McLellan, Charlotte Whittington, Matthew Williamson, Hayley Kramm, Gemma Seville, Laura Frampton

We have recently been joined by next year's new intake for taster days and for a maths and science quiz. We very much look forward to the next generation joining us in September, it has been delightful to meet them and their parents. We can look forward to a great future.

During the holidays Mr Lines and his site team will be busy overseeing major works to improve our old and leaky hot water and heating systems and for that reason the school will not easily be accessible, other than by telephone, during the holiday period. We ask that visitors do not come on to the site for the first two weeks of the holiday and thereafter by prior arrangement only.

Having looked at all the things going on alongside the learning, it is now time to send our best wishes to those who leave us and those who join us. We have said farewell to Year 11 and we look forward to seeing them again on results day and on their Certificate evening. We have said welcome to the new Year 7 for September. It is now, sadly, time to say a couple of farewells too.

Mrs George will be retiring at the end of the academic year. She joined the school in 1977 and has given loyal and dedicated service to the school, her department and her students throughout that time. We shall miss her positive and cheerful outlook on life as well as her invaluable experience and we wish her a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Mrs Maynard will be leaving Crofton at the end of the academic year. She re-joined the school in September 2002 as Head of Expressive Arts. Her contribution to the artistic, especially the musical, life of the school has been phenomenal. Mrs Maynard leaves us to join her husband who relocated to Cambridge earlier in the year. We shall miss all her energy and enthusiasm as well as her tremendous talent as a teacher and as a musician. We wish Mrs Maynard every happiness with her family as she returns to her home area.

Mrs Ayling will be retiring from teaching and moving overseas. She joined Crofton in January 2002 as a teacher of history but very quickly took responsibility for sociology, she has managed both those responsibilities with great skill, patience and supreme efficiency. We wish her and her husband happiness and success in their new lives and new business in Spain.

Mrs Flavell also joined Crofton in 2002, bringing to the English department her experience in literacy in further and adult education. Mrs Flavell quickly re-acclimatised to the school environment and has made an extremely valuable contribution to the department. We shall miss her bright and cheerful disposition and we wish her well in returning to work as a literacy-adviser in a Portsmouth school.

Mrs C Dodd, who has given excellent service to students as a learning support assistant leaves us to continue with her studies which will take her into teaching. Even though we shall miss her calm and encouraging manner, we wish Mrs Dodd every success in this endeavour.

Dr Shepherd joined Crofton for a year in September 2004, she very quickly made her mark in the science department through her teaching and through her contribution to the enormous number of extra-curricular activities that have taken place over the year. We wish Dr Shepherd every success in her new teaching career and for her impending marriage in the summer. Just to confuse matters, the other Miss Shepherd (art) is, also, getting married in the summer and we extend our best wishes to her too.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Hiscock and Mrs Keene who have served the school loyally and with great skill as heads of year. They relinquish those posts in September, but I am delighted to report that they remain full and active members of the staff but specialising in their own subject areas.

Crofton is fortunate to have a full complement of experienced and well-qualified staff and I am delighted to announce that we shall be

joined in September by:

- Mrs S Beeton Music Department
- Mr C Brown 2nd in Science
- Miss E. Gray History Department
- Mrs L Fuller Mathematics
- Mrs U. Kaine Mathematics Department
- Mr D Lea Drama
- Mr R Malpass English Department
- Mrs J Thompson Leisure & Tourism

We shall, of course extend to them all the warmest of Crofton welcomes in September.

The following internal appointments have been made:

- Mr J Collinson Head of Year 10
- Mrs J Matthews Specialist College Outreach Co-ordinator
- Mr J Oliver Head of Music
- Mrs I Pilkington Head of Year 7

Finally, I should like to send to each parent, governor, member of staff and student my sincerest thanks for all that each of you do to make Crofton what it is and to wish you all a safe and happy summer. My best wishes to you all.

A.W. Forrest

## Crofton Win Regional Web Challenge 2005

The best school from Portsmouth and the South East competed against the best school from Southampton and South Hampshire in a Regional Final of the Web Site Challenge supported by IBM and organised by the EBP. This year's clients were Aim Higher and Connexions. In a closely fought final Crofton were announced the winners. In awarding the trophy to Crofton the judges were impressed by a very cohesive team that had produced a well-rounded web site that answered all the judges criteria with excellent market research and a high level of technical competence.

A big well done to all the team!

Read the next article for more information about this team's other successes.

### IBM Web Challenge Winners 2005

Twelve local school teams were invited to enter the IBM Web Challenge 2005. The prize was a laptop computer. The Crofton School team were Olivia Berry, Emma Burton, Emma Gedge, Rebecca Girling, Ashley Gorse, David Linfield, Madeleine Pauli, Jonathan Wheatcroft, Peter Whiteley and Gemma Wilton.

The Challenge started in February and required the team to design a teenager's version of the Connexions web site. Over several months the team worked to analyse the requirements and to develop the web site. They also prepared a presentation about their site. Heats were held where judges selected schools to go into the final competition. The Crofton team were in the four schools selected for the final.

The students created a well-thought out and carefully designed web site which met the criteria in the design brief and their presentation was well practiced by the night of the final. The competition was very strong and it was with excitement and delight that the team heard the judges had awarded Crofton first place.

The pupils undertook this huge challenge with a fantastic spirit and it is testament to them all that they have achieved so much. They went forward to represent the Portsmouth area against Southampton in a regional Final, which took place on July 6th 2005.

Mr Gordon and Mrs French would like to thank all the students for their diligence, tenacity, good humour and appetite! During the challenge we were ably assisted by three IBM helpers who also worked very well ensuring the whole team were cohesive and on track.

The team won for the school an IBM X42 Laptop, which will be used in the ICT Department to enhance teaching. A winner's wall plaque was also presented and will be on display in the school foyer area.

Congratulations to all who took part... very well done.

### U.K. MATHS CHALLENGE

The Maths department celebrated another successful year in the UK Maths Challenge. In the Year 7 & 8 event we received 3 gold, 13 silver and 16 bronze certificates and Alex Maynard took part in the Maths Olympiad.

In the Year 9, 10 & 11 event, Daniel Lowry, Lucy Newbury, Gemma Wilton and Michael Hawkes took part in the European level of the competition and Chris Cleeve and David Linfield qualified for the Olympiad in which David achieved distinction.

### **Competition Entries by Year 8 pupils for Garsons Scarecrow Competition**

Miss Howard and Miss Shepherd worked with a select group of enthusiastic, creative pupils.

First entry: Claire Hudson, Rebecca Read, Lewis Fkord and some help from Anna Coleman, Rachael Murphy and John Lowe.

Second entry: Lauren Terry, Samantha Clarke, Rebecca Scutt and Steven Dalglish.

#### **RESULTS**

Lauren, Rebecca, Samantha and Steven received a 'Highly Commended'

Rebecca, Claire, Lewis, John, Anna and Rachael were 'Runners Up' and will receive £100 prize.

WELL DONE!

### **My Visit to Heathfield**

On Tuesday 5th July, I went to Heathfield School in Fareham. Heathfield is an M.L.D. School (Mild Learning Difficulties). The children there are deaf, autistic and some have Downs Syndrome.

Mr. Naylor put me in contact with the school because I am interested in working with children that have special needs and wanted to see what it was like in real-life. It was harder than I thought it would be, emotionally. These children look 'normal' and there is nothing 'wrong' with them, but they could be profoundly deaf or autistic. This can be very challenging.

Downs Syndrome children are so loving that you only have to know them for five seconds, and they trust you for life. I was only there for half a day but they welcomed me and one little boy wouldn't move away from my side!

I was so privileged that they allowed me in, even though it wasn't Trident. The staff are amazing, so patient and caring, I only wish I had longer there. I am so grateful to Mr. Naylor, who put me in touch with the school.

The children are so special. They are so kind, caring and grateful towards everyone that they meet, even if they have only known you for five minutes. They are not different from you and me, except for the fact they go to a different school and have different needs.

Amanda Hiscock 10T

### **SPANISH CLUB**

Earlier in the year, Miss Almeida started the first Spanish Club at Crofton. During the year she has taught us a range of words and sentences, with help from Mrs. Bone. We've used linguascope, a website to do with languages and we have played games and done role plays. However, the highlight of the year happened on the 1st July, when we had an end of year party. The week before, we were given a menu and had to translate and learn what we would be eating - for example 'calamares', meaning squid.

The party was fun and some of us tried a selection of Spanish foods including tinned squid, octopus, paella, mussels, cheese, red sausage, bread and peaches in syrup. Whilst we ate, we listened to Spanish music and had a chance to try out our new Spanish vocabulary.

We think that Spanish Club is a great idea and we hope to carry on next year.

'Gracias Señorita Almeida y Señora Bone. Estudiar el español es fenomenal.'

Victoria Goodsell & Melissa Gardner (7A)

### **Arrangements for first day of New Term**

The school will be fully open on 1st September and will be receiving students at the following times:

Year 7 12:00 noon

Years 8-11 13:25 (in time for afternoon registration).

If your child requires a locker, could you please get them to bring along £2 on the first day of term.

### **Year 11 Students give Crofton a big vote of confidence**

At the end of their final English examination all year 11 students were asked to complete an exit questionnaire designed to elicit their views on life at Crofton. They were asked questions about what they thought the school was like, how we supported them and what we could do to improve the school. Students took time and effort to fill in the anonymous questionnaire and their views are greatly valued.

The results have been fed into a computer and analysed. The outcomes show very clearly just how much this year group have enjoyed their time at Crofton and the pride they have in their school. We are proud that 98% of the year group said that generally speaking they had had good experiences at Crofton.

The overall impression was that the students felt safe, were well supported and they thought their teachers were highly skilled with very high expectations. They valued the extra work their teachers put in and were very complimentary about the master classes, the study skills day and the post-study leave revision programme.

The detailed results will be used by us in planning for the future but we would like to share a few of the (anonymous) comments with you.

#### **When asked what students feel strongly about they said...**

"We were very lucky to have been in Crofton. Thank You"

"The teachers have done SO much to help me..."

"Teachers treat students like adults in years 10 and 11 - making a much better relationship..."

"My English teacher helped me at the beginning of year 10, when I was working at grade D. Pushed my grade to a B/A, with a very positive attitude. Lovely person"

#### **When asked about their experience of life at Crofton they said...**

"meeting people, learning"

"lovely friends, good atmosphere, good teachers"

"I've learnt a lot which hopefully will be reflected in my grades, I've had a great social life"

"It's been fun with new experiences everyday"

"It has given me help and support when needed"

"it has given me choices in life"

"good fun, learnt a lot"

#### **When asked about the two best things about Crofton almost all students said..**

Teachers, atmosphere, respect, friends.

#### **When asked how Crofton could improve they said...**

"input more ICT"

"more attention to their work, less attention to what they look like"

"more active lessons, not just sitting down"

"more resources"

"stricter rules. Shorter exams"

May we take this opportunity to thank year 11 for their thoughtful and helpful comments. We now intend to make the exit survey an annual event.

Ms Boulter and Mr Naylor

Here are some anonymous comments received from the Study Skills Day....

"A very enjoyable day - learnt lots! Revising can be fun (and easy!)"  
"Very well presented and very good for keeping our attention focused! Well done and thanks! Good, quick changes were effective"  
"At first I thought the methods would not work but by the end of the day they were really working well and I remembered them"  
"I found it very helpful and I felt it gave me more confidence in my revision ability"  
"Brilliant"  
"A good laid back presentation. Structured and well organised"  
"Thoroughly enjoyable day. Extremely helpful. I was in doubt whether the methods would work but I was proved wrong. Thank you!"

#### Able Linguist Day - 21st June, 2005

A group of Year 8 and 9 students led by Mrs. Hlavaty and Miss Almeida went to Portsmouth University in an attempt to further their language skills by attending sessions there.

We had a choice whether to study French or German and then went off to the relevant rooms. At the break, we got to eat and drink some of the native food which was very interesting albeit stereotypical.

Overall it was an excellent day which opened our minds to the possibilities of language.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Hlavaty and Miss Almeida for taking us to the University of Portsmouth, but also Mr. Neumann who kindly joined us for the afternoon. His help was very much appreciated.

Phil Tyreman (9C)

#### Able Linguist Day 2005

On 21st June around 40 students travelled to Portsmouth University where we studied either French or German. We arrive at 12:30 and sat and ate our lunch. After this, we were sent into a lecture hall and after a quick power-point show, went to various classes to study our chosen languages. I chose German. When we arrived in the classroom we were introduced to our teacher and she then explained what we had to do.

To start, we revised a few key phrases and then we were asked to create a magazine on a subject of our choice. I worked with Adam Foster on a sport magazine. We were allowed to use the internet and other book sources. After about half an hour of work, we went down into the cafe for a break where we were treated to a biscuit and a foreign drink. After this short pause in work, we continued for another forty minutes and handed in our finished products. At the end of our trip we went back to the lecture hall where we were all given a 'goodie' bag. Overall the day was very enjoyable and great fun and I would like to do it again next year.

Luke Bristowe 9B

#### **SCIENCE & MATHS CHALLENGE EVENING**

On the evening of 9th June, the hall was packed with Year 6 and Year 7 students participating in a Science and Maths Quiz.

Teams of three had to answer questions on science and practise mental maths agility (no calculators allowed). There were 50 teams; 29 teams from Year 6 students at Crofton Hammond and Anne Dale and the remainder from Year 7.

The winning Year 7 team have written an article below and the winning Year 6 team was Cameron Edwards, Mark Stanton and Peter Reed from Crofton Hammond. Congratulations to them all.

Unfortunately, we did not get any photographs of the evening (Mrs. Terry forgot the camera) so if any parents who did stay to enjoy the noise, sorry, I mean evening(!) took any photographs, I would be very grateful to receive them!

Thanks to all who participated. We hope you enjoyed yourself as much as we enjoyed putting the evening on for you.

Mrs. Terry

The Science and Maths Challenge evening was definitely a challenge that we will remember! The questions ranged from Su dokus to picture rounds and biology to listening rounds. The questions were very well organised and were quite hard! We were all given a certificate at the end of the evening to thank us for participating. We utterly enjoyed ourselves and we hope everyone else did as well!

We would also like to thank the teachers who organised this spectacular evening.

Our group won! We were very pleased because we earned ourselves five pounds!

Our winning group was: Richard West (7E), Thomas Macdonald (7E) and Dalton Cook (7E)

#### **DATA PROTECTION ACT**

##### Data Checks

Under the Data Protection Act we are required to ensure that all data we hold is correct.

Enclosed with your son/daughter's report this term will be a copy of the data we hold concerning your child. Would you please check this for accuracy and return the sheet with the report reply slip.

**In order to maintain the accuracy of our records, it is important that all parents return the sheet whether there are corrections or not.**

#### **Finance Matters**

##### School Meals

Please note that as from the beginning of the Autumn Term, school meal charges will increase by approximately 3%. The cost of the main meal will be £1.75

### Ties

Both Upper and Lower School ties are available from the school office at a cost of £3 each.

### Uncleared Cheques

We have been advised by our bank that there will be a £2 charge for any cheque that is returned uncleared. Please note that this charge will be passed on to the drawer of the cheque.

### Music Tuition Fees

Thank you to everyone paying music tuition fees and for your co-operation in complying with the new payment terms. Tuition fees from September 2005 will be £50 a term with a reduced fee of £30 for a second instrument or sibling.

### **JOB VACANCY FOR RELIEF CARETAKER**

Relief Caretaker required to start as soon as possible. The post is an average of 10 hours a week (2/3 evenings). Current salary is £6.23 per hour.

For application forms and further details please contact Mr. Richard Lines at the school.

## Leavers' Assembly 2005

The atmosphere in the Hall was charged at 1.15pm, May 17th 2005 - Year 11's last afternoon together. There was a sense of expectation, a little sadness and pure, unmitigated delight! Only one afternoon left....

Mr. Naylor had put together a great programme to celebrate Year 11's time at Crofton; an eclectic mix of music, or as he put it with eminent subtlety 'something to suit every taste'.

The dance group literally kicked off the assembly with a well choreographed routine. They were closely followed by the unforgettable 'vocal stylings' of Sam Powell and colleagues. (How did he manage to keep that voice quiet all this time?).

We were all beginning to develop a real lump in our throats as Alex Craine, Claire Blackburn and Ellie Wise performed Alex's own brilliant 'Nothing lasts forever'. Just perfect. Then the incomparable 'Tiddlywinks' took to the stage and mystified and entertained us with 'What if Jesus was a Jock'...I still don't know the answer. I'm not sure they did either.

Further musical excellence followed from a very talented year with Chris Lowe and Ruth Campbell and the beautiful 'Violins' and Robbie Preston and Co's 'Spitfire'. Only slight flaw with the latter was some of us couldn't hear April Dunn's fantastic voice.

A very edgy performance of 'Rollin'' was delivered by Ricky Stubington and friends. The crowd loved it.

Next up, and in contrast, was the ballad 'Lean on Me' sung in gorgeous harmony by Maureen Bennett, Katie Rogers, Amelia Chappell and Jasmin Dalrymple-Bray. I bet I wasn't alone in feeling the tears start to trickle during that one.

Before the Head's farewell, Katie Rogers sang 'Into the Wind'. What to say? She lived up to every bit of the high praise I'd heard about her incredible voice. Looking back at row upon row of Year 11s, it was clear that most people were choked up by how powerful and moving that moment was. Not a dry eye in the house. Well done, Katie!

The Leavers' assembly was packed full of previously 'unsung' heroes. Songwriters, musicians, dancers, singers, sportsmen and women, and of course lots of intelligent, hard-working and committed students. It was a very fitting farewell for such a talented year group.

Mrs. S. Keene -Head of Year 11

### **Reminder**

A reminder to parents that the school welfare assistant, Mrs. Biddlecombe is unable to issue tablets, such as paracetamol, to students. She is willing to store your son/daughter's own tablets and issue them when required in school. Please send a letter, signed and dated, stating the name of the medicine and dosage allowed.

All ABSENCES must be reported initially by telephone on the first day of absence. The direct absence line is 01329 666825. Please follow up the absence with a letter on your child's return to school.

Mrs. Biddlecombe is also responsible for LOST PROPERTY. She has recorded 500 unnamed items this year. Only a small percentage of these items being claimed by the students. Please ensure every item brought into school is named (a handwritten name on a label is sufficient). Mrs. Biddlecombe will then be able to return lost items to their owners.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

End of Term - Friday 22nd July

Start of New Term - Thursday 1st September

Day Closure - Thursday 13th October

Autumn Half-Term - October 24th-28th incl.

End of Term - Friday 16th December

### **Able Mathematicians' Day**

On Tuesday 21st June a group of students went to Portsmouth University for the Able Mathematicians' Day. The students were: Angus Ewen (me), Samuel Hayward, Mark Wheeler, Nathan Wilson, Tom West, Jonathan Girling, Timothy West, Daniel Pellatt, Connor Borrett, Abbie Bevan and Lauren Terry

We caught the ferry at 8:30am and took a ten minute walk to the university. When we arrived we all went into a lecture room and we met up with the other schools. Whilst waiting for instructions we were given simple mathematical anagrams to complete. The best one, got a prize.

Next our school was separated into groups. My group was Tom West, Nathan Wilson and me. In these groups we did several challenges. The first one was a game of elevens. The aim of the game was simple. You could say up to three consecutive numbers at

once, and you must get another person to say eleven. Hence eliminating them. After this challenge we all met up in the court yard at about 10:30am for juice and biscuits. Next, everyone went back into their groups to do their final task.

Our task was a game called Neverland in which you went around a snakes and ladders board answering questions. By lunchtime we had all met up in the lecture room again. We then walked with Ms. Payne back to the ferry where we were met by Miss Knight in the minibus and driven back to school.

On the whole, the day was really good fun and an enjoyable experience and for this I thank, on behalf of everyone for such a good day, Ms. Payne, the organiser.

Angus Ewen

## College Presentation for NVQ Students

On Thursday 30th June eight Year 10 Crofton pupils were invited to attend a presentation ceremony at Fareham College.

The students who have been attending college on Thursday mornings for the past year received certificates to show that they have successfully completed the first year of their NVQ courses in Sport, DIY, Motor Vehicles and Business Administration.

The pupils, who are named below, were congratulated by their tutors and the Principal of the college for their continued efforts and hard work.

Travis Sawyer, Daniel Butler, Samuel Trusler, Lawrence Wadham, Michael Rodgers, Michael Taylor, Brandon York, John Ferguson (absent on the day)

Certificates were presented by Ricky Moran, former Birmingham City player, who also spoke to the students about achievement, working hard to realise goals and striving to succeed.

The boys are now looking forward to beginning their work placements as part of their courses in September. Congratulations to them all!

Miss C. Jeffery

### Year 8 Science-race 2005 National Photography Competition

The winners had a prize trip to the Natural History Museum on the 24th June - these are some of the accounts of the day.....

At 7.00am on Friday 24th June, a group of about twenty students left Crofton to go to the Natural History Museum in London. Accompanied by Sarah Earland, a palaeontologist who specializes in tortoises. We arrived at the museum after a two hour journey. In the garden, Sarah gave us a short talk about what she does etc. and then the group split into two with Angus Ewen (me), Tom Dickinson, Lauren Terry and Holly Robertson splitting from the group. We were taken by Mrs. Blackburn to the awards ceremony. The rest of the group was taken by Dr. Shepherd and Mrs. Terry around the several galleries.

When we arrived at the ceremony we waited in the lobby for a few minutes for everyone to arrive and enter the auditorium. We went about meeting new schools, whilst eating biscuits and drinking orange juice. At 11.00am we went into the auditorium where we were given a lecture by one of the organizers. Next we were given an interactive presentation about magnetism. Finally we were entertained by Mr. Johnny Ball. Armed with a tesla coil he showed us some interesting things and gave us a few good facts. Next the awards ceremony took place. Several schools were called up to collect trophies and certificates. The prizes were handed out by Lord Sainsbury (yes LORD SAINSBURY!) and Johnny Ball.

After this we were provided with food and drink, like chicken drumsticks and pizza. At the end of the ceremony we met back up with Mrs. Terry, Dr. Shepherd and Sarah Earland. Here we did one last gallery about sea creatures, which was extremely interesting. Next anyone who wanted to, went to the shop and we all met outside, armed with inflatable dinosaurs and other souvenirs. We were picked up by the coach and driven back to school.

The day was such good fun, extremely nice and exciting and for this I would like, on behalf of everybody, to thank the coach driver, Dr. Shepherd, Mrs. Blackburn (thanks for taking us to the ceremony), Sarah Earland and, of course, last but certainly not least, a big thank you goes to Mrs. Terry for organizing the whole trip.

Angus Ewen

On Friday 24th June, the Year 8 students involved in the Internet Quiz 2005 went to the National History Museum in London. Four people went to the prize giving presentation whilst the rest of us looked around the museum.

We were lucky enough to have our own tour guide called Sarah who was an ex. Crofton pupil and also an expert on marine creatures and fossils. She showed us many dinosaur skeletons and fossils that had been discovered millions of years after they had been buried into the ground, along with diamonds and many different minerals. We also learnt that it is not just hard materials such as bones that become fossilised, but some soft body tissues can be as well, depending on where they are buried.

The last section of the museum we visited was the marine animals part, where we were shocked by how massive a blue whale is compared to the elephants and giraffes that were standing next to it (models only!). Many people think that museums are boring but there were loads of things that made it fun, such as an earthquake simulator and an escalator going through the centre of the earth!

The only downside to the whole day was the fact that we had to be at school at 7 o'clock in the morning ready to leave, and other than that I had a great day!

Danielle Barratt

## Science Race

On 24th June, four students were chosen to go to London to watch a presentation for the 'Science Race 2005 Internet Quiz'. The four students went there to collect the prize which Crofton won. They were given a trophy and a certificate and shook hands with Johnny Ball and Lord Sainsbury.

After all the prizes were given out, Johnny ball did a demonstration on magnets and electricity.

When everything was done, we were given a free lunch with as many helpings as we wanted. When we finished we went and joined

the other twenty-six pupils who were walking around the National History Museum and looking at the attractions.

It was a great day for everyone.

Tom Dickinson (8M)

On 24th June, Year 8 students who had taken part in the Internet Science Quiz, went on a trip to the Natural History Museum in London. The reason for the trip was to collect a prize for coming first in a photo competition which was part of the quiz. The four people who were to collect the prize went with Mrs. Blackburn to a presentation, while the rest of us were given a tour around several of the museum's galleries by an ex-Crofton student who is now studying palaeontology. The galleries explored included earth, dinosaurs, and rocks and minerals.

In one of the galleries we visited there was an earthquake simulator which demonstrated the three stages of an earthquake which were short bursts of energy, then more frequent bursts and then increased more constant movement. You stood within the simulator which moved as if we had been in the massive earthquake in Kobe, Japan. Luckily, there was a barrier around the side, as everyone stumbled about as the platform we stood on started shaking.

In the rocks and minerals gallery, a chamber encased in glass contained different kinds of crystal, which when illuminated by an ultraviolet light glowed different, amazing colours. Beside this exhibit were more beautiful gems in a cabinet from which I could have made some fantastic jewellery, but the museum staff wouldn't allow it.

The best part of the dinosaur exhibit was a mechanical, moving T-Rex which looked scarily like one of the teachers, but I could not say who!

At the end of a great day we were unfortunately caught in a 14 mile traffic queue which meant a very late arrive back at Crofton. I would like to thank all the teachers who took us on this great trip, Mrs. Terry, Mrs. Blackburn and Dr. Shepherd.

Laura Sadler (8M)

### **The Prom 2005**

As soon as I started teaching at Crofton in 2002, I realised what an epic event the Prom was. Even though the current Year 11s were mere Year 8s, lots of them had it all mapped out down to the minutest detail from down to what time they were going to set off, in what and with whom. Prom partners had been arranged since Year 7 in some cases!

This incredibly early excitement made booking the Prom all the more tense. Could I live with myself if I inadvertently forgot to book the hotel? Would everyone all 'make do' with the Sports Hall, four balloons and the 'Eau de Sweaty Feet'? If the DJ failed to show, would the random, dodgy CDs to be found in teachers' cars do instead? Unthinkable! I made sure the Prom was locked down ridiculously early to avoid 200 Year 11s waving pitchforks outside my office.

The build up the Prom was just as enjoyable to staff as it was for students, especially in the few days before it dawned. The frenzy of French manicures and St. Tropez tans went into overdrive. Closer to the big day, some of the girls even turned orange, which was all very intriguing...

"You should see what we're turning up in, miss!" was said so often, I began to worry we'd be trapped on the school site forever with the sheer volume of limos, ice cream vans, army trucks, tractors and fire engines (well, maybe not the last two.)

A day of unrelenting rain didn't dampen anyone's enthusiasm once the festivities began. It was also noted that once the allotted meeting time of 6.00pm came, the rain had stopped entirely. Just as everyone was arriving in their finery. How amazing was that? It only began again as 11WH were having the last photo of the evening at Botleigh. Perfect, incredible timing! Mr. Mill professed to being neither amazed nor surprised by this. Leaning towards me on the coach with a conspiratorial air, he glanced upwards and said it was all 'prearranged'. Thanks Mr. M!

Without a doubt, everyone looked utterly fab. Such a stunning array of colours and styles for the dresses. Superbly intricate hairstyles (girls, mostly). Gleaming blond highlights (boys, mostly). The world's smartest tuxedoed gentlemen. Shirts tucked in rating? 100%! Although don't think the pink converse trainers of Master Josh Mundy and Isobella Grant's black ones missed the old trainer radar. Especially impressive was the colour coordination of some of the form groups - 11C had a very chic turquoise, red and black thing going on!

Once we reached Botleigh Grange en masse, everyone spilled out to enjoy some four star splendour amongst its slightly crenellated walls and the big Aberdeen Angus cows. The three course meal was largely a hit - especially the evilly sticky toffee pudding. The only slight fly in the ointment was the eye-watering charge for a weeny glass of coke, which was nothing 'Brigadier Keene' couldn't sort out with a spot of 'negotiation'.

After a very civilised meal, Lloyd the DJ limbered up on the decks and loads of people took to the dance floor. The best part of the evening had to be the ballroom dancing. I'd been forewarned that some people were now really good at it, and Keiran McRoberts' name kept cropping up in this respect! Sure enough - seriously elegant Gay Gordons, Cha Cha and Jiving. Well done to the PE staff who took the time to teach you these dances so well.

All too soon, it was time to hop on board our coaches as the rain really let rip. The heavens truly opened as we waited at Crofton again for parents to arrive and collect their increasingly soaked offspring. It was after 1/2 hour of waiting that I gave up the will to keep dry, much to the amusement of Nathan Howe; he couldn't stop laughing and pointing, "Ha ha! Miss, your HAIR!!". Such a kind boy!

I'd like to take this opportunity to say on behalf of all the teachers who attended, how proud we were of the Year 11s. They all looked gorgeous and behaved impeccably, of course. Thank you to everyone for making the Prom 2005 such a memorable night.

Mrs. S. Keene -Head of Year 11

### **The Use of Music in Lessons**

From time to time we have issues to do with students bringing their own music and music players into school and downloading music from the internet. We have discussed this and I would like to share with you the guidelines that staff will be enforcing.

Guidelines for staff:

- Walkmans and MP3 players remain forbidden items in school. Teachers and tutors should enforce that rule.
- The reasons that they are forbidden are to do with:
  - Health and Safety. Students need to be able to follow instructions at any given moment.
  - Security. They are valuable items and should be kept at home in case of loss or theft.

- The use of music when controlled by the teacher and as an integral part of the lesson is perfectly acceptable. Examples of this would be to use music as a stimulus to discussion/to encourage pace/as part of setting up a presentation.
- The key point is that if music is being used then the teacher must know what the students are listening to and why it is forming part of the lesson. Listening to music can aid concentration for some students but not all music is suitable for this and not all students' concentration is improved through working while listening to music.

I am sure you will also be aware through the news of issues to do with illegal downloading of music from the internet. In addition to the above guidelines parents and students should note that the students should not be downloading any music from the internet while at school and storing it on their work area. Any use of music for ICT work will be under the direct supervision of the member of staff concerned. Students who break this rule will be referred to the Subject Leader for ICT and their work area will be cleared.

Ms Boulter - Deputy Head Teacher

## **CROFTON SCHOOL BULLYING POLICY**

Crofton is launching its new anti-bullying policy this term. The document has been discussed by staff, governors and students and I would like to take this opportunity to share some elements of it with parents.

### **Introduction**

Crofton School is committed to creating a caring, friendly environment in which to learn and work. A place where people feel relaxed and secure. All members of our community are encouraged to challenge bullying and to seek help for themselves or others if they feel bullying is happening.

### **Aims of Policy**

The aim of this policy is to prevent and deal with any behaviour deemed as bullying, and to promote an ethos where bullying is regarded as unacceptable, so that a safe and secure environment is created for everyone to learn and work in. This policy applies to everyone in, and every one visiting, our community.

This will happen through

- Listening to students views, opinions and concerns using year councils as discussion groups
- Raising awareness of, and defining bullying as well as gaining an understanding of why some people bully.
- Education about bullying within PSHE and opportunities within other curriculum areas.
- Using the school's behaviour management policy and the staff discipline code to respond to any bullying incidents that occur.
- Provision of support for all members of the school community who may be involved in a bullying situation.
- Developing and supporting home, school and community partnerships.

### **What is Bullying?**

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

Bullying can be:

- Emotional
  - o Being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. hiding personal possessions, making threatening or humiliating gestures)
- Physical
  - o Pushing, kicking, hitting or any use of violence
- Racist
  - o Racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Sexual
  - o Unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
- Homophobic
  - o Abusive comments focussing on sexuality
- Verbal
  - o Name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours

### **Recognising Vulnerable Students**

Students may indicate by signs or behaviour that they are being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and they should investigate if a child:

- Is frightened of walking to or from school
- Doesn't want to go on a school or public bus
- Begs to be driven to school
- Changes their usual routine
- Is unwilling to go to school
- Begins truanting
- Becomes withdrawn, anxious or lacking in confidence
- Starts stammering
- Attempts or threatens suicide or runs away
- Cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- Feels ill in the morning
- Begins to do poorly at school work
- Arrives home with damaged clothes or possessions
- Has possessions "go missing"
- Asks for money or starts stealing money
- Has money "go missing"
- Has unexplained cuts and bruises
- Arrives home hungry
- Becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- Is bullying other children or siblings
- Stops eating
- Is frightened to say what's wrong
- Gives improbable excuses for any of the above

These signs and behaviours could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and investigated.

### **Roles and responsibilities**

All members of the school community, both students and adults, have a responsibility to recognise and report acts of bullying.

Students are encouraged to report bullying to any adult they feel comfortable talking to and parents with concerns should contact

either the student's tutor or head of year in the first instance.

All teaching staff, but tutors, Heads of Year and The Deputy Head Teacher (Support and Guidance) in particular, will actively investigate allegations of bullying and take action in line with the school's Behaviour Management Policy. It is normal practice for the parents of all the students concerned to be kept informed and encouraged to play a part in finding a solution to individual problems. Incidents of bullying are recorded and monitored by Heads of Year.

The Deputy Head Teacher (Support and Guidance) will be responsible for the effective implementation of this policy, for any staff training required and for regular policy review. The policy will be reviewed, periodically, by a Governors Sub Committee.

Any adult members of the school who feel they are the victims of bullying should seek help and advice from either The Head Teacher or The Chair of Governors.

#### **Acknowledgments**

Dfes, "Bullying, Don't Suffer in Silence"  
"Developing an Anti-Bullying Policy"

Kidscape "Anti Bullying Policy for Schools"

Mr. T. Naylor -Deputy Headteacher

#### **Enrichment**

In Technology, Year 9 has again had a number of successful students in the Young Life Saver Award enrichment course:

Alex Bullen, Abigail Coates, Michael Craddock, Danielle English, Zella-Mae Holman, Natalee Hunt, Louise Jack, April James, Ben Jones, Stephen Miller, Josh Osborn, Phoebe Osborn, Stephen Raynor, Gemma Truslove, Kirsty Veitch and Mia Weyman

These students gained all three parts of their Young Life Saver Award Scheme certificate. We are especially grateful again this year to Mr. Paul Merrick, of the Lee-on-the-Solent St. John Ambulance for arranging it and Mrs. Sarah Merrick and Mr. Karl Bullen for conducting the 'rescue breathing' part of the course. We also must thank Mrs. Janet Biddlecombe for her invaluable assistance in delivering the course.

Mrs. M. Radcliffe

#### **LSP SAILING REVIEW**

During the May half-term, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Collinson and twelve Crofton students went sailing for the week with the London Sailing Project. Our yacht was Rona 2 which was 68 foot.

During the week we covered over 300 nautical miles visiting the ports of Fecamp, Honfleur, St. Vaast (in France), Cowes and returning to the Hamble. Our original plan was to head for Cherbourg and maybe visit the Channel Islands but due to weather conditions of winds up to force 7 we had to change course. The route from the River Hamble to Fecamp took around twelve hours sailing.

The trip was worthwhile and many of the people who sailed are welcome to go back to sail with the project. Thanks to Mr. Anderson and Mr. Collinson for organising the trip.

Ashley Young 10F

#### **London Sailing Project**

On Friday 27 May, 12 students and 2 teachers embarked on a six day trip to France. The group was split into two watches, Port and Starboard. Starboard watch included Paul Denham, Adam Taylor, Matthew Bryant, Harry, Ashley G, James Keenan. Starboard's watch leader was Brendan and the watch officer was Mr Anderson. Port watch consisted of Robbie, Ashley Y, Peter, Graham, Sebb, Arron and Mr Collinson. The watch leader was Mike and the watch officer was Simon.

Saturday morning started off bright and with little wind. We sailed out into the Solent and sailed out past Ryde into the English Channel. The high winds and choppy waters made nearly all the students feel ill and most eventually threw up. We didn't see the skipper much at this point, he was always below deck (hiding?). After a gruelling 12 hours sailing we eventually arrived in France and Sebastian won an ice cream for seeing land first. We moored up to an English Navy boat for the night and had 30 minutes to look around before we were back on board for the night.

We left the next morning to sail to Honfleur. Sea sickness was still a problem but not as much, only a few people were sick. After a day's sailing to Honfleur we moored in the harbour and were able to have showers. After returning to the boat we were taught some basic French such as 'Hello', 'Thank You' and 'I would like'. These helped to buy stuff in all the places we stopped in France.

After a night in Honfleur we attempted to sail to St Vaast. Unfortunately we had to sail directly into the wind so we were forced to tack at regular intervals to move forward. This made the journey take much longer so we decided to sail close to the wind and motor at the same time. We eventually arrived at St Vaast but the harbour is tidal so we had to moor up to a buoy further out. This meant that the LSP crew had to wake up at 3 in the morning to take the boat in, but it was too foggy so they woke an hour later and moved Rona II in. When we all woke up the boat was at an angle because there was too little water in the harbour. After breakfast we had to wash the boat down. This was to be the practice for when we arrived in Cowes. This small port was also home to a clothes shop where some members of the crew bought the first mate, Lou, a pink scarf.

After lunch we had to return to the boat, where a scavenger hunt was organised. For this we had to collect numerous objects and pieces of information from around the harbour. One of the tasks was to find the largest living crab. To do this starboard watch found some bait that answered to the name Jimmy. Jimmy was a dead fish head that proved very successful in catching over 23 crabs, compared to port watches 3. The scavenger hunt was drawn by both watches, meaning Mr Anderson was forced to buy 12 ice creams instead of 6 as was originally planned. This was accompanied by Paul buying a large chocolate log and eating it all on his own.

On Wednesday we returned to Cowes and the LSP crew discussed all of the crew's efforts. Most people were then awarded the Scott award for their participation, but some were not as fortunate. The students also created a song about the skipper and the first mate. The words were adapted from the song 'A Message To You Rudy' by The Specials. This song led onto a night of singing led by Lou. We also had some lateral thinking puzzles and a challenge created by Lou.

The first job of Thursday was to get the boat clean and tidy. This included washing and cleaning the boat. Every nook and cranny had to ship shape ready for the mate's inspection. Everyone's belongings had to be packed and the lockers cleaned out. This was all in preparation for the next crew to sail on Rona II. After cleaning the boat we motored back to Hamble where she was refuelled and then moored up at universal boat yard.

Adam Taylor

## Sailing to France

During the half-term break, myself and eleven other students from Crofton went on a sailing trip. We were going to be sailing on a 68ft boat with the London Sailing Project for one week.

On the first day we were all given T-shirts to make us look like a proper crew. We were then shown to our bunks on port (left and starboard (right) side of the boat. We were then shown the Galley (kitchen) and the Heads (toilets). The first night on the boat was the most tiring night's sleep we had all week because at 3 o'clock in the morning we were woken by the pitter patter of feet on deck. One of the ropes that was keeping us still had come loose and we had started to drift, so we had to move. We were all told to go back to sleep but before I could get back to sleep, I was woken again because it was time to get up!

We all got our oil skins (waterproof coats and leggings) on and started sailing out of the River Hamble around the Isle of White and in to the channel where we were sailing for France. It took us between 8-10 hours before we saw any land. For six out of the ten hours, people were being sick in buckets and over the side of the boat but as soon as we saw land we were all OK. When we arrived in France our first port of call was Fecamp where we spent the night.

Harry Trevithick

## Active Learner Evaluation A joint staff/student research project

The Active Learner system has now been used in Crofton School for two years. It was designed to replace the effort system. The new system is designed to evaluate how well students work independently or in groups. A joint staff student research team was set up and two students from each year were asked to help evaluate this system. These included Sophie Wheatcroft, Adam Taylor, Dulcie Allen, David Lycett, Emily Smith, Curtis Barber, Charlotte Earnshaw and Jasper Bone. The teachers involved were Ms Boulter, Mrs Terry, Mr Collinson, Mrs Ledsham and Mrs Dibble.

The students, Ms Boulter and Mr Collinson met to decide on a course of action and decided that we would ask a 5% sample of the students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. We split into pairs and students were asked to come along and be questioned using a questionnaire that we had created.

The results were then put into a spreadsheet and several areas were studied. The research group came to a staff meeting and presented their findings. The key questions the group investigated were:

- **Do the views of students vary with age?** This showed that lower school students thought the AL grade was as important as the national curriculum grade, whereas the upper school students thought that the AL grade was not as important as their national curriculum grade. This may have been because of the exams such as the SATs and GCSEs.
- **Do the students understand the system?** This showed that most students fully understood the Active Learner system because the written descriptions were clear and used similar sentences to show differences between the descriptions for each grade.
- **How well are the staff using the system?** This showed that most people did not know their Active Learner grade and very few teachers frequently referred to the Active Learner grade system, although most students thought they referred to it sometimes. It also showed that the core subjects are best at using the system and applying it in lessons.
- **Do the students think that the system is fair?** Most students agreed with the Active Learner grade they were given and only 8 out of 43 thought the system was unfair. When asked about the system, most students replied positively and a small minority replied negatively.
- **What improvements can the students suggest?** Over 60% of students asked said that the system could not be improved to only 40% who said it could. Some suggested that it could be made easier to understand, that teachers might use it more actively in the lessons and that teachers should have a one to one grade assessment with all students.

This evaluation showed that the system is working well and very few changes need to be made. Most students agree with and understand the system. Most year 9 and 10 students also believe that the new Active Learner system is better and a greater help than the effort system before.

Adam Taylor – Year 10

I would like to add that it has been a pleasure to work on this research with these students. Their findings will be added to staff questionnaire results in the Autumn and will influence school policy. We will take some action to improve how the Active Learner system is being used when we put together all the results from both the staff and the students. If you want to contribute your thoughts as parents, please e-mail me at [school@crofton.hants.sch.uk](mailto:school@crofton.hants.sch.uk). Please mark the e-mail for the attention of Ms Boulter.

Ms Boulter -Deputy Head Teacher

## LIBRARY AND RESOURCE CENTRE

As the term slowly draws to an end we look back on our achievements and improvements in the library. However, firstly we would like to give a big thank you to the student librarians who have given their own time to assist in the day to day running of the library. We thank, again, Amanda Hiscock 10T for completing her second year as senior librarian and wish her well in her continued GCSE studies.

The following students are our present librarians and I hope they will be happy to continue after the summer break.

Matthew Swann 8R, Lewis Ford 8R, Russell Churcher 8MT, Phil Tyreman 10C, Caitlin Waller 8R, Luke Wiltshire 9G, Becky Stokes 8R, Emily Jarvis 8R, Gemma Field 8R, William Binns 7LT, Elizabeth Groves 8T, Rachel Walsh 8R

We also have Jordan Terry 7L and Joe Vickers 7H training.

Our library resources continue to be up dated and increased so much so that during the summer we shall be adding extra shelving to house the new stock. During the year we have taken on over 1000 new resources which include 615 fiction and 389 non-fiction titles. Some of these replace old and out dated stock but roughly 40% of the fiction will increase the overall provision. We have gradually built up the DVD library and we now have 23 in the current stock.

The resource centre includes eleven computers for student's use which are all linked to the internet and the school's own intranet. The students also enjoy a dedicated photocopier for their use only.

We have registered the School with The National Library for the Blind. This gives us access to the UK's only lending service of books in 24 point type. At present the library has over 200 titles aimed at readers aged eight and over with visual impairment. The books are chosen online and the service is totally free of charge even the post is free. If you would like to have more details go to [www.nlb.online.org](http://www.nlb.online.org).

A big thank you to all parents, students and staff who saved their Tesco and Sainsbury vouchers. The last count for Tesco was 5275. This, together with vouchers banked from previous years has enabled us to order a colour laser printer for the library. The Sainsbury vouchers last total was 7690, which is way beyond our target of 5500. The Sports Department add their thanks to mine and the students will enjoy all the new equipment in September.

For the new year 2005/2006 we have many plans for continued improvement to ensure that we offer our students the very best service to assist them in their studies and interests.

Mrs. D Davies - Librarian

### **YEAR 9 BOYS' CRICKET**

The Year 9 cricket team have gone from strength to strength this season. The squad being: Chris Hillier - Capt., Robbie Haines, Sam Bowen, Luke Bristowe, Luke McConnoll, Mike Astill, Liam Richardson, Dan Stokes, Mike Cleeve, Jack Barker, Matt Mason and Patrick Basson (both Year 8) with Tom Dickinson making the odd appearance.

We have won the Area Cup beating all but Cams convincingly. Against Cams they batted first and we bowled them all out for 124 but we gave 42 in extras! Their bowling was tight, so we had to score runs off the bat. First in was Sam and Matt who got us off to a good start. Next came Luke B and then Robbie. They had a good partnership going and the score was looking on track. Some quick wickets fell and we looked to be in trouble. I came in and we needed 39 off 36 balls with Patrick and then Luke Mc. We managed to clock up the runs to beat them with one ball remaining. It was our best game of the season. Cams went away feeling the game was theirs but we were the victors.

We have also got through to the semi-final of the Cup and hope to make the final to be played at Crofton on the last Wednesday this term. Try and come and show your support.

Chris Hillier 9H

### **Hampshire Youth Games**

Our first game was against Rushmoor they scored the first goal but we managed to equalise with a goal. It was set up by Laura who intercepted the ball and passed it to Alice Hendy who took it around a few players and passed to Jess who put it into the back of the net. Result 1-1.

Our next game was against Havant. Jess was the hat-trick hero. Result was 3-0.

Our third game was against Portsmouth who got the first goal but we managed to equalise just after in the second half but then they managed to score another goal. Result 2-1 to Portsmouth.

Our fourth game was against New Forest who had kick-off but we were straight in and Laura scored. We got the ball and Jess passed to Alice who ran down the wing and crossed it to Laura who then put it in the net. Result 2-0 to us.

Our fifth and last game, we totally hammered East Hampshire by three goals. Result 3-0.

I'd like to thank Mrs. Reeves for organising it all and Gemma Hillier for team management.

Team:

Keeper - Rose Wade

Defenders - Alice Rushby & Abigail Jukes

Midfielders - Laura Pike & Jess Reeves

Striker - Alice Hendy

### **Top of the Class**

Rebecca Gough is being touted as an Olympic athlete of the future.

She has produced a string of impressive performances in the 3,000m and now has her sights set on the All-England Schools' Championships in Birmingham on July 8th and 9th when she will compete against the best young talent in the country.

Rebecca is one of eight top young athletes selected to take part in a summer training camp at St. Mary's College, Twickenham.

### **Latest News.....**

Rebecca has become the English Schools' Champion for 3,000 metres.

WELL DONE!

### **School Concerts**

On the 4th & 5th July 2005, the annual summer concert took place. This year there was a wide variety of acts including the two school orchestras, many vocalists, a mixture of jazz and classical pieces and Crofton's newly formed version of 'Stomp'. On the whole, the concert was a great success and we would like to thank all the staff and pupils who took part and helped to organise it.

We would especially like to thank Mrs. Maynard because this is her last concert here at Crofton. During her time here she has transformed the Music Department and she will be greatly missed when she leaves this summer.

We all wish her good luck with her new job.

by Danielle Barratt & Joffy Girling (8M)

### **News of former students**

Victoria Mason, a former student of Crofton school, has just been awarded a First Class Honours Degree from Oxford University.

Vicky studied geography at Mansfield College and came second in her year group of about 90 students.

Adam Gilbertson has been awarded a 1st with honours from Cardiff University in Maths and Physics.

Toby Coleman, has also received a 1st with honours from Cambridge University in Natural Sciences.

Well done to them all!

**W**e were fortunate to have a visitor from Sainsbury's Healthy Eating Programme to do a demonstration and talk to our Social Skills Group. Her name was Pat Thomasson and she talked to us about G.I. Foods, (Glycaemic Index). This means that all foods have a ranking of carbohydrates based on the rate at which they raise our blood sugar levels. Each food is given a value which can be termed as low, medium or high. We learnt a lot about which are the best foods that will give us sustaining energy levels, helping us to keep hunger at bay, and maintaining body weight which help protect us against diabetes and heart disease.

Pat then did a demonstration of a medium G.I. lunch, which we all tried and some of found it delicious.

We took photographs and did some work on what we considered to be a healthy meal. All the students seemed to enjoy the visit and gained some understanding as to the foods that are best for us.

If you would like more information on G.I. foods come and see us in learning support or go to the [www.sainsburys.co.uk/healthyeating/glycaemic](http://www.sainsburys.co.uk/healthyeating/glycaemic) website.

D. Wallace  
Teaching Assistant - Learning Support

CROFTON SCHOOL gratefully acknowledge the generosity and valuable contribution ASDA made to the success of its recent Healthy Schools Week and Breakfast Club.

#### **HEALTHY SCHOOLS**

You will gather from the logo that Crofton is now officially a Healthy School!

The validators were most impressed by their visit. They talked to pupils, parents, governors and teachers and had lunch in the Dining Room. Our pupils really did us proud; the best advertisement possible for a healthy School.

We now have a Healthy School's plaque, to add to the one received from Investors in People, and a reputation to live up to.

Next term we shall be looking at two more areas as well as continuing to encourage healthy choices in both diet and relationships.

I would like to thank everyone in the community who contributed to the success of our application, not least Budgens and Asda, both of whom supported our Healthy Schools Week earlier this year.

Ms. Robertson

#### **BREAKFAST CLUB**

Even though I usually eat breakfast at home, I went to the breakfast club for the week that Learning Support ran it, at the end of May. I really enjoyed it. I had cereal, toast and fresh juice every morning. It was nice to come to school and eat breakfast with others and have a chat before the day started.

I think the breakfast club should become permanent because you can make new friends, be ready for school and have a good breakfast. It is loads better than sitting at the dining room table facing my half-asleep brother at 7:30 in the morning every day.

Callum Collins (7HR)

Is your child growing out of their uniform?

Why not try to sell it in a small free advert in the 'Crier'.

Please send your adverts in by the end of September, in order to be in the next 'Crier'.

#### **FOR SALE**

CROFTON BOY'S  
VISCOUNT BLAZER  
with badge  
SIZE 32  
Excellent condition  
£18  
Tel. 661504 (01329 )