

## October '06

From the Head Teacher:

The new academic year is well underway and memories of the summer holidays are beginning to fade. I have been delighted by the start made by Year 7, who appear to have settled in well and their parents have already met with their form tutors.

At the time of writing, we are just a month into the year and I would like to congratulate the young sportsmen and sportswomen in their achievements and the art department on having not one, but two, regional finalists, Rebecca Scott and Jake Falconer, in the 14-18 category of the 'My Britain' competition called Doodle 4 Google. I have been very impressed by reports from the school visit to Germany and I am very excited by the prospect of the wide range of activities on offer in Charities Week and at the prospect of our production of 'Animal Farm', adapted from the novel by George Orwell. Regular readers of the Crier will know just how much excellent work is done by the Crofton School Association (CSA), every parent is a member and it is run by a fantastically enthusiastic committee. As usual the CSA held its AGM in the first half of October to elect the committee and to share some of its successes. This year, the AGM afforded an opportunity to say farewell and thank you to a group who have served the committee for several years. Among those leaving was Mrs Sandie McIntosh who has been an outstanding chair; she has led her very able and committed team with enthusiasm and great skill for several years. The whole school's thanks and best wishes go to both the outgoing and incoming committee members. If you were unable to attend the AGM but would like to be involved please contact one of the committee which includes Miss Knight and Mrs Frost.

Over the summer holidays, we were able to refurbish the Mathematics Department and now the classrooms enjoy much better lighting, décor and access to electricity for using laptops and display facilities.

The summer break was, also, a time of anxiety for some waiting for examination results. I am delighted to report that again over three quarters (77%) of the Year 11 students achieved the significant five or more GCSEs at grade C or above and over one third (34%) achieved at least three of the very highest grades (A\* /A). I am equally proud of the fact that no student left with no GCSE qualifications – each student matters, whatever their ability.

A small group of Year 10 students took GCSE statistics early and are to be congratulated on their excellent grades, every one of them achieved an A or an A\*. A big well done goes to those Year 11 mathematicians who took an A Level (AS) standard exam, not least to the two who achieved the top grades. Among the GCSEs, there were also other qualifications in Music, English Signing, Sports Science and Sports Leadership.

GCSEs are not the only examinations and the current Year 10 are to be congratulated on some excellent results in the National Curriculum Tests (SATs).

	2005	2006
ENGLISH	94%	97%
MATHEMATICS	85%	93%
SCIENCE	88%	93%
ICT	93%	90%

(Percentage of students Level 5 or above in the National Curriculum Tests)

The school has made an excellent start to 2006-07 and I very much hope that the remainder of the year is extremely happy and successful for every single student and member of staff.

A W Forrest

## Outstanding Examination Results

The following Students achieved ten or more grades at A\* or A.

Olivia Berry  
Christopher Folwell  
Emma Gedge  
Rebecca Girling  
Ashley Gorse  
Katie Heffer  
David Linfield  
James McArdle  
Jonathan Wheatcroft  
Sophie Wheatcroft  
Peter Whiteley  
Gemma Wilton

The following students took GCSE statistics at the end of Year 10 and all achieved grade A\* or A.

Daniel Lowry  
Victoria Shaw  
Emma Shuttleworth  
Elena Wason  
Luke Wiltshire

The following students took the Free Standing Mathematics Qualification (equivalent to AS) in their spare time – two achieved grade A.

Rebecca Girling  
David Linfield  
Peter Whiteley  
Gemma Wilton

The choice you make today will determine your tomorrow

On the 20th September a group of Year 9 students visited three places, each with a different religion, in Southampton. The first place we went to was a Hindu Temple. We entered and removed our shoes. We had a look around and then our guide told us all about the pictures surrounding the walls and the different god statues. Next a prayer was performed. There are two performed a day and it showed us a lot.

Then we went to an Islamic temple and we also had to remove our shoes here too. They pray five times a day but we didn't see anyone praying. They answered our questions and told us all about Mecca and the way they live under Allah.

We also went to an African-Caribbean church where we had a talk about Sikhism and a couple of the group tried on headdresses traditional to the Sikh's religion. We enjoyed a traditional curry meal.

It was a really great day and everyone enjoyed it.

We would like to say thank you to Mr. Mill, Mrs. Durant and Mr. Wootton.

By Sarah Heffer and Shannen Dewis (9HR)

## **Can You Help? Crofton School Production**

We are going to stage an ambitious production of Peter Hall's adaptation of George Orwell's Animal Farm. We are hoping to use a combination of masks and possibly life-size puppets, which the actors will wear in order to manipulate them. In addition to this, video footage will also be included to mark and celebrate the first production the school has staged since gaining Specialist Science Status.

The production is going to take place on the 7th, 8th and 9th March, 2007.

The acting company (approximately fifty-five students) and technical crew have been selected (about thirty students). With such large numbers involved we would welcome any additional help you might be able to offer to support the staff and students already participating in the production. So..... if you are nifty with a needle, a dab hand with a paintbrush or crafty and/or arty, could you please contact the school on 01329 664251.

Thank you

S. May

### **Dates for your Diary**

Monday 30th October - Day Closure

Thursday 2nd November - Yr 8 Parent Info Evening

Tuesday 7th November - Yr 10 Parent Consultation

Thursday 7th December - Certificate Evening

Friday 8th December - Non-uniform Day

Tues & Wed. 12th & 13th December - Christmas Concert - Holy Rood

Tuesday 19th December - End of Term

### **Cross-Curricular Day**

Science, Maths and Technology are currently involved in an ICT project supported by Hampshire County Council. The aims of the project are to develop innovative and exciting ways to use ICT within our classrooms. We are also looking at how we can make cross-curricular work more effective at Crofton School.

On Friday 29th September, thirty-two Year 9 pupils worked on some cross-curricular ICT work. This involved measuring speed using data-loggers, using flowal to look at the way traffic lights can be organised and carried out calculations using excel.

The pupils enjoyed the day and were great evaluators of the resources being used. A big thank you to Mr. Whitehouse, Mr. Rider and Mrs. Callen for making the day run so smoothly.

### **Working with an International School**

Crofton School has been exceptionally lucky to have secured a link with a Junior Science College in Malaysia.

A team of Year 9 pupils, Mrs. Badesha, Miss Tiltman and Mrs. Small will be working with the school to find out more about the way pupils are taught in Malaysia.

We are also hoping to find out a lot more about the way people live their lives in a country like Malaysia.

We are all very excited about this project and will keep you informed of developments via the Crier.

### **Specialist Science College - Community**

As part of the Specialist Science College it is my role to go and support the Junior Schools. I was invited into Crofton Anne Dale Junior School to do some science demonstrations. I spent the afternoon demonstrating the digestive system and the model lungs to three Year 6 classes. They had previously been taught the digestive system.

The demonstration brought what they had been taught to life and they enjoyed this mucky experiment of how we digest our food and its journey. Their next science topic is breathing and respiration.

I demonstrated the model lungs and this helped to enforce their understanding of how our lungs work. I am looking forward to working closely with the Junior Schools.

Mrs T Callen

### **Futuroscope Residential Trip** **9th-13th July 2007**

Modern foreign languages and the Science department are working together to organise a fantastic opportunity to go to Futuroscope in the Loire Valley, France.

There are still a few spaces available so collect a letter from Mrs Hlavaty (MFL) or Mrs Matthews (Science) and get your deposit in as soon as possible.

**Murder, Fireworks and Spots!** By Mrs. Blackburn, Leading Science teacher.

Since June, I have been involved in an exciting new Curriculum project run by Hampshire Science advisors and attended by science teachers from all over Hampshire. The idea was to rewrite the Key Stage Three programme for Year 9 with the emphasis on shorter, topic-based modules of work, the titles of three you see as the heading of my article.

The idea is to engage and motivate pupils with currently relevant 'hooks' to catch their interest and the modules are fully integrated with chemistry, physics and biology lessons.

There is an emphasis on practical work with a slightly different slant to that which the pupils are accustomed.

At present, the project material is only being taught to one Year 9 group but I hope that this will be extended to more groups next year.

What do the pupils think so far?

Adam Ford-Hibberd, 9HD, says he prefers this year's science as "there is much more practical."

Brooke Price, 9G, says "Science is much more fun this year with lots of practical. I think I'm making really good progress!"

## **SPECIALIST COLLEGE**

Following a very successful year of specialist college work, Crofton School is proud to be entering Year 2. We will be building on the strong foundations built last year and moving the school from strength to strength. Due to specialist college funding the majority of classrooms have digital projectors and interactive whiteboards. We know this make a difference to the quality of resources that can be used in lessons.

Over the summer we saw the refurbishment of all the Maths area. New lighting, notice boards, cupboards and desks have been placed in all the rooms. Every classroom has an interactive whiteboard so teachers can use the excellent ICT resources available to them. Maths has also had to deliver a new GCSE curriculum. This is going well and Mrs. Ledsham and her team are working on new resources to support students through the course.

The new science GCSE has started this year. The department has been working on producing new and exciting resources to support students in Year 10. We have doubled the number of students studying triple science this year and hope to continue on this upward trend. New textbooks and revision books have been purchased. If your son/daughter has not yet purchased the revision books for this course then please ask them to see their science teacher as soon as possible.

Crofton School is leading the way by developing an interactive website (Virtual Learning Environment) with Hampshire County Council. This will enable all schools across Hampshire to access information about the new GCSE courses. It will also provide resources and technical support. This will be launched at the Head's of Science conference in January 2007 and will go live in February of next year. Many thanks to Mr. Wood who has been pivotal in making this a success.

ICT is very important to the development of teaching resources at Crofton School. The school is currently working with the county to look at the way we can use ICT in an innovative way to support cross-curricular work.

Our primary links have always been strong at Crofton School. This year due to specialist school's funding we have been able to offer training for some of our primary colleagues. This will enable them to use our laboratories and other resources to support the teaching of the Key Stage 2 curriculum. Mrs. Callen, specialist school's resource manager has recently visited Anne Dale School to demonstrate digestion and the lungs to Year 6 pupils. We look forward to continuing this excellent work.

As well as developing our work in the United Kingdom we have been pleased to be able to arrange a visit to Futuroscope. Working with the Modern Languages Department we have designed a trip that will use both language and science skills. We are looking forward to this exciting venture and know it will go from strength to strength each year.

We have also managed to develop a link with a school in Malaysia. Over the next few months we hope to make contact with pupils in a Junior Science College. The aim of the project is to find out more about the culture and education in another country.

Many thanks to Mrs. Small and Miss Tiltman for their support in this project.

## **The new Science GCSE**

What is it about?

Most teenagers are exposed to tremendous media pressures telling them what is right about science. Many of these sources are biased and needs to be balanced. Finding that balance is often difficult. The new GCSE's are designed to cover the aspects of science that every citizen needs to understand in order to make informed decisions.

Topics are designed to encourage pupils to discuss issues and not to take newspaper/magazine articles on face value. A prime example is genetic modification (GM). What are the advantages and disadvantages of this process? These issues need to be understood before a decision to allow or ban them is made.

Although the topics may appear to be similar to those previously taught, the emphasis is now on 'How will it affect the world?' and 'What will the impact be?'. This will help and encourage pupils to make informed choices. For example the use of nuclear power. There are not always clear cut answers but there are choices that need to be made. Unless these are explained a decision cannot be justified.

### **Visit to Eastbrook Farm**

On Monday the 22nd May we went to Eastbrook Farm. At the moment in R.E. we are doing a project on people of vision and thirty students were chosen to visit the people of Eastbrook Farm as this was going to be our people of vision. Helen Browning was the person who had decided to make the farm organic.

When we arrived, the first thing we had to do was to put our wellies on and those who hadn't brought them really wished they had! We met one of the farmers who then took us to see the cattle. We were allowed to take pictures of the calves and their mothers and we were also given a talk on the life of a cow and told about the different types of cows and their uses.

Then we went to see the piglets. Everyone had a smile on their face when we were allowed into the biggest pen. No-one got too near the sows as we were told that they could be very protective. The piglets were fascinated by our wellies and decided to have a nibble at them! The farmer told us that this was the way that pigs experimented with things around them, by taste.

Eastbrook Farm sets a good example of how a farm should be a partnership between the animals and the farmers so none of the animals are forced into doing things. The farm also uses natural fertilisers and no pesticides and gives the animals access to fields, fresh air and a natural diet. This ensures that they have a good quality of life.

by Abbie Morley and Sarah Heffer

a good website to visit is: [www.helenbrowningorganics.co.uk](http://www.helenbrowningorganics.co.uk)

### **German Trip**

On Sunday 24th September, forty of us gathered around the school gates at 6:45 for a trip to Germany! When the coach arrived, we all put our suitcases in the luggage compartment and got onto the coach. We left at about 7:00, waving goodbye to our parents as we drove off.

We were all excited and a little nervous about this great trip. We had a couple of stops on the way and eventually we were in Germany. We got to the Hotel (Naturfreundhaus) and the owners had prepared a warm soup but none of us were really hungry but we ate some of it.

The next day we set off at 9:00 to the school to meet our German partners. When we got there, we all had a little assembly and then met our partners. We had the morning at the school and then went home for the afternoon and had dinner at our friend's house.

One of the best places we went to was called Kettler Hof. It was an Activity Park with lots of things to do. There was a water slide, a park, a train and lots more. My favourite thing was some big bouncy castles. They were enormous and you jumped on them like giant space hoppers. I wish they had them in England. We also went shopping a couple of times which was quite fun and we also went swimming in this big swimming pool. It had two slides and it was really fun! As well as all this, we visited a couple of museums and a gasometer.

I really enjoyed this trip and I hope I can go again! Thank you very much!

Eleanor Bristowe

### **Mein Besuch in Deutschland**

Wir gehen nach Deutschland, nach Bochum, im Naturfreundehaus! Am Sonntag (um 6:30 Uhr!) reisen wir mit dem Bus. Die Reise war langweilig!

Am Montag besuchen wir die Schule. Meine Schülerin heißt Marne. Sie ist sehr freundlich und nicht langweilig. Sie ist 15 Jahre alt und ihr Lieblingstier ist ein Pferd. In der Schule spielen wir Fußball und wir kochen, das schmeckt lecker!

Am Dienstag gehen wir mit unseren Partnern schwimmen, das war fantastisch. Und wir gehen zum Ketteler Hof, das war super! Am Mittwoch besuchen wir eine Burn aber ich habe meinen Zeh gebrochen! Am Donnerstag gingen wir einkaufen, das war prima, ich habe Anziehsachen gekauft. Am Freitag mußten wir nach Hause gehen.

Ich liebe Deutschland, das ist fantastisch und ich habe viel Spaß. Tschüs!

Hannah Fletcher (one year and one term of German with only a little help given).

### **Mein Ferien in Deutschland**

Am Sonntag im Morgen habe ich um 6 Uhr aufgestanden. Es war nicht gut für mich weil Ich sehr müde war. Ich bin nach der Schule gegangen. Dann haben wir dem Reisebus eingestiegen. Ich habe 'DJ Dave' getroffen. Er ist so cool. Wir haben unser Reise angefangen. Es war sehr lang, aber das war nicht schlecht weil ich geschlafen habe. Andy, Paul, Mike und Ich, haben hinter dem Reisebus gesessen so das war auch sehr gut. Wann sind wir in Deutschland angekommen habe Ich mein Deutscher Familie getroffen. Sie war sehr nett.

Mein austauschstudent hat zwei Brüder, eine Schwester, ein Vater und eine Mutti. Wir haben im Internet surfen, und ich habe eine frische Milch gehabt. Dann haben wir ins Bett geschlafen.

Nächstes tag haben wir in die schule gegangen. Es war sehr gut, ersten haben wir Theatre gemacht. Dann haben wir Mittagessen gegessen und auch wir haben Fußball gespielt. Danach haben wir Amerikan Fußball gespielt, es war sehr gut ich war der Quarterback, und ich habe das gemagt. Dann sind wir nach Ketteler Hof und Burn Vischering gegangen. Ersten war die Burg es war sehr gut. Wir haben eine Tour gemacht. Und zweiten sind wir nach Ketteler Hof gegangen. Der größte Teil des Tages haben wir auf dem Hüpfkissen gespielt. Es war so spaßig. Am Dienstag, haben wir nach die Schule gegangen. Wir haben die Bahn genommen. Es war nur Andy, Paul, Mike und Ich, weil Jahr 9am Frilandmuseum war. Es war sehr langweilig aber das war ok weil wir eine lange Mittagszeit gehabt haben. Am abend haben wir Bowling gespielt. es war so lustig weil Ryan aberwitzig war.

Nächstes tag sind wir ein großer Turm klettern. Ich habe einen Pfennig auf eine Metallpalattform geworfen. Dann bin Ich Einhaufen in Centro gegangen. Ich habe zwei T-Shirt gekauft. Danach sind wir zur Disko gegangen. Ich habe eine lange schlaf gehabt. Dann am Freitag sind wir von Deutschland verstorben. Es war so schlecht.

Curtis Barber (With no help with the German!). Year 10

### **German Trip**

At the end of September a group of Year 9 students went on the German trip with some Year 10's who went on the exchange. We all went into the hall at the school and got paired up with our partners. My twin sister and I went and were partnered up with another set of twins! This was a one in a million chance of happening and was an amazing experience. They also have the same hobbies as us which made our stay a lot more interesting.

Their family were really welcoming and we enjoyed every minute. We went to a place called 'Kettler Hof', which was really fun. We also went to Europe's biggest shopping centre with our partners which was amazing. We had a really good time!

Sophie Fletcher

### **Packed Lunches**

During Year 8 Sailing Week and in view of all the media hype about children's packed lunches, I took more than my usual interest in what was being consumed on the sun-lit terrace of the Portsmouth Outdoor Centre. I only wish that Jamie Oliver could have seen what I observed; boxes full of healthy, exciting sandwiches, fruit and raw vegetables, and healthy drinks. Not only that, the pupils were talking very knowledgeably about food and the importance of eating properly, especially when they were using up so much energy.

It is very heartening to know that not only are the messages we give in school about healthy eating being 'taken on board' by the children, but also that we have the support of our parents on helping to put these messages into practice.

I always find my week at the Centre very positive because it gives both the pupils and me an opportunity to see each other in a different setting. This year in my other role as Healthy School's Manager, it was even more rewarding than usual because I was more aware than ever of the strength of parental support in what we are trying to do for our pupils in terms of their mental, emotional and physical wellbeing.

As far as the Sailing Week is concerned, there were only fourteen pupils involved but I am confident that what I saw is typical of the quality of packed lunches at Crofton and so grateful for parental support for 'Healthy Schools'.

Ms. Robertson

### **Top Form Quiz**

The 11th July saw teams of enthusiastic students, representing the Year 7 tutor groups, testing their knowledge in the annual Top Form Quiz.

The teams provided the supportive (albeit small) audience with an exciting evening as the leader board fluctuated between rounds. This year's contest produced one of the closest finals for several years with all of the teams scoring well.

At the end though 7WH triumphed to win book tokens and the coveted Top Form trophy. Well done to all of those who took part and competed in the spirit of the competition.

### **Crofton School Association News**

The end of the summer term was both busy and fun for the CSA. On June 10th as the World Cup got into full swing, students, parents and friends of Crofton were swinging at the Barbecue disco. The balmy weather and the colourful shirts worn by many of those there added to the summery atmosphere, as the able chefs Bill Dreier, Richard Selby and Jim McIntosh, assisted by Roger Johnson and Neil Thorne, cooked up a feast of sausages and burgers - and not a burnt banger in sight!

This new venture was both enjoyable and profitable. Our thanks to Budgens, B & Q and Waitrose for kindly assisting with the catering costs.

### **Summer Concerts**

The serving of refreshments remains an important fund-raiser for the CSA and so we were pleased, once again, to serve refreshments at the summer concerts. Thanks to all of you who gave so generously.

### **Fundraising Gift Wrap Sale**

This term we will be using a Northbrook gift wrap sale to raise money for our school. This fundraiser is a great way to raise money without asking our parents to donate any of their time or money.

We know that in the next couple of months we will all be buying Christmas wrapping paper and we need birthday paper all year round. When you buy any item from the Northbrook leaflet, our school will receive 25% of each sale. If we all bought just a couple of items we could raise a significant amount of money.

Not only do we receive 25% of every sale, but also you receive great quality and value.

We do hope you like the selection of papers and that you will support our school by purchasing through us.

### **Water Sports 2006**

On the 24th July 2006, a group of 42 students and 7 teachers set off towards Spain...

After a long coach journey, we made ourselves at home in our village and had some lunch. We met our team leader, Dickie, and our groupies Lucy and Becky. In the evening, we made our first trip down to the beach to swim and play some games.

The next day, after an early start we made our way down to the beach to do some windsurfing or sail in the toppers. Unfortunately, there wasn't much wind so we amused ourselves by capsizing the toppers or wrestling on the boards instead. That afternoon the wind picked up so we went back out on the fun boats or windsurfing. In the evening, we played the Great Egg Race which consisted of cushioned eggs being thrown mercilessly off of a platform. Only two eggs survived.

Snorkelling was our main activity for the following day, as well as a quick look around the shops. After a 'slight delay', we headed back to our village to play bar games in the evening.

Our next location was Castells Beach, a beautiful nature reserve, where we tried out open-top canoes and sit-on kayaks. The evening entertainment was Playa Daro. Friday was arguably one of the most enjoyed days of the whole holiday; we attempted to stay on a banana boat (and failed miserably!), as well as enjoying an exhilarating ride on the Fly Fish. In the afternoon we returned to Palamos Beach to relax on the Catamarans and the Long Boats. Later on, a few of us got dressed up in bin bags and cardboard boxes and were

blindfolded to play Robot wars. The aim of the game is to find as many water balloons as possible, and then hit as many people as possible while blindfolded. Needless to say, there were many bad aims, resulting in a very wet crowd!

The following day we went to Aqua Diva which is a fantastic waterpark. We raced down the slides and swam in the pool, as well as relaxing in the Jacuzzi. Afterwards, we went to the sports shop Decathlon and then headed back to our village. 'Man o Man' was our entertainment for Saturday evening, which included some rather interesting outfits (or lack of!) Sadly, no-one from our group won the game, despite having the best contestants.

On Sunday we returned to Palamos beach to do Catamarans, fun boats and swimming. When we were finished we went back to camp to pack our things and prepare for another long journey home.

This holiday was so much fun, everyone had a great time! Thank you to all the teachers for making the trip possible, and thank you to everyone who went for making the trip fantastic!

## Work Related Learning.....

### ....at Fareham College

When I first started I was nervous because I didn't think I would know anyone but when we sat in our groups I knew that it would be good fun because I was with all my friends. When I started the lessons, I thought it boring because it was all theory work and no practical but after five weeks I am really enjoying myself as we are doing lots of practical.

I feel it will be better as the year goes on because I will be learning more and more about engineering as that will help me in the future in my army career. I like wearing the overalls as it gives you an image and makes you feel good.

I go to college every Thursday from 9 o'clock until 1 o'clock and then we come back to school.

I really hope to get my NVQ Level 1 in Engineering and in Year 11, I hope to get my NVQ Level 2.

Taylor Weatherson

### ...at St. Vincent College

I thought college would be an exciting and new experience and it has turned out to be just that. When we went there on our own for the first time there was quite a split between the Crofton pupils and the Bridgemary pupils but this was only for the first two lessons. After this, everyone began to talk and get to know each other as friends and that is how it is now, everyone at the St. Vincent College course are friends and get along most of the time!

The course we are doing is a B Tec in Sports Science. We do all aspects of sport and recreation which includes fitness, warm-ups, cool downs, a range of many different sports and activities and we also do a little bit of very easy written work on the body and how it works. Also in our written work we make notes on the entire practical we have done that day.

Over all, the course is good fun and hard work and I enjoy it very much. One of the best things about college is being treated like an adult and not having to call the teachers 'Sir' and 'Miss'. Also wearing my own clothes is a bonus.

James Barber

## Sailing

A group of fourteen Year 8 students went to Portsmouth Outdoor Centre sailing.

Here are some comments from the week:

"How to capsize.....put me in charge of the main sail" Megan Rufenacht

"We had a lot of fun" Nathan Stainer

"Today had a funny side to it - the girls capsized" Josh Newcombe

"We learnt how to rig the boat, reef the mainsail and tack" Patrick Berry

"On your side.....you know it's over!" Tierney Borrett

"We sailed around in a figure of eight" Jake Parkin

"I would like to go again if ever I were asked" Nick Bryant

"Our raft was the strongest, but the other team had more pulling power" Mark Stanton

"When I was picked for the sailing week I was a nervous wreck" Matthew Hicks

"All in all I enjoyed the week and wished it had been longer" Peter Judge

"We had a great time" William Linderman

"Today when I woke up I was really excited because we were going to Hayling Island" Rosalind Thompson

"The bug has bitten, I'm sure you'll see. A life on the ocean is the one for me!" Cameron Dunlop

"The best day was when I finally managed to helm the boat" Jake Johnson

### **Risk Assessment Policy for PE**

Following a review of our Risk Assessment policy we are going to insist that all students wear safety equipment appropriate for the sport.

All sports carry an element of risk, which we aim to minimise with the use of safety equipment. Shin pads will be necessary in both football and hockey during lessons and for after school fixtures. Personally designed gum shields are essential in hockey fixtures and rugby fixtures and are highly recommended for lessons.

The cost of shin pads is relatively low, for example £2.50 from a high street sports shop.

Personalised gum shields are normally obtained from a dentist and prices will vary according to which practice you attend. We feel the cost of these items is reasonable considering the risks of not wearing the safety equipment.

We would like all students to have the correct safety equipment as soon as possible but no later than after the half term break in October.

I am sure that you appreciate the need for safety to be paramount in school and apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause.

Thank you for your support

Miss Breheny - Subject Leader for PE

### **Year 10, Now Year 11 Cricket**

This year we have had an influx of new players, Tom Firth, Will Johns, Mike Cleeve, Liam Richardson and Connor Frampton, to boost the core of last year's remaining players, Luke Bristow, Sam Bowen, Tom Dickenson, Mike Astill, Robbie Haines and myself Captain Chris Hillier.

Over the past four seasons, we have only lost four matches and have reached the Cup Final each year, winning twice.

This season went well apart from the one loss to Bay House on a wet and windy evening on their Astro turf hockey pitch. This is not cricket!

With convincing wins over Portchester and Brune Park, we were full of confidence going into the semifinal against Cams Hill. We always have good matches against them and this was no exception. We won the toss and elected to bat against a well drilled bowling attack of club players. Sam and Tom D opened and got us off to a good start. Sam received a blow in the chest but battled on to score a few more runs. I came in and scored 46, followed by a quick firings from Luke and Robbie. Then it was down to the 'new look' batters, who held their own against some quick bowlers. We finished on 113 runs that we knew with tight bowling we could defend. Tom D came up trumps with 4 wickets, one a diving catch to the left by 'keeper Robbie which sparked controversy in the Cams team, leaving their batsman distressed as they came in and then out before they had settled. We bowled them out for not many runs so we were through to our fourth successive Cup Final.

The Cup Final was against Brookfield and played this term. We won the toss and elected to bat as this had been our winning formula throughout the season. Sam and Tom D raced us to 50 without loss before going on to score 30 and 35 respectively. I came in and we scored 19 off the next five overs followed by the middle order who came on strong to take our score to 109, which we thought was a competitive total.

In the third over, Mike 'Greyhound' Astill took a great catch to dismiss their opening batsman. Our bowling was tight with Luke taking 3 wickets. All of the new players had a bowl and took wickets. We bowled them out for 59! Result - a great way to finish our representative school cricket.

As a celebration, our coach/manager/driver/scorer/umpire took us to the Mega Bowl. We had great fun and the evening was quality but good cricket bowlers do not always make good ten-pin bowlers. Sam won the first frame and 'Reevo' (Mrs Reeve) won the second. After a meal, we were presented with fun prizes that summed up the season.

We would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Reeve who has supported us throughout the four seasons.

Captain Chris Hillier 11H

### **Who can I find out more information from if I am interested in joining one of our school teams?**

#### **Girls Netball**

Year 7-11 Miss Breheny (PE)  
Mrs Pilkington (PE)

#### **Boys Football**

Year 7 Mr Williams (PE)  
Year 8 Mr Malpass (English)  
Year 9 Mr Shearsmith (PE)  
Year 10 Mr Rider (Maths)  
Year 11 Mr Malpass/Mr Hiscock

#### **Boys Rugby**

Year 7 Mr Ridley (PE)  
Year 8 Mrs Evans (Geography)  
Year 9 Mr Ridley (PE)  
Year 10 Mr Williams (PE)

#### **Girls Football**

Year 7-9 Miss Paine (Maths)  
Year 10/11 Miss Paine (Maths)

#### **Mixed Badminton**

Year 7-11 Jamie Russell  
(Coach - Fridays)

#### **Boys Basketball**

Year 9 Mr Ridley (PE)  
Year 10 Mr Shearsmith (PE)  
Year 11 Mr Williams (PE)

#### **Girls Basketball**

Year 8 Mrs Pilkington (PE)

#### **Cross Country**

Year 7-11 Miss Breheny (PE)

#### **Golf**

Year 10/11 Mr Shearsmith (PE)

#### **Squash**

Year 7-11 Miss Breheny (PE)

#### **Other Clubs Available**

Trampoline Mrs Reeve  
Gymnastics Miss Breheny

Dance Miss Titcombe  
Table Tennis Mr Shearsmith

### **Match Reports**

#### **Year 7, 8 & 9 Girls Football**

Played against Brookfield School away  
Final Score 1-2

The team played really well together but someone who really shone was Elle Rice, a Year 7, who played brilliantly. The team did well winning their first match! Many more wins to come!

Thank you to Miss Paine, Miss Breheny, Mr Williams and the team.

#### **Year 7 Rugby**

Played against Portchester away  
Final Score 30-0

An outstanding performance. Crofton dominated from the off. The boys out-muscled the Portchester defence, running six tries. The whole team work very hard, making key tackles to deny Portchester scoring opportunities.

Players to watch: Angus Stephens, Hayden Breeds and Ben Roberts

#### **Year 9 Rugby**

Played against Bay House School away  
Final Score 31-12

First half we were not good and conceded a few tries. We scored two tries scored by Chris Land and one penalty try. In the final minute they scored the last try.

### **What does an International Gymnast do on a typical weekend?**

Jocelyn Hunt (7BY) competed recently. Her club is called Ville and is in Cowplain. Jocelyn competed against a team from Copenhagen in Denmark. On Friday she flew to Denmark along with seven others from her team ready to compete on Saturday.

There were four pieces - bars, beam, floor and vault. Jocelyn said her best piece was the beam and her favourite move on the beam was free-walkover. She fell off the beam once but still came first! Jocelyn had an excellent competition and came first overall. Her team came third. Jocelyn won a trophy to take home.

A big congratulations to Jocelyn from the P.E. Department and all her tutor group.

## **October '06**

From the Head Teacher:

The new academic year is well underway and memories of the summer holidays are beginning to fade. I have been delighted by the start made by Year 7, who appear to have settled in well and their parents have already met with their form tutors.

At the time of writing, we are just a month into the year and I would like to congratulate the young sportsmen and sportswomen in their achievements and the art department on having not one, but two, regional finalists, Rebecca Scott and Jake Falconer, in the 14-18 category of the 'My Britain' competition called Doodle 4 Google. I have been very impressed by reports from the school visit to Germany and I am very excited by the prospect of the wide range of activities on offer in Charities Week and at the prospect of our production of 'Animal Farm', adapted from the novel by George Orwell. Regular readers of the Crier will know just how much excellent work is done by the Crofton School Association (CSA), every parent is a member and it is run by a fantastically enthusiastic committee. As usual the CSA held its AGM in the first half of October to elect the committee and to share some of its successes. This year, the AGM afforded an opportunity to say farewell and thank you to a group who have served the committee for several years. Among those leaving was Mrs Sandie McIntosh who has been an outstanding chair; she has led her very able and committed team with enthusiasm and great skill for several years. The whole school's thanks and best wishes go to both the outgoing and incoming committee members. If you were unable to attend the AGM but would like to be involved please contact one of the committee which includes Miss Knight and Mrs Frost.

Over the summer holidays, we were able to refurbish the Mathematics Department and now the classrooms enjoy much better lighting, décor and access to electricity for using laptops and display facilities.

The summer break was, also, a time of anxiety for some waiting for examination results. I am delighted to report that again over three quarters (77%) of the Year 11 students achieved the significant five or more GCSEs at grade C or above and over one third (34%) achieved at least three of the very highest grades (A\* /A). I am equally proud of the fact that no student left with no GCSE qualifications - each student matters, whatever their ability.

A small group of Year 10 students took GCSE statistics early and are to be congratulated on their excellent grades, every one of them achieved an A or an A\*. A big well done goes to those Year 11 mathematicians who took an A Level (AS) standard exam, not least to the two who achieved the top grades. Among the GCSEs, there were also other qualifications in Music, English Signing, Sports Science and Sports Leadership.

GCSEs are not the only examinations and the current Year 10 are to be congratulated on some excellent results in the National Curriculum Tests (SATs).

#### **2005 2006**

ENGLISH	94%	97%
MATHEMATICS	85%	93%
SCIENCE	88%	93%
ICT	93%	90%

(Percentage of students Level 5 or above in the National Curriculum Tests)

The school has made an excellent start to 2006-07 and I very much hope that the remainder of the year is extremely happy and successful for every single student and member of staff.

A W Forrest

## **Outstanding Examination Results**

The following Students achieved ten or more grades at A\* or A.

Olivia Berry  
Christopher Folwell  
Emma Gedge  
Rebecca Girling  
Ashley Gorse  
Katie Heffer  
David Linfield  
James McArdle  
Jonathan Wheatcroft  
Sophie Wheatcroft  
Peter Whiteley  
Gemma Wilton

The following students took GCSE statistics at the end of Year 10 and all achieved grade A\* or A.

Daniel Lowry  
Victoria Shaw  
Emma Shuttleworth  
Elena Wason  
Luke Wiltshire

The following students took the Free Standing Mathematics Qualification (equivalent to AS) in their spare time – two achieved grade A.

Rebecca Girling  
David Linfield  
Peter Whiteley  
Gemma Wilton

## **The choice you make today will determine your tomorrow**

### **R.E. Trip - Year 9**

On the 20th September a group of Year 9 students visited three places, each with a different religion, in Southampton. The first place we went to was a Hindu Temple. We entered and removed our shoes. We had a look around and then our guide told us all about the pictures surrounding the walls and the different god statues. Next a prayer was performed. There are two performed a day and it showed us a lot.

Then we went to an Islamic temple and we also had to remove our shoes here too. They pray five times a day but we didn't see anyone praying. They answered our questions and told us all about Mecca and the way they live under Allah.

We also went to an African-Caribbean church where we had a talk about Sikhism and a couple of the group tried on headdresses traditional to the Sikh's religion. We enjoyed a traditional curry meal.

It was a really great day and everyone enjoyed it.

We would like to say thank you to Mr. Mill, Mrs. Durant and Mr. Wootton.

By Sarah Heffer and Shannen Dewis (9HR)

## **Can You Help? Crofton School Production**

We are going to stage an ambitious production of Peter Hall's adaptation of George Orwell's Animal Farm. We are hoping to use a combination of masks and possibly life-size puppets, which the actors will wear in order to manipulate them. In addition to this, video footage will also be included to mark and celebrate the first production the school has staged since gaining Specialist Science Status.

The production is going to take place on the 7th, 8th and 9th March, 2007.

The acting company (approximately fifty-five students) and technical crew have been selected (about thirty students). With such large numbers involved we would welcome any additional help you might be able to offer to support the staff and students already participating in the production. So..... if you are nifty with a needle, a dab hand with a paintbrush or crafty and/or arty, could you please contact the school on 01329 664251.

Thank you

S. May

### **Dates for your Diary**

Monday 30th October - Day Closure

Thursday 2nd November - Yr 8 Parent Info Evening

Tuesday 7th November - Yr 10 Parent Consultation

Thursday 7th December - Certificate Evening

Friday 8th December - Non-uniform Day

Tues & Wed. 12th & 13th December - Christmas Concert - Holy Rood

Tuesday 19th December - End of Term

### **Cross-Curricular Day**

Science, Maths and Technology are currently involved in an ICT project supported by Hampshire County Council. The aims of the project are to develop innovative and exciting ways to use ICT within our classrooms. We are also looking at how we can make cross-curricular work more effective at Crofton School.

On Friday 29th September, thirty-two Year 9 pupils worked on some cross-curricular ICT work. This involved measuring speed using data-loggers, using flowal to look at the way traffic lights can be organised and carried out calculations using excel.

The pupils enjoyed the day and were great evaluators of the resources being used. A big thank you to Mr. Whitehouse, Mr. Rider and Mrs. Callen for making the day run so smoothly.

### **Working with an International School**

Crofton School has been exceptionally lucky to have secured a link with a Junior Science College in Malaysia.

A team of Year 9 pupils, Mrs. Badesha, Miss Tiltman and Mrs. Small will be working with the school to find out more about the way pupils are taught in Malaysia.

We are also hoping to find out a lot more about the way people live their lives in a country like Malaysia.

We are all very excited about this project and will keep you informed of developments via the Crier.

### **Specialist Science College - Community**

As part of the Specialist Science College it is my role to go and support the Junior Schools. I was invited into Crofton Anne Dale Junior School to do some science demonstrations. I spent the afternoon demonstrating the digestive system and the model lungs to three Year 6 classes. They had previously been taught the digestive system.

The demonstration brought what they had been taught to life and they enjoyed this mucky experiment of how we digest our food and its journey. Their next science topic is breathing and respiration.

I demonstrated the model lungs and this helped to enforce their understanding of how our lungs work. I am looking forward to working closely with the Junior Schools.

Mrs T Callen

### **Futuroscope Residential Trip** **9th-13th July 2007**

Modern foreign languages and the Science department are working together to organise a fantastic opportunity to go to Futuroscope in the Loire Valley, France.

There are still a few spaces available so collect a letter from Mrs Hlavaty (MFL) or Mrs Matthews (Science) and get your deposit in as soon as possible.

### **Murder, Fireworks and Spots!** By Mrs. Blackburn, Leading Science teacher.

Since June, I have been involved in an exciting new Curriculum project run by Hampshire Science advisors and attended by science teachers from all over Hampshire. The idea was to rewrite the Key Stage Three programme for Year 9 with the emphasis on shorter, topic-based modules of work, the titles of three you see as the heading of my article.

The idea is to engage and motivate pupils with currently relevant 'hooks' to catch their interest and the modules are fully integrated with chemistry, physics and biology lessons.

There is an emphasis on practical work with a slightly different slant to that which the pupils are accustomed.

At present, the project material is only being taught to one Year 9 group but I hope that this will be extended to more groups next year.

What do the pupils think so far?

Adam Ford-Hibberd, 9HD, says he prefers this year's science as "there is much more practical."

Brooke Price, 9G, says "Science is much more fun this year with lots of practical. I think I'm making really good progress!"

## **SPECIALIST COLLEGE**

Following a very successful year of specialist college work, Crofton School is proud to be entering Year 2. We will be building on the strong foundations built last year and moving the school from strength to strength. Due to specialist college funding the majority of classrooms have digital projectors and interactive whiteboards. We know this make a difference to the quality of resources that can be used in lessons.

Over the summer we saw the refurbishment of all the Maths area. New lighting, notice boards, cupboards and desks have been placed in all the rooms. Every classroom has an interactive whiteboard so teachers can use the excellent ICT resources available to them. Maths has also had to deliver a new GCSE curriculum. This is going well and Mrs. Ledsham and her team are working on new resources to support students through the course.

The new science GCSE has started this year. The department has been working on producing new and exciting resources to support

students in Year 10. We have doubled the number of students studying triple science this year and hope to continue on this upward trend. New textbooks and revision books have been purchased. If your son/daughter has not yet purchased the revision books for this course then please ask them to see their science teacher as soon as possible.

Crofton School is leading the way by developing an interactive website (Virtual Learning Environment) with Hampshire County Council. This will enable all schools across Hampshire to access information about the new GCSE courses. It will also provide resources and technical support. This will be launched at the Head's of Science conference in January 2007 and will go live in February of next year. Many thanks to Mr. Wood who has been pivotal in making this a success.

ICT is very important to the development of teaching resources at Crofton School. The school is currently working with the county to look at the way we can use ICT in an innovative way to support cross-curricular work.

Our primary links have always been strong at Crofton School. This year due to specialist school's funding we have been able to offer training for some of our primary colleagues. This will enable them to use our laboratories and other resources to support the teaching of the Key Stage 2 curriculum. Mrs. Callen, specialist school's resource manager has recently visited Anne Dale School to demonstrate digestion and the lungs to Year 6 pupils. We look forward to continuing this excellent work.

As well as developing our work in the United Kingdom we have been pleased to be able to arrange a visit to Futuroscope. Working with the Modern Languages Department we have designed a trip that will use both language and science skills. We are looking forward to this exciting venture and know it will go from strength to strength each year.

We have also managed to develop a link with a school in Malaysia. Over the next few months we hope to make contact with pupils in a Junior Science College. The aim of the project is to find out more about the culture and education in another country.

Many thanks to Mrs. Small and Miss Tiltman for their support in this project.

## **The new Science GCSE**

What is it about?

Most teenagers are exposed to tremendous media pressures telling them what is right about science. Many of these sources are biased and needs to be balanced. Finding that balance is often difficult. The new GCSE's are designed to cover the aspects of science that every citizen needs to understand in order to make informed decisions.

Topics are designed to encourage pupils to discuss issues and not to take newspaper/magazine articles on face value. A prime example is genetic modification (GM). What are the advantages and disadvantages of this process? These issues need to be understood before a decision to allow or ban them is made.

Although the topics may appear to be similar to those previously taught, the emphasis is now on 'How will it affect the world?' and 'What will the impact be?'. This will help and encourage pupils to make informed choices. For example the use of nuclear power. There are not always clear cut answers but there are choices that need to be made. Unless these are explained a decision cannot be justified.

### **Visit to Eastbrook Farm**

On Monday the 22nd May we went to Eastbrook Farm. At the moment in R.E. we are doing a project on people of vision and thirty students were chosen to visit the people of Eastbrook Farm as this was going to be our people of vision. Helen Browning was the person who had decided to make the farm organic.

When we arrived, the first thing we had to do was to put our wellies on and those who hadn't brought them really wished they had! We met one of the farmers who then took us to see the cattle. We were allowed to take pictures of the calves and their mothers and we were also given a talk on the life of a cow and told about the different types of cows and their uses.

Then we went to see the piglets. Everyone had a smile on their face when we were allowed into the biggest pen. No-one got too near the sows as we were told that they could be very protective. The piglets were fascinated by our wellies and decided to have a nibble at them! The farmer told us that this was the way that pigs experimented with things around them, by taste.

Eastbrook Farm sets a good example of how a farm should be a partnership between the animals and the farmers so none of the animals are forced into doing things. The farm also uses natural fertilisers and no pesticides and gives the animals access to fields, fresh air and a natural diet. This ensures that they have a good quality of life.

by Abbie Morley and Sarah Heffer

a good website to visit is: [www.helenbrowningorganics.co.uk](http://www.helenbrowningorganics.co.uk)

### **German Trip**

On Sunday 24th September, forty of us gathered around the school gates at 6:45 for a trip to Germany! When the coach arrived, we all put our suitcases in the luggage compartment and got onto the coach. We left at about 7:00, waving goodbye to our parents as we drove off.

We were all excited and a little nervous about this great trip. We had a couple of stops on the way and eventually we were in Germany. We got to the Hotel (Naturfreundhaus) and the owners had prepared a warm soup but none of us were really hungry but we ate some of it.

The next day we set off at 9:00 to the school to meet our German partners. When we got there, we all had a little assembly and then met our partners. We had the morning at the school and then went home for the afternoon and had dinner at our friend's house.

One of the best places we went to was called Kettler Hof. It was an Activity Park with lots of things to do. There was a water slide, a park, a train and lots more. My favourite thing was some big bouncy castles. They were enormous and you jumped on them like giant space hoppers. I wish they had them in England. We also went shopping a couple of times which was quite fun and we also went swimming in this big swimming pool. It had two slides and it was really fun! As well as all this, we visited a couple of museums and a gasometer.

I really enjoyed this trip and I hope I can go again! Thank you very much!

Eleanor Bristowe

### **Mein Besuch in Deutschland**

Wir gehen nach Deutschland, nach Bochum, im Naturfreundehaus! Am Sonntag (um 6:30 Uhr!) reisen wir mit dem Bus. Die Reise war langweilig!

Am Montag besuchen wir die Schule. Meine Schülerin heißt Marne. Sie ist sehr freundlich und nicht langweilig. Sie ist 15 Jahre alt und ihr Lieblingstier ist ein Pferd. In der Schule spielen wir Fußball und wir kochen, das schmeckt lecker!

Am Dienstag gehen wir mit unseren Partnern schwimmen, das war fantastisch. Und wir gehen zum Ketteler Hof, das war super! Am Mittwoch besuchen wir eine Burn aber ich habe meinen Zeh gebrochen! Am Donnerstag gingen wir einkaufen, das war prima, ich habe Anziehsachen gekauft. Am Freitag mußten wir nach Hause gehen.

Ich liebe Deutschland, das ist fantastisch und ich habe viel Spaß. Tschüs!

Hannah Fletcher (one year and one term of German with only a little help given).

### **Mein Ferien in Deutschland**

Am Sonntag im Morgen habe ich um 6 Uhr aufgestanden. Es war nicht gut für mich weil Ich sehr müde war. Ich bin nach der Schule gegangen. Dann haben wir dem Reisebus eingestiegen. Ich habe 'DJ Dave' getroffen. Er ist so cool. Wir haben unser Reise angefangen. Es war sehr lang, aber das war nicht schlecht weil ich geschlafen habe. Andy, Paul, Mike und Ich, haben hinter dem Reisebus gesessen so das war auch sehr gut. Wann sind wir in Deutschland angekommen habe Ich mein Deutscher Familie getroffen. Sie war sehr nett.

Mein austauschstudent hat zwei Brüder, eine Schwester, ein Vater und eine Mutti. Wir haben im Internet surfen, und ich habe eine frische Milch gehabt. Dann haben wir ins Bett geschlafen.

Nächtes tag haben wir in die schule gegangen. Es war sehf gut, ersten haben wir Theatre gemacht. Dann haben wir Mittagessen gegessen und auch wir haben Fußball gespielt. Danach haben wir Amerikan Fußball gespielt, es war sehr gut ich war der Quaterback, und ich habe das gemagt. Dann sind wir nach Ketteler Hof und Burn Vischering gegangen. Ersten war die Burg es war sehr gut. Wir haben eine Tour gemacht. Und zweiten sind wir nach Ketteler Hof gegangen. Der größte Teil des Tages haben wir aug dem Hüpfkissen gespielt. Es war so spaßig. Am Dienstag, haben wir nach die Schule gegangen. Wir haben die Bahn genommen. Es war nur Andy, Paul, Mike und Ich, weil Jahr 9am Frilandmuseum war. Es war sehr langweillig aber das war ok weil wir eine lange Mittagszeit gehabt haben. Am abend haben wir Bowling gespielt. es war so lustig weil Ryan aberwitzig war.

Nächtes tag sind wir ein großer Turm klettern. Ich habe einen Pfennig auf eine Metallpalattform geworfen. Dann bin Ich Einhaufen in Centro gegangen. Ich habe zwei T-Shirt gekauft. Danach sind wir zur Disko gegangen. Ich habe eine lange schlaf gehabt. Dann am Freitag sind wir von Deutschland verstorben. Es war so schlecht.

Curtis Barber (With no help with the German!). Year 10

### **German Trip**

At the end of September a group of Year 9 students went on the German trip with some Year 10's who went on the exchange. We all went into the hall at the school and got paired up with our partners. My twin sister and I went and were partnered up with another set of twins! This was a one in a million chance of happening and was an amazing experience. They also have the same hobbies as us which made our stay a lot more interesting.

Their family were really welcoming and we enjoyed every minute. We went to a place called 'Kettler Hof', which was really fun. We also went to Europe's biggest shopping centre with our partners which was amazing. We had a really good time!

Sophie Fletcher

### **Packed Lunches**

During Year 8 Sailing Week and in view of all the media hype about children's packed lunches, I took more than my usual interest in what was being consumed on the sun-lit terrace of the Portsmouth Outdoor Centre. I only wish that Jamie Oliver could have seen what I observed; boxes full of healthy, exciting sandwiches, fruit and raw vegetables, and healthy drinks. Not only that, the pupils were talking very knowledgeably about food and the importance of eating properly, especially when they were using up so much energy.

It is very heartening to know that not only are the messages we give in school about healthy eating being 'taken on board' by the children, but also that we have the support of our parents on helping to put these messages into practice.

I always find my week at the Centre very positive because it gives both the pupils and me an opportunity to see each other in a different setting. This year in my other role as Healthy School's Manager, it was even more rewarding than usual because I was more aware than ever of the strength of parental support in what we are trying to do for our pupils in terms of their mental, emotional and physical wellbeing.

As far as the Sailing Week is concerned, there were only fourteen pupils involved but I am confident that what I saw is typical of the quality of packed lunches at Crofton and so grateful for parental support for 'Healthy Schools'.

Ms. Robertson

### **Top Form Quiz**

The 11th July saw teams of enthusiastic students, representing the Year 7 tutor groups, testing their knowledge in the annual Top Form Quiz.

The teams provided the supportive (albeit small) audience with an exciting evening as the leader board fluctuated between rounds. This year's contest produced one of the closest finals for several years with all of the teams scoring well.

At the end though 7WH triumphed to win book tokens and the coveted Top Form trophy. Well done to all of those who took part and competed in the spirit of the competition.

### **Crofton School Association News**

The end of the summer term was both busy and fun for the CSA. On June 10th as the World Cup got into full swing, students, parents and friends of Crofton were swinging at the Barbecue disco. The balmy weather and the colourful shirts worn by many of those there added to the summery atmosphere, as the able chefs Bill Dreier, Richard Selby and Jim McIntosh, assisted by Roger Johnson and Neil Thorne, cooked up a feast of sausages and burgers - and not a burnt banger in sight!

This new venture was both enjoyable and profitable. Our thanks to Budgens, B & Q and Waitrose for kindly assisting with the catering costs.

### **Summer Concerts**

The serving of refreshments remains an important fund-raiser for the CSA and so we were pleased, once again, to serve refreshments at the summer concerts. Thanks to all of you who gave so generously.

### **Fundraising Gift Wrap Sale**

This term we will be using a Northbrook gift wrap sale to raise money for our school. This fundraiser is a great way to raise money without asking our parents to donate any of their time or money.

We know that in the next couple of months we will all be buying Christmas wrapping paper and we need birthday paper all year round. When you buy any item from the Northbrook leaflet, our school will receive 25% of each sale. If we all bought just a couple of items we could raise a significant amount of money.

Not only do we receive 25% of every sale, but also you receive great quality and value.

We do hope you like the selection of papers and that you will support our school by purchasing through us.

### **Water Sports 2006**

On the 24th July 2006, a group of 42 students and 7 teachers set off towards Spain...

After a long coach journey, we made ourselves at home in our village and had some lunch. We met our team leader, Dickie, and our groupies Lucy and Becky. In the evening, we made our first trip down to the beach to swim and play some games.

The next day, after an early start we made our way down to the beach to do some windsurfing or sail in the toppers. Unfortunately, there wasn't much wind so we amused ourselves by capsizing the toppers or wrestling on the boards instead. That afternoon the wind picked up so we went back out on the fun boats or windsurfing. In the evening, we played the Great Egg Race which consisted of cushioned eggs being thrown mercilessly off of a platform. Only two eggs survived.

Snorkelling was our main activity for the following day, as well as a quick look around the shops. After a 'slight delay, we headed back to our village to play bar games in the evening.

Our next location was Castells Beach, a beautiful nature reserve, where we tried out open-top canoes and sit-on kayaks. The evening entertainment was Playa Daro. Friday was arguably one of the most enjoyed days of the whole holiday; we attempted to stay on a banana boat (and failed miserably!), as well as enjoying an exhilarating ride on the Fly Fish. In the afternoon we returned to Palamos Beach to relax on the Catamarans and the Long Boats. Later on, a few of us got dressed up in bin bags and cardboard boxes and were blindfolded to play Robot wars. The aim of the game is to find as many water balloons as possible, and then hit as many people as possible while blindfolded. Needless to say, there were many bad aims, resulting in a very wet crowd!

The following day we went to Aqua Diva which is a fantastic waterpark. We raced down the slides and swam in the pool, as well as relaxing in the Jacuzzi. Afterwards, we went to the sports shop Decathlon and then headed back to our village. 'Man o Man' was our entertainment for Saturday evening, which included some rather interesting outfits (or lack of!) Sadly, no-one from our group won the game, despite having the best contestants.

On Sunday we returned to Palamos beach to do Catamarans, fun boats and swimming. When we were finished we went back to camp to pack our things and prepare for another long journey home.

This holiday was so much fun, everyone had a great time! Thank you to all the teachers for making the trip possible, and thank you to everyone who went for making the trip fantastic!

## **Work Related Learning.....**

### **....at Fareham College**

When I first started I was nervous because I didn't think I would know anyone but when we sat in our groups I knew that it would be good fun because I was with all my friends. When I started the lessons, I thought it boring because it was all theory work and no practical but after five weeks I am really enjoying myself as we are doing lots of practical.

I feel it will be better as the year goes on because I will be learning more and more about engineering as that will help me in the future in my army career. I like wearing the overalls as it gives you an image and makes you feel good.

I go to college every Thursday from 9 o'clock until 1 o'clock and then we come back to school.

I really hope to get my NVQ Level 1 in Engineering and in Year 11, I hope to get my NVQ Level 2.

Taylor Weatherston

### **...at St. Vincent College**

I thought college would be an exciting and new experience and it has turned out to be just that. When we went there on our own for the first time there was quite a split between the Crofton pupils and the Bridgemary pupils but this was only for the first two lessons. After this, everyone began to talk and get to know each other as friends and that is how it is now, everyone at the St. Vincent College course are friends and get along most of the time!

The course we are doing is a B Tec in Sports Science. We do all aspects of sport and recreation which includes fitness, warm-ups, cool downs, a range of many different sports and activities and we also do a little bit of very easy written work on the body and how it works. Also in our written work we make notes on the entire practical we have done that day.

Over all, the course is good fun and hard work and I enjoy it very much. One of the best things about college is being treated like an adult and not having to call the teachers 'Sir' and 'Miss'. Also wearing my own clothes is a bonus.

James Barber

## Sailing

A group of fourteen Year 8 students went to Portsmouth Outdoor Centre sailing.

Here are some comments from the week:

"How to capsizes.....put me in charge of the main sail" Megan Rufenacht  
"We had a lot of fun" Nathan Stainer  
"Today had a funny side to it - the girls capsized" Josh Newcombe  
"We learnt how to rig the boat, reef the mainsail and tack" Patrick Berry  
"On your side.....you know it's over!" Tierney Borrett  
"We sailed around in a figure of eight" Jake Parkin  
"I would like to go again if ever I were asked" Nick Bryant  
"Our raft was the strongest, but the other team had more pulling power" Mark Stanton  
"When I was picked for the sailing week I was a nervous wreck" Matthew Hicks  
"All in all I enjoyed the week and wished it had been longer" Peter Judge  
"We had a great time" William Linderman  
"Today when I woke up I was really excited because we were going to Hayling Island" Rosalind Thompson  
"The bug has bitten, I'm sure you'll see. A life on the ocean is the one for me!" Cameron Dunlop  
"The best day was when I finally managed to helm the boat" Jake Johnson

### **Risk Assessment Policy for PE**

Following a review of our Risk Assessment policy we are going to insist that all students wear safety equipment appropriate for the sport.

All sports carry an element of risk, which we aim to minimise with the use of safety equipment. Shin pads will be necessary in both football and hockey during lessons and for after school fixtures. Personally designed gum shields are essential in hockey fixtures and rugby fixtures and are highly recommended for lessons.

The cost of shin pads is relatively low, for example £2.50 from a high street sports shop.

Personalised gum shields are normally obtained from a dentist and prices will vary according to which practice you attend. We feel the cost of these items is reasonable considering the risks of not wearing the safety equipment.

We would like all students to have the correct safety equipment as soon as possible but no later than after the half term break in October.

I am sure that you appreciate the need for safety to be paramount in school and apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause.

Thank you for your support

Miss Breheny - Subject Leader for PE

### **Year 10, Now Year 11 Cricket**

This year we have had an influx of new players, Tom Firth, Will Johns, Mike Cleeve, Liam Richardson and Connor Frampton, to boost the core of last year's remaining players, Luke Bristow, Sam Bowen, Tom Dickenson, Mike Astill, Robbie Haines and myself Captain Chris Hillier.

Over the past four seasons, we have only lost four matches and have reached the Cup Final each year, winning twice.

This season went well apart from the one loss to Bay House on a wet and windy evening on their AstroTurf hockey pitch. This is not cricket!

With convincing wins over Portchester and Brune Park, we were full of confidence going into the semifinal against Cams Hill. We always have good matches against them and this was no exception. We won the toss and elected to bat against a well drilled bowling attack of club players. Sam and Tom D opened and got us off to a good start. Sam received a blow in the chest but battled on to score a few more runs. I came in and scored 46, followed by a quick firings from Luke and Robbie. Then it was down to the 'new look' batters, who held their own against some quick bowlers. We finished on 113 runs that we knew with tight bowling we could defend. Tom D came up trumps with 4 wickets, one a diving catch to the left by 'keeper Robbie which sparked controversy in the Cams team, leaving their batsman distressed as they came in and then out before they had settled. We bowled them out for not many runs so we were through to our fourth successive Cup Final.

The Cup Final was against Brookfield and played this term. We won the toss and elected to bat as this had been our winning formula throughout the season. Sam and Tom D raced us to 50 without loss before going on to score 30 and 35 respectively. I came in and we scored 19 off the next five overs followed by the middle order who came on strong to take our score to 109, which we thought was a competitive total.

In the third over, Mike 'Greyhound' Astill took a great catch to dismiss their opening batsman. Our bowling was tight with Luke taking 3 wickets. All of the new players had a bowl and took wickets. We bowled them out for 59! Result - a great way to finish our representative school cricket.

As a celebration, our coach/manager/driver/scorer/umpire took us to the Mega Bowl. We had great fun and the evening was quality but good cricket bowlers do not always make good ten-pin bowlers. Sam won the first frame and 'Reevo' (Mrs Reeve) won the second. After a meal, we were presented with fun prizes that summed up the season.

We would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Reeve who has supported us throughout the four seasons.

Captain Chris Hillier 11H

**Who can I find out more information from if I am interested in joining one of our school teams?**

### **Girls Netball**

Year 7-11 Miss Breheny (PE)  
Mrs Pilkington (PE)

### **Boys Football**

Year 7 Mr Williams (PE)  
Year 8 Mr Malpass (English)  
Year 9 Mr Shearsmith (PE)  
Year 10 Mr Rider (Maths)  
Year 11 Mr Malpass/Mr Hiscock

### **Boys Rugby**

Year 7 Mr Ridley (PE)  
Year 8 Mrs Evans (Geography)  
Year 9 Mr Ridley (PE)  
Year 10 Mr Williams (PE)

### **Girls Football**

Year 7-9 Miss Paine (Maths)  
Year 10/11 Miss Paine (Maths)

### **Mixed Badminton**

Year 7-11 Jamie Russell  
(Coach - Fridays)

### **Boys Basketball**

Year 9 Mr Ridley (PE)  
Year 10 Mr Shearsmith (PE)  
Year 11 Mr Williams (PE)

### **Girls Basketball**

Year 8 Mrs Pilkington (PE)

### **Cross Country**

Year 7-11 Miss Breheny (PE)

### **Golf**

Year 10/11 Mr Shearsmith (PE)

### **Squash**

Year 7-11 Miss Breheny (PE)

### **Other Clubs Available**

Trampoline Mrs Reeve  
Gymnastics Miss Breheny  
Dance Miss Titcombe  
Table Tennis Mr Shearsmith

## **Match Reports**

### **Year 7, 8 & 9 Girls Football**

Played against Brookfield School away  
Final Score 1-2

The team played really well together but someone who really shone was Elle Rice, a Year 7, who played brilliantly. The team did well winning their first match! Many more wins to come!

Thank you to Miss Paine, Miss Breheny, Mr Williams and the team.

### **Year 7 Rugby**

Played against Portchester away  
Final Score 30-0

An outstanding performance. Crofton dominated from the off. The boys out-muscled the Portchester defence, running six tries. The whole team work very hard, making key tackles to deny Portchester scoring opportunities.

Players to watch: Angus Stephens, Hayden Breeds and Ben Roberts

### **Year 9 Rugby**

Played against Bay House School away  
Final Score 31-12

First half we were not good and conceded a few tries. We scored two tries scored by Chris Land and one penalty try. In the final minute they scored the last try.

## **What does an International Gymnast do on a typical weekend?**

Jocelyn Hunt (7BY) competed recently. Her club is called Ville and is in Cowplain. Jocelyn competed against a team from Copenhagen in Denmark. On Friday she flew to Denmark along with seven others from her team ready to compete on Saturday.

There were four pieces - bars, beam, floor and vault. Jocelyn said her best piece was the beam and her favourite move on the beam was free-walkover. She fell off the beam once but still came first! Jocelyn had an excellent competition and came first overall. Her team came third. Jocelyn won a trophy to take home.

A big congratulations to Jocelyn from the P.E. Department and all her tutor group.

