

Bloxham School



From Mr. R. J. Thompson
Housemaster, Egerton House

Tuesday, 05 February 2008

It seems forever since I wrote a newsletter – indeed this is my first of the Lent term!
Sorry!

Happy New Year! The news has been building up.

Important Notices

- It has been drawn to my attention that for **confidentiality** reasons (doctors cannot pass confidential information to third parties) I may not be aware of **medical issues concerning your son** that you may have assumed I would be. **If you feel that there is something that I should be made aware of, please ensure that you communicate it directly.**
- The **Third Form** have found that there are a greater number of activities available between 8-9pm on week nights. Some of these are published in the calendar and some run at the same times each week. I have asked the boys to make themselves aware of what's going on and to try, in consultation with you (particularly dayboarders), to plan ahead.
- **U6th Formers** are beginning to visit the universities that they have received offers from. Please let me know ahead of time when they will be away from school.
- **Parents** should all have received **orders/5th Form exam reports** by now. If you haven't received your son's orders please let maria@bloxhamschool.com know.
 - Indeed, please let her know of any changes to your **contact details**. She will update the database and pass them to me.
- *Dates for the diary:*
 - I hope parents of **3rd Formers** all received Anthony Benn's communication regarding the 3rd Form theatre trip this Thursday. The pupils have known about it for some time. Please get in touch if you have any queries. Expected return: 10.30pm

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- Careers fair: Friday 8th February 3.30-6pm (Small Dining Room and Chapel) for **5th and L6th Formers**. Parents are welcome but it is expected that the timings will restrict some. The event is primarily for the pupils.
- **Visiting music staff** parents meeting: Sunday 10th February at 6pm (Recital Room). All visiting music staff will be present and will expect you and your sons to meet with them to discuss your son's progress.
- **3rd Form** parents meeting: Sunday 10th February at 7pm (Great Hall). Your son will come with you to this meeting.
- **Half term** begins after lessons (12.25pm) on Saturday 16th February, though the **5th form** will stay with their parents for the parents meeting which begins at 12.45pm (Great Hall). In addition parents of **5th Formers** have a ISCO briefing at 12.15pm.
- The **second half** of term begins on Sunday 24th February at 9pm for boarders and on Monday 25th February at 8.15 for dayboarders.
- The first weekend of the second half of term is an **event weekend**.

Please use **email** (rjt@bloxhamschool.com) to contact me in the first instance. If we then need to discuss things I will endeavour to contact you by phone within 24 hours.

News

Successes to report

- The event weekend saw the first interhouse volleyball tournament where our senior team swept all before them, thrashing Crake in the final!
- Last week saw the school cross-country championships held in near perfect conditions. A hugely competitive race saw records smashed, indeed Julian Wallace (U6th) did enough to break the senior race record, shame two people finished ahead of him! A great individual performance though, as was Matt Cooper's (3rd) 5th place in the junior race in a time good enough for 7th place in the senior race! The Egerton junior team **won the championship** with our best 8 runners finishing higher than the other houses. It seems like a long wait until we get our hands on that trophy at the end of term!
- Ned Kingdon (3rd) was part of a rowing team that won the J14 Northampton Head of the River competition. I don't know a lot about rowing but I know these particular competitions are seriously hard work and not for the faint hearted!
- Young Enterprise: Roddy Sweetingham (L6th, Managing Director), Tomas O'Reilly (L6th), Arthur Xu (L6th) and Max Von Forstner (L6th) represented their company, Flux, at the Oxfordshire trade fair last weekend and won the 'Best Trade Stand' competition and made some sales. Freddie Mayer (L6th) is also a part of the company. They have since attended the North Oxfordshire trade fair in Banbury this Sunday – and won again! Did you see them?
- Music: Jonathan Wears (4th) is through to the Banbury Young Musician of the year final having won his heat last week. He plays the cornet, as does Cameron Mackenzie-Lawrie (3rd) who, along with Jon Wears, played at the music award

holders concert where Henry Butt (5th) sang and Josh Herring (5th) went one better by singing and playing one of his own songs! He, Tim Mobbs (L6th) and Adam McCartan (4th) played at the second "Unplugged" concert of the year. These informal occasions seems to be growing in popularity. Adam also played at the first strings concert of the year. We have lots of talented musicians in the house at the moment.

- Hockey: Cameron Mackenzie-Lawrie (3rd) is captaining the Yearlings A Team having captained the Yearlings A Team at rugby last term! To date Jon Cooper (3rd) has scored 6 goals in 5 games in the same team which has regularly had 4 Egerton representatives.
- To date, Tomas O'Reilly (L6th) is the only squash player to win a match for the school.