

The first term at Clarendon has been a particularly exciting one with the arrival of a new Head Teacher, Mr Mark Stenton and the move to a House system and vertical tutor groups across years 7 to 11. The Sixth Form are part of the three Houses, Eagles, Falcons and Kestrels but have remained in dedicated tutor groups comprising both Yr 12 and Yr 13 students. The change was prompted by the retirement of our previous head teacher, and we all wish Mr Kay the very best in his future endeavours. I am quite sure he will remain extremely busy and he will be very fondly remembered for his great integrity, passion, dedication and legendary Sociology teaching.



Eagles



Falcons



Kestrels

Looking back on what seemed a disappointing summer, weatherwise, there was one bright spot ; results day. Clarendon Sixth Form achieved its best results yet at both AS and A2. The headline figures indicated that over 70% of the A level grades were above a C grade with 43% at A\* - B. The new A\* grade has presented a real challenge and many of our students have stepped up to the mark with 13 A\* grades overall in subjects including Psychology, Maths, Physics and English Literature. There were many personal triumphs from students achieving 4 grade As and A\*s to those exceeding their targets and getting the University place they had hoped for. Of the 56 students who applied to University, 54 took up a place following their results. They are now spread all around the United Kingdom studying veterinary science at Liverpool University, Archaeology at Reading, English and French at Exeter, History in Nottingham and Engineering with Space Science Technology at Bath University, to name a few.



Kieran Hammond celebrates his place at Cambridge University to read English Literature



Jamie celebrates his 3 A\* and A which gets him to Oxford.

Huge congratulations to all our Year 13 leavers whether studying at University, locally in Further Education or working. Particular congratulations to the two Oxbridge candidates who are now studying English Literature at Cambridge and Medicine at Oxford. What an achievement ! We look forward to catching up with them at the A level awards Evening on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2012.

Leavers July 2011



For those students returning after their AS levels it is business as usual as we start the process of working hard to achieve their target grades at A2 and complete UCAS applications for courses in September 2012. Inspired by the “trip of a lifetime” to South Africa with Project Wallacea, a few students have started planning their gap years, including working as a diving instructor in Egypt.

Year 12 students have begun to find their academic feet and get to grips with the move from GCSE to A level. The whole year group have just attended an independent learning conference run by The Life Skills Company and are now practising the techniques acquired. They are also offering their time and energy to the school through the Community Action Programme. Whether assisting in lower school classes, training as a peer mentor or helping in local primary schools, students have the opportunity to enhance social and interpersonal skills and learn valuable lessons as they push themselves out of their comfort zone.

A new year brings new faces and new roles. The new Senior Student Team are already actively involved in leading whole school initiatives such as raising awareness of bullying issues during Anti-bullying week and improving the school environment. The Sixth Form committee are helping to counteract the stress of exam preparation by arranging social events. Following the welcome BBQ in September there have been two parties organised at a local venue and more planned for this term.

The new Senior Student Team



Welcome to our first newsletter of the academic year.

We have had a lot to celebrate already this year. In August we achieved a 97% pass rate at A2 level. 67% of the grades achieved by our students were at A\* - C level and 42% at A\*-B. We continued to achieve great success with our highest ability students being awarded 16 prestigious A\* grades.

These A\* grades were achieved in Biology, Geology, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Art, History of Art, History, Law, Psychology and Textiles. A particularly amazing achievement came from Edyta Krasnowska who achieved the top A\* grade in Law, a fabulous achievement as Edyta was working in her second language. Edyta is an aspirational student for all of our pupils who have English as their second language, what a role model!

This year the vast majority of our students (74%) went straight to University or Further Education. We continued our annual success in sending students to Oxbridge, this year Elizabeth Perkins took up a place at Cambridge to read Archaeology and Anthropology. We also have students at Cardiff studying Medicine, Warwick studying Mathematics etc

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all of our Year 13 leavers every success whether at University, Further Education, in Employment or taking a GAP year. They are really missed here as they were such a big, diverse, hardworking and fun year group who contributed significantly to the school in terms of lessons, extra-curricular activities and fund raising. They have great success ahead.



Students from across the school worked together, led by Mrs Marshall and the Sixth Form students, to raise money for Comic Relief.

We look forward to hearing your stories at the A level awards Evening on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at 7.30pm in Wingfield Hall.

We are now working with the current Year 13 students to get their UCAS applications polished and to understand the changes in finance and tuition fees. We will have representatives in school from Student Finance England to work with both students and parents later this term.

Our Year 12 students are now settling in and making the transition to the more independent style of studying that is required in the Sixth Form. In order to assist with this transition we now have improved supervised study facilities so students have a member of staff on hand to assist with any queries. It's a fantastic space that the students and staff are all really positive about.



Sixth Students on team work activities.

Later this term we have our Sixth Form Information Evening. This will be held on November 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in Wingfield Hall. Come along and find out more about the subjects we offer and what we're about. If you'd like a copy of our prospectus please call Mrs Smallbone on 01225 7626237 ext 205 who will be happy to send you our prospectus for 2012 entry. Alternatively you can email Mrs Smallbone at [ssmallbone@johnofgaunt.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:ssmallbone@johnofgaunt.wilts.sch.uk)