

Senior Schools Speech Day and Prizegiving – 8th July 2010 – Speech by Mr Peter Williamson, Chairman of Governors

Distinguished Guests, Principal, Ladies, Gentlemen and Students

It is my very great pleasure to welcome you all this morning to the School's Speech Day and Prizegiving. Particularly I extend a very warm welcome to our distinguished guests; the Mayor of Dacorum, Councillor Roger Taylor, the Mayor of Berkhamsted, Councillor Julie Laws who, as many of you will know, is a Governor of the School and, last but by no means least, our Principal Guest, Professor Robert Lethbridge, the Master of Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, which was the Principal's College when he was an undergraduate. I shall be saying more about Professor Lethbridge shortly, when the time comes to ask him to present the prizes. It is also my pleasure to welcome Dr Priscilla Chadwick who is today attending Speech Day for the first time since she retired.

I am sure that all those who attended the staff pantomime last term will agree that it was one of the highlights of the year. I particularly recall the words uttered by Buttons that "a marquee is a big tent thing that's used on Speech Day, which is a peculiarly British form of prolonged torture!" Notwithstanding this, I hope that you will all bear with me whilst, as is customary, I say a few words about the School as a whole and also our plans for the future.

Despite the severest financial recession since the 1930s the School's financial health remains robust, and to date we have not noticed any recessionary impact on our income. The School roll has remained stable at about 1,500 and the Governors anticipate a surplus for the current year in line with our forecasts. This is being invested mostly in the High Street Flats development, which will be ready for September. There will be 10 two-bedroom and 3 three-bedroom flats, which will be made available to teachers. These have already proved to be an excellent asset to attract several top quality teachers, who will be joining us in time for the new academic year, and who might otherwise be unable to afford the high cost of local housing.

Over the past year the School has also invested in some major improvements. Selected highlights include:

At the Prep

- Re-surfacing of the netball and tennis court
- The creation of an ICT suite

At Kings

- Re-surfacing of the netball and tennis courts
- Refurbishment of the Kings library

At Castle

- Refurbishment of a physics laboratory
- The creation of a geography ICT suite

And on the playing fields

- two cricket wickets at Haslam Field
- The purchase of a cricket scoreboard (with help from the Berkhamstedian Foundation) at Chesham Field as well as improving the hospitality available there for parents.

In addition we do of course have to continue to invest in the general upkeep of our fine existing buildings.

Turning now to the Outlook for 2010/11, applications for places in September 2010 were 10 % up on 2009, and encouragingly the School roll is expected to increase slightly from its current level. As many of you will have noticed, the School has begun the construction of the new Nash Harris building at Kings. This is an £8m development, which the Governors feel is a very important step to raise the standard and capacity of classroom facilities available on the Kings site. This will make the standard of facilities available for girls comparable to those for boys at Castle. It will also be of great benefit to all in the Sixth form, and allow for future growth.

The building will include:

- two science labs
- one ICT and one Media Studies suite
- one food technology laboratory
- six classrooms with ICT for each pupil desk
- a 300 seat dining hall and kitchen
- a chapel
- hospitality facilities
- a new staff common room
- offices for teachers

The Governors decided that the need for this new building in September 2011 is sufficiently great, and the health of the School's finances sufficiently robust, to justify the funding of this project at this stage. The competitive tendering process was conducted at a good time and the Governors believe that the agreed cost represents excellent value for money.

In addition to the Nash Harris development, the School has other building projects to complete over the summer. These include moves at Castle designed to consolidate the Sixth Form and Senior Boys School in their respective areas of the site and improvements to the main School reception and School Office area in the Bursary. We shall also be starting work on the refurbishment of the boarding houses, which we will be aiming to complete next summer.

In the medium term the Governors want to improve the sporting facilities enjoyed by the School. In particular there is no full-size All Weather Facility, which is an important requirement to fulfill the School's ambitions for the strength of its hockey teams. It would also be used for other sports (tennis, lacrosse, and athletics training), improve the facilities available in wet weather, and be a source of additional income. The Governors have decided to apply for planning permission, probably at Kitcheners Field. Should a planning application succeed, development will be dependent on donations and The Berkhamstedian Foundation has agreed that an Astro turf will be the focus of its next major Appeal.

Whilst on the subject of the Foundation, I am very pleased to report that it continues to flourish, despite the recession, and to provide much needed resources to enrich the experiences of our pupils. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have donated so generously – and also to thank both the Friends and the Old Berkhamstedians for their significant contributions.

I would also like to thank the Principal and all members of staff, both teaching and administrative, for their hard work and commitment throughout the year. The Governors are of course aware of the number and diversity of School trips, both at home and abroad, and of the amount of time (often in the holidays) which members of staff devote to this important part of the School's co-curricular programme. We are truly grateful for all that you do and I wish a very happy and well-deserved summer break.

Finally, I turn to Professor Robert Lethbridge. He was educated at Mill Hill and thereafter at the University of Kent at Canterbury, McMaster University and St John's College, Cambridge. His subject is French and he taught at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge and then at Royal Holloway, University of London where he was successively Head of Department, Dean of the Graduate School and Vice-Principal. He became a Life Fellow of Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge in 1994 and was appointed Master of the College in 2005. He is also an Emeritus Professor of French Language and Literature at the University of London and he has held Visiting Professorships at the University of California at Santa Barbara and at the University of Melbourne.

Professor Lethbridge's current research and postgraduate teaching is focused on late nineteenth century France and, in particular, the relationship between literature and the visual arts in that period. He was appointed *Chevalier des Palmes academiques* in 1998 for services to French culture and scholarship and he lists his recreations as watching rugby and contemplating the sea.

It is, Professor Lethbridge, a great privilege to welcome you to Berkhamsted today. I thank you very much indeed for coming and we look forward to hearing you speak in due course.

Thank you very much, Ladies and Gentlemen. It is now my pleasure to ask Professor Lethbridge to present the prizes, starting with Years 7, 8 and 9.

Peter J Williamson
Chairman of Governors

Principal's Speech Day Report – 8th July 2010

Mark S. Steed, MA

Professor Lethbridge, Chairman, Governors, Honoured Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is always risky to introduce colleagues to people who knew you as an undergraduate - all the more so when that person was Senior Tutor who had responsibility for academic standards and for discipline at your college. So it is on the understanding that that my secrets are safe and “what goes on tour, stays on tour” that I welcome Dr Lethbridge here today.

Such was Dr Lethbridge's reputation as a fearsome supervisor that my linguist friends arranged for me to have a formal supervision with him. Laying aside my Theology for a week I wrote an essay on the film *Amadeus*, which I duly submitted to the good Doctor. I arrived in trepidation for the supervision; my friends in the next room listening in. We spent an hour arguing about the merits of Milos Forman's film and discussed whether Mozart or Salieri was the true “Lover of God” - the true “Amadeus”. I don't know what Dr Lethbridge thought of my performance, but I like to think that I gave as good as I got in that encounter. If my memory is not playing tricks, I recall being offered a sherry at the end which I took as a good sign.

Professor Lethbridge, welcome to Berkhamsted, thank you for coming to present our prizes today and we look forward to hearing what you have to say.

Opportunities to talk en masse with parents are few and far between, so I hope that the school will forgive me if I use the opportunity of this speech to talk about what we are trying to achieve here at Berkhamsted.

Before I look forward to the future, it is fitting and right to acknowledge that we are building on the secure foundations laid by Dr Chadwick who gave Berkhamsted its distinctive structure that sets the School apart.

There is much that is paradoxical about Berkhamsted School: we are not easily categorised:

Berkhamsted is a big-small school. Each of the four schools is small and our house system means that we very much feel like a small school. But we enjoy all the benefits of a big school. We offer 27 A-level subjects, we have specialist teachers and teaching areas, and we have “big school infrastructure” – the Centenary Theatre, the Sports Hall and so on.

Berkhamsted is a single-sex and co-educational school. Boys and girls may be taught separately in Years 7 to 11, but our co-curricular programme means that they do have opportunities to mix and get to know each other outside the classroom.

And, **Berkhamsted is a day and boarding school.** Although we are a day school, we have many features that are more common in boarding schools. Not only do we have boarding houses which offer weekly and flexi boarding, but we have vertical tutoring through our house system.

The school is in very good shape. Take a moment, if you haven't already, to read through the Review of the Year – every page bears witness to a happy, successful and active school.

Last year saw us achieve record A-level results with 100% pass rate and 87% of exams passed at A or B grade. Pupils at every age have achieved in sport, music,

and drama; in public speaking, CCF and in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. We are building on secure foundations indeed.

So where is the school going?

Well you can always tell a lot about a school's priorities by how it allocates its resources.

The Chairman has outlined our plans in terms of how we are going to use our *financial* resources. Each of those projects will make a difference to how the school runs. They are not “nice-to-haves” – they are part of a planned strategic development of the School. Both the new buildings and the reorganisation and upgrading of our existing facilities will provide a better environment where your sons and daughters can study and learn. Our Sixth Formers desperately need better facilities, especially individual study resources: our Girls need comparable facilities to those at Castle. The new Nash-Harris building at Kings, not only will provide the best facilities of any girls school in the area, but also it will enable us to increase the number of girls in the school and thus provide a more balanced feed of boys and girls into our Sixth Form.

Perhaps the most far-sighted development is that of the new staff flats that are being built on the High Street. Already these have enabled us to attract and retain some outstanding teachers. Furthermore, because those staff will be living on site, it is easier for them to be giving of their time in providing clubs and activities for your children.

But, more important than money, the most valuable resource available to any school is *time*. Soon after my arrival we embarked on a **review both of the structure of the school day and of the School curriculum**. There were several key principles which informed our discussions:

- We were committed to the school day remaining approximately the same length.
- We wanted to retain a considerable amount of choice in the curriculum, particularly at GCSE and A-level.
- We wanted to offer a Modern Language curriculum that enabled pupils to study a language for five years to GCSE.
- We wanted to introduce a skills-based course and qualification in ICT
- We wanted to reduce the examination burden on pupils, particularly at GCSE and
- We wanted to create more time for co-curricular activities: particularly for academic societies and creative & cultural clubs, and for music and drama.

We also threw into the debate the whole question of whether we should continue with GCSE and A-level or whether we should move to International GCSEs [IGCSEs], the International Baccalaureate [IB] or the Pre-U.

Hours of work by Heads of Departments and SMT and some 18 months on we have put together a structure for the Berkhamsted week and a curriculum, that is very exciting indeed.

We managed to incorporate almost all of our key principles into the new scheme, failing only to reduce the examination burden at GCSE. That particular debate came down to play off between reducing the number of option subjects from four to three; or living with our brightest students doing some 11 GCSEs. Ultimately the input from you, the parents, tipped us towards retaining four option blocks.

We considered and rejected the idea of moving to the IB and the Pre-U because these qualifications do not suit a large portion of the broad-church that is Berkhamsted. So we are staying with A-levels. We decided to keep the entrance requirement for the Sixth form at Five Bs and Two Cs at GCSE, but we have raised to an A grade the GCSE performance required to study some of the more traditional A-level subjects, such as Languages, Science and Mathematics.

Some departments have moved to studying for the IGCSE – most notably Maths and the Sciences – for it was in these subjects that the last Government’s intervention most dumbed down the curriculum.

So the new Berkhamsted Week will be launched in September 2011. Next year is a transitional year, with some, but not all, of the curriculum changes in place.

So where are we going?

Well, this is a school where young people can find their interests and passions in life, both in and out of the classroom. We want this to be a school that offers an even great range of opportunities and the ability for our young people to take those interests to the next level.

Schools face an old challenge, but it is a challenge that grows greater by the year. We are in the business of preparing young people for life beyond our walls. Today, we are preparing young people for a world of work and of leisure that is so fast-changing that the world in which your children will live and work in thirty years time is unimaginable. So how can a school prepare *these* young people for life?

Well, ironically, in order to look forward, we need to look back. We need to look to our “tradition”. Here, I mean “tradition” in the sense of its Latin root *traditio*: “that which was passed on to me, I pass on to you.”

The most important aspects of a Berkhamsted education are not new. For they are the fundamentals on which the School was founded and has thrived – they are the **values of this School**.

At the heart of Berkhamsted School is a **sense of community**, a sense of belonging. It is a community that is composed of good relationships between pupils and pupils; and between pupils and staff. That community expresses itself through another very important value – **Service**. Of all the pupils’ achievements, the thing of which I am most proud is that our sixth formers have done somewhere in the region of 3,000 hours community service this year – not because they are all on ASBOs - but because they want to make a difference.

“For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?” is as true today as it was then.

THANKS

We are blessed with some wonderful staff at Berkhamsted – they are the key to a being a great school.

We are blessed with a dedicated and committed teaching staff – thank you for all you do both in and out of the classroom. In particular, I would like to thank the **Heads of House** for all the care, guidance and leadership that they give to your sons and daughters, through thick and thin. I would especially like to thank **David Wiles**, who steps down from Incents House after 11 years in charge, **Carolyn Ryder**, who steps

down from Hawks after 10 years, **Liz Richardson**, who steps down from Russell after 6 years to take on the role of Head of English, **Simon Robinson** who steps down from Old Stede after 5 years to become Head of Science and **Andrew Lansdell**, who steps down from Bees. In addition, I would also like to thank **Trevor Lines** who stands down after 13 years as Head of English to become Head of Hawks House in September.

I would like to pay tribute to some of the unsung heroes who make all of our lives possible. There are some 255 support staff who work at Berkhamsted and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all the work that they do: especially **Rob Grant** and his Estates and Maintenance team; **Estelle Marshall** and the finance department, **Dean Simpson** and his bursarial staff - **Steve Cripps** and the caretakers, **Phil Walls** and the cleaners; **Martin White** and his outstanding catering team; **Mike Herring** and his grounds team. These people do an enormous amount behind the scenes, without them the school simply would not function as effectively as it does.

I would also like to thank the Old Berkhamstedians, the Foundation and the Friends whose continued support enriches our community by organising social events and, through their fund raising, develops our facilities. Today we say goodbye to **Linda Inchenko** is leaving after 5 years working in the Old Berkhamstedian office; and to **Guy Ranford** who leaves Berkhamsted after 5 years as Manager in the Development Office to become Development Director at Queenswood School.

I would like to thank the school prefects for all the work that they have done to make the school run so smoothly; and particularly the Heads of School, **Ruhith Ariyapala** and **Laura Kirk**, who have been exemplary in their roles.

I would also like to thank my senior management team, **Chris Nicholls, Ashley Clancy, Jeremy Walker, Catherine Dow, Kim Woodrow, Greg Anker, Richard Thompson, Will Gunary** and **Jane Howard**; and above all **Helen Brooke, Adrian Taylor** and **Peter Nicholls**. Their support, advice, knowledge and wisdom have been invaluable. Finally, I would like to thank the Governors, particularly the Chairman, **Peter Williamson**, for their support throughout the year. We are blessed with a wise and committed Governing Board who give of their time to guide and support us.

Finally I would like to thank my P.A, **Nicky Golder**, who has managed to get me to the right place, at the right time, with the right file, despite my best efforts to thwart her plans by switching my mobile phone to silent. Thank you for your understanding, your patience and your support.

VALETE

The end of every school year is always tinged with sadness when not only we say goodbye to our Year 13 but we also say farewell to a number of colleagues who have contributed greatly to the life of Berkhamsted.

Lauren Chatnik

Lauren joined the School as a Lacrosse coach last year, with goal- keeping as her specialist area. Lauren has been the U12B team lacrosse coach and coach for all the goalies in every team. Her willingness and commitment have been much

appreciated by the staff in the department. She is very dedicated in what she does and her passion and love for lacrosse shines clearly through her coaching style. Lauren, we wish you every success as you move to Abbot's Hill School next year

Pamela McMenamin

Pamela joined the School last year as our first Artist in Residence. During her stay, Pamela has run a small animation club in the lower school and assisted with GCSE and A-level teaching. She produced a fascinating body of work for her exhibition which challenged the viewer's notions of perception through the context of the School's physical environment and history. I certainly enjoyed sitting for my "Harry Potter" Principal's portrait.

Pamela, we wish you every success for the future.

Marta Manrique

Marta joined the School in 2008 to teach Spanish in the Modern Foreign Languages department. She was appointed as Head of Spanish in 2009. She has proved to be a dedicated and hard-working member of the Modern Foreign Languages Department. She is a highly motivated and enthusiastic teacher of her subject and has offered many valuable ideas to her department. Marta has been poached by her husband who is Headmaster of St Columba's School.

Marta, thank you for all you have done. We wish you every success for the future.

Steve Dolan

Steve joined the Chemistry department in 2006 from Austin Friars School near Carlisle, a year after his wife joined the department. He has been fully involved in the life of the School especially in the sports programme and in Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, where he has been Expedition Leader since 2007.

Steve, thank you for all you have done. We wish you every success for the future as you move to St Margaret's School in Bushey in September.

Lee-Ann Anderson

Lee-Ann came to the School about 5 years ago to cover a shortfall in teaching and has been involved in the Science department ever since. She has primarily taught Biology although her expertise has proved useful in all areas of Science. Lee-Ann has been a committed member of staff, showing a high degree of professionalism.

Lee-Ann, we wish you every success for the future.

Lizel van der Merwe

Lizel joined the School in 2005 from Norlington School for Boys, and had previously taught in South Africa, her home country. Her enthusiasm for Food Technology and her advice on teaching were valuable assets to the Design and Technology Department, particularly in introducing Food Tech to the boys at Castle. Staying with the Commonwealth theme, Lizel is moving with her family to Australia

Lizel, we wish you all good fortune and happiness "down under".

Peter Swaffield

Peter was appointed to the School in 2001, having been Senior Minister of Northchurch Baptist Church. With Oxford degrees in both English and Theology, it is no surprise that, although he was originally appointed to teach English, he gradually moved into the RS department. He is a very positive presence in the Staff Common Room, with a wonderful sense of humour. He has assisted with the delivery of PSHE and gives generously of his time to School Sport, particularly to Football and Cricket. His considerable musical talents and on-stage personae have delighted students, parents and staff at the annual Talent Show. Peter is leaving to become Head of RS and Chaplain at his old school, Eltham College. Our loss is their gain

Peter, thank you for all you have done – we wish you every success in your new role.

Stephen Golding

Stephen was appointed as Chaplain in 1998 after nine years at St Lawrence's School in Ramsgate. Stephen has played a highly significant role in the School particularly in the spiritual welfare and pastoral care in the School. He was given the task of extending the Chaplaincy across the four parts of the school and it is testimony to his success in this that a whole-school chaplaincy is taken for granted today.

In the twelve years Stephen has been Chaplain, he has given generously of his time to all members of the school community. He has a warm rapport with pupils and staff and has contributed many hours recently to providing firm foundations for the link with Sandi Secondary School. His only known flaw is that he is a keen football fan and is a passionate supporter of Norwich City, at least has meant that Mr Taylor has had someone to discuss lower division football with during the past year.

Stephen, thank you for all you have done. Berkhamsted owes you a great debt. We wish you and Marion every happiness as you take up the post of Senior Chaplain at Christ's Hospital in September.

Elizabeth Baker

Elizabeth joined Berkhamsted School for Girls to teach ICT and mathematics in 1986, initially in a part time capacity but soon became a full time member of staff. She was described earlier this week as the "Queen of Statistics" - such was her expertise in this particular area.

Elizabeth has conscientiously fulfilled her duties in her pastoral roles, displaying a perceptive understanding of the needs of individual pupils. She spent eleven years in the RAF section of the CCF as Flying Officer Baker and pioneered the girls' participation at Camp. It is reported that Elizabeth occasionally went flying, although, from your account of looping the loop, this may be best avoided in future.

Elizabeth, thank you for all you have done. We wish you every happiness in your retirement.

Annick Mulcahy

Annick joined the Modern Foreign Languages department in 1986. As a French speaker, she has contributed considerable expertise to the department. She readily shares her enthusiasm with her students and has organised numerous outings and trips.

She has been a successful tutor taking a close interest in academic progress and building a successful rapport with her tutees. She has been involved in many School activities, including the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme and been instrumental in the introduction and success of Girls' Rugby.

Annick, we wish you every happiness in your retirement.

Ginny Ostle

Ginny joined the School in 1982 to teach in the Art department and was in charge of Junior School Art until the School's restructuring. She has had a wide range of responsibilities during her 28 years in the department which include introducing ICT into class teaching and life drawing. She also undertook additional training to teach Art History, gaining a first class degree with the Open University. She has been involved in numerous trips and extra-curricular activities, initiating scholarship art classes and incorporating cross-curricular links.

Ginny has brought a variety of experience to her department and particularly to her pastoral work in the sixth form. Those in her charge have found her to be a caring and sympathetic teacher who always has the best interests of her pupils at heart.

We wish her every happiness as she leaves the School.

A vision for Education: A vision for Berkhamsted

I want to return to Professor Lethbridge; for, unbeknown to him, he played a key part in the development of what I shall grandly term, “my vision for education”.

One of the great perks of university is that you can go to any lecture and so, even though I was reading Theology, I went to Dr Lethbridge’s lectures on *Literature and the Visual Arts in Nineteenth Century France*. What a privilege to learn about the relationship between Zola and the Impressionist painters from one of the world authorities - all fully illustrated! Those lectures and that supervision on *Amadeus* illustrate a very important aspect of education that, sadly has been lost in many schools today. For it was not a utilitarian “do I need this for the exam?” approach that took me to those lectures, but a love of learning.

Education is about so much more than passing examinations. It is not about cribs and shortcuts. It is about broadening the mind. It is about making connections. It is about abandoning the motorway and taking the scenic route. It is about making discoveries. It is about a deeper understanding that comes from really knowing something well. It is about kicking around ideas with like-minded people. It is about taking yourself out of your comfort zone. It is about taking risks. It is about taking time.

I am not arguing this out of a romantic view of how education was in the past. I believe that these things are important for individuals and for us as a nation. Britain’s traditions in the creative arts, in science and innovation have been fed by an education system has led the world. Schools like these and our top universities have led the world by teaching young people to “think”. If all that teachers do is to teach to the exam, and if all pupils do is to learn what they need to know to pass the exam, then we are failing to educate. If we fail to educate, we will lose the Nation’s greatest asset.

We need to nurture young people who can think for themselves, who are creative, who can solve problems, who can think out of the box, who have passions and interests, who make connections, who are articulate, who are good with people, and, above all, have a sense of community and of service.

That is my vision for Education. That is my vision for Berkhamsted.

Mark S. Steed, MA
Principal

BERKHAMSTED SCHOOL



Review of the Academic Year 2009-10

As well as our outstanding academic results, our pupils have enjoyed considerable success in many other areas of school life.

In **Sport**, 63 Berkhamsted pupils have competed at county level, 14 at regional level and 6 at national level in 10 different sports. 36 School athletics records were broken over the year. Nearly 160 practical and theory **Music** examinations have been taken in the Prep and Senior Schools with 6 Distinctions and results awaited for this summer's candidates. 123 of the 415 pupils entered for the LAMDA examinations in **Drama** have gained Distinctions so far and we await the results from some of this term's examinations. 177 students participate in the **Duke of Edinburgh Award** and 294 cadets in our **Combined Cadet Force**.

Well over 3,000 hours have been completed in **Community Service** in the local area by pupils ranging from Y9-13. The bulk of the hours have been spent in local Primary Schools where 112 Y13s have given around 1,355 hours helping in the classroom. Students have also spent many hours at Ashlyn's Residential Home, Riding for the Disabled, Oxfam, the Red Cross and the Hospice of St Francis. 29 Y13 pupils were given certificates for carrying out over 50 hours of Community Service over the year. The pupils should be proud of what they are doing in the local community. The numbers for next year are already up on this year figures so we can look forward to 2010/2011 with a great deal of expectation and excitement.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Last summer our pupils achieved 100% pass rate at **A-level** for the seventh year running with 96% of all the grades achieved at Grade A, B or C, of which 85% were A or B. **Philip Edmondson-Jones** excelled with five A grades and, in the Advanced Extension Awards, achieved a Distinction in Economics.

Eight pupils – **Lucy Andrew, Emma Bailey, Melissa Billington, Zara Fountaine, Kai Si Kwok, Christopher Lazenbatt, Richard Oldroyd and Peter Robinson** – achieved four A grades. In addition, in the Advanced Extension Awards, **Emma Bailey** achieved an English Merit, **Melissa Billington** a History Distinction, and **Christopher Lazenbatt** a Biology Merit. **Caroline Purse** achieved two Distinctions in English and History in the Advanced Extension Awards and **Heather Rimington** attained a Distinction in English, while **Sophie Black** and **Amy Martin** achieved Merits in English and Economics respectively. A record 38 pupils achieved three A grades. Such impressive results have secured our Y13 students their offers at top universities this year including Oxford and Cambridge, as follows:

Elise Bailey – Physics and Philosophy - Exeter, Oxford
Oliver Burgess - Engineering – Gonville and Caius, Cambridge
William Hallan - Medicine – Corpus Christi, Oxford
Harry Hurd – Politics, Psychology and Sociology - Downing, Cambridge (deferred place)
Laura Kirk – Modern and Medieval Languages - Trinity, Cambridge
Morwenna Senior – Medicine – St Catherine's, Oxford (deferred place)
India Trusselle – Spanish and Linguistics – Somerville, Oxford
Caroline Purse (left 2009) – Anglo Saxon, Norse and Celtic – Clare, Cambridge
Philip Edmondson-Jones (left 2009) – Economics – St John's, Cambridge

At **GCSE**, our pupils celebrated an excellent set of results with a 99% overall pass rate where 61% of grades were at A*/A. 35 pupils achieved at least 10 A*/A passes and 69 pupils achieved at least 8 A and A* passes. 35 pupils achieved at least 10 A*/A grades and **Guy Fountaine, Emilia Gyles, Sarah Hocking, Sophie Langridge** and **Alex Rattan**

achieved 11 A*/A grades, 10 of which were A* grades. **Alex Rattan** also achieved an A in Additional Maths at AS Level, as did **Archie Wood** (11 A*/A grades, 9 of which were at A*).

CULTURAL AND CREATIVE

MUSIC

Berkhamsted School held its second 'Young Musician of the Year' competition in February, adjudicated by Mr Ian Maclay of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Y13 Pianist **Joe Tang** was the overall Senior School winner and was presented with the Antony Hopkins Plate by Mr Hopkins, our honoured guest for the evening. Category winners were **Nikki Pasturel** (Woodwind), **Oliver Corrigan** (Brass), **Arianna Albayati** (Strings), **Joe Tang** (Piano) and **Jamie Johnson** (Voice).

The Choir performed movements from the Fauré Requiem at the Remembrance Day service in November. The St Cecilia's Day concert also took place in November and the German choir from the Hélène-Lange Gymnasium in Fürth visited in the last week of the Michaelmas Term. They joined the School choir in performing at both School Carol Services on the last Sunday of term (the highlight of which was a rousing performance, accompanied by brass, of Handel's 'Hallelujah' Chorus). The Berkhamsted choir sang Evensong in St. Albans Abbey on 29th January. At the Spring Concert, Y13 pianist **Joe Tang** performed the first movement of Beethoven's First Piano Concerto in C. We have all just enjoyed many wonderful performances at the Proms in the Quad in glorious sunshine.

All music GCSE and A-level students (41 in total) attended an open rehearsal of the RPO in Centenary Hall on 5th February. The main work in the programme was Mozart Symphony no. 41 (this year's AS set work). Later that evening, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra performed a splendid concert to a packed Centenary Hall which we hope will be the first in a series of such concerts.

In the Royal School of Church Music award examinations, **Francesca Booth** (Y7) won a Bronze Medal and **Alice Jullien** (Y9) passed the Bishop's award examination with Distinction and won a Silver Medal.

Over 160 pupils have taken Associated Board music practical and theory examinations over the year with success at every level. Particular congratulations go to **Mark Chappel** Y13 (Trombone), **Morwenna Senior** Y13 (Clarinet), **Stephen Jullien** Y12 (Singing) and **Georgina Andrews** Y12 (Clarinet) all of whom achieved a Grade 8 and to the following pupils who achieved Distinctions: **Charlotte Wilton** Y10 (Grade 4 Singing), **Eleanor Daghlian** Y9 (Grade 7 Flute), **Sarah Munro** Y9 (Grade 3 Piano), **Benedict Brazier** Y8 (Grade 5 Trumpet) and **Robert Nash** Y7 (Grade 2 Guitar).

SPEECH AND DRAMA, PUBLIC SPEAKING

In December, we enjoyed a superb display of sword and dagger fighting in the Y13 production of *The Three Musketeers*. Year 12's production of *The Venetian Twins* was also very successful and is being taken to the Edinburgh Festival in the second week in August. Y7-10 pupils have also entertained us all recently with their production of *Jason and the Argonauts: The Quest for the Golden Fleece*.

Speech and Drama continues to attract large numbers of pupils at all levels. This year's LAMDA results were outstanding in a range of drama examinations. Twelve sixth form pupils achieved passes at Grade 8 with Distinction: **Katy Golder** achieved two Grade 8s, both with Distinction - one in Acting and the other in Devised Performance. The other 11 were **Adam Cooke, Isabel Hardy, Anna Iacoponi, Cameron Jones, Matthew Johnston, Laura Kirk, Imogen Nation, Jonathon Nice, Rhea Patel, Sid Sagar and Megan Whittred**.

Also a number of pupils achieved great success with English Speaking Board Exams in Communication. The girls team of **Rosie Gurtovoy, Kezia Exley** and **Nadia Abulhawa** (all Y9) reached the Regional Round of the Youth Speaks Competition in February. Two Y9 boys teams also entered the competition: **Andrew Turner, Callum Simpson, Chris Atherton** (Team 1) and **Alex Cobb, Alex Fage** and **Will Hart** (Team 2). Team 2 reached the second round.

ACADEMIC NEWS

William Hallan (Y13) was awarded a Gold Medal in this year's Biology Olympiad and **Morwenna Senior** (Y13) a Bronze. William went on to compete in the highly competitive second round where he achieved a place in the top 12 in the country. As a result of his achievement, William took part in a final round of practical tasks at the School of Biological Science, Birmingham University, where he gained valuable experience for his future Medical Studies. William also won a Silver Medal at the British Physics Olympiad and **Elise Bailey** a Bronze. **Ruhith Ariyapala** and **Adam Parker** (both Y13) were both commended.

Our first Artist-in-Residence, **Pamela McMenamin**, ran a great animation club and has held an exhibition of her work including a 3D digital picture of the Principal. We held successful GCSE and A-Level exhibitions and a well-attended private view evening.

We entered a team of 4 Y8 boys in the Salter's Festival of Chemistry Challenge held at St Mary's College in London. Our team of **Ben Brazier, Matthew Peniket, James Wilkins** and **Robert Pain** won first prize.

In the Golden Sponge Stick Essay Competition, a national essay writing competition for Latin students, **Stuart Quinnell** (Y7) won third prize. This is the second time Berkhamsted has entered this competition and the second time we have been prizewinners.

For the second year in a row, a team of Y13 students reached the semi-finals of the Bank of England Competition - the 2.0 Challenge. The team comprised **Charlotte Hawkes** (Chair), **Amy Ertan, Adam Parker** and **Tom O'Dair**.

93 candidates sat the Senior Maths Challenge in November and 39 pupils received certificates for their performances. 115 Y9-11 pupils entered the Intermediate Maths Challenge in February. 84 pupils received certificates with 18 being awarded Gold certificates. The performance of our Y9 and 10 pupils was particularly pleasing in a competition aimed primarily at Y11. 5 Y11 pupils and 3 Y9 pupils qualified for the European Kangaroo Challenge with **Jenny Mills** gaining a Merit. 84 Y7 and 8 pupils entered the Junior Maths Challenge in April: 57 pupils received certificates and 12 pupils received Gold Certificates including 5 from Y7.

SPORT

Athletics

In the County Championships, **Edward Tidey** (Y7) won the U13 Boys' 70m Hurdles (and set a new school record) and **Freya Burgess** (Y10) won the U17 Long Jump with a new school record of 4.90m. **Ed Rocca** (Y10) was 2nd in the U17 Shot and **Kieran Wye** (Y9) was 2nd in the U15 1500m. **Emma Wood** (Y7) was 3rd in the U13 200m and 5th in the Long Jump. **Georgina King** (Y10) was 5th and set a new school record in the U17 Javelin (24.14m). **Robert Goodridge** (Y9 400m and Triple Jump) and **Kieran Wye** (Y9 1500m) also set new School records.

In the Track & Field Cup, the Girls Inter team won the County round and qualified for the East Regional Final where they finished 5th. The Boys Inter team came 2nd and finished 6th in the East of England B Final. **Freya Burgess** (Y10) set a new school record in the 80m Hurdles and **Catherine Haigh** (Y10) finished 3rd in the 300m, narrowly missing the school record by 0.2 seconds. **Isabelle Hartley** (Y9) was 2nd in the 200m.

In the Herts League, the Boys Inter Team (Y9 and 10) was 3rd and reached the Herts League Finals for the top 8 schools in the County. The Relay team of **Charlie Rider, Charlie Adams, Edward Rocca** and **Ross Gardner** were unbeaten all season. The Inter Girls 4x100m Relay record was beaten for the third time by the quartet of **Isabelle Hartley, Sarah McBean** (both Y9) and **Jasmine Shekiluwa, Freya Burgess** (both Y10). **Isabelle Hartley** (Y9) beat her own school 200m record by 0.2s and **Emma Wood** (Y7) claimed two school records in the Long Jump and the 200m. In the Hertfordshire Combined Events Championships, **Anne-Marie Du Preez** (Y9) was 2nd in U15 age group and **Freya Burgess** (Y10) 5th in U17.

Abbegail Winterburn (Y8) qualified for the 800m in the National IAPS Athletics Finals by winning the regional IAPS competition, smashing her best time to finish in 2m 40s – she will compete in the National Finals in July.

In the Achilles Relays Competition, the team of **Nicky Peck, Alana Zukas, Becky Golder** and **Helena Ellis** (all Y11) broke the school records for both the 4x100m and 4x200m relays.

Cricket

The 2010 season was unusual in that not a single fixture was lost to the rain! The 1st XI won ten of their seventeen fixtures; the highlight being a first win in seven years against local rivals Haberdashers' Aske's. There were also successful seasons for the U12A team (played 11 won 8), U15As (played 10 won 7) and 2nd XI (played 9 won 6). A superb seven school centuries were scored during the season, 5 wickets in an innings was achieved on eight occasions and three boys got hat tricks. Perhaps more impressive was that **Max Maciver** (U14 Captain) scored three of these centuries and took 2 of the five wicket hauls in an impressive season that included 620 runs and 24 wickets. Max deservedly won the Berkhamsted Cricketer of the Year Award.

Cross Country

Kieran Wye (Y9) came 2nd in the Hertfordshire Junior Cross Country Championships in February and represented English Schools in the Schools International Athletics Board Cross Country Championships at Truro School in March. This event involved the top 8 athletes from England, Scotland, Wales and a combined team from Ireland running against each other in individual and team events. Of the 32 boys competing in his age category, Kieran finished 6th. The English team was the strongest and the boys were each awarded a 'gold' medal. **Joel Rabinowitz** (Y8) was 3rd in the Ellis U13 Race.

In the ESAA Cross Country Cup, the inter girls team qualified for the National Finals for the first time, held in Newquay in December: the team of **Chloe Allen, Anne-Marie Du Preez, Ellie O'Grady, Freya Burgess, Beth Highfield** and **Catherine Haigh** finished in 20th position overall. In the Herts School County Championships, **Anna Nicholls** (Y7) came 20th (pre junior) and **Chloe Allen** (Y9) was 21st (junior). At the Dacorum District Championships – Y9 team 1st (**Chloe Allen** 1st, **Katherine Irwin** 3rd, **Ellie O'Grady** 4th, **Jasmine Sanders, Anna Doyle, Nadia Abulhawa, Sarah McBean**)

Fives

In a fantastic season, over 100 girls and boys have represented Berkhamsted in school matches, adult tournaments and in the league. We played a record 26 school fixtures throughout the year against a wide variety of schools with every age group represented. Our U18, U16, U13 and U12 year groups are particularly strong in both skill and numbers and played lots of competitive matches against Highgate, Eton, Westminster, Harrow and Orley Farm.

There also been a big development in the girls' game where we have a small but very strong squad of players. In the Nationals, our top U18 pairing of **Kate Sophocliides** and **Marguerite Boyle** (both Y12) reached the Quarter-Finals of the Open Competition. Four of our players travelled out to Belgium for a weekend to represent England playing One-Wall Handball against a number of other countries and, despite only having two weeks of training, they all performed extremely well.

Football

Despite the disrupted, snow affected start to the 2010 Football season, Berkhamsted teams were once again a force to be reckoned with on the circuit. The 1st XI reached the semi final of the LB Cup where they eventually lost in a close fought match against Oundle. The U15A team continued to show their sporting prowess with an unbeaten season and at junior level the U13 and U12 squads won 70% of the fixtures. Two U13 players, **Cameron Barr** and **Casey O'Gorman**, became the first Berkhamsted representatives on a national level with their selection for the ISFA U14 National squad. **Charlie Gilhooley** (Y8) and **Nick Rosenhagen-Christensen** (Y7) were also selected to attend a Development Camp at Bradfield College in August.

Hockey

Hockey for the boys had a mixed 2009/10 season. The U13s led by **Tom Mills** and with the goal scoring exploits of **Hamish Percy** remained the best performing side with a 50/50 ratio of wins and losses. The U12s with **Jamie Lloyd** up front also played well and we look forward to watching this side develop in the future.

The U14s ably led by **James Sidwell** won only 3 games but performed admirably against much bigger hockey schools. **Harry Bartlett** scored some useful goals with **Michael Evans**. **Max Jenkinson**, **Gavin Geddes** and **Andrew Turner** also made useful contributions. James became player of the season as he displayed a purposeful attitude during both matches and training sessions, helping to inculcate a positive spirit within the team.

The U15s were always going to struggle as **Angus Twogood** played up in the 1st team, however, with **Josh Percy** and **Henry Scott**, they battled hard and won a few of their games.

In the Seniors the 1sts were led by **Angus Abbott** who battled hard in every situation. **James Moat** chipped in with a few goals and **Addison Yeung** was a lion in defence, taking a blow against Merchant Taylors! **Sam Barnes** continues to develop in goal and with **Angus Twogood** showing us his skill, we hope for a more fruitful season next year.

The 2nds worked hard with a young squad. **Lloyd Ellis**, **Matthew Thomas-Davies**, **Sam Budgen**, **Alex Minashi** and **Toby Carter** all worked hard.

Lacrosse

At National Schools the U15 XII were beaten in the semi-finals to finish joint third in the country. The 1st team were approximately 10 seconds away from a semi final place, but a last second equaliser denied them a place in the semis that they had thoroughly deserved and the 2nd team were even closer than that with a controversial moment narrowly

preventing them from reaching the semis. To have all 3 teams finish within the top 7 in the country is a fantastic achievement.

The 1st XII, 2nd XII, U15A, U14A and U14B were all County Champions and the U15s are County Indoor Lacrosse Champions. The U12 team had to enter their county competition as a mix of A & B players and they played really well finishing in joint 1st place but missing out on goal difference. The U12A team have had a remarkable season remaining unbeaten. The U13A team finished 3rd and the U13B team were 5th.

At the end of the Lent term a new format for the House lacrosse competition was introduced. The tournament took place on a Saturday with two separate age ranges Y7-8 and Y9-11. Old Stede were the overall winners. The competition was a great success with competitive matches and a wonderful atmosphere in front of a large crowd of supportive parents.

Netball

The teams have had a tremendous season: overall, Berkhamsted teams won 77% of all netball matches played, an outstanding improvement over last season. All age categories have played in the district league, district cup and district tournaments and the U19A VII were unbeaten all season.

District Champions - U12, U13, U15, U19 VII

District Cup Champions: U12, U15, U19 VII

District Tournament Champions: U12, U13, U14, U16, U19 VII

New Stede won the House Netball competition.

The following were selected for the U15 District Netball Team - **Lizzie Apthorp, Hannah Bower, Abbie Barnes, Amy Barton, Beth Highfield, Erica Wood, Kat Wray.**

Beth Lovett, Anna Nicholls (both Y7) and **Martha Casey** (Y8) were selected for the Satellite Netball Academy.

Rounders

The U12s are District Champions.

Rowing

This season Berkhamsted School Boat Club has participated in several regattas and was represented at Henley Royal Regatta. £30,000 was raised by friends and family to purchase a fleet of new boats for the club. Pupils participated in a trip to the University Boat Race and there are plans to begin regularly training on indoor rowing machines at Castle Campus next term. In May, sixth form students **Archie Wood, Will Hallan, Andrew Wilson** and **Nick Long** competed in a single sculls even at the Ball Club Regatta on Dorney Lake, the home of the Eton College Boating Club. **Will Hallan** and **Archie Wood** won their J18 and J17 races respectively winning our first medals in an open regatta for some years.

Rugby

The 1st XV, after a difficult start, made themselves competitive and difficult to beat. They gained confidence from a respectable performance away against a formidable St Paul's XV (14-33) and beat QE Barnet, UCS and local rivals, Watford GS and Merchant Taylors'. The most successful year group were the U15s. The U15A XV had a remarkable and unprecedented run in the Daily Mail U15 Cup, reaching the sixth round very unluckily going out on the away rules. They reversed their only defeat from last year, crushing Bishop's Stortford College 51-5, and followed that with a terrific performance in beating a very strong Merchant Taylors' XV, 40-12. The U15Bs, likewise, lost only one game, while the Cs and the Ds had strong wins.

The Junior rugby season was badly disrupted by snow and freezing temperatures. However the U12s made a promising start to their school rugby careers with A-team victories against Haberdashers' Aske's, a fixture in which we fielded three U12 teams, and St John's Northwood. The U13s bounced back from a disappointing loss to Abingdon School to win convincingly, 50-14 against St John's Northwood.

On Sunday 14th March Berkhamsted School hosted 88 teams in the Berkhamsted Sevens competition, organised by Graham Burchnall. The sun shone and we were treated to a real festival of rugby. The standard seems to get better with each year and the teams who now come to the Tournament travel many miles to compete. This year we saw 14 sides from Wales and teams from the North of England, the West Country and France. Thank you to the many sponsors and all those who contribute on the day.

Tom Metcalfe (Y13) was presented with the Morrie Morris Award at the Hertfordshire Rugby Dinner in March. Captain of the 1st XI, he was selected for the Hertfordshire U20 training Squad and selected to represent the South Independent Schools Barbarians team.

Shooting

This year the team excelled itself in the Country Life Competition and came 3rd out of 26, beating our previous best score of 9th last year and only 22 points out of 1000 behind the winners. Congratulations to **Jonny Lister** and **Joe Tang** (Y13), **Charlotte Ashby**, **Dan Elliott**, **George Nisbet**, **Imogen Wignall** (all Y12), **Steve Wyndham-Smith** (Y11) and **Peter Dobson** (Y10) with **Freddie Clarke** (Y11) as spotter. As well as the Country Life competitions, teams competed in the British Small Bore Association leagues, the annual County match and the Commonwealth match (in which they took 1st prize again).

Squash

Nathan Chan (Y13) has set a very good example as Number 1 and Captain and **Toby Sylvester** (Y12) has made excellent progress at Number 2. More encouraging still is that there is a very keen and talented group of Years 7 and 8 who are making really exciting progress. Lots of pupils are playing the game.

Swimming

The Boys swimming teams had another successful Panagraphics League; both the Senior and Inter teams finished in second and the Junior team won their league. The Girls' team were very successful: the Junior girls were 1st, Intermediate girls 2nd, and Senior girls 3rd. The Junior team qualified for the 52nd annual ESSA Schools Team Championships held in Coventry in February after finishing second and third in the Medley and Freestyle events at the Division 10 trials. The boys competed well on the day and finished 16th nationally in both events. **Michael Andrew**, **Greg Baxter**, **Alex Foulds**, **Ben Harris**, **Harry Ormerod**, **Amy Barton**, **Anne-Marie Du Preez**, **Abbegail Winterburn**, **Lucy Barton**, **Alice Hewson** and **Phoebe Baxter** all swam for Dacorum District.

Marcus Johansson (Y13) broke the Maxwell Open Meet club record winning the Over 17 400m medley and won Gold in the 100m backstroke and 50m butterfly. Marcus was then selected to swim for Division Ten of the English Schools Swimming Association at Crystal Palace in October.

Tennis

The U15s team (**Alex Fage**, **Lewis Chan**, **Harry Hammond**, **Max Linden**, **Max Mclver**, **Jack Johnson**) have lost only once and narrowly lost out to qualifying for the regional semi-

finals of the AEGON inter-schools knock-out competition. Similarly, the U13s team (**Scott Duguid, Ben Mackey, Ed Lidington, Hamish Percy, Olly Green, Jack Lampert**) lost only twice, to Watford GS & St. Clement Danes, and were also short of qualifying for the latter stages in the same competition. Incents retained the Senior Boys' House Tennis Cup, New Stede won the Senior Girls' House competition while Burgh won the Sixth Form House Tennis in thrilling style. **Nathan Chan** (Y13) was an outstanding Tennis Captain, **Alex Fage** and **Lewis Chan** played consistently; **Hugo Allen's** support for the Tennis Club was much appreciated and **Hamish Percy** was the most improved player.

At the Hertfordshire County Doubles Tournament, **Ellie Casey** and **Emily Mann** (both Y11) entered the U19 section. They had a tough task playing National players in one match but came third overall. **Alice Patch** and **Lucy Barton** played well and finished third in the county.

HOUSE COMPETITIONS

Incents won Boys' House Drama, Old Stede won Girls' House Music for the fourth time in succession and Hawks won the Sixth Form House Music Competition. Incents, Holme and Reeves were this year's Sports Day winners and School House won the Sixth Form Quiz.

PUPIL NEWS

Alice Hewson (aged 12 and in Y8) has represented Hertfordshire Schools in Golf in the South East Regional Championships and finished in 6th place. She was then called up to play for the Region in the National Schools Finals at the John of Gaunt Golf Club. With a hole in one at the par 3 16th, she finished 3rd and has been selected to represent England Schools against Scotland in September. Alice will also take part in the England U16 School Girls tournament in July in Cheshire and a week later in the England U13s in Sheffield.

Alex Macklin (Y13) came top of the 25 students selected nationally at the Royal Marines summer training camp at RMB Lymston.

James Young (Y13) obtained his helicopter pilot's licence the week he turned 17 during last summer holiday.

The British ESSKIA Finals took place in Pontypool. The team of **James Grant** (Y11), **Thomas Grant** (Y9), **Chris Debonnaire** (Y12) and **Richard Morton** (Y10) put in strong performances and came 6th overall out of 25 teams. All four boys have been selected to train with ESSKIA in Norway next year. James and Chris were also selected for the International School Sport Federation to ski for the England Schools Team.

Sophia Mitropolous (Y8) passed the RAD Intermediate Ballet Vocational Exam (equivalent to Grade 7/8) with Distinction.

Berkhamsted's **Equestrian Team** won the Interschool's Show-Jumping Competition.

Joseph Thomas (Y9) was 7th out of 70 in the South of England Table Tennis Competition.

Kieran Wye (Y9) had a remarkable day at Sports Day: he ran 4m 25s in the 1500m, broke his own school record (again!) and lapped places up to 3rd. **Robert Goodridge** put in 3 excellent performances winning the Y9 100m race in an impressive 12.29, the 400m in 56.72

and the long jump with a leap of 5.25m. **Ross Gardner** won the double of the 100m (11.69s) and 200m (23.91s) in the Y10 event.

Majuran Selvanathan (Y9) has played violin on Tamil Television recently.

The Allen and Unwin Fellowship Awards were given to **Amy Ertan** and **Kirsty Pullman** (both Y13). Old Berkhamstedian Travel Awards were granted to the following Y12 students: **Marguerite Boyle, Emma Eaves, Robert Mutter, Kate Sophocliedes, James Stoddart, Lucy Streule** and **Louis Little** (Art Trip to Paris); **Sophie Langridge** (Saas-Fee Ski qualification/mount safety course in Switzerland); **Anna Dixon** (French course); **Holly Cooper** (Spanish course); **Pippa Adam, Grace Mills** and **Amanda Rosenhagen** (Geography Trip to Algarve); **Caroline Smith** (Indonesia); **Fiona Emerson** (Poland); **Georgina Andrews** (Kilimanjaro). The successful candidates in the Robin Knox-Johnston Awards were **Jaime Collier** (Aalborg to Kristiansand); **Guy Fontaine** (Ijmuiden to Brixham) and **Louisa Cutteridge** (Brixham to Barry).

CO-CURRICULAR

CCF

At the end of January the RAF section took part in the regional inter unit competition at RAF Halton against 14 schools from the area, winning the Shooting and coming 3rd in the Drill. At this year's Yates Drill competition, there were nine squads on parade. The Army Girls were overall winners commanded by **Emma Egerton-King**. **Alex Macklin** was awarded the Pearkes Sword and **Charlotte May** the Welsh Guards Sash. The visiting band was from the Royal Gurkha Rifles and at the end of term the corps departed for Sennybridge, Wales for Battle Camp.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award

Former pupils **Ed Burdett, Nick Beaver, Rob Chambers, Nick Colston, Tom Dobson, Tom Forgan, Dan Forgan, Victoria Gordon, Ben Knop, Nick Minter, Richard Oldroyd, Michael Petrie, Charles Thomas-Davies, Robert Tilley, John Turner, and Rebecca Walker** have all been presented with their Gold DoE Awards at ceremonies at St James's Palace during this year. **Milly Brown, Christopher Day, Vanessa Eustace** and **Catherine Matheson** are due to receive their Gold Awards on 19th July.

County and National Representation and Colours Awarded

Cricket

George Simpson - Middlesex and South of England

Anna Nicholls - Buckinghamshire

Matthew Pugh - Buckinghamshire

Full Colours – **Charles Richardson**

Half Colours – **Ruhith Ariyapala, Connor Dow, Dominic Fraser, James Hawkes, Jamie Makower, Andrew McInnes-Poole, Will Steed, James Whipp, Mike Pain** (Scorer)

Eton Fives:

Full Colours – **Peter Bird, James Steadman**

Half Colours – **Marguerite Boyle, Alex Rattan, Kate Sophocliedes.**

Football

Cameron Barr and **Casey O’Gorman** selected for the national ISFA squad

Half Colours – **Matt Barnes, Oliver Burgess, Charlie Creasy, Kim Hinds, Ed Malcolm, Tom O’Dair, Charles Richardson**

Golf

Alice Hewson – Hertfordshire, South East of England Schools, England Schools

Angus Twogood – Hertfordshire

Hockey

Angus Twogood - Bucks Hockey, South Regional Hockey

Ruth Harding - Middlesex

Max Linden – Buckinghamshire

Matt Buckley – Hertfordshire

Harriet Rose – East of England

Molly Beard – East of England

Full Colours – **Angus Abbott** (re-awarded), **Addison Yeung**

Half Colours – **Chris Debonnaire, Sam Highfield, Ed Roberts, Jonny Shell**

Lacrosse

National Players

England U19 - **Holly Franklin** and **Harri Acott-Smith**

East of England - **Holly Franklin, Harri Acott-Smith, Alana Zukas, Emily Ellis, India Trusselle, Lydia Knight**

County Representation

U18A XII: **Holly Franklin, Harri Acott-Smith, Abi Tyer, Anna Iacoponi, India Trusselle, Emily Ellis, Alana Zukas**

U18B XII: **Rhea Patel, Sophie Andrew, Anna Dixon, Lydia Knight**

U15 A XII: **Lizzie Apthorp** (Vice-Captain), **Hannah Bower, Freya Burgess** (Captain), **Ellie Eisenstadt, Beth Highfield, Emma Oakley, Erica Wood, Kat Wray**

U15B XII: **Olivia Fountaine, Catherine Haigh, Jo Kendall, Georgie King, Robyn Marsh, Charlotte Marshall**

Regional Centex Coaching Programme

Lizzie Apthorp, Hannah Bower, Flora Brown, Freya Burgess, Poppy Day, Rumer Day, Charlie ffitich, Becky Golder, Isabelle Hartley, Beth Highfield, Viv Hinds, Jo Kendall, Georgie King, Robyn Marsh, Charlotte Marshall, Emma Oakley, Ellen Price, Harriet Rose, Kim Saunders, Sarah Wiggill, Erica Wood, Katharine Wray

National Centex Coaching Programme

Harri Acott-Smith, Emily Ellis, Holly Franklin, Lydia Knight, Alana Zukas

Full Colours – **Harriet Acott-Smith, Holly Franklin, India Trusselle, Abi Tyer**

Half Colours – **Katy Golder, Anna Iacoponi, Laura Kirk, Rhea Patel**

Netball

Poppy Day - Hertfordshire

Beth Lovett - Hertfordshire

Anna Nicholls - Hertfordshire

Martha Casey - Hertfordshire

Full Colours – **Harriet Acott-Smith, Holly Franklin, Anna Iacoponi**
Half Colours – **Rhea Patel, Abi Tyer**

Rounders

District Champions- U12

Rugby

Iain Billington – Hertfordshire

Tom ffitich: Buckinghamshire School of Rugby (Preliminary Selection)

Dominic Fraser – Hertfordshire and Saracens EPDG

Oliver Holt – Hertfordshire

Tom Metcalfe – Independent Schools Southern Barbarians U18 (selected for full side but prevented from touring by injury), London & SE Final U18 Trials, Player of the Season

Alex Munday – Hertfordshire School of Rugby

Oliver O’Gorman - Hertfordshire

Max Richardson – Hertfordshire

Charlie Rider – Buckinghamshire

Ed Tidey: Hertfordshire School of Rugby (Preliminary Selection)

Full Colours – **Adam Diplock, Elliott Gilder, Tom Metcalfe** (re-awarded), **Max Richardson, Steven Wiggill** (re-awarded).

Half Colours – **Angus Abbott** (re-awarded), **Charlie Creasey, Ed Ferneyhough, Guy Fountaine, Cameron Jones** (re-awarded), **Ed Malcolm, Ed Roberts, Nick Sidwell, Tom Sambrook, Alex Slade, Tyler Thornhill** and **Joe Winterburn**

The following Y13 boys are to be commended for their services to School Rugby as the respective captains of the 2nd and 3rd XV's: **Alex Macklin** and **Robert Boulter**

Shooting

Full Colours - **Joe (KT) Tang, Jonny Lister**

Half Colours - **Charlie Ashby, Imogen Wignall, Dan Elliott, George Nisbet**

Squash

Full Colours – **Nathan Chan** (re-awarded)

Half Colours – **Piers Gibson-Birch, Toby Sylvester**

Swimming

Lucy Barton won the County Champion title for Berkshire and South Bucks in the 50m and 100m SC Breaststroke. **Alice Hewson** won County Champion titles for Hertfordshire in 10 events and has also qualified for 9 events at the Regionals and for four events at Nationals. **Anne-Marie Du Preez** competed at the Hertfordshire County tournament and at Regional level.

County - **Phoebe Baxter, Lucy Barton, Alice Hewson, Abbey Winterburn, Isabelle Hartley, Harri Rose, Anne-Marie Du Preez, Amy Barton** and **Coralie Du Preez**

Full Colours – **Marcus Johansson, Joe Winterburn**

Half Colours – **Michael Andrews, Alex Foulds, Wilson Lui, Mike Pain, Luisa Ramirez, William Rose, Jamie Shone, India Trusselle**

Tennis

The U13 IV reached the Regional Semi Finals of National AEGON competition. At the Hertfordshire County Doubles Championships **Alice Patch** and **Lucy Barton** (U14) came 3rd, and **Ellie Casey** and **Emily Mann** (U19) were also 3rd.

Colours: **Nathan Chan** (reawarded)

Half Colours: **Hugo Allen, Harriet Acott-Smith, Charlotte Hawkes, Victoria Whittaker**

Senior School Sports Colours Awarded

Y10 Boys: Michael Andrews, Iain Billington, Henry Bragg, Freddie Dixon, Ross Gardner, William Gilbey, Angus Hardy, Edward Hart, James Hawkes, Oliver Holt, Daniel Jones, Chris Katanchian, Alasdair Leighton, Charlie Rider, Harry Sambrook, Mobolaji Sanusi, Henry Scott, Angus Tidey, Tom Turnbull, Angus Twogood

Y10 Girls: Elizabeth Apthorp, Amy Barton, Hannah Bower, Freya Burgess, Eleanor Eisenstadt, Catherine Haigh, Beth Highfield, Joanna Kendall, Georgina King, Robyn Marsh, Charlotte Marshall, Emma Oakley, Erica Wood, Katherine Wray

Y9 Boys: Max Maciver, Kieran Wye

Y9 Girls: Chloe Allen, Molly Beard, Anne-Marie Du Preez, Isabelle Hartley, Harriet Rose, Zoe Thursz

Y8 Girls: Alice Hewson

School Athletics records broken during the year:

Emma Wood (Y7 200m and Long Jump), **Anna Nicholls** (Y7 Discus), **Sammy Bousfield** (Y7 High Jump), **Ed Tidey** (Y7 Hurdles and 200m), **Tom ffitch** (Y7 Long Jump), **Jamie Lloyd** (Y7 Javelin), **George Hatch** (Y8 100m), **Joel Rabinowitz** (Y8 800m), **Isabelle Hartley** (Y9 100m and 200m), **Anne-Marie Du Preez** (Y9 800m), **Ben Frost** (Y9 Hurdles), **Robert Goodridge** (Y9 Triple Jump and 400m), **Kieran Wye** (Y9 1500m), **Freya Burgess** (Y10 80m Hurdles, 800m, Long Jump and Triple Jump), **Catherine Haigh** (Y10 300m), **Georgina King** (Y10 Javelin). **Isabelle Hartley**, **Jasmine Shekiluwa**, **Catherine Haigh**, **Sarah McBean** (Y9/10 4x100m Relay), **Charlie Adams** (Y10 Hurdles and High Jump), **Ed Rocca** (Y10 Shot Put), **Henry Bragg**, **Charlie Rider**, **Charlie Adams** and **Dan Jones** (Y10 4x100m Relay), **Jorge Davies** (Y11 Javelin) and **Alana Zukas**, **Nicky Peck**, **Becky Golder**, **Helena Ellis** (Y11 4x100m and 4x200m Relays). In the Sixth Form, **Cameron Jones** (Discus), **Tom Sambrook** (200m), **Angus Abbott** (100m), **Abi Tyer** (Long Jump) and **Emily Ellis** (Triple Jump).

CHARITIES

Funds Raised by Senior School Charity Events 2009-10

Houses	£3,860.82
Whole School events	£33,655.27
Sixth Form	£3,525.51
Collections	£2,242.47
Additional Charity Fund raising	£10,825.83
GRAND TOTAL	£54,109.90

This year's amazing Talent Show raised over £10,500 for three worthy causes. Sultans of Swing were the overall winners of votes and money pledged and **Felix Archer** was runner up. £5,000 went to Sandi School, £4,500 to the Hospice of St Francis and just over £1,000 to the Paul Beard Memorial Trust.

Our friendship with Sandi Senior Secondary School has continued to flourish this year with 12 pupils experiencing a wonderful trip to South Africa last summer and two teachers from the Eastern Cape spending a very worthwhile week in Berkhamsted in May. The Berkhamsted Bursary is going well with two Sandi pupils now studying at the Walter Sisulu University in Umtata and a third due to begin in January.