

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

7.30pm

Wednesday 16 December 2009
All Saints Church, Oakham

£4 Adults, £2 Concessions, Family
Ticket £10 in advance from
Reception.

£5 Adults, £3 Concessions, Family
Ticket £12 on the door

WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU THINK

We are always keen to get your feedback to continuously improve what we do to ensure your child maximises their potential during their time at the college. Attached to this issue of 'Contact' is a 6 page survey that has been emailed to those parents for whom we have an email address. Thank you if you have already responded. If you have not yet done so I would appreciate if you could spend 5 minutes to complete the survey either on line or by returning the attached document to me before the end of term.

POST-16 EDUCATION IN RUTLAND

The proposal for Post-16 education in Rutland was discussed at a meeting of all members of Rutland County Council. Jan Turner, the principal of UCC and I attended the meeting to pose some questions to the council as we still have some concerns. The questions we asked of them are:

- What legal challenge has taken place to Tresham's assertion that they are able to sell the Rutland College land and 'walk away' from the county?

- What process was followed to determine which of the 11-16 colleges would be the county's admissions authority?
- With only £5m how does the council propose to replace the existing post-16 buildings to provide a curriculum that allows 16 year olds to stay within Rutland to study whatever their aptitude? The cost of a building for the number of students who could potentially stay in Rutland would be around £20m based on DCSF BSF projects of a similar size.
- Why was a trust school model chosen as the vehicle for delivering a post-16 partnership?

Although we have expressed concern, county councillors voted in favour of the proposed development. The next step is the public consultation which will take place in January.

Stuart Williams

CATMOSE CAMPUS



The new college continues to take shape; photographs of the progress can be seen on the college VLE. The students pictured, who are part of the engineering elective, had the opportunity last Wednesday to tour around the new buildings.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

As you will know from a recent letter sent to all parents, our Christmas lunch will be served on Thursday 17 December at a cost of £2.80 (those on free lunches will not need to pay). Students will need to purchase a dinner ticket before Monday 14 December. If you wish your child to have a meal please complete the reply slip included in the letter and return to client services with £2.80.

If students do not wish to have the Christmas meal, they will need to cater for themselves on that day, as there will be insufficient time for the catering staff to provide alternatives.

AND FINALLY..

I hope that you and your family have a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. I look forward to seeing all of the students back at college, fully refreshed and looking smart, on Monday 4 January.

Stuart Williams

CHILDREN IN NEED



On Friday 20 November, students at Catmose College took part in various

fundraising events for Children in Need.

Students were able to wear their own clothes for the day for a suggested donation of £2 and a successful cake sale was held at lunchtime.

There were also inter-house competitions, the highlight being the opportunity for students (and staff) to throw wet sponges at the four male house captains, Charles Baker, Owen Smith, Adam Whitehouse and Chris Goodacre. The boys braced themselves for the wet sponges in their house T-shirts and raised over £100. The total amount raised for Children in Need from the non uniform day and other fundraising activities was an impressive £1354.



The students are to be congratulated; they worked hard to organise activities to raise money for this very worthwhile cause. Well done to year 8 students, John Mitchell, Andrew Measures, Thomas Maciejewski and Gareth Durkin who gave up their breaks and lunches to sell raffle tickets and cakes, raising a magnificent £136.64.

Pictured are Clare Bond, Samantha Kettle, Emily Evison, Georgina Roberts, Cathy Hirst, Adam Whitehouse, Charles Baker, Owen Smith, Chris Goodacre

PRESENTATION EVENING



Former students of Vale of Catmose College attended their presentation evening on

Thursday 12 November to collect their GCSE certificates and prizes awarded for their achievement during their last year at the college.

The evening was an outstanding success. It was great to see so many students attend to celebrate their achievements. This was a particularly significant event as these students were the final year of Vale of Catmose College. This is also likely to be the last year that it will be held in the Theatre as next year we should have moved to the new college. I would like to thank all those who have so kindly and so generously contributed to the prizes this year.

The guest of honour was Mary Hardwick (pictured) who presented the prizes and certificates. Mary is the holder of the silver medal in the 50-54 Ladies Sprint Triathlon, won at the 2009 World Championships in Australia. Mary spoke about the advice she would give her 16 year old self. She encouraged the students to make the most of the opportunities they have and to persevere to achieve their potential. Mary also said that they should take pride in and be passionate about whatever they choose to do.

Mary was impressed by the number of students who achieved a high number of higher grades. The students listed all achieved 7 or more A/A*: Emily Bird, Stephen Brignall, Lucy Brown, Cassandra Dunmore, Thomas Evans, Genevieve Frost, Ann Gwyther, Sian Kerwin, Adam Mabbott, Amy Mao, Bryony McCombie Smith, Lauren Miles, George Moore, Alex Mulvey, Polly Murch, Ben Stimpson, Serena Volpe, Emily Wardle. Individual prize winners were chosen by the staff and awarded to those students for excellence and

progress in a particular area or for those who had made an outstanding contribution to the college.

Maths/ICT

David Watt Prize for Maths	Caitlin Jeffries
Rotary Prize for Achievement in ICT	Chris Montague
Rutland Lions Prize for Achievement in Maths	Amy Mao
English/Drama/Music	
Musician of the Year	Ann Gwyther
PTA Prize for Drama	Vicky Dickman
Sheena Mark Memorial Prize for English	Lucy Brown
Performing Arts – Technical Support	Ben Stimpson

Languages/Humanities

PTA Prize for German	Jamie Ball
PTA Prize for French	Paddie Marlow-Barnes
PTA Prize for Religious Studies	William Hughes
David Penfold Prize for History	Caitlin Jeffries
PTA Prize for Geography	Alex Mulvey

Sport

Mr Terrett's Prize for Best Sports Boy	Adam Mabbott
P.E. Department Prize for Best Sports Girl	Emily Wardle
Lee Sutton Memorial Award in Sport	Joe Stafford

Art

3D Studies Prize	Kelly Bulmer
The Inner Wheel Club Prize for Textiles	Cassie Dunmore
Richard Clark Prize for Best Pot	Daniel Herd
Mr Pimperton's Prize for Art	Eleanor Bell
Catmose College Award for Contribution to the Arts	Claire Parker Emily Eldridge

Science/Design Technology

Mr Abbott's Prize for Science	Amy Mao
Product Design Award	Libby Fox
Food Technology Award	Emily Bird
Graphic Products Award	Josh Grime

Miscellaneous

Catmose College Prize for Attendance	Sam Batten, Leanne Fitches, Jack Gray, Ann Gwyther, Kit Silcock
Best VGCSE Student	Amy Mao
AWE Breeze Cup for Outstanding Achievement	Amy Mao
Sheila Press Prize for Resilience	Leanne Sharp
Progress Manager's Prize	Susie Marriott
Exceptional Progress Prize	Luke Hamblin
PTA Prize for ex Head Boy	Adam Mabbott
PTA Prize for ex Head Girl	Amy Longhurst
Rutland Lions Community Service Award	Ann Gwyther
Brian Gregg Prize	Matthew Smith
Principal's Prize	Ben Stimpson

Students and guests were entertained throughout the evening by a showcase of musical talent of current students at the college. The cast of 'Annie' gave an excellent performance from a forthcoming musical of the well-known songs 'It's a hard knock life' and 'You're never fully dressed without a smile'. The audience also listened to exceptionally talented musician, Stephen Tatlow who played Corant by Loeillet and Bagatelle No.9 by Tcherepnin on the piano. Stephen also supported fantastic singers Georgina Roberts, Hannah Bailey and Gabbie Hirst who sang 'Make Him Mine' from the 'Witches of Eastwick'.

SCHOOL PROMS 2009 AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL

We left school at about 3 o'clock and made our way down to London. We travelled by coach, the journey ran smoothly, and after a short stop at London Gateway Services, we continued on to London. The atmosphere on the way down was electric, everybody was really excited, and couldn't wait to see the concert. As we drove up to the Royal Albert Hall, nobody could

wait to get off the bus. It looked amazing, all lit up at night. We had a group photo on the steps in front of the statue before queuing to go in.

We were sat in the Circle, and could see everything. As we walked through the doorway to our seats, everyone was overwhelmed by the enormity of the hall. We were really high up, and some people felt sick, but that didn't put them off as they knew what was in store would be amazing. As everybody chatted and looked through the programme, the lights dimmed and there was a massive cheer.

The first act was a group called Jilambis, a rock band from Wakefield. They played 'Well, this isn't Texas', which they wrote themselves. They were fantastic and set the standard for the evening. Next was the Withycombe Stomp, which was a

piece in the style of Stomp, using barrels and various objects as drums for a percussion piece which everyone enjoyed. A firm favourite among everyone was a group called NaTo. Two boys, Nathan Mills and Tom Rowland from Rochdale, one on an electric-acoustic guitar and the other on percussion. They first did a cover of Mr. Brightside by The Killers, and encouraged everyone to sing along. At various points in the evening the High Wycombe Music Centre Adolphe Sax Quartet performed all three parts of Four Winds, each time from different areas of the hall, stage and auditorium which proved an interesting piece. The Wakefield Massed Choir then did a piece which involved 11 primary schools, the Cathedral Academy of Performing Arts, Momentum Dance

Company and Wakefield Grammar School Foundation Band. They did a shortened version of the musical 'Sun in Splendour' by Alan Simmons, which premiered in 2007. The sheer amount of young performers on stage was astounding, it looked and sounded brilliant. The musical was inspired by the Wars of the Roses, featuring the Battle of Wakefield. Another favourite among everyone was the South African Jazz Project. They played two traditional African songs. One of them was called 'Thula Siswe', it was sang by the choir in Xhosa, one of Africa's 11 official languages. The performance was so energetic and lively, it had a



really positive and uplifting vibe. The finale was presented by the Northamptonshire County Youth Orchestra, first of all they played 'Cuban Overture', followed by 'Pomp and Circumstance March No 1'. We were then told that the final piece would be a sing-along for all. We had no idea what was in store, but as we saw several Union Flags of assorted shapes, sizes and styles, we got ready to join in with 'Land Of Hope and Glory' in true Proms style.

Eventually we all piled back onto the coach and were interviewed for the school radio by Mr Sammy. Everybody thoroughly enjoyed the night and we're all really looking forward to next year.

By Chloe Cusition Year 10

PERFORMANCES AT CATMOSE THEATRE

THE LAST SNOW RIDER

Tuesday 12 January 2010 at 6:00pm

NTC Touring Theatre

Jack knows nothing about Snow Riders until one falls from the sky into his garden. Freya is in deep trouble. Once there were many of her kind, riding on snow clouds and spreading Winter Magic. Now, in a world where ice is in retreat, Freya is struggling to survive. If Jack is to save Freya, he must travel on a quest to the Far North. This fairytale about friendship is filled with magic, laughter and tears.

The performances cost only £3.00 each for students if they pay beforehand (£3.50 on the door). To see two performances the cost is £5.50, three performances - £8.00, and all four performances - £10.00.

EXHIBITION IN THE GALLERY



OPEN 7 UNTIL 19 DECEMBER

In its seventh year, the ever popular annual Open exhibition returns with a showcase of inspiring artwork, including paintings, prints, sculptures and ceramics. With a wide range of interesting and affordable pieces on display, there will be something to suit all tastes and pockets. Open 7 is an opportunity for visitors to see some of the region's most talented artists and designer-makers, including art from both up-and-coming and established artists. So come along and find something extraordinary for Christmas or simply to treat yourself! The three prizes are generously sponsored by Goldmark Art of Uppingham, Swans of Oakham and Arts for Rutland.

Open: every Saturday 10am – 1pm, Tuesday – Friday 10am – 12.30pm & 1.30pm – 5pm.

CATMOSE FILMS



IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (U)

Wed 16 December 7.30pm

Drama / Romance / Family, USA (In English) (1946) 130mins

George Bailey spends his entire life giving up his big dreams for the good of his town, Bedford Falls, as we see in flashback. But in the present, on Christmas Eve, he is broken and suicidal over the misplacing of a loan and the machinations of the evil millionaire, Mr. Potter. His guardian angel, Clarence, falls to Earth, literally, and shows him how his town, family, and friends would turn out if he had never been born. George meant so much to so many people; should he really throw it all away? Director: Frank Capra Stars: James Stewart, Donna Reid

GOOD BYE LENIN! (15)

Wed 13 January 7.30pm

Comedy / Drama, German (English subtitles) (2003) 121mins

Alex's socialist mother awakens from an 8 month coma, during which time the GDR has fallen. Her heart is so weak that any shock might kill her so Alex transforms the family apartment into a socialist museum. What begins as a little white lie gets out of hand as Alex's mother, who feels better every day, wants to watch TV and even leave her bed.... Nominated for an Oscar. Director: Wolfgang Becker.

Tickets on door or college reception:
Catmose Film Members: £4

standard £3 concession / Guests:
£5 standard £4 concession

ROOTED IN READING

Catmose College attended a presentation event at Bishop Grosseteste University College Lincoln for the CfBT's Rooted in Reading Book Mark Award. The Book Mark Award is given to schools and colleges who fulfil the criteria by encouraging and promoting reading within the school and everyday life. The award was given to Ms Smith, college librarian and students, Hannah Richardson and Clara Feely, by the second Children's Laureate and distinguished prize-winning author, Anne Fine.

This is the second year that the CfBT have run this award as it was initially started during 2008, the National Year of Reading. Catmose College was one of 18 schools across Lincolnshire and Rutland who achieved the award. Ms Smith said 'To achieve this award shows how much our students enjoy reading and using the college and town libraries. It is a credit to our English department who encourage reading for pleasure within the college. We were the only school in Rutland to achieve the award and ensured that Rutland was on the 'map'. The criteria also includes the practical steps that we use to encourage reading for pleasure within the college and any activities that have



been organised to enrich the reading experience in college for both students and staff.'

Part of the award criteria includes each student being given a Reading passport where they place small reviews of all their reading experience which can include books, magazines and even reading online using websites. Students place their reviews within the passport, and then receive feedback and validations by stamping the passport. Once the passport is completed a certificate is given to the student.

A report about our trip to a presentation event in Lincoln by Hannah Richardson, 9T

Clara, Ms Smith and I went to Bishop Grosseteste University College in Lincoln to receive an award on behalf of our College. We won the Rooted In Reading Book Mark Award as we were one of the best schools for borrowing books from the library and for the way reading is encouraged within our college. We were the only school from Rutland who achieved this award.

There were about 16 other schools at the ceremony but most of these were primary schools. Anne Fine was there and you could get her to sign one of your own books or you could buy one there and get her to sign it. There were also lots of other books there that you could buy as well. She gave a speech about what inspires her to write. She showed us examples from things she has seen in newspapers. She also read us a passage from one of her books, *The More the Merrier*. One of the characters in this book was based on her father, and the book is based on one of the things that Anne positively hates - CHRISTMAS.

LEICESTERSHIRE 21 – 23 EAST MIDLANDS



This was the last time for the Leicestershire U16s to impress the Midlands coaches, so the pressure was high. With a strong first team our confidence was high within the

Leicestershire team. Leicestershire didn't have the start they wanted as East Midlands moved the ball wide straight away from the kick off, for them to break the line but to only drop the ball over the line. The pressure was not relived for long though, as East Midlands soon crossed the line with an explosive back row move. They soon crossed the line again to make the score 12 – 0. Confidence was low with Leicestershire, but this was soon to change in the second half, as George Ball made a 90 metre sprint to score. The belief was there in the team. As 3 early subs were made, things were brought to life. With two consecutive scores and penalties from each team made the scores 20-18 to East Midlands. With 5 minutes left Leicestershire thought they had stolen the game by scoring a penalty from half way. This was short lived as East Midlands were to win the game with a minute left by converting a penalty from the far touch line. Although Leicestershire had lost, our heads remained high as this was a performance that deserved a win.

Ben Turnbull

SPORT CENTRE OPENING DURING THE HOLIDAY

Please note that the swimming pool will be open until Sunday 20 December. It will then be closed until Saturday 2 January. The Sports Hall will be open from 21 to 23 December as usual.