

## PARENTAL SURVEY FEEDBACK

The recent survey of parental perceptions around the College has proven very useful in informing how we plan improvements for the future. There were 198 parents who responded across all year groups at the College. The younger year groups were better represented but we believe this a fair sample on which to make judgments.

### WHAT WE ARE DOING WELL

The vast majority of parents (90%) would recommend the College to friends.

A particular strength of the College continues to be our extra-curricular programme with 70% of parents responding that their child takes part in one of our many sports, drama, music or academic based activities. Overall parents rated the quality of these activities as 'good'.

The electives programme was also singled out for praise by many parents, with nearly a quarter of parents describing it as 'outstanding'. Many comments referred to the programme having 'opened their child's eyes' to a range of activities not previously considered.

The way in which the College keeps parents informed about their child's attendance was rated as 'good' or 'outstanding' by three quarters of parents. Most parents know who to contact at college in order to find out how their child is getting on.

The majority of parents are happy with the way in which we have involved you in developments at the College including changes to uniform, the College day and the electives programme.

Parents feel, on the whole, that their child makes good or better progress at the College.

### WHAT WE NEED TO IMPROVE FURTHER Communication.

There were a number of comments regarding how we communicate with home, in particular about trips, letters, policies and parent/teacher meetings.

We intend to improve communication in the following ways:

- We will update the College website ([www.catmosecollege.com](http://www.catmosecollege.com)) on a daily basis, with links to the latest information being displayed on the home page. We have created a parent section which will contain up-to-date copies of all college policies, letters home, booklets, activities on offer and any Ofsted reports;
- Connect, will be released on a fortnightly basis. Parents for whom we have email addresses will receive a link to the latest edition;

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- We are trialling a text service which we will use to inform you of important communication e.g. when progress reports are issued or we have asked students to bring a letter home. We would appreciate your feedback on this service.
- We will issue for the next academic year a programme of trips off-site for which parents are expected to make a contribution to the cost;  
on a weekly basis we will publish to the website and our VLE what extra-curricular activities are on offer in sport and music;
- We will discontinue progress days for all year groups; instead we will offer parents an evening in which they can meet with each subject teacher;  
we will work with form tutors to ensure that there is a strong link between the College and home in order to best support students;
- We have published a policy on communication which outlines the level of service you can expect from the College when contacting us.

### Homework.

Although many parents were supportive of the current amount of homework set by the college, there were as many who believe that their child should be set more in order to help them make better progress.

- We have revised our homework policy (available from the College website) which gives clear guidance for staff, students and parents regarding expectations for homework. Parents can expect homework to be clearly written in diaries and checked by tutors on a weekly basis.

- Stuart Williams

## SKI TRIP



On Saturday 13 February, 48 excited Catmose students prepared to set off for 6 days of skiing in Prato Nevoso, Italy. The prospect of a 24-hour coach and ferry trip was rather daunting, but I am sure that everyone would agree that if anything, it was quite funny! A whole day and night travelling proved a great opportunity for everyone to get talking and get to know each other – setting us up brilliantly for a holiday together.

Once in Prato Nevoso the coach began to struggle through the wintry conditions, but with the help of snow chains and a lot of team spirit we made it to Hotel Galassia. After having our skis and boots fitted, the excitement mounted as getting out on the

slopes seemed even nearer. We were told to settle down quickly to bed which I must admit proved difficult!!

When it came down to the ski lessons, we were put into groups with some fantastic instructors. We had five hours of lessons per day; the lessons were really fun and stretched us all.

As tiring as the lessons were, we always had energy for the evening activities! We had a hilarious time bum-boarding, ice-skating was great and night-skiing was a real experience. The presentation and disco night saw the trip out brilliantly and I think most of us were sad to say goodbye to Italy.

It's fair to say that Catmose really did have their share of trips, twists and tumbles throughout the holiday! Well done to everyone who soldiered through and still managed to have a good time. Joe, we love you!

Overall the ski trip 2010 was amazing! Thank you to Mrs Stapleton, Mrs Powell, Mr Dean, Miss Mitchell, Mrs Oates and Mr Thomas for making the trip happen. We all loved it and would advise anyone to go in the future.

- Laura Kearney (10C)

## BBC SCHOOL REPORT

On Thursday 11 March 17 students from the College will be joining up with around 700 schools across the UK making the news. The students are taking part in BBC News School Report, a BBC project to engage 11-14-year-olds in the news. All the students involved have gone through an application process to prove their commitment and enthusiasm for the project. They have decided the stories that they want to cover and have given up their time to undertake the research and prepare for the deadline, in a similar way that they would do within a professional news room. It has provided the students with a fantastic experience, which we hope to build upon next year. On Thursday at 2pm the students will be broadcasting their news, covering the stories of the day as well as their special report on the 10:10 campaign.

### ■ BBC NEWS SCHOOL REPORT ■

Three year 8 students Lucas Fairs, Harvey Stafford and Kyle Trowell interviewed Mr Williams on Wednesday in preparation for their special report about 10:10. The students said 'Interviewing Mr Williams was interesting as we found out things about the new school like the wood burner and the computers that will turn off at the end of the day. We really enjoyed speaking to Mr Williams and we were impressed that he had done his own research on the 10:10 campaign so he was prepared when we interviewed him.'

This year schools are also attempting to set the World Record for the largest interactive weather report. To help with this, students from the College will be taking the temperature at 9.15 am and submitting it to BBC Weather who will be compiling it into a weather report. Our news can be found on <http://learn.catmose.co.uk/mod/resource/view.php?id=561> from 2pm on the 11 or by accessing the Interactive Map on <http://learn.catmose.co.uk/mod/resource/view.php?id=561>. You can find more reports from School Reporters on the BBC website [www.bbc.co.uk/schoolreport](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schoolreport)

- Ms Smith

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

All students should have received the latest Scholastic Book Club Magazine and World Book Day Tokens. I have set up our Scholastic Book Club college group order online. This means you can now order all the books in your Book Clubs leaflet and many more at <http://clubs-school.scholastic.co.uk/catmosecollege> and, what's more, you'll be able to have your books delivered to school for FREE!

You need to order your books by Monday 15 March 2010. After that date, orders will be confirmed and the books will be delivered to college for me to hand out in class. For every £1 you spend, 20p goes back to our college to spend on much-needed books for our library! Take a look at what's on offer here <http://clubs-school.scholastic.co.uk/catmosecollege> – there are some great bargains with books costing as little as £1.99!

The World Book Day token can be used to make purchases from the book club only with orders placed in college and they can also be used when making purchases from any participating book shop.

## A TASTE OF JAPAN

- Ms Smith



For 14 of us, it was off to Tokyo (well, 'Little Tokyo') for a fun and educational meal in Leicester. For some students taking the Japanese Culture Elective, this was the first time in a Hackney cab, for others, their first meal out with friends. For most, it will be the first time they have practised their Japanese on Japanese people face to face! Chopstick use was worked out determinedly, so we could all 'zuru zuru' or slurp appreciatively, as is the custom. All students were brave and tried the aloe vera drink: imagine something that has the look and texture of watery jellyfish chunks. In truth, most found it 'fruity and light' – very refreshing. A great afternoon for staff and students alike.

- Miss Martin

## GOLD TOP

All KS3 students are invited to enter the 'Cook it' competition which is sponsored by gold top. The closing date to enter your menu is 30 April. You could have the chance to win a feature in BBC Good Food Magazine, a day in London for the final cook off, a holiday for your family, a blender and much more. See more details on [www.gfw.co.uk/children](http://www.gfw.co.uk/children)

- Ms Berry



## INTERMEDIATE MATHS CHALLENGE

As a pilot group we entered for the first time 10 year 9 students into the Intermediate Maths Challenge. We have always been involved in the Junior Maths Challenge for years 7 & 8 and thought it would be an ideal opportunity for those able in mathematics to try their hand at the Intermediate level. The results were most encouraging.

- Bronze certificates were awarded to: Emily Pease, Tim Rhys-Williams, Jonathon Hawkins, Matthew Holt

- Silver certificates were awarded to: Jenny Allen, Ben Findlay

- A Gold certificate and Best in School went to Sam Oakley who has also been invited to take part in the 'Grey Kangaroo' which is an even more thought provoking challenge.

Well done to Daniel McKay, Ryan Waterman and Jack Crankshaw who did extremely well.

Many congratulations to all the students who took part who were great ambassadors for the college.

- Mr Procter



## OLIVER



Students from year 7 will be performing songs from the musical 'Oliver' on Thursday 11 March, 2010. Over 100 students went to watch the musical at Drury Lane Theatre in January. Since then the students have been working on different songs in their music and drama lessons. In the morning they will be performing to students from the local primary schools, and in the afternoon to parents.

Songs that will be performed include: Food, glorious food, Where is love? Consider yourself, You've got to pick a pocket or two, I'd do anything and Oom pah pah.

If you would like to attend the afternoon performance at 2pm then please fill in the slip at the bottom of the letter that the year 7 students have taken home or can be found on our website ([http://www.catmosecollege.com/?view=parent\\_letters](http://www.catmosecollege.com/?view=parent_letters)). Alternatively ring reception with numbers. The performance is free but it will give us a rough idea of numbers to be accommodated. Thank you,

- Mrs Mitchell

## ANNIE

The musical 'Annie Junior' (a shortened version of the original) will be performed at Catmose Theatre over 3 nights: Tuesday 23, Wednesday 24 and Thursday 25 March, 2010, starting at 7:30pm. Around 70 students from years 7, 8 and 9 have been working on this musical since September during Electives time on Wednesday afternoons, as well as during lunchtimes.

On the afternoon of Monday 22 March the cast will also be performing the musical to the local primary schools. The musical Annie is based on the original comic strip 'Little Orphan Annie' by Harold Gray. Popular songs that you may recognise from this musical include: Tomorrow, Maybe, Hard-Knock Life, Easy Street and You're never fully dressed without a smile.

The lighting and sound for the performance is being run by our student technical team, and the set is being created by students during the Electives time.

Tickets are now on sale at reception: Standard ticket £5, Concessions/Students £3 and a family ticket (2 adults, 2 children) £14.

- Mrs Mitchell

## SUPPORTING STUDENTS

The GCSE exams are fast approaching and staff are working hard with year 11 students to ensure they receive as much support as possible to complete all their coursework and prepare for the exams. The aim of the intervention work is to support students' progress and lessen the stresses caused by falling behind or those that can result from misunderstanding.

A range of subject interventions has been taking place throughout the year. For example, phone calls home, letters and these have involved students attending a variety of 'catch up' sessions. These are 'vertical' interventions – i.e. those co-ordinated within subject teams and agreed with the relevant Vice Principal.

Each Tuesday I meet with Mrs Townsend, KS4 Progress Manager, to track year 11 students' progress using the coursework RAG list, along with data about predicted grades. This 'horizontal' process is complementary to the work that takes place within subject teams. This data is shared with your child. If you have any concerns about the progress your child is making do not hesitate to contact?

- Stuart Williams

## VACANCIES AT THE COLLEGE

### SENIOR ASSISTANT CURRICULUM SUPPORT

Required from September 2010

Permanent post

APT&C Scale 3/4, points 14-21  
 FTE Salary £15,725pa - £19,126pa  
 Pro rata salary £10,809pa - £13,147pa  
 30 hours per week, 39 weeks pa = 68.74%

To provide cover for lessons in the absence of teaching colleagues, as directed by the curriculum support team manager. This post would suit applicants looking to train for a career in teaching and requiring experience.

### TEACHING ASSISTANT

Required as soon as possible

Temporary post for one year in the first instance

APT & C Scale 1/3, points 4-17, £12,145pa-£16,830pa  
 FTE  
 This post is for 30 hours per week, term time only, 39 weeks  
 per year  
 Pro rata salary 68.74% = £8,348pa-£11,569pa

We have a vacancy for a teaching assistant to work with students who experience learning difficulties. Provision at the college for special educational needs and student support is excellent and you will be part of a strong staff team.

### EXTENDED SERVICES – GAMES CLUB SUPERVISOR

Required as soon as possible

Fixed term contract to March 2011 in the first instance

Rate of pay on Scale 4; £8.89 to £9.91 per hour

To satisfy the 'safe place' objective of the Every Child Matters agenda, we would like offer the opportunity for students to attend the Dining Hall after the elective programme on a Wednesday and participate in board games, or other calm activity. We would like to the facility open from 2.15pm until 6.15pm thus supporting those parents who have had to make arrangements to accommodate the early finish on a Wednesday. Potentially, we would like to offer snacks/drinks.

This post is to offer general support towards maintaining a calm atmosphere for students in order that they have a supervised environment in which to relax. The postholder might also be expected to offer light snacks.

Closing date : 9am on Monday 22 March. Please contact the college for a job description and application form.

## STUDENTS LEAVING COLLEGE DURING THE DAY

If a student has an appointment that requires them to leave college during the day, they will need to bring in a letter of authorisation from a parent/guardian. Students should give the letter to their form tutor in advance of their appointment time and a blue permission card will be given. If the appointment is at short notice and requires the student to leave before morning break, the letter should be given to Client Services.



## HAITI



Thank you to all of the students and staff who have been involved in organising fund-raising events for the victims in Haiti. Thanks to the generosity of our students and staff a fantastic £1268 has been raised so far. Well done!

- Stuart Williams

## ANNIE REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Date	Activity	Cast Required	Time
Monday 1 March - Thursday 4 March	Catch-up		12:40 - 13:10
Monday 15 March - Thursday 19 March	Catch-up		12:40 - 13:10
Friday 19 March	Technical / Dress Rehearsal	All	All Day
Monday 22 March	ANNIE PERFORMANCE - Primary Schools	All	14:00 - 15:00
Tuesday 23 March - Thursday 25 March	ANNIE PERFORMANCE	All	19:30

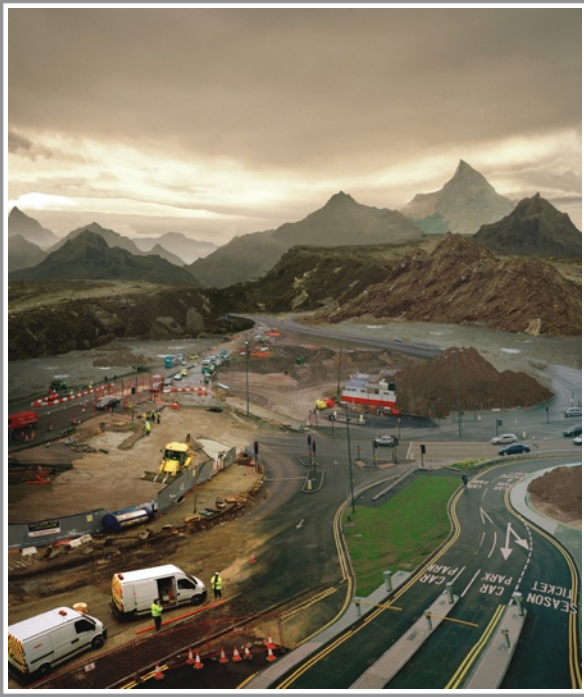
## MUSIC BULLETIN

### MUSIC EXTRA CURRICULAR TIMETABLE TERM 4

Day	Lunchtime 12:55 - 13:25	After School 15:30 - 16:30
Monday	Junior Orchestra (Years 7, 8 & 9)	Senior Orchestra (Years 9,10 & 11) GCSE & BTEC Study Support
Tuesday		Jazz Band (All Years) Not Started back as yet
Wednesday	Saxophone Ensemble (All Years) (12:00 - 12:30)	
Thursday	Flute Ensemble (All Years) Chamber Choir (Selected Students)	Rock School (15:30 - 17:00) GCSE Music Twilight (Selected Students)
Friday	Choir (All Years) Clarinet Ensemble (All Years)	Rock School (15:30 - 17:00)

## EXHIBITION

The gallery is free and all are welcome.  
Opening hours: Tues – Fri 10am – 12.30pm & 1.30 – 5pm and every Saturday 10am – 1pm.



Model Citizen is the title of the exhibition and of the main work on show, created by artist-group Low Brown Trash from Nottingham. 'Model Citizen' is a fun interactive motion-sensory piece, which layers multiple images based on British cultural images. A camera tracks your body shape and projects your silhouette onto a large screen that opens up another image 'window' underneath. Each set of images are linked and students are asked to work out the meaning between the images, for example 'gold' and 'circuit boards' = there is money in technology. Also on display are two large-scale photographs from the 'Constructed Landscape' series by Derbyshire artist Helen Saunders. These fantasy British landscapes, created from multiple photographs that have been 'Photoshopped', are concerned with our changing environment, provoking questions about the rate of man-made development and the implications for the future.

*-Miss Bishop*

## CATMOSE FILMS

### The Hurt Locker (15)

Action/Drama/Thriller USA (2008) 131 mins



'The Hurt Locker' is an intense portrayal of elite soldiers who have one of the most dangerous jobs in the world: disarming bombs in the heat of combat. When a new

sergeant, James, takes over a highly trained bomb disposal team amidst violent conflict, he surprises his two subordinates, Sanborn and Eldridge, by recklessly plunging them into a deadly game of urban combat. James behaves as if he's indifferent to death. As the men struggle to control their wild new leader, the city explodes into chaos, and James' true character reveals itself in a way that will change them all forever.

### Fantastic Mr Fox (PG) - Sat 20 March 2.00pm

Animation/Adventure/Comedy, USA (English) (2009) 87 mins

Fantastic Mr Fox is a delightfully funny feast for the eyes with multi-generational appeal. It is the story of one Mr Fox and his wild-ways of hen heckling, turkey taking and cider sipping, nocturnal, instinctive adventures.



With this animated adaptation of the Roald Dahl classic, director Wes Anderson moves from quirky films for adults to imaginative children's fare. Stars: George Clooney, Meryl Streep, Bill Murray.

## SPORTS NEWS

### TESCO VOUCHERS FOR SCHOOLS

It is that time of the year again when we are able to collect Tesco vouchers for sports equipment. Last year we collected over 27,000 which enabled us to purchase valuable resources for our students to use.

Students will be encouraged to participate in an inter form competition again with prizes being presented the form in each year group with the most vouchers collected. Collection boxes can also be found at the Sports Centre reception.



-Mrs Powell

### MATCH REPORT – YEAR 8 RUGBY



On Wednesday 10 February, the Catmose year 8 Rugby Team played against Ivanhoe School in the Quarter Final of the County Cup. Having gained second place in the regional competition back in September the team are playing in the 'plate' competition.

The team dominated proceedings in the opening exchanges. A powerful and physical pack won good quality possession for the back line who ran with pace and purpose. An early score put the team into a comfortable lead, however complacency crept into the teams play allowing Ivanhoe back into the game. At half time the score was Catmose 10 – 5 Ivanhoe.

In the second half, Catmose exerted constant pressure and Ivanhoe were camped in their twenty two, for most of the half. Powerful and fast breaks from number eight James Dalby resulted in two more tries being scored, the final score being Catmose 20 – 10 Ivanhoe. Congratulations to the team who move into the semi final of the competition and to James Dalby who scored a hat-trick of tries.

- Mr Husbands

### INTER HOUSE BADMINTON

In the last week of last term a mixed doubles inter-house badminton tournament was held during lunchtimes, for all year groups.

Year 7s kicked things off with yellow house winning their year group competition. On Tuesday 9 February the year 9s played with the yellow house again finishing first, this time jointly with green. Wednesday saw year 8s play with green taking victory from a second placed red team.

Year 10s took the chance on Thursday to change the overall scores. By the end of play yellow and red were in the lead, but all houses were closely placed. On Friday it was still all to play for; 1st, 2nd and 3rd places were still all up for grabs as the year 11s scored the final points for their house.

The final positions were 1st Red, 2nd Yellow, 3rd Green and 4th Blue. Throughout the competition there was a high standard of play, excellent knowledge of the rules and a competitive spirit. Congratulations to Red (Hirst) for claiming another victory and to all students who took part.



- Miss Jackson and Mr Ogden

### RUTLAND CROSS COUNTRY

The annual Rutland Schools cross country was held at the Oakham Rugby Club on Thursday 25 February. Sixty Four students represented Catmose in the event, which took place in mild and muddy conditions. The highlight from the day was a thrilling win for yr 11 student, James Butcher, who pipped the UCC competitor on the line in the KS4 boys' race. Led home by James, the KS4 boys team took first place also in the team competition. All student should be credited on their performance and third place overall finish.

- Mr Husbands

## SPORTS NEWS CONTINUED

### WHY I AM TRAINING TO BE A PE TEACHER



Firstly I would like to thank you, students and staff, for welcoming me to Catmose. I have really enjoyed my time here and wish you all the best in the future.

I was asked to write about how I got into PE teaching and the real answer is by chance. Throughout sixth form I was really unsure about whether I wanted to go to University or get a job. One afternoon after helping out with rugby practice, my sports teacher asked what I had planned for when I leave, and asked me if I would like to do a PE technician job. Within a month of working in school, helping out in PE lessons, organising equipment and fixtures I decided I really wanted to become a PE teacher.

I got myself some university interviews having gained my A Levels, vital experience in schools and getting some coaching qualifications. I was accepted into Bedfordshire University to do a 4 year Physical Education degree and have never looked back.

I enjoy every part of my course and thoroughly enjoy the experience of University. I get to go on teaching placement once a year, which I feel is the best part of my year, as you get to put into practice all the theory you learn at University and of course do the job you are hoping to do in the future. I have found Catmose to be a welcoming and friendly school. I have taught a wide range of activities and ages, gaining valuable experience to take me forward into my teaching career.

- Mr Ogden

### SPORTS RELIEF 2010

MONDAY 15 MARCH – FRIDAY 19 MARCH

The college is supporting and celebrating Sports Relief starting on Monday 15 March. Each of the four houses (Banksy, Gormley, Hamilton and Hirst) will play against a staff team at either Badminton, Basketball, Netball or Volleyball. These matches will take place during lunchtime.

On Friday 19 March all students and staff are invited to participate in the Sports Relief Mile. Suitable clothing and footwear will need to be worn (the course is on grass) and each competitor is asked to donate £1 towards Sports Relief. Points will be awarded to the Houses that raise the most money and have the most competitors in the Sports Relief Mile.

- Mr Husbands

### VIRGIN LONDON MARATHON 2010



On Sunday the 25 April I am taking part in the Virgin London Marathon 2010 to raise money for The Dalitso Trust and I'd really appreciate your support. The Dalitso Trust has been successfully working in partnership with rural villages in Malawi since 2002. The charities focus is on changing lives through development in a sustainable way. The charity believes change comes through investing in others, one person at a time. This is done in 3 main ways;  
 Dalitso Health: working with families to create healthy villages  
 Dalitso Leaders: mentoring and equipping local leaders  
 Dalitso Play: pioneering educational play and parenting skills'  
[www.dalitsotrust.org](http://www.dalitsotrust.org)

Donations can be made online with a credit or debit card - just go to my JustGiving page:

<http://www.justgiving.com/James-Husbands>

JustGiving sends your donation straight to The Dalitso Trust and automatically reclaims Gift Aid if you're a UK taxpayer, so your donation is worth even more. You can donate with the more traditional cash or cheque. Running a marathon and the training regime that goes with it is gruelling (and rewarding) process and I hope you'll join me in supporting The Dalitso Trust. Thank you.

- Mr Husbands

## SPORTS NEWS CONTINUED

### CROSS COUNTY ELECTIVE – LEE SUTTON MEMORIAL MAST RUN

In term three, twenty four students participated in the Cross Country elective. Every Wednesday afternoon come rain or shine (but mostly snow) all students and staff would undertake a variety of cross country runs. Over the six week course all involved took part in relay races, long distance runs, interval runs and fartlek sessions. The final week saw a race take place for the Lee Sutton Memorial Trophy.

Lee was a former student Lee Sutton attending Catmose College from 1997 – 2002. He was devoted to sport, represented the school in a wide variety of teams. His real passion was for cross country and football. Lee died shortly after leaving the college and in his memory the Memorial Run takes place.

Following the new Mast Run course all students set off aiming to win the trophy. All students who took part completed the three mile course. The winner was Karl Simpson winning in a time of twenty minutes and thirty seconds, in the process setting the record for the new route. Congratulations Karl and to all who took part in the elective and race.



- Mr Husbands

### SPORT BULLITIN

### SPORT EXTRA CURRICULAR TIMETABLE TERM 4

Day	Lunchtime	After School
Monday	Girls Hockey KS3 Yr 9 Rugby Spotlight Dance	Yr 7, 8, 9 Rugby Girls Rugby Spotlight Dance
Tuesday	Gymnastics Club	GCSE Study Support BTEC Study Support
Wednesday	Girls Hockey KS4 Yr 9 Rugby	Cheerleading 2.30 - 3.30 U13 Hockey @ UCC, 3.00 - 6.00 Yr 7, 8, 9 Rugby v UCC @ Oakham Rugby Club 3.00 - 5.00
Thursday		Rutland Cross Country @ Oakham Rugby Club 1.00 - 3.00
Friday	Yr 10 and 11 Rugby	PE Catch Up