



# April 2011 Newsletter

RICHMOND  
SCHOOL  
& Sixth Form College

Dear Parent/Guardian

## School Build

Work is progressing well and the build remains on schedule. Handover is due:

- Technology Block – 11 July
- Clarke-Hall Building (previously Middle School) – 22 July.



*(Work to Technology Block is Underway)*

All of the furniture and equipment, including ICT, will be transferred into these buildings over the summer holiday, which will allow the whole school to start the new academic year on one site in purpose built, top class accommodation.

Once handover is complete, Shepherd Construction will commence demolition work to the old Science block during August and the temporary classrooms currently used by the English Department will be removed from site.

This is a very exciting time for the School and we are all looking forward to this completion of the final building phase.

**Owen Kelly** (Year 7) will be playing Cricket for North Yorkshire U13's. He is also on Yorkshire Pathways and will be on it until he is 17, when he may then get a scholarship.

## Vacancies for Exam Invigilators

The School is looking to recruit a number of readers/writers to work 1:1 with vulnerable learners during public and internal exams. The successful candidates will work as part of a team of invigilators and may also be required to help with the general supervision of exams throughout the year. A training session will be run for successful candidates.

The hourly rate is £8.00 per hour. For more information and an application form please contact Ceri Dennis at the School.

## Creative Arts Specialism

The school production, '**Cider With Rosie**' (16–18 February) had a cast and crew of over 70. The highly original production succeeded brilliantly in conjuring up an atmospheric world, enhanced by live music from a staff and student folk band.

Extra-curricular activities are enjoying healthy numbers. Miss Holroyd has succeeded in recruiting a good number of boys to her **'Parkour' & Break-Dancing Club**, which was well-received when it was performed at a recent Aiming High assembly.

Many of our students are involved in the Georgian Youth Theatre; for a long time now this group and Richmond School's Drama department have been enhancing each other's work in developing our young people as technicians and performers. Several of our A Level Drama students performed with GYT in the **One Act Drama Festival** at the Georgian Theatre in February. **Amanda White** (Year 13) was nominated for Best Actress, and **Cordelia Stevenson** (Year 12) directed 'Be My Baby', which won prizes for Best Technical/Stage Management and Best Youth Group. These students will take their work forward to the next round of the All-England Drama Festival.

Several student performances have been given at the Georgian Theatre this term. Year 13 Drama students presented an impressive pair of devised dramas, **'Exploring Pan's Labyrinth'** on 16 March, Year 12 students had a large audience buzzing with their double bill of **'Oedipus Rex'** and **'Woyzeck'** on 29<sup>th</sup> March, and the next night an exquisite **'Evening of Music and Dance'** showcased Year 11-13 work, including students' original choreography.

For student achievement in Music, please see Su McCormack's report below.

A-Level Drama students benefitted from a workshop on 12 January from **Splendid Theatre**. This renowned company has a long-established relationship with Richmond School.



The same group of students made fantastic progress at the **Marrick Priory residential** on 22– 23 January. The work rate and creativity on this residential were exceptional.



Following this, the **London trip** on 11–13 February exposed A-Level Drama students to three West End productions of the highest quality: 'War Horse', 'Wicked' and 'An Ideal Husband'.

Creative Arts staff are currently preparing to launch several **new KS4 qualifications** in September: GCSE Photography, BTEC Level 2 Performing Arts (Drama), BTEC Level 2 Performing Arts (Dance) and NCFE Music Performance.

Both recent **Dance liaison projects** have been a great success: one on Bollywood dance at Ravensworth School, and another at Middleton Tyas Primary School.

As their **Theatre in Education** unit for GCSE, Year 11 Drama students toured 'The Winter Pilgrims' to Richmond C of E Primary School on 10 February, to support Year 5 and 6 pupils' work in Religious Studies.



They also ran a drama workshop for the young audience, which was very enthusiastically received and showed them to be excellent ambassadors for the subject.

The '**Cider With Rosie**' Matinee entertained hundreds of pupils from local primary schools and has also kindled excitement amongst Year 6 about learning Drama at Richmond School.

Transition Richmond Yorkshire (TRY), a local group championing Richmond's push to be a 'green town', staged an **Arts Day** at Lower School on Sunday 27 March. This successful event included a workshop by Richmond School jazz musicians in their ensemble Richmond Jam.

Nine promising Media Studies students in Year 10 have been identified for a **film-making project** to be run in May by Richmond Swale Valley Community Initiative in liaison with Richmond School. The students will be working with professional film-maker Alan Fentiman ([www.alanfentiman.co.uk](http://www.alanfentiman.co.uk)) to create a virtual reality tour of Richmond through the ages, to go on permanent display in the Georgian Theatre Royal Museum.



### ***Diary dates for upcoming events***

Saturday 9 April, evening: **Community Idol Final** at Bolton Castle (for tickets please call Emma Jobling on 01748 850111)

17 June: Mooncalf Theatre (our Sixth Form company) present **Cabaret Mack-Beth** at the Georgian Theatre Royal (Box Office 01748 825252)

*Liz Moss – Director of Creative Arts*

## **Music Department**

Twelve violinists and our two viola players attended a **String Masterclass** on 11 February. **Victoria Sayles**, who was performing the day after as part of the Richmond Subscription Concerts, gave our students the benefit of her expertise. The students ranged from Grade 8 to beginner level and everyone enjoyed her workshop. On a similar line a number of our students took part in a **Wind Workshop** on Friday 18 March with members of the Gallimaufry Wind Quintet.

On Thursday 3 March, 17 members of the **School Choir** sang in St Mary's Church, Richmond, as part of a SSAFA fundraising concert, helping raise £420 for the charity. The School Choir also competed at the Wensleydale Tournament of Song on 29 March.

The Richmond School heat for **Community Idol** was held on Wednesday 9 March at 7.00pm in Lower School Hall. A total of 12 acts and 19 students, watched by an audience of over 100, competed to win two places in the Final to be held at Bolton Abbey in Wensleydale on Saturday 9 April 2011. The winning acts were Katy Darkings, Niamh Cullen and Harry Cameron, and we wish them every success in the Final.

Congratulations to **Phil Guy and Mark Millman** (Catterick Brass) and **Jack Grainger** (Cockerton Brass Band) - both brass bands have won through to the National Brass Band Championship Finals



in September in Cheltenham. Both bands are currently in the Second Section of the Championship.

Congratulations to all students who have recently passed **Associated Board exams**: **Dan Darkings** (Year 13) Grade 7 saxophone, **Mark Millman** (Year 12) Grade 6 euphonium with Merit, **Megan Connolly** (Year 11) Grade 5 flute, **Tom Fletcher** (Year 9) Grade 5 guitar, **Isis Pealing** (Year 7) Grade 3 flute, and **Aresa Foster** (Year 8) Grade 2 clarinet with Merit.

A number of our students are also preparing for auditions/ interviews at music colleges, and we wish them well. Some of the students also gave a public performance of their work in The Georgian Theatre Royal on Wednesday 30 March, as part of 'An Evening of Music and Dance'.

We enjoyed great success at the **Wensleydale Tournament of Song** from 30 March – 1 April, winning first prize in the Choral Singing class and first prize (Swing Band) and second prize (Brass Group) in Junior Ensemble/Band class.

Richmond School's **Spring Music Concert** on Tuesday 5 April in The James Tate Restaurant was a slightly more informal concert with all of our ensembles performing, including our prize-winning Choir, Swing Band and Brass Group!

If your child has been involved in any other musical activities, please let us know!

Parents are reminded that headphones are no longer required in music lessons. Students can however provide their own if they wish to use them.

*Su McCormack – Head of Music*

## Fairtrade Fortnight

The Fairtrade Fortnight was a great success:

- Stalls were run every day over the fortnight, with £150 of Fair Trade goods sold
- The Bake Sale held in the Sixth Form Centre raised £27
- £20 was raised by catering for the Year 11 and 12 Options Evening
- The raffle was won by Sarah Burnham, and raised a further £38.

Matt Peverell, Josh Rutherford, Ben Purkiss-McEndoo and Tom Farquhar of Year 10 delivered an assembly (which they designed themselves) to the whole of the Richmond Church of England Primary School and were complimented on the content and their performance by the Head.

Many thanks to all who supported the Fairtrade cause over the fortnight.

*Arlene Garnett – Head of Year 11*

## Help for Heroes Sponsored Stretcher Carry

### Sponsored Stretcher Carry for Help for Heroes

Charlie Young, Anthony Donohue, Kieron Colton, Charley Purkiss-McEndoo, Ed Ridley, Kyle Heaney, Tom Hodgson, Ryan Howe, and James Donaldson who played the injured soldier, put together an 8-man team and carried a man on a stretcher from Vimy Barracks, Catterick Garrison to Richmond School on Tuesday 22 March in order to raise money for Help for Heroes. They set off at 11am, accompanied by WO2 David Senior and SSgt Steve Banks, and arrived through the gates of the school at around 1.15pm to be met by Ian Macmillan, Garrison Sergeant Major.

Richmond School students are very committed to raising money for Help for Heroes, not only as it is an extremely worthy cause, but also because of the amount of



students with parents in the military who attend the school, and staff who are either ex-military or whose partners are currently serving.

The students are very grateful to everyone that supported them along the way and are proud to announce that they've raised in excess of £1,500 for a very worthy cause.



## **Notice to Parents about the Proposed Disposal of Playing Field Land at Richmond Lower School**

### **Section 77 School Standards and Framework Act 1998**

Notice is hereby given that North Yorkshire County Council intend to apply to the Secretary of State for Education to dispose of playing field land at Richmond (Lower) School which will no longer be required upon completion of the new Building Schools for the Future development.

To comply with Section 77 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 the Council must consult with various interested parties and members of the public on the proposed disposal.

The area under consideration is situated behind the lower school buildings on Station Road, Richmond. A plan of the area can be obtained from Audrey Pledge at the school

upon request. The area has previously been used as informal and social areas by Richmond School. Any redevelopment of this area would require planning permission and as such would be subject to a separate consultation and approval process.

Views and comments on the proposed disposal of land at Richmond (Lower) School are invited in writing to Julia Temple, Sites Officer, Strategic Services, Children & Young Peoples Service, NYCC, County Hall, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 8AE.

All comments and representations received before the closing date will be taken into account and reported to the Secretary of State as part of the 'Section 77' application process.

This consultation period will close on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

