



# CITY LIGHTS

CITY OF LONDON SCHOOL

Issue 17 Autumn 2008

Headmaster	1
The Citizen	2
Bursary Appeal	2
New Winterflood Theatre	3
BBC Young Chorister of the Year 2008	3
Chamber Choir trip to Oxford	4
Music Technology	4
Geography trip	5
Berlin	6
Literary News	7
Lower School Sports Trip to Bryanston School	8
CSO	8
Charity Appeal	9
Old Grammar Science	9
Modern Language Society	10
Open House	10
Yorkshire	11
Old Citizens	12

The impressive new Winterflood Theatre. See page three for the full story



## From The Headmaster's Desk:

City of London School is one place in the Square Mile where you will currently hear about things other than the gloom of recession. That is not to say that we are ignorant of our surroundings. Rather, we are concentrating more than ever on our core purpose and the enduring values of a very old school.

These enduring values are:

- Hard work inside the classroom and out
- Intellectual rigour
- Sound management
- Concern for others

Hard work is evidenced in our excellent public examination results, with 75% of all A2 levels graded A and a record breaking 50%, or one in two, of all GCSEs achieving A\*.

This academic success is reflected in the quality of the university destinations of our leavers, with nearly 80% going to Russell Group Universities – a proxy for the premier division of British Higher Education. Equally significant, 88% of leavers gained their first choice of course and university.

Intellectual rigour flourishes at CLS through the enrichment activities which academic departments undertake over and beyond the strict confines of the subject syllabus. We do not merely 'teach to the test'. Thus the Barnes Amis Society provides in-depth English Literature textual analysis sessions, theatre visits, and creative writing courses. There are history reading groups, maths circles, preparation for chemistry and physics olympiads, lunchtime craft clubs in the Design and Visual Arts Department as well as open interdisciplinary societies such as Debating and Public Speaking, the Model UN, Politics, Medical and

Economics Societies, all of which attract outside speakers of the highest calibre. There cannot be many schools which, within a three month period, can attract the Shadow Chancellor, the Head of Global Economic Research at Goldman Sachs and the Deputy Prime Minister to speak to their students. Many other influential speakers, such as the Director-General of GCHQ, have also visited.



Over and above these quasi-academic pursuits our 38 general clubs and societies flourish, our sports teams advance, and our Combined Cadet Force remains the largest volunteer contingent in the United Kingdom, with over 320 boys regularly attending camps and expeditions. It was not by accident that we were asked by Government to spearhead the pilot project developing maintained schools' cadet forces. This was motivated by the idea that team work, planning, leadership and physical endurance might actually be usefully enriching to pupils if such an opportunity were extended to pupils at maintained schools.

Sound management means that we are organised so as to operate efficiently, thus insulating ourselves from economic difficulties. With the generosity of our many sponsors and the matched funding of the City of London Corporation, we are able to demonstrate our concern for others in the very real way of providing 106 means-tested, 100% sponsored awards. If you add partial awards from the Livery Companies, the Corporation of London and the Choral Scholarships given by HM The Queen and Temple Church, a total of 358 boys receive some help with fees, or 40% of the student body. These scholars not only enrich themselves, but also enrich the intellectual life of the school.

So in the dark days of the world around us it is enrichment that we as a school offer today. I am also delighted to be able to tell you that one facet of that enrichment is, this year, a significant capital project in the creation of a new theatre. This is the result of the gift of Brian Winterflood who, after 40 successful years in the Square Mile, felt our school to be the most appropriate recipient of his generosity. We are greatly looking forward to using the theatre and most grateful to Brian Winterflood and the City of London Corporation for making this possible.

In conclusion, CLS is not a pretentious, complacent or smug school. It is our tradition of "get on, work hard and succeed, whoever you are", of which I am most proud.

David Levin

# The Citizen

Harry Smith writes about the school's weekly publication.



The Citizen editorial team, hard at work

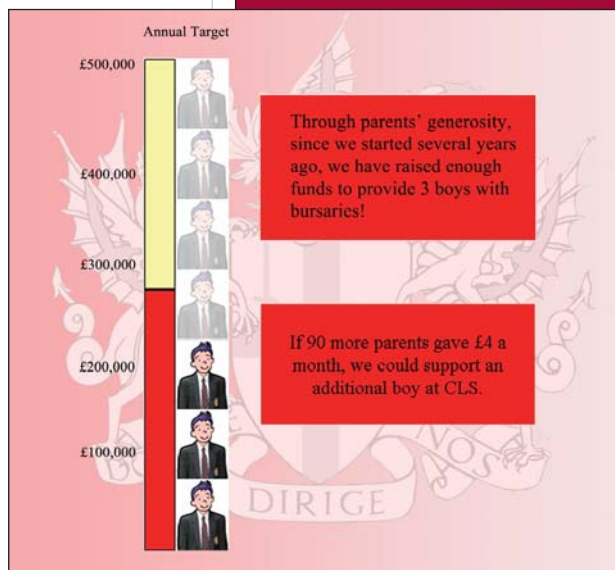
Fleet Street it is not, but The Citizen newspaper is something of which the school is rightly proud. With the editorial team ranging from Sixth Formers, such as myself, to First Formers, we are nothing if not diverse, and our recent coverage reflects that. Few eleven year olds will want to know about the weekly rise and fall of the FTSE, nor will many

Senior Sixth Formers concern themselves with the results of the Junior School Latin reading competition. However, we cover articles that will be of importance to both ends of the spectrum, and several - such as those on school dinners - which may inspire a spark of interest across the readership.

Any boy is able to apply for The Citizen's writing team, and we currently have at least twenty regular contributors, three quarters of whom show up to our weekly meetings. Mr. Fillingham heads the newsroom, and his drive and enthusiasm for the school have transformed The Citizen from a measly single side of A4 to a much more substantial publication. Beneath him are the two sub-editors, myself and Thomas Hogarth, who have the painful job of destroying someone else's hard work in order to meet the word limit. We contribute occasionally, but leave much

of the writing to our team of Roving Reporters, headed by Harry Michell. Although not a fan myself, I am told that the sports pages are very readable, and occasionally accurate! Other highlights include the reviews section, whose discussion of the film Airplane has recently sparked heated debate. With the thought for the week by Yehuda-Simcha Gaffin, we ponder out daily existence. Recent gems have included "Life is like a bicycle, you only fall off when you stop going forward". Stirring words.

Hopefully by some time next term we will feature a cartoon, and a revamped puzzles page, as well as an increase in the number of Metro-style info-boxes. We are also looking into new methods of printing and distribution, so any computer whizzes are invited to contact me via Miss Connolly, or Mr Fillingham.



One of the most frequent questions we are asked at sessions with prospective parents is "what makes this school special?" (For those who are interested, the others are generally "how much are the fees?" and "I'm feeling faint: where's the school nurse?" on being given the answer.) The answer is almost invariably the same, whoever you ask. At the top of a long list of reasons comes diversity, that special piquancy you feel in the air when 900 able boys of wildly varying

## Bursary Appeal

Former Head Boy Conan McKenzie reminds us of the importance of the Parents' Bursary Fund.

backgrounds crowd the corridors, laughing and pushing and debating with each other, and above all learning from each other. Or that special relish you feel when some teacher or pupil from a rival institution says "City of London? Oh, that's a school for..." and then cannot finish the sentence, for they cannot find one single word that fits and recognisably describes a City boy, and search desperately for a stereotype that doesn't exist.

One of the keys to creating, maintaining and enhancing this agreeable situation is the bursary system. Diversity is one of the hallmarks of the school, and an instinctive appreciation for comfort within it is one of the greatest gifts a boy takes away from the school upon leaving. But, as other schools have discovered, the type of parent who can pay twelve thousand pounds a year per child is fairly narrow, and so one of the keys to avoiding homogeneity of social background is

the bursary system. The Parents' Bursary Committee does sterling work in providing assistance to parents of bright boys who otherwise would not be able to come to City, but are constantly limited in their ambition by lack of funds. If the parents of every boy gave just 1% of their termly fees to the Parents' Bursary Fund, the Committee could fund over ten 50% bursaries. For every bright boy turned away for lack of funds, the school and everyone in it loses out immensely. In the modern world an ability to get along with and work alongside people from every sort of social and ethnic background is nigh-on essential - a skill that all City boys grasp early on, thanks in large part to the bursary system. A regular donation to it is not so much an act of charity as an essential investment in the school community and your son's wider education, and in uncertain economic times, it's probably the safest investment there is.

# New Winterflood Theatre

Mr Biltcliffe reports on the exciting new school theatre.

The new theatre in the school was completed right on schedule and opened for drama lessons immediately after the half term break. Culture Minister Margaret Hodge set the project in motion in June by wielding the hammer that started the demolition of the old Beaufoy Theatre. The school has funded this development with the help of a significant gift from City benefactor Mr Brian Winterflood.

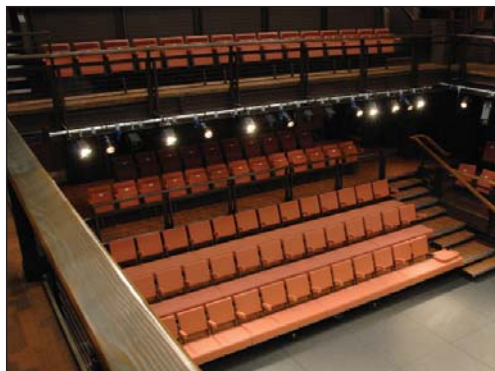
The internal design of the theatre has totally transformed the space into a dynamic "thrust stage" configuration with the audience surrounding the performers. This included building a balcony for additional seating.

The latest lighting systems have been installed, along with a wire tension grid that increases flexibility when rigging and focusing the lights. It gives the pupils involved in the technical side of theatre unprecedented hands-on experience with the latest equipment.

This heralds a new era of drama at CLS with boys learning new acting skills in how to command the space. The first school production next term will be Stephen Sondheim's Musical "Sweeney Todd", directed by Martin Biltcliffe.



Views of the new Winterflood Theatre



## BBC Young Chorister of the Year 2008

Geoffrey Chang reports on success for City of London School in this year's competition

Friday October 31st October proved to be a very special day for CLS musicians - but particularly special for two boys in the 2nd Form. This was the final of the BBC Radio 2 Young Choristers of the Year Competition 2008, held and recorded in a packed St. Paul's Cathedral. There had already been two preliminary rounds and other entrants had been eliminated, leaving just four boys and four girls. Harry Bradford and Charlie McNelly were among those chosen, so two of the four boy finalists were from CLS. Harry is a chorister with the Chapel Royal and Charlie is a Temple Chorister.

They both sang an own-choice piece as well as a hymn, both sung from memory. The judges included the Director of Music at St. Paul's Cathedral and the

soprano Hayley Westenra. Both boys sang beautifully, demonstrating impressive control, clarity and expression. After a long, nail-biting period of waiting whilst the judges made their decision, the presenter announced that Harry Bradford was the BBC Young Chorister of the Year 2008. The program was broadcast on Radio 2 on Sunday November 2nd.

Harry can now look forward to appearances on Radio 2's Good Morning Sunday, Sunday Half Hour, Radio 4's Daily Service and Sunday Worship as well as special TV and concert appearances, particularly at Christmas and Easter.

Huge congratulations to both Charlie and particularly Harry on this prestigious achievement.



Charlie & Harry

# Music News

## Chamber Choir trip to Oxford

On a typical winter's day very soon after returning from the half-term break, our potent singing force set off for Oxford from CLS to sing evensong at Oxford's Merton College. We were the first choir privileged enough to be invited by the very distinguished Director of Music Peter Phillips, founder and director of the world-renowned Tallis Scholars, to sing as part of the college's new choral foundation.

The coach journey was just short enough to prevent unrest from setting in. Younger ones savoured their time away from school, and some older students found this excursion to be an excellent

opportunity to gain an insight into the charming town and University of Oxford.

We took advantage of the resources available to us and so Mr. Holiday gave us an exclusive scenic tour of his former college, Magdalen (I was surprised to find out that it was pronounced, Mor-de-lin!). We strolled around the big park next to the college, in the middle of which was a deer enclosure, and looked at the nearby river where one can go punting in more suitable weather. The rain didn't dampen our spirits, however, as we hastened back to Merton. Just as we were forgetting the real reason why we were there, our sightseeing was

interrupted by a rehearsal to polish up our set of songs. We also practised how to process in and exit in a stately fashion. Little more preparation was needed apart from being offered biscuits, which we gratefully scoffed down in the run up to the evensong.

The quaint chapel dates from around 1290 and its fine acoustics enhanced our singing. Also, the beautiful stain glass windows were a sight to remember. We pulled off a great service while singing some challenging pieces. Under the watchful eye of Peter Phillips himself, the choir did itself proud, with Mr Harrison at the helm. Pretty much business as usual.

## Music Technology

Work began during the summer holidays to convert the disused DVA workshop 'W2' into a fabulous new Music Technology room. The new room was completed in August, with all 28 iMacs arriving shortly before the start of this term. Mr. Harrison, the Director of Music, has assured me the brand new sleek iMacs are state of the art and are superior to their ageing predecessors. The machines are all

connected up to keyboards and headphones. Furthermore, they are all loaded with the latest music software Logic Professional (used by professionals in the music industry dare I say) and Sibelius 5. During lessons the teacher may wish to make use of the two projector screens onto which pupils' work can be screened and played through the speaker system simultaneously.

Composing, an integral part of music, has been made easier and interactive. It is now possible for even the youngest of pupils at CLS to compose little pieces of music themselves with the guidance of teachers. It can safely be said that no other school has such wonderful music facilities. One thing is for sure, music lessons at CLS will never be the same again!

## Autumn Concert

The rich musical talent at CLS was on show in the Autumn Concert in November. On Armistice Day, musicians were busy not only participating in the Remembrance Service in the courtyard, but also having rehearsals throughout the day for the Autumn Concert. The programme served up a nice range of music, from classical to jazz. The ensembles that participated included the First Orchestra, Brass & Percussion and Big Band. The concert opened up with the incredibly moving Fanfare for the Common Man by Aaron Copland. This was fitting for the occasion and

worked up a grand militaristic atmosphere. To continue with the topical American theme, coinciding with the American Election, the First Orchestra then played the Four Dance Episodes from 'Rodeo', also by Copland. The energetic Hoe-Down was juxtaposed with the Saturday Night Waltz, creating an interesting contrast.

Next, the Second Orchestra displayed the huge potential and indeed talent among the slightly younger musicians at CLS. The String Orchestra was also impressive, playing Holst's St. Paul's Suite from which the familiar Greensleeves tune arose. To finish the

night off, the massive Junior Choir, accompanied by the splendid Big Band, sang some upbeat jazz classics which got toes tapping and fingers clicking. It even generated a rare encore! Well done to all involved for all the hard work.

Free entry to the concert meant that the charity committee received an overwhelming response in donations for the charity, Seeing is Believing. Thank you for your continued support. Special thanks must also go to the music department for the huge effort that went into organising such an enjoyable concert.

Geoffrey Chang

# Geography trip

Shyam Patel enjoys his visit to Iceland with the Geography Department.



Walking along volcano

Following last year's very successful trip to Namibia the Geography Department had decided to take a much larger group to Iceland during the October half term. Our group of thirty-two students and five teachers met at school on the morning of Thursday 16th October with luggage in hand and eagerly anticipating what Iceland had to give us.

After a three hour flight we arrived in Keflavik airport, where we were greeted by our tour guide for the duration of the holiday. We were soon experiencing one of the trip's highlights: a bus trip to the Blue Lagoon Geothermal Spa. There we spent a few hours relaxing in the geothermally heated lagoon. This was a very enjoyable and amusing experience for the majority, and I can safely say that we all had a good time.

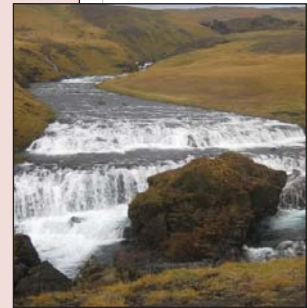
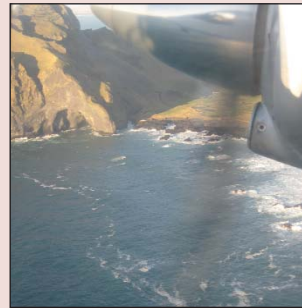
After our down time at the spa we headed to our hotel for the next three nights, stopping on the way to see the famous Westmann Islands. After a refreshing night's sleep, we woke up early the next day to explore the south coast of the island. We walked behind the magnificent Seljalandfoss waterfall, and went to the coast at Reynishverfi. Here we saw a vast black sand beach and the basalt lave formations and caves. On our way back to the farm we went to the Sólheimajökull glacier and walked onto the foot of the ice: a great experience even for those who were

not geographers.

On Saturday we set off for Bakki airfield on the south coast, where we would take a six minute flight to the Westmann Islands. Having arrived, we walked around the still active Eldfell volcano (which last erupted in 1973) and had lunch. Some of us were lucky to find hot spots on the top of the volcano and used them to our advantage on a bitterly cold and windy day! We then took the flight back to the mainland and went back to the farm for dinner. Saturday offered us the chance to have a go at karaoke – a competition which, surprisingly, was won by Mr Close and Mr Davies.

The next morning – after a horrendously early start – we left Hellisholar for Iceland's famous 'Golden Circle'. We firstly went on to Geysir which was an area of many geysers and of high geothermal activity, before proceeding to Pingvellir, where we walked through the Almannagja rift which marks the position of the mid-Atlantic ridge. We then set off for Selfoss, the most famous waterfall in Iceland; here we climbed to the top of the waterfall and experienced the breathtaking views around us before heading to the fascinating local geothermal power plant. That evening, back in Reykjavik, we met an Old Citizen in a restaurant, and went for a highly enjoyable bowling match.

The next day saw us wake early and take a very short guided tour of



Left: Heimaey from air

Below: River above Selfoss



Reykjavik in the freezing cold, after which we had free time to do as we wished. But all too soon it was over, and after a quick goodbye to our Old Citizen we headed to the airport and to England. We landed at eight in the evening and were greeted by our parents.

Many thanks to Mr Marshall, Mr Close, Mr Davies, and Mr and Mrs Pike for making the trip so thoroughly enjoyable and such a great success.

Above: Group at Seljalandfoss

# Berlin

Joseph Ataman recalls a successful trip to Germany.

Berlin is a city like no other. Ravaged by anarchy and an ill-equipped political system, scoured by the Nazis, flattened by the Soviets and split in two by the GDR, finally it seems that this great city is at peace. Its unique combination of architecture, memorials and museums now gives an unrivalled account of the troubled history of the last century.

It was for this very reason that 26 boys from the 5th form arrived at Schoenefeld airport, south east of the city, for a whirlwind tour of Berlin's historical heritage. On the first day, a sightseeing tour ended with a fantastic rooftop view of the city from the Reichstag, the current home of the German Parliament.

The second day began early with a visit to the Stasi museum, the former home of the most secretive prison of the GDR's reign. Staffed by interrogators and guards of the Stasi, the German secret police, it held the most valuable of prisoners from the end of the Second World War onwards. Here, under Stalin's tyrannical regime, prisoners were tortured and housed in the 'U-boat' - a cramped network of tunnels and cells built by former inmates. Here we saw rubber cells where prisoners were made to stand for days on end, in ankle deep water, or tiny closets, where prisoners were forced to spend hours on end, unable to either stand or sit down.

Checkpoint Charlie has forever been associated with escape attempts into West Berlin. The principal checkpoint into the American sector, it was the scene of a military show of strength in 1961 as American and Russian tanks faced each other over the border. At the checkpoint, hidden by the masses of tourists, crowding around the actors dressed up as soldiers and stalls trying to flog overpriced souvenirs to London teenagers, lies one of the most detailed and informative museums in the city. The museum, housed in a house used by West Germans to signal to potential escapees in East Berlin, documents the carried escape attempts to the west, which involved the use, amongst other things, of hot air balloons and scuba diving equipment. Following this, Saturday was used to examine the terror organisation of Nazi Germany and the resistance that opposed them. The afternoon was spent in the Resistance museum, where the extremely knowledgeable guides educated us about the feats of the 'ordinary heroes' who saved the lives of Jews and outcasts.

The Holocaust is a nightmare that the human race must never be allowed to forget. The concentration camp at Sachsenhausen is a memorial to all those prisoners who were tortured, experimented upon and murdered while

the people of the town adjoining the camp watched as prisoners were marched to their deaths. The Holocaust memorial in the very centre of the city is also a thought-provoking monument. Each person quizzed by Mrs Arnold had a different theory as to what the grey pillars stood for and each new theory led to yet more ideas as to their meaning. Afterwards, we visited the Jewish Museum, designed by Daniel Libeskind, and admired its appearance - the building's angular visage and labyrinthine galleries, which are arranged in a shattered Star of David. The exhibitions document Berlin's Jewish population and really helped to personalise the journeys of families leading up to the 'final solution.'

After this fascinating, yet depressing tour of horrific recent history, the trip finished in style with a trip to the 1936 Olympic stadium, which was the site not only of Jesse Owens's famous haul of four gold medals, but also the dramatic 2006 World Cup final. My thanks must go to all the staff who made this fantastic trip possible and who put up with us for the duration, even when passports were forgotten and boys left on trains. Special thanks to Mrs Arnold who organised the entire trip and the brilliant programme. Without a doubt this trip was an amazing experience and one that will remain with us all for the rest of our lives.

Below: CLS students enjoy a stimulating trip to Berlin

Right: The Berlin Wall



# Literary News

**Harry Michell records a fascinating visit to the Cheltenham Literary Festival, and introduces his own contribution to The Daily Telegraph's Poetry for Performance Competition.**

On the morning of Thursday 16th October the Headmaster arrived to take fourteen slightly chilly Junior Sixth Formers and a select few English teachers to the annual Cheltenham Literary Festival, famous for its prestigious and diverse speakers and for its aptly-named 'tea tent', full of splendid muffins and flapjacks!

As we piled into the coach, the sun began to appear from behind the clouds and there was excited anticipation as we nibbled noisily at our breakfasts of tuna sandwiches and orange juice. By 12.00 we had arrived and were quickly ushered into the Town Hall to see authors Fay Weldon and Sadie Jones discuss their new books *The Stepmother Diaries* and *The Outcast*; the latter was sponsored by CLS. Both authors spoke with charming exuberance and it was a real joy to hear them read snippets from their novels.

After our first lecture we broke for lunch and sat in the sunshine on the grass, dining for a second time on tuna sandwiches and orange juice before making a quick dash into the town centre to see what was going on there. Not a great deal, as it turned out, although Sam Kahan was fortunate enough to find 50p! We arrived back at the festival just in time for Mr. Levin's ruthless test on Cheltenham's constructional history,



asking, "Now boys, which of these buildings is in fact a replica of the surrounding Georgian houses, and not the real thing?" I silently kicked myself for failing to finish *Georgian Architecture for Idiots*, although credit must go to Ms. Sénéchal who, turning up after the answer had been revealed, was able to solve the puzzle (admittedly with the help of Mr. Williams, who muttered "The one with the blue door!" to her as she passed.)

Back inside and we sat in on Helen Rappaport's talk on her new book *The Romanovs*, an account of the final days of the Russian Imperial family. What was most fantastic was Rappaport's evident attachment to her work and how emotionally involved she had become whilst writing the novel, shedding a tear or two as she reminisced about her explorative encounters. We then went on to see a selection of authors, including Jonathan Dimbleby, who was speaking about Russia.

The day continued with a one to one chat with Sadie Jones, an extremely interesting woman who discussed with us the themes of her new book, before culminating with a fantastic meal, courtesy of the Headmaster, at Cheltenham's very finest bistro! However, all was not over: we returned to the festival for a final time to watch Radio 4's *News Quiz*, the hilarious programme hosted by the glorious Sandi Toksvig with guests Phil Jupitus, Sue Perkins, Fred MacAuly and Jeremy Hardy. The show was utterly fantastic, keeping all of us wincing with laughter. After so much excitement, we were grateful to go home

## Poetry for Performance

In the words of Andrew Motion, Poet Laureate and judge of the competition, "The poems must describe personal relationships: love, loss and everything in between". I've never loved (other than my parents!) nor lost, so I entered an old poem about the closest thing in my opinion to love – seeing a hot girl on the bus. All the same, I recently discovered that I've been shortlisted into the top fifteen for my age group. Thanks to Mr Phillipson for suggesting that I enter.

### Girl on the Bus

There's a girl sitting on the bus, sitting on the bus  
Right across the street, right across from me;  
Separated by stars and cars and two old ladies  
Talk of last night's Coronation Street.

She's a little bit chavvy with her tracksuit on,  
And her hair's tied back with a piece of elastic;  
Can't see her 'crepes', but if I did then I bet  
She'd be donning a new pair of Reebok classics.

Couldn't stop staring, my forehead wearing the window,  
And my heart to my mouth.  
Couldn't describe her eyes if I tried,  
But her eyes were made to write songs about.

Not to be romantic, fanatic, in a panic,  
But the time then slowed-Yes time it turned to sand.  
Not to be romantic, fanatic, in a panic,  
But this beautiful girl made Snow White look tanned.

There's a girl sitting on the bus, sitting on the bus  
Right across the street, right across from me;  
Separated by stars and cars and two old ladies  
Talk to last night's Coronation Street.

to a local (and apparently haunted) Bed and Breakfast, and being treated to a seemingly limitless morning fry up.

The trip was a complete success and I can safely say that it was thoroughly enjoyable for all involved. Much thanks the Headmaster, on behalf of the students, for organising and funding the excursion, and to the teachers for accompanying us – and for allowing us to win the teacher-pupil Guardian Crossword challenge!

**Far Left Top: The Headmaster gives staff and students a tour of Cheltenham**

**Far Left Below: Sadie Jones signs a copy of her novel**

**Below: CLS staff and students outside the Cheltenham Literary Festival**



# Lower School Sports Trip to Bryanston School

Phillip Cole on a trip to remember.

What an experience! We got on the coach and began our interesting and exhausting trip to Bryanston School. We stopped half way through the trip to replenish our enormous stock of sweets, crisps and drinks before setting off again.

We arrived after a three-hour coach journey at the school- alert, active and ready to begin. We all had rooms of three, four or five and were mostly with our preferred choices or friends. Luckily, everything ran smoothly and swiftly, so we could have our lunch and taste Bryanston's renowned food. We weren't disappointed, and after a hearty meal we

got changed into our gear and started playing some sports.

All the activities were enjoyable, and included several of my favourites: tennis, squash and football. Our first and second days were packed to capacity with sports, but fortunately we were given time to recuperate from our gruelling physical ordeals, to relax and have a quick breather. We steadily explored more and more of the school, with trips to the wonderful sports centre and the café (which serves delicious brownies) as well as many other treats.

Our coaches were friendly and very

experienced and we learnt lots and played some serious sports. We were all competitive so our hunger to win was unrivalled. Our school cricket teams played very well with excellent performances from the team as a whole, and were unfortunate in our defeats.

The tennis produced some noticeable talent and the competitions were physical and well played. The football was free-flowing with talent coming through in all different positions. Moreover, there was very some strong swimming, with everyone who participated giving their maximum effort.

Then we had our award ceremonies. Three awards were given for tennis and football, with cricket awards given at an earlier date. The sports coaches chose the sportsmen who had impressed them the most. Various people picked up awards and the sheer mirth and pride on their faces was the highlight of the trip.

All in all, the quality of sports and the willingness to impress and improve meant that everyone was a winner in his own way and that everyone showed quality and commitment. I think I speak for all of the boys that came when I say that the teachers, along with Laurence Anfo-White and Ben Nash, really made this trip a success.



Lower School students enjoy playing tennis at Bryanston



Laura from Coin St

## CSO

Since September, when the new CSO recruits returned to school as 4th formers, we got straight on with business. With the help of Harry Smith and Harry Michell, CSO has been running drama activities for a small group of seven to eleven year olds from the Coin St Community. We improvised fairy tales and also got up to various drama activities. The children were very enthusiastic

and willing to participate in everything we did. The warm up games proved a lot of fun, not only for the children but for us too. The most popular game was definitely "the king game" where the children had to think of a reason to get the king off the throne. However, the children were a lot better at being the king than anything else so getting new people on the throne proved

very difficult. The quick thinking needed for some of the improvisation games was of a high standard, but the children coped very well and were enjoyable to work with. It has been a very active half term of CSO and I hope the children show the same levels of enthusiasm for our next half term of Science.

Sam South

# Charity Appeal

The Charity Committee, past and present, discuss the school's work in this area.

## 2007/8

At the end of September we handed over a cheque to the director and founder of READ International, Robert Wilson, for the final total of the appeal's fundraising. READ is a young charity whose aim is to raise funds and to collect textbooks to be sent to schools in Tanzania, where such resources are scarce – indeed, in some schools, fifteen pupils had previously shared a single book. The amount given to the charity represented a new school record: £58,493. Even better, this amount has subsequently been match-funded by a government run company called "V" that promotes student-led initiatives such as our appeal. This funding brings the grand total to an astounding £116,986, smashing all records by at least £30,000!

How did we get there? Through the efforts of a large number of people. During the year, the forty-strong charity committee had masterminded events ranging from Cake Sales to mufti days, from talent shows such as "City's Got Talent" and "CLX-Factor" to a "Teachers' Just a Minute" and a "Teachers' Fashion Show."

We felt incredibly proud to have led the

school to such an impressive achievement, which serves not just a basis to advertise the fundraising abilities of the school, but also as a way in which students can help those who are less fortunate than they are. With our help, READ can expand and help an even greater number of Tanzanian students.

The chairmen would also like to wish this school year's chairmen and committee all the best of luck in their fundraising efforts for Seeing Is Believing, our charity of the year 2008/09.

Dan Pyzer-Knapp and Guy Hindley

## 2008/9

Seeing is Believing is a charity that works in the developing world, curing thousands of people from the perilous condition of avoidable blindness, and preventing countless more from enduring such pain. The Charity is affiliated with Standard Chartered Bank, which has very generously agreed to match, pound for pound, what we raise this coming year.

However, if we wish (which we do) to emulate the staggering success of last



Children in Tanzania who have benefitted from the work of READ International

year's appeal we will need all the help, support and hard work of the people who make City such a great school. Already there has been a themed mufti day and numerous cake sales. In addition, there is the very exciting prospect of the School's first Winter Fair, the CLS Talent Show, and the production of charity mugs, wrist-bands and calendars. The Autumn term is set to be jam-packed with innovative, fun and exciting ways to raise money for such a worthy cause.

Josh Hirschowitz and Jake Alden-Falconer

## Old Grammar Science

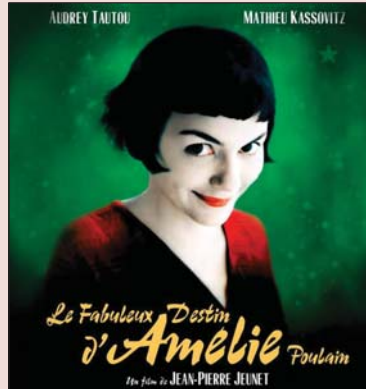
Mr Easingwood enjoys teaching the Old Grammar Science course.

Making things and building models is a very important part of Science. Old Grammar students look at senses in their first weeks, the most important of which is, of course, sight. To help them understand the mechanisms of vision they build a model to demonstrate how we are able to see movie pictures, which are built up from a series of stills. You can see the illustrations here: the original picture was of a horse and a gate. Stuck back to back and rotated swiftly, it appears that the horse jumps the gate. Just one of the fascinating lessons learned by some of our youngest students this year!



## Modern Language Society

Alon Margolin reports on the school's popular Modern Languages Society.



The original poster for the film Amélie



Some madeleines

As an opener for the Modern Languages Society's year, French film was the theme. On Thursday 16th October, after school, we screened Amélie; a popular French film that had been highly recommended by pupils and teachers.

The film is about a character, Amélie (played by Audrey Tautou), who attempts to improve her life by improving that of others around her. Having spent most of her childhood at home, she has developed a very wild imagination. This is reflected throughout in her capricious and romantic personality, which points her in the direction of the various people she wants to help.

Firstly, she finds a hidden box in her flat which contains childhood mementos and returns this to its owner anonymously. This invokes huge nostalgic memories for the

character. She also brings two other lonely people together, befriends an artist living nearby, called Dufayel, and along the way falls in love with a man whose life she felt the need to enter.

In all, the film is a sweet one with a strong feel-good factor. Acted well and with some interesting and memorable scenes, the film proved an excellent choice with which to begin the year.

The Science Lecture Theatre became our very own cinema with its comfortable chairs and large screen. Delicious Madeleines were served, to keep the French ambience and of course, these were received well by the audience.

Thanks are extended to all those who were involved in the organisation of the evening. The bar has been raised high; long may the fun continue.

## Open House

Every year, the school opens its doors to the Open House Programme.

Mr Easingwood reports.



Visitors to the Open House weekend at CLS were able to see the Model Railway Society and Warhammer Club in action



Once again the School was open to visitors for the City's Open House over the week-end of 20th and 21st September. The sunny weather brought out people in large numbers and the School had between 800 and 1000 visitors.

Mr Darling and the school keepers kept an eye on the visitors, many of whom were grateful to have a sit down and a cup of tea on the Middle School balcony. The excellent facilities were very favourably commented on, as was our tremendous location.

Members of the Model Railway Society, and for the first time the Warhammer Club, also attended. Many visitors expressed surprise that we had a Model Railway Society at all, and at what we had achieved in the six years that we have been in the old History 'bunker'.

The weekend always gives us a target to work for, and training new members to operate the layout is always a challenge.

On Saturday, Jamie Loyn from the Warhammer Club demonstrated some of the painting techniques they use on their detailed models, whilst Alex Pozniak and Tom Visscher demonstrated some scenery building, and running the layout, a task undertaken by Angus Russell on Sunday. Also on Sunday, Chris Loyn, Adam Barr, Ben Bowen, Fred Hill, Chris Gallacher and Gus Rottenberg demonstrated a battle to the assembled masses.

Since the Open Days we have continued to add to the layout and signals for the passing loop have now been re-installed. This all adds to the fun of operating the layout.

# Yorkshire

## Rollo Millership has a bracing time in northern England.

On a beautifully sunny Sunday afternoon, we took the train from Kings Cross to the "North" at 12 noon, arriving around 6:30. Over 6 hours of glorious weather...in a train carriage. On arrival we were greeted by Ches and Trevor, a man with one of the largest beards we'd ever seen. To our advantage there was no time for evening lessons and we went straight to dinner: a delicious three course meal which no-one managed to finish. After dinner we played numerous games of ping pong and table football at which Patrick and I proved ourselves to be vastly better than Mr. Davies and Mr Marshall!

The following day we woke up early to a scrumptious fry up and had our morning briefing on the Yorkshire coast before heading off to Alrome to look at coastal erosion and the effects of this on people's lives. After witnessing spectacular scenes of destruction along the fastest receding coastline in North West Europe, we proceeded to Selwicks bay at Flamborough head. The weather was appalling but the topic fascinating. Evidence of marine processes was clearly visible and despite the terrible weather we managed to conduct some beach analysis, discovering the benefits of writing in pencil, inside plastic bags. We

returned to our accommodation where we were lucky to have a drying room. Another three course meal concluded a tiring day, which again was far too much for even Hirsch, who had to hide his unfinished desert to avoid upsetting the dinner lady.

On the second day we looked at river management, travelling to Pickering Beck to witness how river channel variables changed and how complex interrelationships between river characteristics and urban development cause flooding. Measurements of velocity, depth, width, cross sectional area and even dead chickens were made to relate hydrology and flooding. The packed lunches proved to be delicious, as were the local ice creams from Pickering town. Here we analysed the effects of flooding; a successful activity despite a few Geography A-Level students getting "lost" on the way. Dinner was again far too much for all!

The third day we travelled to Hornsea to see how coastal erosion was prevented, involving staggering building costs and enormous volumes of engineering. In the absence of another three course meal we were lucky enough to find a great fish and chip shop on the last day. Although



to the dismay of many, they wouldn't serve the deep-fried mars bars which we thought were commonplace this far North.

This Geography trip turned out to be a fun and educative experience, and I believe that actually having first hand experience of everything studied will give everyone a great advantage when it comes to exams. I would also like to thank Mr Marshall and Mr Davies for putting up with all of us for such a long time and hope they enjoyed the trip as much as we did.



# Old Citizens

## Michael Apted

Brian Millo discusses the director's latest project.

Michael Apted is hard at work on his next film: *The Chronicles of Narnia: Voyage of the Dawn Treader*. It is, as he says, "the most complex and expensive I've ever attempted", and brings to the screen the third of CS Lewis's *Narnia Chronicles*. The film will take three years to make, and should appear in cinemas late in 2010.

The important role of Edmund Pevensie in this latest work of Michael's is played by an actor who will be recognised by those of our readers now or recently at the *School*: Skandar Keynes. Skandar is the latest in a distinguished line of CLS actors including James Cossins, John Shrapnel and Daniel Radcliffe.

Michael has a couple of documentaries in the pipeline, including *56 Up* (due for the small screen in 2012), the eighth film in his seven-yearly sagas of the lives of 14 British citizens, which started when they were seven years old. He is also "trying to finish" another longitudinal project, *Married in America*, which follows nine marriages every four years. He sees these long running projects as good insurance: "They give me a bit of job security in what can be a pretty treacherous and unpredictable business!"

Those of us who look in from the outside might, however, think that there's nothing unpredictable about Michael's future. His filmography and Presidency of the Directors' Guild of America (this is the final year of Michael's third and last two-year term) show a glittering record. His work with the Directors' Guild includes negotiating with the Hollywood studios about New Media and all the emerging digital delivery systems. "Our task," says Michael, "is to protect the creative and economic rights of directors. I've also been involved in organizing stronger representation for directors in the UK."

For nearly 30 years Michael has lived in Los Angeles, having made the decision to move there "not just because of the climate and the beaches, but because it is the hub of the commercial film business and that's the arena where I wanted to work. I still do a lot in the UK (*The World Is Not Enough*, *Enigma*) and have strong ties with my roots, including friends from my years at CLS. I do what I can to get the best of both my worlds." And, may we say, to give us the pleasure of watching Michael tell interesting and thoughtful stories in immaculate film.

Top: Roger Pook with his wife Christine

Middle: Michael Apted on the set of a recent film

Below: Skandar Keynes



(Keynes): Murray Close © Disney Enterprises Inc. & Walden Media LLC. All Rights Reserved. Credits: (Apted): Murray Close © Bristol Bay Productions LLC.

## Studiously avoiding sport

In an extract from a longer article, Old Citizen Roger Pook recalls afternoons at Grove Park.

Just the walk from the station on a hot day was enough to finish me off. Most of the time I wasn't even considered good enough to attempt to play a real game of cricket, so I joined the handful of hopeless cases who "practised" under the eye of a Prefect or a junior Master.

My father, who was an excellent all-rounder, had tried to teach me some of the theory. I was able to clean-bowl the others very regularly, but only underarm. Overarm bowling always defeated me as my delivery slammed into the ground a quarter of the way down the pitch or sailed gracefully high

over the batsman's head. I couldn't catch or bat at all.

Rugger had both its good and its bad moments. As I couldn't catch or run, nobody ever passed the ball to me even on the rare occasions when I was in the right place. As a result, I often returned to the pavilion with clean knees, never having been tackled. One day, with sheer delight, I noticed a rather pretentious and unpopular boy reach down and rub mud onto his own clean knees; I'd have been ashamed to do that.

Cross-country runs (the phrase still has

a trace of dread about it) I managed at the slowest of jogs, sometimes even passing those who had rushed off at the start, but I was always in the last dozen at the end.

The strange thing was that I eventually grew to like PE. One day in what would now be called my gap year I visited CLS, complete with OC tie and snazzy sports jacket. Talking to a PE master (sadly, I can't remember who it was) I remarked that PE lessons were the only thing that I really missed after leaving school. Strangely enough, I think that was true.