



## FROM MR FILLINGHAM

This edition of *The Citizen* marks the end of my first year at City of London School. I have enjoyed the year and feel settled at CLS. This is a happy School, a hard-working school and a successful school. Elsewhere in this edition you can read whether some other new boys are still enjoying City life and learn about what they describe as their personal highlights of the year.

Much was made in the press and the broadcast media last week of Gordon Brown's first year in office as Prime Minister. Indeed the BBC ran a feature in the style of an end of year report. As regards his schools' policy the verdict seems to be that little has changed since the Blair years. There remains a focus on failing schools and on the academy programme, where schools in difficult circumstances can be closed and re-opened under new leadership and a new name, often in new premises.

Here at City we are also investing in our infrastructure, many readers will already know that the Beaufoy Theatre has now closed and that it will re-open in the Autumn as the Winterflood Theatre. This summer will also see considerable refurbishment around the building, a new telephone system will be installed, multi-media equipment will go into nine more classrooms and the brand new Music

## Events in Brief for the End of Term

Friday 4th July

- Full Assembly, Great Hall, 12.10pm
- TERM ENDS, ALL BOYS SHOULD VACATE THE BUILDING, 12.30PM

The Autumn Term 2008 commences on  
2nd September

- 9am for the new Junior Sixth
- 10am for affiliated prefects
- 11am for all other prefects
- 1pm for new boys
- 1.25pm for all other boys

Technology Room will open in W2 in September.

The end of year report for our School is upbeat and positive. There has been much to celebrate this year and there are numerous trips and activities to come before the new term. Amongst these is a project led by Miss Dobson and Miss Eastman, who are hosting forty Year 5 pupils drawn from two local primary schools, for an intensive week of drama leading to a production performed for their families in the Great Hall next Friday. It is a privilege to work at City of London School and our boys are privileged to attend, it is right and good that we share some of our expertise with our neighbours in the local community. The Outreach Programme at CLS is a strength of the School.



I hope that your son's end of year report contains much good news and that it inspires him to reach new heights next year.

Best wishes for the summer holidays.  
**Charles B Fillingham**

## ADVANCE NOTICE

Next term the editorial team at *The Citizen* will meet every Friday lunchtime from 12.50pm to 1.20pm in room 110. Notices will be given in assemblies at the beginning of the new term, but if you feel that you have skills to offer to *The Citizen* then please do start thinking about joining the team in September.

Following recent adverts, many vacancies have been filled. Your favourite weekly school newsletter now boasts two sub-editors, a theatre correspondent, a music correspondent, a regular photojournalist, a current affairs editor and correspondent, as well as two regular columnists and a hack. It is not too late for you to join the team and there are still places for a sports editor, sports correspondents, interviewers and columnists.

Full job descriptions are available from the offices of *The Citizen*. Training, equipment and uniform can be provided. All vacancies are remunerated on *The Citizen's* standard pay scale (i.e. a sense of satisfaction for a job well done). Boys wishing to apply to join the team at *The Citizen* are invited to contact Mr Fillingham.  
**CBF**

## **BATTLEFIELDS WRITE UP**

On an extremely sunny Friday afternoon we left school at around two (happy in the knowledge that we would be missing double physics) to board the coach that would be transporting us on this trip. The journey was pretty uneventful and we arrived in Dixsmunde (a small town in Belgium, incidentally the site of fierce Belgian resistance of the German advance in the first world war). After about half an hours free time in the village we went back to our rooms so that we could get a good night's sleep before a long day.

We got up bright and early the next morning (considering how late most people stayed up) and then drove off to the Canadian war memorial at Vimy Ridge, an enormous white stone structure with the names of all the thousands of Canadians that died in the war engraved on it. While we were there, we discussed the reasons for the design of the building and then after this we took the short drive to the tunnels of the allies at Vimy Ridge, a huge underground complex of tunnels that the Canadians used to allow the effective transport of troops from the front line, to safety. We walked along all the underground networks with a guide who told us some shocking things such as the fact that the runners that passed messages along the front line were only expected to live for nine days during battle and the fact that Hitler served as a runner at Vimy Ridge until he was transferred two weeks before the main battle began in 1917! Another feature at the sight was the preserved trenches of the Canadians that had been stationed there, these effectively illustrated how close the front lines were to each other being as little as 10 metres apart from each other at points!

After looking around the area and the small museum there we then drove on to the site of the Battle of the Somme. The site itself has now become a green field that looks nothing like the place it had been described as, a field of destruction and death. In the middle of the field was a dead tree which the guide told us was one of the only pieces of vegetation on the field at the time of the battle. It was under the shadow of this tree that many soldiers tried to take cover on the first day of the battle of the Somme, however this was a useless attempt because German machine gun fire were still able to shoot them down.

The final site we saw on the first day was a large crater, which had been created by a huge mine that had been planted behind enemy lines and was exploded by the British shortly before the battle of the Somme began.

On the second day, we got up slightly later because we were going to a more local area. We went on the short journey to Ypres to and then went round the museum there called "A Field in Flanders" where we saw a temporary exhibition (which was about the role of people from all across the world in the First World War.)

We then went on to the main part of the museum; this was incredibly interesting because we were each given a ticket which had the name of someone who served in the first world war, we then went round the museum and saw what happened to each of the characters. After we had been round the Ypres in the morning we went to several small museums in particular we saw a very realistic mock up of the trenches which was about a foot deep in water and very muddy (at the Hill 69 museum).

After seeing another small museum, we returned to Ypres for some free time shopping and then we had dinner before attending the daily service of remembrance held at the Menin gate, this service has been held everyday since the end of the First World War.

Then, after the service we took a short coach journey to Tyne Cot (the biggest British cemetery) where over sixteen thousand people are buried. Here we held a small remembrance service of our own which included poems, readings and the laying of wreath. This was probably the most moving part of the trip.

The next day we got the coach back to London and after a brief stop over at "Cite of Europe" shopping centre in Calais we got back to London punctually for about two.

Thanks must go to all the teachers who went with us.

**Ted Elgar 3B**

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU: MR LEVIN

### **If you were Prime Minister what would you change?**

I would introduce a grant for each pupil in the country, so that parents could choose where their children were to go to school. This has already been introduced successfully in Australia. Every citizen would have the right to a right to money to educate their child where they chose. All schools would get money depending on socio-economic circumstances. I think this would break down the divide between independent and maintained schools. I feel there would be less hostility between the children of these respective groups.



### **James Donovan: as an Australian I know that most Australian children would in fact say that they prefer to study in England, how would you reply to that?**

Well, on PISA tests, overall, for OECD countries, Australia will score far higher than Britain. However, to be educated at a great school like this would be better than education in Australia. I can vouch for that as I went to boarding school in Zululand and the quality of education and stimulus that you receive here is of a very high standard.

### **Favourite TV show?**

Oh gosh, the thing I enjoy most is watching the Springboks play rugby on Sky Sports, particularly when they are beating Australia and New Zealand.

### **JD: well you don't get to do that much then do you!**

### **Have you ever thought about introducing rugby at the School, again?**

Definitely not, it was discontinued for a very good reason. We simply cannot practise enough on grass and rugby now is a very heavy contact sport. We just couldn't do it safely. I think the boys rightly prefer soccer. We do have links with rugby clubs for those boys who would like to join.

### **What's your favourite gadget?**

My mobile phone.

### **What are your hobbies – apart from swimming lakes?**

I enjoy following politics and economics. I read both the broadsheets and professional journals, particularly economics and business journals which involve an evaluation of politics, with specific reference to the developing world, as my research degree was in development economics. That is my particular area of interest: how we try and solve global inequality. This is very relevant at the moment with rising food prices in places as far apart as Bangladesh and Egypt where hundreds of millions are spending 70% of their income on food. I find the study of how to solve this divide very interesting. This isn't a very happy interview is it?

### **What has been your best job, apart from this one, of course?**

My father had a heart attack while I was at university, so I had to finish my course part time as I had to run the family business. This was a seventy-seven room family holiday hotel, right on the beach. That was great fun particularly in the holidays when half the youth of South Africa descended on the Natal Coast. It was nice to live at home, different from university or boarding school. My bedroom was so close to the sea that I could wake up in the morning and I knew whether the surf was running or not because of the noise the waves made.

### **Are you upset that you never went into the hotel business?**

Not at all, South Africa was not a country to stay in; it was a sad, violent and horrible place. I did not feel I had any role to play there. I felt that the then white government had committed itself to a path of Nazi

oppression, it was a fascist country. Obviously I had regrets about leaving my home but I do like England very much. Now, the problem in South Africa is that there are too many guns; you can rent an AK47 in Soweto for £6 an hour. It is unsustainable, 45% of the black population is unemployed and it all could have been avoided, it is very sad.

**How did you become a headmaster?**

I was first made a second master, doing the equivalent of Mr Griffin's job at Cheltenham College for six years. After this I decided it was time for a change as there was a new headmaster with a very different approach to where he wanted to take the school. So I started to apply, and about a year later went to the Royal Grammar School High Wycombe, which was a top grammar school.

**What is your favourite thing about the job?**

The thing that I enjoy most is results time. This is when I enjoy seeing what the guys have achieved here at their time at the school. And also remembering some of the difficulties that some of the blokes had and how they got great results at the end.

**And your worst thing?**

The worst thing without doubt is when I have to exclude boys. This is because I feel we have both failed, the boys and the School. Also, I do not like to hear of problems that boys encounter outside the school, either at home or in their own environment. I feel a lot of chaps in their own home area have to be careful about how they move around and I find this unacceptable and unpleasant. When I left South Africa it had one of the highest crime rates in the world, with car-jacking and murders. Some of the developments in this country I find chilling, because I have seen it before and it is not nice.

**What would you like to do after CLS?**

I would like to be a non-executive director of some companies and a trustee of some charities.

**In assembly we often hear of the many functions that you attend, on behalf of the School, how many do you go to in an average week?**

I would be out Monday to Thursday night at the busiest time of the year at dinners, for example, livery companies, charitable trusts and corporations. To give you an example, tonight I am going to Wolverhampton for the National Committee of HMC dinner. When you are Headmaster of a great school like this, people expect and want you to be present at certain occasions. I have to try and tell anybody who will listen what a great school this is.

**What was your most embarrassing moment as a teacher?**

Wow, when I was Second Master I was driving to school to watch a hockey match. The rule was that boys were not allowed to go down to town until after sport. And these two boys were clearly bunking off. So, I parked the car, ran after them, scolded them and sent them back to school. Then on Monday morning, two policemen arrived at my office and said members of the public had complained about a man molesting young boys in the street. It was described to me that this older man shouted at the boys and sent them somewhere they did not know. I found it very hard to persuade the police that it was my job to tell off boys, particularly when they were minding their own business in town. This unfortunately got around the school and they thought it was great – they put up posters saying 'our molesting Second Master'.

**Could you tell us a joke?**

Why do CLS teachers wear sunglasses in lessons?

Because the students are so bright

**Zac Shear 4S and James Donovan 4H**

## **A YEAR IN THE FIRST FORM**

Two terms ago I wrote an article for the Citizen on how my first term had been. I'm now writing again but this time I'm writing about my first year at CLS. However, even after two terms, which have felt more like 2 weeks, my feelings about the school haven't changed that much except my feelings about school lunches and my feelings about a few of my classmates. However I still think City is a brilliant school.

A lot of people would say that in their first year of secondary school they mainly made friends and got to know their way round the school. However, my first year while being all of the above was also filled with getting involved in extra-curricular activities, going on school trips and much more. This is mainly thanks to CLS for supplying the first form with so much to do, however, the frequent exclamations from my mother saying how brilliant a trip or a club looked when I brought a letter home also got me into a lot of the stuff that I'm now signed up for.

There is also the music & drama departments at City which are brilliant and which really get boys involved. Within my first year I have been in two concerts which were brilliant and which showed me a lot of the orchestras and ensembles the school had to offer. However, I'm not a big fan of staying in school until six o'clock in the evening. I have also been in the first form production of Beowulf, which was really fun. Although I'm not a big fan of coming into school on a Sunday either!

Then there are the exams. Whilst I don't like exams and there are very few people I can think of who do, there is something about the way that the school helps you prepare yourself that makes you feel a lot more comfortable with the whole process.

Finally there is the school charity appeal and, while I'm sure loads of people have said it before me, I still think that the way everyone in the school including the teachers are involved in the charity appeal is brilliant.

Over all my first year at CLS has been brilliant and I can't wait until second form.

**Jacob Cohen 1B**

## **A YEAR IN THE FOURTH FORM**

As I sit down to write this article, I can hardly believe that the school year is virtually over. I remember the first day of school as if it were yesterday. Everyone was very helpful, showing me where the different subject rooms were located, how to open my locker, what to do

if you arrive late, not to mention where to go to play football! I immediately felt at home. Although I knew no one, every one seemed to be my friend, not only the pupils, but the staff as well.

Next day we began work, and since then lessons have never failed to be interesting and challenging, sometimes a little too challenging for me given the lateness of the hour! The teachers have always been on hand to help me, whether it meant staying behind after class for a few minutes to clarify a point or sitting down for half an hour to help me catch up on missed work.

Football is an amazing experience, both during break and at Grove Park. I really enjoy the everyday tussle that goes on in the playground as the ball is fought over between

## **FRIENDS OF CLS**

### **SUMMER BARBECUE AND STEEL BAND**

Thank you to everyone who helped make last Saturday Evening such a success. Firstly, thank you to The School for giving us permission and the facilities to be able to hold it at School. Secondly, thank you to everyone who helped with the planning, organisation and on the night. Deepti led a fantastic band of volunteers who transformed The Courtyard arranging not only great music and delicious food but a raffle, an auction, lucky dip, popcorn, candy floss and so on. Where would we have been without the bar with its Pimm's and Rum Punch? Finally the biggest thank you of all to everyone who came and made the evening with your enthusiasm and joie de vivre.

We hope the good weather holds (a few less breezy gusts would be nice) and that you have a great summer holiday. We look forward to seeing you again in September.

### **CONTACT:**

Deborah Dorrance-King, Chair, FoCLS, tel. 0797  
443 1348, email: [friends@clsb.org.uk](mailto:friends@clsb.org.uk)

the boys, seeming never to move very far yet securing many goals, and I have learned new skills during my games lessons. This term I chose to do multi-sports over cricket, and have loved the different elements of athletics, most of which I have never tried before. My classmates told me that Sports Day is always very competitive, and I was very much looking forward to doing some running, before my hopes were dashed in a football accident which saw me end up with torn ligaments in my left wrist and an afternoon spent in the Library.

There is a lot more to say, but I have run out of space, so I will conclude by thanking everyone at CLS for a wonderful first year and I hope you all enjoy your break. Looking forward to catching up with you in September, when I will no longer be “the new boy”!!!!

**Yehudah Simcha Gaffin 4C**

## **THE NATIONAL GALLERY 2<sup>ND</sup> FORM HISTORY TRIP**

The trip started off at School and from there some classes walked and others took the tube. We arrived at The National Portrait Gallery just before the doors opened.

Once we had gone in, the first exhibition we went to was the “BP Portrait Gallery”. The gallery was very interesting and consisted of some very spectacular portraits, some of which were photos. The BP Portrait Gallery gave off a mystical feeling that the people in the portraits were suddenly going to jump out of the pictures, and that the portraits were observing you, instead of you observing the portraits. It was almost as if we were in a gallery of real-life people, not

pictures.

After we had observed the works of art in the BP Portrait Gallery we were allowed to tour some of the neighbouring rooms, which consisted of all different types of portraits, all made in different ways. Some were collages and others were just normal photos.

One of the neighbouring rooms was hosting the Fashion Gallery which highlighted all the different moods that humans go through and their facial expressions.

In the main corridor there was a very striking collage which was made out of postcards that have been stuck together to create the overall image that was on the actual postcard.

One of the most amazing pieces of art in the gallery was a “Mixed Media” presentation of J.K Rowling having breakfast in the morning with a pen in-hand. A “Mixed Media” portrait is made of 2D shapes that have on them pictures of, for example, J.K Rowling sitting down on a chair. All the shapes with the pictures on them were then put together, like in a pop-up book to create an image of J.K Rowling having breakfast; it was actually confusing to look at!!

After the short while we had admiring the more diverse portraits in the main hall we moved upstairs to the touch screen computers where we searched for portraits by certain people and of certain people.

After a round on the computers we sat down to have a “mini” lesson about the British Empire and the way it was formed and came to be. We also talked about the way in which the British Empire was

actually forged. We finally moved on upstairs, to a corridor filled with portraits of the Royal Family and politically important people.

We then came to the “Victorian Gallery” in which there were massive paintings of monarchs and historic politicians. There were also busts of important politicians. The group then entered the “Expansion and Empire Room”, where there were huge paintings which showed what things were like and how they were interpreted in those times.

Shortly afterwards we made a move to the cafe where we had a quick snack and then promptly made our way to the Tudor Gallery. There we saw many pictures that we had previously encountered in our text books. During our time there we filled out some worksheets and admired the portraits which we could finally see first-hand.

For me the trip was really great and I’m sure that everyone who went on it enjoyed themselves, I know I did!! Many thanks go to the History Department, who arranged the trip and made it happen; especially Mr. Flower who put a lot of effort and planning in to make sure the trip ran smoothly, which it certainly did.

**Daniel Benjamin 2D**



## THE LOWER SCHOOL CONCERT REPORT

On Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> of June the last large concert of the current academic year at CLS took place, the Lower School Concert. This concert, as the name suggests, is bereft of any performances by those in the Fourth Forms or above, apart from one or two cameo appearances! However the concert was still a huge success, with some brilliant solo and group performances.

The opening item was the *Farandole* played by the Second Orchestra, and conducted by Miss Jones. This was played brilliantly and the group sounded like a professional orchestra, which, given the fact that no player in it was above the age of fifteen, was an excellent achievement. The performance was rhythmic yet still contained plenty of expression.

The next items were played by the Junior Wind Ensemble conducted by Mr Holiday, a group comprised of only those in O.G and First Form. They played two items *Memory* by Lloyd Webber; and a traditional medley of tunes called London pride, which contained such familiar ditties as London Bridge is falling down. Both of these pieces were played very well and all of the players in this group have prospect for the future as they are still very young.

After this came two fantastic performances, one by the String Trio, consisting of Timothy Crawford, Samuel Alberman, and Harry Jacobs-Lim, and the other a solo performance by the winner of the open piano competition, Zizhou Zhang. Both performances were deserving of a place in the Albert Hall as they were both played to an exceptionally high standard. The

String Trio played the *String Trio in G minor* by Borodin and it was excellent and very moving. Zizhou then played the *Fantasia Impromptu* by Chopin, which was very technically difficult. However he rose to the challenge of the piece and produced a marvellous performance.

After this the Intermediate Brass Ensemble played two numbers, both from the James Bond films. They were conducted excellently by Dennis Haskew. Both pieces were very good with the authoritative trombone bass line and the piercing trumpet melodies. Another ensemble followed in the form of the newly formed String Orchestra, playing in only their second concert. They played two beautiful movements from the Britten *Symphony in A*, and were once again conducted admirably by Miss. Jones. The first movement, *Playful Pizzicato*, was light and dancy and was contrasted excellently by the *Serious Sarabande* which was dark but equally as enjoyable.

After this came another young group, the Junior Brass Ensemble, once again a group consisting only of those in O.G and First Form. They played three short, but still very enjoyable, tunes which were a very well crafted set of music. The first piece was a fanfare by Bevan and this was followed by two well known traditional tunes *Frere Jaques* and the *U.S Marine March*. All three pieces

were played very well given the fact that some of the instruments were bigger than the performers!

Next came perhaps the highlight of the concert. A performance by the winner of the open strings competition, Timothy Crawford, and with this performance there were no doubts that he did not deserve that crown. He played *Praeludium und Allegro* by Kreisler, a produced a performance full of excellent technical expertise and expression. It was a privilege to hear him play, it was an act that was hard to follow. However the penultimate item, the Junior Trio, managed to just that and excellently too. It was immaculately performed and very pleasingly melodic, a credit to those performing in it.

The final item a performance of a medley of tunes from the *Pirates of the Caribbean* was performed by the Second Orchestra. This was an excellent end to what had been an excellent concert as Second Orchestra produced and electrifying performance that will, hopefully, be remembered by all. They performed very well as it is always harder when everyone knows the piece! A huge thanks must be said to the whole of the Music Department for organising such an excellent concert which allowed people in the lower half of the School a chance to shine. Also thanks must be sent out to all those present at the concert and of course all the performers. **Allan Ross 3M Music Correspondent**



## HEADMASTER SWIMS AGAIN

Congratulations to Mr Levin shown here at the end of a seven mile swim. Last Sunday the Headmaster dipped into the river Thames with one swimming companion and an accompanying canoeist to complete another cold water swim. He has told *The Citizen* that he enjoyed the experience - especially once it was over! **CBF**

## A YEAR IN OLD GRAMMAR

The academic year of the City of London School has nearly reached its end. Summer holidays are drawing closer to us and I can't wait. I feel both happy and sad about the academic year drawing to a close.

I remember arriving at City for the first time and how excited and afraid I was, but now the year has whooshed to an end. It has been a busy and jam-packed year for everyone at The City of London School. In some ways I am happy that the year is over. I can still remember the early days of school. The end of year exams are over now and we do not have so much homework. Everyone has loads of energy and I think that it is the best way to end a wonderful year at City.

I'm also sad that the academic year is ending because I won't see most of my friends because they'll be in different classes. The year seems extremely short and three whole terms feels like just one. As I enter through to familiar classrooms memories come back to me, but I'm upset to realise I can't relive those memories.

But it's great that next year we can start again and make improvements and changes to ourselves. But don't be disheartened by this as we have a very long holiday.



I hope everyone has had a happy school year and I wish them a fabulous summer vacation!

**Samuel Meah OG**

## THE CITY OF LONDON SCHOOL BARBEQUE

On the evening of 28<sup>th</sup> of June, the City of London hosted its annual barbeque. The evening was thoroughly enjoyable and the food was, as usual, exquisite.

While the parents were relaxing and chatting amongst themselves, the children played football, although after some time the only ball was accidentally kicked over the wall so the boys were contented with cricket! Along with the tasty burgers was an assortment of other foods, including an exceptional chocolate cake, candy floss and popcorn which the boys eagerly devoured.

The boys also eagerly queued up for the "lucky dip". Donating one pound before eagerly placing their hand into a bowl and picking a prize parcel.

Along with all the people was a live band, which continually played

superb and original music, and entertained all the guests. The event went on for over two hours and was a success. Everyone enjoyed themselves, and the event was definitely well organised. The summer barbeque should be repeated as it unites the school and brings together the various cultures which reside in the school.

**Anthony Kydoniefs 3B**

I would like to add my thanks to the Friends of City of London School for an excellent evening. The event was well-organised and enjoyable. I know that the whole committee put in a great deal of work. Well done and thank-you! **CBF**

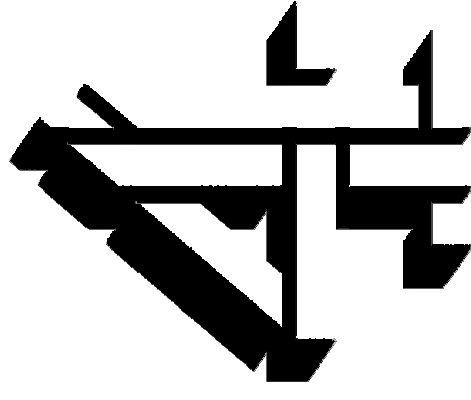
## BRIGHTON POETRY FROM THE RECENT FIELD TRIP

On a trip to Brighton by the pier  
Of the waves we had no fear.  
A fantastic trip  
Lunch was ice cream whip  
And I wish we could stay here.

**Patrick Benjamin 2K**

## **Are you aged between 14 and 19?**

### **Have you got something to say about being a teenager?**



As part of an exciting new Channel 4 series we are looking for lively, opinionated, young people to share their experiences of teenage life.

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