

Latham House Newsletter

From the departing Head of House - EJGW

As the summer approaches, so does the end of my time here in Latham. It is quite surreal to be sat here writing this, as it seems only days ago that I began my Repton career. The past year has been one of enormous success and great experience for the House, which continues to go from strength to strength under the leadership of Mr Dahl. We have excelled yet again on the sports pitch, in the classroom and on the stage, supporting our reputation as a close-knit community of exceptional individuals. I am proud to be able to say that everyone has committed themselves admirably to life in the House, and I shall look back with great fondness indeed on the time I have spent here. I wish next year's Head of House, Christian Priestley, all the best; I am sure that in his, and Mr Dahl's, safe hands Latham's fine reputation will be continued. To Mr Dahl I must express great gratitude for all that he does for the House as a whole, and importantly for the extra mile he goes to ensure the best possible outcome for each and every boy in any situation. A massive thank you also to our Matron, Lisa, whose spirit and commitment keeps us going all year round. I wish you all the best for the summer and beyond, particularly the U6 leavers. For those who are returning to Latham in September, I hope that you make the most of the time you have remaining here; it will pass more quickly than you think!



Above : JELD and the departing Upper Sixth

Speech Day Prize winners - 2011

Many congratulations to the following Lathamites who received prizes at the recent Speech Day:

- Stefan Nowacki** - B Block Headmaster's Prize
- Jonathan Leung** - A Block Headmaster's Prize
- Ben Berry** - O Block Headmaster's Prize
- Christopher Stupples Newton** - B Block Biology Prize
- Joseph Jankinson** - Junior Woodwind & Brass Prize
- George Brockway** - Religious Studies & GCSE Drama Prizes
- Daniel Gillbanks** - Arch award for community service
- Edwin Wilton-Morgan** - Headmaster's Prize
- Ben Hardwick** - Cooper Religious Studies Prize
- Gautham Shiralagi** - Wilfred Grundy English Prize
- Chris Swann** - Archbishop Head History Prize
- Laurence Webster** - Rolls Royce Design Prize
- Jeremy Williams** - Cooke Economics, John Port & CB Fry Prizes

Summer Term 2011 - Issue 45



Above: Latham boys enjoying the whole-school street party in celebration of the royal wedding

From the Housemaster - JELD

2011 has been a remarkably successful year for Latham House. We have won trophies for House Harmony, House Music, General Knowledge, House Swimming, the Kropacsy and Caroline Tyler Relays, House Athletics, not to mention a whole raft of individual awards. As I said to the boys at the recent House Supper, however, although it is wonderful to win all these competitions, it is not the trophies that make Latham a great House. The trophies are merely the by-products of the values and characteristics which Lathamites display on a daily basis – commitment, generosity of spirit, honest endeavour, friendship, camaraderie, a sense of brotherhood, and, more than anything else, a genuinely collective sense of care within our wonderful community. It is no surprise, therefore, that when it comes to events which require the whole House to pull together and perform, it is invariably Latham which takes the spoils. I am a very strong believer that it is people that matter in life, not possessions or material gains, and I could not have asked for a better group of people with whom to share my life this year than the boys and staff of Latham House. I owe a particular debt of thanks to Jeremy Williams, my wonderful Head of House, and his team of superb prefects who have worked tirelessly to lead the House with vision and values. Each and every one of them has set a most positive example for those in younger years to follow and we wish all the U6th every success as they move on into life beyond the Arch. Thank you also to all parents this year for supporting the efforts and work of the House so whole-heartedly and for entrusting your sons to our care. They have made my fifth year as Housemaster of Latham House my most enjoyable and happy yet, and I wish each and everyone of you a wonderfully relaxing summer break.

Kropacsy Relays

If there is one inter-House competition which the boys in Latham would like to win every year, it would be the Kropacsy Relays. Held in honour of James, himself a Lathamite and keen athlete who tragically died in 1998, the event consists of a series of running relays involving as many boys from the junior and senior ends of the House as possible; this year, a total of 23 different boys represented Latham in the event. We have won the

relays for the past four years and, on the afternoon of Monday 13th June, the boys in blue and white made it five in a row! Led brilliantly by Christian Priestley and Dominic Chaffey (both L6) the seniors came first in 3 out of their 4 events, and the juniors also gave it everything they had to finish a creditable third in 3 out of their 4 events. After a nervous wait, Mrs Bordoli announced that Latham had once again secured first place with 34 points, our nearest rivals left languishing on 29.

House Athletics

Latham stormed to victory by 45 points in this year's Sports Day to retain the inter-house Athletics Cup. In the junior section, points were won by Rhodri Richards, Jack Carter, Jacques Taylor, Will Hunt, Fergus Polglase and Alistair Robson. The roll of honour for the intermediates and seniors reads:

Intermediate Winners

800m - George Brockway
3000m - George Brockway
Triple Jump - George Brockway
Long Jump - Barnaby Dykstra
Discus - Charles Perera

Senior Winners

400m - Christian Priestley
Triple Jump - Christian Priestley
1500m - Joshua Noakes
3000m - Joshua Noakes
High Jump - Tom Groombridge
4x100m winners
4x400m winners
Senior Long Relay winners
Vital points were also secured by Dominic Chaffey, Jeremy Williams, John Hignett, Elliot Carlile, Dan Hugill, Seb Howle, Harry Garland, Fraser Lane, Dan Sentance, Guy Davis, Guy Pass and Ed Coleman.

The Cultural Quarter

The Summer Term has seen a number of cultural events in which Lathamites have once again excelled. The Junior Play saw Jack Carter (A) and Harry Mead (B) take two of the main roles in Mole and Ratty, and everyone who saw their performances was unanimous in their praise of this entertaining production. Guy Pass (A) provided one of the highlights of the play with his cameo role of the policeman, and Hector Nelson, Barnaby Dykstra and Rhodri Richards (all A Block), also starred together with Chris Stupples Newton (B) providing the narration, not to mention the work of Will Johnson (B) back-stage and the assistant directing of Daniel Gillbanks (L6).

Musically, Latham has carried all before them over the course of the past three months, in fact over the course of the past three terms. We are losing some real 'big guns' from the U6th this year and there will be a significant gap left by Mark Harrison, Ben Hard-



Above: Joshua takes the Senior 3000m

Below: Harry and Jack star as Mole and Ratty in Wind in the Willows



wick, Laurence Webster, Jeremy Williams, not to mention this year's Head Chorister, Tom Hume.

It was therefore wonderful news to hear that Latham had won the inter-House music trophy for the second time in two years, a feat made even more impressive by the fact that the trophy had not previously been won by a boys' House since 1992! The 2011 musical role of honour reads:

- * House Harmony Winners
- * Junior Woodwind and Junior Voice (Classical) - Joseph Jankinson
- * Junior Voice (Popular) highly commended - Sebastiaan Howle
- * Percussion - Jamie Clarke
- * Senior Voice (both Classical and Popular) - Edwin Wilton-Morgan
- * Junior Electric Guitar - Guy Davis
- * Senior Electric Guitar - Tom Hume
- * Classical Guitar - Mark Harrison

We would just like to take this opportunity to thank all the boys for their efforts this year and for once again keeping Latham at the fore-



Above: Latham wins the Kropacsy Relays for the fifth time in five years!

Right: Collecting the trophy

Below: Rhodri and Will, our junior sprinters



House Cricket

Following on from the success of last year was always going to be a tough ask, but the cricketers of Latham did their very best this year and performed with great credit, despite struggling to pick up a victory. The Seniors lost their first game to the eventual winners before having a nail-biter against Priory. Swann and Shiralagi both made half centuries chasing 160 to win but wickets tumbled at crucial times and we were left just 10 runs short.

The Juniors were drawn against arguably the two strongest sides in the competition but they did particularly well to restrict Orchard to 156, with Mead, Polglase, Robson and Taylor all bowling well. Robson then starred with the bat in the second match against School House, whose side contained three First XI players, and his partnership with Nelson will perhaps go down as one of the greatest rearguard actions of recent Latham sporting history. Most importantly, the boys have thoroughly enjoyed their cricket this year and played in exactly the right manner. Well done!