

The Orchard Apple

Michaelmas Term 2010 ☺

The Housemaster writes:

I write this newsletter on a very beautiful, but freezing cold, winter's evening with a full moon shining through the window. It really is quite magical, and a reminder that 'time and tide wait for no man'.

There are certainly some tired boys in the House and it is with good reason in most cases as it has been an action-packed and busy term. Orchardians have once again been displaying their versatile talents on all fronts and there has been a good collective and supportive feel about the place. We have had an exchange of silverware in the trophy cabinet but it is, as ever, the honest and spirited endeavours of the boys which are most pleasing to see. I will leave it to the boys themselves to eloquently provide the narrative of their many activities and achievements.

On the boys' behalf, I should just like to thank the immensely dedicated and loyal "home team" of my wife Rachel, Matron, tutors, prefects, cleaners and kitchen staff, who provide such wonderful care and attention for each boy. I do have to occasionally remind the boys to stop and say thank you, as there is a danger in the busy nature of term that it is taken for granted. May I also though, on behalf of the tutor team, say a sincere thank you for your many kind gifts and bottles at the end of term.

We are barely into December but the boys are certainly getting themselves into the festive spirit with the end of term frivolities so it just about seems acceptable to wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas and I look forward to welcoming the boys back refreshed with their hair neatly cut in the New Year.

Best wishes,

Anton Smith

Senior Football by Greg Fearn:

This year's Senior House Football went well for the Orchard as despite a tough group we proved that a lot of spirit and teamwork, within what is not necessarily the best team, can prevail. Drawn against Priory and New we had a tough group and our first match against Priory didn't go to plan. With a full back 5 of first team squad players and the rest of their team being first team or second team players it was never going to be easy. The first half we dug in and went in at 1-1 something which we were very pleased with but as the game wore on Priory's big players saw them through. However, we carried the enthusiasm and drive into our next game against New House. This time it really paid off; particular mention should go to Leo Watton for his sublime 35 yard strike which hit the post and went in and also to Freddie Greatrex, who had a great game and marked their best player out of the game. The 1st team coach Mr Carrington remarked to me at training that it was the best performance he had seen by an Orchard side in which some incredible football was played and some of the goals were of very high quality and we emerged 5-0 winners. However, due to the set up of the system even this one win did not see us through. However, the team showed great determination, desire and spirit on the pitch and deserved to get further. Well done to all!



The Orchard wishes you a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!!!!

Senior League *by* Will Garrett:

League this year had its ups and downs, from Leo Watton's screamer against Cross to Jon Arnold's continual refusal to pass the ball and determination to shoot from obscene angles. However I should mention that Jon did score in every League game in which he played. After losing our first game to Priory, the team went on to win the next 4 games easily, securing us the top of the table and earning us a slot in the semi final. We went into this game with a much weakened side, although we still had Jack 'safe hands' Edwards in goal, so the team had a reasonable chance of winning. The day wasn't ours. I'd say League this year was more about celebrating our goals than actually scoring them, with more thought going into the celebrations than the tactics: from the Salmon to the Bicycle, this year's league team really put on a show for any spectators. Overall, an unfortunate result for the House after so much effort throughout the season.



Junior House Football *by* James Frost:

I have been honoured to be the Orchard House Football Captain this year. The team was put into a group, alongside School House and Priory. We played very well in both of our matches against these two Houses, winning both games, 6-2 against School House and 5-0 against Priory. This meant we finished top of our group, by some distance, and are now looking forward to the final, on Chapel Hall, on the last Thursday of term (hopefully!). Every player in our team has contributed to the success of the House team. Let's hope we can finish our success off with a win against Cross in the final, and bring home the trophy, after a long wait.

House Swimming *by* Frank Flight:

The Caroline Tyler relays were, as ever, a real spectacle. The teams were very strong and fiercely competitive. The Juniors swam very well and managed to win their Medley Relay. The Senior Team won the Medley Relay as well but the Cannon Relay was the only weak spot for the Team in the afternoon. Orchard ended up coming second to Latham with just a point in it. On reflection, though, it must be said that the boys did a great job, honouring the memory of Caroline by swimming strongly and taking a very sporting attitude throughout the afternoon.

The Inter-House Swimming Gala brought almost the whole House to the pool – either swimming or supporting. George Gould was the B-Block star of the gala, managing to gain convincing wins in both the Junior Individual Medley and the Junior Breaststroke. Ben Neville followed this up with a valiant effort in the Intermediate Individual Medley, in which he was competing against swimmers who are much older than him. Frank Flight was able to win the Senior Individual Medley and Senior 100m Freestyle. Orchard was, once again, neck and neck with Latham all through the gala. The relays were very strong – the juniors managed to win alongside the seniors both of their respective relay events, however an unfortunate disqualification from the Junior Medley Relay meant that we were unable to clinch the overall victory. Nevertheless, The Orchard remains a force to be reckoned with in the pool. We were successful in the senior competition taking the **TROPHY** for the Senior Aggregate Swimming, as well as many other individual trophies. Well done to all!

Squash /by Toby Griffiths:

Squash (Toby Griffiths): Owing to a lack of people in on the Sunday of the Squash and a few injuries, this year's Squash Team was not the force it could have been. But two B-Blockers in Miles Chadwick and James Johnson were very keen to represent the House and stepped up to the plate despite very limited squash experience. Against much older opposition they fought hard but to no avail, and similarly I found it difficult also against much more experienced opposition, also to no great success. Overall not a great final result but it was the commitment and enthusiasm that was given on the day that counted.

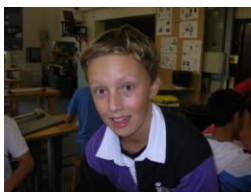
World Trade Game /by Tom Green:

World trade Game: The team from Orchard consisted of Tom Green, Myles Rawlings, Jack Edwards and Luke Avery. In this game each House is given a country and has to grow their economy whilst meeting the needs of that country. From the start luck went against us as we were given Russia. Russia has a lot of needs and we knew that to meet these and grow was going to be difficult challenge. However the team didn't let this affect them and after some crafty negotiating came a very creditable second losing by only 500 points which (considering a certain House managed to steal 2000 points from us at the start) was a good effort!

Sale of Work /by Calvert Hyde-Barker:

This year the Sale of Work charity fundraising events have been very successful. The in-House charity dinners helped to raise a lot of money, as did the sale of slaves on Wear What You Dare day, which also featured some very creative costume ideas. Through these activities, as well as the sale of work event itself (which always provides a welcome opportunity to form bonds between the school and the local community), Repton has managed to raise more than £29,000, which will go to a variety of deserving charities and community projects, including the refurbishment of Repton's village hall.

New comers: The successes of their first term



George Gould: *When I first arrived at Repton I felt slightly low down in the order owing to the fact that I had come from being at the top in year 8 at Foremarke to being at the bottom in B Block. Now that I have been here for a couple of months I have found that I have settled in very well in the Orchard and am enjoying life here.*



George Kaczmarczyk: *This first term of the year is usually the longest and the most boring because of the short days and getting dark early. But my first term in Orchard has gone incredibly fast because it has been so fun and enjoyable. It is also a term of hard work for exams, which went well. When I first came here I thought it would be hard working to 9:00 every night of the school week. The good thing is that you get lots of free time for socializing with friends that you don't see every day. Overall this has been a very good term for me and I have thoroughly enjoyed this term and looking forward to the next.*



James Johnson: *My first impressions on the House were ones of worry and anxiety. Once I got here they all disappeared and have been replaced by fun and eagerness, to do well and perform well in the class and on the sports field.*



Miles Chadwick: *My first impression of the House is that we are a very close and happy community. I was worried at first but I got into a routine and then I was fine. Everyone was very kind and welcoming when we first came.*



Marcus Cork-Keeling: *I have found the house a really nice place to be. It's quite warm and welcoming and the older years tend to look out for you. I really enjoy the House and sometimes wonder if I'm missing out by just being a day boy!*



Dan Williams: *I have really enjoyed my time in the Orchard, despite it only being the end of my first Michaelmas term at Repton. I firmly believe that Orchard was the right choice of House for me and hope to enjoy*



Finn Bathurst: *The melancholy feeling that was on my back all the summer holiday rushed off me after the first night of boarding at The Orchard.*



Ed Whitten: *My first term at the Orchard has been very good: I have made new friends within my year that I would have never spoken to at Foremarke. The upper years have all been very welcoming and very helpful.*

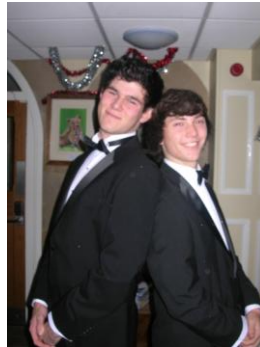


Felix Swinbank: *I have found The Orchard this term to be very good. Everyone seems to be kind. If you have a problem I have no fear bringing it up with the prefects. I really enjoy boarding in the Orchard as it is what I always thought boarding would be like.*



Alex Winter-Cox: *My first impressions of Orchard are that it is a very good house and it's have great people. The Upper Sixth are very good: they all take care of the B Block. The House is very good and the Yard is a lot of fun, so is the Table Tennis Room and the Common Room is excellent and a lot of fun. I also like the House's position because it is very close to most of the lessons and that Mr. Sentence is a very good house tutor.*





Julius Theye: *The first term at Repton was very different to the experiences I have made before, but I have met a lot of new friends here and the atmosphere at Repton and especially in the Orchard is very familiar and enjoyable.*

Myles Rawlings: *I have enjoyed my first term in The Orchard and have instantly felt at home; I have been impressed with the House spirit most of all, with everyone wanting to do well and everyone supporting the House Teams with passion!*

Oscar Goodwin: *My first term at Repton has been a completely different experience to my last school. I like the spirit of the House and I am looking forward to next term.*

Luke Avery: *My first term at Repton has been fantastic; I mean, come on - who would have thought they'd be riding in a tank within the first few weeks as a captain in 'Macbeth'? Yes there's a lot of work to be done - books to be read, essays to be written and problems to solve. But it's not all bad - with a constant buzz of things going on there's always a chance to relax, and with a Table Tennis Room that's like a home away from home, what more could anyone ask for?*



Upper Sixth Dinner November 2010



Senior Social 2010



Merry Christmas