

SCHOOL HOUSE

Michaelmas Term 2010



Dear Parents,

May we once again wish everybody the compliments of the season at the end of another busy Michaelmas Term?

It has, of course, become almost a Repton cliché to refer to the past term as a 'marathon not a sprint' and it is certainly fair to say that this particular session, with the adverse weather towards the end, has tested the resolve of the pupils.



With as many as 20 new boys amongst our ranks (14 in B block and 6 in the Lower Sixth) the House had a slightly different feel back in September and it has been pleasing to watch the newcomers settle so easily into the place.

Most of you, I am sure, are aware of the many events which take place at Repton and I have again been pleased by the huge contribution that School House boys have made and, as ever, I can only draw your attention to a few highlights, and include several photographs which add flavour.

For the third successive year we are the holders of the boys' Cattley Shield for academic excellence and this is not only a prestigious award but one whose winning depends upon the effort grades in MAs of every single member of the House from the youngest B blocker to the most wizened 18 year old!

With a School House tutor, Mr. Levesley, directing, one of our boys, Hayden Ball, overseeing sound and lighting and another, Ed Goodall, playing the lead role, it is fair to say that the School House input into the recent school play, 'Macbeth' was significant. With Ben Donovan in the role of Malcolm and Josh Benn as Macduff also playing important parts we are justifiably proud of our contribution. Ed deserves especial credit for his powerful portrayal of the tormented Thane and for a few weeks we all became used to his wandering the corridors of the House muttering his lines!



In the Lit Soc plays, too, several of our boys made their mark, including Sandy Harratt, who once again demonstrated his comic talent (first discovered, of course, in last year's house mini-pantomime!) though others, too, including Charles Fox-Davies (playing himself!) caught the eye.



Another highlight of the last few weeks was the Sale-Of-Work supper. The theme this year was that of a Mexican Evening and with many (including the Housemaster!) opting for fancy dress a good time was had by all. One of the most pleasing aspects of the evening was the music provided by 'Benny and The Beebs' (Josh Benn, Will Abell, James Casha and

Humphrey Harding) who were superb throughout. I am sure we will hear more of the youngsters over the next few years! Incidentally, many thanks for your generosity in providing raffle prizes and other support for Sale-Of-Work.

On the sports fields the weather really has bitten hard and the House football competitions will not be concluded until next term. I am pleased to say, though, that we are in semi-finals of both the Senior House Match and the Junior League competitions, whilst we will contest the Reserves final with Priory. As I have previously observed this kind of success is down not just to the school's star players but to all those who give of their best in the black and white. On the subject of star players, however, congratulations must go to our Head-Of-House and school 1st XI captain, Sam Graham, on his selection for the Northern ISFA side and we hope this will lead to higher honours after Christmas.



In the recent swimming gala we achieved an excellent third place and amongst those to win cups for individual event wins were Atilla Ak, Jake Nicholson and Max Summerton. Here, particularly, it is great to see so many boys competing and the way they were gently but effectively led by Richard Wang was admirable.

You will not be surprised that I cannot finish without raising one or two matters with which you might be able to assist. Some boys have requested that they be permitted to bring Games Consoles to school. I am absolutely against this and would appreciate your support. However, they may bring in as many books as they like! Might I also ask that you send your sons back in January with tidy hair?



As usual, I would like to thank you for the many gifts we received at the end of term. Your generosity, and indeed your support throughout the year, are much appreciated.

Next term begins on Wednesday 5th January 2011 and boarders are due back by 8pm on that evening with day boys coming back on the morning of 6th.

We do hope you all have a most enjoyable Christmas and New Year,

Frank and Lyn

