



DEVIZES SCHOOL

**DEVIZES
SCHOOL**
A SPORTS COLLEGE



**PLEASE NOTE: SCHOOL WILL
FINISH AT 1.00P.M.
TUESDAY 25TH JULY**

No. 917/2006 21st July 2006

Dear Parents, Pupils and Friends,

As the end of the school year approaches it is again a good time to reflect on the events and achievements since last September and to look forward to the new challenges and developments ahead.

Over the last few years Devizes School has developed into a lively and dynamic school with strong traditions, and high expectations but with a determination to adapt and improve itself. Ofsted called in September and recognised the improvements that we have made and our capacity to improve ourselves still further. Two years ago we re-launched the school as a Specialist Sports College. The benefits of becoming a Sports College are now being realised. We now have better facilities with the new PE classroom and fitness suite and larger, refurbished changing rooms. Extra curricular opportunities have now greatly increased and improved opportunities for all pupils to achieve in the school are now beginning to show in better examination results and our increased popularity in Devizes and beyond.

The school will certainly not be quiet for long again this summer. Further improvements to the school buildings this summer include an extension to the Art department, a new classroom to help children with Autism, modifications to the Modern Languages department and better access to the quad through the reception area for disabled pupils and visitors. The fourth 'Camp Xtra' takes place in August with over 200 pupils from Y5-Y10 taking part in a wide range of sport, arts and ICT activities. If you want a place on 'Camp Xtra' there are still a few places left! Visit our website to find out more. As part of the 'Camp Xtra' this year, the Numeracy and Literacy Schools are also taking place again in August for some of our new Y7 pupils next year.

Ends of years inevitably bring changes to staffing and we are sad to be saying 'goodbye' to several members of staff this summer. **Mrs Kent**, who has been teaching Geography at Devizes School for fourteen years, has decided to work in the family Architects business from September. We thank Mrs Kent for her dedication and service to the school over these years and wish her every success in her new venture. **Mr Church** is retiring from teaching at the end of the academic year. Mr Church has been teaching Economics and Business Studies in the sixth form at Devizes School for two years. We have really appreciated his experience and knowledge in the department over this time and wish him every happiness in his retirement. **Mr March** has been successful in being appointed as Leader of KS3 Mathematics at Writhlington School in Somerset. Mr March has been teaching Mathematics at Devizes School for two years and we wish him every success in his new role. After one year at Devizes School **Mr Ray** has secured a new teaching post in Bath and we wish him every success in his future teaching career. **Mrs Blake, Mrs Joyce and Mrs Lopez** will all be leaving at the end of term after helping us in the English department for the last four terms. **Mrs Lowey** left a little earlier this term after giving birth to her first son in June. All will be greatly missed and we thank them for their hard work and dedication to the pupils of Devizes School. **Ms Holder** is on maternity leave from the end of this term. We thank her for her tremendous hard work this year as acting Head of English and wish her all the very best in motherhood and we look forward to seeing her again soon.

On behalf of the staff at Devizes School I wish you all a happy and relaxing break over the summer. I look forward to seeing you all in September; rested and ready for the exciting year ahead.

Mr Irons
Headteacher

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Dates for your diary.....

| JULY | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 21st | Activity Day |
| 24th | Activity Day |
| 25th | Last Day of Term 6 |
| School will finish at 1.00p.m. | |
| SEPTEMBER | |
| 4th | TD Day |
| 5th | Year 7 & Year 12 return to School |
| 6th | Whole School returns |
| 6th | Orchestra Practice 7.30p.m.—9.30p.m. (LSDH) |

Find us on the Web:
www.devizes.wilts.sch.uk

'THE JOURNEY'

"You! You did this! It must have been you!" he roared. He drew his rapier and lunged toward me... How was I supposed to know this would happen. I had only taken the sword to prevent either of us from coming to harm. Had I known that he would at that moment lose his footing, I would not have done it. I could not help but feel it was ironic. His suspicion of me caused his own downfall. I looked down at him. He lay still, drenched in his own blood of liquid fire.

As shocked as I was, I knew that father and daughter were at last together once more. Tears began to swell in my eyes. The image of Morgan's lifeless form laid next to the grave of Isabelle would haunt me for the rest of my existence. Until the inevitable, when I too would join them in death. One realises only after such tragedies, just how fragile life really is.

LRC NEWS!

Starting in September

Do you need a bit of extra time to finish school work?

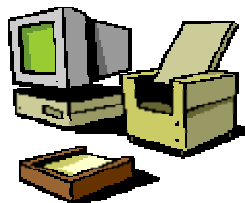
Can you concentrate better at school?

Would you prefer to use the school computers, books, scanner, printer etc?

The LRC will remain open and staffed until 4.30p.m. on Tuesdays. This will enable pupils to use the resources here to complete homework tasks and coursework.

Watch the message screens for more details in September.

Mrs Lee



WILTSHIRE HERITAGE
MUSEUM GALLERY LIBRARY



Archaeology Family Day

Saturday 22nd July 2006

Family Summer Holiday Activities including:

Crop Circle Printing Workshops

Art and Craft Workshops including Egyptian and Roman fun, bead making, bugs and insects and cave art designs.

Contact Wiltshire Heritage Museum for more details on 01380 727369 or visit www.wiltshireheritage.org.uk

DEVIZES SCHOOL PARENT GROUP - 100 CLUB DRAW

Congratulations to the following winners:

| | |
|-----|----------------|
| 1st | P.D. Whitworth |
| 2nd | M. Knighton |
| 3rd | T Gay |

Please continue to support the 100 club!

Mr Trowbridge



NATIONALS AT GATESHEAD

After being lucky enough to be selected for the County squad going up to the English Schools Athletics Association Championships, I arrived at the pick up point - Ridgeway School in Swindon. It was a rather long journey to Gateshead, we arrived around 3p.m. and were shown our rooms at the University Halls of Residence.

The next day I was competing in the 100 metres and wasn't that nervous once we got to the stadium. I was drawn in the first heat. I equalled my personal best and finished 7th in a time of 11.81.

I ran in the relay later on in the day, but again did not qualify.

I enjoyed watching the finals on Saturday and talking to the rest of the Wiltshire team, including Wiltshire's own World Champion, Toby Ulm, who won the 400m Hurdles at the World Schools Championships in Athens the week before the Nationals.

I took part in the parade of athletes at the end of the games, which was enjoyable. Then it was the long journey back arriving in Swindon just after midnight.

I am aiming to do better next year!

Joseph Hutchinson - 8BGE

Sports Day Results 2006

Another fantastic day of athletics with an excellent atmosphere and many records broken or equalled.

The day was topped of with our own 2-bird RAF Hercules fly past.

A big thank you to all staff and students who made the day possible and to all those who participated on the day.

The results are as follows:



Year 7 Tutor Groups

| | | <u>Points</u> |
|-----|------|---------------|
| 1st | 7KML | 379 |
| 2nd | 7HLB | 370 |
| 3rd | 7GLH | 366 |
| 4th | 7KBM | 321 |
| 5th | 7PYW | 319 |
| 6th | 7DJD | 307 |
| 7th | 7JMD | 302 |
| 8th | 7SNG | 240 |

Year 7 Top Performers

Male
Benjamin Hodder - 7KML

Female
Abigail Moss - 7GLH

Year 8 Tutor Groups

| | | <u>Points</u> |
|-----|------|---------------|
| 1st | 8BGE | 438 |
| 2nd | 8NAM | 344 |
| 3rd | 8BJR | 322 |
| 4th | 8AJH | 312 |
| 5th | 8CJM | 294 |
| 6th | 8MXO | 270 |
| 7th | 8GER | 251 |
| 8th | 8ACM | 239 |

Year 8 Top Performers

Male
Joseph Hutchinson - 8BGE

Female
Lucy Baross - 8BGE

Year 9 Tutor Groups

| | | <u>Points</u> |
|-----|------|---------------|
| 1st | 9KER | 456 |
| 2nd | 9SWH | 441 |
| 3rd | 9PDH | 408 |
| 4th | 9NBS | 352 |
| 5th | 9DCJ | 291 |
| 6th | 9SMG | 243 |

Year 9 Top Performers

Male
Michael Bellotti - 9SWH

Female
Hannah Williams - 9DCJ

Year 10 Tutor Groups

| | | <u>Points</u> |
|-----|-------|---------------|
| 1st | 10AJA | 423 |
| 2nd | 10AJA | 394 |
| 3rd | 10ECA | 298 |
| 4th | 10CYS | 294 |
| 5th | 10MJT | 247 |
| 6th | 10DXN | 230 |
| 7th | 10AXM | 187 |

Year 10 Top Performers

Male
Luke Flower - 10AJA

Female
Fiona Drewitt - 10ECA

REGIONAL GOLF FINAL AT ENMORE GOLF CLUB

Friday 14th July saw one half of Devizes golf team travel down to Bridgwater, Somerset to compete in the British Heart Foundation Junior Golf Championship.

After successfully qualifying earlier in the year, the team, made up of **Charlie Cook**, **Angus Webster** and **Jacob Rogers** were in high spirits to tackle the best of the South West schools.

After a few quick practice hits, Charlie was first to tee off. After a dodgy first shot he soon settled into his round, making several pars and some birdies. This converted into 37 points for the day, a score which would only be beaten by one other person all day!

Jacob was next to wield his clubs, like all our competitors, this was an unknown course and Jacob took a few holes to get used to the greens, however he picked up his game and notched up an above average 24 points.

The best combines scores gave Devizes a total of 70 points, placing us in 5th position, but only 5 points off the leaders...

YEAR 8 ROUNDERS

Team: **Steph Bridewell, Nicola Greenman, Lucy Baross, Maddie Hollis, Sam Quniton, Beth Young, Catherine Russ, Kirsty Robinson**

11th July - Devizes Vs Lavington - Final Score 11 - 14
13th July - Devizes Vs Abbeyfields - Final Score 9½ - 9½

Devizes girls batted first and with the help of Catherine scoring 3½ rounders from 4 balls and Sam scoring 1½, we won the first innings 5½ to 3½. The girls showed intelligence and teamwork when fielding, putting the batters under constant pressure.

The second innings was slightly less successful. As we were one player short, a very able Abbeyfields player was able to see holes in the field and made our first and second deep work hard. With a combination of excellent links between Sam, Kirsty and Lucy from deep field to fourth, Nicola, Beth and Maddie on backstop first and second and excellent bowling from Steph, Devizes managed to secure a draw despite being a player short!

Well done!



Last to don the course was Angus, playing off a revised handicap of 17; this would be a tougher challenge than the qualifying round. However, he rose to the challenge hitting some impressive drives and fairway shots. This calculated into a score of 33 points, a great score considering some putting problems early on.

The best combined scores gave Devizes a total of 70 points, placing us in 5th position, but only 5 points off the leaders.

Overall, the boys played extremely well and have set a high standard in the school's first year of competitions. I look forward to next year's qualifier with great expectations.

Mr Cocks

Living for Sport

Living for Sport is about helping students improve their behaviour in school. Living for Sport helped me with my behaviour because the Living for Sport team took a group of us on trips go-karting and to Braeside. But if we were naughty and got sent to the Isolation Room, we lost a chance and if this happened three times, we lost the opportunity to go on the trip with the team.

At Braeside we did lots of fun things like rock climbing and swinging on tyre swings. It was really exciting. The best activity was when we were doing the rock climbing challenge. We also learnt new skills like standing in a circle pulling a rope and climbing all the way round it. When we did this, we had to trust each other. The trip helped me because we learnt loads of skills like working as a team and being responsible.

Living for Sport has definitely helped my behaviour because I had to be good to get a reward. It has helped me to focus in lessons and although sometimes I forget, I think I am getting better.

Oliver Maslen

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