



## 2001 A WELSH SPACE ODYSSEY

Year 11 students Richard Pugh and Gregory Jones were announced as winners of the ISSET "Science in Space" competition by NASA rocket scientist Kevin Mellett in a live video conference from Johnson Space Centre in Houston to County Hall in Cardiff. The prize was a fortnight trip for the two pupils and a teacher (lucky me!) to visit the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida and the Johnson Space Centre in Houston as VIP guests of NASA. The whole trip would be filmed by the BBC and broadcast in June.

At Kennedy Space Centre we were treated to a host of unbelievable sights, experiences, visits and meetings with leading personnel from NASA. Witnessing the launch of STS100 (Shuttle Endeavour), standing underneath the shuttle Columbia, viewing at close quarters the modules for International Space Station (ISS) and then standing on the launch sites past and present all featured as highlights for this part of the tour.

Johnson Space Centre was equally as impressive. Richard and Gregory joined up with the other UK winning teams to produce exceptional IT based presentations on Earth to Mars activities.



Pictured in the photograph is Dafydd Rhys Williams at Shuttle Training Facility, Houston with Richard Pugh, Gregory Jones and Eric Coombes



The available resources and venue were truly inspirational to us. We met astronauts who shared with us their experiences of space flight and were given a tour by Dafydd Rhys Williams (Welsh/American astronaut). We also went to various Mission Controls, ISS training mock ups, shuttle simulators, the huge buoyancy pool and, my favourite, the Plasma Rocket Drive that NASA had developed. We were made to feel so welcome and it felt as if we were part of the NASA team. The whole experience made us appreciate the value of a truly global venture and most importantly have contact with the world's largest scientific and technological programme. This was the trip of a lifetime and following the broadcast of the documentary I am sure we will have lots of competition entries next year.



**Eric Coombes**  
Head of Physics

Turn to page 3 for more  
"spaced out" news

Dear Parents,

Once again I am pleased to report that our pupils achieved a very good set of examination results in the summer. These achievements were the result of hard work on the part of the students combined with the dedication of their teachers. We shall publish full details of our examination performance in our special Examination Results Newsletter later this term.



It is very pleasing to see so many of our Year 13 students moving on to university, and I am delighted that a very large number of Year 11 pupils have returned to school to follow advanced programmes of study.

We are proud of the achievements of all our pupils including those with special educational needs. Our Special Needs Department does an excellent job in encouraging and motivating SEN pupils to succeed in examinations like the Certificate of Educational Achievement and in helping them to develop their personal skills. It was a fitting recognition of the major contribution of our special needs staff when the school received an "Understanding Disability Award" last year.

The start of this new academic year sees some important changes to the school's senior management team. Heather Guy becomes our senior deputy and two new deputies have joined the team, Lyn Mills previously Head of Upper School, and Huw Jones-Williams who has joined us from a school in Maidenhead. These changes became necessary due to the promotion of Mike Coady to a headship and the retirement of Peter Edwards after 25 years service to the school. Tributes to staff leaving

appear elsewhere in this newsletter, but I would like to add my own personal thanks to Mike Coady and Peter Edwards for their outstanding contribution to the work of the school. I would also like to say a personal thank you to Tony Josty, who retired last term as Head of Music. He helped to make our Music Department one of the very best in the country

Constant improvement is a theme we espouse in Whitchurch High School and this includes improving the facilities for our pupils. On the upper site a new building containing classrooms and science laboratories is currently under construction. This should be completed before Christmas. Lower School has already seen improvements to the catering facilities with the building of a new baguette bar. This year the renovation of the Dutch Barn will provide additional meeting space and dining facilities and the building of a new covered sports area will provide an under cover play area for pupils to use during wet breaks and lunch times.

I would like to thank members of the PTFA who do so much to raise money for the school, maintain a link between parents and teachers and organise social events during the year. I hope that all parents will be able to support the activities of the PTFA during the year ahead. Thanks also to all our pupils who have participated in the excellent fund raising events throughout the year.

Finally, I would like to welcome the parents of pupils who have joined the school this term. I look forward to meeting you during the year ahead at parents' evenings and other school functions.

**Gareth Matthewson**  
Headteacher

## INVESTING IN PEOPLE WHITCHURCH SCORES A UK FIRST



Eleanor Morrey holds the Welsh slate "Investors in People" award watched closely by Gareth Matthewson and Heather Guy

Whitchurch High School scored a UK first by becoming the largest school to be awarded Investors in People (IiP).

Our school employs over 200 teachers and non-teaching staff, and is charged with educating 2,400 pupils, making it the biggest school ever to have achieved the standard!

Deputy Headteacher, Heather Guy, who had overall responsibility for the IiP process, said, "The staff and teachers are our most valuable asset. Investors in People has provided a vehicle for us to work together to improve the school by developing everyone who works here.

"All too often ancillary staff who carry out vital work such as cleaning and caretaking feel left out in the school environment, which traditionally focuses on teaching staff. Investors In People gave everyone a voice and recognised the work that goes on behind the scenes to make the school run smoothly".

Another area which was developed as a result of IiP was an ongoing training programme for new teachers to ensure they continue to get the support they need during the first few years of their careers.

Gareth Matthewson commented, "While our pupils are obviously very important, many of our staff are actually likely to be here for much longer so it is important to make sure they receive the very best support and continuous training available. The positive benefits of investing in our people are already being felt throughout the school".



Lower School Site Supervisors, Paul Brown and Howard Penman receive their "Pool Maintenance" Certificates from Gareth Matthewson

# SPACEMAN SPOTTED IN PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

On the afternoon of June 12, the Physics department staff were hosts to the world famous British born astronaut Dr Michael Foale. About 50 Upper School students were joined by some pupils from Eglwys Wen and Eglwys Newydd to participate in the event. Michael has completed five space shuttle flights and logged 168 days in space including three space walks. He spent 4½ months on Russian Space Station Mir and was responsible for saving the programme from catastrophe following a serious collision with an incoming supply module. His rivetting experiences, emotions and personal memories were unique and inspirational to pupils and staff alike. Michael's slides and video presentation was "out of this world". He is truly a special person who we all felt privileged to have met. His next mission is to the International Space Station. He has invited us to link up with him, unfortunately, not a trip, only a radio transmission! Can't wait!

**Eric Coombes**  
Head of Physics



## BLOOD SAVES LIVES

Mrs Anne Mahoney is not only the longest serving science technician in Lower School (31 years to date!), but is also a champion blood donor. In February 2001 she was presented with a Wedgwood plate at a ceremony in the new Welsh Blood Services Centre, Ynysmaerdy. Mrs Mahoney has given both blood and plasma (the Factor XIII in the plasma being used to treat haemophiliacs) and has donated 62 pints in total! What an achievement! Let's hope that this example will encourage all adult readers to become blood donors in the future.

## ITS COOL TO READ

Since September both Libraries have been busy every lunchtime with pupils working and reading with enthusiasm.

The year 7 Reading Club is now firmly established and meets every Tuesday and Thursday. Members of the year 7 and year 8 Reading Clubs joined author Phil Carradice for a great workshop on the 29 January.

The day was so successful that another well-known writer, Jenny Sullivan, came to school on July 12. It rounded off an excellent year for the Library!

Many thanks to Mr Crosby, Ms Stephens and all the teachers who have helped out in the library for all their hard work.

**Kathy Thomas**  
Library Co-ordinator

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Congratulations to ex-pupil HYWEL FRANCIS who has been elected Labour MP for Aberavon.



## SKIERS SUCCESS

The annual ski trip to Andorra at half term and Easter proved to be very successful and enjoyable. At Easter the pupils enjoyed the facilities of a lovely 4\* hotel and perfect skiing conditions for 3 days, followed by 2 days of blizzards! Nevertheless the pupils still managed to ski for an average of seven hours a day and everyone came home clutching certificates to prove their success. Great fun was had by all skiers and snowboarders (pictured). Turn to the caption competition for examples of the staff antics on tour!

Both trips are running next year so get your deposits in as there are very few places left!

## PRIMARY PUPILS

### WHITE CHRISTMAS AT LLANISHEN FACH

In December 2000 five Norwegian students visited Llanishen Fach school Assembly to talk about how they celebrate Christmas in their country. Dressed in full national costume the girls entertained the pupils with stories of Santa Claus, presents and family celebrations. The pupils were most amazed by the stories of the amount of snow which falls in Norway at this time of the year – several feet sometimes reaching up to the roofs of the houses!

Any pupils in our Feeder Schools who would like to send in an item of news can do so! Address on the final page.



The girls are pictured with some of the Llanishen Fach pupils who were left dreaming of a White Christmas in Britain

## NORWEGIAN EXCHANGE

The school has a long tradition of welcoming students from abroad who will study with us for varying periods of time – recent times have witnessed students from Japan, Korea, Costa Rica, Mexico, Germany and most particularly, Norway.

Through a twin-city exchange Cardiff and the Vale is linked with a Norwegian second city Bergen, which annually sends 22 students for a full year of study.

Whitchurch sixth form again hosted 5 students this year, who joined in with year 12. All five were hosted locally and thoroughly enjoyed the year – new friends and experiences to take back to Scandinavia. Next year's contingent are eagerly looking forward to joining us, having already heard of what we offer both academically and socially. Our ambition now is to encourage students here to make return visits.

Sylvio, Elizabeth, Lin, Sunniva and Line reluctantly returned home, but with fond memories. The success of the scheme, in it's six years across the city, perhaps is best illustrated by the number of participants who return to University in Cardiff – oh! And one marriage!

**Rob Davies**  
Head of Sixth Form

## MY OBOE

About a year ago, I went on the Whitchurch High School Orchestral Course on my flute. I really enjoyed it, but they said they had hardly any oboe players, and needed some more from the primary schools. I remembered this, and in September, I started to play the oboe.

Now, a year later, I am about to move up to Whitchurch. I hope to carry on having music lessons for the oboe well into secondary school.

I would also like to be in the school orchestra as well as county ensembles, as I enjoy playing with other people.

The orchestral course gave me lot of experience of playing in an orchestra and I hope I can come to the course again this year.

Thank you.

**Claire Nieuwenhuis, Aged 11**  
Birchgrove Primary School

# CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME

Our biggest fundraising event in the Autumn term is always for "Children in Need" and in the last few years substantial amounts of money have been raised running into thousands of pounds. It finances national incentives and our own "Special Childrens Party" which takes place in December for youngsters with disabilities and special educational needs. It is our intention this year however, to donate a proportion to a local charity based in Whitchurch. Bobath Cymru is a charity which caters for children with Cerebral Palsy. It is based "on our doorstep" and we feel that it is important for the school to reach out into the immediate community of which it is a part. A proportion of the "Children in Need" money raised this year will therefore go to this worthwhile charity.

Velindre hospital has also been supported by Whitchurch School this year. In the summer term a raffle took place to raise money for the pioneering hospital which treats thousands of cancer patients every year. "Silly Socks Day" (pictured below) took place earlier in the year and on the day of the Red Dragon Disco Party in July, pupils set up stalls in the quads to raise money in imaginative ways. A total of £1000 was raised for Cancer Relief and a cheque will be presented to the hospital this term. The raffle will also be drawn in the coming weeks.



It is good to see exactly where our charity money goes and whilst we will continue as a school to support national and international charities we also want to support those nearer home. Bobath Cymru and Velindre Hospital are both based in Whitchurch and supporting them shows our contribution as a school to our local community.

Thanks to all involved in the many fundraising events over the past year. Let's continue to work together to show that Whitchurch is a school which cares about others.

**Whitchurch High**  
Fundraising Committee

## POETS CORNER

Whitchurch pupils have again been very successful in the Young Writers' 2001: A Poetry Odyssey Competition. Poems written by pupils in all years of the school were submitted and 395 pupils had their entries chosen for publication in the regional anthology. Very well done to all those pupils who entered.

**Liz Brown**  
English Department

## COMIC RELIEF



The two-yearly Comic Relief Charity day in March resulted in some unusual fancy dress costumes at Whitchurch. Edward Goode and John Quigley of year 11 are pictured raising money for the various good causes. The school raised a total of £1,200. Congratulations to all involved.

## HEARTFELT WALKERS



The annual British Heart Foundation walk will take place on Sunday September 16 commencing at the Temple of Peace in Cathays Park at 10:00am. We have secured the prize for the best fundraising school for the past two years winning the RED DRAGON disco party which takes place in the summer. Last year over fifty pupils walked and some of the prize-winning fundraisers are featured in the picture with Rupert Moon and Mrs Sue Leat. Most of us know someone who has suffered from heart disease - the biggest killer of individuals in Britain today. Let's see if we can make it three years running for the best school in Cardiff the Vale and even further afield. Staff and pupils are encouraged to take part in the walk again this year. Entry forms are available from Mrs Anthea Parker and teachers and pupils can meet to walk together at 9:30am at "The Temple of Peace" on the 16 September.

# MUSICAL NOTES

The past few months have witnessed considerable activity on the music front. The annual Richard Fice Award to the pupil "who has contributed most to the musical life of the school" was presented to Nathan Hamer – the Head Boy – who has loyally supported the School orchestras, bands and choirs over the past seven years. Incidentally, he and two others – Matthew Downes (Year 12) and Claire James (Year 11) – have been selected to represent the county in the National Youth Orchestra of Wales this year.



**Nathan Hamer receiving his award from Mr & Mrs Fice**

Members of 7E were invited to take part in a concert organised by the South Wales Police. Mrs Julie Thorne, together with two supporting teachers' aides and two students, spent many weeks rehearsing the pupils for this concert. The standard of performance was very high and many members of the audience praised both them and the staff concerned for their entertaining performance.

This year, eight primary schools were visited by Music staff from Whitchurch High School, as the link between our school and the feeder primary schools strengthen. The Year 6 pupils appeared to enjoy the experience of singing and playing "Wimmoweh." Hopefully, this liaison with the feeder primary schools will continue to develop and flourish.

A second musical link with local primary schools was also forged on Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 June, when approximately 100 junior school instrumentalists combined with a similar number of Lower School pupils from Whitchurch High School in a joint orchestral course held in Lower School. The concert for parents in Upper School hall on the Tuesday evening was well attended by parents (as usual) and many thanks have to go to all the peripatetic teachers and especially to Mr Eric Phillips, for all his hard work in organising, rehearsing and conducting the 200 strong orchestra.

**Anthony Josty**  
Head of Music

Charlie Power of Red Dragon Radio hosted the summer disco for 1000 Whitchurch pupils.

Some boys were unamused and played football on the Astroturf while others like Skie Blackwell enjoyed dancing on stage!



# COOKING UP SUCCESS



Symone Grech of 10A stepped in at the last minute to take the place of an absent pupil in "The Breading Confectionery" Competition at County Hall earlier this year. The class entered required pupils to design and make half a dozen bread rolls; so after much kneading, rising and shaping, Symone came up with a roll that made Spaghetti Junction look tame and which would not look out of place in any top restaurant! She won first prize £60 for the Home Economics Department and gets to keep the cup for a year.

**Jenny Gillings**  
Head of Home Economics



Congratulations to the four pupils who participated in the Rotary Club Young Chef competition in early February. Each had to plan a 3 course meal for 2 for under £10 and prepare it in 2 hours. Rachel Morgan, Jeni Henderson and Catherine Hunt all prepared some excellent dishes on the evening, but there could only be one winner, which was Steph Hicks with her meal for a Valentines Evening. The competition will be held again next year, so Year 10 start thinking up some ideas.

**Maxine Fowler**  
Home Economics



*Learning for life*

# A GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR COMES TO WHITCHURCH !



This year's school production was "The Government Inspector" by Nicolai Gogol. This classic Russian comedy was written in 1835 but Whitchurch's version updated it by 50 years to 1885 and placed the action in a small Welsh town in order to give it a more familiar set of circumstances, character and environment.

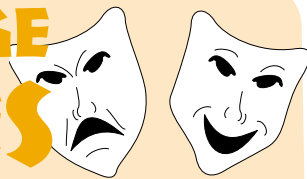
However, none of the humour was lost in this comedy of mistaken identity as the corrupt Mayor, well portrayed by Adam Vaughan, and his corrupt town officials seek to bribe the mistaken "government inspector". This latter role John Whippett was taken by Matthew Barry who portrayed the part with a fine grasp of comic timing and character.

The ladies of the town also get involved in the devious proceedings as they fall for the charms of Mr Whippett. Delyth Scudamore as the Mayor's daughter Mair and Catherine Davies as his wife, provided alternative and amusing scenes for the inspector to pursue his lustful desires.

A cast of 30 performed with great gusto on four evenings, well supported by the technical crew, set builders and backstage hands. Congratulations to all concerned.

**Barry Slack**  
Head of Drama

## BACKSTAGE NOTES



All the exam groups A Level, AS level and GCSE have successfully completed their practical exams with the usual high standard. The A level and AS groups performed a selection of their work in performances for parents, staff and friends on two evenings in November and one in April.

Matthew Barry (Year 10) has been successful in his auditions for the National Youth Theatre of Great Britain. He has been invited to join the company on their course next Easter 2002. As far as the Drama dept of Whitchurch High School know, or can remember, he is the first for at least 25 years! Well done Matthew!

47 Year 10 students visited London on Tuesday 12 June to see "The Woman in Black" – a spine-chilling ghost story. This marvellous story told by only two actors was enjoyed by all who went and gave good ideas on staging and atmosphere in a theatre setting.

## I DON'T BELIEVE IT !



Year 10 drama students were given a treat when actor Richard Wilson of "One Foot in the Grave" fame came to school during election week with Julie Morgan our local MP. He is pictured with Whitchurch pupils during a session in which he gave advice about acting and theatrical skills. A question and answer activity failed to get him to repeat his most famous saying! Apparently people are always shouting "I don't believe it" at him in the street and enough is enough so he blatantly refused to say it again!

# SCIENCE MEETS ART



Kath Printall with her innovative painting based on all structures won 1st prize. Well done Kath!

Last year, sixth form art pupils were involved in a year long project in which the Art Department collaborated with local laboratory Nycomed Amersham, to devise a science/art project in which the pupils had to design and

make a piece of art work for the laboratory site. The project ran as a competition with financial support from Nycomed Amersham and culminated in a large exhibition at the site in November.



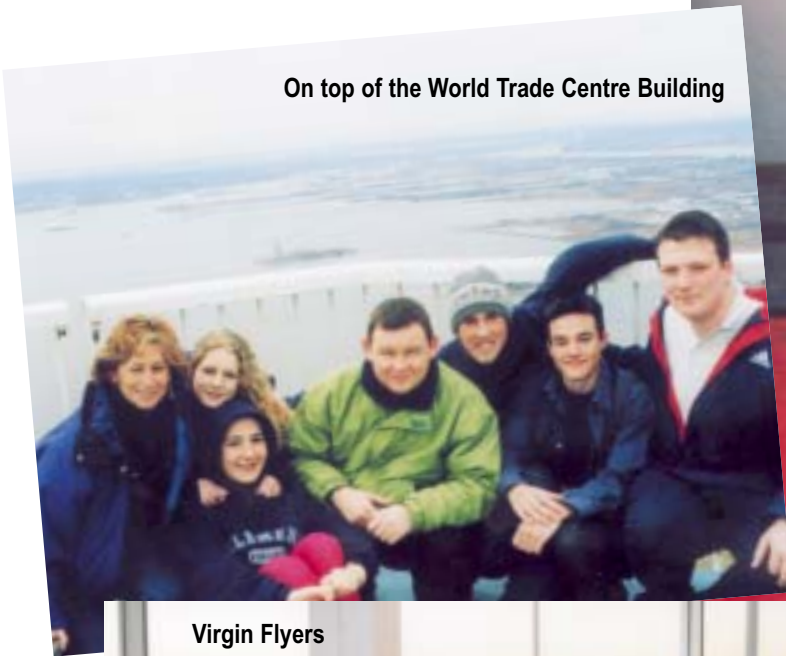
All work and no play? (I think not!) Sixth form art students drawing the Eiffel Tower from the River Cruise boat and inside at the Pompidou Art Gallery during this years Art trip to Paris in February.



*Learning for life*

# NEW YORK NEW YORK (SO GOOD WE WENT THERE TWICE!)

On top of the World Trade Centre Building



Noodles Are Us!



Virgin Flyers



Once again **Business Studies** students from Year 12 flew out to New York to sample the bright lights of Manhattan and the machinations of big business in the city. Visits were made to the **World Trade Centre**, which is the tallest building in the metropolis, (don't look down Darren Havard!) Students also visited the **Stock Exchange** and the **Federal Reserve Bank** where you can be told your worth according to your height in shredded dollars. (Anthea Parker was priced at \$25,000 wow!) Other excursions included the **Statten Island Ferry**, ice skating in **Central Park**, John Lennon's "**Imagine**" memorial, and a tour of Chinatown in the rain to find Angela Luxmore's dream noodle house. Philip Jones managed to gain the award for Champion Noodle eater of the night! (pictured).

Students also sampled the delights of **Time Square** and the bargains at **Macy's** and **Bloomingdales**. Ben "Del Boy" Hartrey bought lots of "cut price" designer scarves to sell at a profit on his return

and Rob Davies (Head of Sixth Form) who had pronounced "I hate shopping" could not be prised away from **Abercrombie and Fitch**.

Other trips included a visit to **Grand Central Station**, **The Empire State Building** (where memories of "Sleepless in Seattle" were revisited – don't cry Lucy Blake!) and numerous excursions on the subway, which tested the geographical skills of Darren Havard and Rob Davies (0/20!).

Thanks must be expressed to Angela Luxmore for her superb organisational skills and her courage to fly across the Atlantic (despite severe flight phobia! We are talking **worse** than the film "Airplane!").

Next years five day trip is from March 9-14 for Business Studies Students. **Big Apple** here we come!

# EUROPEAN YEAR OF LANGUAGES DAY

In September 2000, the school became the first state school in Wales to offer the International Baccalaureate programme as an alternative to AS/A2 in the sixth form. The IB is a demanding, broad-based course where all students take French and German and also ab initio Spanish, bringing the total number of European languages taught at Whitchurch to five.



We therefore felt we had to celebrate 2001 and the European Year of Languages in some way. Not wishing to be over ambitious, and feeling that 2,400 was an awful lot to cater for, we limited ourselves to the whole of Year 9 plus all GCSE and AS/A level linguists – about 700 in all. Releasing all those pupils from their timetable for the day enabled us to organise a carousel of activities based in a quad in the school and around which pupils would circulate at hourly intervals.



Several months of preparation bore fruit as we contacted outside agencies, organisations and businesses to see if they would be able to participate or offer us help. We are indebted to all those who so willingly and so generously came forward. Lyn James from UWIC came with over 20 multilingual ITT students who gave a whole range of fun-filled drama and games sessions in four languages. Hamish Munro from the WDA and Ceri James from CILT talked of the importance of having a MFL for business in Wales. Springboard Wales and HETC provided fun sessions on European food tasting and languages in the Hotel and Catering trades. Taster Italian lessons were provided by Signora Avanzi who used sweets as prizes and even brought in samples of olive oil (extra virgin, of course!) and Parmigiano Reggiano. The French and German Honorary Consuls visited us and talked to the pupils. The star event was undoubtedly a mass Spanish Flamenco and Salsa class with instructions in Spanish. Ana Rodriguez, our Spanish assistant, together with her friend Vanessa Marco, both skilled Flamenco and Salsa dancers, brought the house down in full Flamenco regalia as we stomped and chanted our way through Ricky Martin's 'Un, dos, tres!'. It all helps to keep you fit and served to underline the main purpose of the day, namely; not only are languages a useful, increasingly indispensable tool in today's global society but they are also fun.



The verdict of the day? An awful lot of hard work and stress, but ultimately rewarding and worth it. If any other school is considering doing something similar to celebrate this special year, please don't hesitate to contact Sue Carter at Whitchurch – at the very least I can give you the details of a wonderful supplier in Brussels of EU bunting and flags!

**Sue Carter**  
Head of Modern Languages



# PETER EDWARDS



Peter Edwards has worked at Whitchurch High School for a total of 25 years, 17 of which have been as Deputy Headteacher. During this time he has won the hearts of teachers and pupils with his enduring patience and positive efforts to ensure that the timetable is finished on time and that it accommodates the wishes of the teaching staff. At the many

retirement functions, stories were told concerning Peter's early teaching years which are too numerous to relate here but one point on which all were agreed is that he is a "true gentleman".

Colin Morgan recalls some memories of Peter Edwards at Whitchurch.

"When I arrived at Whitchurch High School Peter Edwards was a young man, very slim as he is today, blonde (svelte even). He retained his shape largely because he sat at lunch with seven others (myself included) who had enormous and selfish appetites (a spare roast potato would have to be cut into eight pieces).

Peter has always been quiet, courteous and helpful – it is his nature and why he is so widely liked and respected. His charm lies in his ability to hit you with a timetabling problem which is likely to cause you huge problems and make it appear that everything will work out fine (even though you know deep down it probably won't).

"He will be sorely missed, the mould has been broken."

## Colin Morgan

Head of Business Studies

# MIKE COADY



Deputy Headteacher, Mike Coady left this summer to take up an appointment as Headteacher in a neighbouring authority. Mike joined the staff at Whitchurch in September 1997 from St Bernadette's RC school in Bristol, making the bold move to become an Englishman abroad.

Mike has had specific responsibility for student progress

and achievement and whilst a statistics man by training he never loses sight of the pupils as individuals with needs, aspirations and targets. He is a quiet Yorkshire man with a keen sense of community in that all have a place irrespective of ability. Having supported Halifax Town for years, he very much champions the underdog and of necessity is patient with staff and pupils alike – a good listener and supportive at all times.

A Rugby League aficionado, Mike nevertheless has

# TONY JOSTY



2001 is proving to be a very special year. As I write, pupils in Year 12 are sitting the long awaited AS examinations. Their experience may well prove to be unique as changes are already being talked about. Our music examination was held in the Geography room!

As the pupils worked I had time to look around the room and observed

photographs of the School's three former Heads of Geography on the wall. An empty nail awaits a photo of the present Head of Geography, Mr Gareth Daniel, presumably when he moves on to pastures new!

What a nice idea for the Music Department, I thought, for, like the Geography Department, the Music Department has only had three Heads of Department in its 64 year history. The present incumbent, Mr Josty, retires this year. He was appointed as Head of Music in 1983 but he had previously taught Maths at Whitchurch in the 1960's. He has been a tremendously hard working Head of Department, enthusiastic, extremely supportive and most generous with his expertise and his time. We have had lots of fun and many laughs over the years. I could write about so many occasions.

One such occasion that will remain forever in my memory happened a good many years ago when Miss Braithwaite was teaching with us. The three of us were in room 15 for a Year 7 parents' evening, eagerly awaiting our appointments, when a parent came in asking for "Mr Jazzy". Fortunately, Miss Braithwaite and I were in a position to quickly vacate the room leaving "Mr Josty" with the unsuspecting parent.

On behalf of everyone associated with the Music Department, the pupils, staff and peripatetic teachers, and the School as a whole, I should like to thank Mr Josty for all his hard work and efforts over the years. Best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

## Eric Phillips

Music Department

been a temporary convert to the Union Code and has brought much of the technique used playing as second row for Bristol RFC into his daily routine – toughness, fairness and a desire to see others aim high and play to the rules. Through Easter revision courses, mentoring schemes and careful reporting he has encouraged pupils and staff to evaluate and review all that they do so that all move forward.

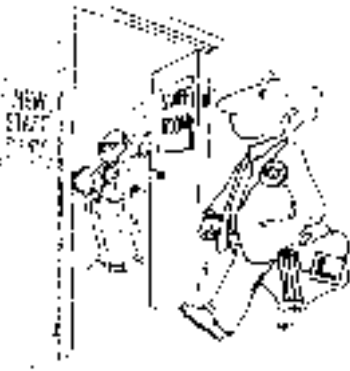
Perhaps one of Mike's most striking achievements has been to oversee hundreds of Year 8 pupils making their own breakfasts and packed lunches on a residential trip to Bath – how many mums and dads can claim that fact? Mike leaves with our affection and good wishes to take up his new post at St Alban's RC Comprehensive School Pontypool

## Rob Davies

Head of Sixth Form

# NEW STAFF

Welcome to the following new members of staff who have joined the School this term:



Mr Huw Jones-Williams	Deputy Headteacher
Miss Carys Lloyd	MFL Department
Mrs Sabine Kempson	MFL Department
Ms Pat Sims	MFL Department
Miss Hayley Long	English Department
Mr Kevin Brown	English Department
Miss Nicola Kutner	Mathematics Department
Miss Maria Serrano-Dalmas	Mathematics Department
Mr Jonathan Davies	Music Department
Mr Matthew Ireland	RE Department
Miss Katherine Rees	Science Department
Mr James Hutchins	Science Department
Mr Wilf Bryant	Science Department
Mr Chris Davies	Chemistry Department
Mr Andrew Richards	Art Department
Miss Nicola Edwards	Art Department
Mr Andrew Clark	Art Department
Mrs Helen Rodgers	ITC Department
Mr Richard Baker	ITC Department (temp)
Mrs Eleri Shepherd	Welsh Department
Mr Neil Potter	PE Department

Last year we said goodbye to the following members of staff who left for pastures new. Thanks are extended to them for their hard work and we wish them well in their new professional careers.

Mrs Lyn Crwys, Miss Gail Duckworth, Mrs Donna Winter, Mrs Lola Asukile, Miss Karen Thomas, Miss Keri John, Mrs Mandy Thomas, Miss Lucy Harding, Mr Phil Brookes, Mrs Ann Jones

## CHILDRENS FESTIVAL 2001



A special Children's Festival was held by the South Wales Police at the City United Reformed Church on Thursday 17 May. A number of schools in the city took part including pupils from 7E from Whitchurch High School.

They spent many hours rehearsing their items with Mrs Thorne, Mrs Zyjewski, Mrs Grindle, Mrs Griffiths and

## MILES FOR SMILES



Whitchurch High School has been involved with "Childline Wales" for over two years, and they have helped to train staff and pupils in dealing with pupils who are having difficulty in school – the sixth form have grouped together to provide this "listening service" every lunchtime – and are known as the SMILE team, which stands for "Sensitive Minds In a Listening Environment". Any new year 12's keen to get involved should contact Miss McKee early next term.

As a school we thought Childline would be a worthy recipient of our support, and so on the 12 February this year, the whole of Lower School went on a "Miles for Smiles" sponsored walk around the Lower School site.

One of our ex-pupils, who was Head Boy Mr Jonathan Hill, the HTV newsreader, and our local MP, Mrs Julie Morgan were also there to lend their support to the event. Despite the very wet morning on the day, the sun shone on the walkers and the total raised for Childline Wales was a staggering £1,800!!

We would like to say a BIG thank you to all the staff who helped to make the day a big success, the sixth form SMILE team who accompanied the walkers, as well as some staff and to all who sponsored the pupils – we could not have done it without you!!

We hope we can count on your support during the next year.

**Noreen McKee**

Sixth Form Year Tutor

the music students Kate Kelleher and Sue Purdy, and on the day they performed their rendition of "Calypso" and "The Tiger Sleeps Tonight", magnificently!

A special mention to: Raymond Palmer, Jack Woon, Stephanie Burns, Lauren Heyman and Stephen Morris the soloists and to the percussionists, David Manfield, Joshua Burford, Mair Marshall, Daniel Thomas, Laura Musa, Samantha Vincent and especially the conductor Diogo Luis. Well done to all those who took part and a special thank you to all the staff for their hard work and to members of 11E who helped with the disco.

The pupils were later presented with certificates and trophies by Mr Matthewson in Year 7 assembly.

**June Evans**

Head of Special Needs

# SPORTS DAY 2001

## NEW SCHOOL RECORDS

Name	Form	Event	Distance/Time	Old Record
Gareth Bale	7N	100m	13.12	13.35
Emily Owens	7G	100m	13.77	13.94
Katie Brinning	8L	Discus	22.91	21.81
James Evans	9V	Javelin	46.60	40.00
Stephen Wright	9L	High Jump	1.55	1.54
James Evans	9V	100m	11.52	12.10
Lewis Wright	9M	Hurdles	11.24	12.58
Michael Green	8G	Hurdles	11.52	12.30
Lauren Shields	7L	300m	52.97	53.2
Rachel Jenkins	8F	100M	13.06	13.1
James Evans	9V	300m	39.96	40.5



Year 7				Year 8				Year 9						
GIRLS		BOYS		GIRLS		BOYS		GIRLS		BOYS				
<b>100M</b>														
1	Emily Owen	J	Gareth Bale	M	1	Rachel Jenkins	V	Kyle Murray	G	1	Kari Simmons	H	James Evans	R
2	Nicola Cousins	G	Adam Foley	G	2	Rebecca Owens	L	Niall Allen	M	2	Bethan Dinnick	M	Alan Daley	K
3	Danielle Smith	C	Daniel Watts	L	3	Ceri Mapstone	J	Michael Chapman	F	3	Emma Cousins	R	Adam Shields	M
<b>200M</b>														
1	Antonia Micallef	V	Adam Foley	G(NR)	1	Gabby Ireland	M	Nathan Pleace	G	1	Donna Cartwright	J	Jason Murphy	R
2	Kate Todd	K	John Evans	W	2	Emma Brown	V	Jason Said	M	2	Vicky Copner	H	Lewis Wright	P
3	Rachel Thomas	K	Daniel Watts	J	3	Rebecca Owens	J	Charles Moore	V	3	Emily Thwaites	G	Adam Shields	N
<b>300M</b>														
1	Lauren Shields	P(NR)	Michael Watts	T(NR)	1	Ceri Mapstone	V	Nick Stubbs	V(NR)	1	Sarah Bryant	K(NR)	James Evans	R(NR)
2	Lucinda Cox	W	Jo Jones	F	2	Lynzi Milson	T	Gianluca Palladino	M	2	Natalie Ward	M	Jason Murphy	J
3	Christie Hope	J	Lee Debono	N	3	Lydia Roach	M	Sean McDonald	G	3	Sam Haines	P	Michael Parry	K
<b>800M</b>														
1	Laura Davies	F	Gareth Bale	T	1	Jade Abdullahi	N	Nick Stubbs	K	1	Emma Humphries	K	Joseph Guildford	R
2	Hannah John	L	Michael Watts	P	2	Sophie Brown	F	Craig Bowdon	H	2	Heather Williams	J	Chris Holton	J
3	Saphie Akbari	J	Michael Clappe	W	3	Martha Kane	J	Jonathan Airey	M	3	Vicky Richards	V	Ben Brown	K
<b>HURDLES</b>														
1	Abigail Hollingworth	N	Richard Tatham	K	1	Abby Clode	V(NR)	Michael Green	M(NR)	1	Jenny Finlay	G	Lewis Wright	J
2	Kayleigh Parker	G	David Gilbert	T	2	Lynsey Milson	N	Allan Thomas	P	2	Laura Cawley	K	Adam Shields	M
3	Gemma Brown	V	Nick Clarke	W	3	Katie Redmond	W	Nathan Showderly	R	3	Vickey Copner	R	Ed Hampson	R
<b>1500M</b>														
1	Hannah Kirtton	F	Gareth Bale	W	1	Rachel Jenkins	N	John Airey	K	1	Julia Levi	M	Sam Hartley	R
2	Hannah Popper	L	Liam Parlmer	M	2	Jade Abdullahi	J	Paul Forryan	W	2	Joanna Johnson	P	Sean Parker	J
3	Emily Owen	W	Liam McDonald	T	3	Jessica Howells	W	William Price	M	3	Felicity Young	V	Andrew Rabone	T
<b>JAVELIN</b>														
1	Megan Bearpark	W	Mitchell Huntley	P	1	Ruth Thomas	V	Kyle Murray	V(NR)	1	Jenny Finlay	P	James Evans	G
2	Emma Paines	H	Jim Bennet	T	2	Laura McLoughlin	R	Nick Diamond	K	2	Kelly Newing	G	Chris Gumms	L
3	Ffion Evans	V	Chris Burke	K	3	Somaya Jama	F	Peter Matthews	N	3	Jemma Whitcombe	L	Peter Muscat	V
<b>DISCUS</b>														
1	Samantha Jones	L(NR)	Jorden Barber	L	1	Katie Brinning	M	Nicholas Howell	H(NR)	1	Sally Milson	N	Luke Nash	R
2	Natasha Benson	M	Alex Ingram	N	2	Stephanie French	L	Chris Johnson	R	2	Kimberley Shellard	H	Stephen Wright	K
3	Sophie Gale	G	Tim Waldron	R	3	Somaya Jama	G	Thomas Arensen	M	3	Rachel Reed	P	Chris Gumms	M
<b>SHOT</b>														
1	Gemma Scott	J	Paul Mardon	L	1	Katie Brinning	G	Daniel Lewis	R	1	Kimberley Shellard	G	Luke Nash	R
2	Christina Morgan	V	Phill Williams	N	2	Phillipa Beattie	N	Nick Diamond	H	2	Zoe Thomas	N	Chris Summs	P
3	Jessica Turley	K	Jon Holten	R	3	Jessica Brooks	V	David Wyr	V	3	Tarryn Wessels	P	Sean Parker	L
<b>LONG JUMP</b>														
1	Hannah John	G	Mark Burgess	G	1	Gabby Ireland	V	Michael Chapman	N	1	Jenny Finlay	H	James Lane	R
2	Hannah Kirtton	L	Michael Clarke	N	2	Ruth Thomas	W	Tyrone Herbert	L	2	Heather Williams	M	Tom Breedon	W
3	Kirsty Redmond	P	Sam Cartwright	M	3	Elizabeth Mansell	P	Sam Jones	F	3	Sarah Rees	T	Sean Parker	V
<b>HIGH JUMP</b>														
1	Emily Owen	M	Daniel Watts	W	1	Gabby Ireland	G	Lee Timothy	M	1	Felicity Young	K	Stephen Wright	P
2	Jade Rundle	L	Gareth Bale	C	2	Leah Clarke	M	Nathan Pleace	G	2	Anya Clarke	T	James Lane	H
3	Emma Farnham	G	Daniel Lane	L	3	Phillipa Beattie	V	Andrew Morris	R	3	Sally Milson	R	Luke Merry	N
<b>TRIPLE JUMP</b>														
			1 Sam Loftus	H				1 Nial Allen	M					P
			2 Michael Jones	W				2 Sam Jones	L					C
			3 Anthony Quick	V				3 Michela Bishop	F					F

## SPORTING LINKS DOWN UNDER

We are pleased to announce that we have established a sporting/cultural exchange with a top high school from North Island, New Zealand. Wairarapa College is situated in Masterton, which is approximately 30 miles north of Wellington. It will involve two rugby players and two female hockey players from each institution spending a ten week period overseas, playing at a high standard, but also experiencing each other's culture.

The exchange started in July when Nick Hampson and James Goode departed on their leg of the journey. Due to time constraints, there will be no hockey players going this time, but it seems likely that Stephanie Allen and Michelle Wilkins (Yr 12) will be our representatives this time next year.

The students from Wairarapa College will be with us towards the end of November, and I am sure we will make them feel welcome.

Last and finally, good luck to Nick and James on their adventure. I am sure they will be great ambassadors for the school and their families.

**Stephen Hodnett**  
PE Department

## REIGNING CHAMPS

Despite a rain ridden season without indoor facilities the Year 8 Netball team were determined to retain their title of "County Champions".

They beat Bishop of Llandaff, Howells and St Teilo's convincingly to become Year 8 Champions.

The squad:

<b>Hannah Cooper</b>	<b>Gabby Ireland</b>
<b>Katie Brinning</b>	<b>Abby Clode</b>
<b>Lydia Roche</b>	<b>Charlotte McCormack</b>
<b>Rachael Lawrence</b>	<b>Rachael Jones</b>
<b>Stephanie French</b>	

Well done to all the members of this dedicated and talented team.

**Jo Williams**  
PE Department

## TENNIS STARS

On Monday 9 July four Year 7 pupils took part in the u13 County Tennis Tournament held at the Welsh National Tennis Centre.

The pupils were Hannah John (singles) Darren Broad (singles) Jonathan Holton and David Wright (doubles). Congratulations to Hannah John who successfully beat Howells in the final to become u13 County Singles Champions.

On Tuesday three boys from Year 9 and 10 took part in the U15 County Championship and did not lose one match throughout the whole competition.

Matthew Barry and Simon Hanson played Year 10 doubles and Chris Holton Year 9 singles both won the County Championships convincingly.

**Jane Humpage**  
PE Department

# HOCKEY CHAMPIONS



The U14 squad has become the Welsh Schoolboy Hockey Champions after defeating Ysgol Dinas Bran from Llangollen 6—2 in the Welsh Final at Newtown last Friday. This is a fantastic achievement, for not only is it the first time the school has won the championship, but the team was only formed this year.

The squad remains unbeaten this year, securing wins against Cardiff High School, Llandovery College, Glan Ely High School, Monmouth High School, Ffynone House and Stanwell Comprehensive School.

The 4-0 semi final win against Wye Dean School to become South Wales Hockey Champions was extremely important, as Wye Dean were the winners of the competition in 2000.

The squad have played well throughout the season, but really showed their team spirit and character in the final against a very strong Ysgol Dinas Bran side, with a magnificent second half performance, overturning a half time 2-1 deficit into a comprehensive 6-2 win.

The goal scorers were Gareth Thomas (2), Rhys Welsh (2), Jordan Baber and Brendon Macintosh.

This win is not only a fantastic achievement for the boys involved but also for hockey at Whitchurch High School. The number of boys participating has risen throughout the year.

Mr Potter is expecting this success to be continued next year, and invites anyone who is interested in playing to come along to training in September.

<b>Gareth Thomas (C)</b>	<b>Gareth Davies</b>
<b>Jordan Baber</b>	<b>Jonathan Elliot</b>
<b>Chris Bowley</b>	<b>Brendon Macintosh</b>
<b>Rhys Bowley</b>	<b>Will Price (GK)</b>
<b>Oliver Brazier</b>	<b>Tom Veasy</b>
<b>Craig Chambers</b>	<b>Rhys Welsh</b>
<b>Kenny Cooper</b>	<b>Jamie Woodrow</b>

**Neil Potter**  
PE Department

# NETBALL IN GREECE



Schools. Special mention must be made of the Year 9 "A" team who took on some sixth formers bravely and scored eleven goals against them! The last day of the tour yielded outstanding results for Whitchurch pupils against Folley's school.

A team	24-1 (won)
B team	19-6 (won)
C team	16-8 (won)

The trip ended with presentations, a quiz night, challenge night and an award for the tidiest room throughout the week!

Congratulations to all the girls who contributed to this successful and rewarding tour.

**Jo Williams**  
PE Department

The Cyprus Netball Tour of 2000 proved exciting, memorable and successful. 25 netballers from Years 8 and 9 flew out to Limassol in October.

The stay included a tour of Paphos and Limassol, a visit to a Waterpark and a trip to the Troodos mountains, but the real point of the trip, the netball games, proved to be the most exciting activity of all!

All three sets of teams (A,B and C) experienced success in their games against St John's and Folley's

## SPORTING HEROES

Congratulations to Nicholas John of 10L who won a cup for the second best nett score in the Cardiff County and Vale Schools Golf Championships 2001.

# HOWZAT FOR CRICKET KIT?



Cricket is taught throughout Key Stage 3 and 4 PE lessons in Whitchurch and Years 7 and 9 have competed in the local league with Year 10 in the "Cardiff and Vale" Cup.

Matthew Maynard representing Lord Taverners who came to present the kit to the pupils is pictured with Whitchurch cricketers earlier this year.

On Sunday 8 July the school played host to an under 18 cricket team from South Africa. "Capricorn" consisted of players between 14 and 18 years old on a two week tour of the UK, who proved to be a team of a very high standard. The South Africans opted to bat and scored 212 for 4 with some superb batting, but there was also some excellent bowling from Simon Davies, Chris Hunt, James Goode, David Grey and Alun Thomas, and excellent fielding from the whole team.

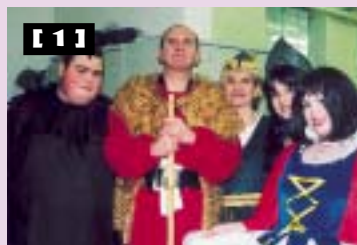
In reply James Goode led from the front and scored a superb 50 but unfortunately had little support and we were all out for 82. This was a great experience for the boys, well done to all of them and many thanks to all the parents who helped me with the food!!

**Tim Henson**  
PE Department

Whitchurch High School were chosen as one of two schools in Cardiff to receive some kit from the Lord Taverners.

The amount of children participating in cricket and extra curricular teams was taken into consideration and Greg Paulson (Cricket Development Officer for Cardiff) chose us and Llanishen to receive kits.

# CAPTION COMPETITION



Who is Mr Steve Williams phoning on the ski slopes ?



What might Mr Mike Wadsworth be saying to Mr Gwyn Nicholls ?

Congratulations to the Deane Family (Josh Deane in 7) and Ben Deane in 9)) who won the caption competition in our last newsletter. These were their winning captions:

- [ 1 ]** "First one to smile gets the stick!"
- [ 2 ]** "Who was the last one to use the super glue ?"
- [ 3 ]** "He's so intent on smiling at the camera that he'll never notice me taking the gun"
- [ 4 ]** "The Crankies" come to Whitchurch High

The Deane family have won UCI Cinema vouchers. Well Done !



What is Ali G doing at Whitchurch Sports Day ?

The latest pictures for our caption competition are shown above. The best caption writers will win two cinema tickets or bowling tickets at the UCI complex. So get writing! Entries may be taken to the school offices or given to Mrs Anthea Parker.

Please indicate which picture fits your caption.

## CALENDAR

Important dates to be remembered for this term!

### SEPTEMBER

- 11 Parents meeting re instrumental lessons
- 13/14 Induction course at Swansea University
- 28 Year 11 Wedding Ceremony

### OCTOBER

- 15/19 Year 11 work experience
- 22/26 Half Term

### NOVEMBER


- 2 INSET Day
- 15 Matthew Pasley Concert

Articles/news (limited to 150 words please) may be sent to Mrs Anthea Parker (Head of RE/Publicity Co-ordinator), Whitchurch High School, Penline Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff  
Tel: 029 2062 9700

### DECEMBER

- 12/13 Young Playwright's Festival
- 18 Special Children's Party
- 19 6th Form Presentation Evening
- 20 Llandaff Cathedral, Carol Service
- 21 Break up for Christmas Holiday

School re-starts January 7 2002

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