



## WALKING IN THE RAIN FOR NOAH'S ARK

Over 1000 Lower School pupils led by a group of dedicated sixth formers walked a one mile route around the outskirts of the Lower School site on one of the rainiest days in February. The walk is one of many fundraising activities for the Noah's Ark appeal for the Childrens Hospital in Wales. At the time of publication £1800 had already been collected and there is more to come. Congratulations to all involved, particularly Mrs Jill Manning and Miss Noreen McKee for organising the event.



The Sixth form team with Catherine Zeta-Jones who supported the walk

At the end of April, ten of our sixth formers were privileged to have been able to walk with Ian Botham on various stages of his walk around Wales. They were:

Rhys Harrington	Machynlleth - Llanrystud
Robert Wheadon	Llanrystud - Cardigan
Carl Kimber	Cardigan - Wolfscastle
Daniel Harris	Wolfscastle - Tenby
Rachel Morgan and Jill Manning	Tenby - Carmarthen
Kathryn Fenlon and Claire Philpott	Carmarthen - Swansea
Jenny Hargreaves	Swansea - Bridgend
Lucy Brown	Bridgend - Barry
and all walkers for the last three miles	Barry - Cardiff

The group have been collecting sponsors from local businesses, friends and parents, but any more contributions would be gratefully received! Donations may be sent to the school addressed to the "Noah's Ark Appeal".

Well done to these pupils for "flying the flag" for Whitchurch. Their impeccable behaviour and stamina was commented upon! The school's involvement was also mentioned in the Western Mail.

Our designated charity over the next two years is the Noah's Ark appeal for a Childrens Hospital in Wales. We would like to have a room named after Whitchurch High School but need to raise £25,000 for this to happen. We have already raised £12,000 and so this is not an unrealistic goal. Please help us achieve this ambition so that we will have a lasting memory of the pupils efforts.



Ten members of our teaching staff completed a 30 mile cycle ride for the same appeal on Sunday 21 April. The brave cyclists were Ian Bagnell, Colin Workman, Steve Williams, Catherine Norris, Liz Zyjewski and her husband Ski, Terry Owen, Chris Harris, Anthea Parker and Duncan Evans. The intrepid explorers raised over £300.



Dear Parents,

I am sure that most parents and students will be aware that Whitchurch is the largest school in Wales. This newsletter shows that we are also one of the busiest, with a full range of activities for all pupils to engage in.



Recently we have enjoyed considerable success on the sports field, our scientists won the NASA space competition, our engineers won the Excellence in Engineering competition, the pupils who took part in the Sherman Dance were outstanding, as were the "stars" who performed in our fantastic production of South Pacific and the recent Richard Fice Memorial Concert.

We have a great deal to be proud of in our school, not least the way in which our pupils show how much they care for those less well off than themselves. It is not possible for everyone to be a top class performer on stage or sports field, but all can make a contribution to worthy causes.

Time after time our pupils pull out all the stops to raise as much money as possible for charity. Yet again we have raised more money than any other school for Children in Need as well as presenting substantial cheques to worthwhile charities like Bobath Cymru, Cancer Research Wales and The British Heart Foundation. This is an excellent achievement, and all pupils and staff involved deserve every credit for their efforts.

Finally I would like to make special mention of our Year 8 pupils who took part in the three day educational visits to Aberystwyth during the week prior to Easter. This trip was a "first", but one which we hope will become a regular feature of our Year 8 programme. Over 200 pupils took part and they set a very high standard for others to follow. In particular, their behaviour was excellent, and they engaged in the organised activities with much energy and enthusiasm. The positive attitude of all pupils helped to make this trip a resounding success.

Gareth Matthewson  
Headteacher

# CHARITY UPDATE



Bobath Cymru are presented with a cheque for £500

In the Spring term, cheques were presented to representatives from Bobath Cymru, The British Heart Foundation and Velindre Hospital after various fundraising activities by the pupils. The Children in Need final total was £5,000 (which was more money raised than any other school in Wales!). The Special Childrens Party at the end of the Autumn term was also a great success and a credit to the organisational skills of the sixth form team.

## JAMMING WITH THE SIXTH FORM

In March a "Jam Fest" took place also organised by enthusiastic sixth formers who were Jodie Ashdown, Chris Norman, Chris Pearce, Richard Pugh, Matthew Beck and Ian Arthur. The event featured bands called "ITEM NOT FOUND" and "REAB" which included students from Whitchurch High School. All profits from the event will be donated to Velindre Cancer Research and £383.69 was raised.



Graham Bowen pictured with year 7 and year 10 pupils receives a certificate from Glenda Meakin of the British Heart Foundation celebrating three years of fundraising with over £5000 collected between 1999-2001



Teachers dress up too! Mrs Gwenda Craddock with year 8 pupils and Mrs Lyn Morgan with Pudsey Bear



Food supplies for Romania, November 2001 and Mrs Anthea Parker at the BBC with year 7 pupils for Children in Need



Congratulations and thanks to everyone involved in raising money for all these worthy causes.

# SOUTH PACIFIC



This year's musical production, "South Pacific" was a big success for the school and its participants. The show ran for 5 nights from March 5 until March 9 and involved some 80 students drawn from Years 7-13.

"South Pacific" by Rogers and Hammerstein was much appreciated by full audiences all week, who were extremely impressed by the tremendous talent on show. In particular, **Siobhan Neil, Adam Vaughan, Jessica Cooper, Tom Veasey, George Duncan-Jones, Matthew Barry** and **James Grindle** must be congratulated for their professional and accomplished performances.

On Saturday evening, the leader of the Welsh Assembly Rhodri Morgan and his wife, Julie Morgan, the Cardiff North MP saw the final performance and considered it to be "a great educational achievement for everyone involved".

A great week with plenty of splendid memories for cast, musicians, crew and audience. Videos of the show are on sale from the Drama department for £10.00.



**Mr Barry Slack**  
Head of Drama



# YEAR 7 EISTEDDFOD 2002

This year's Eisteddfod was a hugely successful one with a large number of pupils participating in both on and off stage competitions.

The Eisteddfod was officially opened by the Headteacher and **Jamie Robinson** – Rugby Centre for Cardiff and Wales (and Welsh speaking too!). He welcomed the year group and praised them for their hard work since January.

Mr Hodnett handed out the sport competition certificates then Mr Bowen and Mrs Batten took over.

Among the many highlights of the day were **Andrew Ward** 7P of Coch's Welsh Recitation, **Hannah Brunt** 7R of Gwyrdd's solo and 7R's (Gwyrdd) drama.

As usual, we had a churning ceremony, the chair this year being awarded to **Mark Fullwood** 7T of Gwyn for his relentless hard work every lunch time throughout the term.

7J of Coch were given the shield for the best class – having been awarded more points than any other for off-stage entries.

Coch were the eventual all-round winners of the day – a well deserved award! The day ended with the National Anthem – the sound being enough to raise the new Tower Block's roof!

As the Eisteddfod was such a success this year – there have been three visits to our feeder primaries – Rhiwbeina, Eglwys Wen and Eglwys Newydd. Mrs Slade has taken a group of Year 7 winners to perform in front of the Year 5 and 6 pupils in these schools.

Congratulations to all pupils who took part.

**Mrs Bethan Batten**  
Head of Welsh

# SHERMAN DANCE

Fourteen Year 8 and 9 pupils choreographed and performed a five minute routine which was presented at the Sherman Theatre in March as part of the annual Cardiff Schools Dance Production.

All the girls involved were a credit to the school and the high standard of Whitchurch High Schools dance was commented upon by many people who attended. Congratulations to the girls involved:

**Charlotte McCormack, Hollie Spernaes, Hannah Popper, Abby Clode, Laura Williams, Siobhan Mullins, Abby Hollingworth, Amy Price, Vicky Stephens, Libby O'Neil, Gemma Scott, Antonia Michaloff, Katherine Hughes, Kimberley Shepherd** and **Kate Madley**.

# ANOTHER WORKING HOLIDAY AT NASA!

During the February half term I was lucky enough to escape from the usual Welsh weather and visit the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida. I had been awarded a grant from The General Teaching Council of Wales to carry out some research relevant to general classroom teaching and lesson delivery within Science. The project will then link up with our primary feeder schools. The week was a very busy one and provided excellent resources and contacts that will prove to be invaluable in the future. I was fortunate enough to meet astronauts Brian Duffy and Jon-Loup Chretien. I also had the pleasure to talk with Joanne Morgan who was the only woman working within the control room for the Apollo missions and is now one of the NASA Directors.

I will have to watch the Apollo 13 film again and try and spot her! They are incredibly interesting and inspirational people who have experienced so many unique things. Following informative tours of the NASA facilities I witnessed the launch of an ATLAS rocket into space. The time spent in the NASA archives and teaching resource centre provided so many exciting ideas and materials that I will be able to use for my final dissertation. It was nice to return back to Wales as it started to snow briefly! This was a shock to my body system and was worse than jet lag. At Easter we had a Year 12 pupil attending the NASA Kennedy and Johnson Space Centres.

**Mr Eric Coombes**  
Head of Physics

## RETURN TO LAUNCH PAD 39A



Congratulations to Randall Smith and Tom Hedges who were recently announced National winners of the ISSET 2002 space competition. They were both thrilled and looked forward to the 2 week trip to the NASA space centres in Florida and Houston.. They were accompanied by Ona Flindall, who was selected as the IB competition winner and teacher, Mr David Spear.

They had the experience of a lifetime and we look forward to hearing more about this in the next newsletter.

## SCIENCE WEEK CELEBRATION

The staff of the Physics and Chemistry departments were invited to the University of Glamorgan to meet a cosmonaut and leading rocket scientist. It was great to experience some of the fascinating work, missions and future projects associated with the Russian space programme. Video footage displaying life on the ex space station Mir and the launch of a Sputnik satellite (by hand!!!!) were particularly memorable. A complete contrast to the NASA footage we had previously seen from visiting astronaut Michael Foale. The next day an Asteroids lecture by BBC presenter Professor Paul Roche was attended by the Year 12 IB students and Mr Thomas. An unbelievable presentation which featured a real life comet! We look forward to a repeat performance from Paul Roche who has offered to bring the show into school next term.

**Mr Eric Coombes**  
Head of Physics

## CARDIFF UNIVERSITY TUTORING

Whitchurch High School has been delighted to work with Cardiff University in providing academic tutoring sessions for some of our year eleven students. Before Christmas we ran "one to one" sessions with each pupil receiving specialist tutoring from an under-graduate for five weeks prior to the mock exams. 15 pupils benefited from this programme.

We have now been piloting a second phase to this scheme with two pupils being tutored by each Cardiff University student. An additional 25 pupils will have benefited from this.

Feedback from the pupils has been excellent. Both students and pupils receive accreditation for their participation.

**Mr Huw Jones-Williams**  
Deputy Headteacher

# STADIUM DAY



Pupils pictured are:  
**Stacey Shioda 9L, Jade Smith 9L, Katy Brinning 9L,  
Luke James 9F and Dafydd Salaman 9F.**

Year 9 pupils in Design and Technology won a cup for first prize in a building competition on Stadium day for CITB (Construction Industry Training Board) Construction Week. It was held at the Morgan Cole Solicitors Offices (Construction Law) in Cardiff. After viewing pictures and video information explained by people responsible for building the Millennium Stadium, the pupils took on the roles of architect, planner, quantity surveyor, project manager and site foreman, to complete their tasks, playing against other schools. They showed excellent organisation and communication skills, both essential in these roles.

They also visited "City Crafts" in Cardiff Bay, and donned safety helmets and luminous jackets to look around their new site, which is being built behind the UCI in Cardiff – currently surrounded by blue boarding. Pupils talked to the people involved, and saw some construction going on.

The pupils had a chance to see and learn about many aspects of the construction industry, and the vast number of job opportunities it offers people of all abilities and talents.

# THE ENGINEERING EDUCATION SCHEME IN WALES

This year the Engineering Education Scheme team worked with Ortho Diagnostic and were set a problem to identify areas in the "set up" and "set down" of a particular machine. The machine in question filled bottles with a reagent to test blood samples. The team were extremely successful and came up with a solution that enabled the company to produce approximately an extra 900 bottles of reagent a day. They were also successful at the Conference for Excellence in Engineering at the Celtic Manor resort where they won the prize for the project with the most commercial potential.



**The prizewinners with Mr Chris Harries**  
Head of D+T

# ARMY DESIGN CHALLENGE

On the 7 February the army visited the school and a group of us went to work with them. They gave us tasks to solve and I was the captain of my team. We had to make a cable carrier to transport an engine from one side of a canal to the other and we had to be quick for the enemy was only 90 minutes away! Each leg had to be symmetrical, each bolt had to be facing the same way after that we would try to put them together with a rope in between them to transport the engine. Every group completed the task and they all worked! We were then given points for our designs, structures and team work. We finished second but came first because of points for team work. It was a lot of fun and everybody enjoyed it.

**Rachel Lawrence**  
Year 9

# ZODIAC SUCCESS

Whitchurch pupils, for the fifth year running, have again been very successful in the Young Writers' Poetry Competition. 68% of entries, a total of 383 poems, were accepted in this year's regional anthology, "Zodiac Cardiff", which is scheduled for publication at the end of June. Very well done to all those pupils, both in Upper and Lower school, who entered the competition, and a big thank you to all the English staff who helped the pupils achieve such success.

**Mrs Elizabeth Brown**  
English Department

## PLAYING FOR WALES



Out of 26 pupils from Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan who have been accepted into the National Youth Orchestra for Wales for this year, five are from Whitchurch High School – **Jonathan Mann, Joe Tandy** and **David McLoughlin** (violins), **Claire James** (viola) and **Matthew Downes** (trombone). In addition, two pupils, **Lauren Hamer** (saxophone) and **Bill Tandy** (euphonium) have been accepted for the National Youth Wind Band Orchestra of Wales. Congratulations to them all.

**Mr Eric Phillips**  
Head of Music



The Richard Fice Memorial Concert took place on Wednesday 23 and Thursday 24 April. The school choirs, Upper School Orchestra and Wind Bands performed and there were also many individual solo items from talented musicians throughout the school. The standard of music performed was exceptional and all those who participated are congratulated on this excellent evening which reflected the wide array of musical talent evident amongst Whitchurch pupils. Thanks are also expressed to Mr Eric Phillips, Mrs Julie Thorne, Mr Jonathan Davies and all the peripatetic music staff for their hard work throughout the year.

The Richard Fice Award for the most outstanding contribution to music in Whitchurch High School was presented to **Lauren Hamer** and **James Grindle** who are pictured with Mr & Mrs Fice.

Congratulations to them both.

## RISING STARS

Congratulations to **Tom Veasey** of Year 10 who reached the final auditions for the National Youth Music Theatre of Great Britain, also to **Ben Francis** of Year 10 for being recalled to the final 300 candidates in London in the same auditions. 10,000 originally participated! A tremendous achievement!

**Matthew Barry** of Year 11 has been selected for the National Youth Theatre of Great Britain. Another outstanding success.

## COOKING UP SUCCESS

### YOUNG CHEF COMPETITION – ROTARY CLUB

For the third year running, the first heat of the Young Chef Competition was held at Whitchurch High School. Five pupils took part in the competition, and spent 2½ hours preparing and cooking a 3 course meal. The meal had to cost less than £10 and could be on a theme of the pupils choice.



#### All 5 pupils with the president of the Rotary Club

A variety of dishes were produced such as salmon fillets, mexican tortillas and chicken satay. All pupils produced excellent results and I am very proud of what they all managed to achieve. Congratulations to **Emma Rees, Hannah Walford, Sara Howard** and **Leanne McGee** and especially to the winner of the evening **Aimee Strugnell**.

I would also like to thank the Rotary Club for supporting and sponsoring this competition. It provides pupils with an excellent opportunity to extend their culinary skills.

**Ms Maxine Fowler**  
Home Economics Department



Meal produced by the winner - Aimee Strugnell

# I WANNA KISS THE BRIDE



**A**ndrew Goddard looks pleased to be surrounded by also many lovely girls. He played the bridegroom in the GCSE Religious Studies Wedding in Year 11 and got a round of applause when he kissed the bride **Rhian Cheyne**! Congratulations to all involved – particularly **Kate Thomas** who conducted the service in such a professional manner. Thanks also to the businesses who supported us this year – Cardiff Bridal Hire, Moss Bros, Steven Harries Flowers, (Whitchurch) and Covent Garden Flowers, (Rhiwbina).



## WHERE ARE THEY NOW ?

**W**e have received a communication from two ex-pupils **James Davies** and his wife **Louise** (nee **Wheeler**) who were at the school between 1988-1995. The two started going out together whilst at Whitchurch ten years ago and married at St Peters Church, Peterstone-Super-Ely last summer. Louise has recently finished a PhD in Biochemistry and is working for a Pharmaceutical company just outside Newport and James qualified as a Dentist last summer and works in Rhoose We wish them well in their new careers.

**Any other ex pupils who would like to contact us with news?**

# MURAL MISSION



As part of the International Baccalaureate programme for Creativity, Action and Service, three Upper Sixth students went to the Recreation Centre, Ty Canol at Whitchurch Psychiatric Hospital. Over a sixth month period they made a wall mural made from tiles and glass nuggets of a sea scene which was aimed at getting the patients to interact and now is at the centre. Before being able to volunteer in the centre, they had to undergo two days of NHS mandatory training and currently the lower IB are undergoing the training and hope to take up a similar project.

Congratulations to **Ruth Davies**, **Anne Shrestha** and **Rhiannon Shellans** whose work is now displayed in the hospital recreation room.

**Miss Nicola Hansford**  
C.A.S. Co-ordinator

# FOCUS

Summer 2002 should see the publication of the first edition of the new Lower School newspaper. Members of the English Department have got together to organise and start up "FOCUS", a paper based on school magazines produced by other schools in England and Wales.

The first edition will feature reports on school drama performances, pupils' achievements in sports and competitions, and some of the other stories that have interested our keen team of reporters during the summer term. There will be a blend of news and views, features and fun, sports and thoughts on what goes on at Whitchurch High School.

We welcome any pupils who would like to help with the production of "FOCUS" to join in, either with new ideas for what to include, or by writing reports on important events. We plan to blend together stories on in-school activities, local and national events, and need your help to make "FOCUS" a success.

If parents know of any way they might be able to help us to make this a paper to be proud of, please contact a member of the English Department. Funding for the first issue is organised, but to produce further issues, some form of advertising or sponsorship may be needed.

**Mr Kevin Brown**  
English Department

# THE SWEET TASTE OF WORSHIP



Pupils from 7K enjoyed learning about Hindu worship in a recent RE lesson – particularly the sharing of the sweets which had been one of the offerings to the deity!

# NEW ZEALAND EXCHANGE

Whitchurch High School has established a sports exchange programme with a high school in Masterton, North Island, New Zealand – Wairarapa College.

Sixth form pupils **Nicholas Hampson** and **James Goode** spent a period of 10 weeks over there between July and September 2001. The programme has now expanded to involve senior girl hockey players.

Four students came to Whitchurch High School from the end of November until the beginning of February. They were **Zeb Aporo**, **Robert Foreman**, **Sarah McLaren**, **Rosa Thompson**, all 18 years of age.



**Mr Steve Hodnett with the New Zealand students**

It was an opportunity for students to experience each others cultures and play some sport. It supports the on-going international dimension of the school including Norwegian guests and our IB programme.

Pupils were "kitted out" by two local sportswear companies who are great supporters of the school: YC Sports (Crwys Road) and Cardiff Embroidery (Bessemer Road).

There was also a link with John Scott of Cardiff Embroidery, ex Cardiff skipper/England Captain.

**Mr Steve Hodnett**  
Assistant Headteacher

## MRS ANN MAHONEY



Farewell to Mrs Ann Mahoney who has worked as a Lab Technician in Lower School for 32 years. A life sentence! We wish her every good wish in a well earned retirement and would like to thank her for so many years of dedicated service to the school.

Congratulations to Mr Ian Leggett and his wife Jenny who gave birth to twin baby girls recently.

## ABERYSTWYTH TRIP

At the end of the Spring Term many of our Year 8 Apupils went on a three day residential trip to Aberystwyth. Pupils stayed in one of the halls of residence at the University and visited the Centre for Alternative Technology, Bwlth and Ynyslas. There was also a trip on the Rheidol Steam railway. In addition the pupils were able to use many of the fantastic leisure facilities at the University, including a last night disco.

The trip was enjoyed by all who attended and the pupils were congratulated on their excellent behaviour by many local residents.

**Mr Huw Jones-Williams**  
Deputy Headteacher

## IN THE BUSINESS OF EDUCATING

### PEOPLE IN BUSINESS - EDUCATION AND LEARNING WALES BUSINESS AWARDS 2002

We were granted the "Investors in People" Award outright and at the first attempt twelve months ago so we decided to enter the above prestigious awards programme.

Whitchurch High School entered the category for companies with over 200 employees.

The section required us to demonstrate that we were providing a quality professional development programme and in service training for teaching and non teaching staff.

Mrs Heather Guy, Deputy Headteacher, delivered a presentation at the Celtic Manor Hotel to three adjudicators, each of whom were established and experienced in the business world.

We were very proud that Whitchurch was chosen as one of three finalists and asked to attend the Awards Ceremony at the Celtic Manor Hotel. Rather like the Oscars, everyone dressed for the prestigious event attended by over 500 people from businesses throughout Wales.

Although Whitchurch was beaten to the final winning position by a West Wales Engineering Company, we were delighted to have reached the final three and to be identified and complimented by our Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, Jane Davidson, for being the only school in the category.

The event certainly raised the profile of Whitchurch High School in the world of business and commerce and we now look forward to our next challenge in the Whitbread Business Awards 2002.



Mrs Guy stands next to Jane Davidson with the other finalists

# SPORTING HEROES

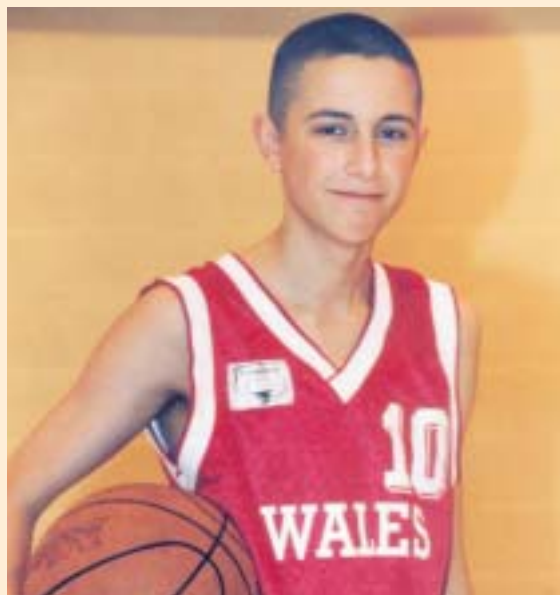
Congratulations to the following pupils who have achieved individual honours in their sport:

**Liam Palmer 8V** – Cardiff Schools Football, trials for Chelsea FC and trials for Cardiff Centre of Excellence

**David Wright 8V** – Black Belt Taekwon Do

**Rachel Fido 10C**  
– selected for the Welsh u16 Hockey Squad (pictured right)

**Matthew Barry, Simon Hanson, Nick John and Chris Holten.** Winners of the u15 Welsh League Tennis Championships and participants in the British Knockout Competition.



Congratulations to **Andrew Hassan** of Year 11 who was picked for the Welsh u16 Basketball squad at the end of 2001. 10 were chosen out of 52 and Andrew has since played for Wales in Aberdeen in the Four Nations International Basketball Tournament against Scotland, Ireland and England. Andrew is pictured in his No.10 Welsh vest.



Pictured are Whitchurch pupils who were runners-up in the County Compaq 5-a-side football competition in Sophia Gardens. They were also runners-up in the National Finals.

# DAVID PARSONS - SUPERSTAR

**D**avid Parsons of 11E is a superstar in our midst. He represented Wales at the Special Olympics held in Cardiff last summer and came 4th in the 100 metres and 5th in the 200 metres. **David** has over 300 medals, cups and shields for athletics, swimming, football and cricket!

**David** is a popular boy who is willing to help and support anyone who asks anything of him.

He is always keen to do well and never afraid to take on any challenge put before him – in fact he did so well during his Work Experience at Maindy Stadium that he has been working there part-time ever since! What a brilliant example of commitment and a fantastic advertisement for Whitchurch High School. Well done **David**!



David shows of his many trophies

## CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

**C**ongratulations to the boys Cross-Country teams. Year 7 boys finished 4th in the county championships – an improvement of 100 positions on September's races.

Team: **Hywel Dinnick, David Cole, Carl Neelson, Chris Nokes, Tom Ashford.**

Year 8 and 9 boys won the County League and County Championship Double with the B team winning the B team Championship.

Team : **Nick Stubbs, Gareth Bale, Tom Cox, Sean McDonnell, Liam McDonnell, Michael Watts, James Mann, Jonathan Evans.**

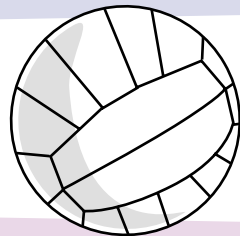
**Hywel Dinnick** won the Year 7 race and **Nick Stubbs** won the Years 8 and 9 race. Two County Champions!!! **Gareth Bale** finished 4th despite being bottom of the age group.

Well done to all the members of the teams.

Mr Dave Owen

## NETBALL

**T**he schools Year 9 Netball Team are County Champions for the 3rd consecutive year. The team were **Charlotte McCormack, Gabby Ireland, Abby Clode, Rachel Jones, Lydia Roche, Stephanie Roach, Stephanie French, Katie Brinning and Hannah Cooper.**



## RUGBY CHAMPIONS

**T**he schools u13 Rugby team were recently National Urdd 7-a-side Rugby Tournament winners in the National Schools Championships. A tremendous achievement!

## STRUCTURED COMMUNITY LINKS

Whitchurch High School is the biggest school in Wales which can be an advantage when offering a wide breadth of subject choice. With over 140 teaching staff and 2400 pupils, space occasionally however, can become a problem!

The school possesses a variety of facilities for its pupils such as an astroturf pitch, a swimming pool and it has moved into the 21st century with 18 interactive whiteboards used in lessons to stimulate innovative learning. Nevertheless, rainy weather has occasionally caused problems on the Lower School site.

When it rains 1000 pupils need an alternative dry area in which to shelter other than classrooms and until recently there was literally nowhere to go other than the school canteen!

Come to the rescue Brohome a company who has had close links with Whitchurch over many years, it's founder being Lyndsay Lewis an ex-pupil of the school. The company specialises in roofing, cladding and insulation and came up with the idea of creating a dry area where pupils can shelter by constructing a major steel structure over a surface originally comprising tennis courts, and built at minimal financial cost.

The D & T department at the school are now studying how the building was designed and are incorporating this into their Year 8 scheme of work, analysing how the erected structure will eventually evolve into a sports hall.

Whitchurch High School and Brohome have worked together on a variety of projects in a spirit of mutual co-operation in order to forge stronger links between education and industry. In 2001 Design Technology pupils from the school worked in partnership with the company as part of the Engineering Education Scheme and redesigned a component of a machine which has now been successfully adopted by Brohome. The D & T pupils received an award for their efforts from the Engineering Education scheme.

The Art department exhibit work at Brohome on an annual basis and the company sponsors the work of this department in return.

Several former Whitchurch pupils have also been employed by the company and work experience takes place on a regular basis.

Chris Willis, Managing Director of Brohome comments "We are delighted to have helped Whitchurch develop this on site facility for its pupils and to give them a chance to develop their engineering skills with our expertise. We hope that the close partnership will continue in the future".



# CAPTION COMPETITION

The following captions were sent in anonymously for the pictures in the last newsletter. I wonder why?



[ 1 ]

"Silver Fox speaking. At last we meet Mr Bond!"



[ 2 ]

"I know I'm wearing a funny hat but stop pretending you don't know me and let me back on the bus"



[ 3 ]

"Yo Man! I iz the real star of Sports Day, not Barry Slack!"

Don't forget articles/news (limited to 150 words please) may be sent to:

Mrs Anthea Parker (Head of RE/Publicity Co-ordinator), Whitchurch High School, Penlline Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff.

Tel: (029) 2062 9700, Fax: (029) 2062 9701, e-mail whs@whitchurch.cardiff.sch.uk

We would like to wish all pupils taking exams in the summer every success.

# CALENDAR

## JUNE

3 - 7 Half Term  
28 Year 13 Leavers Dinner

## JULY

6 INSET Day  
15 - 19 End of term activity week  
19 Break-up for summer holiday

## AUGUST

15 Results Day - A level and AS Level  
22 GCSE Results Day

## SEPTEMBER

3 Start of new term

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Learning for life