



# VH TELEGRAPH incorporating the Bulletin

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Newsletter 18<sup>th</sup> September 2009

A belated, but nevertheless, very warm welcome back to school to all members of our very special community. I have been absolutely delighted with the positive approach that all your children have shown towards the new school year and it has been uplifting to see their enthusiasm for school life in general. It is a long time since I wrote in the KC Times or the VH Telegraph due to the summer holiday and whilst I hope everyone has had an enjoyable break from school, life at school has been very busy.

Our Choristers set off for Northern Italy where they performed at a number of venues including St Mark's in Venice demonstrating their musical excellence and diversity. It was great to enjoy the experience with them and wonderful to see so many parents supporting their children, although I am not sure how many adults joined Dr Lamper, Mr Waltho and I in experiencing the icy delights of swimming in Lake Garda!

Kent College under twelve cricketers won the county cup with the help of two of our pupils, one of whom achieved the significant achievement of top scoring in the final and then also top scoring for the school under thirteens who unfortunately lost their final!

I was delighted to read about the success of our senior students in their academic exams and the A level results have been significantly better than any year since I joined Kent College nearly ten years ago. This has been the third successive year of significant improvement and this is not surprising as the college as a whole was identified as outstanding during our recent inspection. I believe very strongly that we in the Infant and Junior School lay the foundations for this later success; we should stimulate an enjoyment of education and enthusiasm for life in general which will enable our students to achieve greatly as they progress through life. We expect to be registered next year to allow our sixth form students to study the IB (International Baccalaureate) if they wish or continue with A Levels if they prefer that route. I believe this choice will help them find the best university and the best career choice for each individual. Our Senior School are holding an open morning on October 10<sup>th</sup> and I encourage you all to visit, Dr Lamper and I will look forward to welcoming families into the senior school on that morning.

Whilst I was relaxing at home during the summer watching England regain the Ashes, Mr Chapple and his team have once again been very busy widening the entrance making access easier for emergency vehicles and large 4 by 4 drivers! They have also made a pedestrian entrance to enable people to park on the road and walk into school; this will also make it safer and easier for children going off on trips and visits by coach. He has also started work on the seating area at the back of school which you will see develop over the course of the year and will look 'very special' by the summer. Next week sees a refurbishment of the ICT Suite and we have exciting plans for other areas of the school over the next two years. I am very grateful to the site staff for their hard work and commitment to the school. The children show great pride in their school but so do the adults and it is an honour to work alongside them.

We have been working hard on producing a new school prospectus, which will be available in a couple of weeks. We are also updating the web site and will be putting regular reports in the latest news. At present there is only one latest news area for the whole school but there will be one specifically for the Nursery, Infant and Juniors in the very near future. I encourage you all to look regularly. As you read this I will be in Brighton with all our year five and six boys on our soccer tour and Mrs Carter will be in Essex on our girls' hockey tour, you will be able to read about both and many other exiting school events on our web site.

Once again, thank you for your support and hard work to make sure that all members of our school community feel part of Kent College and Vernon Holme.

#### NOTICES

##### *Lost Property*

Harry Lee has mislaid his school blazer since last term also missing is a black 'Salt Rock' ski jacket. Would you all please be kind enough to check at home please

##### *Suzuki Violin Playtogether*

The next Suzuki Play Together is on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October and **NOT** 20<sup>th</sup> October as published. There will be **NO** violin lessons after 10<sup>th</sup> October; lessons will recommence on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November after half term