

Committee(s): Board of Governors of the City of London School	Date(s): 22 March 2013	Item no.
Subject: Headmaster's Report		
Report of: Mr David Levin, Headmaster		Public For Information
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Summary</u></p> <p>The Headmaster's report deals with issues pertinent to the School, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oxford and Cambridge results • Outside Speakers 2013 • Sponsored Award (Bursary) Campaign • Review of September 2012 Admissions Process • Report on CLS Student Day • Update on ARK Bentworth Primary Academy • Health and Safety Matters • Report from the Learning Support Department – February 2013 • Child Protection Policy • Legacy from Benson Catt Dec'd • Legacy from Rodney Fitzgerald Dec'd • School Catering Contract Tender • Wolfson Foundation Sponsorship • School Signage 		

Main Report

1. Oxford and Cambridge Results

This year the School secured 20 offers from Oxford and Cambridge. This was very much in line with expectations given the candidate pool. The process was again started in January to give applicants as much time as possible to prepare. It was interesting to note the difference in course applications compared with last year which was narrower overall. There were a large number of applications for Physics at Oxford and Natural Sciences at Cambridge, with fewer candidates applying for subjects such as engineering and some of the humanities such as foreign languages. There was also a far higher number of applicants to Oxford (53) compared with Cambridge (22) which was largely down to many prospective Cambridge applicants switching choice in light of their AS results and Cambridge's expectations in this area. All the additional preparation work that is offered in school is still clearly of great value in assisting successful candidates and from feedback it is also clear there were a number of very near misses.

CAMBRIDGE 2013: 6 Offers

Name	Subject	College	OFFER
AS	Natural Sciences (Biological)	Trinity	A* A* A
BO	Philosophy	King's	A* A A
GY	HSPS	Trinity Hall	A* A* A
HD	Maths	Trinity	A* A A
SJ	Asian & Middle Eastern Studies	Trinity	A* A A
WJ	Philosophy	Trinity	A* A* A

OXFORD 2013: 14 Offers

Name	Subject	College	OFFER
BP	Russian & Arabic	Magdalen	A A A
CC	Law with Italian Law	St. Hugh's	A A A
CJ	Physics	Jesus	A* A A
GM	Physics & Philosophy	University College	A* A A
IA	Engineering	Magdalen	A* A A
JA	English Language & Literature	Hertford	A A A
LA	Maths	Trinity	A* A* A
MD	Physics	Merton	A* A A
PO	History & Politics	Brasenose	A A A
RA	History	New College	U
RA	Russian & History	St. John's	A A A
TD	English Language & Literature	Worcester	A A B
WJ	English Literature	Pembroke	A A A
ZZ	Music	Christchurch	A A A

2. Outside Speakers 2013

4 th February	–	Alan Duncan (Government Minister)
22 nd February	–	Nigel Farage (Leader of UKIP)
26 th February	--	Max Clifford (PR Consultant)
4 th March	–	Mark Field (Conservative MP for City & Westminster)
21 st March	–	Shami Chakrabarti (Director of Liberty)
2 nd May	–	Robert Skidelsky (Political Economist)

3. Sponsored Award (Bursary) Campaign

- 3.1 The Headmaster will discuss the sponsored awards made and accepted (at 11+) for 2013/2014 at the meeting.
- 3.2 Eight Sponsored Awards have been made for Sixth Form entry in September 2013.

There will be six Saturday Masterclasses scheduled for:

Saturday 9 th March	Chemistry
Saturday 16 th March	Chemistry
Saturday 23 rd March	Physics
Saturday 20 th April	Physics
Saturday 27 th April	Biology (Summer Term)
Saturday 4 th May	English Language (Summer Term)

These are being funded by The Wolfson Foundation.

4. Admissions

Registrations for Admissions have again been extremely high, with the following number actually sitting the entrance examinations (2012 figures in brackets): at 10+ 169 (108); at 11+ (including Sponsored Award) 582 (664) and at 13+ 198 (205) for 48, 55 and 48 places respectively. The 13+ Pre-test saw 231 candidates sit (255).

The number of 10+ candidates has risen markedly over the last five years and this year's figure of 169 represents a 56% increase on 2012. As reported in ***The Times*** our interpretation is that fierce competition for 11+ places in London is driving parents to seek alternative entry points and our 10+ is an attractive proposition.

The number of applicants for 11+ Full-fee or Scholarships places was again very high but there was a significant decrease in applications for Sponsored awards.

The number sitting the group 3 13+ entrance examinations was similar to 2012, which was heartening bearing mind that many of our competitors, including Highgate and UCS, have already examined and offered places to boys in this age cohort. Whether we were mostly examining only those candidates who have already been

unsuccessful with schools that operate Pre-tests is a matter for conjecture. This year is the final year of the traditional group 3 examinations.

Our 13+ Pre-test numbers for entry in 2015 have held up and we hope that this Admissions procedure will be a successful way of securing the best talent from the traditional 13+ prep schools. Only time will tell.

Sixth Form recruitment appears to have been very successful. 25 boys sat for Full-fee places and 20 were offered places (of whom 10 have so far accepted) and 36 boys sat for Sponsored Awards, with 9 being offered places (of whom 8 have accepted)..

5. CLS Student Day – Friday 11 January 2013

As in recent years, we held our Spring Term Student Day on the first Friday of the term. All boys in the Fourth Form and below, along with the Junior Sixth, had twenty minute interviews with their Tutor to review their progress in the Autumn Term, go through their December reports and set targets for the rest of the academic year. In addition, boys in the Fourth Form, and below had group sessions with their Head of Year as follows:

YEAR	HoY Led	SPEAKER	CONTENT
OG and First	Memory training exercises	Mark Marno	Basic first aid
Second	Hip-hop and Balancing skills session	Rebecca Senior	Healthy Eating
Third	African drumming teamwork	Abdi Jamma	Wheelchair Basketball
Fourth	Uncomfortable conversations and ethics	Simon Leigh	Drugs

The Sixth Form Student Day comprised of three elements. Firstly each boy had an individual session of approximately 20 minutes with their tutors to discuss academic progress, extra-curricular commitments and university aspirations. They also set SMART targets, to be reviewed later in the year. Secondly, every boy attended two workshops. These were delivered by tutors and, in a range of subjects, and focussed either on study skills or extension work - boys chose the workshops most suitable to their needs/interests. Finally all boys listened to a lecture about practical ways to manage stress. This was given by an outside speaker, with considerable experience in this field.

6. Health and Safety Matters

There have been two meetings of the Health & Safety Committee since the last Governors' Meeting (4/12/12 and 25/1/13) and the main points raised were as follows:

- Emergency gas works outside the School (late November/early December) were needed which had restricted access to the School and had knock-on effects for deliveries, but the School continued as normal. The works had nothing to do with the School directly.

- A decision was taken to close the School on the afternoon of Friday 18 January because of the deteriorating weather conditions (snow and ice) which had caused transport links to be adversely affected. CLS opened as usual on the following Monday. Parents were informed by text messages and the School website.
- An updated Security Policy was discussed and approved. See **Appendix 1** attached.
- Heating had been a problem, especially in the very cold weather of early January. One of the School's three boilers had been out of action since early December, awaiting repairs from MITIE which had taken almost two months to restore the building to its optimum level of heating.
- Cleaning remains a persistent problem. Although some Heads of Departments had reported improvements, there were still serious concerns, notably in Science, Music and ICT. There were several cleaners absent each day (15% absence rate was quoted by the Facilities Manager) and so not all parts of the building were being cleaned each night. This has been brought to the attention of MITIE's supervisors.
- Air quality survey reports for AV and Prep Rooms had been received and these were satisfactory. No recommendations were made.
- Window stops on Laboratory windows were being installed to improve safety but allowing for suitable ventilation.
- The Second Master, Facilities Manager and deputy Facilities Manager have been invited to a counter-terrorism briefing at Wood Street Police station on 21 February.
- Plans for the Summer Works programme were outlined, as were the problems associated with these, especially liaison with the City Surveyors' Department. The Upper Playground would be out of bounds from half term in the summer to enable that major project to begin.
- The appointment of a new "handyman", Mr James Masson, was praised. It was hoped that this might reduce the number of referrals to the help desk at Guildhall and therefore speed up repairs.
- A successful fire drill took place on Monday 25 February and Heads of Year went through our Critical Incident Procedures that afternoon.

In addition: an internal security evacuation was held on Monday 4 March.

7. Report from the Learning Support Department – February 2013

See Appendix 2.

8. Child Protection Policy

It was agreed that the School's Child Protection Policy should be reviewed annually. This review is underway, with contributions from the Children's Services Department, the Town Clerk's Department and the City Solicitor. The revised policy will be presented to the Board at their Summer meeting. Changes to the CRB checking system need to be included in this updated policy.

9. Legacy from Benson Catt Dec'd

Benson Catt – a former Chairman of Governors of the School – has left a legacy of £9,291 to the City of London School Bursary Trust. Following discussion with his Executor this will be used to fund a sponsored award for a pupil entering the School's Sixth Form in September 2013.

10. Legacy from Rodney Fitzgerald Dec'd

As reported at previous meetings Mr Fitzgerald – a former Governor of the School – has left a legacy to provide bursarial support for students with sporting ability. An amount of £135,000 has been received as an interim distribution from the Estate and a smaller final distribution is expected in due course. Following discussion with Mr Fitzgerald's Executors this amount will be used to help fund a full fee sponsored award for a pupil entering the School's First Form in September 2013. This will be financed from the income arising from the legacy leaving the capital value intact to fund future awards.

11. School Catering Contract Tender

The School is participating in the City's Corporate Catering Tender Exercise which is being run by the City of London Procurement Service. The School's Catering Contract forms a separate lot within this exercise. Following the submission and evaluation of pre-qualification questionnaires the following five companies have been invited to submit tenders:

- a) Brookwood Partnership
- b) Chartwell
- c) Holroyd Howe Independent
- d) Sodexo
- e) Waterfall Services

These tenders will be evaluated by the School and marks awarded on the basis of 30% for price and 70% for quality. The School considers that this marking scheme is appropriate in view of the need to maintain a high quality value for money service. The School is being assisted in this exercise by its long standing catering consultant, Adrian Stokes. Final interviews will be held with those firms who have submitted the best tenders on Tuesday 26 March and the contract will be awarded shortly afterwards. The new contract will commence on 1 September 2013 and will initially be for a period of three years with an option to renew for up to an additional two years.

12. Wolfson Foundation Sponsorship

The Wolfson Foundation has generously agreed to extend its existing sponsorship of the School by offering a further grant of £125,000. This will be used as follows:

- a) £100,000 will provide two seven year full fee sponsored awards for pupils joining the School's First Form in September 2013; and

- b) £25,000 to further extend the School's outreach activities during the next three years.

The School is very grateful for the Foundation's support.

13. School Signage

The School intends to improve signage on the school building in order to both assist first time visitors to the building and to promote the School's prominent position in the City.

Following discussions with the City of London Planning Department it has been agreed in principle that:

- a) The high level signs on the front of the School building overlooking the River Thames will both be increased in size. Planning considerations prohibit the illumination of these signs;
- b) The sign on the Queen Victoria Street side of the building will be increased in size and some subtle illumination provided; and
- c) A new sign will be placed on the School next to Peter's Hill which will also be subtly illuminated.

Following this agreement in principle bespoke signs are being designed and detailed plans will be submitted shortly.

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