

# **ROSSALL SCHOOL** **NEWSLETTER**

**Monday**  
**15<sup>th</sup> March 2010**



## **Headmaster**

Arts week was clearly a huge success, and I'm sorry I missed many of the events for unavoidable reasons. As I live on my own I like to get home occasionally to see my wife and daughter who is in the middle of perpetual Year 11 crises. She will be relieved, as will our Year 11 pupils in the ISC and especially in the main school, to get to the relatively calm waters of A levels in September. The waters are calm, but they are much deeper, and there's a strong feeling that GCSEs are a poor preparation for A level and, perhaps more important, that success at GCSE is no guarantee of success at "A" level. In a technical subject – Maths for example, or French, or Physics – a B grade at GCSE is no guarantee of an A level pass, and we must certainly avoid the common belief that an A at GCSE will translate automatically into an A at A level. Such mournful thoughts : I'm sorry. When people at a previous school used to tell me about the stress children were under I used to snap that we could do with a good nervous breakdown. Not much in life will be achieved without concentrated and serious hard work, and GCSE is a good place to start. End of rant.

On the subject of rants, loyal listeners might like to know I'm on Radio Lancashire on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm It's the Sally Naden show, though Sally herself will be on a ski slope somewhere. I shall try to say something about our premier status on the Fylde coast ....

A change in status and reputation was part of the topic under review at the annual speed-dating convention I have just been attending in Windsor. I sit at a desk for two solid days, and every twenty minutes an agent will come and talk to me about how to get children into Rossall. It must be tough for them, speaking for two days a language some of them find difficult, and some of the encounters produced more smiles than sense. It's always embarrassing to find oneself saying "Yes, yes" encouragingly to an incomprehensible Russian or Chinese, only to discover they are waiting for the answer to a question I haven't understood. I had twenty eight encounters (Russians, Chinese, Georgian, Italians, Germans, a wonderful couple from Uzbekistan, Turks, Ukrainians), and I was struck by how many told me that agents they respected had told them great things were happening at Rossall. Now we have to make sure that all that comes true.

It's in March that we begin to think seriously about plans for next year. We're just beginning the planning for a girls' hockey tour to South Africa in 2011 as we chase the dream of the new Astroturf in 2010. Edward Thring, the greatest of the Victorian Headmasters, wrote "The best is only just good enough for our children". They give us so much – visitors to the wonderful Year 8 play will confirm that – and we must do everything we can to live up to their dreams.

**Dr Stephen Winkley**  
**Headmaster**

**SPORTS  
ROUND UP**

**WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY 8<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2010**

A small but dedicated group of boys set off at the crack of dawn on Sunday, March 7th for the North of England Rugby Seven-A-Side tournament in Birkenhead. The mood was optimistic as we departed Rossall School and we were looking forward to a great day of rugby action. We found ourselves in a very difficult pool for the group stage of the competition and our first match was definitely a learning experience! The pace of sevens rugby played properly was a shock to some of the boys and we took a while to settle into our pattern of play. As the tournament wore on, we steadily improved, but found ourselves on the wrong end of the score line too often. Although we played some attractive rugby, we did not do enough to progress into the knockout round of the competition. There were some standout performances from the Captain, Charles Hough, Giles Hayton, Jan Strottman and Constantine Wossala, who scored his first try in Rossall colours.

**Friday 12th March**

U16 v U6 Lytham Hockey Club won 11.0

**Saturday 13th March**

Boys Hockey v Kings Macclesfield  
U16 drew 0.0 won on penalty flicks 4.3  
U14 won 4.2  
U13 won 2.1

**Saturday 13th March**

On Saturday the U12 girls squad played in the invitational Jean Torrence Memorial Hockey Tournament at Arnold. The squad selected from girls across years six and seven, captained by Kennedy Taylor, play good possessive hockey, team work and individual skills. Natasha Maycock and Emily Cobb worked hard in goal supported by a solid defence of Emma Riley, Danielle Sorbie, Jasmine Abo-Elazm and Hayley Hughes. In their first competition Rachel Hoggarth and Lauren Stephens showed determination and improvement throughout. Goal scorers - Kennedy Taylor (2), Grace McKnight (2), Kailei O'Flynn (1).

Rossall finished third in the group stage and finished in overall joint fifth position from 14 teams competing. An excellent result for their first tournament, well done.

Events	Week 9
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> March	1.00 pm Student Council 3.30 pm U13/U12 –v– Cardinal Allen (h)
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> March	4.00 pm Rossall Hockey Competition 6.30 – 7.30 pm The Socratics
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> March	1.00 pm U11 VIII a-side Hockey Tournament (St Mary's Hall) 4.00 pm Junior Girls' House netball Senior Girls' House squash
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> March	2.00 - .3.00 pm Grandparents Afternoon: Infants 3.00 – 4.00 pm Grandparents Afternoon: Juniors 6.00 pm Y8 Academic, Parents Evening
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> March	12.30 pm Budge Hockey tournament (h) 4.00 pm Depart 1 <sup>st</sup> XI Football –v– King Williams (a) Junior Girls' Basketball Junior Boys Soccer 6.30 pm The Farrell Society
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00 am 1 <sup>st</sup> XI Bath Hockey Festival day 1 10.30 am School –v– ORs Rossall Hockey U16 Boys' hockey –v– Millfield, Somerset (h) 12.00 noon U12, U13 XI Boys' hockey –v– Sedbergh (a) 1 <sup>st</sup> XI Ladies hockey –v– Chorley & Leyland (a) 2.00 pm 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI Boys' hockey –v– Ors 6.45 pm OR Dinner in Common Room 8.00 pm Football return
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> March	9.00 am 1 <sup>st</sup> XI Bath Hockey Festival day 2