

Sports News

Where do I start? I can't remember being so busy in the PE department with fixtures, festivals, extended cup runs and County tournaments.

Table Tennis has again shown massive strides this year. The year 5 and 6s competed in the inaugural county championships for under 11s and managed to medal securing a Bronze medal for the A team. The B team finished in last place, but have all gained from the experience and are all ready to come back stronger. The year 8s B team finished in 3rd place in an incredibly strong field losing only to the CMS A team. The A team played Porchester A team in the final with CMS coming out on top. The 'new' Dorset County Champions now go on to represent the county and the school down in Plymouth in the new year. WELL DONE TO ALL INVOLVED! Good luck to Cameron, Jacob, Jamie and Ryan, the winning A team.

In football, the year 5s competed in their first festival and ended up winning their individual league. Well done boys! The girls played some good football but were sadly knocked out of the County Cup by St Osmunds 3 v 1, however, the year 8 boys were able to make amends for this defeat by beating the boys 7 v 2. Unfortunately, a 3 v 1 league loss against St Edwards for the year 8s now means it is only the cup left for them. The year 6s managed to beat Emmanuel in the league, but were really unlucky to lose on penalties against Oakdale in the county cup.

The year 5 netballers played their first competitive games, against Emmanuel and managed to win one and lose one. A great team spirit and high volume of players to choose from, shows excellent signs for the future.

Finally, can we say a massive 'thank you' to Guardall Security Systems for their generous sponsorship of sports kit. We would not have been able to obtain the team kits without their donation.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,
The PE Team.



Key Dates for Your Diary

3rd January	Start of Spring Term
3rd January	Year 7 India Hook
5th January	Year 8 Ghostly Tales Hook
12th January	SATS meeting at 6:30
24th January	SATS English workshop
6th, 8th, 9th February	Wizard of Oz
10th February	End of half term
20th February	Teacher inset day
21st February	Start of half term

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policies

To conform with regulations we wish to point out that our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policies can be viewed on our website at:
www.cranbornemiddle.co.uk/Information/Policies/safeguarding



Cranborne Middle School



*School Newsletter
December 2011*

Cranborne Means Success

Damerham Lane
Cranborne
Dorset
BH21 5RP

Phone: 01725 517 348
Fax: 01725 517 984
www.cranbornemiddle.co.uk
office@cranbornemid.dorset.sch.uk



Head Teacher's Comment...

What a fabulous term! It's been packed full of achievements and enjoyment but thankfully NO snow.

We've said our sad farewells to Mr Cottrell and Mrs Williams. Two teachers who we thank as a community for the considerable amount that they've given to CMS over the years and to whom we offer our very best wishes for their future endeavours. Both will be dearly missed.

We also say goodbye to Miss Roumeas who has been covering Mrs McLaughlin's maternity leave. Miss Roumeas has fit into the CMS team effortlessly and upheld the high standards of teaching and learning in our French curriculum. She has devoted a considerable amount of time to this post and we thank her and wish her well for the future. Mrs McLaughlin starts back after the holiday.

Thanks must also go to Mrs Ramsell for her leadership of ICT over the years. Now working part-time and with three small children, she has decided to relinquish this role to Mr Lawford who will take the reigns after Christmas. Congratulations to him and also to Miss Towill who will be formally taking on the leadership of the RE curriculum.

Finally, school reopens for children on Tuesday 3 January.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and hope that 2012 treats you and your families well.

News & Notices

Gardening Thank you all for sending in your Morrison's 'Let's Grow' vouchers. Over 3000 were collected, which means that next Spring, CMS can expect a delivery of fruit trees, seeds and equipment, ordered through the Morrison's reward system. Thanks also go to Cranborne Garden Centre, who have generously donated some lovely winter pansies and herbaceous plants for the borders which will blossom next year. Here's wishing a very Merry Christmas to you all! Sarah Culley



The Xmas Factor & our Xmas Lunch



Humanities

It has been a very busy and exciting term in the humanities department. Our year 5s have finished their first integrated unit on World War II. The children have learned what life was like for people back home during the war and focused on the experiences of young child evacuees. They learnt the main events and key characters from the war and produced diaries, letters, poems, models and information texts, all based on this evocative and important time in history. I am particularly pleased with how successful our trip to Bovington Tank museum proved to be. This is the first time we have been there, but after such positive comments we will definitely be returning next year! A highlight for many was the opportunity to sit in a real battle tank and dress up in different uniforms!

Another highlight of the topic was the presentation to parents of the children's work and performance of WWII songs. They really did themselves proud. The children then went on to study how life has changed since the war, with the advent of new technology and the change in working practices. It is incredible how our children have grown up with technology which in the 50s and 60s would have seemed like science fiction.

Our year 6s have started their second integrated unit, this time a history topic based on the Tudors. This is a fascinating time in our history with many famous characters such as Henry VIII, Sir Francis Drake and Queen Elizabeth I. To help kick start their PLTS project we had a real knight from the early Tudor period come in to school! He retold what life was like and had a real suit of armour to show the children, finishing his visit by getting the children to take part in Tudor dancing and re-enacting the battle of Bosworth!

We travel a little further back in time with our next topic in year 7, looking at the Romans! Our year 8s will be finishing off their work on China and beginning to look at how settlements develop.

Mr. E. Lear

Year 5 Leader

(Mr. Stevens)



Well what a first term at CMS!

Having seen next year's potential intake of pupils only a couple of weeks ago, it's amazing to have seen the development of the current year group in such a short space of time. With Hayley, Holly and Luke talking, (with confidence and projection) to a hall full of expecting adults filled me with great pride. They were a real credit to the school, and themselves, and I am sure many of the year group would have also done a great job, had the opportunity arisen.

It was great seeing so many of you at the World War II outcome. The singing and the food was lovely, but the quality of the project work was truly fantastic. It was so good that we have now shown this to large numbers of pupils from the rest of the school, to show what can be achieved. We have all said that this is some of the best work we can remember as a year 5 team, and clearly a lot of time, effort and input from yourselves has been put into this, so thank you. I would also like to thank Mr Lear and the tutors for pulling together such an excellent afternoon.

Wednesday 7th December saw the school choir head off around the local area performing in 4 different venues. It was lovely to hear the feedback from all of our hosts (with one venue already pencilling us in for next year). To see so many year 5 girls and boys involved was wonderful and I hope they will continue with this in future years at CMS.

Finally, before I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and New Year, can I politely encourage your child to come to school with a coat. I have never seen a school where so few people wear them, either on the way in or out of school, at break time or at lunchtime. Tutors do try and remind them where we can.

Festive regards Mr Stevens and the year 5 team.

Year 6 Leader

(Mr. Pressling)



Dear parents, carers and children,

Last Thursday, the children had a unique opportunity to gain an insight into Tudor life. They spent a few hours in the company of Philip Pembridge, a knight re-enactor from the Plantagenet society. He brought a range of authentic (and very sharp) weapons from the era which the children had great delight in getting hold of! It all culminated in 105 children re-enacting the battle of Bosworth, which gave some idea of the chaos that there must have been during the battle. It gave the children something to really think about and a kick start to the PLTs projects. Hopefully you have the PLTs letters. If not—please find them on the website as the dates need to be followed to make a quality outcome.

SATs meeting — A **very** important meeting for your diaries. **Thursday 12th Jan** at 6:30 — please try to come along to find out some very important information.

Attendance—as ever, at this time of year, bugs are abound and attendance drops a bit. Please try to keep children's attendance as high as possible to make the most of the time in school.

Hooke Court Trip — Please make sure that reply slips are returned promptly so that we can book the trip. It's a fantastic day that will further enhance the visit from Philip.

I wish you all a healthy and happy Christmas, and hope some good weather remains with us — although a bit of snow in the holiday would be quite nice!

On behalf of the Year 6 team — Martin Pressling

News from "Crumbs"

We would like to say a very big thank you to everyone who helped make our Christmas lunch yesterday such a great success! The children had a thoroughly enjoyable time and one of the main highlights for them was having waiter service by staff and governors.

Please be advised that when we return to school after the Christmas break as it is a shortened week we will be returning on week 2 of the menu.

On Monday 9th January, we will be launching a new menu. A copy will be sent home with the children when we return in January. A copy will also be available to view on our website.



CMS Choir on Tour

On Wednesday 7th December, 65 children in the choir travelled by coach to various locations in the community to perform in four festive concerts. So many children are in the choir this year, we had to take both a coach and the school mini bus so no one was disappointed and most were able to attend. Thanks to Mr Sturton, who took a day holiday in order to drive the coach and Mr Lear for taking the mini bus. The choir were all enthusiastic and produced fantastic performances at Haskins, the Furlong Centre, Abbey Rose Care Home and St Elmo Care Home. Those parents who were able to attend, gave great support and some were even moved to tears by the beautiful singing. It was a great opportunity to showcase our school in the surrounding communities and the children all were great ambassadors for CMS.



The choir at The Furlong, Ringwood.

Carol Service

Our annual Christmas Service held in the church at Cranborne on Monday 12th December was a great success. Despite the extreme weather conditions, the church was packed and there was only standing room available. The children shone in their performances whether singing, playing an instrument or reading. Those taking part were a testament to their efforts and parents should be really proud of each and every one of them.

Year 7 Leader

(Mrs. Ashby)



Merry Christmas Everyone.

With the end of term fast approaching, Christmas cards have been handed out and end of term grades are being awarded. Looking closely at our academic progress, Year 7 pupils have all worked hard this term and those who have needed a little more guidance, have been receiving extra help.

We have seen so many successes this term, Kolby being chosen to go through to the second round of the Rotary Young Chef Award at Poole Grammar school. To accompany this success, Jason has been awarded his grade 4 in the Cornet and has performed for the whole of year 7 in assembly. Anya and Emily have taken part in a children's programme called the Saddle Club and Joshua wrote and directed our Year 7 nativity play at our last year assembly. It truly amazes me how much our children achieve and the diversity of their talents.

With the sad departure of Mr Cottrell and Mrs Williams, our year 7 pupils performed and delivered a warm and heartfelt farewell assembly. There was wonderful singing, performances and playing of instruments. It is with sadness but very fond memories that we say goodbye to two year 7 tutors who have been such a positive influence and contributed so much to the year 7 team. We will be having our final Year 7 Christmas Party on Thursday to truly send them on their way and also to welcome Mrs Ramsel who will look after 7AW on Thursdays and Mrs Holmes who will be looking after 7JC.

Therefore, it gives me and my year 7 Team great pleasure to wish you all a merry festive season and look forward to seeing you all again in the New Year.

Year 8 Leader

(Mr. Gillott)



Students have been busy with the increased work load as well as the numerous opportunities to develop new skills that will enable them to go to their upper schools fully prepared for the next stage of their education. The way they have committed themselves to sports clubs, young leader programs and representing the school has been truly amazing. I received a lot of feedback from parents during Open Evening saying that they wish their children would grow up to be like our Year 8s as they were a credit to themselves and the school.

To go along with all the hard work there has to be a bit of fun as well. As part of our fundraising effort for Children in Need, the year 8 students were promised that they could take on a staff team at basketball and netball providing they met a fundraising target. Well, they doubled the target! Clearly, the thought of beating their teachers was extremely motivating.

First, was the boys' basketball team. They played very well and were unfortunate to narrowly lose to a staff team that relied heavily on the basketball know-how of Mrs Robertson. The boys had most of the ball and significantly higher fitness levels than the staff. By the end of the match, I was exhausted!

The girls' netball match came next and the staff team were taking no prisoners! Seven mild-mannered female members of staff crossed the sideline and transformed (almost Hulk-like) into arguably the most competitive sports team this side of the Atlantic! Needless to say, the staff won.

Before I leave you to your Christmas preparations, I would like to point out that a letter should have arrived home introducing the activities week trip to France. With a significantly smaller year group than in the past, we have had to do a lot of work on the itinerary so as to make it cost-effective. I would like to thank both Mrs McLaughlin and Mr Watson for putting forward a trip that meets all our objectives and is financially viable.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
Mr Gillott