



Introduction

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2016 - I trust you all enjoyed a happy and peaceful Christmas.

In this edition you will find a round up of events which happened towards the latter part of 2015.

I am delighted to inform you that both the building work on the school site and the conversion of the playing fields at Vizards are progressing well. We are very much looking forward to later in the year when both will be ready for use.

Robert Masters
Headmaster

Sporting Success

It is a great testament to our sportsmen and women and the PE and Games Department that we were ranked one of the best state schools in 2015 for sport. Two years ago the school was tenth in the national rankings, but is now **second** in School Sport magazine - a new high! The list is taken from sporting achievements throughout the year in 120 national competitions across 20 different sports, including athletics, rugby, tennis and cross country. In 2015 Judd were national junior cross country champions and 2nd in the athletics national finals. The senior cross country team won the Matthew Grant Cup at the prestigious St Albans Relays. In Rugby, not only did the U15 A team win the Kent Cup for the second year in succession, but the U14s also qualified for the finals, a stellar result. There have also been fantastic wins recently for individual performances in judo, tennis, table tennis and sailing, which must also be congratulated.

Well done to all the coaches and students alike. Your enthusiasm, passion, strength and determination has clearly been rewarded and we look forward to more of the same in 2016!



Congratulations to the DNavigate team, led by Mrs Andrews, who won the prestigious Rolls-Royce Science Prize for their inspirational teaching project. Mrs Andrews, accepted the prize on behalf of the whole team at the awards ceremony held at the Science Museum in London.

Taking as its premise the importance of DNA technology for addressing major global issues, 'DNavigate' (a community project) inspired passion and enthusiasm in the students for science, enhanced their communication skills and raised their awareness of ethical issues around the subject.

DNavigate Rolls-Royce Science Prize Winner 2015



The competition started in 2014 with over 2000 entrants nationwide. The DNavigate project was shortlisted to one of a final nine early in 2015, then following judging during the summer, had to wait until November to find out the results.

Mrs Andrews said: "This has been a fantastic experience with great outcomes: academic attainment was increased amongst the participating students and an awareness of the potential of this exciting topic raised to both students and the public. We're passionate about this project and winning the Rolls-Royce Science Prize means that it can continue and grow."



The Judd School Development Fund Building Excellence

The ground for the new building was broken in early November and the contractors are, so far, making good progress.

The preparatory drainage channels at Vizards have been dug and now await the next stage in the conversion in the Spring.

We are currently at 41% of our fundraising target. Please keep your donations coming.

THANK YOU



Please see the website for regular progress updates.

Sixth Form Play The Thirty-Nine Steps

Little did they realise when they began rehearsals that they would be falling off Scottish bridges, driving invisible cars and pretending to be sheep, but last term, eleven inexperienced (well, ok some were experienced) members of Years 12 and 13 put on the Sixth Form play, 'The Thirty-Nine Steps'. In spite of a demanding script and only two months to rehearse, the action comedy was performed over two nights in December on the School Room stage. A great time was had by cast and crew alike with the proceeds going to a group of charities called 'Acting for Others'.

Marvellous Music

Another year of musical performances at Judd was kicked off by the Winter Concert on 2nd December. From the exciting opening performance of 'Gee Officer Krupke' by Judd Winds through to a thrilling finale set from the Big Band, the audience was treated to an excellent evening of musical entertainment. Highlights also included performances by the student-led Clarinet Group, the Symphony Orchestra and choral music from the School Choir and the Senior Chamber Choir. The evening demonstrated the variety of high-quality musicianship at Judd.

In the less formal setting of the Pianist's Tea Concert, we were treated to the talents of many of those who take piano lessons in the school. From beginners to the more experienced, the performances were a testament to the hard work of the peripatetic piano teachers.

The main highlights of the Carol Service for 2015, held at Tonbridge School Chapel included two compositions by Mr Craig Baker,

who joined the Music Department in September. Both were a joy to listen to and we look forward to hearing more delightful compositions in future. The Senior Chamber Choir and School Choir, assisted by many staff, once again presented polished performances. The carols were ably accompanied by Organ Scholars Christian and Alex, together with the Brass Group.

Coming up this term, we have the Year 7 Tea Concert on 20th January, GCSE Music Showcase on 8th February and Jazz Café on 9th February. It would be great to see you!



Dates for the Diary

14 Jan	Y7 Parents' Eve	5.00 pm
19 Jan	Y8 Parents' Eve	5.00 pm
20 Jan	Y7 Tea Concert	4.00 pm
21 Jan	Y9 Options Eve	7.00 pm
27 Jan	Y9 Parents' Eve	5.00 pm
08 Feb	Music Showcase	4.00 pm
09 Feb	Jazz Café	7.30 pm
15-19 Feb	Half Term	
03 Mar	Y13 Parents' Eve	5.00 pm
09 Mar	Spring Concert	7.30 pm
16-18 Mar	School Play	7.30 pm
24 Mar	Term Ends	

Old Juddians

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE:

The OJ Society Dinner will be held on Saturday, 23rd April 2016

Further details to follow