



6th Form Diaries

The British School Muscat

Editors : Cassie & Kate

Issue Number 3

Spring 08/09 Edition

Editor's Note

Welcome to our third edition of Sixth Form Diaries!

As this term draws to a close, all of us here in BSM Sixth Form would like to look back and celebrate what have been the highlights for us over the past few months. 'The Sixth Form Diaries' is a great way for us to do this, and to let parents and younger students get a sense of what we've been up to! Most of the events you will already be aware of, as you may have either been involved yourselves or have witnessed the Sixth Formers at work around the school!

Featuring in this Spring Term issue are, of course, the much-talked-about Charity Fashion Show that took place on Wednesday 11th March; the International Award Gold level expedition; Inter-House Sports Day; an update on the activities of the Earth-saving Green Team and finally the fun school-wide General Knowledge quiz. These articles have each been written by members of our Sixth Form who played a leadership or organisational role in the events, and have then been collated by my co-editor, Cassandra Buckley and I.

A message from Cassie and I to the rest of Sixth Form: congratulations on all the January modules - the results were fantastic and I hope everyone was pleased with themselves. We've worked hard and would like to wish everyone a very relaxed and enjoyable Easter holiday. We look forward to seeing you all back in mid-April!

Editor's Note

Unfortunately this edition will be our last of this academic year 2008/09. This is due to the Summer Term being so brief for both Years 12 and 13, as our study leave for the May/June examinations commences on the 17th May.

We hope you have enjoyed the circulation of our Sixth Form Diaries and have felt in touch with what is taking place in our section of the school. Next year the beacon shall be passed on to two members of the current year 12 to continue the legacy of this newsletter. All the best to these two souls, I know we're a hard act to follow!

Thank you.

Student Council

The Student Council

Led by Richard Newell (Head Boy) and Sara Imtiaz (Head Girl), with the active support of Katie Blake (Deputy Head Girl) and Sid Gopakumar (Deputy Head Boy).

This year's Student Council has been effective in following through issues brought up by members of the school. These issues are discussed in a weekly meeting that takes place on a Tuesday during second break, in our 6th Form office. These meetings have allowed the voices of students to be heard by the schools' management team, deliver a forum for students to discuss issues they find important and hopefully find resolutions. These issues and topics are then followed through in the weekly meetings with Mr. Keach and also with Mrs. Megnin.

The Student Council has also been involved in organising events such as International Day, Mufti days, Prom and many others. In addition, the Head Boy and Girl and the Deputies have been in charge of organising the weekly assemblies, with the support of the teachers and Management.

These assemblies give the students a chance to show off their talents to the rest of the Senior School and also to update the rest of the school on the activities that have been going on within the school and in the community.

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For example, The Sixth Form Fundraising Committee organised an assembly on the recent Charity Fashion Show which met with much enthusiasm and admiration. Anyone can get involved in the assemblies by approaching either the Head Boy and Girl or a member of staff.

The success of this year's Student Council lies with its members and also the vast support from the staff. It has to be said that Mr. Keach has been a great help in allowing the aim of Student Council to be achieved, which is to develop the Council further and allow the voice of the students to be heard. Mrs. Megnin is another member of staff who deserves credit for the growth of the Student Council as she has stood behind us and guided us on how to run the Council and Sixth Form effectively. So THANK YOU for supporting us.

Note from Head Boy and Girl:

As this term comes to a close and we come to the final stage, where we step down from our posts, we would like to thank everyone who has supported us this past year. We will still carry on our roles to the end of the year but our commitments will be less, as we and the rest of the Sixth Form start our study leave in preparation for the upcoming exams. On this note, we would like to wish Katie and Sid the best of luck for next year.

Prom 2009 is under way and the particulars are due to be released as the last details are finalised. The information on the Prom will be given in a letter to parents and students in the near future. We would like to apologise for the late delivery of the details but due to reasons beyond our control we have been unable to release them to you. This year's Prom has proved to be a complicated task as the hotels have increased their prices but we have tried our best and we hope that everyone will be happy with the package that has been put together. We hope that all students will attend the event and enjoy a night which is expected to be bigger and better than ever before.

All those who will be undergoing exams next term, GOOD LUCK!

To finish off this edition, we would like thank Cassie and Kate for putting together the *6th Form Diaries*. Their efforts can be seen in each edition and without them the newsletter would have never been put together.

- Richard Newell & Sara Imtiaz



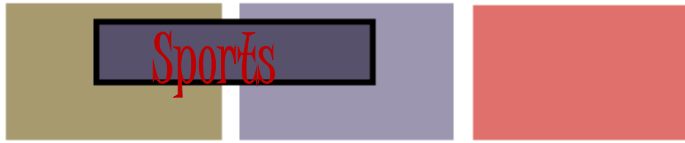
The Zubair Corporation and Sixth Form Fundraising Committee Charity Fashion Show

On Wednesday 11th March, we held a Charity Fashion Show at the British Ambassador's Residence. The team running the show included Mrs. Megnin; Head of Sixth Form, Emma Casemore and Karyn Mackay (Heads of Charity Committee) which was supported by Sid Gopakumar (Deputy Head Boy), Katie Blake (Deputy Head Girl), Roxanne Whelan, Nethal Hashim and Sharjil Hannan. The intention of the show was to support our local community; the money raised went to the children's cancer wards at The Royal Hospital and The Sultan Qaboos University Hospital.

This charity was chosen as we decided that cancer was something that affected most people in some way. We raised an astounding RO 10, 000 which equates to roughly £ 17, 686. This is an enormous achievement of which our Sixth Form is immensely proud. The Fashion Show was a very successful and enjoyable night. Guests had the chance to witness a troop of Omani Dancers as well as a performance by Mrs. Connor and Mr. Megnin. The Fashion Show itself was 'multi-cultural'. This theme was chosen as we live in a community of cultural diversity and this theme enabled us to present a range of clothing on the catwalk. There was L'Artisan (Arabic clothing), Lakhoos (Indian clothing) as well as high street favourites such as Monsoon, Mango, Gap, Fat Face, Mexx Kids and Sacoor Brothers. We particularly enjoyed the last few rehearsals where we were able to witness the students grasping the choreography that we had decided on and seeing the show coming together. It was also very rewarding to see on the night how effective the music was that we had spent hours choosing.

We would like to take the time to say thank you to everyone who supported the event; to all of the sixth form students, the models, the parents of the models who were very cooperative in taking their children to rehearsals, the staff helpers and to Mrs. Megnin for giving us this opportunity.

- Karyn Mackay & Emma Casemore



Sports Day 2009

This year, the BSM Sports Day was held on the 21st of February and, as always, it went down like a storm. The competition was intense between the four houses (Yitti, Bousher, Ghubra and Ruwi) right from the word 'go', with the players working together and taking part in different sports that they might not have played before!

This year, students in Year 11, 12 and 13 spent the early hours of the morning playing water volleyball in the school swimming pool. Although admittedly not everyone knew how to play the game to begin with, people picked up the rules as the games went on. But more importantly, everyone had loads of fun! The day consisted of water events, basketball, hockey and the 12-person relay race towards the end of the day.

This was a great chance for people of all ages to circulate and converse with people that they may not have spoken to before. All the participants were wearing their house colours of red for Ruwi, yellow for Yitti, green for Ghubra and blue for Bousher. The athletes were shown a lot of support from their fans cheering them on and crying out encouragements which helped to bolster their confidence tremendously.

As always, the entertainment on the day was provided by 'the joker', the notorious Mr. Weir of Yitti house who kept spirits high and the crowd in stitches by mixing cheesy jokes and pop classics from the past throughout the day. The overall winners were Bousher House as they won the highest number of events; hockey and water volleyball.

- Ali Bagheri

International Award 2009

The International Award consists of 13 of us, staff and students, walking across the desert, a 40km journey across the arid region of Wahiba Sands. Sand in front of you, behind you, on your left and on your right. It was swelteringly hot in the afternoons but cooled down considerably in the evenings. One morning, we woke up and discovered that there was fog everywhere which promptly dispersed in half an hour.

The participants of the trip were; Richard Newell, Thomas Maarsaveen, Scott Hett, Jessica Benjamin, Owain Richards, Ben Fiddler, Calum Healey, Rebecca Davies, Mitchell Withers, Callum McIntyre, myself, two Bedouins, Mr. Reeves, Ms. Lutwyche, and of course, the celebrities of the trip, the camels.

Although the trip was not only physically but mentally challenging as well, I can safely say we all had a great time with lots and lots of memories. From the camel riding down pretty steep hills, which made the word challenging an understatement, to the massive white spiders that crawled up behind us (more importantly behind Mitch!) when we were relaxing unsuspectingly around the campfire. I would definitely recommend this trip for the Gold expedition next year and the years to come.

- Ahmed Shahrabani





Green Team

Last term, the **Green Team** members took part in an Environment Walk near the Crowne Plaza Hotel to raise money for the Environmental Society of Oman. This term, we plan to take on more out-of-school fundraising, but we also want more student help from the younger years to take part in the weekly meetings and bring fresh new ideas about how we could improve the school to make it more eco-friendly.



Next year, under the determined leadership of our heads of **Green Team**, we plan to undertake the challenge of working towards the Bronze Eco-Schools Award. We can only do it with the help of the entire school community, so we need students and parents to bring in plastic bottles to be recycled at school and students to please tidy their own litter up whilst in their break areas.

- Chloe Sinclair

Jumble Sale

Over a week ago, the Sixth Form took part in a PTA organised Flea Market (Jumble Sale). The items that were sold were generously donated to us by the students of the school as well as parents and teachers.

The day itself started slowly and as the tables were set up, people started to arrive. The sale of the variety of items went well, with the money raised going towards Prom 2009. Overall, it was good fun and allowed the small group of Sixth Formers involved to socialise with the community. Due to the many donations and splendid team work, we raised RO 82.

A big THANK YOU to everyone who was involved!

- Lois Hetherington.

BSM Senior School Quiz

The Senior School Quiz was organised by Owain Richards, Malavika Subramaniam, Sharjil Hannan, Siddath Gopakumar (Deputy Head Boy) and Vireena Koshal. The quiz was designed to challenge even the sharpest minds in school, whilst also being a bit of fun. We held the preliminaries and senior finals after school on March 4th, and over 28 teams took part.

The preliminaries were a series of 30 questions, with topics ranging from Football Teams to National Airlines. After this round, the top 10 teams with the highest scores went through to the semi-finals. The questions in the series were arranged under 10 different topics, and each quiz organiser wrote the questions and acted as quizmasters for their rounds. I had the History and Geography topics, Malavika Subramaniam had Audio Visual and Lateral Thinking, Vireena Koshal had Science and Technology and Music, Siddarth Gopakumar was in charge of the Business and Sports round, and Sharjil Hannan had the Current Affairs and Movies sections. Each team was allowed to pick their question by selecting a number from the choice of ten, and was then put on the spot to answer the question correctly and within the time limit. After the semi-finals, we tallied the scores and the top 5 teams went to the finals.

The final round of the quiz was held during assembly on the 21st of March, and this made it quite daunting for the participants! We kept the format of the finals the same as it had been for the semi-finals, in order to keep the round relatively short. Due to the time restrictions we only had 5 categories with 5 questions for each - we had Humanities, Science, Current Affairs, Sports and Entertainment questions, and these categories were chosen in order to challenge participants, and test their knowledge on a wide range of subjects. The quiz was extremely enjoyable, and the amount of audience participation was quite incredible. The final results were: Samantha and Akalanka in 3rd place, Alex and Aled in 2nd position, and Ashvin and Robert in 1st place - congratulations to all of them!

We would like to thank everybody who was involved in the quiz for their support and participation, and special thanks to Mr. Keach for his help in the finals, and the maintenance staff whose help was invaluable. Congratulations to all the winners once again, and we look forward to organising more quizzes in the future!

- Owain Richards

Photo Page

This edition's photo page is on the recent Fashion Show. Enjoy everyone!

