

Senior Department Report

Academic excellence is a high priority at Trinity and achievements in KS3, GCSE and Advanced level are a source of pride and satisfaction. In last summers results 86% of Year 11 students achieved 5 or more grades A* to C and 5 pupils achieved 6 or more A* or A grades.

In Year 13 98% of students achieved their first choice of university and this year over a quarter of Year 13 offers have been in the Russell Group of Universities (including Imperial). Charlotte Clifford achieved 4 A grades and Michael Jarrold and Nicholas Choi each achieved 3 A grades and 1 B grade.

Achievements in the classroom are only one dimension of education. Educational outings have been plentiful – visiting the World War I Battlefields in France, going to the home of the Brontë family in Yorkshire, a trip to Euro Disney to improve oral French, visiting Exeter University to find out about language courses and their benefit in the working world and going to Bristol University for some Economics lectures. All year groups have been on Geography educational field trips. We had 2 Ten Tors teams (34 and 45 mile) who both did very well, finishing in good time. There was also another successful skiing trip just before Christmas. The Swing Band who played us in this morning did a tour of Paris and pupils survived another trip to the wilds of Wales but only just.

The educational experience of pupils has also been enriched by outsiders visiting the school. A theatre company presented “The Tempest” and did a workshop with year 9. A French theatre company showed Key Stage 3 and 4 students that learning languages can be very entertaining. The Police Youth Liaison Officer has done presentations on cyber safety and alcohol awareness and a visit from our local Member of Parliament has helped to promote political awareness.

Other unusual education experiences has included senior pupils (boys and girls) having to look after virtual babies. Negligent or incompetent parents ended up doing community service; an excellent policy for a happier Britain! The Sixth Form International Group got involved in campaigning for Human Rights in China and the Sixty Form Summer Ball involved some unusual activities at the Newton Abbot Racecourse. The International Fair raised £1,300 for charities.

Terrific creative achievements continue to pour out of the artists garret at the top of the Sutton Building. At the South West ISA Competition Trinity won more 1st prizes than any other school. The work of 10 students was exhibited in the International Art Exhibition and as you will see when you collect your lunch, the dining room is now exhibiting a large scale mural produced by 88 students from years 5, 6 and 7. There is also a wonderful exhibition of art work that I hope you will visit this afternoon.

Music and drama continue to be not only popular but very successful. The highlight of the year was the brilliant production of “Bugsy Malone” at the end of February but there have been many other productions and concerts as well as incredibly high individual achievements such as Florence Morgan-Richard’s distinction at Grade 8 Clarinet.

Sport continues to have considerable success and some of the highlights are as follows:

- James Attwood won a gold medal at the Devon Youth games in Tennis
- Kim Webber Marks won 2 bronze medals in the ISA National Swimming Championships
- Sam Foulser won a bronze medal in the National Schools Judo Championship
- The under 16 boys basketball team were winners of the South Devon Basketball League
- Details of other excellent sporting achievements in Athletics, rugby, golf and netball are included in the supplementary programme.

Our Combined Cadet Force is now the best in the country in terms of quality of opportunities provided. Cadets have been involved in visits and short voyages on HMS Albion, Adventure training, Power boating, Leadership training and First Aid. The Biennial Inspection in November and the recent camp were very successful and activities such as dinghy sailing, meteorology and hydrography continue in the summer holiday. Cadets provided 50 shoe boxes for children in Sierra Leone to be delivered by HMS Albion.

The Year 9 Enterprise week showed that Britain’s Business future is secure – they’re hired!! They even charged the Headmaster interest on his credit account! The Green Team continues its good work for the environment and the pond area has nesting ducks but as yet no ducklings.

Our results in the UK Maths Challenge were the best ever. We also took part in the largest junior chess tournament in the UK and in the English Chess Federation Schools’ Championship. The Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme has 24 pupils involved. As well as our school magazine there is a 6th form magazine – The Attic.

The spiritual life of the school manifests itself in peer monitoring and buddying schemes as well as in more obvious ways such as the splendid carol service in Exeter Cathedral. Giving to charity totalled £5,555. The details are in the supplementary programme. Learning Success continues to help pupils unlock their real potential and the English as an Additional Language staff have enabled overseas students to be some of our highest achievers.

The Sixth Form continues to set a fine example and many new initiatives such as an inter-net café in the common room and a community service programme demonstrate a vibrant and outward looking attitude. The Headmaster and I were very impressed by the extremely high calibre of candidates for the Head of school interviews. We can look forward to another successful year.

Mr David Milnes,

Deputy Head