

## Letter from Mr Morris and Staff

### From the Headmaster

It is so busy at the moment it is sometimes hard to keep track of what is happening. The boys seem to have so much energy, I am always amazed at their stamina and enthusiasm. And I continue to be grateful to the staff for offering the boys so much.

Teams have now been selected for the English Primary Schools' Chess Championships, Round 1 of which is next Saturday in Bath. Congratulations to the following on their selection;

#### U9

Marcus Laver  
Fergus Smith  
Ewan Yates  
Otto Reade  
Benji Wagstaffe  
Edward Hunt

#### U11

Jonathan Lee  
Jonathan Gregory  
Harold Cannon  
Finlay Yates  
Lochy Emery  
Oliver Thomas

We wish them the best of fortune on the day, and hope they enjoy the experience.

I will be away from Tuesday afternoon through to the end of the week, inspecting a school in the North of England. Mr. Hall will be acting Head in my absence.

### House Chess Trophy

Update after Round 2, which proved to be another very close and hard-fought encounter:

1	Hartnell	30 points
2	Ramsey	29 points
3	Carr	28 points
4	Bird	23 points

As this shows, it is very close and all to play for in the final round of matches which will take place on Monday 6<sup>th</sup>. February (at 12.20 p.m.).



### Weekly Star Performers w/c 23 January 2012

3	Peter Gregory
4	Oliver Badman
5HB	Jonathan Lee
5RL	Henry Coombes
6LT	Thomas Poole
6RH	Hamzah Akbar



### Weekly House Points Winners

<b>1st</b>	Hartnell
<b>2nd</b>	Ramsey
<b>3rd</b>	Bird
<b>4th</b>	Carr

## Year 6 Creative writing

As preparation for the entrance exam, Mr. Hall's literacy group have been writing short descriptions of an alien encounter, after reading an extract from War of the Worlds.

Here are some great pieces of writing from some of the chaps.

### Jack Flitcroft

There I was, staring at this weird metal pole that had fallen from the sky. "What do you think that is Pip?" I asked my dog. I slowly advanced to the craft.

Suddenly, it appeared. A huge blob with blobby legs and arms came out. It had huge claws and teeth the size of branches. The teeth were strangely canine-like and dripped venom laced with anaesthetic. It charged at me and bit me with its monstrous teeth. Soon my vision began to blur. Soon I was unconscious.

I woke, my eyelids opening chink by chink. I saw the brute of a creature in front of me, guarding me. I had to escape.

I stood up, searching for a weapon. Nothing. I searched my pockets. Only a little pinch of salt at the bottom. I threw it at the alien in desperation and ran for it. I turned around in shock to see the monster melting away. What luck, I thought, as I danced a little victory dance.

Suddenly I heard a creak, then another. I looked outside and saw that I was on the edge of a cliff. "Who is flying this thing?" was my last thought before it tumbled to certain doom.

### Mackenzie Paul

It stared at me for a long time, drool pouring out of its mouth. Its murderous teeth were waiting to bite, its tentacles were flying around inside the sphere, rapidly pressing buttons and pushing levers. Even from outside the pod, its pulsating breathing and wheezing was unbearable.

At that moment, what sounded like two hundred vacuums being turned on filled my ears and, before I knew it, I was inside the strange craft.

I walked nervously around inside, wandering what would happen to me. I saw two glowing green lights in the distance. As I walked closer towards the light source, I realised it was the two park-keepers in giant green pods.

### Barney Capes

The alien looked repulsive. It had four gigantic, elastic, muscular tentacles that drooped out of its abdomen. The creature had one eye in the middle of its head, which was fixed only on me. It kept on switching levers and pressing buttons with its tentacles.

Suddenly, a door slid down from underneath the sphere. I tried to run but the murderous creature stretched out its tentacle, which wrapped around my leg. I tried to slither out but, every time I tried, it got tighter and tighter and tighter. The alien dragged me in. I couldn't feel my heart beat. I froze. What was happening?

Once I was inside the sphere, I saw the two men from the park. They were frozen with fear and were wrapped in mucus. I looked up to face the rasping, wheezing, screeching alien. I tried to get out but the door was locked.

Suddenly, a dimension opened in front of me. The alien grabbed me around the neck and threw me in. I tried to get back but the dimension vanished before I had the chance. I was stuck here!

### Lewis Davis

I stood there, my feet glued to the ground, gazing up at the vast alien craft smashing its way towards me. By now I could see the thing sitting in the slivery, glassy sphere, randomly pressing buttons with its crippled hand. It was close, closer than ever now.

I could see what it looked like. It had a face with a crippled, twisted mouth and soulless eyes. Green, acidic slime came oozing out of its horrifying body. I wanted to run but it felt like I was paralysed from the waist downwards.

Suddenly, two men came running up to the craft with guns but, as they fired, the bullets just bounced off. At that moment, a hatch opened and a huge drill pummelled into the ground. Suddenly, the ground began to shake as aliens, more vile than the one in the craft, poured out of the ground like ants flowing out of an anthill. I watched in horror as the aliens ripped up people and devoured their brains.

An alien saw me. I tried to run but it was too late. I was dragged off into the blood stained craft.

## School Nurse Column

There are a lot of viruses making the rounds at present including the common cold. It is times like this that we try, with your help, to remind all the boys about good hygiene and ask that you help prevent the spread of any viruses by keeping your son absent from school if he becomes unwell.

Other useful sites:

<http://www.washyourhandsofthem.com/>

It should be remembered that children lose body heat more rapidly than adults do and when playing outside on a cold day and they may not realise how cold they are. Children often balk at putting on coats, gloves, and hat in their hurry to get out and play and because it probably is not seen as fashionable to be wrapped up warm! Please remind your son about the importance of staying warm in cold weather and encourage them to wear a coat and gloves to school and at break time.

## Entrance Exam

Time really does fly! I cannot believe that another set of year 6 boys are ready to take the entrance exam for senior school. As a parent, I too have been there, done that, got the t shirt and the grey hairs to prove it! It can be rather a stressful time for both parents and boys, but let me remind you boys that you are all very bright, intelligent young men. Therefore, my advice is simple, have a good nights sleep the night before, a hearty breakfast and RELAX -that goes for Mum and Dad too!

## Sports Update

I am delighted to say that any boy that was fit and available has played for the school this week. We played against Kingswood and King Edward School at Kingswood, and the U11Cs played a game at home against Torwood House.

The matches brought mixed results, with victories for the U8s, U9s and U10s in some but not all of their matches, and defeats for the U11s as well as some draws. I have published the results on the Sports Notice board in the "snake" room.

The U8s and U9s took on Clifton High School on Friday and I will let you know how we got on next week.

On Monday after school the U9s are playing Sidcot School for the first time, it will be interesting to judge how we compete against new opposition. The U10s and U11s have A & B team matches against Monmouth at home on Wednesday and the U11As have their Coronation Cup replay next Friday afternoon at Headley Park School.

## Diary for the week

Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> . January	8.10 a.m.	Darwin Club	
	8.50 a.m.	School assembly, led by Mr. R. Leighton	
	3.30 p.m.	U9 A v. Sidcot School (A)	
	4.00 p.m.	Junior Cricket coaching; Cookery Club (finish at 4.45 p.m.)	
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> . January	12.30 p.m.	School assemblies; presentation by The Senior Friends 'The Lizzies'	-
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> . February	(MJM away for rest of week)		
	2.15 p.m.	U10 and U11 v. Monmouth School (H)	
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> . February	8.50 a.m.	Y4 class assembly to parents (E1) Year 5 and 6 SATIPS General Knowledge Challenge	
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> . February		FPS UK qualifying round	