

Dear Parents

Since I wrote to you in December a great deal has been achieved by our pupils, especially in terms of academic success. In particular, I am delighted to report that university offers made to our Upper 6<sup>th</sup> students this year have, once again, included conditional offers to Oxford and Cambridge, this year to read PPE and English.

Colfeian sport continues to flourish. Although the 1<sup>st</sup> X1 football team, under the captaincy of Edward Brett, went out of the London Schools Cup, losing to City of London School after extra time and penalties, they had previously defeated Hampton Grammar School, amongst others, in earlier rounds. Our progress in the Bromley Cup continues and the penultimate week of term saw victory over Sevenoaks for both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> X1 teams. Junior rugby teams have also performed well, with the U12 (Year 7) team winning a London independent schools competition and the U13 (Year 8) team reaching the quarter finals of the Rosslyn Park Sevens tournament, having defeated a number of distinguished opposing teams *en route*. Girls netball teams have also enjoyed conspicuous success. At the time of writing, the U15 team remain in contention to win the Bromley Schools' League, having won 15 of their 16 matches this season. We have also enjoyed victories over traditional rivals at junior level, with U12/U13 teams defeating Alleyn's, St Dunstan's and Blackheath High. The quality of our hockey has been equally impressive, graphically illustrated by the 1<sup>st</sup> X1's 10-0 victory over Newstead Woods last week.

The A2 Drama productions in the theatre two weeks ago were indicative of the consistently high quality of Colfeian drama in recent years. These were the final performances of our U6th students and I wish to take this opportunity to thank **Daryl Armstrong, Katy James, Daniel Murdoch, James Masterson, Stuart French** and their contemporaries for all that they have done to entertain us and enrich the cultural life of the school during their time with us.

Many of you know that Andrew Matthews, Academic Deputy Head, will be moving to Latymer Upper School at the end of May. I wish to take this opportunity to thank him for all that he has given to Colfe's during the four years that he has been with us. His most Herculean labour was preparing the senior school for our recent ISI inspection and the strength of the recently published report owes much to his dedication. He will be succeeded next September by Mrs Caroline Butler who is currently Head of Classics at St Paul's School.

I hope that all parents received a letter from Nicola Berry, enclosed with the most recent edition of *Insight*, concerning coach travel to and from school. We are actively exploring the viability of adding new routes and expanding our provision in this area. Any thoughts on this subject should be sent to Nicola directly by email ([nberry@colfes.com](mailto:nberry@colfes.com)). I hope also that parents will take time to read the note which accompanies this letter regarding such websites as *Youtube*. The recent proliferation of these sites has created a range of potential difficulties for schools and parents alike and we all need to be aware of the relevant dangers. Our pupils will now be looking forward to a restful and enjoyable Easter break, with the partial exception of our Year 11 and Sixth Form pupils who have public examinations to face next term. There is a lot of potential in all three year groups and effective revision during the Easter holiday will render its fulfilment more likely.

I look forward to seeing all pupils back in school on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> April.

Yours sincerely

Richard F Russell