



# The Cooper School, Bicester

Where 'Learning Matters'



Science

Issue No. 7

April 2008

## FROM THE HEADTEACHER



As seems to be always the case, there have been many developments at the school since the last newsletter in November 2007. The first of these was the visit that we received from The Office of Standards in Education (Ofsted) on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Obviously as parents you will have received the copy of Ofsted's findings and I know that you, like us, were delighted with their findings. However, it is certainly not a case of our 'resting on our laurels'. The vision that, as Headteacher of the school, I have of The Cooper School being viewed as an 'outstanding' school providing a world class education for all of our students remains my overriding ambition and passion. Since joining the school in September 2005, I have been committed to raising the reputation of The Cooper School at local, regional and national levels. This is not something that will happen automatically but if we, as a community, believe in the ambition to be the best and continue to work towards that goal, then anything, literally, is possible. In order to move towards that stated ambition there will need to be a constant focus on learning and teaching and best practice where we provide a culture of high aspirations and expectations for our young people and a belief that education can and does make a difference. As a Specialist Science College we are clear in our aim to provide a centre of excellence in scientific, technological, enterprising and vocational education. In continuing to improve the standards of attainment and achievement we will be looking to develop a high quality and personalised curriculum that is tailored to the needs, skills and aspirations of all of our students. Alongside that will be the need to continue to improve the physical learning environment at the school and maximising the opportunities provided by ICT and embracing the ever-developing new technologies. It is certainly an exciting time!

Alongside this we are in the middle of our informal consultation to change the school's status from 11-16 to 11-18. If you have not already done so, the Governing Body at the school would welcome your views on this proposal as outlined in the informal consultation document sent out to all parents in February.

Last week we held interviews for the position of Deputy Headteacher. This follows Pauline Wainman's decision to seek early retirement at the end of this academic year. Firstly I would like to record my appreciation of the excellent work that Mrs Wainman has done throughout her career at The Cooper School. The very best interests of the students has always been at the core of everything that she has done. On a personal level, as sole deputy, she has been incredibly supportive of me throughout the last three years. In her place I am delighted to be able to tell you that we have appointed Mr Tony Rushworth as Deputy Headteacher. Mr Rushworth is currently Vice Principal at The King's Academy in Middlesbrough.

I am also able to announce that, following recommendations put forward by the Uniform Working Party (comprising parents, students, governors and staff at the school), we will be implementing a new school uniform for The Cooper School starting in September 2008. This decision was ratified by the Governing Body on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2008.

### UNIFORM FROM SEPTEMBER 2008 GIRLS

- **Black blazer with school badge on top pocket**
- **Plain white collared school shirt**
- **School tie**
- **Plain black skirt with pleats or tailored black trousers – full length**
- **Plain black socks or plain black or neutral coloured tights**
- **Plain black shoes with heel maximum of 2 inches/5 Centimetres**
- **Plain black V necked jumper (optional)**
- **Outdoor coat must be of a dark colour – no hoodies of any kind**

### BOYS

- **Black blazer with school badge on top pocket**
- **Plain white collared school shirt**
- **School tie**
- **Tailored plain black trousers – full length**
- **Plain black socks**
- **Plain black shoes**
- **Plain black V necked jumper (optional)**
- **Outdoor coat must be of a dark colour – no hoodies of any kind**

The school's two recommended suppliers for the blazers are Marks and Spencer and BHS (British Home Stores). Both have stores at Banbury and Oxford and, in addition, both companies have an on-line shopping provision. We are currently also trying to get a business in Bicester to supply the new uniform. At the time of writing this, black blazers in the BHS range are £13, £17 and £19 depending on size and style although there is a sale on at the moment with some reduced to £9. The prices for blazers at Marks and Spencer are between £15 and £20 depending on size. The school will, in the first instance, provide ties and badges for all students in the school for the academic year 2008-2009. Furthermore, the existing blue polo shirt with school logo can be used next year as an indoors P.E. top which can be worn by students for indoor P.E. and games activities. Following the decision to change the uniform, the Uniform Working Party will be revisiting and, where necessary, rewriting the School Dress Code Policy. After this has gone through the relevant Governors Committee (School and Community) it will go before the Full Governors at their meeting at the beginning of May. When this has been agreed we will share this policy with all parents and students.

The rationale behind this decision is to build on the successes over the last few years as indicated in the first part of this newsletter and highlighted in the recent Ofsted Inspection report. We must establish a culture where students are expected to take a pride in their appearance. The expectation at The Cooper School will be that the students must dress in a neat and tidy way at all times. Experience would suggest that good standards of dress and personal appearance are associated both with high standards of behaviour and with seriousness of purpose. Wearing school uniform helps students to take a pride in themselves and in their school. For new entrants it helps give a sense of belonging. Uniform offers a reminder to everyone that, when it comes down to it, the school sets the standard, not its students. We, as a school, are serious about what we do – and because our students (and you as their parents/guardians) actually approve of that fact. They (the students) know that the reason our staff set high standards is because we care about them enough to be ambitious for them.



On another topic, we have also recently been informed by the Local Authority of our numbers coming into the school in Year 7 starting September 2008. Each school in the country is allocated an IAN (Initial Admission Number) and The Cooper School's is currently 210. We are actually oversubscribed for next year which is another indice of success.

I recognise that my part of this newsletter is a deal lengthier than might have been the case in previous editions. As I hope you will appreciate, this is simply because I believe that there are significant messages that I would wish to share with you as parents and/or guardians. I truly believe that this is an exciting time of change for the town of Bicester and it is my belief that The Cooper School is in position to be at the very vanguard of those elements of change that will affect the educational opportunities, and hence life-chances, that will be afforded our young people now and in the future.

**Ben Baxter**  
**Headteacher**

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

### BAN ON AEROSOL PRODUCTS

Due to the increasing number of reports we have received, both from students and parents, of allergic reactions caused to students through the use of aerosols we have decided to ban the use of these in school with effect from the summer term.

Pressurised aerosol products emit unnecessary volatile organic chemicals and produce a fine mist which is easily inhaled and absorbed into the blood stream and which can produce severe allergic reactions, particularly for students with asthma.

Students are asked to use pump sprays, roll on deodorants and other safer products to protect their own health and that of their fellow students.

As is the case for other banned items staff will confiscate any aerosol products found in school and they can then be collected from Reception at the end of the week.

Please support us to ensure the health and safety of our students

**Ben Baxter**

# ATTENDANCE

**Congratulations to the following students who achieved 100% attendance from 3.9.07 to 15.2.08**

## Year 7

Malcolm Billson  
Francois Blin  
Sarah Bond  
David Brown  
Corey Butler  
Abbie Caldwell  
Charlotte Cannon  
Anthony Carlisle  
Lewis Carpenter  
Bethany Clark  
Neil Cole  
Fern Davis  
Georgie Donohoe  
Holly Finlay  
Phoebe Gee  
Alexander Jacques  
Amelia Jones  
Grace Julier  
Sophie Loverock  
Thomas Mann  
Toni Purnell  
Matthew Raven  
Alec Reynolds  
Molly Seger  
Jack Sheppard  
Sam Skellern  
Daniel Sutherland

## Year 8

Andre Garrick

## Year 10

Thomas Bond  
Christopher Gill  
Mark Golby  
Sarah Greenall  
Thomas Heasley  
Daniel Howlett  
Pichitpong Juiwong  
Jessica Kempster  
Sophie Lakner  
Kirstie Nixey  
Rebecca North  
Jemma Richmond  
Daniel Williams

**To the following students who achieved 98-99% attendance from 3.9.07 to 15.2.08**

## Year 7

Ellie Andrews  
Ross Arrowsmith  
Rhian Bartram  
Hayley Beck  
Jake Best  
Nina Brown  
Katie Bull  
Edward Burgess  
Ella Bushnell  
Chloe Burrows  
Rachel Byrne  
Paige Carpenter  
Katie Cheesman  
Alexander Cook  
Georgia Croucher  
Nathalie Deeley  
Paige Donohoe  
Zoe Fowler  
Lizzie Fryer  
Hannah Gray  
Stephen Green  
Benjamin Hart  
Megan Hinton  
Libbie Hooper  
Daniel Howley  
Samuel Isaacs  
Lucy Jones  
Samuel Laitt  
Rachel Long  
James Macquarrie  
Jordan Matthews  
Danielle Megarity  
Owen Mitchell  
Jasmine Nash  
Matthew Nolte  
Kathryn Oates  
Ryan Pearce  
Bethany Smith  
Nicola Stead  
Kilian Stenning  
Sarah Strong  
Antoni Szczepanik  
Ka Wai Tang  
Ruth Thomas  
Jack Timms  
Antony Tracoshas  
Eleanor Wadley  
Alice Walker  
Brandon Walsh  
Leanne Walsh  
Beth Waters  
Andrew Waugh  
Sophie West  
Sophie Wilkinson  
James Wilson

## Year 8

Chloe Berry  
Chantelle Billson  
Daniel Bowden  
Amanda Cole  
Kiara Isabel Delos Santos  
Samuel Demery  
Hollie Edmans  
Charlotte Elgar  
Emma Elkington  
Lauren Franklin  
Ellen Giles  
Blythe Grieve  
Joshua Haskayne  
James Hobden  
Laura Jenkins  
Samantha King  
Antonia Kissias  
Robert Lacey  
Kerry Lenihan  
Marcus Linfoot  
Ryan Livermore  
Jordan Marchant  
Kirsty Mills  
Alice Newman  
Helen Oldham  
Rebecca Orr  
Lorraine Palmer  
Scott Richings  
Aidan Starr  
Jack Stone  
Anita Tafirenyika  
Ka Yi Tang  
Rebekah Veasey  
Heather Watt  
Lauren Webb  
James White  
Claire Worsfold  
Katherine Worsfold  
Roberta Worsfold

## Year 9

Stacey Arrowsmith  
Emily Brown  
David Byrne  
Siobhan Chicken  
Lucy-Ann Clark  
Matthew Dodds  
Bethan Eeley  
Charles Hall  
Ryan Howley  
Mia Jakeman  
Abigale Lappage  
Daniel Lawrence  
Robert McGregor  
Dale McMillan  
Christopher Moore  
Robert Muddle  
Michael Northcott  
Alexander O'Sullivan

## Year 9 cont'd....

Melissa Parker  
Chloe Payne  
Ben Rees  
Mitchell Roberts  
Abby Seger  
Daniel Timms  
Rachel Walden  
Jack Walter  
Artur Zolenski

## Year 10

Ryan Allen  
David Aslett  
Robert Bone  
Hannah Burgess  
Richard Cadle  
Libby Cassidy  
Anna Coutin  
Caroline Cresswell  
Gemma Cross  
Eleanor Deeley  
Jennifer Devine  
Joseph Dixey  
Stacey Evans  
Katrina Galic  
Maria Galic  
Liam Gallery  
Rebecca Gambrell  
Connor Gibson  
Laura Gladdy  
Imogen Groves  
Marko Grubnic  
Matthew Hanbury  
Samuel Hayes  
Jack Horwood  
Daniel Jackson  
Katie Lodge  
Sam Kelly  
Jamie Leonard  
James Marriott  
Ryan McCloskey  
Aaron Newman  
Hayden Nolan  
Liam O'Hara  
Ryan Paton  
Elliott Payne  
Alexander Price  
Kyle Price  
Ella Ryder  
Amy Santos  
Nycole Scourfield  
Joshua Smalley  
Adam Swain  
Jamie Swanson  
Sophie Trinder  
Andrew Whitehouse  
Leanne Woods  
Thomas Wyatt

## Year 11

Christopher Allen  
Emily Bowden  
Connor Butler  
Lauren Corcoran  
Dylan Foreman  
Ross Goodman-Brown  
Kirsty Henderson  
Adam Huckin  
Kelly Houlihan  
Daniel Jordan  
Sarah Keen  
Gary Lawson  
Joshua Lyons  
Clay Munday  
Thomas Muddle  
Victoria Munger  
Martin Oldham  
Thomas O'Sullivan  
Mark Paterson  
Hannah Perks  
Daniel Savin  
Jack Seger  
Chantelle Shone  
Steven Teall  
Samuel Thomas  
Oliver Wall  
Stuart White  
Bonnie Worth  
Annie Zhou

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## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT NEWS

### Key Stage 3

#### Year 9 Shakespeare Day

On Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> of February a professional theatre company came into our school and performed a Shakespearean workshop about *Much Ado About Nothing*. The seating arrangement gave us a 360° view of the performance, and a real 3-dimensional look at the Shakespeare play.

The audience were also brought into the performance by interaction and questions. After we gave our thoughts on the scene they acted it out and everyone in the room was in hysterics!! In the end they acted out both of the set scenes we are studying this year, and annotated them through diverse and complex routines, games and activities. I speak on all of the audience's behalf when I say, 'All *the world's a stage*'!

Sam Plummer 9.4

#### Year 9 Focus Day

After the success of the Year 9 Focus Days over the last two years, some year 9 students will be invited to attend an intensive day of English. There are four sessions conducted by members of the English department. Each session focuses on a specific area of the English curriculum and prepare students for the exam. The aim is that students are given guidance and support in order to improve their grades. Students in the past have valued the day and actually enjoyed being here on a Saturday! This year's Focus Day is **Saturday 26 April 2008**.

#### Year 7 Readathon

Year 7 students have been selected to take part in this year's Readathon.

The Readathon is a national sponsored read which raises money for two charities, the Roald Dahl Foundation and CLIC Sargent, who between them spend the money primarily helping children and young people in Britain suffering cancer, Hodgkin's disease, leukaemia, epilepsy, and blood disorders or acquired brain injury.

The Readathon will start during the week beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> March to coincide with World Book Day on 6 March. The Readathon will last three weeks until 20<sup>th</sup> March. Sponsorship money will be collected during the week beginning the 26<sup>th</sup> March, with the final hand in date of 31<sup>st</sup> March.

Students will benefit from the Readathon. Not only will students find a sense of worth in helping others, but also reading is a sure way to improve literacy skills. A focus on reading will in itself reward pupils.

#### Miss Dingwall

## ICT & ECDL News

Since Christmas, the following students have gained the ECDL qualification:

<u>Year 11</u>	<u>Year 10</u>
Christopher Allen	Andrew Pryde
Rebecca Digman	
Jonathan Dover	
Sophie Elliott	

Also, our Deputy Head, Mrs Wainman, has just successfully completed her ECDL qualification!

The following students have also achieved IT User Part 2 qualification (equivalent to Grade B GCSE):

<u>Year 11</u>	<u>Year 10</u>
Christopher Allen	Andrew Whitehouse
Jonathan Dover	Andrew Pryde
Yusri Hamidi	

**Well done to all these students!**

#### ICT Catch-up Opportunities

A reminder to all Year 10 & 11 students that Ca14 is open on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday lunchtimes for students to catch-up on their ECDL work &/or CiDA GCSE work.

## BEFRIENDERS AND SENIOR STUDENTS

The Befrienders and Senior Students will be organising an assembly in the near future to explain their roles and responsibilities to Year 10 students who may be interested in applying to work with either group next year. Both roles require commitment and students who feel that they have a little extra to offer to the school community are encouraged to apply. Application forms will be available from the Student Welfare Office from 2 May 2008.

"I will have great memories of being a Senior Student; helping to put together the yearbook and helping to organise the Year 11 ball. I have become friendly with people I had not met before and it's been a really good experience for me".

Fraser (11.1)

"Being a Befriender is a rewarding and worthwhile experience. It's nice to see Year 7s fitting in and getting on with life at a new school".

Chantelle (11.3)

"Being a Senior Student has brought out leadership qualities that I didn't know I had. It's been hard work meeting deadlines for the yearbook and ball, as well as coursework and other things going on, but also great fun being with other people I don't normally mix with and working as a group".

Yasmin (11.8)

"It's been great getting to know the Year 7s and Befriending is a really rewarding experience. We've all had fun as well as learning lots through the training sessions and support of others".

Amy (11.7)

## CATERING DEPARTMENT - SPRING 2008

We are well into the new school year and the changes have gone smoothly with the emphasis on providing a healthier option. Some of the snacks that were provided at both meal-times have been reduced to the lunchtime meal only.

It has been a good period for the Catering Department; we have successfully shown we are providing a good service. Firstly we had the Health and Food Safety inspection, which went well, followed by a mention in the OFSTED report of the healthy options we are providing, along with the school that is also providing an excellent service.

Unfortunately, we have to report that due to pressures and a volatile food market, of which we are not alone in its effect, prices are being presently reviewed and the outlook is for prices to be increased. Since the beginning of this year the catering department has been absorbing these price increases, however; as you will all acknowledge, this cannot be maintained. Those of us who do the weekly shopping would not have failed to have noticed that prices have been increasing in the supermarkets and some products have gone up significantly, especially; Dairy, Bread, Eggs, Pasta to name only a few products hit by big rises.

With this in mind, I ask you all to carry on supporting the hard work the Catering Department is doing in providing your children with an option, which is not only healthy for them but varied in choice and offering from a full meal to those just requiring something substantial until they get home.

The School Food Trust is an organisation set up to review and recommend food served in schools, it is a very good organisation and has a website which can be visited by you on [www.schoolfoodtrust.org.uk](http://www.schoolfoodtrust.org.uk). If you get the time, please have a look at the site; it has a wealth of information concerning school meals.

We welcome any feedback to improve the service, in doing so you will have a say in the health of your children.

**Mr C Epathite.**  
**Catering Manager.**

## SATURDAY LATIN FUN!

Six Year 8 students have been given the opportunity to attend classes in Latin on Saturday mornings at Oxford University, with a view to taking a GCSE qualification at the end of Year 10. This will also introduce them to the secrets of classical civilisation.



Classics is the study of ancient Greek and Roman civilisation in all its aspects: languages, literature, art, archaeology, history, and culture. It embraces the distant pre-history of these civilisations as well as their continuing influence on modern society.

Here's hoping this is just the start of a long and valuable relationship with Oxford University.

**Mrs P Hickman**  
**Head of Year 8**

## STAFF NEWS

Ms Roche-Ali will be taking Maternity Leave from 14th March, and Ms Douet (who has been teaching part-time in the Department since September) will be taking over all of her classes. Ms Roche-Ali is planning to return just before Christmas.

## NEWSFLASH!

Ms Roche-Ali gave birth to a baby girl on Sunday 30th March and has named her Maya.

## Going 4 It!

The last day of term 3 saw the annual Going 4 It Event in the school's Sports and Performance Halls..

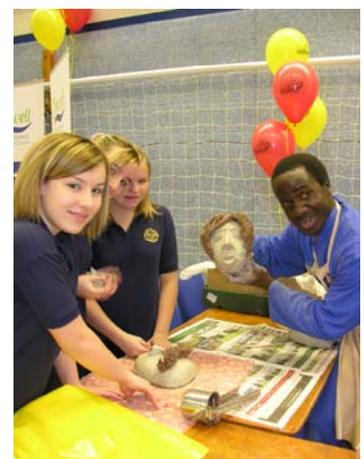
STUDENTS in Bicester adopted the hands-on approach when they took part in a careers convention to help choose GCSE subjects.

Opening the Going 4 It event, at Cooper School, was surprise guest jazz/soul singer songwriter Fil Straughan, a New Yorker who narrowly escaped being a victim of the September 11 terrorist attack on the World Trade Centre.

More than 450 year nine students from Cooper School and Bicester Community College listened to Mr Straughan tell how he then worked for investment bank Morgan Stanley, but was given a day off on September 11, 2001 - when friends and relatives were killed.

Mr Straughan, a member of The Drifters band, sang R Kelly's I Believe I Can Fly, but changed the lyrics to emphasise the importance of choices, and being the best you can be in life.

Exhibitors included Newsquest Oxfordshire; Oxford Brookes University, BMW and Thames Valley Police.



## NOSSP YR 7 & 8 SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS COMPETITIONS



Cooper School completed “the double” by winning the North Oxfordshire School Sport Partnership Sportshall Athletics competitions for schools in the south of the Partnership in both the Year 7 & Year 8 age groups. The events, which took place in the Cooper School Sportshall, were contested by teams from Cooper, Bicester Community College and Gosford Hill. The Year 7 competition was decided by an exciting head to head relay between Cooper and Bicester Community College after the two teams were tied in first place at the end of the scheduled programme of events. The Year 8 competition was closely contested too with Cooper running out as narrow winners from Gosford Hill. The events were expertly run by a team of KS4 Leaders from Cooper and the visiting schools and proved to be great fun for all participants. Team members were: (Year 7) Lottie Thurlow, Sarah Strong, Shanise Hutchins, Misha Staples, Ruth Thomas, Miki Tang, Kathryn Oates, Tom Howells, Harrison Marshall, Edward Burgess, Maciej Zielenski, Stephen Green and Lewis Carpenter (Year 8) Amanda Cole, Natasha Thomason, Laura Jenkins, Katherine Worsfold, Lorraine Palmer, Samanda King, Natalie Williams, Ellis Townsend, Giles Baldwin, Aidan Starr, Jack Stone, Louis Gasgoine and Marcus Linfoot.



**Mrs G Allen**  
**School Sport Coordinator**

## SCIENCE: EXAM DATES

### YEAR 10 SCIENCE EXAMS

Separate Science Students	Chemistry	5th June
Separate Science Students	Physics	11th June
Separate Science Students	Biology	23rd June
Most Students	Unit 4	12th May
Most Students	Unit 2	5th June
Most Students	Unit 3	11th June

### YEAR 11 SCIENCE EXAMS

Separate Science Students	Physics	12th May
Separate Science Students	Biology	21st May
Separate Science Students	Chemistry	23rd May
Most Students	Additional science unit 4	23rd May
Most Students	Additional science unit 2	18th June
Most Students	Additional applied science unit 3	18th June
Most Students	Additional science unit 3	20th June
Most Students	Additional applied science unit 6	20th June

### YEAR 11 HISTORY TRIP TO KRAKOW, POLAND

At 3am on 18<sup>th</sup> February 63 bleary-eyed Year 11 students set off by coach to Bristol Airport. Destination Krakow. The main purpose of the 3 day trip was to visit Auschwitz, the most notorious Nazi death camp of the Second World War. The students were a credit to the school, and their behaviour absolutely impeccable. This was a visit that none of us will forget.

**History Department**

### THINKING SKILLS FOCUS WEEK

“How would You Move Mount Fuji?” This was just one of the questions students were asked to consider in the Tutor Challenge series that took place during our Thinking Skills Focus Week in January. Throughout the week, staff and students worked on developing their Thinking Skills across the curriculum whilst trying to come up with creative solutions to a series of problems. Students responded brilliantly to the challenges and the lucky winners each received a voucher.

**Mr D Burton**

### The Cooper Family Sportshall Athletics Programme 2008

KS4 students from The Cooper School have been busy running a programme of athletics activities for Year 5 and 6 children from The Cooper Family of Primary Schools. The 23 Year 10 students led taster sessions in which the younger children were able to learn about and practise the Sportshall Athletics events. Following on from these sessions, the KS4 Leaders ran two competitions for the young athletes. Around 100 children from Langford Village, Glory Farm, Launton and Fimmere Primary Schools took part in this year's programme.

As ever, the competitions, held in the sportshall at The Cooper School, were hotly contested and great fun. The first, on January 29 2008, was won by Langford Village School. In the second, on February 5 2008, in which many of the young athletes taking part were representing their School for the first time at an inter-school sports event, the team from Launton School was victorious.

The Sportshall Athletics activities organised by The Cooper School are part of a programme of Sportshall Athletics events provided by the North Oxfordshire School Sport Partnership. The programme has received Big Lottery Funding. The Cooper Family of Schools is also grateful for the practical support of Bicester Athletics Club.

**Mrs G Allen**  
School Sports Co-ordinator



### KS4 Leadership of Sports Activities for Primary Schools

23 Year 10 students have contributed to and benefited from the Sportshall Athletics Programme organised on behalf of the North Oxfordshire School Sport Partnership. The students attended a training session and, following on from this, they ran a series of Sportshall Athletics taster sessions and competitions for children in Years 5 & 6 from The Cooper Family of Primary Schools.

The KS4 Leaders showed maturity, skill and increasing confidence as they led warm up activities, passed on coaching tips and officiated at the competitions. They can be justifiably proud of the fact that they have been instrumental in providing a fun activity for more than 100 children, many of whom were taking part in an inter-school sports event for the first time. The young athletes, their teachers and parents were full of praise for the contribution of our KS4 Leaders. The Year 10 students who participated in the programme are: Alex Price, David Aslett, Hayley Timms, Hannah Burgess, Jack Warner, Laura Gladly, Emma Starr, Tom Heasley, Marko Grubnic, Jack Horwood, Sam Kelly, Tom Young, Hannah Titchener, Hannah Greenhalgh, Sophie Moore, Jessica Warner, Lauren Stanford, Lucy Ashmore-Harris, Rebecca Gambrell, Kayleigh Macdonald, Trey Horne, Amy Santos and Jamie Bowers.



### NOSSP Sportshall Athletics Final 2008

The Cooper School hosted the North Oxfordshire School Sport Partnership Sportshall Athletics Final on Wednesday 27 February. The event was the culmination of the Big Lottery supported Sportshall Athletics programme organised by the NOSSP which has involved more than 500 children. Teams of Year 5 & 6 children from six schools from across the North Oxfordshire area contested the Final. The teams from North Kidlington, Launton, Southwold, Bishop Love-day, St. Joseph's and Hanwell Fields Primary Schools had qualified for the competition by winning their local Festival. The events proved to be exciting and great fun with Southwold School (Bicester) running out the eventual winners.

The event was run by KS4 students from The Cooper School and Bicester Community College. International athlete and Commonwealth Games silver medallist, James Hillier, representing "Sporting Champions" was on hand at the event to encourage and inspire the young athletes and to answer their questions.

## KS4 LEADERSHIP OF COOPER FAMILY TAG RUGBY FESTIVAL 2008



*Winning team, Charlton-on-Otmoor with the KS4 Leaders & Andrew Court*

Year 10 students were central to the running of the recent Tag Rugby Festival for The Cooper Family of Primary Schools. The Festival was the latest in a series of events organised on behalf of the North Oxfordshire School

Sport Partnership at The Cooper School. Training was provided for the students to prepare them for their role. At the Festival, the KS4 Leaders led warm up activities for the Year 5 and 6 children, before refereeing the matches. Their contribution ensured a high quality and enjoyable experience for the primary school children and the event proved to be great fun for all. The Year 10 students are Chris Gill, Hayden Nolan, Daniel Jackson, Jack Horwood, Sam Kelly, Jayraj Panesar, Tom Young, James Hillsley, Aaron Newman, Dominic Blossom, Tom Heasley, Jamie Swanson, Samuel Jones and Tom Wyatt.

**Mrs G Allen**  
School Sports Co-ordinator

## YEAR 7 & 8 GET IN 2 ATHLETICS CLUB

More than 30 of our Year 7 & 8 students have been enthusiastically attending the Get in 2 Athletics Club run by Cherwell District Council & supported by KS4 Leaders. This takes place in the Cooper School Sportshall and is an extension of the North Oxfordshire School Sport Partnership Sportshall Athletics Programme. It is not too late to join in the fun. Letters giving full details are available from Mrs. Allen.

## GCSE EXAMINATIONS Written examinations take place from 12th May to 24th June 2008

All Year 11 students have been given exam statement of entries listing their individual exams, a copy of which should have been returned to their Form Tutors by 6 March.

## PARENTS' EVENING

YEAR 7 - Thursday 15 May 2008

## SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

If you have any worries or concerns, our School Counsellor is happy to discuss them with you in private. A form is available from Reception if you would like to book an appointment..

## PHOTOGRAPHS POLICY

The School is very active on publicity and have published several photographs of students in the press. If you do not wish your child to appear in any press releases please inform the School in writing.

## DIARY DATES

### EASTER HOLIDAYS:

Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> April – Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2008

### TERM 5

Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> April Students return to school

Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> May BANK HOLIDAY

Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May End of Term 5

### HALF TERM HOLIDAY:

Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> May – Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> May 2008

### TERM 6

Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June Students return to school

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June INSET DAY

Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July End of Term 6

### SCHOOL YEAR 2008-2009

### TERM 1

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September Yr7 & 10 students return to school

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September Remainder of students in school

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October INSET DAY

### HALF TERM HOLIDAY:

Monday 27<sup>th</sup>-Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October

## The Cooper School Parent Voice



*All Parents Welcome*

*Next Meeting: Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May 7.00-8.00*

*Meet in Science Room 5*

Please see records of previous meetings on the Parent Voice section of the school website

Please join us and help to support your school in raising the achievement of your children.

## TAKE A LOOK AT THE SCHOOL WEBSITE!



[www.cooper.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.cooper.oxon.sch.uk)