



Dear Parent/Carer and Pupil,

31st January, 2012

Headteacher's Post: Following my retirement at Easter, Mr. Colin Rees, Deputy Headteacher will be the acting Headteacher until a new Headteacher takes up the post. The Governors have re-advertised the post for September 2012 and interviews of prospective candidates will be on 21-23rd March. Full details are in the TES and on eTeach and on our website.

Governors: All parents/carers are invited to the Governors AGM which is postponed until Wednesday, 14th March. This is an ideal opportunity to meet the Governors and discuss the future of Builth Wells High School at this crucial time of change.

Pupil Success: Year 11 pupil Ross Grimes and Charlotte Nixon Year 8 competed in the Pony Club Area 10 Triathlon recently. Both pupils who have only just moved up to the Senior and Junior categories did exceptionally well. Congratulations!

Oxbridge Success: Aled R. Jones (Head Boy 2010) has an unconditional offer to read Law at Corpus Christi College, Oxford University in September 2012. Owen Jordan is having a wonderful time studying Maths in Cambridge University.

Design and Technology Innovation awards 2011: Congratulations to the following students whose work has been recognised as being amongst the most innovative and well made projects and have won a Merit Award in the 2011 competition held by the WJEC. GCSE pupils, Ben Watkins, Sioned Davies, Tom Davies and Bethanie Jones-Davies. AS Level student Carley Williams and A Level students Charlotte Probert and Sara Lewis. Many thanks to the DT staff for inspiring our students.

Music: Sophie Jones and Louise Wilcocks made OUTSTANDING performances in the Welsh College of Music and Drama's very impressive new concert hall. They competed in the Rotary Young Vocalist and Young Musician of the Year competitions in front of distinguished judges, such as Dennis O' Neill. The competitions were of an amazingly high standard, and Sophie and Louise were tremendous in front of a packed audience. Sophie gained the Runner up in the Vocal. Louise gave a wonderful performance, but missed out to a Tuba player from Aberystwyth. There was also an outstanding Harpist who has a 5 concert tour of Japan coming up, before his GCSEs! He was not the winner, so imagine the standard!

Congratulations to Alice Cox, Sian Healey and Mair Davies, for being selected to be part of the Only Kids Aloud Choir. OKA is a new organisation, run by Classical Brit Award winners Only Men Aloud. Their Musical Director, Tim Rhys-Evans, auditioned around Wales looking for children to take part in this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. With exciting repertoire, energetic delivery and a huge sense of fun, the choir's mission is to get children between the ages of 4 and 13 singing loud and proud.

Judo: Yr 8 Menna Williams recently had an exciting time participating on the care team at an international competition. She helped with recording the fights for live transmission and assisted with the playbacks to resolve disputes. Well done Menna!

Powys High Sheriff Awards: Year 12 student Thomas Childs has been nominated for a High Sheriff Award for his outstanding contribution to pupil participation projects and academic/sporting achievements. Tom will attend the presentation evening at County Hall. Tom recently spoke in the House of Commons on the local transport situation for young people.

Swimming: Well done to all pupils/students who took part in the Powys Schools Swimming Gala. 30 pupils took part and every year group was represented with many outstanding successes. Congratulations also to Hannah Beetham and Sam Stewart-Brown on their success at the Urdd National Swimming Gala in Cardiff. Hannah came 2nd in the backstroke race and Sam made it to the final heats. Thank you for representing Builth Wells High School. Thanks to Mrs. Jane Owen.

Free School Meals: Generally, parents/carers who do not work or who work less than 16 hours per week are eligible to claim free school meals for their child/ren. To check whether you qualify all you need to do is provide your name, date of birth and NI number to the School Meals Team by ringing 01597 826437. Please be assured that all claims will be treated in the strictest confidence.

School Eisteddfod: Our annual eisteddfod will be held on Friday, 10th February. Parents/carers are welcome to attend.

Best wishes, Mrs. Shân Davies, Headteacher.