



The summer term is always a short but busy one for schools and this year is no exception.

During the Easter break, JAGS girls enjoyed very successful trips overseas to Russia, Italy and Prague and, closer to home, our Sixth Form Geographers made the most of their field trip to Wales, including study on the Gower Peninsula and research into the coal industry. None of these could have taken place without the enthusiasm



and commitment of many members of staff, to whom our grateful thanks go for devoting their time to all these excursions.

Bronze participants have taken part in two successful Duke of Edinburgh's Award expeditions since Easter and thanks to all the staff who helped with these. It was a pleasure to present six more Bronze Awards in a recent assembly, and Silver Awards to Anna Stilwell, Charlotte Thomas and Harriet White.

More school trips are planned for the later part of this term: the Religious Studies department will be visiting Sikh and Hindu temples with Year 8; French students in the Sixth Form will have a three-day trip to Paris while Year 7 will visit Boulogne for the day; the History Department are taking Year 9 girls on a tour of First World War Battlefields and Year 7 to Hampton Court; Year 12 Biologists are away on a week's field trip



and many other departments have organised lectures and outings. Life is certainly never dull at JAGS!

Michelle Osuocha, Year 9, won the 14-16 age category in this year's Make It Break It award with her own composition, *If You Feel Me*. She was the youngest among the winners and the only girl. She won musical equipment from Yamaha and the opportunity to attend master-classes at Liverpool Institute for the Performing Arts. Her performance was recorded and should be broadcast on TV later this year.

As ever, JAGS musicians have been busy performing in the past month. The Year 13 A level students produced a stunning selection of individual recitals. We then enjoyed a most engaging concert by those girls from Years 7-9 who won commendations in the Junior House Music Competition. The half term concluded with a rousing afternoon of whole class singing in the Junior House Song Competition. A number of JAGS pupils did exceptionally well at this year's Blackheath Festival, including solo singers and instrumentalists - congratulations to them all! Later in the term we have our ever-popular Jazz Night in the Holst Hall on Friday, 23 June and the Founder's Concert on Tuesday, 4 July at St Barnabas. Do note these dates in your diaries now.

The Summer Term also sees our Junior Drama production. This year, our young actors from Years 7-9 will be performing *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* on the evenings of 27-29 June in the Prissian Theatre: booking details are enclosed.

Our scientists have also enjoyed success. Two of our young chemists, Rosie Patchett and Emma Schofield in Year 10, have been selected from a large number of candidates to attend the Salters' Chemistry Camp at the University of Manchester in August. The organisers of this year's Physics Challenge acknowledged that it was notably difficult, so we are delighted that Elizabeth Coker of Year 11, who gained the highest mark from the JAGS entries, received a commendation.

Congratulations also to Zofia Bakowska and Michelle Wisson, Year 10, on their very good performance in the first four rounds of the International Youth Debating Competition.



The Recycling Officer from Southwark Council attended a special assembly in May to see the JAGS Environmental Committee receive the Eco-Schools Bronze Award. JAGS is only the second school in Southwark to receive this national award, which recognises the school's efforts in recycling and energy conservation. We are delighted to be among the leaders in this field.

We are again opening our Botany Gardens to the public under the National Gardens 'Yellow Book' scheme on the evening of Friday, 23 June. That afternoon we will be welcoming the Dulwich Society Garden Group for a lecture on Dr Lilian Clarke by Dr Dawn Sanders, a Research Associate at King's College, London.

The athletics season has started well here at JAGS. Both our U15 and our U17 teams won the Southwark Championships and ten JAGS girls have been selected to represent Southwark in the London Schools Championships in June. Katie Rose deserves special congratulations for breaking yet another school 800m record – this time the U15 record. Ten JAGS girls represented Southwark in the London mini-marathon at the end of April, with Philippa de La Rosée achieving 6th place overall – well done to all our runners.

Our rounders and tennis teams have also been enjoying their matches and achieving good results.

We have just heard that JAGS has once again had great success in the National MFL Free Spirit Poetry and Song Competition (2006). Charlotte Thomas (Year 12) is the winner in the German Poetry section, Hannah Thornton (Year 9) is the winner of the French Song section, and a Year 8 group, Arabella Bowker, Holly Britton, Victoria Ross, Tasmin Steer and Isabella White, are runners up in the Spanish Song section. The girls have all been invited to a special award ceremony at the Goethe-Institut in June. Many congratulations to the girls and their teachers.

Our Founder's Day on Saturday, 1 July will have an International theme this year. We will be celebrating our many links with other countries in dance, music, displays and many other events – look out for the llamas! We look forward to seeing you there. Meanwhile I hope that you and your daughters will enjoy the half-term break and that revision for those with examinations goes well.

Marion Gibbs

Information for Parents

Annual Tests for Years 8 & 9 are from June 6-9 and for Year 10 from June 6-16

Key Dates

Friday, 30 June Founder's Day Half-Holiday from 12 noon

Friday, 30 June Commemoration Service, Christ's Chapel, 7.00 pm

Saturday, 1 July Founder's Day - events all afternoon

Thursday, 6 July Term ends for pupils (full day)

Friday, 7 July Term ends for teaching staff

Exams for Years 8 & 9 are from June 6-9 and for Year 10 from June 6-16 inc.

Clothing for the Parents' Association uniform sale on Saturday, 10 June should be brought to where? by When?.

New term begins for pupils on Thursday, 31 August. Induction Day for Years 7 & 12 on Wednesday, 30 August.