

Polam Ponderings

Summer 2010

The Term began with chaos!

The ash cloud drifting from Iceland meant it was a very tense time for the older girls trying to return from abroad in time for last lessons before exams and even for the exams themselves. Coursework, orals and practicals were moved as late as possible to ensure that everyone was back in time.

School Events

The Leavers' Ball and the U5 Prom were very much enjoyed by all who attended.

Junior School Sports Day allowed all of the younger Boarders to show their athleticism, with many victories in various events.

This was repeated in the Senior Sports Day along with frantic preparations by the Sixth Form for the Fancy Dress competition.

The Old Scholars joined us for lunch on Saturday 19th June. They also presented Junior Awards to Lucy Smith and Jemma Vincent for effort in class, and the Junior Boarder Cup to Elaine Meng.

Well done, girls!

'**Grease**' was the word for the school production. Lucy, April, Amy, Savanna and Sara all produced wonderful performances supported by Chloe and Kelly backstage. Jodie, Jenny and Carrie helped produce the scenery and Jodie also organised 'front of house' and refreshments, helped out by many of the other girls each evening.

Activities

Lightwater Valley Theme Park again deserved two visits to make sure all who wanted to could go. The Forbidden Corner presented some puzzling trails to follow and waterfalls to dodge. Our visit to Whitby was a bit blustery but we still went for a paddle and, of course, ate fish and chips. Food played quite a part in activities this term with no fewer than three barbecues and a picnic. The fine weather also heralded numerous trips to South Park to play on the swings as well as just enjoying the school grounds for 'hide 'n' seek', skate-boarding, tennis, den building, tree climbing, etc. Unfortunately, the bouncy castle we hired for the last Sunday had to be taken down before it was blown away like something from the 'Wizard of Oz'.

In House matches the honours were very even: Peace won the Junior Rounders, Harmony the Senior competition (after extra time!) and then Harmony won the Tennis by 15 points to 14. It is good to see the friendly rivalry and I look forward to many more competitions next term

Leavers

Sadly we have to say 'goodbye and good luck to Claire, Vivian and Rebecca who are moving on to other schools and to Florence, Ingrid, Kelly and Stacey who will be moving on to university in September. The House really won't be the same without them!

Mundane Stuff

The charity shops are pleased to accept all of the un-named laundry we amass, which apparently belongs to no-one! Please make sure that all items of clothing are named with **woven, sewn-in name tags**. These can be ordered from the school shop.

Partly owing to a number of minor accidents, girls below M5 will not be allowed to use hair straighteners so please ensure that they are not packed for the return in August/September. Please also note that plimsoll type shoes are not acceptable as part of school uniform.

If your daughter wishes to stay with friends overnight at any time there is no problem with that, but we do need your **WRITTEN** permission for this (even if your daughter is over 18). Any special arrangements for the weekend must be notified by **Thursday** evening.

Please ask friends and relatives not to phone girls during 'prep' 6.45 – 8.15pm. Also, all girls in Grange and South View hand in their mobile phones before bedtime so please ensure all contact via these means is made before that time:

Yr 3	8pm
Yr 4	8.15pm
Yr 5	8.30pm
Yr 6	8.45pm
L4	9pm
U4	9.15pm
L5	9.30pm
M5	10pm
U5	10.30pm

Contact Details

For Staff in Grange and New House (01325) 373812

For Staff in South View (01325) 373818
Main School Office (01325) 373800

Your Daughter will give you the best number to contact her depending upon the location of her room. **Please only use Staff numbers if you wish to speak with Staff.**

Email for Miss Green: head@polamhall.com

Email for Jill Garvey: boarding@polamhall.com

Email for School Office:

information@polamhall.com

Address: Polam Hall School, Grange Road,
Darlington, County Durham. DL1 5PA

Have a lovely Summer.

Looking forward to meeting all you new Boarders and parents!

L4 and Sixth Form should return on 31st August ready for school on 1st September.

Everyone else should return on 1st September ready for starting on 2nd

Please email to let me know when your daughter will be arriving, especially if she will need to be collected from the airport.

Best wishes to all of you moving on, but I know you will keep in touch.