

OTHER HALF ACTIVITIES 2011/12



abingdon school staff 2011/12

ACC	Mr Christodoulou	GBC	Mr Callan	MRW	Mr Webb
AJJ	Mr Jenkins	GJC	Mrs Cooper	MWF	Mr Forth
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AJPE	Mr English	GRM	Mr Moody	NF	Mr Fieldhouse
AJL	Mr Loughe	HCGM	Mr Morgan	NJOD	Mr O'Doherty
AKQ	Mrs Quick	HFCP	Mr Price	NMR	Mr Revill
AMB	Mr Broadbent	HLK	Rev. Kirk (Chaplain)	NP	Miss Petrov
ANJT	Mr Tate	HKA	Miss Allcock	NSH	Miss Spurling-Holt
APS	Mr Swarbrick	ICF	Mr Fishpool	OTL	Mr Lomax
APW	Dr Willis	IM	Mr Middleton	PDBG	Rev. Gooding
ASH	Mr Hall	JAC	Mr Cotton	PJEC	Mr Coke
ATH	Mr Hundermark	JAM	Mrs Mansfield	PW	Mr Willerton
BJLP	Mr Phillips	JDEDH	Mr Drummond-Hay	RFM	Mr Fraser-Mackenzie
BW	Mr Whitworth	JEF	Mrs Fishpool	RKJ	Dr Jeffreys
CAM	Mrs Muller	JFH	Mr Hallinan	RMF	Mr Fisher
CB	Dr Burnand	JHJ	Mrs Jorgensen (Registrar)	RP	Miss Papadopoulos
CC	Mrs Cross	JHT	Mr Taylor	RSKM	Mr Mearns
CFC	Mr Fletcher-Campbell	JHW	Mr Winters	RSS	Mr Southwell-Sander
CJM	Dr May	JJ	Mrs Jennings	RT	Mrs Tufnell
DAB	Mr Boyd	JMCW	Mr Webster (Bursar)	RY	Miss Yarrow
DCB	Mrs Bennison	JNC	Mr Chapman	SAE	Mr Evans
DCS	Mr Shirazi	JPGB	Mr Brooks	SALN	Ms Northey
DE	Mr Evans	JPN	Mr Nairne	SCVM	Mrs McRae
DGA	Mr Aitken	JSB	Mr Barker	SEB	Mr Bliss
DH	Mr Haworth	JSW	Dr Wiejak	SEG	Mrs Gibbard
DJB	Mr Bickerton	JT	Mr Taylor	SJ	Mr James
DJD	Mr Dawswell	KEB	Ms Byrne	SJG	Mr Grills
DJP	Mr Pope	KL	Miss Lee	SJR	Dr Ridd
DJTF	Mr Franklin	KTC	Mr Carson	SLK	Mr King
DJW	Mr Wickes	LFD	Dr Dudin	SRB	Mr Brenchley
DMH	Mr Hughes	LM	Miss Man	SRW	Mr Whalley
DRM	Mr McGill	LPGM	Mrs Glenn McKibbin	SW	Mrs Wigmore
EAK	Mrs Kaye	MAS	Mr Stinton	TCG	Dr Gunn
EMTS	Mrs Slatford	MDP	Mr Perriss	TK	Miss Katic
EOD	Mrs O'Doherty	MIL	Mr Litchfield	VDP	Mrs Penrose
ESD	Mr Davies	MJS	Dr Streule	VEH	Miss Hicks
FL	Miss Lusk (Head)	MP	Mrs Pringle	VP	Mrs Pradas

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introduction

The 'Other Half' is a colloquialism used throughout Abingdon School. It represents a substantial part of the educational experience, involving activities that take place beyond the academic curriculum – and usually outside the classroom. It is to be seen as an essential part of the learning experience – offering boys the opportunity to learn about life in its broader context: its challenges and opportunities, successes and inevitable disappointments.

The term 'Other Half' represents the significance of extra-curricular activities within the ethos of the School. It also suggests the idea of a balance to be achieved, between academic focus and recreational enjoyment. Some of the elements of the 'Other Half' are compulsory – others are entirely voluntary.

I hope boys will enjoy looking through this booklet and that during their time at Abingdon they will have the opportunity to experience a range of contrasting activities; hopefully one or two will become pursuits they follow and develop in their adult lives.

Stuart Evans

Master i/c 'Other Half'



The following information on 'Other Half' activities is correct at the time of going to print. Please check the school website www.abingdon.org.uk/other_half to confirm times and venues.

Fuller details concerning both the School's approach to 'Other Half' activities and Pupil Guidelines on 'Other Half' activities are to be found on the following pages.

The School policy regarding boys' sporting commitments may be found at the beginning of the 'Sports' section.

Any general enquiries should be made to Mr S A Evans (i/c 'Other Half' activities).

Further details of all activities are available at the School's website: www.abingdon.org.uk

a philosophy for the 'other half'

Every boy should be actively encouraged to pursue an 'Other Half' programme that is balanced, physically and mentally absorbing, and demanding. A place should be found in every boy's weekly 'Other Half' timetable for both sporting and non-sporting activities. No single activity should take up more than four afternoons per week and every boy should be expected to participate in at least two contrasting activities.

There are reasons why this ideal cannot always be achieved; and there may be special cases, involving physical disability, where it cannot be properly applied. These constraints do not invalidate the essential force of the ideal as described above. A full offering of alternatives to sport is important at all levels, especially in years one, two and three, where boys' attitudes can be permanently affected by a suitable provision of well-run activities.

There may be an argument for the view that the highest competitive standards can only be achieved, in any area, by specialisation and complete commitment. However, over-specialisation should be discouraged, particularly in sport – and we wish to promote a conscious versatility of skill and interest through the 'Other Half' programme at Abingdon School.

The following practicalities are of essential importance:

1. No boy should undertake the same main activity in all three terms of the year.
2. No one activity, of any sort, should normally take up more than two-thirds of a boy's extra-curricular time, except where circumstances require a heavy commitment at periods of intense work or preparation.
3. It is highly desirable that every boy should undertake a period of service-type activity during his time at Abingdon School.
4. All boys must take part in an activity during the course of Wednesday afternoon.

getting started

ACTIVITIES FAIR

Where: Sports Centre, Charles Maude Room, Ingham Room, Amey Theatre Foyer

When: Wednesday 7th September, 1.30 – 3.00 pm (by year groups)

Who: All pupils

i/c: SAE

An opportunity for all pupils to investigate a large number of 'Other Half' activities at the start of the year – before finalising their sports and activity choices.

Essential for new boys!

‘other half’ activities – pupil guidelines

Attendance

You must attend at all designated times: a register will be taken at the start of the activity – so you must be on time.

All pupils must take part, as follows:

- Sport: at least two sessions per week; for further details see ‘school policy on boys’ sporting commitments’ in sport section.
- Wednesday afternoon activity (sports practice/fixture/other activity) in period 7.
- Service activity: compulsory for Third years in Tuesday period 8.
- Lower School: an activity from 2.30 – 3.55 pm (period 7) on Wednesday afternoon and during each of the following lunchbreaks: Monday/Tuesday/Thursday.
- Music groups: regular attendance is expected: a register is taken.

In addition to the above compulsory elements boys are strongly encouraged to take part in at least one non-sporting activity, during lunchtimes and after school.

Some school activities will take place on Saturday mornings, in addition to interschool fixtures on Saturday afternoons.

If you cannot attend an ‘Other Half’ activity due to: a music lesson; an EFL lesson; a Learning Support lesson; a doctor’s appointment; a driving test; travel difficulties, you must see the member of staff before lunchtime, in person; if you cannot do this, then you should email the member of staff at the earliest opportunity. 24 hours’ notice is required as advance warning for Community Service. Many members of staff give

up large amounts of time to provide activities for you and you are expected to respond appropriately.

NB: It is your responsibility to attend the activity – or excuse yourself properly (which is common courtesy). Otherwise you must expect a sanction to be applied; see ‘Sanctions’.

Interschool fixtures

The School has a strong tradition of participating in interschool fixtures across the age ranges. All boys are expected to be available for all fixtures advertised in the calendar unless specific written permission has been sought from, and granted by, the Head. Requests should be made at least one week in advance of the fixture.

The Director of Sport and PE should be copied in on any such leave of absence request. See also point 4 under ‘Sanctions’.

Clothing/equipment

- Make sure you are wearing the correct clothing for the particular activity you are doing.
Musicians: make sure you have your instruments and music with you.
- If for some reason you do not have your kit that day, you should still attend the session; you can still contribute to the activity: e.g. setting out cones, getting out balls, listening to the rehearsal/coaching session.
- The School has a very clear policy that wearing of a custom-fitted mouth-guard is strongly recommended whilst playing rugby and hockey.

'Off games'

If you cannot participate because you are 'off games' you must excuse yourself in advance. You must present an off games note/letter from parent/Health Centre to the member of staff i/c activity, by lunchtime on the day of the activity. If you are not able to do that you should report to the member of staff at the start of the activity to excuse yourself in person. Sending a message via another pupil will not be acceptable. Depending on the state of injury, you might be able to attend and help out, as above.

As a team player, you should attend the practice, to pick up any coaching points and so that the coach has a chance to talk to you about your likely availability for the next match.

Sanctions

If you fail to excuse yourself properly, in advance, you can expect to receive a sanction; see following:

- 1.** If you fail to attend a compulsory 'Other Half' activity (ie your chosen sports option or Wednesday afternoon activity in period 7) or if you fail to excuse or account for yourself properly (e.g. if off games), your tutor (and housemaster) will be notified.

If you do not have a valid, acceptable excuse or explanation your housemaster will give you a 'copy' to complete; the copy will be the 'Pupil Guidelines' in the 'Other Half' Activities Booklet.

- 2.** If you fail to attend a second time (or again fail to excuse or account for yourself) you can expect to be put in a Friday Detention by your housemaster.

- 3.** Anyone who infringes subsequently can expect a Head's Detention.

- These punishments will be adjusted for Lower School and Sixth Form pupils, as appropriate.
- These sanctions are subject to the housemaster's discretion; they will apply incrementally over the course of one term.

- 4.** If you are unable to represent the school in an interschool sports fixture due to unforeseen circumstances, having been selected, you must make contact with the member of staff i/c your team immediately: either in person, or if necessary by email/telephone call on Saturday morning.

If you fail to attend a fixture or fail to excuse yourself in advance the standard sanction is a Friday Detention, authorised by your housemaster.

arts and drama



ART

Where: Art Department

When: Lunchtimes and after school as advertised

Who: All

i/c: JPN/EOD/KEB/RT

The art school is open most days after school and at lunchtimes on an open studio basis: pupils can drop in and extend work begun in the classroom or explore a new technique. Art specialists – those doing art for GCSE or A-level – are strongly encouraged to make use of the facilities. Look out for opportunities on selected Saturday mornings for workshops geared at particular year groups (Also see 'Ceramics' and 'Photography')

Art Clubs:

- Monday 12.45 – 1.40 pm, Lower School clubs
- Monday 1.40 – 2.40 pm, 3rd Year
- Tuesday 4.00 – 5.00 pm, 2nd Year
for keen artists and those thinking of entering the 13+ Art scholarship
- Thursday 1.30 – 2.30 pm, 5th Year
- Thursday 1.40 – 2.40 pm, 3rd Year
- Friday 1.40 – 2.40 pm, 4th Year

CERAMICS

Where: A204 Ceramics Studio

When: Wednesday and Thursday, 4.00 – 5.00 pm
(and other times by arrangement)

Who: Lower School on Wednesday and
Middle School on Thursday, others by arrangement

i/c: KEB

An opportunity to learn and develop pottery skills – and to pursue your own ideas and projects.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Where: A218 – Art School ICT Suite

When: Friday, 4.00 – 5.00 pm (Michaelmas term only)

Who: Lower school

i/c: JPN

The emphasis of our sessions on a Friday is on the basics of photography – how to get the most out of your camera whether film or digital, whether high end or made of plastic! We enjoy being inspired by other photographers, sharing our photographs for critical comment and looking at the basics of how to enhance images with Photoshop. While principally for Lower School, other year groups are very welcome. Do contact JPN for advice or if you'd like to be involved in sharing your interest in photography.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Where: The Design Technology Centre

When: Monday 1.00 – 1.45 pm, 2nd Year, max 12

Tuesday 12.45 – 1.30 pm, 1st Year, max 12

Wednesday 2.45 – 4.00 pm, All, max 12

Lower School (Michaelmas term only), max 12

i/c: AJM/DMH/MRW

The design technology centre is open to allow pupils to pursue their interest in design and technology. We have facilities to work in a variety of materials and pupils can use these sessions to develop their skills. Pupils will follow a series of set projects leading to more freedom of choice as their individual skills evolve.

COURSEWORK DEVELOPMENT

Where: T70 and T71

When: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 4.00 – 5.00 pm

Who: All GCSE & A-level DT students

i/c: DMH/MRW/AJM

arts and drama

These sessions allow the examination level pupils some extended time to work on their coursework. All design and technology students are encouraged to make use of these sessions throughout the year.

WOODTURNING

Where: T74

When: Friday, 4.00 – 5.00 pm

Who: All, restricted to 4-8 pupils

i/c: MRW/SEB

Woodturning allows pupils the opportunity to develop a traditional woodwork skill. Pupils produce a range of products from wooden pens through to bowls and candlesticks.

SENIOR DRAMA

Where: Amey Theatre, Drama Studio and venues at St Helen's

When: Michaelmas term, 5.15 pm – 7.00 pm (rehearsals) usually one to three times a week, and at other times as required

Who: Pupils in 5, L6 and U6 at Abingdon and St Helen's

i/c: JHT/AKQ/BJLP/MC/RFM/GM/JW/OH/AV

The number of opportunities for boys in 5th Year and above to take part in extra-curricular drama productions with their counterparts at St Helen's continues to grow. Senior plays take place in the Michaelmas term to allow students to concentrate on exams thereafter. Things generally start in earnest in September, when students can choose to audition for one production from a range that this year will include a large-scale musical, an opera – both at St Helen's – and a number of straight plays at Abingdon. Rehearsals take place after school with performances in early December. We are also introducing rehearsed readings of plays created by students as part of a new playwriting competition. As in previous years, senior students who wish to stage their own productions are invited to bring their proposals to the drama department staff, who will do their best to accommodate them. Senior productions have often toured to the Edinburgh Festival during August. In July 2012, there will be a theatre studies trip to Japan to study Bunraku puppetry and perform a devised piece.

MIDDLE SCHOOL DRAMA

Where: Amey Theatre, Drama Studio and venues at St Helen's

When: Lent/Summer terms (tbc), 5.15 pm – 7.00 pm (rehearsals) usually from one to three times a week, and at other times as required

Who: Pupils in 3rd and 4th Year at Abingdon and St Helen's

i/c: JHT/AKQ/BJLP/MC/RFM/GM/JW/OH

In addition to the senior productions, there are plays for 3rd and 4th Year students that can also involve girls from St Helen's. In some years, there are two separate productions – one for each year group – and in others there is a combined 3rd and 4th Year production. Details will be announced in September, and performances are likely to take place in either the Lent or Summer terms, either well before, or comfortably after the school exams.



arts and drama

LOWER SCHOOL DRAMA

Where: Ingham Room/Amey Theatre

When: Wednesday afternoons and other times
by arrangement throughout the year

Who: Pupils in 1st and 2nd Year

i/c: BJLP/NSH(supported by JHT/AKQ)

There are also opportunities for Lower School pupils to take part in drama productions. The main one is the Lower School Drama Club, which meets on Wednesday afternoons in the Ingham Room, and at other times by arrangement. It offers both a practical grounding in different aspects of performance, and the chance to appear in a full Lower School production in the first half of the summer term. Last year, for example, saw a production of James and the Giant Peach that involved 35 Lower School boys. Further opportunities include a gala evening for all boys in Lower School during the Lent term, which will allow students to present work they have substantially prepared during timetabled drama lessons.

ABINGDON DANCE PROJECT

Where: Sports Centre Dance Studio
and other venues as required

When: Fridays in the Lent term, 5.15 pm – 7.00 pm,
and at other times as required

Who: Pupils in 5, L6 and U6 at Abingdon and St Helen's

i/c: Matthew Hawksworth/JHT

The Abingdon Dance Project, now in its third year, provides opportunities for pupils to work with professional actor, choreographer, dance teacher and OA Matthew Hawksworth. The classes combine learning a variety of dance skills and styles (contemporary, street, disco, lindy hop etc) with devising choreography to accompany all kinds of music, which can ultimately lead to a public performance later in the year, if desirable. The ADP is a great way to develop new skills, boost fitness, flexibility and creativity all in one.

ABINGDON FILM UNIT

Where: Drama Department

When: Wednesday afternoons, 2.30 pm – 5.00 pm
throughout the year, and at other times as required
(e.g. some Saturdays)

Who: 3-U6

i/c: JHT

The Abingdon Film Unit was formed in 2003. Since then its members have produced over 100 short films, a number of which have won awards and been screened at the National Film Theatre in London, and at festivals in France, Sweden, Hong Kong and throughout the UK. The Unit enables students to make their own films under the guidance of industry professionals. Membership is offered to boys in Third Year and above after a process of applications and interviews that take place during the summer term for entry in September. Once accepted, students become members of the Film Unit for the whole year. Films are researched and planned in the first part of the Michaelmas term; shooting usually begins around October; editing occupies much of the Lent term. The finished films are screened in May.

Members of the Unit can also be invited to make films for others, whether within the school or the wider community. They can also undertake special film projects abroad. AFU members have made films in Cambodia, Moldova, China and Hong Kong, for example. Trips may also be organized to cinemas, exhibitions or film studios.



music

'ABINGDON ACADEMICALS'

Where: Music Department, A214

When: Tuesday, 3.45 – 4.30 pm

Who: Senior singers

i/c: SRW

This close harmony group exists for keen singers to develop their choral, sight-singing and solo skills, prior to applying for Choral Awards to Oxford and Cambridge Universities, in particular. Throughout the year we sing at a number of concerts, at Abingdon School, at high-profile events (Open Day, Foundation Dinner, etc.) as well as an increasing number beyond Abingdon: in the local community, Mercers' Hall in London, Oxford, etc. The music performed ranges from home-grown arrangements of well-known and well-loved 'pop/rock/easy listening' songs through professional King's Singers' arrangements to intimate church music settings.

CHORAL SOCIETY

Where: Ingham Room

When: Altos, tenors, basses rehearse on Wednesdays
4.00 – 5.00 pm, with girls from St Helen's

Who: Open to all boys, compulsory for GCSE/
A-level musicians

i/c: MAS/JAC/CFC

The performance in November 2011 will be directed by MAS.



CHAPEL CHOIR

Where: Chapel

When: Full rehearsals: Mondays, 4.05 – 4.35 pm,
Fridays 4.35 – 5.05 pm
Trebles rehearsal: Mondays, 1.15 – 1.45 pm

Who: Open to full age range for SATB

i/c: JAC/CFC

The Chapel Choir provides music at services during term time – and music for Evensong at college chapels and cathedrals in a wide area. Tour with Chamber Orchestra to Italy, July 1998 and Christmas CD in 2004.

LOWER SCHOOL WIND BAND

Where: Ingham Room

When: Tuesday lunch times, 12.45 – 1.30 pm

Who: Open to all wind/brass players in Lower School

i/c: Mr N Somerville/MAS

This performs twice a year, normally in the New Year and at the Bands Concert in the summer.

BRASS BAND

Where: Ingham Room

When: Monday, 4.35 – 5.05 pm

Who: Open to all brass players of Grade 5 standard
and above

i/c: Mr A Townsend, Bandmaster

Performs twice a year at the Autumn/Christmas Concerts and the School's Bands Concert. Also plays at special assemblies and other services. Toured to Amsterdam July 2005.

music

SYMPHONIC WIND BAND

Where: Ingham Room

When: Friday, 4.35 – 5.05 pm

Who: For all wind and brass players of Grade 5 standard and above

i/c: Mr A Townsend, Bandmaster

Performs twice a year at the Autumn/Christmas Concerts and the School Bands Concert. Concert tour to Vienna, Prague and Budapest 2002 and China, Hong Kong with orchestra in 2006.

SECOND ORCHESTRA

Where: Ingham Room

When: Friday, 4.05 – 4.35 pm

Who: For all woodwind, brass and string players from about Grade 3 to Grade 6 standard

i/c: MAS/CFC

Plays at Christmas or New Year Concerts and in the Summer Orchestral Concert. A Lower School Orchestra is formed after the Summer Orchestral Concert and performs at the Lower School Gala Concert at the end of term.

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Where: Amey Theatre Foyer

When: Monday, 4.35 – 5.05 pm

Who: For advanced string players, Grade 7 minimum

i/c: Mrs M Pringle, Head of Strings

Chamber Orchestra consists of excellent string players who perform on Open Day, Christmas and Summer Orchestral Concerts. This Orchestra supports candidates for their A-level exams and gives many concerto opportunities to chosen soloists. Chamber Orchestra toured Italy with the Chapel Choir in July 1998, performing in Florence, Lucca, Venice and Padua and joined First Orchestra tours to Central Europe in 1995 and 2002 and to China/Hong Kong in 2006. Chamber

Orchestra was highly praised for its playing at the British Embassy in Beijing in 2006.



FIRST ORCHESTRA

Where: Ingham Room

When: Thursday, 3.50 – 5.05 pm

Who: It numbers about eighty boys across the full age range, and is generally for Grade 6 pupils and above, by invitation/audition

i/c: MAS/CFC/Mr N Somerville

Plays at both Autumn/Christmas Concerts and the Summer Orchestral Concert.

First Orchestra gave a concert tour to Central Europe in 1995, performing in Warsaw, Krakow and Prague and again in 2002, giving concerts in Vienna, Prague and Budapest. In 2006 it toured to China and Hong Kong and performed in the British Embassy in Beijing.

music

In March 2009 it presented a joint concert with a Japanese school orchestra from Nagoya. The Orchestra toured the USA in April 2011 and played in Worcester, Massachusetts, New York City and Washington National Cathedral where it received three standing ovations.



BIG BAND

Where: Ingham Room

When: Rehearses Monday 4.05 – 4.35 pm

Who: It is for more experienced jazz musicians (saxophones, trumpets, trombones and rhythm section) and numbers about thirty

i/c: Mr S Currie/Mr A Bush

It performs at the Christmas Concerts, the School's Bands Concert and its own Big Band Jazz Concert. In 1996 it toured South West France and in 1997 it made its own CD which is available from the Music Department. In 2000 it toured the Greek Islands of Naxos and

Paros, and in May 2004 accepted an invitation to play in Abingdon's twin town of Argentan in Normandy, France. In 2009 Big Band undertook a highly successful tour to Tuscany and recorded its second CD in July 2010. In April 2011 it toured the USA playing in Boston, New York City and Washington DC.



CHAMBER MUSIC

A full range of ensembles, numbering between thirty and forty, are rehearsed weekly by members of the visiting music staff. They include a comprehensive range of ensembles for strings, woodwind and brass, and they meet at different times of the week. Any boys wishing to be involved in this work should ask for further details from the music staff.

String Trios, Quartets and Quintets; Saxophone Quartet; Bassoon Quartet; Flute Choirs; Double Reed Ensemble; Clarinet Ensemble; Wind Quintet; Jazz Ensembles; Brass Quintets; Horn Quartet; Piano Trios; String Quartets; Abingdon Academics – close harmony (i/c: SRW) and many more miscellaneous ensembles.

The ensembles perform in two special chamber music concerts after a day of ensemble workshops with coaching from distinguished musicians, prior to competing in the Pro Corda Chamber Music Competition, in which Abingdon groups have won places in the finals concerts for many years.

music

JUNIOR STRINGS

Where: Amey Theatre Foyer
When: Tuesdays, 12.45 – 1.30 pm
Who: All Lower School strings
i/c: Mrs M Pringle

Performs throughout the year especially for Lower School Gala Concert.

For all string players from beginner to about Grade 5 standard.
The atmosphere is relaxed and the results significant.



BLUES SOCIETY

Where: Amey Theatre Foyer
When: Wednesday, 2.30 – 3.30 pm
Who: 3 – VI
i/c: Mr P Owen

The Blues Society is now an established opportunity for musicians playing contemporary instruments (guitars, keyboards, horns, drums) to learn to play together, with opportunities for performance. We tend to focus on songs from soul and blues genres; enthusiasm, rather than great skill, is the main requirement.

SCHOOL CHOIR

Where: Amey Theatre
When: Friday, 4.05 – 4.35 pm
Who: All Year Groups
i/c: JAC/CFC

The School Choir is open to any pupil with an interest in singing. It performs in a range of styles, from African songs to gospel numbers and arrangements of pop and film classics. Sight-reading ability desirable but not essential.

COMPOSERS' WORKSHOP

Where: Music Technology Room, A213
When: Wednesday, 2.30 – 3.30 pm
Who: Any keen young composers
i/c: SRW

Led by Abingdon's Composer-in-Residence, Simon Whalley, this is a session for budding composers – or anyone interested in the craft of composition – to expand their composing experience and learn about the mechanics of how music works. The sessions will include some 'taught' elements where composers' techniques are introduced and some more improvisatory and exploratory sessions in which boys will learn about the essentials of organology (and that does NOT just mean the study of organs!).

music

ABINGDON DRUM CIRCLE

Where: Amey Theatre Foyer
 When: Monday, 4.05 – 4.35 pm
 Who: 2nd Year
 i/c: Adam Treadaway

The Abingdon Drum circle has been created for anyone with an interest in learning how to play in an African djembe ensemble. As well as learning basic drumming techniques and patterns, there is much opportunity to develop improvisation skills.



music activities 2011/12 (main ensembles)

	Lunch	Time
Mon	Chapel Choir (Trebles) (JAC/CFC) Chapel, Yr 1,2	1.15 – 1.45 pm
Tues	Junior Strings (MP) ATF, Yr 1,2	12.45 – 1.30 pm
	L S Wind Band (NS) Ingham, Yr 1,2	12.45 – 1.30 pm
	After School	Time
Mon	Chapel Choir (Full) (JAC/CFC) Chapel, Yr 1 to 7	4.05 – 4.35 pm
	Drum Circle (ATr) A214, Yr 2	4.05 – 4.35 pm
	Big Band (SC) Ingham, Yr 3 to 7	4.05 – 4.35 pm
	Chamber Orchestra (MP) ATF, Yr 3 to 7	4.35 – 5.05 pm
	Brass Band (AT) Ingham, Yr 3 to 7	4.35 – 5.05 pm
Tues	Abingdon Academicals (SRW) A213, Yr 3 to 7	3.45 – 4.30 pm
	3rd Yr Community Service Music (JAC/CFC) A214, Yr 3	4.00 – 5.00 pm
Wed	Blues Society (PO) Ingham, Yr 4 to 7	2.30 – 3.30 pm
	Composers Workshop (SRW) A213, Yr 3 to 7	2.30 – 3.30 pm
	Joint Choral Society (MAS/CFC/JAC) Ingham /AT, Yr 3 to 7	4.05 – 5.05 pm
Thurs	First Orchestra (MAS/CFC) AT, Yr 3 to 7	3.50 – 5.05 pm
Fri	Second Orchestra (MAS) Ingham, Yr 1 to 5	4.05 – 4.35 pm
	School Choir (JAC/CFC) Chapel, Yr 1 to 7	4.05 – 4.35 pm
	Senior Brass Sectionals (AB) ATF, Yr 3 to 7	4.05 – 4.35 pm
	Chapel Choir (Full) (JAC/CFC) Chapel	4.35 – 5.05 pm
	Symphonic Wind Band (AT) Ingham, Yr 3 to 7	4.35 – 5.05 pm

service activities

'THE ABINGDONIAN'

Where: ICT (Greening Wing)
When: Wednesdays, 2.30 pm
Who: Middle and Upper School
i/c: Mrs S Wearne

Pupils who would like to assist with the compilation of 'The Abingdonian' should contact Mrs Wearne. Those with an interest in journalism are welcome to apply to join the committee of sub-editors. Contributions of articles or photographs for publication are welcome from all pupils. Articles may be e-mailed to the editor: abingdonian@abingdon.org.uk (Also see 'The Martlet')

AMEY THEATRE TECHNICAL CREW

Where: Amey Theatre
When: Wednesday afternoons: 2.30 – 5.00 pm;
at other times by arrangement
Who: 4 – VI
i/c: RFM

Members gain experience of all aspects of technical theatre from the design stages to implementation. They are regularly involved in the preparation and running of drama productions, concerts, school events and external hires. Wednesday afternoons are put aside for the main bulk of the work but due to the large number of events, much of the work happens on other afternoons, evenings and weekends and therefore a high level of commitment is required.

BAKER AWARD

Where: As appropriate
When: As appropriate
Who: All Lower School Boys
i/c: AJJ

'The Baker Award' (named after retired teacher, Mr Roger Baker) represents an Abingdon School junior version of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme designed to run over the course of a boy's time in Lower School. All Lower School boys are automatically entered for the award. There are four sections: Skill, Service, Expedition and Sport. Boys are strongly encouraged to become involved in all sections, keeping track

of their participation by using a record book. Satisfactory completion leads to an award, presented at the end of the second year.

BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT VOLUNTEERS

Where: Biology Department
When: Tuesday lunchtimes
Who: All Lower School Boys
i/c: SEB

A small number of lower school pupils can get involved in the biology department helping out with a variety of tasks. Primarily they will be involved with the routine care of the animals in the department and maintenance of the fish tanks. At certain times of year work will need to be carried out in the departmental pond and we would also be looking to set up a wildlife area somewhere on the school grounds.

CAREERS LIBRARIANSHIP

Where: Careers Library (Mercers' Court)
When: Tuesday, 4.00 – 5.00 pm
Who: Any
i/c: SEG

The upkeep and running of Abingdon School's Careers Library needs constant maintenance and care. Careers librarians help to take responsibility for the Library: maintaining stock up to date; introducing new stock; promoting and explaining the use of the Library, etc.

Careers Librarianship helps to develop work skills: how to work with others, how to communicate, how to process information (computer and paper-based), how to solve problems and how to work with systems. It is a very worthwhile activity which serves the community of Abingdon School and can act as a service activity for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

CHARITIES COMMITTEE

Where: B9
When: Suitable lunchtimes
Who: 3 – VI
i/c: VP

service activities

The Charities Committee organises and co-ordinates the key charity events within the school. The pupils involved help with the selecting of charities to support as well as the planning, organising and promoting of events. Pupils tend to find the work very rewarding and enjoyable.



ROTARY INTERACT INTERNATIONAL

Where: B9

When: Wednesday, 2.30 – 4.00 pm

Who: 2 – VI, together with St Helen's and Our Lady's

i/c: DJP

Interact is the young persons' branch of Rotary International, the world's largest humanitarian organisation. Interact stands for 'International Action', and in the regular meetings, Interactors discuss, organise and carry out a minimum of two service projects every year: one to help a disadvantaged community abroad, the other perhaps closer to home. An Interact Club is run and supported entirely by its members, who elect their Officers (President, Secretary, Treasurer etc.) each year or so. There are regular Interact Youth Exchanges, International Assemblies and opportunities for international and local fellowship. Over the next 4 years Interact Assemblies and Conventions are planned for San Diego, New Orleans, Bangkok, Lisbon and Sydney.

COMBINED CADET FORCE

Where: CCF HQ

When: Tuesday, 3.50 – 5.00 pm

Who: 3 – VI, with entry in the 3rd Year

i/c: Major E.A. Kaye

CCF membership is voluntary and begins in the 3rd Year. Recruit training takes one year and boys are expected to parade every week in uniform. Pupils are expected to commit to attending for a whole year at a time – and to keep their hair cut short and smart. The CCF is a disciplined organisation, which emphasises qualities of leadership and teamwork, common sense and responsibility.

It involves a variety of activities on Tuesday afternoon parades and camps, exercises and field days throughout the year. **At least one camp must be attended in each year, and in the first year this will be the Easter recruit camp.**

Cadet training continues into the Sixth Form, in either the RAF or Army sections of the CCF; it involves academic work, adventurous and military training. There are opportunities to fly, shoot, take part in joint exercises, to train alongside the regular armed forces in the field, and to develop an understanding of why these forces are needed and how they operate. We are well supported, and Abingdon's CCF is highly regarded outside the School for its excellent standards. Many cadets go on to join the armed forces as commissioned officers.



CCF Important dates for the year:

23rd – 25th September 2011	Activities Weekend
28th September 2011	Field Day
11th November 2011	Remembrance Sunday Parade (town)
13th November 2011	Remembrance Day Parade (school)
14th – 21st December 2011	Ski Camp (see 'Expeditions')
16th – 18th March 2012	Survival Exercise
21st March 2012	CCF Field Day
30th March – 7th April 2012	Easter Camp and A.I. Cadre

service activities

LIBRARY

Where: Lower Library

When: Wednesday 2.30 – 3.55 pm

Librarians also need to commit to other times to help run the library desk

Who: 2nd – VI; limited to four boys per year group

i/c: GJC

Wednesday afternoon is the focus of the librarians' week, when the team meets for training; library administration and as a forum for discussing books and library issues. As part of the library team, boys take increasing responsibility as they progress through the school. There is an opportunity to develop a range of skills encompassing service; administration; artwork and display; website development and computer management.



'THE MARTLET'

Where: ICT (Greening Wing)

When: Tuesday lunchtimes (although participants will need to commit to working in their free time)

Who: All year groups very welcome

i/c: DAB

'The Martlet' is Abingdon's only student publication, covering both school news and features, as well as national and international stories. If you are interested in journalism, creative writing, photography or working on the design side of the newspaper, please contact DAB or one of the Sixth Form editors. (Also see 'Abingdonian')

MOLDOVA PROJECT

Where: Sixth Form trip to Moldova: July 2012

When: Tuesday afternoon

Who: 3rd Year service activity

i/c: AJJ

Since 2000, Abingdon has been supporting the work of AGAPE, a charity working with young people in Moldova, the poorest country in Europe. There is an annual Sixth Form visit to Moldova to run a summer camp for disadvantaged Moldovan children, while Third Years can find out more about the project through the Service and Citizenship Scheme. The project represents an excellent chance to learn about a culture very different from our own – and to provide support and friendship to those in real need of it.



SOUTH AFRICA PARTNERSHIP

When: 3 weeks in the summer holiday

Who: 6/VI

i/c: AJL

service activities

August 2009 saw the first stage of a new link with Build the Nations, a South African based charity, and the School of Tomorrow in Shayandima, Limpopo province. This partnership affords the exciting opportunity for Sixth Formers to raise funds for the charity and then spend three weeks at the school itself during the summer holiday. Works include projects in the local area and over the border in Mozambique, such as building/refurbishment of school facilities and bringing essential aid to areas of need. This trip is ideal for boys wishing to carry out some voluntary work overseas whilst experiencing the exciting sights and sounds of a beautiful region of South Africa. In addition there are potential gap year opportunities associated with this partnership. Recent years have proved hugely successful in terms of the benefits to both Build the Nations and to the boys who have learned so much during the trip.

THIRD YEAR SERVICE AND CITIZENSHIP SCHEME

Where: Various locations

When: Tuesday, 4.00 – 5.00 pm

Who: 3rd Year

i/c: JAM

The Third Year Service and Citizenship scheme was set up eight years ago to help pupils to develop a broader understanding of their place in the wider community (local, national and global) and to encourage them to make an active contribution to the society in which they live. Participation in the scheme is compulsory for all pupils in the Third Year.

A range of different activities is available for which boys are invited to express their preferences at the beginning of the school year. They are then put into groups which will change on a termly or half-termly basis. Some boys will therefore do as many as six different activities in the school year.

In some cases boys will go out into the local community with activities ranging from visiting residential homes and entertaining the residents, to offering ICT help in the Abingdon town library. There is also the opportunity to undertake charity work. At other times, boys will be acquiring life skills such as managing personal finance or touch typing. More global issues will be covered by activities such as Environmental Service and the Moldova Project.

Within the scheme all pupils complete a First Aid course run by our Health Centre personnel and accredited by the St John Ambulance organisation. This includes those boys who will have opted to join the CCF, which runs at this time.

With such a wide range of activities, boys are able to have a taste of different aspects of service and citizenship and many choose to continue serving the community as they go further up the school.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE

Where: Geography Department

When: Tuesday, 3.55 – 5.00 pm, 3rd Year
Other times by arrangement

Who: I – VI

i/c: ICF

By virtue of school membership everyone should consider themselves a part of the Environmental Service scheme. Our Environmental Service scheme seeks to increase awareness of waste recycling and energy conservation within the School and the broader community.

The third year programme is a compulsory element of the Service scheme: the aim of the 5/6 week course is to heighten awareness of our School policies and mechanisms for waste recycling and energy efficiency within the School plant.

This is suitable for any age group within the School, as part of the Lower School Wednesday afternoon programme as well as a service activity contributing towards the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme. Timing and levels of commitment are negotiable.

This would be an excellent opportunity for boys with an interest in environmental issues and architecture to make a real difference at the School. In addition, there is a pupil sub-committee of the School's Environment Committee. The aim of this committee is to coordinate specific campaigns during the year to raise the profile of environmental issues within the school. In addition, this sub-committee will aim to monitor and audit our overall programme of activity and to drive new initiatives as and when appropriate. It is an important conduit for pupils to suggest and coordinate new initiatives that could become part of school policy.

community service

CHARITY SHOP

Where: British Heart Foundation, The Precinct

When: Any day, 4.00 – 5.00 pm

Who: 16+

i/c: VEH

CLASS ASSISTANT IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Where: Primary Schools in Abingdon

When: At a time to be arranged with the primary school

Who: 6 – VI (i.e. 16+)

i/c: JEF

Working in small groups to extend the range of primary school activities: reading, working with computers, music, drama, football, art and maths. The usual commitment is for the whole school year, though this may be for a shorter time through prior arrangement if sporting activities clash in one term.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES AT PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Where: Local Primary Schools

When: Any day between 4.00 – 6.00 pm,
or during private study periods

Who: 6 – VI (16+)

i/c: JEF

There is scope for initiative and leadership. Tell us your special skills and interests: football, computers, music, art, etc. The usual commitment is for the whole school year, though this may be for a shorter time through prior arrangement if sporting activities clash in one term.

VISITING THE ELDERLY AT A RESIDENTIAL HOME

When: Tuesday/Wednesday or other day by arrangement

Who: 3 – VI

i/c: JLB: Tuesday, Cygnet Court

PW: Tuesday, Fountain Court

VEH: Tuesday, Old Station House

VEH: Mayott House, by arrangement –
useful for aspiring medics



OLDER AND BOLDER

Where: Older and Bolder Club

When: Wednesday 3.00 – 4.00 pm

Who: 3 – VI

i/c: VEH

Help make tea and chat to Abingdon ladies who attend an exercise class run by Val Kir.

VISITING MEMBERS OF ST HELEN'S CHURCH AND ST EDMUND'S CHURCH CONGREGATIONS

When: Once a week by arrangement; organised
through St Helen's Church/St Edmund's Church

Who: 4 – VI

i/c: VEH

community service

ABINGDON HOSPITAL

Who: 6/VI; 4 volunteers on Wednesday afternoon

i/c: VEH

This is invaluable work experience for aspiring medics.

GARDENING AND CONSERVATION

Where: School garden and Boxhill Walk Nature Reserve

When: Tuesday 3.55 – 5.00 pm

Who: 3

i/c: RKJ

The School has a fruit and vegetable garden at the back of Whitefield. There will be opportunities to maintain this and develop it as a source of vegetables and summer fruits. Conservation work will take place in Boxhill Walk Nature Reserve. This will include maintaining a list of plant and animal species, removal of dead/decaying timber and providing management of the nature reserve and its accompanying stream, the river Stert.

EDITING ALZHEIMER'S GROUP MAGAZINE

When: Termly

Who: 3 – VI

i/c: VEH

If you have good word-processing and editing skills, help produce the Abingdon Alzheimer's Society magazine.

ADMINISTRATION

When: Wednesday, 2.30 – 4.00 pm

Who: 3/4/5

i/c: VEH

Two middle school volunteers required to help with administration (good computer skills required). Design, print and distribute posters around the school. Keep records up to date.



AFTERNOON TEA AND ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE ELDERLY

Where: Abingdon School

When: Occasionally; penultimate Tuesday of term

Who: 3 – VI

i/c: VEH

Tea party and entertainment for the elderly once a term. Musicians particularly welcome.

HELPING THE ARCHWAY FOUNDATION

When: Termly

Who: 3 – VI

i/c: VEH

Producing booklets and filling envelopes for the charity.

STROKE CLUB

Where: Trinity Church Hall

When: By arrangement

Who: VI

i/c: VEH

TRINITY PLAYGROUP

Where: Trinity Church Hall

When: By arrangement – mornings before school

Who: VI

i/c: VEH

Setting up toys and games.

school policy on boys' sporting commitments

1. Abingdon School subscribes to the fact that regular exercise has short and long term benefits to health and well-being. Documented benefits include reduced stress, stronger bones, improved sleep, lowering the risk of coronary artery disease, and maintenance of a healthy weight. As such, all boys, except those exempted on medical grounds, must take changed exercise as part of the organised school sports programme at least twice a week during term time.
2. Boys will be encouraged, through their sports activities, to learn the merits and disciplines of teamwork and sportsmanship, and to develop individual fitness and physical skills.
3. A healthy spirit of competitiveness is promoted among the boys, and they will be encouraged to take pride in representing the school in sporting events.
4. The School has a strong tradition of competing against other Schools in inter-school fixtures. It is the aim of the School, not only to maintain this tradition, but to strengthen it. It is therefore understood that ALL pupils are to be available to participate in inter-school fixtures when required to do so. The majority of these fixtures take place on a Saturday.
5. In order to encourage versatility, no boy should be encouraged to concentrate exclusively on the same sporting activity in all three terms of a school year. An element of specialization is deemed to be acceptable on entering the Sixth Form, but this will be done on invitation from the Second Master and the Director of Sport and PE.
6. Boys are encouraged to approach the teachers in charge of their sport, and the Director of Sport and P.E. to discuss their long term ambitions and individual aspirations. This allows the staff concerned to be pro-active in their development.
7. Sports are placed into two categories:
 - i. **Core** – All pupils in the Middle School must select one of the Core options. There are two compulsory sessions each week as part of the timetabled programme. Pupils who are representing the School in fixtures are also expected to train on a Wednesday afternoon.
 - ii. **Optional** – In addition to their compulsory commitments, pupils have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of other sporting activities as laid down in the 'Other Half' programme.

In the Upper School, pupils must do a minimum of two changed sessions per week, but these may be chosen from either the Core or the Optional Programme, or a combination of the two.

The Lower School will participate in an organised programme of sporting activities as arranged by the Sport and PE Department and the Lower School Housemaster.

Sports allocations are arranged by the Director of Sport and P.E. in consultation with the teachers in charge of individual sports.
8. The sporting options for each term are:

<i>Michaelmas</i>	Core: Badminton, Cross-country, Rugby, Squash, Swimming, Health Related Exercise Optional: Fencing, Hockey, Karate, Kayaking, Rowing, Sailing
<i>Lent</i>	Core: Badminton, Cross-country, Football, Hockey, Rowing, Squash, Swimming Optional: Athletics, Fencing, Karate, Rugby Sevens, Sailing
<i>Summer</i>	Core: Athletics, Cricket, Rowing, Tennis, Waterpolo Optional: Fencing, Karate, Kayaking, Sailing, Swimming, Softball, Squash, Volleyball

sport

SPORTS CENTRE

i/c: ASH

Following the opening of our new Sports Centre in October 2008 we are able to provide both new and significantly improved facilities. The sports hall accommodates multi-sport activities including badminton, volleyball, basketball, indoor hockey and has space for four cricket lanes. There are two squash courts, two fitness suites, a climbing wall and a martial arts and fencing studio with five competition pistes. This studio has a sprung floor and has dual use as a performing arts studio. The rowing ergometer suite looks over the 25m, 8 lane indoor swimming pool and offers the latest training facilities specific to rowing, whilst the general fitness suite is used for boys looking to increase strength and stamina across all sports. There is also a physiotherapy suite.

ATHLETICS

Where: Tilsley Park and Lower Field

When: Lent term; various times
Summer term; Sport sessions

Who: All age groups

i/c: GRM

The aim of the Athletics Club is to produce excellent athletes by enabling pupils to develop their natural abilities to the full, while providing an opportunity for all those with an interest to learn and to develop their talents. The club intends to achieve this through a structured programme of coaching by a committed staff team and through regular competition. Coaching is provided in the full range of events; on the track: 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m and hurdles; and in the field: shot, javelin, discus, high jump, long jump and triple jump. We compete against a large number of schools and have reached regional finals. We are also involved in various relay competitions, both local and national. In addition, pupils have the chance to compete in schools' county competitions.



BADMINTON

Where: Sports Centre

When: Michaelmas and Lent terms;
Sport sessions and after school

Who: All age groups

i/c: JFH

Middle and Upper School Badminton operates within the sports options programme. Both match players and learners are accepted, although often there is a trial because more boys opt than we have space for. Our record against other schools continues to be all but unbeaten.



BOAT CLUB

Where: Boathouse, Wilsham Road

When: Lent and Summer terms;
Weekday sport sessions and Saturday mornings

Who: 3 – VI

i/c: ATH

The Boat Club has been in existence at Abingdon School for 182 years, but never has it been more successful. Boys can row from the Third Year upwards, in both Lent and Summer terms. Boys are expected to commit themselves for both terms since most of the regattas are in the summer. We have around 150 boys in the Club. Training takes place both in the school gym and at the boathouse, which is on Wilsham Road – about a mile from the School. In the Lent term there would be 2/3 rowing sessions and 2 gym sessions per week. Boys are expected to participate on Saturday afternoons.

We have a number of aims for the Club, at different levels. The Third Year is really an introductory year and we try to give everybody a fair

chance to improve and to see if they like it. We compete in a number of 'friendlies' against other schools and later on in the year we look to compete at regattas. The next few years are spent developing 1st and 2nd eights, which will compete at external regattas and National Schools championships. The 1st VIII always competes at Henley Royal Regatta. The School also participates in the Junior International scheme and boys have represented Great Britain every year since 1992.

We try to accommodate all abilities and levels of commitment to foster enjoyment of a great team sport. We now have an excellent new timber boathouse, initiated and driven by parental support. We hope to maintain, and build on, our reputation as one of the most successful school boat clubs in the UK. There is a very active parents/friends supporters club.

Subs are currently charged per term, as follows:

J14 – £20; J15 – £30; J16/Open – £40.

In addition there is a £20 affiliation fee for British Rowing.



CRICKET

Where: War Memorial Field, Upper Field, Cox's Field

When: Summer term; Sport sessions

Who: 4 Senior Teams; A,B,C teams at U15, U14 and A and B teams at U13 and U12

i/c: DCS

The Cricket club has a long and proud tradition at Abingdon and in recent years has produced its strongest results for some time. The club provides opportunities for boys to play at a variety of levels under the guidance of the many experienced cricketers that we have on the staff as well as outside specialists. The school currently plays fixtures against Bradfield, Winchester College, Stowe, MCS, St Edwards, and the Oratory as well as a variety of prep schools. In recent seasons the 1st XI has progressed to the last four in the national schools 20/20 on two occasions as well as touring Dubai in the Emirates International Schools Trophy.

The younger teams have often tasted success in the county and national rounds of the ESCA cup with the U12, U13 and U14's currently county champions. The U15's will tour Cape Town in 2012 with the

sport

1st XI visiting the prestigious La Manga schools trophy one month later for pre season.



CROSS-COUNTRY

Where: In front of Sports Centre

When: Michaelmas and Lent terms

Who: Any age, any ability

i/c: ACC

Cross-country running is open to all. Training assumes a motivation for good health, competition in both Michaelmas and Lent terms, a long-standing commitment to the values and competition schedule of the club, and strict adherence to teamwork. We start our training in September with very short distances and build gradually and carefully to longer distances of 20k. The season ends in March. Training is a mixture of long slow distances, circuits and speed work. In 2010 the senior squad were undefeated nationally and in 2011 the senior squad won bronze at the Knole Run and silver at the South East Schools Championships at Harrow. All staff who coach are competitive athletes locally, nationally and internationally. Runs take in most of rural Oxfordshire and beyond. Past pupils have captained their own club at University and some have competed on the international stage. One of the aims of the club is to build a life-long affinity towards running and competition. (Also see 'Triathlon Club')

FENCING

Where: Sports Centre Studio

When: Michaelmas, Lent and Summer terms; Monday and Thursday 3.55 – 5.00 pm and Wednesday, from 2.30 pm

Who: All year groups welcome

i/c: DJP

Fencing is available throughout the year. Boys are encouraged to attend one, two or all the weekly sessions as often as they can throughout the year. A minimum commitment of one session for one full term is required, although in practice many boys enjoy doing much more fencing than this bare minimum. Beginners are welcome at any level of the School. There is a flat-rate charge payable on a termly basis. Achievement awards and grades are available – which can count towards the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and the Baker Award. Matches are arranged with other schools throughout the year, and keen fencers from our club have won national and international competitions in the recent past. A fencing tie is available to buy from the school shop and there is an active fencing blog and forum on the school intranet. With the Olympics in 2012 fast approaching, there was never a better time to try this Olympic sport of kings and aristocrats. En garde!

FOOTBALL

Where: Lower Field and Cox's Field

When: Lent term

Who: All age groups

i/c: DCS

In recent years Abingdon has played a handful of senior fixtures in the Lent term. From September 2011, football is being introduced as a full sports option across the year groups in the Lent term, with a comprehensive fixture list against other schools. This is an exciting new venture, which seeks to broaden our range of sporting opportunities for our pupils. Fixtures include: Bedford Modern, Haileybury, Reading Blue Coat, Oundle, and local rivals St Edward's and MCS.



GOLF

Where: Drayton Park Golf Club

When: Wednesday afternoon

Who: 3/4/5 (6/VI if space)

i/c: NMR

Mostly it involves coaching as a group on the range but there are opportunities for specialised putting practice as well as visits to the 'par 3' course (weather permitting). There are matches (championships and charity events) in the Summer and Autumn terms. Places will be allocated term by term, depending on boys' sports options.



HOCKEY

Where: Tilsley Park, War Memorial Field

When: Michaelmas term; Various times
Lent term; Sport sessions

Who: The School has 19 teams throughout the age groups and all teams have regular matches against other schools. The teams are: 1st XI, 2nd XI, 3rd XI, 4th XI, U16A, U16B, U16C, U15A, U15B, U15C, U15D, U14A, U14B, U14C, U14D, U13A, U13B, U12A, U12B

i/c: SRB

Hockey is a major sport in the Lent term. The Hockey Club usually fields 15 teams throughout the age groups, with every team from U14D to 1st XI competing in the Independent Schools Hockey League. This has been set up by the top flight of hockey playing independent schools, to challenge and stretch their hockey players above and beyond the standard school fixtures. Abingdon competes against Radley, Bradfield, Wellington, Cheltenham, Marlborough, Eton and St Edward's and Abingdon teams will play against all the seven other schools over the course of the season. All ISHL results are uploaded onto Fixtures Live. This allows players, parents and staff to keep updated on all results and goal-scorers from whatever league they wish to look at. See www.fixtureslive.com

In the Michaelmas term each year group will have one outdoor and one indoor session per week, with an ISHL indoor tournament being held towards the end of term. In the Lent term every team will have three training

sport

sessions per week, with a number of ex and current international players supplementing the coaching programme, as well as ISHL matches for every team on Saturdays and some Wednesdays.

The Hockey Club has enjoyed a great deal of success in recent years, with an impressive 22 boys representing the county last year. All three teams entered in the Oxfordshire County Tournaments progressed through to the regional finals, with the U14's reaching the last 16 of the National Finals. The U15 A team won last years ISHL, winning all seven matches and only conceding 2 goals.

KAYAKING

Where: Boathouse; Thames; other trips in holidays

When: Various times, including Wednesday afternoons

Who: 4 – VI

i/c: TCG

The Kayaking Club aims to introduce boys to basic kayaking skills, and then allows them to specialise in white water, racing or sea kayaking. Our Duke of Edinburgh's Award Expeditions in kayaks are undertaken on the sea. Trips are arranged to various parts of the UK and overseas. Boys may take the star awards of the British Canoe Union, and can be assessed for these awards during training at school.

Boys must undertake an introductory course before being able to paddle in small groups on their own. Boys must provide themselves with a canoeing cagoule to wear on the water.



Kayaking dates (provisional) for Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme:

- 16th – 19th September 2011. Bronze D of E Kayaking Training Expedition, Totnes.
- 14th – 21st December 2011. Surf and White Water Kayaking Devon, Tbc
- 16th – 19th March. 2012 Bronze D of E Kayaking Practice Expedition, Salcombe or Teignmouth or Thames.
- 31st March – 5th April 2012. Silver and Gold D of E Kayaking Practice Expedition, Anglesey.
- 4th – 7th May 2012. Bronze D of E Kayaking Assessment Expedition, Milford Haven.
- 3rd-12th July 2012. Gold/Silver D of E Kayaking, Norway (or Scotland). Dates and times tbc

KARATE

Where: Sports Centre Studio

When: Monday, 1.10 – 1.55 pm
Friday 1.10 – 1.55 pm

Who: Anyone; beginners are more than welcome

i/c: SRB

Shotokan Karate, instructed by Sensei Ben Richardson (3rd Dan). Karate is an excellent way to improve fitness, co-ordination, stability and suppleness – skills useful in other sports. It also has the added benefits of teaching self-defence, discipline and thus increases self-confidence. Sessions are timed to allow you to participate in another sport as well. No experience is necessary. Gradings are four times a year; you could achieve a black belt in 3 to 4 years.



REAL TENNIS

Where: Radley College
When: Wednesday, 3.15 – 5.00 pm
Who: 3 – VI
i/c: HLK

Real Tennis is a famous, fascinating and fun sport. Once played by King Henry VIII, it gave rise to the modern game of Lawn Tennis. Played on an indoor court, the ball is hit over a sagging net either onto the court or a wall – straight or sloping – or into another net! We play on the new court at Radley College. No previous experience is expected. However, an aptitude for racquet sports, particularly tennis, is an advantage. Professional tuition is provided. (Also see 'Tennis')

RUGBY

Where: Various playing fields
When: Sports sessions for different teams/year groups, including Wednesday afternoon
Matches: Saturday (and some Wednesday) afternoons
Who: All age groups
i/c: PJEC



Teams are run for all age groups from U12's to U18's. We pride ourselves on producing four teams per age group, competitively playing each weekend in the Michaelmas term, against like-minded senior independent schools. The rugby club provides the opportunity for pupils to develop a whole range of rugby-related skills from handling to scrummaging. It also gives pupils the chance to represent the School and perform their skills in a competitive environment each weekend. The School currently enters

teams in the National Daily Mail Cup competitions at U18 and U15 levels, several Sevens competitions including the National Schoolboy Sevens at Rosslyn Park, whilst promoting both a Senior and Junior Tour every two years. Some schools on our circuit include: Radley, St Paul's, Eton, Warwick, RGS Guilford and Marlborough.

SAILING

Where: Oxford Sailing Club, Farmoor Reservoir
When: Monday and Friday 4.00 – 7.00 pm, when on BST
Wednesday, 2.35 – 6.00 pm, Saturday 9.30 – 12.30 pm
Who: All age groups
i/c: DJB

We sail at Farmoor, using boats from the Oxford and District Schools' Sailing Association. Our aim is to improve boathandling skills in a range of both single and double handers – and to encourage racing. Absolute beginners can learn with the School, and for those with more experience there is a chance to enter regattas and to sail against other schools, as well as to race in keelboats. It is also possible to do D of E expeditions. Some boys will progress to take their instructor's qualification before they leave the School.

We also practice and take examinations for the RYA Day, Coastal Skipper and Yachtmaster exams and in 2011 a group of middle and upper school pupils cruised in the Greek Islands.



sport



SHOOTING

Where: Indoor Range: Lower Field

When: Lunchtime sessions, Wednesday afternoons and also after school: 4.00 – 5.00pm

Who: 1 – VI

i/c: LM/Mr A Smith, Shooting Coach

Pupils may sign up for shooting at the start of the year and are expected to commit themselves to one afternoon weekly. No experience is necessary since training is provided. Those who wear glasses are at no disadvantage (some of our best shots do). There is a trophy for the best beginner. Once at a reasonable standard, pupils are formed into teams and entered for postal competitions against other schools. We now have

the opportunity to shoot in international matches against European schools. There is also an opportunity to participate in our annual exchange with the Stade team in Germany during the Easter holidays.

Lower School boys may sign up for the eight-week Air Rifle Youth Proficiency Scheme. Successful completion of this course allows Lower School boys to move on to .22 rifle shooting. There is a charge for coaching and ammunition; pupils should expect to pay approximately £65 per term for air rifle and £68 per term for .22.

Recently, members of the Rifle Club have won County titles, and some have taken part in GB development training.

SQUASH

Where: Sports Centre

When: Michaelmas and Lent terms;
Sport sessions

Who: 3 – VI

i/c: DJTF

The superb courts in the sports centre provide a focus for home matches and training. We have a highly promising squad of talented players throughout the School, trained by a Squash England coach.

Squash is available as a sports option to selected squad players in the 3rd Year and above, but other boys will have opportunities to play at various times as an activity. Senior boys and boarders are also able to play in their free time when the courts are not being used.

We had successful fixtures last year against Radley, St Edward's and Stowe, and we will be selecting teams for more matches this year.



SWIMMING

Where: Swimming Pool

When: Michaelmas and Lent Terms; Sport sessions

Who: All year groups

i/c: ASH

Our 8 lane 25m swimming pool provides the ideal environment to develop swimming technique throughout the year. The squad train at allocated times within the sessions above and cover up to 10000m a week, with the possibility of dry land training during the Wednesday session. The majority of the galas are held in the Lent term, but we also enter swimmers for the English Schools National Championships in both the individual and relay events. It is recommended that the serious swimmers join the local club which uses the Abingdon School pool. For those that wish to swim recreationally there is space to swim within the allocated sessions and a program to improve fitness will be provided. (Also see 'Water Polo')



TABLE TENNIS

Where: Sports Centre Studio

When: Various times

Who: Lower/Middle School

i/c: NMR

An opportunity for players of all abilities, but numbers are limited to about 20, so places are based on a first-come-first-served basis.

At the top end the standard is very high and this year we aim to further develop our limited fixture list. To qualify for this sport you must be prepared to play every week. We hope to run tournaments for Lower School and Middle/Upper School.

There will be a Lower School Tournament (based on tutor groups) in the second half of the Lent term. We hope to have a Middle School tournament earlier in the year.



TENNIS

Where: School Courts (hard/grass), Vale of White Horse (clay), Abingdon Tennis Club (hard)

When: Michaelmas and Lent term: Wednesday afternoons
Summer term: various times

Who: The school runs 20 teams throughout the age groups and all teams have regular matches against other schools. The teams are: 1st VI, 2nd VI, 3rd VI, 4th VI, 5th VI, U16A, U16B, U16C, U15A, U15B, U15C, U15D, U14A, U14B, U14C, U14D, U13A, U13B, U12A, U12B.

i/c: SRB

The Tennis Club runs 20 teams across the age groups, with coaching sessions and matches being held on the newly re-surfaced school courts, the clay courts at the Vale of White Horse and at Abingdon Lawn Tennis Club. Each age group has three coaching session per week with the professional coaching staff and all teams compete in inter school matches on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

The Tennis Club takes part in the Independent Schools League, Oxfordshire Independent Schools Competition, the Aegon Cup and the Independent Schools Tennis Association Tournaments held at Eton at

sport



the end of the summer term. There have been a number of unbeaten teams over the last few years and many players go on to gain county and even National honours.

The Tennis Club runs internal box leagues and ladder competitions, with every match being played as a British Tennis rating match. All players in the club are eligible to sign up for a free British Tennis Membership, offering them a rating, free entry to the Wimbledon ticket ballot and other LTA membership offers.

TRIATHLON CLUB

Where: Sports Centre

When: by arrangement

Who: 3 – VI

i/c: ACC/DMH/IM

Triathlon is one of the fastest growing sports in the UK. The combination of swimming, cycling and running produces a high level of cardiovascular fitness and whole-body muscular development.

The programme of training will be highly varied, including sessions on each of the three disciplines, 'brick' sessions (cycling then running), circuits, spinning and discussions on nutrition, kit and useful resources.

We will make full use of the new sports centre and, thanks to a generous grant from ASPA, athletes can be monitored closely using heart rate monitors and turbo trainers. As well as aiming to establish races against other schools, we will enter external events, suitable for all age groups, affiliated to the British Triathlon Federation.



WATER POLO

Where: Swimming Pool

When: Friday, 4.00 – 5.00 pm

Who: All years

i/c: ASH

Water Polo is a fast-paced and physically demanding hybrid of swimming, basketball and rugby. The boys train together on Fridays. The teams compete against Eton and Stowe (for example) and often as part of a 'double-bill' with swimming competitions. Matches and training with the Oxford University Men's team will take place on an ad hoc basis. New players are always welcome to come along for a trial, especially boys in the 1st and 4th Years. No previous experience is necessary but being a confident swimmer is essential. (Also see 'Swimming')

clubs and societies

ARCHERY

Where: War Memorial Field

When: tbc

Who: Lower School

i/c: CFC

Archery offers Lower School boys the opportunity to have a go at something completely new, although those who have done it before are also welcome. Numbers are limited.

BIOLOGY SOCIETY AND GOLGI BODY

Where: CMR (Biology Society); Biology labs (Golgi Body)

When: Biology Society, Tuesday, 4.00 – 5.00 pm;
Golgi Body, Thursday 5.00 pm tbc

Who: Upper School Biologists; parents and staff
are most welcome

i/c: TCG

Lectures by eminent researchers are organised to extend the A-level syllabus – and give boys an up to date account of current advances in modern biology. The Society also holds an Annual Guest Night and an Annual Dinner.

The Golgi Body is an offshoot of the Biology Society, which encourages A-level biologists to give a presentation on a subject of interest to their peers, and then field questions on it. Meeting on a weekday evening the Golgi Body talks are followed by an informal supper to allow more time for general discussion.

Key Dates:

- 14th October 2011, 6.30 pm. Biology Society (& School Scholars) lecture and Middle School Scholars' Dinner. 'Medicinal Plants' by Mr Timothy Walker OA Curator Oxford University Botanic Gardens. Amey Theatre and Dining Hall.
- 18th November 2011. Biology Society Guest Night 'Using Microorganisms to rehabilitate Environments'. Professor Chris Howe, Department of Biochemistry Cambridge University. Amey Theatre and Dining Hall. (tbc)

BRIDGE CLUB

Where: B9

When: Lunchtimes, day tbc

Who: All year groups welcome

i/c: tbc

Bridge is a famous card game of skill. The club is open to beginners and experienced players alike. Tuition is provided and competitions are arranged. There is no commitment to come every session but regular attendance at least once a week is required.



CHESS CLUB

Where: M110 and M113

When: Tuesday, Thursday 4.00 – 5.00 pm
Wednesday afternoon 2.30 – 5.00 pm
Monday, Friday 1.30 pm – 1.55 pm

Who: All welcome

i/c: AJPE

Come along, practise and improve. Players of all standards attend, from novice to England squad player. We will be happy to teach you to play from scratch and help you to develop your game. We enter county and national tournaments, and we run knockout tournaments for individuals and for House teams. Grandmaster Peter Wells coaches on Wednesday afternoons.

clubs and societies



CHRISTIAN GROUPS AT ABINGDON

These groups provide an opportunity for anyone who would like to consider the relevance of Jesus Christ today and what it means to have a living relationship with God. Each week we do this by meeting together and looking at God's teaching in the Bible, often with the help of an outside speaker. Anyone is welcome.

'THE WAY' – LOWER SCHOOL

Where: CMR

When: Tuesday, 4.30 – 5.00 pm

Who: Lower School

i/c: HFCP

The Lower School group meets to consider what it means to follow Jesus. Each week we seek to do this together as a group by playing a game and looking at the teaching of the Bible, often with the help of an outside speaker. Anyone in the Lower School is welcome. Post sports snacks provided.

'THE WAY' – MIDDLE SCHOOL

Where: L31

When: Thursdays 4.15 pm

Who: 3rd, 4th and 5th Form

i/c: GRM, JPN

With lots of discussion and a chance to ask questions (and maybe share some confectionary!) we'll be looking to see if an old book (the Bible) has life changing truths for today. Anyone from the Middle School is most welcome.

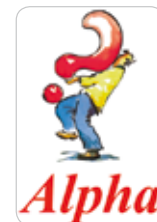
ALPHA COURSE

Where: Ingham Room

When: Wednesdays in Michaelmas and Lent term, 4.00 – 5.00 pm

Who: Sixth Form

i/c: PDBG/NSH



The Alpha Course, attended by millions worldwide, is an opportunity for Sixth Formers to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed café-style setting. The Alpha Course is designed primarily for those who are not church-goers and is open to anyone who wants to understand more about Christianity, whatever their beliefs. There will be ten thought-provoking sessions, where there will be a short presentation and opportunity for discussion. Pupils get to discuss what they really think and to ask any questions they may have. This could also be of particular interest to pupils studying Philosophy and Ethics to help formulate their own opinions and arguments. For more information check out www.alpha.org. There will be a follow up course in Lent 2012.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Where: Chapel

When: September to March, lunchtime tbc

Who: All year groups

i/c: HLK

Preparation for (baptism and) confirmation by a Bishop is offered for those interested in adult membership of the Church of England.

We discuss the Christian faith and life and visit local churches and a monastery. There is also a half-day visit to the cathedral, a church and a college chapel in Oxford.

clubs and societies

CLASSICS CLUB

Where: L31

When: Michaelmas and Lent terms,
Monday lunchtime

Who: Lower School

i/c: AJJ

The Classics Club offers the opportunity to learn everything you have ever wanted to know about gladiators, chariot-racing, Greek myths and other aspects of life in the Ancient World. Activities will include watching films and documentaries, making models and posters, using CD Roms, playing classical boardgames – and visiting Roman sites nearby.



CLASSICAL SOCIETY

Where: CMR and outside venues

When: Once every half-term; other times for theatre,
museum visits, etc

Who: Middle and Upper School

i/c: CB

The Classical Society offers a range of events throughout the year to enable boys to pursue their interest in the Ancient World beyond the

confines of the various syllabi. Speakers are invited from universities and other schools on a variety of historical and literary topics, but there are also trips to plays, various museums and classical sites in Britain, as well as further afield. Those not studying classical subjects are welcome to attend.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING

Where: ICT Greening Wing

When: Monday and Friday, 4.00 – 5.00 pm

Who: All year groups

I/c: JHW

The Computer Programming activity is intended to provide hands-on experience of the nitty-gritty of computer programming. We will be taking an overview of the history of computer-programming languages, from assembler through to modern object-oriented languages – and the development of the hardware on which they run. Practical tasks will be undertaken in a dedicated programming environment using the latest interpreted object-oriented languages and application development frameworks. Applications are likely to be web and network based, with the ability to show off the results from any Internet-connected computer. No previous experience is necessary, but an aptitude for logical and analytical thought will be essential. (Also see 'ICT workshop')

DEBATING SOCIETY

Where: CMR

When: Friday, 3.55 – 4.45 pm; all three terms

Who: I – VI

i/c: RY

The School's oldest non-sporting society, founded in 1904. In the weekly open debates, a wide range of motions is considered, from humorous to serious, current affairs to the purely hypothetical. This year, there will also be a Sixth Form only debating club to consider some more intellectually challenging motions in a smaller group. After hours, the society organises dinner debates with several girls' schools throughout the year.

The debating society also enters teams in regional and national debating and public speaking competitions, holds workshops to

clubs and societies

improve debating skills, and organises the annual school public speaking competitions.

New speakers (all years) always welcome; please see RY or any senior member of the committee.



ECONOMICS SOCIETY

Where: CMR

When: Friday, 4.00 – 5.00 pm; once or twice termly

Who: 6/VI

i/c: SJG

The Economics Society gathers, together with pupils from Fitzharry's, Larkmead and St Helen's, to listen to a talk from an individual either from the world of business or academia. This gives pupils a chance to understand the practical application of some of the ideas they have learnt about in class. The talks are normally 40 minutes long and there is a chance for pupils to pose questions at the end of the lecture.

EDMUND SOCIETY

Where: CMR

When: By arrangement

Who: All year groups

i/c: HLK

Eminent visiting speakers give a lecture on a topic of philosophy or theology, followed by questions. Topics include: God, evil, miracles, life after death, the mind, free-will, art, ethics and science.



HISTORY SOCIETY

Where: CMR/Ingham Room

When: Once or twice termly

Who: Sixth Form historians and other interested Sixth Form pupils

i/c: DRM

An opportunity to listen to talks from distinguished visiting historians – and to discuss historical topics, informally. A range of topics will be addressed, often tied to the A-level syllabus – but also designed to broaden historical perspectives. The society also stages a Christmas Quiz and end of term social gatherings.

clubs and societies

MIDDLE AND UPPER SCHOOL HISTORY FILM CLUB

Where: M101

When: Thursday lunchtimes

Who: 3-VI

i/c: CJM

History meets Hollywood. This is an opportunity to watch some of your favourite historical films on the big screen in a relaxed and informal setting. Films (based on real-life events) are chosen by vote. School packed lunches are provided (by arrangement with Dr May) – supplemented by the famous history chocolate biscuits!

LOWER SCHOOL HISTORY CLUB

Where: M102

When: Tuesday lunchtime

Who: 1st and 2nd Year pupils

i/c: DRM /JFH

This club is designed for those interested in fun activities related to history. Past activities have included the making of helmets and swords, constructing models of castles and battlefield scenes and big screen viewing of history-based movies and favourites such as 'Blackadder'.



ICT WORKSHOP

Where: ICT Centre (Greening Wing)

When: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 4.00 – 5.00 pm
Wednesday afternoons for all years

Who: All ages

i/c: DH

An open workshop in which pupils are encouraged to use a wide range of software and hardware, for both study and project purposes. Facilities include: Internet Web browsing and email, blogging, music notation, scanning, programming, graphics, web page design, video applications, etc. The computers used are all Apple iMac models. Individual and group projects at any level are particularly encouraged. You do not need to be an expert to join in. (Also see 'Computer Programming')

SIXTH FORM LITERARY SOCIETY

Where: B12 & St Helen's

When: Thursday lunchtime; Wednesday 4.00 – 5.00 pm
(with girls from SHSK)

Who: Upper School

i/c: KTC/RY

"The books that the world calls immoral are the books that show the world its own shame." – Oscar Wilde

In Literary Society we drink coffee, eat cake and read as wide a range of immoral literature as possible.

MIDDLE SCHOOL LITERARY SOCIETY

Where: B12

When: Tuesday lunchtime

Who: 4 and 5

i/c: RY/HKA

In Literary Society we drink coffee, eat cake and read great fiction or poetry.

JUNIOR LITERARY SOCIETY – JLS

Where: B14

When: Tuesday lunchtime

Who: Lower School

i/c: SW

clubs and societies

Turn the contents of a pocket into a character, a shopping list into a story and a conversation about astrophysics into a poem. All this, and cake to fuel your imagination, at JLS. Come along and write creatively!

'WORDS AND THAT'

Where: B12

When: Wednesday 2.30 – 3.55 pm

Who: 4-VI

i/c: KTC

Words and That is a creative arts magazine. It showcases Abingdon pupils' writing of fiction, poetry, drama, non-fiction, features, reviews etc. If it's cultural, thoughtful, witty and well-expressed then it should be published in '*Words and That*'.

MATHS CLUB

Where: M111

When: Thursday lunchtime

Who: Mainly Lower School and 3rd Year, but all welcome;
Sixth Form pupils welcome to assist

i/c: CAM

Mathematical puzzles, investigations and games. Projects on popular maths questions.



MODERN LANGUAGES CLUB

Where: Modern Languages Department

When: Monday 1.10 – 1.55 pm; Tuesday 3.45 – 5.00 pm
(joint with SHSK)

Who: 1-3 mostly but all welcome;
Sixth Form pupils welcome to assist

i/c: AJL

Come and have fun in different languages – and maybe you will pick up something new! Our language assistants are always on hand to help, to play games and to practise! French, German, Spanish, Russian, Italian and Chinese available. There is also a programme of culture-related events and presentations based on events throughout the year (German Unity Day, Spanish National Day, Mardi Gras, Chinese New Year, Eurovision etc) and we also run occasional cookery sessions. The Tuesday club is run in conjunction with St. Helen's for Lower School boys.



MODERN LANGUAGE EVENTS

Where: No fixed venue

When: Various times all year

Who: 6/VI

i/c: AJL/JAM/LM/VP

The Modern Languages Department runs a series of events throughout the year in conjunction with St. Helen's, not only for boys studying modern languages (French, German, Spanish, Chinese, Italian, Russian...) but any sixth formers interested in languages, language learning and other cultures. Events include social evenings, dinners, film showings, visits to the theatre/cinema and talks by visiting speakers. Details published on an ad hoc basis.

clubs and societies

SCHOOLS CHALLENGE

Where: No fixed venue

When: Late Michaelmas and Lent terms; Lower Sixth Challenge in Summer term

Who: Middle School and Upper School

i/c: CFC

A general knowledge competition, run along similar lines to 'University Challenge'. We take part in the annual national competition, with a team of two senior boys and two Middle School boys. We also run an annual L6 Challenge competition in the second half of the Summer term.

SCIENCE PROJECTS

Where: S21

When: Wednesday, 2.30 – 4.00 pm

Who: Sixth Form

i/c: DJB

An opportunity to be part of an original research-based project in conjunction with the Oxford University Department of Chemistry. The project involves practical laboratory-based work, and a written report which may be submitted as a CREST Award. The university-based project mentor allows access to analytical techniques not available in School. A stimulating and engaging experience for those interested in pursuing a science-based career.



clubs and societies

GAP (GREEN ABINGDON PROJECTS)

When: Michaelmas and Lent terms, Thursday 12.45 – 13.30 pm

Who: L6 Chemistry students only, 10-15 participants

i/c: LFD

This is an exciting new competition that will enable AS Chemistry students to explore green chemistry challenges facing our local environment. Through teamwork, interviews and data-gathering, participants will undertake a novel research program investigating a green chemistry issue of their choosing. Part investigative journalism, part scientific analysis, this unusual opportunity will teach participants new skills, engage them with cutting-edge scientific solutions and encourage personal development. An essay and presentation to peers will allow participants to share findings and compete for the prize of best project. The projects are timed to avoid exam disruption whilst providing excellent opportunities for UCAS-related activities, and should be considered by all AS Chemistry students as an opportunity to broaden their horizons and discover more of this important area of science.

SCIENCE SOCIETY

Where: S22

When: Tuesday, 4.00 – 5.00 pm

Who: Upper School Scientists

i/c: DJB

The Science Society gives you the opportunity to hear about the latest advances in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Refreshments afterwards provide the opportunity for meeting informally with the speaker. In general one talk on each subject will be included in each Michaelmas and Lent half-term. Young scientists from other countries may have a broader perspective on science because they specialise later; the Science Society will help prevent your outlook from becoming overly narrow.

WARGAMING SOCIETY

Where: B4 and B5

When: Wednesday, 2.30 – 4.30 pm

Who: 1-5 Michaelmas and Lent terms; 3-5 Summer term

i/c: PW

The Society owns and plays a range of FRP games and strategic wargames (historical battles included). Boys may also bring in their own games and paint their own figures. We also have a PS2 console and an X-Box (for use by Third Formers and above). Members pay a subscription of £6 per term which goes towards buying new stock and boys are allowed to borrow society games to take away for a week.

'YOUNG ENTERPRISE'

Where: M107

When: Friday, 4.00 – 5.00 pm

Who: Sixth Form

i/c: SJG

Young Enterprise provides the opportunity to set up and run your own company. You will sell shares to raise capital and elect directors to manage the day-to-day running of your business. You will be part of a national competition and you will need to sell your goods or service in the real world to customers who demand quality and competitive prices. This is an activity for highly motivated individuals with entrepreneurial instincts.



expeditions: home and abroad



DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD – BRONZE

Where: School Grounds

When: Training: First two Saturdays of Michaelmas term (0900-1230)

Expedition Planning – Michaelmas/Lent terms

Expeditions: September, March and June

Who: 4th Year

i/c: JNC

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme is a nationally recognised scheme and is the single most sought after non-academic qualification with UK employers. It consists of three levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold and within each level there are four component parts: Skill, Service, Physical recreation and Expeditions.

Participants on the scheme will need to show commitment and determination to organise their activities and will need to do each one for at least three months. However, with the wealth of 'Other Half' activities on offer it may be possible to do most of the components in school. The Bronze level of the award usually takes about a year, but is not time-bound and can be extended for longer if needed.

Initial training takes place on the first two Saturday mornings of the Michaelmas term in the 4th Year. It is vital that participants attend both training sessions. There will be three expeditions during the course of the year: one in each of the Michaelmas, Lent and Summer terms. Participants will get the opportunity to visit and walk in different parts of Britain's stunning and varied countryside. The skills covered on expeditions will be learned in real situations and will remain useful throughout one's life.

Boys may also complete their expedition phase by kayak. Numbers for Kayaking are limited to 12.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD SCHEME – SILVER AND GOLD

Where: School Grounds

When: As required: Tuesday 4.00 – 5.00 pm

Who: Silver 5th Year, Gold L6th

i/c: JNC (DRM and DMH)

The Silver and Gold levels of the award allow participants to build on the skills and abilities they have gained from the Bronze level and apply them in more challenging situations. As part of this students will undertake a longer expedition in more difficult terrain. As with the Bronze level, participants will commit to a skill, physical recreation activity and a service and will be expected to be involved for a greater period of time.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Expedition Dates for all levels:

These are yet to be confirmed but normally take place around these periods:

Bronze Training Weekend	September Activities weekend
Bronze Practice Expedition	March Activities weekend
Bronze Assessment Expedition	mid June
Silver Practice Expedition	October half-term
Silver Qualifying Expedition	June (directly after exams)
Gold Practice Expedition	Easter Holiday (towards the end)
Gold Qualifying Expedition	Late June, early July

For further information please look at the DofE web site <http://www.dofe.org/> or contact John Chapman via email john.chapman@abingdon.org.uk or telephone 07718 638503.

See '*Kayaking*' (Sports) for details of Duke of Edinburgh's Award Kayaking expeditions.

expeditions: home and abroad



Boys who have not been registered previously in eDofE need to complete a longer period in one of the sections to qualify for the award. These boys are classed as direct entry.

Boys who have been registered previously in eDofE will not be able to record time at the higher level until they have completed at least one section at the lower level.

Expedition planning takes place during Tuesday afternoons between 4.00 and 5.00 pm when required. Boys will be called forward for these sessions as required by the staff. All sessions to which boys are instructed to attend must be attended if participants wish to complete the expeditionary section.

WORLDWIDE EXPEDITIONS



This is for anyone interested in trekking and experiencing new cultures found in different parts of the world. Recent trips have included: 10 day expeditions to Egypt and Morocco (3rd/4th Year), 3 to 4 week expeditions to Peru and the Himalayas (5th – VI Forms), 24 days in Turkey and an 8 day ascent of Kilimanjaro. The trips are designed to

be challenging, both mentally and physically, with boys taking responsibility for much of the organisation themselves (both before and during the trip). It is hoped the boys will develop their leadership skills and ability to work as a team during the expeditions. With these types of trip the boys are asked to raise a substantial portion of the cost of the trip themselves.

10th – 19th February 2012

Dog Sledging and Cross-country Skiing trip to Åbisko, Arctic Sweden.

Contact: TCG

LOWER SCHOOL ADVENTURE TRIPS

Where: 1st Year to Little Canada, Isle of Wight

2nd Year to Brecon Beacons

When: Easter Holidays

Who: Lower School

i/c: AJJ

The aim of the first year trip is to allow the boys the opportunity to experience a wide range of outdoor activities and team building exercises within a purpose-built centre. The activities include abseiling, archery, climbing, a high ropes course and quad-biking.

The second year trip provides the opportunity to take things a stage further and includes similar activities to the first year trip, plus canoeing, gorge-walking and hill-walking – all in their natural environment within the Brecon Beacons. Both trips are residential and are organised with fully-qualified instruction.



expeditions: home and abroad

SKI TOUR 2011

Where: Jay Peak, Vermont, USA

When: 14th – 22nd December 2011

Who: For all Middle School and Sixth Form boys
Open to all levels of skier from beginner to expert

i/c: AJM – alf.mansfield@abingdon.org.uk

Jay Peak has been known for its unbelievable terrain, incomparable glades, and abundant natural snowfall for fifty years. Vermont's only Aerial Tramway is one of eight lifts accessing 385 acres of terrain, including 76 trails. Jay Peak's boundary-to-boundary woods policy makes it a favourite among advanced skiers and riders but the glades aren't for experts only. The mountain also has the most beginner and intermediate tree skiing in the East. New skiers and riders, be sure to check out The Zone, Jay Peak's learning area, which includes eighty acres of wide, gentle, easy to manoeuvre trails and introductory glades.

The whole mountain is a natural snowboard park including berms, jumps, halfpipe, and a terrain park. Jay Peak has four distinct freestyle zones for skiers and riders of all abilities. The parks are 'progressive', allowing beginning riders to start small and progress to larger features.



CCF SKI CAMP

Where: Wengen, Switzerland

When: 14th – 21st December 2011

Who: CCF members from 4th Year and above

i/c: EAK/JNC

Abingdon School Combined Cadet Force runs an alpine snowsports development camp every winter as part of our adventure training programme. It is open to all members of the contingent in the 4th Form and above and runs, usually in December, for one week. For the last four years and again in 2011, from 14th to 21st December, we will ski in Wengen, Switzerland, under the magnificent Eiger. The aim is to give cadets experience of alpine skiing and to help develop their independence and high altitude mountain awareness.

It is open to all levels of skier, including complete beginners; cadets are split into groups of differing ability. All groups are made up from our cadets only. We take our own instructors with us and as many as are needed, depending on demand for places on the camp.

The cadets stay in youth hostel accommodation and take responsibility for cooking their own meals and cleaning their own accommodation. The camp is very competitively priced, as the MOD supplies all equipment without charge and also helps with travel costs.

This year, cadets who have been on the camp before, and have gained skiing qualifications in gap years will be returning to instruct. We hope this process will continue.





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