

The House Music Finals



The term drew to a close on a high note as several of our top musicians battled through the preliminary rounds to reach the finals of the House Music competition that took place in the Music Centre on Tuesday evening. Proud friends and parents turned up to watch and listen as the contestants performed a varied programme of musical items. Winner of the junior competition was Bianca Pereira on piano who performed *In the Groove* by Mike Cornick

The intermediate section was won by Emily Collinson who

performed a beautiful version of *Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again* from *Phantom of the Opera*.

Highlight of the senior section came from Tara Mehranzabad who gave a captivating performance of *My Daddy's Child* from the musical *Rag Time*. Our sincere thanks go to the judges: Tala Badri, Executive Director of the Centre for Musical Arts, Carolyn Belsey-Morton, owner of Music Room shop, and Joan Scott-Minter, writer and long-time friend of Dubai College.

Bag Champs!

Sarah Williamson and John Reid visit Dubai College Open Day 2009 gallery The most popular ever Open Day!

Visit of the Hungarian Choral Quintet

Another success for Doha College sports weekend Past versus Present Rugby gallery

Website headlines

Go to www.dubaicollege.org and hit News

To ensure you have the most up to date news remember to click the refresh button regularly.

UK and UAE Laser Nationals Service Award with a difference

A successful DC Rugby 7s Under 13s crowned Onion

May the festive season be joyful and your new year bring health and happiness

Thank You!

Many thanks go to those parents and friends of the school who responded so positively to the request for support for recent events. Our gratitude goes in particular to the Al Ain Water Company and the Dubai World Drydocks for the generous support of the Dubai College Rugby 7s.

In addition there have been other offers of help for events later in the year. Should anyone be interested in supporting the school production of *Evita* next term, please contact Mr. Penson. A very happy holiday to you all!

The school office will be open on Sunday 20th, Monday 21st, Tuesday 22nd, Monday 28th December and Sunday 3rd January. The Spring term will commence on Monday 4th January.

An Idea for a Xmas gift!

If you are struggling for ideas for those stocking fillers the French and Spanish departments have a suggestion. Should your child have no French/English or Spanish/ English dictionary then your problem is solved. Just pop down to Magrudy's and kill two birds with one stone!

Fantastic London Theatre Trip!



Thirty three year 12 students traveled to London over the recent Eid break to watch eight West End productions in six days. The itinerary included three shows at the National Theatre, Mother Courage and Her Children, Nation and a stunning new Polish play Our Class. A fascinating talk by the National's staff director Bruce Guthrie about the Mother Courage production was followed by a tour of the National Theatre



complex. The programme began with the amazing production of War Horse followed by a very interesting adaptation of The Shawshank Redemption with the musical The Jersey Boys and the hilarious Avenue Q providing some lighter moments. The most disappointing verdict was for the highly acclaimed production of Tennessee William's A Cat On a Hot Tin Roof which has just moved to London following a successful Broadway run.



DC musicians entertain groups in the Dubai community

This year the British Business Group Christmas Party took place in the grounds of the British Embassy on Friday 11th December. Dubai College was honoured to be invited to provide incidental music for the guests as they arrived. A Flute Quartet consisting of Kinara Rodrigues, Maria Goulamhousen, Lorna Keegan and Charlotte Johnson performed a variety of carols and seasonal favourites to welcome guests to the event. It was a rainy night, but the students performed bravely and admirably, gaining many compliments from the attendees. The professionalism and musicality of Dubai College musicians was a credit to us all!

The 8th December saw some of Dubai College's most talented musicians entertaining a host of members of the Dubai business community at the Servcorp annual Christmas party. A jazz trio consisting of John Sprengers, Alia Ahmad and Charles Barsaga ably accompanied vocalists Erik Brinkhorst and Sophie McAdam Clark, who performed a program of easy listening classics and seasonal favourites. Hosted in the Servcorp office on the 42nd floor of the business tower at Emirates Towers, this was a truly prestigious event, with views across the glittering Dubai night skyline providing a stunning backdrop for the music. Our thanks go to parent Mrs. L.

Lahdo for inviting us to perform and to Servcorp for thanking us with a generous donation to the Dubai College Music Department.

Sophie McAdam serenades her audience at Servcorp.



Music and Mince Pies



Last week several hundred members of the College community attended the annual Music and Mince Pies Concert. The concert saw over one hundred and fifty musicians and singers perform a varied programme of music to kick start the festive season.



Year 9 students earn praise at international golf event



Over fifty Year 9 students made sure that the recent Dubai Ladies' Masters golf tournament ran smoothly when they spent four days collating scores and keeping scoreboards up to date. As usual our students were exemplary in their behaviour and earned praise from the players and the organisers for the way they carried out their duties and conducted themselves. Congratulations go to all involved!
Pictured are Irena Hyndman and Mia Zickerman-White

Open Day

This year's Open Day was, as always, a roaring success. Widely anticipated by all (particularly Mr. Davidson's explosions in chemistry) the school buzzes with preparations for days before. I took this opportunity to find out what, exactly, the visitors thought of our displays and whether this year lived up to expectations...

"Even more beautiful than last year!"

"We could barely drag the kids out of the science department"

"Well we don't really know where to go, we lost our tour



guide"

"We don't know where our tour guide went..."

"We were just in science, but then we lost our tour guide"

"Last year it was better...last year they had mimes"

"It's got a lovely feel to it"

"Loved the Science department"

Mother: Which part did you like the best?

Child: Sticking my finger into a sheep's heart!

Mother: Oh okay, yes but what else?

Child: The hacksaws in DT.

"The art-work around the school is fantastic!"



"They've done some amazing displays"

"Very interesting. The DT department was particularly impressive."

"There are obviously some extremely talented people at this school"

I'm sure most people would have to agree. Open Day seems to outdo itself each year (despite the absence of mimes and repeated disappearance of tour guides) in vigour, enthusiasm and energy, not to mention the record attendance. I think it is safe to say: next year will be even better.

Sofia Vyas



Mauritius expedition the most successful yet



Every one of the fifty six Year 11 students who recently traveled to Mauritius as part of their Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award, returned to College having achieved the very highest level of success. Their expedition consisted of an arduous three day trek covering 50 kilometres whilst spending four nights under canvas. In addition, as part of their service award, the group visited The Goodlands Community Centre a facility to support deprived children under the age of four. The students worked with the youngsters and helped to improve the facilities of the centre.

Following the expedition the group took a little well earned 'R & R' on the island of Ile Aux Cerfs where they were able to rest their weary limbs. Congratulations go to all the students for their hard work. Thanks too go to Miss Tragett, Miss Carberry, Mr. Agent, Mr Bernaz, Miss McGivern and Mr Jeffcote who accompanied the group.



Vive Le Metro!

Year 13 French Students recently took part in a "Poetry in Motion" workshop on the Dubai Metro. As part of their study of Verlaine's poetry written during his escape to Belgium by train, the group used the metro trip to improve their understanding of creating the sensation of movement through words. Following the trip they then produced their own work imitating Verlaine's style, whilst reflecting the changing landscape of Dubai.

The Bedales School Exchange

Fourteen of the Year 13 drama group made sure that Dubai College's reputation for producing special theatre was enhanced when they traveled to Bedales' School in Hampshire, UK, for their week long theatre tour.

Performing a devised piece for primary children entitled **Little Lucy, the OAP and the Magical Journey Through Tyrol** the group captivated their audiences with a tale told through the medium of physical theatre. Seven performances

including one to the senior school at Bedales was a testing examination of their skill and stamina, but they can be very proud of the work and of their performances.



presentation was made by FDC Committee member Dr. Omar Shams who works closely with industrial Safety Health and Environment Groups in Dubai's Oil and Gas sector. The lecture was the first of many awareness sessions that the newly formed Environmental Committee within the College has organized. During the lecture, Dr. Shams emphasized the support of the FDC to the students, staff and community. It was also stated that the FDC is keen to sponsor relevant activities such as projects and targeted-programmes that need to be undertaken during the course of the academic year should these require additional funding.

Next term the FDC is going to award a prize to the class in Year 7 and 8 that demonstrates the highest commitment to environmental issues during the academic year 2009/2010 **LOOK OUT FOR DETAILS WHICH WILL BE PUBLISHED NEXT TERM.**

Any comments, suggestions or expressions of interest should be communicated through dubcolenviro@yahoo.com

Environmental Awareness talk

The FDC and the students of Dubai College participated in a 30 minute lecture on a broad spectrum of issues relating to Environmental awareness on 7th December 2009. The

Charity work reaps rewards

This term several charities have benefited from the hard work and commitment of students and staff who have organized and supported a range of charity events.

Pink Day (Non-Uniform Day) raised AED 8558. The money has been donated to Brest Friends (Dr. Houray Kazim).

Thanks go to Mrs Greenlees and Miss McGivern for their support.

Half-Term Non-Uniform Day: raised AED 5425.50. This will be split between sponsoring a child at DCSN and Gulf4Good (Gulf4Good for the Cuba Challenge).

Music and Mince Pies evening raised AED: 2996. This amount will be added to half the money raised from the charity non-uniform day at the end of this term. The total will be divided between sponsoring a child at both Al Noor and Dubai Centre for Special Needs. The remainder will be donated to MSF.

A Bucket of Water for Africa Charity – organized by Dubai Cares this charity saw several thousand people carrying a bucket to raise awareness and

money for drinking water for children in need in Africa.

Thanks to Mrs. Ashby's efforts over 100 DC staff and students took part in the walk and in total the College was able to contribute over 4000dhs to this worthy cause.

Enviro Phone Nokia – This week students and staff have been encouraged by our environmental guru Mrs Romans to bring in any old mobile phones for re-cycling. The initiative is sponsored by Nokia, who will provide a small gift for anyone donating their old mobile.

Other projects - Ziyam Kassam and Pritika Mehra (9PF) raised AED 866. This amount will be added to future funds and to be sent to Roshan in Afghanistan. Miss John and some students in Year 9 and the Sixth Form have raised some funds for MSF by selling Christmas cards and calendars. This will continue until the end of term.

A big thank you to everyone for their commitment and generosity.

A Bucket of Water for Africa Charity



Radio spot for two Year 12 students

Year 12 students Sophie McAdam Clark and Hannah Flower were last week's guests on John Deykin's popular Saturday Live radio programme. The girls went along to talk about the recent theatre trip to London giving John and his listeners some feedback on the various West End productions they saw. The thirty minute interview was a wonderful experience for both girls. They have been invited to return to talk more about the National Theatre.

The Environment Action Group

Over the course of the last month, The Environment Action Group has been focusing mainly on recycling. Our first idea was to encourage people to start recycling, but not many people noticed, so next we made signs to turn off the lights and computer once you are done using them. During that time 2 members had a conference with Captain Higgins to discuss a few things we could do to recycle more in school. He told us that he would buy 10 new recycling bins and we would have to

choose where to place them. Lastly, the Environment Action Group went around school looking for places to put the bins.

At present we are busy making signs for the bins and soon you will be able to recycle ALL your plastic and paper at school.

We're now moving on to our next project – with the help of Student Council rep Rutiv Merchant : Green Day: a day for dressing up in green and doing

your bit for the environment. But we need help. If you are interested in taking action, contact Mrs Romans or join us Sunday lunchtimes. And remember:



Pooja Daswani and Jessica Shaw
7ST

DUBAICOLLEGE Sport results

U15B Football: Dubai College 7 v EIS M 1 POM: Callum Duncan

+14 Girls Football: Dubai College 1 v EIS M POM: S. Armstrong

U13B Boys Football: Dubai College 6 v JESS 0 POM: Liam

U14 Girls Football: Dubai College 3 v JC 2 POM: Perle Batistella

Senior Boys Basketball: Dubai College 68 v JC 46 POM: Sam, Finn, Mike

U15A Football: Dubai College 6 v EC 2 POM: Will H

U15B Football: Dubai College 1 v CIS 4

U13A Boys Football: Dubai College 3 v JC 0 POM: Tom Papke

U13B Boys Football: Dubai College 6 v Raffles 4 POM: Aiden Wright

Y9B Netball: Dubai College 8 v CIS 0 POM: Flo Prosser

Y10B Netball: Dubai College 14 v CIS 2 POM: Emily Donovan

Senior Girls Netball: Dubai College 15 v CIS 6

Senior Girls Basketball League Final: Dubai College 60 Jumeirah College 21

mom: Natasha Daoud

Senior Boys Basketball League Final: Dubai College 41 EIS Jumeirah 52

mom: Sam Aki

U14 Girls Football League Champions

U15A Boys Football League Champions

U15B Boys Football League Champions

U19 Boys Football League Champions

U15A Football: Dubai College 5 v Chouiefat 0 POM: Conor & Harry

Senior Boys Football: Dubai College 4 v EIS J 1

U15 Rugby: Dubai College 17 v Harrow 13

1st XV Rugby: Dubai College 5 v Harrow 36

U14 Girls Football: Dubai College A 4 v JESS 3

U14 Girls Football: Dubai College B 2 v JESS 2

Up to date fixtures and results are available at:

www.dubaicollege.org/pebulletin.html

Frustration for DC Teams at Dubai International Sevens

The College Under 18 team had high hopes of at least making the final of the Under 18 age group of this year's Dubai International Sevens. The team was undefeated in the group games, which included an impressive win over a very strong English College side. DC then met Al Khubairat in the quarter finals and gained a very comfortable victory to earn a semi final place against the Dubai Exiles. Unfortunately the confidence and skill level so apparent in earlier games seemed to desert the boys and a determined and physical Exiles team took full advantage to go through to the final with a thoroughly deserved victory.

Though obviously disappointed the boys have much to look forward to in the coming term.

For the third consecutive year the DC Old Boys' rugby team

made the semi final of the Social Sevens competition at the recent Dubai International 7s only to lose out to their nemesis the VB All Blacks.

Having battled through the qualifying group they managed a comfortable win in the quarter finals but were denied a chance of reaching the final by the

smallest of margins, losing by only two points.

Congratulations go to the Team Manager Pat Cannie and the squad and to those who came along to support.

Pat Cannie (Team Manager) David Knight, Guest, Greg Cannie, Tom Roderick, David Kidson, James Cannie, Matthew Kidson.



Great season for under 14 girls' football team

The girls of the under 14 football team can proudly claim to have had a great season. A 4-3 win this week over JESS Ranches saw the girls go unbeaten to clinch the title of the first ever Dubai Schools' girls league championship. The new Arsene Wenger coaching team of Miss Woolcott and Miss Gillespie has undoubtedly had a positive influence on the team and they and the girls are delighted with the success they have achieved. Year 7 student Hayley Moore was the league's top scorer with

17 goals. Congratulations go to the whole team and in particular

to Gabby Guscott Year 8 and Honor Nichol Year 9.



Swimmers continue to excel!

In the recent Dubai Schools' League Gala the College gained an impressive win over rivals Jumeirah College.

DC -236
JC-208
EC - 153
WIS - 113
JESS - 93

This was followed up by a 'Friendly Gala' in which 36 students in year 7 & 8

participated with some great swims and records were broken again. The scores this time gave JC the edge in the A team competition but our B team swimmers earned victory by an impressive margin.

JC A 217
DC A - 192
DC B - 177
JC B - 85

Several of our team also

produced outstanding performances in the recent Doha international meet in November, returning with medals and PBs galore.

The age group winners were:
U18 boys - 1st Andrew Chetcuti, 2nd Neal Thomson, 3rd Sam Adamson.
U15 boys - 1st Frank Ryan, 2nd Sam Gardner
U13 Girls - 2nd Martha Gregory.



Successful Harrow School visit

The illustrious name of Harrow School can be added to the growing list of overseas visitors. Having entertained some of the UK's top independent schools in recent years including Eton, Haileybury, Whitgift and St Benedicts, the College was delighted to provide opposition for two of Harrow's rugby teams at Under 15 and Under 18 age groups, whilst an AGRFU select side took on the visitors at Under 16.

The beginning of the Under 15 game demonstrated that the Harrow teams were very well organised and the opening exchanges were very tight with both sides scoring a converted try. Harrow then kicked a penalty to go into the break with a 10-7 lead. The second half saw DC come back to score a converted try, but two penalties from Harrow led to a nail biting finish as DC, with resolute defence, managed to hang on

to a slender four point lead and emerge as victors 17 -13.

At Under 16 a very strong and efficient Harrow team proved to be too strong for the AGRFU select side. Playing at a fantastic pace from the outset, Harrow soon established their superiority and despite some stout resistance from the opposition, they ran out comfortable victors by a scoreline of 29 -0 . For the select side it was a great opportunity to come together as a side, an experience that will clearly benefit them in the future.

The final encounter of the afternoon between two very determined Under 18 teams began with both sides trying to establish some domination early in the breakdown. Both sides had opportunities to go ahead, but it was two very well worked tries by the visitors forwards that

gave them a comfortable lead at half time. Following the break two further tries gave them an unassailable position and despite a late try from the home side Harrow finished the game with a deserved victory by 36 points to 5.

Following the games a small reception took place in the Main Hall where refreshments were served and presentations made. Speaking on behalf of the visitors Mr. Jesse Coulson, Director of Sport, thanked the College for the hospitality they had received and expressed the hope that further links between the two schools could be fostered. Dr. Ferrario responded on behalf of DC speaking of the value of such experiences.

The Harrow party has further games against the Dubai Exiles before returning to the UK at the end of the week.



DC teams come close to double in Dubai Schools' basketball finals

Both the boys and girls senior basketball teams came close to repeating last year's double championship wins in the Dubai Schools basket finals held at Jumeirah College this week. The girls' team, led by captain Karina Tapkapi-Lambert, produced a wonderful display to defeat Jumeirah College 60-21. Natasha Daoud was outstanding and was named player of the

match and was ably supported by a tenacious performance from Clare Thompson.

Although the boys' team entered their final very much as underdogs they never allowed their EIS opponents to dominate. Some outstanding defensive work from all of the team kept them in touch throughout and, as Sami Aki

began to find his scoring touch, it looked like they could claw back a 15 point deficit. However the EIS boys responded to the pressure and deservedly took the title by a score line of 52-41. Congratulations go to both teams and to Mrs Nowacki, Mrs Palmer and Mr Flower for their commitment throughout.



Dubai College Charities' Committee Members 2009 -10

Chair and Treasurer: Mr. Lakiss

Vice-Chair: Nicola Blincow

Assistant Vice-Chair: Sophie Clark

Students (Years 12 and 13)

Katy Hassall

Jess Graham

Bilal Ali

Maria Al Rustom

Seren Gough-Walters

Sara Haider (Assistant Secretary)

Shika Bodani

Staff:

Mr. Bernaz (Environmental)

Mrs Ashmore (Secretary)

Mr. Dennis (Local & Overseas)

Miss Brenham (Promotional Manager)

Sub – Committee Staff

Miss John (MSF)

Mrs Romans (Environmental)

Mrs. Holmes (Helping Hands)

Mrs Al Heddi

Miss Al Shammary

Miss Mallett

House Roundup

Senior Badminton:

1. CHICHESTER 4 pts
2. HEYERDAHL 3
3. BARBAROSSA 2
4. COUSTEAU 1

Current Standings after senior badminton:

1. COUSTEAU 50 Pts
2. BARBAROSSA 49½
3. HEYERDAHL 47
4. CHICHESTER 43½

Junior House Music finalists:

Bianca Pereira (8MJ) CH

Harvey Agius (7ST) CH

Helena Wick (8CJ) HY

Junior House Music result:

1. COUSTEAU 4 Pts
2. HEYERDAHL 3
3. CHICHESTER 2
4. BARBAROSSA 1

Intermediate House Music finalists:

Cathy Faria (9 AA) HY

Ewen French (10 BA) CH

Emily Colloinson (9 RG) CO

Harriet Walker (10 CT) HY

(sadly, unable to attend)

Intermediate House Music result:

- 1 HEYERDAHL 4 Pts
2. COUSTEAU 3
3. BARBAROSSA 2
4. CHICHESTER 1

Senior House Music finalists:

Tara Mehrabanzad CO

Erik Brinkhorst CO

Charles Barsaga HE

Senior House Music result:

1. COUSTEAU 4 pts
2. BARBAROSSA 3
3. HEYERDAHL 2
4. CHICHESTER 1

Here are last night's results:

Junior Winner:

Bianca Pereira (Chichester)

Intermediate Winner:

Emily Collinson (Cousteau)

Senior Winner:

Tara Mehrabanzad (Cousteau)

Overall Winner:

Tara Mehrabanzad (Cousteau)