



## LEAGUE TABLES

*We encourage a broader approach*



**Have you noticed that League Tables can show wide discrepancies in the relative positions of individual schools? Have you, for example, noticed that some of our local rivals are ahead of us in *The Telegraph*, and yet significantly behind us in *The Times*?**

It all whittles down to the criteria used. *The Telegraph* bases its rankings on the percentage of A or B grades achieved, whereas *The Times* records the average number of university entrance points (UCAS points) achieved per candidate.

### Which gives the truer picture?

Take two students. One achieves just 2 grade Bs at A Level. The second achieves 2 grade As, a C, and a D. In *The Telegraph*, student A will factor in a 100% AB rate pass. Student B, clearly the more able student, has only achieved a 50% AB pass rate. In *The Times* league table, student A's contribution will translate into 200 UCAS points. Student B, however, will score 380 points.

A school which wants to shine in *The Telegraph* table may be tempted to advise students to play safe - drop subjects that you are not going to do well in, concentrate on quality in the subjects that matter! At the College, we encourage a broader approach. We think that there is great educational merit for an intending scientist to study a language, or history of art, or religious studies, for example. Our top scoring pupil went far further than this however. She secured 6 A Levels, 5 at grade A, and one at grade B - a towering 700 points.

*Which approach would you prefer for your son or daughter? Which is likely to get him or her into the better university?*

Lies, damned lies, and statistics!

## Framlingham College Sixth Former Wins National Enterprise Award



**Less than 18 months after starting the country's largest diabetic gift service, [DiabeticHampers.co.uk](http://DiabeticHampers.co.uk), Framlingham College pupil, Giles Peters, (18), has just collected a major national award, plus a cheque for £1,000, in recognition of his entrepreneurial skills.**

This prestigious award ceremony took place at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in London was attended by the Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, the Enterprise Minister, John Hutton and the Chancellor, Alistair Darling who commented:

*"At a time when the world is undergoing extremely rapid economic change, with massive growth taking place in China and India, we must remember in this country we have a tremendous reservoir of talent and ability. When we have success, we need to shout about it an awful lot more."* Giles, who is studying for A Levels at Framlingham in Business Studies, Geography and Art History, set up his successful diabetic hamper company after trying to buy such a gift for his uncle who has the condition. His company sources diabetic products from small companies and then checks their suitability for diabetics with dieticians. Giles said:

*"Most of my family are Type 2 Diabetic and I know that it is difficult to find appetising foods that are suitable for a diabetic diet. I wanted to see if something could be done about that."*

Framlingham College Head, Mrs Gwen Randall, said: The staff and pupils of Framlingham College are tremendously proud of Giles' achievements. - His web business is up and running and he has identified a real gap in the market. My father-in-law will be receiving one of Giles' hampers this Christmas!

## Framlingham College Celebrates 30th Anniversary of Girls at the College



In September, Framlingham welcomed back over 30 women who were the first female pupils of the College since it became co-educational in 1977. This special event to mark this important milestone in the College's history was organised by Mr Norman Porter, on behalf of the Old Framlinghamian Society.

One hundred and forty guests were treated to a magnificent evening of performance and song by current pupils of the College, including Laura Wright, the 2006 BBC Chorister of the Year and member of the award-winning all girl singing group, All Angels.

Head of the College, Mrs Gwen Randall said: *"This College has quite a reputation for producing highly capable and successful women, and this proved to be an electric evening. Our trailblazers of the Seventies returned to meet their modern day counterparts, male and female alike. Mutual respect metamorphosed into mutual admiration as both generations celebrated achievement."*

## Young Engineers for Britain National Finalist



As regional winner he won £200, plus a further £150 as the winner of the design and innovation category and the honour of competing for the title of Young Engineer for Britain 2007.

David's winning project is an agricultural steering aid, which offers an inexpensive alternative to the Global Positioning Satellite solutions currently on the market. When accepting his award David said, *"My father is an arable farmer and I often help him on our farm. This gave me the idea for my device and because the GPS products currently on the market are so expensive I decided to try and build a mechanical alternative that would be more affordable. I was amazed to win the regional final of Young Engineer for Britain and am really excited at the prospect of taking part in the National Final."*

David was one of the top 15 students in the UK who qualified for the national final at the Old Royal Navy College in Greenwich in September. He follows in the footsteps of former College students, Will Sayer (1997) and Richard Wilkins (1999) who also reached the finals of this prestigious competition.

**David Bird, Year 13**, was named overall individual winner at the Eastern regional final of the Young Engineers for Britain competition at Anglia Ruskin University, Chelmsford in July.

## EXTREME CRABBING!

The Inter-House Crabbing competition took place once again at Walberswick on Sunday 7th October. The lowest tide seen for many years by the competitors added an extra muddy dimension to the sport as the river was extremely low exposing metres of soft mud.

Despite one or two wobbles most crabbers remained on their feet long enough to haul in a reduced catch compared to previous years. This, added to new rules regarding the use of nets meant the competition was very fierce. Kerrison pulled in a winning catch and Stradbroke tied with Victoria for the largest crab of the day.



## Chile Expedition Summer 2007



**During the summer holidays two groups of Sixth Formers left Suffolk to trek through Chile into the Atacama Desert and the Maipo Valley.**

Initially we met snow on our early acclimatisation walks and we spent a day on horseback in the mountains. We were then transported into the heart of the desert where we embarked upon a series of treks leading us ultimately into Bolivia. During this time we met hot springs, impressive geysers, massive salt flats and magnificent flamingo lakes.

The students took turns to lead the group and other roles included arranging meals, transport, accommodation and tipping local guides. We were taken over the border into Bolivia by vehicle where we stayed in hostels and continued to acclimatise. On the penultimate day we went on an exciting trip on mountain bikes into a gorge known as the Devil's Throat. The expedition was a great success and we are now preparing for a similar venture to Nepal in 2009.



## Gliding Scholarships

Over the summer four of our RAF cadets (*Tom Osmanski, James Wheeler, Tom Wilkinson and Lizzie Cullum*) were accepted on to a ten day Gliding Scholarship. The course gave each of us the opportunity to learn to pilot a Vigilant, with the aim of going solo by the end of the course.

We all achieved our Silver Solo Wings during the course, with three of us completing them in the same week at RAF Holton. Both of the courses had a fantastic group of cadets and instructors, which made the course an unforgettable experience and a once in a lifetime opportunity for all the cadets involved.

## GEOGRAPHY SOCIETY

Alex Henney and John Barker two recent OFs involved in the 2007 race to the magnetic north pole; this was on foot, came second out of 6 in a time of just over 15 days, covering approx 400 miles in conditions of -40C and with the worryingly close attentions of polar bears. A magnificent achievement by two Old Framlinghamians. Their presentation was equally impressive with over 220 pupils, parents, staff and OFs attending. Their equipment was available for inspection in the HPT and many stayed to talk to Alex and John. Overall a very interesting and well-received event.



## CCF Summer Camp

As speech day came to an end 15 Army cadets headed south for summer camp at Longmoor. It was an exciting, busy week with cadets involved in a number of activities which included ambushes, platoon attacks, orienteering and canoeing, full bore shooting and killing some clay pigeons.

They learnt how to skin and gut rabbits, light fires, build shelters and survive outdoors in a very hostile environment. They also got very wet! Out of a total of 27 schools who attended over a 3 week period our lads came a very credible 7th overall. All of them had a great time.

The RAF Section attended their Summer Camp at RAF Lyneham, which is the "home of the Hercules" the main transport aircraft of the RAF. During this time we had some excellent presentations and training provided by RAF personnel involved with supply logistics, aircraft simulators and survival training.





## United Nations Hague Visit

On Thursday 1st November, 10 members of the 6th Form sailed across the North Sea to take part in the Model United Nations at the International School of The Hague accompanied by Julian and Kirsteen Holland.

This was the second year running the College has been invited and we remain the only UK school taking part. This year our students represented the interests of Poland and Qatar which allowed Jessica Summers to have the honour of sitting on the Security Council.

Tom Osmanski, James Mee, Tori Aldred, Vicky Cullum, Sophie Hobson, Georgie Ford, Georgie Rees, Victoria Bagert and Holly Wolfers all acquitted themselves on their various committees, discussing issues ranging from the situation in Iraq to the detainees at Guantanamo Bay to raising educational standards in developing countries. The host families provided excellent care and a unique introduction to life in this cosmopolitan city.

## Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions Autumn Term 2007

The whole of Year 9 and some Year 10 students took part in their bronze Duke of Edinburgh expeditions in September in sunny Suffolk, and all completed their tasks with great enthusiasm and in competent fashion.

Many showed excellent teamwork and leadership skills suggesting that many will go on to tackle the silver and gold awards.

During the October half-term 56 students from years 11-13 left the College for the wilds of Derbyshire and Yorkshire. The silver participants in Derbyshire met with some wet weather which did not dampen their spirits, and they all completed their routes in good humour. Many of the students will now be preparing for their assessed expeditions in The Lake District at Easter.

Those who were taking part in gold expeditions in Yorkshire fared better in terms of weather, and were complemented by the assessor on their enthusiasm and competence.



## NEWS IN BRIEF



### Derbyshire Silver D of E

A wash out! It rained heavily in Derbyshire and the two Silver assessed groups rarely caught sight of blue sky. Thankfully the weather was warm and wet kit dried between bouts of torrential rain. Conditions were tough, but the expeditioners were well-trained and proved more than a match.



### Bisley Shooting Summer 2007

On the Sunday 14 July, the full bore shooting team assembled and left for the 4 day Cadet Target Rifle shooting competition at Bisley. A special mention goes to the following Robert Norman for his role as Captain and Coach, Maddie Bryant as second Coach, Jace Palmer for her finishing 8th in the self coaching shoot, Carl Witham in the Schools 100 and lastly and not least to all the team members who made the whole event very enjoyable.



### Autumn Concert

The Autumn Concert opened with music by Handel, and from thence a stream of great musical performances came. Oliver Poole and Laura Wright, now in their final year, gave the type of performance that continues to inspire those at the College to seek the very best music for themselves. Chamber Choir continued with Fauré and Gounod, and the Choir with a range of music, including Vaughan Williams's "O how amiable", and a setting of "Starry, starry night". The rest of the concert was devoted to more upbeat performances, sending the audience home with their feet tapping away and a song in their hearts.



### Drama Trip to 'Masque of the Red Death'

This term Drama and Theatre Studies students have seen a variety of performances from 'The Merchant of Venice' in the rain at The Globe, 'Macbeth' at the Gielgud and most remarkably, 'The Masque of the Red Death' by Punchdrunk at the Battersea Arts Centre.

## RELIGIOUS STUDIES & ART TRIP

**Religious Studies** - On Tuesday 2nd October all those studying RS in Year 10 spent the day in London as a part of their course. The first part of the day was to visit the Holocaust exhibition at the Imperial War Museum where the students saw and heard displays and recordings of Jewish life under the Nazis in the 1930s & 40s. This is a particularly moving exhibition which forces understanding of the atrocities committed under the name of science and racial purity and allows people to apply the lessons to today's society. Following that experience, we went on to Westminster Abbey where we followed the tour and saw how a place of worship plays a part in society throughout history and today.

*Image: Religious Studies students in Year 10 visit the Holocaust Exhibition at the Imperial War Museum in London in October*

**Art** - This is the third year that the two groups have travelled to the Imperial War Museum and Westminster Abbey and proved a most profitable trip for all. This year, Jon Hutchings took the Year 11 Art students around Westminster Abbey providing a detailed and interesting tour that not only explained many aspects of Gothic architecture, but also provided a brilliant short history of the Monarchy and its relationship with the Church.

*Image: Year 11 Art students explored Gothic architecture around London's Westminster Abbey*



