



## *The Schools At Somerhill Newsletter* *Volume 14, Issue # 7, 7th February 2011*



### **THE SCHOOLS AT SOMERHILL SPONSORED SWIMATHON**

A huge thank you to all the staff, parents and of course CHILDREN who took part in last week's 24-hour swim in aid of the Pink Ribbon Foundation. There were hundreds of photos to choose from so we've just included a few—many more can be found in the galleries on the website.

The sheer logistics of getting some 500+ boys and girls changed and through the pool presented a few challenges, but judging from how much fun everyone had it was well worth it. We then kept on swimming right through the night and it was great to get the support of mums, dads, teachers and other Somerhill staff either swimming or lifeguarding.

We are still collecting and counting the monies raised but we are definitely on target to beat the last swimathon (2009) total of £3,000 and are hoping to maybe even double it!

A few figures and statistics in case you are interested :

In 2 hours, ½ an hour per year group, the DL girls swam the following distances:

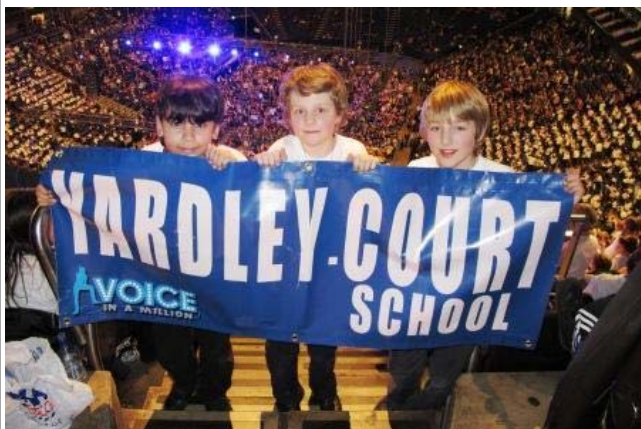
Year 3 - 398 laps, Year 4 - 552 laps, Year 5 - 656 laps, Year 6 - 627 laps That's a total 2233 laps / 55825 metres / about 34.7 miles! (Thank you Miss Kerr-Shepherd for counting those laps!).

**Year 6 Boys Perform at the O<sub>2</sub> Arena**  
**By Edward Bowness**

On Tuesday, 1st February, Year Six boys took part in 'Voice in a Million', at the O2 Arena. 'Voice in a Million' was a show with 7500 children singing together for BAAF, an adoption and fostering charity.

Once we arrived, we started a big, two hour rehearsal. This was quite long, but it got us in the mood for entertaining everyone. The soloists had really good voices and made us feel inspired to sing like them. Even though there were 7500 people in the choir, every voice made a difference. The main show was always on my mind, and I couldn't wait to perform.

The O2 Arena was absolutely enormous and Yardley Court was sitting towards the top of all the rows of choir seats. Before the performance, we were given a special 'Voice in a Million' t-shirt, which everyone in the choir wore.



gave a big cheer. The lights dimmed and the first song started. It was exhilarating and everyone was waving their glow sticks. The best song for me was 'Oh Happy Day'; partly because it was a lively song, but mostly because all the teachers were dancing about wildly!

It was an awesome trip and a once in a lifetime experience I'll never forget.



The YC teachers kindly ordered lots of glow sticks and two long banners saying 'Yardley Court School' so that the mums, dads and supporting teachers could spot us among the other children.

Finally, the show began. They started by introducing all the schools, which took ages, especially as we were second to last on the list! When we were mentioned, we

**Spare Coloured Pencils?**

The Kusasa coloured pencil box is filling up nicely, but we're not quite there yet. Thank you to all the boys (and some girls) who have already donated their disused pencils but there is still time to look for some at home and bring them in. Mrs Jennings is meeting up with Madame Spiers in Jo'burg during half term when she plans to hand over the box of coloured pencils for her Kusasa children.



**LOST PROPERTY**

Mrs Wilkes has one rather nice black shirt stud (possibly from Burns' Night?) in Reception if you are missing one!



Mrs Sorensen is now touring Reception Year One and Year Two classes on a Friday afternoon handing out Head Teacher's Awards. Here is one proud recipient, Angus, with a lovely pastel drawing of a chaffinch.



Year 7 pupils constructed some very impressive bridges to demonstrate and discuss balanced forces in their Science lessons and the need to apply them to achieve stable, strong structures.

**WORKING AT THE CAR WASH!** Bermuda Car-wash - The boys of Year Eight are off to Bermuda during the Easter Holidays for a sports tour. To help minimise the cost of their tour t-shirts and bags, and to hopefully have some 'sweet' money they have been washing the staff cars, for a very reasonable £3 per car. There have been no reports of scratches or dents - so far!!



## “DROP AND RUN - A Healthy Start to 2011”



Thursday 17 February, 2011 8.45am-10.00am—Cost £10.00 per person

The Parents' Association has arranged for a stand alone exercise session here at Somerhill run by Uberfit. Uberfit offer a range of classes outdoors and indoors locally and are very used to dealing with those who are suffering from a little festive excess and may need some encouragement to push themselves just that bit harder. All levels of fitness welcome and catered for—from couch potato to Olympian! So take that first step to a fitter you and contact Charlotte on [n.c.leeamies@btinternet.com](mailto:n.c.leeamies@btinternet.com)

The session may include skipping ropes, fitness bands, light weights, and small hurdles **and you don't have to run as one of the groups will be power walking!**



The senior Chapel Choristers travelled to Chichester Cathedral on Wednesday 26th January, to sing Evensong in place of the regular Cathedral Choir. Our boys were a little surprised to find the Cathedral rather empty for the weekday service, compared to the large crowds to which they are accustomed, but the congregation was swelled by parents and supporters who had travelled from Tonbridge, and those present were treated to some excellent singing.

Everyone enjoyed the experience, and by all accounts the boys represented themselves and their school well.

#### SOMERHILL CLASSIFIEDS

Don't forget to check out the website for the latest issued of the Classifieds. Or if you're determined to make 2011 the year of the de-clutter, then remember you can sell unwanted items for FREE through the Classifieds. Full details are available on the website with this month's edition.

## Sports News



The DL U9 Netball team played superbly well in extremely cold weather to win the Caterham Prep School tournament. In the first round they beat Hazelwood, City of London Freemans, Caterham B and Notre Dame B, and drew 2-2 with Sutton High School, scoring 24 goals and conceding just 4. Qualifying as section winners they then played a strong Hawthorns side and managed to score a crucial goal to win 1-0.

In the final with the score stuck at a nail-biting 1 all for most of the match, the team stepped up a gear in the dying minutes to score another 2 goals, so the final score was 3-1 to DL. Thank you to the parents who were able to support their daughters on this occasion, braving the icy weather—you too deserve medals!

The U11 girls also travelled to Caterham Prep to play in their first tournament of the season. They too played well in the first round with wins against Danes Hill, Burgess Hill, Caterham B and The Study B, and drew with Hazelwood. Michaela and Jasmine shot 32 goals in these 5 short matches. The rest of the team defended well, and put together some lovely centre court moves to keep possession. Only 2 goals were conceded in the first round. In a tense and exciting semi-final, DL narrowly lost 3-2 to the host school. A good effort girls! Well Done!

