

GLENGYLE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL
W.V. Wallace, M.A. (Oxon.)

4 Carlton Drive,
Putney Hill. S.W.15

NEWS LETTER

July, 1948.

Dear Parents and Friends,

With this our first step towards a school magazine, we bring you greetings! We have had one in mind for some time but it has not been practicable so far; however, we thought that a News Letter would act as an introduction, arousing your interest and the boys' enthusiasm in this idea.

The following pages present a short review of our past activities, especially during the last year, which has shown heartening progress throughout the school, both academically and in the field of sport.

We were sorry to lose Miss Waldron, who left with our best wishes at half term to be married, and cordially welcome her successor, Mrs. Rashbrook.

We hope to issue the News Letter at the end of next term, and would welcome any contributions, suggestions, or comments.

B.D.B.

I N R E T R O S P E C T

I have great pleasure in sponsoring this precursor of a School Magazine. We have moved a good way from the War years when a nucleus of the present school hung on precariously in London, liable to have any term interrupted by air-raids. There was the maximum number of forms in those years. There was little out-of-school activity apart from games on Putney Heath and in the garden. The conclusion of hostilities in 1945 brought a steady increase in the number of boys with a consequent better grading of them in more forms.

In the Autumn of 1945 the First Game was able to begin playing on the excellently-laid pitches of the Harroddian Club. The improvement in the standard of play resulting enabled us to begin regular inter-school matches last Autumn. Concurrently with the inter-school rivalry began the inter-House rivalry of BLUE, GREEN, ORANGE and PURPLE, which has given boys the best incentive to attain a high standard among themselves before tackling outside combinations. Of our inter-school matches we have this term won two in four, a more satisfactory result than it appears at first sight, as our losses were by far narrower margins than our victories. We have also had our first match with the fathers in which, however, age and experience told against us.

At the time of writing we look forward to our First Sports' Day since the War, an attempt to hold one last year having had to be abandoned through a case of infantile paralysis.

If there was any reason for not hurrying to add to the number of school-activities, other than class-work, it was their possibly distracting effect on ordinary school-work in these days of severe competition for places in the best Public Schools. It is made abundantly clear that they do not eagerly embrace the problem of having to try to "make a silken purse of a sow's ear" and that no boy by his examination work or bearing under interview can afford to give the impression of falling within the latter category.

Of the boys who are leaving us this term H. Sweetnam has passed into King's College, Wimbledon, and Nigel Gray has been accepted for St. Paul's. They leave us with our best wishes and we shall follow Gray's athletic career with keen interest. We wish M. Follett better luck in his next attempt for St. Paul's. 'It is a pity that an oral examination on the care and breeding of animal-pets does not figure in the C.E. However, one must take the Common Entrance as it is. We have no space to name severally the younger boys who are leaving us to go to boarding-school. They, too, carry with them our best wishes.

W. V. Wallace.

S P O R T

I can do no better than leave the description of our sport to the essays of R.G. Miller and C.W. Magill to which I have added some general comments and details of the Fathers Match.

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F O O T B A L L

by

C. W. Magill

In the Christmas term we lost several of our matches. The worst defeat was by Tower House when they beat us twenty goals to one. In the Spring term we won three and lost three, (if I remember rightly) beating St. Philips twice and Rutland House once, and losing to Eaton House twice. N. Gray was captain for most of the matches, though Sweetnam captained one. Our forwards were: S. Gray, Martin, Wright, Murray and Pumfrey.

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C R I C K E T

by

R. G. Miller

Glengyle cricket on the whole is up to the standards of other schools. The first eleven is well balanced, but needs some improvement in batting and fielding. The batting is mostly up to Magill, Nigel Gray and Simon Gray, though Seaman, Sweetnam and Piggot can bat very well. The bowling is strong with Magill and Nigel Gray as opening bowlers. The fielding is fair, but too many catches are missed.

We lost the first match of the season against Eaton House. It was very close, for they won by just three runs. The second match we played was against Rutland House. Unfortunately we lost, but we were ahead in the first innings then their Master decided to have a second innings and we lost by six wickets. We easily beat St. Philips by nine wickets. The most notable feature was Nigel Gray's forty-seven not out and Magill's good bowling.

As you see we haven't a bad record, but our team could do with a lot of improving. Newcomers to the Wednesday game on Harrods' ground such as Trinder, Jones, Broad and others should supply the strength needed for next year. If they and the "veterans" play well, Glengyle will top all other schools in cricket.

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S W I M M I N G

by

R. G. Miller

Swimming at Glengyle seems to be a favourite indoor sport. Nearly half of the Upper School swims, whilst not even a quarter of the School takes boxing or gym.

There are quite a few good swimmers in Glengyle, though there are also many non-swimmers. You would see many boys who cannot swim in the shallow end jumping off the sides of the pool or trying to swim, and you would see the few good swimmers in the deep end.

The two best swimmers I think are the Grays. Simon Gray has swum twenty nine lengths and I have seen Nigel swim very far. Murray also is a very good swimmer.

Gradually non-swimmers are learning to swim and soon I expect to see everybody up the deep end.

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I can find very few criticisms of the play on the field in either football or cricket, but I would like to offer some words of praise to the stalwarts around whose keenness, ability, and general interest we were able to build a reasonably good team in each case. First, I must mention Magill, who captained both the cricket and football teams. He has proved himself an excellent and sporting leader, who plays equally well as a goalkeeper or an outside-left. He shows great promise as a fast-medium bowler, and his balls are invariably on the wicket.

The school has indeed been fortunate to have had such an unselfish and able leader in the sporting field, and, on behalf of the 1st XI, may I take this opportunity of wishing him "the very best" at his new school. Other members of the teams who are worthy of commendation are Nigel and Simon Gray, Piggott, Sweetnam, Seaman and Miller R.G. Nigel Gray is another bowler who shows great promise, and gets excellent results, even if he is inclined to sacrifice accuracy for speed. The others are very good all-rounders, but R.G. Miller deserves special mention for his excellent wicket-keeping. He shows no fear of the ball, and has taken one or two hard knocks without complaint. On the whole, the fielding this term has been of a very high standard, but the batting could do with some improvement.

The Fathers' Match, which was played on Friday, July 16th, between the 1st XI and a team of fathers, was won by the fathers. The latter batted first, and were all out for exactly 100 runs. Then the first XI batted, and put up a very poor display, for which the only excuse we can find is Nigel Gray's sprained ankle. It was left to the three Masters who were playing for the first XI, and batted nos. 8, 10, 11, to make over half the total

score of 33 runs. I wish to thank all the parents who turned up to make this match a really successful experiment, and in particular the eleven brave gentlemen who fearlessly faced the onslaught of the mighty Glengylians!

And now I must leave you, wondering, I expect, as I am, who are going to prove our most promising athletes at our Sports on Friday, 23rd July.

J.W.I.W.

NEWS ABOUT SOME OF THE JUNIOR BOYS

One of the most promising cricketers among the Juniors is Michael Amos, who hits out hard and bowls a good straight ball. Nicholas Thorne has also done quite well throughout the summer, though latterly he seems to have lost the knack of bowling a straight over. Both these boys proved tough football players in the previous term and should do well next winter. Paddy Waterfield has a good eye for bowling but he is not yet able to bowl overarm. He is always alert and nimble and he surprised us all one afternoon in the garden by jumping 8 feet 3 inches in long jump. Sean Gardner who is a bit of an historian is apt to spend his cricket time dreaming of the good old days of the past, and is always caught unprepared for the ball when it comes. He is usually happiest with his nose stuck inside a history book, or playing at being Sir Francis Drake about to face the Armada.

Some pretty fierce battles have certainly taken place in the garden this year, and we hope a more peaceful period in history may soon be reached.

John Chamberlain who has recently been instructed very thoroughly by his father about the rules of cricket, now spends most of his time worrying, instructing and scolding all the other players. For my benefit he has drawn up an elaborate plan of the field which he hopes I will duly study and heed.

Noel Sullivan looks like being a real artist one day - his drawings are surprisingly good for a boy of seven, and show talent. Paddy Waterfield, Geoffrey Hampton, Sean Gardner and Michael Amos have also produced some attractive pictures this term. The flying dragon, belching forth flame drawn by Michael Amos quite alarmed little Robin Forrest, or so he pretended.

Roy Pavy appears to be quite good as a bowler in cricket, and a little too good as a remover of bicycle valves in his spare time. We hope he will soon find a more useful occupation for his hands. David Keall, Ronald Strang, Ian Whitcombe, Geoffrey Hampton, Edward Mainwaring, and Michael Sabey should all be mentioned as enthusiastic and promising young cricketers.

As Form Ia are not yet old enough to come in the afternoons we do not see so much of them, but they are busy, important little chaps, usually happy, though occasionally there is trouble. One morning during Break, little David

Moore was found weeping disconsolately by one of the flower beds where lay a dead bird. One of the bigger boys had told him that the little bird would not go to Heaven. That was the cause of David's distress. Another kinder person came up and reassured him that there was a place for birds in Heaven, and he was soon happily smiling again.

These little boys in Form Ia will be sorry to lose Mrs. Reynolds who is leaving them at the end of this term, but we all look forward to seeing her still when she comes to take the singing classes next term.

C.M.7.

A VISIT TO THE "EVENING STANDARD"
by
C. W. Magill

Mr. Rowley kindly invited a party of eight boys to go to look over the "Evening Standard" Works. Nine of us went, as Mr. Wallace did not want to break up the form. We caught the train at East Putney Underground Station, and from there went to Blackfriars, where we got off. We had a walk of about ten minutes to the "Evening Standard".

First we were shown into a little room, where there were some people sitting; there were plenty of old "Evening Standards" which we read while we waited for the guide. Then the guide came and we were taken to a room full of machinery; first we were shown a linotype machine, where a man demonstrated how it worked. It was like a gigantic mechanical typewriter, but the letters were printed in molten metal; I was allowed a sample to take home. Then we were taken to another machine, on which I had my name printed, as I was the smallest there; there was a flat shelf of letters from which the man took a C, a full stop and then a blank, a W, another full stop and another blank to separate the W from Magill, and put them in a slot from where they were taken to make the block. Some of the day before's papier-mache moulds were given out. I managed to get three and another one from a boy who did not want one of his.

Next we went down into a huge room with a great many machines in it, which made a terrific noise. We were shown a machine which I could not see the back of. There was a round roller standing on its end in the machine, and a man started it going by pressing a lever; in a few seconds a bell rang, the man pulled another lever and the roller swivelled round. There was a thick sheet of metal with letters standing out, and on the top was half a sheet of unused metal, which they pushed down a nearby slide. I picked up a long piece of twisted metal, but a man said to me that it was poisonous if I cut my skin. We then saw some huge rolls of paper; there was one roll on a rod being carried up by a moving belt, which took it to be printed. After that we went up some stairs where there were more moving belts. One was carrying the unused paper to be printed; another was used to carry the printed sheets to a place where

other sheets would join them, the third to carry the finished papers to the place where they were collected. There was a man stationed near the belt to pull out the papers that were not put in properly and to straighten others.

We then went to another room where we were each given a copy of the "Evening Standard". Last of all we were taken to the Photographic Department. Here we were shown five pictures, all of the same person; the first was the negative, the second was one covered in dots, the third was a purple colour, then there was one like the proper picture except that it was dotted like the second and third, and the last was the proper picture. We were shown how it worked and then taken in a good dark room with a dim red light glowing.

In the room there was a sink, over which the photographer smeared some liquid on a plate of glass, which quickly turned into jelly. Then he put the glass in another sink with a plate of silver nitrate. After half an hour it was taken out and washed to become the negative. After that we came out and were shown some pictures of the day before which we found to be a purplish colour. He got out an instrument with a sharp knife in it and cut up these pictures and distributed them among us. The pictures were made of a mixture of glass and tin. We were then taken to a room where there were reporters and similar people. We were taken down a passage with teleprinters on shelves. These were like automatic typewriters and they typed out their message just like an ordinary one would if it was handled by a person.

Then we were taken back into the reporters' room and then into Mr. Rowley's office. He asked us if we had enjoyed it and we all said we had very much. Mr. Rowley asked us if we had any questions; Wright, the Orange House Captain, asked how the teleprinters worked and Mr. Rowley told him. By then it was almost time to go, so we all thanked Mr. Rowley for the visit, as we had had a very good time. We came back by the same route as we had come, and went on to our homes after having had a wonderful and very interesting afternoon.

SOCIETIES

Two societies were formed during the Winter and Spring terms. The Photographic Society, which met once a week after class ended in the afternoon, provided an opportunity for those interested in this engrossing hobby to attain an insight into the theoretical and practical side of photography.

The Chess Society, which enjoyed a good membership, provided an opportunity for those knowing the rudiments of the game to improve their play. A limited number of beginners were admitted into the Society, and it is hoped that they are now familiar with the elementary principles of chess.

It was not considered that either Society should continue to meet during the summer, due to light evenings making outdoor activities more

beneficial. Both Societies will resume activities next term, and it is hoped that they will enjoy popularity with old and new members.

J.M.M.

PHOTOGRAPHS

It is a pleasure to announce that once again a School Photograph is available and that it is a more pleasing reproduction than the previous one.

I am also happy to say that I have now quite a nice collection of School photos (in negative form); shots of the School building, the boys in groups and at play, and many action pictures of the Glengyle v. Fathers' Match, any of which can be supplied on request.

B.D.B.

GOOD WISHES FOR A HAPPY HOLIDAY TO ALL

Yours sincerely,

W.V. WALLACE
B.D. BROWN
J.W.I. WOODWARD
J.M. MURRAY
(Miss) C.M. WATERS
(Mrs) E.G. RASHBROOK
(Mrs) L. REYNOLDS