

After several years of decline in the size of the roll, the start of this session produced an upward swing, taking the roll back to the 1660 mark where it had been a few years ago. The rise was due in part to a bigger intake in SI - 360 - and to the fact that more S5 and S6 pupils returned than is usual, mainly because of the shortage of jobs, but also because the pressure on places in further or higher education makes it more necessary to have good qualifications. Provided pupils beyond the statutory leaving age are prepared to apply themselves and provided they have some prospect of gaining from their studies, then it makes sense for them to stay on at school to enhance their qualifications however modest these may be.

As usual the start of a session is marked by comings and goings among staff. We welcomed the following new members of staff at the start of the term - Mr Lindsay (Physics); Mr Linton (Technical); Mr Millar (Mathematics); Mr Munn (returning to the P.E. Department from Inverkeithing High School); Mrs Robb (P.E.) and Mr Wilson (Physics); while Mr McDonald from Queen Anne High School, Dunfermline took up his appointment just over a week ago as A.P.T. Business Studies in place of Mr John Young. At the end of August, we said goodbye to Mrs H, Cadman after nearly 30 years service in Madras College, first as Woman Adviser and subsequently as Assistant Rector (Administration). Hers was a career of distinction, combining effective teaching in the Mathematics classroom with loyal and devoted service in the pastoral and administrative spheres - the latter a key one in a split-site school of this size. Mrs Croll, who retired in September, had a life-long association with Madras College as a pupil, as a parent of pupils of Madras, and as a member of the P.E. staff. She gave generously of her time in introducing pupils to hill-walking and in coaching girls' hockey. The distinction gained by our girls at school, regional and national levels was due in no small measure to Mrs Croll's coaching and enthusiasm. We wish both ladies a long and happy retirement.

News of school clubs which came too late for insertion in the Summer Newsletter includes a commendation for our Agricultural Club on their entry for the project competition at the Royal Highland Show. Our Chess players were well represented at the Low and Bonar Scottish Chess Congress held at Kilrymont Road, gaining places as follows:

Mens1 Championship - 4th Timothy Upton (F.P.), Ladies Championship - 2nd Natasha Sykes, 4th Helen Scott (F.P.), Boys' Championship - 2nd Duncan Grossett, Girls' Championship - 1st Alison Coull, 3rd Gillian Hunter, 4th Kate Masterson.

In the Under-17's John Geddes came 5th, while in the Under-14's, First was Finlay Coull; 4th Jonathan Linton; and 6th was Lawrence Thirkell. The vigour of the Chess Club is a tribute to the devotion shown by Mr Mole and Dr Waterston in supervising lunchtime chess. The Scripture Union, Debating Society and the Current Affairs Club have all got off to a brisk start, and I am glad to see that all are now operating in both parts of the school. Pupils interested in sailing had the chance of instruction from the St Andrews Sailing Club in September, and there was an encouraging response from the school. The school cottage at Blair Atholl has been well booked at the weekends for parties of staff and pupils, and will continue to be so until the end of October. Further afield, a party of 3rd and 6th Year pupils spent a fortnight on an outdoor activities course at Ardroy, while this past weekend a party visited Hadrian's Wall.

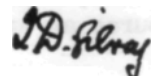
This week a new exchange link with France gets under way when a party of 3rd Year pupils from Marsillargues, near Montpellier, arrives for a week's stay in St Andrews. I hope that this exchange will be as successful as those that we have had with Kiel and Lagny.

On the sports side, our teams have had to contend with a good deal of wet and stormy weather. Four soccer teams have been fielded regularly this season, and although their fortunes have been mixed their enthusiasm promises well. The Under-16 team taking part in the Fife Cup has reached the quarter finals. Mark Simpson, Tommy Faulds and Stuart Gatherum were selected for Fife Trials. As a result of this Tommy and Stuart played for Midlands against Edinburgh. Tommy now goes forward to play for the North of Tay Group under-15's in the final trials for the Scotland Team. In boys' Hockey, only the under-15 team has played any fixtures, winning both, while the other teams still await games this month. It is hoped to run a 2nd Year team after October. Any boys interested should attend practices on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Graeme Mitchell has been included in the squad for the Midlands under-16 team. Girls' Hockey has had mixed results, but the first team won the Fife Schools Hockey Tournament, defeating Auchmuty in the final. Elaine Dochard and Alison Glover have been selected for the Midlands 2nd XI, with Sara Headen as reserve. The Rugby teams have made a strong start with the 1st XV, the 3rd Year 'A' XV and the 1st Year teams being undefeated. Angus Farquhar, Joe Gamba and Ian Johnstone have been selected for the Midlands Trials, with Robert Hayhow as reserve. In the Fife Schools Golf Championship at Balcomie, the 'A' team came 8th out of 15, and the 'B1' team 2nd out of 8.

At this time of year, news comes to school of the degree results gained by F.P's and I thought it would be of interest to readers to see these. The list is by no means complete, and I hope that any omissions, instead of giving offence, will merely prompt someone to put the record straight by phoning or by sending a letter to school.

Michael Angus	B.Sc Hons II Aberdeen
Simon Artley	B.Sc Hons II Geography Aberdeen
Clare Bacarisse	B.A. Hons Spanish Cambridge
Neil Brownlie	B.Sc Dundee
Erica Carstairs	B.L. Ord. Aberdeen
Michael Casey	M.A. Hons II (ii) Philosophy Edinburgh
Michael Chandler	B.Sc Hons II (i) Edinburgh
Susan Cross	M.A. Aberdeen
Simon Curie	M.A. Hons I Maths Edinburgh
Alan Dick	B.Sc Hons I Chemistry Edinburgh
John Finlay	B.Sc Hons II (ii) Geology St Andrews
Mark Friedman	B.Sc General Computing Studies Stirling
David Grant	B.A. Hons Physics York
Jane Grey	M.A. Hons I English Aberdeen
Peter Gribbon	B.Sc Forestry Aberdeen
Michael Hulme	B.Sc Hons II (i) Durham
Jackie Lewthwaite	B.Ed Physical Education Glasgow
Scott Martin	B.Sc Forestry Aberdeen
Heather McLeod	LL.B. Aberdeen
Ian McMaster	M.A. Med. History St Andrews
Alistair Robertson	M.A. Hons I Accounting Edinburgh
Elaine Robertson	B.Sc Aberdeen
Bridget Scott	M.A. Aberdeen II (i)
Pauline Scott	Computer Studies Heriot Watt
Joyce Stephen	M.A. Aberdeen
David Sturrock	B.Sc Aberdeen
Graham Thomas	B.Sc Genetics Sheffield
Stephen Tiley	B. of Engineering Liverpool
Michael Tough	B.Sc Hons I Engineering Edinburgh
Fiona Watt	B.A. General Social Anthropology
Grant Williamson	BL Dundee
Susan Wilson	M.A. Hons II (i) English/Drama Glasgow
Steven Cuthbert	B.A. Hons I Maths & Tripos Prize Winner Cambridge
Amanda Ridings	Bobby Jones Scholarship to Atlanta USA

In the meantime, I wish all parents, staff and pupils a very pleasant break.



Rector

Forthcoming Events and Holiday Dates

<u>October Holiday</u>	- Friday 16th October to Monday 26th October, 1981
<u>Careers Convention</u>	- 13th - 14th October, South Street Building
<u>P.T.A. Meeting</u>	- Tuesday 10th November - Kilrymont Road Building - 7.30p.m.
<u>SI Party</u>	- Monday 14th December - Kilrymont Road Building - 4.15 p.m.
<u>SII Party</u>	- Tuesday 15th December - Kilrymont Road Building - 4.15 p.m.
<u>Carol Concert</u>	- Wednesday 16th December - Kilrymont Road Building
<u>SIII/IV Party</u>	- Thursday 17th December - Kilrymont Road Building - 7.30 p.m.
<u>SV/VI Dance</u>	- Monday 21st December - South Street Building - 7.30 p.m.
<u>Christmas Holiday</u>	- Tuesday 22nd December 1981 - Wednesday 6th January 1982.