

Seldom have we had such a spell of splendid weather during the 'post-higher' period of the summer term. At lunch-time the grassy areas about both buildings have been thronged with pupils relaxing in the sun. Even Sports Day, usually attended by an East Coast haer, took place in glorious sunshine.

This has been a school year more than usually full of events. After all it is not every year that we celebrate a 150th anniversary. The fact that it was celebrated in a way that brought together pupils, staff, parents and F.P's so successfully was due in no small measure to Miss Cantley, the Secretary of the 150th Anniversary Committee. I am delighted to report that, to mark the anniversary in a way that recalls the origins of the School, the sum of £1000 has been invested to provide scholarships for needy children in the schools in Madras and the surrounding villages. The scholarships will be administered by the Diocese of Madras which forms part of the Church of South India. Nearer home, the St Andrews project for mentally handicapped people has been helped by the school to the extent of approximately £1000 this session as a result of the magnificent efforts of the pupils who took part in the Charities Week in school and in the Carol Concert.

At the end of the session three well-known members of staff will be leaving under the early retirement scheme: Miss A.P. Cantley, Mrs A. Taylor and Mrs L. von Goetz. Mrs von Goetz joined the History department in 1970, and has been a loyal and helpful colleague through the years. Mrs Taylor, who joined the French Department in 1967, was appointed Assistant Principal Teacher of Guidance in May 1978. As a teacher of French, she has demanded high standards but with kindness, while as a guidance teacher for S3 - 4 girls in the South Street Building she has exerted a positive influence on her charges. Miss Cantley came to Madras College in 1955 as Principal Teacher of Geography and was appointed to her present post of Assistant Rector (Curriculum) in 1972. Hers has been a distinguished career in which her capacity for work is legendary. Within the school she has been the focal point for curriculum development as well as looking after the SCE arrangements. While nationally she made an important contribution as Chairman of the Geography Working Party of the Central Committee on Social Subjects. Not least, as mentioned above, she took a very active part in organising the 150th Anniversary celebrations. She will be greatly missed. I wish these three ladies a long and very happy retirement.

I should like to thank Mrs Oswald (P.E.), Mrs Renton (Art) and Mrs Broom (French) for the help they have given during the absence of staff.

For the senior pupils, this term has been dominated by the S.C.E. examinations, the results of which will be awaited next month with the usual mixture of feelings. Next session sees a start to the phasing-in nationally of the new 'S' Grades which will replace the present 'O' Grades, but which will extend to the whole age group instead of the 60% served by 'O' Grades. 'S' Grade English, Mathematics and Science will start in 1984, other subjects changing over in the following two years. Between these changes in the curriculum and the larger scale alterations in the South Street Building, next session will place considerable demands on staff and pupils.

Congratulations to Tim Neilson on being among the prize winners in the Mathematical Challenge Competition for Scottish Schools; to the entrants in the St Andrews University Latin-Speaking competition - Seonaid Barclay, Mhairi Cameron, Peter Craik and Stephen King who regained the Junior Cup; Elizabeth Poole, Gail Douglas and Clare Salters who retained the first three places in Intermediate Latin; Deirdre Fraser, Jackie Latto and Stuart Rowson who regained the Senior Projects Shield; and Anna Edgar who gained the individual Junior Projects Prize. As part of a crime prevention campaign to coincide with the Open Golf Championship, Fife Police, with the support of the R & A, held a poster competition in which three Madras pupils - Shirley Porter, Jane Yemm and Lesley Stephens - gained the honour of having their posters selected for publication from a large entry of very high standard. Three SIII Food and Nutrition pupils, Mitchell Balsillie, Jane Cook and Donna Lowe reached the finals of the S.S.E.B. Class of 84 Cookery Competition with their menu for a Scottish celebration meal. Each won an electric coffee-maker.

Reports on sporting activities show that this term has produced some excellent results. Sports Day saw thirty-four records broken in track and field events. Congratulations to SI Champions Wendy Baker and Robert Corstorphine, S2 Champions Dawn Smart and Alistair Armitt, S3 Champions Susan Ellis and Garry Corstorphine, and lastly the Senior Champions Susan Lumsdaine and Stephen Edgar. Castle won the house championship on a recount. For track events at Regional and Scottish levels, space permits only the most outstanding results to be mentioned. William Kay came first in the Fife Schools' and Scottish Schools' Championships respectively, while Joan Ferguson came 5th and 6th in the 200m and 400m in the Scottish Schools' Championship. In the Fife Schools' Kenneth Green and Luis Garrido gained 1st Place in the 100m and the 200m respectively. In the 4 X 100m relay race, the cup was won by the Madras Team: Alistair Armitt, Guy Devereux, Luis Garrido and Robert Corstorphine. The Athletics Team have had four meetings with other schools and have won all four. On the golf links, the Junior Boys' and the Junior Girls' teams retained the Fife Schools' Championships while Mark Robertson and Elaine Moffat won the individual awards for boys and girls respectively. Elaine and Linsey Dingwall represented Fife in the Scottish Schools' Championship in which Elaine took 3rd place. She goes on to play for Scottish Schoolgirls' against England later this month.

The Girls' tennis Team, after some nail-biting matches, fought their way through to the final of the Scottish Schools' Championship by winning the Midlands and the Northern Area Championships, and in the final defeated Mary Erskine's School by 2 sets to 0. The team comprised Karen Christie (Captain), Ana Stewart, Lorraine Petrie, Pauline Charnock, Susan Dunlop and Kirsten McKiddie.

The football season ended with the under-14's winning their league and being narrowly defeated in the final of the East Fife Cup. The under-13's also had a good season, reaching the final of the East Fife Cup. Cricket continues to develop in a most promising fashion. The 1st XI have suffered only one defeat, the 3rd XI have lost only two matches, and the under-15 team is in the final of the Fife Schools' Shield. The 2nd Year XI are at present undefeated, and the first year team have only gone down once.

In the Scottish Schools' Sailing Association Regatta, Katie Masterson won the Girls' Section.

This term, in addition to university open days, there have been visits to Antonine's Wall, the Royal Highland Show, to the school cottage at Glen Tilt and a party has been on an adventure course at Ardroy. Incidentally, users of the school cottage will greatly appreciate the gift by the P.T.A. of £200 to renew the water supply. This month Mr Macgregor renewed our link with Kiel by taking a party of thirty pupils there on the biennial exchange visit while our link with Lagny, near Paris, was continued by the visit of a dozen pupils from the Lycee 'Jean Mermoz' with Mlle Christiane Riffaud.

At the beginning of July, Soraya Mohammed and Jerry Lau will represent the school at the International Youth Camp at Jordanhill, and a party of pupils led by Mr C. Mackay will set off for Aix-en-Provence.

Our musicians have had a busy term. The school has been well represented in the concerts and recitals given by the Fife Youth Orchestras and Choirs, while the String Group have given recitals at the Scooniehill Sheltered Housing Centre. Those of you who came along to "The Mikado" must have been charmed and impressed by the freshness, skill and enthusiasm of the cast. Tremendous credit must go to Mr McGeoch, Musical Director, Mr Roche, Producer, and the many staff involved in the production. To round off the session the Drama Club and the dance group entertained us with their production "Cops and Robbers": "Guys and Molls".

The fact that this is an unusually lengthy newsletter (and I am sure that I have missed names and events that deserved inclusion) reflects the vigorous life of the school/

school just now. That it is so is greatly to the credit of those who make it possible - the pupils with their enthusiasm and the staff for their dedication and effort at a time when they are under considerable pressure.

I wish all pupils, staff and parents a most enjoyable holiday.



RECTOR.

By way of a post-script - a plea for assistance.

The school plans to become involved in a Young Enterprise Scheme next session. The essence of such schemes is that a group of senior pupils form a company to make and market a product for a limited period of time, say 2-3 months, idea is that they learn from this exercise something of the principles of business organisation and production. Under the Young Enterprise Scheme, the group are advised and supervised by someone from outside the school with experience of accounting, production and marketing. I should be grateful if any parent/ s with this kind of background who would be willing to help in this way would contact Mr D. Stewart, Business Studies Department.

Start of Session for Pupils: Thursday 16th August 1984

October Holiday: School Finishes: Friday 12th October 1984
School starts: Monday 22nd October 1984

Christmas Holiday: School Finishes: Friday 21st December 1984
School Starts: Monday 7th January 1985

Easter Holiday: School Finishes: Friday 22nd March 1985
School Starts: Monday 8th April 1985

Summer Holiday: School Finishes: Tuesday 2nd July 1984

One-day Holidays: Monday 1st October 1984
Monday 11th February 1985
Monday 6th May 1985

PLEASE NOTE: The school office in the South Street Building will be closed 9th July to 3rd August inclusive.

The school office in the Kilrymont Road Building will be closed 19th July to 27th July inclusive.