



...of tots, tweens & teens!

May...time to hope

Edwin Way Teale writes that "*The world's favourite season is the spring. All things seem possible in May.*" In spite of the fact that the weather has not yet settled, spring is in the air. As the days become longer and longer, the world outside our homes takes more life and energy. You can sense it as our promenades, countryside and even the beaches, get busier with activity. You can see it in the blooming and scenting of flowers and plants, in the buzzing of insects, in the heightened definition of colours that everything seems to pronounce more, in the increased energy that we people seem to have.

Here at St. Catherine's, the third term started with the beginning of May. Talk of life, energy and busi-ness! May had it spelled in our faces throughout! Thank God for the possibility of renewing our energies during the Easter holidays.

We had The University of Sheffield study weekend and the School Open Day, we had the outings for our Flutterby Groups, the Sports Day for the Junior 2 to 5, the Seniors 2 and 3 attending the Music 4 Life Concert, the Senior 3's visit to the *Sant' Antnin* Recycling Plant in Marsascala and to the Civic Amenities in Hal Far, the Presentation of Medals to the winners of the Junior 6 to Senior 4 Sports Day, the Parents' Outing and the Seminars for Daddies, and much more!



Also, during the month of May we had the continuation of the BABES Programme for our Junior 3 and 4 facilitated by Aġenzija *sedqa*, football workshops for our Junior 4, 5 and 6 by Coerver Coaching, and a kite-making workshop for the Junior 3 by a local kite master.


As you can appreciate, May was a very eventful month, which required a lot of planatory and briefing meetings, preparatory work and rehearsals. All this implies a lot of

hard work and effort. We take this opportunity to thank all the staff at St. Catherine's for their commitment and dedication towards our School, which they show throughout the scholastic year but which is highly evident during our School's big events. Such occasions are a true living




example of teamwork. So well done to everyone. We would also like to thank the students for making the educational endeavour a worthwhile and satisfying calling, and to the parents for their continued support.

Finally, a belated Happy Mother's Day goes to all the mothers at St. Catherine's. We thank them for the gifts of life, of their care and love, and may we all remember to appreciate these gifts all the year round!

Brian Gauci
School Coordinator



St. Catherine's
High School



May 2011
Newsletter

Open Day 2011

Sunday 22nd May was an unusual Sunday for us at St. Catherine's as our School opened its doors to welcome people who might have been interested in experiencing what life at St. Catherine's is like! Despite the weather conditions, we had a lovely day and it was a great success. This was written on all the happy faces of those who attended. It was a family feast for all; a celebration of what St. Catherine's truly is and a warm welcome for those prospective students and parents.

What characterized this year's event is the involvement of our whole School community, and as the day was drawing closer the feeling of excitement and anticipation was on the increase! The week prior to the Open Day was a busy one as different groups were mobilized in preparation for this big annual event.

This year we added a particular tinge to the Open Day, since it was characterised by an International feeling. Those children who attended the day were provided with a 'passport' and were then invited to visit the different countries represented in our School on our Walk Around The Globe. In fact, each and every class from the Pre-Junior upwards, chose a particular country to represent on that day. From Brazil to Australia, from Nigeria to Alaska, from Russia to Hawaii, one could enjoy a taste of different countries in just one tour! We must say that the Walk Around The Group was a hit, both amongst the students and teachers who represented the countries, as well as those who took the tour.

Apart from this main venture, we had a full programme of events and different food and beverage stalls to satisfy our appetite for something savoury or sweet! Other major attractions were the Flutterby Parade, the celebration of Holy Mass and the Variety Show.

The Variety Show was a grand finale...very apt to close the day. On the programme of items we had a play by the Junior 5, a number of songs by the School Choir, a re-enactment of the *Tieg Malti* (Maltese wedding tradition) by the Senior 1 & 2, songs by local band X-Tend, and a dance by the Junior 6. It was a cheerful show, very much liked by the spectators who stayed to watch it!

What a day it was! We were exhausted by the end of it, but very happy that once again we lived a day with a felt sense of family and community.

Of Thank-Yous and Congratulations

We take this opportunity to thank all those involved in the Open Day for their sterling work and dedication to our School. Be they staff, students, parents or helpers, they are all an important loop in the long chain that is the extended family of St. Catherine's and the success of days like the Open Day greatly depends on people who are willing to get involved and help out.

Also, we would like to congratulate the School Choir for its first debut during the Open Day. It was a good start and we hope to hear more songs from its repertoire!

Parents' Group

The Parents' Group, in collaboration with St. Catherine's High School, is organising yet another seminar. The topic chosen for this seminar is on **'Health and Nutrition'** and will be open for all parents of our School. The talks will be delivered by registered Nutri-



tionists from the Health Promotion Department. The seminars will be held one on Wednesday 1st June (7.00pm) and a repeat on Thursday 2nd June (11.00am); both will be held at St. Catherine's High School. The price is of €3 per person or €5 per couple.

This will be the last seminar for this scholastic year. While we hope that these fora have been of benefit for the parents, we augur that the next scholastic year will be another year of parental involvement and that the Parents' Group continues to be of service towards our community of parents.

Hot-Dogs Day

Monday, 6th June, is for hot-dogs...at least at St. Catherine's! As a fund-raising activity, we are organising a **Hot-Dogs Day** for our Junior 3 up to Senior 4. The hot-dogs will be sold at €2 each (which also includes a portion of crisps) during the 1st break. Those interested in having a different lunch than the usual one, can book their name at Ms. Sue's office by Friday, 3rd June.

Our Wishes

We would like to congratulate all those students who have done their First Holy Communion or Confirmation in the past days, or are about to do it in the coming days.

We are aware that this may be a happy time for them - a time of partying and of gifts - but may this time be an important milestone in their spiritual journey. May they always be enriched by God's presence and be guided by God's love.



Boreatton Memorable Monday

Now that the trip is over, it is time to renew our memories of this beautiful experience which our 17-strong group of girls and boys went through, relive some of the unforgettable moments, and share these with the parents. In order to do this, we are organising an afternoon together with the group of students which will then end with a meeting with the parents.

This event will take place on a Monday, hence we decided to call it **Memorable Monday**. It will be on Monday 6th June; the students will remain on the premises when school finishes and together with Ms. Sue, Ms. Lorraine and Mr. Brian, they will go for an ice-cream...which is a promise yet to be fulfilled! Then they will return to school and at 4.00pm they will hold a meeting together with the parents. During the meeting the group will help all those present relive some of the moments shared at Boreatton .

So we hope that the parents do come and join us for this Memorable Monday!



Shorter Mornings

Kindly be informed that as from Wednesday, 8th June, our School starts on shorter mornings. This means that for all levels, except for Flutterby, school finishes at 11.15am. In the new timetable, there will be five lessons per day with a 15-minutes break between the 3rd and the 4th lesson.

Kindly note also that, as from the 8th June, the after-school programme will take place straight after school finishes.

Extended Hours' Programme



From the 8th June till the 28th June, the School will be offering an extended hours' programme for all siblings of Flutterby students attending the Pre-Junior to Junior 3 classes.



The students benefiting from this programme, will be in groups of 10 to 15 students and will be supervised by an

adult supervisor for the duration of 2 hours and 15 minutes every day. Children will be helped to do their HW and will also have time to eat their lunch, as well as enjoy some time in play and fun activities. Parents will pick up their children from school at 1.30pm.

The payment is of €180 for the whole programme and interested parents are kindly requested to fill in and submit the registration form (which was circulated in the past days) together with the payment. Registrations must reach the School's offices by not later than **Friday, 3rd June**.

Coerver Coaching

Last April, Coerver Coaching was launched in Malta. Coerver Coaching will be opening its own Football School, and St. Catherine's High School will be one of its local bases of training.

Coerver Coaching promotes a football skills teaching method suited for all ages but especially for players, boys and girls, aged 5-16 years old of all abilities, which focuses on individual skills development and small group play. It is endorsed and highly recommended by international top federations, associations and clubs.

On the 24th May, here at St. Catherine's, we had demo sessions by Coerver Coaching for our Junior 4, 5 and 6. Further sessions will be held for the other levels in our School. In the meantime, an informative meeting will be held at our school, on **Friday 10th June at 6.30pm**, for those parents interested to know more.

More information can be obtained by logging on to **www.coervermalta.com**.

Achievements in Sports

May we congratulate those students who represented St. Catherine's High School in national sports activities taking place in the recent weeks, and honoured the name of our School with victory.

Once again our team of footballers from the Junior 4, 5 and 6 have done it!!! For the fourth time this scholastic year, they placed

first in the Primary Schools' Festival Football Tournament which was held on the 10th May. On the other hand, our team of boys from the Junior 6 and Senior 1



placed third in the U/12 Boys Football Tournament which was held on 6th May. Well done to both teams!

The Presentation of Medals to the Junior 6 to Senior 4 Sports Day Winners was held on 12th May, whereas the Presentation of Medals to the Junior 2 to 5 Sports Day Winners was held on 24th May. In both cases, medals were given to the students placing first, second and third. In the coming weeks, the Pre-Junior to Junior 1 Sports Day and the Flutterby Sports Day will be held.

In the meantime, the School House Leagues in Football (Junior Levels), Basketball and Volleyball are coming to an end. The Football League for the Senior Levels was won by the Junior 2B whereas the Senior 4 were the Runners Up. We congratulate all those students who participated in these events, especially to the winners!

Puttinu Cares Football Marathon

Members from the School staff took part in the Puttinu Cares Football Marathon, held between the 7th and 8th May. St. Catherine's time slot was on Sunday 8th May, and despite the heat, we had two very motivated teams. The score ended in 2-1 but the spirit was high and the fun was great. St. Catherine's presented a donation of €500, raised from the contributions of students, parents and staff. On the day, those present for the match collected another sum of over €100. We would like to thank all the contributors for helping us contribute towards this worthy cause!

Book your Diaries!

Please take note of the following dates:

- ◆ 1st - 3rd June - Junior 6 Benchmarking Exam;
- ◆ 1st June - Parents' Seminar, 7.00pm;
- ◆ 2nd June - Parents' Seminar, 11.00am;
- ◆ 3rd June - Pre-Junior to Junior 1 Sports Day, evening;
- ◆ 6th to 16th June - Junior 3 Annual Exams;
- ◆ 8th June - Start of Shorter Mornings;
- ◆ 8th to 9th June - Junior 6 Benchmarking Exam;
- ◆ 8th to 28th June - Senior 3 to 4 Annual Exams;
- ◆ 10th June - Coerver Coaching Informative Meeting, 6.30pm;
- ◆ 15th to 28th June - Senior 1 to 2 Annual Exams;
- ◆ 17th June - Flutterby Sports Day, evening;
- ◆ 20th to 28th June - Junior 4 to 6 Annual Exams;
- ◆ 27th June - Flutterby End-of-Year Parties;
- ◆ 27th June - Last Day of Term 3 (Flutterby);
- ◆ 27th June - Pre-Junior Graduation Ceremony & End-of-Year Party (morning);
- ◆ 28th June - Junior 1 Graduation Ceremony, morning;
- ◆ 28th June - Junior 1 to 2 End-of-Year Parties;
- ◆ 28th June - Last Day of Term 3 (Pre-Junior to Senior 4);
- ◆ 28th June - First Holy Communion Commemoration Mass, evening;
- ◆ 30th June & 1st July - Teachers' Days.

"The invariable mark of wisdom is to see the miraculous in the common."

Ralph Waldo Emerson