



# Millais International

Autumn 2010



LANGUAGE COLLEGES



International School Award 2009-2012



Training School

## Reach Out Zambia



Fundraising update: £5526 has been raised toward building a school for the children of Katube and £1339 has been donated from the Against Malaria website for mosquito nets — giving a fantastic grand total so far of:

# £6865



*Thank you all for your continued support, hard work and kind donations. Fundraising activities included: raffle, car washing, sponsored silence, 3-legged race*



The next phase of the project will be starting in January with Year 7 fundraising for a shopping list of materials for the 2 classrooms. We will also be starting a tutor group shoe box collection for writing materials, pencil cases, etc, etc in the new year.

The SEN department and English in particular, along with some other individuals, have already donated a cast number of exercise books and reading materials to this end, so a big thank you to them.

Thank you again to you all and have a

## ActionAid

*We are proud to continue our sponsorship of six children in Africa through ActionAid: in Tanzania, Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Nigeria and Uganda.*

*Pupils and Staff have raised about £1,000 to honour our pledge and provide education, health care, nutrition and clean water to very poor communities. We enjoy the regular feedback from the aid workers, especially the messages and drawings from our "children".*

*We look forward to offering more support in the coming year. Well done to everyone who contributed to this success.*



## Christmas Spirit to Romania

The Christmas Spirit started early this year as Year 7 and Year 8 raided their cupboards to find presents for all the family to send to Romania. Around 50 shoe boxes were



wrapped and filled with a range of items which we hope will bring joy to desperately poor families. Girls also raised the money to despatch the boxes by convoy to outlying communities.





In a bid to develop links with the Spanish Department at Collyer's Sixth Form College, a group of Year 11 students have recently attended weekly SPANISH WORKSHOPS run by Mrs. M. Mortimer, Head of Spanish at Collyer's. During these visits, the students have used the ICT facilities to produce their own web pages, and have familiarised themselves with the demands of AS level Spanish. It has also been an opportunity for students to enhance their speaking and writing skills at GCSE level, and has inspired many of them to opt to take Spanish at A level. Feedback has been very positive.

*"Hemos aprendido mucho durante los talleres, y lo que nos ha gustado más es el ambiente de Collyers. ¡Lo pasamos bomba! Fue una experiencia muy útil" (Joanna Naylor y Kate Wilkinson)*

*(Joanna and Kate say that they have learnt a lot during the Workshops, and what they liked most of all was the atmosphere at Collyers. They had a great time and the whole experience was a great success).*

Workshops will resume again in January, and, due to the success of this project, it is proposed to extend the invitation to other Spanish GCSE groups.

Mrs. E.D. Smith  
Spanish Teacher – Millais School

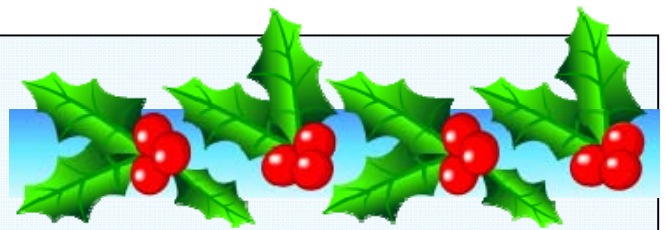


**!VIVA ESPAÑA !**



## ITALIAN LESSONS AT KINGSLEA PRIMARY SCHOOL

On Monday 27 September four Year 9 Italian students, Amy Cherubini, Becky Cole, Emily Cox and Sabrina Watson, visited Kingslea Primary School. The girls taught the younger pupils some Italian words for colours and numbers. The children really enjoyed their Italian lesson and learnt lots of new words.



## Camiono de Santiago Competition

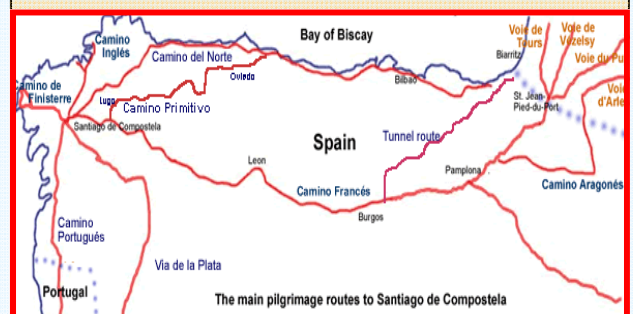
*By Jennifer Lee and Aimée Ford*

We entered a competition organised by the Spanish Embassy to promote the Camino de Santiago.

The Camino de Santiago de Compostela, also known in English as The Way of St James, is a collection of old pilgrimage routes which cover all Europe. They all have Santiago de Compostela in north west Spain as their final destination. For more than 1000 years pilgrims have been walking along the Camino de Santiago which is a journey still undertaken annually by large numbers of people.

The main Camino route is the Camino Frances. This part of the Camino de Santiago traditionally starts in St Jean Pied de Port and finishes in Santiago de Compostela about 780km later, after travelling the breadth of Northern Spain, (In Santiago you can collect your Compostela). However you can start anywhere and even continue past Santiago to the sea at Finisterre. Finisterre was thought to be the end of the world in medieval times.

We designed a series of cross curricular lessons looking at all aspects of the activity and received lots of books in Spanish about the region which will be displayed in the library





## MILLAIS' 100 MILE MARCH



In July of this year, 13 of our Year 11 girls travelled to Nijmegen in Holland where they participated in the "International Four Days Marches" together with 40,000 other walkers from 46 Countries across the world.



They began training in October 2009 to be able to undertake the gruelling 25 mile walks over four consecutive days to complete the total 100 miles distance. This was the 94<sup>th</sup> year the marches - the largest event of its type in the world - have taken place but the first time that Millais has participated.

In addition to the walking, the girls visited the British Military Cemetery and the Airborne Museum at Oosterbeek near Arnhem, attended the spectacular Four Days Marches Opening Ceremony and even managed to do some shopping in Nijmegen.

The first two days of the walk saw temperatures soar to over 30 degrees, resulting in more than 2000 people retiring from the marches. However, the Millais girls walked on and soon gained almost celebrity status and known as "The Pinkies" from the colour of their team Polo shirts.

At 4 am each morning scores of people were at the start to send the walkers off on the day's route around the Dutch countryside and thousands of people along the way cheered, applauded and gave away countless much welcome drinks, sweets and fruit.

Jade Wilkinson, a Millais team member said "It was an unbelievably amazing experience. It isn't possible to explain the whole incredible atmosphere to someone who hasn't been there."

The Millais school Enrichment and Community Awareness Co-ordinator, Andy Skinner added "The girls worked hard on top of all their GCSE's to earn their place on the team." I am very proud of all of them. Each of the girls has been awarded the much coveted "Four days Cross medal" and without exception, they were all a credit to themselves, their parents and Millais School as well as being wonderful ambassadors for the young people of the United Kingdom".



## UNOF performs at Millais!

In October (12 October 2010 ) we were delighted to offer the 'UNOF : The Child and Youth Orchestra Union' from Norway the opportunity to perform at Millais. The orchestra is based in Bergen in the county of Hordaland and were visiting England with scheduled performances in London and locally, but found that they had a cancellation – we were the lucky beneficiaries of the gap in their programme.

They performed a short concert to an audience of Year 7, Year 9 and Year 10 pupils. The repertoire was varied, including some well-known pieces and some lesser known Norwegian pieces. The programme included, from England, Anita Hewitt Jones' "Mary Rose", Purcell: "Rondo" from "Abdelsar", movements from Handel's "Music for the Royal Fireworks", an arrangement of the Sea Shanty "What shall we do with the drunken sailor" and folk songs from Shetland. Music from Norway included works by Grieg, Halverson, Ole Bulls, and an arrangement of the folk music tune "Halling".

The age of the performers ranged from eight to seventeen, with some adults too. Their playing was very sensitive, with excellent attention to dynamics and the pieces chosen were lyrical, lively, exciting and fun! For some of our Year 7 pupils it was their first opportunity to hear and see an orchestra playing, and they greatly enjoyed the experience. After the concert there was a 'question and answer' session, where our pupils asked the orchestra members about the instruments, their practise and rehearsal regime, and how they had enjoyed their visit to England. All members of the orchestra were excellent English speakers! This was a great opportunity to forge a new link, through music, with pupils from another country.

B Stredwick



*"Think German" has organised high-profile events to promote German as a foreign language. Millais contributed a project called "Face to Face" where a Year 9 group partnered a Year 10 group from Germany to bring about a personal exchange between Germany and the UK. You can read about it on:*



[http://thinkgerman.org.uk/think\\_german\\_projects](http://thinkgerman.org.uk/think_german_projects)





## Chinese Exchange 2010



On the 22 October, whilst the rest of the school was winding down for half term, 24 students and 5 teachers started the 5071 mile journey to China. The coach left behind a sea of waving parents and was full of anxious anticipation, as everyone wondered what was ahead.

Had we expected even half the warm welcome we were soon to receive, we would have been reassured. From the outset, our every need was catered for by the fabulous staff at TIFERT School, particularly Emma and Mr Li who deserve a mention.

The range of activities organised by the school allowed us to experience a combination of tourist attractions. We were fortunate enough to visit The Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square. For many, the highlight arrived after a long journey, and more experience of the Chinese Highway Code than was strictly necessary, when the girls were let loose on The Great Wall. Like everything else presented to them, they accepted the challenge with ease and raced to the top. Their matching T-shirts are testament to the fact that not a shopping opportunity was missed!

However, the real privilege of the trip was gaining an understanding of Chinese culture and having the opportunity to meet with a range of people. Pupils taught and participated in lessons at two schools, ate authentic Chinese cuisine and even had the chance to share a meal with a Chinese family.



Their enthusiasm was unmatched and never before have I seen a group of girls tackle everything head on!

### My Experience at Millais



by Qin Yuna, Teacher from TIFERT China

Thanks to the trust and support of Millais, I was fortunate to have the opportunity to visit Millais from 25th October 2010 to 5th November 2010. My stay at Millais was a truly beneficial, splendid, enjoyable and unforgettable experience.



As a language college and training school with an international vision, Millais' brilliant teaching staff, versatile students, excellent specialist facilities, relaxed atmosphere and rich, colorful extracurricular activities made my stay colorful and enjoyable. I was impressed by how intelligent, creative and cooperative the Millais girls are. I was also inspired by the teaching staff who use a variety of methods to motivate and encourage the students, which will certainly benefit my English teaching in TIFERT.

Apart from school life, I had opportunities to experience typical English life with my host family, which provides interesting insight into various traditions and customs in England. We had a great time together.

My visit in Millais has come to an end but it will always light up my mind and benefit my personal development and career. Thanks again to Mr. Nettley, Ms. Springer and MFL colleagues for all the help they have given me.

### Hungarian Exchange 2010



In October a group of 19 Millais pupils, many of whom are studying Additional Maths, enjoyed a successful exchange visit to Budapest accompanied by Mrs Rudd and Mrs Paterson. Girls from the current year 10 were hosted for a week by pupils from the Fazekas Mihály Gimnázium, a specialist mathematics school in the Buda district of Budapest. We were made very welcome and the girls had the opportunity to attend maths lessons that had been specially arranged for them in English as well as participating in a number of team problem solving games and competitions.

The Millais pupils particularly enjoyed visiting the Millenáris Museum, which literally translates as 'Palace of Wonders'. The museum, comparable to the Launch Pad exhibition at London's Science Museum, invites a hands on exploration of key concepts of both science and mathematics. The trip also included an excursion to Visegrad and a coach tour of Budapest. A visit to the House of Terror, which was the Secret Police headquarters for both the Nazi and Soviet regimes, served to remind pupils of Hungary's rich, but chequered, history.



Picture: Alexandra Rawlins, Genna Rawlins, Harriet Boyle and Emily Morris at the Millenáris Museum, Budapest. October 2010

