



September 2010

Dear all new members of Boyne House,

Although I am sure many of you will have already visited the house I am writing to give you some vital information about the house and life in Boyne House. New members of the house are welcomed into the house straight away, induction days at the start of term help new boys to settle in and by the time the rest of the house arrives you will, I am sure all feel comfortable in Boyne. I will be at the house in September along with Adam and Sam, the deputy head of house and head of sweat.

A question that I get asked frequently whilst taking tours around the College is: "why did you choose Boyne House?" or "What makes Boyne House different to other houses?" Boyne is a tight knit boys boarding house; everyone knows everyone and there is a very strong community, not just within year groups but also across different year groups. Everyone is included, this is especially important with new boys from the moment they arrive. We are a dynamic house but at the same time we remember our heritage as one of the older houses in College. In terms of the building we inhabit, Boyne has connections with Charles Dickens and specifically his inspiration for Scrooge, Jemmy Wood who owned the land that Boyne was built on. Within the regency architecture Boyne is comfortable and definitely the best house in this sense. Boys receive their own study bedrooms in their second year in Boyne and the 3rd form rooms are shared by three or four, with a separate 'sweat room' for working in. The house community possesses a number of diverse individual talents and I think that it also fair to say that as a whole we are greater than simply a sum of the parts.

House Routines

It is crucial that you get into the house routines - they will be easy to get used to and after the first few days they will feel like second nature.

Bed times range from 9:30pm for third formers to 10:30pm for sixth formers; for Saturday nights these times are later. Although sometimes it is hard to go to bed and I vouch from my own experience, life at Cheltenham College is naturally very tiring and sleep is important. Matron and Mr Bullock come round and wake everyone up at around 7:00am and breakfast, across the road in the dining hall is open from then until 7:45am, although strictly the dining hall is open for breakfast from 6:45am for those who wake up that early. By 7:30am most members of the house are awake in some form or another and on their way to breakfast. At 8:20am people start leaving to go to their 10-minute tutor period and then there is Chapel at 8:40am, where amongst other things the singing is always very enthusiastic.

Most boys come back to house at morning break to get their books and maybe some toast or a muffin. Every weekday after tea there is a house meeting and sign in at 6:45pm; either Mr Bullock or Mr McKegney will hold the meeting. Prep then runs from 6:55pm to 8:45pm (with a 15 minute break at 7.45pm) and then there is a break from 8:45pm until 9:30pm. On Wednesday nights there are presentations that are made by members of the house; new members will definitely be encouraged to do presentations, which range from trips and hobbies to current affairs. There are also plans to start holding debates.

House Events

Every term there are events that include the whole house or certain year groups; some highlights are House Superstars and paintballing. Other house trips include visiting Batsford Arboretum, climbing in the Brecon Beacons and watching the Severn Bore. Within the first term the 3rd form take a bushcraft training day, go wakeboarding and tackle a high ropes course. In College all Houses take part in inter house sports, entering junior (3rd and 4th form) and senior (5th and 6th form) teams.

The House Team

Mr Bullock is of course in charge of Boyne in his position of Housemaster. He teaches economics and is now one of the senior housemasters in College. Mr Bullock has spent time in the SAS and enjoys running (up hills!) and climbing (four years ago he reached the summit of Mt. Everest). Mr Bullock has three children, Xander (10), Jago (8) and Claudie (5). Mr Bullock's wife, Mrs MacInnes also plays an active role in Boyne as an assistant matron; every Sunday night she also hosts the 3rd Form for pizza and games. Mr Bullock is always available for members of the house to talk to and always knows what every member of the house is up to.

*Mr. Bullock
& his
family*



Mr McKegney is the resident house tutor; he plays an integral part in the running of the house, taking on Mr. Bullock's duties when he is off duty. Mr McKegney teaches DT, he is a very keen sportsman and has been close to playing both professional cricket and rugby. Mr McKegney has his own flat at the top of the house and the door is always open for anyone. Mr. McKegney can also sometimes be found in the yard, playing cricket or table tennis. Mr McKegney runs the Boyne House table tennis cup although much to his dismay he is yet to win it!

House Prefects

The prefects play a very important role in the house; they provide the bridge between members of the house and Mr Bullock. They are always available for a chat and also put the house to bed every night as well as signing the house in at meetings and at breakfast. If at any times you have any problems, or are unsure about anything it is usually best to speak to a prefect first whether it be about anything from work to friends the prefects will help.



George Burt

Head Of House

I will, as head of house lead the prefect team, organise house events and represent the house in the College prefect body. I act as a figurehead for the house and it is my job to make sure that the house runs smoothly. In the long term I have goals to fulfil for the house. I work closely with Adam to make sure that day to day the house is running, as it should be. I will always be around the house, particularly in the first few weeks. I play cricket, squash and tennis and study economics, geography, maths and history. I am an Oxbridge candidate and an academic scholar. I look forward to a great year ahead for the house. We have a great intake for September and I look forward to meeting all of the new members of the house.



Adam Shimizu

Deputy Head of House & Head of Sport

I'm Adam, but known as Shimi. As deputy I am in charge of organising all of the duties, and rotas on a day-to-day basis. As head of sport I organise all of the house teams and monitor the sporting talents of individuals within the house. I'm a keen biologist, chemist and economist but my main interests lie in the world of art history. Sport has probably been my forte, excelling on the rugby pitch, aiming to get into the 1st XV for rugby and 1st XI for hockey playing on the wing for both.



Sam Frost

Head of Sweat

I'm Sam and head of sweat. This refers to the sweat room which is the room in which the 3rd form do prep. Essentially I am in charge of the 3rd form, making sure that you are all working and having fun especially in the first few weeks. It is my job to make sure that the 3rd form settle in well. I take DT, maths, history and BS. I am an all round sportsman, dibbling with rugby, hockey, tennis and cricket but specialising in football.



Vlad Chirtoca

Editor of The Hoot (BH Newsletter) & Website Manager

Hi, my name is Vlad; I am from the Kingdom of Moldova. I study Physics, Economics, History and Mathematics for my A-levels. I have a wide range of interests, including ancient history, geopolitics, conspirology and engineering. In terms of sporting activities, tennis, swimming and chess are my favourites. I edit the hoot which is a newsletter reporting events that have taken place in the house, the website also has copies of the latest edition of the hoot and pictures and other reports which I upload. (<http://www.cheltenhamcollege.org/boyne-house>)



Peter Bruins

I am Peter and I was born in Tanzania, Africa. I take economics, geography, P.E and general studies. I really enjoy my sports as I take part in polo, rugby, hockey and golf here at college. In my spare time I like relaxing with my friends and hunting game.



Charles Price

I am the American prefect in Boyne House. I joined Boyne at the start of my lower-sixth year. I am taking Religious Studies, Business Studies and History as A-levels. At Cheltenham I am a member of the prestigious Vth rugby XV and am the 1500m runner for the Athletics team.



Oliver Strittmatter

I'm Oliver, come from Germany and joined in L6th. I chose economics, politics, history and maths as my A-Levels since these are (essentially) my favourite subjects. Moreover I really enjoy playing golf, tennis and other sports here at College. I'm looking forward to supporting Boyne House and its members next year.



Jeffrey Leung

My name is Jeffrey Leung. I came to the UK three years ago from Hong Kong in 4th form. I am studying maths, chemistry, economics and physics. I play in the college first team in badminton and I like to play table tennis in my spare time. I really enjoy my time in Boyne House.

House Tutors

The tutors are on duty several times a week, aiding the prefects with bed times. The tutors also as their name suggests tutor members of the 3rd, 4th and 5th form, they meet their tutees as a group every morning to ensure that everything is going well. There are also weekly individual meetings. Every Saturday morning the tutors also meet their tutees to go through current affairs and a PSHE course.

Three nights a week the tutors are on duty in house from 7:30pm until 11:00pm. The tutors also take their tutor groups out for trips such as laser tag and punting.



Mr. Gordon Busbridge

Head of Music
4th Form Tutor

“For me the best thing about Boyne House is that there is always a genuinely welcoming and friendly atmosphere.”



Mr. Jonathan Pepperman

Head of History and Politics
5th Form Tutor

“Coming from outside, even as a teacher, working in a boarding house was a new and challenging experience for me. I needn't have worried as Boyne House is friendly, welcoming and a really good house with

which to be associated.”



Mr. Patrick Weir

Modern Languages (French and German)
Master in charge of the Boat Club
3rd Form Tutor

“If you send us the boy we will find out what he is good at: many of the boys arrive at Boyne without a real passion. At Boyne they have the opportunity to enjoy everything that College

has to offer, in a sheltered environment, before trying out their interests on a larger stage. Every boy has an excellent opportunity to develop.”



Mr. John Jones

Head of Chemistry
3rd Form Tutor

“Boyne House is an entertaining and eclectic mix of individuals giving the House a colourful character. Above all though, Boyne House is a warm and welcoming home-from-home to the boys, making for a happy and settled life.”



Mr. Charlie McKegney

DT Department
5th Form Tutor

I have been in Boyne, and at College for a year now, and my has it gone quick! I have enjoyed every moment of teaching Design and Technology and especially coaching Rugby, Hockey and Cricket. It's in Boyne however where some of my

fondest memories of this year lie, as I am resident tutor so spend a lot of time here! Firstly I was welcomed into the house by all concerned, with Boyne's unique community and fun loving atmosphere really shining through. The range of things we have got up to this year has been phenomenal: paintballing, bushcraft, house Superstars, walking up Pen-y-Fan (as painful as it was at the time!), house table competition (where I'm still gutted I didn't win!) and many, many more. I hope you have a restful summer and I look forward to seeing you next year with more of the fun to continue!

Mr Mark Evetts will be joining the House in September as a 4th Form tutor.

Matron

Matron (Mrs Lesleyann Stephenson) helps to keep the house running smoothly, she lives in the house and so she is always there if you are feeling ill, she wakes you up every morning and makes sure that the 3rd from are in bed every night. The assistant matrons, Mrs MacInnes and Mrs Brunt help matron during the day and distribute buns or crisps during break time. The matrons are also responsible for the laundry that gets done every week. Matron runs two official surgeries every day (7:45am to 8:00am and 8:45pm to 9:00pm) when you can visit her if you are feeling unwell or have a problem. Matron is also responsible for making sure that all of the rooms are kept tidy so that the rooms are clear for the cleaners Pam and Judy who come to the house everyday.

The building



The games room, also used for house meetings and presentations.



The TV room

A 3rd Form Dormitory



If you have any further queries then please don't hesitate to contact me: (burt.gh@cheltcoll.gloucs.sch.uk), other than that I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Regards,

George Burt

Head of House 2010-2011