

## HeadLines

'Where are the songs of summer?' as John Keats plaintively asked in 'Ode to a Nightingale'. Well, many of them featured in House Music and many of them we will hear, like it or not, because of open windows and orchestrated barbecues announcing the musical tastes of friends and neighbours to all and sundry. Songs from the musicals such as 'We're Having a Heatwave, a Tropical Heatwave' and 'Too Darn Hot' spring to mind as we swelter in temperatures of thirty two degrees. Even the 'stickler for uniform' Headteacher has declared shirt sleeve order in order to combat the lethargy and heatstroke amongst the perspiring population.

In the last week, the heat has cooled on the stories of MPs' expenses and the focus has turned towards Michael Jackson, Glastonbury and Wimbledon with the promise of a famous British victory. The summer of 2009 will live in people's memories just as summers past conjure up other forms of nostalgia or temperature comparisons. I remember standing in the sports hall at Pilgrim School, Bedford with 800 or so students, in my first year of teaching, watching the last great British victory in a Wimbledon Singles Final.....and no, it wasn't Fred Perry!

Examinations are over, Year 11 proms and sixth form dinners are history. We have Music on the Moor, Work Related Learning week and the end of term staff revue to look forward to, not to mention the senior school production of 'History Boys' and various trips.

And what of the future? I have been pondering on the future of the school and where we will go next. The school is more successful than it has ever been academically with our placing in the top 30 state schools but that was a hard prize to win and is a difficult one to maintain or better. Reputations are easily lost. We won't lose it because our ambitions are built on simple principles of wanting the best for the students of the school based on years of service and commitment. We will do even better because our dreams are big and our imagination boundless, founded on the solid values of what this school has stood for in the community since 1931. The message is 'Stay cool!'



**Sandra Samwell, Headteacher**