



MAIDSTONE.

TERMLY BULLETIN, JANUARY, 1953.

THIS BULLETIN. The success of publishing a termly bulletin depends upon the use which is made of it. The information and news contained in the last issue proved popular and useful. We are encouraged to continue. We should however be more pleased to be in a position to reinstate our full-scale magazine as in days past. The pressing needs are the same, the editorship and the advertisements.

TIME-TABLE. Please keep these dates before you and you will find them of use when compiling holiday and other arrangements.

1953.

Feb. 14. MCSOSA Annual Dinner.	May 23-25. Whitsun Recess.
Feb. 20. Half-term.	Jun. 2. Coronation events.
Mar. 11. MCSOSA Social.	Jun. 6. MCSOSA London Coronation Trip.
Mar. 30. School and MCSOSA Concert. Distribution of Certificates.	Jun. 14. MCSOSA Fishing Picnic.
Apr. 3-6. Easter Recess.	Jun. 17. G.C.E. examinations begin.
Apr. 9. MCSOSA Discussion.	Jun. 29. Junior C.O.P. examinations begin.
Apr. 14. School Concert. Distribution of Prizes.	Jul. 7. School Outing. Windsor, Thames & London Airport.
Apr. 15. End of Term and Church Service.	In July. School Sports.
Apr. 23. MCSOSA Chess and Games evening.	Jul. 24. MCSOSA Week-end Camp.
Apr. 29. Summer Term Starts.	Jul. 29. End of Term.
May 7. MCSOSA Ramble.	Sep. 16. Christmas Term starts.
May 21. MCSOSA "Sausage-fry."	Nov. 30. C.O.P. examinations begin.
	Dec. 16. End of Term.

SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS. Our own school scholarship examinations were held last autumn and the results were as follows:— Senior, 1st., R. Beale; 2nd., H. King; 3rd., R. Watkins; 4th., M. Bridgeland. Junior, 1st., P. Dodd; 2nd., R. Butler; 3rd., M. Stockbridge. The scholarships take the form of a reduction of fees and the examination is held every autumn. The age limits are 10 and 12 for the two grades. Full details can be given to those interested. We congratulate the winners and trust that they will be able to make full use of the awards.

EXAMINATION RESULTS. During 1952 we started the policy of entering every boy who remains long enough at school and who shows prospect of passing for the General Certificate of Education examination by means of the Oxford Locals. In future we hope to present these G.C.E. candidates every June, while in December we enter candidates for the Senior College of Preceptors examination. This latter is a very useful stepping stone for boys to pass in the winter just before they enter for G.C.E. It is an excellent 'try-out' and helps to banish any fear of examination nerves at the G.C.E. if they have already taken a comparable examination. Furthermore the syllabuses of the two examinations have very much in common. The G.C.E. is universally recognised as an 'excusing' examination and boys who have it to their credit rarely are required to pass the preliminary tests required as entry to the professions. It may mean remaining at school for an extra couple of terms but the goal is well worth while. We frequently hear of cases where boys who have left school for some time have found it necessary to pass the G.C.E. and have been obliged to study in their spare time out of working hours by means of either evening classes or by correspondence classes. This can be avoided if boys determine to pass the G.C.E. while still at school.

GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION. The full results for the year were:—

- D. W. Jenner. English Language, Mathematics, Biology, Geography, Art.
 R. P. Viggers. English Language, Eng. Literature, Mathematics, French, Geography.
 F. E. M. Piper. English Language, English Literature, Scripture.
 J. W. Youngs. English Language, Mathematics, French.
 M. A. Bolt. English Language, French.
 P. W. Allum. English Language, Geography.
 B. R. Sutton. English Language.

SENIOR COLLEGE OF PRECEPTORS. The full results were:—

- J. D. Hitch. Honours, 10 subjects. Distinction in Arithmetic, History, Geography.
 T. W. Jones. Pass, 8 subjects. Distinction in Scripture.
 M. G. A. Rance. Pass, 8 subjects. Distinction in Scripture.
 C. W. J. Lear. Pass, 7 subjects. Distinction in Arithmetic, Scripture.
 W. G. Cox. Pass, 6 subjects. Distinction in Arithmetic.
 F. A. Golds. Pass, 6 subjects.
 B. W. Robinson. Pass, 6 subjects.

LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. The Handwriting examinations secured the following certificates:—
 Certificate Stage.

R. S. Blomefield. K. T. Mattocks. R. Underdown.

Elementary Stage.

B. F. Barton.	A. S. Wright.	D. J. C. Chapman.
N. W. B. Cass.	C. Bennett.	G. A. G. Field.
H. D. Farrer.	G. M. Davis.	D. J. Goodwin.
R. H. Kemp.	J. Gilbert.	J. A. Moxham.
B. W. Smith.	J. R. Kennedy.	E. A. Turner.
A. J. Wood.	P. Smallwood.	R. Watkins.
	D. J. Warner.	

CHARITIES. We have continued our school collections towards the usual charities. They include Dr. Barnardo's, League of Pity, Children's Society, R.S.P.C.A., Poppy Collection, King George Memorial Fund, Mission to Seamen, Flood Relief and various other funds. Owing to the indisposition of the Secretary we regret that we cannot give totals of all these collections at the moment. It has been suggested that we ought to include our National Savings totals under the heading of 'Charities.' It is a convenient place to draw attention to it and last year we maintained our target and during the latter part of 1952 exceeded the weekly totals for the first part of the year. Again we are unable to give totals at the moment. We will give these figures in our next bulletin.

CORONATION. A Souvenir will be presented to all pupils who are in attendance in June. It will take the form of a Coronation Spoon for those over 10 and a Coronation Mug to those under 10. In our opinion it is a correct decision that if souvenirs are to be given at all then they should be given to every child in the country irrespective of the school which they attend. Surely the intention is that all pupils who are loyal to the Queen should be recognised? Analogous cases are every child having a gas mask during the war and every child receiving school milk who so desires. Souvenirs for all or none is a fair British decision.

CONCERNING FEES. We regret that it became essential to send notices to all parents concerning the impending alteration of fees. We feel certain that parents will realise the need for this step that has been taken. The alternative would be to effect other reductions which would mean impairing some part of the school work. Our aim is rather to improve and develop the work of the school and plans are being considered for that end. The most pressing is the provision of a School Hall and we already have some funds in hand for that purpose. The sum of £500 in 1943 would have to be £1,500 in 1953 to do the same amount of reconstruction. The present Nissens are regarded as essentially a temporary measure but they were planned in such a way that the existing foundations can be easily converted for use as foundations

for a much enlarged building embracing both sites. We look forward to the time when a large hall can be used not only for purely school purposes but for such additional functions as school concerts, assembly room, gymnasium and examination hall. A committee is in existence for the purpose of dealing with the matter and the last estimate for a capacious building was between £3,000 and £4,000!. The committee felt that this sum was much too high and decided to wait till costs become more reasonable.

NOTICES TO LEAVE SCHOOL. It has been necessary to insist rigidly on the observance of the rule to give a term's notice before boys leave school. This is a business decision and parents will realise the necessity of our being able to budget at least one term ahead. In cases of doubt parents can always give a provisional notice but there must be a period of at least a full term. If the expected post does not materialise the provisional notice can always be withdrawn. The expression 'full term' means three calendar months before the date of the beginning of the following school term.

OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION. The official title is 'MCSOSA,' that is, 'Maidstone Commercial School Old Scholars' Association.' They are very active, probably more active than any other similar body in the town. Details of future events can be obtained from the school and dates of various functions are shown in the appropriate list of future events. We strongly urge all Old Boys to come along and enjoy the fun.

GAMES. The 'Under 15' football team have had a somewhat better season than last year. To date they have secured 4 points in the 'B' League of the School Football Competition. They are also entering for the Sharp Cup and we hope that they will work their way, if not to the Final, then at least to the Semi-final. The team is building up and next year we hope that they will be able to climb up again to the head of the table. Swimming has been well attended and the school has succeeded in building up quite a reputation for its swimming successes during the last two or three seasons. Much of the credit for this success is due to the enthusiasm of Mr. Dawson, who has devoted much time and energy to our swimming.