

High school signs off with awards

by Laura Nightingale

GCSE pupils across the county will be breathing a sigh of relief as they go on study leave.

But one school in Woking was keen to make sure the last day for the year 11s was marked by honouring their achievements.

Woking High presented them with national achievement awards at a final school assembly.

Held in the main school hall last Tuesday afternoon, families, students and members of the community were invited to watch students collect their certificates.

The assembly was taken by headteacher Jane Abbott, who congratulated

students for their outstanding achievement and exceptional skills.

A number of guest speakers, including chairman of governors Dr Roy Wernham and Bonny Holland, from Surrey Four S, the graduate teacher programme, were also present.

Mrs Abbott said: "Bonny gave a compelling document of how you needn't be from an academic background to take educated opportunities."

"Focusing on her deprived and late arrival to education, she urges listeners to grab every chance for a good education."

"Her son is now a physics student at Cambridge University."

Additional prizes were awarded to students with

phenomenal success in individual subjects, contribution to school life and community welfare.

Among the prize-winners were Jessica Burrowes, winning the Governors' Prize for academic achievement, and Katherine Crofts-Gibbons, presented with the Police Shield for excellent service to the community.

Vision-impaired Callum Russell was given the Windband Prize for his effort over the year.

The talented youth recently won the gold medal at the British indoor rowing championship and aims to take part in the Olympics in 2012.

The year 11 rugby team was also given special mention for its

outstanding achievement in winning the South-west Surrey Cup three years in a row.

Team members were presented with personalised rugby shirts as a memento of their success.

The two-hour assembly was followed by cream teas served by the school's restaurant and administrative staff.

Mrs Abbott added: "It was an extremely pleasant afternoon."

"Rob Prince, head boy, and Claire Jeeves, head girl, thanked the school for giving them countless opportunities and support throughout their time spent at Woking High."

"They also wished their fellow students good luck in their forthcoming exams and for the future."



Award time at Woking High with Katherine Crofts-Gibbons, head girl Claire Jeeves, head of year 11 Matt Crowley, Jessica Burrowes and head boy Rob Prince. Photo: Ben White

Flats scheme looking good

PLANS to build a block of flats in the town looked set to be agreed by Woking's planning chiefs despite the applicant failing to find out how it would affect the environment.

As the *Review* went to press, the borough council's planning committee met on Wednesday to discuss the plans for Janoway Hill, Firbank Lane.

Millgate Homes wants to demolish the existing large house, outbuilding and cottages, which would be replaced with 15 two-bed apartments with associated outbuildings.

The blueprint was

submitted without an environmental impact assessment but the Local Planning Authority decided that it was not needed and officers recommended that permission should be granted.

This is an amended plan of an application that was refused last year and received several objection letters from residents.

But the officer's report backed the applicant's claims.

It stated: "The application has overcome the previous reasons for refusal with respect to the impact on the properties

within The Dell by removing the single detached houses.

"With regards to highway safety along Firbank Lane the planning inspectorate's decision concludes that there will be no material harm."

"The development would be of a high-quality and design, maintaining a semi-rural character within a well-treed setting. The application offers a number of planning benefits and would not harm the protected species on the site subject to mitigation, which can be secured by conditions."

Fun club to keep a watch on waste

THERE will be fun and games to be had over the half term with a holiday club with an environmental theme.

Holy Trinity Church in Chobham Road in Knaphill will be running a holiday club which will be called WasteWatchers.

All the crafts, games and songs which will be played out will have an environmental theme.

The club runs at the church from Tuesday May 27 to Friday 30 from 9.30am to noon.

For more information about WasteWatchers please telephone 01483 473489.

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