

Easter Newsletter

Madras College Newsletter

March 2012

Rector's Note

Each term in school has its own character. The term now ending has brought the pressure of prelim examinations to our senior pupils and has highlighted the need for every pupil to study hard to ensure the very best performance in the forthcoming SQA examinations. We are fully committed to raising attainment and encourage all pupils to make use of the study facilities we offer.

The Burns Supper was a great success with excellent speeches and high quality entertainment. It was a good example of departments collaborating to produce a very enjoyable event, showcasing some of our very talented pupils. Our Spring Concert was greatly enjoyed and the audience was treated to exceptional solo and group performances. Our team of reporters have made good use of the Madras Diary as a regular means of informing the community of our work. As the term ends we look forward to a successful SewArty Exhibition.

continued on page 2

Madras College Grand Fete

Saturday 16th June 2012 11.00 am to 4.00 pm South Street Campus

Music from pupils past and present Food and Produce Stalls Grand Raffle Prizes

Morning Coffees * Afternoon Teas
Barbecues

Family Fun and Entertainment

Games * Competitions * Programme Prize

Entry: £5 adults, £2 concessions(secondary pupils/senior citizens), £1 younger children

Brewin Dolphin Scottish Schools' U16 Bowl



Congratulations to Madras for a fabulous win in the Brewin Dolphin Scottish Schools' U16 Bowl Final.

Captain Jon Price led Madras College U16 Rugby Team to a 12-29 victory over Hawick High School. He also was awarded the Brewin Dolphin Player of the Match. We are very proud of this team's amazing success.

The players were: Hamish Anderson, Jack McLean, Scott Aitken, Calum Stewart, Thomas Delavine, Jon Price, David Hodge, Ewan Cameron, Roarke Hughes, Chris Charnley, Alisdair Taylor, James Allan, James Gillan, Shaw Palmer and James Picken. Subs: Steven Ritchie, Colin Weir, George Collinge, Kyle Finlayson, Frank MacArthur, William Tooze, Justin Stewart, Charlie Stewart, Duncan Sinclair.

Eco Club

Youngest Greenest Person in Scotland!

Rebecca Gorgon was successfully nominated to be placed on the 'Young Scottish Green List 2012' by the Scottish Sustainable Development Forum and KSB. A very proud Rebecca was presented with her certificate at a ceremony in the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh by the Minister for the Environment and Climate Change, Stewart Stevenson.

"Since she came 4th and the age range for this prestigious prize was between 11-25, we've decided to state categorically, and without a word of a lie, that she's the youngest greenest school pupil in Scotland", said Mr Fox, the school's Eco-Schools Coordinator. "She's a pleasure to have on board and is a very important member of our very successful Eco-Committee, here at Madras."

continued from page 1

We are preparing for our annual Great Assembly that takes place in the Holy Trinity Church. The twin themes of the assembly will be reflection and celebration. We will have the opportunity to look back over the year, to celebrate our successes and to look forward with optimism and confidence to the future. I am very grateful to Rev Rory MacLeod for allowing us the use of the Holy Trinity, and for playing an important part in the Assembly.

Out mid-session review of our development plan concludes that we are on track to deliver all our development priorities this session. These are: Attainment, Curriculum for Excellence and Improvement through Self-evaluation.

Our focus next term turns to planning for session 2012-13. During the inservice day, time will be spent on gathering information that, along with other evidence, will allow us to identify school development priorities for next year. Time will also be spent developing the senior phase of Curriculum for Excellence.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your support and to wish you an enjoyable Easter break.

Art Department Edinburgh Gallery Trip



The fourth year Standard grade Art pupils recently had the opportunity to see important pieces of Art work first hand, on their trip to the Dean and the Modern Art gallery in Edinburgh.

They visited 'The Sculpture show' to witness Ron Mueck's five metre long hyper realistic sculpture entitled 'A girl' and also studied the work of the famous Scottish Colourist 'Francis Cadell'. The Madras pupils and staff spent time in the galleries discussing the Art work, and then producing preliminary notes for the Expressive written aspect of the Standard Grade course. See picture on page 7.

Staffing

This term we welcomed the following staff to Madras College:

Ms Cortazzi, Principal Teacher Curriculum English; Mr Clifford, Physics Teacher who is replacing Mrs Lindsay who has taken on the position as Principal Teacher of Physics while Mr Duffy is on secondment to Auchmuty High School. Miss Reid, Teacher, Home Economics; Mrs Fox, Pupil Support Assistant within the Department of Support for Learning. We also welcome Ms Guo, Mandarin Teacher who started in early September. Ms Guo not only teaches Mandarin in Madras but also in several of the local Primary Schools.

We say goodbye to Mrs Grieve Teacher of Home Economics, who has left to join the staff of Glenrothes High. We wish her well.

We also said goodbye to Mrs Bayne, one of the Kilrymont Dinner Ladies, who has retired after 29 years of serving lunches to Madras College pupils and staff. We take this opportunity to wish her a long and happy retirement.

Lastly a big thank you to the teaching supply staff who have worked with us this term.

MUSA Art Trip

Three groups of pupils from Madras Art Department have recently taken the opportunity of attending a workshop at the Bell Pettigrew Museum in St Andrews, run in conjunction with 'The MUSA Young Artist Award' by Curatorial trainee Rebecca Berger. Pupils had a tour of this historic museum, and then some hands-on experience of the many artifacts on display, before undertaking a drawing session within their own chosen area. The trip was inspiring for the pupils observed drawing class work, and their creative entries to the 'MUSA Fantastic Creatures' schools competition.







Congratulations to Matthew McDougal (S2) whose entry for the 'Lord of the Flies' Cover Competition was commended by the judges. Matthew's entry was one of twenty-one entries featured in the competition's exhibition held at the Guardian Gallery in London from Tuesday 20th February to Tuesday 27th February 2012 and well done to all of Ms Petrie's S2 Art pupils who entered the competition.



Drama News



Visiting Specialists Workshops in Acting and Dance

Senior pupils in the NPA Musical Theatre/Professional Theatre Preparation courses have benefited from specialist workshops in acting and dance this term.

Miss Hyslop was delighted to welcome back former pupils Jenna Hunter and Johnny Elmer who returned to the Drama Department to share knowledge they have learned from study at a higher level. Pupils in the class both enjoyed and benefited from the experiences.

S3 Creative Projects

Monologue Writing Competition

Last term, Miss Hyslop's S3 drama class were invited to enter a monologue writing competition. Pupils responded positively producing work of a high standard. The exercise was successful not only in producing excellent, creative scriptwriting but also in developing and improving literacy. Jordan Methven was awarded 1st place and a £15 itunes voucher. Amber Dean and Freya Simpson were awarded 2nd equal.

S3 Acting Competition

Monologue Acting Competition

This term all S3 Standard Grade Drama pupils are being encouraged to enter a monologue acting competition. Entry forms, speeches and information are available from Miss Hyslop. Performances will be presented and assessed in the week beginning 23rd April but entry forms need to be submitted by the end of term.

Talented Singers

A group of talented S4 singers have recently been given the opportunity to gain an insight into the music recording industry. Links have been made with Abertay University to allow the group to produce a professionally mastered recording of their voices. The finished product is well worth a listen!

In early December 2011, the 'Consecutive Harmony' recorded their very first album, in aid of AICR charity.

It all began in S2 when the girls first came together to sing at one of the Madras school concerts. They continue to perform in the concerts and assemblies in the school steadily building up a repertoire of different songs.

They decided to record the CD as they wanted a memory of what they had done and also to give support to a charity. AICR was chosen as several group members had family and friends affected by cancer and they felt this was the charity that they were most connected to. The CD itself was recorded in Abertay University, Dundee with the help of two student volunteers. The album, 'Word Art' was produced after hours of hard work and has already raised over £200 for the charity, and the initial success has led to the production of a second batch of CDs. It was a memorable and wonderful experience that is not over yet!

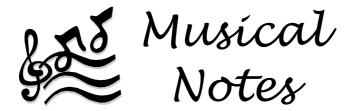
The group would like to give a special thanks to Miss Hyslop, who organised and encouraged the group through the whole process, thank you.

CDs can be purchased from members of 'Consecutive Harmony.' (Katie Duncan, Megan Pettegree, Lydia Upton, Liv Darge, Natalie Cameron, India Duane and Emma Ruskuc).

Lydia Upton

The Drama department has had an extremely active term!

- In January S5 pupils Rory White, Cameron Mackay and Alan Sunter regaled guests at the Fairmont Hotel with stories, poems and songs about Robbie Burns. The genteel setting, the whisky cocktails and delicious canapes provided a perfect setting for the mellifluous voices of our young actors.
- The S4 Standard Grade Drama classes performed their devised pieces just before the half-term break. Playing to packed audiences the classes explored a variety of themes provided through the SQA stimulus paper. The dramas were stimulating and in some cases very funny. One particular drama was about a PE teacher who bets three bored fourth years £10 that they will fail their PE written exam. They decide to break
- into the school and steal the papers but are foiled by the janitor who overhears their plans and substitutes the new papers with old ones. Very amusing!
- Seniors also took part this term in a Shakespeare monologue performance. This gave an opportunity for pupils who were not taking Drama as a subject on their timetable to perform before a lunch time audience.
- Finally Mrs Esler has handed on the baton of organising the London trip to Mr Darge who has already arranged tickets to see the *Taming Of The Shrew* at The Globe and *Miss Julie* starring Juliette Binoche at The Barbican.



- In August, Rory Lamb, Emily Morrice and Karis McDonald (accompanied by Mrs Nisbet) sung solos at a concert in aid of Macmillan Cancer in Holy Trinity Parish Church along with the Carlton Male Voice Choir.
- On Remembrance Sunday, Class Brass (Paul Sinclair, Kathryn Gowans, Fiona Powrie, Abbi King and Kathryn Manning), trained by Miss Mair, provided the music at the Royal British Legion ceremony at the St Andrews War Memorial.
- Madras pupils gave a short concert to the Kilrymont Rotary at their meeting in the Scores Hotel on Tuesday 29th November. The performers were: Lyndsey Wilson, Rory Lamb, Cameron Mackay, Ryan Cowan, Liam Vincent-Kilbride and Megan Pettegree (accompanied by Mr Bell).
- The Order of St John Carol Service in Upper Largo Parish Church on Sunday 11th December enjoyed additional musical support from Rhiannon Bates, Lyndsey Wilson and Jennifer Rae (accompanied by Mr Bell).
- On Monday 12th December, Mrs Nisbet and her classes gave a short concert to the St Andrews Blind Group in Hope Park Church Hall.
- The Madras College Christmas Concert took place on Wednesday 14th December. Featuring a "cast of thousands", pupils from all year groups played everything from jazz to modern Scottish music and traditional carols on a wide variety of instruments to a large, appreciative audience.
- On Thursday 15th December, Mrs Craib, Miss Burns, Mr Bell and a small group of instrumentalists and singers went carol singing in Balnacarron Residential Home.
- On Monday 19th December, Mrs Nisbet and Miss Burns and their classes went carol singing to the St Andrews Hospital.
- A group of senior pupils gave a concert to the Tayside Organists' Society on Tuesday 14th February in the magnificent setting of Dundee West Church.

With a repertoire ranging from solo song to piano duets, guitar and violin music, the pupils taking part were Liv Darge, Megan Pettegree, Rory Lamb, Ryan Cowan, Liam Vincent-Kilbride, Cameron Mackay, Abigail Pritchard and Paul Sinclair. There was a large appreciative audience.

 On Thursday 22nd March, Mrs Nisbet and a group of pupils from the Higher Music class entertained those attending the St David's Day Care Centre in St Andrews.



Fife burns competition

Following on from the Madras competitions, a group of pupils accompanied by Miss Birmingham, Mr Darge and Mr Bell travelled to the Auchterderran Centre to participate in the Fife Burns Competition on Monday 19th March. The results were:

gıng

~							
S1/2	1st	Carmen Teppett					
S5/6	1st	Karis McDonald					
Instrumental							
S1/2	2nd	Hamish Ballantyne					
S5/6	2nd	Paul Sinclair					
Bagpipe							
S1/2	2nd	Hamish Ballantyne					
S3/4	1st	Ewan Cameron					
	2nd	Lauren Gallowaym					
S5/6	3rd	Connor Burgess					
Speaking							
S3/4	2nd	Matthew McAnaw					
S5/6	1st	Rory White					
	3rd	Courtney Gardiner					

Those achieving a First or Second place are entitled to participate in the National Competition in Cults Academy on 21st April.

Euroscola 2012

In February a group of 26 pupils from all over Scotland spent five days in Strasbourg, the highlight of which was a day in The European Parliament in Strasbourg. Lyle McAdam (S6), selected as a candidate from Madras College, was sponsored by St Andrews' Rotary Club. Mrs McCartney (Principal Teacher Curriculum Modern Languages) was also selected to be one of the four teachers from across Scotland who accompanied the group.

During the visit there were intensive workshops in cultural and linguistic aspects of the trip. These were conducted for the most part in French. The group also prepared for the visit to the European Parliament, where 17 nations were represented and took part in debates and a Euro-game. Lyle was a credit to his school and his sponsors. He asked a question in parliament and won the cultural and linguistic Strasbourg challenge with his group. The group also had time to visit some of the sights of the area, albeit in very cold temperatures. All agreed that this was a trip which enhanced their linguistic and social skills enormously.

Paris 2012

During the February holiday the Advanced Higher French class, accompanied by their teacher, Mrs McCartney, and joined by their other French teacher, Ms Drylie, spent four adventurous days in Paris, visiting tourist attractions which included the Eiffel Tower, the Sacré Coeur, the Musée d'Orsay, the Louvre and the Champs-Elysées. There was even time for a 'Paris by night' tour and some retail therapy. The pupils and staff also sampled French culinary delights such as snails and 'steak tartare'.

All enjoyed the stay enormously and practised their French at every opportunity.

German News

THEATREVISIT

In February a group of thirty-six S3 and S4 pupils, accompanied by Miss Orem, Mr Irving and Mrs Maix attended a performance of the play "Alles wird anders" by the Onatti Theatre Company at St Leonard's. The performance was amusing and so gripping that some of the pupils forgot it was in German!

YOUTHAMBASSADOR

Eleanor Cruickshank (S6), a German-UK youth ambassador, has initiated a penfriend scheme with Miss Orem's S2 German class. The pupils are eagerly awaiting replies from pupils at our partner school in Kiel. It is hoped that some of the S2 pupils may be able to meet their penfriends if they apply for the Kiel Exchange next year.

• 55THKIELEXCHANGE

Plans are well underway for the 55th Kiel Exchange. Eighteen S3 and S4 pupils, accompanied by Miss Orem and Mr Irving, will travel to Kiel in June. The six S4 pupils hosted their partners last year and the twelve S3 pupils will meet their partners for the first time. Pupils will experience German school and family life and will take part in a number of excursions. The dates of the visit coincide with the world famous "Kieler Woche", sailing event.

Recent Recitations

Tony Curtis and Kwame Dawes visited Madras on Friday, 16th March to recite their poetry to S2 and S5 students respectively.

Accompanied by a guitar, Tony Curtis, who is an Irish poet, entertained the S2 students with stories, some of which were rooted in his homeland of Ireland, which had inspired his poems. With a wonderful turn of phrase, his poems gave another perspective on subjects as diverse as the sight of a humming bird overseas and the vision of his friend's dead mother wheeling a suitcase at a train station!

Kwame Dawes performed to S5 students sharing his poems some of which were inspired by reggae music and rhythms. One of his most moving poems was inspired by the birth of his daughter in which he used imagery enshrining his love for her in a very moving way. Another reflected his love of Jamaica where he spent his childhood. And another satirised one of his teachers whilst still accepting their humanity and vulnerability. Yet another poem wove references from Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' in the line 'what are these so wild and withered in their attire' with a school boy phrase used as a refrain 'fat boy'!

When asked what attracted him to writing poetry, his answer revealed an early love of nursery rhymes, a desire to write poetry which was accessible and a way to share a word journey or a transformative experience through the power of language.

At the end of the performance, our students were keen to have their photographs taken with Kwame Dawes and asked for his autograph too.

Inspiring Enterprise Conference

Thirty pupils from S5/6 Higher and Intermediate 2 Business Management attended a 2-day conference in February, designed to inspire our budding entrepreneurs, future leaders and managers. Apart from enhancing presentational skills and business knowledge, the course encouraged teamwork and promoted self-confidence in our Business students.

A programme of seminars and workshops were delivered by representatives from a range of business environments.

This year's programme provided our senior Business Education pupils with an opportunity to be involved in problem solving activities in relation to design production and development; role playing within team building exercises; financial planning; marketing and human resource management.

World Book Day

At the beginning of March six S1 classes went to primary schools to read to Primary 1s, 2s and 3s to celebrate World Book Day. The six teachers who took their classes were Mrs Birmingham, Mr Boyd, Ms Comber, Miss Griffiths, Miss Matthews and Mrs Macmillan. The two primary schools which we visited were Canongate and Greyfriars Primary.

Our class went with our teacher Miss Griffiths to read to the P2s at Greyfriars RC Primary School. We all brought in or borrowed children's books that we had enjoyed when we were little and read them to our 'book buddies'. This outing was very rewarding and a great experience for everyone involved! Thank you to Mrs Payne for organising this opportunity for us all.

Emma Cameron, Grace McCandlish and Rachel Bruce (S1)

S1 Paired Reading Club

New Members Welcome

The S1 Paired Reading Club continues to help first years pupils improve their reading skills. It takes place on Mondays and Tuesdays during morning interval. If you have any questions about the club please contact Mr Jason Hynes.



Education Raising Scotland Foghlam Alba Attainment

On February 15th Madras College hosted a 'Literacy across Learning' workshop delivered by the Education Scotland Literacy team. The workshop looked at the importance of literacy in raising pupil attainment and its role within Curriculum for Excellence. Many strategies for developing literacy in non-English subjects were explored. Feedback from teachers at Madras and secondary schools in Anstruther, Glenrothes and Dunfermline was very positive.

Madras College Literacy Across Learning

Here is the Madras College Correction Code that contains some of the symbols teachers will use to support your child's literacy development.



Madras College's New Poet

Madras College has a new poet. On Saturday, 17th March, Siobhan Meldrum (S1), from Mr. Hynes' first year English class, was awarded joint second prize for the Stanza S1 and S2 Poetry Competition. The theme for this year's competition was 'the image' and Siobhan's poem, "The Last Time", uses imagery to explore the idea of loss in a very memorable way. At the awards ceremony, Siobhan met Jackie Kay and received a signed copy of Jackie Kay's Red, Cherry Red.

The Last Time

Looking back at the moments I had spent with you I realise, now I must have been sinking Sinking, drowning

I was waiting Waiting, for you But you had left me To keep sinking To keep drowning

And yet still
I did as all the fairy tales
Told us, to do
I followed my heart
I swam after you

But when we were Reunited, at last I saw something I hadn't before I saw the real you

I screamed at the injustice I screamed, at you You and your Fantasy image You used against us all

I swore that was the last time The last time, I would fall for Such an illusion Swore that was the last time I would follow my heart

I swore that was the last time I would wait Wait, for someone Who had already gone Last time, Ever.

Siobhan Meldrum (S1)

Of Mice and Men

This term a number of pupils, ranging from S3 to S6, visited the Lyceum Theatre in Edinburgh to see a production of Steinbeck's novel "Of Mice and Men". The story, set in Soledad, California, during the Great Depression of the 1930s is one which is often studied by senior pupils. The play tackles such themes as racism, loneliness and broken dreams but above all of friendship.

Some of the performances were excellent, William Ash, (also known as Mr Mead from the television show Waterloo Road!) as George, gave a moving portrayal of friendship and loyalty. Madras favourite, Liam Brennan was a convincing "Slim": sympathetic and authoritative. He also made a guest appearance on the bus just after the show! Many people felt Steve Jackson, playing the part of Lennie was a bit "wooden" but nevertheless found the play both moving and thought provoking.

Next trip is to see "King Lear" at the Citizens Theatre, Glasgow, in April.

Debating

It has been a busy term for the Junior Debating Club with Interhouse competitions being held. Congratulations to Lucia Mackenzie (S1) who won the Junior Public Speaking Competition.

The Interhouse Debating Competition to be held in the last week of term will see pupils battling it out over topics including the legalisation of drugs, lifetime Olympic bans and gay adoption rights.

No Change to School Meal Charges

There will be no increase in the cost of school meals this year. The cost will remain at £1.70 per day and adult meals will remain at £2.70.

Milk cartons will remain at 17 p per carton.

INFORMATION

HOLIDAYS

Easter

Monday 2nd to Friday 13th April 2012

May Day

Monday 7th May 2012

June

Monday 4th June 2012

Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Tuesday 5th June 2012

Summer

Friday 29th June to Friday 10th August 2012

IN-SERVICE DAY

Wednesday 6th June 2012

PARENTS' EVENING

Wednesday 9th May 2012

Tuesday 22nd May 2012

EXAMINATIONS

S3 EXAMS

Friday 27th April to Monday 14th May 2012

SQA EXAMS

Standard Grade Art Exams

Friday 20th and Monday 23rd April

S4 Exams Start

Wednesday 25th April

S5/6 Exams Start

Thursday 3rd May

STUDY LEAVE

S4 Start

Wednesday 25th April

S5/6 Start

Thursday 3rd May

NEW TIMETABLE STARTS

Thursday 7th June

(New S4 pupils report to the South Street building)

The Black Hat by Francis Cadell

The Sculpture Show



Contact Us

SOUTH STREET

St Andrews, KY16 9EJ Telephone (01334) 659402

KILRYMONT ROAD

St Andrews, KY16 8DE Telephone (01334) 659401

E-MAIL

madrascollege.enquiries@fife.gov.uk

WEB-SITE

www.madras.fife.sch.uk

SPORT

GIRLS' HOCKEY

Season 2011-12 has been a very successful one, with all year groups competing in regular Saturday morning fixtures, with very few cancellations, unlike last season. Although not all girls are available to play on a Saturday, many enjoy supporting the extra curricular clubs.



Winners of the Fife Schools' Hockey Tournament

All year groups represented Madras College in the Fife Schoolgirls' Hockey Association Tournaments, which were held at Station Park in the autumn term. The S2 year group won all of their games, bringing the trophy back to Madras College.

In November, Kirsty Duncan (S6) once again was selected and represented Midlands' U18 Girls at the Inter District Tournament, in Edinburgh.

The following S2 girls were selected as part of the Fife U14 Mixed Hockey Development Squad, attending weekly training sessions in Kirkcaldy: Hannah Webster (Goalkeeper), Megan Maritz (Goalkeeper), Romy Niven (Defence), Eva Innes (Midfield) and Sophie Pettegree (Striker). The next stage at this level is to be selected for the Midlands' U14 Mixed Squad.

Fife Schools' Swimming Championships

Hannah Gray (S5) won 2 Gold medals for the 200 m and 100 m breaststroke at the Fife Schools' Swimming Championships (16 yrs+) which took place in December 2011.

Inter-House Swimming Champions December 2011

Girls			Boys			
S1	Emma Sharratt	Priory	S1	Sam McKiddie	Blackfriars	
S2	Sophie Pettegree	Priory	S2	Ben Levy	Castle	
S3	Jessica Rough	Priory	S3	Philip Hamilton	Castle	
Junior Champions (S1 – S3)			Senior Champions (S4 – S6)			
Girls	Emma Sharratt	Priory	Girls	Megan Pettegree	Castle	
Boys	Philip Hamilton	Castle	Boys	Finlay Mclean	Castle	

Rugby

It has been a busy term of Cup Rugby for the Madras Senior teams as both U18s and U16s have been progressing far in the National Bowl Competitions. The U16s followed up their Murrayfield win in the Tayside and Fife Regional Bowl Competition with a17-hour trek to Plockton for a game played in horrendously wet conditions. Despite the odds they came away 22-0 winners and met Trinity Academy at home in the semi-finals. In an open, high-scoring game Madras emerged the winners 47-31.

The U18s were in magnificent form when they beat Aberdeen Grammar away which set up an interesting tie against ex Principal Teacher Mr Changleng's new school side Earlston High. This match was played at Myreside and in a tough encounter Madras lost 22-7 with Earlston going on to win the final against Carrick.

The Junior sides continue to train and compete at all levels with the help and assistance of the Club coach and willing parental volunteers. Many thanks to all those who have assisted, refereed and supported the School rugby this session.

U16s Captain Jon Price has represented the school in the Caledonian and National squads and we look forward to him progressing through the system to become the next Rob Dewey! Good Luck Jon – a great ambassador for the school.

Fife Schools Netball



Pictured above are the S2 Girls' Netball Team who won the Fife Schools' Championship this term.

U18 Football

Madras College lost narrowly 2-1 in Edinburgh to Holyrood High School in the last 16 of the Scottish Cup. We are currently lying 2nd in the league with one game remaining!

