

# Rendcombian

2018-19



Cover photo: Year 6 pupils on Kilve beach, Somerset



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# From the Head of College

Looking back it is incredible how much the pupils, staff (and parents) managed to pack into last year. Academic success continued with national recognition in Maths, Computing, Science among others, while the College built on its pedagogical credentials via our, now regional, 'Excellent Teacher Programme.' We have also introduced a C-cubed course (Collaboration, Communication and Creative thinking) to help future proof Sixth Form, while the GCSE years are have Learning to Learn lessons, to understand how they learn while developing the skills to make the most of their time in and out of class. The record GCSE and superb A Level results reflect many outstanding successes and also a great variety of courses and interests. There is no doubt that Rendcombians are encouraged to follow their passions.

I remain determined to prepare pupils for life after College, be it in Garden House (pre-uni living) during work experience, or in our Further Education Week or in the burgeoning Global Social Leaders and Service programme. We also continue to keep an eye on the world of work, with our Enterprise initiative, Green Business and Networking meetings with local businesses. Beyond the classroom we had some wonderful successes in sports, most notably in Hockey where the U15 won nearly every game. The girls' lacrosse team won the Small Schools Trophy after reaching the top Division in the National tournament and the boys' rugby were a deserved third in the Jonny Wilkinson Cup. Tennis saw some national level performances while the Cricket enjoyed its strongest season to date. We have added Basketball, Badminton, Sailing and Shooting to our fixture list and I hope to see further additions under the guidance of Mr Walton as Director of Sport.

We now run over 100 activities during the week, ranging from hobbies to First Aid Courses. I wonder how many schools can offer bell-ringing, sailing, shooting, dissection and cookery as afternoon activities?

The Outdoor Education has now reached maturity with Years 7-8 each having an expedition before starting the Duke of Edinburgh

Bronze in year 9. We have had record numbers through Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards and I am certain that the pupils all learn valuable lessons in their skills, service and expedition elements.

The Drama and Music continue to 'wow' each year with fantastic individual and group performances. The advent of the Coffee Concert at break time has helped to develop nervous performers while the main concerts and plays really have been of top quality.

Reading the contents of this Rendcombian, it is clear that Rendcomb is a busy and vibrant school with lots of opportunities for all. These articles also reflect the wonderful community within the College and the importance placed on supporting one another, achieving both as individuals and as a community, as we aim to be 'thoughtful, adventurous and ambitious' for all. As we enter our Centenary Year I am certain that the Founder would be pleased to see the College in such good shape while remaining true to the aims he set out back in 1920.

## Mr Rob Jones, Head of College



# Prefect Team 2018-19

## Head Girl

Emma Balfry

## Head Boy

Jamie Southall

## Deputy Head Girl

Kieze Francis

## Deputy Head Boy

Thomas Finch

## Prefects

Geordie Hall

Eve Harker

Ella Higgins-Anderson

Henry Holloway

James Hurley

Oliver Jones

Teresa Li

Max McKeown

Charles Pugh

George Roffe

Isabella Rohling

Morgan Seatter-Messer

Emily Sharman

Lilian Sosimi

Grace Tushingam

Lily Whitehead



# A Level Results

Motorsport Engineering, Veterinary Medicine, Architecture and Law among courses secured by students

54% of results were A\* to C grades, 26% were A\* to B and 11% were A\* grades.

James Hurley celebrated as he learnt he has secured his place at Coventry to join their BEng Motorsport Engineering course while Rebeccah Breare was ecstatic that she achieved the grades to go to Surrey University to study Veterinary Medicine and Science. Rendcomb College offers a specialist 'Med/Vet' programme for students wishing to go on to study these specific courses.

Polly Chen achieved excellent A\*A\*AA results which secured her a place on her first choice of course – Mathematics with Statistics at Imperial College London.

Tom Finch will read Military History at the University of Kent, Teresa Li will read Architecture at the University of Edinburgh and Ella Higgins-Anderson will read English and Hispanic Studies at the University of Nottingham.

Many subjects secured 100% A\* to C results including French, Spanish, Further Maths, Maths, Photography, PE and Drama. The College's first BTEC Travel and Tourism cohort also received their results and 100% received a Distinction, the equivalent to an A.

Head of College, Rob Jones said: "Students excelled themselves this year and I am so proud of every single one of them. The breadth of university courses our leavers are going on to only reaffirms our mission to encourage every young person to become the best version of themselves. We embrace individuality at Rendcomb College and, being a small school, we have the resources to nurture the passions of every child."



# GCSE Results

Pupils scored particularly well in STEM subjects with 100% achieving A\* to A grades in Further Mathematics and 100% A\* to B in Computing with 63% achieving an A\* or A grade. In Biology, 83% achieved an A\* to B grade and 100% achieved an A\* to C grade in Physics. In Chemistry, 88% achieved A\* to C and in Mathematics, 96% achieved an A\* to C.

In French, 100% achieved A\* to B grades and in Art, 92% achieved A\* to B.

Head of College, Rob Jones, said:  
"Congratulations to all pupils picking up their results this year. Pupils have continued to respond positively to the academic initiatives we have introduced in recent years; the Academic Performance Plan, new target-setting system and the 'Approach to Learning' strategy have all contributed to pupils proving their resilience through this excellent set of results."



# Staff Farewells

## Mary Harries



Mary has been a guiding light for many over her 13 years at the College – students, staff and parents have all benefited hugely from her caring nature, calm wisdom and sensitive approach to any situation.

From aiding trips to Iceland, forging through a wide range of terrain on D of E, guiding new staff members through complex online systems, running the incredibly successful activity programme, sorting the annual Shakespeare houses trip and giving the girls in Stable, and prior to that the boys in Lawn, a great pastoral experience – Mary has always done this with great poise, knowledge and understanding.

Her work in the English department has been nothing short of exceptional. The last few years have seen the department weather some interesting storms, and Mary has worked tirelessly to keep everything ticking along in a positive and heart-felt way; always ensuring that the rest of team English feel cared for and supported.

Her caring nature has worked wonders with students over the years, dealing with some – in her own words – pretty tricky customers, and bringing them in to the English Literary fold whilst honing their appreciation for the sheer joy of words. The students over the years have been unbelievably grateful for all that she has done and, whilst they may sometimes dread the footfall near the shop to check they're in activities...they've learnt a great deal about due diligence, respectful behaviour and hard work in the process.

Mary is also someone who staff have come to rely on hugely as we all feel that you can talk to her about anything. She will always make time to be there and ensure that you have the best advice, and the clearest listening ear. From speaking with many colleagues, it is abundantly

clear that all have very fond memories of times that Mary has provided a much needed calm and kind word for them, and this, I feel, is what we will all miss hugely as she heads off to explore the world beyond the daily run of the classroom. From a personal point of view, I just want to publically thank Mary for all the support, kindness and advice she has provided over the years – I honestly feel that you have made a huge difference in both my professional and personal life and I am going to miss your sage words and sanity checks immensely.

It just remains to collectively wish her a bounteous future as she heads off to indulge in yoga, travel and relaxation with a decent smattering of tutoring, exam marking and mentoring thrown in for good measure. Mary, on behalf of all those people you've aided during your 13 years here, thank you.

**By Sarah Jones, Head of English**



## Susie Watkins

Susan (Sue) Watkins joined Rendcomb College in 2004, but as there was already another Sue working in the Finance Office, she became known as Susie.

She previously worked for 14 years at Countrywide Farmers PLC, and a reference from her former employer said: "Sue will be sorely missed by her colleagues for both her dedicated professional skills and her ready smile." That continued for a further 14 years at Rendcomb where Susie was always willing to help everyone in any situation with her caring and thoughtful attitude.

Susie took on the role of primary carer for Martin the Goldfish, (who was named after the previous Junior School Head). She visited him every morning to check on his wellbeing and organised his fish tank accommodation was always up to high-spec!

An opportunity arose to work from home and support her partner in his financial business,

so after years of commuting, working early mornings and late evenings, it was more than appropriate that now was the time to make that change.

Susie enjoys a very active social life and we were all amazed how she managed to pack so many events into her weekends! Her passion is her pet bunnies, (Rabbits), who are housetrained and an integral part of the family.

Susie will be sorely missed as a loyal colleague with her wisdom and friendship to one and all.

**By Carol Endersby, Bursar's Secretary**

We also said farewell to:



Scott Bailey  
Marketing Assistant



Sarah Bischoff  
Teaching Assistant and  
SEN teacher



Sylvia Brown  
Domestic Team



Nicky McKenna  
Teaching Assistant



Sue Corkett  
Maths teacher



Louise Gregory  
Maths Teacher



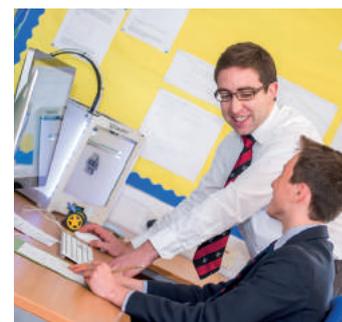
Anna Lambert, Drama  
and English Teacher



Chrissy Laycock  
Head of International  
Admissions



Maggie Lushington  
School Nurse



Jonathan Torbitt  
Director of IT and Head  
of Computer Science



Ellie Townsend  
Admissions Registrar

Jemima Collishaw EAL Teacher  
Francesca Bonfiglioli, Art Teacher  
Thierry Francois, Chef

# Junior School Prize Winners

The prizes were awarded in Final Assembly:

## Year 3

**Academic** - Edward Needham

**Effort & Progress** - Maggie Shone

## Year 4

**Academic** - Samuel Au

**Effort & Progress** - Clara Cox

## Year 5

**Academic** - Cleodie Wills

**Effort & Progress** - Ella Simmons-Clark

## Year 6A

**Academic** - Reuben Parker

**Effort & Progress** - Charlotte Bowler

## Year 6B

**Academic** - Nathan Mathur

**Effort & Progress** - Leanda Farley

## The Henniker-Gotley Boys' Victor Ludorum

Reuben Beard

## The Meborn-Hubbard Girls' Victrix Ludorum

Arwen Stokes

## Boys' Cross Country

Reuben Beard

## Girls' Cross Country

Mia Mbanga

## Reeves Cup for Improved Reading (Otters)

Arthur Barber

## Roberts Family Cup (Otters Effort)

Lauren Simmons-Clark

## The Westie Salver for Performing Arts (Otters)

Dougal Perry-Dowle

## Carden Cup for Music

Charlotte Bowler

## Dufosee Art Cup

Jessica Nutburn/Arwen Stokes

## Shackel Cup for Drama

Jessica Nutburn/Leanda Farley

## Shark Cup for Most Promising U9 Sportsperson

Jake Jnr Hayward-Wright

## Osborne Cup for Girls' Sport

Grace Garcia Day

## Palmer Cup for Boys' Sport

Joe O'Reilly-Burge

## The Haas Technology Cup

Nathan Mathur

## Phelps Effort Cup

Bella Roberts

## Arkle Cup for All Round Improvement

Eloise Shortt

## Trim Happy Cup

Mia Mbanga

## The Kindness Cup

Maelys Eggleton

## Good Example Cup

Reuben Beard

## Potter Cup for Overall Contribution

Ted Whitaker

## Super Merit Prize

Samuel Au

## Dance Trophy

Bella Roberts



# Junior English

## Cheltenham Literature Festival

On Friday, 12 October, years 3, 4, 5 and 6 went to the Literature Festival to see Kate Wakeling and braved a really wet visit. We were not disappointed as she enthralled us with a vibrant and entertaining delivery of her poems. Kate read some of her poems from *Moon Juice*.

Maelys: "My favourite poem was *Bad Moods* because it expresses how you feel."

Alexia: "Together we made a poem about A Toilet Machine and she picked different people to add a part to the poem."

Ted: "I was chosen and she used some of my ideas."

Grace: "My favourite poem was *The Hamster* because it was funny and I like hamsters."

Charlotte: "Kate Wakeling was really funny."

Alfie: using our fingers and feet, "All the schools got to make a storm together!"

Our noise almost drowned out the sound of the downpour! Kate was truly inspirational, and the visit was well worth it!

## World Book Day

On Friday, 8 March we celebrated World Book Day. Thank you for your donations for the Book Aid charity which sends books to Third World schools. Everybody made a tremendous effort with great costumes and it was lovely that parents were able to enjoy our outfits by attending the Distinction Assembly. The unofficial prize for the most ingenious outfit had to be awarded to Mr Roberts, for explaining how he was the wardrobe in *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*.

Everybody eagerly awaited our annual poetry fest. Mrs Brealy was our renowned judge. Years 4 and Years 1 and 2 won the class prizes with their outstanding performances of the *Battle of Hastings* and *Hey Let's Go*. Arwen Stokes, Year 6, won the individual prize for her wonderful

performance of *Jabberwocky*. The group prize was won by Maggie Shone, Miniver Rotherford and Isobel White performing *Someone*.

After the festival, Years 2, 3 and 4 were treated to a wonderful drama session with many of our wonderful old pupils now in year 7 and 8. The children created and acted out their own versions of *Little Red Riding Hood* type-cast as the character which they had dressed up as.

Thank you every body for such great enthusiasm, for supporting such a great charity and for learning your poems.



# Junior Drama

## Rock Bottom

All Year 3-6 pupils journeyed back to the dawn of time in *Rock Bottom*, a brand new prehistorical hysterical Stone Age rock musical by Craig Hawes. They performed the 1 ½ hour show for two consecutive nights in the Griffin Theatre. I need to say a big thank you to all my amazing colleagues who helped me put the show on; it really is a huge team effort.

It was the first time in 15 years of directing plays at Rendcomb that I have not had to give a single prompt during the two nights. It was such a fun show to work on and the children loved all the toe-tapping songs and 'puntastic' script.

They really surpassed themselves this year and it was fantastic to see so many great performances and smiley, happy, confident faces on stage. Every single child should be enormously proud of their contribution to the show. Barney the dinosaur (AKA Mr Roberts) was a 'roaring' success too!

P.S. I'm already starting to plan next year's show..!

**Mrs Amanda Brealy**  
**Head of Junior School Drama**



# Senior Drama

## Animal Farm



## The Crucible



# Junior Music

## 3rd annual BIG SING!

100 Year 5 pupils from 3 local primary schools; Minchinhampton, Northleach and Rodmarton, joined in with Rendcomb College Junior School's Year 5 pupils for the third annual BIG SING! outreach event.

The pupils learned three songs throughout the morning, culminating in a concert for parents and teachers at the end of the day. The workshops were led by Rendcomb College's Director of Music, Dr Tom Edwards, Acting Assistant and Director of Music, Mrs Hannah O'Toole and Visiting Teacher of Singing, Mrs Victoria Newman.

Rendcomb College's Director of Music, Dr Tom Edwards said: "It was wonderful to welcome so many children to our third BIG SING! event and to see their evident enjoyment of the day and enthusiasm for singing."



# Senior Music

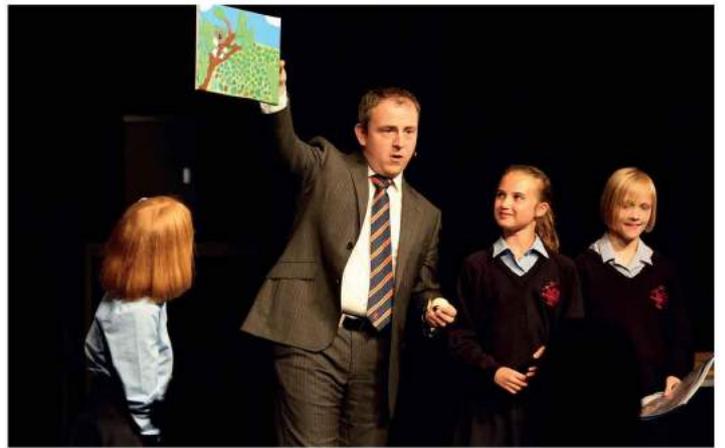


# Junior Art and DT

## SATIPS Art Exhibition

Once again eight children from the school exhibited their work in the Satips Prep School Art Exhibition held at Bromsgrove School. The work looked fantastic!





# Junior Sport

## Hockey

The U11s had a challenging start to the hockey season, playing some much larger schools. However, this increased their determination to keep up their hard work and were rewarded with some fantastic wins and draws by the end of the season. Particular highlights were the wins against Hatherop Prep (4-1) and Kitebrook (6-0), in which the girls showed brilliant team work and a hunger for goals!

The Year 3 and 4 girls played 4 matches this season as an U9 squad. A 1-1 draw with Berkhamstead School was a highlight for the girls and despite some losses the team worked hard, and their progress was evident in abundance. Considering half the squad had never played hockey before and we played mostly experienced Year 4 teams, the girls played with excellent shape and their basic passing and moving of the ball greatly improved. I am very proud of this group of girls many of whom have another season at U9 level. Well done!



## Netball

It was a tough netball season for the U11s with an enormous amount of rain and cold weather, bringing challenging playing conditions. However, it was great to see the enthusiasm the girls brought to every match and training session, all eager to continue making improvements to their game play and their hard work over the season was rewarded with some very closely fought matches and a huge 9-1 win against Hatherop Prep. It was a

great shame that the annual end of season U11 tournament at Hatherop Castle was cancelled due to rain but the girls should be delighted with their results and progress made this season!



The U8/9s had a busy netball season with four friendly fixtures and a tournament. A very mixed standard of opposition saw varying results with an impressive win over Wycliffe Prep (4-3) and a tantalising draw (6-6) against Berkhamstead School. Matches against Hatherop Prep and The Richard Pate School were also well contested but unfortunately the results did not go our way. It was also good to see the girls experience tournament play as they competed in the Hatherop U9 Tournament. These games are always fast and frantic and a test of skill under extreme pressure. We were pleased to end the afternoon with a draw (1-1) against Cricklade Manor. Well done to all the girls who listened and worked hard to improve their game; practice really does pay off!

## Cricket

Lydia Greenway, former England Cricket Captain, visited Rendcomb to deliver brilliant staff and pupil interactive workshops. The Year 5 and 6 girls thoroughly enjoyed their afternoon session which included fun drills, basic skills and ended with a game of Tornado Cricket. Everyone learnt a lot, making quick progress and it was agreed that cricket is a great all-inclusive game and we are all looking forward to starting our cricket sessions and matches next term!



With cricket being newly introduced to the girls this term, it was very exciting for all involved! The U11s had a fantastic season, being unbeaten for the first half of term against St Edward's Prep, Berkhamstead and The King's School, Gos. With heavy rainfall in the second half of term, unfortunately 3 games were cancelled so only one match was played. Huge congratulations must go to all the girls for showing such eagerness to learn a new sport which was rewarded by having such a fabulously successful first season of cricket!

The Year 3 and 4 girls have welcomed the introduction of cricket to our summer curriculum with tremendous enthusiasm and made great progress along the way. The British summer sadly thwarted our fixture programme, but the girls were pleased to play one match against Hatherop Prep early in the term and what a great match that was! A win by 40 runs is a good start by any standard! This marked a convincing win for Rendcomb in their first ever cricket match. Well done girls; roll on next year!

## Football



The U11 girls also played a football match against Hatherop Prep, which they had all trained hard for during their lunchtime football club. The match started at a good pace and Rendcomb were quick to steal possession and were by far the more confident and dominant side throughout the game, putting immense pressure on Hatherop's defence. The score ended with an incredible 11-0 win to Rendcomb!

It has been a pleasure for us to coach such enthusiastic and willing girls across all the age groups and as always, thank you to the parents for your continued support from the side lines!

## U8/U9 Rugby

The U9s played two fixtures this half term against St Edward's and Windrush Valley. Rendcomb got off to a great start with Samuel scoring a super try. Rendcomb's defence stood strong and restricted St Edward's scoring opportunities. Rendcomb went into half time, leading 6-4. After the break St Edward's picked up the pace and scored several tries past Rendcomb's defence to draw the side's level. With only a few minutes left, an amazing dash from Josh and an excellent pass to George kept put us in the lead. The final score was 12-13 to Rendcomb. The last fixture of the season was against a well-drilled and organised Windrush Valley side. Both sides showed good attacking and defending. However, Windrush Valley had the edge and were more consistent in tagging Rendcomb's belts which resulted in stopping many of the attacks by Rendcomb. It was a closely contested fixture however, Windrush Valley proved too strong for Rendcomb and ran out winners 11 tries to 8.

## U11 Rugby

Rendcomb hosted a rugby fixture against Kitebrook House. It was a challenging match from the start and both teams were very physical. Tries were hard fought, running was fast and the contact point was hard. At half time the score was tied.

In the second half both sides played good rugby and the scores were close. Unfortunately Kitebrook House inched forward. The final score was 5-4 to Kitebrook House. Our second fixture was against Berkhamstead at home. Rendcomb were dominated from the start and had to work extremely hard to hang onto the Berkhamstead score. The final score was 12-4 to Berkhamstead. The second fixture of the week was played against St Edward's at home. Both teams played extremely fast and hard rugby. Our boys really were learning what contact rugby was all about. At the end of the first half scores were tied at 5-5. During the second half St Edward's got their tails up and started to run away with the match. With all due credit to our boys they dug in and fought back to within two points. The final score was 11-9 to



St Edward's. On what was probably the wettest afternoon of the year so far Rendcomb hosted The Richard Pate School at home. Our boys were on a mission from the start and threw down the gauntlet almost immediately, by scoring quickly. What followed was a tough, cold, wet and hard fought first half which saw us up at half time. After a quick half time team talk, our boys really executed in the second half, and some lovely flowing phases of play were seen. Passes were thrown and received well, and due to the wet conditions which made handling difficult, Rendcomb remembered to back up closely. The final score was 11-7 to Rendcomb, a win after a season of hard work and at times frustration for the boys.

## U11/U10 Mixed Tag Rugby

This mixed tag fixture was against Windrush Valley who fielded just the one girl to our four. Rendcomb, undeterred by this, started off the stronger with some super team play stretching the Windrush defence. Rendcomb soon settled down to gain a victory they so desperately wanted.



However, Windrush gathered themselves and replied with some tries of their own. Both sides were evenly matched and neither side wanted to give the other a sniff of victory. Windrush mainly used three players where as Rendcomb played as a team using the space well, tagged and supported each other throughout the match. At half time it was all square 5 tries each. After the break Rendcomb struck first and went into the lead. Windrush valley rallied and fought valiantly to draw level. The match finished 12 -12.

## Boys' Football

All the boys this season have found it busy and at times tough going. However, all the football teams worked well to develop their skills, understanding of the rules of the game and fitness during the football season. There were many opportunities for the boys to represent Rendcomb across all of the squads. There were

a good number of draws and some wins across the season. The boys enjoyed the opportunity to play football against a variety of other schools. Several of these boys were playing their first ever fixtures for the school and should be proud of their efforts and achievements. For the first time, we visited Cheltenham Prep twice and applied ourselves well.

## U11 Boys' Football

U10s/U11s Reuben Beard was selected as Captain this season and certainly led from the front. With an inexperienced side, all Rendcomb boys dug in every match. After suffering some heavy defeats and missing personnel it was tough going. After the mid-term break and some reshuffling of the side, Rendcomb shored up their defence and made every opposing forward work very hard, to create an opportunity to score. Our new regular keeper (Angus) made several terrific saves to keep Rendcomb in the game. The highlights were the season was our first victory (2-1) against Kitebrook House and a fantastic 7-2 victory over St Edward's with Reuben Parker scoring a brace. Every boy played for each other with a great deal of determination and effort. All the boys should be commended on their contribution. Football Colours were awarded to Reuben Beard and Joe Burge.

## U9 Boys' Football

The U8 and 9 squads played a tremendous amount of football matches this season. It was tough going in the opening fixtures of the season but the boys bravely battled in every match. Throughout the season both Rendcomb sides came across some well organised and technically sound footballers. There was some success results wise, winning 2-1 against our local rivals Hatherop Castle and the last fixture against St Edward's was also a fine 2-1 victory. This side was a mixture U8s (Jake, Henry, Gabriel and George) and U9s who applied themselves playing a higher level.



## U11 Boys' Cricket

With one of the wettest seasons ever, the Rendcomb U11s matches were reduced to just 2. Lead by their captain Alfie Hewett, we opened the season with a friendly against Hatherop Castle. After all the season's practice it was a chance to play in a competitive match and put all that hard work into action. Rendcomb came out determined and bowled with a great deal of accuracy but their downfall was their fielding. Hatherop took advantage and batted hard to win the match. With more cancellations due to the weather it was not until the last week of term the U11s had one more chance to put things right against St Edward's. Rendcomb were put into bat and our openers Cooper and Reuben started well building a solid platform. The opposition's bowlers were accurate and restricted our batsmen scoring. St Edward's batted steadily, without taking any unnecessary risks. With Rendcomb's accurate bowling and backed up by some good ground fielding, it was all down to the last over. St Edward's managed to protect their lead and won narrowly by 7 runs.



## U9 Cricket

This inexperienced squad were also restricted to only one fixture due to the weather. Despite this the whole squad worked hard on their batting, bowling and fielding throughout the term. Both the U8s and U9s played a competitive match



against Berkhamstead. Despite the loss, both sides learnt a great deal and some experienced a fixture for the first time. Here's hoping to a better summer in 2020.

## Winter Warmer

On Monday, 19 November, we held our annual Winter Warmer cross country race. All of the children from Year 3-Year 6 took part in this year's race. The ground conditions were lovely and made for ideal racing conditions. The mile long course took in the usual climb up to top pitch, a descent to Mr Leese's cottage and then a scenic run through the deer park to finish with a final sprint to the line behind Park House. Reuben Beard was first, in a time of 8.52, Mia Mbanga was first girl, in a time of 9.15 placing her second overall. The first U9 boy was Gabriel McCormick in a time of 10.07 placing him 4th overall and the first U9 girl was Jessamy Beard in a time of 10.39 placing her 14th overall. Due to some major ground works at the bottom of the golf course to accommodate a new games pitch, the last section of the course was new for 2018. This means that our category winners are also holders of new course records! All of the children approached the course with enthusiasm, even the hills! It was particularly heartening to see such spirit particularly watching a few children helping each other up the hills, through the mud and towards the finish line.

## Sports Day

Once again top pitch looked magnificent with the sun shining brightly and a cooling breeze. All the parents and grandparents lined up opposite the children and the atmosphere was electric. All the children had worked tirelessly throughout the Summer Term in preparation for this special day. Every child in the Otters had the opportunity to show their prowess in a number of different events too.

Traditional sprinting races, bunny hops, a sack race and egg and spoon race were all part of this exciting day. Throughout the afternoon many races were very well contested and all the children put a superb amount of effort in. Everyone had a wonderful time with great support from family and friends. The winners of the house trophy was Corinium; congratulations!

## Year 5 and 6 Cross Country Tournament

On Thursday, 31 January four children from Rendcomb competed in a cross country race at the Royal Agricultural College. Conditions were not ideal as the ground was frosty and overnight temperatures had dropped to -8. Our four runners conducted themselves excellently and tried their absolute hardest in their races. Harry Hayward placed 9th in the Year 5 boys' race. Amelia Langley placed 8th in the Year 5 girls' race. Reuben Beard placed 12th in the Year 6 boys' race. Mia Mbanga placed 7th in the Year 6 girls' race. Harry, Amelia and Mia all qualified to run in the Primary Schools' Cross Country Championships on Saturday, 2 March at St Edwards. Reuben Beard's placing gained him a place on the reserve list. This was a fantastic result! All runners need to be congratulated on their performances as running in this sort of cold is not easy.

Gloucestershire Cross Country Championships  
On a sunny Saturday, three Rendcomb pupils ran in the Gloucestershire Cross Country Championships, held at St Edward's. All of our pupils tried their hardest, and although a difficult and technical course, they enjoyed the experience. Harry Hayward came in 39th position in the Year 5 boys' race, Amelia Langley came in 64th position in the Year 5 girls' race and Mia Mbanga came in 66th position in the Year 6 girls' race. The U11 girls were presented a medal for coming second place in the Cirencester Schools' cross country league. This was a fantastic achievement that should be celebrated by all.



## Senior Sport

This was a hugely exciting and busy sporting year for all at College. There were fixtures galore with teams competing in Rugby, Girls' Hockey, Lacrosse, Boys' Hockey, Rugby 7's, Basketball, Badminton, Cricket and Tennis. College also hosted The Jonny Wilkinson Cup (Rugby), The U18 National Small Schools Lacrosse Championship and England Lacrosse Training Camps during the Easter and Summer breaks. September saw the opening of the newly laid Astroturf and newly equipped Performance Gym. We also had the pleasure of former Bath and Scotland prop forward, David Hilton, delivering a specialist front row coaching session to our Year 9 and 10 players.



Our teams competed strongly throughout the year and, whilst the results were mixed, it was clear to see that the students were enjoying their experience in the sporting arena and that the positive vibe they had created was beginning to gain momentum. For a small school it's amazing how competitive we are when pitted against larger schools who have far bigger pools to select from. The commitment, effort and resilience shown by our students is outstanding and inspiring. There were also many other achievements outside of our regular fixture list.



Our U18 Lacrosse team had a successful tour to Frankfurt which they followed up by winning The National Small Schools Championship. The U13A Boys Hockey team progressed through the County round to qualify for the South West Regional Championship. A number of our students were selected for District & County Development Programmes, Rugby Player Development Academies and a selection of students went on to compete and train at National level over a wide-ranging selection of sports.



The addition of the Performance Gym proved to be a great success with students having access to the new equipment as well as our new Strength and Conditioning Coach. Having the gym in place added value to the Athletic Performance and Athletic Development Programmes, this certainly benefitted our Sports Scholars and Gifted and Talented students.

The Gym at Rendcomb was also born, offering personal PT sessions and classes to parents, staff and external customers. The take up for circuits, spin and PT is strong and it continues to go from strength to strength.



The year ended with the new look Sports Day, a day in which school records were broken including some that were longstanding.

The first ever assembly solely dedicated to Sports Awards took place with the whole school attending the celebration. Trophies were presented by The Head of College in the following categories:

#### **Sportsman of the Year**

Oscar Wilson

#### **Sportswoman of the Year**

Emily Musgrave

#### **International Sportsperson of the Year**

Anthony Wong

#### **Outstanding Contribution to Boys' Sport**

Henry Holloway

#### **Outstanding Contribution to Girls' Sport**

Eve Harker

#### **Unsung Hero**

Alfie Chambers

#### **Team of the Year**

U15 Girls' Hockey

It was a year packed full of sport, there were ups and downs, wins and losses, happiness and disappointment. These are all part and parcel of the sporting journey which helps the students develop and improve as players. It is safe to say that as the year progressed so did the players, sport is moving in the right direction but above all, the players are enjoying it. Here's to many more successful years!

#### **Mr Matt Walton, Director of Sport**



#### **Players awarded Colours**

##### **Rugby:**

Henry Holloway  
Robert Segrave-Daly  
Jamie Southall  
Charlie Pugh

##### **Girls' Hockey:**

Eve Harker  
Emily Musgrave

##### **Boys' Hockey:**

Oliver Jones  
Henry Holloway  
Morgan Seatter-Messer  
Jamie Southall  
Thomas Finch

##### **Lacrosse:**

Emily Sharman  
Bella Rohling  
Kieze Francis

#### **Sports Day Record Breakers:**

##### **Boys**

J Breare U15 800m- 00:02:11  
F Beckett U13 800m- 00:01:15  
W Jones U12 800m- 00:01:12  
D Summers U15 200m- 00:00:23  
H Carr U13 Discus- 22m10  
M Poliza U13 Javelin- 26m47  
H Carr U13 Shot Putt- 9m75

##### **Girls**

S Stanley U15 800m- 00:02:30  
V Muccilli U12 200m- 00:00:31.45  
L Norris U13 100m- 00:00:14  
C Felbinger U15 High Jump- 1m40  
M Boyle U15 Shot Putt- 5m65

#### **Sporting Achievements:**

##### **South West Regional Finals U13 Hockey Tier 2 Competition**

Rendcomb College U13A Hockey Team

##### **National Small Schools Lacrosse Championship**

Rendcomb 1st XII

##### **England U19 Womens Lacrosse Regional Talent Pathway Academy**

Emily Musgrave



**Gloucestershire County Schools FA U14 Squad & Swindon Town FC U14 Academy**

Jemima Lister

**South West Regional Swimming**

U14- Lucinda Norris (ranked 5th in the Country at 50m Breaststroke)

U15- Tilly Boyle

**County Tennis**

Anya Pereira (ranked 10th)

William Pereira (ranked 5th)

Charlton van Staden (ranked 4th)

**England U15 Womens Lacrosse Regional Talent Pathway Academy**

Emily Finch

Penny Lister

Anya Pereira

Kate Holloway

Emily Cannon

Ellie Miles-Sayers

**National & European U17 Water-skiing**

**Championships Slalom**

Saba Yorke Davies - National U17 Champion 1st Place, European U17 Championship 4th Place

**National Schools Indoor Ski Championships**

Charlotte O'Reilly Burge U16 Girls' Event 7th Place

Joe O'Reilly Burge U13 Boys' Event 6th Place

**Ginetta Motor Racing 2018/17 Championship**

Roman Bilinski

**Stroud & South Gloucestershire District U14 Squad**

Caleb Timmis, Jasper Rich, Arthur Cook

**Worcester Warriors U13 Development Player Programme**

Tristan Baits-Tomlin

**Gloucestershire Hockey Association U13 Academy**

Ed Nichol

Jimmy Thompson

**South West of England U15 Performance Hockey**

Katie Boyle

**Gloucestershire County U15 Girls Hockey Squad**

Tilly Boyle

Kate Holloway

**National Prep Schools Tennis Finals**

Charlton van Staden & William Pereira U13

Doubles Runners Up

William Pereira U13 Singles Runner

**Wimbledon U13 County Tennis Final**

William Pereira (earning entry to The National Finals at Wimbledon)

**Cheltenham & Cotswold U13 District Cricket**

Charlie Watkins

**U14 Girls Great Britain Padel Squad**

Charlotte Brien

**Karate Black Belt**

Roo Jones

Amelia Jones

Henry Carr



# Forest School

The children have enjoyed another exciting year exploring our wonderful woods, building dens, making homes for animals, discovering animal footprints, climbing trees, natural art, listening to stories and toasting marshmallows.

## Bring a grown up to Forest School

The children in Year 1 and 2 were delighted to welcome so many parents and grandparents to Forest School. Despite the rain, the children certainly enjoyed showing off their special forest area and sharing their experiences. There was plenty to keep everyone busy from shelter building, bug hunting and making a wormery to name but a few! The afternoon was rounded off by making chocolate orange camp fire cakes and toasting marshmallows on the camp fire. There were plenty of smiling (and chocolate covered!) faces and a great afternoon was had by all.



The Summer Term began with a Forest school working party where parent volunteers helped to strim back some rather large nettles, chop down a few damaged trees, repair shelters, set up a new basecamp, and erect a large tepee. A very busy and successful morning's work. The children were so delighted to see their new basecamp and explore the new tepee.

## Year 3 to Year 6

Throughout the year, the children in Year 3 to Year 6 have had the opportunity to attend Forest School as an afterschool activity as well as enjoying it as part of their curriculum. The children have plenty of time to explore the woods and they are involved in planning the sessions. We are able to help the children develop their own interests and fascinations in Forest School and make the most of the incredible grounds. A few of the children's favourite activities are toasting marshmallows, building shelters and searching for bugs.

We also had the Year 10 pupils who are working towards their Duke of Edinburgh qualification support the children in Forest School. They have organised games and help to encourage all of the children to join in. It has been a wonderful opportunity for the older children to develop their leadership skills as well as having the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors.

The Year 3 children have loved writing Haiku especially in the spring when they can lie under the trees laden with pink blossom and enjoy the falling, swirling leaves in autumn.

### Here are some of their poems:

Snow  
Grey clouds  
Brown earth  
A broad white smile

**By Henry Barber**

The Forest  
Tall trees: how do you grow?  
I wish I was  
As tall as you!

**By George Kadis**

Leaves  
Leaves falling down  
You are safe  
In the trees

**By Hugo Marriott**



# Chapel

Traditionally, Muslims gather for prayer on Fridays and Christians worship on Sundays but, at Rendcomb College, since September 2018, Tuesday is the day for chapel. The day begins with the Otters (4 to 6 year olds) enjoying a story, a song and a prayer in their music room at 8.45am while the rest of the College community visit the church for a twenty minute service in the early afternoon.

Between 1.15pm and 3pm there are three services catering for different age groups: Years 3 to 6, Years 11 to 13 and finally Years 7 to 10. This makes for efficient use of our resources, particularly the new heating system, installed in the summer of 2018, which has given us a far more comfortable environment in which to meet. It also allows for visiting speakers to address more than one group and provides a good run of services for our organist, Mr Wright, who contributes so much with his playing.

We choose a mixture of traditional and more modern hymns for the services. The Sixth Form insist on *Jerusalem* featuring on a regular basis while *Shine Jesus Shine* is probably the most popular overall with most people now managing to clap in the right place!

In the last week of the Spring Term there was a confirmation service for 9 pupils and two adults from the village. The service was conducted by the Chaplain and the Bishop of Tewkesbury.

During the year there has been a new group of pupils learning to ring the bells in the Activity period on Wednesdays. We are very grateful to Sarah Ewbank and her fellow campanologists who have given so much time and patience to this task. The group were delighted to have the opportunity to ring the bells at Cirencester Parish Church before the Christmas Carol service.

At the end of the Summer Term a log book was presented to the Tower Captain by Will Vaughan (Head Boy 2017-18) and his family as a mark of thanks for his time in the College and for Rendcomb Church in which he learned to ring.



# The Old Rectory

At the end of the 2018-19 academic year, the Old Rectory closed as a boarding house and Mr and Mrs Brealy stepped down from their Houseparent duties. The boarding house closed due to Godman House undergoing an extension which would accommodate both girls and boys from September 2019. A wonderful goodbye tea party was arranged to thank Mr and Mrs Brealy for their many years working in the house. Here are a few photographs from the final year of the boarding house.



# BTEC Travel and Tourism

When Mr Illingworth and I embarked on the journey into the world of BTEC, we were unsure how it would go. This was the first time the school had offered the qualification and neither of us had taught it for many years.

Luckily we could not have asked for a better student in Will Lushington. He worked tirelessly from the beginning and never once questioned the pedantic nature of the qualification. If he never quite achieved the criteria first time, he positively took on board the feedback and always hit the criteria on his resubmission.

Over time, as Will got used to what was required, he needed less of these resubs and his last piece of work was the pièce de résistance - a superb assignment I could not have written better myself. We are immensely proud that Will went on to achieve a distinction - the equivalent of an A grade at A Level. This was even more of an achievement as it is the first BTEC ever awarded to a Rendcomb College student!

**Mrs Michelle Lucas-Halliwell**

## Trips

### Junior School Trip to France

Intrepid members of Year 5 and 6 spent an action packed three days in France at the end of the Lent term. Their destination was Stella Maris near Berck-sur-Mer, a lovely residential centre set amongst sand dunes with an excellent restaurant (croissants for breakfast bien sûr!). The first visit was to meet the children to whom they had been writing at Ecole Antoine St Exupéry in Le Touquet. We were very proud of the children's efforts to converse in French and the French children were equally as enthusiastic to practise their English and see photos of families and pets.



As we commemorate the 75th anniversary of the D-Day landings this year, the WW2 museum at Ambleteuse was of particular interest. Walking down the recreated 1940s street, seeing the uniforms, displays and poignant film about the D-day landings we were transported back in time and this prompted some great discussions. Interspersed with visits to the market, supermarket and chocolate factory was a delicious lunch in a traditional crêperie. Having celebrated Mardi Gras often in French lessons, the children had little difficulty asking for their crêpes and juice in French! We rounded off the trip with a sand-sailing session, which was hard work with a variable breeze but great fun followed by a picnic by the beach.

**Mrs Adrienne Barker**



## Year 3 visit the Corinium Museum

In February Year 3 enjoyed a trip to the Corinium Museum to study the Anglo-Saxons. They studied replicas of artefacts found in Anglo-Saxon graves in Butler's Field, Lechlade.

Here are some of the children's comments:

Henry: "The mounted beaver tooth was my favourite artefact because you could put it on a man's necklace."

Gabriel: "I liked trying to be an archaeologist looking at the bones."

Jake: "I enjoyed the trip because I love history!"



## Year 3 visit Chedworth Roman Villa

On Tuesday, 2 October Year 3 went to Chedworth Roman Villa. We all enjoyed a really informative tour. The pupils enjoyed dressing up as Roman slaves and working in the apothecary to make herbal remedies. Kathleen was appointed chief slave and she was fortunate enough to be freed at the end of the session! The children enjoyed hearing about surgery in the Roman era!



## Year 6 trip to Kilve Court

The Year 6s had an amazing time on their residential trip to Kilve Court in Somerset just before half-term.

We were blessed with amazing weather for the time of year, which was great as the activities were all outside except the rifle shooting. Every pupil tried their best with all the activities, often having to step out of their comfort zone, which was wonderful to see. We saw fabulous teamwork on the Jacob's ladder and on the climbing wall as well as fantastic individual achievements and new skills learnt in rifle shooting, archery and grass sledging. The pupils used their eagle eyes and found lots of interesting fossils down at the beach. Their particular highlight was the night walk and all the fun games they played in the maze. Everyone had a fantastic time and the trip away has created some very special shared memories for our Year 6 pupils.

### Mrs Amanda Brealy



## Year 4 visit Gloucester Cathedral

On Thursday, 6 June Year 4 visited Gloucester Cathedral as part of their Tudor topic. They experienced workshops about the Tudor Kings and Queens and about how the monks used to live in the Abbey. They were also given the opportunity to wear traditional monk dress and Tudor clothes.

The tour led them through to the cellar which is home to the scriptorium where the monks would do their writing, and the lavatorium where the monks would bathe. The cellar tour ended in the tomb of Edward II which was an important factor in the stopping of Henry VIII from destroying the Abbey.

Year 4 Form Tutor, Penny Morrow-Brown, who accompanied the children on the trip, said: "We had a fantastic day and the children loved bringing their Tudor topic to life in such an immersive way."



## Year 7 go on a Manor Adventure



# Tour du Mont Blanc



# News

## Cricketer Awarded Best Batsman

18/09/18

Jasper Rich has been awarded the Best Batsman award 2018 for Hungerford Cricket Club over the Summer.



Promising cricket talent, Jasper, spent the summer playing for Hungerford Cricket Club U13 in the Berkshire Youth Cricket League U13 West competition, and was even called up to play two age grades higher in the U15 team.

Jasper's batting skills were on show throughout both the league and the cup campaigns averaging over 50 runs a game for the U13 and scoring over 20% of the teams runs in the season.

His prolific scoring earned him the Best Batsman of the Season award for not only his achievement as highest run scorer, but for his ability to stay at the crease and build an innings.

Jasper was also commended by his coaches for the support he gave younger members of the team who had been asked to play in more advanced age groups.

## Mindfulness in Schools Project arrives at Rendcomb

18/09/18

Rendcomb College now has access to the teaching of the Mindfulness in Schools Project (MiSP) curriculum which aims to improve the lives of children by making a genuine, positive difference to their mental health and wellbeing within education.



Head of Safeguarding, Mrs Michelle Lucas-Halliwell has been trained to teach a MiSP curriculum for both 7 – 11 and 11 – 18 year olds.

The *Paws b* curriculum for 7 – 11 year olds looks to teach pupils about the brain and all of the amazing things it can do. The curriculum teaches pupils that everybody gets nervous and anxious and provides pupils with techniques to deal with such emotions and how to promote happiness despite these feelings.

The *.b* curriculum for 11 – 18 year olds looks to show individuals how to recognise worry and understand how to deal with stress and anxiety by stepping back and not letting their emotions get carried away.

The benefits of these courses are widely recognised with PhD's written on the effects of *.b* on adolescents at Coventry and Leeds Universities in the UK and Finders University in Australia, and Educational Psychology Doctorates at Queen's University Belfast, Cardiff University, and Bristol University. These studies indicate that the programmes are beneficial and that they have significant potential to improve psychological wellbeing and attention within pupils.

Evidence shows that across the UK, mental health issues in children are increasing while child wellbeing is deteriorating. The social and emotional skills, knowledge and behaviours that students at Rendcomb will learn through the wellbeing programme, including mindfulness can help set the pattern for how they will manage their mental health throughout their lives.

Emotional wellbeing is a clear indicator of academic achievement, success and satisfaction in later life. Evidence shows that mental health and wellbeing programmes in schools, can lead to significant improvements in children's mental health, and social and emotional skills. Wellbeing provision in schools can also lead to reductions in classroom misbehaviour and bullying.

## Pupils take to the water in first canoeing activity

**19/09/18**

Pupils enjoyed a morning of kayaking and canoeing as part of the new Saturday activities programme.

Senior School pupils visited Lake 86 at the Cotswold Water Park as part of the new Canoeing activity in which pupils will have the opportunity to earn the British Canoe Union (BCU) 1 and 2 Star Awards.

Pupils started the day individually in Kayaks, learning how to manoeuvre on the water before swapping into a 2 person canoe.

Head of Science and activity leader, Dr Matt Cox, said: "The aim is for the pupils to have fun and become more comfortable on the water while also receiving an award they can build upon in the future. The Cotswold water park is a beautiful setting and we have been lucky enough so far to have some glorious weather, glorious enough for a few pupils to get a dunking at the end of the day!"



## Rendcomb joins the Boarding Orchard

**19/09/18**

Boarders planted a pear tree in the grounds of the school to celebrate joining The Boarding Orchard, an initiative launched by the Boarding Schools' Association (BSA).

The Boarding Orchard was launched by the BSA in 2014 and aims to be largest orchard, by distance, in the UK. It involves boarding schools joining the orchard by planting fruit trees in their grounds.

Chief Executive of the BSA, Robin Fletcher, visited Rendcomb College to plant the tree alongside Houseparents, Jo Bond from Godman and Marc Silverthorn from Park together with boarders from across the school.



## Body Percussion Workshop returns for its second year

**20/09/18**

Over 250 year 5 and 6 pupils from schools across Gloucestershire and Wiltshire were welcomed to the school across two days for a 'STOMP' style workshop held by former cast member of the hit West End Show, Ollie Tunmer. Schools included; Southrop, North Cerney, Powell's, Cirencester, Coberley, Northleach, Minchinhampton, Sherborne, Bibury and Stratton Primaries.



Gavin Roberts, Head of Juniors said: "Welcoming over 250 children and their families to our school is special. Having a West End star return to host yet another fantastic workshop is always a pleasure and I'm sure will be a highlight of the year."

Rendcomb College's Director of Music, Dr Tom Edwards said: "It was a great pleasure to welcome Ollie back for the second year of the Beat Goes On workshop. It was great to see so many returning schools from last year with many new faces joining us to learn and develop new ideas about how music can be made."

A returning teacher said: "It is such a fantastic day and a wonderful event for all the children regardless of ability."

A parent from Powell's Primary School said he loved the performance: "That was brilliant! What a fantastic theatre and performance. It's clear the children really enjoyed the day."

## New AstroTurf and Gym opened by Hockey Professional

**25/09/18**

The new hockey pitch was officially opened on Saturday, 22 September by South African former hockey professional, Robynne Jacobs.

The sports pitch was resurfaced during the summer by NottsSport, the official surfacing partner of England Hockey, and the school celebrated the new facility with a morning of hockey skills sessions for all ages followed by an exhibition match.

Robynne, along with coaches from the school, led the sessions with children as young as 3-years-old getting involved. Talking about getting into the sport, Robynne said: "Having this new facility is a blessing and it is so great to see so many people of all ages getting stuck into the coaching. I started playing hockey when I was 10 and I went on to play for South Africa so you really can pick up a stick whenever you like."

Sixth Form student Lily, who plays for the College's 1st XI said: "As a College, we can now lay down a stronger hockey legacy for current and future pupils to enjoy."

Junior School pupil, Grace, captain of the U11 hockey team said: "The new astro is lovely to play on and it will make a huge difference to us. I'm really happy as this new pitch demonstrates progress in sport at Rendcomb and I'm really excited for the coming hockey season."

Speaking about the new facility, Head of Rendcomb College, Rob Jones, said: "We have had great support from our Trustees, the Dulverton Trust and the Friends of Rendcomb, among others, who have ensured this wonderful new facility has become a reality. This pitch will be much enjoyed and used by all the pupils across the College."



## Sky Arts explores concept of belonging with pupils

**05/10/18**

20 pupils from Year 5 through to Year 11 were given the opportunity to take part in a special poetry workshop with Sky Arts Poetry



Ambassador Steve Larkin: a writer, performer, educator, musician, and promoter with over 20 years' professional experience. Their workshop followed the theme of "a day in the life of Rendcomb."

Head of English at Rendcomb College, Sarah Jones, said: "What a wonderfully engaging day where pupils were pushed beyond their comfort zones to create explorative pieces on the concept of belonging."

Steve is currently a lecturer of poetry at Oxford Brookes University and is known for his high-octane and entertaining live poetry performances

The Sky Arts Art 50 project seeks to promote conversation about Britain's national identity and what it means to belong as we approach a future outside of the European Union. As part of the project, 20 schools from across the country are taking part in poetry workshops led by Sky Arts' selected poetry ambassadors to create pieces describing 'a day in the life of' their school.

## Harvest Festival

**08/10/18**

Pupils in the Junior School and Senior School brought in a variety of food gifts as donations to two local charities; Cirencester Food Bank and CHYP. The Food Bank provide much needed food and support to local residents and Cirencester Housing for Young People (CHYP), have been working with vulnerable, young homeless people since 1986, providing stable housing and support for those in need.

The 1st XV Rugby team also put together a special hamper which included a wide selection of items donated by themselves and their families.

After leading the church services, Reverend Edy said: "Events like this are really important in bringing the school together. I see a great importance in the idea of pupils being given opportunities like this to reflect on the meaning of such festivals such as the Harvest Festival."



## Pupils learn how to restart at heart

**17/10/18**

More than 270 pupils took part in 'restart a heart' day in association with the British Heart Foundation.

Julia Vaughan, Registered Nurse at Rendcomb College and the event's organiser said: "We are thrilled to be taking part in this national initiative once again. It is important that we prepare our students with the skills necessary to help and potentially save a life in an emergency situation."

James, a Senior School helper said: "It is important for everyone to have this knowledge in order to be prepared for any situation that may come their way. When there are no adults around it is important that we all know how to handle ourselves in a situation and respond effectively in an emergency."



## Pupils get Power Boat Licences

**30/10/18**

Congratulations to Freddie Billington and Sebastian Hossle, along with older brother Stef, on completing the Royal Yacht Association's Level 2 Power Boat course during the October half term. They undertook the course at Waterland Outdoor Pursuits based at Lake 32 at the Cotswold Water Park.



## Frantic Assembly Workshop

**01/11/18**

Drama pupils from Year 10 to Year 13 took part in the workshop which focused on the use of physical theatre and giving the pupils an insight into how professional theatre companies devise new material.

The techniques used and pieces they devised by the end of the session will feed directly into their GCSE preparation which requires a devising piece as part of Component 1.

The session aimed to give pupils an insight into Frantic Assembly productions prior to seeing Frantic Assembly's new production, *The Unreturning*.



## Ted completes Great South Run

**02/11/18**

10 year old Ted completed the Simplyhealth Junior Great South Run 2018 for charity.



This is the third time Ted has completed the race with him recording a time of 13.23 minutes for the 2.5km race this year. He ran for the charity Bloodwise who are dedicated to supporting those affected by blood cancer.

## Jonny Wilkinson Cup 2018

**06/11/08**

The 1st XV welcomed 6 other independent schools to College to compete in this year's Jonny Wilkinson Cup.



The visiting schools:

- Kingham Hill, Oxfordshire
- Mount Kelly, Devon
- Milton Abbey, Dorset
- St David's College, Wales
- Kingsley School, Devon
- Shebbear College, Devon

On a wet and windy day, the round robin tournament saw each team play each other once in a 15 minute match, encouraging quick play and tactical organisation from the teams, especially in the adverse conditions.

This year's winners were Mount Kelly, who's tournament was highlighted by a 3 – 0 victory over returning champions Shebbear College.

Rendcomb College's lead sports coach and coordinator, Matt Walton, said: "The competition was ferocious, and the standard of every match was incredibly high. It was fabulous to see every school give 100% commitment and effort in every game which as a result provided some outstanding matches."

## Regional selection for Jemima

**23/11/18**

Senior pupil Jemima Lister has been selected for the Gloucestershire Schools Football Association U14 girl's squad for the coming season.



Jemima has been playing football since 2016 and currently plays for Swindon Town Girls CFFE. She also recently competed in the Barcelona Girls Cup, taking on some of the best girls teams from around Europe including Catalonia, Belgium and Spain.

Lead Sports Coach and Coordinator, Matt Walton, said: "This is a fabulous achievement for Jemima. To be selected is a testament to all of her hard work and commitment to the game and she should be extremely proud of herself and we look forward to seeing how she progresses through the programme. As a sports department we are delighted at Jemima's inclusion and we wish her every success and look forward to seeing her flourish."

## Sienna cuts hair for charity

**27/11/18**

Year 7 pupil, Sienna Jones donated over 30cm of her hair to The Little Princess Trust who make real-hair wigs for children and young adults who have lost their hair through cancer or other illnesses.



In addition to donating her hair, Sienna is also raising money for Cancer Research UK and has set herself a target of £200. She said: "I have lost both of my grandads to cancer so this Christmas I decided to try and help more people fight cancer and win!"

Talking about the money she has raised to date she said: "It is amazing that so many people have

been so generous! I feel so lucky and fortunate to know so many kind people and I am sure that this money will go a long way to help Cancer Research! I think it just shows how many people have been affected by cancer but also how much support there is out there."

## Excellent Teacher Programme

**11/12/18**

Teachers from local schools attended an Excellent Teacher Workshop with educational consultant Peter Blenkinsop.

The five day course saw teachers from Dautsey's School, Sir Thomas Rich's School and St Mary's Calne School join teachers from Rendcomb College on the programme, designed to enable teachers the time and space to reflect on excellent practice in the classroom.

Nick Cox, Deputy Head Academic at Rendcomb, said: "It has been exciting to bring together some of the best teachers in the region to discuss what really works in the classroom, and a genuine privilege to witness the deep professional dialogue that has taken place. We are sure pupils at all of the schools involved will benefit from this work and many congratulations to the first cohort of teachers to graduate from the programme."

One of the teachers said: "We gained an incredible amount from the programme and I am excited to take what we have learnt back to our own school and pass on the knowledge we have gained. It was great to be able to discuss our various teaching methods with others and learn from each other what works in different situations and how we can improve and develop the methods we already use."



## Mathletes runners up in competition

**11/12/18**

A team of Sixth Form Students competed in the UK Maths Trust (UKMT) Senior Maths Team Challenge Regional Final and achieved second place in a hotly contested competition.

By qualifying for the next round they have been awarded the title of Senior Kangaroo. These pupils sat a further 90 minute paper that will determine their final placement in the competition.

In addition to the Senior Maths Challenge, earlier in the term, 2 of our Year 13 students qualified for the UKMT Mathematical Olympiad for Girls. Only 1400 students qualified Nationwide, with the top 25% of entrants receiving a Certificate of Distinction. The Olympiad consisted of a two and a half hour paper including 5 mathematical problems, requiring full written solutions. Congratulations to Polly who was ranked in the top 350 girls participating.



## National Gallery leaves lasting impression on students

**22/01/19**

Senior School students and Art Scholars visited the National Gallery in London to view the 'Courtauld Impressionists: From Manet to Cézanne' exhibition.



The exhibition, a collaboration between the National Gallery and The Courtauld Gallery in London, has over 40 impressionist works on loan from The Courtauld Gallery, including famous works by Cézanne, Toulouse-Lautrec, Renoir, Manet, and Seurat, as well as the National Gallery's own permanent collection of works.

Rendcomb College's Head of Art, Mel Holness, said: "It is fantastic for the students to see these works first hand. After studying many impressionist works during their studies, to have the opportunity to see them in person in such a wonderful venue as the National Gallery is truly quite the experience."

## Year 9s selected for District Rugby squad

**23/01/19**

14-year-olds Jasper, Caleb and Arthur have all been selected to represent Stroud and South Cotswolds District Rugby Squad for the 2019 season.

Arthur, and Sports Scholars, Caleb and Jasper have been selected after a number of stellar performances in a Rendcomb shirt losing only 2 matches all season.

The team comprises the best U15 players from schools in the district. They play other district squads from around the country and their first match will be against Bristol Schools Select in February.

The team allows gifted young players to compete at a higher level and gives them an opportunity to be selected for national trials through their performances on the pitch.



## Globe Theatre brings Shakespeare to life

**29/01/19**

Scott Brooksbank, Actor and Director from Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, visited Rendcomb College to host interactive storytelling sessions and workshops with pupils from Year 5 through to Year 13.



The Year 5 to 10 pupils engaged with excerpts from Macbeth and brought the story to life with sound effects and dramatic action.

Scott worked separately with students in years 11, 12 and 13 helping prepare them for their upcoming exams.

Scott worked with the A Level and GCSE students to focus on the structure of Shakespeare's writing and how he used devices to set characters apart from each other.

Head of English, Sarah Jones, said: "We are thrilled to have had such a wonderful series of interactive workshops throughout the day, particularly from such an established practitioner who really brought Shakespeare to life today for the students.

"The fact we managed to have students from Year 5 through to Year 13 all engaging with difficult texts on one day speaks volumes for both his delivery and their involvement. I look forward to welcoming further practitioners to the school to continue to bring this excellent playwright to life."

## LAMDA success

**05/02/19**

Pupils in the Junior School were awarded their LAMDA certificates after successful completion of their exams earlier in the term.

16 pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 were awarded LAMDA certificates in LAMDA Introductory Stage 1, Speaking Verse and Prose, and Solo Musical Theatre. Pupils Miniver, Maggie, Kathleen and Edward achieved 97% or above. Edward scored a brilliant 99% overall.



## Katie Morag Day

**14/02/19**

Pupils in Year 1 and 2 enjoyed a 'Katie Morag Day', based on the popular children's stories by Mairi Hedderwick. The 5 to 7-year-olds spent the day learning about Scotland, taking part in different activities and trying some traditional food and drink.

The annual Katie Morag Day covers topics in Geography, English, Maths, Music and other subjects through the themed activities.



## Financial Planner offers advice

15/02/19

Jordan Toomer, a partner of Cirencester based wealth management company, St. James's Place, visited Rendcomb Sixth Form students to talk about careers in finance and business.

Using his own career journey as an example, he compared the benefits and drawbacks of both going to university and apprenticeships. The session encouraged the students to think about the options available to them before making a career decision.

Hannah Ash, Head of Business and Economics at Rendcomb College, said: "It was great to welcome Jordan Toomer to Rendcomb College for a talk about working in the finance sector. With so many of our pupils aspiring to work in finance in some capacity in the future, it was great to hear about Jordan's journey so far. He shared some thought provoking insights into the world of investment which has already led to good discussions in Economics and Business Studies lessons. It was also good for the students to hear that although a degree can be very useful, there are other routes into a career in finance."

Deputy Head Boy and Business Studies student, Tom Finch, said: "It was a very interesting talk and gave us a good idea about St. James's Place and the work they do before we visit later in the year. I think for some non-business studies students it also sparked an interest in the industry."



## £211 raised for Sue Ryder Leckhampton Court Hospice

15/02/19

Children from Rendcomb College's Junior and Senior Schools presented a giant cheque for £211.38 to Sue Ryder Leckhampton Court Hospice following their 'Christmas Jumper Day' in December.

Megan Platt, Community Fundraiser for Sue Ryder Leckhampton Court Hospice, accepted the cheque and said: "We'd like to thank Rendcomb College for entering into the Christmas spirit to support the Hospice. It was lovely to visit the school and meet some of the children and staff who took part to raise funds for our care."

Mr Roberts said: "It was a pleasure to support such a worthwhile charity as Sue Ryder Leckhampton Court Hospice and we are pleased that the funds we have raised will be put to such good use in the local community. The Junior School pupils thoroughly enjoyed dressing up in their Christmas jumpers and it is wonderful to see how such a small gesture can help so many people."



## Worcester Warriors sign Tristan

19/02/19

12-year-old Tristan Baits-Tomlin, who is in Year 8, has been selected to join the Worcester Warriors U13 Development Player Pathway (DPP).

The DPP is the entry level into a long-term development programme at Worcester Warriors which in some cases will lead towards the very highest level of the game. The programme

was launched in 2013 in order to find the next generation of first-team stars. There are now four centres for talented youngsters to train under the guidance of the best coaches in the West Midlands. From these centres, players can progress to the Player Development Groups, with the chance to join the Senior Academy at the age of 18.

Tristan, who plays in the outside centre or inside centre positions, said: "I'm really excited and looking forward to the training sessions. I've played rugby for around five years and I love running and tackling."

Talking about his ambitions for his rugby career, Tristan said: "I'd like to be in the Worcester Warriors' senior squad one day."



## Concert raises £660 for School in a Bag

**14/03/19**

A Music Teachers' Charity Concert was held to raise funds for the charity, School in a Bag.

The concert raised £659.88 for the charity and saw the College's instrument and voice teachers, the Director of Music, Dr Tom Edwards and a few special guests, including the Head of College's wife, Pippa Jones, take to the stage.

The funds raised have purchased 33 schoolbags which are being packed and sent to Sri Lanka.

Representing School in a Bag at the evening was Lis Foy, Schools Liaison Officer.

She said: "It was a pleasure to come to Rendcomb College and listen to these amazing musicians; I feel very privileged that Rendcomb decided to support School in a Bag."



Director of Music at Rendcomb College, Dr Tom Edwards, said: "I am delighted that we have been able to support such an exciting and worthwhile charity and at the same time highlight the exceptional abilities of our dedicated staff who all gave very generously of their time and expertise. It was a wonderful evening of very high-quality music making."

## Gold Award for former Head Boy

**05/04/19**

Will Vaughan (Head Boy 2017-18) has received his Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Will was presented with his Gold D of E award in London at St James's Palace by Prince Edward. He went to London for the presentation with his father.

During his education at Rendcomb College from Year 9 to Year 13, Will achieved the Bronze and Silver awards. He also achieved the Diamond award for raising money for less fortunate children to be able to undertake the D of E awards during their 60th anniversary.



## Mayor commends Enterprise Team

10/04/19

Rendcomb's entrepreneurial pupils were out in force at the Cirencester Youth Market on Wednesday, 20 March, running stalls to showcase their new business ventures.

The College currently has two groups running businesses:

Capt-ECO is run by six Year 12 students. They are helping to solve an environmental problem whilst at the same time making some money with their plastic recycling and 3D printing business.

Fugio is a clothing company specialising in casual gym wear run by six Year 11 pupils.

Capt-ECO are collecting plastic from across Rendcomb College through a combination of competitions in the school houses for the most plastic collected and bins located strategically around campus. They then transform this used plastic into filament for 3D printers which can then be used to produce stationery products.

At the Cirencester Youth Market, both groups had a stand where members of the public were able to ask questions. Two judges (Nigel Robbins, Cirencester Mayor, and Annmarie Thurgood, President of the Cirencester Chamber of Commerce) spoke to all stall holders in order to decide on the "Best Business Stall" and "Best Business Concept". Capt-ECO were 'highly commended' for their business concept by the Mayor.



## Ted's story longlisted in BBC's 500 words competition

26/04/19

Year 6 pupil, Ted Whitaker, has been longlisted for BBC Radio 2's 500 Words 2019 competition.

Ted's story, which he titled *Stanley*, follows the journey of a WW1 soldier in the trenches who goes into 'No Man's Land' each day to retrieve injured troops.

Speaking about his story, Ted said: "I really enjoyed writing my story, particularly when I added the twist in the storyline that Stanley is actually a dog!"

Head of Juniors, Gavin Roberts, said: "Ted should be very proud of his achievement. There were over 135,000 submissions this year and approximately only 1% made it through to the longlist so it is a fantastic accomplishment. I look forward to the 500 Words competition each year and reading all our pupils' stories. Some even write more than one!"



## Olivia receives a letter from the Queen

30/04/19

Reception pupil, Olivia, has received a letter from the Queen in response to a drawing and a letter she sent.

5-year-old Olivia decided to draw a



picture of two silver candle sticks surrounded by flowers for the Queen. She then decided she would like to write a letter, in her own handwriting, and put it in the post. To Olivia's delight, she received an official reply from Windsor Castle shortly after.

Olivia's mother said: "She spent a long time writing her letter and I'm delighted that she has received a reply!"

Enclosed with the letter were some leaflets about Windsor Castle and the Royal Family.

## Nursery and Early Years setting receives award for 8th year

**09/05/19**

Rendcomb College Junior School's Nursery and Early Years setting have once again been awarded the Bristol Standard Quality Improvement for Birth to Five certificate for the year 2019 –2020.



This is the 8th year that the school has received the award.

The Bristol Standard is recognised nationally as an outstanding self-evaluation framework, celebrating the strengths of the chosen schools setting and their future priorities. The Bristol Standard also permits the school to promote a knowledgeable conversation about what they do and the difference it is making to their pupils and families.

During the decision process, the Validation Panel stated: "We particularly appreciated how you really value both parents' and children's voices when making changes or asking for opinions.... [Rendcomb College] gave us a real sense of how a child is supported in their learning and development".

Head of Juniors, Gavin Roberts said: "We are very proud of our Nursery setting and the excellent provision it delivers. Our Nursery children are the youngest members of the

Rendcomb family but it is fantastic to see the level of confidence they display on a daily basis. This award is testament to all of the hard work and dedication of our Nursery staff and we are of delighted to receive it."

Head of EYFS and Nursery Manager, Kim Hardie said: "The Bristol Standard is a wonderful opportunity to review and reflect upon every area of our practice and ensure we are providing the best opportunities for the children at Rendcomb College. We have enjoyed the challenges that maintaining the Bristol Standard has given us over the past 7 years and we are looking forward to continuing with the benefits that it brings for the children."



## 50M Breaststroke Success ranks Lucinda 11th in UK

**14/05/19**

13-year-old Lucinda Norris has been ranked 11th in the UK within her age group for swimming the 50m breaststroke as a result of recent competition successes.

During the South West Regional Swimming Championships on 11th and 12th May, Lucinda won a silver medal in the 50m breaststroke and as a result of this success will now go on to compete at the English Nationals, where she currently holds the top spot for qualification.

Lucinda, who represents Cirencester Swimming Club, achieved a club open record with a time of 35.70 seconds. Speaking about her success Lucinda said: "I am delighted with my swim and am really looking forward to competing for the first time at the National Championships in August."

## Mock Election held

**20/05/19**

Seven students gave speeches representing their chosen political parties in Rendcomb's own mock European Election.

Votes were made with an overall turnout of 60%. Particular congratulations must be awarded to Year 7 students who had the highest turnout of 81%.

Head of Sixth Form and History, Christine Williams said: "Many thanks to everyone who participated in our mock European Election; I would particularly like to thank our candidates who gave such fantastic speeches. I do hope you will follow the national elections on Thursday, and it will be interesting to see if our results are replicated in the southwest region as a whole!"



## Nathan receives theatre accolade

**22/05/19**

Nathan played the main role of 'Ugly' in the Barn Youth Theatre's production of *Honk!* over Easter. Alongside the amazing opportunity to perform, he was also awarded the Carling Award which is awarded by the founders of the theatre, Ian and Chrissie Carling.

Nathan received the Award because he had managed to overcome considerable anxiety to deliver a very believable performance as the lead role in all six consecutive performances. The award was presented to Nathan by Iwan Lewis, the Artistic Director at the Barn Theatre.



Speaking about his award, Nathan said: "*Honk!* was an incredible experience because of the exposure I received to industry professionals and how they helped me throughout. The award I received was The Carling Award. Ian and Chrissie Carling are the driving force behind The Barn Theatre and it was an honour and a privilege to receive the award! Needless to say, I was very excited. I want to say a big thank you to everyone at The Barn Theatre for making *Honk!* an amazing show and an experience I will never forget."

## Isabella receives offers to 3 top US universities

**28/05/19**

Sixth Form student Isabella has been accepted into the most prestigious Military University in the United States; The United States Military Academy at West Point, to study Medicine with the goal of becoming a Doctor.

West Point is one of the top universities in the United States and has just a 10% acceptance rate and requires securing a nomination from a Senator/Congressman or the Vice-President alongside rigorous fitness tests. The United States Military Academy alumni include former presidents and senior generals.

Two further top 20 US universities; the University of Notre Dame and The United States Air Force Academy, have also offered Isabella a place.



Isabella's father said: "Without a doubt, the character building, education, and culture of commitment to pupils is something she could not have received anywhere else. As a family we are eternally grateful for all Rendcomb College has done to prepare her for the future."

Isabella has taken on leadership responsibilities at Rendcomb including becoming an International, Charities and Sports Prefect. She's currently preparing to take her A Level examinations in mathematics, physics and chemistry.

## Tetrathlon success for Katie and Serena

**10/06/19**

Katie and Serena were selected to represent the Central England Pony Club Team at the Junior Regional International Tetrathlon Competition at Morton Morrell Agricultural College.

The Tetrathlon included 150 boys and girls from across England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales competing in events within four disciplines; shooting, swimming, running and cross country riding.

Both Katie and Serena completed the four phases and rode exceptionally well over a British Eventing Course which was both physically and technically challenging. The girls were strong competitors and equally effective team members proven by the win of fourth place for Katie's team.

Serena achieved personal bests in the first three events and was one of only a few who completed a clear round across the cross country course on a horse she had never before ridden – sadly due to the last minute change of mount Serena's clear round was not counted within the competition.

Serena said: "It was such a wonderful weekend where memories were made. I loved representing central England and it was great fun spending time with the teams from all across the country. The support I was given was unreal and I was determined to do my personal best. The

cross country course was very challenging, and I did not know what to expect on such a technical course. The minute I finished the course I could not stop smiling! I was so happy to produce a clear round; especially since only 20% of the competitors went clear. I was also very pleased with the other phases as I achieved personal bests. Overall it was a wonderful experience of which I enjoyed every minute!"



## Tennis U15A Doubles Victory

**20/06/19**

Four Year 10 girls competed away at Pangbourne in their U15A Girls Doubles competition.

Doubles Anya and Penny, and Kate and Jemima played extraordinarily and won the overall team competition.

Games Coach, Aimee Ratapana said: "The competition consisted of some intense matches but the girls managed to take home a win for Rendcomb. I'm so proud of the girls' success."



# Lacrosse Success

**20/06/19**

Rendcomb College's lacrosse players have been selected for the Regional and National Academies.

## National Academy U17 Lacrosse

Year 10 pupils Ellie and Penny have been selected to attend the trials for the National Lacrosse Academy on Saturday, 6 and Sunday, 7 July. The girls were selected having participated in an Inter-Regional Academy tournament in April where they were competing against girls from all over England.

## Regional Academy U15 Lacrosse

Year 8 pupils Jemima, Eleanor and Amelia, and Year 9 pupils Hattie and Issy were also put forward by Rendcomb College's lacrosse coaches to attend trials for selection onto the England Talent Pathway in April. All five girls have been selected and will attend their first Regional Academy in July.



# Victory at the Cheltenham Festival of Performing Arts

**22/06/19**

Year 9 students Max Jones and Millie Roberts represented the Senior School with incredible success. They received second place (silver medal) with their duologue performance of *Fault!*. The story is about two pupils, Cal and Maz, who are outside the Headteacher's office, they've been caught smoking and involved in an unpredictable accident with a Year 7 student.

Millie said: "It was super fun to work with Max on this piece and to get silver is amazing, we worked so hard so it feels great to have come second!"



Max then commented: "I was nervous but when we got on the stage it just seemed to flow. I felt I could have done better but I guess that's how I get better. Millie was great to work with she made me feel less nervous!"

Rendcomb College's Junior School was represented by 11 pupils including Year 4 pupil Samuel Au who received third place (bronze medal) for his verse speaking of the poem *Homework* by Jack Prelutsky. Cheltenham Festival of Performing Arts Speech and Drama Adjudicator, Vivienne Redford commented on his delivery saying it had "energy and vitality". She also mentioned that he had a "well presented voice and [his] diction is crisp and clear".

# STEM day for local primary schools

**24/06/19**

Year 5 pupils from three local primary schools; Rodmarton, Down Ampney and St. Lawrence were welcomed to Rendcomb College to take part in a Senior School science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) day led by Head of Science Dr Matt Cox.

The day involved activities in seven different areas and allowed the children to learn in a fun and interactive way. The day came to an end with an exciting 'whizz, bangs and pops' science show from Dr Matt Cox and Chemistry Teacher Alice Wyndow. The children had the opportunity to show off their new found knowledge and were eager to learn even more; especially when it was about something that blew up!

Dr Cox said: "We were delighted to welcome students from Year 5 for an afternoon of science, technology, engineering and maths. The students enjoyed a wide range of activities, from psychology and the senses to coding and lasers. With plenty of hands-on activities to try, there was real buzz as the students shared the excitement of discovery. The afternoon concluded with some chemistry demonstrations in the Griffin Theatre, with Mrs Wyndow's Elephants' Toothpaste experiment getting the biggest wows. Rendcomb College values its partnerships with local primary schools and we look forward to working with them in the future."



## Moving On Week

**01/07/19**

In the penultimate week of term Lower Sixth students had the opportunity to complete a week of preparation for life after Rendcomb.

Speaking to Lower Sixth students Daisy, Phoebe, Ella and Saba about the week they said: "The week has been one of the best opportunities within Rendcomb College so far. We feel as though we have been given the tools to be able to leave Rendcomb College with a confident outlook on the future. The week has done more than prepare us, it has promoted a variety of options for after Sixth Form that we didn't know we had. With these skills in our pockets we now have more drive for our futures and are in general inspired for life.



## Community Action Project

**01/07/19**

Lower Sixth students completed a community action project at Paternoster House care home in Cirencester. Assistant Head of Sixth Form, Alice Wyndow, said: "It was lovely to see some of the students sitting and interacting with some residents, encouraging them to paint their own 'memory pebbles' for the garden. The students had to work hard and should be pleased how happy the residents are with the final product."

The students worked in the garden to clear sections and pull out weeds. They also took time to speak to some of the residents.



## Pupils complete RYA sailing course

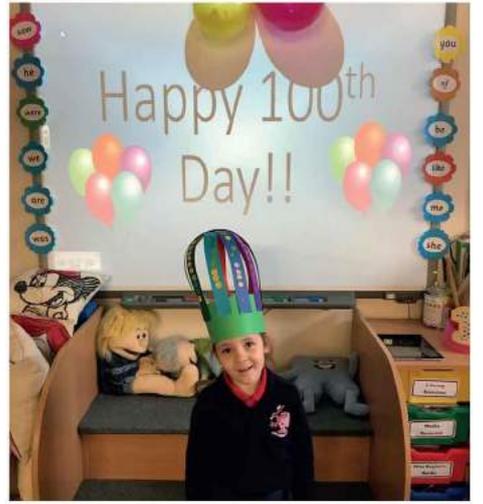
**03/07/19**

Throughout the Summer Term a group of Senior School students have been regularly attending a sailing activity offered by Rendcomb College.

The students have now received their RYA Youth Sailing Scheme Stage 1 Award gained after completion of the term's activity. To receive the award the students has to learn numerous skills including how to turn, stop, go faster and rig a boat.









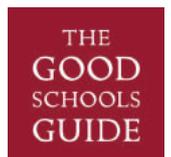
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