

RENDCOMBIAN

The magazine of Rendcomb College & Junior School

2008



Highlights

Alice in Wonderland



The Demon Headmaster



Founder's Day

*Miss Hunter is
awarded an
Early Years'
Teaching Award*



*Young Active Designers
of the Year*

U13A Rugby



Rendcombian

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WELCOME

A few words from the Headmaster

I have just returned from a "holiday" in Uganda, meeting up with pupils and friends from our sister school Lords Meade Vocational College near Jinja. One of the highlights of this trip was the formal opening of The Rendcomb African Hall, a barn-like structure with a strong roof [the previous roof was blown off in a storm three years ago] making this multi-purpose building a refuge for private study in the warm African sun or a place for the pupils to keep dry in the rainy season. The formal opening was followed by a music and drama concert organised by Alex Holden [OR] and then there was a Ugandan-style disco. Like our Rendcomb pupils, LMVC pupils know how to dance!

The funds for this project were raised exclusively from charitable contributions made by Rendcomb pupils, parents and staff who supported social events and activities mentioned elsewhere in this magazine; our Ugandan brothers and sisters are enormously appreciative of the generosity of Rendcomb's community. This building also is also a strong physical statement of our pupils awareness of the charitable side of college life, a theme which it is all too easy to take for granted and a theme which reflects well on the care which our pupils' show for each other and their fellow pupils in the developing world.

As I said in my address last Saturday afternoon to the governors, trustees, staff and pupils at LMVC, the links between our two schools are now very strong and we were delighted to welcome Godfrey Kiganga, the inspirational Principal of Lords Meade and his wife Florence, who taught in the Junior School for three days in October.



We hope that pupils from Rendcomb will consider further visits to Uganda in the future; visits which alongside other initiatives such as Fair Trade, Tree Planting and care for the environment are preparing our students to embrace changes which will dominate their lives in the future.

The diversity of our pupils' achievement and success leaps out at you from every page of this magazine and is reflective of the buoyant atmosphere in the college this year. From academic success in public examinations, to educational visits to exotic places such as Iceland and Barcelona, from victories in pop lacrosse to the securing of the prestigious Forest School Award, we are enormously proud of our pupils' energetic response to what is on offer at Rendcomb. They certainly know how to live their educational lives to the full!

As always, I am very grateful to the excellent editorial team of Liese Holden, Amanda Breal, and Anne Haas, and to all our staff who have provided written or photographic material for this impressive publication.

Whether you are a pupil, parent or visitor, I am sure that you will find this magazine a very good read.

With warm best wishes,

Gerry Holden
Headmaster



**SPORT
RELIEF**
Pages 18-19



**WORLD
MUSIC DAY**
Pages 28-29



**U13 RUGBY
SUCCESS**
Pages 58-59



**LORDS
MEADE**
Pages 74



FOUNDER'S DAY 2008

Gerry Holden

Headmaster

"Rendcomb pupils know that in the Western world, they are indeed fortunate to live and work in such a well-resourced educational environment and I am continually impressed and humbled by how our pupils' generosity of spirit flows over into helping other pupils for whom education in the developing world isn't a God-given right."

Aimée Schofield

Head Girl

"My parents once told me that good judgement comes from experience, and experience comes from bad judgement. I hate to say it in public, but I think they are right; and in this case the class of 2008 have certainly gathered an abundance of experience."

Every aspect of life and study at Rendcomb, allows students to express and develop their individuality and learn from their mistakes. Ultimately, this creates fully-developed adults, who are more than ready to face the challenges of life outside Rendcomb."

Richard Collins

Head Boy

"My time at Rendcomb has been unforgettable. I have been inspired by my lessons to relish the opportunities of higher education, but cannot help reflect on all the heated discussions, interesting tangents and everlasting memories that each day at Rendcomb has brought me."

The time and dedication given by our teachers not only results in a top education, but also builds such a rapport that they will be as sorely missed by me and my contemporaries, and for that I thank them enormously."

James Tait & Nicola Clift

Junior School - Head Boy & Head Girl

"All of the girls and boys in J6 deserve to be standing here today as Heads of School talking to you about their time at Rendcomb."

We are proud to have been able to represent our school on so many occasions, individually and as part of a team. We look forward to new challenges in the Senior School and while most of us will still all be together, we are also looking forward to meeting new friends."





History Exhibition in Library



Cafe Flore In Reading Roe



5-a-side Football



Geography Dept Fairtrade Stall

Martin Watson

Headmaster - Junior School Martin

Watson started his speech with a reading of Hastings' poem 'The Station' comparing a train ride with the journey through life.

"We can draw many comparisons to the 'Educational Journey' our pupils are travelling. As parents the end goal is naturally very important but so is the route taken to get there, and it is central to the pupils' development. In the Junior School the aim is that our children are happy along the educational journey. School and learning should be fun and shortly our Head Girl and Boy, Nicky and James will share some of their memories and experiences gathered on their train so far. The past year has been an extremely good one for the Junior School.

An ever-increasing number of parents have bought tickets to allow their children to experience the Rendcomb train journey and give them a firm platform on which to flourish. My dedicated, talented and professional staff have provided an ever-widening diversity of opportunities and the pupils, as ever, have risen to the challenge."

GUEST SPEAKER

Sir Glenn Torpy

Air Chief Marshal The guest speaker this year was Air Chief Marshal Sir Glenn Torpy. Sir Glenn has been Chief of Air staff since April 2006, maintaining effective command and control of the entire Royal Air Force.

During his distinguished service, he has amassed some 4,300 hours of fast jet flying. Outlining his impressive career in the RAF, spanning a period of 34 years during which time he saw active service in Kosovo and Iraq, he addressed the audience of over 500 parents, pupils and staff at the College, emphasising how important it is to enjoy going to work every day, whatever it is one decides to do.

Sir Michael Angus

Head Boy (Richard Collins) and Head Girl (Aimée Schofield) laying a wreath on the Founder's Grave in Miserden Churchyard



THE WORKS DEPARTMENT:

With the departure of Paul Cairns, the new Works Manager has been appointed.

Pete Cairns has thrown himself into the role wholeheartedly, and is to be congratulated on all his hard work in the absence of two of our Groundstaff.



Matthew Hodgson departed, after achieving a very good MSc to Leicester Grammar School, where he has become Head Groundsman. We wish him the best of luck and we welcome Dan

Robbins, who has been Groundsman at Cirencester Cricket Club, and Assistant Greenkeeper at Cirencester Golf Club. He will also be part of the Security Team.

Shaun Stancombe continues to give a sterling service with his quality carpentry and general building skills. Harry Evans, who is now the Deputy Manager of the Works Team has provided us with a feast of colour in the pots and flowerbeds throughout the Campus, and as many of the flowers are grown as seeds in the greenhouses, he deserves a huge vote of thanks for all the work that he puts into this area.



Dan Robbins (Head Groundsman), Pete Cairns (Works Manager) and Harry Evans (Deputy Works Manager)



Fire safety training



Matt and John getting plastered!



New social area for the Middle School 'The barn'





Paul Cairns with a group of J5 pupils down at the river

BURSAR & WORKS TEAM

Welcome to my 14th report
as Bursar of Rendcomb College:

The Medical Centre:

There has been a lot of turbulence in the manning of the Medical Centre this year and I must pay tribute to all the Sisters that have so professionally sorted out the medical problems and given so much of their time and effort to the pastoral care of the College. As I write this, Sister Julie Rogers has been off sick for nearly three weeks and we have missed her patience and expertise. The work she puts into costumes for the various College musical and theatrical performances is legendary.

The job-share between Sister Judy Hunt and Sister Rachel Jardine has sadly come to an end with the departure of Sister Jardine, whom we wish the best of fortune in a life after Rendcomb and we will miss her a lot. She will be a hard act to follow! We are in the process of recruiting another RGN to job-share with Sister Judy Hunt. I must also pay tribute to Sister Julia Vaughan who is presently working as a Classroom Assistant in the Junior School. She has quietly and efficiently helped when required and we are enormously grateful to her for all her hard work. She has been a very helpful addition to the team.

Lab Technicians:

Bill Ballinger, Derek Coombes and Jo Bond have provided sterling support to the Science Laboratories throughout the year. It is with sadness that we announce the impending retirement of Derek Coombes on the 29th January 2009 after 25 years of service to the College. Derek has been so helpful in so many ways over the years that it is worth noting that apart from being the Physics' Lab Technician he has put in huge amounts of time being the DOE storeman, Support Technician for the Stable Block, running the stationery ordering for the Senior School and organising the Stationery Shop for the pupils. We are fortunate to have three helpful and supportive technicians with Jo Bond working tirelessly to support the Chemistry area, and Bill Ballinger supporting Biology and the DT Department.



Admin Department:

The team remains Christine Johnson, HM's P. A., Ann Slark Admissions Registrar, Dawn Freegard, Secretary to the HM of the Junior School, Sue Thomson, Assistant to the Finance Manager, Susie Watkins, Finance Manager, Diana Baker, Reception and support to the Works Manager, Annie Stockford, Reception and support to the Finance Office, and Carol Endersby, my Secretary. All are thoroughly professional and work endlessly behind the scenes to make Rendcomb the happy place that it is.

I know that they are looking forward to a welcome break over the summer, which is well deserved. I have had many comments from visitors, staff and pupils about how much support they receive from the Admin Team. I would like to extend my thanks to them for all their help in going the extra mile in so many cases.

Cleaning, Catering Laundry Staff: The Operations Manager, Mr. Mark Naylor will write elsewhere about the Cleaning, Catering and Laundry Staff but I would like to pay personal tribute to him for all the work that he puts into the College during the core business time, i.e. the term time, and all the work that he undertakes on our behalf on lets and functions in the College. I have had many testimonials from people that are loosely connected to the College who use our facilities, in how professional he and his staff are at dealing with them. Our reputation is enhanced by their conduct and I am very grateful to them all.

As we go into the Summer of 2008, there is a huge amount of work to be undertaken to get ready for the reorganisation of the College for September 2009. We also have to have the College fit for purpose for September 2008; it is a great challenge, which I know will be dealt with in the usual professional and dynamic way.

A Happy Summer to you all!

Mr J Grey
Bursar



UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS

Take a trip with the butler upstairs downstairs and the odd visit to the cellar. "Yes there is one"

It takes a brave person to venture to the cellar, and this year that path has been well and bravely trodden by the members of JEST, to collect and return their many props and decorations for the events they have put on for the pleasure of students and parents, from the Autumn Bash "Mark Robbins Famous Bangers and Mash," to the elegant Spring Fling and Children's Parties, and who can forget the Mrs Clift inspired return of a Fashion Show for the Junior School? Miss Naomi Campbell had better watch out - from what I saw she may have competition on the catwalk.



Mr Baker and his Sixth Form painters and decorators, or should I say "Banksy and his girls", have attacked the walls of the Sixth Form Social Centre and he seems to have imported items from the end of "Brighton Pier" with Space Invaders (1981 tabletop version), coffee machine, table football and joy stick arcade game.

The piece de resistance ("Sorry Thierry-almost French") has to be the re-incarnation in yet another location of the fabulous antique snooker table which was donated many years ago by Mr and Mrs Gunner and has made several appearances and disappearances around the college over the years, but the butler always knew where it was.

Around the houses I have seen an upgrading of 4 of the original "Washboards" to the delight of Yvonne, Julie, Mary and Margaret. They now have a dial-up washing machine with a small TV screen to decide which program they require, ('Richard and Judy' or 'Cash in the Attic' not an option), and they now don't have to walk to the river with carbolic soap and the washboard. From the Domestic Staff we have said farewell to Viv Sollis after 20 years' service to Rendcomb, most of which was spent looking after the boys or as she often said "Her Boys" in Stable House; Dawn Curtis left us after 10 years, all of which was spent in Lawn House. Dawn will always be remembered for her decorating the middle floor at Christmas which was always very much appreciated by the students. A final farewell also to Mary Telling who worked in Lawn House for 5 years.... In Rendcomb speak a "New Girl". We wish all three a long, happy and healthy retirement with their partners.

Down in the kitchen, Stephen Lee departed for pastures new, and Richard Wannell joined us from RAF Innsworth and has just completed his first year. Mark, Thierry and Pat have not put him off yet!!! Dawn Adams has joined us at lunchtime to help look after the Otters whilst they have their lunch, and Maureen Broadbent is now with the Kitchen Team in the mornings to help with preparation, enabling The Head Chef to get on with Stock Control, Ordering and trying to secure supplies and negotiate, as he has seen prices rise at an unprecedented rate in 2008. The Kitchen Team have all successfully completed again this year their Food Hygiene exams and the Chefs were successful in attaining a level 2 award in Healthier Food and Special Diet's Course run by the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health at The University of Gloucestershire. The Cotswold District EHO came to visit and awarded the Catering Department a four star rating. It would have been five but for the drawbacks of working in an old building. Is this a secret plea to the Bursar for a new modern catering setup you may ask? Would the butler do such a thing?



The year has seen many strange feet through the door, a summer with Scripture Union Holidays, England Lacrosse meetings, the Oxford Universities AGM and Luncheon, the 'Sport for All' sport camps run by Cotswold District Council, Rotary, Purton Players, Farm Africa,

Citizens Advice Bureau all came on repeat visits for Dinners and Luncheons. The Friends of Rendcomb teamed up with the Cobalt Breast Cancer Appeal Fund to raise over £16,000 at the annual fair, to be held again this year at the end of October. The Shipton Quilters came back after four years of industrious sewing to put on an outstanding display and exhibition of their work and raised over £3,000 for an Alzheimer's charity. Rendcomb have hosted seven weddings over the year; from Christmas Wonderland for Sadie and Michael, to John and Megan's 'South Africa meets the Cotswolds' and to all our Brides and Grooms we wish you hearty "Congratulations."

You will see on other pages the numerous College Events and "happenings," most of which will have some input from Catering, Domestic and Laundry Staff, for which I cannot thank the staff enough for giving of their time and energy. I will sign off now for another year and go and polish the silver.

Mr Mark Naylor
Commercial Operations Manager

CHAPEL REFLECTIONS

Earlier in the year a new sixth form student said to me, 'I thought compulsory Chapel would be boring but it's not.

You understand the students and make it interesting.' I am delighted if that is their experience because as the Head of School Development for the Church of England has written, "It is our firm belief that only an educational experience with faith at its heart can offer the maximum development for individuals and maximum potential for cohesive integrated community." So during this last year there have been weekly assemblies in both the Junior School and Senior School aiming to present the Christian faith as attractively and intelligently as possible, together with contemporary moral and social issues relevant to the pupils. They themselves have played their part, particularly in the Junior School where there is always a lot of fun and laughter.

At the Sunday service for Boarders we have welcomed several guest speakers including the Rev. Canon Jane Kenchington, the Venerable Geoffrey Sidaway (Archdeacon of Gloucester), and the Rev. Malcolm Allen (West Cheltenham Team Ministry). Pupils have supported the following charities: Cirencester Housing for Young People (CHYP), Riding for the Disabled, Teenager Cancer Charity and Lords Meade Vocational College. Special services have included Remembrance Sunday, the Advent Carol Service and the College Carol Service. This year it has been a great pleasure to work with Mr. Roy Raby (Director of Music) and Mr. James McKelvey (Assistant Director of Music) and we have introduced an excellent new hymn book. This will help broaden the pupils' experience and enjoyment of worship and has already proved very popular. I would also like to thank those who clean the church, arrange the flowers, play the organ and care for the fabric including my two church wardens Lt. Col. the Hon. Jeremy Grey and Mr. Christopher Wise.

Finally, remembering that all we do in Chapel is inspired by the greatest teacher of them all (John Chapter 6 verses 66-69) I would like to end with a quotation from William Rees-Mogg writing in The Times, "Christian teaching gives value and life to human society; education without religion does not."



12 year's service

A presentation is made to Richard Gunner by the Rendcomb College Parents' Association after 12 year's of service.



New bench

In November 2007 a circular seat was placed around the sundial in front of the library in memory of Old Rendcombian Alastair Wilson (1929-36). Donated by his wife who died recently, a short dedication ceremony by the Rev. Charles Jefferson was attended by his family and staff.



Pupils protest against Rendcomb Post Office closure

Rendcomb pupils support the demonstration against the proposed closure of the Village Post Office.

GODMAN & OLD RECTORY

Yet another action-packed year for all the students of Godman and the Old Rectory

SEPTEMBER

Charity Cycle Ride

Twenty four students from the College, accompanied by 14 parents, took part in this year's charity cycle ride up and down hills around the churches of Gloucestershire. The bonhomie, beautiful views, challenging route, efficient support crews and delicious refreshments all added to a wonderful day.

Thank you to everyone that took part in this demanding 22-mile tour of the central Cotswolds and to Mrs Brealy and her support team who had to deal with punctures, crumpling wheels, grazes and unintended forays to Withington!

Mr Brealy



First Form Adventure Weekend



Big Sister evening



Nigerian Super Night

OCTOBER

*The Good, the Bad
and the Ugly Party*



*Alex Jordan and Lurie Wilcox
old Rec Prefects*



*Emily Apps Godman
Prefect*



*The Winners
Kirsty with
Godman girls*



NOVEMBER



*Bonfire night at
Yarnworth*



*Friday Night Challenge Paper
Tower Sculptures*



*FNC-TV programmes (Winning
Team-Big Brother)*

*Christmas Party
and Sketches*

DECEMBER

JANUARY



*God Rec Coffee
Afternoon*



FNC-Hairstyling

Bring 'n' Buy Sale



Thank you very much to all who helped us with the Bring 'n' Buy Sale. In the end we raised £155, which is very good considering the adverse weather conditions!

Mrs Fielding

The girls have decided that their half of the money raised will go to Winston's Wish and the boys are giving their share to the Oak and Furrows Wildlife Rescue Centre.

FEBRUARY

1st and 6th Form Buddy Quiz



Chinese New Year

MARCH

The winners



Winter warmer Party



APRIL



FNC Circus Sweet Sculpture



The old Rec boys enjoy their PS2 Guitar Hero III with money from the RCPA.



YFactor watch out! The girls have been practising on the Wii Boogie Karaoke from the RCPA

MAY



Godman Dinner Party



Making chocolate truffles



Break dancing



Having Fun in the swimming pool



FNC - Rendcomb's Got Talent

JUNE



Fun day at Weston-Super-Mare



FNC - Nature Scavenger Hunt



JULY



Pim's Parents' Drinks Party



2nd Form Leavers' Party



Alex Jordan Old Rec Prefect leaves Rendcomb



Pole Jousting

What A Year!

Pool Party



Disney Evening



Lawn House Tea Party



Three Decades Ball



Karaoke Evening



Mocktails Night

LAWN HOUSE

When people I meet find out that I'm a housemistress at an independent school, it usually doesn't take long before they start quizzing me on 'what it's like'.

After a bit of a discussion about school work and routine, they inevitably move on to asking me about 'the other bits'. What they really seem to be after is for me to paint a metaphorical picture of House and School life for them; just occasionally it would be tempting to cart a copy of the Rendcombian around with me so I could show them some real pictures, as it's a lot to describe...

"What's all this, then?" they might ask, looking at the magazine. Well, I'd say, it's a taste of just a few of the things that go on for the girls of Lawn House. Over the course of the last year we've had classic-film nights and Disney evenings, barbecues and tea-parties, shopping trips and cinema trips and restaurant trips; there have been big-sister evenings and sleep-overs; we've run around playing silly games and doing team-building exercises, and we've collapsed in the common-room to watch a blockbuster film on the big screen; we've trashed my kitchen on a number of occasions baking yummy things and making mock-cocktails; and we've played party games and scoffed cake, jelly and ice-cream for Britain, as they say (and for Japan, Germany, China, Russia and a number of other countries as well). People are always astonished by the amount of extra-curricular things - wow, they say, I never realised. We know though, don't we, that's what it's all about.

Of course, none of this is possible without the help of the wonderful Lawn House team, from the domestic staff who so calmly keep Lawn clean and tidy, to the gap-year tutors, the coaches, the academic tutors and the duty tutors who all help the place to run effectively and happily; and there must be a special mention for my excellent deputy this year, Mrs Mandy Bevans, who leaves us to go and take up the reins, along with Mr Paul Bevans, in Stable House. I would like to pass on my thanks and gratitude to every member of the team for all their hard work and commitment.

Here's to another great year!
Mrs Vicki Hayward





CARNATIONS, CANDIES & VALENTINE'S DISCO

The Fifth Form Social committee organised a Valentine Disco to raise funds for the British Heart Foundation Valentine Appeal.

The whole week prior to the disco, fellow pupils were encouraged to order carnations and candies which were then delivered on a daily basis. For the disco, pupils came in fancy dress; performed Karaoke, although some of this was not as tuneful as it could be! They also baked heart-shaped cookies and cakes which were sold on the evening.



THE THREE DECADES BALL

A trip back in time to the 1950's, 60's & 70's was the theme of this year's 4th & 5th form social event.

Special guests made a grand entrance in a limousine and gold Rolls Royce (kindly supplied and chauffeured by James Hill's grandfather) and then, after posing for photographs, walked along the red carpet to enjoy cocktails followed by a three course meal.

Once prizes had been awarded for the best dressed couple from each decade, guests "boogied" the night away to the sounds of the 50's 60's & 70's!!





RENDCOMB STUDENTS RISE TO THE CHALLENGE

A group of Fifth Form students set themselves the target of raising money for charity.

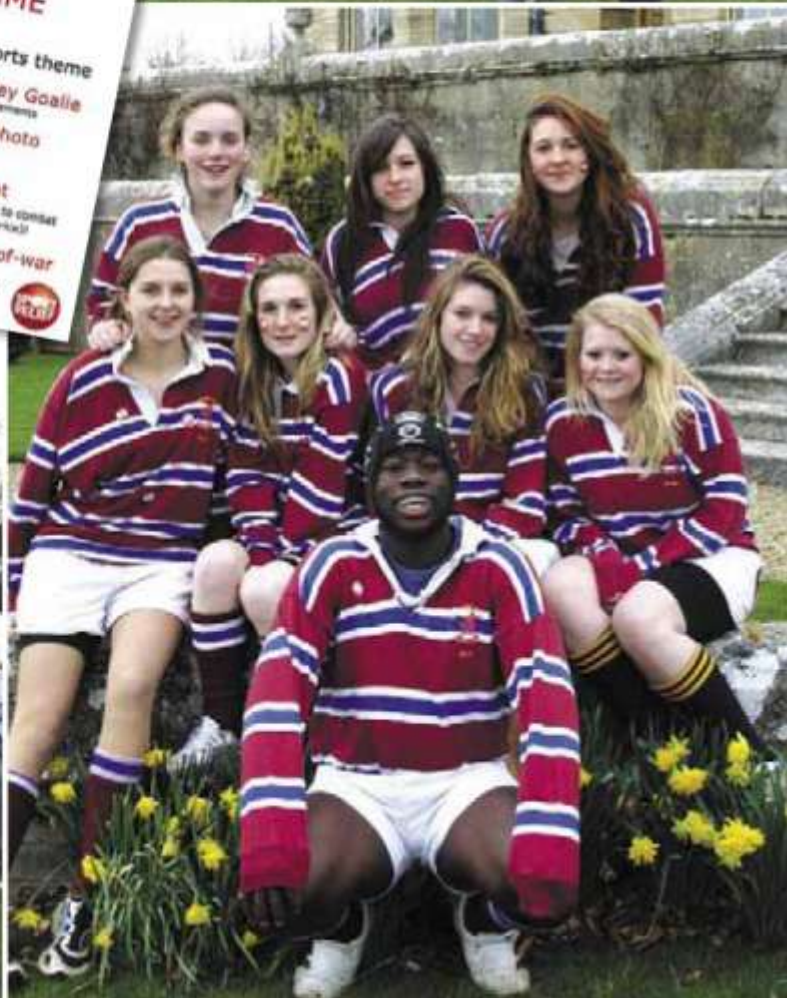
Rendcomb has direct links with a school in Uganda which offers an education to children, many of whom are orphans whose families have died from AIDS. They wanted to see the project through from start to finish to see exactly what was happening to the money they raised.

The pupils chose to invest in a 'Poultry Project' where children in Uganda would learn how to make a poultry house, using twigs and other locally available material. They would also be taught how to keep and look after the birds.

The aim would be for them to return to their home village, build their own house, sell the eggs and chickens which would raise enough money for them to pay for school fees and general living.

It is about enabling people to support themselves and not having to rely on handouts. This idea was formulated by Lucy Kibirige, the Deputy Head at Lords Meade, who visited Rendcomb two years ago and inspired the pupils during her visit.

With the aim of raising as much money as possible, pupils organised a Valentine's Disco and a mufti day at the end of term on a sports' theme, with pupils paying to come to school dressed as their favourite sports hero or heroine.





Ugandan chicken project

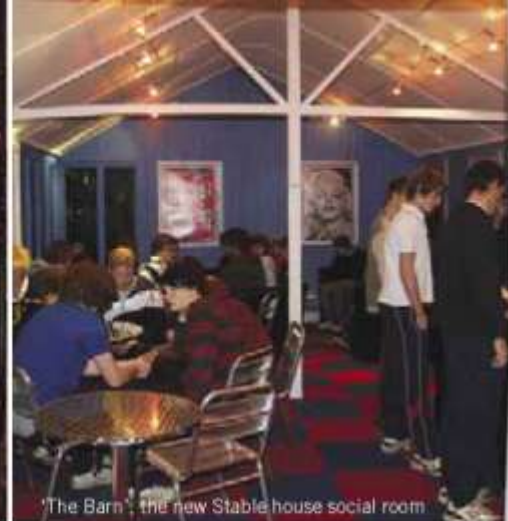
Lance Baynham as his sporting hero Lesley Vainikolo



IN TOTAL OVER
£1000
WAS RAISED



Mr North and Ed Thomason (Head of House)



'The Barn', the new Stable house social room



Pizza night



Karaoke night

STABLE HOUSE 2001-2008

These are the most difficult words to find, as I come to the end of seven years as Housemaster.

In some ways, it seems like only yesterday that I was inviting Nick Evans to be my first Head of House, for the year 2001-2002, and in other ways, I feel that I have never really been anywhere, or done anything else, other than be at the helm of this ship. We have sailed through times of great joy, of high achievement, alongside darker and more demanding days, when we have all needed to dig deep inside ourselves and to lean on each other, sure of what is right, and firm in our resolve to defend the values that make us strong and true. My hope is that, at the end of the day, every boy feels that he has been treated fairly, and with compassion.

Of course, there have been those who have made mistakes, not least myself. Fortunately, most of this brethren have had the personal courage to admit their errors and to move forward, stronger and wiser.

The list of memories is long and will stay with me always - Stanley's rat, Femi's birthday, Peter Mason skinning a rabbit, Garret's American study, Declan's selection boxes - I could go on, and apologies for any embarrassment. Perhaps one day I will write that book!

My thankyou's remain the same but are nevertheless as genuine and heartfelt. My team of tutors has been of the highest quality and has made my job easier and better. I particularly wish to thank Carlo Vuolo, who, as Assistant Housemaster, has given solid, caring support to all the boys in the House and has been a constant source of ideas, advice and wisdom, without ever losing sight of the fact that we are all human, which is probably the most important factor of all, and the one we can so easily forget.

The ancillary staff, cleaners, maintenance and caterers, are essential to our daily comforts and no-one should ever fail to appreciate their contribution. My very special thanks must go to Mary Cairns, who has looked after us all with her unique blend of care, humour and high standards.

Parents have always been supportive and I am ever grateful to them for their positive attitude to all that is done in the College.

As ever, the real force in our community has been, and will continue to be, the boys. This year has been so often an immense pleasure, and I would particularly wish to thank the Prefects for all they have done to make Stable House a happy and vibrant place. Edward Thomason, as Head of House, has displayed an unswerving integrity beyond his years and has had the respect of all around him.

And that, as they say, is that, except to offer one final thank you to my wonderful wife, without whom I would not survive a single day. Whilst having no official role at Rendcomb, her wisdom, calm, occasional chivvy, and constant love, have been the rock upon which I have achieved anything at all.

I wish everyone in Stable House well for the future. I shall miss so much, and remain as sure as ever that it is the young who have the power to inspire, and to give us a purpose to what we do.

Mr B. L. North (Housemaster)



DANCE CHALLENGE

Each group of dancers took to the floor with the encouragement from fellow peers in the audience.

The whistling, clapping and cheering had already begun before the performers had chance to dance. The evil, but honourable judges took their positions and were introduced to the audience before each of the dancing acts. The high standard of dancing from everyone who participated made the decision of who to be winner even harder for the judges than last year.

The determination and enthusiasm of all the dancers was shown through all their excellent dance moves. All who participated did a fantastic job, however there had to be a winner and this year it was the 5th form boys, closely followed by the upper 6th! Well done to all the dancers who took part, you all looked fabulous and a big thank you must go to the judges! The evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all!

Sophie Humphries



ROSCARS



Best Cinematography "Hunted"



Best Film "Apples"



*Yasmin Lester-Powell
Best Actress*



*Ed Slark
Best Actor*



The Judges



Both from "Lost at Rendcomb College"



THEATRE SPORTS

The annual Theatre Sports Challenge tests both drama and non-drama students' ability to think on their feet, be creative and above all to keep calm while all around them dissolves.

Pupils from all year groups formed teams of five and prepared to be judged by Mr Holden, our tough Theatre Studies teacher, Mrs Dodd and by the expectant Miss Mills. These hardened jury members would not be persuaded by any bribe [chocolates or gin] and continually had a critical eye on all of the performers. Entertaining commentary was given by Mr Jennings with help from timekeeper, Harriet Lockett, and the scorer, Maria Odinstova.

Faced with challenges such as "Tell me a story" and "Death in a minute" led to victory at the end for the "Harmony's Boys", the team comprising our excellent dramatist Lewis Taylor, imaginative Ed Slark, artist Alex Jones, sportsman Kevin Rich, and last but not least their leader Harmony Andrews.

Christina Gasteiger



BACK TO THE 80'S

...THE TOTALLY AWESOME MUSICAL!

The Senior School musical this year was David Spicer's Back to the 80's. From the era that brought the world The Rubik's Cube, Max Headroom and The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles it is set in the style of movies such as Back To The Future, Ferris Bueller's Day Off, The Karate Kid and The Wedding Singer.



We joined the graduating class of William Ocean High School as they lived through their final senior year - as they experienced the fun, the heartbreak, the loves and the loneliness of growing up.... all set to the biggest hits of the 80's!!

There were several new faces who became actors in key roles this year. James Mudge, the Form 1 Drama scholar, was a confident Bill Gates. Richard Collins and Richard Pass returned to the stage after a few years' absence, to be Billy and Lionel. Kevin Rich tackled his first stage role with real maturity and with Sinead Brennan in fine voice, were

a believable older couple, experiencing the same insecurities in love as their students.

Alex Jordan and Charlie Rhodes stepped into sudden vacancies and with only a few weeks' rehearsal, proved the maxim "the show must go on". Sophie Humphries and April Edwards were delightfully goofy as Laura and Debbie, acne and all! Amy Sinclair and Harriet Lockett were believable Goth twins. Will Humphrey-Gaskin, Tessa Couch and Ruby Stone also flourished in interesting character roles.

James Hill as the narrator, led us through the story with style and panache while Lewis Taylor was the comic Feargal who reduced

many in the audience to tears with his fine control of facial expression and movement. Luke Lester-Powell played Michael Feldman with great confidence. He sang with style and acted with humour and self-deprecation - most notably in the Proclaimers well known song "500 Miles", while he struggled manfully with his kilt!

The ever-reliable Steven Brown and Emily Apps were confident in their lead roles. This is the second lead for Steven and the third for Emily which is a fine record. Both showed real stage presence and an understanding of light theatre in all of their scenes.



The final performance was especially pleasing with the audience on its feet and in some cases, dancing with us!

Thank you to everyone who worked hard on this show in the chorus and dance troupe and to all staff who gave of their precious time.

There are too many to fit into this report, but Mr Raby, Miss Mills and Sister Pritchard all devoted weeks of their lives to this show. Fortunately, in the end, we did have "The Time of our Lives" in presenting this show.

Mrs D Dodd



THE DEMON HEADMASTER.

At the beginning of July, Rendcomb College was taken over by robotic hypnotised pupils obeying a sinister headmaster who seemed to know everything. No - not a new school initiative, but the Lower School production of *The Demon Headmaster* adapted by Adrian Flynn.

Looking in complete control, Oliver Brady playing the Demon Headmaster, aided by some rather stunning lighting effects, proceeded to hypnotise the school where pupils walked and moved in lines, dressed immaculately and did nothing without being told to. He was assisted by six prefects led rather scarily by Yasmin Lester-Powell, who were his eyes and ears on the ground and created an atmosphere akin to Orwell's '1984'.

Fighting against this ordered regime were the SPLAT gang, led by two brothers played with great enthusiasm by Ed Slark and Lance Baynham. The gang could not be hypnotised and so, along with the brothers' new foster sister, Dinah, they seek to find out what is really going on in their school. Flora Scott, in her first main role, was convincing as the girl who was brave enough to try and fight the Headmaster whilst trying to make friends and settle into a new home.

The gang discover the headmaster intends to hypnotise the whole country into order on a children's TV programme and the rest of the play shows their plans to foil the plot on live T.V.

The Eddy Hair Show was everything you want from a 'Tiswas' type show - a manic, completely over the top host played with great panache by Tom Molloy, custard pies in the face, practical jokes and green jelly. Well done too, to the girls who were gunged in the process!

The contrast of stark ordered scenes in the school, bright chaos in the TV show, psychedelic lighting effects as the headmaster hypnotised the pupils, along with some complex movement and marching scenes, made this a visually entertaining piece and one had to stop for a moment to remember that the age range of the cast was just 11-15 years.

The show obviously required a great deal of hard work from both cast and backstage crew and congratulations to everyone for a highly entertaining result.

Mrs S Mills







Music

The academic year 2007-8 will be remembered as a fruitful year for the Music Department: almost 7,000 individual music lessons were taught, 22 concerts performed and more than 190 students entered for ABRSM examinations.

Regular lunchtime concerts gave all musicians the opportunity to perform in an informal context, whilst topflight musical talent was showcased in a variety of public concerts featuring music from Dowland to Green Day. Pianists and singers took part in workshops given by visiting specialist coaches, and the GCSE and AS Music sets showed off their compositions and performed in recital.

The Men's Vocal Consort gave its first public performance in November, and the Chamber Choir performed at services throughout the year, including the Service of Remembrance which was further enhanced by the sounding of the Last Post and Reveille by Form 1 trumpeter, James Mudge.



Many students enjoyed hearing professional orchestras perform at leading concert venues and Old Rendcombian Peter Liang compete in the final round of the Gloucestershire Young Musician of the Year Competition. Sixth Form leaver Emily Apps achieved the highest mark of the year in an

ABRSM practical examination, Distinction for Grade 8 singing, and Mark Gunner was awarded Grade 8 in three different instrumental

disciplines (piano, singing and trombone) and all in the same examination session! Emily and Mark also performed in the hugely successful production of Back to the 80s.

The department's already very good facilities were further improved with the refurbishment of the grand piano in the Reading Room and new pianos for the Dulverton Hall and the department, in addition to state-of-the-art software for use in the curriculum.



We welcomed six new staff to the department:

Jeremy Carter (piano), Mrs Mary Cope (piano), Miss Jo Orsman (upper strings), Mrs Pamela Smith (recorder), Miss Sarah Steele (piano) and John Wright (organ and piano); and we said farewell to Mrs Gill Day and Mrs Dittany Stirling.

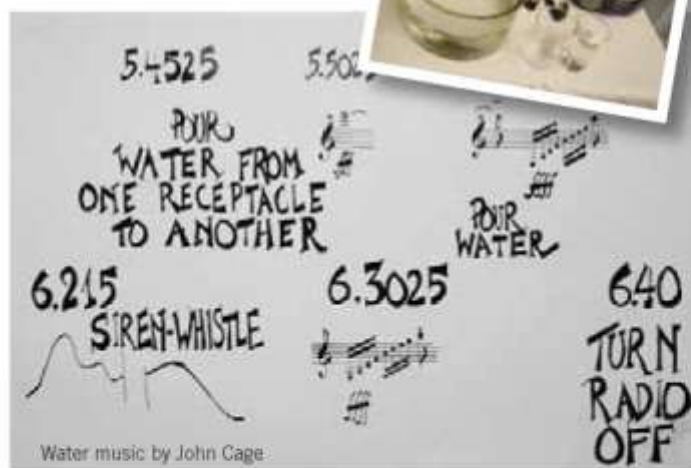
It has been a busy and productive year for the department, which bodes well for the future of music at Rendcomb College.

Mr R Raby
Director of Music

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC GROUP

The newly-founded Contemporary Music Group, in its highly successful inaugural concert, featured György Ligeti's 'Poème Symphonique' for 100 metronomes and Steve Reich's 'Pendulum Music'.

At the St Cecilia's Day Concert, John Cage's Water Music for a pianist, using also a radio, whistles, water containers, a deck of cards, a wooden stick and objects for preparing a piano, provided a suitably theatrical end to a concert of music from Dowland to the present day.



Water music by John Cage



CHORAL CONCERT AT NORTHLEACH PARISH CHURCH

Northleach Parish Church was the magnificent venue for the annual Choral Concert.

The concert opened with two works by Vivaldi, *Laudate Dominum* and *Beatus vir*, and featured soloists Mrs Phillips, Ruby Stone and Charlotte Clements, as well as the Chamber Choir. Handel's popular organ concerto "The Cuckoo and the Nightingale" was the work chosen by James Foulkes for his concerto debut.

The College Choral Society, with its members drawn from the whole College community, and the Rendcomb Sinfonia gave an arresting performance of Haydn's dramatic *Nelson Mass*, with outstanding contributions from soloists Emily Apps, Tara Elsen, Ruby Stone, Sinead Brennan (Head of Choir), Mr McKelvey and Old Rendcombian Alex Holden.



Mr P Dunn performing at the St Cecilia Days' Concert



Rock Concert



WORLD MUSIC DAY

130 children from local junior and preparatory schools enjoyed a day at Rendcomb College performing Gamelan music from Indonesia, Samba music from Brazil, and percussion music from West Africa, as well as composing Salsa music from Cuba and learning about brass instruments.





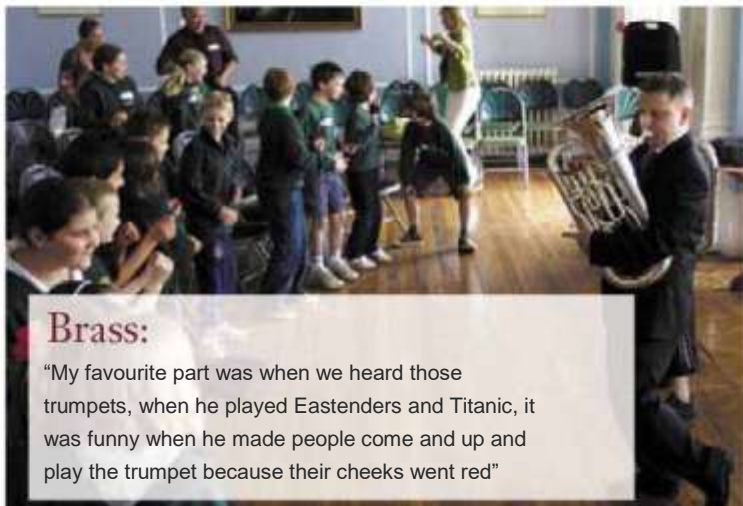
Gamelan:

"The Gamelan music was lovely"



African Drumming:

"I liked the African drumming best. It made my heart go wild"



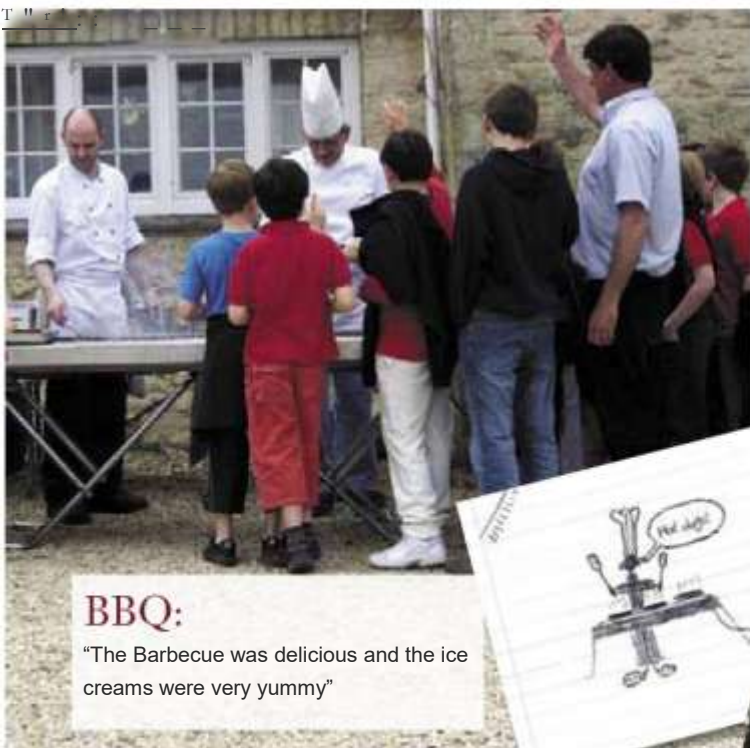
Brass:

"My favourite part was when we heard those trumpets, when he played Eastenders and Titanic, it was funny when he made people come and up and play the trumpet because their cheeks went red"



Salsa Composing:

"I enjoyed composing music on the computers, but it turned out to be horrible scary music. The second one I did was even scarier, but I liked it all the same"



BBQ:

"The Barbecue was delicious and the ice creams were very yummy"

Samba Band

"I really enjoyed playing the Samba band instruments"



A LEVEL ART



Amy Sinclair

Phil Ellis



Sophie Arkle



Laurie Wilcox



Helen Chen



Emily Stark



Luke Lester-Powell



Carroll Cheung

Franziska
Philippi



GCSE ART



Alex Jones



Lewis Taylor



Laura
Graham



Rory Clark



Sophie Griffiths



LOWER SCHOOL ART



1st Form:

Peg Dolls



2nd Form:

Figurative sculptures from found materials



4th Form:

Figurative sculpture from Modroc



The Big Draw:

Aimée Schofield (Head Girl) and Harry Evans pictured here planting a local variety of apple tree called "The Gillyflower of Gloucester".

Aimée won this for taking part in 'The Big Draw', The National Campaign for Drawing when her apple was picked out of a hat. She decided to plant it for posterity at Rendcomb.



3rd Form:

Figurative sculptures made with wire and papier maché



Hannah Field



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

1st form

Toothbrush holders; hanging mobiles



2nd form

Clocks, based on artist's or designer's work; Tangrams and presentation boxes; mirrors based on ethnic themes, different countries or cultures.



Milly Williams with her Hamster!

3rd form

Woodland experience project, designing activities or educational toys for the Junior school; 'Storage solutions' project (CD holders, desk tidies, and even Hamster boxes!)





THE ART TRIP

BARCELONA - FEBRUARY 2008



A good time was had by all, plenty to do, see, eat, experience;
great students and the company of some very venerable artists .



ICELAND GEOGRAPHY TOUR

MARCH 2008 From Rendcomb to Reykjavik...

On 24th March at 2am, 24 students and 5 adults, led by Miss Franklin, set off from Rendcomb village to experience the fascinating island of Iceland: an island of dramatic contrasts, where the landscape is forged by fire and ice.

Steaming lava fields and hot pools reflect its volcanic nature, while massive glaciers continue to sculpt the mountains and valleys, leaving thundering waterfalls.

The tour was an exciting whirlwind of geographical adventures and spectacular landscapes... there was not a spare minute! Students and staff agreed that Iceland is a physical geographer's paradise of glaciers, waterfalls, geysers, volcanoes, hot springs, the blue lagoon, Reykjavik City and so much more. Enjoy the following photographic journey of our Icelandic experience...

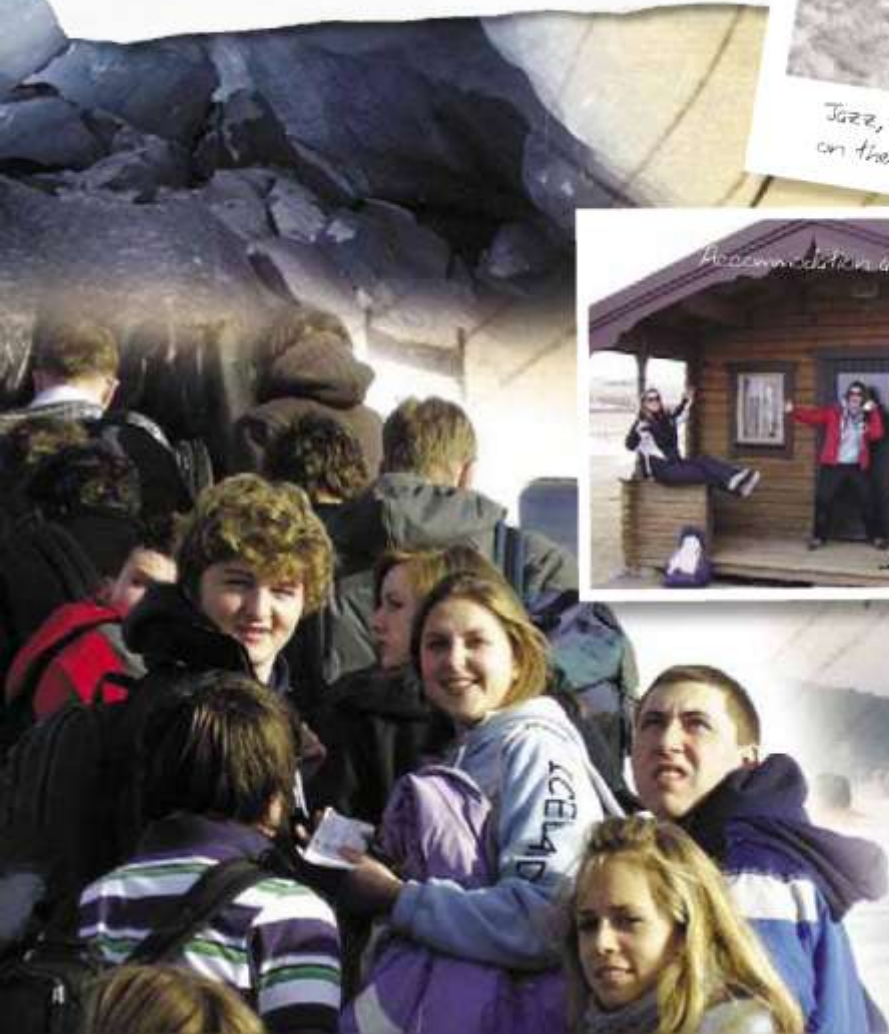
Mrs C Franklin



Jazz, Naomi and Kirsty
on the Ice slide



The Eiborg Volcano



The Blue Lagoon



Mid Atlantic Ridge
Constructive Plate Margin



Mýrdalsjökull Glacier



In front of
Skogafoss Waterfall



Þróngastangi



Kerit Volcano
Crater lip



Sólheimajökull glacier



Mr Brady at Gullfoss
waterfall



Tom and Alex in the
steam of the hot spring





DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Eleven very wet mountaineers returned from the Brecon Beacons after a gruelling four-day hike, which provided them with the skills and experience which they need for their assessment expedition.

It was so wet on the Saturday they had to be rescued by the Royal Navy! Like all the previous groups, they maintained the Rendcomb tradition of achieving success with distinction.

Mr C Vuolo



SCIENCE



Above: Lower Sixth don their wellies and waterproofs to do some fieldwork in the River Churn.

Below: The Upper Sixth biologists went to Snowdonia



Lower School pupils enjoyed a visit to The Cheltenham Science Festival

COTSWOLD WILDLIFE PARK

The day started early with all of us having to be on the coach at 8.45 am

We travelled for about half an hour to the wildlife park in Burford. While we were there we had a fascinating talk by one of the keepers called Bob. He told us all about the zebras, rhinos, leopards, lions and giant tortoises and lots more. We found out some really amazing facts. We were all surprised when he told us that the peccaries, a sort of wild pig, were the most dangerous animals in the park. If you go into their enclosure they will charge at you, knock you over and then eat you alive. We then went on the train.

Everyone was scared by the high speed!! After lunch we were then allowed to go around in groups looking at the rest of the park until it was time for the journey back. A big thanks to all the teachers who had helped to organise this. It was a great day.

Hannah Clift

BATTLEFIELDS TRIP



Essex Farm is a small cemetery just North of Ypres and buried at Essex Farm cemetery is V. J. Strudwick.

Strudwick was just 15 when he was killed on 14th January 1916. Obviously he had lied about his age to get to The Western Front. The sobering fact, of course, was that he was the same age as most of the Rendcomb students who stood in front of his grave and offered a silent prayer for a very young but very brave boy.

As the British Legion guide at Theipval, the British monument to those missing in action with no known grave (73, 000), the war was not about nameless or faceless 'Tommies' or their German equivalent, but about sons, fathers, brothers and uncles.

Real people with real histories; the sons of two prime ministers, footballers, Charles Dickens' grandson and perhaps the most appalling history, eight brothers from one single Canadian family.

The Canadians involvement on The Western Front, then and now is very important. The Canadian government-run Newfoundland Park is a preserved section of the Somme battlefield and the Vimy Ridge memorial. It is a testament to the significance of this conflict that there is a stringent interview process back in Canada for Canadian gap students to earn the right to come to Europe and be the guides at these important sites where Canada came of age.

This was the first trip Rendcomb has made to the Battlefields of Flanders and the students responded in a very sensitive and dignified way: they respected the fact that as they walked over the preserved section of the Somme battlefield that they were not just walking over a rutted and pock-marked field but over a piece of history where 20, 000 allied soldiers died on the first day of the battle and where one and a quarter million men on both sides were dead by November 1916. The line had advanced six miles.

Rendcomb hopes to return to the Battlefield to pay our respects next year.

Mr P Jennings



Black Country Living Museum

Budding historians enjoyed trips to the Black Country Living Museum, Dudley and to the Theatre in Oxford to see plays from the Horrible History series, the 'Terrible Tudors' and 'Vile Victorians'.





The Spelling Competition

The Spelling Competition was inspired by the televised "Spelling Bees" in the United States some years ago.

Most of us feel fairly confident about having a stab at spelling a word, as long as we can write it down; but here, no writing is allowed: spellings must be given aloud at a microphone. This, along with the mental athletics (and comic face-pulling) of the contestants as they battle to spell words of ever-increasing complexity, seemed the perfect formula for a school challenge!

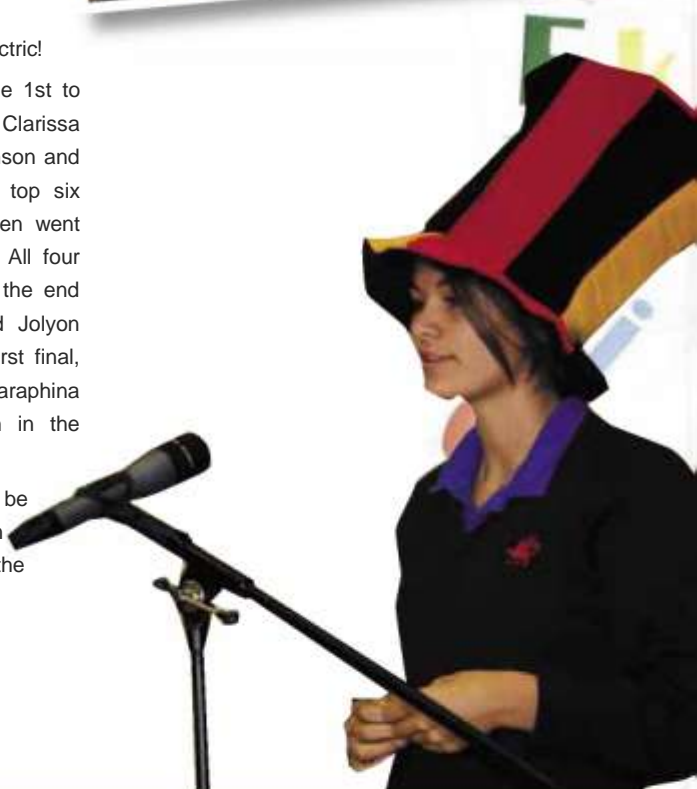
Rendcomb spellers took the bull by the horns and the early heats saw over 50 pupils come and try their luck against their own year group. These were ably supported by large groups of pupils from all years, who came to cheer on their classmates.

The atmosphere was frequently electric!

After some nail-biting play-offs, the 1st to 4th Form heats were won by Clarissa Luxton, Jolyon Dunn, Thomas Benson and Hannah Taylor respectively. The top six spellers from each year group then went forward to the two Grand Finals. All four year groups were represented in the end results: 3rd Thomas Minton; 2nd Jolyon Dunn; 1st James Mudge in the first final, and 3rd Thomas Benson, 2nd Saraphina Njoroge and 1st Sarah Tarleton in the second.

Great fun was had by all and it is to be hoped that the Spelling Competition will become a permanent fixture in the Rendcomb College calendar.

Miss M Harries



CHAUCER READING

'When spring is come, people long to go on pilgrimages...'

And so the Upper Sixth English set did; a pilgrimage to The Reading Room to read aloud their own versions of The Merchant's Prologue and Tale; some dressed accordingly in garb from the period and all students read their section of a modernised medieval version of Chaucer's cautionary tale.

Afterwards there was time for medieval fayre consisting of coarse bread and chicken washed down with refreshing cups of homemade mead!

Long may 14th Century poetry live at Rendcomb College!

Mr P Jennings



Junior Challenge



Intermediate Challenge



Senior Challenge

UK MATHS CHALLENGE

The beginning of a maths legacy.

The 1st IV maths team consisting of Ken Xu, Ivan Ho, Iva Carvalosa and Richard Collins took part in the regional final of the UK Maths Challenge and went with the support of the entire maths department and in particular Mrs Gregory who organised, transported and motivated the team.

After a slow start in the competition, Rendcomb increased their efforts and under intense pressure. Rendcomb sailed through the final round confidently, so much so that one man with heavily rimmed glasses; (clearly a mathematician) said: "Wow, you looked like you were on fire in that last round".

Rendcomb scored a mightily impressive 153, which confidently placed them in 3rd place out of 18 of the best mathematical teams in our region, narrowly missing a place in the national final.

The real reward however is what Rendcomb senior mathematics has now become: a feared force, and a name that strikes terror into those schools that were defeated on the cold November night.

This reputation is one that I encourage all aspiring mathematicians to achieve and better. A benchmark has been set and I will be looking forward to hearing about Rendcomb Mathematics progressing ever onwards.

Teams were also entered for the Junior and the Intermediate Maths Challenges with Gold Certificates being awarded to: Kerry Lin (also Best in School), Hal Jones, Maggie Leong at Intermediate Level, and Troy Caselli (also Best in School), Tristan Stevens, James Milligan, William Scott, Daniel Gregory, Frazer Payne and Joshua Cropper at Junior Level. Well done to everyone who took part (pictured here).

Richard Collins

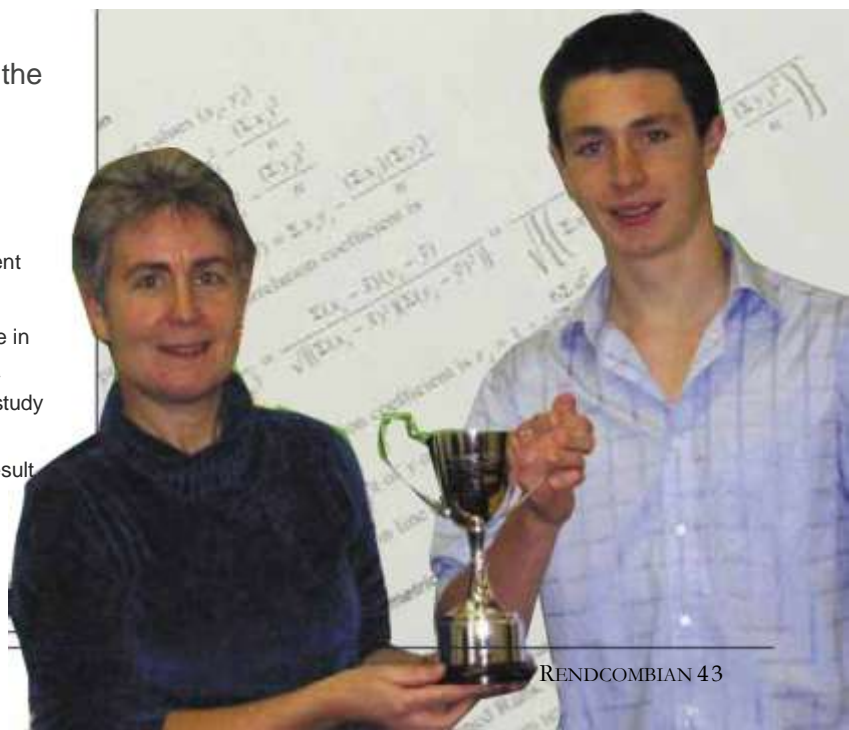
THE WILCOX CUP

This year saw the Wilcox Cup being awarded for the first time. This is a cup given to the school by the widow of Arthur Wilcox for the "Most Improved Student in Maths".

Arthur was a scholar at Rendcomb from the age of 10 years and went on to be a Professor of Maths and a writer.

This year it has been awarded to Richard Pass. Throughout his time in years 4 and 5 in the middle set he grew in confidence, resulting in a fantastic GCSE percentages of 98% and 86%. He then went on to study AS level Maths, which is extremely unusual for a student taking Intermediate Tier at GCSE. His work ethic was faultless and as a result he was only one mark off a grade C last summer.

A fantastic achievement.



GERMAN

2008 has been a very busy year for the department, centring on our trip to Germany with 1st and 2nd form to youth hostels in Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler and Bonn. The 3rd and 4th form German exchange visited our partner school, and the 5th form took part in a German department trip to Berlin. The return visit from our German exchange partners and staff to Rendcomb in the summer term was also a great success, making really important links between a range of year groups.

German Exchange Trips

We visited some beautiful towns in the region and other very popular attractions such as a chocolate factory, a huge swimming pool complex, Cologne Zoo and the Haribo Superstore. We also went on a boat trip down the Rhine.

While the 3rd and 4th form joined us on some of the many activities and day trips, they also spent a good deal of time closely following the German school day (which conveniently finishes at lunchtime). Their exchange partners came back to visit us in the summer term and we were able to return their hospitality by showing them Rendcomb and the Cotswolds, as well as trips to Oxford, Stratford and Warwick Castle. Our German guests also went to the Junior School, and arranged for a class in their school to write to our J6 in their German lessons. We hope that they will keep in touch so that they can meet up on the next trip to Germany in 2010!

The exchange is very much in the tradition of the regular trips to Germany organised since 1995.

Mrs R Fielding

Berlin Trip

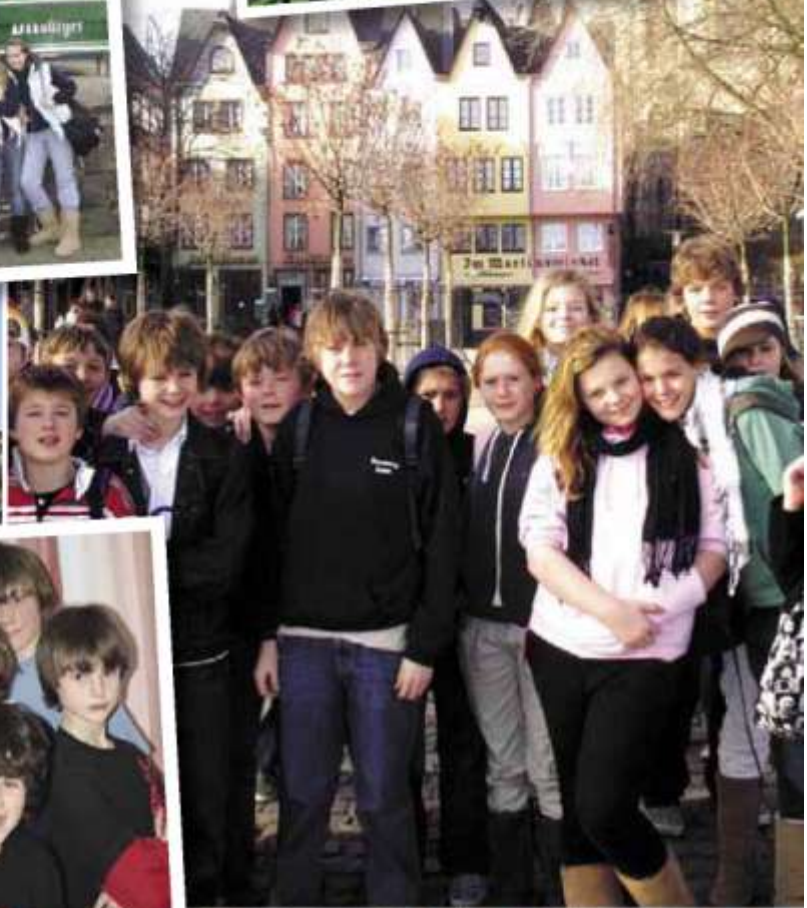
A group of enthusiastic 5th form German students headed off to soak up the culture and history of Berlin and also to improve their language skills. Visits were made to The Story of Berlin Museum, the Cold War Bunker and Checkpoint Charlie where they saw remnants of the Berlin Wall.

They also went to the Jewish Museum and the fabulously restored Berliner Dorn and the Reichstag.

As well as all this culture and history they did some shopping at KaDaWe, and enjoyed some typical German fare - the cakes went down particularly well!

Mrs S White





WATERSPORT ACTIVITIES AT COTSWOLD WATER PARK



Alex Newman and Chris Harrington
showing off their wakeboarding skills



GCSE PE TRIP TO THE UNIVERSITY OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE

On Thursday 1st November the 4th and 5th year GCSE PE students took part in a number of fitness tests and to find out about the sports courses available at the University.

Throughout the morning we took part in a variety of fitness-related activities including an SAQ warm-up, using ladders and small hurdles, and a number of tests which measured different aspects of fitness. We also carried out some activities which helped us learn definitions of different types of fitness.

We all learned a lot and had a very enjoyable morning pretending to be university students.

Abi Tennant-Bell



FIRST AID TRAINING

A big thank you to Sister for arranging for the St John Ambulance First Aid Training in April.

A thoroughly enjoyable morning, learning essential information and trying out various techniques. I will not forget my experience of resuscitation. I follow the instructions given for chest compressions with my allocated dummy. I press and press but no movement. Our instructor said I needed to push harder which I did, still nothing.

Push even harder she said, you have to get all of your weight behind the push. I was practically doing a hand stand on the dummy, my whole body off the ground, in the air, pushing down on a dummy which refused to have its chest pushed in.

Low and behold, it was found to have a problem with its chest and was replaced! I learnt a lot that morning, including how to deal with fainting, with people in shock, bleeding, burns, stings and so on. I feel confident now that if ever I found myself in a situation where a person required assistance I would be able to offer this, at least in the most serious of cases until a medical professional arrived.

Mrs M Kinson



BOWLING TRIPS TO RAF FAIRFORD

Rendcomb College Parents Association and pupils all enjoyed the opportunity to bowl at RAF Fairford's Tanker Lanes Bowling Centre



PSYCHOLOGY: MIND AND BEHAVIOUR?

The Autumn Term found the psychologists experiencing being out of control!

Firstly, the Gloucestershire Probation Service came to demonstrate to Rendcomb and Westonbirt students some anger management techniques. Secondly, Richard Parsons (OC) came to talk about hypnosis. Of course, the most interesting part of this was the actual experience of deep relaxation and the effect of suggestion.

The Spring Term was full of the delights of the Junior School who most kindly tolerated several AS students as they carried out their psychology coursework on Piagetian tasks.

In the Summer Term, AS psychologists, with the Biologists, went on a trip to Bristol. In the morning, the Zoo was the pretext was for an entertaining session on Animal Learning (giant land snails and a milk snake to 'teach') and a shot at scientifically observing animals (remarkably difficult if they are dozing in the sunshine!).

The afternoon was spent watching something much more sober, as we went to Bristol Crown Court for an hour or so in the public gallery. Nothing gory, but we watched a police doctor being 'taken apart' as he was interrogated by the defence council.



We were all much clearer about the seriousness of our court procedures. And it was a good background for studying Criminal Psychology in A2.

Georgina Harford
Head of Psychology

THIRD FORM TRIP TO STRATFORD:

A Sonnet (I'm sorry, Will, please forgive me!)

What is Stratford like on a Summer's day?
It art not more lovely and more temperate,
When the third form Rendcombians,
Do descend for project work to do.
With pens, pads, bags and cameras,
The students busied themselves like ants:
Notes and plans written in logs and files,
And pictures of the sunny Avon taken.
Rendcomb packed lunches and Hathaway's house,
Quill pen souvenirs and Shakespeare tat,
Gardens galore and strange doctor's kit,
Second best beds and soft kid gloves.
At the church, the genius's bust, made of plaster
A splendid trip to the home of the master
Mr P Jennings



DRAMA TOUR

On Sunday 18th March, an overexcited group of luvvies assembled at Kemble Station to depart on the annual Drama Tour in London.

Being let loose on London for lunch, we had to take the demanding walk of merely 200m to the Lyceum Theatre to watch the stage show of Disney's 'The Lion King'. The action filled show of both astonishing design and gifted actors gave a brilliant "duality" [big Theatre Studies word!] between the actors and animal characters to present the "Circle of life". In the evening we all had dinner at Planet Hollywood - Mrs Dodd's favourite place to hate! The next day we clambered onto a bright yellow bus (which did not exactly look steady) to go on the Duck Tour of London. After driving round the inner city, the bus within seconds turned into a boat and we suddenly plunged into the Thames.

With Ms Mills capturing Mrs Dodd's terrified face on camera we all had something to giggle about, even if we were secretly screaming inside! This was followed by a backstage tour of the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, and evening performance of 'Dirty Dancing'. The last day was full on as we had acting and dancing workshops. The dancing workshop was definitely a favourite with all and Will Parker's great enthusiasm was scary! However, there was great disappointment as the staff felt the need to video us instead of joining in! In the afternoon we went to watch the matinee performance of 'The 39 Steps', a brilliantly funny English play, only using four actors to portray all characters in the story. Much love to Ms Mills and Mr Jennings for capturing all memories on film and camera and putting up with our crazy impromptu street theatre. A special thanks must go to Mrs Dodd for making the whole thing possible.

April Edwards



"ANYONE FOR ONION RINGS..."

Sixth form pupils walking the mile at Rendcomb College



Rendcomb has been at the mercy of its own students as the sixth form ran the school for a day. Members of the upper sixth have been shadowing key members of staff, creating car parks out of rubber matting and making geographical landscapes out of papier maché. Sophie Arkle learnt a valuable lesson in the kitchen on how not to poison three hundred pupils serving fish, chips and onion rings at lunch time. Sean Edwards and Randal Pakeman worked with the maintenance team fixing loo's, lights and using leaf blowers, whereas Jon Newton spent the day renovating the stable block to eventually be used as a fifth form games and relaxation area. Meanwhile Tessa Couch worked alongside our Commercial Manager acquiring knowledge about the school fire alarms and explaining to Richard Pass how excessive use of deodorant can set them off! James Hill & Jon Fish learned what goes on behind the busy reception desk.

A variety of teachers had assistance for the day, for instance the art department had the privilege of Laurie Wilcox and Amy Sinclair helping offering their creative flair to the younger years. Richard Collins, our budding

scientist and Head Boy, deliberated over how to use a pipette whilst helping Mr Wood in the Chemistry Department. Over in geography Charlie Stutchbury, Jack Roach and Richard Pass dabbled in the use of interactive whiteboards with Mr Brealy, getting their hands sticky creating geographical land forms such as river valley's and glaciers out of papier maché with the fourth form.

Elsewhere on the campus Georgie Sefton spent the day in the nursery catching up on childhood games and memories. Luke Lester-Powell found out just what Mr Marsden, Head of Sixth form, does all day and enjoyed showing off his prowess to everyone in the sports' hall.

Ken Xu surprisingly went psychological and battled through teaching a class by himself, showing off his own cognitive abilities to the third form: whereas Herman Luk assisted the Head of International students for the day, but was sidetracked into showing Mrs Stutchbury his superior computer skills. Aimée Schofield joined Mrs Robertson, resident gap student, catching up on the week's gossip and news whilst of course, getting on with lots of work.



The English and Drama Departments had to put up with a number of students for the day and Mrs Dodd, Head of Drama, declared she was exhausted after being Emily Apps for the day. Katie Ruddy and Ollie Richards metaphorically felt like hanging their fifth form English classes but chose to play a jolly game of literary hangman instead.

Meanwhile I filled Mrs Holden's shoes, behaving rather like the paparazzi poking my head round every door taking incriminating photo's of my classmates and then of course, being made to write this article.

Headmaster Gerry Holden said of the Walking the Mile day "This experience is a very valuable lesson in preparing students for work in later life".

Now exhausted, I must leave my position as Marketing Manager and I'm off to relax in front of the rugby.

Philip Ellis



To THE CLASS

Extracts from Paul Jennings' address on Leavers' weekend

"So... as one Park House door gently swishes shut behind you, lots more doors are being hung open in front of you and all manner of options and choices are being offered to you.

This, of course, can be quite scary; schools are by their very nature cocooned and cocooning places; you are told what to wear, when to wake up and where to be and at what time; you have food provided for you, entertainment, religious observation and a structure and safety you will never enjoy or perhaps endure again. You are on the brink of 'freedom', whatever that means... The Canadian writer Margaret Atwood wrote a novel 'The Handmaid's Tale'; where she states "There is more than one kind of freedom: freedom to and freedom from. In the days of anarchy it was freedom to; now you are being given freedom from: don't underestimate it".

Well, frankly, yes!!! Lets underestimate it because as of today, strictly speaking; you now have freedom to stay in bed, get a part-time job, not to go to period O!., not to do compulsory running around and chucking things!; to explore your passion for climbing, or riding, or Anglo Saxon languages, or art galleries in Italy, or adding up lots of sums and finding the answer to everything, or singing loads, or making furniture or taking the gearbox out seamlessly: all this available to you! Freedom not to go to any more LESSONS!! Freedom to watch day-time television.

As nearly half of you out there have plied your 'academic trade' in the English department for the last two years; I have no qualms about introducing a Shakespearian angle to this evening's events:

As Hamlet says to his mate...

"There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy".

And so it is in the classroom; there have been stranger things than you could possibly imagine:

Jack Roach fully dressed up in medieval gear to read his Chaucer.





OF 2008!!!

Joe Scott whinging non-stop about playing sweeper in my 2nd XI hockey team

James Hill kissing the actor...

Collins dislocating his fingers on Founders' day

Rock Legend **John Newton**

Sophie and Tessa; Alpha females; Tessa, you should never have left the English fold!!

Harriet not being quite sure who participated in World War One but getting an 'A' on 'Journey's End' GCSE anyway never having read the play!!

Emily with her 'London coat' don't you know, darlings...

'Fish' with 'fish' cufflinks; pretty cool!

Astrid's encyclopaedic knowledge of the film world

Mark Gunner; trombone just this week gone: wow!!!

Kirsty:... "Mrs Saunders... how did the Harry Potter moment work for you!!!!" [Dumbledore!]

And **Richard Pass**, a prefect of College House who turned up regularly on time to the house which was a feat I believe he failed to do anywhere else!

Lester, Randal & Phil; I said I wouldn't but I lied: playing 'war' in the woods just last term, whilst walking 'Daisy, the Beagle' I was expecting to find them to be up to no good; but, oh no; they were chasing each other with stick guns!

I have so many memories from watching you all 'grow up' (or in some cases perhaps not 'grow up' but just watched you grow a little bit older!!). And so, we come to this point when we release you on the world to carve your own path.

And finally treasure your memories of school: they say they're the best years of your life, only time will tell! There is every likelihood that the friendships you have collected here will stay with you for the rest of your lives.

Keep in touch and prepare to join the elite group of 'Old Rendcombians'!!



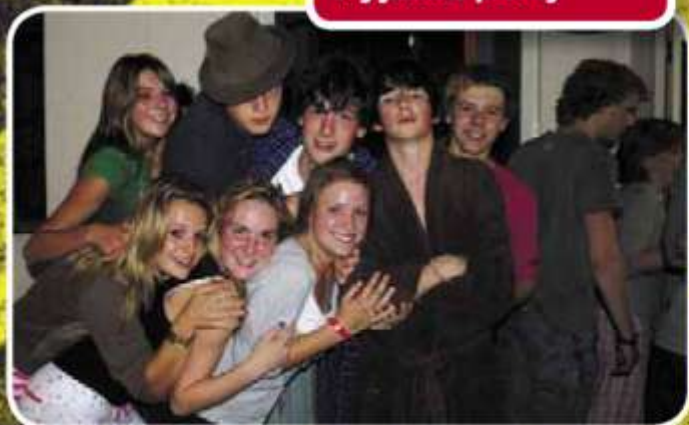
SIXTH FORM SOCIAL



Night time hike



Pyjama party



Painting the 6th
form social centre

Emergency services
fancy dress party



Wine tasting



Christmas
dinner 2007

BUDDIES

Asked "What did you enjoy about having a buddy?" the first form pupils said:

Having someone to talk to, Buddy Quiz, free biscuits, having fun with my Sixth form buddy, hanging around with a Sixth former, being taken to the shop by my buddy, giving advice, Buddy barbecue, understanding younger years, learning how to dump a girlfriend "you is well dumped" by text, teasing each other, friendship, gossiping with my buddy, more advice about girls, lots of hugs, being swung upside down by my buddy.



Buddy BBQ





PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

SENIOR SCHOOL

Movement

- Winner: "Henry's jump" by Jake McKeown
 Highly commended: "Sailing" by Amy Sinclair
 "Jellyfish" by Rachel Watson

Architecture

- Winner: "Reichstag Dome" by James Brittain
 Highly commended: "Opera House" by Rachel Watson
 "Eiffel Tower" by Tristan Stevens

Open

- Winner: "Black and White landscape" by Amy Sinclair
 Highly commended: "Ferry" by Max Harrop
 "Koalas" by Rachel Watson
 "City lights" by Tristan Stevens



JUNIOR SCHOOL

Nature

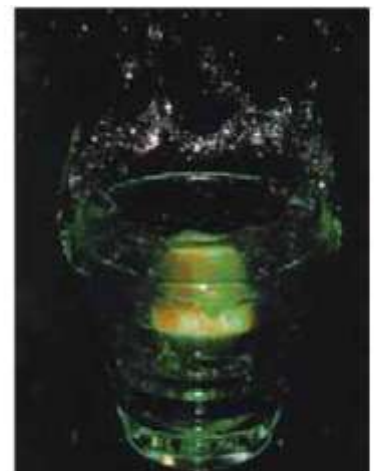
- Winner: "Forest" by Eloise Gooch
 Highly commended: "Sunflower and Bee" by Eleanor Breal
 "Tulips" by Miles McKeown
 "Waterfall" by Eloise Gooch

My Favourite Place

- Winner: "Twickenham" by Tom Smith
 Highly commended: "The Sea" by Eleanor Breal
 "Ducklings" by Oliver Kendall-Smith

Open

- Winner: "The Splash" by Miles McKeown
 Highly commended: "Burma" by Oliver Dudleyke
 "Scarecrow" by Miles McKeown
 "Badminton" by Ellie Jones



Charlie Stutchbury



Jasmine Barkes



SHOOTING

2008 has proved to be a vintage shooting season for the College.

From the outset the shooting squad had the skill, determination and competitive drive to compete at the top level against the very best shooting teams in the country.

The opening event of the season was the Oxford Challenge shoot in April and the College fielded a scratch team from the A and B squads, and secured a 4th place from a field of 22 teams over a sporting layout of 60 targets.

The Shooting Nationals, again were held in Derbyshire 3 weeks later and Rendcomb was represented by 4 teams, 14 parents and one dog. This proved to be our finest hour as the extended course tested all the teams over a variety of very challenging targets.

For the 7th consecutive year the College has secured a place in the top three positions, this time in the A team category, captained by Charlie Stutchbury and again in the Father and Son competition. Further success was forthcoming in the Ladies A team, captained by Rosie Freeth.

The College has an excellent record in competitions and is always punching above its weight to remain in the top flight year after year. I would like to thank the teams for the superb support so enthusiastically given at all times and in all weathers in the magnificent season of 2008.

Mr J Stutchbury



GOLF

Pupils represented the school in the Gloucestershire Schools' and the Independent Schools' Shire Trophy golf competitions this year.

Particular mention must be made of Phil Ellis, who represented the county at the national final in Hampshire. Other members of the team were Chris and James Harrington, Tom and Dan Geerah and Benedict Newman.

Governors, staff, parents and pupils past and present all enjoyed the inaugural Rendcomb College Golf Society Day. Congratulations to this year's winner, Robin Ellis, Phil's dad!



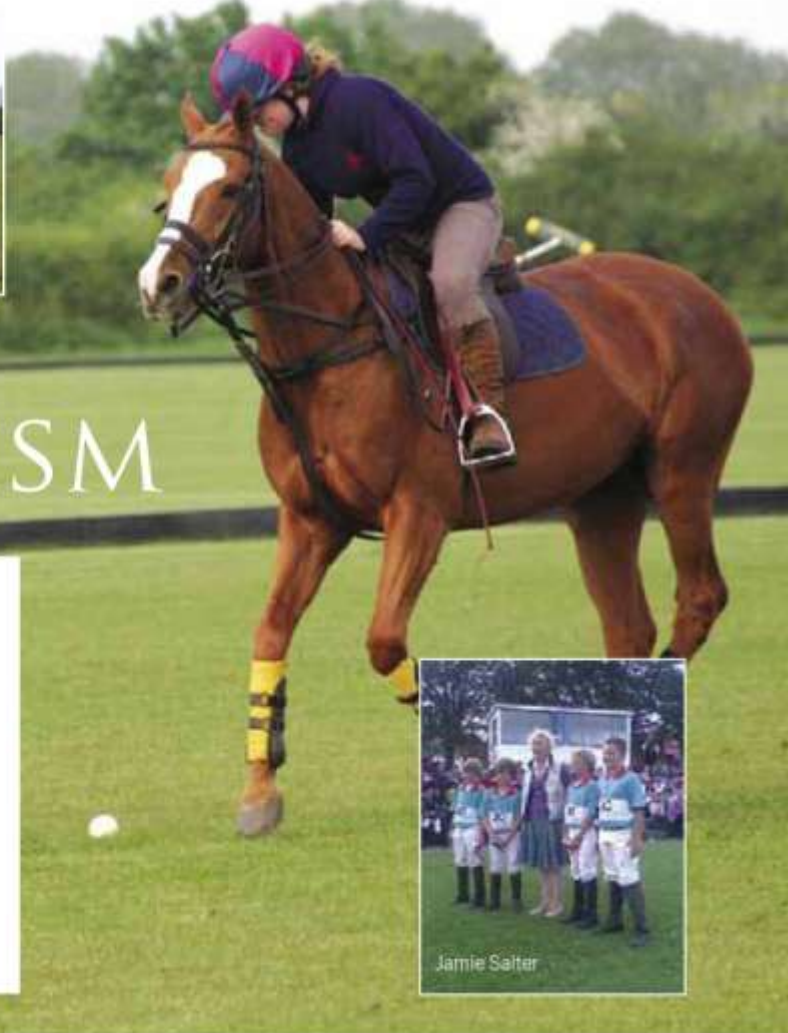


EQUESTRIANISM

POLO

Now in its second year, polo is a growing activity with pupils enjoying weekly lessons at Inglesham and Beaufort Polo Club. We hope to start playing competitively next season.

Congratulations to Jamie Salter, currently in the Junior School, for captaining the Cotswold U11 Pony Club team to success in the National Championships at Hurtwood in Sussex. They were runners up in the competition which had teams from all over the country and Northern Ireland.



RIDING COMPETITION

A riding competition was organised at Talland School of Equitation for the pupils who ride as an activity every week.

There were two parts to the competition, handy pony, where various tricky obstacles had to be negotiated on horseback, and show jumping.

Everybody had a good time and whilst there was a strong element of competition, a strong element of good fun prevailed. Some of the riders only started riding this year and this was their first competition.



STONAR ONE DAY EVENT

Rory & Paddy Gilling and Olivia Holder represented the school at the Stonar One Day Event Inter-Schools Championships this year.





RIDING HOLIDAY

Beach riding in Pembrokeshire, South Wales

A group of pupils and their parents set off for a weekend of beach riding during the first exeat in September. Despite muddy faces, wet feet and tired legs everybody had a great time, as can be seen in the photographs!



RUGBY



1st XV

The 2007 1st XV have a playing record of 9 wins from 14 games - yet another winning season and the best for some time.

I have seen every 1st XV match for the last 14 years, and I have never seen a braver, more committed performance from 15, sometimes 14, and, for a couple of minutes 13, men.

Every year the 1st XV define their goals at the beginning of the season - paramount is the commitment to be the very best they can be, but such aspirations are only words unless they are given meaning on the pitch - and this group of players, as much as any in the last 14 years, have lived up to the high standards they have set for themselves in every match this season-and I salute them for their uncompromising commitment to the cause.

It is a challenging transition from U15 rugby to the 1st XV, one that takes real character and courage, and a number of fifth formers made it remarkably well - well done to Ieuan Clements and Joe Johnson who played for the entire season, Ed Thomason who established his place by half term and Chris Harrington who came into the side towards the end of the season.

At the same time, a group of lower sixth players were establishing themselves as the core of senior players for next year - outstanding amongst them were Harley Phelps and Ali Tennant-Bell - and I am pleased to confirm the appointment of Ali as captain of rugby for the 2008 season and of Harley as vice captain.

We also bid farewell to a number of members of the XV who have now played their last game:

Richard Pass and John Newton showed real passion and commitment and it is a shame that injuries conspired to disrupt their season.

Joe Scott enjoyed an excellent season at outside centre; he took his chance at the beginning of the season and was never going to give up the 13 shirt, utterly determined in defence and attack and in many ways, he personified the virtues of this team.

James Hill, the heartbeat of the pack; his role in the try that turned the tide at Kingham Hill summed up the extraordinary commitment that he showed all season.

Phil Ellis, running the show from number 10. His kicking was outstanding, certainly the highest % success rate of any kicker in my time as 1st XV coach.

Finally, two giants of Rendcomb rugby, both ever present in the 1st XV since the fifth form. Vice captain, Luke Lester-Powell who was the rock on which the team's aggressive blitz defence was built and the cutting edge of the attack scoring 24 tries in 14 games.

The captain, Richard Collins; as good a captain as any in my time and that is praise indeed - I am delighted that his ability has been recognised at county level but he was always clear where his priorities were - he led by example, demanding everything of himself and getting the same from his team.

Mr M Slark

2nd XV

A promising squad have made the most of this season playing more fixtures than previous teams. The three wins out of the 10 games were well deserved and all by 30 point margins. The two stalwarts of the squad, Upper 6th students Jack Roach and Laurie Wilcox deserve a special mention. Laurie has captained the team magnificently, leading the team by example, never shirking and tackling all before him. Calm under pressure and able to keep track of the shirts! Remarkable. Jack was enticed back from non-major games and played a huge part in the set plays. A true prop, seldom seen in the loose play but always at the bottom of a ruck.

Valuable play by Louis Greenaway, Steven Brown, and Jak Allen, will hopefully see them promoted next year. A special mention to Matthias Raetscher for getting so involved in rugby, here for only a year he is making the most of the experience.

The boys in the 5th Form have formed a



large part of the squad. Unpopular positions such as full back have been well filled by Jack Medus, growing in confidence and knowledge each game. Femi Gibson, Kenny Childre and Phillip Ortnerr are showing potential for the 1st XV next year. Tom Geerah has performed well at scrum half and William Trim, Rory Clark and Philip Elsen have all added to the scrum rucks and lineouts. James Brittain, Rory Gilling, Sam Small, Shaun Ellis and Sam Rahman have all also contributed to the team.

A team's real performance is always best summed up by an opposition coach. Last weekend the opposition coach said that the defence had been strong and defiant and that there were periods of play when good skilful rugby was been played by both sides. What more could a coach ask for from his team.

Mr H Marsden



U15

The 2007 season has been one of mixed fortunes for the U15s. At times we have played some excellent rugby, but a lack of strength in depth left us exposed on several occasions, particularly at the end of the season.

Of the twelve matches played six were won and six lost. Particularly pleasing was our double over the two Bristol schools: Bristol Cathedral and Clifton College, and the defeats of strong sides from Dean Close and King's School Worcester. We shared the spoils in our two matches against Sibford and won a close game against our old rivals Leighton Park. Even in our defeats against strong sides from Monmouth, Malvern, Rougemont, Abingdon and King's



Gloucester we never gave up and kept competing to the final whistle.

Almost every available boy in the year group represented the College at some point during the season and it is a great testament to the whole squad that players were able to play in a variety of positions during the season. It would be wrong to single out individual players in such a season. We should however congratulate Alex Bishop for being the top try scorer and James Brogden for being an ever present in the pack. Very well done to everyone!

Mr M Ford



U14 Rugby

The proverbial 'season of two halves'. Before half term P7 W1 D1 L5 For 19 (all in one game!) Against 182 (ish). Highlights - a good victory against Dean Close and, that rugby rarity, a 0 - 0 draw with Sibford. A bleak midwinter was in prospect.

Half term arrived. A collection of erratic and raw individuals metamorphosed into a team of rugby players, with a new belief and a desire to win. Statistics for the second half of term P6 W3 L3 For 103 Against 97 with 17 tries scored. Some outstanding rugby was played, tackles were made, conversions were slotted. There is a great deal of talent in this team. I hope that the players will make the most of it next year.

Mr C Vuolo

U13A XV

BEST MATCH: ST. EDWARD'S 51-12 having been 5-12 down at half time!

What can I say other than this has been an extremely enjoyable season due to having a talented, dynamic and determined squad.

The front row of Ben Wong, Edwin Price and Andrew Rich brought stability; the locks of Jack Pethick and Jolyon Dunn contributed strength and the back row of Harry Priestner, Tristan Stevens and Toby Channer enabled dynamism going forward and solidity in defence.

Lance Baynham gave very good quality ball as Scrum Half, Alex Kentfield kicked and handled very well at Fly Half and worked very well with Ben Smith (more on him later) and Tom Hansel in the centres. There was pace aplenty also provided by Ali Sinfield and Troy Caselli on the wings and the very safe pair of hands of Patrick Tarleton at Full Back. Not forgetting the 'super-sub's' of Will Scott (one of the most improved players of the season), Jack Mason and Max Harrop.

Ben Smith, the skipper, has been such a huge influence. Not only has Ben been a superb player on the pitch he has also been an excellent leader of the team, both on and off the pitch, bringing the very best out of the squad throughout the season.

Thank you so much to every single one of the players who have shown such good team spirit - now go one better and get an unbeaten season next year!!

Mr A Brealay



GIRLS' HOCKEY SEASON 2007

Played	Won	Lost	Drew
42	17	13	12



1st XI



2nd XI



U15



Lots of goals scored



As you can see everyone runs for cover when Katy hits the ball



Koake Kumai



What a save!!!!



The reverse stick
dribble diva.....
Katie Ruddy



Another inspirational team talk



Issy Bailey in full flight



Tackle after
tackle



Let's not forget top pitch



Not every game was won
but fun was had by all



Rachel Watson
Captain of Hockey 2008/9



Aimee Schofield
A first class captain



BOYS' HOCKEY



1st XI

Played	Won	Drew	Lost	GF	GA
14	8	1	5	42	33

The success of the season was largely based on a very effective defence which linked especially well with the midfield. Luke Lester-Powell put in another very good season in goal and Richard Collins, as ever, gave his all at left. Alex Humphrey-Gaskin brought great pace to the right defence, Ed Thomason solidity at sweeper and Joe Scott worked hard in central defence. Richard Ashton stepped in very well when needed.

The midfield of Randal Pakeman, skipper Phil Ellis, Chris Harrington and Harley Phelps, together with Richard Pass on the bench, gave a great deal of hair and impetus to the attacks in particular. The short corner routines under Miss Ferebee's guidance became very effective tools.

Up front saw Steven Brown and Charlie Stutchbury peppering the goal, ably supplemented by Jamie Brittain's pace when needed.

"Man is nothing without ambition" was one of Phil Ellis' inspiring pre-match words of wisdom and I thank both himself and the rest of the squad for their collective ambition throughout the season. They all grew and

learned from their experiences; this can be summed up from turning an early season heavy defeat into a spectacular last match victory against the same team.

My thanks must go to all those involved with the senior squads: Miss Ferebee, Mr Stutchbury and Mr Ferreira.



2nd XI

A winning season for the 2nd XI team who were always prepared to rise to a challenge. In goal, Matthias Raetscher saved many a match from defeat, supported in defence by Sammy Rahman Mark Gunner, Shaun Ellis, Max Ellis and Jak Allen. In midfield Richard Pass was a great asset as vice captain with his blinding pace and ball skill. Richard Ashton played a central part in midfield alongside the big hitter Rory Clark and Alex Tennant Bell. Up front John Fish (or wind up boy) scored crucial goals and never stopped smiling. Ken Xu with his darting runs, good skill and goal scoring ability, was man of the season and when he linked up with Jonathan Fish they proved to be a deadly combination.

James Hill (Captain)



3rd XI

The Rendcomb 3rd XI hockey team had a very good 2008 season, playing a total of nine official matches, coming away with three wins and one draw. With senior hockey becoming very competitive at Rendcomb, players were under a lot of pressure to perform well in the matches. The team was captained by Laurie Wilcox, who greatly enjoyed the leadership and the competition for the season. There were several players who really stood out and played with a passion in the season, Ieuan Clements as goalkeeper, top goal scorers Rory Gilling and Femi Gibson. Charlie Daly, defender extraordinaire, and Jon Newton joined us half way through the season to inject some much needed energy to the midfield. An enormous thank you must go to Mr. Ferreira for his expert coaching during the season for without it, the season would not have been the success that it was.

Laurie Wilcox

U15 A

A close-knit squad of 12 players played the majority of all games. Michael Crickmore was an able captain with impressive dribbling skills and a high conversion rate of scoring from short corners. He was ably assisted by Alex Newman whose strong aggressive runs as striker open up the opposition defence. James Bell was excellent in goal and was supported by James Broughdon, Tom Pearson, Leo Wong, Matt Beck and Henry Brittain in defence. In midfield Harvey Rich and Declan Mulhull gave strong support to their captain. Alex Bishop and Tom Margesson did a good job on the wings getting around behind the defence. The losses to Pangbourne and Bloxham of two goals to one show a fighting spirit of which the founder would have approved more than the 8-3 and 9-1 victories over Wycliffe and St Edwards.

Mr H Marsden



U15B

Statistics don't always tell the full story, and without wanting to begrudge any victories to "better" teams, the U15B hockey side of 2007-8 should be remembered for the effort put into practice as well as in competition. Above all however, particular mention should go to those who strove to achieve a better appreciation of the game, but didn't always play in matches, and to those for whom this season was the first to wield a hockey stick. Considering this, highlights of the season were: holding Bloxham to 0-0 at half time; Oliver Brady's unforgiving refereeing, and Tristram 'Hannibal' Ireland's savage protective face guard capable of upsetting the most fearsome of counterattack. Mr J McKelvey



U14A XI

Throughout the season we played some very strong teams, though results never went our way there was great improvement over the term. A big learning curve for the team from the start of the season, some good skills developing as time went on. A special mention must go to Dan Geerah, James Harrington and Benedict Newman. Dan for his superb display of goal keeping throughout the season, James and Benedict for their strong performance in the midfield. The team went from not scoring a goal all last season, to scoring in the first game of the season against Dean Close.



The team spirit was very good and everyone gave their best in every match, new skills have been learnt. Roll on next year.

Miss M Ferebee

U14B

A shortage of fit and healthy pupils meant that the U14B hockey team existed only on paper. In reality, the three matches played were by a combined U14/U15 B team as the U15B's also suffered from a similar lack of manpower. Swiftly overlooking (m)any team weaknesses, particular praise should go to Hal Jones as the "wall" in defence and Tommy Lin who did not let a few painful injuries deter him from rapidly improving his hockey skills over the term with his positive attitude. Finally, also a mention for the goalkeeper Miles Metcalfe, who was always kept busy trying to keep scorelines respectable.

Mr S Clarke



U13A&B

On 17th January U13s A and B hockey teams travelled to Bloxham. In the A match, Rendcomb dominated for the first 10 minutes, scoring a goal early on when some complacency stepped in and 2 goals were conceded. Final score 2-1 to Bloxham. The B's drew 1-1. A good team performance, where some boys were playing hockey for the first time. On 19th January Two mixed 7-aside teams went up against an A and a B team fielded by Prior Park at home. Our mixed team that played their A team lost 4-0 and our mixed team that played their B's won 9-1. On 24th January U13s A and B travelled to Newport to play Rougemont. After a very long journey we were raring to go and put some great attacks together to win 2-1. The Bs result was a thrilling 0-0. On 31st January U13s A played brilliantly as a team against St Edward's and dominated play, making the score 3-1 to Rendcomb. On 7th February Rendcomb A played Kingham Hill away. Rendcomb played well but, unfortunately, a couple of runaway goals were scored leaving the score 1-2 to the opposition. On 1st March Rendcomb A and B played King's Gloucester, at home. The As played first against a much stronger side and

3 goals were conceded in the first half with a final score of 5-0. The Bs played an aggressive match and won 2-0. On 6th March U13s A played St Edward's at home and won 3-0. On 15th March Rendcomb played an 11-a-side game against Prior Park. We did have some opportunities but failed to finish them off. The final score was 5-0 to Prior Park. The B team then played against Prior Park and with all their confidence from the term they beat them 2-0. A special mention must go to the B team who were unbeaten and played very good hockey. Thank you to the coaches for the season.

Lance Baynham



U13C

Having just completed my first year at Rendcomb College, it has certainly been a privilege for me to coach the under 13C hockey team.

As a Welshman who has only ever known rugby, hockey certainly took me by surprise! This is a game for girls I thought, it can't possibly be that difficult to master. How wrong I was! The technical skills involved in this game were a delight to behold and maybe by next season I'll even manage to use the right end of the hockey stick myself.

What started out as a loose-connection of individuals, soon gelled into an enthusiastic team of competitive sportsmen. Most of our training took place on top pitch, where these intrepid young men demonstrated amazing resilience during their training in some of the most extreme winter weather conditions.

This was somewhat reminiscent of not only the altitude... but the -10 degrees endured by myself and a group of pupils on expedition to climb Mount Cook in New Zealand two years ago.

With one win out of the two matches played against Cheltenham College, what a result! All the team members need to be congratulated for their enthusiasm and dedication.

They are a source of great pride for me in my first year at Rendcomb College. Gentlemenit has been an absolute pleasure!

Mr P Bevans

LACROSSE

The first three weeks of the season were affected by poor weather, however a marked improvement saw Rendcomb playing some excellent lacrosse at all levels.

Played	Won	Drew	Lost	GF	GA
83	43	10	30	238	237

Most Valuable Players

Most Improved Players

1st XII Tessa Couch Emily Jones

2nd XII Natasha Heffron Ruby Stone

U15 XII Koake Kumai Emily Taylor

U14 XII Megan Mulhall Kristina Childre

U13 XII Libby Round Cecile Llewelyn-Bowen

U12 XII Kemi Gibson Bliss McFarlane



SEASON'S HIGHLIGHTS

1st XII playing against Cheltenham Ladies College where we produced a fantastic display of lacrosse holding the Ladies' College assault on goal for 15 minutes before they managed to score. The woman of the match was our captain Tessa Couch, who made some outstanding saves in goal.



U14 XII defeat of Downe House 7-4; this was a formidable win as this defeat for Downe House was only their second during the whole year. Well done ladies, you should be extremely proud of yourselves.



U15 XII playing against St. Mary's School 3 times this term, in regular and tournament play, and winning all three.

U13A XII winning the first match of the season in a nail-biting competition against Tudor Hall.

U13B XII drawing the first ever game the first game that they played.

U15/U14 XII playing at the English Lacrosse National Schools' Championships, again producing some outstanding lacrosse and defeating some extremely well established schools during the day.

1st/2nd XII playing at the English Lacrosse National Schools' Championships coming 4th in their section which was one of the toughest on the day with strong competition from other schools.



National Small Schools' Tournament which was hosted by the College. The 1st XII final placing was 5th in the country. Well done girls you deserved this.

The following girls earned county honours for Gloucestershire:

U19: Tessa Couch, Sophie Arkle, Amy Sinclair, Jazz Barks, April Edwards, Rachel Watson, Sophie Southerden, Emily Jones, Charlotte Jones.

U15: Megan Mulhall, Andrea Haas, Holly Phelps.

International Honours at U19: Jazz Barks - Scotland, Megan Mulhall-Wales.

Having read this awesome season's results it is hard to believe that Lacrosse has only just finished its 5th season as a major sport at the College. I would like to thank the following members of staff who have been a major part of this success. Miss S Bell, Miss J Greenberg, Mrs S Scarisbrick, Mr M Coups, Mr D McColl, Miss C Franklin, Mrs M Kinson and Miss E Roffe.

Miss K Hughes
Head of Lacrosse





U15

The U15's cricket season has seen some solid performances against bigger schools such as Cheltenham College and Wycliffe College. Good batting performances throughout the term came from James Bell, Matthew Beck and Michael Crickmore who achieved an unbeaten half century against Cokethorpe. Alex Newman has been a good captain; organising the field positions well and taking wickets and hitting runs when the team has needed him to do so. He, along with Tom Pearson, James Bell, Michael Crickmore and Henry Brittain have all bowled excellently this season. Excellent support has also come from Tom Molloy, Tom Margesson and Oliver Brady. Well done to a team effort.

Mr L North

U14

It is often said that it is not how you start a season but how you finish it that really matters and that could not be more true for the U14 Cricket team this term. Having struggled to get a score above 40 at the start of the season by the end we had two matches where we scored 240 runs in total for the loss of just four wickets, with the last match ending up as our first victory. The strength of the side was in the bowling lead by Max Birden, James Harrington and Peter Harrison, but they were

ably supported by several others such as Jack Gower, Benedict Newman and Ed Werrell, who took 3 wickets in the last match to help us secure a victory. Unfortunately we rarely had a total which we were able to defend, thus despite all their efforts the opposition normally were able to score the necessary runs. However the batting did improve as the season progressed and it centred around Peter Harrison, Max Birden, Dan Geerah and James Harrington, who scored 37 not out in the final match. With a little more self belief the results could have been a lot different but hopefully next season they can continue where they left off.

Mr D Baker

U13A

A year group which really enjoy their cricket. They were beaten only by better schools and never made it easy for their opponents. Alex Kentfield as captain led from the front both batting and bowling. He opened the bowling in all the matches and took a number of important wickets. His batting was the most improved with scoring the most runs for the team and a best of 66 not out. A special mention must be made about Jack Pethick. who was in the B team last year, but worked hard every practice and by doing so has become the leading wicket -taker with 9 with his highest batting score of

37. Some other high scores by individuals are 39 by Patrick Tarleton and 32 by Will Scott. Harry Priestner, Dan Gregory and Patrick Tarleton all took 3 or more wickets in a match. Well done to everyone else in the team, as cricket is a team sport played by individuals.

Mr N Ferreira

U13B

The U13B team had a good season. Although they sustained a narrow defeat by Bristol Cathedral School early in the term, this was the only loss, and the match did include a brilliant catch by wicket-keeper, Troy Caselli. There were two formidable batsmen in each of the sides from King's School, Gloucester and Leighton Park respectively, who each set high batting totals, but they were held to a draw in both cases through excellent bowling from our first captain Ryan Adams, along with Tom Minton, Ali Sinfield, Russell Taylor and Luke Witts. Some safe batting from Luke as captain throughout the season; complemented by good innings from the likes of Jolyon Dunn, Tom Hansel, Louis Mernagh and Ben Wong; and some excellent fielding led by James McGough. Others who showed commitment and played for the side this season were Josh Cropper, Max Harrop, Jack Mason, Andrew Rich and James Taylor.

Mr D Essenhigh



1st XI

Beset by the vagaries of the English weather and the ever increasing demands of the public examination system the 1st XI only managed to complete 7 matches, losing a further 3 to the rain. This was a very young and inexperienced 1st XI and they struggled to get the results that their efforts deserved

- their enthusiasm and commitment cannot be faulted however, and skipper Randal Pakeman deserves considerable credit for his significant all round contribution this season
- thanks too to senior pro Phil Ellis who has been such a great servant of Rendcomb sport over the years

The outstanding newcomer has been Ed Thomason, and James Brittain, Rory Clark and James Foulkes have all shown considerable promise.

It is encouraging to note that many of the team will be available next season, and this augurs well for the future.

Mr N Ferreira



1st Tennis

Aimée Schofield, Sophie Humphries, Naomi Schroeder, Emily Slark (Capt), Sophie Arkle, Sophie Southerden & Francesca Philippi



U15

Katy Schofield, Yasmin Lester-Powell, Charlotte Clements, Blaise Dyer, Koake Kumai (Capt), Okailey Mensah, Abi Whittles



U14

Issy Bailey, Imogen Meers(Capt), Delia Rich, Megan Mulhall, Holly Phelps & Andrea Haas



TENNIS AND ROUNDERS

Traditionally the girls' games in the summer term consists of tennis and rounders, hot sunshine, thrilling matches with sandwiches and cakes on the lawn afterwards.

But in reality season 2008 saw, to use the correct geographical terminology for Miss Franklin!; black cumulonimbus clouds, convectional rainfall and only sporadic glimpses of the sun's rays. However, some excellent matches were played and the girls remained determined and enthusiastic throughout.

Some of the highlights include matches against Pangbourne, St Edward's and Cokethorpe where Rendcomb took charge and dominated from the first ball bowled

or served. Our success in the matches was most importantly a whole team effort and every girl in the college deserves a mention.

I would like to thank Emily Slark for her outstanding captaincy of the 1st tennis team, Rachel Watson for yet another season representing England for rounders, Katy Schofield for being the only girl in my time here to hit a rounders ball clear over the wall on the estate garden, narrowly missing the village hall windows, Issy Bailey for coming 6th in the south of England for throwing the javelin over 25 metres and finally, Koake Kumai for having been an awesome U15 captain leading by example, showing determination and willpower.

The U12 team have shown real promise this season.

Miss S Bell



WIMBLEDON TRIP



Off to Wimbledon - Thursday 26th June

Unlike last year, play had not been interrupted by the wonderful British weather so play was already in progress when we arrived via Henman Hill.

We had some really good seats on Court 2 and had a couple of seats on Centre Court. We arrived on Court 2 to see one of the big seeds playing his 2nd round match: Mikhail Youzhny seeded 17. At the same time on Centre Court they were watching Venus Williams.

As we sat watching the matches, this year it was not "play has been suspended because of rain", it was "don't forget your suncream". When Youzhny won after a 5 set thriller we all thought it was time to go and get some food.

Then it was time for the big Murray match, which some of us got to see. He won it in straight sets. What a great match. It was then time to head back to Henman Hill or now Murray Mound to go home. Everybody thoroughly enjoyed their day in the bright sunshine.

Ed Thomason

SPORTS' DAY RESULTS & RECORDS

1st - Redgrave	214 pts (Red)
2nd - Radcliffe	207 pts (Blue)
3rd - Bannister	178 pts (Yellow)
4th - Edwards	176 pts (Green)

New Records

Katy Schofield	U15 girls javelin (23.36m)
Okailey Mensah	U15 girls long jump (4.26m)
Georgina Freeth	U15 girls discus (18.39m)
Harry Priestner	U12 boys long jump (3.72m)
Alex Kentfield	U13 boys high jump (1.30m)
Kemi Gibson	U12 girls 100m (14.7s)
Patrick Tarleton	U12 boys 800m (2m 49s)
Kristina Childre	U14 girls discus (18.52m)
Kemi Gibson	U12 girls javelin (15.40m)
Tom Minton	U12 boys discus (16.24m)
Andrea Haas	U14 girls 200m (30.5s)
Kristina Childre	U14 girls shot put (7.83m)
Bannister	U12 boys 4 x 100 relay (1m 03s)
Edwards	U14 girls 4 x 100 relay (1m 04s)
Radcliffe	U15 girls 4 x 100 relay (1m 02s)

Equalled Records

Abi Whittles	U15 girls high jump (1.25m)
Katherine Daly	U14 girls 400m (1m 19s)
Olivia Round	U13 girls high jump (1.20m)
Andrea Haas	U14 girls high jump (1.30m)



FAREWELL

PAUL CAIRNS 1995 - 2008

Paul Cairn's family, his two brothers, Pete and Les, and his Mum and Dad, settled in Woodmancote over 50 years ago. When his father died, his mother Mary went to work at the College, staying 25 years, leaving in 1997. All three brothers started work very early, with Pete doing the washing up at Rendcomb and Paul doing a variety of jobs. Their father died when they were young and the business of earning a living became a very serious one for the family at an early stage in the three young Cairns' lives.

Paul was born in 1967 and started at Rendcomb College seriously when he was 14 years of age. He became the successor to Paul Kampe in 1995, when I appointed him to take over from him. He was an enthusiast and a hard worker and was quick to learn. Very soon he had thrown himself into a variety of tasks that he had accomplished with great verve and stamina.

Many of the refurbishment projects at Rendcomb College was carried out by Paul and his men in the Buildings and Grounds Team, with his many skills from forestry to electrical work being put to good use. His ability to drive and operate a variety of equipment from caterpillar diggers to very large tractors was legendary.

His decision to move on to other work in April of this year was an understandable one, as 14 years in one post is quite a record. We wish him and Karen, who is fortunately staying on as a Classroom Assistant in the Junior School, Tiffany and Scott all the best for the future.

Mr J Grey



CLAIRE ROBERTSON 2007 - 08



Claire came to Rendcomb from the Waikato region of New Zealand [the Anchor butter heartland of the country]. She helped in a full range of subjects from Maths, English, Drama, Geography and Games and gave invaluable support to Godman and Lawn with duties. She has returned to New Zealand to read Law and

writes that she has many fond memories of her time at Rendcomb, especially giving romantic and friendship advice in Lawn House!

Mrs D Dodd

JENNIFER GREENBERG 2007 - 2008



When I was asked to do this, I started by looking up the meaning of the name Jennifer and this is what I found:

JENNIFER - is a popular first name for girls in many English-speaking countries, originally a Cornish variant of the name Guinevere. It is also listed in the dictionary under the colour

pink, being a bright, slightly lurid shade, associated with clothing dye and cosmetic jewellery!

On a more serious note, the pupils and staff of Rendcomb could not have had a better teacher, coach, tutor and friend. Her enthusiasm, professionalism, knowledge and most of all her sense of humour will leave us knowing that a truly exceptional person has been in our midst over the past year. Jen worked with the games department to develop the girls' lacrosse and hockey skills and even rounders, to much surprise and mirth. The pupils have truly valued her friendship and understanding, whilst caring for them in her duties in Godman, Lawn and, especially Park.

Mrs K Hughes

GILL DAY 1990 - 2008



At Rendcomb we have a number of very able musicians employed in the music department and one of the most distinguished of these was Gill Day. Gill came to Rendcomb almost twenty years ago, having previously taught clarinet at the Royal Academy of Music in London. Besides being a brilliant clarinettist, Gill was an accomplished pianist and recorder player.

Gill taught all these instruments here, as well as coaching pupils to pass their grade 5 theory exams.

Gill demonstrated exceptional commitment to her work at Rendcomb and gave much of her free time, not only to support pupils by giving extra lessons where necessary, but to contribute by singing in the choir and, at one time, to lead the bell ringers in our church. It was Gill who rehearsed with Peter Liang to prepare for his auditions to gain a place to study the violin at music college and who accompanied him for all his auditions.

One of Gill's most original contributions to musical life at Rendcomb was the 'Stars of the East' concert. This was held once a year as a wonderful opportunity for our talented pupils from China and Japan to present a programme of music in their national dress, and this was certainly the most colourful event in the music calendar! Gill took the decision to retire from her work at Rendcomb at the end of last term. We shall miss her very much and wish her happiness in her retirement.

Mr P Dunn

CLARE SAUNDERS 2005 - 2008



Clare Saunders joined the English Department at Rendcomb College in 2005 and immediately made her mark as an unflappable and dedicated classroom teacher. She took on a range of 'A' level courses and pushed all her students with challenging questions and intellectual rigour.

Clare is an absolutely true professional and she has been a great colleague and foil; how the English department at Rendcomb develops over the next few years will be down to Clare in no small part. I shall miss her company and support, but I wish her and her family well in their next exciting adventure in America. Best wishes!

Mr P Jennings

FIONA GARNET-LAWSON 2006-2008



Two years ago, with numbers for the lower sixth Business Studies group at 20 plus and rising, it became apparent that we would need to run two sets. Some days later, I was addressing a meeting of 130 or so Business Studies examiners and took the opportunity to 'place an advertisement'. Fiona Lawson was not present

at the time but a colleague of hers was and this led us to Fiona.

Fiona was working at Cirencester College at the time, and as a consequence of her involvement on a joint venture, was also in fact teaching at the RAC - so, in a sense, we were already colleagues. Having met Fiona, we had no hesitation in offering her the job at Rendcomb and it has proven to be an excellent decision. She is highly conscientious and has the organisational skills essential for one who works in more than one institution - above all, she shows genuine concern for her students, and I know that they have very much appreciated her efforts on their behalf over the last two years. She now returns to the commercial world - and its demands are no longer compatible with her commitment to the College - and, thus, she leaves us with our very best wishes for the future.

Mr M Slark

ARRIVALS

Charlotte Amy Lawrence

Born 12th April 2008 (Andrew Lawrence - Junior School)



Sophie de Burgh Hansford

Born 22nd December 2007
(Caron Hansford - Peripatetic Music Teacher)



Colin Andrew Ferreira

Born 8th May 2008



NEW STAFF



From left to right

Dan Lane, Gwen Busby, Michelle Lucas, Catherine Breare, Allison Luchey, Debbie Walton-Smith, Paul Brooke, Lyndsay Robinson, Mark Coups

ACADEMIC RECORD 2008



A LEVEL 2008

Emily Apps	A Dr Ee MU(AS)
Sophie Arkle	A* Bs Ee
Laura Brown	F Gm H M
Helen Chen	A* M* Mf
Carroll Cheung	A Bs Cns* Py M(AS)
Richard Collins	C* M* Mf* P* G*(AS)
Tessa Couch	Dr M Py Bs(AS)
Philip Ellis	A Bs Py B(AS)
Jonathan Fish	Bs* Ee
Mark Gunner	M Mf PC(AS) MU(AS)
James Hill	Bs F H Dr(AS)
Samson Huang	Bs M* Mf P(AS)
Alexander Jordan	B C Dr P(AS)
Astrid Law	A* Ch Dr Py M(AS)
Luke Lester-Powell	AG Py Bs(AS)
Harriet Lockett	Bs Dr Ee
Jonathan Newton	A Ee H Py(AS)
Maria Odintsova	Bs Dr H Ru* Py(AS)
Randal Pakeman	A Ee Py
Richard Pass	G* H* P* M(AS)
Franziska Philippi	A Gm* Py(AS)
Oliver Richards	Ee* F let* M(AS)

Jack Roach	B Ee G Bs(AS)
Katherine Ruddy	Bs Ee* H Py(AS)
Aimée Schofield	Bs* Ee Py H(AS)
Joseph Scott	Ee G H
Georgina Sefton	Bs Ee Py H(AS)
Amy Sinclair	A Bs Ee Py(AS)
Emily Slark	A Ee H Py(AS)
Nadine Stritzl	A G Gm* M
Charles Stutchbury	B C G * H(AS)
Laurence Wilcox	A * M P B(AS)
Kirsty Williams	Bs Ee G
Ken Xu	C* M* Mf* B(AS)

KEY:

Grades A* - C / ** = grade A* / * = grade A

SUBJECT KEY:

A=Art B=Biology Bs=Business Studies
C=Chemistry Cns=Chinese Dr=Drama
Ee=English Literature F=French
G=Geography Gm=German H=History
Ict=Information Communication Technology
M=Maths Mf=Further Maths MU=Music
P=Physics Py=Psychology Ru=Russian
Spe=Sport & Physical Education

GCSE 2008

A Bladon	B C D* E* EI G** Gm* M* Mad* Mu** P
J Brittain	B C E* EI F* G Gm H M Mad* P
A Chan	A E EI G M* Mad Mu* ScAd
K Childre	A E EI G M Mad
R Clark	A E EI G* Ict M Mad Pe Sc ScAd
I Clements	E EI F G** H* M MAd Pe Sc ScAd
C Cooke	B* C* M Mad* P
R Cooke	A* B* C E EI G H* M MAd* Mu* P
T Dyer	A* B** C** A** E** EI* F* H** M* MAd* P**
K Edwards	A* B C D* E EI F* H* M MAd P
S Ellis	A EI G M Sc
P Elsen	E EI F** G* Gm** H* M MAd* Sc ScAd
E Foley	A B* C* E* EI** G* Ict M** MAd** P** Sp
J Foulkes	B* C* E* EI* F* H* M* MAd* Mu** P
T Geerah	E EI F G M MAd Pe Sc* ScAd
M Gibson	A E EI G M MAd Pe Sc ScAd
R Gilling	D E EI F G* H* M MAd* Sc* ScAd*
L Graham	A** B* C E* EI* F G** H* M MAd P
S Griffiths	A D* E EI F H* M MAd Sc ScAd
A Hackett	D E EI G Gm M MAd Sc ScAd
C Harrington	E EI G M MAd Pe Sc
N Heffron	E EI F G M MAd Sc Sp
A Hook	B* C* E* EI* F G** H** Ict M* MAd P*
T Hopes	B* C E EI G* Gm H Ict M* MAd* P
W Humphrey	A* D* E EI G M MAd Sc ScAd
-Gaskin	
J Johnson	A E EI H M MAd Mu Pe Sc
A Jones	A** D* E EI Gm M MAd Sc* ScAd
C Jones	A B C* D* E G* H* M** MAd P*
E Jones	B* C* E EI G** Gm* H* M* MAd** Pe* P
M Leong	A EI G M* MAd Mu ScAd





G Lee A* D* E EI H** MSc ScAd
H Maisey A* E* EI G** H** lct* M MAd Sc ScAd
J Medus A E EI G M MAd Sc
D Mulcahy E EI G H* lct M MAd Sc ScAd
P Ortnr E EI H* M MAd Pe Sc ScAd
W Parker D* E** EI** F G* H* M MAd Sc ScAd
R Pope E EI* G H* M MAd* Sc* ScAd
S Rahman E EI G* Gm lct M MAd* Pe Sc* ScAd
A Read B* C E EI F G H lct M MAd P*
C Rhodes D* E F G Gm M MAd ScAd
H Richards B** C** E** EI** F** G** Gm** H** M** MAd** P**
H Scott E EI G Gm H M MAd Mu Sc* ScAd
S Small G M MAd Sc ScAd
S Southerden B*C* D* E* EI F*G**M*MAAd Mu* P

R Stone A* D* E* EI F* G* M MAd Sc ScAd
L Taylor A** D* E EI G* M MAd Sc ScAd
E Tennant-Bell A D E EI G* M MAd Sc ScAd
E Thomason G M MAd Pe Sc
W Trim A D E EI G M MAd Sc ScAd

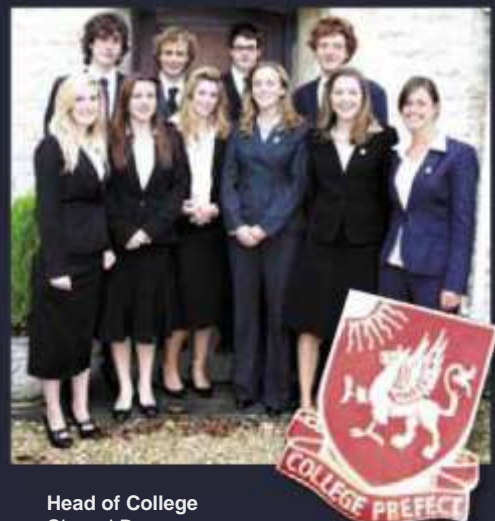
KEY:

Grades A* - C / ** = grade A* / * = grade

A SUBJECT KEY:

A-Art B-Biology C-Chemistry D-Drama E-English Language EI-English Literature F-French G-Geography Gm-German H-History lct-information Communication Technology M-Mathematics MAd-Additional Mathematics Mu-Music P-Physics Pe-Physical Education Ch-Chinese Sc-Science ScAd-Additional Science Sp-Spanish

PREFECTS 2008 - 2009



Head of College
Sinead Brennan

Deputy Head of College & Godman House
Jasmine Barks

Senior Prefect (Girls) & Lawn House
Rachel Watson

Senior Prefect (Boys) & Old Rectory
Max Ellis

Heads of Park House
Christina Gasteiger & Rhys Thomas

Cultural & Arts Prefect
Steven Brown

International Prefect
Iva Carvalhosa

Stable House Prefect
Alex Tennant-Bell

Social Events Prefects
Rosie Freeth & April Edwards



Left to right, Max Ellis, Jasmine Barks, Sinead Brennan, Rachel Watson



GRAND OPENING

The opening of the Rendcomb African Hall by Gerry Holden in July 2008



LORDS MEADE

Charity Fundraising

The Headmaster presenting a cheque for £2,000 to Godfrey Kiganga, Principal of Lords Meade Vocational College & John Kuwono, Director of TOFTA Educational Trust.

This money was raised by pupils, parents and staff during the course of the year. Details of these events feature on other pages in the magazine.



Visit to Rendcomb Godfrey and his wife Florence visited Rendcomb in October 2007 and enjoyed meeting pupils and taking part in activities. Godfrey enjoyed the opportunity to learn to how to clay pigeon shoot with James Stutchbury.



The Art Department produced a series of postcards based on batik designs made by the pupils, (pictured to the right, these postcards are on sale to raise money for Lords Meade)



WELCOME TO THE JUNIOR SCHOOL



HEADMASTER'S INTRODUCTION

The past year has been very busy and highly successful.

I am very proud of the numerous achievements that our pupils have enjoyed this year and the following pages will afford you the opportunity to re-live and marvel at some of them.

The academic year started and closed with two remarkable and fabulous awards! In September 2007 Katie Hunter received an Early Years' Teaching Award in London which is wonderful recognition of the work that she has done over the past 7 years to establish "Reception" at Rendcomb. Being naturally modest she views the award as recognition of the whole team and certainly all the Rendcomb staff are excellent teachers and true professionals.

During the final week of term we received notice that we have earned the "Green Flag", an International Eco-Award!

It was stated that Rendcomb College Junior School received this award, "for outstanding achievement in sustainable development education and management, continuously improving the environmental performance of the school and the wider community".

Such national recognition is wonderful and well deserved by our Eco-team, nature and gardening clubs who drive these initiatives forward, ably led and supported by the passion of Mrs Watson. We pride ourselves on the quality and diversity of opportunities provided and as you will see 2007/8 certainly fulfilled our aims.

From Edward Brealy and Emmeline Meborn-Hubbard becoming 'Young Active Designers of the Year' to our Pop Lacrosse team winning The National Prep School Championships, our pupils have experienced, enjoyed and flourished from the breadth of challenges and opportunities available.

I hope you will enjoy reviewing many of the achievements of The Junior School and relish the quality and variety of events that form the rich tapestry of Rendcomb life.



Martin and Lynne Watson at the 'Spring Fling'

STAFF NEWS

Louise Louisson



Louise Louisson has returned to Rendcomb after a 4 year absence. Louise, then Miss Turner, left in 2003 to complete her training and then she worked for 3 years at Cirencester infants.

She was very popular here as secretary and classroom assistant and it is no surprise that she has easily re-settled to become a superb, highly valued and well respected J1 teacher.

Adrienne Barker



Adrienne Barker has taken over the teaching of French from J1-6 as well as offering German to J6. We are extremely fortunate to have secured the services of

such a talented linguist and her language club has become a popular feature of our extra-curricula programme.

Previously Adrienne worked as Head of French at The Stroud High School for girls but she also has a wealth of experience teaching all age groups.

Sumé Botha, Karen Cairns and Karen Burnip



Sumé Botha, Karen Cairns and Karen Burnip all join us as classroom assistants and each provide invaluable support across the entire spectrum of school activities. Sumé



previously worked at Rendcomb as our Dance teacher, a role that she continues to fulfil, while Mrs Cairns previously supported a J2 pupil on an individual basis and Mrs Burnip worked last year as voluntary help. We are extremely pleased to welcome them and hope that they will enjoy working at Rendcomb.



Kate Robertshaw



Kate Robertshaw was our Gap Tutor from South Africa and she worked during 2007, largely within the Junior School, though she did do evening duties within Godman House. She quickly settled and started to impress everyone. It was soon

apparent that she was a very able and talented young lady and she displayed initiative, conscientiousness and considerable ability in each aspect of her job.

Kate's wonderful personality allowed her to interact superbly with children / students of all ages and she soon developed an excellent rapport with pupils, staff and parents. She coped with the diversity of tasks and the intensity of the role extremely well and we feel very honoured to have enjoyed Kate's presence and we are extremely grateful to her for the considerable impact that she had during her year with us.

Congratulations to the following staff:-

Melanie Pavia who got married to Dan during the summer and returns as Mrs Bleaken. Andrew Lawrence and his wife Liz who had a baby girl, Charlotte.

Neil and Angela Ferreira on the birth of their son, Colin.

Our best wishes go with Rebecca Coulthard as she starts her maternity leave expecting her first child.



SPECIAL DAYS AT RENDCOMB

Invariably the children ask in the morning if today is going to be a 'normal' day.

What is a 'normal' day in the Junior School? So many days in our busy calendar are 'special'. They are special because they involve something a little out of the ordinary.

Sometimes this might include raising money for charity. This year we have had a fun day for Sports Relief, a Wear it Red Day, our annual harvest festival for CHYP (Cirencester Housing for Young People), and Wellies for Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust.

To top it all, Davina Clift, one of our long standing parents, ran a fabulous fashion show and raised an incredible £1,000 which was divided between CHYP and Children's Hospice South West.

Not every event involves fund raising, many are run by JEST (see the JEST page) to provide a fun afternoon for the children and others are designed with an educational aim in mind. We have had a Big Arts Day which incorporated a Knex challenge dance, music, drama and art sessions and an Environment Day during which the children toured the Estate under the knowledgeable guidance of Jenny Phelps, created outdoor artworks, designed recycled garments, played outdoor French games and discovered the joys of orienteering.

A glance through the three termly calendars for this year will highlight many more activities, that the children have enjoyed such as pancake day, the Easter hunt and hat parade, chess challenge, sporting events, and class and eco-team outings.

It can never be said that life at Rendcomb College Junior School is dull!



During the past year in nursery the children have had an exciting, fun packed year. Here are just a few examples of the learning opportunities on offer in our nursery class.

CELEBRATIONS & FESTIVALS



We have celebrated many festivals this year. The children particularly enjoyed Chinese New Year.

They enjoyed telling an interactive story of the Chinese New Year and formed their own number lines with the different animals that crossed the river.



COOKERY

The children have been learning how to enjoy cooking with home grown ingredients from Rendcomb.

We have been teaching them how to cook by using cup and spoon measurements rather than scales. This encourages confidence with measuring and teaches the children about weight, capacity and counting.



GROWING

The children planted many plants this year including tomatoes, carrots, potatoes, sweet peas, runner beans, herbs, pumpkins and sunflowers.



MARK MAKING

There are seven stages of mark making before children are physically and confidently ready to form recognisable letters.

We have given them many opportunities to progress through these stages without stifling their creativity.





MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

We have been very fortunate this year to have the highly skilled and creative Miss Botha on our team to teach dance.



ROLE PLAY

This year we have worked extremely hard with the children to make our home corner as realistic as possible.

A big thank you to our parents for their kind support. We have had many donations including empty food packets, coffee tins, cereal packets and unopened tins. We have developed this further by creating a wonderful supermarket with a bar code reader.



TEDDY BEARS



Miss ROBERTSHAW

Kate spent a lot of time working in the Nursery and she was truly fantastic. The children all loved her and still talk about her with great fondness.



VISITORS TO THE NURSERY

The children have shown their confidence to speak and engage with a varied selection of visitors to our nursery.



SPORTS DAY



ROVES FARM

We enjoyed a wonderful trip to Roves Farm, where the children enjoyed feeding the animals.



RECEPTION



ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL

Animals have played a big part in our year in Reception. We had the opportunity to meet some of our friends' pets, including Edwin's huge dog, Jason, two Westies, and Noah and his mummy told us all about Guide Dogs.

We enjoyed our visit to Roves Farm, and the children fed the lambs and were able to hold guinea pigs, chickens and rabbits as well as hunting for minibeasts.

The children all dressed up as animals for our Spring show, Noah's Ark. We were very fortunate to be visited by Mat Dixon, a Fire Investigation Dog Handler, who brought his dog, Ellie. He gave us a super demonstration of how dogs are used in the Fire Service to help determine how a fire may have started. During our summer term, we have enjoyed watching at first hand the frog and butterfly life cycles.

We also looked carefully at snails (big and small!). At the end of the term, we had a wonderful day out at Isabel Verey's farm where we collected over twenty five different wild flowers and hunted for butterflies in the meadows.





WORK & PLAY



J1

J1 has been a roaring success this year, with 'dinosaurs' being the most popular topic.



Ammonite Fossil from the Oxford University Museum of Natural History

Our journey back in time allowed the children to discover a world of the most fascinating animals ever to have lived on earth.

J1 thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Oxford University Museum of Natural History, and relished the opportunity to handle a Velociraptor skull, a Tyrannosaurus-Rex's tooth and many other extraordinary artefacts.

Our other exciting topics this year have included learning about ourselves, light and dark, rubbish and recycling (including making paper), Victorians and the fascinating world of minibeasts.

The highlight of the year was our trip to a 1 Victorian School. On Thursday 22nd May, J1 travelled back in time to experience Victorian School life at Sevington. On arrival we were greeted by Miss Squire 'Ma'am'.

We were dressed up in our caps and pinafores, ready for our slate and handwriting lessons. After our bread and cheese lunch, the boys were sent off to make bees wax candles and learn about a variety of tools, whilst the girls made lavender bags. The children so enjoyed their day, but were glad to return to modern day Rendcomb.





The highlights for J2 have included our travels back in time to the dinosaur age and the Victorian era, a close look at minibeasts and plants in which we enjoyed exploring the woodland area and Westonbirt Arboretum and some exciting DT and ICT projects including constructing a flying pterodactyl in the classroom!

We particularly enjoyed our trips to the Oxford University Museum of Natural History where we were given the opportunity to handle rare fossils as well as dressing up to experience a rather stricter way of learning at Sevington Victorian School.

The children have also enjoyed taking starring roles in our Christmas and Easter productions, writing their own stories in the style of George's Marvellous Medicine and listening to Jeremy Strong's amusing tales at the Cheltenham Literature Festival.





A Brachiosaurus

His eyes are as blue as the sea.
His tail is as long as a log.
His teeth are as small as a pebble.
His neck is as tall as a tree.
His skin is as rough as wood.
He's as gentle as a mouse.
He's as slow as an elephant.
By Charlie Roberts

On my way to school...

On my way to school I saw an ant.
It was a red ant.
It was a big, red ant.
It was a big, dangerous red ant.
It was a big, scary, dangerous red ant.
It was a big, scary, ugly, dangerous red ant.
It was a big, scary, ugly, dangerous, fat, red ant.
And that's why I'm late for school!
By Charlie Pugh



Autumn is...

Autumn is beautiful colours and I like Halloween.
It looks cold and foggy in the morning.
It sounds like fireworks whizzing and banging overhead.
It smells like smoky barbeques and sausages sizzling away.
It tastes like hot blackberry pie.
It makes me feel fantastic and spooky.
By Pip Harrison-Josey

Minibeast Tongue-Twisters

Silly Silus saw a snail slithering to school on Sunday.
By Trace Williams

White worm wrote white whale
and white whale wrote why?
By Percy Vincent

An acrostic poem

Rockets zooming in to space
Over the hill and far away
Crashing and smashing all over the place
Kids going to bonfire night today.
Everyone is having fun tonight
Twinkling stars ever so bright
Safely going home to bed.
By Grace Tushingham

Archie's Marvellous Medicine

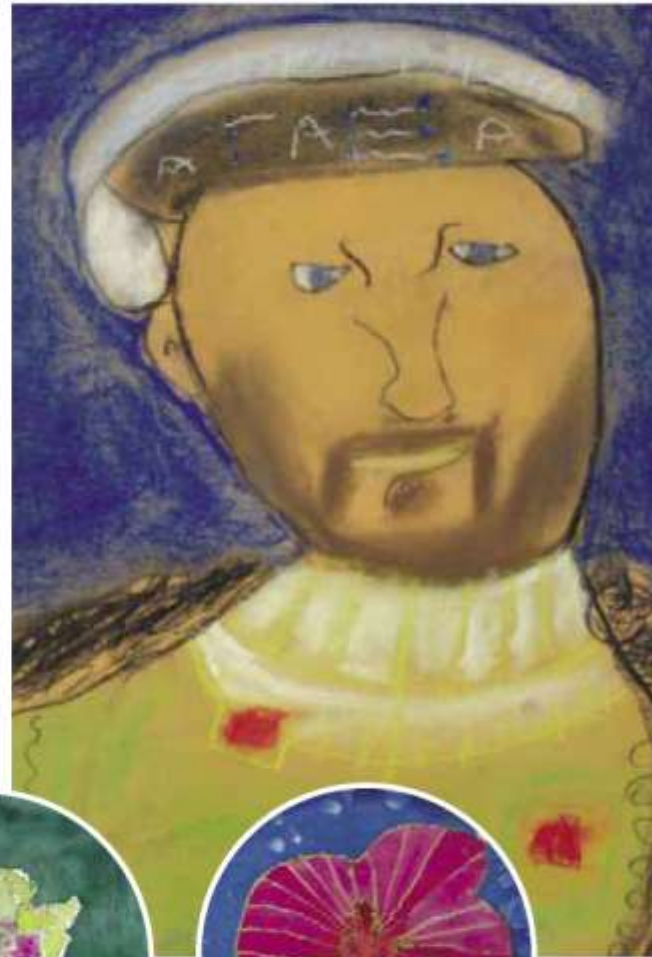
Ingredients

1. Super strength petrol spray.
2. Super strong mega paper.
3. Rotten stinky beetroots.
4. Disgusting chicken flavoured dog food.
5. Rotten eggs that have lasted for years.
6. Super stinky aftershave for smelly dads!

By Archie Butler



J3 AND J4 ART



MUSIC

Once again I have the happy task of reporting on the musical activities of the Junior School.

Class music lessons have included several contrasting themes: it was heartening to see the children's reaction to the recordings of Promenade Concerts. We also thank the Senior School Music Department for organising a World Music Day in May. Our J5 pupils enjoyed playing the different instruments and sharing the experience with children from other schools. This has been a year of extraordinary variety, as the following resume will make clear. The first of our three afternoon concerts in the Reading Room took place in October. Several children performed solo items, demonstrating their skills on woodwind, strings and piano; and of course there was the Junior Orchestra, who delighted us with the Australian tune, "Kookaburra". Our Finale, the Round "Everybody loves Saturday Night", was rapturously received. Next came the Carol Service. This is such a memorable occasion, with the medieval church looking beautiful in the candlelight as daylight fades. Some music was even older than the church itself!

For the February concert the Junior Orchestra had been prepared by Miss Holmes, deputising for Miss Hansford. The children sang about "an awful lot of coffee in Brazil"; and everyone joined in a Round from Eastern Europe, "Come and Sing Together". Among the solo highlights was Amelia Brady's rousing version of an American Traditional song, "Shortnin' Bread", performed entirely unaccompanied, which drew a wonderful response from the audience. Our attention was then, naturally, focused on our production of "Alice in Wonderland". This was a remarkable undertaking, as the music is technically very difficult. We were fortunate to have the guitarist Mr Cordell, the percussionist Mr Coldrick, and a guest appearance - on three saxophones - by Mrs Auster. My thanks go to all involved in making my job easier. "The costumes, the scenery, the make-up, the props, the audience..... There's no business like show business!" (Irving Berlin) Which leaves us with our summer concert, on the afternoon of Friday 4 July. This was a concert of great variety, with some children offering solos for the first time, and an impressive standard of performance. The Orchestra gave us "Oom-pah-pah"; other highlights included a charming song from J3 pupil Sophie Tice; a beautiful monophonic rendering by Benedict Schallamach (also a J3 pupil) of Brahms's Lullaby. The choir raised the roof with "Elijah Rock"; and our Finale was "Oh I wish I knew how it would feel to be free" by Billy Taylor. The parents even joined in. What a way to end!

We are grateful to our visiting Teachers, and to Messrs. Raby and McKelvey, who have done so much to integrate the Senior and Junior Schools' musical activities. At Easter we were sorry to say goodbye to Mrs Gill Day, who had taught here for many years. We send her our good wishes.

Philip Colls





Dear Jeremy Strong,

I am writing to you because I like your books because they are very well written and exciting as well. I think your books /poems are tremendously amazing.
My favourite book is The Hundred Mile An Hour Dog. The bit I like best is when Streaker crashes into a grocery stall.
I would like to ask you some questions. First of all, when did you start writing books? Another question I would like to ask is: how many books have you written?
I do hope you will be able to reply to my letter.
Yours sincerely
Timothy Chandran

Woodland Classroom

The woodland classroom is a very good thing to have in a school because it helps us learn about nature.

We do lots of studies outside like identifying trees from twig and leave sheets. We were given birch to study which was known by the Celts as: "the Lady of the Woods". We went around in pairs: I was with Annabelle and we discovered that the birch's real name was "silver birch".

We sewed herb seeds but unfortunately the deer found them tasty, so we had to sew them again in the classroom. We sold our seedlings at the school fete to raise money for the Burma cyclone disaster.
Phoebe Janes

My sweet Mum!

My sweet mum does all the work
And cooks all of our tea.
When I am ever stuck
She's always there to help me.
When I go to bed,
She tucks me in
Like no mother can!
By Lauren.D



Dear Noddy,

I love you Noddy, and I hope I can meet you one day properly. I hope you never go to jail because Mr Plod can go a bit crazy. But first I have to ask you a few questions: how fast can your car go? And have you ever been in jail before? What I want to know is: how does Mr Plod get the goblins in jail, because the goblins are clever? Well at least one of them is!

I watched you when I was little and I always thought you were great. But now I am eight years old, I don't think you are so great anymore. I still remember you though!

Yours sincerely,
Alexander Dennett



Our Trip to The Corinium Museum.

I saw an Anglo-Saxon grave. We were detectives working out the age, sex and trade of x-ray evidence from locally discovered Anglo-Saxon graves. Some of us dressed up as Anglo-Saxons. I enjoyed our class visit.

By Matt Williams.



The Shiny Trees

The sun shone on the trees, it was beautiful.

The frost is white frost

It glimmers in the sun

And looks like snow.

It looks like diamonds on the leaves.

The grass is so stumpy,

Leaves keep fluttering about.

The mist is beautiful, getting higher and higher

It looks like a background for trees.

By Megan Hardie

A Giant's Garden

Today, I drove to a beautiful garden which was absolutely gigantic. It has twenty seven huge clumps of trees and lots of vegetable patches. There is a green garden gate, as you go in, with the owner's name engraved on top.

The vegetable patches have dozens of different types of vegetables in them. There is a huge lake in the middle of the garden with hundreds of ducks and fish in. There is a wood with trillions of trees in it: fir trees, pine trees, peach trees; in fact any tree you can think of.

By Tom Ford



My family

We play games together; we go on the swings and throw a ball for our dog. My job at home is to clean my tack for the ponies. My favourite pastimes are feeding the chickens, riding, grooming, and feeding my four ponies. My family are funny and fun to play with they play funny jokes on me. I like to give my brother piggy backs and rides. I love to play!

By India Ross



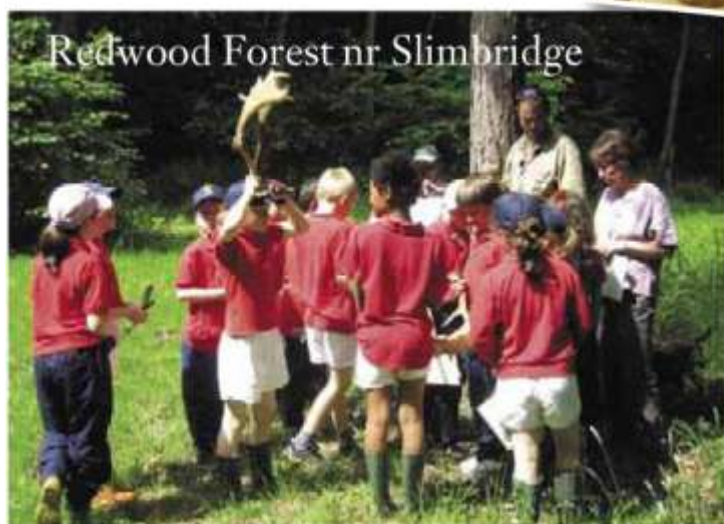


ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM

On Tuesday 16th October J4 visited the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford as a part of their Ancient Egypt topic in History.

Our guide was Christine Stone, who was very informative and showed us many interesting artefacts including a tomb and canopic jars.

"I really liked seeing the dead body!" said, Orlagh Brennan



TRIP TO ERNEST COOK TRUST

On Tuesday June 10th J4 went for a trip to 'Redwood', part of the Ernest Trust Foundation, as a part of their science topic on habitats.

They eventually arrived and met Anne Newman and Lee, the park ranger. The children were shown badger sets, woodpecker habitats as well as handling various deer antlers; they were also given the opportunity to observe the birds in the forest from the hide using binoculars. After a lively lunch in the glorious sunshine the children were given the opportunity to go pond dipping where many weird and wonderful creatures were retrieved, including many tadpoles, fish and newts. Everyone enjoyed their day and learnt many interesting and fabulous facts about the animals and habitats in the wood.

"I thought being able to write with a beetle like Robin Hood was cool," smiled Eleanor Brealý.

"I learnt about how you can tell how old a deer is by counting its points on its antlers." said Olivia Grzelinski



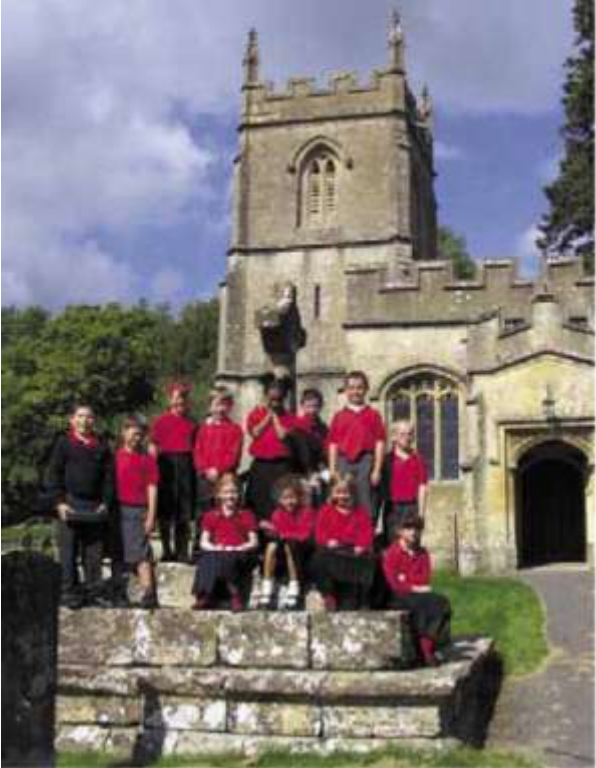
TUDOR HOUSE WORCESTER

J4 enjoyed travelling back in time when they visited 'Tudor House' in Worcester.

Whilst there, they played with Tudor toys and games, dressed up as either a rich or a poor person, looked closely at how buildings were constructed and tried weaving on a loom. They were also given a fascinating laundry tip to help make whites whiter than white!

Amy Johnson said, "My favourite bit was dressing up as a rich woman," and Harry Major rejoiced, "I really enjoyed playing the game '9 Men Morris.'"





ASSEMBLY; ANCIENT EGYPT

J4 assembly was ably led by Mr Elliott Cox, a news reporter, reporting from all over Ancient Egypt.

The reporter took us to a mummification cooking session, the nail biting Sennet championship, pyramid building, weather reports from around the continent and the discovery of Tutankhamen's tomb.

All J4 were involved and thoroughly enjoyed their participation in this informative class assembly.



My Dog – Marty.

I think my dog should be called lightning
He's so fast and good at fighting
He's black, lazy, fun and cheeky
His name is Marty.
He's very good at football he jumps high & headers it
His main position is defence
He jumps on the sofa that's why he's cheeky
That's the best name yet
A wonderful name for a pet
He runs off with everyone's socks
He eats them with his chops
He likes to go to the wood
He takes our food
That's the best name yet
A wonderful name for a pet.
Oliver Heneghan.



My Pet Milly

Milly is my neighbour's cat
I don't know why they call her that
Milly is such a scaredy cat
I think they should have called her that.
Cute white paws and emerald eyes
The rest of her is black as night
Milly is such a sooty cat
I think they should have called her that.
She is so happy to see me after school
She jumps on me and purrs and drools
Milly is such a dribbly cat
I think they should have called her that.
Dylan Evans.



J5 AND J6 ART



The Minotaur's Lair

It was a death pit full of bones,
The lair was a slaughter house.
I heard something, running on impulse I lunged....
lunged....lunged.
I was heroic Hercules back to impress,
But the monster was iron as I bounced off his chest.
Its breathing was a clock monotonous and dull,
As it charged at me I quickly dodged.
It was a relentless fiend that would never stop,
Traumatized I lunged one more time.
But caught on the horns,
I was driven to ground over and over again.
I crawled to the safety of the gate,
It was a life line to me as I recovered slowly
.....slowly.....slowly
By Finlay McLellan

PLANET PROTECTORS

J5 relished their role as "Planet Protectors" producing an amazing multi-media project with Henry Jones starring as our very own David Attenborough! The quality of this work was acknowledged and commended by the "Green School Awards" in the "Totally Active" category.



World cup

I see a cup!
A world cup.
A victory would seal this
fabulous trophy.
Only one country can win
& get triumph.
England v Germany.
Huge rivals.
Geoffrey Hurst prances & dances.
What a hero!
By Oliver Dudleyke

5W ASSEMBLY TURNS BACK, THE CLOCK

The class assembly about life as an evacuee during World War Two made everyone realise how lucky they are to be with their family.



The Path

The path that wound its way before us up the cliff side,
The stones that are ruined where we stumble.
The stones that we kick because we can,
Just to see more heights rise steadily ahead.
The branch that blocks our way
But lets us dip below and laugh and laugh and laugh,
The wood that lies but gives us grip,
The stick that we hold to pull us up as we pant and sweat
Just to take us further from the valley
All cackle wearily.
The snake that slithers at our feet
A peek of shining black,
The moth that flutters in our faces,
The fox that sees us and then turns
and hunts the trembling mouse.
By Mitchell Kendall Smith



WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE...

After the floods the Geography water topic was very appropriate during the Autumn term.

The pupils were given a very interesting tour of the school grounds by Mr Paul Cairns who showed us where the water entered and left the school. It made the pupils realise how precious water is.



WATER AID

The J5 pupils suggested that we should raise money for the people in the world who did not have clean water every day and an idea was born.

A very successful campaign to sell water bottles for the pupils in school to buy and use was undertaken and the money raised - £100, was enough to provide a pump, 2 taps and training for an operator in Africa. This was a great achievement.



MAP READING- WHERE ARE WE?

Finding Rendcomb on an OS map

ALL GREEK!

The J5 History project about the Ancient Greeks saw many wonderful pieces of work made by the pupils using their own initiative.



LETTERS

As the Rendcomb Post Office was under threat of closure J5 became very interested in trying to save it by writing to Prince Charles, Gordon Brown, First News newspaper and Blue Peter.

They were delighted to receive replies and feel that they have contributed a little to the Post Office being able to still offer a service.



PERFECT PIZZAS



Dear Dave,

Thank you for the fabulous trip you arranged for us at Pizza Express. We know that you must be very busy and we are very grateful for the time you spent with us. We learnt about P.P.E. (personal protective equipment) and about cross contamination.

We also learned how to make pizzas. I was amazed to discover that Pizza Express only uses 1 basil leaf in a whole tin of tomato sauce! I really enjoyed making the pizzas and tasting all the toppings, but my very favourite part was when we got back to school and were allowed to EAT our pizzas for lunch! My pizza was called the 'Meaty Monster' and had chicken, raisins, pepperoni and ham on it. It was the best pizza I have ever tasted. Thank you again for our wonderful school trip.

Yours sincerely, Sam Tushingham

The Lady of Shalott

Once upon a time there was a place called Shalott that had a tower with four grey towers on top. Around the tower were gardens of flowers.

In the tower lived a lady; a lady called the Lady of Shalott. She had long brown hair that fell down to her waist and she lived in the northern tower.

Most of her days she spent weaving. She weaved what she saw in the mirror but she didn't dare turn around to look out of the window because of the curse that would make something happen to her.

As years snailed by, one day when the Lady of Shalott was weaving, she saw in her mirror a knight in blazing armour as it was very sunny. It was a knight on horseback with a jewel encrusted helmet and sword, with a feather on top of his helmet. His horse had a saddle of leather.

The Lady of Shalott couldn't resist it, she turned around. Suddenly a bolt of lightening hit the mirror and it shattered. Then realising what she had done, she tore from the room, ran to the docks, grabbed a moored boat and sailed away.

During the sailing she took a flower from a lily pad, lay down and placed the flower onto her chest. She took her last sigh; she died.

By Tom Smith



Harvesting our potatoes



TRIP TO KILVE COURT

Fortunate to enjoy mild and dry February weather, J6 experienced all the challenges, thrills and excitement of this 3 day residential activity course.

As usual J6 returned tired but full of pride, in their achievements, and in high spirits after such a worthwhile and fun adventure.

J6 on Kilve Court

KB: "Please can we go back?"

LB: "It was amazingly amazing!"

KR: "I wish it was a week long."

SS: "I got to know myself."

FB: "Shoot, bike, high ropes fun."

JT: "A whale of a time!"

GB: "Lots of scary heights."

DH: "A memory to last a lifetime."

ED: "Three days, should have been more!"



J6 VISITED THE SS GREAT BRITAIN AND THE BRISTOL BRIDGES

Today we went to the Clifton Suspension Bridge in Bristol made by Brunei. He also built a famous ship called the SS Great Britain which went all over the world to places like New York, Australia and even the Falkland Islands where the SS Great Britain was abandoned for many years.

The SS Great Britain was made up from over 60,000 rivets and at one point it took prisoners to Australia. It was even used as a war boat before carrying cargo such as coal.

I really liked the impressive Clifton Suspension Bridge. What an amazing piece of engineering and still heavily in use today!

By Daniel Haas





Making a personification point

Slim Bodied
Cloaked in long red cashmere
With its shiny golden crown
Such an enthusiastic point of view
As its walk flows across the page
It can be lead into trouble
By its sharp personality
Exciting creativity
My pencil
J6 Yellow Group Poem



Warwick Castle

We enjoyed a fabulous trip to this great medieval fortress. We explored the various attacking options and checked the significant defensive features of this superb castle. Witnessing the throwing power of the giant trebuchet and experiencing the thrill of the Ghost Tower were magical highlights and overall Warwick Castle provided wonderful memories.

MRS FLORENCE KIGANGA

Mrs Florence Kiganga was born on the 6th October on the slopes of Mt. Elgon. She lived there with her 5 sisters and one brother, her mother and father were peasant farmers in the Mable district. She went to Nambulu Primary School. Florence then went on to Nambumali High School, from there she went to Kaliro Teacher Training College to learn how to be a

Mrs Kiganga met her husband in 1988, they have five children. Mrs Kiganga teaches years 4 and 11 at Magwa Primary School. Magwa Primary School accommodates anyone no matter what their background or ability is. The classes Mrs Kiganga teaches have up to 60 children in them and the classes are not split. Florence's favourite subject to teach is Mathematics. She also added that her favourite thing about Uganda is the climate.

A biography by Katie O'Brien



Can't swim!

Sweeping around the pool side,
Not too dangerous! There's no tide!
Just when everything's going well,
I slipped over the broom and fell,
Drowning quickly, I won't last,
I've got to get out of here really fast!
But then Auntie Jan dives in to save the day,
I'm not going in there again!
No siray!
But now I'm old and brave,
I wouldn't need to be saved,
I would've got out with no fear,
Don't worry mum, I'm still here!
By Louis Becque

Rap

Rap raps everything in rap.
Raps rappers.
Raps non rappers.
Rap does not rap rappers.
Rap, rap is the best.
Rap unwraps new rappers.
Rap rapped on the rapper's door.
Rap rapidly spreads rappers.
Rap flows like rapids,
Rap wraps you in a trap.
Raps never stops rapping.
Rap straps you using rap.
Rap fraps the rap.
Rapped by Miles McKeown

Death of fear

I was small, frightened, scared of those
tall, imposing walls, I
Almost wept for fear of my mammy
Not returning for me. Then those big
Boys came, and then I was so
Scared that every fear ever came
To me and tormented me.
But now they're gone, & the walls are
No longer a threat, because I'm tall,
Instead of two foot high, I'm
Imposing, but instead of
Bullying those little ones, for I
Know how they feel, I help them
Along on their little feet, to glow with
Beauty bright!
Jack Ford

CLIMATE COPS ACADEMY

On July 1 2008, J4 - J6 were treated to a day with the Climate Cops. First we were all given a t-shirt that said Academy Cadet and if we got into the Academy, we could keep them. Then we were introduced to the characters, whose names were K'eush (polar bear), Oscar, Will, Skye and Charlie. The instructors gave us voting cards and there were three questions we had to answer truthfully. After that we went down to the Reading Room for the first challenge with Oscar. There were three stations around the room as well as having questions about the stations. After that we returned to the Art Room to do Skye's oath, moreover we were each given a different topic on the climate that we could talk about in groups and write down a promise about our topic. Next we did Will's world which was a more physical challenge; this also had two questions for each station. This was the most fun challenge of them all. After all that hard work we went up to the Art Room for prizes and to see if anyone broke a record. There were lots of people who broke records which was great. Consequently we had a lot of fun. Thank you to the Climate Cops for coming and teaching us lots of things.

By Freddie Baker.



DR DAVIS VISIT TO J6

On the 12th November, Dr Davis came to talk to us about his Top Gear Travel. Dr Davis went as the doctor on the Top Gear North Pole trip.

It was when they had a competition to determine the fastest way to the North Pole. They travelled in a car and on a sledge. He told us about what it would be like, what we would wear, and we got to try on Richard Hammond's gloves, Jeremy Clarkson's hat and James May's boot. Dr Davis said that it was -30 degrees.

It was quite scary in a way because they could have died, if they did not have the right equipment with them. I learnt a lot about the North Pole and what the dangers are such as polar bears, moving ice and freezing storms.

By Erin Laverton

YOUNG ACTIVE DESIGNERS OF THE YEAR 2007

Congratulations to Edward Brealy and Emmeline Meborn-Hubbard on becoming Young Active Designers of the Year 2007.

Rebecca Alfandary from Active Designs presented their award. Edward and Emmeline designed an educational aid about recycling and their winning designs have been made into the finished product.





Amy Benson

I came in year four and never regretted moving school. There has always been something to do from running around on top pitch to performing on stage. I found it easy to settle in and feel like I have been here since Reception. I hope I shall have the same experiences in the Senior School.

Rosalind Baynham

I love Rendcomb. It is like a family to me. Rendcomb has made me confident. I have lots of highlights, for example, making lots of great friends. My best highlight is going to Kilve Court where I did lots of activities such as high ropes, mountain biking and abseiling. In the Senior School I am looking forward to more freedom and making more friends.

Nicky Clift

My seven years at Rendcomb have been excellent! Kilve Court would have to be my highlight. My two favourite activities at Kilve would have to be mountain bikes with all the dips and abseiling. It will be sad leaving but I will leave with some great memories, I am looking forward to meeting more people and making new friends.

Katie O'Brien

I still remember the excitement of getting my first distinction in reception and the adrenaline of doing the monkey bars for the first time. I have so many Rendcomb memories and I have done so many fun things. Thank you.

Alex Pugh

I can remember my first memory of Rendcomb. It was when I was walking through the large doors and shaking hands with Mr Watson. The most treasured memory I have of Rendcomb is Kilve Court. How I fired a bow and arrow and how I abseiled down the tower. It truly was the best moment of my life.

Stuart Gallop

My time at Rendcomb has been a lot of fun. I will always remember the Easter egg hunts and putting my bird box and hedgehog house in the Woodland Area and then shortly after getting onto the Eco Team. But most of all, I really liked Kilve Court.

Sam Scott

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Rendcomb. My earliest memory was when a smiling Mrs Lee said that we could be new together. I was enthralled to be made rugby captain as it was a great responsibility. Kilve Court was something to remember and I enjoyed the challenge of the archery.

Louis Becque

I have had so many memories of this school, all of them are good ones. My first memory was of Reception when I walked into the room and Miss Hunter welcomed me in and now when I am still having a

great time here. The highlight of my year of course was Kilve Court. I don't think anyone did not enjoy it! I would like to say a great big thank you to everyone who has made this year a great one.

Erin Laverton

I have been in the Junior School for three terms and I have loads of memories. Kilve Court stands out the most. It was fantastic! Performing in Alice was brilliant with all the lights and make-up but the greatest highlight I will remember is making the best ever friends and have the best ever teachers. I will miss the Junior School loads and Mr Watson too.

Kathryn Rew

My earliest memory of Rendcomb was when I was in year four on my first day. I remember it being scary, however, I had my friends there to support me. My favourite moment at the Junior School would have to be at Kilve Court in our dorms. In the Senior School I am looking forward to making new friends and meeting new teachers. I will never forget my time in the Junior School and I will miss everyone.

Emmeline Meborn-Hubbard

I remember when I first walked up to the huge building of the Junior School. I was scared at first but I've built up my confidence in the last seven years. Now I just can't wait to get into the Senior School. There is so much to look forward to. I will miss all the adventures I've already had in the Junior School, like when we went to Kilve Court, where we stayed for three days. I've enjoyed these years and I won't forget them.

Edward Davies

My earliest memory was thinking that Rendcomb was very big. As I walked through the doors I felt a chill of excitement. My favourite memory was the high ropes at Kilve Court. I'm looking forward to all the new opportunities and activities in the Senior School.

James Tait

My shadow day was in year one after one year in a local school. My first memory was lining up to break. My favourite memory was the high ropes at Kilve Court because of the fantastic thrill. I can't wait until the activity trip next year.

Miles McKeown

The highlights of J2 was the puzzle sofa, J3 getting my pen licence, J4 was the freedom, J5 were the subjects for history and J6 had to be Kilve Court.

Jack Ford

My first memories of Rendcomb are mostly awe and interest, because I had never seen such a big school before. I can remember my first glimpse of Rendcomb with its tower, car park, chapel, music block and all the fields. My highlights were Kilve, games and PE. I am really looking forward to Friday nights because of the Friday Night Challenge.

Grace Brittain

On my first day I went around with Nicola. She became my best friend. The best thing that happened in Reception was missing a PE lesson and the class coming back and saying there was a bear sleeping. In J6 I was so glad about being awarded Head Girl. I'll miss everything. It will be strange not seeing you.

Lauren Kraven

I haven't been at Rendcomb for a long time but I still have hundreds of memories. My funniest memory was at Kilve Court when Nicky was jumping on her bed and she fell flat on the floor. Rendcomb, thank you for making this the best year!

Amelia Brady

My memories at Rendcomb have been seriously great. Sometimes I say to my friends and teachers, where has all that time gone. J6 has been the best by far. All of our trips to Kilve Court, Warwick Castle and our trip to see the work of Isambard Kingdom Brunel. Thank you so much to all my teachers and all my friends for making my time at Rendcomb the best.

Oliver Kendall Smith

My earliest memory was in year two when everyone was new and it took a long time to get to know people. I was looked after by the year sixes. My favourite moment was the J6 camp to Kilve. I think everyone would have a good time there.

Alden Dowling

My favourite memory of Kilve Court was the high ropes because my blood was rushing through me fast and my heart was beating fast. My earliest memory at Rendcomb was on my shadow day when I met all my friends. I am looking forward to everything in the Senior School.

Freddie Baker

My first memory was when I started, when I walked in and saw Alfie playing with a train set. My best moment was at Kilve when Ed D said, "Watch the big puddle!" and then he fell in it. I am really looking forward to seeing the new people and the form twos.

Daniel Haas

I loved Kilve Court, especially the high ropes, I also liked mountain biking. On our trip to Warwick I liked the Ghost Tower which I think made everyone jump out of their skin! The highlight had to be the Ghost Tower and the castle itself.

Ed Brealy

I have so many wonderful memories of my last seven years at Rendcomb. I have particularly enjoyed being in all the school plays especially being a soldier in Troy Story as well as Tweedle Dum in Alice. I will really miss all the teachers. I have had a fantastic time, thank you!

Prizes

The following prizes were awarded in Final Assembly: -

Boys' Cross Country Cup

Freddie Baker

Girls' Cross Country Cup

Rosalind Baynham

The Meborn-Hubbard Girls' Victor Lorum

Rosalind Baynham

The Henniker-Gotley Boys' Victor Lorum

Freddie Baker

Reeves Cup for Improved Reading

Megan Hardie

Phelps Effort Cup

Katie O'Brien

Roberts Family Cup (Otters' Effort)

Max McKeown

Carden Cup for Music

Kathryn Rew

Dufosse Art Cup

Emmeline Meborn-Hubbard

Shackel Cup for Drama

Amelia Brady

Shark Cup for Most Promising U9 Sportsman

Oliver Heneghan

Osborne Cup for Girls' Sport

Rosalind Baynham/Nicola Clift

Palmer Cup for Boys' Sport

Freddie Baker/James Tait

Arkle Cup for All Round Improvement

Miles McKeown

Trim Happy Cup

Lauren Kraven

Potter Cup for Overall Contribution

Nicola Clift

Academic & Effort Prizes

J3: Academic - Ben Schallamach

/ Tom Ford

Effort - Megan Channer J4:

Academic - Eloise Gooch Effort - Eleanor Brealy

J5: Academic - Sam Tushingham Effort - Kate Major

J6: Academic - Sam Scott Effort - Nicola Clift



FOREST SCHOOL FUN

Our first year of Forest School at Rendcomb has been a great success.

Forest School is based on an idea originally pioneered in Denmark. It is a well established approach to learning through outdoor settings.

Based upon principles of building confidence, boosting self-esteem and encouraging an appreciation of the natural environment, its benefits can be seen across the age ranges, and it provides lifelong learning and life skill opportunities for all.

The Forest School activities enable children to experience numeracy, literacy, science and many other subjects within a stimulating environment.

The sessions take place in all weathers and are flexible in order to make the most of the learning potential that nature provides at any one time.



F orest School
O ff we go
R eady to learn
E xploring and learning
S tarting in our Base Camp
T ogether we work and play

S unshine & rain – whatever the weather
C limbing & digging
H elping each other
O bserving bugs and birds
O utdoor activities and challenges
L ife skills, learning and laughter.

GOING GREEN



International Eco-School Green Flag Award for Excellence

This is the national and international top award recognised for outstanding achievement in sustainable development education and management, continuously improving the environmental performance of the junior school and wider community.

After a continuous 2 year programme with the introduction of the Eco team, the frequent use of the woodland classroom, energy and water saving ideas put into practice, healthy eating encouraged and the new gardening club growing vegetables we could now apply for the coveted award.

Our assessor visited in July and she was extremely impressed by the entire work taking place within the Junior School. All pupils and staff should be very proud of this award and the Green flag is now flying to show our status.



NORTH CERNEY GARDENS

As a "Thank you" to the Eco

Team forgiving up their time with meetings, a lunchtime trip was arranged to the gardens by kind permission of Sir Michael & Lady Angus and Barbara & Angus MacPherson.

The pupils thought the gardens were amazing and as Phoebe Janes, a keen gardener from Year 3 remarked, "Heavenly".

GREAT TREE PARTY

Rendcomb were lucky to be invited to attend the official ceremony and celebration of 1000 years of the county of Gloucestershire.

This also recognised the planting of 1000 new trees in the county of which the Junior School had taken part with the planting of 20 saplings by the Eco team.

Katie O'Brien and Rozy Baynham together with Mrs Watson represented the school at Gloucester University. They took part in various activities and met many people involved with the celebrations.



Eco TEAM

More children became involved with the Eco team this year, taking part in the half-termly meetings together with Mrs Watson.

The pupils' enthusiasm and suggestions of ways to save energy and water have benefited the Junior School hugely. So many children are interested in being part of the team that nearly every pupil applied to be a member of next term's team.



Members this year

Rozy Baynham, Katie O'Brien, Stuart Gallop and Lauren Kraven - **Year 6**

Hermione Llewelyn-Bowen, Laurence Jones and Sam Tushingham - **Year 5**

Harry Major and Eloise Gooch - **Year 4**

Phoebe Janes and Alexander Dennett - **Year 3**



VISIT TO HIGHGROVE

We were very lucky to be invited to visit Prince Charles' gardens and be given a very special tour by David Howard, the head gardener.

The Eco Team visited together with children who had shown a particular interest in the environment and gardening.

Security was very strict but to see the gardens on our own and to learn about the environment saving ideas was fantastic.



RUGBY

U9

On Friday 12th October the U9s went to Querns for their first tag rugby match. We stormed off to a great start with a quick try and many more followed with a half time score of 9-1. The team continued and won the match 13-4. On Thursday 15th November the U9s hosted a 7-a-side rugby fixture against Cokethorpe. Cokethorpe dominated from the start but we fought back with some good aggressive running play. Tagging was frantic. Unfortunately Rendcomb lost by a very narrow margin. On Friday 23rd November we played Querns at home. It was a well fought tag match and the boys played very well to win with a score of 10-5.

U10

On Wednesday 10th October Rendcomb attended Querns to play them at rugby. Although this was the team's first foray into the world of tag rugby the boys conducted themselves with professionalism and vigour. The team dominated the first half and at half time the boys were in front. In the second half the boys had some excellent break through runs to take the final score



to 17-7. On Wednesday 21st November the U10's hosted a match against Querns. There was some excellent passing play and we dominated the game with some skilful play and won 15-5.

U11

A's	Played	Won	Lost	Pts	Pts
	4	3	1	107	43

B's **Played 3 Won 3**

We enjoyed a very good season with only one reverse and that was in the first match of the season! The Bs playing mainly 'tag' matches showed plenty of enthusiasm and commitment and with most being U10's this augurs well for next season. The 'A' squad was imbalanced with us having few

forwards but many backs. The issue was always going to be one of winning ball and our Captain, Sam Scott, led the way by being very competitive and he received excellent support, particularly from Oliver Kendall Smith. The backs contained many natural runners who possessed speed and flair. The creativity largely came from Aiden Dowling and James Tait in the half-backs while Freddie Baker's pace was always a potent force.

All the boys worked hard at their game and we improved in all areas but especially in defence. Well done boys on producing some excellent performances and for playing in the right spirit.

Colours Awarded: Freddie Baker, Aiden Dowling, Sam Scott (Capt.) and James Tait.

HOCKEY

U9

This was the first time that many of the girls had the chance to play a competitive match for the School and all of them showed great sportsmanship and promise for years to come. The highlight of the season had to be the last match against Querns where we showed determination and improvement, winning the match 1-0. Well done girls.

U11

Although statistically this season won't be entering any record books, it was a season of huge individual progress and team building. After an admittedly 'wobbly' start, the girls quickly realised that to get anywhere, they had to 'mean business' and put in a huge amount of work to improve their skills and develop their match awareness. They quickly learnt that it is one thing to get it right on the training ground but another story implementing their skills under the pressure of a match. Despite three early losses to some of our larger neighbouring schools, a pattern was emerging. Scoring margins were narrowing, Rendcomb were at last attacking

and even finding the back of the goal! When Querns visited shortly after half term, confidence was high and spirits were lifted further by a 2-2 draw in which Rendcomb dominated much of the game. Many a biased spectator would say that they were unlucky not to be the convincing winners! Next stop was Hatherop on our astro and although a 2-0 loss it was non-stop, end-to-end hockey. Rendcomb were just off target on their scoring chances and Hatherop capitalised on theirs. The game could have gone either way. To end the season, the girls travelled for a return fixture at Querns and this time came away the deserved victors with a 2-0 win. It was a shame the season had to end just as the team was 'getting going' but much self-belief and confidence was built and some of our younger players gained valuable experience for the future.

Special mention must go to my two J6 stalwarts. Rosalind Baynham (CF) who captained the side and Nicola Clift (CH) both worked tirelessly, demonstrating superb individual skill and were the backbone of this developing side.

Colours were awarded to: Rosalind Baynham and Nicola Clift.

Boys' Hockey

Played	Won	GF	GA
1	1	3	0

We only managed one fixture, against King's School Gloucester, but we immediately gelled as a team and played some open, fast and attractive hockey. The 3-0 scoreline was fully deserved and could have been more but for some excellent keeping by the opposition number one. James Tait scored a hat-trick including a truly superb individual goal worthy of any hockey field. Played only as an after school activity I was very impressed by the quality and commitment of the boys and I am delighted that a number have been inspired to play at Cirencester Hockey Club.



FOOTBALL

U9

On Friday 1st February the U9 boys played Querns away. Early in the first half James hit the post but soon after he scored a wonderful goal. We put together some good passes but Querns kept on attacking. Strong defending from Oliver kept them at bay though. Early in the second half Alex made many great breaks, unfortunately Querns scored to draw level and soon after they scored another goal. We then applied a lot of pressure with attack after attack, we came close and eventually James scored two minutes from time. Final Score 2-2. On a blustery afternoon the U9s travelled to Hatherop to take part in a 6 a-side football tournament. There were five pool matches to play. With strong competition we won one and drew one. Unfortunately this failed to get us through to the final round. Well done boys you all played with great spirit and determination. On 14th March Querns came to Rendcomb, we played fantastically well and dominated the game from the start. We were 1-0 up by the end of the first half and in the second half we continued to play creative football and scored two further goals. The final score was 3-0 to Rendcomb. Next we played against a very strong Cokethorpe team. In the first half James gave us the lead with a wonderful goal but unfortunately Cokethorpe began to get on top and eventually ran out 3-1 winners.

U10

St Francis Football Tournament

Harry Major's report

On Wednesday 14th November the U10s competed in the tournament despite it being out of season. In the group stages we recovered from an early loss to record three wins thus qualifying for the semi-finals. Pitched against the hosts we controlled much of the game but unfortunately lost 1-0. In the third fourth place play-off we recorded a 2-0 win to finish third out of ten teams.

U11

A's Played	Won	Drew	Lost	GF	GA
5	3	1	1	27	7

B's Played	Won	Drew	Lost	GF	GA
4	2	0	2	14	14

We played some excellent football this season and the A's could easily have emerged unbeaten. In all areas we had experience and considerable ability and in Finlay McLellan and Caleb Dyer (both J5) we have two outstanding prospects for next season. In defence we were extremely solid with Sam Scott proving to be a very 'safe' keeper while Miles McKeown emerged as our most consistent performer showing superb defensive qualities. We usually dominated the midfield zone and James Tait usually led this line with control, vision and determination. Up front our Captain, Freddie Baker, worked tirelessly and his pace created numerous



chances, many of which were converted by Finlay who top scored with 10 goals including 4 in each of our victories over Berkhamstead (5-0) and Hatherop Castle (6-0). Congratulations boys on playing good football in excellent spirit and fashion.

Colours Awarded: Freddie Baker, Miles McKeown & James Tait



NETBALL

U9

Throughout the Netball season the Under 9s showed their enthusiasm for the sport. Orlagh Brennan proved to be a talented centre linking the attack and defence together. Some great goals were scored by Eleanor Brealy and Eloise Gooch. Erin Kaye showed great defending skills, never missing a chance to intercept a ball. I look forward to next season.

U11

Played	Won	Lost
4	3	1

As is often the case in the Winter Term, poor weather disrupted the fixture programme but of those matches played, the results were very encouraging. The season got off on a positive note with a convincing 7-0 victory over Querns. Rendcomb players experimented

in a number of different positions and the skeleton of a reliable team was forming. What's more, for the first time in my years here, Rendcomb had height on its side in the form of Erin Laverton and Emmeline Meborn-Hubbard who, quite literally, overshadowed many an opponent! The second fixture was at home to Hatherop- the only blip in an otherwise successful season. Although Rendcomb fought hard, Hatherop were the eventual victors by 10-4.

The second half of term saw a return fixture at Querns where Rendcomb implemented their improved skills from the beginning of the season and romped home 11-3 victors. Finally, the season ended with another convincing victory, this time against King's Gloucester. A rotating squad of all the girls in J5 and J6 worked really hard to dominate King's, finishing the season with an impressive 13-7 win.

Nicola Clift was a reliable captain at GA, supported well by Kathryn Rew (GS). Rosalind Baynham was a very athletic Centre who was

a highly effective link between attack and defence. Special mention must also go to Lauren Kraven who found her form late in the season to reveal considerable flair. Well done to all the girls who took part and thank you to all the stoic parents who braved the winter weather to come and support us!

Colours were awarded to: Nicola Clift and Rosalind Baynham



CRICKET

U9

The U9 cricket team had a successful year. The boys covered many skills and drills with the various aspects of batting, bowling and fielding that are involved with cricket. Batting improved as the boys learnt that it is not just about hitting the ball as hard as possible but that defence is just as important. Forward defence, straight drives and the cover drive as well as the pull shot have all been covered. The boys' fielding improved with many great catches taken. We played four matches, two against Berkhamstead, Querns and Hatherop. We won three and lost one. The game we lost was very exciting due to the fact that we played very well and only lost by one run. James Heneghan, Dylan Evans and Oliver Heneghan were the main all-rounders as all three of them bowled and batted very well throughout the term. Oliver Heneghan

was the most improved bowler of the season. The future continues to look good for the U9's team and I look forward to next cricket season.

U11

The U11 cricket team played three matches this year. Some of J5 made their debuts for the school and they did themselves proud and the school performing admirably. Although we didn't win a match there were a lot of performances which were very encouraging. The most significant improvement was our team spirit. Rendcomb played Berkhamstead at home on Wednesday 4th June Rendcomb were put into bat and after some very tight bowling and indifferent batting Rendcomb were restricted to 30 runs. After some creamy chocolate éclairs and a cuppa, play resumed. Berkhamstead comfortably reached the target without losing any wickets. At Cokethorpe, once again James lost the toss and we were sent into bat.



The conditions were perfect after a shaky start; a partnership was formed between Freddie Baker (40 not out) and Finlay McLellan (34 not out). Rendcomb finished 105 for 4 wkts. Rendcomb were feeling rather confident after tea and some early wickets were taken (FB) but Cokethorpe slowly clawed themselves back into the game. They needed 6 off the last over which they did. Colours awarded to Frederick Baker. James Tait.

ROUNDERS

U9

Yet another indifferent English summer restricted the matches played and unfortunately we were not successful in these. However, all three matches were extremely close and all at some stage were within our grasp. The girls trained and played very hard and I was delighted by their enthusiasm and willingness to work hard to improve both their individual skills and also their understanding of match situations and team play. Rounders is a very tactical game and we witnessed significant improvement in all aspects of our play. The J4 girls led the team well and most encouraging was the number of J3 girls that contributed so well, offering much optimism for next season.

U11

Once again, the English Summer lived up to its reputation and of five scheduled fixtures, only two went ahead. Without any warm up match, Rendcomb faced Richard Pates just before half term. A close first half saw the teams well matched but Rendcomb's lack of match sharpness was apparent. Pates pulled away in the second innings to win by 12½ - 8. With two further cancellations it was a long wait before Rendcomb's final game against King's Gloucester. Having had a season devastated by bad weather we were determined that this final game of the season was to go ahead no matter what and it did! Despite torrential rain and relocation to the astro turf, the girls' spirits never dampened. The first innings saw a tightly contested match with Rendcomb going into half time trailing by just one rounder (472 - 572). In the second half, the weather worsened and on this



occasion, King's made fewer mistakes. The game ended with a win for King's by 11-8½. Rosalind Baynham bowled consistently with Lauren Kraven sharp as ever at backstop. Nicola Clift remained in last year's position on 2nd base ably supported by Kathryn Rew (capt.) at 2nd deep. Amongst the remaining squad, many of the girls showed huge improvement and had the season been more competitive, a talented all round team would have undoubtedly formed. Colours were awarded to: Rosalind Baynham, Nicola Clift, Kathryn Rew and Lauren Kraven.



SPORTS DAY

Junior Sports Day

A great afternoon's racing was had by all and the weather held off as normal. All of the children tried very hard and there were some fine performances.

Particular mention must go to Rozy Baynham who decimated the field in her 800m race and to Freddie Baker who won all of his events! What a great finish to our summer athletics programme.

Otters' Sports Day

Otters' Sports Day was a great success. All of the children from Nursery to J2 took part and had lots of fun, running, skipping, balancing bean bags and of course the egg and spoon race!

The children worked really well in their team relay races and it was great to see the older children helping the younger ones. We definitely have some future Olympians! Well done everybody.

CROSS COUNTRY

Cross Country Club

The weather over the winter term was pretty grim and we seemed to be either training in the rain or cold windy conditions. The pupils who attended were a hardy bunch and never seemed to mind. The group worked on strength building on the hills and pace judgement over short and long distances. We worked on running technique and efficiency and then built up to race pace over the variety of terrain which Rendcomb certainly has to offer. Some fine group and individual efforts were put in as described in the race reports below. Well done all involved I could not have asked for a better season's results.

St Francis Cross Country Tournament

On Wednesday 23rd January a team of six travelled to St Francis to compete in their annual cross country tournament. The field of competitors was huge and of a good quality. Although not hilly the route was particularly difficult as it had many technical sections and some awkward twists and turns.

With four hundred metres to go Rozy had made her way into a favourable position and by the finish had moved up into 6th place. Kate put in a credible performance and finished 34th which was a fine effort considering the field was mainly made up of years 6's. The boys' start was a frantic affair with all the boys jostling for position. Freddie Baker ran a near perfect race moving his way through the field and timed

his final charge just right, finishing in 2nd place, only two seconds behind the overall winner. The rest of our team put in great performances with Jonathan finishing in 10th place, Finlay 14th and Daniel 22nd.

Querns Cross Country Tournament

Congratulations to our runners who competed at Querns. With J6 at Kilve Court it gave some of our younger athletes the opportunity to shine and gain invaluable experience. A special mention goes to Eleanor Brealy who came ninth in the girls' race while only being in J4.

Rendcomb Cross Country Tournament

On 7th March we held our third crosscountry tournament. Four other schools attended as well as two teams for Rendcomb which gave us a record number of participants. Both races were hard fought and over a variety of hilly, technical and challenging terrain. Particular congratulations go to Rozy Baynham who was third girl in the J5/6 race and Freddie Baker who was second overall in the J5/6 race. The Rendcomb J5&6 team won their section of the tournament but the overall winners of the team tournament were Hatherop. Well done to all those who participated, an excellent effort and afternoon's racing.

Winter Warmer

On Monday 12th November we held our fifth Winter Warmer Race. A fantastic number of twenty eight children competed. The course followed undulating, hilly and technical terrain which all participants enjoyed. Freddie Baker won the race in a time of eight minutes and nine seconds and Rozy Baynham was the first girl exactly one minute later.

Orienteering Club

At the beginning of term Mr Arnold decided to launch an orienteering club. It has been a great success. We have had a lot of fun and are especially enjoying planning a course for Eco-Day, despite the challenges.

We chose a line course which means you run from point to point clipping your score card as you find the points in order. At the end you run back to the start and the organiser will check that you have visited all the points correctly.

During orienteering club we have learnt a lot of skills. These included map-work which involves all aspects of map reading. Orienteering maps show the ease with which you can move across the ground, the heights of the land which include such features as slopes, hills and valleys. The map also shows features such as buildings, rivers and even large trees. The legend which can also be known as a key shows what the symbols on a map mean.

We also used a compass and learnt how to orientate a map with and without a compass. This was difficult. We learnt how to walk on a bearing and used pacing to help us accurately gauge distance.

By Jack Ford (J6)



POP LACROSSE

We enjoyed a superb season! The squad was largely based on that from last year so we had experience in every area of the field. The team was led by Freddie Baker whose game sense and leadership impacted immensely on the success of the team and he was very well supported by a dedicated and enthusiastic squad. Throughout the year everyone worked extremely hard on their stick skills and game situations and significant progress resulted. We went to the National qualifiers 3 key players down but the team rose to the challenge, ably supported by Edward

and Eleanor Brealy who stood in at the last moment, to come second thus securing our place in the National finals at the University of Hertfordshire. The standard was incredibly high but we acquitted ourselves extremely well and we only missed out on the Plate Final on goal difference. Our greatest triumph came in The National Prep Schools' Tournament at The University of West England. In very close fought matches we gradually edged our way to the final where we met one of our greatest rivals, St John's Chepstow. In a pulsating match we won by one goal to become **National Prep School Champions** for the first time! This was a remarkable achievement for such a small school and great reward for all the pupils' commitment and hard work and a tribute to the coaching of our American

Lacrosse coaches, Jessica Pausewang and Jen Greenberg. Well done everyone for such a thrilling and enjoyable season and sincere thanks to our dedicated parental support!

1st Team: Freddie Baker, Rozy Baynham, Nicola Clift, Grace Brittain, Kathryn Rew, James Tait, Aiden Dowling and Sam Scott.



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DRAMA & DANCE *Any excuse to dress up...*

We've had another busy year in Drama and Dance from the big school productions and World Book Day to Role-Play in the classroom.

J3 & J4 had enormous fun making adverts out in the woodland on Big Arts Day. They loved seeing the end results on television. J5 particularly enjoyed dressing up in World War II outfits and getting into role. J6 was set the big challenge of writing scripts and filming 60 second films about 'Romeo & Juliet.' The Otters entertained us with their Nativity, entitled 'Rocking Robin.' Pip Harrison-Josey was very impressive in the lead role, a definite star in the making.

The Candle-lit Carol Service was very atmospheric and the children performed their readings beautifully. We thoroughly enjoyed our annual visit to the Everyman to see 'Dick Whittington' at Christmas. The Everyman then came to us to perform 'The Rotten Plot,' an interactive puppet presentation about saving our environment. 'Noah's Ark' was the Otters' Easter production. William Vaughan played a masterful

Noah and the Nursery delighted the audience as raindrops.

Dance continues to go from strength to strength under the leadership of Miss Botha. The children have shown great potential and talent both in ballet, modern and the complex choreography in our fantastic Junior production of 'Alice in Wonderland' in May. What a show that was!

The set was stunningly painted in a Tenneil style by Laurence





Llewelyn-Bowen and Donna Kraven on two huge canvases either side of an enormous tree. Rachel Fielding created very effective muslin drape curtains, which added the finishing touch to the set. Sister Rogers made the most amazing costumes, managing to recycle many. She even made the Royal Cardsmen's outfits out of pillowcases. Sister then drew and coloured the picture cards by hand! The children loved all the songs

and really threw themselves into all aspects of the show. There were some tremendous individual performances, including the formidable character of the Queen of Hearts, played by Amelia Brady and the 3 different sized Alices. Kathryn Rew, Amy Benson and Erin Laverton had the added challenge of remembering when they had to enter and exit. The White Rabbit (Edward Davies) was a delight to see dashing about the stage and ad-libbing

like a true professional, despite on the last night being terribly ill. The 3 Cheshire cats played by Nicola Clift, Jack Ford and Rozy Baynham made great narrators, while the Caterpillar (Katie O'Brien) led the whole cast of 70 in 'Zip-a-dee-doo-dah' brilliantly. You struggled to keep a straight face with The Mad Hatter (Louis Becque), March Hare (Lauren Kraven) and the Tweedles (Daniel Haas and Edward Brealy) on stage. A particular highlight was

Mr Watson showing off his dancing skills in his cameo role as 'Daisy'. 'Alice' could not have been possible without the commitment of all the students and the support of all the Junior School Staff, for which I am eternally grateful. There is so much to look forward to next year.
Mrs A Brealy



JUNIOR SCHOOL PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Junior School Parents' Association represent all aspects of the school, meeting each term to discuss items of common interest and suggested improvements affecting pupils, parents and staff. Thank you for responding so positively to our requests for feedback and support.

This year we have discussed a wide variety of topics and supported proposals to improve the management of parents' evenings and school reports, traffic and parking solutions and improvements to existing facilities. We also decided on how best to spend the funds raised by the JEST team.

A huge thank you to fellow members of the Parents' Association and to JEST who do so much to contribute to the Junior School community; we all appreciate the opportunity to 'let our hair down' and have some fun together.

We always welcome new members to the team, so please contact Martin Watson if you are interested in joining us.

With thanks,

Sue Fawcett RCJPA Chairman



JEST

JEST, the social arm of the Junior School Parents' Association, has enjoyed another busy and fun-packed year.

We've had lots of events which have given the children, parents and teachers an opportunity to let their hair down - sometimes literally!

Our Autumn Bash was an informal evening for parents and teachers. After a "bangers and mash" supper we took to the floor to dance the night away to the Maxwell Street Band.

The school social calendar would not be complete without a Cake Sale and, in November, parents excelled themselves in the kitchen, baking a wonderful array of cakes and biscuits, which were duly bought and eaten, providing full stomachs and a donation to Children In Need in the process.

At the end of the Michaelmas term the Otters and Juniors entered the festive spirit at their respective Christmas Parties. The children were entertained by an amazing magician, who kept the children (and adults) spell-bound. In this magical mood they welcomed Father Christmas to the party and were soon unwrapping the gifts he brought.

Parents and teachers enjoyed a very sophisticated evening at the Casino Royale themed Spring Fling. After enjoying a champagne reception on the terrace and a superb three course dinner, everyone got down to some serious (well, maybe not so serious) gambling and, when the chips were all gone, there was always the chance to come up trumps on the dance floor.

On the first Friday of the Summer Term around 50 children had their heads down for a bingo session with our resident bingo caller, Mr Watson! There were chances to practise the "bingo lingo" with prizes all round. It was a great way to end the first week.

In June we were treated to a hugely successful evening of high style at a Charity Fashion Show, organised for JEST by Davina Clift. Our "model" pupils all looked incredibly at ease on the cat walk and clearly enjoyed the opportunity to "strut their stuff" and model their favourite fashions.

The year ended with our annual summer fete - a chance for the children and their parents to enjoy some traditional summer entertainment. As ever the "wet sponges" and "doughnuts on a line" were a big hit with the children, whilst the parents contented themselves with the more civilised bottle stall and "Find the Treasure".

.....and amidst all the fun, we've been able to raise funds for the Lords Meade School in Uganda as well as raising funds for local and national charities. In addition, profits from the social events this year have helped the school to purchase a number of "extras" including an outdoor chess set, a plasma screen and wet play equipment.

JEST would like to thank parents for their support and generosity and all the staff of the Junior School. Special thanks are due to the JEST committee who have worked hard to make the events such a success.

Annie McKeown
JEST Chairman





**RENDCOMB COLLEGE
& JUNIOR SCHOOL**

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