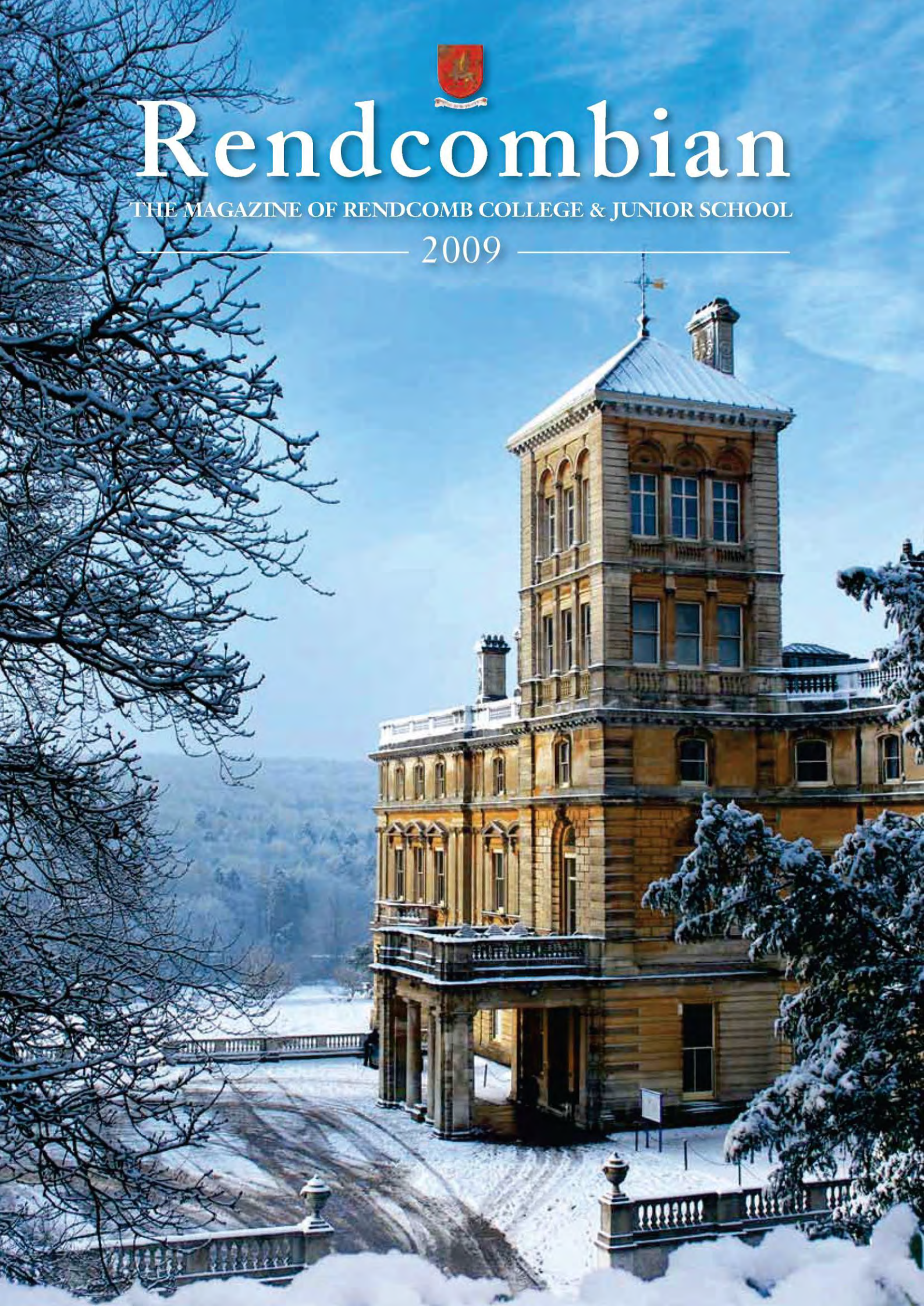




# Rendcombian

THE MAGAZINE OF RENDCOMB COLLEGE & JUNIOR SCHOOL

2009



Some of our  
Special Days



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# Welcome

## A few late words from the Headmaster

*Maxi mea culpa.* This introduction is being written at the eleventh hour with David Riera, our Graphic Designer and Liese Holden our Editor, threatening to deprive me of food and water for the rest of my time on this planet, if I don't complete this piece by the end of school today. Feeling like a pupil who is late in producing work for a deadline (not that we have such pupils at Rendcomb!), I really am under pressure to produce something "against-the-clock". The skills I learnt writing timed essays in Mediaeval History for my finals at St Andrew's University are suddenly being transferred to writing for The Rendcombian magazine. Here goes.

Highlights of the year: Satish Kumar's inspirational speech on Founder's Day; thank you to Richard Wills for inviting him; the Lacrosse 1st XII winning the National Small Schools' Championship; Mrs Hockey, Miss Langstaff and Mr and Mrs Watson receiving the Outdoor Setting of the Year Award for the Nursery; and our inaugural MAD Festival organised superbly by Emma Roffe. Finally, our very impressive ISI inspection report available at <http://www.isi.net/school/rendcomb-college-6833> which reflected on the excellent achievements of our staff and pupils across both the Junior and Senior school.

This edition of The Rendcombian also pays tribute to five long-standing members of staff: Jeremy Grey, our Bursar, Sophia Blackwell, Head of Art, Chris Wood, Director of Studies, Derek Coombes, Lab Technician and Rhona



*Who needs the Alps?  
Snow at Rendcomb  
February 2009*

Stratford, Domestic staff who have collectively clocked up just over 125 years at the college. Such commitment is rare in this day and age of transitional employment and we wish all these colleagues a long and happy retirement. This edition is also a wonderful testament to another excellent year at a time when the college is the largest it has been in its 89 year history.

So much for the past, what of the future? We are projecting further growth in the Nursery under the excellent leadership of Martin Watson and at the other end of the age spectrum, plans are progressing for a major refurbishment of Park House. I am also pleased that we are focussing more strategically on "green issues" in the Senior School to build on the excellent foundations which have been initiated in the Junior School. Watch this space.

As always, a huge thanks to the editorial team for the excellent work which they have carried out in the production of this impressive publication. With bread and water now being offered by Liese, I think that I have been forgiven!

I hope that you enjoy this magazine and do pass it on to a friend after you have finished reading it. With warm best wishes,

Gerry Holden [g.holden@lastminute.com](mailto:g.holden@lastminute.com)  
Headmaster



**MASKED  
BALL**  
Pages 14-15



**MAD ARTS  
FESTIVAL**  
Pages 34-37



**LACROSSE  
SUCCESS**  
Page 63



**ACADEMIC  
RESULTS**  
Pages 72-73

Laying a wreath  
on the Founder's  
grave in Miserden  
Churchyard



# Founder's Day 2009

## An extract from Sam Tushingham's Speech - Junior School Head Boy

"Just last week, I took the stage in the Junior School play for the last time. I played the part of Zeus, King of the Gods and I loved every minute of it. My happiness was tinged with sadness that this would be the last time I would be part of such a tremendous team effort. But, I leave with the confidence that I can take to the stage, stand up and talk to an

audience of people, and feel proud of my achievements and those of my many school friends. At the recent Junior School Open Morning, I had the privilege of showing prospective parents around the school.

Like the boy who had shown me round, over 4 years ago, I was proud to show off my school. I wanted them to see what a great place it is. Rendcomb gives all its pupils the chance to shine, and grow in confidence.

All the children here feel proud to be part of such a supportive and encouraging team.

I would like to finish by thanking all the brilliant teachers at Rendcomb for helping me to achieve so much while I've been here, and for giving me the confidence to go into the Senior School with enthusiasm and eager anticipation of the challenges ahead of me.

Special thanks have to go to the greatly respected Patriarch of this family, Mr Watson. Thank you Rendcomb for the best 4 years of my school life so far".



Retiring Staff Chris Wood and Sophie Blackwell



Jasmine Barkses, Sam Tushingham and Sinead Brennan

## An extract from Sinead Brennan's Speech - Head of College

"English literature and drama are both passions of mine, so I hope you'll forgive me if I claim that through drama we can explore and better understand the human condition - and by trying to inhabit

someone else's mind we can understand and empathise with others. This is fully utilised by Rendcomb, who aim not to confine students to a classroom and be moulded by the subjects they study, but to liberate the student and allow them to choose whatever it is that they want to explore, a value of which our founder Noel Wills would be proud"





History  
Department  
Display



Junior School pupils presenting  
their projects on bridges (above)  
and the Greeks (below)

## The conclusion to Jasmine Barkes' Speech - Deputy Head of College

"Education is hard work, and this is an undeniable fact. To me, education is the power to think clearly, the power to act well in the world's work, and the power to appreciate the gift of life. An education isn't how much you can remember from your school days, or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you know and what you don't know, and how to use this to succeed and fulfil your potential. Finally, I don't know what life holds once I disembark from the rollercoaster, but I do know that despite the hard work and inevitable downs, I thoroughly enjoyed my Rendcomb ride"

English Department Shakespeare projects



## Satish Kumar - Guest Speaker

Satish Kumar was born in Rajasthan in India in 1936. When he was only nine years old, he renounced the world and joined the wandering brotherhood of Jain monks. Dissuaded from his path by an inner voice at the age of eighteen, he became a campaigner for land reform, working to turn Gandhi's vision of renewed India and a peaceful world into reality.

In 1973 he settled in England, taking on the editorship of Resurgence Magazine and he is the guiding spirit behind a number of ecological, spiritual and educational ventures in Britain. In 1991, Schumacher College, a residential international centre for the study of ecological and spiritual values, was founded, of which he is the Director of Programmes.

Satish addressed the assembled parents, pupils and staff on the issues close to his heart. He also encouraged us to continue with our endeavours for a "greener" Rendcomb and to fully appreciate the beauty of our surroundings.

Satish Kumar



Art displays



Football  
tournament





*Pete Cairns snow ploughing early in the morning*



*Dan Robbins, Nick Eden, Peter Cairns, Shaun Stancombe and Harry Evans*

## Works Team

Another year passes by and a great deal of work has been completed on the Campus. Nick Eden joined the team last August, his building knowledge is second to none and we have all benefited from his sound expertise and he has fitted in very well.

Thanks go especially to Nick Eden and Harry Evans who constructed the Butchery Roof with seven sides to build and a lot of hard work! Other projects have included constructing the new floor at the Cricket Pavilion, the new shower room and toilet block in the Old Rectory, and currently the team are working flat out to create two new classrooms in the Junior School and an ICT Suite in the Main Building.

This year John Jones has come into his own taking over more of the gardening side. His green fingers have shone through with his delightful display of plants and flowers inside and around the Campus providing a never ending show of colour.

Dan Robbins has also worked his magic on the Sports Fields; his diligence has made cricket a pleasure to watch and the sports fields are immaculately maintained.

I must also mention Alex Holden who has come to work with us again during his summer vacation lending a hand in many areas, not least the endless grass cutting that summer brings. Thanks also to Barry Hardy for all his hard work this summer.

Thank you to all the team for their continued support and hard work.

*Pete Cairns  
Works Manager*



*Pete Cairns and Nick Eden building the Argo for the Junior school production of 'Fleeced'!*



*John Jones*



*Good sports Dan and Nick getting a soaking at the Junior School fete*



# Bursar's Report

**The Medical Centre:** Sister Julie Rogers has led the team over the last year with all the challenges that the Medical Centre has had to face. We are ready for the Swine Flu arriving at the College and in conjunction with the School Doctors at the surgery and the Gloucestershire County Council Liaison Officer, we are prepared to deal with it. Sister Rogers has given up her support in providing costumes for the Drama Department and we are currently looking for a replacement. A huge vote of thanks needs to be given to Sister Rogers for her outstanding work over the years and the huge amount of time that she has devoted to this area. A visit to the tower in the Main Building shows the amount of work that she has carried out. Literally hundreds of costumes that she has made are stored in the tower and are available for hire to other schools.

We look forward to the team of Sister Rogers, Hunt, Vaughan and Sister Penny Taylor, who joins us from Malvern St James as the other half of the job share with Sister Hunt. I know that the Medical Centre will rise to any challenge that it will face.

**Lab Technicians:** Very sadly we said goodbye to Derek Coombes who retired at the end of January after 25 years service. Bill Ballinger and Jo Bond now provide the support to the Science Department and Justine Reynolds provides the

reprographics and stationery support from the Stable Block and helping with the kit organisation for the D of E.

We are very grateful for all their help as a team that they have given staff and pupils since Derek's retirement.

**Admin Department:** The team consists of: Christine Johnson, HM's P.A., Emma Hayward, the new Admissions Registrar, Julia Nichols, the new Secretary to the HM of the Junior School Susie Watkins, Finance Manager, Sue Thomson, Assistant to the Finance Manager, Diana Baker, Reception and support to the Works Manager, Annie Hardy, Reception and support to the Finance Office and Carol Endersby, my Secretary. Carol also manages the considerable amount of travel for overseas pupils that has to be carried out, and runs the bus support for day pupils.

We are very fortunate to have such an excellent team of people. It is very easy in this day and age to take for granted that organisations such as Rendcomb, will have a team as good as this one but they do not grow on trees.

I am told continuously that the support that the administrative staff give both to staff, pupils and parents is exemplary and I would like to give my personal thanks to them all for the way that they carry out their work.



*An excellent fireworks night organised by Jeremy Grey and the RCPA*



**ICT Department:** Darrell Hayward, Martyn Harrison and Charlie Brierley have worked hard this year upgrading the ICT facilities. Over the summer holidays a new computer room has been installed in the main college. All this has been carried out with considerable skill and good humour.

I hope you all have had an excellent summer and time to relax with your loved ones.

*Jeremy Grey, Bursar*



*Martin Watson modelling the wonderful dragon costume created by Julie Rogers for the Junior School production "Fleeced"*



Marian Fordyce & Sue Hyne



Rhona Stratford's retirement



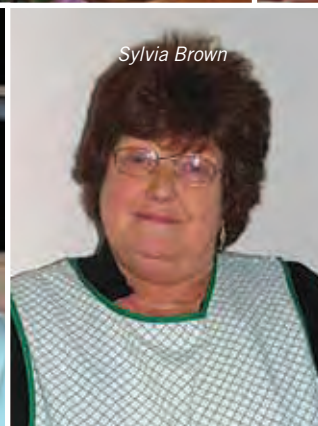
Pat Poole



Maureen Allen



Sylvia Brown



Mark Robbins  
Head Chef



## Return of the Butler "Take 2"

Sorry folks, I am back with tales of the goings on behind the scenes; well every good movie gets a sequel! I promise to keep it short this year as the editor tells me she has been out in the restricted areas happy snapping and she would like to get her pictures in this year to fill the spaces.

If we make a start in the kitchen, Mrs Poole will be with us for another year as she has decided it is not time to go. As the longest serving member of the Rendcomb Family, she would like to retain her title a little longer. We are all delighted and look forward to another year of her delicious food and outstanding cakes, however I feel the prospect of a few more pounds coming on and the need for a new waistcoat. Mr and Mrs Hardy have decided it is time to reduce their hours and from September will be job sharing one full time post- so we have a vacancy to fill.

During the winter the snow came down and many of you will have had a few extra days off school. A big thank you must go to The Catering Staff who managed to make it in, at considerable risk to themselves. Some even stayed overnight in the Medical Centre to ensure that the Boarding Students were well fed, showing a commendable level of loyalty that is exceptional in this day and age.

Mr Robbins and his team were inspected at the end of June by the Gloucestershire Food Health Inspectors and achieved a 5 Star rating which has only been awarded

to 12% of the food establishments in Gloucestershire. This is an outstanding achievement in the light of the fact that the kitchen was built in 1864 and would be far from ideal if the design was used in a modern building today. Please visit [www.scoresonthedoors.org.uk](http://www.scoresonthedoors.org.uk) to check how your local or favourite restaurant has scored.

In the Domestic and Laundry departments the big news of the year was the retirement of Mrs Rhona Stratford, who had been at Rendcomb since 1976. I am sure the editor will cover this momentous occasion elsewhere in the magazine, but a farewell reception was held in The Reading Room. Rhona was presented with some vouchers to purchase a substantial patio set to enjoy on sunny days. Godman House and Old Rectory have had their washing machines upgraded to a modern digital display model so Maureen and Margret are embracing the new technology. We are all hoping they keep the settings on English and not one of the other 24 languages available or there may be some interesting results. The Domestic staff face many new challenges in the next 12 months which I am sure they will rise to under the leadership and guidance of Mrs

Janice Watton. There are many areas within the campus that are being redesignated in their usage over the summer months.

I would like to make a special mention of Ben, Jill and Emma who arrive for work at 05.00 each day to clean the Junior School. Come rain or shine, they weave their magic and we are all very grateful for their efforts, since on a winter's morning with the wind blowing along the corridors, Rendcomb is not a pleasant place! It takes the students to bring it alive and give the building a heart and soul and for that we are forever grateful.

Mr M Naylor  
Commercial  
Operations  
Manager

Pictured on  
Red Nose Day!



# Chapel Reflections

“Continue in prayer and watch in the same with thanksgiving”. Colossians 4:2

The departure of an established chaplain is never easy for a school, particularly when it occurs in the course of an academic year. We were very grateful for the ministry of Charles Jefferson during his time with us [see page 70] who led the spiritual life of the college over eight years before returning to parish ministry at the end of the Lent Term.

I am also very grateful to my colleagues who have stepped up to the pulpit and provided us with excellent College services during the Summer Term. There has been a wonderful diversity and inclusivity with excellent contributions from Jeremy Grey, our Bursar talking about friendship, James Stutchbury, our Head of Biology exploring the Theme of Respect, Diana Dodd our Assistant Head speaking about Team Work and Mary Harries from The English Department addressing us with great enthusiasm about school reports.

We were also treated to two inspirational chapel services, one from Mrs Louise Medus, who spoke with great honesty, humour and personal courage on how her disability had enhanced her life and secondly from our own Lindsey North who spoke with great wisdom at our annual Leavers' Service.

We were also delighted that some members of the parish were able to join us at a Sunday evening service for a lively exploration of the theme “Rendcomb's Got Talent”. I am particularly grateful to Roy Raby and James McKelvey from the Music Department who not only support us with quality organ-playing, week-in-week-out but also led our congregational hymn practices, which were the liveliest I have experienced in any school I have worked in or inspected.

So much for the recent past, what about the future? During this period of an interregnum, we have three main aims:

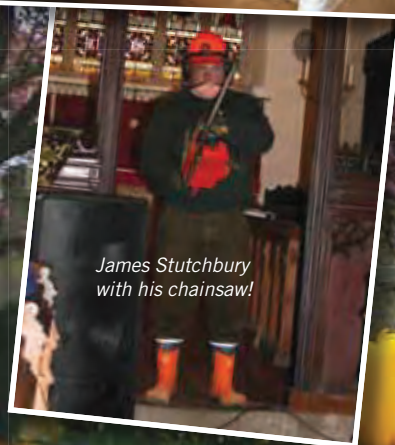
1. To make as much use of as many people as possible, particularly pupils, in our chapel services.
2. To continue to strengthen college-parish partnerships with joint services, where appropriate, particularly at important feast days and festivals.
3. To explore ways in which college chapel can be used more extensively for educational, religious and spiritual opportunities.

In our journey of religious exploration, we are always open to ideas of how we can do things better and if you feel that you can recommend a guest speaker to us or would like to offer your own services, I would be delighted to hear from you. Meanwhile, our maxim is the fitting verse from Colossians above.

*Mr G Holden*  
Headmaster



*Peter Yu breakdancing in the aisles*



*James Stutchbury with his chainsaw!*



*Max Ellis showing his golf swing in "Rendcomb's Got Talent"*



# Godman and Old Rectory

First Form  
adventure  
weekend to  
Shropshire

Friday night  
Challenges

Natural  
sculptures

Shadow Theatre

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Bin bag fashion show



# Big Sister Evenings with Lawn House

# Godman Dinner Parties



Adverts

Nativity Play

Quiz night

Christmas Party

Headmaster's  
twin brother!?



# Outdoor adventure

The Old Rec boys had a fabulous time in Wales pot holing, rock climbing and braving the white water of the River Wye



## Charity Bring and Buy Sale

We raised £200 for Breast Cancer and the National Deaf Association



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The boys celebrate Mr Brealy's special birthday!



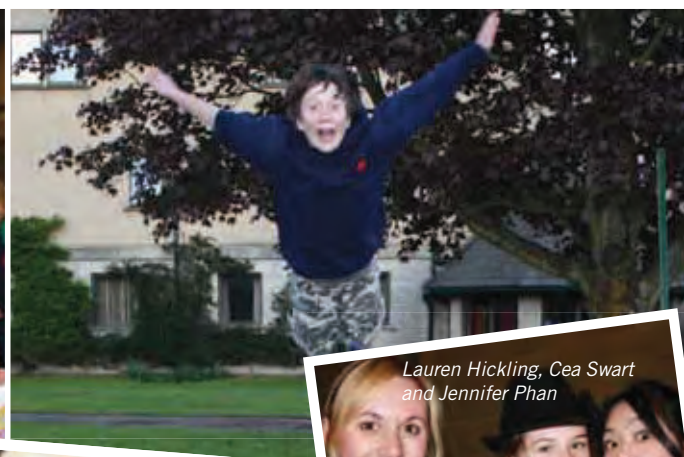
## Charity Cycle Ride

33 pupils and 26 adult riders raised £786 for the Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust and St Peter's Church Rendcomb. With thanks to the Reverend Charles Jefferson, Alex Brealy and all our supporters on the day.



## Silly Sports Night

Fun nights organised by Mr Lane



Lauren Hickling, Cea Swart and Jennifer Phan



Max Ellis, Old Rec Prefect



[www.rendcombcollege.org.uk](http://www.rendcombcollege.org.uk)



Jazz Barks, Godman Prefect

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# Venetian Masked

Years 1 -3 chose the theme of a Venetian Masked Ball for their Charity Ball this year.

Following a masked parade down the stairs in Clock Hall, Counts, Countesses, Dukes and Duchesses enjoyed a three course meal followed by a disco and a wide variety of games and activities.

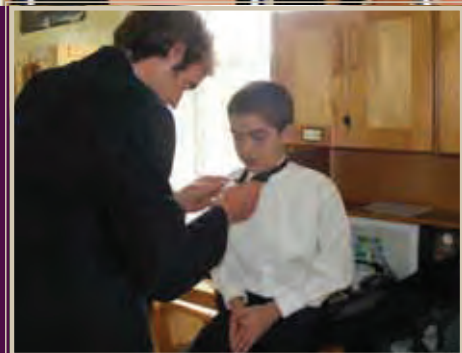
Over £2500.00 was raised for "Make A Wish", a foundation who aim to grant magical wishes to children and young people fighting life-threatening illnesses.

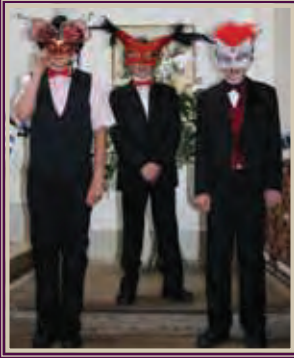
Thanks must go to Mrs Brealy, Mrs Fielding, the Sixth form pupils and all the parents who by supporting the event with raffle prizes and helping to set everything up, ensured everybody had the best possible time!.

£2800

Raised for the charity

MAKE A WISH®







Birthday Celebrations



# Stable House – One Year On

As the summer term draws to a close, it is time to reflect on our first year as house parents in Stable.

It has been an eventful year and we hope that the boys have enjoyed their time with us. Although we haven't 'yet' been able to realise the cosmetic changes to Stable House that we plan to do, we have hopefully managed to create the ambiance that we set out to achieve. New routines, a structured activity time, simple expectations and a house full of boys who have stepped up to the plate and embraced everything that we have introduced this year.

Our 5th form prefect team were an absolute credit to the house before heading off for their GCSE study leave in May. They supervised their duty teams during weekly rotas, making sure that newspapers were collected, rations were delivered and kitchens kept clean. They each took on a house responsibility, coordinating anything from sports events such as dodge-ball and pool competitions, organising pizza and popcorn evenings, to planning social events in the Barn with the Lawn House girls. We would like to offer our sincerest gratitude to all of our prefects, especially to Tom Margesson, who as Head of House, guided his team and chaired the house committee with unquestionable professionalism, only equalled we would say by that of Barack Obama and his presidential team! Tea and biscuits were requested and we were politely turfed out of our duty office for those all important Friday lunch-time meetings.



Tom Pearson receiving his trophy from the Headmaster

During the Michaelmas Term, Stable House boys and staff completed a gruelling knock-out pool tournament during break and lunch times, culminating in a nail-biting finale for the championship. Tom Pearson became our overall Michaelmas Term winner and took the title once again at the end of the Lent term. He was awarded the winning house trophy, fondly known as the 'Margi Cup' (kindly donated by Mr Margesson) which was presented to Tom on the last day of term by the Headmaster. Tom ... we do need to have it back for September, so no taking it off to Park House with you!

Lent term brought with it many nights of relentless rehearsing by Mr Brooke's talented and dedicated cast and crew of the newly formed Boarders' Drama Society. They achieved rave reviews in a two evening performance of Tom Stoppard's 'The Real Inspector Hound'. Stable House sitting room was miraculously transformed into a mini-theatre and each evening we witnessed wall to wall spectators. We actually had to turn people away!

We enjoyed our first Halloween Fancy Dress Night, as well as our Christmas parties and Chinese New Year celebrations. The Barn

took on a new identity for each of these celebrations, with chocolate fountain, dips and nibbles. I think that we have managed to fill one complete wall in the foyer with Birthday photo's, including staff. Our last count was thirty one chocolate birthday cakes and eighteen boxes of chocolates.

Mrs Bevans only wishes that she could boast that these were the results of her culinary talents, but we have to admit that Tesco stepped into the breach and provided us with the necessities! In the summer term, we managed to organise two outdoor education activities in the form of a Team Building day on top pitch with Mr Bevans, before the snow moved in and the very enjoyable Adventure Quest, High Ropes Course in Bromsgrove. A big thank you to our two gap students for helping us out and to Mr Ferreira and Mr Harrington for also taking part in the day.

Finally, we would like to thank all of our committed staff team ... Miss Harries, Mr Ferreira, Mr Brooke, Mr Clarke and Mr McKelvey, who have all been key players in shaping what we have achieved this year. Most importantly however, we would like to thank all of our Stable House boys for making our first year such an enjoyable time. Onwards and upwards as they say and we look forward to another eventful year when everyone returns in September.

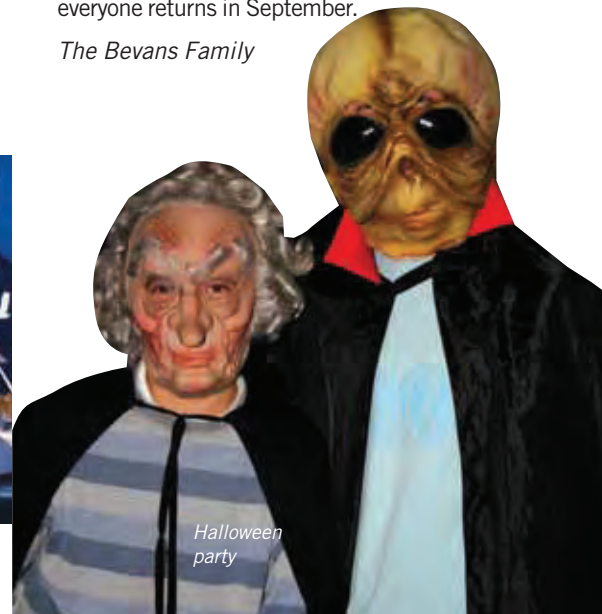
*The Bevans Family*



Pool tournament



Chinese New Year



Halloween party

# The Real Inspector Hound

This term the newly formed Boarders' Drama Society, encompassing pupils both male and female from Lawn and Stable Houses, performed their inaugural production, a performance of Tom Stoppard's "The Real Inspector Hound".



The society was formed at the beginning of the Easter Term with the aim of encouraging pupils to participate in and enjoy scripted drama performances, within a relaxed boarding community. With this in mind, the pupils set to work on this challenging and demanding production, in which they had six weeks to learn, perfect and perform

the play to an audience filled with not only family and staff but also their own peer group, possibly the biggest critics of all!

Despite the enormity of the task ahead of them, the cast, ranging from 14-17 years of age,

worked endlessly to produce something of which they could all be proud for years to come; but most of all, something which they enjoyed creating.

The performances certainly exceeded expectations, with large numbers of pupils, staff and parents flocking to a new venue for Rendcomb drama: Stable House.

The performances were held in the main common room of the building, embracing the entire boarding community in this new and exciting development for the House, giving the play a further unconventional dimension. This combination of dynamic ideas and a high standard of acting laid the foundations for an exhilarating evening of comedy, wit and participation!

The play itself is designed to blur the distinction between truth and illusion, theatre and reality, actors and audience

to create an engaging and somewhat confusing set of circumstances involving an escaped madman, a strangely inaccessible house and guests riven by suspicion and desire.

The positive reaction of the diverse audiences varying enormously in age reflected the overwhelming success of the performances, as well as the hard work and commitment put in by the entire cast.

The performance is also testament to the development of the House over the past year, which has been spearheaded by Mr and Mrs Bevans, whose dedication and support was paramount to the success of the play, which can hopefully be repeated in further performances over the forthcoming years.

*Review: Tom Margesson  
(possibly the real Inspector Hound!!).*

Emily Jones



## Adventure Quest

High ropes course,  
Bromsgrove

# Le Bal Blanc Et Noir

## Fourth & Fifth Form Ball

The evening commenced with guests making a grand entrance, having a glamorous photography session and cocktails (non-alcoholic) followed by a formal sit down three course meal.

After dinner entertainment was a themed disco and prizes were given to Ben Hodder, Dan Geerah, Blaise Dyer and Sherry Li for best dressed boy and girl from each year group.

Rodeo riding skills were put to the test with the surprise after dinner entertainment of a Bucking Rodeo Bull! Even the Headmaster had a go!







Auditions were fiercely competitive – there were the usual tears and hissy fits.

Sister Rogers sewed denim and leather furiously, Mr Harrison created audio visual images and film clips, Mrs Brealy bought face paints for the Bohemians, Andy Webb arrived with a van load of lights and mics, the Mighty Cordell practised his guitar riffs, Miss Bell made GaGa kids stuff and Mr Childre warmed up his muscles and his Harley!

Mr Raby and Mr McKelvey taught songs at breakneck speed and, I'm afraid to say, I leapt about the Dulverton trying to devise dance routines which even Harley might be able to do! We had "One Vision" but would it come together?

The Tuesday Dress rehearsal was worrying. It didn't seem to work – something was missing. I wanted to "Break Free"! Then Thursday night came. We were "Under Pressure"! Then something happened – it was "A Kind of Magic"! Suddenly we had a production worth seeing.

Femi Gibson blossomed as the manly Britney Spears with kilt and hairy boots, Sarah Tarleton sang so beautifully "No One But You" [bravo to her], Kevin Rich oiled his way delightfully about the stage as the white-haired Khashoggi and Sinead Brennan was all powerful in leopard skin and massive eyelashes as the Killer Queen as she invited us to "Play the Game".

Mr North finally became a hippy again as Pop – fantastic work as he freely admits to being terrified on opening night but he

did it and revelled in it! April Edwards was superb as the stropky Scaramouche who finds "Somebody to Love" on her journey. Steven Brown, in his third and last lead role, projected the tortured soul of Galileo magnificently in all of his scenes and songs. He has given such a lot to Rendcomb Drama in his time here.

Thank you to the school community for supporting us in this project. If you were in it or came to see it – a big thank you. Hope you enjoyed it. My special thanks to all the staff, especially Mr Raby, who were involved, the crew led by Charlie Daly and to all the cast.

"These Were The Days Of Our Lives"! We did eventually have our "Rhapsody" and we hope that - We Rocked You!

*Mrs D Dodd*





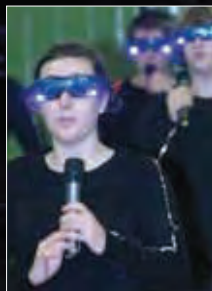
*Steven Brown*



*Sarah Tarleton*



*Femi Gibson*



*Jasmine Barkes*



*Christina Gasteiger*



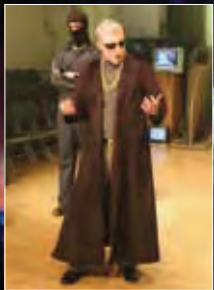
*Sinead Brennan*



*Mr North*



*April Edwards*



*Kevin Rich*

Jolyon Dunn



Dan Geerah

# MULAN

Holly Phelps



Alistair Sinfield



Lance Baynham



Ed Werrell

The Dulverton Hall was transformed into Ancient China with lanterns, banners, dragons and soaring temperatures as the Lower School put on their production of Disney's 'Mulan'.

The audience were transported to a time when duty, honour and tradition are important and to succeed one needs to know their place.

Mulan is a young Chinese girl who fights against these traditions and disguises herself as a man to join the Chinese army in her father's place. Holly Phelps played the part beautifully making the audience laugh and cry by turns, enchanting everyone with her rendition of the song 'Reflection'. In particular her moments with her father, played by Jolyon Dunn, touched the audience and resulted in a few moist eyes around the hall.

Representing the ideals of tradition were the Ancestors played ably by Tom Benson, Issy Bailey, Amelia Brady, Peter Harrison and Harry Ellis, who were on stage for the whole of the show. As the narrators of the piece, they set the story on its way by awakening Mushu the dragon to look after Mulan as she tries to bring honour to her family. Alistair Sinfield relished the role of Mushu having upgraded from a parrot in Aladdin, using his flair for comedy to

bring the most out of this boastful dragon's character. Having managed to completely upset the fearsome Matchmaker, aptly played by Milly Williams, Mulan takes her father's helmet and sets off for the army and its Captain, Shang. Dan Geerah really grew into this role with a mix of the strong leader and the man rather clumsily falling in love with Mulan. Well done too for his first time singing on stage.

As with all good stories in addition to the heroes and heroines you have a good villain – and did we have a good villain? Ed Werrell as Shan-Yu, leader of the Huns, vacillated from quiet and menacing to

screaming madman, as he led his army to the Imperial City and took the Emperor captive. Eric Li was regal in his portrayal of the Emperor revealing a talent for singing too as he persuaded Shang to follow Mulan and tell her how he feels.

Aiding Mulan on her journey were three friends in the army played by Josh Thomas, Chris Couch and Tristan Stevens.

They all threw themselves into their roles; and no more so than when they had to disguise themselves as girls to enter the palace – their dance routine with fans was a revelation!





Opposite them Lance Baynham as Chi Fu provided an excellent, irritating Civil Servant who eventually gets his comeuppance.

This was truly a piece using the whole cast with the ensemble being an integral part of the whole story.

from the last 22 years to say how much we have appreciated what she has achieved and how much we will miss her in our future productions.



Mulan finally returns to her family including her Mother, played by Charlotte Stedman, who showed well the frustration of trying to keep both her daughter and her own mother in check. Anna Hochhalter, as a rather spirited Grandmother delivered her one-liners beautifully,

causing much amusement and laughter.

Throughout the show the Dance Troupe, led by Hannah Clift, provided some wonderfully visual moments from the brightly coloured parasol lotus flower to the masked slow motion fighting scene for 'I'll make a man'.

The look and style of the show was inspired by the Chinese Olympics using fans, parasols, reams of material and streamers and using the whole ensemble as rocks, seats and even as part of a cherry orchard.

Of course what happens on stage is only part of the story and special thanks must go to Mr. Raby for his inspirational teaching of all the music and Mrs Dodd for her wonderful choreography. Thanks too to Mrs. Gregory for the Front of House and the ladies on Reception for providing our Box Office as well as Peter Cairns and his team for their help putting in seating.

Mulan was a visual feast and thanks needs to go to Mrs Brealy and her team for her wonderful make-up and all those who helped with wigs and hair to give us a flavour of China. Also Miss Hughes, Vicky Lui and Miss Bell for the set and props.

Finally I must mention the costumes. Created by Sister Rogers and aided by Mrs Slark and Sister Vaughan, they were colourful and stunningly beautiful. Yet again Sister Rogers has shown how gifted she is in dressing the cast so appropriately and professionally. Sadly Mulan is her last show as head of costume, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank her on behalf of the Drama Department and all the casts

Before Easter we began our journey and climbed what seemed an impossibly high mountain in a short space of time. I told the cast that if we were to succeed we needed to make people laugh and cry as they went on an emotional journey with Mulan.

I feel that we succeeded and have ensured our own Destiny to be, as in the words of the opening song to the show, 'Written in Stone'.

*Miss S Mills*



# Thespians on Tour

After a long night at the Sixth Form Ball, the last thing Lisa, Sophie, Alex and I wanted to do was to board a train from Kemble at 10 am to travel all the way to London to spend the next few days being theatrical.

However, as we new students were about to find out, this was no ordinary school trip! From the first moment we stepped onto the platform and had a video camera stuck in our tired faces, to the very last moment, when, whilst sitting exhausted but blissfully happy on the train home, once again we had a video camera stuck in our faces!

Monday was 'Hairspray Day'. This consisted mainly of us running around London trying to get back to Covent Garden on time and Hannah Taylor's inability to talk about anything BUT "Hairspray" through the entire day! The dance workshop at Pineapple Studios went surprisingly well with all of us picking up the dance to 'You Can't Stop The Beat' in an hour with the help of Zara Warren, who was due to play Tammy in the performance we were going to see that evening. We were also pleased to meet some of the cast of 'Fame', a show we had only seen a few weeks before the tour. The Sixth Form then had to perform our speeches in front of the Fifth Form in the National Portrait Gallery, with a few tourists stopping to listen in to our talks on the theatrical icon of our choice. It was then off to the Crypt in St Martins, burial site of Nell Gwynne, for a traditional English

cream tea. Pausing briefly for deep meditative breathing exercises (we do that a lot) we headed off to see 'Hairspray', Hannah Taylor leading the whole way! After the colourful and feel-good performance of "Hairspray" we went out to the stage door to meet the stars, again Hannah Taylor's excitement was uncontrollable as she was seen attacking the stars as soon as they left the theatre!

Tuesday was 'Phantom Day'. It started with the annual Theatre Hunt challenge, with each team running around London trying to answer questions on numerous theatres around the city. Yasmin Lester- Powell running down the Strand in high-heeled boots is quite a sight! After a couple of hours, when we thought it was all over, we had 10 minutes to improvise a song and dance routine from "Hairspray" to show the rest of the groups to give us extra marks. With the support of a tourist watching our performances, we all did very well, scoring the highest marks ever scored in a Theatre Hunt challenge and with all scores being very, very close. But there had to be a winner: in 4th place was Sophie's group, 3rd was my group (even the bribe of a chocolate bar for Mrs Dodd didn't work!), 2nd was Lisa's group, meaning that Alex's group won-'Phantom'

programmes all round. After a relaxed lunch in Covent Garden we checked out of the hotel and made our way to Her Majesty's Theatre to see the performance of 'The Phantom of the Opera'. Following the magical and tearful (especially on Mrs Dodd's behalf) performance we had a question and answer session with the stage manager, where we learnt a great deal about what happens backstage during the performance, (apart from the Phantom's disappearing act at the end of the show as it is a trade secret- to our disappointment!)

Overall, the Drama Tour was one trip we will never forget. You can never be too careful with what you say or do, as you may be recorded by Mrs Dodd and Mr Jennings with the book of quotes from the tour and the trusty video camera. However, forgetting the numerous laugh-out-loud comments, wild goose chases around London and the screaming girls surrounding Link after 'Hairspray', we saw a couple of amazing shows that we will never forget and I'm sure no-one else will.

It's hard being a thespian on tour – loads of food, emotion and laughs!

*Fran Baker and Lisa Nagele*



## Dance Challenge



**The winning  
6th Form Team**

# Another successful and busy year for the Music Department...

Lunchtime and teatime concerts are a regular feature of the Rendcomb calendar. Musicians of all ages and abilities are encouraged to try out repertoire in an informal setting, supported by their peers.

Many students use these opportunities to prepare for practical music examinations, and it is pleasing to report that students were successful in these. Increasing numbers (almost 10% of the Senior School) participate in weekly Music Theory lessons, and many opt to sit examinations, and with significant success: more than 80% achieved Distinction in their graded examinations.

The Music Department welcomed three specialist musicians Mrs Pamela Smith (recorder), Mr Mark Coldrick (drum kit and orchestral percussion) and Mr John Morgan (clarinet and saxophone) to the team of visiting music teachers in order to help deliver more than 7,000 instrumental lessons, coach and direct a plethora of ensembles, and prepare students for numerous internal and external concerts. We are fortunate to have highly experienced teachers who are also practising musicians.

The academic year was framed by two outstanding piano recitals by our inspirational Head of Keyboard Studies, Mr Jeremy Carter. Students, staff and friends of Rendcomb listened in awe whilst marvelling at his technical excellence; Mr Phillip Dunn, Rendcomb's long-standing guitar teacher, wowed a capacity audience with a lunchtime recital of rarely performed works by the Brazilian composer Villa-Lobos; and Mrs Domina Carter performed a virtuoso recital of flute music, with breathtaking control and sophistication that was admired by all present.

On Armistice Day, amidst the bustle of College life, students set aside time to reflect, inspired by readings selected by Mr Paul Jennings, Head of English, and music exquisitely performed by cellist Mrs Rachel Howgego and Sinead Brennan (Head of Choir).



*Head of Keyboard Studies, Jeremy Carter with Domina Carter, Dorothy Lu and Sinead Brennan*

## Musical Highlights for 2009

- More than 7,000 instrumental lessons
- 20% of the Senior School in College Choir
- 100% pass rate in public examinations
- 28 concerts
- Two large-scale musicals
- MAD Festival



*Rachel Howgego*



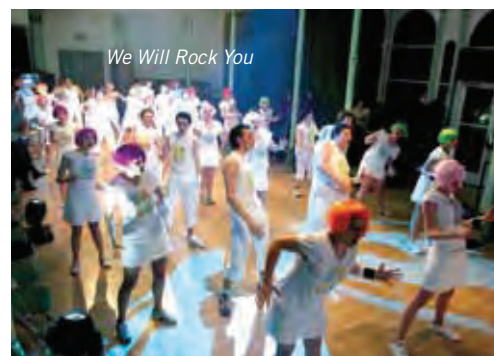
*Nicola Clift and Rosalind Baynham*



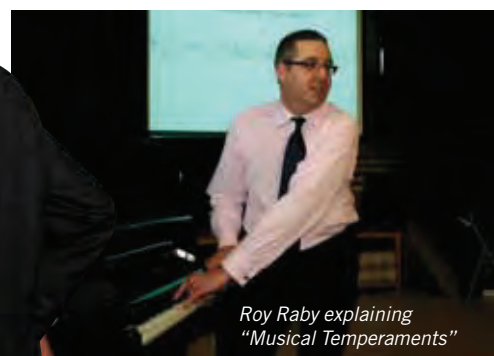
*Lunchtime concert*



*Luke Witts, Julian Howes and Dorothy Lu with their winning certificates in the Scales Competition*



*Male Vocal Consort*



*Roy Raby explaining "Musical Temperaments"*

An imaginative Scales Competition, devised by Mr Jeremy Carter, saw pianists of all ages performing scales in a multitude of ways.

Prizes were awarded at three levels: Julian Howes (Primary), Luke Witts (Intermediary) and Dorothy Lu (Advanced). Twenty boys participated in a singing workshop titled Sing like a bloke! , and Mr Roy Raby gave a lecture to mathematicians, musicians and physicists on musical temperaments.

The Service of Remembrance, supported by the local community, was enhanced by contributions from Chamber Choir and for the second consecutive year trumpeter James Mudge confidently sounded the Last Post.

The Music Department enjoys excellent relations with the Drama Department and following the success of Back to the 80s', the Senior School production looked to a future on Planet Mall where the indoctrination of kids is complete: everyone watching the same movies,

wearing the same clothes, and thinking the same thoughts – unless you are a rebel! A multi-talented cast of more than 70 actors, singers and musicians recreated the sounds of Queen's greatest hits featured in 'We Will Rock You'. The mighty Mr Paul Cordell (lead guitar) mesmerised the audience with his virtuosic guitar playing, whilst Laura Graham ensured the Dulverton Hall pulsated with a rock steady beat; Old Rendcombian Mark Gunner (bass guitar) made a welcome return to the pit, and the versatile musician Jolyon Dunn gave his debut performance on the electric guitar; Mr Roy Raby (Music Director) and Mr James McKelvey (Assistant Music Director) coached the cast and enthused The Band to give of their best.

The Advent service took a more intimate form this year, and benefitted from a performance of uncommon beauty by Mr James McKelvey, Assistant Director of Music. Christ Church, Cheltenham, provided an idyllic setting for the College's collective worship at Christmastide. Carols by Candlelight, devised and directed by Mr James McKelvey brought the Michaelmas Term to a fitting close: College Choir,

comprising no fewer than 20% of the Senior School, Chamber Choir, Men's Vocal Consort and tenor soloist Ed Stark responded with resolute enthusiasm under Mr James McKelvey's charismatic leadership.

The New Year brought the customary deadlines for the completion of coursework for public examinations. The whole school enjoyed hearing in Headmaster's Assembly the many and varied crafted compositions by the GCSE Music cohort, and Sinead Brennan sang her final solo recital at the College to fulfil the requirements of the performing component of the A-level Music specification.

The Stars of the East concert was revived this year, providing a platform for Asian musicians to demonstrate their considerable talents. Virtuoso performances by Li Chen and Dorothy Lu set a high standard that inspired everyone present.

The Founder's Day concert presented a variety of music for the capacity audience to enjoy: Chamber Choir, ably accompanied by Sarah Steele, opened the concert with a refined performance of Vivaldi's rarely



Chamber Choir



MAD Music ! Gamelan (above) and African Drumming below

heard Magnificat, with confident solos by Sinead Brennan (Head of Choir), Charlotte Clements (Head of Choir elect), Issy Bailey and James McKelvey; Music Scholars Henry Mills and Luke Wits performed with finesse piano works by Schubert and Satie; Jolyon Dunn performed on the guitar a challenging work by Rutter, and Ariel Chan, Maggie Leong, Mr Roy Raby and Mr James McKelvey joined forces at the piano to perform Gautier's trio (!) *Le Secret*; Alistair Sinfield made his College debut performing a foot-stomping gypsy dance by Szelényi, Fiona Trumper sang the ever-popular *Summertime*, and the charismatic John Morgan directed *Plus One!*, a newly formed saxophone ensemble that is to become the foundation of Jazz Band next year. The following morning, musicians from all years entertained students, parents and friends of the College in a medley of popular works. The Lower School production of *Mulan* brought the musical year to a spectacular close. Under Miss Mills' inspirational direction, Mr Roy Raby worked with the cast to bring Disney's action-packed adaption of the 1998 animated feature film to life, including a poignant performance

[www.rendcombcollge.org.uk](http://www.rendcombcollge.org.uk)

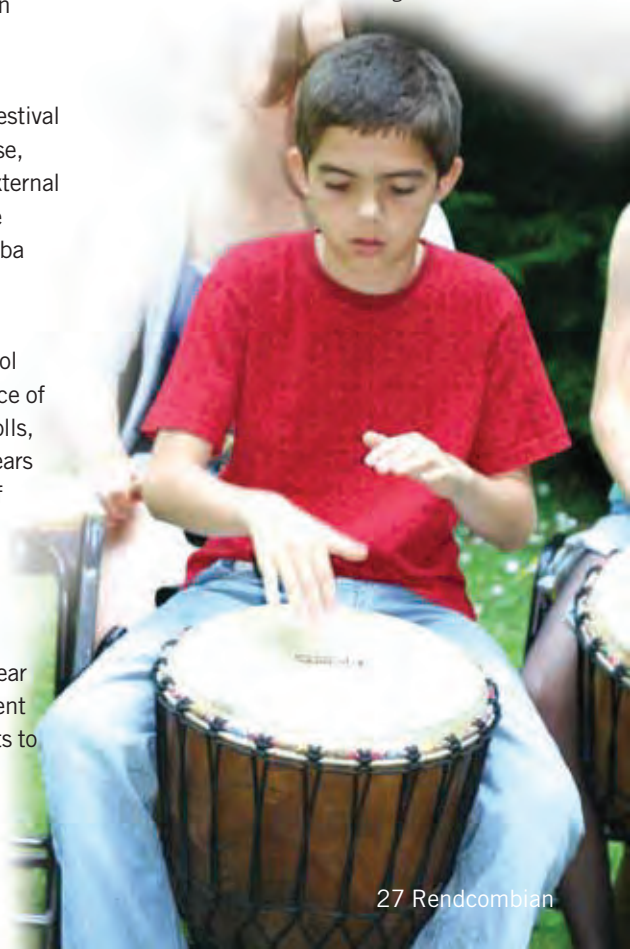
of *Reflection* by Holly Phelps. The whole cast worked as one to produce an uplifting experience that inspires confidence in the future of musical performance at Rendcomb.

The outstandingly successful MAD Festival brought the year to a exhilarating close, with musical contributions lead by external specialists and the in-house full-time music staff: Javanese Gamelan, Samba Band, West African Drumming and Stomp Aloud!

Throughout the year, the Junior School benefitted from the musical excellence of Mr James McKelvey and Mr Philip Colls, with specialist music tuition for all years from J2, and the support of a team of eighteen Visiting Music Teachers. Mr James McKelvey's enthusiastic musical direction of *Fleeced* ensured that the students excelled.

As another exciting and exhausting year draws to a close, the Music Department looks forward to inspiring the students to even greater heights next year.

*Mr Roy Raby, Director of Music*





# Rock Concert

The annual Rock Concert, organised by Charlie Daly and supported by the Parents' Association, featured a wealth of music and talent.

The staff band (Mr James McKelvey, Mr Paul Cordell, Mr Phillip Dunn, Mr Charles Brierley, Mr Carlo Vuolo and Mr Roy Raby) took the lead, but few will forget the Sixth Form pastiche of St Trinian's, Femi Gibson's and Holly Phelps' rapping, Charlotte Steadman's confident solo, ably accompanied by Peter Harrison, Issy Bailey's duet with Holly Phelps, Mr Carlo Vuolo's intimate rendition of all-time favourites, and Steven Brown's seemingly boundless energy!

# Maths Challenge Success

Students from Rendcomb were delighted to win the Regional Senior Mathematics Team final!



*Li Chen Iva Carvalho, Bruce Chen and Dorothy Lu with their certificates*

Beating 18 other local schools by a margin of 52 points, the team proceeded to the national final in London in February where they met 79 other teams from all over the British Isles who had also won their regional final. Sixth form students Iva Carvalho, Dorothy Lu, Bruce Chen and Li Chen represented the school and worked tremendously well as a team...team strategies and techniques worked well.

There were 18 schools in total, including Pates, Wycliffe College, Cheltenham College, Cheltenham Ladies, Marling, and Stroud High. They came home with certificates and a trophy.

"Evenings spent on 'enriching mathematical thinking' certainly paid off !!!"

*Iva Carvalho*



*Senior Maths Challenge*

All the sixth form doing A level Maths were entered in the Senior Maths Challenge and did very well, achieving 5 Golds, 4 Silver and 2 Bronze Certificates, with Crystal He and Bruce Chen qualifying for The British Olympiad Round 1. Congratulations must go to them both and in particular to Bruce for achieving a Certificate of Distinction.

*Mrs L Gregory*

## A day in the Life of an AS Psychology Student

Waking after a weird dream (Dement & Kleitman, 1957), I chatted to my friend about what happened at the party last night. But we just couldn't agree on who had bought that last drink (Loftus and Palmer, 1974).

I managed to get to my work experience on time, and spent the morning helping people with high-functioning Autism completing one of Baron-Cohen's tests (1997). Then, doing just as I was told (Milgram, 1963), I hopped into a black cab driven by a taxi-driver who had passed The Knowledge, so I knew his hippocampus was better suited to navigation than mine (Maguire et al, 2000). At the Wellcome Institute, I much enjoyed the exhibition on split brain patients (Sperry, 1968) which showed which side of our brains we use

for language. And, while I was nearby, I went to London Zoo, to see the bonobo chimpanzees, whose cousins in America have spontaneously learnt lots of English words (Savage-Rumbaugh, 1968).

I caught the tube home, but, as I came out of the tube station, there was a scuffle and someone yelled out 'Help me! help me!'. However, I could see that the man next to me would be far better at helping this drunk person than I, so I hurried on home (Piliavin et al, 1968).

That evening, my mate and I spent hours in the local amusement arcade, playing the fruit machines. He's always in here and actually talks to the machines! (Griffiths, 1994). Perhaps my knowledge of the power of the unconscious will give me a clue about why he does this (Freud, 1909). Well, that's quite enough psychology for one day – or I might be considered insane (Rosenhan (1973)!

These are just some of the studies covered in the AS psychology syllabus.

*Mrs G Harford*



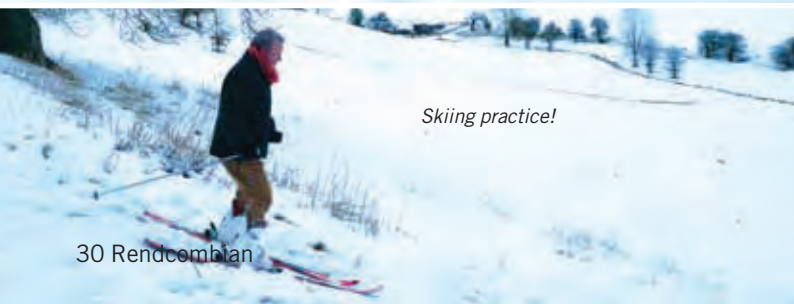
# Snow Week

For a week in February Rendcomb become a winter wonderland.



Over 100 boarders and staff enjoyed a few days of sledging, snowball fights and igloo building. Some of the catering staff managed to get to school to produce meals, but it was all hands on deck to help and clear up afterwards!

Activities and events were organised for the pupils including a brilliant Snow Quiz organised by Mr Jennings. There was even the opportunity to catch up on some skiing practice!



*Skiing practice!*





# It'snow problem!

What if there is four feet of snow?

What if there are igloos on the lawn and what if we have been cut off from the outside world, that is no reason not to have a thrilling and very silly 'snow-quiz'. Snow related entertainment for sixty boarders? Snow problem!

We divided into randomly created teams and put our minds to snow anagrams, snow questions, balancing the snowball on our heads and the most alarming round: the 'hidden talent' round. Unfortunately because of the aforementioned snow, Simon Cowell was unable to attend to snap up the latest Rendcomb stars but those

who were there will not quickly forget Peter Yu break-dancing and Christina Gasteiger's balancing on her ear act.

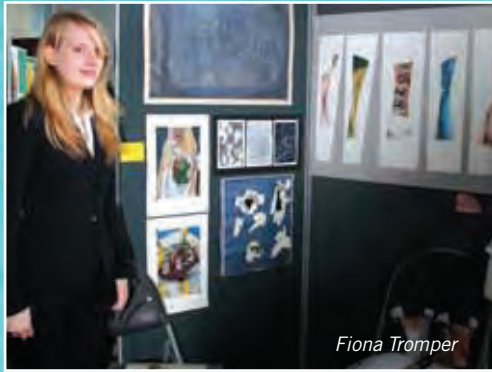
All participants entered into the spirit of things and it was a delight to see Rendcomb's finest coming together in a single aim: to invent as many appalling snow related puns as possible. I'm sure at some point there was a winner but I like to think that entertainment was the winner; after all: there's snow point in taking part if you don't win!

*Paul Jennings*



# A Level Art

*Rhys's grandparents  
admiring their portrait*



*Fiona Tromper*



*Rosie Freeth*



*Rhys Thomas*



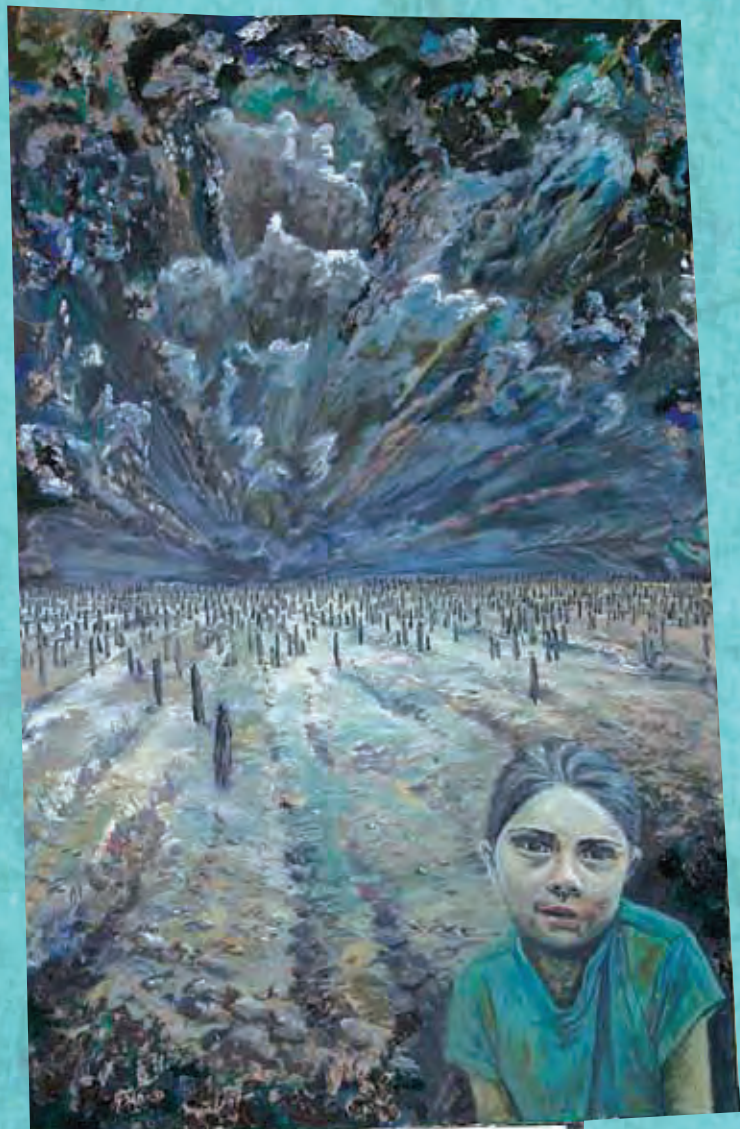
*Jak Allen*



*Harley Phelps*



*Lewis Greenaway*



OUTSTANDING  
A LEVEL ARTWORK  
BY  
HANNAH TIMMINS

# Dear Students,

I could just leave you saying what a lovely time I have had teaching you all but I think that would be letting down Art. When you think of Art please never just think of it as that hour and a quarter you get in the Art Department once a week.

Think much bigger than that. Think huge. I hope some of the activities you took part in during MAD week opened your eyes and minds to new possibilities. I want you to read what we, in the art department, have written about our aims. This pretty much sums up what we try to do with you as our students.

It goes like this:-

'Great Britain has become a centre of excellence for the arts, where artists, designers, architects, writers, actors, dancers, directors and musicians contribute to the thriving industry that is our world class art galleries, museums, concert halls, theatres, cinema, fashion and design. Within the Art and Design department at Rendcomb College we encourage our students to become part of that exciting and creative world.

In our spacious, light and airy studios, all students are given every opportunity to involve themselves in a wide range of artistic experiences. Working from the principle that good drawing skills are at the core of all disciplines, pupils are encouraged to paint, print, construct, design, collage, sculpt, plan and much more.

Art is a visual language with its own grammar, vocabulary and syntax and this is what we teach.

Our aim is to give pupils an excellent grounding in basic techniques, and visual expression is always placed within the greater context of the art and design which surrounds our everyday lives. A multicultural approach taps into the vast and inspirational array of art from around the world and, at the same time, acknowledges our own very important heritage and the history of western art.

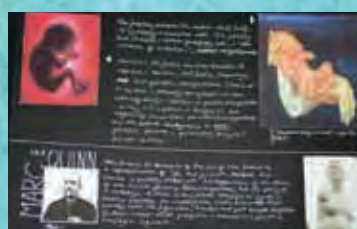
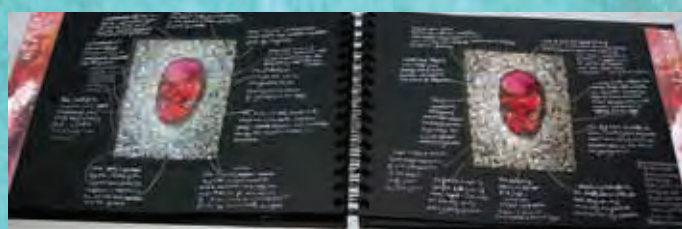
Through stimulating, diverse, projects, we study a rich past and look at an exciting present with our enthusiastic young artists and designers of the future.'

That's you.....Remember what great civilisations leave behind.....it is their art, that includes painting, language, sculpture, mathematics, the sciences, literature and music, we discover when we travel the world and why we go to Greece, Egypt, Rome, India, Thailand, Cambodia, China, to see and understand these things, to enrich our present lives. So go out there and make your mark upon the world - make art not war.

I hope you have had a lovely summer and that now you are back you will look after Miss Rofe as I know she will look after you. I leave the Art Department in good hands.

With lots of love from

Mrs B Ex Head of Art, Rendcomb College 2009





## Arts Festival 29 June – 2 July 2009 Let's Go MAD!

For a few days at the end of term life in school was extraordinarily different.

Through participation in various workshops, all brimming with creative inspiration and led by professional artists and practitioners, pupils had a fantastic week learning new skills and crafts.

### Monday



#### Filbert Splosh with Paul Priestly

A fantastic interactive event and workshop led by the great artist, Filbert Splosh as Salvador Dali, to stimulate young minds.



#### Phone Art with Mags Mernagh & Jane Murray

Using the low tech phone technology, creating individual images and producing a collaborative art piece on the theme of digitally constructed identities.



#### Mosaic Making with Debbie Stirling

Pupils created four beautiful hand crafted mosaic panels.



#### Play in a Day with Everyman Theatre

Budding actors created an exciting, devised piece of theatre in just one day.



#### Hip Hop Dancing with Katie Ballard of Dance8

Street and Hip Hop dancing in an exciting, vibrant and energetic workshop.



#### Graphic Design with Whistle & Taylor Creative

An introduction to graphic design focusing on the development of promotional material for a night club, from initial concepts through to the design of a flyer.



#### Wonderful Willow with Helen Lomberg

Working and weaving willow with the theme of snails, eels, fish and snakes

# Tuesday

# MAD



## Gamelan & Samba with Jonathan Roberts and Mark Coldrick

Exploring the music of Indonesia and Brazil using authentic instruments to recreate the hypnotic sounds of Bali and the street music of the Rio carnival.



## Silhouette Portraits with Sophia Blackwell and Corinne Hockley

The creation of unique self portraits to take away.



## Contemporary Jewellery with Sarah Millin

Students created individual jewellery for fashion using a diverse and exciting range of household waste materials.



## Commedia with Olly Crick and the Old Spot Theatre Company

Experimentation of theatre games, mask technique, stage fighting, comedy routines and scenario development.



## Message in a bottle with Sue Mayfield

Award winning author of teenage fiction Sue Mayfield discussed her novel 'Voices' and creative writing skills



## Singalong with Caroline Mander

Singing songs from the musicals



## Wacky Sculpture with John Kimberley

An exciting wacky willow workshop inspired by nature, building and constructing lanterns with a tinge of vibrant colour.



## Stop Animation with Tim Pellat of Cordialav

Creating 2-D and plasticine models and learning the process involved in shooting short animation films.



# Wednesday



## Film Festival

This one day film school offered a dynamic programme of hands-on workshops with award winning London Film Academy.



## African Drumming with Roy Raby & James McKelvey

An immersion into the music and culture of West Africa to experience the primeval rhythms which are at the heart of everyday life.



## Design Technology with Belinda Hughes

Designing and making a unique and personalised mouse mat.



## Words and Pictures with Mary Harries

A creative writing workshop.



## Paper Shoes with Corinne Hockley

Creating exquisite miniature shoes to decorate and embellish with buttons and beads.



## Theatrical make up with Hayley Spicer

An introduction to applying theatrical and special effects make-up and how the use of make-up plays an important role in developing a character for stage.



## Felt Making with Anne Rogers

Exploring the magic of wool through the ancient craft of felt making.



## Art House Cinema

Expanding movie minds, discussing and watching a series of classic films.



# Thursday



## Circus Skills Jam of Thomas Trilby & Steve White

Juggling, unicycling, stilt walking, Diablo, plate spinning, mini bikes, hula hoops, poi and loads of other circus skills.



## Salsa Dance with Anna and Thomas Melendez

Spicy salsa dance class learning the basic movements including the Cuban hip movement.



## Painting on Glass with Tom Denny

Creating beautiful unique panels that will live permanently on the windows in the Art Foyer.



## Characterisation & Devising Workshops with Maureen Bennett

Acting workshops devising a piece of theatre from scratch.



## Voice and Movement Workshop with Paul Milton

An energetic approach to voice and movement.



## Contemporary Weaving with Klare England

Creating a magic carpet, weaving the weird and wonderful.



## Stomp Aloud with Roy Raby & James Mckelvey

Inspired by the theatrical show, Stomp, traditional percussion instruments were replaced by everyday household objects.....the perfect stress reliever!



## Grand Finale

30ft in the air on a cherry picker!

The pupils thanked Mrs Roffe for all her hard work in organising such a brilliant festival.





# Lawn House

Teenagers don't get a good press. It seems the press never tire of highlighting just how awful they can be and how many things they get wrong.

But as somebody who has spent the last seven years living alongside lots of these apparently dire and terrifying creatures, I reckon I'm in a reasonably good position to know something about them. And guess what: they bear very little resemblance to their media portrait!

Living in Lawn has meant coexisting with some of the most sane, well-balanced, open-minded, enquiring and interesting people I could ever wish to spend time with. Now that isn't to say these Lawn House girls haven't had their moments from time to time – doesn't everyone? – nor that they haven't kept me on my toes, because they certainly have. But I wouldn't have had it any other way, and it's been amazing fun. As I become a day-girl, my new-found freedom will certainly have its benefits (whatever am I going to do with all this free time I now have?) but it's equally certain I shall miss being around such stylish, intelligent and downright likeable young women as those who spend their time in Lawn House.

So, as I hand over to Mrs Ferreira, it just remains for me to thank all the staff who have helped me in Lawn – the domestic team, the Gap-tutors, the duty-team in their various guises – and last but not least all the Lawn-House boarders and daygirls, past and present, who have made my time as their Housemistress such a memorable, entertaining and rewarding experience.

*Vicki Hayward.*



*New houseparents Neil and Angela Ferreira*

# Science

This year saw the Science Department as busy as ever with visits to Cotswold Wildlife Park, Technquest in Cardiff and The Cheltenham Science Festival.



Cotswold  
Wildlife Park



Technquest



Cheltenham  
Science Festival





# ECO Week

**It was an irony not lost on many at Rendcomb that in the days preceding Eco week, the College experienced the highest snow fall for eighteen years. However, that did not put off the many staff and students who battled the conditions to bring Rendcomb the first ever week designed at promoting environmental issues.**

The first event saw Rendcomb's newly formed debating society pit their skills against the Sixth Form prefects. The topic, 'Global warming is a natural phenomenon and is not caused by anthropogenic activities', was hotly discussed with both teams coming up with convincing arguments backed up with sound empirical evidence (they had certainly done their prep on this!). Whether anthropogenic or natural it was widely agreed that, despite the wintery conditions, global warming is occurring and will cause a multitude of future problems. This is something that Rendcomb College is keen to educate the students about, hence the purpose of this week.

As well as global issues, it was also hoped that Eco week would highlight to the students how incredibly lucky

they are to have their education in such beautiful surroundings. Indeed this area of the Cotswolds is designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, one of only thirty five within England. We are additionally blessed with an abundance of wildlife and this is what we were hoping to emphasise on our bird watch, which took place on Wednesday lunch-time with the help of keen Ornithologists, Mr Wood and Mrs Westhead. Despite the fact that many of the birds were keeping an unusually low profile, a result of the cold snowy weather, some interesting species were observed and it also gave the students a chance to test out their snowball throwing skills!

Wednesday night was an opportunity for the students to sit back and enjoy a bit of film entertainment in the shape of the excellent Wall E. The night was made even better by

the copious amounts of FAIR TRADE chocolate that was on offer, eagerly washed down by a nice cup of FAIR TRADE coffee. This was especially enjoyed by the third formers who for the past month had been learning about the production of coffee in their Geography classes. In particular, why buying FAIRTRADE is a lot better for the farmers who slave away in blistering heat to bring us our morning cuppa, often for a pittance of what the coffee is worth.

Thursday then gave the chance for the students to wear casual mufti; the only condition being that at least something must be green. For the privilege the



teachers and students all happily contributed a Pound and this will go towards a tree that will be planted for each student. This will be done in the near future and as well as offsetting at least some of the student's carbon footprint, these trees will also help Rendcomb's various species of wildlife as it will increase vital habitat for them.

Thursday night was the Green Disco and many students (and teachers) enjoyed the opportunity to get down and boogie to some modern beats as well as old time cheesy classics, expertly mixed by our guest DJ Adam. This night was specifically designed to highlight the issue of endangered species and many students gamely participated. Just a quick glance around the dance floor and you could see a multitude of Pandas having a bop as well as other weird and wonderful species including a giant bumble bee!

Friday saw the culmination of events and the opportunity to hear an excellent speech presented by Beth Timmins in Form 5 on the plight of endangered species. What was particularly impressive about this was not only Beth's presentation, which was excellent and very well written but because this was Beth and her friend's idea. It was

agreed by many of the staff and students who attended that the issues raised by Beth need to be tackled. Thank you Beth for highlighting such an important global problem.

The last event that rounded off a fun but also a very thought provoking week was enjoyed by my first form, 1A. Mrs Jenny Phelps who has a wealth of knowledge regarding the area of Rendcomb, kindly agreed to come in and talk about plans for the future, which are intended to try to ensure that the area surrounding the College is looked after, so that a whole new generation of Rendcombians can come



and learn in such wonderful surroundings. The students were fascinated and Mrs Phelps and I were extremely impressed by the quality of questions that these first formers asked and how knowledgeable they were with regard to environmental issues. It is heartening to know that these students are the future guardians of the planet and if this lesson is anything to go by, the Earth is indeed in good hands!

*Michelle Lucas Environmental Coordinator*



## Geography Field Trip to Snowdonia

# French Trip to Granville, Normandy

On Friday, 27th. March, at 5am. 14 members of the 4th and 5th form set off for a five day visit to Normandy, to a centre for language learning and activities, everything conducted in the target language.

After a very smooth channel crossing, we arrived at the centre, which looks directly onto the beach, at Granville sur Mer, in time for an evening meal and to settle into our accommodation.

There followed four and a half days of intense, action packed language learning, activities and visits. Mornings were taken up with lessons, conducted in French, and targeting the defined speaking topics for GCSE. All pupils, covering a wide range of ability, participated with great enthusiasm. Afternoons were spent, either continuing lessons, pursuing outdoor activities, or going on an excursion.

Over the course of the week, we visited the local market, the Mont Saint Michel and a "cidrerie", played ten pin bowling(just how French can you get!) and had an excellent dinner in a creperie. Pupils were also given free time to go into town or enjoy the wonderful weather and the beach.

I am constantly amazed at the capacity the young have for food, and I lost count of the

number of croissants and pains chocolat that were eaten. On the last evening, the students were given the opportunity to savour escargots, and I am proud to announce that most of our party greatly enjoyed them.

Activities included bread making, with French songs while you work, aeroballing and climbing. All activities were conducted in French, to such an extent that the only way to be lowered down from the climbing tower was to ask in French! Fortunately, everyone managed it.

I would like to thank my colleague, Mrs. Hayward, for her tremendous support at all times during the trip, and especially the pupils, who entered into the spirit of the venture whole heartedly, learnt so much and made the whole adventure such a positive and meaningful experience. We hope to repeat the trip next year and to extend it to other year groups. Vive la France!

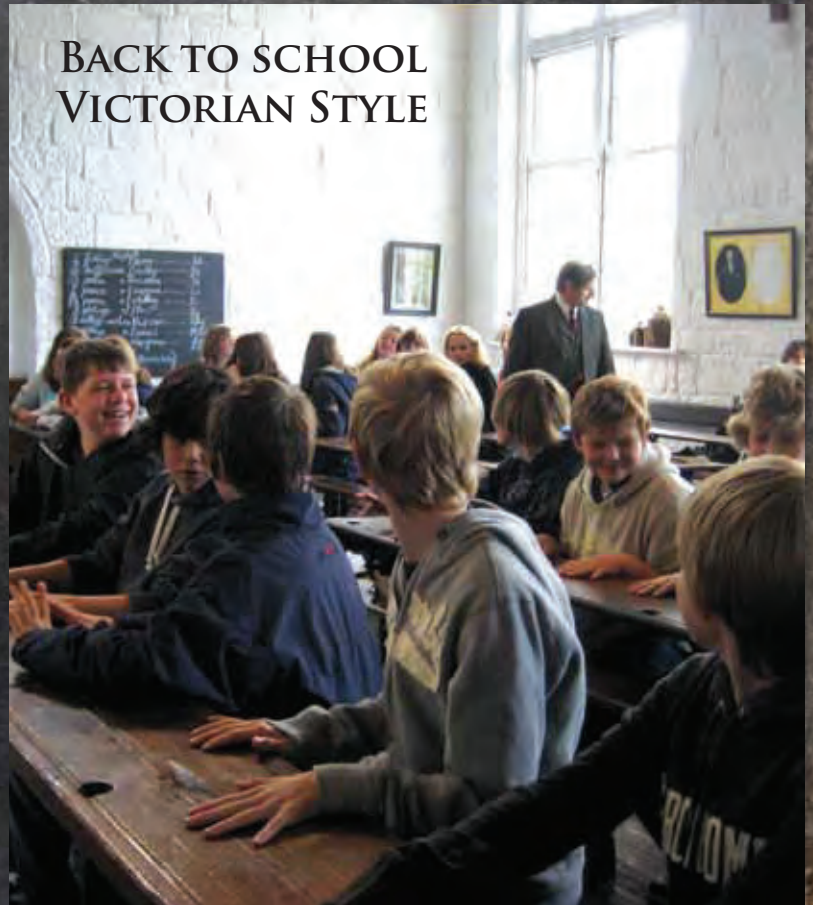
*Mr B L North*



# Black Country Living Museum

A visit to the Black Country Living Museum in Dudley, helped bring history to life for 3rd Form history pupils.

Taking a trip down an underground canal and finding out what life was like in a Victorian School were just two of the many experiences enjoyed during the day.



BACK TO SCHOOL  
VICTORIAN STYLE



## Ski Trip to Matrei, Austria





# Krakow - Berlin History - German Trip, Feb 2009

Our first stop was Krakow. On arrival we were taken to our hostel, before going 'out on the town' to do some sightseeing, which included the Castle in the heart of the city.

The main find of the afternoon was an ATM machine that accepted our cards, so we could acquire Polish Zloty, the currency of the country. Armed with money and energy only available through Polish McDonalds, the students were set loose in Krakow for an hour or so. We only recognised one brand name (Adidas) but took advantage of the exchange rate when purchasing shirts and souvenirs. After an adventurous and explorative day in Krakow, we went to bed, and in the back of our minds was the plan for the next day, February 14th: the trip to Auschwitz.

There are some places that you just cannot imagine before you go there, and Auschwitz is one of them. It was a very surreal experience, and certainly put a lot of things into perspective. All of us struggled to comprehend the conditions and suffering

before we experienced Auschwitz. It opened our eyes to just how cruel and evil some people can be. We were all disgusted and even angry about how the prisoners must have been treated.

We left Auschwitz full of remorse and sympathy, we appreciated the experience, but we were not keen to dwell on it, as it had the potential to put us on a downer for the whole trip. The perfect antidote was the overnight train from Krakow to Berlin. Our compartment was roughly 5 feet wide, 6 feet long and 8 feet high, and we had to fit in 6 people plus luggage. The challenge of sorting out the mass pile of bodies, clothes and belongings was never met, and we spent the rest of the night enjoying our comparatively enclosed space. We didn't complain about the living conditions for obvious reasons.

A big thank you goes to Mr Markfort, (Anna Markfort's father) his secretary Pamela Wolf and friend Leili Breithaupt for helping to organise the Berlin side of our trip. Pamela showed us around Berlin, where we had an informative History lesson on Berlin during the Nazi period, Second World War and the Cold War, taking in the Brandenburg Gate, the Reichstag, the Jewish

Monument and the Berlin Wall. Leili talked to us about Jewish History in Germany. Other visits during the week included the Olympic Stadium which was unfortunately closed, due to heavy snow fall, a museum of the History of Berlin, a nuclear bunker prepared for the possibility of nuclear attack during the Cold War, Berlin Cathedral, the Wannsee Conference Centre and of course German McDonalds! We often explored Berlin in small groups of two or three, as opposed to going around as a whole group. This worked well in that we were always doing what we wanted to do in our free time, and we also saw Berlin in a much more insightful way because of it.

By Wednesday evening, we were all emotionally and physically drained, having had a variety of experiences in two European countries. We were exposed to language and culture that enhanced our understanding of our respective subjects as pupils, and as people. We arrived at the airport in Berlin to fly to Gatwick, and by the time we had arrived and were in a taxi on the way back to Rendcomb, most of us were either asleep or in a state of semi-consciousness. It did not seem it at the time, but this was a good thing, as it showed we used all of our energy and that we got as much out of the trip as possible, maximising our opportunities.

All things considered, the Krakow – Berlin trip was a great success, combining learning and development with laughter and fun. A final thank you must go to Mr and Mrs Kinson, and Mrs White, who organised and supervised the trip, as well as looking after us throughout. They must have been even more tired than us! Also thank you to Mr Pete Cairns for taking us to the airport at the start of our journey.

*George Ord*



# English

## World Book Day

Rendcomb once again had celebrations for World Book Day. Public readings by students and staff alike occurred throughout the day; extracts from favourite books or poems; from the opening of 'Stormcatchers' to a Shakespearian sonnet.

A terrific effort and important never to forget: to be able to read is a privilege and not a right enjoyed by all in the world: treasure that privilege.



## Visit to Stratford-Upon-Avon

On a beautiful day in May Rendcomb College's Third Form made its pilgrimage to Stratford to pay homage to the Bard.

We learnt a lot:

*That Shakespeare was a wealthy man and wrote a lot.*

*That the phrase 'sleep tight' comes from an Elizabethan piece of mattress tightening equipment.*

*That Shakespeare introduced thousands of words into the English language including 'zany', 'madcap' and 'slugabed'.*

*That Ben Smith and Will Scott were mercilessly picked on by the actress in the garden of 'The Birthplace' and that Charlotte Southerden, Rachel Barnes and Alana Carpenter clearly fancied the actor playing Macbeth (well, he was very good looking!)*

*That Harry likes kissing asses (a statue in the garden of Halls Croft before I get any complaints).*

*That the river looked beautiful and the theatre is being completely rebuilt.*

*That you don't want to know how Shakespeare's father softened up the precious gloves he made and sold.*

*That you didn't want to get ill in Shakespeare's time!*

*And that Rendcomb's Third Form were a credit to themselves and the school in their demeanour and behaviour around all the houses we visited.*

On return they produced stunning work. Well done indeed, a lovely day out at the home of Literature.



## Combined English & Art 6th Form visit to Hailes Abbey

In 'The Pardoner's Tale' by Geoffrey Chaucer, the Pardoner warns young men against swearing when engaging in immoral acts like gambling and he cites some profanities that gambling is bound to encourage them to use.

"By Goddes precious herte," and 'By his nailles,'  
And 'By the blood of Crist that is in Hayles'"

The final of these dreadful oaths refers to the phial of blood relic that was held in the gigantic 13th century monastery at Hailes just along from Winchcombe. This relic, said to be the actual blood of Christ, had made Hailes Abbey an internationally known medieval shrine on a par with Canterbury and Compostella in Spain:

Pilgrims came from all over Europe to see the blood of Christ held at Hailes. My sixth form are studying this medieval poem so...

let's make our own pilgrimage and go and look at what's left of the abbey and imagine it in all its medieval splendour. I did warn the students before we went into the National Trust site that this wasn't Alton Towers and that they would reduce the average age of the customer base by about 50%. I also told them not to whinge at me afterwards and tell me it was just a pile of bricks because I told them before we went there that it was just a pile of bricks!

We stayed for a couple of hours, listened to the audio guide, soaked up the peace and tranquility and pictured what it would have been like in the 13th century. A very pleasant little outing and the site does provide one with a true insight into monastic life.

Mr P Jennings



Rory Clarke, Emily Jones and Femi Gibson at Hailes Abbey

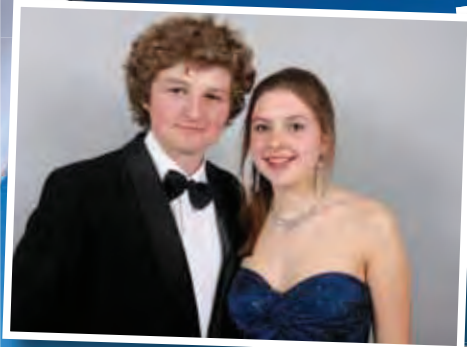
# The Seven Seas Sixth Form Ball

Sixth form students, parents and staff were invited aboard SS Rendcomb for an evening of grandeur and elegance, to embark on a journey across the Seven Seas.

Following cocktails on the deck, guests enjoyed a delicious Hog Roast banquet and were then entertained with a casino in the Captain's Lounge,

a disco in Davy Jones's Locker and on the decks, a bouncy castle and inflatable obstacle course where everyone was guaranteed a soft landing!





# Sixth Form Cultural Enrichment

This year we tried to 'raise the profile' a bit so we turned to some inspirational speakers; Alex Holden got the ball rolling early in September when he talked very movingly about his experiences working in Uganda at our sister school.

He has encouraged Upper sixth students to visit and to teach at Lords Meades Vocational College. On the theme of travel, Hektor Krome came to speak and urged students thinking of doing a GAP year, to do it themselves; many went away to re-think their plans. Later in the year we had a visit from Major General Peter Williams who enthralled students and adults alike with his tales of 'daring-do' spying in Russia during the Cold war.

The programme is designed to offer sixth form students something just a little different; to get them thinking outside their comfort zone; so we had a quiz, a lecture on French Literature, Maths' Puzzles and Critical Thinking sessions. We watched the controversial film 'An Inconvenient Truth' and we had a mega badminton competition.

In the Michaelmas term I have a '5 Live' journalist coming, an adventurer who has climbed Everest, some wine tasting and a 'Question Time' evening planned. I hope that students will get even more involved in the programme and come up with some of their own ideas: should be good!

Mr P Jennings



Maths puzzles and challenges and quiz nights



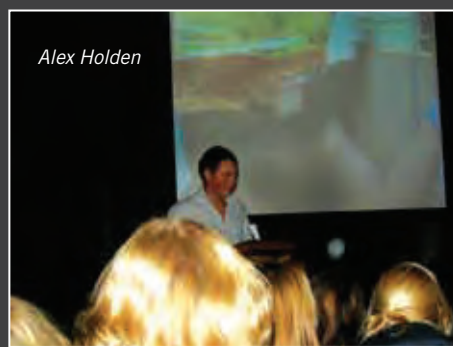
Driving and Road Safety



Badminton Competition



Major General Peter Williams



Alex Holden



Buddies





# Sixth Form Social Events

Jungle Bar



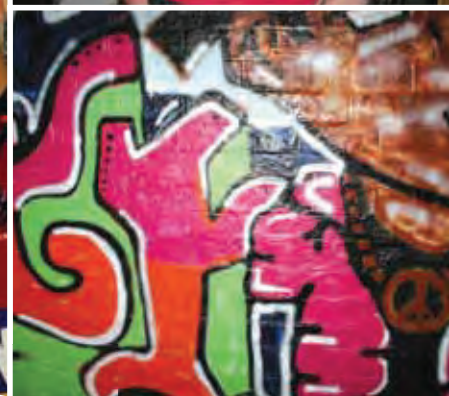
Chinese New Year



Rave Bar



Chilli Con Carne Bar



Christmas Dinner



Pirate Bar

# Leavers' Weekend



**Address to the Leavers:** “Quo lux ducit.” *Where the light leads*, beautiful, simple, poetic, a point of departure, a journey, and an ultimate destination, how fitting for this moment and auspicious occasion, and I have no doubt that your time here in this very special, dare I say, unique, island of Rendcomb will be an important part of you, for as long as you live.

I am sure also that you realise that you are on the crest of a wave that began not all that long ago. As I walked across the landing of the first floor of Main College last week, I saw, displayed in one of the cabinets, a photograph of the first pupils and staff of the College, dated 1920. There are just 12 pupils, all boys, and 6 teachers. And those boys are wearing a uniform, uncannily similar to the new one we shall have here in September, although I doubt if they purchased it on line! Today, 89 years down the road, Rendcomb is not just a College, but a multicultural, multinational, global village.

Three of you, I think, Fiona, Hannah and Louis, have completed 9 years here, some joined us in the first form, others in the third, and some of you have spent two sixth form years at Rendcomb, and all of you have made your own contribution to our community. You now depart, awaiting judgement in August, and I wish you all success, and hope you get the necessary ticket to catch the next train.

If I may risk the thought, however, that those A levels, important as they are, are in no way the whole story of what this College is about, and it is good to look at you all this morning and think of what you have given to enrich and enhance us, and to see you now, thinking of how you looked and were, five, seven, even nine years ago, those College and House photographs, capturing your smiles, your hairstyles and fixing you all in a moment in time.

There are so many areas in which you have contributed, on the games field, on horseback, in the world of music, the world of art, and, of course, the world of drama. Indeed, only two terms ago, I was myself privileged to work alongside so many of you, in celebration of what a great friend of mine calls the “ministry” of rock and roll.)

Some of you, (not necessarily all still with us), and I have no intention here of waving a charge list, some of you, will have made

mistakes and errors of judgement, as we all do, and no-one knows more than myself the heartache and pain that these things can cause. But through it all, I hope that, at those times, you, we, have been able to find the strength and courage, supported by, and supporting, those we love, to look long and hard into the mirror, and to come to terms with the consequences of our words and deeds. I also hope that you all feel that, at these times, you have been treated with unswerving consistency, fairness and compassion and, above all, that when the price has been paid, the door of forgiveness has always been left ajar for you.

But let us move on from darker moments. They can serve as a way forward and a healing, a strengthening of our bonds.

It is time to ask just what you will take with you of Rendcomb, just what has our College given to you?

Well, and we must not become complacent about it, or take it for granted, I know you will never forget the stunning natural beauty of the place. Summer days, mown grass, post exam time. The gentle change from summer into glorious Autumn, with evergreens, alongside trees, whose leaves seem dipped in burning gold. Horizontal, freezing rain on top pitch, when you are so cold, you think you are going to die, and that's just the cricket



Rachel Watson playing the flute in Chapel on Leavers' weekend



season. Rendcomb, sleeping, awaking, then appearing to us, in a pure white wedding gown of snow, that mystical morning stillness, when snow has fallen, and all the fun we had. The blossoms of Springtime, the rebirth of life and hope, the recurring cycle of the seasons, right here, all around us, even as I speak, and, in an often violent and ugly world, please keep Rendcomb's beauty alive within you.

But, in some ways, this is to be sold the dummy, almost too easy a fix as to why we are so special, because, at the end of the day, it serves nothing, unless there is a soul within, a heartbeat of genuine values and belief, and there is. You can sense it, feel it, hear it, and see it, here, this morning. It is you, it is me, above all, it is us. And what of this soul, this heartbeat? What effect has it had upon you? And what of it do you take with you?

Well, I do so hope it has given you a faith in things that are good. A respect for yourself, in terms of who you are and what you ought to do. A respect and love for others around you. (Never fail to give a helping hand to someone less fortunate than yourself.) And I hope Rendcomb has shown you the importance of a tolerance of views that you may not particularly share. I hope you have a sense of what is right and what is wrong, and the moral strength to stand firm in the face of trouble and adversity.

And so, to the \$64,000 question, *que sera?* What does the future hold for you? Well, it is with great relief that I announce to you this morning that I haven't got a clue. I have

no crystal ball, nor do I want one. But what I would wish and hope for you, is that you have good times, such good times, and I beg you to take this wonderful life, that comes our way only once, and to squeeze it for every drop of juice it has got. Never miss an opportunity, never fail to lend a hand. There will be times of such intense and meaningful fulfilment and joy, but, occasionally, there will also be times less good, when you will need a rock on which to stand firm. I tell you now that the truths and ethos you have met and embraced here, in this small College, on a beautiful hillside, in rural Gloucestershire, will form a substantial part of that rock.

Today, a chapter of your life comes to an end. There will be a brief period of respite, a well deserved rest and, hopefully, sweet summer sunshine, then you will turn the page and another chapter will begin, whether it be to travel, to enter the Ivory Tower of higher education or the world of work.

Class of 2009, you have graced us with your presence, given much and hopefully take much with you.

Do keep safe, on your journey, have success and happiness in all you do, do let us know of your adventures and even come back to see us.

You are fine, young people and the bitter sweet sadness and joy of this day will remain with you forever. I know you will shine on all around you, wherever you may go, as you have shone here.

In conclusion, I would like to share with you some words, not written by myself, a prayer, if you like, even if I am never sure just what I mean by the word God.

*May God bless and keep you always,  
May your wishes all come true,  
May you always do for others,  
And let others do for you,  
May you build a ladder to the stars,  
And climb on every rung,  
And may you stay forever young.*

*May you grow up to be righteous,  
May you grow up to be true,  
May you always know the truth,  
And see the light surrounding you,  
May you always be courageous,  
Stand upright and be strong,  
And may you stay forever young.*

*May your hands always be busy,  
May your feet always be swift,  
May you have a strong foundation,  
When the winds of changes shift,  
May your heart always be joyful,  
May your song always be sung,  
And may you stay forever young.*

(Bob Dylan)

*Class of 2009 Quo lux ducit. Where the light leads, and that is where you must go.*

*We thank you.*

*Valete!*

*Fare Ye Well!*

*Mr B L North*

# In-tense!! Duke of Edinburgh Gold and Bronze Award Expeditions

This term there have been both Gold and Bronze expeditions. The gold 1st practice the Bronze assessed and the 2nd Gold practice.

The 1st Gold practice saw 20 students walking around the central area of Wales aptly known as Devils Bridge for their first outing. Mistakes were made, but they learnt from these and all is asked is that they do not make the same mistake twice. This is a theme I will return to later on. The expedition had a variety of weather conditions ranging from hail to sunshine to give everyone an idea of what the Gold might require.

The second expedition had its fair share of highs and lows, as one would expect when climbing Pen-y-fan, and the weather was variable. Much was learnt on this expedition and I was particularly pleased to see the commitment of one group leaving camp at 7.00.

On the last expedition pupils coped well with the conditions thrown at them. A situation when an injury occurred was well handled by the pupils showing initiative getting down off the mountain. Some pupils were stoic in maintaining good humour despite the 100 + midge bites inflicted upon them. Mistake made, more deet anti-midge repellent next time!

The Bronze assessed expedition was a success in beautiful weather and 34 pupils completed their walk. This followed a practise expedition in the Lent Term where they learnt about navigation, campcraft, how to carry and adjust a pack, and how much you need to eat when walking all day.

*Mr H Marsden*



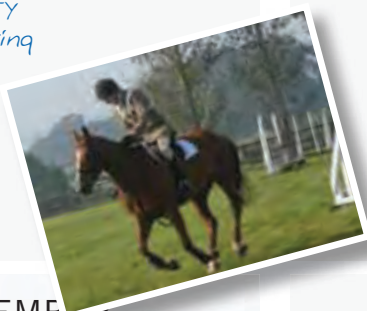
# Riding Year

A busy year on the equestrian front as you will see from the picture diary below!



## SEPTEMBER

*Paddy and Rory Gilling Competing at the Senior Stonar One Day Event Championships*



## OCTOBER

*A wet, but enjoyable riding holiday to South Wales*

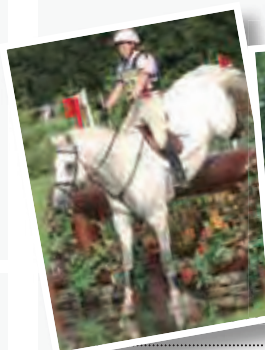


## NOVEMBER



## DECEMBER

*Sinead Brennan winning The event was the International 1 star at Blair Castle. Sinead was the nearest finisher to the optimum time on her horse, Kings Vanquard (aka Jim!)*



## JAN



## FEBRUARY

*A polo trip to Argentina with parents and pupils*



## MARCH

*Riding Success for Lucy Kernon, being placed in dressage and show-jumping events*



## APRIL

*A return to Stonar for Paddy, this time with Lucy, at the Junior Inter-Schools One Day Event Championships*



## MAY



## JUNE

*And finally, a riding activity fun day for all the pupils who enjoy lessons at Talland all year round! Handy pony and jumping!*



## JULY

*And, more polo, under the instruction of Guy Verdon.....*



## AUGUST

*Tetrathlon triumph for Paddy Gilling as part of the VWH team at the National Championships*



# Rugby



## 1st XV

When playing prep school rugby I recall the saying 'Winning isn't everything, but the will to win, that's everything'. A very easy thing to say but quite another to execute, and what astounds me about Rendcomb rugby is that time and time again those 15 players in maroon, white and blue step out of the shed and have the will to win. And no group of players have demonstrated this to me more so than the group of men I have had the pleasure of playing alongside this season. As with all teams we have had our ups and downs, but what distinguishes us from other teams is not the number of ups we have, but the way in which we deal with the downs. Whatever the circumstances, our heads have never dropped, our morale never dipped and our discipline remained impeccable. And it is this which makes me proud to play in maroon white and blue.

The statistics of seven victories out of eleven matches do not portray how close and hard

fought the matches were and there were no easy games this season. This has been a team that has come on an immense journey, with people playing in new positions and new roles undertaken by all. Nowhere was the significance of this journey more apparent than on the last Saturday of the season. When I looked around the huddle I saw a group of men so different to the group that first set out against Malvern.

I saw a Rendcomb 1st XV that I am sure would make the OR's that played on the same day proud to be associated with Rendcomb rugby.

Space does not permit me to mention each of these men individually, but I must at least pay tribute to my peers. Max Ellis has been a consistent power house of the front five, guiding others where needed and always having a positive influence on the game. Richard Ashton, our pocket rocket, has provided us with a fearsome winger, with pace unlike anything I have ever seen.

Rhys Thomas has been an incredible force in the pack for three years now, always putting in the hits and putting in the hard graft. Last but not least, I have had the pleasure of playing alongside Harley Phelps for 4 years now. He demonstrates everything that Rendcomb rugby stands for displaying a huge passion for the sport, a huge dedication, a dedication so substantial that he has persisted to play three years of

Rendcomb rugby in positions that are not his first choice, never once walking away. He has performed these uncomfortable roles with flare and a very high level of technical ability. This is reflected in the way he has fantastically handled his role as vice captain this season, he has been nothing but supportive, encouraging and helpful and an absolute pleasure to share my final year with.

Thanks must go to both Mr Marsden and Mr Slark. Mr. Marsden has provided us with a fantastic forwards coach, his experience and expertise have been invaluable.

Mr Slark, as ever, has taken a group of players and moulded us into an efficient and dangerous rugby team, it is to him that we owe our significant improvement this season and to him we must attribute the scale to which we have developed and evolved.

And so I come to the end of my time playing rugby in maroon, white and blue, I owe a great debt to all those that I have had the honour of leading this season and I would like to draw on the words of Rafa Nadal: 'win with honour, lose with grace'. It has been a privilege to do both with the 2008 Rendcomb College 1st XV this season.

*Alexander Tennant-Bell  
(Captain of Rugby 2008)*

*Alexander Tennant-Bell*



*Ieuan Clements Captain 2009-2010*



*Harley Phelps*





George Ord

## 2nd XV

With a new line up and new coach, high standards were set out for this new look team, and to kick off in true 2nd's style, we had a heavy defeat followed by a win against Llandaff Cathedral School. Mid-season saw the belated return of Steve "the saviour" Brown soon to be followed by the infamous return of "crazy" Jak. Some matches were helped by some secret signings when the 1st XV coincidentally didn't have a fixture. Our final game, against King's School Glos. ended in defeat, but showed the effort and passion these boys who played for the 2nd XV really put in all season. Some notable players were Kev "The powerhouse" Rich scoring his first try in his first, and last, season of rugby against Bloxham and Rory Gilling who played to the highest standard all season scoring a well deserved 6 tries. Unfortunately to be superseded by myself with 8, tries that is not yellow cards. It

has been an interesting season with many players shining through for the next year's senior squad. The fifth form players have really stepped up to the high standards to play at 2nd XV level. I wish all the future warriors of the 2nd XV to continue in the brave manner in which I have been so proud to captain this season. And to Mr. F who has been such a big part in reforming the 2nd's, and a huge thank you from all who have played under your coaching.

*Louis Greenaway (2nd XV Captain)*



Rory Gilling

## U15

The goal at the start of the season was to 'give 100% all of the time and achieve your best' and under very challenging circumstances the U15s did just that. Special mention must be made of Dan Geerah and all of the U15 rugby players for the great heart and determination that they showed.

*Mr M Ford*



## U14

With 5 wins out of 10 matches over the season but the best was saved for last. It was in the tougher matches that the side developed the team spirit in adversity that enabled them to combine individual talent with collective determination, making the matches against Dean Close and King's Gloucester exciting, hard fought and with a high standard of rugby. The boys demonstrated that they had grown through the term into a team that plays rugby in the best spirit of the beautiful game and one which has tremendous potential over coming seasons. Well done to all the players for their courage and skill on the field of play and the captain, Ben Smith, who best epitomised what the team learnt and what the season has meant. In response to the one point loss against King's Gloucester, he pointed to the heart and reminded players and coaches that the spirit with which his team had played was far more important than the result.

*Mr P Bevans*



U15 XV



2nd XV



## U13A

On the eve of a new season it is always interesting to jot down some thoughts as to who the main ball carriers and play-makers will be and to be honest there did not look to be all that many names to start with. Of course, there was Harry Priestner, Paddy Tarleton and Tom Hansel from last season's very successful team but there did not seem to be much else.

I have been proved so wrong: there have been so many players that have progressed so far and gained so much in their confidence – to name a few: George Hempleman-Adams and Josh Cropper have gone from last season's peripheral B team players to become strong ball carriers and extremely effective ruckers. Louis Mernagh, who showed his potential towards the end of last season has come on in leaps

and bounds as a hard-hitting Number Eight. Then there's Dan Gregory who has developed great strength and pace as either an Inside Centre or Open-Side Flanker as well as Cameron Robert who has developed into such a sniping Scrum Half with fast and accurate hands. Towards the end of the season there was great potential shown by James Taylor and Toby Martin; both will no doubt bring a lot to the squad next season.

All these players were ably supported by a growing group of U12s: Sam Scott at Blind-Side Flanker, Edward Brealy at Hooker, Orlando Janes and Jamie Young in the Second Row and in the backs some very fast and courageous tacklers in Aiden Dowling, Freddie Baker, Richard Bethune, Daniel Haas, Miles McKeown and James Tait – all these players will need to be the backbone of next season's U13s.



So, what of the results? Well, with 9 wins out of 10 this has certainly matched last season and in a way it has excelled it as these players, who on paper did not really show much in terms of real potential, have developed so much as a team.

This season has been a real team effort, but two players who have contributed so much both in offensive and defensive terms: are Vice-Captain Paddy Tarleton at Fly Half and the skipper, Harry Priestner, who was the quintessential leader, combining strength and pace to very good effect.

*Mr A Brealy*

## U14 7's

Rendcomb U14 7's team represented Rendcomb Rugby for the first time ever at this age group at a Seven's Tournament, attending the Prior Park Sevens. We were the smallest school there but were able to provide some tough competition. The whole team had a good performance, playing with good handling skills but special mention must go to Ben Smith for captaining us.

Later in the term we took part in another tournament at Dean Close. This was a bigger tournament than our first one and was played on 4 pitches with over 20 other schools competing. We did not start the tournament well but we picked our game up and the highlight of the tournament was our match against Christ Brecon; we showed that we could compete at this high standard, it was a very close match and a huge effort was put into that game. Thanks to Mr Brooke for making it possible.

*Edwin Price*



## Individual Achievements

Congratulations to Patrick Tarleton, Lance Baynham and Harry Priestner for their selection to the Gloucestershire (Rugby) Junior Talent Youth Development Programme.

## U18 7's Tournament at Cirencester Rugby Club



# Shooting News

This year 14 students and 8 parents represented the school at the National Shooting Championships.

Rendcomb finished in the top 10 for the 9th year in succession to retain their position as the top shooting school in Gloucestershire. The A Team was captained by Harley Phelps and the high gun score went to Rory Clarke with 29. Richard Ashton led the B team with George Hempleman-Adams as the high gun with 24.

*Mr J Stutchbury*



*Rachel Watson*



*U6th Shooting Squad receiving tankards from Mr Stutchbury at the Leavers' Dinner*

# Kickboxing

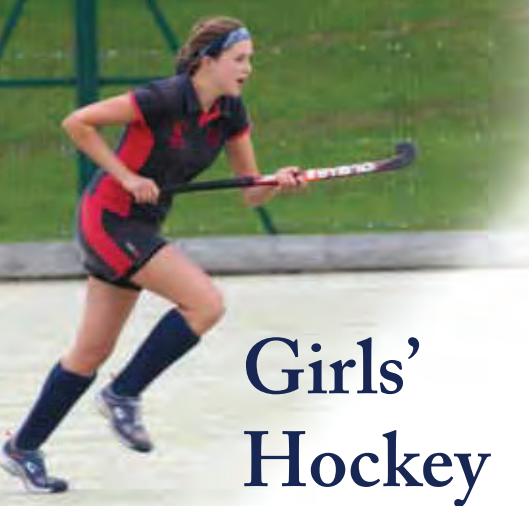
GCSE PE students were given a taster lesson on kickboxing by two instructors from the Cirencester Leisure Centre.

The instructors were helpful and entertaining and we were taught the basics of kickboxing, a simple combination and some kicking techniques. We also learnt about the interesting history of kickboxing and where it originated from.

They also demonstrated some techniques for self defence and how to be "street smart". It was very enjoyable, especially punching Mr. Marsden!

*Abigail Whittles and Abigail Tennant-Bell*





# Girls' Hockey



1st XI



## 1st XI

2008 was a successful season for the 18 players that represented the 1st XI. We played some very competent sides and some pretty hockey, including scoring 11 goals against King's Gloucester. Particular mention must be made of the younger members of the squad from the 4th & 5th form whose athleticism and skill played a key role in the overall success of the team. Koake Kumai scored an impressive 10 goals including a hatrick against Kings Gloucester.

Lower Sixth formers Lisa Nagele, Fran Baker, Sophie Southerden and Emily Jones played important roles in the team and their work rate was exemplary. Finally, we say farewell to the "Five Muskateers" from the Upper Sixth:

Rosie Freeth, always so dependable and always puts herself on the line for the team.

Sinead Brennan, always a brave player, never giving up despite suffering an injury in every practice and match. We have been lucky to have her on our side.

Jazz Barks for holding the midfield together, directing players.

Sophie Humphries (Vice Captain), a great defender and hitter of the ball and totally fearless with her tackling.

And finally to the Captain, Rachel Watson whose rare mix of talents: skill, agility and passion were instrumental to the success of our season.

*James Stutchbury*



## 2nd XI

Three phrases that come to mind when I think of the 2nd XI are: Team Spirit, Sheer Determination and Integrity even in Defeat.

The 2nd XI have had one of their best seasons and everyone has been fantastic to play alongside. Key members include Abi Tennant-Bell, who even showed her dedication to the team when on crutches and when she was mobile, helped secure some early season victories, as did Emily Taylor who came to matches with an "I want to make friends" attitude, which surprised the majority of our opposition.

Sarah Tarleton also became a key player on the field and was always involved in the movement of the ball up the pitch. Hannah Taylor was a strong sweeper creating an extremely reliable defence. Combined with the rest of the 5th form including Lucy Barnett, Rachael Jennings, Emily Heron and latecomer Blaise Dyer, created a committed, willing and fun-loving team.

Many of the Lower Sixth, being new pupils from Germany, had never picked up a stick before September. The attitude of these girls' was an inspiration to us all. Not only did they pick up the game with speed and skill but also became crucial members of the squad.

Fran Baker was also an invaluable new signing who was a resilient defender whose solid tackles helped reduce our opponent's scores. Laura Graham is an old Rendcomb

favourite and has shown that hockey can have a wacky side.

My main thanks must go to our coach Miss Bell, I for one am so grateful that the 1st's did not steal her away, as she has been the ultimate inspiration and drive for the 2nd XI. Thank you all for a fantastic season and I look forward to the next.

*Natasha Heffron*



U15 Goalie  
Christina Childie

## U15

This year's U15 squad consisted of a group of enthusiastic and talented girls. This was particularly apparent in the matches in which all players committed themselves fully, even when the odds were stacked against them. This resulted in some very creditable scores such as the 2-2 draw against Bloxham, the 0-0 draw against Christ College (played at Ledbury) and the 1-0 victory over King's. The season finished on a real high with a 2-0 win at Pangbourne which attracted well deserved compliments from spectators and staff.



Captain Issy Bailey led by example and made excellent use of her skills in midfield to build many attacks. Holly Phelps, as vice-captain, proved to be an industrious and ruthlessly efficient centre back whose mobility and skill often took the opposition by surprise and provided outstanding support for the midfield.

She held the defence together well and inspired them to improve the quality of their tackling and passing. Kristina Childre has real presence and played very well in goal, making many important saves at crucial points in matches.

A great deal of skill was always on show from the front three, Imo Meers, Andrea Haas and Megan Mulhall but this became even more effective when the team organised its attack down the right.

Sophie Spies helped out when available and was partly instrumental in demonstrating the importance of right-sided attacks. Kat Daly and Pippa Mace provided stability whilst Brittany Newgent, Anjali Patel, Charlotte Stedman and Anna Hochhalter improved their skills and confidence with every match.

It has been an extremely enjoyable season and it is to be hoped that these girls will continue to improve and enjoy their hockey.

*Mr C Wood*



## U14

Sophie Spies (C), Delia Rich, Charlie Southerden, Bailey Jenkins, Vicki Clark, Charlotte Jones, Sallie Baker, Libby Round, Rachel Barnes, Ellie Mills, Sophie Popper, Alana Carpenter, Emma Lavender, Ashleigh Adams, Olivia Holder

This term the U14 XI performed well, due to an increase in numbers and a mature attitude towards the games. This started from the 1st game when they won 3-1 against St. Edwards, to their final game when they drew 0-0 with Pangbourne. During practice sessions this term we worked on team work and the importance of working together at all times and this was mirrored on the field of play where they worked tirelessly from the first to the final whistle. They never gave up even when they were losing they kept battling on. A special mention has to go to Sophie Spies who came to us from Germany just for the term and was nominated as Captain. She led from the front, never tiring even when she had a horrible injury whilst playing against Cheltenham Ladies College. She still wanted the show to go on! Ellie Mills what a star – she had never played hockey until September and by December she was a crucial member of the defence unit. Well done everyone.

*Mrs K Coups*



## U13 XI

The U13A + B squads have had a very promising season. Their enthusiasm to learn new skills and their determination to put what they have learnt into practice has secured some well deserved victories. Even in defeat they have shown true team spirit and not once throughout the season given up. Congratulations to all the girls' for a fantastic season. Roll on 2009.....



# Boys' Hockey

## Overview

This has been, much like the mid-term weather, a demanding season; out of the 56 fixtures only one in five saw the College in the ascendancy. As ever, the results do not tell the whole story – of the industry and endeavour – teams are measured by their resilience in times of adversity, by their commitment to the school ethos which values team spirit and collective ambition very highly.



Alexander Tennant-Bell  
and Alex Newman



James Bell



Harley Phelps

### 1st XI

Played	Won	Drew	Lost
12	4	2	6

Defensively very solid with James Bell in goal, Ed Thomason at sweeper, Richard Ashton on the left and Rory Clark on the right. The midfield rotation consisted of Matt Beck, Tom Geerah (awarded the 'Most Improved Player' Award), Harley Phelps, Mike Crickmore and Alex Newman.

The forwards consisted of some very speedy players: Ieuan Clements, James Brittain (top scorer), Alex Tennant-Bell, Steven Brown and Louis Greenaway.

Results were a fair reflection of the team's ability with a couple of drawn matches at the start of the season when Rendcomb was 2 goals up and a disappointing performance against Christ College.

The highs far exceeded these performances with the squad giving a

good account of itself against some strong opponents in Bloxham, King's Gloucester, Abingdon, Cheltenham College, the ORs and Leighton Park.

Harley Phelps, as captain, rallied the troops when required and he is to be congratulated for this.



Ed Thomason

### 2nd XI

Mr Stutchbury would be the first to say that the results certainly did not reflect the combination of determination and skill exhibited – in a nutshell there were many chances created but the finishing was too often just not there.

Max Ellis should be praised for his leadership during this frustrating season.



Max Ellis and Richard Ashton

## 3rd XI

The team was put up against some tough opponents and it was fitting to see them end the season with a good win at home as their endeavours had not been rewarded earlier in the season. George Ord came into his own as a consummate skipper.

## U15 XI

This was a season of many positives despite the results and there is some potential there, most notably James Harrington in outfield and Andrew Hochalter in goal.

There were at least a couple of matches which could have gone either way but fate sadly did not gaze kindly on the team.



Forhad Rahman



## U14 XI

Despite just the one win in seven there is a great deal that bodes well for the future, with Alex Kentfield (captain) and Toby Channer being just one of many in the squad that look set to bring a lot to the College's hockey in the future.



U13A

## U13A XI

2009 has been a successful session with many young players showing all their talent. The captain of the team was Patrick Tarleton who, with Harry Priestner, led from the front with many of the goals having had something to do with these two boys. *Mr N Ferreira*

The season started really well and once we began to work together as a team we saw some great victories. Most notable were our victories over Kings' Gloucester and at Kingham Hill - which had to be the most outstanding game of the season, where every member of the team played his part.

The sweetest victory came on the final Saturday with a 3-2 win over our own U14 boys, although perhaps our ringer with a strange Zimbabwean accent helped out a bit! Special mention must be made to the "James" defence team of McGough and Tait who were rock solid in defence in every game, and to Dan Gregory, who had a high tally of goals, including a hat trick against Rougemont.

Overall we came out on top with six wins out of nine games. We are determined to improve these stats next year.

*Patrick Tarleton*



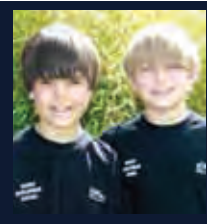
U13B

## U13B XI

Mr Brierley was very pleased with the side which gelled very well to have a positive season, the side being captained by Toby Martin.

*Mr A Brealy & Mr N Ferreira*

Daniel Haas and Edward Brealy who have been selected to join the U13 Gloucestershire Hockey Development Squad.



# Lacrosse

Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, 'Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm,' and this has truly been the case of Rendcomb lacrosse in 2009.

Students were eager to practice skills in their own time. Players met to discuss possible attack plays and to improve defensive communication. Pupils were keen to learn and willing to work hard; the result was a more focused and driven unit, which translated into success on the field.

From the first and second forms' eagerness to learn, to the extended winning streak of the U15s, to the achievement of National Small Schools' Champions, Rendcomb experienced an upswing in triumph this

lacrosse season. Coaches expressed pride in their athletes' dedication to the game and enjoyed the positive energy among the girls.

As a coach, it was easy to smile while watching one athlete encourage another to be confident with the ball, to take risks on the pitch, and to play hard each day. Comments like those were common up on top pitch, and they convey the competitive atmosphere fostered in the snowy days of lacrosse.

We thank all of the sixth form leavers for their efforts and guidance this year and we remain enthusiastic about prospects for next year.

*Lyndsay Robinson Lacrosse Coach*



*U14 XII*



*U15 XII*



*U12 XII*



*U13 XII*



*Abi Tennant-Bell*



*1st XII*

# National Small Schools' Championships

On Saturday 28th February, Rendcomb XII team took to top pitch to join 8 other schools in the National Small Schools' Championships, having qualified earlier in the season.

Our first match was against Abbots Hill from Hertfordshire – the outcome a win for Rendcomb of 4-2 with goals from Megan Mulhall and Katy Schofield. We entered our 2nd game in high spirits. This game against Claremont Fan Court School from Surrey again ended in victory for Rendcomb winning 4 -2 with goals again from Megan Mulhall, Katy Schofield and Koaki Kumai. In our 3rd game we took on St. Leonards from Scotland. This again ended in a win for Rendcomb with a final score of 4-0 with goals from Megan Mulhall, Holly Phelps and Katy Schofield. Our final game in the round robin section was against St. George's from Berkshire who we considered to be our main rivals. This was a hard fought and tense match with everyone giving 100%. Having lost a key member of the defence we struggled to begin with, finding

ourselves down 3-0. By half time we had pulled it back to 3-3 and with one minute to go we were again drawing 6-6. With some determined attack, we managed to score with the final shot from Megan Mulhall, leaving the final score 7-6 to us. This then put us into the semi finals, with our opponents being St. George's again! This game was again hard fought and a show of some of the best lacrosse this team has played, with a final score of 5-2 to Rendcomb, placing us in the final.

In the final we faced St. James' from London. With everyone being mentally and physically exhausted we knew this would be tough. At half time we were 3-2 up and with 10 minutes to play we were determined not to let our game slip. We continued to fight and this left the final score 6-5 to Rendcomb making us NATIONAL SMALL SCHOOLS' CHAMPIONS. Well done to everyone in this team who played. Each and every player had a key role in securing this victory but special mention to Holly Phelps who was player of the tournament, Tasha Heffron in goal who was outstanding and Megan Mulhall who scored over half of the goals for Rendcomb and was voted "Hattersley's MVP" in the final for her fine hat trick.

The win is a tremendous result and shows the improvement of lacrosse at Rendcomb.

*Jazz Barkes – 09 Captain*



*Rachel Watson and Jazz Barkes receiving the trophy*



## Lacrosse Tour

On Friday 13th March 2009, the final exeat weekend of term, 16 pupils and 4 members of staff set off from Rendcomb on a Lacrosse team tour to the Lake District.

Early next morning after the biggest breakfast everyone could possibly eat we left for our first destination, Sedbergh College, to play our first game of the tour. We had two games that day, our first was against Harrogate Ladies College, with our supporters on the sideline and the team pumped up to play we started off very well. We continued to play outstanding lacrosse leaving the score 11-6, with goals from Megan Mulhall and April Edwards. Our 2nd game was against Sedburgh, and once again we performed outstandingly leaving the final score 16-3, with goals from Megan Mulhall, Andrea Haas, Holly Phelps, April Edwards, Koake Kumai and Jazz Barkes.

That evening the team went out for pizza, and although we did take up the most of the restaurant, we had a very enjoyable evening. When we got back to the hotel, Miss Robinson thought ice baths would be a good idea, so some of the team managed to pluck up the courage to sit in a bath of ice, although not everybody was brave enough!

Sunday was our last day in the Lakes, but we still had one game left against Casterton School. We were determined to have an un-beaten tour, and with 100% commitment and effort from every member of the team we left the final score 8-1, with goals from Megan Mulhall, Holly Phelps, Andrea Haas, April Edwards and Koake Kumai.

After our final game we went into the local town and did some shopping, but fatigue set in so we headed for home. We arrived back late Sunday evening, exhausted but triumphant!

*Megan Mulhall - 4th Form*



*Georgie Freeth  
2nd XII goalie*



# Cricket

Ed Thomason



James Brittain



## 1st X1

The 1st team of 2009 was a very young team with nine members being in the Fifth form, four in 6L and one member in 6U however, this was one of the most successful 1st XI's Rendcomb has had in many years. We played 7, won 3, lost 3 and drew 1.

The team was captained by Edward Thomason who led from the front with runs, wickets and good fielding. His highest score was 50 runs and his best bowling figures were 2 wickets for 19 runs.

Michael Crickmore, James Bell and Alex Newman all made valuable runs for the team. Matthew Beck made the highest score for the team with 88 runs. The main bowlers for the team were James Brittain, Rory Clark, Jack Harris, Michael Crickmore, James Bell and Alex Newman. Henry Brittain may have contributed more but broke a finger near the beginning of the season.

A special mention must go to Harley Phelps who has represented the Rendcomb College 1st XI for 3 years. He had some fantastic bowling figures for the season.

*Mr N Ferreira*

## U15

The current U15 cohort has, unfortunately, too few genuinely able cricketers, and must therefore depend on a small number of players to do well, if they are to enjoy any



success. Sadly, we lost Dan Geerah to injury early in the season, which further damaged our chances. When we finally took to the field to play competitive matches, we were simply too short of talent and suffered defeat in all three games. Against Sir Thomas Rich's we managed only 48 all out, and that, thanks largely to a fine 28 from Max Birden. It was never going to be enough, although we did take six wickets. At Bristol Cathedral School, in a twenty over game we scored 75, all out, a slight improvement, and took seven wickets, clearly showing that, with a little more self discipline with the bat, victory could have been ours. The story of the final performance, against a very strong Wycliffe College, is best left untold. I would like to thank Peter Harrison for his excellent efforts as captain. He will also take wickets as he continues into senior cricket. He can vary his flight and get real spin. Benedict Newman is a much better player than his figures show and will also have his day. James Harrington is a very talented striker of the ball and a real

force as an opening bowler. I do hope he will be able to learn shot selection and to build an innings. There are lots of runs in him, but they will not come if he continues to get out cheaply. Max Birden has considerable ability. He has a very good action, and bowls at the stumps. With the bat he combines a good eye with genuine technique. In a stronger side, he will have much success. All in all, then, a disappointing season, particularly because too few members of the squad were able to achieve their potential. However, and in conclusion, I would like to express my gratitude to those who find cricket a less than easy game, but gave of their best.

*Mr B L North*



## U14

There is no question the side had the ability to beat any of the teams which they played this term. On the bowling side the team has two good quick bowlers in Ben Smith and Alex Kentfield who often bowled balls that were too good for the opposition batsmen and they



deserved more success than they achieved. They were ably assisted by James Dunn who as a left-arm bowler posed problems due to the angle of attack.

As a spinner Toby Channer was a very useful variation who with practice and improved consistency could develop into one of the main wicket-takers of the team. However the most successful bowler was Luke Witts, who with his deceptive medium pace bowling fooled many a batsman as they played too early, only to hear the clatter of ball against stump behind them, indicating to them that they had the long walk back to the pavilion ahead of them. With the bat again there is plenty of talent, but consistency has been the downfall of the team. Nonetheless in just about every match at least one person has managed to score 30 or more. In the first game Will Scott and Toby Channer appeared to be cruising to victory, but following a few rash shots we lost by 7 runs. In the next game Will Scott made 61, and following this through determination and patience Ben Smith, scoring 50 not out, and Josh Thomas, 18 not out, we achieved our only victory.

In the remaining games Toby Channer was top scorer but we were unable to turn these matches into victories. However the team has the potential to become a good side and with some focus and some practice over the winter months I am sure they will fulfil their potential.

*Mr D Baker*



## U13A

The U13A's had a good season in the end. At the beginning they lost some matches that they should have won but by the end they were more ruthless. This was illustrated in their last match against Bristol Cathedral U14A's where Rendcomb batted first and made 149 runs in 25 overs and then bowled Bristol Cathedral out for 85 runs. We played 8 matches, won 4 and lost 4.

There was some very good batting from Harry Priestner who hit some very big sixes through the season. Patrick Tarleton, Louis Mernagh and Josh Cropper all showed promise to be come good batsman and contributed to a good season. James Taylor shone with the ball. At times he got hit for runs but when ever he bowled he took wickets and had the most wickets for the team by the end of the season. We had two U12's in our team. They were James Tait who batted number three and kept wicket through out the season, and Freddie Baker who bowled some very important overs for the team. They will have to lead the team next year with some of the experience they have gained from this season.

A special mention must go to Daniel Gregory who captained the team very well. He led from the front with both bat and bowl. His top score was 65 runs, the highest for the season. His best bowling figures were 3 wickets for 17 runs. Well done to all the boys in the 2009 U13 squad.

*Mr N Ferreira*



## U13B

We had a very interesting season, with many good performances and also bad ones. Every player involved improved, but needs to work harder at their own game to improve more.

Aiden Dpwling had a good season, both with bat and ball. Others that improved were George Hempleman- Adams who bowled well at times, Toby Martin, Fraser Payne and Edward Brealy showed promise. Thomas Pethick has improved through the season as have Daniel Haas and Orlando Janes. We had a very enjoyable season, well supported by parents on match days.

*Mr D Essenhigh*



# Tennis

Another season of Tennis and Rounders has passed and a look back reveals its fair share of aces and double faults, rounders and no-balls, victories and defeats but one thing remains – the dedication and commitment of all girls representing Rendcomb College has again been outstanding with the Firsts and Under 15 teams setting the highest of standards.

As a new roof adds further scope and opportunity to Wimbledon's Centre Court this year, a new era dawns for Tennis at Rendcomb College after an excellent seasons of fixtures. This season we have witnessed some outstanding successes with the First VI, Under 15s and Under 13s all enjoying victories against reputable oppositions such as Pangbourne, Leighton Park and Wycliffe. This shows the vast improvements the girls have made since last season and is a testament to the dedication and desire to achieve their very best. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues, both within the games department and the wider school for their support and enthusiasm this term.

18 time Grand Slam winner, Chris Evert once stated: "Find something that you're really interested in doing in your life. Pursue it, set goals, and commit yourself to excellence. Do the best you can."

This is something that the girls should look to achieve in all aspects of school life and is a reflection of the qualities and skills that school sport can instill in an individual. I hope that many Rendcomb girls will take up this challenge of Tennis next year and look forward to further progress in 2010.

*Miss S Bell*

## U15

As Rendcomb enters a new era of Girls' Tennis as the Summer Term's main sport, the Under 15 squad this season reached new heights. The squad was supremely led by captain, Holly Phelps, partnered by Issy Bailey, both of whom have very natural ability and grace on the tennis court.

The team simply would not have functioned with such apparent ease without the diligence and panache of Imo Meers, Andrea Haas, Kristina Childre, Pippa Mace and Kat Daly, all of whom have gone from strength to strength in the course of the season. One of the most rewarding factors of this season for me was the spirit in which the game was played - Tennis, arguably, could replace Football as 'the beautiful game'. A real pleasure to be part of, and a triumph all round.

## U14

As the season draws to a close, and the sun sets on the courts of GL7, there is chance to reflect on the value of the game of tennis, and the spirit in which it was played this term. It is a game where individual skill is complemented by team spirit, a sociable game for sociable people – a skill found

aplenty in the U14 Girls' team. Whilst matches were fought and lost, there is always hope for the future, but success will not be found where desire and commitment do not in turn complement each other. The girls made a promising start, and we look forward greatly to seeing their tennis develop next summer.

*Mr J McKelvey  
and Miss S Bell*

*Rachel Watson  
and Lisa  
Nagele (1st VI)*



# Rounders

This season proved to be a strong one for the girls Under 12 Rounders team.

For some it was their first rounders experience and although they were new to the game, they took to it rather quickly. For those who had played before, they were a big help to whoever was unfamiliar. The girls worked hard on improving their speed around the posts, catching and throwing skills, and their overall knowledge of the game. Although the season ended without

any wins under their belts, they had many close matches that showed their true potential. Rozy Baynham proved to be one of the strongest bowlers on the team while Lauren Kraven and Olivia Knapp made a great team sharing the position of back stop. Nicky Clift became one of the most improved players in the outfield.

*Miss B Blaine*

# Sports' Day

## New Records

### U12 Girls

200m	N Clift	32.4s
Discus	E Laverton	13.06m
800m	R Baynham	3m07s
Javelin	K Rew	14.50m

### U13 Girls

200m	B McFarlane	29.7s
100m	K Gibson	14.4s

### U14 Girls

400m	O Round	1m17s
Relay	Redgrave	1m03s

### U15 Girls

200m	A Haas	29.6s
400m	A Haas	1m09s
Javelin	I Bailey	28.04m

### U12 Boys

Long Jump	J Tait	3.80m
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### U13 Boys

800m	D Gregory	2m36s
Javelin	L Mernagh	24.80m
Relay	Bannister	59.9s

### U14 Boys

400m	E Price	
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Mr Dan Lane



# Chris Wood 1965 – 2009

Chris Wood first arrived at the college as a pupil in 1965, leaving to study Chemistry at Cambridge, returning to Rendcomb as a teacher in 1979.

His contribution to Rendcomb over the years has been so colossal that the Old Rendcombian Society Newsletter devoted seventeen pages to him!

Many pupils will know him as an outstanding teacher of Chemistry, an excellent hockey coach and a very supportive sixth form tutor; some Old Rendcombians will remember him with Mrs Wood as very caring houseparents in the Old Rectory. More recently, he took on the demanding role of Director of Studies; a post which requires a meticulous eye for detail and an avaricious appetite for administration.

Chris writes;

Retirement is often a wrench but when you have been associated with your place of work for 44 years ( as pupil, Old Rendcombian and teacher) and taught over 30,000 lessons it certainly seems like a big step.

I have enjoyed this long career and have many Rendcombians to thank for the part they have played during my teaching of Chemistry, Physics, Science, Mathematics, hockey, cricket, rugby, squash, photography and snooker.

As I said in the last Assembly of term, many pupils made my last year special including: my Chemistry and Form 1A Science class, my photography and snooker groups, the bronze Duke of Edinburgh groups, the 3rd XI mens' hockey XI and of course the under 15 girls hockey and singing XI many of whom entertained us so well in Mulan. When

I wear my leavers' hoodie I shall remember this time with fondness. What of the future? Well I hope to see some of you at Old Rendcombian Society events or perhaps on Duke of Edinburgh expeditions.



## Joy Gibson speaking about Chris as a teacher and colleague:

"Rigour is what Chris is all about. Over 30 years, Chris has not cut corners and there has never been a sense of "this will do". Only the best from Chris, for the pupils here"

"Lovely clear explanations were given about difficult chemistry topics with diagrams and beautiful clear straight writing on the board. He did not mind at all repeating an explanation if required. At the end of lessons he always had time for students who needed further help"





# Sophie Blackwell 1991 – 2009

Sophie Blackwell also retires this year and we must pay tribute to the excellent contribution which Mrs Blackwell has made to Art Department over eighteen years; the last six of them as Head of Department.

Under her inspired leadership, the work of the department has gone from strength to strength and there is a whole generation of artists who have been taught their craft at the skilful hands of this gentle and very caring teacher.



Tom Denny, Emma Roffe, Sophie Blackwell and Corinne Hockley.



## 'Our mum' Sophia

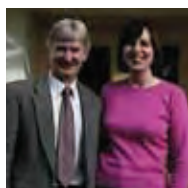
(Aya Sophia – our lady of integrity + serendipity)

Oh no Sophia! – Rose without briar, please tell us it cannot be true,  
That by end of school year, (to beary-eyed cheers) – your ship sails for adventures new  
I drive to the 'Comb in a new state of gloom 'til a poppy field catches my eye  
And like petals through rain the memories come – a well that will never run dry  
Like the time when both you and the masterful Hugh travelled the Afric interior  
By the time you returned – a new sobriquet earned was Father + Mother superior  
Likewise we depend on our motherly Hen when we're faced with unruly behaviour  
And with the right word – never shaken or stirred – your bond is so often our saviour  
Your knowledge is vast, your friends always lost, and travels abroad often beckon  
Whether to France (where the foxes never fast) or an Indian dance on the Deccan  
Cultured and wise – time with you always flies, as you share thoughts on books or on fashion  
Most important of all, young minds held in thrall by creatively teaching with passion  
So – do you have flaws? Well, after a pause – there's something you do with your keys...  
and mighty confusion pursues your illusion of making them vanish with ease  
Those glasses you wear must have angered your hair – so often they take themselves walking  
Though order prevails – chaos hangs to its tails – as you hide the mishaps with calm talking  
Don't go Sophia! – keep us out of the mire – and tell us you don't intend leaving!  
We'll plan themes over wine – for it is no crime to prevent all these bosoms from heaving  
But we must face the facts – 'tis is the last act you intend to be starring in Rendcomb  
So with every good cheer, best wish and fond tear – sincerely – we'll miss you our mum!

**Emma Roffe and Corinne Hockley composed this poem about Sophie:**

We wish both these long-serving colleagues, who have given selflessly of their time to Rendcomb, a long and happy retirement.

# Farewell



**Reverend  
Charles  
Jefferson  
2001-2009**

We said goodbye to Reverend Jefferson at the end of the Lent term after eight years of service as Chaplain and Priest-in-Charge of St Peter's. Reverend Jefferson combined these two roles with teaching RE, coaching some rugby and cricket and acting, at one stage, as our child protection officer.

He leaves us with his family to return to parish work, taking with him our gratitude for his religious leadership of the college and our best wishes for the next stage of his ministry.



**Derek  
Coombes  
1983 - 2009**

Derek Coombes retired from Rendcomb after a

26 year post naval career based in the labs. He started off as the technician for Physics and then for Computing as well, when the first PCs made their way into schools.

Derek has always been a willing technician and consequently he has accumulated many other jobs over the years such as the former school bookshop, the pupils shop, school stationery, the DofE store and photocopiers to name but a few.

Derek is popular with pupils; he expects good behaviour from them, he cares about them and he is respected for this. So many Rendcombians are in debt to him for the excellent service he has provided in so many areas from mending spectacles to producing leavers' year books.

Few staff will not have been helped by Derek in some way too. If he has not set up apparatus for you or unjammed a photocopier, he has probably delivered your stationery or finished a presentation job for you. A school cannot run smoothly without such all round support which often goes unnoticed or unthanked.

*Mr C Wood*



**Rhona  
Stratford  
1976 - 2009**

Rhona Stratford has worked at Rendcomb

since 1976, mainly based in Park House and The Old Rectory. She even remembers cleaning in the Old Rectory when Alex Brealy was there as a pupil! Rhona always had a great sense of humour, except where rodents, reptiles and spiders are involved, especially when they were living in the student's rooms. She also enjoyed playing practical jokes on the grounds and works staff and used to hide Paul Kampe's ladders and Tony Parson's cap. In the boarding houses where she worked, Rhona was highly respected by the staff and students, sometimes a mother figure for them to speak to and sometimes a shoulder to cry on, a wise head always making the right call when someone else should be informed and often just a listener when a student away from home needed someone to speak too. She will be very much missed by the Rendcomb Community.

*Mr M Naylor*



**Lyndsay  
Robinson  
2008 - 2009**

Lyndsay Robinson joined us as a lacrosse coach

and Resident House Tutor in Park House for a year from the United States. She quickly settled in and became a friendly face about the House who pupils turned to for help and advice. Lyndsay will also be greatly missed for all her hard work in coaching lacrosse. She returns to live in Denver in the United States with our best wishes for her future and her marriage to her fiancé,

*Mrs K Coups*

## Mary Brownbill

This term we say farewell to Mary Brownbill. Mary came to Rendcomb to teach singing four years ago and in that time helped many of our singers in both the senior and junior school develop their vocal skills.

She will be fondly remembered for her exceptional warmth of personality and the generous encouragement she gave in her lessons. We wish her the very best for the future.



**Gwen Busby  
2008 - 09**

At the end of the Summer Term, the Science Department said farewell

to Mrs Gwen Busby, who taught General Science for a year to the first and second years.

Despite her brief tenure, she made her mark on the College in many ways and will be greatly missed by staff and pupils alike.

*Mr C Vuolo*



**Dan Lane  
2008 - 2009**

Dan Lane joined Rendcomb for a year while he was studying

for his PGCE in PE.

In addition to teaching PE Dan coached teams for Rugby, Hockey and Cricket with enthusiasm and has proved popular with students. He approached everything with great professionalism and meticulous preparation.

Dan was also a residential tutor in the Old Rectory during his time at Rendcomb. He was greatly respected by the boys and was happy to join in events such as the Adventure Weekend and Friday Night Challenges and was a great support to Mr & Mrs Brealy. His piano playing will be greatly missed in the corridors of the Old Rectory!

*Mrs A Brealy and Mr C Vuolo*

## Greg Watson

The end of the Lent term was marked by the retirement of Rendcomb's first drum teacher, Mr Greg Watson. During his twenty-four years at the College, the rhythmic skills of his many pupils were honed on the drum kit; preparing them for grade examinations and GCSE Music whilst developing the necessary skills for participating in the student rock bands.

Many will remember him in Rendcomb's production of both "Jesus Christ Superstar" and "The Return to the Forbidden Planet" in which his playing featured prominently.

We remain grateful for his contribution to the Music Department at Rendcomb and wish him a very happy retirement.

*Mr R Raby*



## Darrell Hayward 2002 – 09

Darrell Hayward joined the ICT Department at Rendcomb in 2002 and was promoted to Network Manager.

He was responsible for the major project to network the entire campus in addition to overseeing the ICT needs of the whole College.

We wish him every success in his future career.



## Lt Col The Hon Jeremy Grey 1994–2009

The school which Jeremy leaves as he retires in 2009 is virtually unrecognisable compared to the school to which he was appointed in 1994. As a soldier with a distinguished career, it was obvious that Jeremy would bring his military precision to project planning, development and expansion over the past fifteen years. The completion of the Astroturf in 1997, supported by the generosity of The Martin Wills Bequest, owes a great deal to Jeremy's diverse skills of forward and detailed planning, skilful negotiation with Cotswold District Council and professional stamina in seeing a major project to completion.

With a new and ambitious headmaster arriving two years later, Jeremy was the first to volunteer to move out of his office [now situated where Martin Watson's office is located] to make way for the arrival of the Junior School. Nearly ten years on, this major development which has seen the Junior School grow to a school of over 140 pupils, would not have been possible without Jeremy's meticulous eye for detail, supported on the ground by Paul and Peter Cairns. Similarly, the relocation of the French and English Departments to Stable Block and a substantial redeployment of classroom usage across the senior school owes a great deal to Jeremy's wisdom and advice.

During this corresponding period, he also supported Darrell Hayward, the ICT Network Manager, in transforming our total ICT provision across the college.

A great deal of the work of the bursar also takes place behind the scenes: providing support as Clerk to our governors; an increasingly important role as governance comes under greater scrutiny from external inspectors; the need for schools to be compliant under a plethora of Health and Safety legislation and the need to respond to yet another employment initiative coming out of Brussels. In these roles Jeremy was not only efficient, he also provided leadership for the non-teaching staff in the college. In all of this he was supported by Suzie, who improved the quality of the cookery activity in the college but also provided us with beautiful flowers on special occasions, such as Founder's Day.

Towards the end of his Rendcomb career, Jeremy also gave generously of his own time as Churchwarden in St Peter's, providing invaluable support to Charles Jefferson. Indeed in his final term at Rendcomb he led an excellent college service which was very well received on the theme of friendship. We thank, Jeremy, Suzie and Bas Grey for their substantial contribution to the life of Rendcomb during their time with us and as they embark upon ventures new in France, we genuinely hope that this will not be goodbye but au revoir.

*Gerry Holden*

## Welcome to Savannah Kayleigh Scarisbrick

Born 8th March 2009.



## Jasper McKelvey

Born on 5th November 2008.



Maria  
Lizana-Weeks



## New Staff

Alice Berry, Jacqueline Hetzel, Austen O'Hanlan, Penny Taylor, Angela Ferreira



# Academic Record 2009



## A Level

Jak Allen	A Bs Ict E(AS)
Richard Ashton	B H Py
Jasmine Barks	B G* Py C(AS)
Sinead Brennan	E* H* Ms
Steven Brown	Dr E Ict Bs(AS)
Iva Carvalhosa	C* Cns M* Mf* B*(AS)
Charles Daly	E M* Py Dr(AS)
April Edwards	Dr E G
Max Ellis	B Bs G
Rosie Freeth	A G
Christina Gasteiger	Dr* E* F G* A(AS)
Louis Greenaway	A Bs G
Ivan Hong	C* M* P* Mf*(AS)
Sophie Humphries	C Dr E
Kate Ke	M* Mf Py C(A)

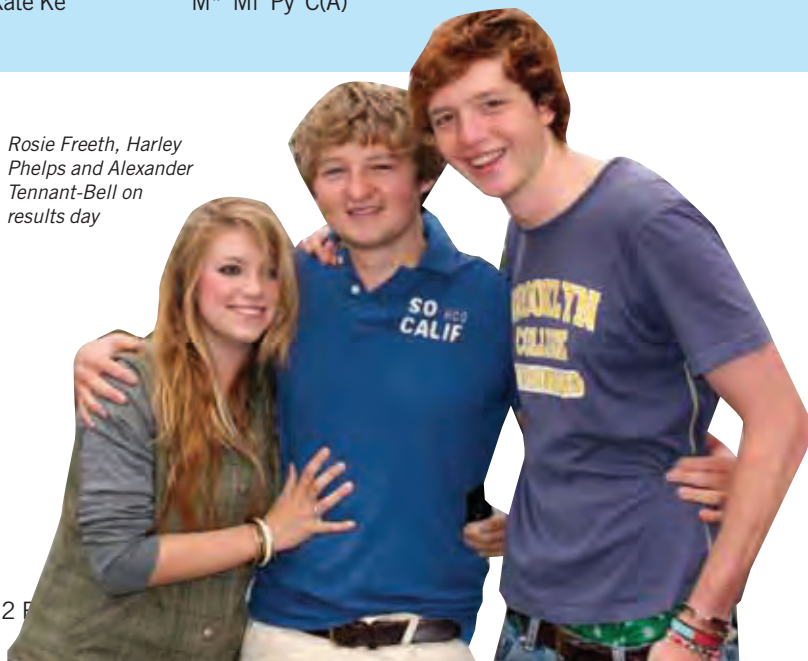
Harley Phelps	A G
Alex Tennant-Bell	B C Py P(AS)
Rhys Thomas	A* Bs E
Hannah Timmins	A* B C P(AS)
Fiona Trumper	A E F Bs(AS)
Wild Wang	M* Mf P C(AS)
Rachel Watson	B C* G* H(AS)
Helena Zhang	M* Mf Py* Cns*(AS)

Key: \* grade A

Subject Key:

A=Art B=Biology Bs=Business Studies  
C=Chemistry Cns=Chinese Dr=Drama  
E=English F=French G=Geography  
Gm=German H=History Ict=Information  
Communication Technology M=Maths  
Mf=Further Maths Ms=Music P=Physics  
Py=Psychology

Rosie Freeth, Harley Phelps and Alexander Tennant-Bell on results day



## GCSE

Lucy Barnett	A B* C** E El G Ict M** MAd** P
Matthew Beck	B**C** G**H**Ict M**MAd** Pe** P**
James Bell	El G Pe
Evie Bevans	A E El* G* H* M MAd Sc ScAd Sp
Alex Bishop	B* C* E El** G* Gm* Ict* M** MAd* Pe** P
Oliver Brady	D E El F* H M MAd Mu Sc
Finn Brennan	D* E El* G* Gm H** M MAd Sc* ScAd
Henry Brittain	E El MAd PE Sc
James Brogden	A E El G H Sc
Charlotte Clements	E El G* Gm M MAd Mu* Sc ScAd
Rachel Conlon	B C E El G Gm* Ict M* MAd P Sp
Michael Crickmore	A B C* E El* F H** M* MAd Pe* P
Blaise Dyer	A* D** E* El** Gm M MAd Sc* ScAd
C Emslie-Bagwell	A D E El G* H* M MAd Sc* ScAd
Georgie Freeth	A* D E El G Sc ScAd
Emily Heron	A E El G H M MAd Sc ScAd
Ben Hodder	A* B* C* E* El* F* G* H** M MAd P*
Tristram Ireland	E El G M MAd Mu Sc
Rachel Jenkins	El M MAd Sc
Rachael Jennings	A D E El G* Gm M MAd Sc* ScAd
Sarah Jones	A* B** C** D** E* El** G** H** M* MAd** P**
Xenia Kucherenko	A E El Gm** H M MAd Sc ScAd
Koake Kumai	A Ja** E El G M MAd PE ScAd
Yasmin Lester-Powell	A**B* C** D* E* El* G** Gm M* MAd P
Kerry Lin	A B** C** Cn** E El** G** H** Ict* M** MAd** P**
Tom Margesson	B** C** E* E **G** G* H** Ict** M** MAd** P**
Okailey Mensah	B C E El F G* M MAd Pe P

# Prefect Team 2009 – 2010



**Head Girl:**  
*Sophie Musgrave*

**Head Boy:**  
*George Ord*

**Deputy Head Girl:**  
*Dorothy Lu*

**Deputy Head Boy:**  
*Ed Thomason*

**Day Pupil Prefect:**  
*James Brittain*

**Boarding Prefect:**  
*Lucy Taylor*

**Prefects:**  
*Fran Baker*  
*Ieuan Clements*  
*Laura Graham*  
*Alex Jones*  
*Alistair Read*  
*Rory Clarke*  
*Phillip Ortner*  
*Ariel Chan*



*Senior Prefects*

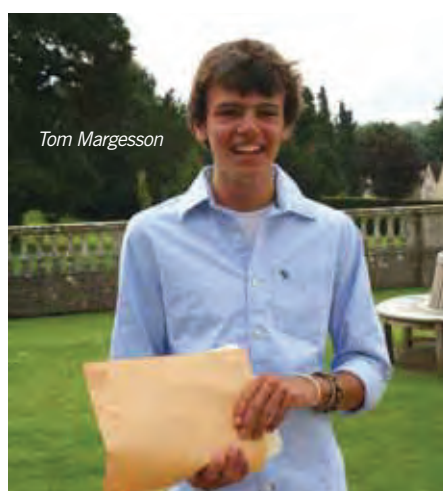
Tom Molloy	BC* D* E EI FG M** MAd** Mu* P*
Alex Newman	A E EI G M MAd Pe* Sc ScAd
Tom Pearson	E EI G* Gm H* M* MAd Sc ScAd
Daniel Rich	A D E EI G H* M MAd Sc ScAd
Harvey Rich	A B C E* EI* F** G** Ict* M** MAd P
George Ros	E F M MAd ScAd
Katy Schofield	B C D** E EI* G* H** M MAd PE* P
Flora Scott	A** D* E* EI* M Sc ScAd
Edward Slark	A* D* E EI H* M MAd Mu* Sc ScAd
Sarah Tarleton	D** E* EI** F** H** M MAd Sc ScAd Sp**
Emily Taylor	A E* EI** G** Gm H** M MAd Sc ScAd
Hannah Taylor	D E EI F* G M MAd Sc Sp*

Abi Tennant-Bell	E EI FG M Pe Sc
Beth Timmins	A** B C** D** E* EI** F** H** M MAd P*
Michael Turner	D E EI G M MAd Sc
Aaron Werner	A M MAd Mu Sc
Abigail Whittles	A* B* C** E* EI** G** H** M** MAd**PE** P*
Leo Wong	A Cn** D M MAd Sc

Key: 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 Ict-Information  
Communication Technology  
M-Mathematics MAd-Additional  
Mathematics Mu-Music P-Physics  
Pe-Physical Education Ja-Japanese  
Ch-Chinese Sc-Science  
ScAd-Additional Science Sp-Spanish



*Sarah Tarleton with  
her parents*



*Tom Margesson*





*Rendcomb College and Junior School*

# *May Ball*



The organising  
committee chaired  
by Davina Clift



# Welcome to the Junior School

## Our Golden Year



Outdoor activities are always important at Rendcomb College Junior School and this has been acknowledged with some major awards.



Eco Team

## Outstanding ISI Report September 2008

"Rendcomb College Junior School provides excellent education and care, supporting the learning and development of every child as a unique individual... The school has an exceptionally effective partnership with parents so that school and home work extremely closely together in providing the best for children."

## Outdoor Setting of the Year

Staff collected the prestigious Early Years Education Magazine Award



The EYE (Early Years Education) publication announced their national award winners in September and Mr and Mrs Watson, Miss Hunter and Miss Langstaff attended an "Oscar" type ceremony at the Roehampton institute, London.

We were thrilled to receive the award for Outdoor Setting of the Year which recognised our excellent use of the environment within our lessons, the forest school and the recently awarded Eco Schools Green Flag Award. A stunning trophy now graces our cabinet.



We are very proud of our Green Flag Award

## Eco Day

The start of the Enrichment week began with Eco day where the children from J3-J6 enjoyed a variety of activities with the environment in mind.

They planted bean seeds, discovered some of the largest ancient trees on the school site and made observations about wasted electricity around the school with special emphasis on "Stand By" buttons. The pupils then made graphs and posters persuading people to save power. An exciting orienteering course was set up within the grounds and clever map reading saw children sprinting to the next point.

Finally Mark, a willow weaver, visited Rendcomb and all pupils helped to create 6 fantastic willow bases which will be used as seats and an interlocking sculpture of two hoops. It was certainly an exciting day and the willow star wands created by everyone made it magical!

# Total Green Awards with the Young People's Trust for the Environment

Rendcomb's successes continued with a year 4, 5 and 6 project entitled "Bug Alert" winning the Central region's category for "Totally Creative".

The pupils researched different insects, designed their models from largely recycled materials and finally made their models. Thirty of the models made up a wonderful display which certainly had the "Wow!" factor. A framed certificate and £500 was presented in a special assembly by representatives from TOTAL. We were delighted to win this award out of 17,000 entries.



(Photo by Anna Lythgoe [www.thousandwordmedia.com](http://www.thousandwordmedia.com))



## Woodland Trust Gold Award

More good news arrived with the top award by the Woodland Trust for continued care for the environment, recycling and tree planting among many other activities.

A wooden plaque recognises our achievement.



## Food Miles

We have grown our own vegetables again this year with the potatoes, lettuce and radish proving a great success.

Year 4, together with the gardening club, helped to plant the vegetables and Year 5 and 6 developed recipes using some of the ingredients.

All children had the opportunity to taste the produce at lunch. It was delicious and tasted even better because there were zero food miles!



## Climate Cops

Climate Cops revisited Rendcomb this year for the second part of N'Power's workshop to encourage children to think about their planet.

This time Year 4 and Year 5 took part in the sessions with team work being the aim. They wrote songs, poems and designed posters to encourage others to save the planet too. All pupils (and teachers) enjoyed participating in the various energetic activities including rowing machines to make energy and thermal imaging of our bodies to show heat loss.



## Maxim's Scorpion scoops prize

Four of the "Bug Alert" models were entered for the Robert Bowman sculpture awards in London.

Maxim Hair's impressive scorpion achieved a very well deserved place in the semi final out of hundreds of entries.

Maxim's sculpture can be seen on the web site and his prize of £50 was a big surprise.

# Staff News

## Leavers



### Dawn Freegard (Headmaster's Secretary)

After 5 years outstanding service to Rendcomb College Junior School Dawn decided to make a career change. I thank her sincerely for all her support and hard work over those years both for the school and me, as Headmaster. The establishment and near immediate success of the Nursery, was in no small part due to Dawn's organisational skills and rapport with parents and pupils. We wish her every future happiness and success.



### Andrea Lindsay – gap tutor 2008

From the outset Andrea displayed a level of

responsibility and maturity way beyond her years and she easily settled and contributed to school life in so many ways. She had the natural gift of being able to work with pupils/students of all age groups and seemed equally at ease working in the Nursery as with 6th Form in Park House. Her positive demeanour and smiley disposition endeared her to both pupils and colleagues and we all appreciated her diligence and professionalism. Andrea

has now returned home to South Africa to continue her studies which I believe are now in the direction of teaching! Thank you Andrea for all your hard work and friendship.

## Welcome



### Julia Nichols (Headmaster's Secretary)

Julia transferred from a career in business to join us in October 2008. She has a lovely manner which has immediately endeared her to all. In a complex and highly important role, Julia maintains a calm and focussed approach and she seems a natural multi-tasker! A tremendous acquisition who will undoubtedly further enhance the smooth running of the school.



### Julie Scase (Teaching Assistant)

Having covered briefly as Headmaster's Secretary we were delighted to secure Julie's services as a teaching assistant. Currently deployed in Nursery, Julie is a true professional and brings a wide range of experience and skills to our team.

## Congratulations



Rebecca Coulthard on the birth of her daughter, Madeleine on 10th September 2008.



James McKelvey on the birth of his second child, Jasper born on 5th November 2008.



Jon Arnold on the birth of his son Joe born 3rd February 2009.

Jemma Hill on the arrival of her second child, Freddie born on 29th April 2009.



We send our very best wishes to Miss Katie Hunter (Reception) on her marriage to Paul this Summer. We look forward to welcoming her back as Mrs Hockey in September.

## Photo Competition Junior School Winners



### Christmas

#### Winner:

"Candles" by Phoebe Janes (J4)

#### Second:

"Decoration" by Eloise Gooch (J5)

#### Highly commended:

"In the sand" by Thomas Godwin (J5)



### Rendcomb

#### Winner:

"Terrace" by Megan Hardie (J4)

#### Second:

"Old Rectory" by Eleanor Brealy (J5)

#### Highly commended:

"Stable Block" by Megan Hardie (J4)



### Open

#### Winner:

"Icy cobweb" by Eleanor Brealy (J5)

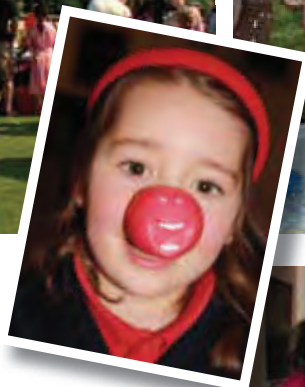
#### Second:

"Flowers" by William Vaughan (J3)

#### Highly commended:

"Daffodils" by Daisy Amin (Reception)

"Sabre toothed tiger" by Phoebe Janes (J4)



# JEST

JEST, the social arm of the Junior School Parents' Association, has enjoyed another packed year of events for the children, parents and teachers of the Junior School.

On the first Friday of each term many of the children took part in some good old-fashioned fun with both the bingo and beetle-drive sessions proving to be favourites with all ages – from nursery to J6. At the start of the spring term over 50 pupils took part in “Activity Stations”, which saw them decorating bags, playing dominoes and tiddly-winks, playing a memory game and decorating biscuits.

At the end of the Michaelmas term the Otters and Juniors enjoyed Christmas Parties. They were kept entertained by a magic show and then enjoyed a party tea. Father Christmas also found time in his busy schedule to meet the children and had presents for everyone.

Our cake and children's second-hand book sale coincided with Red Nose Day and the generous donations of both cakes and books from parents ensured that stomachs were filled, bookshelves were stocked and money was raised for both JEST and Comic Relief.

...and there has been plenty for the adults too. This year's Autumn Bash saw parents and teachers enjoying a Ceilidh evening, with the dancing following on from a hearty chilli supper. The George Buchanan Band provided the music and patiently called the dance moves!

At the end of November JEST held a Christmas Fair, kindly hosted by Catherine and Adam Schallamach. Stall holders sold a range of goods, including handbags, jewellery and Christmas gifts. Guests enjoyed shopping and socialising over a glass of wine

and were also entertained by a Pampered Chef cookery demonstration.

This year JEST joined forces with the Senior School Parents' Association to host a May Ball for parents and staff from both the Junior and Senior School. 200 guests enjoyed a champagne reception and three-course dinner, followed by dancing to live music provided by Locomotion and some serious fun on the Casino tables and Gold Cup Horses.

....and to round off the year on a summery note, the sun blazed down on the JEST summer fete held at the end of June and allowed the children and their families to enjoy the huge array of stalls and activities that the fete had to offer. The children kindly helped to cool their Headmaster down by giving plentiful support to the “wet sponge throwing” competition and, once again, the “doughnuts on the line” proved extremely popular. All in all a most enjoyable afternoon.

Profits from the adults' social events this year have helped to fund the children's events and have also allowed the school to purchase a number of “extras”, including wet-play and playground equipment, a digital camera, a fabric world map for the Otters and a light panel for the Nursery.

JEST would like to thank all parents for their support and generosity. Thanks are also due to the parents who make up the JEST committee and who have worked so hard to make the events a success.

*Annie McKeown JEST Chair*



# Nursery

The Nursery children have had an exciting year.

The children have been given many opportunities to understand the world around them. We have had tadpoles in our class to look after and even Mahony's lambs have visited the classroom.

They have enjoyed many walks throughout Rendcomb where they have met many of our friendly creatures such as Brad the horse, Shirley the Sheep and visited Mary and Pete Cairn's house to meet the bunnies.

We have grown lots of wonderful produce in our nursery courtyard, such as strawberries, potatoes, lettuce and carrots and have also been given the opportunity to explore and touch other foods such as trout!!



If I had my child to raise over again



I'd finger paint more, and point the finger less.



I'd do less correcting, and more connecting.



I'd take my eyes off my watch, and watch with my eyes.



I would care to know less, and know to care more.



I'd take more hikes and fly more kites.



I'd stop playing serious, and seriously play.



I'd run through more fields, and gaze at more stars.



I'd do more hugging, and less tugging.



I would be firm less often, and affirm much more.



I'd build self-esteem first, and the house later.



I'd teach less about the love of power, And more about the power of love.

If I had my child to raise over again -  
Diane Loomans



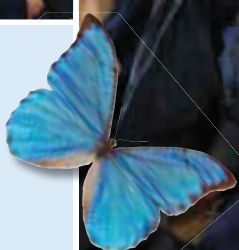


# Reception

Reception have enjoyed learning through topics and....  
These are a few of our favourite things...



Fire engines, tractors, Apollo 11,  
Ambulance visit and pirate ship role play,  
Learning to use a programmable toy,  
These are a few things of our favourite things.



Butterfly paintings, a trip to the farm park,  
Looking at slow worms, a snail and a puppy,  
Learning about large and small animals,  
These are a few of our favourite things.





Painting and counting, and Music and Movement,  
Reading and puppet shows, and Jolly Phonics,  
Learning to sing, every note loud and clear,  
These are a few of our favourite things.



Tree planting, sledging, sailing boats  
on the river,  
A ballet show, martial arts and  
building bridges,  
Learning about the world in which we live,  
These are a few of our favourite  
things.



When I'm tired, when the work's hard,  
When I'm feeling sad,  
I simply remember my favourite things,  
And then I don't feel so bad.



# J1



Mrs Louisson and Mrs Bleaken have had a very adventurous and exciting year with J1.

Topics have included Ourselves, Light and Dark, Dinosaurs, Rubbish and Recycling and Pirates. The focus has been upon learning through first hand experiences and the children have enjoyed opportunities to learn both inside and outside the classroom. Forest school has continued to be a favourite activity amongst the children in all seasons.

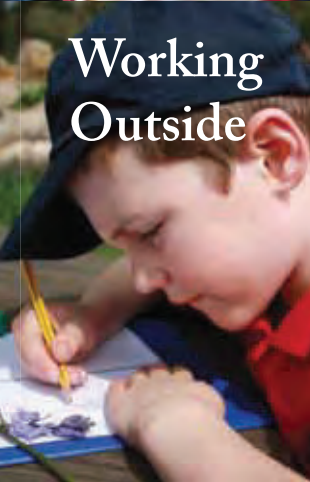


## Pirates Ahoy

One of the highlights of the year has been our pirate day where the children met Pirate Ron and his fabulous puppets.



## Working Outside






## Walking with dinosaurs

The children thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the Oxford University Natural History Museum.

They learnt lots of amazing dinosaur facts and got to handle a variety of artefacts including dinosaur poo!



## Papermaking



We learnt about wormeries



J1 love Forest School

What a busy year J2 have had! Looking back it seems we have packed so much into three terms that we would like to share our special moments with you.



## Hindu festival of Divali.

To start the Michaelmas term we went to the Cheltenham Museum to learn about the Hindu festival of Divali.

We were allowed to dress up in traditional Indian clothes and play with Indian toys. We also had lots of fun creating our own divas.



## Cheltenham Literature Festival

Later on in the term we went to the Cheltenham Literature Festival and listened to Nick Butterworth talking about how he illustrates his books.



## Our visit to STEAM



In the Lent Term we played in the snow and built giant snowmen on top pitch and went to the Steam Museum to learn more about the GWR railway and Brunel.

We also started our own J2 club, so we could have even more fun after school.

The best part of J2 is going on lots of trips and my favourite was the STEAM museum.

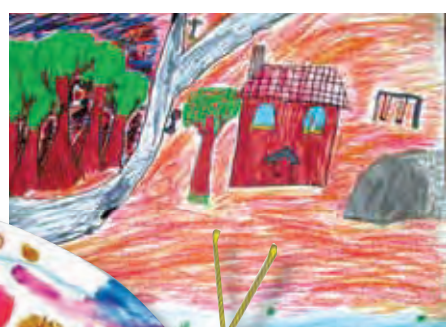




In the Summer Term we spent a whole day at the Fresh Air Sculpture Show at Quenington and enjoyed an interactive Pirates Day with J1 and a Native Americans day with J3. What a fun packed and hard working year we all have had!



# J3 & J4 Art





# Music

Another musical year for Rendcomb College Junior School comes to a close, and there have been so many highlights that we have been dazzled.

Earlier in the year we had our customary round of musical events: afternoon concerts in October and March (with a rousing performance of Scott Joplin's "The Entertainer", with colourful instrumental playing by Mrs Auster on alto saxophone and Mr Hughes on bassoon). On both these occasions we had solo songs and pieces for woodwind, including a spirited début from oboist Laurence Jones.

The Christmas Carol Service was full of contrasts: J3 and J4 gave us a spirited "Mary had a baby" and the choir sang an ancient plainsong melody – in Latin. The final musical item, sung by all the children, was the emotional Carol of the Drum, which lifted the hearts of everyone. We are delighted that some of the children have been invited to take part in the 2009 Senior Carol Service: high praise indeed for the quality of the junior children's singing.

Most recently, of course, has been a really exciting Big Arts Day: all the children took part in a demonstration by Mr Coldrick of numerous percussion instruments both tuned and untuned. It would be a real pleasure to see some of our pupils taking up percussion instruments, such as Glockenspiels and Vibraphones.

A few days earlier we had our afternoon concert, with diverse instrumental solos and

ensembles and the usual variety of class songs. On this occasion we were joined by Miss Hansford and Mrs Auster, playing oboe and saxophone respectively; by the legendary guitarist Mr Dunn; by Mr Hughes playing the bassoon; and by a welcome visitor from the Senior School, bass guitarist Jolyon Dunn.

In May we heard the extraordinary tale of Jason and the Argonauts in "Fleeced", told in musical fashion by Andrew Oxspring with additional material by Mrs Brealy. On this occasion the Musical Direction was in the hands of Mr McKelvey, assisted by Messrs. Coldrick, Dunn and Raby. The overall musical effect of the accompaniments and instrumental interludes was most remarkable.

The dramatic nature of this production was of course greatly enhanced by the appearance of a most fearsome dragon, although no-one was able to identify the actor within the costume.

As always, we are very grateful to all the visiting music teachers for their expert guidance.

Music at Rendcomb certainly thrives.

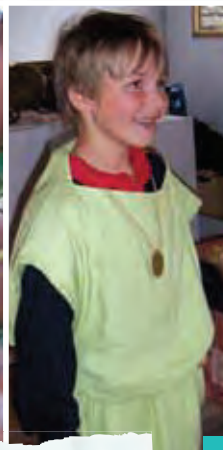
Well done, everyone!

*Mr Philip Colls*





J3 and Mrs Lee having fun in the snow



Hamsterlane  
Hammy's Cage  
Hamshire

Dear Hammy,

You are now my best friend. How are things in your cage? I think it must be really fun and comfy. I just want to tell you how much I love you. Hammy, you are the best pet in the whole wide world.

Lots of love Archie



## My Animals

My dog, Tag, is as thin as a twig,  
My five fish are incredible swimmers,  
My cat, Chuck, is as furry as a lion,  
My snake, Severus, is as slimy as a slug,  
My lizard, Benny, is as spiky as a hedgehog,  
My donkeys are as cheeky as kittens,  
My horse, Barney, is as big as a boat,  
My pony, Annabelle, is as white as snow,  
My ducks are as noisy as wolves howling,  
My sheep are as frizzy as curly hair,  
My lambs are as shy as newborn babies,  
My Lamb, Freckles, is as freaky as clowns,  
My dog, George, is as naughty as a monkey,  
My mice are as small as pins,  
And THAT is how I describe my animals.  
Grace Tushingham  
(It's a good job Grace's dad is a vet!!)

We enjoyed being slaves at Chedworth Roman Villa



Native American Day learning about making fires, music and myths

## Riddle

I fly up high,  
High up the heavens,  
I fly above the peak,  
I breathe something humans fear,  
I defend myself strongly,  
Nobody loves me.  
Who am I?  
(a dragon)  
Charlie Pugh





Following animal tracks in the snow



Learning about symbols in our church

### Our visit to the Corineum Museum

At the Corineum Museum, in the life learning centre we learnt about Anglo-Saxon graves and we were archaeologists. We had to find out who was in the grave and we had Anglo-Saxon treasures to work out if it was male or female. We also had a sheet which showed us the human's body.

After we went to the learning centre we had a tour around the museum. First we went and saw the cells at the end of the stone age, in there we saw some ancient Celtic tools and models of Celtic villagers and information about the Celts' clothes and what they wore.

Then we saw the Roman time period. I really enjoyed our morning.

Philip Harrison Josey



At the Corinium Museum

### A Good Boy Pie

Ingredients:

Half a hand full of patience.

3 cups of knowledge.

A mega bag of sweets.

A bag of footballs.

1000grams of politeness.

A sack of mud.

A large bowl of fun.

You will need:

A whisk

2 massive bowls

Method:

Beat the fun.

Then put the fun in a bowl.

Get the 1000 grams of politeness and whisk it well.

Get the mega bag of sweets and the batch of mud and pour it in.

Now you can Whisk it.

Get 3 cups of knowledge.

Now cook it for 1 year and there you have a good boy.

By Oliver Jones



Learning about our locality in geography





Trip to @ Bristol



## Redwood Forest nr Slimbridge J4 Trip to Ernest Cook Trust

On Tuesday, 16th June J4 went for a trip to 'Redwood', part of the Ernest Cook Trust Foundation. We arrived and met Anne Newman and Lee, the park ranger. The children were shown a badger set, woodpecker habitats as well as handling various deer antlers. After a lively lunch in the glorious sunshine the children were given the opportunity to go pond dipping where many weird and wonderful creatures



Mrs Auster and  
Mr Lawrence



were retrieved, including many tadpoles, fish and newts. Everyone enjoyed their day a learnt many interesting and fabulous facts about the animals and habitats in the wood.

*I loved all the nature and felt that I could stay forever. – Sophie Tice*

*I loved the pond dipping because I found a tadpole on my first go – Amelia Ward*

*I found the most interesting facts, were that deer shed their antlers once a year and there is more than one type of newt. – Thomas Ford.*

*I especially loved lying under the old oak tree and looking up at the lush green inter woven branches above my head. – Phoebe Janes*

*I learnt that Buzzards made a mewling sound when they are hunting. – India Ross*



## Food and drink in French

J4 have been studying the topic of food and drink.

Activities have included discussing typical French meals and shopping at our market stall using Euros. Rendcomb's French Chef, Thierry, kindly allowed us to interview him to find out what French people really do eat.

J4 discovered that Thierry used to work in a very classy restaurant in France and loves cooking healthy meals such as his

favourite King Prawn dish although he does like desserts such as crêpes too!

The only thing Thierry doesn't really like is kidneys – most of J4 agree with this! We found out that the most popular drink in France for children is Orangina whilst adults prefer wine and snails are only eaten as a delicacy mainly on special occasions.

*Madame Barker*

## Poetry competition

J4 shone at the school poetry competition, celebrating world book day.

In the year group competition they were runners up with their performance of Roger McGough's 'Sound Collector' for the second successive year.

However, Luke Jarman was overall winner of the individual performances with his

hilarious rendition of 'Waterfront' by Helen Mudd. Lauren Dudlyke came second in the contest and several children received commendations.

WELL DONE J4!





## Making Things Move

Six pupils from each of J4 and J5 attended the Primary School Challenge "Making Things Move", in Gloucester.

The pupils had to give a 10 minutes presentation on their projects. J5 spoke about their animations which they have written, designed and created and J4 spoke about their Forces and Friction display which involves a ball run, incorporating different surfaces.

All children spoke beautifully and intelligently and the judges were highly impressed.

*"We had to talk to business men about what we had been doing. I was really nervous but they liked what we said."*

This was a very valuable experience for the children and they should all be very proud of themselves.

**Frog**  
Land lover  
Good croaker  
Googly eyes  
Big surprise  
Lily pad hopper  
Fly swatter  
Brilliant swimmer  
Champ diver  
Not just green  
Easily seen  
Webbed feet  
Good to eat  
By Benedict Schallamach

## J4 Travel Back in Time

On Monday 23rd March J4 visited the Tudor House Museum in Worcester.

We had a very interesting day trying on Tudor costumes and playing Tudor games. We also had the opportunity to weave on a loom and looked closely at building tools and methods of house construction.

The children asked some super questions and learnt lots of fascinating facts. The children were surprised to discover that only boys went to school in Tudor times and that undergarments were very different! A good time was had by all.



### Stormy night

*I looked out of the attic window and I saw it was a stormy night. The sky was dark and gloomy grey.*

*There was a gusty, roaring and powerful wind which has twisted the trees into all different sizes. The cold and wet raindrops were drumming vigorously against my window. It frightened me to death.*

*I opened my window. My hands were shivering and turning blue from the cold rain. I saw in the wild and bitter storm a strange mysterious light shining out of the brambles.*

*Suddenly, a mischievous wind slammed the window shut ...*

*By Grace Knapp*

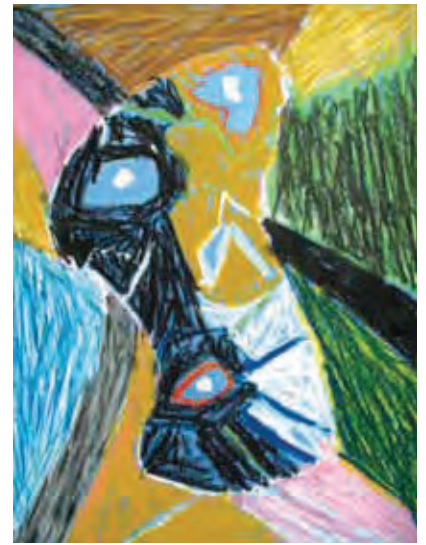
## Balanced breakfast

J4 had great fun preparing and eating a healthy, balanced breakfast.

Having spent Design Technology classes researching breakfasts from around the world and healthy eating, J4 were able to create their own menus, culminating in a morning of culinary skills and tantalised taste-buds.



# J5 & J6 Art





## J5 trip to Pizza Express in Cirencester

We were all given a Pizza Express hat to wear and keep.

We learnt about lots of different things like:

1. How much it would cost to buy one ball of dough—20p
2. How many dough balls can you get out of one ball of dough—16.
3. How many pizzas can you cook

in the oven at once—18 pizzas

4. It took 4 minutes for the pizzas to cook.

5. 2½ minutes for the bigger but thinner pizza to cook.

We saw how they made the dough balls and were even allowed to try one after they had been cooked. We had a selection of different toppings to put on our pizzas like ham, pepperoni, chicken,

olives, red pepper, red onion and some other toppings as well. Consequently, all our pizzas were different.

As soon as they came out we had one piece of our pizza, we had to save room for our lunch! We all liked what we had made and all really enjoyed the trip. I was allowed to eat the rest of my pizza for my tea.

*Eloise Gooch*



## Dome Building

The challenge - to make a structure from paper which all of the team members could fit inside!

This seemed like an impossible task when faced with A3 plain paper but the pupils discovered that by rolling it into tubes and securing in a triangular fashion with nuts and bolts, a sturdy structure could be made.

[www.rendcombcollge.org.uk](http://www.rendcombcollge.org.uk)

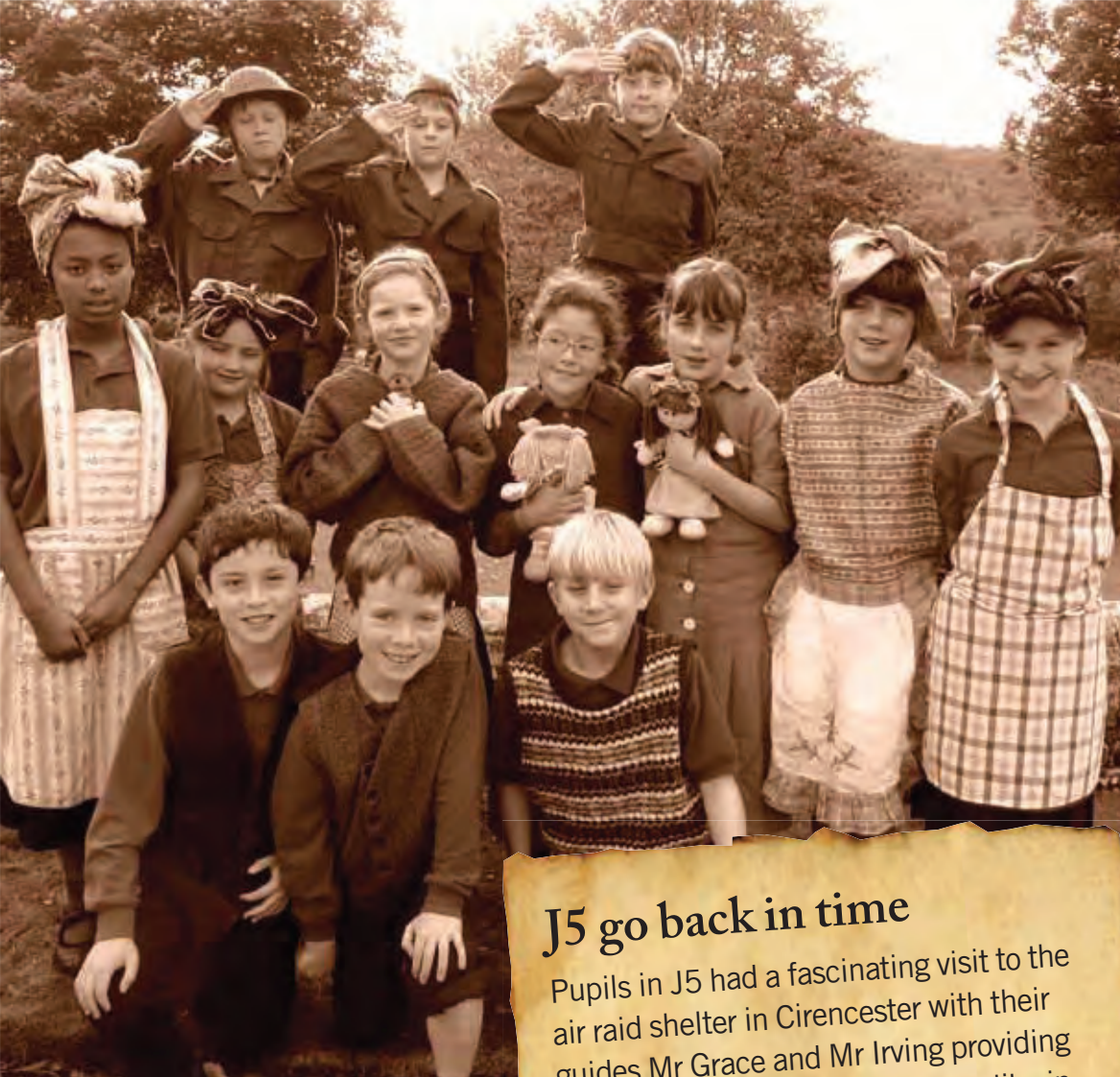
The fantastic domes provided real team work with a production line of skills and the excitement was clear to see as the whole team sat inside with pride.

## Prince Charles' 60th Birthday

A card was made by J5 and sent to Highgrove.

All of the pupils were delighted when they received a letter thanking them for their kind wishes and thoughtful card.





## J5 go back in time

Pupils in J5 had a fascinating visit to the air raid shelter in Cirencester with their guides Mr Grace and Mr Irving providing so many stories about what it was like in Cirencester during the war.

The artefacts that are held within the air raid shelter and in the extra rooms in the old hospital certainly helped to bring our history topic to life.

Hopefully the pupils will visit again with their parents and retell some of the amazing facts learnt during the visit. We were once again congratulated on the pupils' attentiveness and behaviour.

It certainly was an enjoyable trip.

## One Dark Knight

*The wind was a ghastly hurricane  
against the castle walls,  
The angry sea was a whirlpool  
struggling up the shore,  
The clouds were a gathering storm  
heading for the crumbling turrets,  
That night was broken by the  
knight, exhausted in his quest,  
The call of the dawn was a bird  
song floating among the trees,  
The wet dew was glistening crystal  
dangling from the grass,  
The sun was an orange ember  
glowing brightly like a fire,  
Fighting for freedom of the throne  
and the girl he wanted to own,  
By Green Group J5*





Mrs Watson having fun in the snow with some of her class



Mrs Haas baking low carbon footprint scones



## Daedalus & Icarus

J5's contribution to the Primary School Challenge turned out to be not only a challenge but also great fun.

The pupils storyboarded, designed, crafted and filmed their own versions of the tale of Daedalus and Icarus. They used their ICT and media skills to create their animated movie clips. The judges were most impressed with the result.

### Metaphorically Speaking

*The sky was a wondrous blue blanket wrapping mother earth*

*The sea was a glistening shield protecting the creatures*

*The clouds were a coast of fur shading the people below*

*A mysterious boat floated gently onto the shore.*

*By The Yellow Group*

### The Odd House

*It was built into the hillside, tilting precariously like a cup on the edge of a table, ready to collapse onto the houses in the village below. Made of old stone with cracks swarming everywhere and cloaked in ivy. Who on earth would want to live there?*

*The shattered window panes were like prickly needles. The roof was like an unfinished jigsaw. The door was like a narrow plank of wood. It really was the oddest looking Cotswold house I had ever seen. There were massive plants cramped in the tiny garden which looked like a jungle. It felt like you would be pounced on by a predator at any moment. However, the worst thing was inside: insects were everywhere – spiders, woodlice, cockroaches, woodworms, and many more.*

*Nightmare! There's no TV!*

*A TV is the most vital thing there is in a house. Without a TV it's never going to be a proper house, anyone knows that! There was also no Wii, no Playstation, no PSP and no DS. Is there anything electrical? No, the lights were candles and oil lamps which were blown out every five minutes. The bath was only a small dirty tub. How do they get a comfortable night's sleep? I don't know because the bed (well come to think about it, it isn't really a bed) is just a heap of blankets like a farm animal bed.*

*I'm so tired of this that I'd rather go and stay in the fields for a month. This is officially the worst house in the world! I could have gone on all day describing how bad this house was, but before I could carry on my Mum came outside and sighed "What a lovely house we live in!"*

*By Dylan Evans*

*Dylan won a competition to read this on Corinium Radio.*

## Cheltenham Literature Festival

J4-6 visit to see the author Caroline Lawrence.



Caroline Lawrence was born in London, but grew up in California. She now lives in a flat overlooking the River Thames in London.

So far, she has written 15 books in her Roman Mysteries series and three quiz books. There are going to be another 3 new books published in 2009 and 2010. The four main characters in her Roman Mysteries series are Flavia, Jonathan, Nubia and Lupus. She told us that there are 22 beats to make a good story. But every story will always have the same seven beats.

These are a bit like a skeleton of the book. She gave us some clues on how to write a mystery.

[www.rendcombcollge.org.uk](http://www.rendcombcollge.org.uk)

During the talk she showed us an object and we had to guess what it was. It was a sponge on a stick. This is what the Romans would have used instead of toilet paper!

I knew what it was, because, when I went to Chedworth Roman Villa they showed us a similar one there.

I thought that Caroline Lawrence's talk was very interesting and she gave us lots of useful tips on how to write a good mystery.

I have never read any of her books, but after listening to her talk, it has inspired me to do so.

*By Thomas Godwin*

# J6



## Kilve Court

The annual pilgrimage to Kilve Court was another tremendous success with the pupils displaying outstanding skills in a variety of activities as well as proving themselves to be independent, responsible and extremely good company.

Mrs Brealy and Miss Swart attended for the first time and were equally impressive especially on the high ropes!

It was lovely to see the pupils so happy and positive and it was with pride that we received very positive feedback from the centre staff about our children.



## K'nex challenge

We are proud to announce that Tom Smith and Laurence Jones who represented the Junior School at the Regional K'nex Challenge Finals were awarded third place for their well constructed cargo plane.

They have been invited to attend a prize giving ceremony where they will receive prizes for themselves as well as for the school.



Dear Agony Aunt,

*Oh! Woe is me, fair Olivia has dismissed my flame for her. The form of my intent was to find my match, my heart is surfeiting with love for fair Olivia.*

*I have caught the plague over her. She does not return my feelings for her. I fear she loves someone else. Her cursed looks attract me. My feelings for this magnificent specimen are incredible, I feel for none other than fair Olivia.*

*Please help me!*

*Duke Orsino.  
Finlay McLellan*

## Trip to Warwick Castle

J6 had a most enjoyable day visiting the magnificent fortress of Warwick Castle.

Despite the rain the group considered attacking options and fully explored the castle's numerous defensive features.

As usual highlights included a visit to the dungeons and seeing the world's biggest trebuchet in awesome action.



**Dear Agony Aunt,**

*I am in love! Colours as vibrant as daffodils in the spring mornings are like watching white paint dry on a winter afternoon. The smell of lavender is like trying to smell water with a blocked nose.*

*Sweet Olivia came walking up past me and colours were exciting but when she walked away again, it felt like a good vintage wine had just turned to cold coffee in my mouth.*

*She knows my passion and love for her but I fear she loves someone else. She cannot love me, she has said this. "I don't think I can bear this any longer!"*

*Please help me!*

*Your faithfully, Duke Orsino.*

*Henry Jones*



## The SS Great Britain

J6 went on a trip to see Brunel's SS Great Britain and the Clifton Suspension Bridge.

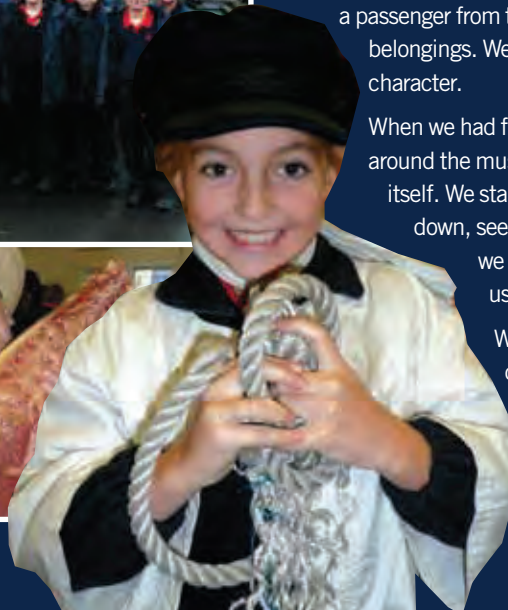
We drove into Bristol under the Clifton suspension bridge where I was awestruck by its sheer size. After driving under the bridge, we then proceeded to the SS Great Britain.

When we arrived there, we went to an activity room where we did a workshop with a lady called Claire. This included finding out who a passenger from the ship was by their clothing and personal belongings. We then had to make a short play with our character.

When we had finished the workshop, we went to have a look around the museum, and then we went to look around the ship itself. We started on the deck, then gradually worked our way down, seeing bunk beds, store rooms and the galley. Then we went under the ship, seeing the 60,000 rivets used to hold it together.

When this was over, we went in the shop then drove down to the Clifton Suspension Bridge. We then drove over the bridge, then walked over it twice, to get an idea of how big it really was.

*By Sam Tushingham*



Mr Arnold impresses us with his technique

## British Heart Foundation Skipathon

### J3-6 sponsored skip

Though plenty of rest periods were allocated many of the children skipped non-stop for an hour and went home very excited but quite tired.

As a result of their efforts and the generous support of their sponsors, to date £1555 has been raised for this worthwhile charity.

All of the children received a badge for their endeavours and those who raised over fifty pounds a British Heart Foundation rucksack.

### The Crocodile and the Rabbit

Once upon a time, there was a small rabbit and he lived next to a large lake. One day, the rabbit went to collect some water from the river, when all of a sudden a long crocodile came up to him and said: "Excuse me, I seem to have something tickling me at the back of my long mouth, could you pop in and get it out for me?"

The rabbit nodded his head and climbed inside the creature's mouth. Suddenly the crocodile's mouth slammed shut and the rabbit was never seen again.

The moral of the story is that you should never trust anyone you don't know.

Kitty Reeves



## Primary Piano Scales Competition

Well done to Julian Howes (J6) for winning the Rendcomb College Primary Piano Scales Competition defeating a number of senior school pupils in the final.



## Academic and effort prizes

The following prizes were awarded in Final Assembly:-

### J3 Academic

Philip Harrison Josey

### Effort

Grace Tushingham

### J4A Academic

Tom Ford

### Effort

Rebecca Breare

### J4L Academic

Alexander Dennett

### Effort

Sophie Tice

### J5H Academic

Thomas Godwin

### Effort

Dylan Evans

### J5W Academic

Eloise Gooch

### Effort

Eleanor Brealy

### J6A Academic

Julian Howes

### Effort

Kate Major

### J6W Academic

Sam Tushingham

### Effort

Mitchell

Kendall Smith



## Prizes

### Boys' Cross Country Cup

Jonathan Fawcett

### Girls' Cross Country Cup

Grace Knapp

### The Meborn-Hubbard Girls' Victor Ludorum Sports Cup

Eleanor Brealy

### The Henniker-Gotley Boys' Victor Ludorum Sports Cup

Jonathan Fawcett

### Reeves Cup for Improved Reading

Lucy Thomas

### Phelps Effort Cup

Oliver Dudleyke

### Roberts Family Cup (Otters' Effort)

William Evans

### Carden Cup for Music

Sam Tushingham

### Dufosse Art Cup

Mitchell Kendall Smith

### Shackel Cup for Drama

Ema Lowe

### Shark Cup for Most Promising U9 Sportsperson

Grace Knapp

### Osborne Cup for Girls' Sport

Hermione Llewelyn-Bowen

### Palmer Cup for Boys' Sport

Finlay McLellan/Caleb Dyer

### Arkle Cup for All Round Improvement

Lucas Hair

### Trim Happy Cup

Jonathan Fawcett

### Potter Cup for Overall Contribution

Kate Major



# J6 Rendcomb Memories

## Jamie Salter

My time at Rendcomb has been amazing. My best memory of the Junior School would have to be Kilve Court. My earliest memory would be building the hut in year three. Finally my funniest memory would be when Julian went to bowl and the ball flew out of his hand backwards. I am looking forward to moving to senior school, although I will be very sad.

## Beatrice DeGuise

My best memory was when we went to Kilve and we went abseiling. I was scared at first but then I was okay. My funniest memory was also at Kilve Court. We went to the beach and Ema and I fell in the rock pools and we were drenched. I am looking forward to going to the Senior School.

## Julian Howes

I arrived here in J3 but had a shadow day in J2 with Lucas and Caleb as my buddies. My highlights of Rendcomb were: Kilve Court, where I climbed to the top of Jacob's ladder and trying to get Lucas to stop snoring in bed. My funniest moment was in J4 when I jumped into the room and started dancing.

## Kate Major

I have been at Rendcomb for three years now and I am still enjoying every day. My best memory was becoming Head Girl and prefect. I am really looking forward to seeing all my friends again. My favourite memories were at Kilve and Warwick.

## Laurence Jones

My earliest memory of Rendcomb was the going up day in 2006, when Sam Tushingham went with me into the year 3 class that was taught by Mrs Hill. My favourite moment at Rendcomb was probably Troy Story in year three, which was my first and favourite school play. I will miss the Junior School but I'm ready for Senior School.

## Shannon Martin

My favourite moment was when I was called up to be made Head Girl and the first job I had to do. My first memory was when I got my first

distinction from Mr Arnold for doing an extra prep that nobody else did. I'm looking forward to meeting new pupils in the Senior School.

## Kitty Reeves

I first started Rendcomb in J6, before I started I had a shadow day and I found the school really welcoming. In the second term we went to Kilve Court. It is my favourite memory. My oldest memory was the senior school open day. It was lots of fun.

## Oliver Dudlyke

My earliest memory of Rendcomb was in Reception, when I was playing in the Noah's Ark. I have been at Rendcomb for seven years. I have enjoyed all of my school trips. My best are Ernest Cook, Pizza Express, Kilve Court and Warwick Castle. I am looking forward to my next school. Thank you to the teachers that have helped me and my friends during my school time at Rendcomb.

## Jonathan Fawcett

I remember when I was only in Reception and Miss Hunter and the other teachers had an after school club, we went on a treasure hunt. I've been at Rendcomb for seven years and enjoyed every moment of it. My best memory would be Kilve Court. Thank you to all the teachers that supported me.

## Henry Jones

My first memory of Rendcomb was probably when we were sitting on the carpet doing jolly phonics with Miss Hunter. My favourite moment was at Kilve in the night talking to whoever was awake, and then realising no one was awake.

## Hugo Rossi

Kilve Court was probably my best memory. I've only been at this school for one year so I haven't many memories. At Kilve I was on the bike and they told me not to go in the big puddles and let's just say I got soaked!

## Jacob Hargreaves

My earliest memory was in J2 when I joined. When I joined my teacher was Mrs Welfare. I also remember my first school trip. My favourite

moment was when we went to Kilve Court, I liked the abseiling the best. I am looking forward to making new friends at senior school.

## Eve Jarman

I remember my first day at Rendcomb. I was nervous and worried about making friends, but as I walked through the doors I made friends easily and wasn't as nervous. My favourite moment was at Kilve Court, when we visited the beach and I fell into a puddle! I'm looking forward to making new friends in the Senior School but I'll miss the Juniors.

## Finlay McLellan

I have enjoyed my time at Rendcomb it has been great. It started in year 2 and I have enjoyed every single minute of it. My earliest memory was walking in through the door and shaking hands with Mr Watson. My favourite moment was a tie in my first match for the school.

## Lucas Hair

My earliest memory was when I met Finlay in Mr Watson's office at the start of term and we went to the J2 classroom. My favourite moment was when we were at Kilve Court and on the second night we went for a night walk.

## Tom Smith

My earliest memory was walking for the first time through the door to J5 and being slightly scared by the big school. The best moment was probably coming down from the head for heights at Kilve Court. I also enjoyed going to Warwick Castle. I'm looking forward to going to Senior School.

## Ema Lowe

My first memory was when I came for a shadow day. I was really nervous but when I saw all the friendly faces I felt really happy. My favourite moment was at Kilve Court when the girls started unpacking their bags, getting ready and going down to lunch. We were all dressed up ready to impress. I am looking forward to the cocktail party. I bet it's going to be really fun.

## Hermione Llewellyn-Bowen

My earliest memory of Rendcomb was on my shadow day with Lauren Kraven. Everyone looked after me and I knew from that moment this was where I wanted to be. My favourite moment was when we were at Kilve and we heard screaming, we all thought someone had died! It turned out it was the door. I am looking forward to meeting new people and teachers.

## Daniel Hansel

My earliest memory was my first day. I was in year 4 and Mrs Hopkinson was my teacher. I made friends very quickly and settled in and in no time at all I had made lots of friends. My favourite moment was the snow day because we spent most of the day outside in the snow, it was great. I am looking forward to the Senior School but I will miss my old friends.

## Sam Tushingham

My earliest memory of Rendcomb was my first shadow day when I thought that the school looked like Hogwarts or an old stone castle. My favourite memory was completing the high ropes at Kilve Court. I am looking forward to making new friends and facing new challenges.

## Mitchell Kendall Smith

My earliest memory was in J1 when Eleanor would not believe I could count to one hundred, but I could and it took me ten minutes. My favourite memory was falling in a big puddle on the night walk at Kilve Court. I am looking forward to making new friends and doing cool things at senior school.

## Caleb Dyer

My earliest memory was in year two with Max Parker. We made up a game where we used our water bottles as a key and pretended that our lockers were locked and we had to unlock them with our bottles. We made sound effects. My favourite memory was getting my football captain's badge. I was so happy and proud to get it. I am looking forward to senior school but I will miss the people and teachers in the Juniors.

# Fleece

# J3 - 6 MUSICAL







## Big Arts Day

# Drama

"I'm a Junior School Pupil get me on the stage!"

We have had another exciting year in the Junior School Drama department...

Puppet shows have been scripted and performed, Carol Service readings were rehearsed and delivered in St Peter's Church and the wonderful Otters' and Nursery Nativity play "Donkey for Sale" was performed in the Reading Room over 2 afternoons due to popular demand.

Auditions were held for the Junior School production and rehearsals were soon underway. All J3-6 pupils performed two amazing evening performances of 'Fleeced' (a musical about Jason and the Argonauts) at the end of May. Both nights were completely sold-out to very enthusiastic audiences. Everyone was on their feet at the end dancing away to "Dancing Queen." Who ever said that parents dancing in public is really embarrassing?!

A parent kindly wrote after the performance- "I just wanted to commend you all for the fantastic play the children performed last night. Clearly they all loved the music and the script and that shone through in their performance - frankly we could have been in the West End last night!"

The Gods (Sam Tushingham, Kate Major, Oliver Dudlyke and Eve Jarman) acted as narrators throughout the play, having

to put up with wearing very itchy and extraordinary looking wigs.

The story began in Thessaly, where Pelias (Julian Howes) was an evil king. Jason (Jonathan Fawcett), the hero of the show returned to demand the throne back and was sent off on a mission to bring back the legendary Golden Fleece.

He and his daring crew had many adventures along the way; including dragging themselves away from the beautiful women of Lemnos, helping the blind King Phineus (Finlay McLellan), scaring away the Harpies (the J5 girls), avoiding the clashing rocks armed with volatile water pistols and killing Ghostly Warriors, (the J5 boys) which King Aetes (Henry Jones) had set on them. Medea (Ema Lowe) played Jason's 'love interest' and helped get the Golden Fleece away from the formidable Dragon, played by the Headmaster, Mr Watson.

Hermione's father did another fantastic job designing and painting the set as did Miss Hughes with her 'Handy Andy' skills with the band saw and jigsaw! The Works team amazed me with their boat building skills of the 'Argo' and the construction of the temple. Mr Harrison also managed to remain calm throughout whilst he controlled the lighting. I am very grateful for all the time you gave up to help us.

Sister Rogers' costumes brought the whole show together and we were delighted that she was able to recycle many of the costumes from our previous productions with only slight adjustments. As Sister Rogers hangs up her scissors as Costume Mistress, I would like to thank her for all the amazing costumes she has made for the Junior School over the years.

Once again all the children rose to the occasion and the show was a resounding success. A big thank you must go to all the staff who helped me pull the show together.

J6 were privileged to see Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at the Everyman Theatre in the Summer Term. It was an amazing production and definitely made the pupils think outside the box.

On Big Arts Day each class, J3-6 had their chance to be a celebrity in the outback in their own version of "I'm a celebrity get me out of here." The weather was very hot and humid that day; which added to the authenticity. They made their own video diaries and had to stay in character in Camp (Forest School), whilst interacting with the other 'celebrities.' Needless to say great fun was had by all. I look forward to even more creativity next year.

*Amanda Brealby*





Otters' Nativity



Donkey for Sale



## Dance

Pupils in the Junior School had the opportunity this year to perform in the Cheltenham Festival of Performing Arts and also worked very hard in preparation for their RAD (Royal Academy of Dancing) ballet examinations.

All J3 -J6 Pupils attended a very exciting dance workshop on Big Arts Day where they choreographed some of their own routines and 'Rock 'n' Rolled' to 'Jailhouse Rock' from the Blues Brothers.

Dance is equally popular in the Early Years as Miss Botha teaches ballet to Nursery and Music and Movement classes to the Reception class as part of the curriculum.

Many pupils also had the opportunity to perform some of their dance pieces in Assemblies.

An exciting year is lying ahead for dance in the Junior School in which there are plans to enter more regional competitions as well as hopefully presenting a dance show during the course of next year.

*Miss Botha*



# Rugby

## U9

On Friday 17th October the U9's played tag rugby against Berkhamstead at home. At the end of the first half it was 6-5 to Rendcomb. After the oranges and team talk Rendcomb started the second half full of confidence. The whole team played very well and Rendcomb eventually won the game 13-12.

On Thursday 13th November, Rendcomb U9 rugby team played Cokethorpe. The first half started off well with Benedict, Alex and Xavier scoring four tries. However the score was still 5-4 to Cokethorpe.

In the second half Charlie Pugh scored his first try which was a great achievement because he was only just eight at the time. It was a fiercely fought match with neither side wanting to admit defeat. The ground was wet and the conditions were terrible but eventually the final whistle blew. The score was 11-10 to Cokethorpe.



## U11

Overall this was a mixed season. Up front we were competitive in set pieces but struggled to win ball in the loose, especially late in matches when some struggled in terms of fitness. Daniel Hansel captained the team well and led by example. He was well supported by Robert McLaughlin and Lucas Hair, who was our most consistent and improved player. The back division showed good pace and handling skills but lack of ball, at times, nullified their attacking potential. Defensively the backs were erratic and inconsistent and they need

to improve this aspect of their game.

Two comfortable wins were recorded against Querns Westonbirt but the highlight was a thrilling victory away to Kings Glos. Everything gelled, confidence grew and we played our best rugby of the season. Caleb Dyer had an outstanding match, running powerfully and scoring regularly. This win was a tremendous achievement and gave the whole team a real confidence boost. The boys worked very hard and developed many individual and team skills and I thank them for their enthusiasm and commitment.

**Colours:** Lucas Hair, Daniel Hansel



# Hockey

## U9

We were delighted to recruit Miss Ferebee to our coaching team and the girls responded well. They worked hard in practice and perfected a good range of skills. It was lovely to see the girls play with such enthusiasm and desire and they display the potential to develop into a fine team. The arrival of Grace Knapp strengthened the squad considerably and she demonstrated great skill and energy. The emergence of Phoebe Janes as a goalie also deserved note and we shall look forward to her development.

Many of the girls were inspired to join the Friday hockey activity and some now play out of school which augurs well for the future. Well done girls on an encouraging season.



## U11

With a large Year Six group made up predominantly of boys, this was inevitably going to be a year of future team building for girls' hockey. With Kate Major and Hermione Llewelyn- Bowen (capt.) the only two 'survivors' from the previous year's A team squad, the early part of the season saw a lot of player re-shuffling and rapid skill building amongst a very enthusiastic but inexperienced group of girls.

Young, raw talent was emerging in Year five however and Orlagh Brennan and Eleanor Brealy were soon making their presence known at U11 level.

Once again, with a small squad of girls, it was hard to field a B team this year but all the girls valuably supported the A team in training and on a rotational basis in matches wherever possible. One B fixture was played against Berkhamstead and everyone enjoyed the opportunity to take part.

Looking ahead to next year, one can only look forward in anticipation, to an experienced and highly enthusiastic group of Year 5 girls who are champing at the bit to get back on the hockey field!

**Colours:** Hermione Llewelyn – Bowen

# Football

## U9

On a glorious sunny day the U9's went to Hatherop castle to compete in a football tournament. Rendcomb played five matches. We drew the first four all 0-0 and lost the final match 2-0. Alex and Benedict played in all five matches as did Timothy who played very well in goal.

We had several attempts on goal with Alex Dennett striking the cross bar and Oliver Jones coming close too. Rendcomb missed out on a semi final place by one point!

## U10

On Wednesday 12th November, Rendcomb U10 travelled to play in a football tournament at St Francis School. Many teams had entered and we managed to get through the group stages.

We played against St Francis' A team in a very close semi-final but we were beaten on penalties. We were third overall in the tournament. Well done boys and to the parents for supporting us.

## U11

Winning all our school matches was a superb achievement. Sadly the snow caused some disruption to the season which had the potential to be even more impressive. Our success was due to good teamwork and strength in all areas. Robert McLaughlin proved to be a very reliable and positive goalie and he was well supported in defence by Jonny Fawcett and Oliver Dudlyke who were very competitive and solid.

In midfield Caleb Dyer (captain) led by example and dominated most matches while the non-stop engine of Daniel Hansel complimented him superbly. The J5 trio of Matthew McGough and James and Oliver Heneghan all showed great skill and creativity and promise for next year. Up front Finlay McLellan was outstanding. Possessing explosive pace he showed clinical finishing ability and he proved to be very difficult to mark.

Winning at Prior Park and Cokethorpe were fine performances and testimony to the team's ability, commitment and determination. Well done boys.

### Cirencester Tournament: Runners-Up

**Colours:** Oliver Dudlyke, Caleb Dyer (C), Jonathan Fawcett, Daniel Hansel, Finlay McLellan



# Netball

## U9 & 11

Both squads displayed good attitude, and worked hard at their game making significant progress.

All the girls enjoyed working with Miss Phan, who helped to encourage a real enjoyment of the game. Unfortunately neither team were blessed with height, unlike our opponents, and in matches the ball frequently moved out of our reach. Though the girls battled hard, few scoring opportunities were created. While valiant in defence, being completely outsized, we suffered some defeats.

In the U11's Hermione Llewelyn-Bowen played superbly and really improved all aspects of her game, while our captain, Kate Major always gave 100% and led by example. In the U9's special mention should go to Rebeccah Breare who was new to the game but emerged as a very promising player.



Snow and illness disrupted the U9 season but there was sufficient evidence to suggest a brighter future!

**Colours:** Hermione Llewelyn-Bowen. Kate Major (C)



# Cricket

## U9

The 2009 was a great season for the U9 Cricket team. We played as a team and everyone in the matches contributed to us winning all our games. The 2009 was an unbeaten season. Tim Chandran was the captain of the team and lead from the front with both bat and ball. It was his bowling that was most impressive taking some crucial wickets. Benedict Schallamach, Alex Dennett, Matt Williams and Xavia Cegarra were the senior players of the team and were the all rounder's who contributed with both bat and ball. Tom Ford was the wicket keeper and made some important runs for the team. Oliver Jones was a year young for this team and will be back next

season. He shows lots of talent and will be one of the main players next season

## U11

The U11 cricket season was badly disrupted by the Great British weather and only two matches survived and one of these was abandoned at tea! We were soundly beaten in our one match by an experienced and well balanced side from Cokethorpe. It was very difficult to develop any real pattern to our play but all the boys tried hard and a number, particularly some of the J5 boys, showed considerable promise for the future. Rendcomb was captained by Finlay McLellan who admirably led from the front opening both the bowling and batting. Finlay received his cricket colours in the final assembly, deservedly so, for his outstanding contribution to Rendcomb cricket.

**Colours:** Finlay McLellan



# Rounders

## U9's and U11's P7 W7

Both the U11s and U9s enjoyed excellent unbeaten seasons and more importantly all the girls played with enthusiasm and gained great satisfaction from the sport. The U11 team was balanced between J6 and J5 girls, ably led by Hermione Llewelyn-Bowen, who set an excellent example in the field and with the bat. All the team worked hard at their game and considerable progress was made in all departments. Kate Major was secure at 2<sup>nd</sup> post and emerged as second top scorer (4½) only topped by the impressive Eleanor Brealy (7½). Ellie Jones developed well as a bowler while Orlagh Brennan's fielding was dynamic. With such a strong J5 nucleus we can look forward to next season with excitement.

During the term all the J4 girls regularly represented the U9s and all scored! It was lovely to witness their enjoyment of the game and skill and tactical development. Their success was based around a very promising triangle. Grace Knapp displays superb potential as a bowler and as a batsman. Her hard hitting earned her equal top scorer split (8) with Rebecca Breare who performed extremely well in the key position of 2<sup>nd</sup> post. They were particularly supported by Sophie Tice, an intelligent and secure backstop, and Izzy Attwood-Brown who was third top scorer with 5½ rounders. It was a shame that a number of matches succumbed to the weather for the girls were so keen to play and both sides displayed such quality. Well done girls on a superb season and we look forward to advancing our game even further in 2009/10.

**Colours:** Hermione Llewelyn-Bowen

# Sports Day

It was always going to be a gamble with the weather because it had been a wet and wild week. The sports day went ahead amid cloudy and humid conditions. Rain threatened from the start and made its presence felt across the afternoon.

This did not dampen the spirits of the children and they turned up full of enthusiasm ready to do battle.

The races were very well contested and all put in a superb amount of effort. Noticeable performances came from Jonathan Fawcett Y6 and Eleanor Brealy in Y5.

108 Rendcombian



Nursery and Otters' Sports Day

# Cross Country

Clash of the titans gongs all round

On 21st January two teams from Rendcomb travelled to take part in a cross country tournament at St Francis. The conditions were ideal and fairly firm underfoot. Although the course was not overly long or demanding it was very technical in its nature. All of our runners tried extremely hard and we achieved great team successes. Jonathan finally came in 5th for our U11 boy's team. In the girls' race Grace Knapp ran very hard and timed her final push to the line extremely well and came in 2nd. An excellent effort considering Grace was running three years above her age group. Grace's efforts earned her a silver medal in the individual U11 girls' competition.

U11 Girls' Team	U11 Boys' Team
Grace Knapp	Jonathan Fawcett
Eleanor Brealy	Oliver Dudlyke
Amelia Ward	Finlay McLellan
Kate Major	Alex Dennett
Sophia Rossi	Oliver Heneghan

Our final results were very strong and put us into the medals, but which ones? After a tense prize giving the boys were third overall, earning themselves bronze medals. The girls' team came second overall earning themselves a silver medal. Our final placing in the U11 competition was third. All went home with a thoroughly deserved bronze medal. What a fantastic result. Thanks go to all parents who travelled a long way to watch.

## Cross Country Tournament

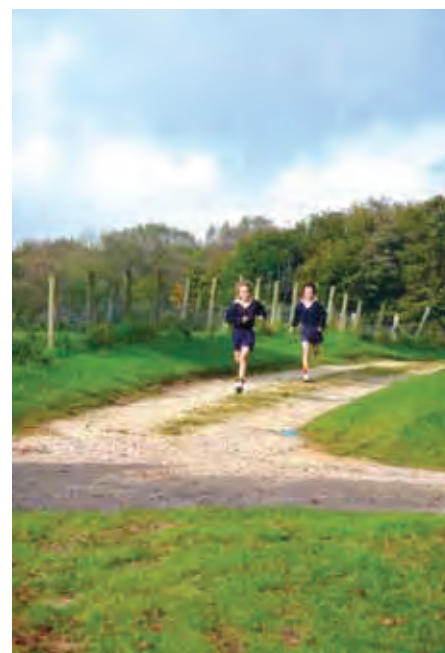
On Wednesday 25th February Rendcomb U9 and U10 cross country squads travelled to Querns' Westonbirt to take part in a cross country tournament. The weather was kind to us and made for a great afternoon's racing. Unlike our own terrain the course was flat and fast. Both girls' and boys' races at U9 and U10 level were hotly contested and the starts were very fast and furious affairs.

Notable achievements of the afternoon were Grace Knapp's second place, Amelia Ward's 10th place in the U9 girls' race and Ben Schallamach's and Alex Dennett's 9th place in the boys' race. Well done to the rest of the team who put in an exceptional level of effort.



Querns and St Francis. There were two races and the first to be contested was the Year 3 and 4 race. Notable results were Alex Denmet who came in second overall and Grace Knapp who came in fourth place winning the girl's race. Amelia Ward came in 13th and came second in the girl's race. The year 5 and 6 race was hotly contested and went off at a furious pace. The hills found their mark and the early fast runners began to suffer on the final climb of the race. Jonny Fawcett who had run a very tactical race and had stayed relatively quiet made his move on the final hill and won the race in the time of 11 minutes and 36 seconds. Eleanor Brealy finished in eleventh position and won the girl's race. St Francis dominated throughout the Year 5 and 6 competition and as a result narrowly won the tournament shield.

Thanks go to all those who raced and came to support and help.



## Rendcomb Cross Country Tournament

On Wednesday 6th May Rendcomb College Junior School held its annual cross country tournament. As usual the course was over relentlessly challenging terrain.

The conditions underfoot were excellent so the afternoon's racing was going to be entertaining. The other schools competing apart from Rendcomb were Hatherop,

## Swimming Sports

On Wednesday 1st July the junior school held its first swimming sports in three years. The afternoon was furnace hot and the racing was frantic.

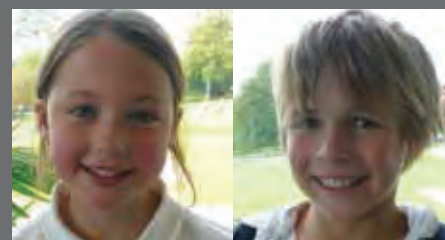
Well done to all the children who raced and many thanks go to the parents for supporting on such a hot afternoon.



## Winter Warmer

On Monday 13th October Rendcomb Junior School held its sixth Winter Warmer race. It was a fabulous afternoon and the weather was kind to us providing almost perfect running conditions.

The runners totalled thirty eight which was a record number. All years were represented and this year there was a very strong contingent of girls present.



From the offset Jonathan Fawcett from year six dominated the race and won in a time of 8 minutes and 34 seconds and Grace Knapp was the first girl in even though she was only in year 4!

Well done to all those who participated and many thanks go to those who supported.



# Forest School

## – Our Second Year

The Otters have continued to develop and enjoy Forest School. Miss Hunter completed Forest School training in 2008 and Miss Flint is close to completing her training.

This has provided weekly opportunities for the Nursery and Reception to extend their learning in the outdoor environment. J1 have enjoyed Forest School activities once a fortnight.

A highlight of this year was our working party of parents who spent a whole Saturday morning coppicing, strimming, creating dens, shelters, a fire pit and new seating areas. This was an enjoyable experience in itself and we are very grateful to everyone for their hard work in maintaining and developing our Forest School area.

The children have benefited from the results of these efforts and have enjoyed our camp fires which we are now able to have – toast, marshmallows and chocolate bananas – yum yum!

Thanks again to everyone and don't miss out on next year's working party!

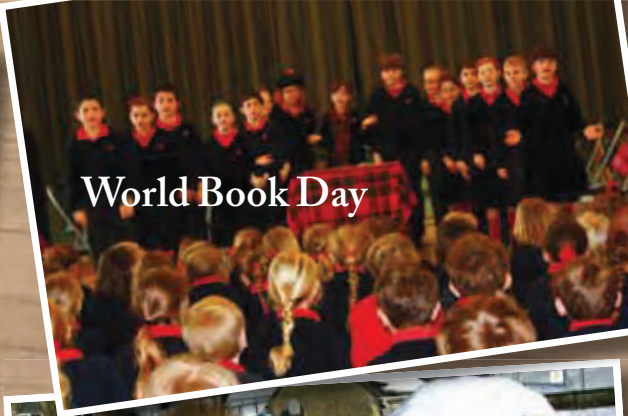




Chinese New Year



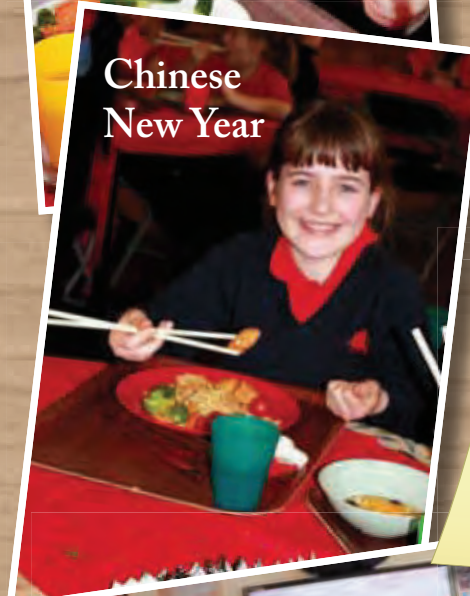
Firework Night



World Book Day



Some of our Special Days



Snow Week



Science Day



Pancake Day



Traffic Calming Day "Arrive Alive" campaign



Easter Bonnet Parade





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