



# Rendcombian

THE MAGAZINE OF RENDCOMB COLLEGE & JUNIOR SCHOOL

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2010

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RCPA bonfire night



## Some of our *Special Days*

TUESDAY 9<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY  
CHINESE NEW YEAR

LUNCH FOLLOWED BY  
MUSICAL RECITAL BY  
DOROTHY LU

2010  
Year  
of the Tiger



J6 and GodRec pirate party



Junior school staff on a  
forest school inset day



Leavers: the class of 2010



Thanksgiving lunch



# Welcome

## Some introductory thoughts from The Headmaster's Office:

Noel Wills, founder  
of Rendcomb College



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In 1920, Rendcomb College was opened by Noel Wills, our Founder, with twelve Gloucestershire boys whose fees were paid exclusively by the trustees; all boys boarded in Main Building. Ninety years on in 2010, we are now an international community of over 400 girls and boys, aged 3-18, day and boarding across a 200 acre campus with a diversity of buildings, some purpose-built, and some skilfully adapted to current needs by our talented Maintenance staff. The Rendcomb story is, of course, a remarkable journey, which has taken place in what, historically speaking, is a relatively short period of time. To mark our ninetieth birthday celebrations, I am delighted that our incredibly supportive Old Rendcombian Society has taken up my suggestion of producing a small photographic booklet outlining the history of the college. It should be available next year.

This publication, *The Rendcombian*, our annual school magazine, is in itself a historic review also predominately in photographic form of just one year: the year 2009-10. To force a pun, it can be no more than "a snap shot" of what happens at Rendcomb on a daily basis and inevitably there are omissions, for which my pre-emptive apologies.

For me, the highlights of the year were: excellent results at A level and GCSE; the securing of HLS funding over the next ten years in our drive to make Rendcomb "greener" and the Junior School, under Martin Watson's impressive leadership, celebrating earlier this month its tenth birthday. There is much to celebrate and rejoice about in these pages, and the Editorial team, particularly Amanda Brealy and Liese Holden are especially grateful to all staff, parents and pupils who have contributed articles or photographs for this lively and colourful publication. Martin and I are very grateful to Amanda and Liese, and our excellent Graphic Designer, David Riera, who deserves sainthood for his patience and tolerance. This year has also witnessed some significant changes.

We were shocked and saddened by the death of Sir Michael Angus and were grateful to Professor Chris Arnison for standing in as our Acting Chairman. Our new chairman, Mr Rupert Lane, who was headmaster at two HMC schools and is well known locally, has already been a frequent visitor to classes, the staff room and chapel.

Mrs Eleanor Sharman, our new bursar who was appointed in April, is already looking at the challenges facing all small schools with a fresh pair of eyes; it is very good to have her support as part of the team. Similarly, the arrival of Rev Godfrey Simpson as Chaplain and Associate Priest at St Peter's has also been well received by both the college and the wider Rendcomb community. We hope that Anne and Godfrey will join us in the village in the not-too-distant-future.

I am also delighted that in this period of transition, Clare Davidson, who has two boys in the senior school has been "persuaded" to take over from Davina Clift as Chair of The RCPA, whose contribution was much appreciated; it is equally good to note that the RCJPA continues to go from strength to strength.

As the College moves into its ninety-first year, I am sure that despite the challenging times ahead nationally, we can look forward to a year where our children at Rendcomb continue to thrive in the classroom, on the sports field, and on the stage, as well flourishing as well-balanced and rounded individuals of whom Martin and I are enormously proud.

With warm best wishes,

Gerry Holden



### FAIRYTALE BALL

Pages 16-17



### RENDCOM- BURY

Pages 52-53



### HOCKEY SUCCESS

Page 58-59



### ACADEMIC RESULTS

Pages 72-73

# Founder's Day

*An impressive programme of events and speakers was enjoyed by pupils, parents, staff, governors and guests at this year's Founder's Day celebrations.*



Alongside the musical, dramatic and sporting events on offer, there were displays and exhibitions of pupils' work and a falconry display on the front lawn of main college organised by James Stutchbury. Even a torrential downpour of rain did not dampen the proceedings which finished with the traditional speeches in the Sports Hall, artfully transformed into the style of a Bedouin tent for the day.

Here are a few extracts from speeches made by the pupils: speaking of their own personal experiences of Rendcomb:

## Sophie Musgrave, Head Girl

*"It certainly does feel that with all these opportunities behind us, and the privilege of this education; we have the confidence to explore the wider world and fulfil our personal dreams. I believe that this is a quality of which our founder would have been proud."*

## Eleanor Brealy and Oliver Heneghan Junior School Head Girl and Head Boy

Eleanor and Oliver reflected on their 7 years in the Junior School...*"giving us a chance to thank all those special people who have helped shape us into who we are today.*

*The Junior School has fully prepared us for our next big step up in joining the Senior School and we truly feel that we have all blossomed under the loving care and fantastic teaching from all the staff in the Junior School, for which we will be forever grateful.*

*We have had some great times at the school and made some great friends – some of us will be continuing into the Senior School and some will be heading in other directions – but we will be keeping in touch with each other.*

*So we leave this Junior School hopefully a little wiser, a little more confident, with a sense of fun and with some great memories.*

*We would like to thank all of the teachers and staff for all they have done for us, our friends and for all in J6 as we look to what the future holds in the Senior School"*



Pat Poole, Judy Hunt and Joy Hardy leave Rendcomb this year after a combined 95 year's of service





Both George's Uncle and Grandfather were pupils at Rendcomb.



## George Ord, Head Boy

*"It could not have been more different than my previous school. Moving from an all-boys day school environment, into a mixed boarding house was certainly a shock to the system. However, I can safely say that I have enjoyed my time at Rendcomb, and I have composed a personal philosophy that reflects this. That philosophy is 'It's all Learning.' Absolutely everything can be turned into a positive learning experience, from which you can become stronger. From the sports fields to the common rooms, from the longest day to the longest night, every second can be transformed into a positive learning experience."*

*It is a lesson I have endeavoured to pass on to many people here, and I intend to apply this philosophy for the rest of my life, as it has helped me thrive here at Rendcomb"*



## Guest Speaker: Dr Ralph Waller

This year's guest speaker was Dr Ralph Waller, a Methodist Minister and currently Director of the Farmington Institute for Christian Studies, founded to support encourage and improve Religious Education in schools, colleges and universities.

He is also Principal of Harris Manchester College, Oxford which offers undergraduate and postgraduate degrees for mature students. He gave a highly motivational and entertaining speech.

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# Works Team



*Pete Cairns and his  
Summer Works Team*

## Major refurbishments for *Junior School and Sixth Form*

*This summer has seen significant improvements in Rendcomb College's facilities as a result of the generosity of our trustees.*

£300,000 from The Martin Wills Bequest has been deployed skilfully by Mr Peter Cairns and his versatile Maintenance Team, across a variety of projects in both the Senior and Junior School.

New classrooms in the Junior School have been created to deal

with additional pupils and the increased number of boarders in the sixth form have been catered for by a total refurbishment of Park, Stable and Lawn House.

*Gerry Holden, Headmaster*



*New spacious and light Junior  
School Music and Drama room*



*The Professionals!  
Harry Evans and  
Shaun Stancombe*



*John Jones*



*Our new Bursar  
Mrs Eleanor Sharman*



## Drive for a Safer Cotswolds

*Rendcomb College hosted the first Drive for a Safer Cotswolds event this year, attracting trade stands, Fire and Rescue Services, Road Safety exhibitions and vintage cars and motorbikes.*

There were also two simulated road accidents with the Gloucester Fire and Rescue services demonstrating their skills in releasing a victim from a crushed vehicle.

Pete Cairns, Works Manager (who masterminded the organization of this event together with Gloucester Police and Diana Baker), was very patient as the trapped

victim, complete with false injuries and fake blood!

The event was opened by Councillor Paul Hodgkinson and was supported by all the local agencies responsible for road safety in the Cotswolds.

*Mr P Cairns*





## Posh Mops and *Smiley Faces*

*Deep within the bowels of the college, strange things have been happening; boxes with smiley faces and blue plastic tokens have appeared; micro-fibre cloths and woolly mop heads are in use.*

These strange new gadgets and initiatives have been introduced by our new bursar. Pupils vote using the tokens on questions such as "Did you like your dessert"? or "Is there enough time to enjoy your meal"? The results have been very interesting.

The cloths and mops have been received with much gratitude by the Domestic Staff, making their task easier and achieving better results. Enough of this heady excitement I hear you say; tell us about departures and arrivals when the

students have not been around.

With much sadness we said farewell this year to Jocelyn

(Josie) Hill who had

been with us a few months short of 10 years. Josie was not only very good at her job, she was full of fun lived life to the full, always stopping to speak to the students and caring about how their day was going. As a mark of esteem to how highly regarded she was by the students, they organised a presentation and speech for her in the dining room. Josie was and is very special and will be missed by all of us.

After eight years at Rendcomb, Janice Watton (Jan) has traded us in for Cirencester College, fulfilling the same role as Domestic Supervisor. She tells me it is because she will be able to walk to work, but I have my suspicions that following six years of running the non teaching staff lottery syndicate with a very very poor rate of return, the question "How much did we win this week?" has finally 8 Rendcombian

ground her down! Or it could just be her two young sons are grown up. Whichever it is, we wish her well and thank her for investing our money on the lottery. It's been a pleasure!



Joy Hardy will leave us early in September after 38 years service as a member of the domestic team. She was recruited to help look after

Park House following the introduction of girls to Rendcomb and stayed, so that first intake must have been good! Joy has dangled her duster, motivated her mop and hovered her Hoover all over the site and there is not a nook or cranny of the estate that has not had her attention. I am sure that when she finally hangs up her overall and bids farewell to the young ladies of Godman House, the staff and her friends, it will be a sad time for us all, but we wish her good health and a long and happy retirement with her husband Barry.

To all the three J's Josie, Janice and Joy, we will miss you all and thank you for the combined 56 years of service you have given to Rendcomb College.

In the kitchen we say hello to Ross Digaudio as a replacement Catering General Assistant, it has not taken him long to settle in and show that he is truly a great asset to the catering team.

It all seems like one long goodbye, well it's a bit like that this year although we have hosted charity events a plenty helping to raise funds for The Citizens Advice Bureau and Elizabeth Finn Trust to name a couple. Rendcomb is still a popular venue for weddings and the kitchens have been supplying daily hot meals to North Cerney Junior School to ensure they have a hot lunch following the loss of their previous supplier. Thank you to all the Catering and

Domestic Staff for all their support to the College, the students and the charity events.

*Mr M Naylor  
Commercial  
Operations  
Manager*



## Pat Poole 1971-2010



*The time has  
come! 39 years  
at Rendcomb!*

Yes, Pat Poole retired at the end of August. I am sure there will not be a student who has passed through Rendcomb since 1971 who will not remember Pat's flapjacks, chocolate cake and pink sauce or any other of her fabulous signature dishes.

Come rain or shine Pat would be at work early and stay late to ensure the students were looked after.

To say she has been a rock and a diamond to Rendcomb College is an understatement. Pat you are very very special and words cannot express the gratitude Rendcomb College owes to you for all that you have done for the College, the students and the staff.

To say we will miss you is not enough, you are and always will be a legend and could I have that well thumbed file with all those secret recipes?

Have a fantastic long and so deserved retirement, you will be remembered fondly and often.

Enter into His gates with Thanksgiving  
And into His courts with Praise



David Baker, Angela Ferreira and Bishop Dibo from the Cameroons



Rev'd Godfrey Simpson and his wife Anne

## Chapel Aspirations and some reflections

*I am writing this piece the morning after the installation of our new chaplain, the Reverend Godfrey Simpson and what a joyous occasion it was.*

Attended by over eighty people from the parish of St Peter's, Godfrey will also hold the licence of associate priest-in-charge. We are delighted to have secured Godfrey's services and we hope that his ministry, supported by his wife Anne, will be a long and happy one. All of those who have met them from both the college and the parish have been impressed by their

sensitive and sensible approach to the religious and spiritual life of Rendcomb.

Looking back over the academic year 2009-10, we were very fortunate indeed to have so many diverse contributions to our weekly assemblies. Active participation from the student body was noteworthy, particularly from our prefects and it was encouraging that we had representatives from all six boarding and day houses. Guest preachers included Dr Chris Wise, our churchwarden with a thought provoking address around the theme of what we eat being determined by lottery, depending on where we live. The Rev'd Canon Andrew Bowden, who used his military experience as a soldier to lead our annual remembrance day service, which was very well supported by both the college and the parish. The Rev'd Dr Janet Williams gave an excellent address taking up our theme of "green issues" and reminding us that we all have a responsibility as stewards of God's creation. Bishop Dibo from The Cameroons, spoke to us very movingly about the challenges he experiences as

the only Anglican bishop in this third world country. This address was also amplified by Mr Mark Malinga, the new Principal of our sister school, Lords Meade Vocational College in Jinja, Uganda, who reminded us that education should never be taken for granted.

I would wish to record my thanks to Mr Raby and Mr McKelvey for playing the organ and leading congregational hymn practices throughout the year; to Dr Chris Wise, the churchwarden at St Peter's with whom I have liaised very closely on joint college-parish services and to all those pupils who have read or performed solos in chapel this year.

Gerry Holden





# Godman and Old Rectory



## First Form Adventure weekend to Manor Adventure, Shropshire

## Charity Cycle Ride 2009

Seventeen Mums & Dads joined thirty two pupils from the First and Second Form to cycle over 20 miles of the rolling Cotswolds in order to raise over £750 for the Gloucestershire Historic Churches Preservation Trust.

Five other Mums and Dads also helped with marshalling and providing refreshments afterwards on the Lawn. The weather was wonderful, the views and churches visited were spectacular – all in all a fantastic afternoon.



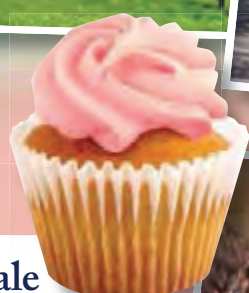
## Bring and Buy Sale

We raised £380.96 for the Haiti Earthquake Appeal.



## Charity Cake Sale

We also raised £224.70 at a Charity Cake Sale in aid of Cotswold Care Hospice and El Shaddai Charitable Trust, in just 30 minutes!





Students enjoying the slopes at Rendcomb



Godman Dinner Parties for parents



Phil Ortner, Old Rec Prefect



Fun around Old Rec



Old Rec Advent Chapel Service



Relaxation session during exams



# Friday Night Challenges



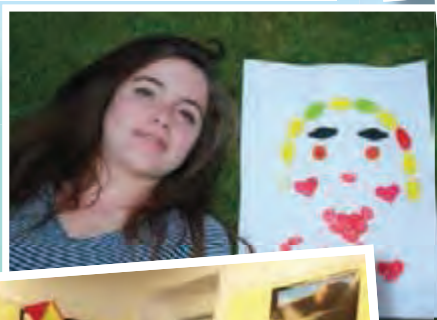
Backward Nativity



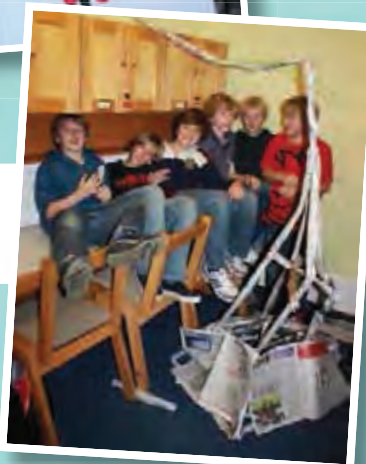
Casualty sketches



Haribo portrait challenge



Paper tower challenge



Semaphore



Pirate party



Ed Thomason, Old Rec Prefect





Halloween party



Godman  
prefects  
Dorothy Lu  
and Ariel  
Chan



Christmas Party



Heroes and  
Villains party



World  
Cup  
football  
fever





## College House

*They say that moving house is the third most stressful of experiences, and so, it was with some trepidation that we relocated to the first floor of the Old Rectory.*

The Old Wreck moving into the Old Rec, as some third form wag observed! We soon made ourselves at home, sometimes too much so, and settled into pleasant surroundings and far better outdoor leisure facilities than in the top of Main College. Several new boys arrived and were quickly a part of a very friendly, if at times rather noisy, year.

It is safe to say that the 3rd form boys are never boring, and, provided they can learn to channel their natural *joie de vivre*, as we say in Barnsley, they have much to offer in many areas. There is a wide range of academic ability, but, on the whole, everyone has given of their best, which is all important. Socially, they can be very funny and have boundless energy.

However, some members of the year group are capable of nothing less than boorishness. This is a far from satisfactory state of affairs and those who are guilty of such abuse of Rendcomb's very special ethos and atmosphere must look long and hard into the mirror and work to improve.

Contributions to music and drama have greatly enhanced the cultural life of the school, and I was delighted with the genuine commitment to their church service about Dr. Martin Luther King, but the real success for this cohort is on the games' field, and here, across all three major games, they have been very good, at times outstanding. There is, also, a togetherness within the year, a camaraderie (Barnsley, again!) and a

wonderful sense of humour that must not be discouraged in any way. I have enjoyed my time with the 3rd form of 2010, much more than I have not enjoyed it and I look forward to their continuing development as they move up the College.

Finally, I would like to thank my tutorial team for their first class support, and Alex and Amanda Brealy quite simply for being such very special people.

*Mr B L North*





## Lawn House

*We have done it! One year on and my husband and I have certainly learned a great deal!*

Being a household of sons, taking on an even larger household of mid-teenage girls has been a challenge, a pleasure and a roller coaster of emotional rides. I have greater respect for my husband and his ability to deal with a wide variety of emotions and to listen to the sagas of teenage girls (and his wife!). He is always very good at putting the male perspective on the situation.

The Lawn girls are certainly a bright bunch of ladies and are always keen to enjoy life. We have had some fun theme nights down in the Barn. I remember Halloween only too well when one girl kindly offered to do my make up. I now know not to let a student loose with a lot of black paint!

The departing 5th form, were indeed a pleasure to look after. Their community spirit and togetherness as a year group will be a tough act to follow for the upcoming years in Lawn. Thank you to the girls and those of you that were prefects, you were a huge help to me and I hope you take with you fond memories of the house.

This year we have organised a number of events including the theatre trip to London to see "Sister Act". We have enjoyed many a take-out meal from pizza's to chinese and "Ben & Jerry's" ice cream (popular with the boys) while watching the big screen movies in house. We have also taken part in whole school functions such as the Dance Challenge with our "bush ladies" of the 5th form doing us proud coming in as runners-up.

Again our vibrant singers in the 4th form were runners up again in the Rock Concert. Well done ladies! Lawn girls are certainly ladies with talent.

Finally I would like to thank the Lawn House tutors and boarding staff for all their support and advice in our first year as houseparent's in an English Boarding School. We say goodbye to Miss Hetzel our in house tutor who has been with us for a year as a Lacrosse Coach and has worn many other caps while she has been here. She is off back to the States and Uni' to get her masters in Speech Pathology. Good luck and keep in touch.

*Mrs A Ferreira*



# Fairytale Ball

*The theme for this year's 4th and 5th form ball was 'Fairytale'.*

The evening gave pupils the opportunity to live their fairytale dreams and dress for the occasion as perhaps the lovely Sleeping Beauty or the dashing Prince Charming.

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

After dinner entertainment was a themed disco with prizes given to the best dressed pupils from each year group.

Alex Kentfield and Emily Edgell were crowned as King and Queen of the ball.

The whole event was organised by houseparents Angela Ferreira and Mandy Bevans, together with an organising committee of pupils led by Cecile Llewellyn-Bowen.







## Stable House

*Another year has flown by and we find ourselves at the start of the summer holidays yet again.*

Michaelmas Term (as always) proved to be the busiest term ... with the nights quickly drawing in and the evenings needing a little light relief from the gloom of winter. The sports hall opened for five-a-side football with the Headmaster and dodge-ball was on offer on Friday nights. With the numerous themed nights in the Barn with the Lawn House ladies, there was plenty to keep everybody happy. We ended the term with the Christmas party and a theatre trip to see 'Sister Act' in the West End of London.

Lent term began with a white-out on the first day back. School evacuated all day pupils and staff because of the forecasted heavy snow fall and we began a week of alpine sports and snow ball fights for those left stranded. 'The Snow Dome' in Tamworth,

paled into insignificance in comparison to Rendcomb's impressive toboggan events. There was plenty of hot chocolate on offer to keep the frostbite away and early nights followed as our boys fell exhausted into their beds, in preparation for the following day and its chilling sporting events. (We did manage to fit some education in somewhere eventually.....)

During February, Stable and Lawn House enjoyed a buffet meal at 'The Real China' restaurant in Cheltenham, to celebrate the Chinese New Year. This was a very successful evening and requests were unanimously expressed for another visit next year.

March witnessed Stable House boys cutting a dashing figure in their best bib-and-tucker at the 4th and 5th form formal event of the year 'The Fairytale Ball'. We were very impressed with their impeccable behaviour and a good night was had by all.

The summer term arrived in true English fashion with plenty of cricket and long sunny evenings outside, playing 'man-hunt' ... the new Stable House craze. Lawn House girls were very unimpressed with this juvenile game, but the boys entertained themselves for hours on end (as boys do...) disappearing into the abyss of the surrounding vegetation waiting to be

captured. Once again, exhausted bodies fell into bed each evening and early sleep embraced the house.

The foyer wall captured our birthday boys and girls (including our duty staff) throughout the year and Tesco's once again exhausted its annual supply of chocolate birthday cake.

As we draw to a close for the summer break, we would once again like to thank our dedicated day and evening duty staff team for their continuous hard work and support. A big thank you also to Mrs Cairns and her domestic staff team for looking after us all so well.

We wish our 5th form boys all the very best in their new adventures and hope that they will take away happy memories of life in Stable House. We look forward to the start of the new term in September and the return of our 4th and 5th form boys, as well as our new 6th form suite opening on our top floor.

*Paul and Mandy Bevans*



# Drama Tour

*With the tension rising again at the end of the extensive thirteen week Lent Term, 5th and 6th form dramatists were eager to bombard London with our immense "Oh no, a loud school group" presence.*



The intensive three days included our: annual theatre hunt, dining in the luxurious Planet Hollywood and classy Pizza Hut, dancing in Pineapple Studios and the three spectacular performances : 'The Lion King', 'Les Miserables' and 'The Woman In Black'. This year's Drama Tour was certainly louder, bigger and scarier than previous tours.

**Day 1** - On our first night we were transported to the hot climate of "The Lion King". Tears were spilled and you could feel the love that night too, especially when Dan Geerah saw Simba backstage.

**Day 2** - Today started with an intensive three hour roam of London, exploring the magnificent theatres and trying to find out all the answers to the theatre quiz. After our exhausting theatre 'tour', we headed towards the reconstructed Globe Theatre. Of course, being the thespians we are, we could not leave the Globe Theatre without acting out a scene from "King Lear", in which our acting coach Mary helped us to interpret Lear's Madness, Regan and Goneril's selfishness and Cordelia's wisdom in different ways. After the concentrated Shakespearean morning, there was one last stage of the Theatre Hunt which would decide the champion thespian team. The challenge was simple, improvise a scene from "The Lion King" outside the Globe Theatre and the score would be determined by Mr Jennings (the harsh critic) and Dave (our actor guide).

All teams delivered a fast paced version of their chosen scene, from a 'silent movie' stampede to a musical medley of all the songs. The ultimate winning team was Ed Slark's team. We then dragged our tired and weary selves back to the hotel to prepare ourselves for the evening ahead; a workshop at Pineapple Studios, a meal at Pizza Hut followed by 'Les Miserables'.

After queuing nervously outside the famous Pineapple Studios, a rumour spread that Louie was in the building!! Upon entering, we were introduced to the bubbly Rachel whose passion for 'Les Miserables' was apparent

from the outset and we listened in wonder at the tales of her experiences and learnt a few songs from the show, before we watched the performance in the evening which starred Rachel, our Pineapple Studios choreographer. We were blown away by the spectacular performances and the stunning revolving set.

**Day 3** - For some, this was the dreaded day, the day of fear and horror, the day that prevented us from sleeping the night before - 'The Woman In Black' day. The performance, although utterly terrifying, consisted of Milly launching herself at Mr Jennings and a number of screams coming from the audience at the particularly scary bits (Ed and Fran decided to hide under their coats for the duration of the performance).

Overall, as Mrs Dodd said in Assembly, this year was the best year so far. So many new friends were made, from the guide Dave, Rachel from 'Les Miserables', and even within the group itself. It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience for all of us and I think particular thanks should go to Mrs Dodd and Mr Jennings for organising such an amazing trip and for coping with our fantastic dancing at Planet Hollywood, because without them, the trip would not have happened. And finally thank you to everyone who went on this trip, you were all such good fun and really joined in the spirit of being a thespian, we will definitely miss this trip next year.

*Alex Jones and Fran Baker*





*This term the Drama and Music Departments faced a somewhat unusual and unexpected problem. We had started a show but had lost our director on extended sick leave.*

Mr Raby and I got stuck into attempting to finish the show in time for the new season of performances. Our cast responded well to our pleas to move up a gear and to focus on creating a rounded show.

Our three performances went well and that was due to some excellent team work from staff and pupils. Our two choruses of guys and dolls worked hard to develop believable roles in their sections. From Lance Baynham as a menacing police officer to the hapless criminals Luke Nixon, Tristan Stevens, Jolyon Dunn, Howard Auster, Josh Thomas [great singing boys] and Ali Sinfield as the comic role of Big Jule, we tried to recreate the New York of the 1940s. Our Dance Troupe led by Ellie Mills and Charlotte Southerden enjoyed their two production numbers. Our Salvation Army Mission band were convincingly restrained but the drum and cymbals got a laugh every night !

Vicky Clark and Cecile Llewelyn- Bowen played the two older character parts of General Cartwright and Sister Abernathy with grace and dignity.

Our four leads realised early on that achieving the widely different

characterisations were the key to success with their roles. Amelia Brady was a wonderful Adelaide and for a Form 2 pupil has a great future. Ben Smith showed the fruits of an excellent year in GCSE Drama by being so successful as Nathan Detroit so desperate to find a location for his crap game but equally keen for his fiancée to not find out !

Rachel Barnes in her first lead role after the Disney Girl in "Aladdin", tackled the difficult role of Sarah, who as a "Mission doll" finds love in an unexpected place. Her tipsy Havana scene was my personal favourite. It is so tempting to go over the top in a scene like that but Rachel kept her control to find the gentle humour so important to that moment in the script.

Harry Ellis, as the male lead Sky Masterson, showed how far he has come from the chorus in "We Will Rock You" and was able to juggle the difficulty of Sky being a crook but also someone whom the audience must like. His "Luck Be A Lady" showed a keen understanding of mood and the tension for his character as he threw the dice for one dozen sinners.

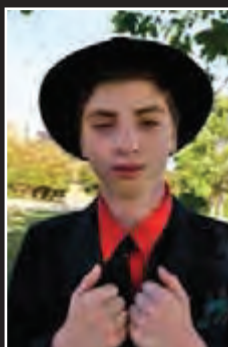
The Production Team for this show were vital - especially with some changes of personnel. Ed Slark volunteered to be our prompt whom we did not have to use too much fortunately. Katy Schofield did a fantastic job of organising and running the Makeup Team. Miles Metcalfe led the Stage Crew with determination. Mr Slark, Miss Blaine and Mr McKelvey volunteered to do Front of House.

Miss Roffe became one of our new hairstylists. Miss Bell found us the unusual array of props which we needed. Miss Berry made our poster, programme and also did hair - a multi -talented person ! Miss Hughes also came to our rescue and took on the never-ending job of Wardrobe Mistress. Mr Raby cajoled and coerced us to "open our mouths and sing" and gradually gave us the confidence to be loud and proud !

Miss Mills and I were both very proud of the effort you put into this demanding project and achieved success with it after so many difficulties.

*Mrs D Dodd*







## Outside Edge

*"Outside Edge" was a challenge as the two leads had a phenomenal number of lines to learn and there were several characters who would be on stage for long periods of time with very little indicated in the script for them to do !*

Fortunately, we had creative individuals in Bryony Smith who played the knitting Edna, Fran Baker as the posh Camilla, Dan Geerah and Chris Couch as cricketing husbands, and Katy Schofield as the marathon biscuit-eating hippy Cynthia ! Hannah Taylor and Holly Phelps shared the role of Shirley, pushed to breaking point and setting fire to her husband's car. It was great fun to see the audience jump each night at that explosive point!

Other roles showed a similar commitment to the ensemble feel we were trying to create: Charlotte Stedman was a wonderfully thick Sharon desperate to get to the loo, but socially terrified by all those around her, Harry Ellis was a convincing Leonardo, the sulky teenage boy who wins the match, Joely Barbour was the prim and proper Verity who eventually breaks free from her parents and Alistair Sinfield was very funny as the young WG Grace

who worships Roger but falls under the influence of Leonardo's beer !

Key roles were played by George Ord who had to become the lady killer Dennis, Ed Slark as Alex, the arrogant lawyer of the piece, Paddy Gilling as the quirky cook Kevin, Yasmin Lester- Powell as the strong willed Maggie, Sarah Tarleton as the aloof and revengeful Ginnie and Alex Jones as the frustrated and much put upon Bob. All worked extremely well together to show the wide range of character types in the play.

In the two lead roles, Sophie Musgrave was an excellent Miriam, the captain's wife determined to make everyone happy but ultimately feeling unloved and unwanted and Tom Molloy, in full Basil Fawlty mode, as the impossible Roger who cajoled and bullied his team into submission.

Two excellent performances from two very skilled character actors.

Our support team was vital as always. Mrs Gregory and Miss Blaine on Front of House, Mrs Brealy leading makeup, Miss Berry with programme and publicity, Miss Bell on props. Miles Metcalfe stage managed as if he was planning a major military manoeuvre ! The maintenance team built us a pavilion and the Art Department painted it such gorgeous colours. Thank you to all of them and a special thanks to Miss Mills for stepping into the costume role for the first time.

Thank you to everyone mentioned and to our audiences who came and enjoyed this light-as-air comedy.

*Mrs D Dodd*







# Music continues to thrive at Rendcomb College!

*The Music Department's principal objective is to make the academic and practical aspects of music engaging, relevant and attractive to a broad spectrum of students by providing an imaginative and stimulating curriculum and a varied and inclusive extra-curricular programme.*

The overwhelmingly enthusiastic response from students, and fulsome support from parents, confirm that musicians and audiences alike enjoy the diverse range of events that are proffered.

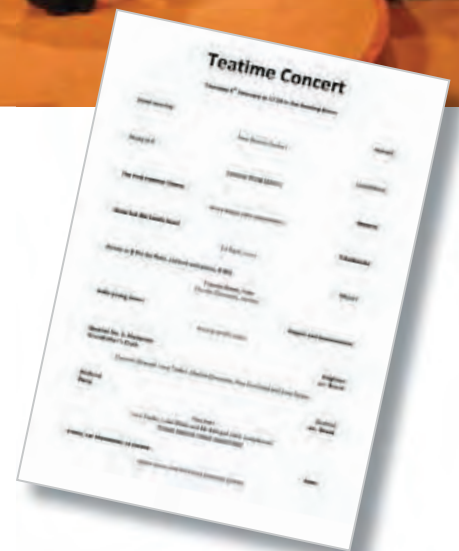
Almost every week of the academic year, students of all ages and abilities are given opportunities to perform to their peers in formal and informal settings, often to capacity audiences. Large numbers also benefit from attending weekly clubs, activities and performing groups covering a wide range of styles from jazz and rock to classical, as well as classes to develop key musical skills.

In the Michaelmas term, GCSE and AS level musicians travelled to Welsh National Opera in Cardiff to see Berg's Wozzeck, a seminal twentieth century opera, and to Oxford to hear Ladysmith Black Mambazo, a vibrant African vocal ensemble; visiting

specialist Alan MacLean coached pianists in a public masterclass, as well as judging the College's first Quick Study Competition; students and staff came together to reflect on Remembrance, with music by Dowland, Froberger, Mahler and Messiaen; over one hundred students and staff attended a rare performance of Beckett's Words and Music, to music by Morton Feldman; College Choir, Plus One! (Saxophone Ensemble) and Clarinet Quartet performed at the RCPA Fireworks evening; musicians performed in Headmaster's Assembly and Chapel, including new compositions by students; the Chamber Choir's pellucid tone enhanced the Service of Remembrance, as did James Mudge's sounding of the Last Post; and at the end of term the whole College community assembled at Christ Church, Cheltenham, for a Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, under the charismatic

direction of Mr McKelvey and including an exquisite solo by Charlotte Clements, Head of Choir.

Results from practical and theory examinations were particularly pleasing, with high Distinctions awarded to Jolyon Dunn at Grade 7 Guitar, and Dorothy Lu at Grade 8 Piano.



# Words and Music, *Samuel Beckett*

*On Thursday, 12th November, in the beautiful surroundings of the Clock Hall at the centre of the College building, pupils and professional musicians presented a performance of Beckett's 'Words and Music'.*

A large audience sitting at the foot of the stairs listened to the voices and sounds echoing around the hall and the continuing debates and discussions reflect the power of the performances and the challenges the play inspired: challenges for the actors interpreting what they felt the play's thematic concerns to be; the care and attention that each word of this superbly crafted play demands; the difficulties of focusing the audience's concentration, of challenging them to listen.

For that was what the play was forcing us to consider: Can words fill the gaps, between people, between past experience and present memory? Does music recapture genuine emotion, or create mere fantasy? An old man, Croak, yearning to be reconnected to

lost love, or to youth, or to life, demands of Joe, through words, and Bob, through music, to articulate through sound and symbol something of what he has left behind, some sense of what he can no longer feel.

This is almost impossible: yet the desperation of Croak and the desire of Bob and Joe to please him create, possibly and only fleetingly, out of the cries of anguish, the disharmonies and frustrations, brief moments of a feeling tenuous but real, a connection to clarity. Beckett confronts us with uncertainty of meaning and of words. Yet out of the discordant sounds and the darkness of the hall, moments of connection between cast and audience, between text and those listening, were, possibly, hopefully, achieved.

For Sixth Formers to attempt this challenging play was a credit to their artistic courage. Certainly, 'Words and Music' stretched them intellectually and emotionally.

The play itself is the thing. Yet their performance will have a lasting influence: on them and on those who listened. Tom Margesson and George Ord, with Fran Baker as one of the musicians, were outstanding.

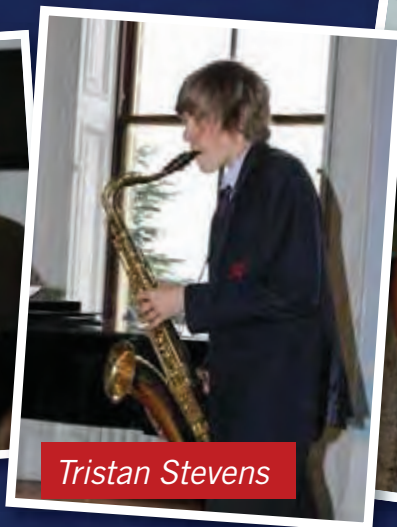
*Mr P Brooke*



*During the Lent Term the Rock Concert, supported by the RCPA and superbly organised by Laura Graham, proved to be one of the most enjoyable and successful student-led events of recent years. The three winning bands accepted invitations to perform at the outdoor festival Rendcombury at the close of the academic year.*



*Jolyon and Philip Dunn*



*Tristan Stevens*



*Li Chen, Peter Harrison and Dorothy Lu with Head of Keyboards, Jeremy Carter*

The Spring Concert was a joyous occasion enjoyed by more than 100 students, but rather than being the exception such concerts are now commonplace and a regular feature of the music calendar.

The Summer Term was busy with a concert on

Founder's Day, a piano recital by Jeremy Carter and the Lower School Musical, *Guys and Dolls*.

As I continue to reflect on the education the department provides, I have even greater ambition to share our passion for music.

*Mr R Raby, Director of Music*



## Rock Concert



# Dance Challenge

Winners of this year's Dance Challenge were "BLAH", Harry Ellis, Ben Smith, Ali Sinfield and Luke Witts



## Theatre Sports

*Theatre Sports is a true test of acting stamina within the school, requiring quick thinking, huge amounts of energy and of course making the whole event hysterically funny.*

Students from all over the school flocked to the Dulverton Hall to watch four teams battle against each other in a series of improvisation games. Mr Jennings hosted the evening in a manner that can only be compared to that of the Oscars, aided by the mathematically challenged scorer, Fran Baker and Philline Kischk, sweet thrower, whose aim was not quite up to scratch! The three judges, Mr Holden, Mrs Dodd and Ms Mills marked each performance with brutality. There was no room for error but the teams overcame the pressure and created some wonderful drama on stage!

Audience participation is a must and this year everybody got into the spirit offering destinations for the acting to take place in, including a Cow Milking Factory and Inside a Nostril!! Not only were the destinations imaginative but so were the team names, "Behind the Staffroom Door", "Papa Badger and the Madhouse Prefects" and "The Kings of Theatre".

Well done to Tristan Stevens who was awarded Best Individual Performer. The winning team "Dumbledore's Army" based on Harry Potter comprising of Luke Nixon (Ron), Ali Sinfield (Harry), Holly Phelps (Hermione) and Ed Slark (Dumbledore) just clenched the title after an intense and impressive battle with the "Kings of Theatre"! Well done to all who participated and thank you to all who made it possible – another Drama Success!!!



## James Dunn

*I began riding motorcycles at the age of four at home on the farm.*

I progressed to racing at the age of seven, competing in Motocross and Supercross events. At the age of ten, I became British Supercross Champion in the eleven years and under class, racing all over the British Isles, Scotland and in Ireland. In that year - 2005 - I also won the National Weston Super-Mare beach race on a KTM 65cc.

In 2006 aged 11 years old I moved up to the next age group - eleven to thirteen years. During the summer that year I raced in America at Washougal on amateur day before the AMA Nationals, finishing 1st overall in the Supermini class whilst visiting California. Then in 2007 I raced in the Youth Elite British GP at Donington Park finishing second overall and winning one of the international races. I returned to Weston for the 2007 beach race- finishing second out of 150 riders up to the age of fifteen at twelve years old. In 2008 I signed a contract with Suzuki GB to ride for them on their Youth Squad, competing in the British National Motocross series and British Supercross Championship. In this year I clinched all three of these Championships including the Elite Youth Cup National series.

During 2009 due to my height I moved up early onto a full size 125cc bike and during my first race against the adult 125 British Championship, I won two of the three races and was the overall winner. This was a first for a 14 year old. This year I am currently leading the British Two Stroke Championship with one round to go in September and running second in the British Masters Championship with also one round to go.

Motocross requires an exceptional level of fitness and Suzuki have given me a personal trainer to produce a fitness program and training procedure to maximise my overall fitness taking into account my age and goals. My aims are to race in the World Motocross Championships and the American AMA Supercross Series by the age of 19 years old.

James Dunn



# May Ball

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2010

On May Day evening, 180 parents, staff and friends from both the Junior and Senior Schools attended the 2010 May Ball.

Guests enjoyed a champagne reception, followed by a three-course dinner after which there was dancing to live music from Grad School and, for the more sporting, there was the challenge of the Car Simulator Racing and the Indoor Laser Shooting.

During the evening the raffle and our infamous game of Heads and Tails raised over £1000, which will be shared between our two nominated charities; The Little Princess Trust and The Helen and Douglas House.

*Annie McKeown Chairman of the Ball Committee*





# Art

## Exhibitions programme

*During 2010 we have been fortunate enough to start an ongoing programme of exhibitions using the gallery space at Rendcomb College.*

The programme was set up to exhibit the work of professional artists and student work. The exhibitions are either distinct in their own right or the result of a collaboration between artists and students. Below is a list of exhibitions that took place this year:

## Trip to the National Portrait Gallery

*GCSE and A Level students visited the National Portrait gallery to explore the collection and draw from a number of original works of art.*



### January 2010

*"Pretty in pink" An exhibition by Alex Stoneman and Billy Jay Starling.*

*Photographs of people living and working in Jaipur.*



### March 2010

*Sixth form  
Art exhibition*

*A selection of work  
based on their exam  
themes*



### May 2010

*4th form Art exhibition*

*A selection of large pastel drawings based on animals in nature*

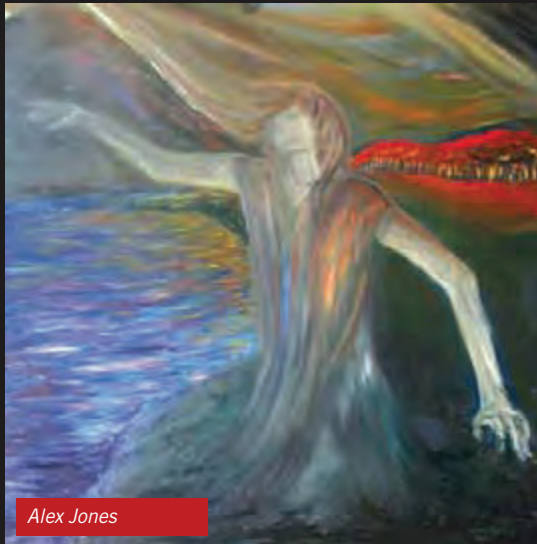


### October 2010

*An exhibition of  
paintings by Austen  
O'Hanlon spanning  
eight years of work*



*Hal Jones GCSE course work*



Alex Jones



Yasmin Lester-Powell

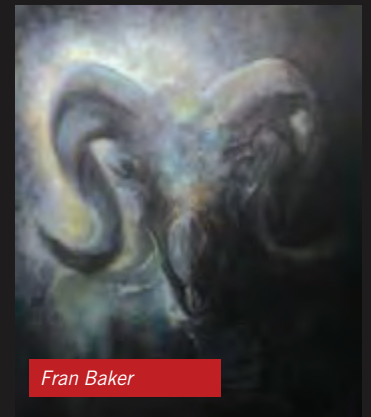
June 2010

*A level final year exhibition.*

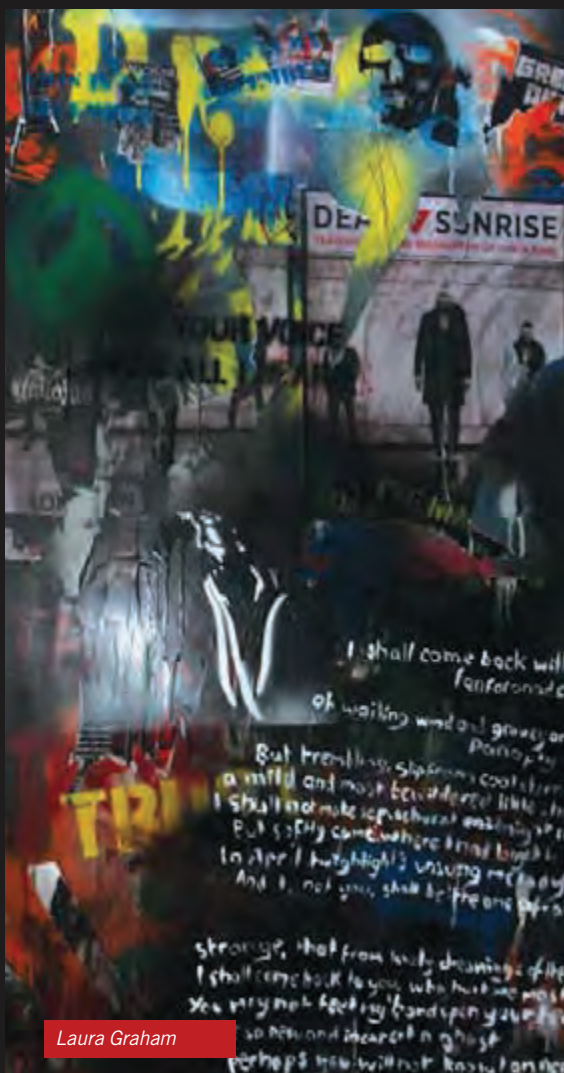
This exhibition highlighted the many successes of are A level art students and celebrated the variety of individual style and technique.



Maggie Leong



Fran Baker



Laura Graham



Rory Clark



Vicky Liu



## Forms 1 to 3

*The lower school this year explored a range of themes such as street collage where the 2nd form students examined billboards and the layers of information torn away over time.*

*1st form students looked at expressive portraits using the influence of the German Expressionists and Munch. 3rd form students explored surrealism inspired by natural forms and landscape.*

## A level Photography

*The department has introduced A level photography as a permanent subject at Rendcomb to start in September 2010.*



*Yaz Lester-Powell  
photographed by  
Ed Slark*

# Design Technology

*Throughout the year the department has buzzed with activity and I think that it has been the most productive yet, particularly during the Lent term when the 5<sup>th</sup> form pupils worked so hard at completing some super graphic products for their GCSE coursework.*



As always, new projects for all year groups have been introduced, and I think my favourite was the 1<sup>st</sup> form Stamp Project- pupils designed their own logo, using their initials, which were then, with the help of the laser cutter, made into rubber stamps. They all looked fantastic!

*I am sure that the 2<sup>nd</sup> form would agree with me that their most entertaining assignment had to be the 'Crazy Golf' project.*

The idea was to design a 'house' which would be on a Crazy Golf Course. It was great fun playing Crazy Golf at the end of the project- to test the houses, of course. I think the pupils enjoyed themselves, too!



*Or maybe my favourite project was that of the third form:*

The brief was to design and make products which could potentially be sold in a fairly local, well known wildlife park. The results were certainly varied and some products very 'marketable'!



*Unfortunately I had no takers for my gardening activity: maybe it was the thought of back breaking digging and toiling, or perhaps it just wasn't the thing teenagers do.*

Hmmm, I see their point on both accounts. How could I get them enthusiastic? Well, I managed to recruit a few loyal pupils to an activity with no particular identity, but it was held in the DT department so it seemed to them that gardening was not on the agenda. In the

first two sessions they painted terracotta pots. Then they filled the pots with compost and sowed some runner bean seeds.

Then they nurtured them until they were ready for transplanting. A master of carpentry (aka Stuart Gallop, 2<sup>nd</sup> form) constructed a solid, fit for purpose planter, using recycled oak he had sourced himself, and now the bean plants are in the planter being cared for by Mrs Holden while the young gardeners are on their summer holidays. I'm now working on my next 'pseudo gardening activity' for their return.

*Finally, I would like to mention the huge efforts of my present 4<sup>th</sup> form graphic design group, who have made a start on their GCSE assignments.*

Their ideas for their kinetic books are immensely creative and I am really looking forward to seeing their end products next year. So, well done the 4<sup>th</sup> form!

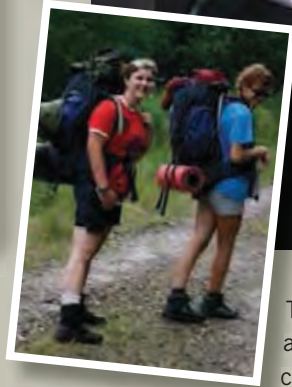
Mrs B Hughes



## GOLD AWARD

Rachel Watson, a leaver last year, has completed her gold award and has now collected this from St James Palace.

It is a credit to her to have completed the Award so swiftly. The gauntlet has been thrown down to see if any of the present Lower 6th can complete the award whilst still at Rendcomb.



The Bronze groups' had a chilly introduction to camping in March with -6 being recorded their

first night out in tents! From that start the weather could do nothing but get warmer. Some groups walked further than the 10 miles planned but did much better in the accessed expedition by which time their map reading had improved!

Pupils from the 5th Form are showing full commitment to the scheme with some having received their Bronze Certificate and some pupils from the 4th Form hot on their heels having already completed most parts of the award Bronze Award.

Congratulations to them. Dartmoor was a new location to take students for their expedition training. The Lower 6th went in April for their first expedition.

The area gave pupils the opportunity to get their basic navigation and map reading skills up to standard. It was their first introduction to wild camping without the normal amenities of showers and loo's. Pupils coped well over the 3 days and will now go to the Brecons to put the skills learnt into a new environment and increase the mileage walked each day. Whilst the pupils at Rendcomb enjoyed sports day and Rendcombury those on the Gold Expedition found themselves in very different conditions in the Brecon Beacons. Rain and fiercely strong winds hampered progress but all completed the task. Well done.

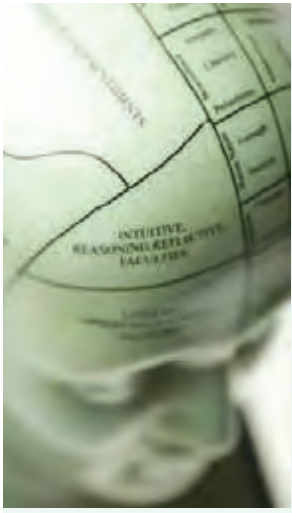
I would like to thank Miss Lucas, Mr Vuolo and Mr Illingworth for all their help and time give up to taking pupils on expeditions. Without them the Award would not function to the level we are able to at present.

*Mr H Marsden*

## Duke of Edinburgh Award

*The Gold assessed expedition was completed in near perfect conditions that previous year groups would be envious of, no rain, cloud ceiling well above the hill tops and pleasant temperatures.*





## Psychology

*AS students had a high old time learning to be more tolerant of their fickle memories, to think before they obey orders, and to understand some of the social difficulties of people with High-Functioning Autism.*

They have considered why some people become addicted to gambling, and how difficult it is to diagnose mental illness. They have looked into the emotional, cognitive and social aspects that influence child development, and have studied how the physical structure of our brains changes with experience – those London Black Cab taxi drivers do have larger posterior hippocampi than the rest of us! The year ended in a flourish when we visited the Psychology Department of University of West of England, and then spent the afternoon observing meercats, etc. in Bristol Zoo.

But the discussions grew much more intense in the A2 lessons on Forensic Psychology – we argued and discussed, debated and dissected the evidence which tries to pinpoint what exactly it is that turns people to crime. A visit to Stroud Police Station was definitely a highlight of the year. This police station is, remarkably, built to house terrorists – though we were mercifully only ‘banged up’ for just a few minutes. Turning to Health and Clinical Psychology, we tore open the modern obsession with stress, and rattled on to look at the evolutionary reasons for phobias of snakes and spiders. Having been very pleased with the marks in the January exam, the rest of the year was spent polishing and practising towards top achievement in the summer exams. It has been an excellent first year of the new specification and I thank all my students for their enthusiasm and commitment.

*Mrs G Harford*

## Maths Challenge

*Rendcomb pupils were again successful in the Junior and Senior Maths Challenge competitions this year, with the senior team coming second in the National finals.*



*Mrs L Gregory*



## Ultimate Abseil

*Delia Rich and Toby Channer (Year 10) recently completed The Winston's Wish Ultimate Abseil.*

This involved the challenge to "take on the tower" by abseiling down one of Gloucestershire's most iconic landmarks – the Eagle Tower in the heart of Cheltenham. Standing at a goosebump-giving 168 feet tall, Eagle Tower allows anyone at its summit to see for miles across the town and beyond into the Cotswolds.

The participants had to pledge to raise money for charity and we are pleased to report that Delia and Toby raised £600 and £150 for the charity respectively.

Well done to them both for a tremendous achievement.

# Environmental News

*The College has been working hard to implement more “green” initiatives. The first step was to form Rendcomb’s new Environmental Committee.*

This is made up of students from all years from fresh faced 1st formers to slightly less fresh but equally enthusiastic sixth formers. The job of the committee was to come up with new eco initiatives to make

the College greener as well as trying to ensure that common sense approaches are maintained, for example, lights are switched off when rooms are not being used and that paper is correctly disposed

of in the recycling bins. Another initiative is the introduction of a vegetable patch and in response to popular demand Rendcomb got its very own Chickens!



## A tree to be planted by *every* pupil

*Every pupil at Rendcomb College planted a tree in the woods surrounding the school as part of an initiative set in motion earlier this year by our Environmental Committee.*

Working with Pete Cairns and Will Wilkinson, Forestry Consultant from Charlton Abbots Forestry Ltd, plans were drawn up to get the tree planting up and running. Rendcomb is blessed with over 100 acres of woodland and parkland and as part of an ongoing programme which will last many years, areas have been cleared as part of the process of continuous regeneration of the woods. Having removed some poorer formed and suppressed trees and undergrowth to create an “open window” in the canopy, pupils planted

young Field Maple, Ash and Hazel trees (officially known as “whips”), protecting them with tree shelters, as the first stage in the planting programme.

The aim is for all pupils at Rendcomb to have planted a tree in the woodland before they leave the school as part of our aim to encourage them to reduce their carbon footprint. Will Wilkinson, a former pupil at Rendcomb, remembered planting trees in the park

during his time at the school and said “This was a great way of assisting continued regeneration of the woodland”.



# Eco Week

After the problems caused during last year's snow, it was decided this year to hold Rendcomb's annual Eco week in May with the emphasis on the wonderful variety of fauna and flora Rendcomb has to offer.

*The decision certainly paid off as we were rewarded with fabulous sunshine throughout the whole week.*

The programme kicked off on Monday with a nature trail around our extensive grounds. It was unfortunate that the deer, who were spotted in abundance just 20 minutes before, remained elusive to all but a few of the group (who probably scared them away!) Having said that it was a great chance to show off what Rendcomb has to offer, especially our expanse of fields as well as the lake. The evening was also made worthwhile by the opportunity to see Pete Cairn's new puppies who, as you can imagine, were a great hit with students and teachers alike.

On Tuesday the students were given the opportunity to discuss environmental issues around the school in a forum arranged in conjunction with the School Council. As ever, the students came up with a variety of ideas, one of which being the need for more recycling within houses. As a result, every house now has recycling facilities, including paper, glass and plastic. It is hoped that next year, in conjunction with the newly formed Eco council, that every house will have an environmental monitor to ensure that the recycling facilities are used.

Tuesday night was badger watching night. Dead on 8 o'clock, teacher and students assembled in the woods excitedly awaiting the arrival of our stripy friends. I must admit after an hour of complete silence, sitting on a rather uncomfortable log, I was getting a little frustrated. Due credit must be given to the students at this point, for they did not make a peep and seemed perfectly happy to sit there staring at some

holes in the ground while we steadily lost the light. Mrs Westhead was convinced she had seen a badger however on further investigation we were disappointed to discover it was just a log! Although it was a disappointment not to have seen the famous Rendcomb badgers at first hand, we all agreed it had been time well spent. The opportunity to hear the evening song of the birds was worth it alone and in this hectic world of exams, prep and lessons it is always good to have time to relax and reflect in peace and quiet.

Wednesday night was eco video and fair trade chocolate night. A host of boarders assembled excitedly in the Dulverton Hall and were duly given their rations of chocolate which they devoured with glee. We then all enjoyed the multi Oscar winning film "Avatar", which although not in 3D was excellent on the big screen.

However, the purpose of the night was to highlight the view that we need to support the growers of the cocoa in the developing world; this is something that as a college we feel is a very important message to give out to the students. As such they do a lot of work in Geography in form 3, understanding international trade issues and the problems it creates for the poorest farmers in LEDCs. If nothing else I hope that this night dispelled the myth that fair trade chocolate is expensive compared with its non fair trade counterpart. This was certainly the case a few years ago, however, most supermarkets now stock their own brand of fair trade which is similar in price. Therefore people can now enjoy their favorite treat and know they are helping farmers get the right price for their crops.

Thursday night was badger watching night again and as before students and teachers assembled in the woods. In a cruel repeat of Tuesday night no badgers

were seen; indeed we didn't even have the log to observe! Next year we will attempt to outwit them by building some hides so watch this space. Having said that the night ended on a high as we were treated to a display by some bats, in fact when I asked one of the boys if he was disappointed by the not seeing the badgers he replied that he would have preferred to have seen bats, so a successful night of bat watching it turned out to be!

Friday saw the culmination of events and in what is now a Rendcomb tradition, the week was rounded off with a mufti day and eco disco. The theme "endangered animals" was happily observed by the students with many coming up with ingenious ways to resemble our various furry cousins. The good news is we managed to raise funds for the WWF, so not only was it fun but it also meant that this charity had some more money to carry on with their important work of ensuring the survival of some of the world's most endangered creatures.

I would like to take this opportunity to give my sincere gratitude to the various members of staff and students who made this week a success. In particular, thanks must go to Pete Cairns whose assistance was invaluable. Also to Tom Minton who organised and spoke at the two chapel services aimed at further highlighting eco issues.

Miss M Lucas,  
Environmental Co-ordinator

# Geography

*As ever the Geography Department has had an active year, making use of the College estate for studying microclimates and ecosystems with the younger years, and field trips further afield with the GCSE and 'A' Level groups.*

Students in Year 4 had the opportunity to visit Gloucester city centre to carry out urban field work in preparation for their own coursework studies in Year 5 as well as to apply their classroom studies to the real world.

The Lower Sixth Form group visited the redevelopment areas of Cardiff Bay, in addition to going on a residential trip to study a Peak District river, and the issues

of coastal erosion on the Holderness Coast (the stretch north of the Humber estuary) which is the fastest eroded coastline in Europe.

The Sixth Form groups have also attended lectures organised by the Geographical Association in Bristol on topics ranging from the Montserrat volcano to development issues in Swaziland, all by university lecturers and researchers

in these fields. This has been a real asset in introducing our Sixth Formers to 'university style' lectures, and in displaying the amazing breadth of modern Geography.

Overall it has been an excellent year with the introduction of new trips or activities outside of the classroom and I look forward to this developing still further next year.

*Mr D Illingworth*



L6 field trip to the Holderness coast



Jenny Phelps with students on the Rendcomb estate



Cardiff Bay



Gloucester Docks



## Riding and *Polo*

*Another full year of riding and polo activities with our annual beach riding holiday to South Wales, pupils representing the school at riding events and our first polo matches against Pinewood School.*

Rendcomb Polo Squad played their first ever matches against Pinewood School this year. The squad consisted of Emily Tennant-Bell (Captain), Joshua Thomas, Holly Phelps, Charlotte Clements and Georgie Freeth (OR) and the matches were played at Lynt Polo Club.

Both matches were exciting and the second match finished with a narrow victory by the more experienced Pinewood team. Special thanks must go to Harry Ellis, Ben Smith and Charlie Southerden for goal judging!

All the pupils enjoy their lessons under the expert tuition of Guy Verdon who is very

pleased with their progress and hopes to organise more matches for next season.

The Senior School and the Junior School riders have joined forces to enter school riding competitions at Stonar and Millfield School. With thanks to Paddy Gilling, Lucy Kernon, Lauren Booth and Sophie & Molly Tice for representing the school this year.

The annual riding holiday to South Wales proves as popular as ever and this year we were blessed with excellent weather and good beach riding and no one fell off!

*Mrs L Holden*

*Lauren Booth*

# Berlin Trip

*One day after the end of the Lent term, seven GCSE German students, one A-Level History student and three members of staff set off to Germany to discover the language and the history.*



But that is not the whole story. This is a trip during which we would discover the terrifying Room 101 from the novel 1984; where we would discover an endless number of bears (Jordan Thomas tried to hug every single one); where Jake McKeown would start the zombie talk; and most important of all, this is a trip for Mrs White and Mr Jennings to learn skateboarding, tutored by the professional Mr Henry Frowen.

On the first day, people arrived at Bristol Airport, mostly on time, with the exception of Elliott Finn who arrived one hour early and Hal Jones who was the latest. Everyone gathered around the check in desk. Harmony Andrews won the prize of the lightest bag, only 4.5 kg, how she managed no one knows.

Our first day started with Mr. Jennings' acting as if he was in 1984. The "Story of Berlin" was the next station.

Then we went to a bunker which was built by the West in case of a nuclear bomb. It was surreal: a room of gas masks, a room for the dead...In the afternoon, we arrived at the Olympic Stadium and here we saw the first bears. As someone memorably said, "Hitler's 1000 year reign is now under a bunch of Rendcomb students and bears."



On the second day we visited the Holocaust memorial and Mrs. Kinson went to look for the bunker in which Hitler committed suicide. We walked under the Brandenburg Gate and arrived in what used to be East Germany. We then saw the place where the Burning of Books took place and Berlin Cathedral. In the evening, we went on to see the remains of Berlin Wall and Einstein in Lego.



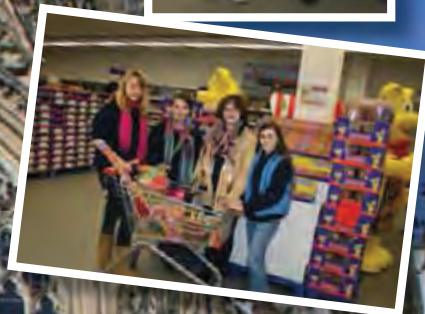
We went to the Bundestag the next day and after a long talk about the current political system of Germany, not surprisingly, the majority fell asleep. We got on the Underground once again, this time; we were full of excitement, because we were heading to a chocolate shop. But before we arrived, we got another surprise: bears, not one, but millions of them. Our flight home was delayed so we had another day in Germany in the Holiday Inn.

This trip was full of fun and endless laughter. I will revisit Berlin with all these wonderful memories. Thank you to Mr. Jennings, Mrs. Kinson and Mrs. White for organising this wonderful trip and also to Mr Cairns and Mrs Jennings driving us to and from the airport.

*Kerry Lin*



# Years 1 -4 German exchange trip to *Cologne and Bad Honnef*





Tom Geerah (International Socialist party)

Emily Jones/Lucy Taylor (Independent Women's Alliance Party)

Tom Margesson (Conservative Party)

Ed Slark (Green Party)

**FRIDAY IS POLLING DAY**

3 good reasons to vote for change on Friday:

- 1 Full supporting of our Armed Forces
- 2 Cutting the national debt from £178 billion
- 3 Keeping our NHS free for all, forever.

**OPEN All Day**



## Mock Election

*With the general election just around the corner, on Friday March 12th Rendcomb College staged its very own election.*

There were four parties vying for the electorate's precious vote: The Conservatives led by Tom Margesson, The Greens, led by Edward Slark, The International Socialist party, led by Tom Geerah and The Independent Women's Alliance led jointly by Lucy Taylor and Emily Jones. Over the previous two weeks there had been furious canvassing, leafleting and persuading.

The parties had to present their party's views on some key issues and we decided to fight the election over such as transport issues for teenagers, the war in Afghanistan, the economy and sustainable energy issues. All the parties had to decide their own particular angle: the Conservatives followed the Conservative party line, The Alliance looked at how policies particularly effect women, the Greens naturally looked at the environment and how policies might affect this and the International Socialist party took a European angle on the issues.

On the Thursday before polling we staged a question time attended by over 200 students and staff.

There was claim and counterclaim and a very healthy debate.

And the winner, and duly elected member for Rendcomb? In joint third place with 52 votes each, The International Socialists and IWA, in second place with 89 votes the Greens and the winner with 120 votes Tom Margesson, the Conservative party representative; now is this prophetic....?

*Mr P Jennings*



## Parliament visit

*12 members of 6L, joined by a couple of 4th formers (5th formers otherwise occupied by GCSE exams) Mrs Harford and Mr Jennings set off on a train from Kemble.*

Democracy One: Arriving in Westminster in good time, we rather bravely went to talk to the protestors camping in Parliament Square. The eloquent and fervent supporters of the Direct Action campaign to Stop the War in Afghanistan were well organised along egalitarian principles. But their campaign was being thwarted both by the homeless people who had joined them (free food) who did not follow the general principle of no drugs and no alcohol, and by a circling tourists bus of belligerent right-wing opponents.

All just a bit scary - and that included crossing the busy traffic to actually get to the protestors!

Democracy Two: Having got through the considerably security precautions, we were taken by the Education Department on a tour of the Houses of Parliament. First stop was the House of Lords, where Lord Sugar was arguing for continued financial support for young people setting up their own businesses.

Then we rushed on through the maze of corridors to the House of Commons where we heard Danny Alexander giving a key note speech explaining the redistribution of the powers of the Financial Services Authority. Now we could really understand that Parliament means 'to talk'!

*Mr P Jennings*





## Helen & Douglas House

£1,209

*Helen & Douglas House is a registered charity providing respite and end-of-life care for children and young adults aged from birth to 35 with life-shortening conditions, as well as practical and emotional support for the whole family.*

They currently provide one-to-one care for 300 children and young adults from Oxfordshire and surrounding counties and also support 60 bereaved families.

Tom Margesson - who volunteers at the Cirencester shop - decided to support this charity by holding a non-uniform day, carol service collection and May ball raffle, raising the fantastic sum of £1,209.

In addition, the Cirencester Shop was delighted with the generous "Orange Bag" donations from pupils and their families.

Tom Margesson



## Lords Meade College in Uganda

*Links continue to flourish with our sister school in Uganda, Lords Meade College.*

This year funds have been raised by JEST, the Rendcombury Music Festival and the sale of Christmas cards. Most the money has gone towards supporting pupils at the school who have financial difficulties, enabling them to complete their education.

One such pupil is an orphaned girl in Sixth Form called Eveleyne Nankya who is now able to complete her A Level's due to the generosity of the Rendcomb College Parents' Association.

We were also pleased to have a visit this year from Mark Malinga, the Headmaster of Lords Meade, who tells us that eight other students are now able to finish their education at the school as a result of the money raised by a charity auction which took place at the Rendcombury at the end of the Summer Term.



Mark Malinga, being presented with a cheque by Sue Thomas, RCPA representative



Eveleyne Nankya

# English

## *How to make an English Year...*

*(With apologies to the Bard...)*

To make an English year at Rendcomb you will need the following ingredients:

250 or so willing students and three outstanding teachers,  
A pinch of 'Skellig' both in the classroom and at the theatre,  
A tea-spoon of 'Othello' at A level, GCSE and Chipping Norton,  
A dash of the Cheltenham festival,  
A 'soupçon' of E.S.U. Debating, (complete with fire alarm evacuation!)

Just a squeeze of Armistice Day readings,  
Medieval Monastery visits,

And poetry, poetry, poetry...  
Double, double, toil and trouble,  
Fire burn and cauldron bubble.

Lots and lots of coursework, speeches and presentations,  
Visits and lectures on brainy stuff,  
Restaurant critics and student cooking,  
World Book day and public readings.  
A slice of Stratford for 'Lear' and the birthplace,  
A twist of films and crazy novels, plays and media,  
Dollops of 'Journey's End' off the page and off in Reading.

And poetry, poetry, poetry...  
Double, double toil and trouble,  
Fire burn and cauldron bubble.

And when the recipe is ready, mix it all together with some hot chillies called 'exams' and some nasty spiky things called 'tests', some comfort food called 'projects' and some spicy essays and what have you got?

The perfect English Year!

Thank-you to my colleagues and the students for being inventive, (if only about making up excuses for missing prep) and curious. I hope the students enjoyed the meal.

*Mr Paul Jennings*



*The 3rd Form visit Stratford-upon-Avon*



*End of year party for U6 students in Mr Jennings' garden*



*4th Form students cooking up a few recipes with Mr Brooke*



# Science



Sixth Form Biology field trip to Snowdonia



Sixth Form field trip to Southampton Docks



## Cotswold Wildlife Park

*On the 21st of June, Miss Berry, Miss Harries and Mr Vuolo took the 2nd form to the Cotswold Wildlife Park. When we arrived, we were all very excited, however the teachers kept us tamed.*

We were split into two groups and went round the park separately. In the morning we looked at various exotic animals, while the other group had a ride on the train.

There were many walk-through displays in the park. The scariest one was the spider and insects section. It felt like the creatures could jump out at us. We then went on the train which was exciting. We saw lots of animals, such as zebras, giraffes, rhinos and many more.

We next had a talk about rainforest animals; we went in what looked like a massive green house. Lots of different animals were kept in here. The room was very hot and it was like going from Australia to England when we walked out, even though it was a hot day! We then saw various different birds that live in the rainforest.

To make the day more fun- if that is possible- we decided to go to the playground even though we were a bit too old to be there! We had a last walk around the park and saw lots more animals, some that we even keep at home and some that we have never seen before. This really was a fantastic day!

It wouldn't have happened if the staff involved hadn't been so helpful and great. Thank you to Miss Berry, Mr Vuolo, Miss Harries and all the kitchen staff for all our yummy lunches.

Rosalind Baynham and Florence Price

## Our Day at Cheltenham Science Festival

*Cheltenham was amazing! First we watched a show with three men in rainbow lab coats and a demolition expert.*

Miss Berry was very jealous of the bright lab coats even though she has a pink one herself. In fact Miss Berry liked them so much she said she was going to dye some of her own lab coats to match. The show included lots of loud bangs and our favorite experiment of the show called 'The Barking Dog'.

The second event was the water rockets at Cheltenham College. We had to design, build and fire our own rockets. We were put into teams of 4 or 5 and were given a helper who told us how to build the best rocket. We also had to decide on a team name. Team names included 'Mr. G's Posse', 'It's NOT Rocket Science' and 'Your Mum'. You had to aim the rockets at a blue square and see who could get the closest. 'Your Mum' from Rendcomb won by getting 10cm away from the blue square!

After the water rockets we had lunch and then went on to explore the discovery zone. There were lots of activities to join in with. These included talking about lasers, learning about microorganisms, and a game about a nuclear power station where you could win a flashing pen. Before we could go home we had to win Miss Berry and Mr Vuolo a flashing pen each!

We had lots of fun and hope that we will be able to go again. Thank you Miss Berry and Mr. Vuolo.

Pascale Summers and Eve Jarman



# Leavers' Weekend

*Each year, the Upper Sixth look forward to Leavers' Weekend as a fitting finale to their time at Rendcomb.*

This year was no exception and beautiful sunny weather was the setting for an afternoon of water sports at the Cotswold Water Park.

For those who ventured out confidently on the inflatable banana boat, it soon became apparent that they were in for a serious dunking in the water!

This did not dampen their spirits and they returned to school for a barbecue on the terrace with members of staff. Mr Lindsey North gave a humorous and moving after-dinner speech before everyone adjourned for a final evening down in the Sixth Form social centre. The following day saw everyone assembled again, this time with their parents for a leavers' service in St

Peter's Church, with an address by Mr Paul Jennings and a musical interlude by Philipp Ortner and Laura Graham.

A final lunch was enjoyed in the Dining Room with their parents before emotional farewells, tears (some laughter) and the distribution of the much anticipated Leavers' Books marking the end of the Rendcomb journey for the class of 2010.







# Sixth Form *Social Life*

*The 6th Form social centre this year had a tough act to follow from last year.*



However, the initial enthusiasm and momentum carried over into the first themed event – ‘Rave Bar,’ which has quickly become a huge favourite with the 6th Form. Neon colours, glow sticks and bright tights were on display in a great event that kick-started the themed bars this year. Other themes this year included Halloween, the 90’s, Barbie-and-Ken and Farmyard evening (where Rory Clark kindly let us borrow some hay bales). Notable costumes include Ed Slark’s Edward Scissorhands outfit on Halloween, Phil Ortner and Ieuan Clement’s attempt at being Spartans in Movie Characters Bar,

and Laura Graham’s self-painted skeleton, also on Halloween. Unofficial themes also emerged with impromptu costumes, such as Nerd Bar, Bin Bag Bar, and, to those who remember it, ‘Silent Bar.’

There were also a few evenings to which we invited the 5th Form such as Movie Characters Bar, however the greatest success was Acoustic Bar, where many of the 5th Form contributed to a mellow gathering with musical performers from all three year groups.

In addition to the evenings in the Sixth Form centre, we have also enjoyed

numerous activities organised by Mr & Mrs Coups; the annual Christmas dinner, themed cooking evenings and BBQ’s, water sports, paintballing and walks to the Bathurst Arms to mention a few.

*George Ord*





## Buddies

*The Buddy system is a way of integrating First Form pupils into the Senior School.*

It works by pairing every First Form girl or boy with a Sixth former. They meet up regularly at break times and it is a chance for worries, concerns, work problems and many other issues to be discussed.

On Friday 5th March, the annual Buddy Quiz was organised by Mrs Dodd, Mr Jennings and compèred by Mrs Brealy. It proved to be a highly enjoyable evening and with £10 vouchers as the winning prize, it was a highly competitive, with teams made up of two Sixth Formers and two first years.

The questions, kindly put together by Mr Jennings, varied from, 'What do Brazil and Pecan both have in common?' to 'Where did the Winter Olympics take place?'. With a lot of excitement and enthusiasm the winners were: Tom Geerah, James Sinfield, Sarah Tarleton and Lydia Farnham and there was much excitement as they stood up to collect their hard earned prizes. To all those who attended this event, I believe you would agree with me, it was a satisfying, enjoyable and fun way to spend a Friday night with each of your buddies. Later in the year we also enjoyed the annual tradition of the Buddy BBQ at the Headmaster's House followed by the fiercely competitive football match on the front lawn of main college. The pictures tell the story!

*Sophie Musgrave*



# Cultural *Enrichment*

## *The Programme*

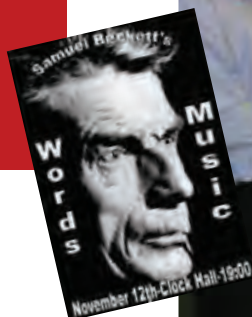
*The school runs an extensive programme of Sixth Form Enrichment.*

These are events and activities organised to encourage students to think about the world outside the classroom. They are also designed to help the sixth form bond as a cohesive unit and to develop skills in organising, planning and teamwork. Below are some of the highlights of last year

- Quiz Night: not for the feint hearted!
- Hektor Krome: the mad traveller came to talk to the students about organising an independent GAP year.
- 'Question Time': our candidates went 'head-to-head' in an evening of 'cut and thrust' debate.
- Wine Tasting: James Walker from 'The Bathurst Arms'
- John Squires: safe driving skills;
- Lindsey North: A talk on his third greatest love (after French Literature & Barbara); American music from Blues to good old Dylan & Springsteen.
- Alastair Eyken: 'Sports Journalism':
- Dr Ian Davis: 'Walking on Thin Ice';
- Remembrance readings and music.
- James Hooper: explorer.
- 'Words and Music': a play for voices.

And, the now established tradition of... 'The 6th Form Badminton Marathon'

*Mr P Jennings*



Alastair Eyken



Wine Tasting



Quiz Night



American Music



# The Pupils' Perspective

*Cultural enrichment this year got off to a start with 'Speed Dating.'*

This was not a romantic exercise, rather an attempt to get the whole of the 6th Form to get to know each other, as there were several new faces. The 6th Form Quiz was another enrichment that had a slightly social nature to it, even if there were some competitive participants. That was nothing, however, compared to the competitive nature of the Badminton Tournament, won this year by the partnership of Ed Slark and Charlotte Jones (Ed Thomason and Kerry Lin were disqualified on a minor technicality, but were still awarded shuttlecock 'trophies'). Another form of competitive enrichment was the Question Time debate, held as a part of the Mock Election held this year at the college. Needless to say, the Election as a whole helped raise the pupils' awareness about national politics, and also let the party leaders see how exposed and vulnerable politicians can be sometimes. There were also a few more cautionary cultural enrichments this year, and the two that stick out are the car and road safety talk we were given by Police Officer John Squires, as well as a very moving talk on drugs and drug use, and how adversely it can affect our lives, as well as the lives of those around us. The talk was, at times, funny and humorous, but also struck a chord with the 6th Form when the talk took a more serious turn,



Dr Ian Davis

and many messages were taken on board.

Some cultural enrichments also took on a more educational feel, but in fields highly relevant to a budding 6th Form – Gap Years and Wine Tasting. Being educated on taking a year's holiday combined with finding a favourite wine is a potentially dangerous mix. However, both speakers; Hektor Krome regarding Gap Years, and James Walker from the Bathurst Arms on wine proved to be highly entertaining and informative, and we all took a lot away from these talks.

Other than the social, the cautionary and the educational, there were also the inspirational speakers, people who came to speak to us about their professions or achievements, and make us realise that anything is indeed possible. From Alistair Eyken, the 5 Live journalist, to Dr Ian Davis who travelled to the South Pole, as well as accompanying the Top Gear team on their Arctic Special; these speakers were elite and special people.

The two speakers that showed us that where there is a will, there is undoubtedly a way, were James Hooper who climbed

Mount Everest despite problems with funding and the conditions and Hektor Krome who travelled around the world by any means necessary.

The drive and ambition of these speakers was certainly contagious, and their achievements meant we held them in high regard.

As always, all of the cultural enrichments were conceived, organised, managed and run by Mr Jennings, whose tireless and unrelenting work means that the 6th Form have several opportunities to take on board lessons for life.

George Ord



Badminton Competition



Hektor Krome



# Rendcombury 2010

*Rendcomb's outdoor music festival, Rendcombury 2010 took place on a warm and sunny evening on the last weekend of the Summer Term.*

Following on from the annual Sports' Day, parents and pupils enjoyed a BBQ, Pimms, strawberries and cream and entertainment from pupil bands who performed on a "festival style" portable stage. For most the performers, this was their first experience of a large but very appreciative audience.

In addition to the music, stalls and activities organised by our housestaff and

parents, kept everyone amused and the evening finished with the Maxwell Street Blues Band who had everybody dancing on and around the stage. The whole event was organised as a charity event to raise money for Lords Meade Vocational College in Uganda, a school for orphans whose parents have died from AIDS.

A charity auction compered by Laurence Llewellyn - Bowen raised over £1,300.







## Clay Pigeon Shooting

*Rendcomb College took part in the National Schools' Clay Shooting Championships, held at E.J.Churchill's ground, near High Wycombe this year.*

This was a national event attended by heavyweight schools such as Cokethorpe and Millfield. Rendcomb entered 6 teams into this competition, the largest in our history and the most of any school. At the end of the day, Rendcomb A's were tied on 16th place out of 25 with Marlborough College, a school of 900 pupils, and 400 6th Formers.

Modesty prevents Rory Clark, the shooting captain, from giving this report, as he led by outstanding example throughout, as the A-Team high gun, with the best shooting performance from all the current students at Rendcomb College, and 26th best shooter, out of 128, at the ground that day. Other notable performances include Leo Wong, for the B-Team. Leo, having shot only 2 or 3 times before Nationals, ended up as the B's high gun, with a display of composed and reassured shooting that many experienced shooters would have been proud of.

On the ladies side, Holly Phelps and Issy Bailey were high gun shooters for the A and B teams respectively. Rendcomb also entered an Old Boys' team, with familiar faces such as Adam Phelps, Charlie Stutchbury, Alexander Tennant-Bell and Rosie Freeth being top shooters in the OR teams. By securing 2nd and 3rd place in the Old Boys' teams, Rendcomb has now won a top three place for 6 years running. Rendcomb College also retains the position as the top shooting school in Gloucestershire. A massive thank you must go out to Mr Stuchbury and Mr Cairns for their organisation, coaching and supervision of this event.

*George Ord*



## Golf

*Tom Geerah, Tom Pearson and Jack Harris represented the school at the Gloucestershire Schools' Golf Competition held at Tewkesbury Park Golf Club.*





## Rugby

*The College has fielded five teams on a regular basis this season and played a total of 56 games of which 33 have been won. A great deal of enterprising and highly determined rugby has been played, often against schools with considerably greater playing resources and against teams who have enjoyed a significant physical advantage.*

For the U13 team, it was a season of great improvement with the side led very ably by Brodie Ash. The forwards gelled impressively under pack lead Ed Watkins, and the backs developed good angles of running combined with quick feet in the centre and pace out wide. The highlights of the season were the bruising victory against Kingham Hill when the tackle count was off the scale, as well as the final twenty five minutes of the season against King's Gloucester when the boys really

rallied and showed just how far they had come in terms of ambition and character.

The U14 team played 12 matches and won 10. An excellent season, not just in terms of results but in the way in which the boys played. The team has backs that run well with the ball, are strong on contact and in the tackle and have in the combination of a mini maestro fly half, Paddy Tarleton, and a Mike Tindallesque centre, Harry Priestner, both rapier and mallet, the ability to throw a dummy or smash through the midfield.

The forwards made significant progress over the season, and started to dominate opposition in both the set scrum and contact, driving across the gain line to win quick ball.

They beat many teams easily, but always kept their discipline and respect for the opposition: the boys won well. The key matches were against Llandaff, Leighton Park and King's Gloucester.

Against Llandaff they lost away 5-7 and at home 20-12. Both games were exciting, hard fought and could have gone either way. These losses were more fun to play

in and watch than the huge wins, and it was the experience of these games that enabled the team to beat King's Gloucester in the last game of the season, 28-22. This, too, was a great game to watch: King's always fought hard and never allowed Rendcomb to feel fully in control of the game.

The boys played their best rugby of the season. It was a fitting way to finish the term.





The U15 team played 13 games with 10 victories. The team aspired to play fast open attractive rugby and success was based on developing the team approach, rather than emphasis and dependence on individuals alone.

Three boys, Jack Pethick, Toby Channer and Ben Smith have been nominated for district trials, congratulations to them. Congratulations also go to Edwin Price, Lance Baynham and Tristan Stevens for their rotation as captain which eventually led to Edwin Price being selected by a vote, although his season was cruelly brought to an end by a broken collarbone.

Thanks to all those boys who didn't get a regular team spot but supported the rest by turning up to the matches as replacements.

For the 2nd XV, it was a steep learning curve this season. It is a big step from the U15 team to senior rugby and the boys have come across some much bigger sides this term, but they had their moments, with memorable wins against Leighton Park, Bredon and Bloxham. The effort and commitment in the away match at Bredon was magnificent and the winning try as good as any seen this season. Several of the team have also played for the 1st XV this season and they never let the side down. The challenge is to go on and become 1st XV regulars next year.

It has been a challenging season for the 1st XV with 6 wins from 13 games. They have played some exciting rugby of great quality at times, but suffered some agonisingly close defeats by a single score or less. The majority of this year's XV are in their last year and they have now played their last game for the College, and we salute them for their outstanding commitment to the cause over the years, and this commitment has never been better illustrated than on the last Saturday of the season. There has never been a braver 1st XV performance, and the sixteen men who walked off the field should be very proud indeed.

Congratulations to next year's captain, Alex Bishop, and to vice captain, Tom Pearson, and to Dan Geerah for making the step from U15 to 1st XV in such convincing fashion. This is a challenging transition, that takes real character and courage, and a number of the present fourth form will need to rise to this challenge next year.

Above all, we must acknowledge the contributions of the captain and vice captain. Both Ieuan Clements and Ed Thomason have now played three seasons in the 1st XV. They have been outstanding this season, leading in the best way possible, by example. They are two more worthy candidates for Rendcomb's rugby 'hall of fame'.

*Mr M Slark*





# ‘Gracious in victory, *humble* in defeat’

*Speech given by Ieuan Clements, Captain of Rugby 2009-10 at the Rugby Club Dinner*



As every season goes, there were no easy games. The games we have lost have been agonisingly close, some against opposition we should have beaten. However, we hold no regrets this season; instead we focus on a team that brimmed with passion and commitment. Many schools have the luxury of picking quality players from one to fifteen and what has amazed me throughout my years at Rendcomb is how from such a small player base we can be so competitive. The 1st XV has punched above its weight year after year and that was clearly shown on the last Saturday against Kings School Gloucester.

Looking around at everyone before that match I could see how much that 1st XV badge meant and it was shown in the performance. I have never been part of such an epic contest and I thank all of those who played. The passion shown in that game has been epitomised by every player this season.

In the front row, Lawrence Huang has been a rock this season, especially in the scrum, Tom Pearson's throwing in at the lineout has been perfect, and Kenny Childre, another solid scrummager has also provided us with much entertainment in our pre-match talks.

I move on now to the second row. Rory Clark has improved all season and his lineout catching ability was the best I had seen it in that last game. Every tackle that George Ord has put in this year has lifted the team and struck fear into the opposition. Alex Jones has proved a worthy replacement in the second row all season and I thank him for his contribution to 1st XV rugby.

On to the back row where Phillip Ortner has truly stepped up to 1st XV level and has made up for his lack of height with many vigorous hours in the gym. However,

he was in competition with another player all season with Ali Read biting at his heels all term. Rory Gilling is without doubt the fittest player I have ever come across and his hatred for fly-halves has turned him into a very useful open-side flanker. Another who lacks height but makes up for it with his ferocious style of play is Ed Thomason, our number eight and vice-captain.

I have played alongside Tomo since the 3rd form and his commitment has shone through in every game he has played in and it is a commitment that cannot be matched. Not only is he a useful lineout jumper but he is also a constant presence on both sides of the ruck. It has been an honour to play in the same team.

On to the backs, the pretty boys, the panache and style of the team. Tom Geerah has been a constant presence behind the forwards and his lethal passing has provided a decent platform for the backs all season. The centres of Dan Geerah and Alex Bishop have commanded the midfield in both attack and defence, scoring some brilliant tries and making some crunching tackles.

I wish them all the best next season. Shaun Ellis has stunned all of us this year with some incredible solo tries. He has been a prominent figure on the wing all season providing some much needed pace at times in attack. Jack Harris has torn through defences all year, his undeniable power and pace being too much for the opposition every time he has the ball. On to our full back, James Brittain has been excellent this season, playing some beautiful running rugby with ball in hand and scoring some quality tries. Not only has he given everything he has this season he has also provided us with some much needed humour during training whether it be fluorescent shirts or his witty banter.

We must not forget our 1st XV replacements from the 2nd XV. When ever asked, these players provided a worthy service and I thank them greatly for their contribution this season.

And last but certainly not least our profound coaching team. Mr Slark and Mr Marsden, year in year out they have turned out quality teams to represent Rendcomb. Their fitness regimes have been a real treat this season as they are every season. I would like to thank Mr Ferreira also for being the enforcer of many of these fitness sessions. They have put their heart and soul into every season that I have been coached by them and I thank them personally for not only making me a better player but also on behalf of the players around me.

I have now come to end of my time with Rendcomb Rugby. I have enjoyed every moment playing in that 1st XV shirt and I know how much it means to everyone who has the chance to wear it. The passion shown in that last game is exactly what Rendcomb Rugby is about, the tears of players in our final huddle is what this team is about. And the ability to walk off a pitch with a smile on your face, win or lose is exactly what rugby is about.





# Boys' Hockey

## 1st XI

The 1st XI was very ably led by Ed Thomason (Captain) and Rory Clark (Vice), supported by the defenders: Shaun Ellis and Tom Pearson. Dan Geerah proved an inspirational keeper, showing great athleticism and no lack of courage!

The midfield and forward players were one of the more mobile and dynamic over recent years; made up of James Harrington, Alex Bishop, Tom Geerah, Bar Newman, Ieuan Clements, Jamie Brittain, Leo Wong and Rory Gilling. Their finest hour was winning 4-3 against Leighton Park in a very close and hard fought encounter and it was satisfying to see the squad end on a high, winning 5-1 against Hereford Cathedral School. Overall, a season summed up by dogged determination, for which Miss Ferebee and myself are eternally grateful. A lot will rest on the broad shoulders of Dan Geerah, Alex Bishop and Tom Pearson for the success of the next season, but if the U15s coming up into the seniors can show anything like the team spirit revealed by this season's squad, then they will do well.

*Mr A Brealy*



58 Rendcombian



## 2nd XI

The 2nd XI were captained by George Ord, who proved to be an inspirational and passionate leader and was supported by Jack Harris who played a vital role and was a prolific goal scorer. The group of talented, determined players evolved into an effective winning team who were fun, and enthusiastic to work with. I thank them for their efforts.

*Mr J Stutchbury*



## 3rd XI

This team consisted mainly of international students, many of whom had no previous experience of hockey but demonstrated a very positive attitude from the outset. Their skills rapidly improved and some of them established regular places in the 3rd's team. They battled hard throughout the season but struggled against strong opposition. A lack of a recognised striker and an established goalkeeper was the team's undoing. The best performance was on astro where only a strong opposition goalkeeper and a few careless lapses prevented a positive result. Overall the strongest individual performances were from Bruce Chen and Elliott Finn.

*Mr S Clarke*



4th XI

## U15 XI

Led by captain Alex Kentfield the U15 XI won 5 of their 8 matches. He was was an impressive goal scorer and of particular note was his marvellous back stick goal against Cheltenham College in the last match of the season.

Josh Thomas emerged as a dominant, vocal and terrific goalkeeper; definitely our 'most improved' player. The back five players were tenacious and dogged and real determination was shown by Ben Wong, Sam Jones, Jack Pethick. At the spine of the team were Lance Baynham and his excellent anticipatory skills and the no-nonsense cool of Tristran Stevens as sweeper.



Finally...if the Under 15 squad played hockey as fluently as they talk absolute relentless nonsense in the bus on the way home we would have won every game..... easily.

*Mr P Jennings*



Josh Thomas



## U14 XI

The U14s started the season strongly with an 8-0 victory against Leighton Park followed by victories against Abingdon (7-1) and Kingham Hill (3-1).

Louis Mernagh played well in goal, pulling off some fantastic saves keeping us in many matches.

Alex Tatara-Mills and Howard Auster together gave us a solid central defence making some great tackles throughout the season and both were great on the attack and knowing when not to go forward. The middle four consisted of Tom Hansel and Ollie Cook in the centre combining great passes to feed the centre forwards. I played on the right wing with Jonny Williams on the left and together we worked hard to get the perfect ball across to our centre forwards Paddy Tarleton and Harry Priestner, who scored great goals in crucial moments during the season.

We saved our best performance for the final match and against strong opposition we knew we had to play to the best of our ability. Going 2-1 down within 15 minutes, we battled back to have a 4-2 lead at half time. Although we conceded another goal, I soon completed my hattrick which gave us a 6-3 victory over local rivals Cheltenham College.

Many thanks to Mr McKelvey and Miss Ferebee for their fantastic coaching throughout the season.

Thanks also to all the players who put in appearances for this strong side including Josh Cropper, Hugh Ewan, Ollie Birden,



Tom Minton, Luke Nixon and James Taylor who all made a great contribution to our final statistics of played 9, won 8, lost 1, scored 38 and only conceding 13.

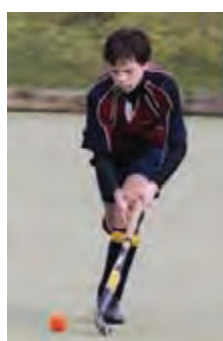
*Dan Gregory, Captain*

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



## U13 XI

This team grew in strength from the beginning of the season and would fight every match until the very end. In one match we were 2-0 down in the first 10



minutes and then drew the match at 3-3. Then with 5 minutes to go and we scored the winning goal. The opposition had to date had an unbeaten season.

We had good victories over some bigger schools like Bloxham (4-1) and St. Edwards (6-0).

Players who improved throughout the season were James Tait on the right wing who learnt to run with the ball well and Daniel Haas who proved solid in defence - dynamite in small packages! A big thank you to Paul Spies who displayed some wonderful skills and taught the others that hard work in practice always pays off.

All players improved throughout the term and showed great courage when things were not going to plan and may this team spirit continue next season.

*Mr N Ferreira*



U13B



OR hockey

# Girls' Hockey



## 1st XI

What a season! The statistics played 10, won 7, drawn 2 and lost 1 with 31 goals scored tell much of the success, yet there is more to it than just numbers. This was the result of teamwork, determination, desire and most of all a belief in ourselves and then in each other.

So on to the players and first of all the fifth form: Imogen Meers and Kristina Childre were always so strong in defence and Holly Phelps was a joy to watch, always, and so determined and skilful in her tackling. Issy Bailey showed spectacular skill and was a great asset to the team. Andrea

Haas (the cub that turned into a tiger) will run anyone down and score important goals and Megan Mulhall, with a tally of 7 goals is our 'reverse stick dribble diva'!

Progressing on to the Sixth Form, Rachael Jennings helped us win matches and gave great support to the team before retiring wounded and Yasmin Lester-Powell proved pivotal in defence. Sarah Tarlton has developed into an agile and effective player and Norina Heymann proved to be a player of great potential having never played before coming to Rendcomb. Lucy Taylor developed excellent skills this season and proved to be a very effective player. Charlie Clements evolved into



a fast and brave goalkeeper saving many important attempts at goal from the opposition.

And finally to the captain, Katy Schofield, scoring 17 goals and proving to be an inspirational player and a natural captain, a key in the success of the team.

Thanks also to Miss Hetzel for her inspirational coaching and fitness programme and also to Miss Bell for her excellent organisation and finally to the team, who have been one of the best I have been privileged to be part of.

*Mr J Stutchbury*





## 2nd XI

This has been a rather limited season for the 2nds' squad due to many fixture cancellations. However, the girls have shown determination and dedication throughout. Captain Charlotte Jones led the girls into several matches with great team spirit, positivity and enthusiasm. Emily Jones gave several motivational "pep talks" to the girls, before, during and after matches, and indeed practices. In a fantastic, winning match, full of energy, superb goals were scored by Laura Graham, Hannah Taylor and Emily Jones. The team developed so much during the season, especially our 5th form recruits including Alyssa Hochalter, Harmony Andrews, Charlotte Stedman and Milly Williams. Brittany Newgent, as sweeper, has been an invaluable member of the team, showing constant dedication and passion for the squad's success. Anna Hochalter took the role of goalkeeper confidently in her stride, giving us a resilient defence in subsequent matches. The Sixth form girls who paved the way, encouraging the younger members, included Abi Tennant-Bell and Fran Baker. I would like to thank all the girls who gave their time and effort to the team, it has been a delight to coach this squad, and I look forward to seeing you develop and progress further next season.

*Alice Berry*



## U15 XI

The U15 Hockey team played 8 matches. Every game we played was a hard fought battle, where we were unfortunate on occasions to come out on the losing side. However, every member of the squad gave 100% at all of the games. A special mention needs to go to Ashleigh Adams who kept Rendcomb in the games with her fantastic performances in the goal. Alana Carpenter and Vicky Clark also fought hard in the defence for the College, amazing the rest of their team mates with their skills with their sticks and coming away with the ball to set Delia Rich, Charlie Southerden and Elle Mills up for some excellent three v two's at the other end of the field.

All the girls should be proud of themselves for the dedication given to the game for the School.

*Mrs K Coups*

## U14 XI

The U14s were a team which had great spirit and always put in 100% effort. The season varied in results but consistent teamwork and communication kept each player fighting for the ball, scoring many goals along the way. The girls grew in their ability to read the game well and spread play to the wings effectively to offset the opposition. Well done to the girls this season.

*Mrs S Bell*



## U13 XI

This term the U13 girls' hockey team have played a series of great matches. We won 3 – 0 against St. Edwards, thanks to Miss Bell's lucky red spotty hair bands, and drew several matches against Kings Glos and Pangbourne. We also played against Tudor Hall where we fought all the way and didn't give up - true Rendcomb spirit! Overall we have had a fantastic season of Hockey fighting through the cold and wet we would like to say thank you to Miss Bell and Mr Jennings for all the fun filled coaching sessions. To quote Miss Bell "Wow, Well done Girls, this is Champagne style Hockey".

*Miss S Bell*





U13

## U12 XI

Two words defined our season: 'rain' and 'flu'; swine or otherwise.

We managed just three matches, the rest were cancelled because of the above mentioned words. Our highlight was a terrific battling draw against Pangbourne: Pangbourne were the only team the 1st XI lost to so we like to think that in some ways we are in fact rather better than the first XI: we'll take them on, no worries: Claire Butcher is fearless and will challenge anyone for the ball, Pascale Summers will drift past them down the wing on one side and Emma on the other (now she's got her new astro boots and has remembered her gum shield). No doubt Issy Bailey and Katy Schofield can hit the ball hard but frankly considering the save Eve Jarman managed recently at Cokethorpe, she fears no-one! A girl struck the ball so hard, Eve managed to move and bounce the ball back to the half way line!

Shannon Martin has been totally reliable in defence and tenacious? I should say so! Kitty Reeves fell asleep on the coach this week on the way to the match still with her gum-shield in, that's how 'hard-core' the U12's are and Honor has played through several injuries with increasing determination.

Kate Major has been our striker; she's had to struggle for passes up to the front line but she will terrorise defences in the years ahead. And Beatrice de Guise ...it took a few weeks to get all the kit but when she had it there was no stopping her; great efforts in our match against Tudor Hall.

Our leader was Hermione Llewellyn-Bowen and she decided that positional sense was irrelevant and decided just to cover every blade of grass or artificial blade of astro; supreme efforts Hermione but we need to harness you: centre forward next year will be your best position.

There we are: the season in a nutshell: but not really! We have done hours and hours of hockey; in rain, storm, hail, wind, floodlights, submerged, the odd ray of sun and these girls have been a delight to coach. We are tiny; metaphorically and physically but there has not been a single



U12

moment when they have whinged or got on each others' nerves. A really special group of girls. Next season...first win please; we have shown the first eleven how to deal with Pangbourne, now let's go for the others! Well done girls.

*Mr Paul Jennings*



# Sports Day

## New Records

### U13 Girls

800m	O Witts	2m52s
100m	C Davies	14.11s
Relay	Bannister	1m01s
Javelin	K Rew	15.20m
Shot Putt	C Davies	6.48m

### U14 Girls

400m	K Gibson	1m16s
100m	B McFarlane	13.64s

### U13 Boys

800m	F Baker	2m31s
300m	D Thomas	47.93s
Relay	Edwards	58.22s
High Jump	O Janes	1.50m

### U14 Boys

800m	D Gregory	2m25s
Relay	Bannister	54.97s
Long Jump	H Ewan	4m96
Javelin	L Mernagh	31.60m
Shot Putt	G Hempleman-Adams	11.03m

**Louis Mernagh represented Gloucestershire in the South West Championships**





# Lacrosse

## 1st XII

This was the best season this team has played. The girls managed an unbeaten season, only losing one game by one goal. Each and every girl worked to their fullest and highest potential this season. The team will surely miss the 6 players in the upcoming season but are excited for the new girls coming in. With Yazz Lester-Powell leading the 2011 team, this next season will no doubt be a winning season for this talented group of girls.

## 2nd XII

The 2nd's team was an eclectic group of girls made up from every country you can imagine. The majority of the team had never played, let alone heard, of lacrosse until arriving at Rendcomb. Despite the difficult odds, this group of girls worked hard and were determined to learn the game. Caroline Whaley made a

huge impact on the defensive end while Norina Heymann led the attack with sheer confidence and ability. Well done, girls!

## U15 XII

The U15 team gained a lot of ground this season. They played more games this time around and proved all the better. With Delia Rich leading the attack there was no stopping the girls from scoring. Vicky Clark held the defensive end with strong determination and improved both her game and that of the team. Next season will no doubt be a winning season for this group!

## U14 XII

This was one of the best seasons for the U14 team. The girls stepped up to the challenge of playing many tough competitors and thoroughly enjoyed it. Kemi Gibson used her lightning speed to

run the midfield and Barley Spurway kept the defense spirit up throughout each match. With hard work and determination this team will be unstoppable in the coming years. Well done, ladies!

## U12 & U13 XII

The youngest team of lacrosse players this season really seemed to pick up the game quickly. Although they didn't win many matches, they showed game sense and enthusiasm throughout the season. Kate Major and Hermione Llewellyn-Bowen did a great job leading the team. Honor Birden took on the role of goalie and improved immensely each game and practice. Each and every girl should be proud of their performance and we are looking forward to a winning season in 2011!

*Mrs K Coups and Miss B Blaine*



## Lacrosse Dinner

*The annual end of season Lacrosse dinner was an evening of good food, farewell speeches and the exchanging of gifts, organised by Mrs Coups and Miss Blaine. The 1st XII all had a T-shirt personalised with their team nickname!*





# Cricket

*There has been a lot of good cricket played this season at all levels with this wonderful dry summer weather where we did not lose any matches or even a practice to rain. The U14 XI and U15 XI have a number of skilful cricketers which hopefully can be nurtured into becoming great cricketers for Rendcomb.*



## 1st XI

At the start of the season we were not sure of our capabilities, with only one or two recognised batsmen in the squad. However, I was very pleased to see that this group of players worked and played as a team. Ed Thomason has captained the 1st team for two years. He was 'Mr Cricket' of Rendcomb and as he pursues his cricket ambitions of being a great cricket coach I wish him all the best. Rory Gilling and Ieuan Clements both came back to play cricket in their final year at Rendcomb and contributed to the team in a number of ways. Rory kept wicket and Ieuan bowled a few overs, but it was their aggressive hitting that won us our first game of the season against the Gloucester Gypsies. They both also brought their humour to the team.

Jack Harris was the teams' all-rounder contributing with both bat and ball in all games. His batting skill had improved and he often found himself in the top three. Rory Clark and James Brittain were the strength in opening the bowling.

Rory did take the season to get it all flowing but at the end he was bowling like I knew he could, with consistent line and length. James always gave of his best and produced some outstanding spells at times.

A big thank you to the grounds man Dan Robbins for all his hard work in producing wonderful cricketing conditions for all the pupils to enjoy.

*Mr N Ferreira*

## U15 XI

This is the second season that I have had the pleasure of running this team and I am pleased to report that we had more success this year than last.

The team's strength lies with its bowling. Our two openers, Alex Kentfield and Ben Smith, regularly kept the opposition under pressure and rarely gave away many runs at the beginning of the innings. They were particularly well supported by Jack Pethick whose accuracy caused a considerable



amount of frustration with the opposition batsmen, who would then often lose their wicket to him. Indeed he was the highest wicket taker of the season with 11.

Our fielding also improved this term and there were some excellent catches taken, in particular Harry Ellis proved to be an asset in this respect although the dive is not always necessary! There was also the discovery of a second wicketkeeper in Edwin Price who, at times, showed a fearless commitment to his duties behind the stumps regardless of the injuries he sustained!

Unfortunately the batting was not as successful, and although many players have a very good eye for the ball technique, at times, they let themselves down when defending good balls. However there were several players who on different occasions got into the twenties or thirties and should have then gone on to capitalise on the promising start and make a big score.

Patience being the major culprit in their downfall, not every ball can go to the boundary! Nonetheless players such as Will Scott, Alex Kentfield, Ben Smith and Jack Pethick all played their part with the bat and will, I am sure, make runs in the future. Lance Baynham and Toby Channer have also played a significant role with the bat over the season and with a bit more work on their technique could become important in the success of the team.



Overall a very encouraging term with many of the side improving their skills in the game which will help many of them make the step up to the 1st XI next year.

*Mr D Baker*

## U14XI

In most Rendcomb U14 squads there is an injection of new talent from other schools, and this year is certainly no exception. All boys have been very keen to succeed and to support, many runs have been scored and wickets taken. The defeats were against good sides, but we could have won those games and will, I hope, learn from tactical errors, and occasional lack of application. You cannot score runs if you are back in the hutch! Howard Auster has been a splendid captain, given much encouragement, played very good innings, kept wicket very skillfully, and, on the whole, shown fine judgement. In Alex Tatara-Mills, we have yet another outstanding cricketer, who bowls with real pace and accuracy, has played some major innings and has given excellent support as vice captain. It was good

to see him represent the 1st XI at the end of term. Other members of the squad have also contributed much. Dan Gregory has batted and bowled well and brings a healthy competitive spirit to the field of play. Patrick Tarleton has much ability with bat and ball, and, with greater application, will score many runs.

Harry Priestner is a natural striker of the ball and a very useful first change bowler. Oliver Cook is a very solid player, and took such an important catch in the deep to ensure victory in a very close game. And yet, although the game of cricket, unlike most others, can be won by a few individuals, what struck one most of was the togetherness of the team, always offering encouragement, always looking to move the game on and to win, no more so than when they emphatically defeated the U15s. A very good season, then, and I thank all those boys who made it so.

*Mr B L North*

## U13A XI

This season has had its highs and lows for the U13's. We got off to a shaky start, losing our first four matches, three against Cokethorpe and one the King's Gloucester. After suffering a big defeat in the first game against Cokethorpe, we came back in the second game to only lose but one run, after some outstanding bowling from Orlando Janes and Brodie Ash. Unfortunately this seemed



to be the story of our season with our bowling and fielding being close to exceptional and our batting letting us down. In our match against Bloxham away, after being previously just beaten by this side, we sought revenge. We bowled first and bowled them out for 68 runs. We thought that this would be a fairly easy total to make but we were proved wrong. With our first wicket fall early, James Tait and Freddie Baker made a decent partnership of 41 runs. We only just won the match in the last over with one wicket remaining. Edward Brealy hit the winning runs. We went on to win our next 2 matches but unfortunately lost our last game of the season to Kingham Hill, a game we should have won. A special mention should go to Mr Ferreira for a brilliant coaching performance and always believing in us even when it looked bad. Freddie Baker the vice-captain for his brilliant bowling and batting. Orlando Janes for his 56 runs against Llanduff Cathedral School. Congratulations to the whole team and thank you for an enjoyable season.

*James Tait*



# Tennis

## 1st VI

The 1st VI have had their fair share of victories and defeats but the truth remains. The dedication and commitment of the girls' has again been truly outstanding and I'd like to thank Katy Schofield as captain. She has led by example with her keen interest and earnest desire. On court all girls exhibited great courage and worked hard to improve. Both myself and the college are proud of you, and it has been my pleasure to be involved in your successes on and off the courts.

*Miss S Bell*

academy, and a 'broken-down-bus stopped play' fixture against Leighton Park! Each match was played with vitality, in the spirit of the game, and notable successes came against Cranford House, Cheltenham College, Westonbirt and Pangbourne College. It was a season to remember, and each girl – Kathryn Rew, Rozy Baynham, Nicki Clift, Cerys Davies, Olivia Witts and Lauren Kraven – should be proud of what she has achieved individually and as part of the team. I am sure that these girls will continue to develop even better Tennis in the future.

*Mr J McKelvey*

## U15 and U14

Both teams showed great progress this season in tennis, with each player enhancing their backhand and serve. The girls showed great enthusiasm giving each opposition a hard fought game with striking forehand shots to the edge of play keeping the opposition of their toes. Good luck for the future and well done on a learning season.

## U13

This was an outstanding season by the U13 Tennis squad, captained by Olivia Knapp. The season began with a heavy defeat to Tudor Hall, a virtual Tennis

## U12

The Under 12's tennis season has been amazing, especially as many girls were new to the sport. The team has played matches against; Westonbirt, Tudor Hall and Pangbourne. All of these schools were a lot more experienced than us but we fought well and even if we did not win every match we then only lost by the narrowest of margins. Everyone has thoroughly enjoyed Tennis and have massively improved under the great coaching of Miss Bell and Mr McKelvey.

*Kate Major*



# The Battlefields Trip 2010

*After a year off, the History and English departments once again joined forces to take Third and Fourth form students to the battlefields of Northern France and Belgium.*

We had explained beforehand to the students that this is a school trip unlike most others because it is a sombre affair and relies at its heart on visiting places of unimaginable, mechanised carnage. We visited the Somme where it is uplifting to hear the pride with which the young GAP students from Canada talk of the sacrifices, particularly the Newfoundlanders, made in the battle of the Somme: 800 Newfoundlanders went and only 100 survived: they suffered an 86% casualty rate on the first day of the battle. We visited Vimy Ridge where, once again, the Canadians triumphed but at the loss of many lives.

The monument at the top of Vimy Ridge is a stunning edifice. Thiepval is the British memorial and its gigantic proportions remind one of the scale of the slaughter: on each huge panel are the names of the men who died in the conflict and have no known grave.

Langermark is a German cemetery which is a dark and gloomy place but poignant and powerful nonetheless.

We went to trenches, museums and giant craters caused by underground mines. One such place is now called 'The Peace Pool' and the pictures will show how tranquil and beautiful a place it has now become.

One of the most rewarding parts of the experience this year is that so many of our students searched for relatives and extended family members.

They found them in the immaculately maintained cemeteries or on the Menin Gate and it was very moving to see their reactions and their feelings about their long lost relatives.

The Battlefields 2010: a fantastic experience; not 'fun' perhaps in the normal sense of the word, but important, significant and memorable.

*Mr P Jennings*



# Farewell

*News from on high (well,  
from the medical centre!)*

We started the school year with a new nurse called Penny Taylor who came to us from Malvern St James. She soon settled in and we had a busy start with viral illness hitting the school hard during the first term. Some managed to get what had been nicknamed 'Piggy Flu'. I think most people had become ill by the end of that first term and were glad when the Christmas holidays arrived.

Unfortunately Penny's husband was relocated to London with his job and this was to prove too long a commute so Penny left us in March 2010 to take up a post in London.

We advertised for a replacement for Penny and after whittling down the candidates, duly offered Louise Wright the post. Louise joined us in April from a large college in Dover where she was the sole nurse. I hope that she can bring fresh ideas to the school so that we can provide the best possible care for the staff and students.

Sadly, Judy Hunt decided to retire in July after 18 years dedicated service. It seems only like yesterday that she came to what was then known as the 'sick bay', with her son William, to sort out some school uniform for him. During the conversation we had, she told me she was a nurse, and was currently looking for a new post. Well, what a coincidence, we were looking for a nurse! I marched Judy off to see the Bursar, Edward Thring, who 'interviewed' her, and hey presto, we had a new nurse.

I think that we made an excellent team together to provide care and support to both staff and students. We have shared happy and sad times and supported each other over the years and I will miss her greatly as a friend and colleague, as I am sure the school will. We wish her a happy retirement and to spend many hours fulfilling her dreams and ambitions.

We have decided not to replace Judy and so I have taken up residence in the village so that I can cover the extra duty, but also spend some time 'on call' from home when things are quiet in the evenings and overnight.

I am sure I will enjoy 'village life' once again!

*Sister Julie*

## Vicki Hayward 1997 – 2010



Vicki Hayward joined the teaching staff of Rendcomb College in September, 1997, to teach a full timetable of French

across all seven year groups. This was her first appointment, and she arrived with the highest recommendation from her tutor.

She was quick to find her feet and to establish herself as an excellent teacher and classroom manager. She was always prepared to ask, if unsure, and has enjoyed the respect and appreciation of all pupils and staff. She has the special blend of no nonsense discipline, along with the ability to care for and to help the less able and those who, for whatever reason, do not relish the proprieties of formal classroom situations. Her support for those she teaches has always been well judged and unswervingly fair and consistent.

It came as no surprise, therefore, that when the College was in need, Vicki came forward and temporarily ran Godman, the junior girls' house. Then, for seven years, she successfully ran Lawn House, whilst, at the same time, continuing to teach a full timetable. As the then sitting Housemaster of Stable, no one knows more than myself, the demands that such a dual role makes upon you. It is a tribute to Vicki that those girls, several of whom are now entering the Upper Sixth, speak so highly and affectionately about her, and are deeply saddened at her departure.

She left the country over the summer half term to join her husband, Darrell, who had already taken up his new post in Switzerland. Vicki leaves us a lesser place. I thank her for all she has done for French at Rendcomb, the College thanks her for this and so much more, and we wish her and Darrell success and happiness in their new adventure.

*Mr L North*



## James McKelvey 2006 – 2010

James McKelvey joined the Music Department as

Assistant Director of Music in September 2006. In the years that followed, he demonstrated an enduring commitment to the College and his students, as an outstanding classroom practitioner, an inspiring performer and choral director, a steadfast tutor and a highly able coach. He

devised and directed two memorable Carol Services, founded the Men's Vocal Consort to encourage boys to take up singing, assisted in the musical direction of the Senior School productions and in 2009-10, accepted responsibility for the musical aspects of the Junior School productions; he also instigated sight-singing classes and accompanied countless students on the concert platform and in the examination room.

Mr McKelvey enriched the lives of many students during his time at the College and shared his talents without prejudice.

He will be greatly missed and leaves with our best wishes as he takes up the position of Director of Music at Our Lady's Abingdon from September 2010.

*Mr R Raby*

## Tom Denny 1984-2010

Tom Denny was first employed at Rendcomb College in the Autumn of 1984.

He worked as a teacher of art and artist in residence. His wealth of knowledge inspired students to challenge their expectations and broaden their understanding of art.

His professional practice as a leading stain glass artist offered students a unique insight into the art of stained glass and painting. He will be deeply missed by all students and teachers.



## Corinne Hockley 2001 – 2010

Corinne joined Rendcomb College nine years ago as a teacher of art and textile specialist. Her specialist knowledge of textiles has proved invaluable to both the art and drama departments.

Her energy and proactive approach to teaching, display and collaboration will be greatly missed.

*Mr A O'Hanlon*



## Malcolm Ford 2002 - 2010

Mr Malcolm Ford retired as Head of Physics from August 2010. During his eight years with us, he has given impressive service in several roles: as Head of Physics from 2002-2010, Director of ICT from 2003-5 and more recently as Head of Examinations from 2005-9. During this period, he has also coached rugby sides and was a tutor in The Old Rectory and subsequently College House. He will be sorely missed and we wish him a long and happy retirement.



## Judy Hunt 1992 - 2010

Judy joined Rendcomb in September 1992 as 'Assistant Matron' and since then has given excellent and dedicated service to the college over eighteen consecutive years. She has hardly had any time off until earlier this year when she injured herself line dancing! But Judy's contributions over the years have been much more wide-ranging than being a sister. Other duties undertaken include: evening duty in Old Rec and Godman, helping the house staff, hygiene talks to odorous boys, cutting toenails and checking hair for nits, giving advice and comfort,

reading bedtime stories, listening to the heartbroken and broken hearted, helping to do some last minute sewing of costumes for the plays, supervision of the swimming pool, car washing as part of fundraising for the 1998 hockey tour to Holland, going on the hockey tour, dressing up for comic relief, helping with second hand uniform teaching sessions on a real assortment of issues from teeth cleaning to personal fitness, and many, many more assorted jobs! A whole generation of Rendcombians are indebted to Judy for the total quality medical and pastoral care. We wish Judy a happy retirement with Geoff.

*Julie Rogers*

## Stacey Scarisbrick 2007 - 2010

Stacey Scarisbrick leaves Rendcomb having initially joined us as Head of American Studies, supporting the students attending Rendcomb from the RAF base at Fairford. She was then appointed



Director of Studies in 2009 and was also in charge of the activity programme, taught biology, and was a big help on the lacrosse pitch. Stacey is now back in the States, living in Virginia with her family. Her positive enthusiasm and great work with the students

will be missed throughout the Rendcomb community and we wish her all the best! Her two sons, Matt and Trace, attended the Junior School and their smiling faces are sure to be missed throughout the corridors!

*Miss B Blaine*



## Jacquelyn Hetzel 2009-2010

Jacquelyn Hetzel leaves us after spending a year coaching field hockey, lacrosse, and tennis and assisting in Lawn House. Jacquelyn was a great addition to the games staff and the Rendcomb family and will be missed. Currently she is back in the United States getting her master's degree in Speech Pathology at the University of Pennsylvania.

*Miss B Blaine*



## Lauren Hickling 2009-2010

Lauren Hickling joined us as a gap student this year working in the senior school in various roles. She also undertook duties in Lawn House. We wish her the best for the future.



## Sir Michael Angus Chairman of Governors

After an outstanding global career in the commercial world which included high-powered and innovative contributions to Unilever, Boots and Whitbread, we were incredibly fortunate to secure the skilful services of Sir Michael, initially as governor in 2000 and then as our Chairman of Governors from 2001 until his resignation through ill health in 2009.

During his chairmanship, the College grew

both numerically and in reputation. He was totally supportive of my decision to open the Junior School in 2000 and would have been enormously proud of the excellent school it has developed into under Martin Watson's leadership. Similarly he supported the growth of the senior school so that with the arrival of Fairford pupils it reached record numbers of 280 in 2008 at the time of our ISI inspection. In private, Michael was not a fan of the "loathsome tyranny of bureaucracy" as he called all inspection regimes but given his business guile, he knew how to charm Reporting Inspectors in public. Moreover, his chairing of Governors' Meetings was legendary and with his razor-sharp Mathematical mind, he kept us all

on our toes whether we were discussing depreciation or development. Michael's and Isabel's vote of confidence in a Rendcomb education was also matched by sending their grandchildren here.

We have much to thank Sir Michael for during his time in office: an excellent public speaker on Founder's Day, a tremendous supporter to Martin Watson and myself in all our endeavours to progress the college, and a generous host to many of the Rendcomb community at Cerney House.

Our intention is to plant a tree at the college in memoriam.

*Gerry Holden.*

## New Staff

Penny Morrow Brown, Christina Rayner, Oonagh Hughes, Lauren Askerberg, Sarah Bischoff, Frank Whitham, Rev Godfrey Simpson, Tom Layton



## Welcome to Hal O'Hanlon

Born March 2009



# Academic Record 2010

## A Level

Frances Baker	A* E* Dr*	Vicky Liu	A Mf* M**
James Brittain	E F H	Dorothy Lu	C* Mf** M** P*
Ariel Chan	A Cns M Py	Sophie Musgrave	B Dr* Py
Li Chen	C Mf** M** P*	George Ord	E** Pe H**
Bruce Chen	C* Mf** M** P*	Philipp Ortnr	Ee Bs G* H
Kenny Childre	A	Alistair Read	B C G
Rory Clark	A G Pe	Lucy Taylor	C M* P
Ieuan Clements	B G Pe	Emily Tennant-Bell	A G
Shaun Ellis	Ict	Ed Thomason	G Pe
Tom Geerah	B G Pe	Peter Yu	Mf M* P.
Rory Gilling	G* Pe Py		
Laura Graham	A** E** H**		
Jack Harris	Bs G Ict		
Crystal He	Mf* M* P		
Natasha Heffon	E Bs		
Lawrence Huang	A Bs M		
Alex Jones	A E Dr		
Charlotte Jones	C Mf M* P		
Emily Jones	E H Py		
Maggie Leong	A Cns*		
M Kelly Li	Cns Mf M		

Key: \* grade A \*\* grade A\*

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



# GCSE

H Andrews	E El Gm H M Mad Sc ScAd*	A Hochhalter	A Dt E El H M Mad ScAd	E Werrell	B C D* E El* G H* M Mad P Ict
I Bailey	A B* C* E** El** F** G** H** M* Mad* P*	A Hochhalter	Dt D* E El M Mad Mu Sc ScAd	E Williams	D* E El H M Mu Sc ScAd Ict
T Benson	B** C** E** El** F** G** H** M** Mad** Mu* P*	B Hochhalter	A Dt E M Mad Sc ScAd	J Wong	A B* C* Ch** El H M** Mad* P.
M Birden	B C E* El G M Mad P Pe Sp	H Jones	A* B** C** E** El G Gm H* M** Mad** P**	Key: ** = grade A* * = grade A	
C Black	E El H M Mu Sc ScAd Sp	E Li	A B* C* Ch** D* E* El* G* M** Mad** P** Ict*		
K Childre	A Dt E M	T Lin	A B** C** Ch** E El* G** H* M** Mad** P** Ict**	<i>Subject key: A-Art B-Biology C-Chemistry D-Drama Dt=Design &amp; Technology E-English Language El-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 Ch- Chinese Sc-Science ScAd-Additional Science Sp-Spanish</i>	
C Couch	B C** D* E* El G** Gm Ict** M** Mad** P**	J McKeown	B C D* E* El* G* Gm* M Mad P Ict*		
K Daly	A B C D** E* El** G* Gm M Mad P	I Meers	A* E El F G M* Mad Pe Sc ScAd		
D Faulkner	A E El G H* M Mad Sc ScAd*	M Metcalfe	B C D E G H Mad P Ict		
H Field	A B* C D* E El G M* Mad* P Sp	C Minton	A E El G H M Mad Sc		
E Finn	A B C E** El* G* Gm* H* M Mad P	M Mulhall	A E El* G H** M Mad Pe P ScAd		
H Frowen	B** C E* El* G** Gm** H** M** Mad* P** Pe	B Newman	A B* C E El G* H* M Mad P		
D Geerah	B* C** D** E* El G** H* M* Mad** P* Pe*	A Patel	A E El F M Mad Sc ScAd		
P Gilling	B* C D E El* G* H* M Mad P Pe*	H Phelps	A* D** E El G** M Mad Pe** Sc ScAd		
J Gower	E El F G M Pe ScAd	F Rahman	A E El G* Gm* M Mad Pe Sc ScAd*		
O Greenaway	A E* El G* Ict M Mad Sc ScAd	E Roach	Dt E El G* Gm H* M Mad Sc ScAd		
A Haas	A E El G* H* M Mad Pe Sc ScAd	C Round	A M Mad Sc ScAd Ict		
J Harrington	E G H M Mad Pe ScAd	D Sadjadian	D E M Mad Sc ScAd Ict		
P Harrison	B** C** E* El** F** G** H** M** Mad** Mu** P**	C Stedman	A Dt D** E El G M Mad Sc ScAd		
A Hochhalter	A E El H* M Sc	T Jordan	B C E* El** G** Gm H* M Mad* P Ict		



## Prefect Team 2010 - 2011

**Head Girl:**  
*Charlotte Clements*

**Head Boy:**  
*Tom Margesson*

**Deputy Head Girl:**  
*Yasmin Lester-Powell*

**Deputy Head Boy:**  
*Ed Slark*

**Alex Bishop**  
**Kerry Lin**  
**Tom Molloy**

**Tom Pearson**  
**Katy Schofield**  
**Sarah Tarleton**

**Hannah Taylor**  
**Smile Yu**



## Photo Competition *Senior School Winners*



**Atmosphere**

Ed Slark



**Open**

Miles McKeown



**Spring**

Jake McKeown - Daffodils

## Photo Competition *Junior School Winners*



**Animals**

Lucinda Norris (Otters)

Commended –

Thomas Godwin (Bee on flower)

Maxim Hair (Lion)



**Portraiture**

Olivia Grzelinski (Josh and Scamp)

Commended –

Freddie Shetliffe ( My sister)

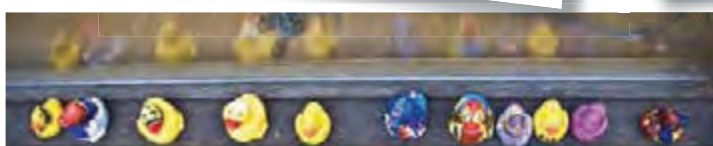


**Open**

Thomas Godwin (Tower Bridge)

Commended - Olivia Grzelinski (Fern)

Max McKeown (Ducks)



# Welcome to the *Junior School*

*I look forward every year to the publication of the Rendcombian for it brings back so many wonderful memories of the past year. I am sure that you will enjoy it just as much.*

Despite the global challenges that affect us all, I am delighted that the Junior School has continued to thrive and develop in so many ways during the year. This section illustrates the diversity and quality that exists at Rendcomb and re-reading it I know why I am so very proud of our pupils and my colleagues.

As we prepare to celebrate our 10th birthday we can look back with satisfaction and forward with great optimism and excitement.

Mr Martin Watson as "Elvis" in the "Rocky Monster show"



## Staff News

### Leavers



#### Mrs Maggie Moore

In 2003 Mrs Moore joined us as temporary cover for one term. She stayed for 7 years working as our Learning Support teacher and SENCO. Maggie is a great teacher and I know that all the pupils she supported benefited hugely from her care, guidance and expertise. We wish her every future happiness, and good health, as she begins a well-earned retirement.



#### Mrs Julia Vaughan

Julia worked for us in a part-time capacity as a Teaching Assistant. Her vast array of skills and experience proved to be very valuable and she supported the teaching staff across all ages with tremendous energy and enthusiasm. When needed Julia also covered on the administrative side, she proved to be a fine PA to the HM. Being a qualified nurse Julia also worked at times in the Medical Centre as our relief Sister. Our very best wishes go with her and her family in their move to Aberdeen.



#### 'The Gappies' – Cea Swart and Jen Phan

The role of the gap tutors should not be under-estimated for they play a significant role in the school life. We were indeed fortunate to once again have secured the services of two excellent 'gappies', Cea from South Africa and Jen from Australia.

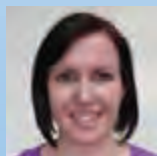
From day one they participated in every aspect of Rendcomb life and a lovely rapport was soon developed with pupils and colleagues alike. Though different characters, both Cea and Jen possessed the ability to interact with the children in all year groups. Considerable time was spent supporting the Nursery and here they demonstrated real care and regard for the youngest of our children. However, each showed great adaptability when working with pupils at the top of the Junior School and this was particularly evident when Cea joined J6 at Kilve Court and Jen coached on the games field. As usual their year went by fast and I hope that they enjoyed and benefited from the experience, we certainly did. Our sincere thanks and best wishes are extended for a very happy and successful future.

### New Staff



#### Miss Laura Potter

Laura joined us during the Summer term in readiness for Mrs Tarplee's impending maternity leave. Her wide experience and wonderful personality made her an instant hit and we know the Nursery is in very safe hands.



#### Mrs Kim Hardie

Kim has been linked to the Junior School for many years as a parent and she has been an active member of JEST and the RCJPA fulfilling the role of Treasurer. Kim joined the Nursery team during the Lent term as maternity cover for Ruth Flint. Kim's passion and experience for this age group is very evident and she and Laura will make a formidable and exciting team in charge of Nursery.

### Congratulations

Our best wishes go to Miss Sophie Langstaff (Nursery) on her marriage to Simon Tarplee last Christmas



Ruth Flint and Charlie on the birth of their first child, Patrick, born on 21st April.



Louise and Richard Louisson on the birth of their first child, Oliver, born on 9th August.



# Eco Team



*The Eco Team have been hard at work all year and the half termly meetings are very well attended. A BIG thank you to all of the members for making our school so "green".*

Good luck and special thanks to Amy Johnson, environment prefect, Eleanor, Ellie, Dylan and Elliott as the J6 representatives, who have been super ambassadors of the Eco Team.



## Award

*As we have a fantastic garden which encourages wildlife, we have been awarded the top accolade of the Green award by Natural England.*

A plaque showing our achievement is on display near the woodland classroom.



## The Big Tidy Up

On St George's day, April 23rd, the Eco team in years 4, 5 and 6 gave up their lunch break and joined many other people within England with the Big Tidy Up campaign.

This was to celebrate a clean country and part of our Eco school Green Flag status. A photo of the eco team is now on the Keep Britain Tidy website which is linked with Eco schools

## Pond

*The new pond has been created providing even more wildlife in the Rendcomb "garden".*

## Team Green Britain Day



*All pupils from J3- J6 wore something green on June 17th as a reminder that it was Team Green Britain Day and that many other places in the country were thinking about improving the environment.*

The previous day all J2- J6 pupils took home a survey to find out how "green" 87 families are and the results were studied during J5 maths lessons. They worked out the percentages for various categories and were delighted that 100% recycle paper, 97% turn off the tap while cleaning their teeth and 92% switch off lights when not being used.

The areas we will work on in school next year are turning off standby buttons for TV and computers and the use of rechargeable batteries as only 62% of families do this and we need to do this in school too. This was a very useful exercise and thank you to everyone who took part as it is part of our Eco school status.

## Recycling

*The Recycling for Gloucestershire organisation have recognised our achievements this year and out of all the schools in Gloucestershire we are currently second on the leader board as we help the environment so much.*

We were given an interesting ball shaped compost bin and a wormery for our efforts.



## Tree planting

*Every pupil in both the Junior and Senior school planted a tree near the top playing fields to offset their carbon footprint and ensure that a new woodland area is created for the future.*





## Grow your own Veg

*The Year 5 pupils have been busy gardening on the balcony outside of their classrooms and have had a very successful crop of radish, lettuce and mange tout.*

These have been eaten for lunch or in the case of the mange tout a break time snack straight off the plant – sweet and juicy. The pupils also have grown their own potatoes and they all agreed they were so much tastier than shop bought potatoes.

Finally the little courgette seeds planted as “The one pot pledge” through Garden Organic, have now bloomed into fantastic plants producing courgettes ready for harvest. Such a rewarding exercise – Get Growing everyone!

## Eco Cards- Blooming Marvellous

*What a super set of designs were created by all pupils from Nursery to J6.*

Thank you to parents who purchased a pack as this has provided the school with £145 of garden vouchers so we will buy a lot of plants to encourage even more wildlife.

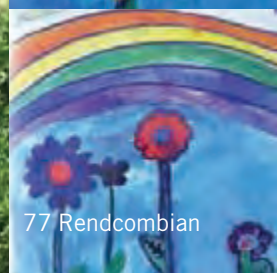
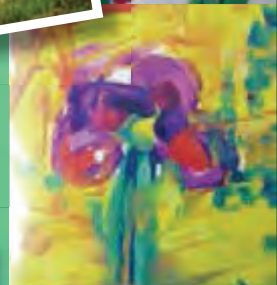
## Nature Table

*The nature table has been a great success with many interesting items being brought in by the pupils in J3-J6.*



## Planters

The beautiful willow planters that were made last summer on Big Arts Day, have been looking very colourful with daffodils and tulips flowering after being planted in the Autumn by Years 3, 4 and 5.



## Eco News

*All pupils have been enjoying the outdoor classroom and many of our lessons have been within our wonderful setting. The Year 5 pupils have taken part in surveys this term relating to wild life*

### Bee Survey

This was organised by Natural England and Wild about Plants together with some universities.

With the decline in the bee population a survey to see if areas are encouraging bees with the types of wild flowers they have was undertaken. This was also linked with the plant survey requested by Kew gardens and London University. The pupils identified lots of wildflowers and we concluded our area was rich in bee loving plants. We now have our own virtual flower on the British map for the web site.

### Ladybird survey

Ladybird survey – organised by BBC Breathing Places wanted to know the types of ladybirds we have in the school “garden”.

The 2 spot ladybirds were the most common with 7 spot and 10 spot ladybirds also being found. The not so friendly Harlequin ladybird was also seen but only one of these.

Some of the pupils identified some ladybird pupae which turned into a ladybird back in the classroom.



# Outdoor Week

*The J3 to J6 pupils spent a very special week outdoors.*

*All their lessons were scheduled to incorporate the environment around us in some way and what a fabulous week it turned out to be. Rendcomb's unique location meant that the teachers had a wealth of natural materials, picturesque settings and challenging resources to choose from. J6 studied the velocity of the River Churn and developed their own English Woodland Fantasy Stories. The J5 pupils honed up their senses as they spent a precious quarter of an hour each day in their own designated spot observing their surroundings down to the minutest detail.*

*Their written work completed after these session showed tremendous observational skills and engaging use of their senses. J5 also went on a bug hunt, built an insect hotel and measured many of the outdoor features. J4 delved into a variety of science habitats, explored Forest School and designed gardens using graph paper and their practical knowledge gained from our school vegetable planters.*

*J3 also explored how the outdoors provides us with food as they planted an Anglo-Saxon herb garden during their history lesson. Geography provided an opportunity to explore the village of Rendcomb and look at how our local community functions. Even RE lessons meant trips to our church, St Peters to create charcoal drawings of the signs and symbols that can be found there.*

*This report touches on many of the highlights of what turned out to be a glorious week. However, there were many other walks, word games, design activities and role play opportunities that took place across the year groups. How fortunate we are to have such a lovely site to learn from.*





First Friday Fun

1980's Disco



# RCJPA

*The RCJPA social team have enjoyed another busy year.*

As well as organising fun events for the children, including bingo, Christmas parties and an art and craft session, we have also hosted social events for parents and staff – memorably an 80's disco and the May Ball for both the Junior and Senior school.

We were once again able to raise money for charity from our popular cake sales and the year rounded off perfectly with the annual summer fete which was well attended by the children and their families.



May Ball



Bingo



Summer Fete



Christmas Party



# Nursery

*The children have had a wonderful year filled with lots of exciting activities.*

They have enjoyed many Forest School sessions with Miss Flint and Mrs Hockey where they have learnt how to explore and take risks within a safe environment. The most memorable session was when they built a fire and then cooked bananas and marshmallows.

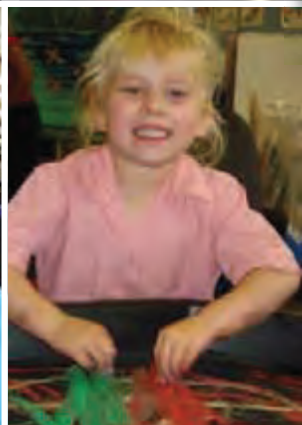
The children have enjoyed cookery sessions and made many treats such as cookies, fairy cakes, bread, jelly and lemonade. They also had a fun packed trip to Roves Farm where they met lots of animals, enjoyed a tractor ride and had lots of fun on

the bouncy castle with the teachers and parents!

Other exciting activities have been Nursery's weekly singing session with Mr Colls where the children have taken great pleasure in learning lots of new songs including a French and German one!

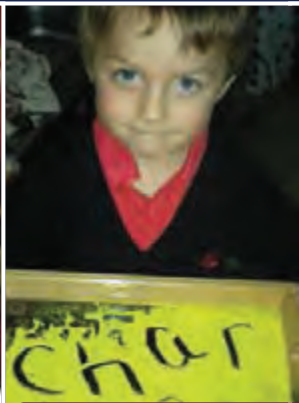
The Nursery children have been given plenty of opportunities to blossom through their singing and they confidently joined in with the singing at the nativity and as flowers at the spring concert.





# Reception Through the Year

*We enjoyed watching the changing seasons  
in our beautiful Rendcomb surroundings.*



## Autumn and Winter

*We went on autumn walks and nature  
hunts, and picked blackberries for  
our homemade crumble.*

The children worked hard to learn the Jolly Phonics sounds and began their reading and writing. As part of our topic on our bodies and our senses, we were visited by Sister and Doctor Nichol, Edward's mummy, to find out how to look after ourselves and others.

We learnt about bones, made skeleton pictures and practised our teeth brushing skills. We were lucky to be visited by Reg and his guide dog Dale, and a Fire Investigative dog called Ellie.

The children showed their singing and acting talents in our Nativity 'Sheik, Rattle and Roll'.





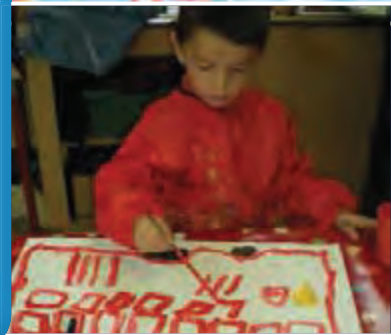
## Spring and Summer

*In the spring we each planted a tree in the woodland area and enjoyed a visit to Roves Farm.*

Our topic on Minibeasts included observing snails closely, following the butterfly and frog lifecycle, minibeast hunts, and measuring caterpillars.

A summer highlight was 'Around the World Day' when everyone dressed up and learnt about different countries through geography, music, dance workshops and art activities. Each child had their own passport which was stamped throughout the day.

The children have all worked very hard this year; they enjoy reading their books, writing their own sentences and adding and subtracting. We have lots of talented artists too.



## Indoor and Outdoor Learning

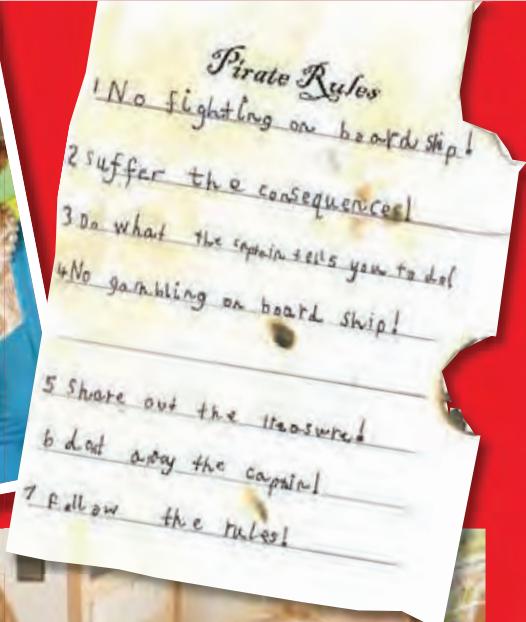
*We have had a fantastic year, both inside and outside the classroom.*

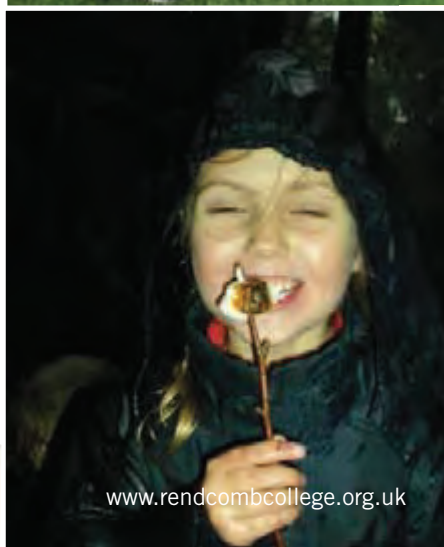
The children have learnt through a variety of topics, including Dinosaurs, Pirates, Recycling and a topic entitled 'Ourselves'.

The children have enjoyed many trips out of school, the highlights were our trip to the Oxford Natural History Museum to learn about dinosaurs and a wonderful day at Daisy's house. Here, we measured the trees that the children planted when they were in Reception, and searched for bugs and butterflies!

J1 also took part in Forest School, and had great fun making nests, and clay animals.

They also enjoyed mud painting, bird watching and even cooking marshmallows and crumpets on a real fire!





We have had a very busy and exciting year. Here are some of the children's enjoyable moments from over the past 3 terms.



## Cheltenham Museum

*They thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Cheltenham Museum, where they discovered many stories and traditions of the Hindu Diwali festival through looking at decorations, artwork and exquisite authentic Indian Costume.*

The children had the opportunity to dress up in variety of costumes, explore a selection of Indian toys, and create rangoli patterns using colourful stones.



## Brewery Arts

*We had a very creative day at the Brewery Arts.*

The children had the opportunity to use several different looms to make a colourful assortment of weaves.



## Steam Museum

*The children spent the day at the Steam Museum to learn about the GWR railway and Brunel.*

They enjoyed walking underneath the Caerphilly Castle train.



A visit from Mr Faskin (an ex RAF pilot)





Winners of the recycling competition at the Royal Bath & West show

## Waitrose

*The children learn about a variety of vegetables at Waitrose and even had the opportunity to make their very own delicious vegetable pasties.*



Outside Learning



A visit from Dr Hall

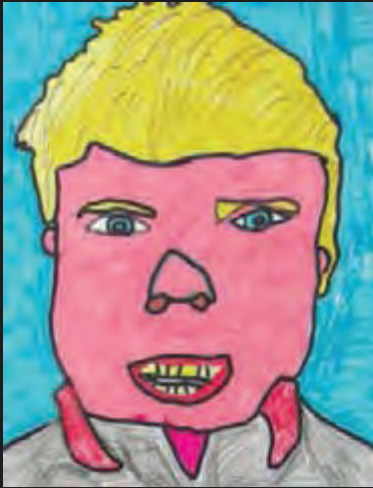


Ellie, the Fire Investigative dog came for a visit



World Book Day





# J3 & J4 Art





# Music

*We are fortunate at Rendcomb College to have a varied musical diet. This is due in no small measure to the energy and vision of Mr Raby and Mr McKelvey who have done so much to foster links between the Junior and Senior Schools, particularly evident when J6 sang so beautifully in the Senior School Carol Service in Cheltenham in December.*

On the previous day we had our customary Junior School Carol Service with readings. St Peter's Church always looks impressive as the candlelight enhances its wonderful architectural features.

The children sang their carols with great beauty, accompanied at the organ by Mr McKelvey.

For the children in the Junior School there have been many different musical events during the course of the year. Our October concert featured a new venture this year: after a selection of group and individual items, for the second half J5 and J6 presented us with the gory tale of Sweeney Todd, with brilliantly crafted music by Carey Blyton. This was an unusual and highly entertaining venture.

The story itself was edited and narrated with great commitment by Mrs Lee. Mr Colls played the piano, and Mr McKelvey conducted the sequence of songs which the children enjoyed greatly (in particular, those with the most gruesome content!).

Our concert in March gave several new musicians a platform: Deia White and William Nicol, for example, had been learning the oboe with Mrs De Burgh for a very short time. It is always encouraging to see and hear the children demonstrating their abilities on the nursery slopes.

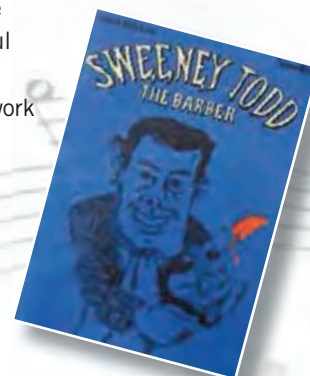
The concert was not without sadness, though: Eloise Gooch gave us a final opportunity to hear her beautiful recorder playing before emigrating to New Zealand.

The summer term brought with it another extravaganza of music and drama in the form of Malcolm Sircom's The Rocky Monster Show. For this unusual story with a many catchy songs, all the junior children had to learn dance routines, and we were grateful to Mrs Liebenberg for her choreographic skills.

Mrs Brealy was of course the main driver; and the band of musicians was on this occasion larger than hitherto, with some familiar faces: the saxophonists were Mrs Auster and Mr Morgan; guitars were played by Messrs Cordell and Dunn; and Mr Coldrick was the percussionist.

As always, we are especially grateful to our peripatetic teachers whose work inspires so many of our children to experience the joy of making music.

*Philip Colls*





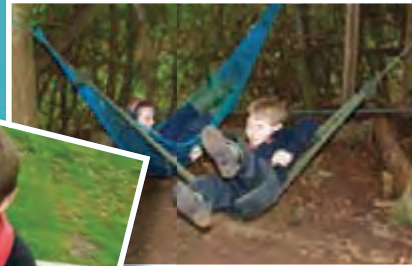
We were amazed at how amazing our maze was in outdoor week



World Book Day

We were very proud that in November, Mollie Tice was one of the national winners in Dorset Cereals "Cress Head" Competition with her video: "Eggy Max."

Mollie wrote her delightful story and we used Videomaker to produce the film. Her film, with excellent speaking also from Seren and Teddy, won the school a super digital video camera. Well done, Mollie, Seren and Teddy!



Clouds bring rain;  
Clouds bring snow;  
Clouds go away  
To let the sun glow!  
By Milo Jackson



J3 have been learning Latin to complement their study of The Romans in Britain.



A Letter to my Favourite Character  
Dear Matilda,

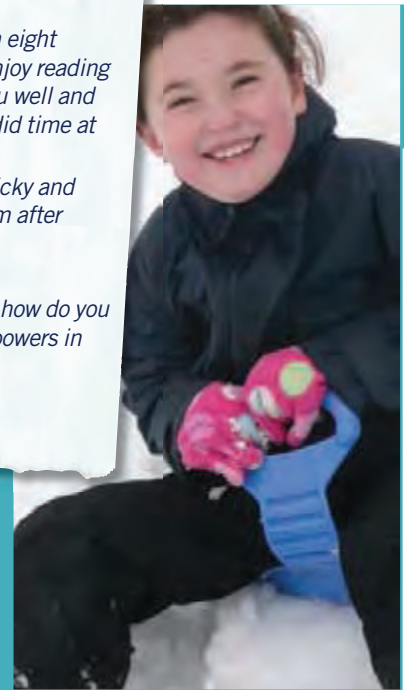
My name is Emily. I am eight years old and I really enjoy reading your great book. Are you well and are you having a splendid time at Miss Honey's house?

Mummy, my brother Nicky and I love watching your film after school.

Lots of love, Emily

p.s. I forgot to ask you: how do you have such marvellous powers in your eyes?

Emily Musgrave





Even the snow, doesn't stop us from doing our creative writing outside



One red hill with burning fire.  
When it's night, I am a lot shier!  
When there's ice, I put things right  
I only come out at day not night!  
What am I?  
I am the sun.  
Harvey Cole.



We loved the Christmas Party

Dear BFG,  
What is it like being a giant? I think that all the other giants are so mean to you, throwing you around. However, I think you should make a potion which can make you way taller than all the other giants, so you can throw them about. Who is your best friend and why? My best friend is Czeska because she is kind.  
Please describe what snozcumbers are because all I know about them is that they are disgusting!  
Love from  
Seren Evans  
P.S Did Sophie get a mum and dad?

Marcus's Birthday Party.  
I'm having a birthday. The slaves have been very busy cooking, cleaning, getting the baths ready and stoking up the underfloor heating. They have stuffed the dormice and roasted the magnus porcus. They picked some carrots and lettuce from the garden but a cuniculus impropus stole some carrots. Both of the servants tried to catch it but it was so fast and it scampered down a hole.  
By Joshua Carr



## Class Assembly on sound

*We had the honour of giving the first class assembly of the school year by presenting a talk about sound.*

The children were able to show off their amazing range of musical talents and describe how sound is produced on different instruments. They gave examples from each section of an orchestra by playing guitars, a violin, recorders, a French horn, piano and voice. They ended the assembly with a whole class musical performance, thanking the rest of the school for listening.



## Ancient Egypt comes to Cheltenham

*On Wednesday 14th October, J4 spent a fascinating morning travelling back in time to Ancient Egypt during two events at the Cheltenham Literature Festival.*

Lucy Adlington provided an exciting, imaginative workshop which included games and dances from Egypt and opportunities to look closely at a variety of artefacts. Gill Harvey then talked about her series of books based in

Egypt and hosted a nail-biting quiz game of 'cobras and vipers'. The children displayed great enthusiasm for answering questions and revealed the huge bank of information they have absorbed from their history lessons.

Charlie Roberts said that he really enjoyed the day and Max McKeown thought the quiz was so much fun that he was sad to leave.

## Ernest Cook Trust at Redwood Forest near Slimbridge

*On Monday 14th June J4 travelled to Redwood Forest to study habitats as part of their Science topic.*

On arrival we were met by Anne Newman and the park ranger, Lee, our guides for the day. In the morning the children studied a variety of habitats, looking closely at a range of birds nest and a huge badger's set as well as learning about different deer antlers. The morning was completed by an exciting minibeast hunt. After lunch, the children went pond dipping and they were able to compare the inhabitants of two different ponds. This certainly was the highlight of the trip!!!

*"The pond dipping was totally awesome!  
I have never seen so many tadpoles"*  
Max McKeown

*"We caught a pink coloured tadpole  
I wonder what type of frog it would turn into"*  
Nadia

*"This was the best trip ever, I caught  
so many tadpoles"*  
Charlie Roberts.

*"I learnt so much and the water scorpion  
was amazing"*  
Charlie Pugh



## Great Rendcomb Menu!

*We spent a morning preparing, cooking and eating a well balanced lunch.*

Healthy meals on the menu were chicken pasta, meatballs and rice and 'Easy Cheesy Peasy Pasta'. They also created exotic drinks such as fresh strawberry milkshake and crushed pear juice. The children were all in agreement that the morning had been great fun and the food was absolutely delicious. *'It was the best meal I've ever had and we all wanted seconds!'* Oliver Jones



# Tudor Trail

An exciting morning was spent in Gloucester Cathedral learning about the history of the monastery, why the monks had to leave in Tudor times and why the Cathedral survived Henry VIII's destruction of churches.

The children dressed as monks and sang in Latin and also had an opportunity to write with a quill pen and make brass rubbings. In the afternoon, we crossed the road to the Folk Museum where there was an opportunity to dress in Tudor costume and study artefacts.

"I enjoyed dressing up as a monk and pretending to be one".

Oliver Jones

"I liked dressing up as a rich Tudor and when my trousers fell down!"

Trace Williams

"I enjoyed everything on the trip but I enjoyed the writing with the feather the best."

Nadia Williamson

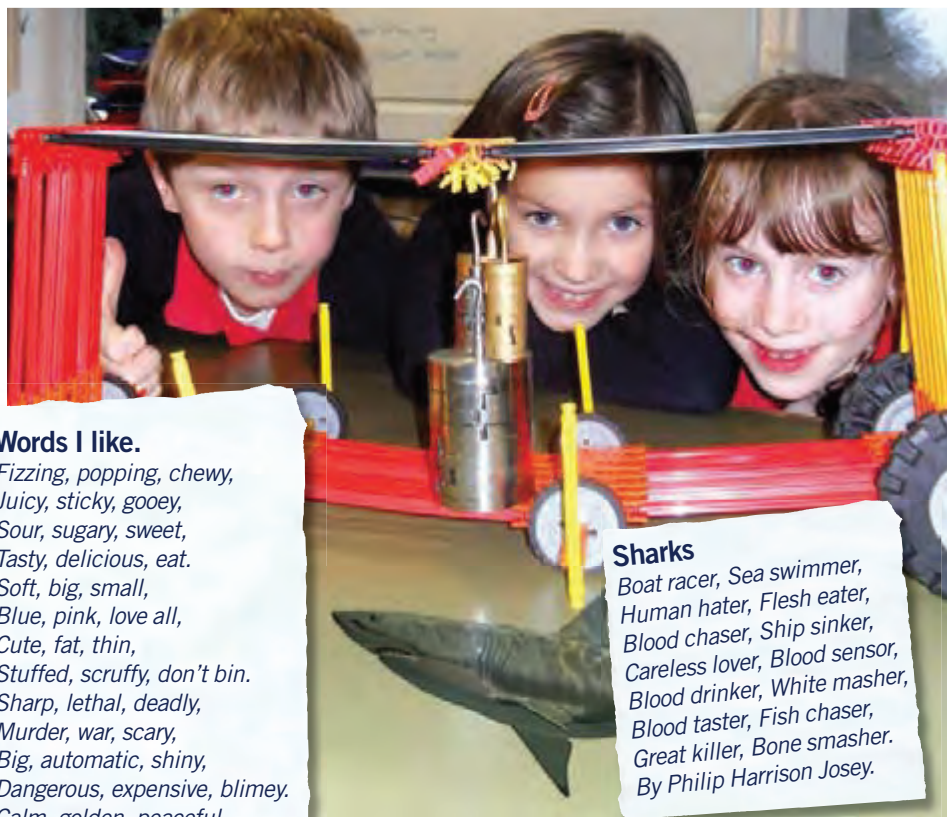


# Help Haiti

The class were shocked by the devastation caused by the earthquake in Haiti which we discussed during P.S.H.E. lessons.

We decided to fund raise and agreed to organise a bring and buy sale.

The children wrote letters home to parents, made posters, baked cakes to sell and ran the sale themselves and raised a magnificent total of £283.97!



## Words I like.

Fizzing, popping, chewy,  
Juicy, sticky, gooey,  
Sour, sugary, sweet,  
Tasty, delicious, eat.  
Soft, big, small,  
Blue, pink, love all,  
Cute, fat, thin,  
Stuffed, scruffy, don't bin.  
Sharp, lethal, deadly,  
Murder, war, scary,  
Big, automatic, shiny,  
Dangerous, expensive, blimey.  
Calm, golden, peaceful,  
Sandy, salty, beautiful,  
Silent, splashing, huge,  
Peebles, fun, amused.  
By Henry Holloway.

## Sharks

Boat racer, Sea swimmer,  
Human hater, Flesh eater,  
Blood chaser, Ship sinker,  
Careless lover, Blood sensor,  
Blood drinker, White masher,  
Blood taster, Fish chaser,  
Great killer, Bone smasher.  
By Philip Harrison Josey.

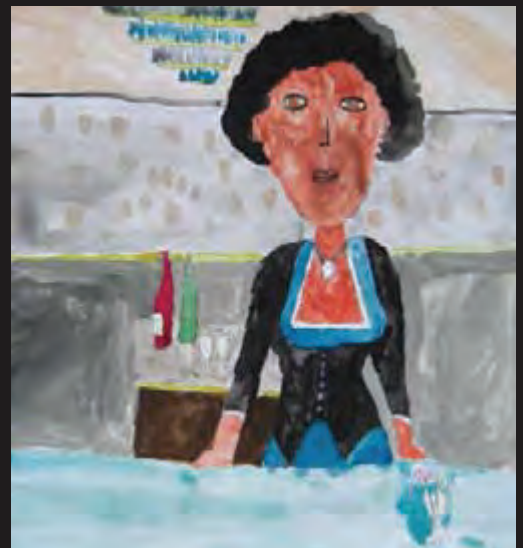
## Help Haiti

In Haiti one day there was a huge earthquake,  
The ground started to wobble and shake and shake.  
All the buildings came tumbling down,  
They crashed and tumbled all over the town.  
The people in Haiti were scared and in pain,  
What was happening? No one could explain.  
When all the shaking and rumbling had stopped,  
They all looked round and were very shocked.  
Haiti was their world and home,  
Their families had gone so they were all alone.  
Some were injured, dead or lost,  
Buried under the rubble and rocks.  
We are so lucky where we live,  
And want to help and all should give.  
Come to J4's Bring and Buy Sale,  
Bring lots of money so Haiti won't fail.  
Help us help Haiti,  
They need us greatly.  
By Grace Tushingham



Mr McGregor's  
Garden (Maths)

# J5 & J6 Art





## Hats for Haiti

*The devastating earthquake in Haiti was discussed in J5 PSHE lessons and the Year 5 pupils decided that they wanted to help by raising some money.*

Their idea was for everyone to wear a hat to school and pay £1 for doing so. Amazing hats of all shapes and sizes were worn and over £250 was raised for the Save the Children Charity who helped with the disaster.

A brilliant idea J5!



## Ballet Success for Amelia

*From thousands of applicants we were delighted to hear that Amelia Ward was selected to join the Junior Associate Programme at the Royal Ballet School.*

Amelia attends fortnightly training on a Saturday in Birmingham where 15 of the most promising dancers receive expert tuition.

Many congratulations Amelia.



*Haiku-Castle  
Nights shining in armour  
Galloping freely, happily  
Sheltering the king  
Isobel Attwood-Brown*

## Isn't life wonderful?

Megan Hardie:	Isn't life like paints being put on a canvas?
Cameron Watt:	Isn't life wonderful when it is snowing?
Grace Knapp:	Isn't life like a knight shining in armour.
Matthew Hansel:	Isn't life wonderful when you go on holiday and discover a new place?
Izzy Attwood Brown:	Isn't life like soft fluffy slippers on ice cold feet?
Annabelle Pearce:	Isn't life a car, whizzing faster and faster?
Megan Channer:	Isn't life a treasure chest waiting to be found?
Luke Jarman:	Isn't life the endless waves crashing on the shore?
Alex Dennett:	Isn't life an envelope waiting to be opened?
Matt Williams:	Isn't life a dream waiting to be dreamt?
Amelia Ward:	Isn't life a tornado twisting in directions you wouldn't imagine?
Maddy Morgan:	Isn't life a Jack in the Box, waiting to surprise you?
Lauren Dudleyke:	Isn't life a pot of gold waiting to be found?
Victoria Farthing:	Isn't life a wonderful party?
Annabelle Foley:	Isn't life like a long red ribbon ready to tie a bow?
Timothy Chandran:	Isn't life like an adrenalin pumping obstacle course waiting to be completed.
Luke Hall:	Isn't life like a car zooming down the road.
Phoebe Janes:	Isn't life like a rosette all shiny and new.
India Ross:	Isn't life like a beautiful coloured rainbow walking over the world?
Rebecca Breare:	Isn't life all the friends that help you when you're upset?
Sophie Tice:	Isn't life like a flower opening its new leaves.

ISN'T LIFE WONDERFUL?

## Rebecca wins top award

*Rebecca Breare won a certificate and a voucher for being selected as a runner up in the annual letter writing competition organised by the Royal Mail.*

This national competition has thousands of entries and Rebecca's letter to Nelson Mandela was recognised as being outstanding. This is a fantastic achievement.



## History comes alive

*The pupils enjoyed exploring the air raid shelter in Cirencester and wearing World War II outfits in their History lessons.*



### My memories as an evacuee.

*I remember 60 years ago when I was evacuated to Wales, with my older sister taking care of me and telling me what to do. Although Eve was bossy it was good to have her there. If I was alone I would've felt lonely and sad.*

*I left London by the underground train wearing my gas mask around my neck, my grazed trousers and my name tag stamped to my box.*

*My journey took a long time to get to Wales; most of the time laying my head against Eve's lap. It took eight hours and one stop when a cow was on the track. During the journey I felt nervous and scared about being sent to the countryside as I'd never been to the countryside.*

*Once the train stopped, we all knew that it was Wales, so we got off the train and had to follow a woman who was looking after us. Then we sat down in the hall where we waited for a family to choose us.*

*A tall slim man with curly hair and a woman with a ragged shirt took us to their home.*

*Luke Jarman*

## Greek Artefacts

The history topic studying the Ancient Greeks brought an opportunity to look closely at Greek artefacts from Cheltenham museum.



### Metaphor Magic

*The moon was a spark in the darkening sky,  
The clouds were smoke, rising from a burning flame,  
The hills were a cave, rising to the stars,  
The sunset was a painting: orange, yellow and red,  
The ocean was a blanket, covering the view with waves,  
The lighthouse was a mountain, towering up to the sky,  
The roads were a pattern, crossing over and over again,  
The village was a jungle of cobblestones bricks and wood,  
The church was a shadow, silhouetted against the clouds,  
The lonely horse was a bicycle, trudging on the path.*

*Matthew Hansel*





## We love learning outside

*During the year many lessons have taken place in our wonderful outdoor environment.*

The pupils have also taken part in a bee and ladybird survey organised by London University and BBC Breathing Places. Great enthusiasm was seen as pupils enjoyed studying insects and building a "Bug Hotel" with its first guests arriving the same day – some spiders and woodlice!



## Coastal Expedition

*On May 18<sup>th</sup> three staff and 21 pupils set off to explore the coastline of Portishead, Clevedon and Weston Super Mare.*

As the pupils have been studying "Coasts" within their Geography lessons it was the perfect trip to see first-hand the topics discussed within class. We were fortunate that the weather was fantastic and the Bristol Channel was calm.

The three different places held their own beauty and many of the pupils said they would visit again with their parents.

The highlights of the trip included the trek around Poet's Walk in Clevedon, the new marina in Portishead and the clean golden sand of Weston's huge (deserted) beach but definitely at the top of everyone's list has to be the big surprise at the end of the day – a ride on the gigantic observation wheel on Weston sea front followed by an ice cream! Many pupils remarked that it was the best school trip ever and they certainly learnt a huge amount.





# J6

## Kilve Court

*The residential trip to Kilve Court is always a great highlight for J6 and this year was no exception, it was a real pleasure to take them.*

They threw themselves into all the activities with great vigour and encouraged the three members of staff

(who were afraid of heights) to push themselves too! Mr Watson impressed the children with his prowess at abseiling and archery. Mrs Brealy was seen in tears at the top of the totem pole during high ropes but she did it and Miss Perry was a crack shot at the rifle shooting.

The night walk up the Quantocks was definitely an exciting experience; it's amazing how quickly your eyes adapt to the dark. The boys and girls also enjoyed playing Rounders on a very muddy field.

It must have put any washing machine to the test to get all the mud out. Everyone faced and overcame their individual challenges throughout their stay. Erin even learnt to ride a bike, whilst the others tried their luck cycling in and out of huge dips, with varying success!

They finished their adventure looking for fossils on the beach, which was followed by a delicious ice cream. The children returned with wonderful memories and a sense of achievement. Well done everyone.



## J6 trip to the SS Great Britain

*J6 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to see Brunel's SS Great Britain and the Clifton Suspension Bridge.*

On arrival at the SS Great Britain the pupils had a workshop which included various activities such as, working out what class of passenger someone had been on the ship by examining their

clothing and personal belongings. They then had a fascinating look around the museum, culminating in looking around the ship itself, starting at the top and working down, deck by deck. The children enjoyed exploring all the areas of the ship. They even got the opportunity to see under the ship. It really gave them a sense of the size of it. After a quick visit to the shop, we drove to the Clifton Suspension Bridge. We had fantastic views of Bristol and the River Avon as we walked across it.

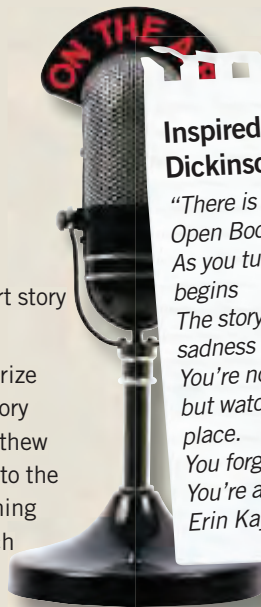


# Corinium Radio Competition

*We are very proud of our outstanding success in the Corinium Radio Competition "Write Out Loud".*

The children had to write a poem or short story about Summer or holidays.

Erin and Thomas from J6 won joint 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the poetry competition. In the short story completion: Elliot won 1<sup>st</sup> prize and Matthew won 3<sup>rd</sup> prize. The children were invited to the Corinium radio station to read their winning entries on air. Well done all of J6 for such excellent entries.



## Inspired by Emily Dickinson's poem

*"There is no frigate like a book"  
Open Book  
As you turn the first page, an adventure begins  
The story fills you with joy, love, sadness or sorrow.  
You're not in your bedroom anymore but watching the scene, that's taking place.  
You forget about reality and drift away.  
You're a prisoner to the open book!*  
Erin Kaye

## Under the Sun

*The summer sunshine,  
Warming the old hay-fields.  
The summer breeze,  
Blowing gently through the swaying grasses.  
Billowing clouds floating,  
High over the Wolds.  
The gentle hum of the bee,  
Gathering pollen from the buttercup.  
The sound of the Skylark overhead,  
Chirping a beautiful tune.  
Butterflies fluttering,  
In the red clover.  
A brown hare,  
Silent in its form.  
The cool river trickling  
Over the moss covered stones.  
The old badger,  
Asleep in the woods.  
Dry stonewalls,  
Keeping the sheep safe on the hills.  
The Cotswolds,  
England at its best.*  
By Thomas Godwin

## Chocolate

*An opening to a warm creamy world,  
leaves you in a tempting situation  
whilst the chocolate drop sits in front  
of you. Just as you suggest putting it in  
your mouth, a tingling sensation comes  
to mind: should I have the pleasure  
now or later? But by the time you make  
a decision to leave to enjoy it later ...  
wait where has it gone? Oh dear, well I  
will just have to have the pleasure now!*  
Yum, yum!

*That chocolate was: GOOD!*  
By Orlagh Brennan

## History trip to Warwick Castle

Blessed with fine weather and fairly small crowds J6 enjoyed a full day exploring this masterpiece of medieval castle building.

We marvelled at their defensive lines and empathised with an attacking force. Most braved the

castle dungeons with some emerging hoarse from screaming! Over lunch we witnessed the world's biggest trebuchet in action and Elliott Cox and a duck re-enacted a 13th Century joust- this time over his packed lunch!

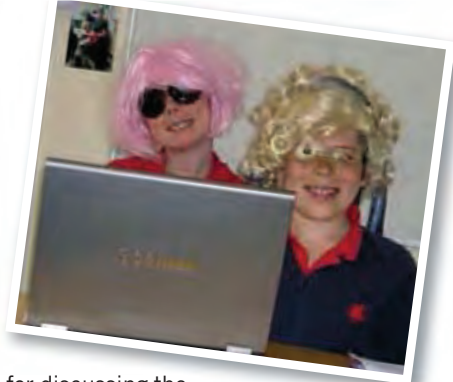




Teddy bears' picnic

## J6 French

*During the summer term, the children studied the topic of weather in French.*



After learning essential phrases for discussing the weather and interpreting weather forecasts the class turned their classroom into a television studio.

The task set was to write a script for a television weather forecast. Then they had to act it out for all the other groups to see. Much fun was had with dressing up, using props and the weather causing 'technical problems'!

The prize for the best forecast was given to the group who memorised their lines, spoke clearly and fluently and entertained us the most – Olivia, Thomas, Harry, James and Ellie.

Well done!

### Humpty Dumpty

"This wall looks comfy,  
Although a little bumpy."  
He started to rock,  
Then splat, what a shock!  
Everyone laughing at the yolk,  
But this was no joke!  
With all the effort of the King's men,  
They put him together again!  
By Max Watson

Hear the birds in the morning  
Feel the warmth on your skin  
See the lambs running around  
Smell the scent of sweet flowers  
Taste the fresh air.  
By Harry Major



## Prizes

*The following prizes were awarded in Final Assembly:-*

### Boys' Cross Country Cup

Alexander Dennett

### Girls' Cross Country Cup

Grace Knapp

### The Meborn-Hubbard

Girls' Victor Ludorum

Eleanor Brealy

### The Henniker-Gotley

Boys' Victor Ludorum

Oliver Heneghan

### Reeves Cup for Improved

Reading

Amina Chambers

### Phelps Effort Cup

Dylan Evans

### Roberts Family Cup

(Otters Effort)

Freya Angus

### Carden Cup for Music

Eloise Gooch

100 Rendcombian

### Dufosse Art Cup

Thomas Godwin

### Shackel Cup for Drama

Max Watson

### Shark Cup for Most

Promising U9 Sports person

Oliver Jones

### Osborne Cup for Girls' Sport

Orlagh Brennan

### Palmer Cup for Boys' Sport

Oliver and James Heneghan

### Arkle Cup for All Round

Improvement

Ellie Jones

### Trim Happy Cup

Amy Johnson

### Potter Cup for Overall

Contribution

Eleanor Brealy/Robert

McLaughlin

## Academic and effort prizes

J3L

### Academic

Harvey Cole

### Effort

William Evans/Joshua Carr

J3H

### Academic

William Nichol

### Effort

Jack Attwood

J4

### Academic

Henry Holloway

### Effort

Nadia Williamson

J5M

### Academic

Matthew Hansel

### Effort

Grace Knapp

J5W

### Academic

Sophie Tice/Rebecca Breare

### Effort

Alexander Dennett

J6

### Academic

Thomas Godwin

### Effort

Eleanor Brealy

# J6 Rendcomb Memories

**Eleanor Brealy's** proudest moments in the Junior School was being appointed Head Girl and making a speech on Founder's Day. She was also very proud to be captain of hockey. She has enjoyed everything about the last 7 years and will miss all her teachers.

**Orlagh Brennan's** favourite moment was in the dungeons at Warwick Castle when the boys kept pushing her towards all the scary bits.

**Elliott Cox, Dylan Evans, Oliver Heneghan** and **Amy Johnson** all agreed that their favourite moment was when we went to the Ernest Cook Trust in J4. It was really hot so everyone had a really big water fight, including the teachers. Everybody got soaked.

**Thomas Godwin's** best memory was during the night walk at Kilve Court in J6 when he got completely drenched after falling into a muddy puddle. I am looking forward to going to the Senior School.

**Olivia Grzelinski's** favourite moments were wearing fairy wings in the Otters and when we were in J3 and Mrs Lee

went down the slide in the adventure play ground. I am looking forward to meeting new people and trying new things in the Senior School.

**Maxim Hair's** earliest memory was in J1 when they dressed up as doctors and patients and Oli was his doctor. His favourite moment was at Kilve when he did shooting for the first time.

**James Heneghan's** best moment was at Kilve Court when he, Elliot and Dylan climbed up a totem pole, it was terrifying. He's looking forward to going to Senior School and making new friends.

**Ellie Jones's** favourite moment was at Kilve Court when J6 played rounders. It had been raining, which meant that the field was really muddy. We came back covered in mud. She is looking forward to starting at the Senior School.

**Erin Kaye's** favourite moment was when she became a hockey goalie in J5. When she goes to Senior School she's looking forward to making new friends and having new experiences.



**Harry Major's** favourite moment was being presented with his captain of rugby badge at the beginning of J6. He is looking forward to playing in more matches in the Senior School.

**Matthew McGough's** favourite moment was the J6 trip to Kilve Court. One of his favourite activities was the low ropes course.

**Robert McLaughlin's** favourite memory was when he played against Berkhamstead and scored a try in rugby.

**Sophia Rossi's** earliest memory of Rendcomb was meeting Erin when she took her up to the J4 class, she smiled all the way. She will miss the Junior School so much!

**Max Watson** has only been at the Junior School for a year but his favourite moment was scoring a try for the rugby team. He is looking forward to continuing his education in the Senior School.

## When I grow up I want to...

*At the cocktail evening J6 were asked what they wanted to do when they grew up. There were some interesting ideas...*

**Erin** wants to be a world famous writer.

**Thomas** wants to go into product design.

**Robert** obviously wants to play rugby for Ireland.

**Dylan** wants to play cricket for Australia.

**Max** likes the idea of being a lawyer.

**Olivia** would like to become a fashion designer.

**Ellie** is thinking about something to do with equestrianism.

**Sophia** wants to travel the world and be a journalist.

**Eleanor** likes the idea of being a Reception teacher, or maybe a fashion designer and hopefully to play hockey or lacrosse to a high standard.

**Orlagh** thinks she might become a marine biologist.

The rest of J6 are still working out what they might like to do. Good luck to all of this year's J6 in whatever they end up doing!



# The Rocky Monster Show





# Drama

*From Sheik, Rattle and Roll to Let's do the Time Warp again....  
What another action-packed year it's been in the Drama department*



The Candlelit Carol Service in St Peter's church was, as ever a beautiful event and all the readings, prayers and carols which the J3-6 students performed certainly got everyone in the mood for Christmas in early December.

The Otters and Nursery children also performed their wonderful Nativity Play, "Sheik Rattle & Roll" in December in the splendour of the Reading Room, as always a real tear jerker for the audience. It was a real showcase of our younger dramatic talent. At the end of the Lent term the Otters and Nursery took to the stage once again, this time the children dressed up as bees and colourful flowers in their delightful Easter show, "Billy no Buzz."

The end of year Junior production for J3-6 this year was Malcolm Sircom's "The Rocky Monster Show." Just think of a mixture of The Rocky Horror Picture Show, the Addams family, Young Frankenstein, with a bit of Thriller and Ghostbusters thrown in for good measure. The show began impressively with the opening song of "Evolution," with everyone wearing spooky white masks and white outfits to set the scene and create anonymity. This was then followed by a very slick performance of "Thriller."

There were great performances from all the lead characters. Max Watson played the lead role of the masked Professor Fenton with great confidence, showing off his hidden

talent for singing and dancing! Sophia Rossi played the professor's man-mad bimbo daughter, Gloria with great panache. Robert McLaughlin worked hard at perfecting the character of Igor, a 200 year old limping man servant. He and the formidable housekeeper, Mrs Danvers (Eleanor Brealy) were a wonderful double-act who kept the audience entertained at all times, including leading 'The Time Warp.'

Rebecca Shelley (Orlagh Brennan) and Daniel Stoker (Harry Major), convincingly played the 'nerdy' professor's lab-coat wearing assistants. Mungo - Frankenstein's monster (Ollie Heneghan) and Elsa the bride of Frankenstein (Amy Johnson) were brought dramatically back to life by bolts of lightning as they emerged from their smoky coffins and sent our hearts a flutter with their beautiful love song, "Guess We're in Love." Meanwhile there was plenty of cries of "DOOM" from the villagers directed at Inspector Baskerville (Maxim Hair), lead by Aunt Ada (Ellie Jones) and Uncle Ted (Dylan Evans).

The wonderful narrators (Thomas Godwin, Dylan Evans, Ellie Jones, Erin Kaye, Olivia Grzelinski and Matthew McGough) kept the audience fully informed at all times, whilst remaining mysterious under their mask and cloak. The Superbs, (Erin Kaye, Olivia Grzelinski and Grace Knapp) complete with huge pink afros and feather boas sang and danced to "Lady Love," with the J5 girls as backing singers. The J5 boys meanwhile had a fantastic time strutting their stuff either being ghosts or Ghostbusters.

Mr Watson was greeted to screams of delight from the audiences with his cameo role as Elvis Presley. He then went on to amaze us all when he sang the song "A Hard Act to Follow," with the rest of the cast and staff } as backing singers.

None of this would have been possible without the enormous team effort from all the Junior School staff behind the scenes. Julie Scase did a fantastic job in her new role as wardrobe mistress. She created the costumes, recycling as much as possible as well as making other costumes from scratch (including the infamous Elvis' outfit.)

Many staff and family members gave up their free time to help paint the set that the Works Team had created for which I am very grateful.

"The Rocky Monster Show" was made more striking this year with the help of Tigz Productions. Andy Webb and Phil Nail brought both imaginative and vivid lighting to the stage as well as great sound effects with help from Shaun Ellis and Miles Metcalfe in the Senior School.

My thanks must also go to the fantastic seven piece band, ably directed by Mr McKelvey and Mr Colls, which really brought the show to life. As the curtain comes down on great another superb production I am really looking forward to teaching in our new and enlarged Music & Drama Room and seeing what amazing talent we will have next year.

*Amanda Brealy*

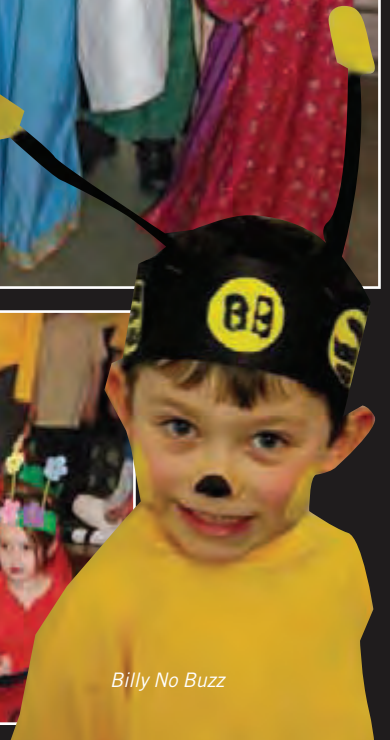


*Whole cast of The Rocky Monster Show*

Sheik, Rattle and Roll



Billy No Buzz



## Dance

*This year pupils had the opportunity to perform in the Cheltenham Festival of Performing Arts.*

Fifteen children took part, receiving eight Distinctions and seven merits. Amelia Ward and Anya Pereira was presented with silver medals and Alice Bradley a bronze medal, which was a fantastic achievement. Pupils have had the chance to perform their dance pieces in Assemblies, including six J5 girls performing a Welsh Folk dance.

Dance is equally popular in the Early Years, Mrs Liebenberg teaches ballet to Nursery and Music & Movement to Reception as well as workshops for 'Around the World' and 'Autumn Days.' Mrs Liebenberg has also helped with the choreography for 'The Rocky Monster Show' and 'Sheik Rattle and Roll.' An exciting year lies ahead as pupils will be entered in for the RAD (Royal Academy of Dancing) International ballet exams, as well as taking part in the Cheltenham Festival of Performing Arts. 'Keep Dancing!'



# Rugby

## U9

What a magnificent unbeaten 2009 season. There were many highlights including a very successful tournament at Hatherop.

The squad was led admirably by Charlie Pugh, which included several U8's. There were many close matches, even when the team went behind their heads never went down, pulling together and showing a great team spirit. Henry Holloway, who had never played before coming to Rendcomb, had an excellent first season scoring many tries for the team. Harvey Drennen also excelled; scoring some super individual tries. Trace Williams made super progress too. Everyone should be commended for their effort, determination and great sportsmanship shown throughout the season. All who represented Rendcomb did so with pride and passion, which holds much promise for next season. Well done boys a most enjoyable and satisfying season.



## Mixed Tag Rugby

This was the first time a team of boys and girls had represented Rendcomb in this sport and for the girls the first time they had played the game at all. We made the short journey to Kingshill going into the unknown. Everyone quickly got into the matches and tries were evenly spread around the team. We had a great afternoon with Eloise Gooch being named player of the tournament by her fellow team mates.

Rendcomb only lost one match and were runners up in the competition just missing out on top spot by one point. Many of the girls were U10's and gained valuable experience for next season. Cheltenham Spa Rugby Festival Two mixed teams went to Cheltenham with excitement to play in a festival with 48 teams entered. The squads were due to play in a round robin format then in the afternoon progress to compete for separate trophies. Both teams played some delightful rugby with lots of passing, dodging and snatching with tries being spread throughout the teams. The final positions were the A squad finishing 13/48 and B's 21/48.



## U11

Overall we enjoyed a mixed season, in terms of results, but the quality of rugby played and level of progress forthcoming made it a successful one. In the forwards we lacked real aggression and when Robert McLaughlin was unavailable winning ball proved to be very difficult. Our set play was tidy and efficient but in the loose we were frequently out played.

The back division showed considerable promise when in possession of the ball but were often fragile in defence. Benedict Schallamach (J5) performed extremely well as scrum half and Oliver Heneghan's kicking deserves a special mention. The highlight of the season was a thrilling victory against St Edwards where Robert dominated up front. As usual Harry Major, captain, played in committed fashion and the backs, for once with a good supply of the ball, ran with ever increasing confidence, most notably by James Heneghan and Max Watson. I congratulate the boys on their commitment, enthusiasm and I wish them years of enjoyment in rugby.

Colours awarded: Harry Major - Captain  
Robert McLaughlin



# Girls' Hockey

## U11

The squad had a fantastic season, winning four out five matches. They showed a great deal of commitment and this, combined with their good technique, gave them the edge over other schools. The team developed as the season progressed, especially with the linking between the defence and midfield/forwards.

Their fitness proved to be the decisive factor on more than one occasion; their work rate was second to none and they worked hard at tackling back to thwart many an opposition's attacks. Particular mention should go to the strong trio up front, in the form of the two wings: Eleanor Brealy (a consummate Captain) and Sophia Rossi with Orlagh Brennan in the centre.

Ellie Jones played solidly in defence and Erin Kaye was a confident and consistent

player in goal. Grace Knapp proved to be a useful player, which bodes well for the U11 squad next season.

## U9

With a small and inexperienced squad of girls, it was obvious from the outset that this age group faced a challenging season. However, it was to their great credit that by the end of the season they had begun to gel into an effective unit. Miss Ferebee made the girls work extremely hard and they rose to the challenge and applied their efforts and enthusiasm fully. All of the girls developed their individual skills and overall there was a much greater understanding of the team aspect of the game. While the J4 girls, Lauren, Grace and Nadia provided the backbone to the side, a special mention should be made of the contribution of Emily Musgrave who demonstrated tremendous determination and considerable potential. Well done girls on such pleasing development.

Colours awarded: Eleanor Brealy- Captain  
Orlagh Brennan  
Sophia Rossi



Eleanor Brealy, Orlagh Brennan and Ellie Jones have been selected to play for the Gloucestershire Junior Development Centre

# Football

## U9

A very successful season of football for the U9's led by Oliver Jones. With only one blip at the beginning in the opening match of the season, this was their only defeat in the league.

The U9's also included some U8's namely Josh Carr who scored 8 goals with our top scorer being the captain.

This was matched by Thomas Breare who was tremendous in all the positions he was asked to play in, along with Henry Holloway who worked tirelessly and Trace who was very secure between the sticks.

Both the U9's and U8's played in the Hatherop tournament the teams, although not progressing to the final stages, played super football; scoring many goals with Oliver scoring a hat trick in one match.

Both squads worked for each other and played some lovely football. The forthcoming season bodes well with some of the U8's gaining valuable experience.

Oliver Jones has been selected to play for the U9 Wiltshire County Football Squad.

## U11

Winners St Margaret's Football Festival

At times we played some delightful football this season. The spine of the team was exceptionally strong with James Heneghan upfront, Oliver Heneghan in midfield, Max Watson in defence and Robert McLaughlin in goal. This quartet allowed the rest of the team to develop and make significant contributions to the team. Harry Major and Benedict Schallamach were always committed while Alexander Dennett and Matthew McGough added creativity to our play. With a little more consistency both could develop into fine footballers.

James Heneghan captained the team superbly, leading from the front. His finishing was sometimes predatory but frequently explosive. Easily our top scorer I commend and congratulate James on a fine performance. Our ability to score frequently and yet be frugal in defence led to a very successful season and winning the St Margaret's Festival was the icing on the cake. Frustratingly snow and illness conspired forcing some matches to be postponed. Our only defeat came on a day that we were not a full strength and though we played well our pattern of play was disrupted and affected. Congratulations boys on a fine term's football and especially for playing with great spirit and sense of fun.



Colours Awarded:-  
James Heneghan – Captain  
Oliver Heneghan  
Harry Major  
Matthew McGough  
Robert Mc Laughlin  
Max Watson



# Netball

## U11 and U10

With a delayed start to the season once again, I'm beginning to think netball needs to be reinvented to incorporate snow into the equation!

Captained this season by Olivia Grzelinski the U11's, buzzing from a successful hockey season, took a while to adapt to the restrictive and rule dominated world of netball. Although Rendcomb lacked in the height department, some excellent, athletic mid court play by Eleanor Brealy, Olivia and Orlagh Brennan kept many a match alive.

Our shooters were accurate in training but found the pressure of a match too much at times and although we often dominated the possession, unlike our opposition, Rendcomb often failed to convert their chances when it mattered. Of the five matches played, a convincing win over Rosehill Westonbirt and a close defeat by a last minute goal to Berkhamstead were our best performances.



Special mention must also be made of the sterling work by Erin Kaye as GK without whom many a score line would have been considerably worse.

With the future to look forward to, the U10's showed great promise and were unbeaten in each of their three fixtures against Rosehill Westonbirt, Hatherop and King's Gloucester. Consistent shooting from Rebecca Breare and Annabelle Foley kept Rendcomb on the score sheet in each game, along with tireless work from Grace Knapp in the centre. With experience now under their belts, one can only look forward in anticipation to a promising season next year. I am delighted to say that every girl in J5 and J6 has represented the school at netball this season and I have been most impressed by the commitment and determination shown.



Colours were awarded to:  
Olivia Grzelinski – Captain  
Eleanor Brealy,  
Orlagh Brennan  
and Erin Kaye.

# Cricket

## U11

What a super season for the U11's; led from the front by Dylan Evans, only losing 1 match to a very good King's team.

The U11's had a solid opening partnership throughout the season with Dylan Evans and Alex Dennett often setting up a victory by their positive batting. Many of the victories were down to some good tight bowling, with James Henegan being leading wicket taker with 9 victims and Alex Dennett and Matthew McGough taking many wickets over several matches. In the field Oliver Heneghan and Max Watson continued to make significant contributions. A special mention goes to Robert McLaughlin who had never kept wicket before and did a super job behind the stumps. Often the opposition was reduced to scoring very few runs and many were unable to swing

the willow, despite this all the boys should be congratulated for their teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the term and especially those who were not as involved as others but when called upon did not let the side down. All bodes well for next season with Alex Dennett and Timothy Chandran having gained valuable experience playing a year above. Well done boys.

## U11 B

All of the players worked hard and there was some tremendous batting across three of the games played.

The team continued to work on developing their bowling as the season progressed. Well done to Elliott Cox for captaining the squad so well.



Colours Awarded:  
Dylan Evans - Captain

# Swimming Gala

Parents and children gathered around the pool with great anticipation on a rather overcast day for the Swimming Gala.

The Gala was a great success with many records being broken with Sophie Tice and Matthew Hansel having a particularly excellent day.

## Swimming success

During the summer holidays Eloise Gooch (aged 10), competed at the Bletchley and District Swim Club Open Meet. This was a meet licensed by the ASA (Amateur Swimming Association) at Level 3 and 202 girls and 146 boys, aged between 9 and 22 took part.

Eloise qualified to race in 9 out of a possible 11 races and set new personal records in each race. Within her age group Eloise won medals in eight races.



# Rounders

The 2010 season proved a most enjoyable one and the girls performed extremely well in all age groups. The U11's led the way.

They trained and played with great enthusiasm, skill and a good understanding of the game and they proved to be a formidable unit. Superbly captained by Orlagh Brennan, the team reached a very high playing level. The fielding aspect is extremely important and having two quality bowlers in Grace Knapp and Ellie Jones was a real bonus. Olivia Grzelinski improved and developed into a fine backstop and her powerful throw was a valuable weapon. Orlagh's excellent example in the field inspired all the girls to work hard and rarely did we perform poorly.

Despite the strength of our bowling and fielding our real power lay in the batting department. All the girls contributed with the bat but the top order of Eleanor Breal, Grace Knapp and Orlagh Brennan emerged as reliable, consistent big hitters. The most improved batters were Sophie Tice and Erin Kaye.

Both ran intelligently and Sophie's left handed hit was usually unstoppable. With Sophie, Grace, Annabelle and Rebeccah available next season a strong core is already in place. The girls in the younger age groups also played some lovely Rounders and through focused practice



the standard rose significantly. With every girl in J3-5 getting the opportunity to represent the school the experience for next season will be invaluable. The U10's never played at full strength, with Izzy sadly injured but the depth and quality in this age group was very evident.

Initially the U9's struggled but they soon started to gel as a team and with 6 U8's in the side they did extremely well. The J4 girls began to grow in confidence with Lauren demonstrating her batting potential and Grace emerging as a reliable and sharp backstop. The performances of two U8's, Mollie Tice and Emily Musgrave, also deserves a mention. Mollie bowled extremely well while Emily batted very powerfully.

It is lovely to see the girls enjoying this wonderful game and to witness such progress. Well done girls.

Colours: Orlagh Brennan - Captain  
Eleanor Breal  
Olivia Grzelinski

# Cross Country

During the winter months a cross country club was run with a focus on competing in cross country tournaments during the following term.

Some old campaigners were surprised by the ability of some of the new additions to this club. Having J3 girls attend was a breath of fresh air. The children worked on the usual techniques and carried out basic conditioning exercises, fitness work and speed work utilising most of the grounds of Rendcomb and of course our lovely hills. The main focus of the term was the Winter Warmer.

## Winter Warmer

This was the seventh running of this voluntary race and a record number of thirty six signed up to race in late October. Old hands realise that it is a difficult circuit but keep coming back again and again. The

combination of the mud and the hills give a true reflection of the difficulties of cross country running in its purest form.

All of the competitors worked exceptionally hard and many surprised themselves with what they were capable of.



As in previous years it was a well fought contest Grace Knapp won the year 5 & 6 race in a time of 8 minutes and 46 seconds and Oliver Jones won

the year 3 & 4 race in a time of 9 minutes and 51 seconds.

Well done to all those involved, a truly inspiring race to watch. During the cross country season the weather was truly against us and was the coldest it had been for some years. Unfortunately many of the local tournaments were cancelled due to the atrocious weather that was being experienced. Even so, we managed to attend one tournament.

## XC Tournament at Rosehill

In late February the U8 girls, U9 boys, U10 girls and boys attended a tournament at Rosehill Westonbirt. This is a massive event and many schools from across the region attended. The standard was very high and the course was very fast and flat.

We had many successes but most noticeably, Emily Musgrave won the U8 girl's race! Thomas Breare came 4th in the U9 boy's race and Grace Knapp came 2nd in the U10 girl's race.

What a fantastic set of results, even though the squad was not particularly race ready as there had been such a harsh winter.

Well done a good finish to a rather cold season!



## Duathlon

*Thirty-four pupils signed up for the Duathlon this year up on the top pitches.*

The J3 & J4 race consisted of a 400m run, cycling for 800m, finishing with a 200m run. In the J5 & J6 race they had to run for 1200m, cycle 2000m and a final run of 400m. The races were keenly contested and all the students tried their very best.

Emily Musgrave won the J3 & 4 race in a very swift time of 4 minutes and 44 seconds. Cameron Watt rode very strongly and built up a commanding lead and won the J5 & J6 race in a time of 12 minutes and 19 seconds.

A fabulous effort well done to all those involved.



**£1952.00 for Sports Relief**

## Sports Relief

All J3-6 pupils at Rendcomb College Junior School, along with their form tutors, teachers, and works team ran over a mile around their sport pitches, in aid of Sport Relief on a very rainy Monday afternoon. They were also joined by the Headmasters of both the Junior and Senior School.

The lashing rain did not deter the runners and everyone got around the course successfully, albeit a little bit muddy. The children are hoping to raise lots of money for such a good cause from all their sponsorship.



## Sports Day

*On a glorious sunny day in July the annual Junior Sports Day took place.*

The children had worked tirelessly throughout the summer in preparation for this special day.

Many of the events were keenly fought and there were many close finishes and many records broken on the track. There were some notable performances including Eleanor Brealy, who won all the events she entered both at short and long distances, Oliver Heneghan, Grace Knapp and Ollie Jones. The highlight and final pupil event was the relay race between Yr5 and Yr6, but who could forget the parents' race and how highly competitive it was.





# Forest School

*We have enjoyed yet another busy and successful year at Forest School.*

The Nursery and Reception children have continued to extend their learning in the outdoor environment on a weekly basis and J1 and J2 have enjoyed termly sessions with Mrs Breare who is close to completing her Forest School training.

The Juniors have also had the opportunity to experience Forest School during our after school club. Activities have included using tools, building camp fires and shelters, playing team games and making giant spider webs.

The children have experienced at first hand the changing seasons in our beautiful surroundings, collecting autumn leaves and learning about the different trees. In winter we looked for animal tracks in the snow and drank hot

chocolate to keep us warm. In spring we found 'snowdrop world' and in summer we searched for minibeasts and played 'shadow catcher' in the sunshine.

We have enjoyed making dens, climbing trees and had lots of camp fires with crumpets, toast, marshmallows and popcorn on the menu.

Our second Forest School Working Party took place on Saturday 8th May and it was another great success. A team of fourteen parents and teachers worked hard throughout the morning to clear pathways, repair and create new shelters, and build a new bird hide and seating areas.

A huge 'Thank you' to everyone for their hard work and support.



# Some of our *Special Days*



*Wear it Green Day*



*Timothy Chandran  
and Cameron Watt  
winners of the  
Knex Challenge*



*Harvest Festival*



*Daphne Neville  
brought Belinda  
the Otter to school*



*Emily Musgrave won  
the Easter Bonnet  
competition*



*Snow week!*



*Thanksgiving  
Day lunch*

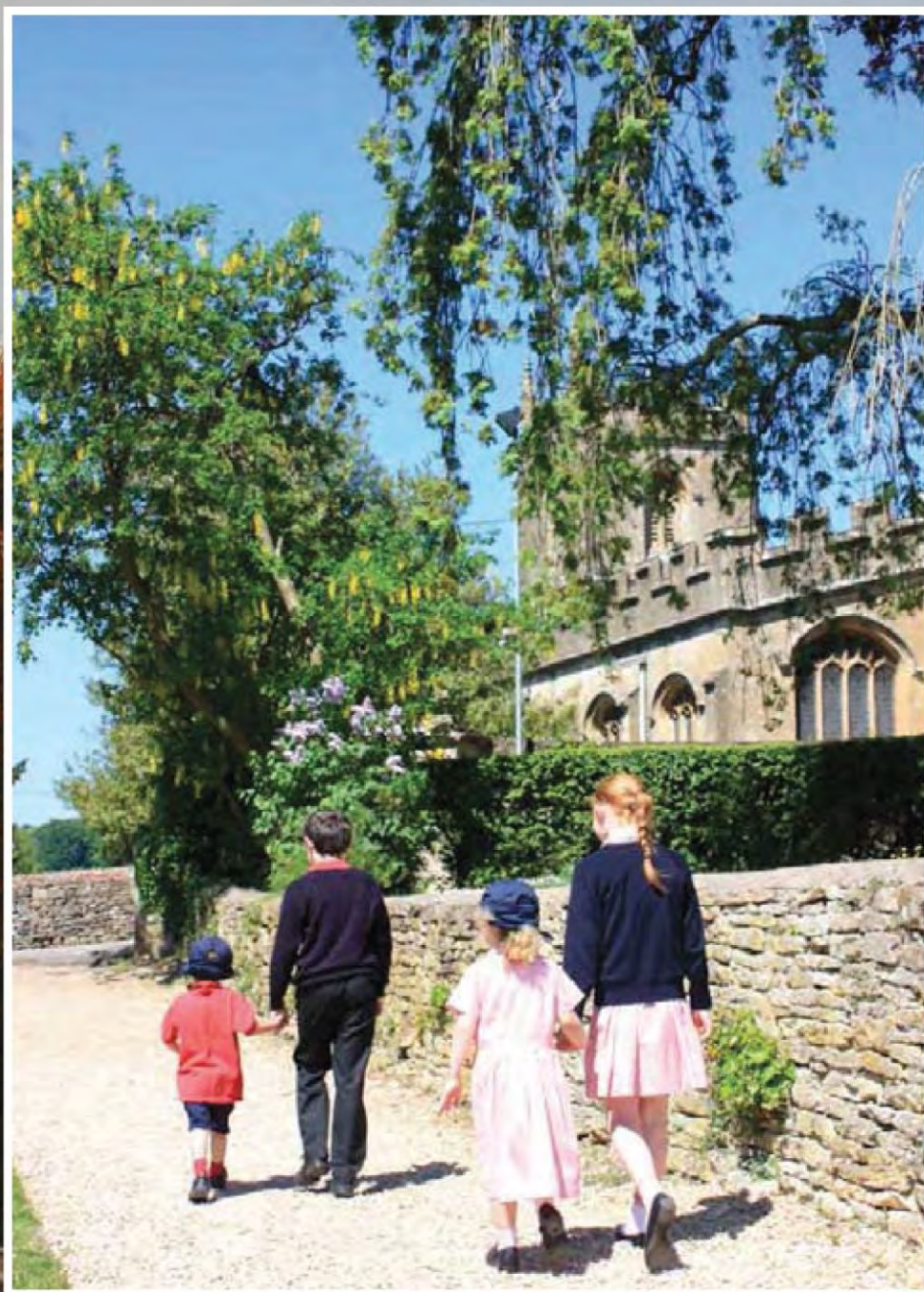


*Hats for Haiti Day*



*Even the Junior school staff  
dressed up on World Book Day*





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