



# Rendcombian

The Magazine for Rendcomb: Nursery, Juniors, College

2011





# Some of our Special Days

MUSIC ART DRAMA  
**MAD**  
MR COLLEGE ARTS FESTIVAL 2011



Bring a Teddy to school for Children In Need



Pancake day



World Maths Day



Children In Need



Wear Wellies for Wildlife



Harvest Festival



# Welcome

*From mobile phones to mobile homes:  
personal reflections of 12 years of  
headship at Rendcomb.*



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Reset in Times & Calibri  
May 2017 NSP

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It is December 1999, the last week of the Michaelmas term and as we move towards the end of the agenda in the Housestaff meeting, the item of pupils' mobile phones is raised under any other business. "I really do think that you should ban them Headmaster; we really don't want our pupils using such communicative contraptions in our type of school" opines an established housemaster. "I think that I will reflect over the Christmas holidays" I reply. Four weeks later, it seems as if every boarder in the school has returned with a mobile phone and I reflect on the folly of Canute and his failed attempt at wave resistance at Bosham. I return to the Housestaff in early January - a new school term, a new year, a new century and a new millennium. "Bobby, [Morgan - Deputy Headmaster and wise counsellor over eight years of my headship] and I have been discussing the college's new mobile phone policy", I inform the housestaff. 1999, the year I became Head, was a Facebook free world, where there was little evidence of heads "blogging" but heads "blagging it" was rife.....which leads me rather neatly on to the opening of the Junior School.

I have often been credited, retrospectively, with the vision of opening our Junior School and eleven years on this September, I am, of course, enormously proud that "my baby carefully nurtured first by Adrian Palmer and then subsequently by Martin Watson, is now about to go into its adolescent years. And indeed an enormous amount of meticulous planning from Jeremy Grey, the previous bursar, Paul Cairns, the previous Works Manager and Penrose Shackel went into that project from January 2000 to the Junior School's official opening in September later that year. I do believe that Headmasters should take credit for good decisions - however, when Dr Howard Phelps, the then Chairman of Governors and I sat down in late August 1999 to discuss the "College's development plan" [it was, I recall, written on one side of A4] we both realised very quickly that the key focus of my first months in office was summed up in one word "survival" ..... Not for me personally, I hasten to add but for the College. Many schools of Rendcomb's size were perilously close to closure at the start of "the noughties" and the subsequent development of the Junior School and its integral relationship with the Senior School was given due recognition in the ISI inspection in 2008, where the college reached the record figure of over 400 pupils - a mere pipe dream 8 years earlier!

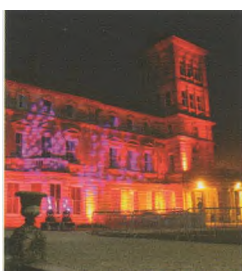
But that chapter in Holden's legacy is currently being written up by Bill White, President of our excellent Old Rendcombian Society and Chris Wood, who has contributed so much to Rendcomb during his time here as the quintessential [a much used over-used word in the early days of my Headship, even if some of my Personal Assistants, pre- the excellent Christine Johnson, always typed quite essential schoolmaster in their forthcoming photographic publication about the history of Rendcomb.

I have been asked continually over the past 9 months what the headship of Rendcomb has meant to me personally and I have attempted to articulate my response to this question in some impromptu speeches given in the last week of term and various addresses including a fantastic final Headmaster's Assembly-there is no other school in the country where you would have first formers, controlling an audience playing The Proclaimers' 500 miles on Ukuleles!

But back to the answer to the exam question. In sum, Headship for me is undoubtedly the best job in the world: I have been able to teach several subjects, including my first love, history; I have been privileged to "preach" both from the pulpit and on other occasions and most importantly I have been able [or so I am told] to reach out and capture the minds and imaginations of young people, supported by their parents, and in some cases, to change their educational lives. And Liese, Alex and I [and Bramble and Florence] have been allowed to live in, contribute to and derive benefit from, an unequalled educational environment. We have much to be grateful for and I am acutely aware that it has been a genuine honour to have enjoyed stewardship of the Rendcomb family over the last twelve years. And so, as we head east à Douvres, we leave with very fond memories of pupils, parents, governors, Old Rendcombians and staff, many of whom we now count as our friends.

Q: The most bizarre decision in my twelve years of headship? A: covering maternity leave by setting up a mobile home in the campus. As you bid us bon voyage, we in turn bid you au revoir.

Gerry Holden 1999-2011.



6<sup>TH</sup> FORM  
BALL  
Pages 42-43



MAD  
WEEK  
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LACROSSE  
SUCCESS  
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ACADEMIC  
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# NEW HEADMASTER FOR RENDCOMB



*It is with plenty of  
fervour and anticipation  
that I return to  
Rendcomb some several  
years after leaving.*

Two conversations  
that I had with  
former influential  
Rendcombians spring  
to mind as I make this  
homecoming journey.



**T**he first was with Roger Medill, my Headmaster for the first five years of my education at Rendcomb. I bumped into him at a service at Gloucester Cathedral as I was considering a career in teaching; "There are far worse careers to embark upon..." were his wise words and I would have to say that I would wholeheartedly agree with his counsel having loved the positions I have held. The second was with Peter Sudbury, chaplain of this School and Parish. I met up with him before starting at Eton. "Well," he chuckled, "a few years there and you can come back and run this place". Part of me feels that I am honouring an unwritten promise to a great man in returning.

Of course, a few things have changed: full co-education (got to be a good thing!); a thriving Junior School; a couple of boarding houses which were building sites in my day and several changes of buildings' use. But I have been delighted in finding from my visits since December that much has not changed. My Rendcomb experience was strongly underpinned by a strong sense of family and it has been clear that the mutually supportive

atmosphere between students is still in evidence; I witnessed this quality first-hand at the end of the wonderful *Skellig* last term as the older students cheered their younger peers for their fantastic achievements. Rendcomb was always able to challenge academically and still does. I have been pleased to hear of the terrific performances in the GCSE Mathematics sets in recent years and have witnessed first-hand some superbly challenging students in Lower Sixth English lessons. I am sure that there will be more for me to see, learn and enjoy from my colleagues and students in the terms ahead...

**"A progressive school that  
strives to prepare its pupils for  
the challenges that await them in  
their working and family lives"**

But I am not writing this editorial from a sense of nostalgia: far from it. One of the things that Rendcomb has over a number of its competitor Schools is youth. At not yet 100 ~ though we look forward to the birthday! ~

Rendcomb can afford to consider the future rather than being bogged down with centuries of tradition: a progressive school that strives to prepare its pupils for the challenges that await them in their working and family lives.

I should think that this is what our Founder, Noel Wills, had in his heart when he had the vision of founding the College. As I return, I am hoping that Rendcomb will be outward-looking, forward-thinking and always, always-challenging and hope that this will be true to the intentions of the great man who started us on our journey.

There is, clearly, something about Rendcomb. I have had numerous conversations with Old Rendcombians, current Staff and Pupils and local people who speak in high regard for the College and who recognise the special quality that it has.

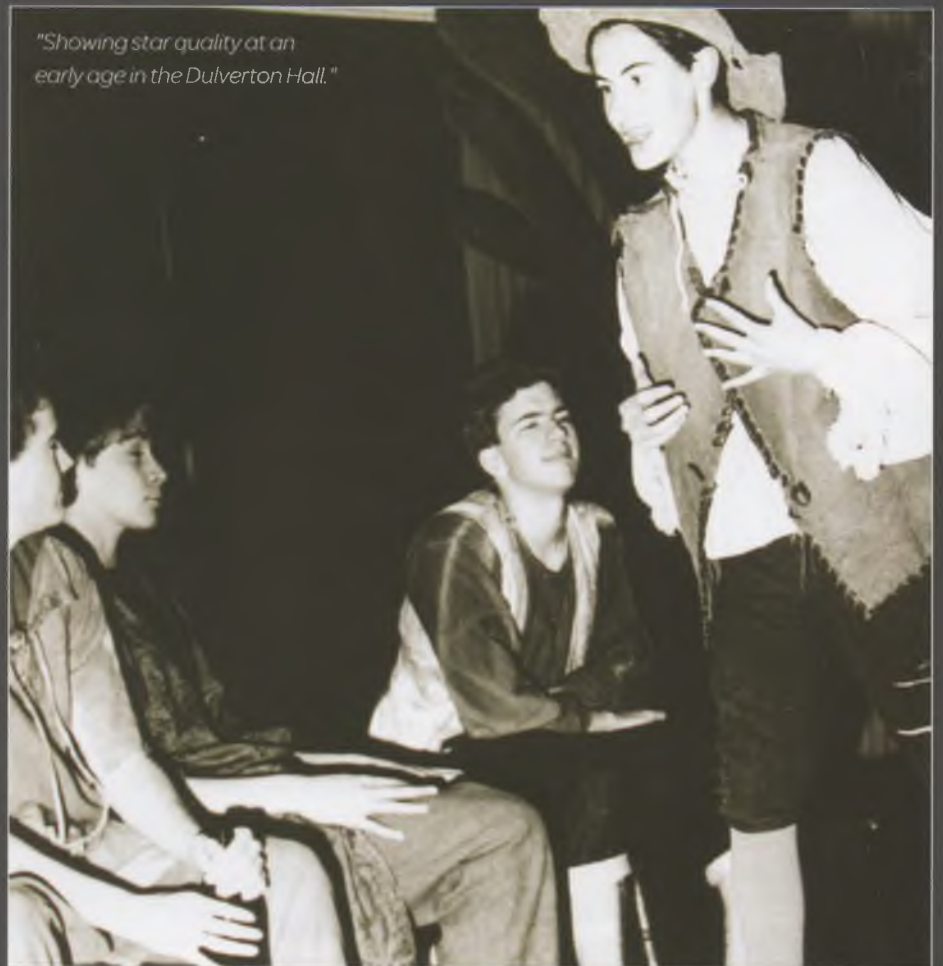
**The chance to return to my alma mater and work on the next phase of Rendcomb's development is a great honour and I look forward to working with the Trustees, Governors, Staff Pupils and Parents in the years ahead.**

*Mr R Martin*





// My Rendcomb experience  
was strongly underpinned by a  
strong sense of family //



*"Showing star quality at an  
early age in the Dulverton Hall."*







# Founder's Day

## Founder's Day speech excerpts:

### Charlie Clements:

"I am thrilled to have the opportunity to be standing here addressing you all. Admittedly, it feels strange looking out at you, after sitting in your position for 5 years, aspiring to be stood here today. I can honestly say, I wouldn't be here had it not been for the opportunities offered to me over the years; I would not have this position, nor would I be the person I am today. I feel opportunity is the key word in what really makes a true Rendcomb student. All you have to do is look at our 6th formers; taking part in anything and everything from Quidditch to debating, you can see how their journeys through the school have had the Rendcomb effect: because that's what I think makes a true Rendcombian - taking up every opportunity."

### Tom Margesson:

"Enjoying yourself is not synonymous with happiness. Indeed, I have achieved both inside and outside the classroom, but does success equal happiness? I don't think so. Happiness is something more personal, more genuine and generally more difficult to define."

When talking to our current fourth year about staying on to Rendcomb Sixth Form a couple of weeks ago, the key thing I saw Rendcomb providing, was not academia,

or extra-curricular activities, but an "emotional intelligence"; to leave here not being just another preconditioned public school student, or a student who isn't conditioned at all, but one who is cultured, aspirational and above all independent."

### Headmaster:

"Founder's Day gives us an opportunity to look back with gratitude and say that simple word, thank-you. Gratitude to our Founder, Noel Wills whose vision set up this unique school in 1920 in the heart of the Cotswolds countryside and to his successors, the Wills family well represented here this morning for their continued philanthropic support; Gratitude to you as parents, for continuing to make sacrifices for your children's education and gratitude to my colleagues, both teaching and non-teaching for all the endless time they devote to this wonderful place. And thank you to your children and all children who have been at Rendcomb over the last twelve years for making it such a privilege to serve as your Headmaster."

### David Tyler:

"I hope you can see that I am a great admirer of Rendcomb. I learned so much here. Clearly it wasn't just calculus, the Tudors and Stuarts, and the laws of thermodynamics though I benefited greatly from inspirational teachers here who taught me about all these topics. Nor was it only the team games, the theatrical

performances, the cross country runs that I gained so much from. It was not just the fact that Rendcomb taught me how to put together an argument, to be logical - though it did all these things. No - it was because here I learned to look after the other person and how to do things for the common good. I learned how to make an independent judgment myself about what was morally right or wrong. Of course, I was heavily influenced by the values of my parents and family - but I've no doubt that those values were cemented in me right here in the Cotswolds in the late 1960s."







OBJECTIVE:

"One who never turned his back  
 but marched breast forward  
 never doubted clouds would break  
 er dreamed though right were ~~un~~der  
 wrong would triumph  
 Held we fall to rise,  
 are baffled to fight better  
 Sleep to wake."



# MUSIC ART DRAMA

## Mini MAD

### RENDCOMB COLLEGE ARTS FESTIVAL



*Mini-MAD was conceived as an offshoot from the main MAD Festival with the aim of introducing younger pupils to sample a flavour of the larger bi-annual festival.*

Pupils from years 5 & 6 in the Junior School were joined by pupils from Airthrie and Berkhamstead Schools in Cheltenham and Sapperton Primary School in a series of workshops.

- Filbert Splosh as Picasso offered a fantastic interactive workshop where pupils learnt new painting and drawing skills, in the style of Picasso, of course!
- They also explored the magic of the woods in our Forest School using their senses of sight, sound and touch to create a mosaic tile of natural colours from materials they found to form part of a bigger picture
- A Samba workshop exploring the music of Brazil using authentic instruments to recreate the vibrant street music of the Rio Carnival was led by the dynamic Mark Coldrick.

Everyone had a great day and enjoyed the opportunity to take part in activities outside of the classroom.





# Chapel Reflections

*My duties as College Chaplain commenced on 1st September 2010, and so as I write these words my first academic year here is almost coming to a close, and a very enjoyable year (for me) it has been too.*



In the Michaelmas term the main Sunday Services in the Chapel for the College were the Harvest Festival on September 25th, the Service of Remembrance on Remembrance Sunday, and the OR Advent Carol Service on Sunday 5th December when the church was full to the gunnels. The choir stalls were overflowing with Old Rendcombian musicians under the enthusiastic direction of David White, a former Director of Music. It was a very moving Service in so many ways and we now look forward to the next one!

On Thursday, 9th December the term ended with a very fine Christmas Carol Service in Cirencester Parish Church.

I did feel from day one that there could be more lusty hymn singing in Chapel on a Wednesday and a Friday! One or two hymn singing competitions (Strictly Come Hymn Singing) towards the end of my first term did help to raise the bar! In the Lent Term, Jake McKeown of the Lower Sixth approached me about the possibility of having another hymn singing competition in the Chapel to which I readily agreed. I largely handed over the organization of this to Jake, and so on Friday 20th March a Competition between the three main aisles in the Chapel took place with Mr. Baker, the Deputy Head, acting as judge. The singing in Chapel that morning was truly outstanding: one member of staff commented to the effect that he had not heard singing like it before at Rendcomb!

I consider it important that students hear visiting speakers/preachers from time to time. On Friday, 22nd October I invited the new Archdeacon of Cheltenham, the Venerable Robert Springett, to speak at the 8.45 Service. The following month, the College Prefects undertook responsibility for the Service on Friday, November 5th, and a very well planned Service it was too. In the Lent Term we had a variety of speakers who were all very well received by both staff and pupils-11th February Mr Rupert Lane, Chairman of the Governors, 11th March Canon Michael Irving, former Rector of Minchinhampton, and on 18th March the Bishop of Tewkesbury, the Rt, Rev'd John Went. Also in the Lent term, Mr Paul

Jennings gave a lively talk to the students ending with the famous "Footprints" which featured in the Leavers' Service on 25th June.

In the Summer Term, we marked the Royal Wedding appropriately in Chapel with bunting and some Royal Wedding music at the Friday Service on 29th April. On the following Sunday, 1st May we observed St George at the Evening Service, and making her first visit to the College Chapel was our visiting preacher the Rev'd Dr Jan van der Lely, curate of Cirencester Parish Church, who shared with us her thoughts on the Patron Saint of England.

On Friday, 13th May we had two bishops present at the Friday Service! One bishop was our own Bishop of Tewkesbury and the other bishop was Bishop Vasanthakumar, Bishop of Karnataka, an Indian Diocese with which our Diocese is linked, and it was this bishop who spoke to us. Bp Vasanthakumar also has the title of Moderator of the Church of South India-our equivalent to an Archbishop. When was the last time an Archbishop visited Rendcomb?

Also in the Summer Term, we had the Rev'd Dr Sandra Millar, Children's Adviser for the Diocese of Gloucester, who was our visiting preacher on Sunday, 19th June. Sandra, who has preached before at Rendcomb, always brings a freshness to the "pulpit"! Making his first visit to Rendcomb on Wednesday, 22nd June was the Rev'd Howard Gilbert, one of the many clergy attached to Cirencester Parish Church. It was good to have Park House leading the Chapel Service on Friday, 27th May and it was good too to have Mr. Lindsey North, Housemaster of College House, speaking (and singing) to the students at the Wednesday Service on 8th June.

The Summer Term closed in Chapel on Sunday July 3rd with a well-attended "Farewell Service" at which Mr Gerry Holden preached for the last time as Headmaster. The music, the three bible readings and the hymns at this lovely service (the theme of which was love) were all carefully chosen by members of the Holden family - particularly

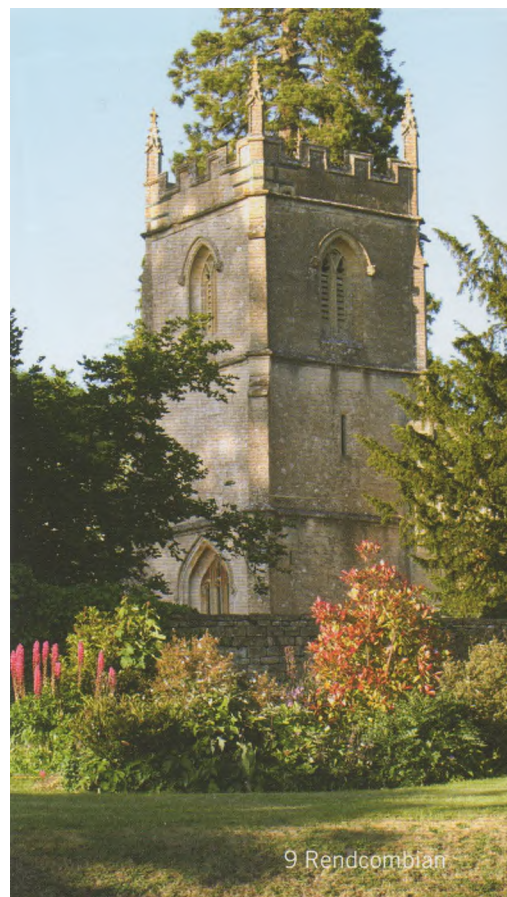
moving (especially for Gerry and Liese) was the singing of Schubert's Ave Maria by Alex. The closing words of this service were (with the Holden family very much in mind) "Until we meet again May God hold you in the palm of His hand"...

Chapel life would not survive without good organ music and so I would like to take this opportunity of thanking firstly, Mr Roy Raby who stepped down as Director of Music in the Lent Term. I thank him for his support and co-operation and wish him much success for the future. I would like to thank too the organists, Mr John Wright and Mr Robin Baggs, who have played so faithfully at our week-day and Sunday Chapel Services.

Finally, I thank those members of staff and students who have willingly read Lessons at Chapel Services throughout the year, and my thanks too to the outgoing Chapel Prefects Charlie Clements and Sarah Tarlton.

I now look forward to working with the new Director of Music, Mr Dominic Franks and the two newly appointed Chapel Prefects.

*Rev'd Simpson*



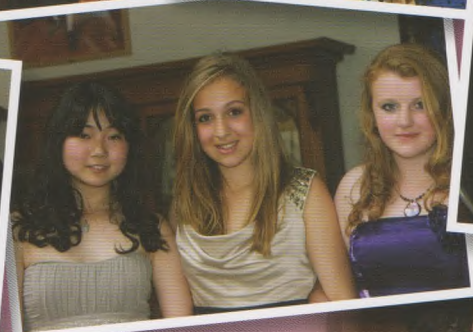
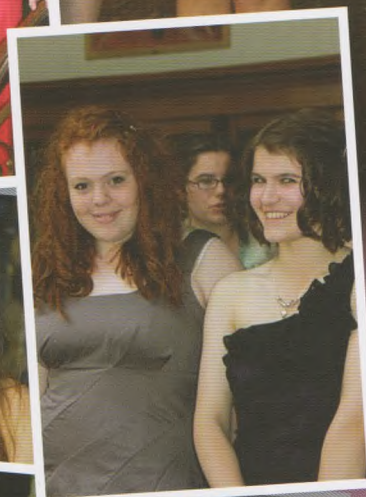
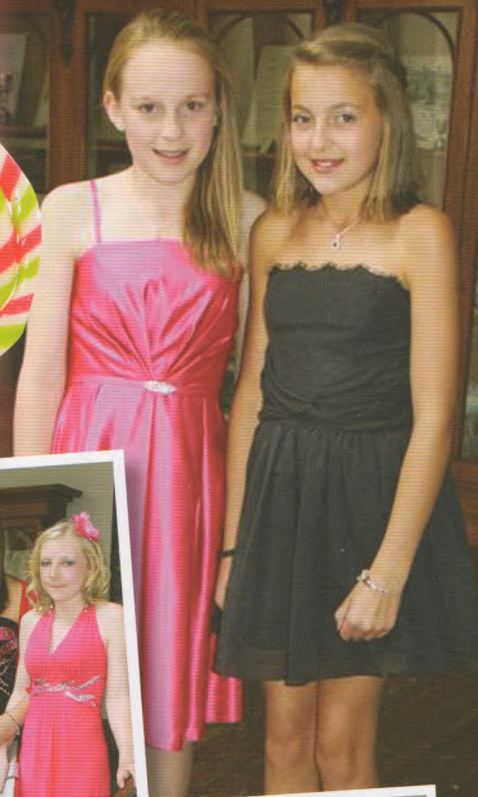


# The Lower School Charity Ball

*The seventh Charity Ball for years 1-3 took place on Saturday 11th June and had a 'Sweetastic' theme, influenced by the world of Willy Wonka and all things sweet and delicious!*

As well as offering pupils the chance to have a most enjoyable evening, we also raised money for charity and this year we decided to support a local charity, the James Hopkins Trust in Gloucester, which provides help for severely disabled, life threatened and life limited children aged 5 years and under in the county.

After the three course meal, there was the children's raffle followed by a disco until the end of the evening, with many other exciting side stalls and attractions, such as a fortune teller, tombola, games and competitions.









## *Godman and Old Rectory*

Twenty of the First Years took on all nine of the activities that Manor Adventure (Shropshire) had to offer, from swinging through trees, to crossing lakes on 'homemade' rafts, shooting rifles, foiling each other at fencing and going deep into the underground maze. They certainly did come away knowing more about each other and themselves!



## *J6 and Old Rec Big Brother Evening*









# Godman and OldRec



Tea on the Lawn after the Charity cycle ride



Sweettastic Charity Ball



GodRec Fairtrade Pamper night



GodRec Christmas Party and Sketches





# GodRec Friday Night Challenges



Nativity



Clowning Around



Eco Poster



Nappy advert



Baking cakes



Bin Bag Fashion Show



Alphabetetti Spaghetti crossword

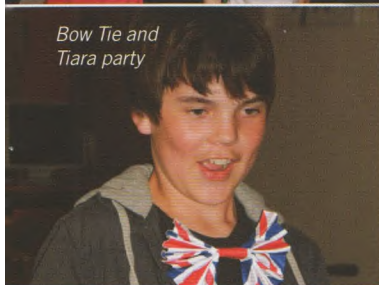




# GodRec parties



End of an Era party



Bow Tie and Tiara party



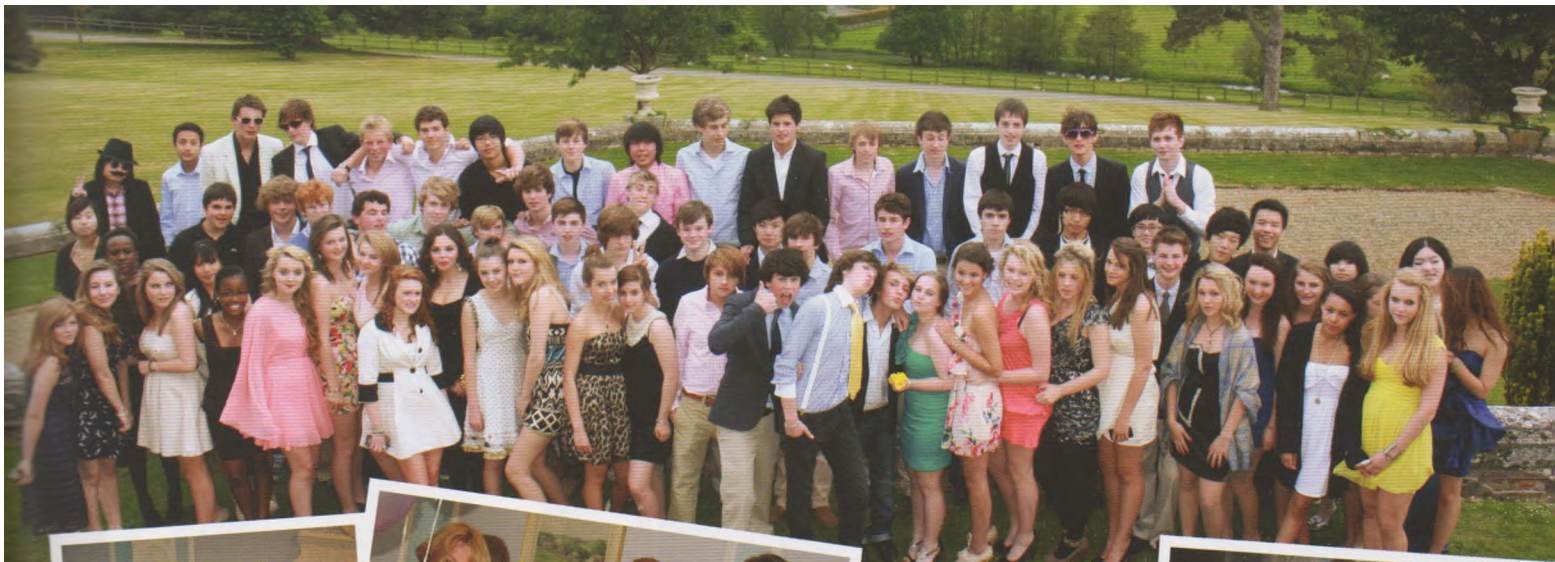
The good, the bad, and the ugly party



Halloween Party







## Lawn House

*Lawn enjoyed another eventful year for 2010/2011. 'The Lion King' in London was our Christmas Show that was indeed fantastic, and we enjoyed a number of fun evenings down in the barn celebrating Halloween and Christmas, to name just a few. Lawn hosted our first Cocktail party in the Reading Room instead of the Ball this year and a great time was held by all those that attended.*

The Lawn girls and team welcomed the new G5 program. A number of enthusiastic German students from all over Germany experienced Rendcomb and the ways of a typical English Boarding school for their first time. These girls added a vibrant atmosphere to the house with increased boarding numbers and personalities. Lawn no longer housed the 3rd form girls as they remain in the Pink Palace of Godman and Lawn extended its welcome to Pre -'A' Level and Lower 6 form students.

A great year was enjoyed by many and having had most of the same girls for two years running and no 3rd form we really got to know our way round the complexities of the teenage girls with their ups and downs.

We have said good bye not only to those moving up to Park or onto further opportunities, we say good luck and farewell to Miss A' who was a big part of our boarding community in Lawn and Miss Blaine who has too been a support and friend of the House. Good Luck to both of them back in America.

We too say farewell to the Lawn Girls as we take the girls and our feminising skills and move house to Stable. I feel I may have to succumb to the demand of the colour pink so be wary: Godman may not be the only Pink Palace in the future!

Lastly, we would like to thank our team from maintenance, domestic staff, prefects and tutors for all their support and work at making Lawn the house it has been and Stable the house it will become in this new era.

*The Ferreiras*







*As last academic year drew to an end, we closed the door on Stable House, as we make the move across campus to take up residence in Lawn House.*

We said goodbye to our fifth form, some of whom move to pastures new. Hopefully, they take many happy memories with them... whether it be to Park House or some other sixth form establishment. We are sure however that they will be suitably equipped and able to demonstrate the ability and the confidence to take on the rigours of sixth form life in their stride.

A big thank you to our prefects and Head of House Harry Ellis who kept the cogs well-oiled throughout the year with weekly duty rotas and ration collections.

The Michaelmas Term started with a full boarding compliment as we welcomed our 6th form community to the top floor of Stable House. They settled in without any problems and we credit its success to the sacrifice made by Chris Minton, Tommy Lin and Charles Black. They remained in Stable House during their Lower Sixth year to assist us with establishing the new sixth form suite and offer help and guidance to our new pre-A international students. We are most grateful for their support and for being prepared to forego the move up to Park House along with everyone else. The Barn nights have gone from strength to strength for the third year running and both boys and girls embraced every opportunity to organize events throughout

the year. A festoon of Halloween and Christmas paraphernalia brought a cheery glow to those darker evenings toward the end of the Michaelmas term. Even the Fairtrade week was an occasion to party in the Barn.

Our birthday wall in the foyer captured the many birthday celebrations throughout the year and the introduction of Mrs Bevans' new 'chocolate swirl' creations seemed to go down a treat. Alex Bishop's enormous pick-and-mix sweet cake marked the beginning of cakes with a personalised theme, so what will next year bring?.... Watch this space!

We would like to thank Alex for his commitment to duty as Stable House 6th form prefect and to wish him all the best for the future.

Throughout 2011, Stable boys ventured out and about to attend various events and as always they were impeccable in their behaviour. As well as the annual theatre trip just before Christmas to London, to see the *The Lion King* and Chinese New Year in February, we introduced our 'boys-night-out' which was a great success.

Lent term was a busy time for the boys as they completed a series of modular external examinations. They were well into their stride as the summer term approached and the intensity of revision stepped up a notch in preparation for those all-important GCSE examinations.

However, time was allocated for some enjoyable distractions such as the school production of *Hairspray*. Stable House was

well represented in the cast and crew and I think I can say without any hesitation that the performances were outstanding!

The usual 'motley crew' gathered for their regular rehearsals in-between examinations to prepare for the Rock Concert. Stable boys were once again at the forefront of this event and as a result of their electrifying performances; they won the top prize!

In June, our 5th form boys came together just before study leave for our final fling. We introduced the '5th Form Funfair Farewell' weekend, which was a great way of letting off steam before those all-important final examinations. All the 5th form boys came together for a sleepover in Stable House, before heading off to Thorpe Park the following day for a fun packed day out. It was well received and I think it is the introduction of yet another 'annual event' for our Lawn House 5th form boys.

And finally, but most importantly of all, can we say a big thank you to our hard working and dedicated duty house staff and domestic team, without whom... none of this would be possible.

*Mr & Mrs Bevans*





# Drama *Tour*

*On the 27th March 2011 an eclectic mix of thespians went on tour.*

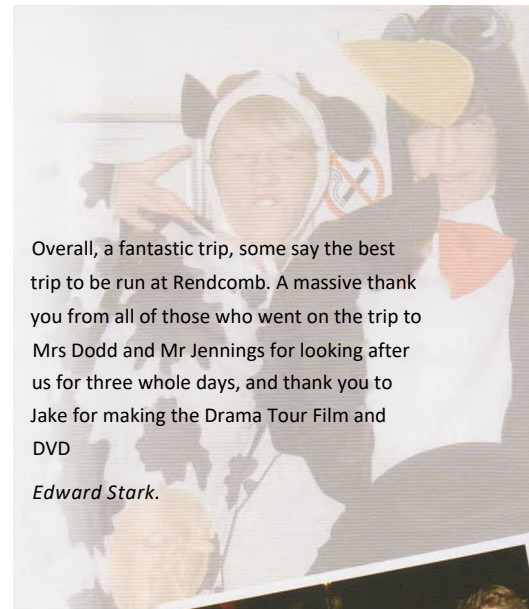
After what seemed like minutes, we arrived in London where for the three days we would be causing havoc and chaos much like the protesters from the day before. After unpacking we made our way as a group to see *Jersey Boys* - where the noises escalated into high pitched wailing, we danced and yelled our support to the brilliant cast.

After getting into our costumes for the themed Theatre Hunt, we were then let

loose. The questions were tough, the walking tougher and Mrs Dodd's free New Zealand chocolate Easter Eggs the toughest! Katy's group won Best Dressed in pyjamas and Arctic hats. Ed's group won the overall competition. Off to Pineapple Dance Studios for an AMAZING *War Horse* workshop. This was a truly amazing show, some cried with happiness and some cried with utter despair, either way there were tears.

Overall, a fantastic trip, some say the best trip to be run at Rendcomb. A massive thank you from all of those who went on the trip to Mrs Dodd and Mr Jennings for looking after us for three whole days, and thank you to Jake for making the Drama Tour Film and DVD

*Edward Stark.*



# Theatre *Sports*

*Five teams entered this year for what was one of the biggest laugh-fests of the year: the utterly fantastic Theatre Sports Competition.*

From Lance's hilarious impression of the super strict lunch queue prefects ("Sixth Form - I don't even think you're eating today!"), through to Yaz awe-inspiringly acting out Humpty Dumpty in the style of *Pride and Prejudice* ("Oh dear Mr Dumpty, I insist you stand-up this instance."), to a superb silent movie interpretation of "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" from Ed's brilliantly costumed team "The Mad Hatters" - and they definitely lived up to their name.

Other highlights included Harry in a skirt, German Sarah's joke which people are yet to make sense of, a romantic moment between Holly and Will Witts, an equally romantic moment between Luke and Ali, and of course Ben Smith giving a beautiful rendition of "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" complete with dance.

Our winners were “A Spiffing Day for Cricket”, comprising Kathryn Rew, Howard Auster, Harry Ellis, the handsome Jake McKeown and Tom Molloy. Their victory was most likely entirely down to their “body beat” take on the lunch queue, full of rapping teachers, falsetto choir members and a lot of groovy moves busted. WOOOO!

The prize for the best individual performance went to Tom Molloy.  
Jake McKeown

## Dance Challenge

*The annual Dance Challenge was once again a lively and entertaining evening with six dance groups taking part. The winners were once again the Fifth Form boys - 'The Dancing Queens' who took a hockey based theme for their energetic dance routine.*

Runners up were 'Dunno', a duo consisting of Shannon Martin and Honor Birden and The Sixth Form prefects masquerading as politicians. Their group was appropriately named the 'Tory Political Broadcast'!





# HAIRSPRAY

In February, Rendcomb College senior actors and Drama Scholars staged the wonderful feel-good musical *Hairspray*. What a phenomenal achievement this was for such a small school! Singing, dancing and acting all at the same time is a fabulous but demanding task and this show has a very distinctive style which we saw when we travelled to Oxford to see how the professionals did it.

Lots of well known and new talent faced the rigours of the auditions and it was good to see so many aiming for the top roles. The cast was soon posted with its usual responses of elation and disappointment and then rehearsals started. With Hannah Taylor's sterling help as Assistant Choreographer we learnt how to locomotion, twist and mash potato our way back to 1960's Baltimore, USA. Just when we thought we needed a couple of more weeks the performances were upon us!

What a great cast we had! Katy Schofield had terrifying intensity in her three comic roles, Harry Ellis threw himself into the role of Seaweed, Tom Margesson learnt to love his gold Elvis suit, Bryony Smith and Ellie Mills enjoyed their comic roles and Tom Pearson revealed a great singing voice. Cecile Llewelyn-Bowen belted out her sultry soul numbers, Tom Molloy was always confident in the difficult Link Larkin heart-throb role and Sarah Tarleton, in fabulous vintage fashions, revelled in Velma von Tussles's extremism.

Edward Slark was outstanding in the difficult role of Edna, traditionally played by a male. It is so easy to make this role a pantomime dame exaggeration but Edward captured the truth, humour and basic niceness of the character.

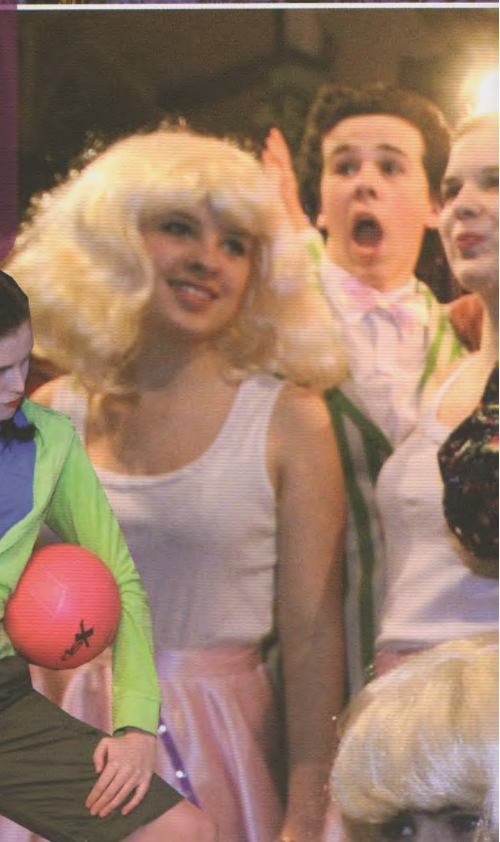
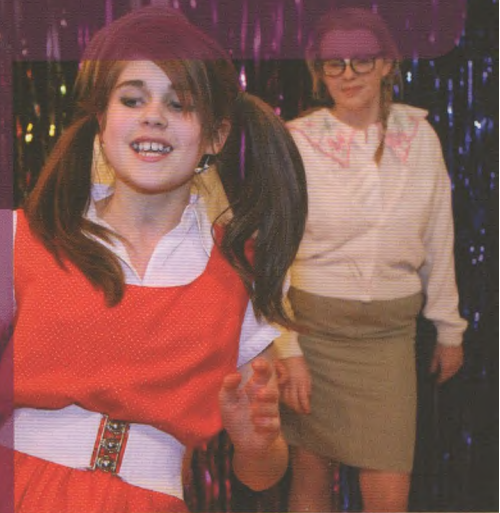
Holly Phelps also understood her role and showed so effectively that Tracy Turnblad was a modern and believable young woman with a message of rebelling against the pressure for girls to conform in so many ways. She sung, danced and acted with absolute confidence and also made the audience care about her lovable character.

Miles Metcalfe led the stage crew with military intensity, Mrs Scase completed her first large scale senior school production, Miss Bell, Miss Berry, the Art Department, the Music Department, Mr Cairns and Miss Mills all made wonderful contributions to ensure that we could stage such an ambitious musical.

The Box Office sold out in three days and with a fabulous glitter curtain, wigs from London, poodle skirts and our own radio controlled rats we gave three wonderful performances with audiences who were so positive at the end of each night! Thank you also to all those who came to see the show.

Congratulations to everyone on your wonderful team effort. Let's hope that you have some happy memories of being either on stage or in the production teams.

Mrs Dodd







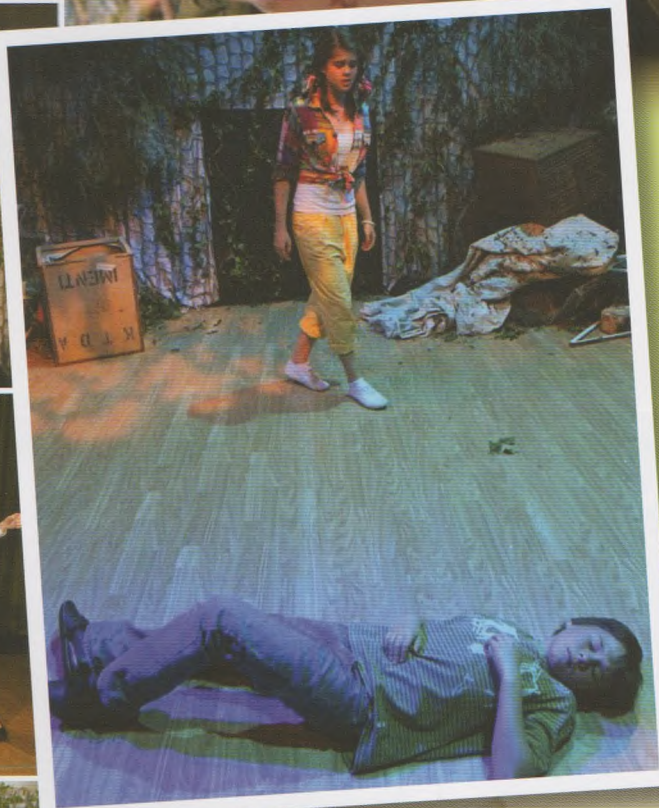


# SKELLIG

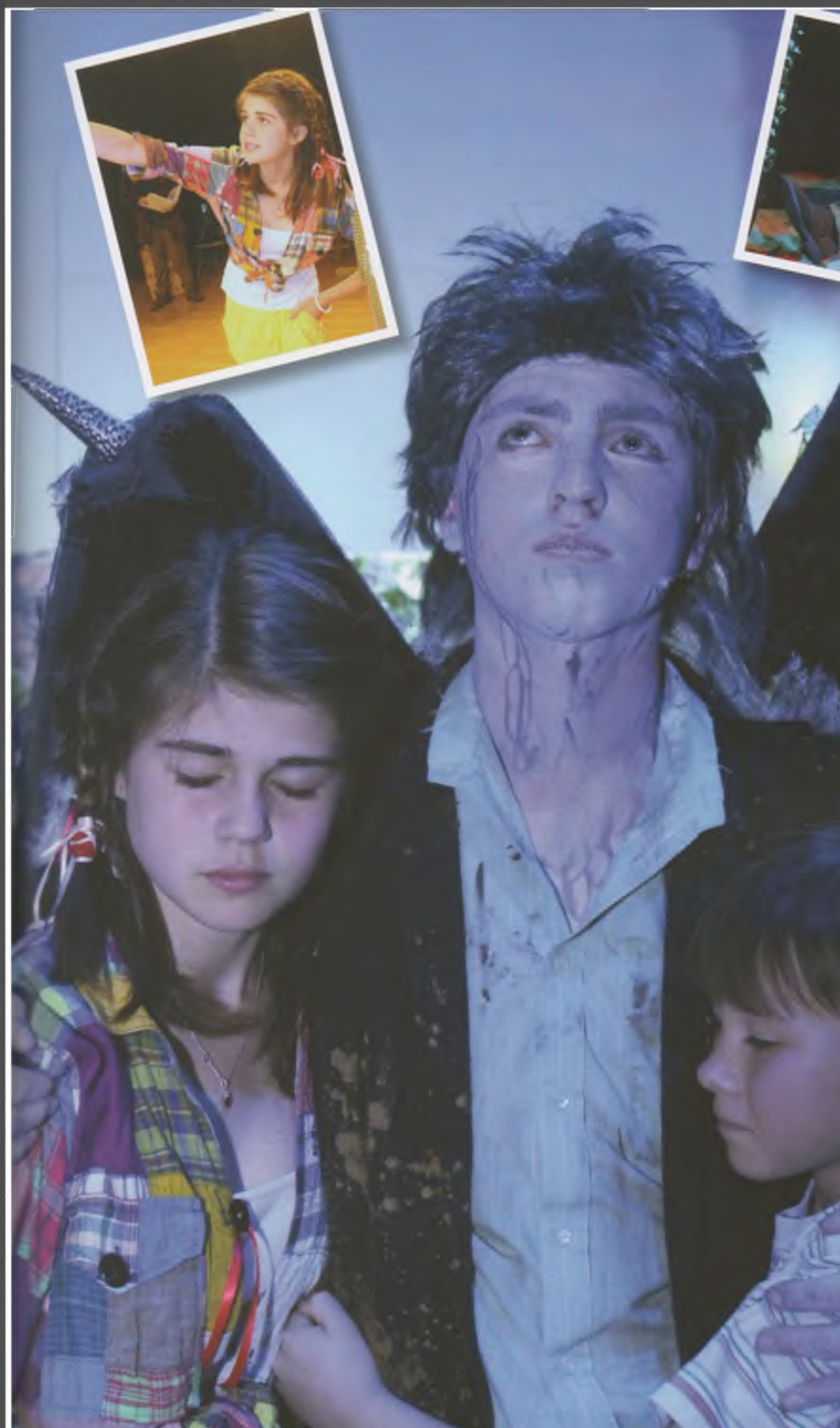
Rendcomb College Lower School recently staged the moving adaptation of the novel *Skellig*. The play, originally written for professional actors, proved a wonderful challenge for the impressive and talented group of young actors.

Rendcomb has a diverse and exciting programme of plays and musicals which are an important training for the talented Drama Scholars in the college and for other students aspiring to take their place beside them. Oliver Birden and Hermione Llewelyn-Bowen were excellent as the Narrators who lead the audience through the story. Luke Nixon played the demanding title role of the fallen angel preparing to die before he is found by two children.

Will Witts in the main role of Michael was perfect as the young boy who finds a creature in an abandoned garage and urges him to live again. Kathryn Rew played the role of Mina with sensitivity and stage confidence. Rendcomb Senior School actors are looking forward to performing the demanding play *Our Country's Good* in December.









# Rock Concert

The staff band 'rocked' the Dulverton Hall again this year! Despite the exceedingly high standard of our performance, the students were still able to take the stage and prove that rock music is for the young.

This was a thoroughly enjoyable evening of close harmonies, electrifying guitar solos and organised head-banging chaos.

The judges were impressed by the arrangement of songs, the confidence of the performers and the display of original material. It was a very close competition, but the award for Best Band of the 2011 Rendcomb Rock Concert was given to T. O. E, aka Charlie Clements, Howard Auster, Edwin Price, Jolyon Dunn, Harry Ellis and Jack Pethick. Their incredible prize was a five hour recording session at Yellow Shark Recording Studios (worth £300). Well done T. O. E.

Other awards were given to Jolyon Dunn for Best Guitar Performance and Bob Swarley & The Screammers for Best Vocal Performance. A special mention should be given to Tom Molloy, who was awarded the prize for *Best Original Composition*.

Well done everyone.





# Ukulele

## Lunchtime Concert

*If you happened to be wandering through Clock Hall at lunchtime on Friday 1st July, you would have wondered what event had attracted so many students, teachers and parents to gather in the Reading Room.*

What were they about to witness? And why were there so many tiny guitars laid out on top of the grand piano?

It was, of course, Rendcomb's first Ukulele Concert. Students from forms 1, 2 and 3 were given the opportunity to perform their favourite songs, on the condition that at least one ukulele featured in each performance. The concert was a huge success and everyone performed brilliantly. The comedy highlight of the afternoon was Tom Pethick, Daniel Thomas and Edward Brealy's tribute to the New Zealand-based duo *Flight of the Conchords*.

They performed two songs that demonstrated excellent comedy timing and had the whole audience in fits of laughter. There were particularly beautiful vocal performances from Johanna Bock and Yumi Saito, and excellent displays of natural rhythm and musical ability from Eddie Geerah and Dylan Evans. It was fantastic to see students, that had previously never participated in a concert, perform with such confidence and enthusiasm. Everyone really stepped up to the challenge.

Oonagh Hughes

Assistant Director of Music



## The Music Department

*The Spring Concert was a resounding success. We had soloists, duets, trios, and choir performances in the Reading Room.*

The musical selections included jazz, classical, and popular styles. There was a large and appreciative audience of parents, staff and students.

On Founder's Day Eve, there was a concert in the Reading Room. In front of a large audience, soloists, and the choir performed a wide range of music. The performances ranged from student compositions, classical music, musical theatre solos and duets, and popular music. This was followed the next morning by a casual performance during the French cafe. At the speeches, Jolyon



Dunn, Charlie Clements, Howard Auster, and Charlotte Jones performed classical and popular pieces. It really set a great atmosphere for the event.

The Leavers' Concert was the last time for the Leavers to perform at Rendcomb College. These students have performed and lead concerts, ensembles and shows during their time here. It was an emotional performance for them, and still they managed to entertain the audience in the Reading Room. Their talent and leadership will be missed.

Norman McLaughlin



# Design Technology

*As ever, some super products have been designed and made in the department throughout the year, and whilst I have some tried-and-tested projects which always seem to hit the mark, a few new ones have been introduced and proved successful.*

I am always amazed and delighted at the imagination of pupils who, I think, surprise themselves at what they can achieve in the DT workshop.

I think that my favourite project of this year has been the 1st and 2nd year 'book end project'. The pupils learnt how to use the traditional tools of a workshop to create wood joints for their book ends and then design shapes of their choice to go on either end. I was rather hoping that the pupils would leave them with me at the end of the term for my display area, as they were so good.

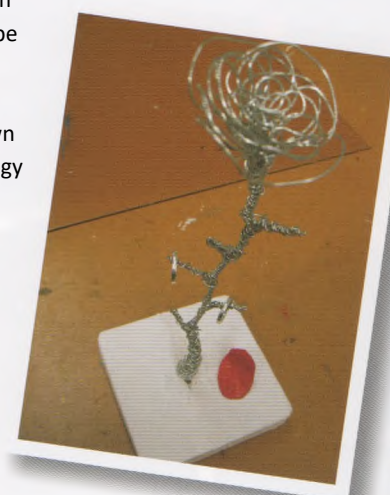
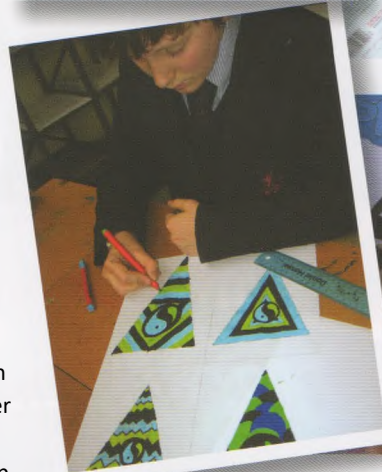
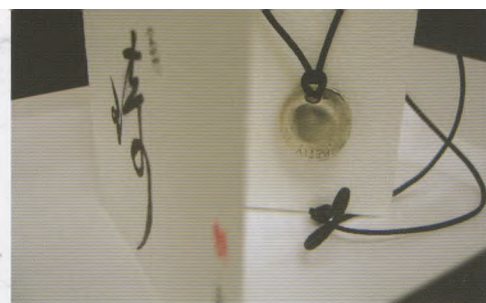
The Third Form finished the year off with designing storage of their choice. To avoid any possibility of over-ambitious ideas of epic proportions such as wardrobes and warehouses, there were restrictions to design storage no larger than 150mm x 150mm. This didn't stop Stuart Gallop from making a shelving unit which also included somewhere to hang coats (not quite as large as it sounds!). Stuart excelled himself by using recycled oak and constructing a product far superior to those of Ikea and the like.

MAD week was a great opportunity to offer workshops based on design and technology: they were in vast contrast to one another really, with one being a Calligraphy Workshop (one of the oldest arts you can get) and the other being a Silver Jewellery workshop. The silver used is PMC (Precious Metal Clay, but still 99.9% solid silver), manufactured by Mitsubishi and is a very modern material. The pupils embraced both experiences wholeheartedly and produced some fantastic pieces of work to take home with them.

I am really looking forward to the year ahead, based on my experiences of this past year. There will, as usual, be new projects to introduce, but I will also modify those such as the PMC project offered in MAD week, as I am sure more pupils will love to design and make their own unique silver jewellery as part of their design technology experience.

From Analysing to Vacuum forming (quite close to Z), I aim to make the A-Z of Design and Technology as exciting as possible and can't wait to get started once more! Roll on September!

Miss B Hughes







## Art and French *trip to Paris 2011*

*The trip was an opportunity for students to explore Paris absorbing the Art.*

Including culture and language that it has to offer, the l'Orangerie with Monet's mesmerizing Water Lilies paintings, and The Louvre with its vast collections

of art and beautiful architecture. We experienced contemporary art at The Pompidou Centre and visited the sights such as The Eiffel Tower, Ice skated at Place de l'Hôtel de Ville, visited Jardin des Tuileries. The students sampled a wide selection of great food, absorbing the language, culture and atmosphere

in one of the greatest cities on earth. All Students behaved brilliantly and I would like to thank them for setting such a fine example. I would like to thank Mr North and Ms Roffe for all their hard work and great company.

Mr A. O'Hanlon

## Crucible *Exhibition*

*The visit to the Crucible exhibition at Gloucester Cathedral was a unique opportunity for the students to experience a wide range of internationally renowned sculptors in the wonderful setting of Gloucester Cathedral.*



Don McCullin Exhibition in Bath (Visit and Shaped by War: photographs by Don McCullin. This visit offered an incited full and moving visit to an exhibition of photographs by one of Britain's most revered documentary photographers. 'Photography for me is not looking, it's feeling.'

'If you can't feel what you're looking at, then you're never going to get others to feel anything when they look at your pictures.'

Don McCullin.

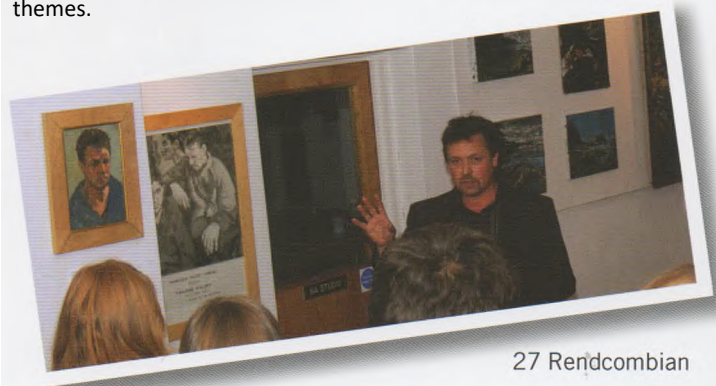
[www.rendcombcollege.org.uk](http://www.rendcombcollege.org.uk)

## Exhibitions

*We have had two visiting artists this year in our Gallery space and one upper sixth group exhibition.*

**David Merriman** Exhibition. David Meriman is the Head of art at city of Bath College and an accomplished landscape painter. David came to exhibit at Rendcomb and gave an insightful talk to the students regarding his processes, techniques and ideas.

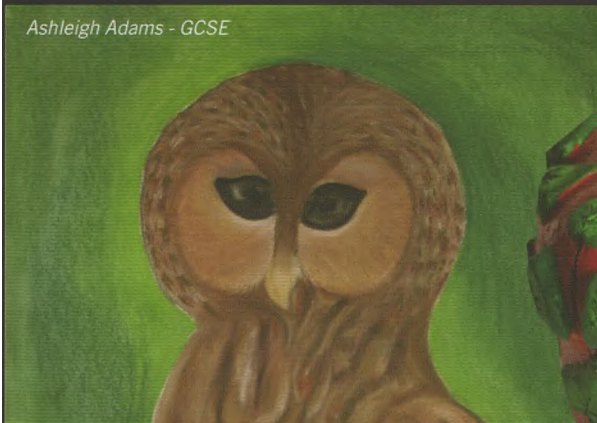
**Lynsey Cleaver** Exhibition. Lynsey came to exhibit at Rendcomb in February. She is a full-time artist working with the reference of botanical drawings. She also creates commission based work on a variety of themes.



27 Rendcombian



Ashleigh Adams - GCSE



Charlotte Jones - GCSE



Chang Chang - AS Level

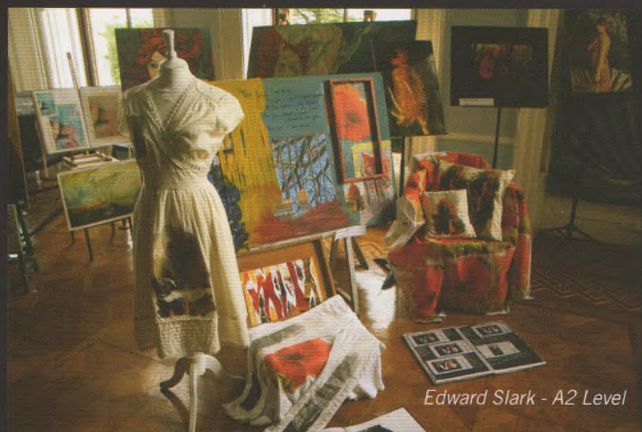


Katja Mader - AS Level



Edward Slark - A2 Level

Emma Lavender - GCSE



Edward Slark - A2 Level



# Photography *competition*

*There was a strong field this year for the photography competition.*

The categories for this year's competition were Machines, Reflection and Open. Clement Ash won the category for machines with an impressive view of firemen at work, Emily Alway won the Reflection category with a beautiful welsh landscape photograph and Miles Metcalfe won for the Open category with an accomplished studio photograph of Mr North.

Machines Clement Ash



Reflections Emily Alway



Open Miles Metcalfe



# Art Review

*This year the students worked incredibly hard to create a varied and dynamic range of art work.*

The first to third forms worked hard on a number of themes such as landscape, portraiture, human figure sculpture, surrealism, printmaking and billboard designs.

The GCSE 4th form students worked on the theme of natural forms and adorned objects. The fifth form selected one of nine titles set by the exam board to produce an individual body of work.

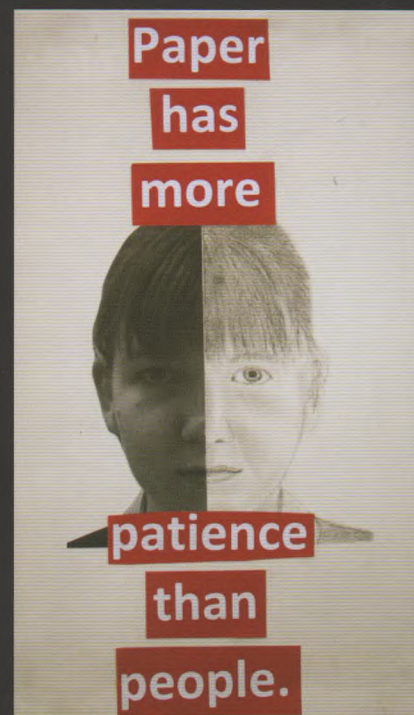
As level art students worked on the theme of scent and memory up until February.

They then created a individual and strong body of work based on a choice of themes set by the exam board.

As level photography completed the first ever year of As level photography at Rendcomb. Initially they learnt about the technical aspects of using a camera and hoe to edit photographs digitally. They then worked on two units of work that were individual to the student.

A2 Level art students produced highly accomplished and passionate work over two units the personal investigation and the exam. The personal investigation was an opportunity for the students to contextualise their work and relate it to other artists.

The second unit allowed them to work to a highly individual level and develop a theme set by the exam board.



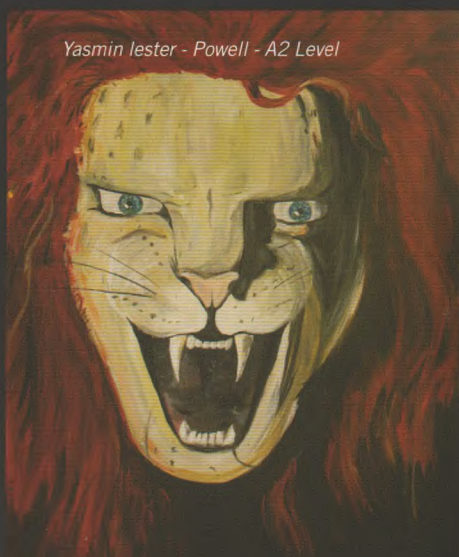
Sally Baker - GCSE



Bryony Smith - A2 Level



Cecile Llewelyn-Bowen - GCSE



Yasmin Iester - Powell - A2 Level



Yasmin Iester - Powell - A2 Level



# MAD - Monday

*For a few days at the end of term, life in school is going to be extraordinarily different. Through your participation in various workshops, all brimming with creative inspiration and led by professional artists and practitioners, we promise to delight and surprise you.*

Emma Roffe  
MAD Committee Chairman

*"Whatever you dream you can do, begin it. Boldness has genius, power & magic in it. Begin it now."*

Goethe



## Garden Art with Steven Kelvin

Help to create a unique and everlasting garden to commemorate the MAD event.

## Stop Animation with Tim Pellat

Create your own 2D plasticine models and learn the process involved in shooting your own short animation films.

## Calligraphy with Belinda Hughes

Explore and practise this rare and beautiful hand writing technique.

## Stage Combat with Ollie Frith

Experiment with the art of theatre games, stage fighting and mask technique.

## Creative Stage Lighting with Andy Webb

## Exploring Voice with the Everyman Theatre

A practical workshop giving techniques to improve vocal performance.

## Exploring Directing with the Everyman Theatre

An insightful work shop on directing techniques.

## Exploring Classics with the Everyman Theatre

A practical workshop to bring a piece of text to life.

## Art House Cinema with Paul Jennings and Paul Brooke

Come and watch a classic movie; films you would never have thought to watch. There will be no Disney here!



# MAD - Tuesday



Salsa Dance with Thomas Melendez of Salsa del Sol.

Join this spicy salsa dance class and learn the basic movements including the natural Cuban hip movement.

Comedy Devising Workshop with Olly Crick

Write your own hysterical comedy sketches and laugh like a mad man!

Photography workshop with Austen O'Hanlon and Carlo Vuolo.

Wild Woodland Wands with Johnno Kimberley

Work with willow to create your own wonderful woodland structures.

Graphic Design with David Riera

This workshop will give you an introduction to graphic design focusing on brand development from initial concepts through to design.

Musical in a Day with Norman McLachlan and Oonagh Hughes

Write and perform your own musical extravaganza.

Phone Art with Mags Mernagh and Jane Murray

Using the low tech phone technology and video we will aim to create individual images and a collaborative art piece on the theme art of digitally constructed identities.

Fresh Air Quenington Sculpture

Visit this amazing celebration of contemporary sculpture in the riverside gardens of Quenington Old Rectory.





## MAD - Wednesday

### Garden Art with Steven Kelvin

### Circus Skills with Thomas Trilby and Steve White

Have a go at juggling, unicycling, stilt walking, Diablo, plate spinning, hula hoops and loads of other circus fun.

### Sculpture Masterclass with Richard Willis

Explore your inner three dimensional self!

### Silver Jewellery Making with Belinda Hughes

### African Drumming with Frank Short

Immerse yourself in the music and culture of West Africa and experience the primeval rhythms which are at the heart of everyday life.

### Hip Hop with Katie Ballard of Dance 8

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

### Electric Guitar Workshop with Garry Roberts

Join this groovy and interactive workshop with lead guitarist from The Boomtown Rats.

### Block Printing with Sophia Blackwell

Create your own beautiful block printed bandana.

### Paper Corsets with Corinne Hockley

8.45 - 4pm a one day workshop in the 6L studio

Make a mini paper corset based on an historical figure



MUSIC ART DRAMA  
**MAD**







# MAD - Thursday

Film Festival with the Award Winning Young Film Academy

All day workshop in the Dulverton Hall Sponsored by Rendcomb College Parents' Association. This one day Film school offers a dynamic programme of 'hands on' workshops. Your skills will be put to test, working in teams, to produce your own Ten Shot Films.

Scottish Dancing with Georgina Harford

Face Painting with Eppie Short

Go 'MAD' painting your friends face.

Scratch DJ Workshop with Dan Hellen in the Music Department

Storytelling with Stephen Rowley

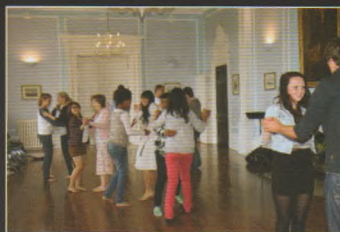
Experience the magic and joy art of this age old tradition.

Sculpture Master Class with Richard Wills

Explore your inner three dimensional self!

Ballroom Dancing with Diana Dodd

Flamenco Dancing with Maria Lizana







## Psychology

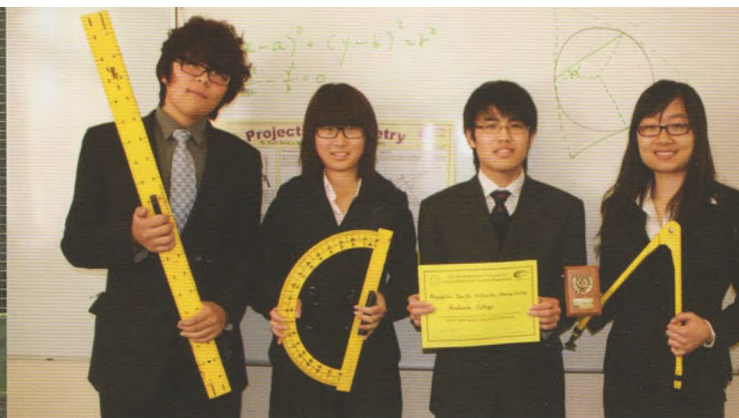
*Well, we have had an excellent year! 6L have been entertained (and educated) by apposite rap music, playlets, and interesting quizzes as they taught their peers the demanding 15 core studies of the AS syllabus.*

Much research was also carried out using the wider 6th form to test opinions on the supernatural, and innate memory abilities. And the Junior School was most welcoming as 6L learned to research Piaget's theories of how children learn - lots of pouring water from one container to another and assessing rows of counters.

Meanwhile 6U had a fascinating visit to Stroud Police Station where they had their own photo-fit pictures devised, and visited the cells. Then they have had their heads down tackling the demanding syllabus for Applied Psychology, including sections on Stress and Schizophrenia.

Mrs Harford

June 2011.



## Maths Challenge

*This was a record year of awards from the individual UKMT Maths Challenge competitions, 24 in the sixth form, 22 in 3rd, 4th and 5th year; and 16 in 1st and 2nd year.*

Three students qualified for the Senior Olympiad paper, and one for the Intermediate Olympiad Hamilton paper. A special mention must go to Cloris and Constance for achieving distinctions in these papers.

The Senior Maths Team, comprising of Cloris, John, Connie and Chang won their regional final in December, so in February caught the 07:30 train to London to take part in the National Finals. It was a solid day of demanding maths problems with strong competition from much larger schools, but we came away having achieved a total of 164/180 points and ending up in 11th place out of all schools in the country who entered. This was an outstanding achievement.

Sam Scott, Sam Tushingham, James Tait and Laurence Jones enjoyed a day at Wotton Bassett school participating in the Junior Team Maths Challenge, ending in a very respectable 7th place in the regional final.

A group of top 4th year mathematicians spent a day in Cheltenham at a Maths Enrichment Event. The highlight of the day was learning about the maths involved in juggling.

The year ended on a high note with the maths department winning the 2011 Good Schools Guide GCSE Award for the best point score at an English Independent School for Girls and Boys taking Additional Mathematics at GCSE over the last three years.

Mrs L Gregory





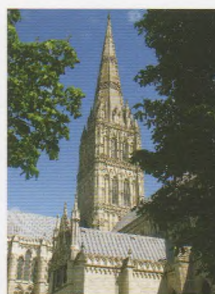
# An English Year: *in highlights!*

The Fourth Form went to see *Journey's End* in Malvern; a superb performance:

The third form went to *To Kill a Mockingbird*-, hot, steamy and powerful performance: And to Stratford on a beautiful sunny day to pay homage to the bard... The first and second form saw Cheltenham in its festival finery in October.

The Sixth Form descended into hell with *Dr. Faustus* in Oxford and then scaled the heights of Salisbury cathedral to round off their academic year. And in between we all did exams, wrote things and had a jolly good time! Well done; a very entertaining year.

Mr P Jennings



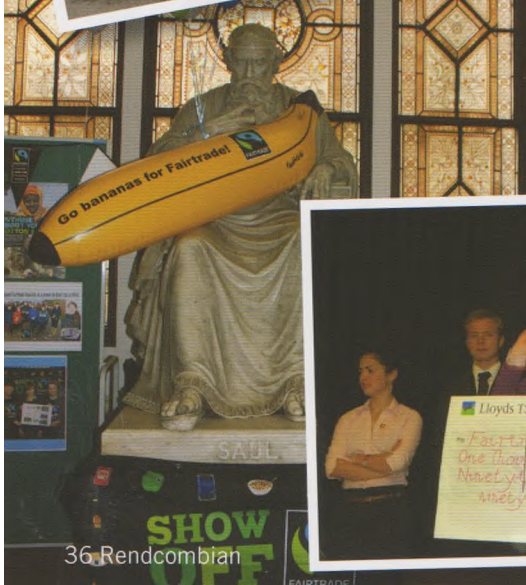


# Fairtrade Fortnight

*Alex Brealy organised a very successful fortnight raising over £1,000 for The Fairtrade Foundation.*

Funds were gained from baking events in both the Senior and Junior Schools, a Sixth Form Themed bar, themed fun in The Barn and pamper evenings in several boarding houses (all using Fairtrade

products). There was also a very well supported Cross Country event when 108 of the Third to Sixth Formers took on the hilly 5km route which culminated in fording the River Churn. Paddy Gilling just out-sprinted Dan Gregory for the finish line, in a very respectable time of 23 minutes 29 seconds.







Pos	Name	Time
1	Gilling	23.29
2	Gregory (Dan)	23.3
3	Kentfield	25.24
4	Payne (Ben)	25.29
5	Tarleton (Paddy)	27.37





# Science

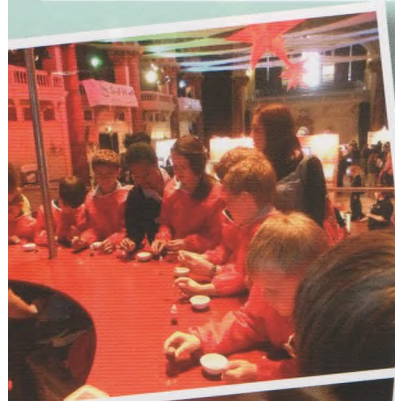


## 2<sup>nd</sup> Form Trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park

*Our trip to the Cotswold wildlife park took place on the 17th June. With excitement building we boarded the buses.*

We saw the meerkats first which were hilarious and then we waddled to the penguins and saw them being fed. We then ran to the reptile area and saw three enormous snakes, two crocodiles and three sand lizards to start! Our favourite bit was the train ride around the wildlife park where we saw zebras, giraffes and black rhinos; we could have been on safari in Africa! From everyone who went on the trip: thank you to Miss Cole, Mr Vuolo and Miss Harries.

Emma Fuchs, Beatrice De Guise and Shannon Martin.



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Form trip to London Science Museum

*The third form had a great day out at the Science Museum in London.*

We set off very early from College but before we knew it we were standing on the busy streets of London. We were split into teams and embarked on the museum exploring one floor at a time. First there was an exhibition about materials and the history of plastics and then there was one about energy in the future. Everyone's favourite was the piece of artwork that gave you an electric shock when you touched it. We ate our lunch together in the picnic area, trying to avoid the temptation of jumping in the children's ball pool. After exploring space discoveries, we went to the IMAX cinema to watch "the deep sea". The 3D effects were amazing with fish and sharks swimming around your head!

Thank you Mr Whitham, Miss Berry and Miss Cole for taking us, it was thoroughly enjoyed by all!

Lizzie Templeton and Lauren Kraven



# Black Country Living Museum

*A visit to the Black Country Living Museum, in Dudley, helped bring history to life for 3rd form history students.*

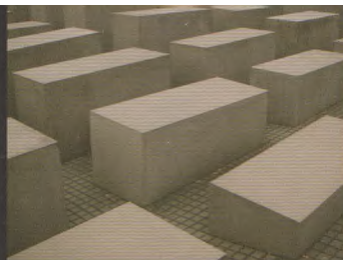
They bravely walked into the dark depths of the coal mine hearing how miners worked the thick coal and other seams in the Black Country in the 1800's. Followed by a lesson in the Victorian classroom, writing on slate and reciting the alphabet backwards! Lunch included a visit to the Museum's award-winning fish and chip shop, the Bakers, the sweet shop and of course the fairground - as much a part of Black Country life as

rolling mills, mines and trams. Students learnt how people lived, visited their houses and outside toilets! We ended our visit with a canal boat trip into the world famous Dudley Canal Tunnel and Limestone Mines. A thoroughly enjoyable day for all.

*Mrs M Kinson*







## 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Form Trip to *Krakow and Berlin*

*Early on a chilly morning at the start of the February half term holiday a small but eager group of 5<sup>th</sup> Form Germanists and 6<sup>th</sup> Form historians met at Bristol Airport to begin a journey into the freezing Central European winter.*

We flew from Bristol to Krakow, where we spent one night in the unusual surroundings of the Hostel Deco, in the city centre. The hostel is very clean, warm, and welcoming, and we all had comfortable rooms in which to recover from our early start. It is decorated throughout with sepia photographs from cinema and stage of the 1920s and 30s, and these feature mainly young women who are in general not dressed for the rigours of a Polish winter. The 5<sup>th</sup> Form boys in particular were delighted with our accommodation as a result, and we set out to discover the historic city centre with the whole group in good spirits.

We walked up to the castle and enjoyed the views over the town and the river as the sun set. The pupils then had some leisure time before we headed back to the hostel and then out to a typical Polish restaurant for a hearty meal.

After a good night's sleep and breakfast, we were collected for our day trip out to the former concentration camp at Auschwitz, which was of course, our real reason for visiting Krakow.

Auschwitz is not an easy place to visit, but the tour is led very sensitively, by excellent guides who are most informative and, in many cases, descended from Jewish families who were decimated during the Holocaust. The pupils that we took all behaved impeccably throughout the tour, and responded in a very mature way to the many shocking things that we saw. They were somewhat subdued on the return journey in the bus, but had clearly found much to reflect on and were oddly glad to have had the opportunity to see the place that has become "a cry of despair and a warning to humanity".

After another hearty meal, we made our way to the railway station, where we caught the night train to Berlin, which was a complete antidote to the grim scenes we had visited earlier in the day. There

was much amusement at the compact nature of the sleeping compartments where passengers are stacked three high on either side! The train was very crowded, so each passenger has little space for their luggage, and it took a while for everyone to create their own little nest in which to spend a rather short and restless night!

I think it safe to say that 5am change of train on the Polish / German border probably was the low point of the entire trip, but it didn't take long for everyone to fall asleep again once the train to Berlin got moving, and by the time we all woke up again it was daylight and just a few degrees warmer too!

Once we had had a brief rest in the youth hostel in Berlin, and our first snack on Currywurst at the Imbissstube across the road, we were ready for some sight-seeing.

We walked into the city centre - only about 15 minutes from the hostel, through the Tiergarten park, where we saw the monstrous Russian war memorial before moving on to the Brandenburg Gate and Unter den Linden. We also looked at the Holocaust Memorial - all the more poignant for us, having been at Auschwitz only the previous day - the Reichstag, and the site of Hitler's bunker, now underneath a car park in front of an apartment block. Despite their lack of sleep, the pupils were all keen to see everything, but we were all glad to have a good meal later, and then retire back to the hostel!

We spent a total of three nights in Berlin, and in that time saw many of the fascinating places there are to visit in this city. We started as we always do, with a visit to The Story of Berlin Museum, which gives a very good overview of the history of the place which had such a pivotal role in the history of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. After this we saw Hitler's Olympic Stadium, still in use, but an extraordinarily grandiose National Socialist structure. We took a tram ride out to the horribly grim former

Stasi prison at Hohenschönhausen, a place which did not appear on any maps of Berlin at the time, in order to conceal its existence, and then took the lift to the top of the very retro television tower, the Fernsehturm, which still dominates the eastern part of the city. We visited the cathedral, with its very ornate interior and vast crypt containing the tombs of a large number of royal Prussians both great and small. We caught sight of Marx and Engels, sadly inaccessible behind a fence as a new home for them is prepared in a less prominent place than that which they occupied previously, and visited Checkpoint Charlie and a short length of the former Berlin Wall which has been preserved in its original position.

In addition to a surfeit of history, we enjoyed some shopping in KaDeWe (where the staff discovered a fantastic cafeteria!) and Alexanderplatz, and some excellent hot chocolate and cakes in the superb chocolate shop which at least one of the pupils had looked forward to visiting for the whole trip! We had a walk to see the bright lights at Potsdamer Platz, where we had a close encounter with a giraffe made of Lego before finding ourselves a warm restaurant to round off another evening with some good food.

Despite some illness among the group, it was a pleasure to spend time in the company of these enthusiastic and entertaining pupils. Thanks of course to Mrs Kinson and Mr Jennings, without whose contributions the trip would not have happened.

*Mrs S White*





# 6<sup>th</sup> Form Enrichment

*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:

The traditional Quiz Night: not for the faint-hearted! Kerry Lin once again kept us in order.

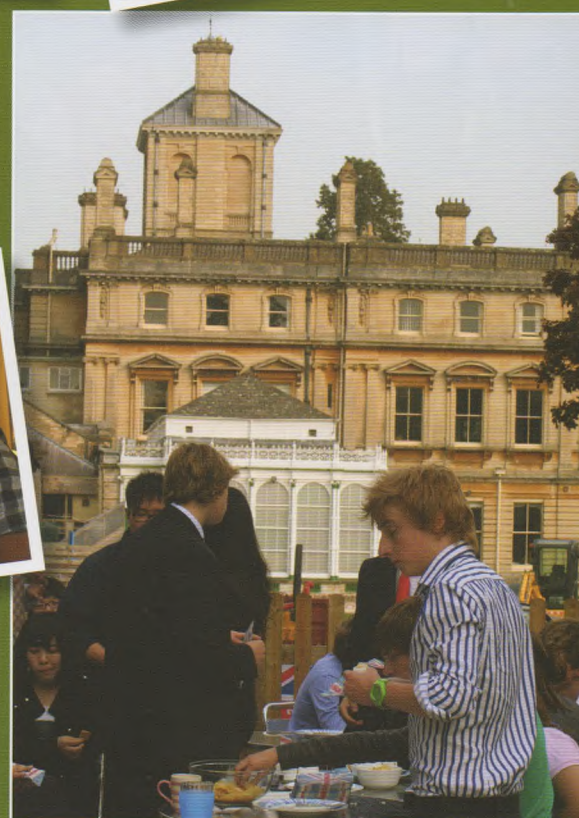
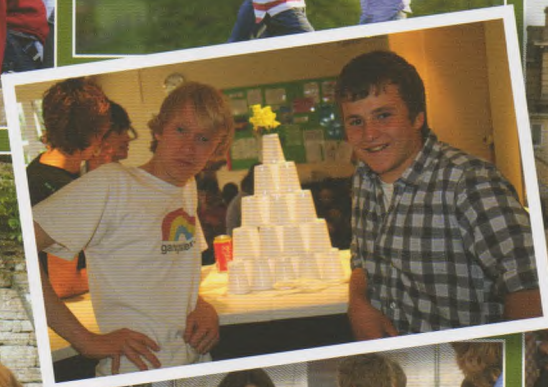
Sinking wells in Africa and running across the Gobi Desert.

We had a spy from the Cold war and the gruelling badminton marathon.

Speakers and discussions, activities and participation, music and words.

Hopefully something for all! A good year of intriguing and thought provoking activities!

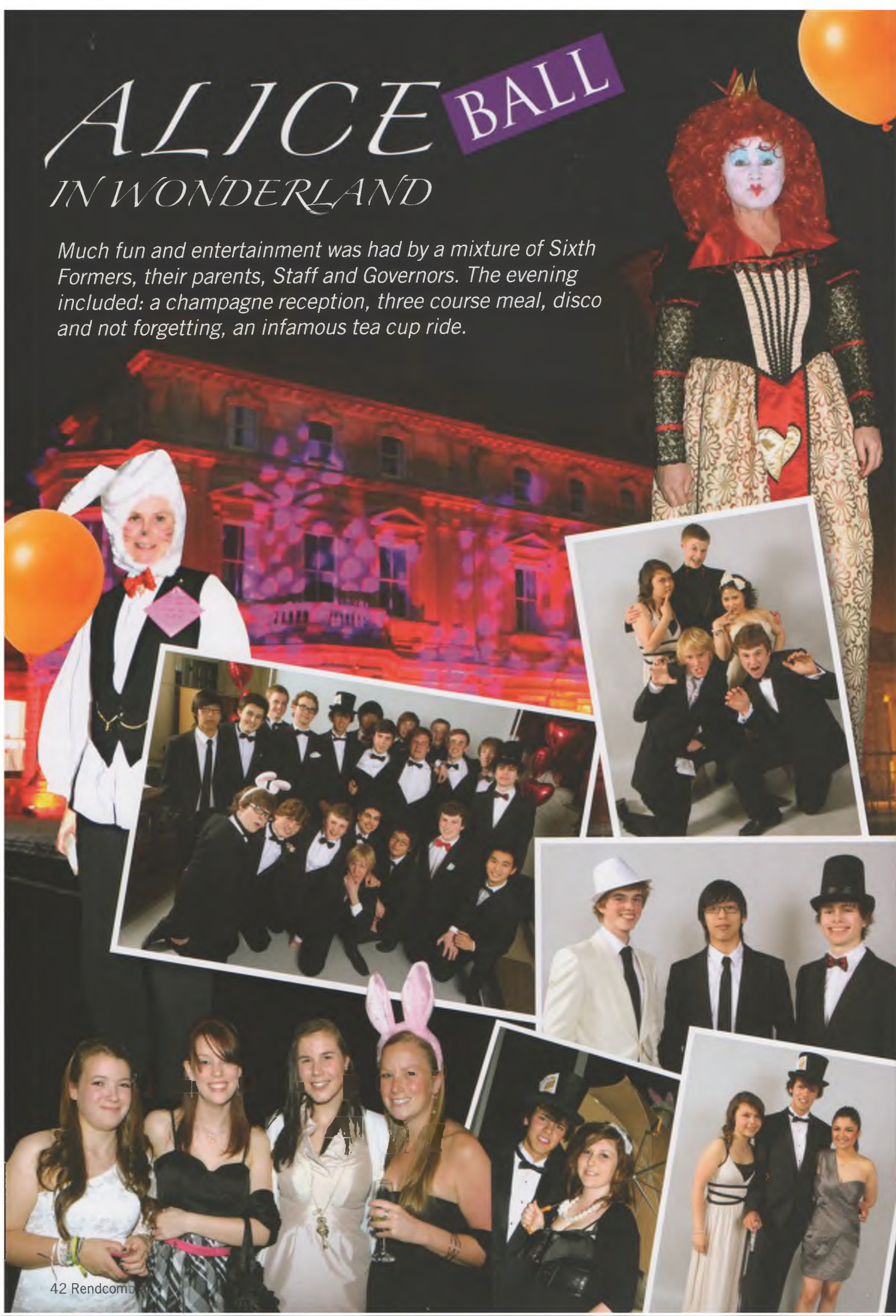
*Mr P Jennings*





*ALICE* **BALL**  
*IN WONDERLAND*

*Much fun and entertainment was had by a mixture of Sixth Formers, their parents, Staff and Governors. The evening included: a champagne reception, three course meal, disco and not forgetting, an infamous tea cup ride.*









# Leavers' Weekend

“For all of us, Rendcomb has been and will remain a lovely place: a place where it is a joy to teach and to learn; a joy to live, a special community but, as Sarah has alluded to, it is also a gigantic goldfish bowl. Those who gain the most from their time here are those who have discovered you have to grow and learn: to learn tolerance, acceptance and generosity of spirit. Well done to you for achieving that.

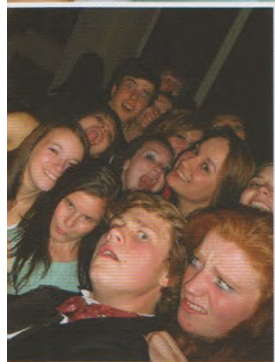
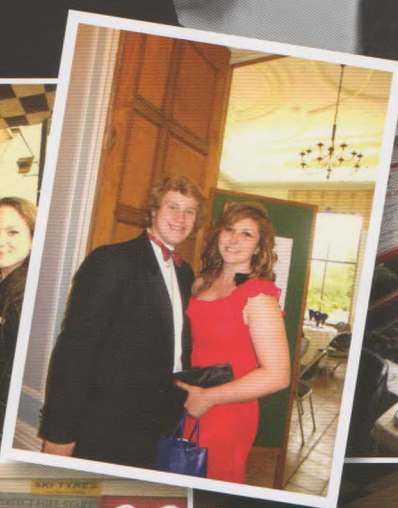
*And on the title: ‘things I could have been doing...?’*

*Well... there’s nothing I’d rather be doing today than this:*

*Please be upstanding for my very personal group of leavers.*

*I give you: Rendcomb College, the Class of 2011! ”*

Mr P Jennings



*“You must have thousands of memories of the way you were. Remember the great ones and let the sad ones slide into obscurity where they belong. What an effective year group you have been. You should be proud of your achievements. I speak today on behalf of all the staff of the college when I wish you God speed and happy, happy memories.”*

Mrs D. Dodd









# Sixth Form Activities

## Bar Nights

Park House hugely enjoys dressing up and we always make a great effort for the themed bars; including the Rave, Halloween, Circus and Nerd Bars, the latter being with the 5th form. The main event of the first term was the Christmas dinner on the penultimate evening of term; this was enjoyed by both the House Tutors and the students in a civilized evening, accompanied by an award ceremony based on the events of the term and followed by merriment down at bar. Then we had the amazing Alice Ball in the Spring term followed by Valentines and Harry Potter themed Bars.

*Ed Slark - Social Prefect*

## Chinese New Year Dinner

On the 27th January, everyone in Park House - and lots of staff - came along to "Dragon Garden" in Cirencester. Short of a night in snuggled up to a book, it was the best night I could have wished for, with an all-you-can-eat buffet serving us up plates upon plates of food. Those with the strongest of stomachs were going back up for fifths. Mr. Stutchbury commented on how his fantastic night was down to how lovely the students were - sitting down and eating did not seem enough: instead people were walking between tables talking and laughing, and even helping the waitresses by clearing away the food. Wooooo for China!

*Kerry Lin - International Prefect*

## Park House

Saturday nights were spent cooking with Mr. Coups to explore different cultures, and to comply with regulations down at bar. Park House was completely redecorated over the summer by the works team, with a brand-new kitchen area into an open-plan common room and all rooms were re-decorated with new furniture, lighting and carpets placed throughout the house - and new students entered the house, not knowing any different. All these events added to the excitement of Sixth form life.

*Katy Schofield - House Prefect*

## First Ever Rendcomb College Quidditch Tournament

Brooms in hand, team colours on, wands away and we walk to the pitch, where for the next hour we play Quidditch. The game has been adapted for Rendcomb, we have our snitches, created our bludgers and just in time found two quaffles. Two games were played at once to enable everyone to play everyone. The quaffles were released and the games began.

Kerry, our glamorous score keeper, was able to reveal the winning team of this year's Quidditch Cup. In reverse order, the results were as follows. A valiant 4th place went to the witty and intelligent Ravenclaw team captained by Yasmin Lester-Powell, a courageous 3rd place went to the ambitious and cunning Slytherin Team, captained by Tom Pearson. With 20 points between the two remaining teams, the brave and chivalrous Gryffindor team came in 2nd place captained by myself, meaning that the winners of this year's Quidditch Cup of Rendcomb College of Witchcraft and Wizardry goes to the loyal and hard-working Hufflepuffs. A big thank you to all those who supported the event, Jordan and Jake for commentating, filming and photographing, Kerry for her wonderful score keeping and maths abilities and especially to the two snitches, Alex Bishop and Max Birden.

*Ed Slark*





# Duke of Edinburgh's Award 2010-2011

*This year was unusual as there were two occasions when Gold groups were assessed. The Upper 6<sup>th</sup> groups were successful in their expedition in September and the Lower 6<sup>th</sup> were successful just prior to the end of the summer term.*

24 pupils have also passed the bronze expedition and now need to ensure they keep their records up to date online at eDofE.

Tony Blair kept on about education, education, education. Had he been a member of the Award he would have said, navigation, navigation, navigation. Getting the basics right will ensure that stressful and painful hours playing catch-up are not needed.

Word of mouth is the best form of advertising and I hope that by having the assessed expedition in the summer for the Gold Award more pupils will join in September. Time is a great healer and those who swear that they will never put on a rucksack again only need to be reminded of Sir Steven Redgrave saying after his 4th Olympic Gold medal that he

was happy to be shot if he got into a boat again.....he did go on to win a 5th!

The presentation put together by Jake McKeown and Chris Couch in a 48 hour period from finishing the expedition to final assembly will be remembered by all those that saw it. It played beautifully in keeping with MAD week that was happening at school during their expedition. They came up with MADofE and found extra reserves of energy to play games whilst on the expedition. A double well done.

The Award continues to expand at Rendcomb and it is only with the help of Miss. Harries, Mr. Bevans, Mr. Vuolo and Mr. Illingworth that this can happen. My thanks to them.

*Mr H Marsden*







Charlotte Clements, Holly Phelps and Josh Thomas



Lucy Kernon, Claire Butcher, Molly Tice and Lauren Booth



Paddy Gilling



Molly Tice

# Riding at Rendcomb

*My final year in charge of riding activities at Rendcomb has been a busy one.*

It started back in September with Lucy Kernon, Claire Butcher, Molly Tice and Lauren Booth competing in The Bloxham Team Challenge team challenge coming away with a rosette for Sixth Place\*\*\*. This was followed by the one day event at Calmsden where Paddy Gilling and Lucy Kernon represented the school as individuals. Rendcomb were also pleased to support this event held at Ampney Down Farm, and sponsored and designed an impressive cross-country fence. A week later pupils were back in the saddle at the VWH Hunter Trials held in Cirencester Park.

Once again pupils proudly represented the school in many of the classes. Miss Anderson also took to the saddle on one of Mrs Tice's ponies to ride in a team class with her daughter Sophie. Special mention must be made of Lucy Kernon who continues to represent the school in her riding endeavours. She received the cup for the best VWH Hunt member in the 3'6 Hunter Trials last October and was a member of VWH Pony Club team that qualified for the Pony Club Novice Eventing Championships last August. This was the start of a successful year for Lucy who also qualified for the Aston le Walls unaffiliated 90cm Championships in September 2010 and was placed 5th in a field of 40 (mostly adults) and also qualified for the BE Grassroots Regional Final in 2011.

The popular beach riding holiday to South Wales saw 30 pupils, parents and members of staff enjoying another weekend in Pembrokeshire at Nolton Stables who always give us a very warm welcome. Everyone had great fun splashing along the beaches at Druidstone and Newgale, despite the rain!

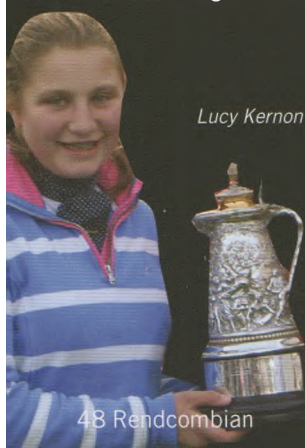
Polo has continued to be popular activity this year with weekly lessons at Lynt Polo Club under the expert guidance Guy Verdon. Last October a team comprising Charlotte Clements, Holly Phelps and Josh Thomas (Captain of Polo) beat a team from the Royal Agricultural College in a close fought contest. The twice weekly riding activity at Talland has also continued throughout the year giving pupils the opportunity to improve their riding skills or just give it a try for term.

I have thoroughly enjoyed supporting the riding activities at Rendcomb for the past 11 years and must thank Karen Coups, Debbie Walton-Smith and the gap students over the years for all their support. I would also like to thank parents of the pupils who have turned out at event after event to represent the school. Without this support none of this would be possible.

I wish everyone success for the future and hope riding continues to go from strength to strength.

Liese Holden

Miss Anderson also took to the saddle on one of Mrs Tice's ponies to ride in a team class with her daughter Sophie



Lucy Kernon





# Individual Achievements



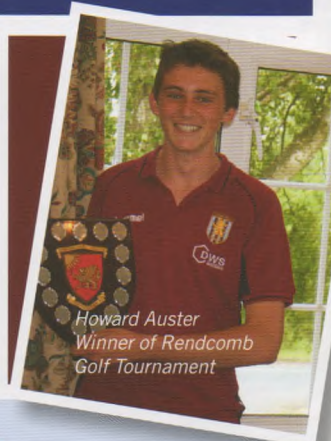
## Shooting

*Rendcomb College 1st shooting team were pleased to achieve 9th position (out of 34 schools) in the National Schools' Clay Pigeon Shooting Championships.*

Captained by Tom Margesson and coached by James Stutchbury and Peter Cairns, they were delighted to retain the position of the best shooting school in the county. The girls' team were led by Holly Phelps who also achieved high gun, and her brother Harley captained the Old Boys' team who were 4th in their section.

## Sam Tushingham & James Hendrick

*James Hendrick (F1) had another successful weekend winning the under 14 foil Southern Region Championship held in Reading.* This now means he is entered into the British Youth Championships which was held in Sheffield on 1st May. Rendcomb fencing had a good weekend as Sam Tushingham (F2) also qualified and came second after a toe to toe battle with James in the final, losing by only one point.



## Javelin

*Louis continues to do well with his Javelin.*

This season he has gone up to the next age group-U17 and is throwing with a heavier Javelin. After the first competition of the season, Louis threw a PB and is ranked 11 in the UK for U17.

## County Honours For Harry

*Congratulations to Harry Priestner (Form 4) who has been selected for the U15 Gloucestershire County Rugby Squad.*

Harry is a regular team player for the U15 XV at Rendcomb was the highest try scorer this season, scoring 19 of 52 tries! Next season, Harry will be stepping up to join the College 1st XV.



## Lacrosse Squad

In addition to Cerys' successful selection to the U19 Wales B lacrosse squad, Rozy was selected to play for the Wales Senior B team and competed at Monmouth to play against Scotland, (drew 10-10), Ireland (won 24-7) and then England. A nail-biting game that Wales were not expected to win but with under 60 seconds to go and the scores level, Wales B scored the final goal to win 11-10, therefore winning the B group tournament.

This was a huge achievement for Rozy at 13 years old, the rest of the team ranging from 15 to 30 years of age! You will also be pleased to know that both Rozy and Cerys have been selected to represent Wales in the U17 Team Festival in Hanover, Germany, in August, which runs alongside the U19 World Cup held every 4 years.



## Archie Hine

*This is Archie Hine competing in his first race at Forest Edge, Andover, Hants.*

As this was his first season, he has to start at the back of the grid for the first 5 meetings, and then he is able to take his qualifying position on the grid. There were 30 in his race he finished 21, after 5 races.



*Ellie Jones, Orlagh Brennan and Eleanor Brealy – U12 Cup Winners for Cirencester HC at the Bath Buccaneers Open Tournament*



# National Small Schools' Lacrosse Champions

*The Rendcomb College 1st XII Lacrosse team were crowned the National Small Schools' Lacrosse Champions at a tournament held at Oakham School.*

A fiercely competitive and nail-biting final resulted in a victory for Rendcomb by a decisive golden goal scored by Holly Phelps in extra time. Rendcomb were unbeaten in all their matches leading up to the final. The previous weekend, Rendcomb went to London to play in the National Schools' Championships.

On day one they were placed 4th in a pool of 7, winning matches against Pipers' Corner, St Helen's and St Katherine's and Charterhouse. Playing in division 2 on the following day, Rendcomb won all of their six games, but lost in the final 2-0 to Sherborne Girls' School.

The team scored a total of 49 goals with 23 against: Goal Scorers were Megan Mulhall 26; Holly Phelps 11; Andrea Haas 7 and Katy Schofield 5. Holly Phelps was Rendcomb player of the tournament on the Friday and Kat Daly on the Saturday.

*Mrs K Coups*







## EAL

*The Shukutoku students (also known as the Keio) come to Rendcomb from Tokyo each year on a one year study programme in order to improve their English and attempt to understand the British culture!*

They join in all lessons but study EAL (English as an Additional Language) instead of French and German.

Satsuki, Yumi and Yuto left in July after joining us in September and here are some of their highlights and thoughts of their year with us:

### Yuto Morita

I'm so happy I could learn many subjects and spend time at Rendcomb this year.

At Old Rec they were younger than me but looked the same age and I played sports and talked about funny things. Mr and Mrs Brealy were really good house parents because they made me happy every day and looked after me so well. I want to say thank you to them again.

At Stable House, I played sports and games, watched TV and went to the social centre with them. I think I was a younger friend for them to they looked after me sometimes. Mr and Mrs Bevans were really cheerful house parents because Mr Bevans talked to us about funny things and he is always smiling. Mrs Bevans was kind because she cared about me, my family and my country. So I want to thank [www.rendcombcollege.org.uk](http://www.rendcombcollege.org.uk)

them too. When I came here I thought Rendcomb College's students were not interested in Asia but they were friendly so I could really enjoy it. I've got some best friends now so my English is much better than before. I want to stay another year but I have to leave and I won't forget these experiences and I want to come back and see everyone again.

### Satsuki Kido

First time I came to Rendcomb I couldn't believe this is a school and I am going to study here. I had never seen such a large area of beautiful countryside before. When lessons started, I couldn't understand what everyone was saying and they couldn't understand me. I felt alone and missed my family. However, I wanted to speak English and make friends.

When I moved to Godman House I didn't have my own room; I shared a dormitory with my English friends. Every night we had fun. I couldn't sleep because I wanted to talk to my new friends. My English has improved so much and I have some fabulous friends.

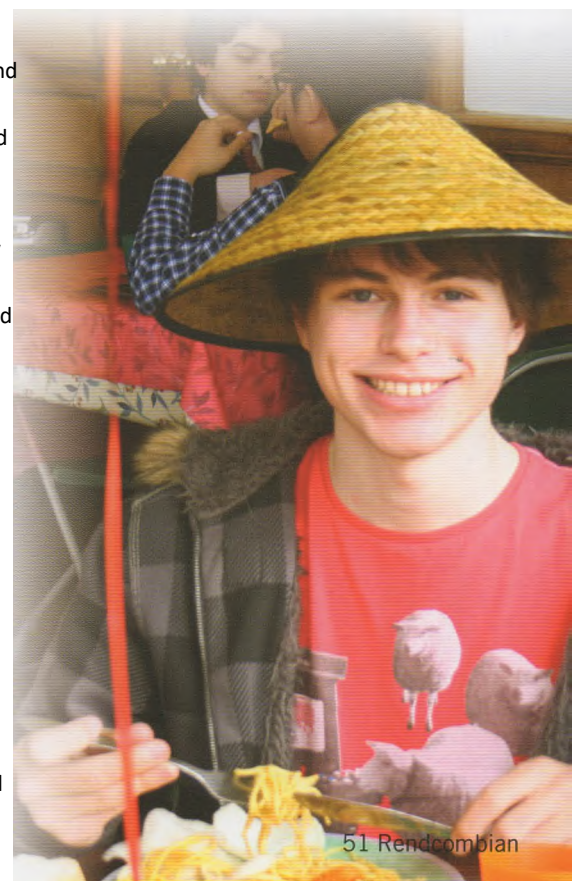
I really appreciated Mrs Fielding and the gap staff because they were really kind and planned a lot of events. Godman is a comfortable and very girly house.

We had lots of parties and wore fancy dress and danced. I had never been to a party before coming here, I'll definitely have a party when I go back to Japan.

Rendcomb had many interesting events. My favourites were the Rock concert and the Charity ball where I wore high heels

and won a "golden ticket" in the "Willy Wonka" theme.

I have experienced many new things like horse riding. Now I can walk, trot, canter and low jump. I want to carry on riding. I have really enjoyed my life at Rendcomb. There were many international students so I have known many different cultures. These days make me proud of myself. The experience, friends and Rendcomb are my treasure and forgettable.







# Normandy Trip

*At 6:00 am. on Friday, 24th June the coach departed from Rendcomb, destination Southern Normandy, for 5 days of activities, lessons and excursions. All activities and lessons are conducted entirely in French and are presented and supervised by qualified native French speakers.*

Croissants and pains au chocolat were provided for an early breakfast en route, as well as packed lunches for the ferry crossing, and with a farewell to parents, 36 pupils were on their way to France.

The ferry crossing was 5 hours, but did save us an eternity on a coach, and our travel company provided us with our own private lounge on the ferry, with reclining seats, for both the outward and return journeys.

Having disembarked at Cherbourg, we had only a 90 minute coach ride to arrive at the Chateau des Forges, our base for the whole of our stay, and which we had entirely to ourselves. Accommodation was in small dormitories, with staff having a room on the same floor as the pupils, to ensure proper supervision and duty of care. The chateau has its own football pitch and volleyball court, set in extensive grounds, away from traffic and other people, thus allowing everyone to chill, on return from very busy days.

Meals were very French, breakfast and dinner at table and picnic lunches. It was pleasing to see so many pupils enjoying the evening cheese-board, usually a camembert and a goat's cheese. On the last evening, the chateau also served a large tray of escargots, which met with a mixed reception! Yummy!

Excursions were to the market at Granville sur Mer, where pupils saw every kind of shellfish, most of it still alive, and were rather taken aback by the "boucherie chevaline"! Quelle horreur! We visited a goat farm, learned about the life cycle of a goat and saw the production of the cheese, ending with a taste, firstly of the unsalted cheese, before it has fully set, and then the finished product. Next port of call was the Mont St. Michel, with its stunning views across the estuary and its narrow streets, leading up to the monastery. The final excursion, planned at the very last minute, was to the circular cinema above Arromanches and overlooking the beach and the Mulberry harbours, a reminder that Normandy has not always been the place of rural tranquillity that it is today.



The 25 minute 360 degree film juxtaposes footage of D Day and the retaking of Normandy by the allies, with the beauty, peace and quiet that now thankfully reigns supreme. It is a deep and moving experience and I was impressed at the way our pupils responded and conducted themselves in this solemn place. We dined out on one occasion, at a local creperie and also had an evening of ten pin bowling.

Activities were divided between our base and the flag ship Chateau de la Baudonnière, where we had French classes, aero-balled, scaled the climbing tower and baked bread, which pupils took away with them to eat at dinner time. All pupils made it to the top of the climbing tower, and many achieved the much harder task of doing it blindfolded! All instructions, explanations and advice are in French, and, at the top of the climbing tower, pupils must be able to say, "Je voudrais descendre, svp" before they are lowered back to terra firma.

The emphasis is always on learning as fun and our pupils took maximum enjoyment from their opportunities. I am sure they have returned even more enthusiastic about French and France than they already were.

I would like to offer my thanks to the catering department at Rendcomb for providing supplies for the journey and to all the parents whose support made the venture possible. Miss Perry, who joined in all the French lessons, was a tremendous asset to the trip, ever caring and reliable, whilst taking great pleasure in all we did. Mrs. White, "Blancheneige," made so much happen, looked after passports, EHICs and pocket money, and, above all, kept me organised, but my final thank you has to go to the pupils. I first took a trip to France in 1975, and have done so regularly ever since. I can say, without the slightest exaggeration, that this group of young people is the best I have ever taken anywhere. They struck the perfect balance between fun and appropriate behaviour, impressed everyone, wherever we went, whilst managing to keep me smiling. There are already requests to go again next year, possibly changing some of the activities and including a visit to the Bayeux tapestry. Provided a convenient time can be found, there is little I would enjoy more. Vive la France!

Mr L North





## First Years to Cheddar Gorge

*At the end of the summer term, the First Years enjoyed discovering all that Cheddar Gorge has to offer: marvelling at the formations in the Show Caves, squeezing through the bedding planes whilst Adventure Caving, seeing sweets and Cheddar Cheese being made and being dwarfed by the gorge as they were guided through it on an open-top bus.*



## AS Human Geography

*The AS Geographers were taken to see the redevelopment of Cardiff Bay as well as seeing the social welfare aspects of one of the most deprived wards in the UK: Butetown.*

They were also able to see the social welfare aspects of the Central Cotswolds whilst visiting the region around Bibury, Northleach and Bourton on the Water. This was complemented by the Cotswold District Council putting on a morning of talks and discussion based around the District's Core Strategy for delivering housing, care and community opportunities - very many thanks to Rosemary Lynn (Cotswold District Council's Community, Health & Housing Manager) for putting the morning together.

The students were also treated to a fascinating presentation by Dr Chris Wise (former advisor to the National Farmers Union) on the present state of the world's food security and in particular the rise of GM crops or as he would rather put it "Genetic Vaccination" crops and their place in food security and sustainability for the future.

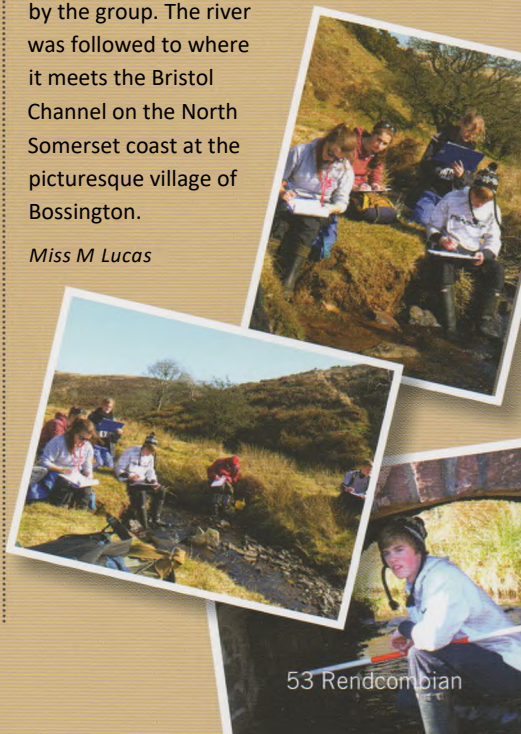
*Mr A Brealy*

## L6 Geography Field Trip

*Excellent weather contributed to an extremely successful L6 Geography field trip in March.*

Three busy days were filled with the study of the sand dunes at Braunton Burrows, an investigation of the River Horner and a look at the costal defences at Minehead. The main area of study was the River Horner whose source starts high up on Exmoor, where red deer, Highland cattle and Exmoor ponies were spotted by the group. The river was followed to where it meets the Bristol Channel on the North Somerset coast at the picturesque village of Bossington.

*Miss M Lucas*





## Works Team



*Anyone coming onto the Rendcomb site during the summer holidays should expect to hear plenty of activity going on. Hammering, sawing, demolition (and rebuilding! ) are all part of the sounds of the school whilst our pupils are away. We do also manage a little bit of quieter work; painting, carpeting, and of course the never ending grass cutting.*

All of the above works are carried out by our own in-house Works Team, led by Pete Cairns. Last summer saw the complete renovation of Park House and the transformation of part of the Junior School to provide additional classroom spaces. This summer saw major work being carried out on Stable and Lawn houses. All the work we do is part of our continued programme of development and maintenance of our beautiful site and buildings, using them for the greatest benefit of all our pupils.

Of course that is all very easy to spot around site. Less easy to spot is the work we carried out on the IT system over the Easter period, a mammoth undertaking carried out by our own IT team and some external support. Martyn Harrison, our network manager, played a major part in this work and deserves special mention for all the hours of work he put in.

The non-teaching side of the school covers countless other people who most of you may never get to see. We have our fantastically dedicated lab technicians who have prepared everything needed for your children to conjure up scientific wizardry, our teaching assistants who have demonstrated true Blue Peter tendencies with cardboard and paper, our Receptionists who have the answer to every question, our accounts team who keep all our finances in order, our catering and cleaning teams who make sure your children are well fed in clean and comfortable surroundings, and our medical team who are there for all manner of issues, be they big or small. Not forgetting of course our administrative support teams who have a vast range of tasks from organising bus routes and letters home, to generally keeping people like me under control!

Changes in staff this year have been few and far between. Of particular note has been the departure of Yvonne Mill in however, who had given 39 years to the Rendcomb family in our domestic cleaning department. Yvonne remembered Mr Martin from his schoolboy days at Rendcomb; we have clearly missed an opportunity here!

Other leavers from this team have been Julie Luce to take up another role, and well-earned retirement for Joy Hardy. The Catering department will have seen a few changes, with Marian Fordyce and Ross DiGuardio leaving us, and Ann Waldron taking her deserved retirement. From the Works department, Barry Hardy took retirement at the same time as his wife Joy, and Shaun Stancombe moved on to another role. Finally, Emma Hayward, our Admissions Registrar, has recently decided to leave us and we thank her for all her efforts during her time with us.

In terms of people joining us, we are delighted to have welcomed Sue Gilling, coming in to fill the large boots of Liese Holden, in our Marketing department. Also new this year has been Angela Davis coming in to support the EAL department, Jake Baldwin joining the Works Team,



## In Sickness and in Health

The medical centre sits on the top floor  
To enter please ring the bell by the door  
This lets sister know that you have arrived  
And to get this far she knows you've survived  
Whatever the problem, it's never that bad  
Someone to listen and hear why you're sad  
To tend to your bruises your cut or sprain  
To soothe your throat and ease your pain  
A comfy bed for you to rest  
So that you can recover to feel your best  
To face the world for another day  
To enjoy yourself at work and play  
Sister Louise and Sister Julie are here for you  
To support and advise and help you through  
In sickness and in health.  
*Sister Julie Rogers and Sister Louise Wright*



Amanda Giles and Kathie Chambers into the Domestic team.

The Catering team has been joined by Annette Wade, Brian Antill, and Sue Hyne who rejoined us after a short break during the year. We also welcome Kate Currill, who joined us to support Mark Naylor as Housekeeper, taking responsibility for the day to day running of all our domestic services across the site - you can imagine how many miles per week Kate covers!

The Rendcomb year has been busy and varied for all our non-teaching teams. At the end of my first year I can now say I have witnessed all the end-of-term events that so clearly define each term, and even helped direct traffic on a few occasions when needed!

As we say our thanks and farewells to the Holden family, we look forward to another equally successful year ahead, under the leadership of our new Headmaster.

*Eleanor Sharman*  
Bursar





# Rugby

*The College fielded five teams this season, playing a total of 43 games... winning 16, with 3 draws, scoring a total of 888 points.*



The team played hard against physically stronger opponents with 22 out of the 24 boys in the squad. James Sinfield was the consummate captain... leading by example and always giving his very best, the forwards made huge improvements led by Daniel Hansel or Peter Gregory. The backs showed great fortitude and upped their game in terms of endeavour. The try of the season must be the 'incision' move between Archie Hine at 10 and James Hendrick at 15... from their own 22.

*Mr M Slark*



## U14

For the U14 squad this was a season of great progression and the team played with an intensity and belief that was hugely impressive. Everyone played with commitment, with everyone trying to ruck and tackle regardless of size and worked hard for their team. A particularly notable match was played against Bredon with the team coming back from 21 points down to achieve a draw at 28 all. A season that started poorly became a season of close, hard fought matches with the side playing

56 Rendcombian



in the best spirit of Rendcomb Rugby. Every boy in the year represented the team, played to their best ability and made tremendous progress as individuals and as a team.

*Mr M Slark*



skills but also their self-belief and this was especially true in the fixture against Warminster where deprived of several 'key' players, the team started the game short of confidence and resigned to certain defeat. However, as a team they lifted their performance to new heights and achieved victory by a 2 point margin... the turning point of the season. In total, 52 tries were scored; 19 by Harry Priestner. This exceptionally talented U15 squad has the potential to form the nucleus of a most successful Rendcomb 1st XV.

*Mr M Slark*

## U15

The U15 team achieved 5 wins and 2 draws from 11 matches. There were some comfortable victories, but for the most part the team had to dig deep and display grit and determination to grind out wins against much stronger opposition than previously encountered. Many of the players developed not only their technical





## 2nd XV

Although circumstances limited them to only 3 appearances, great determination was shown by forwards and backs alike and several of the boys stepped up to represent the 1st XV with distinction.

*Mr M Stark*



## 1st XV

This was a difficult and challenging season for the 1st XV with 5 wins from 10 matches. With the vast majority of last year's team having left, it was necessary to build a new team and only a couple of players had any real experience at this level. All too often, the physical battles were lost against more powerful and mature sides, not for want of effort but through a simple lack of experience and physical presence. When it was possible, the team played rugby of great ambition, quality and pace and scored tries that were memorable by the standards of any 1st XV of the recent past.

At the heart of this attacking enterprise was the captain, Alex Bishop who led in the best possible way; by example. In his third consecutive season in the 1st XV he is another worthy candidate for Rendcomb rugby's 'hall of fame'. Many of the side will return next season, better for the experience gained this season. Congratulations to Dan Geerah who will be next year's Captain.

*Mr M Stark*





# Girls' Hockey

## 1st XI Girls' Hockey report - Season 2010

The 1st's found out very early on that this season was going to be one filled with challenges. However, we rose to the occasion every time, working with determination and as a team we prevailed through some difficult matches in adverse weather. Mr Stutchbury kept our heads firmly above ground with excellent team talks filled with inspiration. This season was the last hockey season here at Rendcomb for a lot of the team and was particularly emotional, as some of us had played together since Junior School, which only drove our determination higher to succeed and that we did.

*Katy Schofield*

## Girls' Hockey 2010

This was a particularly successful season for all hockey teams, with the girls playing some excellent hockey with grit and determination, something many schools lack but Rendcomb seems to have in abundance. So even though we cannot compete with numbers, we can more than compensate with hard work and excellent team work. A special mention must go to the U13s who won all their matches this term. Well done to everyone who has played and good luck for another excellent season in 2011.

*Katy Schofield*









# Boys' Hockey



*"Play your heart out" would certainly be the mantra for the season as so many players gave of their best, albeit not with the desired effect of leaving the pitch victorious!*

The U13s struggled to get on top of their opponents but the endeavour shown by players such as Peter Gregory and James Sinfield certainly whets the appetite for next season. The 14s had a good 'winning season' with great spirit shown, particularly by players such as Daniel Haas, Ed Brealy, Cameron Rowe and James Tait. The 15/14B side also had a winning season with Yannis Dimopoulos scoring from some well-worked moves; Ben Elliot receiving the 'most improved' player award in goal.

The 15As proved to be the most effective squad with 48 goals scored in their 11 matches (only conceding 17).

There are so many good players in the side that it would be invidious to mention any one player but suffice it to say that they will no doubt bring a great deal to the Senior XIs next season!

It has to be said that the Senior XIs did not get many wins but the vast majority of the losses were by just the one goal. Mr Clarke was very pleased with how well the 3rd XI got on and was rewarded with a hard fought win against Cheltenham College; the College will certainly miss the likes of Smile You and Henry Probst! The 2nd XI was very ably led by Tom Molloy and there was a great deal of effort put in by the whole squad, Joshua Thomas standing out as a very capable goal keeper.

The 1st XI won 2 out of its 11 fixtures but, as ever, the facts belittle the extremely high work ethic of the squad against sides from much larger schools. Dan Geerah was very mobile in the goal, very well supported in defence by Ben Smith, William Scott, Paddy Gilling, Ed Slark and

Lance Baynham. The midfielders also had a very high work ethic: Tom Margesson, Greg Dietrich, Ben Margesson, Max Harrop and James Dunn. Up front saw Max Birden and Alex Kentfield peppering the goals. I have deliberately left mentioning Alex Bishop (Vice) and Tom Pearson (Captain) until the end as they were faultless in their ambition and desire to move the side forward - a side which was very young (over half being U16s).

Next season sees Dan Geerah taking on the task of developing a strong work ethic; he certainly has a tough act to follow! Salvete to Miss Ferebee who has been such a fantastic coach, her personality and expertise has certainly helped to galvanise the squad and to help the players reach their full potential, she shall be sorely missed - hopefully she can be persuaded to carry out some pre-season training in the evenings!

*Mr A Brealy*





1st XI Hockey Team



2nd XI Hockey Team



U15 Hockey Team



U13 Hockey Team



U14/15 Hockey Team







## Lacrosse



*This lacrosse season, 85 games were played by the teams of Rendcomb College.*

There were 436 goals scored by the college with the top goal scorer of the U13 team being Hermione Llewellyn-Bowen with 11 goals; in the U14 team, Olivia Witts with 12 goals; in the U15 team Bliss McFarlane with 34 goals; in the 2nd team, Rachel Barnes with 11 goals

and finally in the 1st XII, Megan Mulhall with 117 goals this season. The college exceeded everyone's expectations with their outstanding results as a whole and individually.

The U15 team ranked 16th in the country at National Schools this year which is an outstanding achievement for a school of this size; from this tournament Barley Spurway was awarded MVP due to her impressive defensive skills. Although every

team was brilliant this season, a team that really stood out were the 1st XII. They played 15 games and won 15 games, were placed as runners up in Division 2 of National Schools and finally their greatest achievement was being crowned National Small Schools Champions of 2011. I'm proud to announce that my captain for the season of 2012 is Megan Mulhall, and the vice-captain will be Andrea Haas.

*Mrs K Coups*



## Lacrosse Representative players:

### Gloucestershire County U19:

Megan Mulhall (Captain)  
Holly Phelps  
Andrea Haas

### U19b Team

Katy Schofield  
Delia Rich  
Charlie Clements  
Libby Round  
Yas Lester Powell

### West Regional Squad U19:

Megan Mulhall

### Wales Senior Squad & U19 Squad

Megan Mulhall

### Gloucestershire County U15

Barley Spurway  
Bliss McFarlane  
Rozy Baynham  
Kathryn Rew  
Cerys Davis  
Lucy Kernon

### Wales Development

Rozy Baynham  
Cerys Davies

### England Development

Lucy Kernon

### Scotland Development

Kathryn Rew











## Cricket

*This cricket season has felt very short owing to the weather and other factors playing their part. Cricket in the College this year has been affected by the weather as out of the five Saturday fixtures, we lost three to rain.*

The 1st team ran well as a squad of 15, but was very young with 12 boys coming from the 5th form and having only one Upper Six. They were a great squad to work with as they were always willing to listen and try their best. They had a good captain in Tom Pearson who surprised me at how good his tactics were on the field. Our bowling and fielding were our strengths as our batting let us down too often. Alex Kentfield made a few fifties as he was the back bone of the batting. There were times when other players did not look after their wickets and got out too easily.

Alex Kentfield, Max Birden and Ben Smith bowled well all season. Ben Smith took the best figure against Leighton Park. He took 7 wickets for 19 runs. This good bowling helped us to win this match. A special mention must go to Tom Pearson who not only captained the side very well this season but has also represented the Rendcomb College 1st team for three years.

Neil Ferreira

### 1st XI

It's been an interesting year for Rendcomb Cricket. The team won only one game this season, but that statistic doesn't do justice to how well the team have played. Considering only three of the eleven members of the team this year were in 6th form the squad had had a very mature look about it. Alex Kentfield and Max Birden have done a great job of opening the bowling this year along with Ben Smith who has shown with the ball and bat that he can leave his mark on every game.

All the lads have played excellently this year; it's been a pleasure to captain them as they always give everything to every game that they play.

Mr Ferreira has been an integral part of the Rendcomb coaching team since he first came to Rendcomb. In fact, it was in his first year at Rendcomb that he guided the U13 team that I was in to an unbeaten season. Since then he has been an invaluable asset to the Rendcomb coaching team. I'd personally like to thank Mr Ferreira for all of the effort he's put into not just cricket, but all sport at Rendcomb. It's been a fantastic year and I wish the guys the best of luck for next season. Congratulations to Max Birden on the captaincy for the 2012 season, I'm sure you'll do a great job.

### The U14s

The Under 14s started the year having had a disappointing season behind us. We had determination burning within us to improve on a poor team batting performance the season before. James Tait led the team very well from the first to last game. The season started positively with two wins, with Arjun Patel being the pick of the bowlers with his looping and zipping leg spin and James Tait as he was to continue to prove, being the pick of the batsmen. Arjun picked up 6 wickets in the first two games, and Tom Pethick, also a spinner, finally finding his form this season, took some good wickets at a brilliant economy rate. Duncan Graham showed some stability for the first few games as the Number 1, with Brodie Ash, who became an anchor for the U-14, and added some good scores whilst doing it, improving immensely throughout the season. As we approached the mid stage of the season our lack of concentration mixed with facing more challenging opposition resulting in a loss for Rendcomb against Cheltenham College. However, Arjun Patel, Tom Pethick,

and other key bowlers still picked up plenty of wickets and Eddie Geerah being the batsman to survive the longest against Cheltenham's ruthless bowling. James Tait continued to bat well, picking up a handful of half centuries. Eddie Geerah also posted some fantastic scores onto the batting board falling just short of his 50 with 45 runs, and Sam Scott, Dan Haas and Cameron Rowe proved their value in the bowling attack providing Rendcomb with some important wickets. Sam Scott also put in a terrific batting performance against Bristol Cathedral scoring 33 not out. As the season drew to a close, we again were relying on only a few players to score runs at the crease. James made two valuable scores of 75 not out and 55 to guide the team into defendable totals. Tom Pethick consistently picked up more wickets as the season drew to a close, with good statistics such as 4-16 and 0-9 both off 4 overs. Overall, the season was a hardworking one and we enjoyed all the success but learnt from the losses and mistakes. A very good improvement on last year with 5 wins and 2 losses. Thanks to all the players and Mr. Ferreira for such a great season and hoping we can continue this form next year.

### The U13's

U13 A

**Played: 10 Won: 3 Lost: 6 Abandoned: 1**

The U 13's were not the strongest year we have had but they sure have learnt a lot this term. Our batting was not very good at the beginning of the term but it improved throughout the year and we had number of boys making good runs for the team by the end of the term. There was more than just





one boy making the runs for the team. The best batting performance was by Robert McLaughlin with 56 but we also had some good runs from Peter Gregory. The team was good in the field and the bowling went from poor to very good as the season moved on. Our best bowler for the team was Tom Smith who took 15 wickets during the season. The team was captained very well by Peter Gregory who had both good bowling and batting stats through the season.

It was not a season to write home about in terms of victories but to see how much the boys improved over the season would delight most coaches; I just hope that they can carry on enjoying their cricket so that they improve their skills.

## U13B

**Played: 8 Won: 0 Lost: 7 Abandoned: 1**

This year showed us that there were many who had never played before but over the season the skills started to develop. However, there is still a very long way to go. The Best Batsman of the season was Thomas Godwin who hit 27 runs for the whole season. This just highlights how much more work the boys and the coaches have to get the boys to a higher standard. The team was captained well by Max Watson who led from the front with his bowling but the best bowler during the season was Clement Ash who took 3 wickets for the team. I do hope that the boys have had a good time learning new techniques in cricket this term and only hope that they remember some of what they have learnt so that next season there can be even more progress.

## U15 Cricket

**Played: 7 Won: 2 Lost: 3 Abandoned: 2**

Despite the wonderful weather at the start of the season, we were extremely unfortunate to be so effected by rain which led to two games being cancelled and two abandoned, all of which we had hoped to win.

There is no question that this side has the ability to be a good team ably led by Howard Auster. Unfortunately, the first game highlighted the main aspect which all the players need to address if they are to fulfil their potential; commitment. This match, against Wycliffe, started disappointingly with a poor batting performance; however, with a change of attitude at tea they started to show what they were actually capable of and despite only defending 89 they had the opposition 9 down at the end.

From there on, every game they applied themselves and showed a far greater commitment to the team and any match that they lost was a close game which could have gone either way at the end. In cricket, teams do have a tendency to rely on a few players to make a significant contribution and this team is no exception, but for a successful side it requires the rest of the team to play their part and it was clear that as the season progressed other players began to realise this.

With the bat, Howard Auster and Alex Tatara-Mills often got the team off to a good start and in one match shared an excellent opening partnership of 148 in just 16 overs. They were ably supported by Dan Gregory and Paddy Tarleton in particular.

With the ball, Alex played his part again with Dan Gregory, Paddy Tarleton, Harry

Priestner, Ollie Birden and Ollie Cook all contributing at times and showing they had the potential to become regular wicket-takers for the side. However, despite Louis Mernagh's willingness to throw himself around in an attempt to stop or catch the ball, as a team they need to work on their fielding as too often catches were not taken and runs conceded when the pressure was on in a close match. Nonetheless, there is a great deal of potential and with a little more determination and patience, they have the ability to become a very good side and I am sure, will benefit from the tour next year.

*Mr D Baker*





# Girls' Tennis

*It is game, set and match for the Girls' Tennis Season 2011. And what a season it has been, with the standard being set even higher than last year.*

The Girls' endless hours on the practise courts have proved what Billie Jean King once said that 'champions keep playing until they get it right'

And we have seen some great successes from the 1st VI, U14s and U12s all enjoying victories against reputable opposition such as Tudor Hall, Westonbirt, Pangbourne and Farmors, where Rendcomb took charge and dominated from the first ball served. I must mention here Orlagh Brennan and Eleanor Breal, who in their twelve sets played never dropped one. Katy Schofield was a great Captain, Olivia Knapp delivered lethal serves and top spin backhands and Cery Davies was vicious at the net play and Kitty Reeves forehand was outstanding.

On the matches where the opposition were just too strong, the other Schools knew that in order to beat us they would have to play almost perfect Tennis.

The Girls' have reacted the same way to winning and losing, that's a big accomplishment. That quality is important and it stays with you the rest of your life.

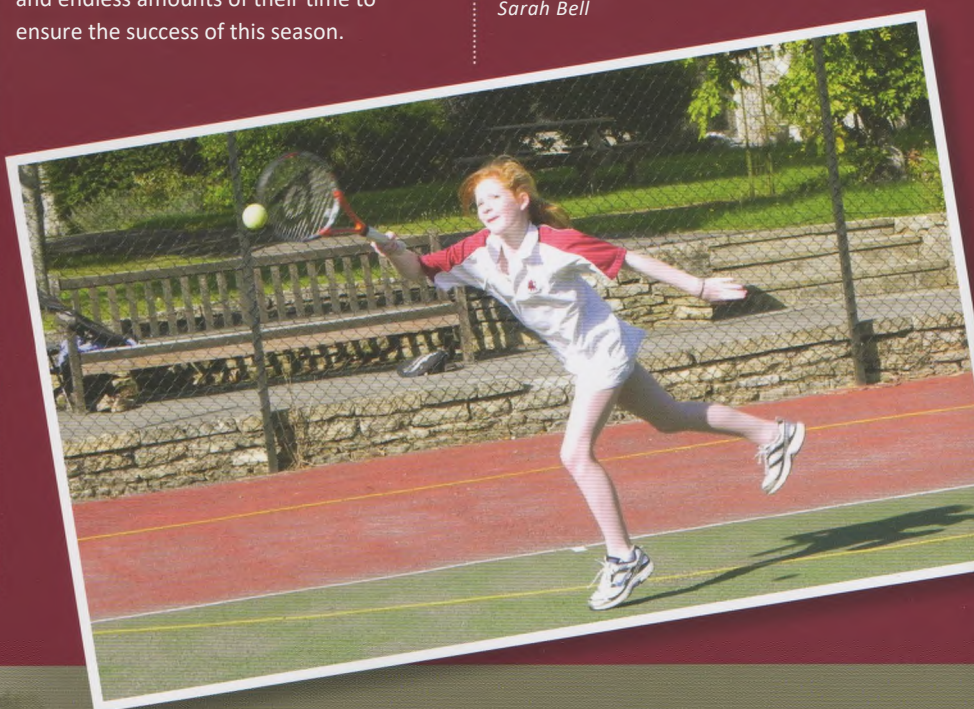
I'd like to take this opportunity to thank key members of the sports department. The catering team, for all the yummy match teas, the delicious chocolate eclairs have become more famous on the tennis circuit than the strawberries and cream served at Wimbledon.

My colleagues, who have been a fantastic support. They have given their expertise and endless amounts of their time to ensure the success of this season.

And finally to the girls. The contributions you have all made have been outstanding and you should be commended on your dedication, enthusiasm and sportsmanship shown throughout the term.

I wait in excitement for the up and coming Hockey season and would like to announce Holly Phelps as Captain for the Hockey Season 2011.

*Sarah Bell*



## Sportsday

### Boys:

400M U14	S. SCOTT	1m01s
200M U13	J. SINFIELD	28.47s
100M U12	J. HENDRICK	13.66s
RELAY U12/U13	EDWARDS	1m01s
U14	EDWARDS	54.95s
DISCUS U12	R. McLAUGHLIN	18m08
JAVELIN U15	L. MERNAGH	47m70

66 Rendcombian

### Girls:

400M U14	R. BAYNHAM	1m12s
300M U12	E. BREALY	56.13s
200M U14	O. WITTS	27.37s
U15	B. McFARLANE	28.30s
100M U15	B. McFARLANE	13.74s
RELAY U14	BANNISTER	1m01s
LONGJUMP U15	K. GIBSON	4m40

DISCUS U12	J. BOCK	16m.51
SHOT PUTT U12	J. BOCK	6m86
JAVELIN U12	E. BREALY	15m45

Overall Winners:  
BANNISTER!!!









# Farewell



## Norman McLaughlin

Norman has not been with us for long but in that short time, he has come close to our affections: He stepped into the Music Department at short notice when it was teetering and managed to steer it into much calmer waters; as well as just managing the Department efficiently, he brought in innovations and new ideas in recent months. Norman, we will miss you but wish you well in your new venture at Kingham Hill.

*Mr P Jennings*



## Paul Brooke

Our results, particularly at 'A' level are a testament to Paul's academic rigour, insistence of high standards and dedication to the students. The A2 coursework he got out of the last few years has been simply some of the best academic work I have ever seen. "I gave her my heart but she wanted my soul" along with "There must be assessment"; are two of Paul's favourite sayings and I suspect Paul may be angling for something like this on his tomb when the moment arrives! They tell you all you need to know about his teaching and his attitude to the pleasure of educating young people. I am sure that everyone would like to join me in wishing him a calm return to Berwick to enjoy the next chapter with Jean, Malita & Natasha.

*Mr P Jennings*



## Sandy Westhead

Sandy joined the staff in 1994 to teach and eventually become Head of Girls' Games. Her thorough preparation, energy and natural but firm manner made her popular with the pupils who always had great confidence in her. Equally, staff liked working alongside Sandy because they knew that they would receive excellent support. Sandy organised the girls' hockey tour to Holland in 1998. Not surprisingly the tour was a huge achievement for the Games Department and in her inimitable

way she made sure that everyone enjoyed the experience.

To some extent she reinvented herself by training to be a Learning Support teacher and she developed Rendcomb's department with much success, giving many one to one lessons to boost pupils' confidence and in liaising with other departments to improve teaching and learning. She also took on the often difficult role of Child Protection Officer which she carried out with professionalism as one would expect of her.

Alongside this, she also taught Geography. The variety of Sandy's posts speak of her incredible flexibility, enthusiasm and dedication: she was and is always an enthusiast first and foremost and will try any new technique or method to enhance the learning experiences of the kids in her charge. Sandy has contributed much in many areas of Rendcomb Life and many Rendcombians are most grateful to her. We hope that she enjoys a long, well-deserved and happy retirement although, knowing Sandy, it is certain to be busy one!

*Mr P Jennings*



## Cath Forshaw

Cath precedes me at Rendcomb, starting in 2002. A few years later,

Cath suggested we shared the role of Head of Department after John Williams took early retirement. Cath then totally transformed the department with quite a phenomenal amount of hard work and long hours. She head-hunted Louise Gregory and produced thorough documentation to ensure it sailed through any ISI inspection.

Most importantly, she got the department working as a close - knit team. The Good Schools Guide award for top Independent School in GCSE Additional Mathematics is partly testament to Cath. She got us involved in the pilot exam and ensured that the department followed a thorough revision programme with the GCSE classes. She is now going to take some time out but I hope the profession has not completely lost an excellent teacher. I hope she realises that she needs that buzz you only get from teaching children and that she returns to the classroom at some point in the near future.

*Mr S Clarke*



## Roy Raby

It is with considerable sadness that we bade farewell to Roy Raby as Director of Music.

Roy has enjoyed a varied career since receiving his degree from the Royal Northern College of Music. He ran and conducted his own first class chamber orchestra for many years and has worked in a freelance capacity as a harpsichordist, trombonist, composer, arranger and pianist. He moved into teaching around twelve years ago, working first at The Cheltenham Ladies' College before being appointed Director of Music at Westonbirt School and then at Pates Grammar.

Roy came to Rendcomb in 2007 where his abundant enthusiasm had an immediate impact on students and colleagues alike, the department growing immediately in size and stature. In his first year, we enjoyed a dramatic increase in the number of concerts and performing opportunities and it is a tribute to his extraordinary powers of persuasion that an event that, superficially, seemed to offer a poor alternative to watching paint dry - namely the final of the piano scales competition - was attended and enjoyed by over a quarter of Rendcomb's pupils! The plethora of lunchtime concerts was also enjoyed by large audiences that would put many a school of several times the size to shame. He ably led a staff of twenty visiting music teachers and was justifiably proud of the fact that more than 20% of Senior School pupils participated in the College Choir.

*Mr J Carter*



## Philip Dunn

Philip Dunn joined the staff of Rendcomb College in April 1988, and now retires after 23

years of service to the school. Phillip has taught classical guitar and generations of Rendcombians are indebted to him for their musical education.

All three Directors of Music since my time here speak in the most glowing terms about Phil, the musician, and Phil, the man, and I am both honoured and privileged to count him as a colleague and a friend.

David White, a former and long standing director of music, refers to Philip as his "right hand man", supporting him at all



times, including with exam assessments and bringing excellent financial awareness to departmental funding. At all times, Phil was there to give expert advice and opinions. Apart from classical guitar, Philip has always given support to College concerts, whether classical or rock, and played in the band for the numerous successful musicals. In recent times, he has played alongside his very talented son, Jolyon, "Dunn and Son", as it were!

He will, I am sure, look in from time to time, to make sure we are all still smiling and, on behalf of everyone who is a part of Rendcomb College, I thank him for all he has given to enhance our lives here, and wish him a long and happy retirement.

*Mr L North*



## Elaine Young

Elaine is a true polymath; she has taught French and Latin here over the years, besides all the

support subjects. Elaine has been an absolute rock and good friend to us all in EAL, she is discreet, utterly dependable, painstakingly thorough (she has been our EAL exam's officer over the last two years), much respected tutor (both 6th form and Lower school). Words cannot express both her contribution to the International students over the years and our deep gratitude. We will all sorely miss her and we wish her every happiness on her early retirement; joining Peter her husband, travelling more regularly to the U. S to see her four granddaughters and becoming more deeply involved in her church in Cheltenham.

*Mrs J Stutchbury*



## Bethany Blaine

Bethany Blaine joined Rendcomb in January 2009. Bethany was initially employed to

coach Girls' Games and assist in the girls boarding houses.

She quickly established herself at Rendcomb and at the start of the academic year 2009 she joined Park House as an assistant houseparent. Bethany also taught American Studies and supported the EAL Department.

Beth was a great asset to the school and will be missed by the Rendcomb family. We wish her luck in her new adventure obtaining a masters in Teaching English as a Foreign Language back in the USA.

*Mrs K Coups*

## New Staff

**Mrs Sue Corkett** MSc - Maths Teacher

**Mr Dom Franks** BA MMus - Director of Music

**Mr Tom Dunn** BA - English Teacher

**Miss Pamela Crisp** BM - Asst. Director of Music

**Miss Jessica Mucci** - Lacrosse Coach

**Mr Roland Martin** BA (Hons) - Headmaster

**Miss Victoria D'Amato** - Lacrosse Coach





# Farewell Gerry and Liese Holden



## FAREWELL FROM BOBBY MORGAN

*I don't know if Gerry Holden was looking forward to inheriting, along with his new appointment as Headmaster of Rendcomb, a Deputy Head who had already been in place for nine years.*

Over the next eight years before I retired in 2007 he brought many of those ideas to fruition. Firstly, the creation of a Junior School was brought about incredibly quickly; Gerry overcame a wide range of potential obstacles, such as the necessary massive relocation of classrooms and considerable upheaval in other boarding accommodation. Gerry gained the support of Staff, Governors, existing parents, prospective Junior School parents but most importantly the existing Senior School pupils.

Secondly, Gerry has worked enormously hard to maintain a vibrant Sixth Form at Rendcomb - genuinely co-educational with real opportunities for both girls and boys to make their mark. In fighting off competition for sixth-formers from the Sixth-Form Colleges and the Grammar Schools, Gerry realised that the battle could be won by showing how much Rendcomb has to offer - to all its sixth form students, not just some. Fie has always enjoyed being part of Sixth form life- whether it was meeting with prefects, watching games teams, encouraging sixth form entertainments, supporting cultural occasions, or simply having a drink in the Sixth Form bar.

Gerry has loved taking an active interest in all aspects of school life and his enthusiastic support has helped staff to launch new ventures such as Sports Day and the Arts Festival, to which pupils have really taken. This hands-on approach is essential in a small school where you are expecting everyone to play his or her part.

A resilient character and a capacity for hard work have enabled Gerry to cope with both roles, even in the tough situations that from time to time confront all Heads.

We shared a lot of laughs - not least over the state of Scottish football and one particular Edinburgh team; it is just as well that Rendcomb is not an official soccer school, judging by his efforts on the pitch. His golf is better - much better - but like all good Scots he always has a hard luck story somewhere in a round.

Throughout his time at Rendcomb, Gerry has been superbly supported by Liese and she has contributed a great deal to the school, not least through the outstanding issues of *The Rendcombian* magazine and in the vital area of publicity. They have been enormously hospitable and have kept a very open house, when at times they might have yearned for just a bit of privacy! Rendcomb owes them both a very great debt of gratitude while I personally am grateful for their friendship and support. I wish them well at Dover College.

## FAREWELL FROM MARTIN WATSON

*From the outset, I knew that Gerry and I would get on very well, professionally and socially, for we shared similar ambitions for the school and enjoyed each other's humour!*

Not many Senior Headmasters would engage in the banter that often emerged including on such formal occasions as Founder's Day! The "Little and Large" team may have looked rather odd but it proved to be an effective one and we worked well together.

Being Headmaster can be a lonely position at times and on many occasions we sought, and gave, advice and support. Certainly I will always be grateful to Gerry for the friendship and unequivocal backing that he gave.

His vision to open a Junior School and to appoint me as Junior School Headmaster was clearly inspirational!

Gerry and Liese demonstrated a real passion for Rendcomb, its History and tradition, its future and most importantly its pupils. The time that they freely gave to attend nearly every activity and event was phenomenal and I know much appreciated by the students and the parent body.

The Rendcomb experience is one that shapes, guides and inspires our children,

preparing them for the challenges of further education and beyond. The life skills attained on the Rendcomb journey are invaluable and many students of the past 12 years will acknowledge that without the Holdens their memories and development would have been less enriched.

As they embark on the next stage of their careers at Dover College, we thank them for the energy, dedication, commitment and above all care that they displayed during their stewardship of Rendcomb College. Our sincere thanks and very best wishes go with them always.

*Martin Watson  
Headmaster Rendcomb  
College Junior School*



# Liese Holden

## RENAISSANCE LADY

*"Behind every great headmaster there is a surprised wife", Gerry Holden was heard to say at his final Headmaster's Assembly.*

I would add behind every surprised Headmaster, there is a great wife, who is there supporting him and offsetting his inadequacies - in Gerry's case, geographical dyslexia and a procrastination for letter writing [although he has an amazing memory and is always swift to reply to emails]. But enough about Gerry, this appreciation is about the most important Holden leaving Rendcomb this summer - Liese!

I did not know Liese in her early Headmasterly Wife days before I joined the college as Gerry's PA in 2003 but from those I have spoken to, I know that she entertained Staff and Governors at lavish dinner parties and is an excellent cook. With Alex, their son in the school, she was a regular supporter on the touchline, at rugby and hockey matches and on the boundary at cricket matches. Liese combined this maternal role with serving on the Village Hall Committee and helping to edit and produce the colourful Parish Newsletter. She was a great support to Kim Taplin, the School Chaplain when he needed a particularly complicated order of service produced for a confirmation or for our successive Directors of Music who needed support in producing concert programmes. These tasks were carried out voluntarily as Liese was also working outside School, first at The Tourist Information Centre in Cirencester and then subsequently at Moore, Allen and Innocent's Antiques Auction House. These positions were highly professional jobs in their own right and it is amazing that Liese found time to contribute to the College's riding activities, including residential holidays to West Wales, and then empowering pupils from the middle school houses, then being run by Vicky Hayward and Lindsey North, to organise a series of outstanding social occasions.

Given the increasing demands made on the need to recruit students to Rendcomb, it was simply a question of time before Liese's part-time role in Marketing became a full time position, and Sir Michael Angus, the then Chairman of Governors formalised

the post. Marketing is a term which is often much misunderstood by those in education and Liese's role was given a very clear focus: to increase the number of prospective enquiries to the school and also to represent the Rendcomb experience, "the product", if you like, in a very positive way. It is no accident that during Liese's time as Marketing Manager, the school reached its highest numbers of pupils in its history at 420 in 2008. Conversions of "prospective pupils" to "real pupils", particularly with the arrival of our Americans friends at Fairford, was very lively and required that Marketing under Liese and Admissions under Ann Slark worked hand in glove: they did. Simultaneously, Liese took on, with Amanda Brealy's help in the Junior School, a comprehensive makeover of both *The Rendcombian*, the school magazine, a new Senior School prospectus and a complete overhaul of the College website, which in the words of one leading HMC School Headmaster, is "the best website he has seen". Quality internal publications followed, particularly newsletters and sixth form booklets were being produced to a standard which was way in advance of what similar small schools could produce. Social and cultural events which occurred on a Saturday evening, or in some cases, Sunday, appeared on the plasma screen first thing Monday morning. The Rendcomb "product" was well and truly established in the market place but the pièce de résistance surely has to be the top-quality slides which Liese produced for Founder's Day this year, without which the outstanding speakers would not have been able to have performed so well.

In saying goodbye to Liese [do make sure that Gerry does find Dover, by the way], we are saying goodbye to an impressive colleague, loyal Rendcomb supporter, both college and village, a great "first lady" and a very dear friend.

Rendcomb's loss is certainly Kent's gain.

Christine Johnson





# Academic Record 2011

## A Level

Lucy Barnet, Mf M P

Evi Bevans, B G Py

Alex Bishop, C G\* M

Charlotte Clements, G Ms

Rachael Jennings, B G Py

Xenia Kucherenko, C Gm M P

Yasmin Lester-Powell, B C A\* Py\*

Kerry Lin, Cns\* Bs\* H\* M\*\* P\*

Tom Margesson, C\* Ee\*\* H\* M\*

Tom Molloy, Mf Dr M\*\*

Tom Pearson, Bs H

Katy Schofield, Bs Dr H

Edward Slark, Ee A Dr\*

Sarah Tarleton, Ee\* F H\*

Hannah Taylor, Ee Bs F

John Hu, C Ff\* M\*\*

Wenqing Li, C\* Mf\* M\*\* P

Cloris Liu, C\*\* Mf\*\* M\*\* P\*

Henry Probst, A Bs G\*

Bryony Smith, A Py;

Siyuan Wang, Bs\* M\* P

Caroline Whaley, B G\* M

Smile You, C Mf M\* P

Haolei Yuan, Mf M\* P

Jinmo Zhang, Mf\* M\*\* P

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, FH=History,  
M=Maths, Mf=Further Maths, Ms=Music,  
P=Physics, Py= Psychology,

## Tom Margesson

*Head boy Tom Margesson was over the moon after gaining an A\* in English and three A's in History, Maths and Chemistry.*

He will now go on to study law at Bristol University.

"I am so thrilled, I was absolutely petrified coming in today to get my results. Now I feel relieved and ready to celebrate."





**A Adams** A\* Dt E El H

**E Alway** A Dt M

**S Baker** Mad\*\* A B C\* E\* El\*\* F\* Gm\* H\* M\*\* P

**R Barnes** Mad ScAd D\* E El\* G H\* M Sc

**L Baynham** Mad\*\* B\*\* C\*\* E\*\* El\*\* G\*\* Gm\*\* H\*\* M\*\* Pe\*\* P\*\*

**A Carpenter** Mad ScAd Dt\* D E El\* G\*\* H\*\* M\* Sc

**T Channer** Mad\* ScAd\* B C Dt E El\* G H Ict M\* P

**V Clark** Mad ScAd Dt E El G Ict M Sc

**G Dietrich** B E F\* G Gm\*\* M

**J Dunn** A E El G Ict M Pe Sc

**Jo Dunn** Mad\*\* B\*\* C\*\* E\*\* El\*\* F\*\* Gm\*\* H\*\* M\*\* P\*

**E Edgell** A B C E El P Sp

**H Ellis** Mad\* B Dt D\* E\*\* El\*\* G\* H\* M P

**M Harrop** Mad B C Dt\* E El\* G\* Ict M\* Pe P

**C Jones** Mad A D E El\* G M Mu\* P

**S Jones** Mad B C\* E El\* G Gm H\* Ict M P

**A Kentfield** ScAd Dt E El G M Pe Sc

**E Lavender** Mad A\*\* B\* C\*\* D\* E\* El\*\* Gm\* H\*\* M\* P

**C Llewelyn-Bowen** Mad A\*\* B C D\*\* E\*\* El\*\* F\* G M\* P

**B Margesson** Mad ScAd Dt E El\* G Ict M Pe Sc

**J Mason** Mad\*\* B\* C\* E El\*\* G\* Gm H\* M\*\* Pe P\*

**E Mills** D E El Sp

**J Pethick** Mad\* B\* C E\* El\* G\*\* H\* M\*\* Pe P Sp

**S Popper** Mad\*\* B\*\* C\*\* E\* El\*\* G\*\* Gm\*\* H\* Ict\* M\*\* P\*\*

**E Price** Mad\*\* B\*\* C\*\* E\* El\*\* G\*\* Gm\* H\* M\*\* Pe\*\* P\*

**D Rich** Mad ScAd E El F G Ict M Pe Sc

**O Round** Mad ScAd A E El Gm M Pe

**W Scott** Mad\*\* A B\* C\*\* E\* El\*\* G\* Gm\* Ict\* M\*\* P\*

**A Sinfield** Mad\* B C D E\* El\* F G\* M\* Mu\* P

**B Smith** Mad\* B C D E\* El\*\* H\*\* M\* Pe\*\* P Sp

**C Southerden** Mad\*\* A B C D\* E\* El\*\* F\* G\* M\*\* P

**T Stevens** Mad\*\* B\*\* C\*\* E\* El\*\* G\* Gm\* H\* M\*\* Mu\*\* P\*\*

**R Taylor** Mad B C Dt\* E El\* G\* H\* Ict M P

**J Thomas** Mad\* B C D E El F G\* M\* Mu\* P

**L Witts** Mad\* B\* C\* E\* El\* G\*\* Gm\*\* Ict M\*\* Mu\* P\*

**T Wong** Mad\* B C Ch\* E El Gm H M\* Mu Pe P

**Key: A\*- C \*\* = grade A\* \* = grade A**

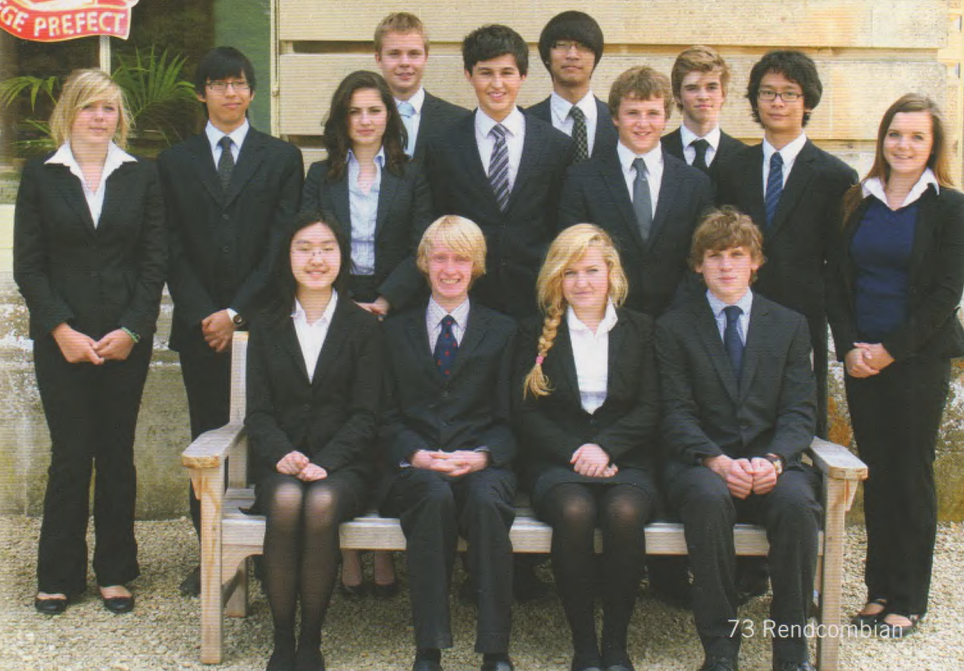
Subject key: A-Art B-Biology C-Chemistry  
D-Drama Dt=Design & Technology  
E-English Language El-English Literature  
F-French G-Geography Gm-German  
H-History Ict-information Communication  
Technology M-Mathematics Mad-  
Additional Mathematics Mu-Music  
P-Physics Pe-Physical Education Ch-  
Chinese Sc-Science ScAd-Additional  
Science Sp-Spanish



## Prefect Team

2011 - 2012

<b>Head Boy:</b> Jake McKeown	Kai Missala
<b>Head Girl:</b> Holly Phelps	Tom Benson
<b>Deputy Head Boy:</b> Dan Geerah	Erik Yu
	Chris Couch
<b>Deputy Head Girl:</b> Betty Hu	Chris Minton
Megan Mulhall	Eric Li
Tommy Lin	Andrea Haas
Kat Daly	





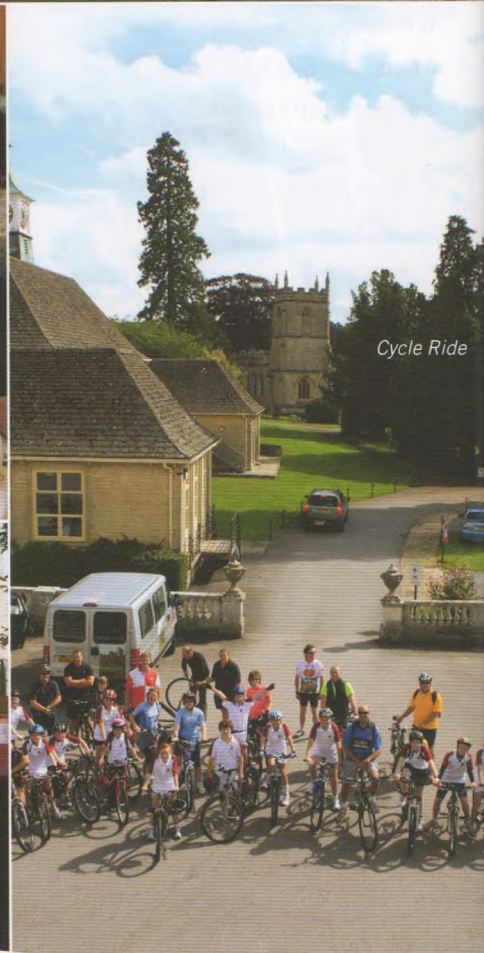
# Charity Events

10 Mums & Dads joined 17 pupils from the First and Second Years to cycle over 20 miles of the rolling Cotswolds to Bibury and back in order to raise £165 for the Gloucestershire Historic Churches' Preservation Trust.

Six other Mums also came together to help with marshalling and providing refreshments afterwards. The weather was wonderful, the views and churches visited were spectacular - all in all a great afternoon to travel along the Coln Valley. Some of the young riders even had time and energy to stop off and join in with a Tug of War at the Coln St. Dennis fete.



Bring a Teddy to school for Children In Need



Cycle Ride



Cycle Ride



Bring a Teddy to School for Children In Need

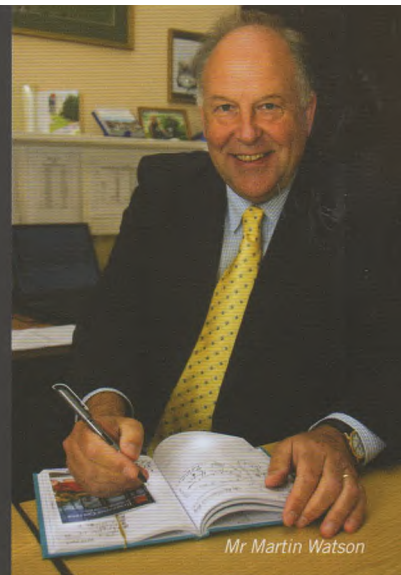


# Welcome to the *Junior School*

*It is hard to imagine that another year has passed since I was writing the introduction for last year's Rendcombian. Life in the Junior School is full on and as this section will bear witness 2010-11 has been a very enjoyable and successful year.*

In our weekly Distinction Assemblies we celebrate collective and individual achievements but it is only when these are collated together that the enormity of the pupil and school success is revealed. Well done everyone, you should be very proud, I certainly am.

For those currently or previously linked to Rendcomb College Junior School I hope these pages will bring back some wonderful memories. For those considering a Rendcomb education I hope that you will sense the unique and priceless opportunity that awaits.



Mr Martin Watson

## LEAVERS



### Mrs Sophie Tarplee and Miss Ruth Flint

Both ladies have decided to stand down from their posts in order to continue to enjoy bringing up their children, perhaps no surprise when one thinks how much they love being with young children. Sophie joined us in September 2004 in order to get the Nursery ready for opening in January 2005 and Ruth joined later that year. What a team they proved to be. Both highly trained 'Norland' nannies they brought a freshness and vigour which created a fabulously stimulating Nursery environment. However we are pleased that Ruth, who recently got married (now Mrs Green) will be joining us in Forest School.



### Sasha Badock (Gap student)

Sasha spent the majority of her year supporting the Nursery where she worked very hard and put her artistic flair to good use. Her work in other parts of the Junior School and in Godman House were also much appreciated. Sasha gained a great deal from her year and maximised the opportunity to travel and 'see' Europe. We thank her for her significant contribution and wish her well in her future studies in South Africa.



### Mrs Karen Cairns

After many year sterling service as a Teaching Assistant, predominantly supporting J2, Karen decided during the Summer to seek new pastures. We sincerely thank Karen for her dedication, enthusiasm and willingness to support children and staff in whatever field was necessary. Karen and her family have been involved within the Junior School since its opening in 2000 and their significant contribution to the development of RCJS will always be much appreciated. Our sincere best wishes go with her in her new career.

## NEW STAFF



### Mrs Sarah Bischoff

Sarah joins us as our part-time Learning Support teacher and SENCO. Clearly a warm and caring teacher, Sarah also brings a wealth of experience, organization and professionalism. I was delighted to have secured someone of Sarah's quality to our team and it is lovely to renew acquaintances having been trained together at Exeter some years ago!



### Miss Claire Hayden, Mr Tom Layton, Miss Penny Morrow-Brown, Miss Christina Rayner



With 4 teachers on maternity leave we needed to recruit suitable replacements, initially on a temporary basis. Inundated with applications the fact that we selected four Newly Qualified Teachers (NQTs) speaks volumes for their quality and potential. Each has settled extremely well in their various zones and departments and already they have played a full role in the life of Rendcomb. During the year they have all been completing the induction programme required by the government and again they have all excelled. I am delighted that all four will remain at Rendcomb for the next academic year.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Sophie and Simon Tarplee on the birth of their first child, William, born on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2010



Andy and Liz Lawrence, on the birth of their second child, Louis born on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2010.



Melanie and Dan Bleaken, on the birth of their first child, Emily, born on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2010.





# Eco News

## Green Flag Awarded Again

*After a lot of hard work and a great deal of paper work the Junior School was awarded their second GREEN FLAG award.*

This is the highest national award that can be received and it recognises excellence in the fields of sustainability, outdoor education, environmental interests and a promotion of conservation. The assessor remarked that

we are leading the field in all aspects and our reputation for this has ensured that other schools and organisations have copied our outstanding example. Everyone should be really proud. Well done!



*A Great Crested Newt found at Rendcomb*

## Welly good design for pupils!

*Rosie Parkes let her creative side go wild, as she scooped first prize with her imaginative entry for 'Design a Wildlife Welly' competition run by the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust.*

They had received over 500 welly 'masterpieces.' Grace Tushingham was a runner-up. The Judge thought that "on a grey winter's day, Rosie's picture looked particularly colourful and cheerful and by including lots of different animals and insects you could tell this was a really well thought out pair of wellies!" Jan Ryder from the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust surprised the girls by announcing the winners and presenting them with their prizes in Junior School Distinction Assembly.



### Eco Haiku Poems

Take a stand right now  
Protect our environment  
Save it at all costs.

*Charlie Pugh*

Look after our world,  
Recycle all your rubbish,  
And turn off the lights.

*Nadia Williamson*

We are an eco school  
We like to keep our school green  
Pick up all the litter!

*Oliver Jones*

## Tasty Potatoes

*The seed potatoes started life on the window sill of the J5 classroom where they "chitted" for 2 weeks in February.*

They were then planted in mid-March. The leaves shot up fast and the mystery of what was happening underneath was finally seen in June. The pupils searched the soil with excitement as they discovered the potato "treasures". The crop was then cooked by the chefs and everyone enjoyed eating the potatoes for lunch. Delicious!

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## Eco Team members 2010-2011

J6 Phoebe Janes - Eco Monitor,  
Megan Channer, India Ross,  
Rebecca Breare, Grace Knapp,  
Matthew Hansel Amelia Ward  
J5 Charlie Pugh, Grace

Tushingham, Philip Harrison Josey,  
Charlie Roberts, Morgan Seatter  
Messer, Emily Sharman  
J4 Paddy Scudamore, William  
Nicol, Harvey Cole, Millie De Hann,  
Jack Attwood, Thomas Haynes  
J3 Carmen Lee, Alexander Ross,  
Isabel Wateridge, Archie Faskin







## Transformed Pond

*A wonderful development has emerged during this year as our once plain pond has been transformed into a Monet masterpiece.*

The vision of Sister Julie Rogers has made this possible and we are a grateful for her time and expertise in creating this beautiful pond. We look forward to lots of wildlife setting up home in the pond and the surrounding area.

### Haiku

Lives in the river,  
Dangerous as a lion,  
Teeth like razor blades

*By Harvey Drennan*

## Energy and Climate Change for

### Primary Schools Workshop

*Some Eco Team representatives from Year 6 ventured to Gloucester with Mr and Mrs Watson to participate in a workshop with other Green flag holders in the county.*

It was a very busy and useful morning providing even more knowledge for the eco team.



Bee survey



## Climate Cops

The pupils in J4 and J5 enjoyed a visit from The Climate Cops who have visited the school on two previous occasions. The different messages about energy saving methods were certainly learnt by everyone.





# Rendcomb College Junior School's first trip to France!

*During the Easter holidays 34 J5 & J6 pupils plus 5 members of staff spent 3 days discovering Northern France.....*

The trip began with an exciting moment crossing the channel as some children went on the Eurotunnel for the very first time. It was hot in the coach but we tucked into our sandwiches to boost energy levels for our first two visits. The first stop was Ambleteuse where we had a tour of a Second World War museum. The curator gave everyone a questionnaire to fill in as we wandered around the exhibits. There was a huge variety of military uniforms from different countries and details about various key events during the war as well as displays relating to everyday wartime life. Whilst we watched a film about the D Day landings, the questionnaires were marked and prizes given to the lucky winners. The gift shop proved to be very popular but we eventually made our way to Etaples to visit the First World War British cemetery.

At the cemetery we took it in turns to look at the registers for soldiers bearing our surname. The cemetery was vast and we were all struck by the neat rows of graves reminding us that so many lives had been lost. Some pupils found graves bearing their family name however Mr Watson and Mrs Barker will have to return another year to complete their search!

We stayed at a residential centre called Stella Maris in Berck-sur-Mer. Just after our arrival we had our evening meal which was delicious. The children enjoyed trying the food and unanimously agreed that breakfast was the best meal of the day - the croissants were rather large!

On the second day the weather was overcast and a bit chilly but the market at Etaples beckoned. The children had questionnaires

to complete in their groups which included finding out what kinds of fruit, veg, cheese, meat and non-food items are sold and enquiring about the prices. There was also plenty of time for shopping before a short walk to the fish market by the small port. This really was amazing to see - lots of different kinds of fish and seafood and a fabulous demonstration of skill in preparing the produce by the local fishmongers.

In the afternoon we went to the local primary school in the little town of Verton. Firstly we were invited into the classroom where the French children presented themselves in English and our children reciprocated in French. Then we moved to the gym which gave the children more space to chat to their partners. Despite initial nerves on both sides everyone tried their very best and managed to make themselves understood. J5 and





6 put lots of effort into the preparation for this moment and should feel proud of their achievement in having a French conversation with a native speaker of their own age. The afternoon's work finished with an impromptu football match (France 2 : Angleterre 2) and afternoon tea of pains au chocolat and a selection of English biscuits which we had brought with us.

Our last visit of the day was to a traditional sweet shop in Berck where the sweets are hand made using spun sugar. The group watched in awe as the confectioner showed us the different stages of sweet making. Then it was our turn to make a lollipop into whatever shape we fancied then eat it! I think the shop had record sales figures for that afternoon!

On the last day, the sun shone and the temperature got up to 17 degrees, perfect for a sand sailing lesson. Unfortunately there was not enough wind for us to go very far but we shared the kart with a friend so we could take turns at pushing each other. The instructors were brilliant and it wasn't too difficult to learn how to rig the sail and steer the kart. They also said that we were a fantastic group - not only attentive and sensible but quick to learn and actually rather good! After a quick stop at the local supermarket to stock up on goodies and

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spend those last few Euros we headed back to the centre for lunch and to load our bags onto the coach. As it was Mrs Breare's birthday we had a surprise waiting in the form of a specially made lovely bavarois cake. Sadly there wasn't enough for all the children so the staff and Rebeccah had to eat it!

On the way to the Eurotunnel we stopped at a traditional bakery where we had an informative and hands on demonstration of how to make croissants and prepare the dough for the next day's bread. We learnt that the secret to croissant making is rolling up the triangle of dough properly which wasn't as easy as it looked! The bread is cooked in a traditional oven using oak branches for a distinctive taste and those who took some home thought it was delicious.

During the return journey, the children added to their worksheets and wrote in their diaries until we stopped and had a mini prize giving ceremony. Categories included the tidiest bedrooms, effort in speaking French at the primary school, sand sailing and kindness to others. We arrived back at Rendcomb an hour early and although everyone was glad to see their families there was an air of sadness not to be in France. The trip was all that we had hoped it would be - fun, interesting and educational and it was a pleasure to take such a lovely group of children abroad. I do hope that they have had an experience that they will remember for the rest of their lives.

Adrienne Barker



KJ9 Rendcombian



# Nursery

*In Nursery, we put an emphasis on learning through play based on the EYFS framework.*

A well planned indoor and outdoor environment is important in providing children with stimulating activities which helps them learn through meaningful play experiences. Through play, children can make sense of the world around them and develop self-confidence to try new experiences. They also gain skills such as hand eye coordination, creativity, problem solving and imagination.



*Throughout the year in Nursery the children have had many opportunities to develop these skills through activities such as forest school, ballet and cookery.*

We have also studied different topics such as mini beasts, holidays and healthy eating. Along with the Otters, the children have also had the opportunity to take part in circus day where the children learnt how to juggle and spin plates.





Autumn Day



*Nursery borrowed an incubator and managed to hatch 6 eggs into Cotswold Leg Bar chicks.*

The children loved watching the progress of the eggs and even witnessed a chick hatching.

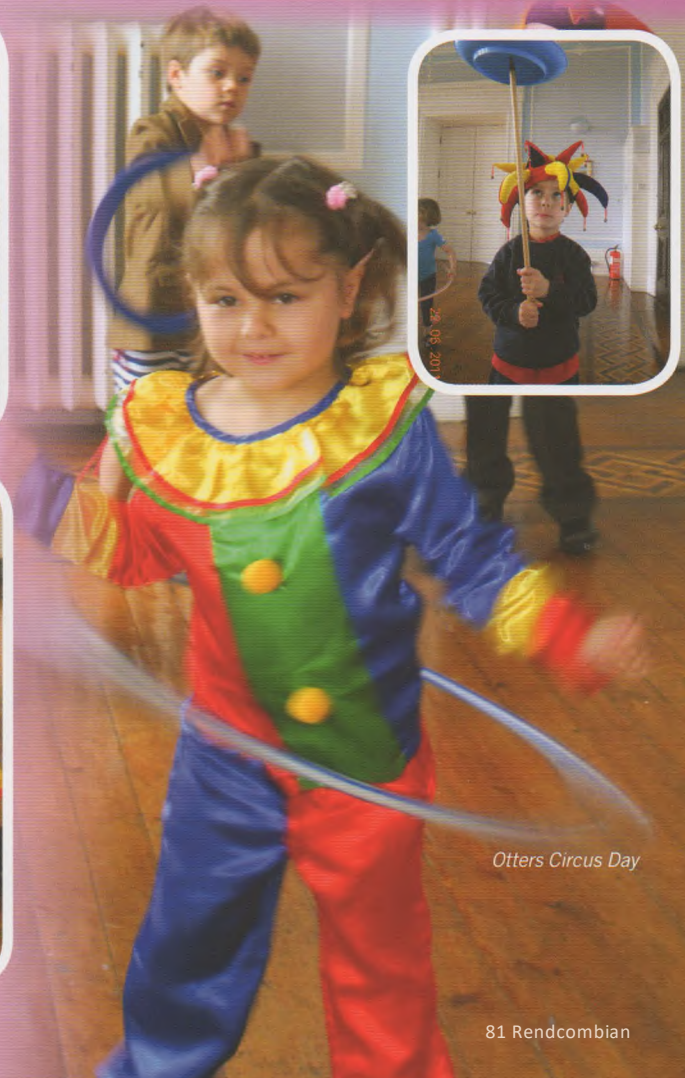


Otters Nativity

02.12.2010



28.05.2017



Otters Circus Day



# Reception fun



Blackberry picking



Looking at skulls



*The children all settled into Reception very well and started learning their Jolly Phonics sounds and numbers.*

Our topic was 'All About Me' and the children learnt about bones, bodies, senses and especially enjoyed their visit from Sister Rogers. We also managed to fit in Harvest Festival, Autumn Day, making apple and blackberry crumble and a Nativity!



Nurse Amelia



"Let me check your ears"



Skeleton pictures

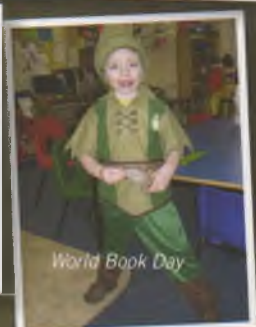






*The children blasted into space for our next topic 'On the Move'.*

We learned all about astronauts, planets and made giant role play rockets. We enjoyed visits from three police vehicles, a fire engine and Amelia's daddy talked to us all about being a pilot.



*Our farm trip to the Cotswold Farm Park was great fun – holding chicks, ducklings and guinea pigs and a tractor ride.*

As part of our Minibeasts topic we watched at first hand the butterfly and frog lifecycle and learned about spiders, snails, ladybirds, worms and bees. Summer Term ended with a special Circus Day where the children practised the art of plate spinning, juggling and hula hooping. The children have all worked very hard in their Reception year and can now add numbers, and read and write independently. Well done everybody.





# J1

have been busy this year. We have enjoyed working individually and in groups during a number of exciting topics.



We especially enjoyed learning about 'Ourselves', 'Dinosaurs' and 'Pirates'.

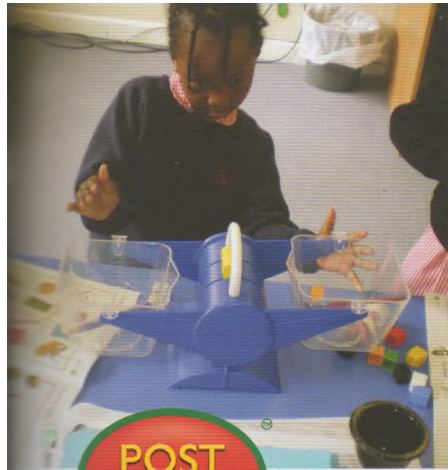
We have had lots of fun dressing up in spots for Children in Need, as our favourite book character for World Book Day, as a circus performer for the Otters' Circus Day and as a Pirate for J1's end of year Pirate party.



In Forest School we have built shelters together, went blackberry picking, made trails for others to follow and loved having a fire where we cooked crumpets and marshmallows.

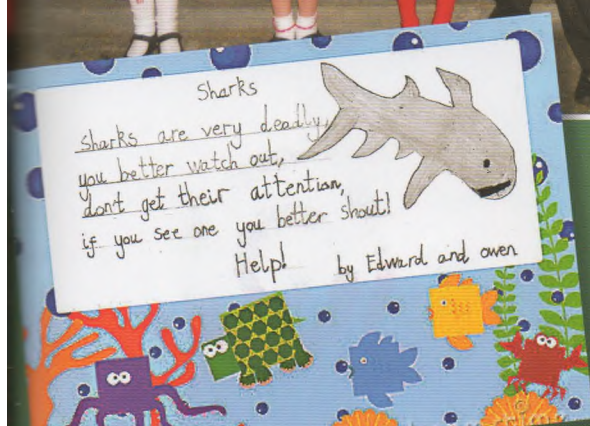
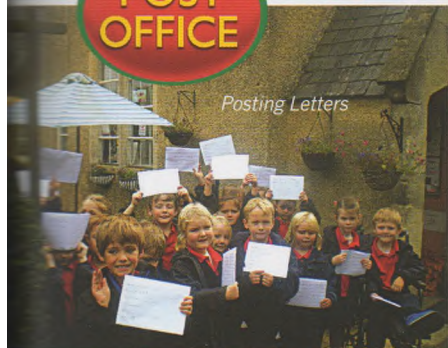






**POST  
OFFICE**

Posting Letters



During our topic 'Under the Sea' we visited Bristol Aquarium, where we saw lots of creatures which we have been learning about. We visited the classroom where we got to look closely at two crabs and name them and also watched a 3D IMax film about sharks.





# J2

*It has been an action-packed year for J2 in which we have done so much. A few new faces started this September and have fitted in fantastically well within the J2 'family'. We have had so much fun and learnt about so many different things. Just look for yourself!*



*We've celebrated the festival of Divali Chinese New Year and Harvest.*



## Circus Day

*We hosted a member of the circus to come and teach us different skills for the Circus.*

*We had great fun learning how to juggle, play with Diablos, hula hoop, spin plates and much more.*



## Waitrose

*In the Lent term we visited Waitrose in Cheltenham.*

*We learnt about healthy eating, made our own healthy salad drank delicious fruity smoothies and had a backstage tour of the superstore.*





# Quenington Fresh Air

*We went to Fresh Air Sculpture Exhibition in Quenington.*

This exhibition takes place once every two years and gives the children the opportunity to experience Sculptured art. The children were given the opportunity to make their own sketches and create their own sculptures in the afternoon.



## PE

We have covered lots of areas in PE and enjoyed learning about different parts of the curriculum including dance, gymnastics and we have enjoyed playing basketball.

## Steam

*We went to Steam Museum in Swindon and had a great day dressing up and learning about famous Victorians including Brunel and Stephenson.*

## Outdoor learning & Forest School

*Outside the classroom we have made the most of the outdoor areas and even used technology in them with our new electronic microscopes and Tuff Cams.*



*We have even set off rockets in the playground!*



Inside the classroom we have covered lots from Role Play of 'The boy who cried Wolf', to creating a map for Bee Bot.



## Dressing Up

*This year we have dressed up for many different causes.*

We supported Comic Relief by dressing up in red, we dressed up as our favourite book characters on World Book Day and some of us dressed up for our 'All about me' assembly.



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Christmas Party



Bingo



# RCJPA events

First Friday Fun



May Ball



May Ball



Royal Wedding Celebrations



Royal Wedding Celebrations



Summer Fete



Summer Fete







## Music

*As always, the Junior School has had a busy musical year with many accomplishments.*

The number of children who have individual music lessons has continued to grow, and as always, we are very grateful for the devoted work of our visiting music staff. Our thanks go also to Miss Oonagh Hughes, who has introduced some of our older classes to the joys of African drumming and, perhaps more unusually, playing the ukulele. We shall miss her next year in the Music Department but wish her well as we shall see her in school in a new capacity. Her place will be taken by Miss Pamela Crisp, already a familiar face in the Junior School as a much-loved piano teacher. She will also be assisting Mr Franks in the senior school.

Miss Hughes was able to demonstrate her class's African drumming as one of the most successful items in our October concert, which also featured costumed music hall songs featuring Annabelle Pearce, who bemoaned that "Daddy wouldn't buy me a bow-wow". The March concert also had great variety: we had impressive saxophone solos from Matthew Hansel and Joshua Timmis; Riley Rowe sang of The Cuckoo; and a particular

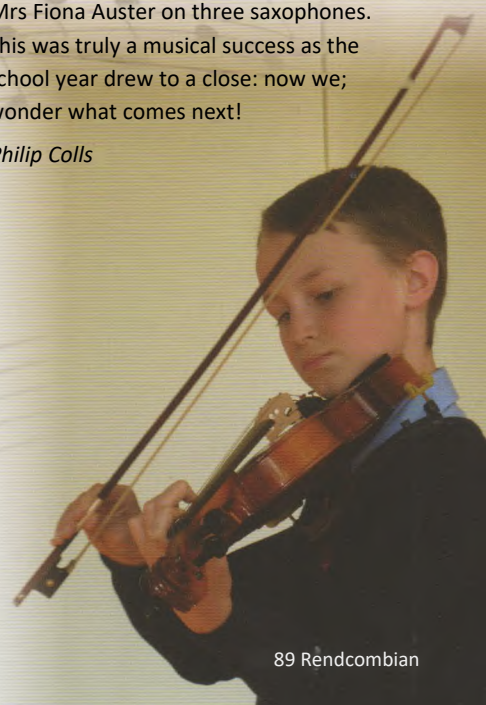
thrill was Edwin Ward's rendering of Scott Joplin's "The Entertainer". Edwin's fingers were veritably flying over the keys! We were able to welcome on this occasion two children from J2, Sophie Freeman and Natalie Williamson, who demonstrated the level to which some of the youngest children are aspiring.

The Christmas Carol Service is always a special occasion in the life of the school: as usual we had beautiful singing of carols both traditional and modern. John Gardner's lively version of "The Holly and the Ivy" was especially well received. The service began with some guitar music, and on this occasion, we were pleased to have Mr John Wright accompanying at the organ.

It has been a source of great sadness that, owing to ill health, Mr Phillip Dunn retired shortly after Christmas. He was for many years a highly-respected teacher of the guitar here at Rendcomb, and his unique character and dedication are sorely missed. We send him our best wishes. We were also sorry to say goodbye to Mr Roy Raby who for two and a half years brought an astonishing level of energy to the musical life at Rendcomb. We wish him well in his new post.

The summer term was chiefly concerned with the preparations for another musical and dramatic production, "Dream On", an adaptation by Malcolm Sircom of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream". As always, we were impressed by the results of Mrs Liebenberg's choreography, by Mrs Scase's costumes, and - of course - by Mrs Brealy's direction. I was very privileged to have as my colleagues Mr Mark Coldrick on percussion; Mr Paul Cordell on guitars; Miss Saffron Young on double bass; and Mrs Fiona Auster on three saxophones. This was truly a musical success as the school year drew to a close: now we wonder what comes next!

*Philip Colls*

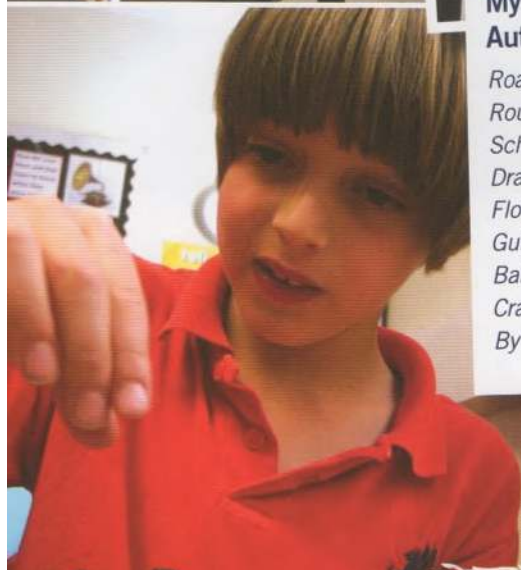






Roast-lover  
Rounders-player  
School-lover  
Drama-queen  
Flower-lover  
Guitar-player  
Ballerina-lover  
Crazy-bones  
By Paige Lowtsoo

Roast-lover  
Rounders-player  
School-lover  
Drama-queen  
Flower-lover  
Guitar-player  
Ballerina-lover  
Crazy-bones  
By Paige Lowtoo

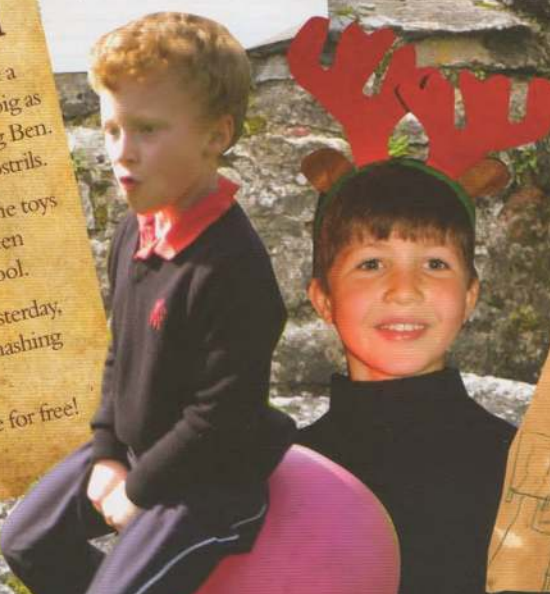


I'm thirsty for blood  
I'm really dead. I spin  
A web that's made of silk.  
What am I?  
A spider  
By William Cotterell

I'm thirsty for blood  
I'm really dead. I spin  
A web that's made of silk.  
What am I?  
A spider  
By William Cotterell

[illegible]

1. Start at the Bus Hotel.
2. Walk to the gate of the adventure playground.
3. Then go to the herb garden.
4. Next go to the biggest wood chair.
5. Carefully go to the start of the way  
to the top pitch there are a quarter  
of the way there and you will see a  
path. Go along the path and at the end  
look down.







A Riddle  
I'm as sparkly as a  
hammer  
I'm as pretty as the top  
of a sword.  
Everybody wants me.  
I will make you rich.  
What am I?  
Alexander Hendrick



## We enjoyed being slaves at Chedworth Roman Villa

"When I was a slave I was happy because I knew that I wasn't a real slave. I would not be sold at the market." Freya Angus

"The best part was when we saw the loos because they used a sponge on a stick for loo paper and kept it in a bucket of water and there was a pipe that you could clean the sponge in and then they put it back in the bucket." Millie Butler.

"I enjoyed being a slave because it was fun but I think that real slaves would have felt unhappy because they had to work really hard and sleep on the floor." Lucy Thomas

Dear David Attenborough

I have discovered a cave with lots of fossils from the time before dinosaurs to Roman Time. And, I think I have discovered a new species of arthropod which may have come from a different period. There are lots of deep pools of lava in a cave in Asia but the rocks in the cave are falling into a big blowhole of lava. There are also pools of water with preserved animals like ammonites, trilobites and sea scorpions.

Please could you do an interview with me with most of the fossils?

Yours sincerely

Freddie Haynes

PS. I can't get the fossils out of the rock.



## Our trip to the Corinium Museum

"We had to be grave detectives and work out, with the help of some clues and x-ray evidence who was in our grave. I think the person in my grave was a weaver because there was a wool comb. In her grave there was also a lot of jewellery which showed that she was wealthy." William Marriot.

"The person in my grave was a girl. My favourite items in the museum were the sculptures." Harry Marsden

"A lady talked about how to identify a Saxon grave. You can only tell whether they're a male or female when they are an adult." Carmen Lee







The children have really enjoyed practical sessions in Science and Maths.



### Animal Kenning

Slimy Slitherer,  
Poisonous predator,  
Skin shredder,  
Rodent remover,  
Hooded hisser,  
Fangs fearsomer,  
Legless lungier,  
Venomous spitter.  
King Cobra  
By Freddie Shetliffe



## Ernest Cook Trust Redwood Trip

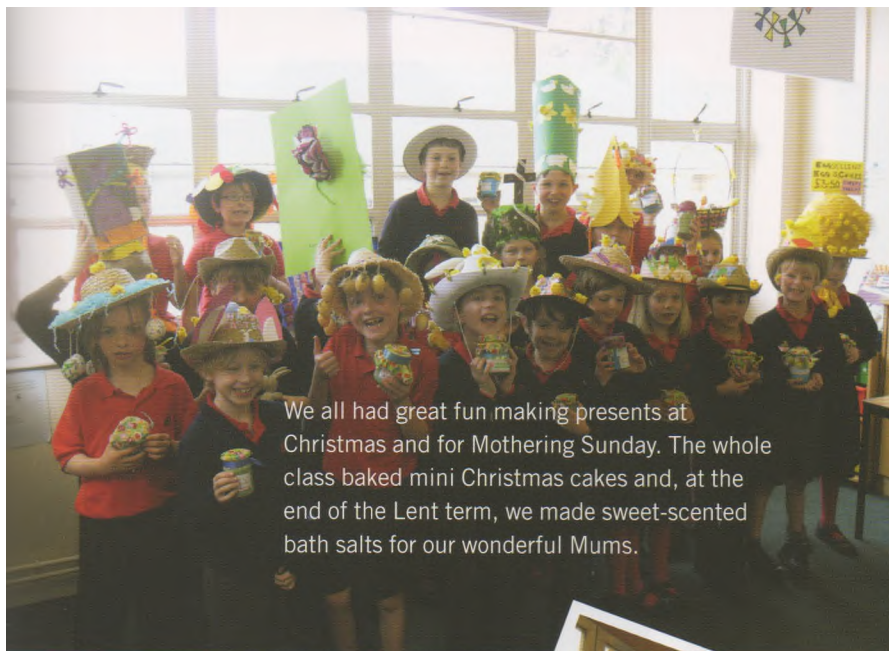
*J4 had an awesome trip to the Ernest Cook trust near Slimbridge. The children studied a multitude of habitats with activities such as minibeast hunts in the forest, learning about badger sets and identifying deer from their skulls and antlers.*

We lunched sitting on huge oak logs surrounded by the forest and overlooking a large pond. Afterwards the children had an impromptu model raft building competition using bark and "clay" from a rather large and muddy puddle. They even managed to test the buoyancy of their models in the fish pond though I'd afraid many of them finished up in a rather muddy and watery grave.

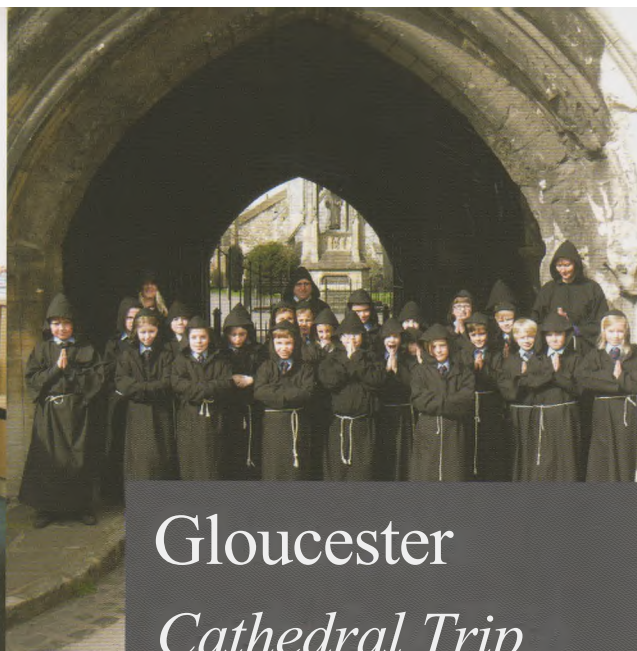
The highlight of the day came after lunch where the children armed with nets went pond dipping at two different sites. The first was an ancient pond which had 6 landing sites from which the children pond dipped looking like something out of Huckleberry Finn. Their catch consisted of tadpoles in various stages of their life cycle, newts, water scorpions, May fly nymphs and several rather large

dragon fly nymphs. The second area was a series of water ways established about a year ago and the children were delighted by their catch of sticklebacks and large water snails. I'm certain that many of the children used their wellies instead of their nets to catch them though!





We all had great fun making presents at Christmas and for Mothering Sunday. The whole class baked mini Christmas cakes and, at the end of the Lent term, we made sweet-scented bath salts for our wonderful Mums.



## Gloucester Cathedral Trip

*J4 went to Gloucester Cathedral where we were met by a very enthusiastic Cathedral education officer, Mrs Penny*

Mrs Penny explained about the relationship between the Cathedral and the Tudor times (Edward II is buried in Gloucester and which is why the Cathedral survived the disillusion of the monasteries by King Henry VIII. )

Next we learned about the Benedictine monks who once resided at Gloucester. The highlight was dressing up as monks and travelling back in time. However some of the children seemed to struggle with the vow of silence!!!

The children were given the opportunity to sing in Latin in the choir stalls, make brass rubbings, designed illuminated letters and write with a quill pen. The day was concluded by a tour of the Cathedral learning about its construction and the various forces involved complete with entering the crypt and building their own arches

## Oxford Trip

*J4 visited the Ancient Egypt Exhibition at the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford.*

The children had chance to handle ancient artefacts and make their own predictions as to what they were and where they may have been found. They also explored the outside of a huge shrine had a close encounter with a mummy!

In the afternoon, they set off on a boat trip down the River Thames, accompanied by eminent local historian and author, Mark Davies, who was able to provide a commentary on local buildings and characters associated with Oxford. He was also able to tell the children the reason why the city is named Oxford.

One pupil was heard to say, 'This is the best school trip I have ever been on!'



## Climate Cops

*Having been inspired by the visit of Climate Cops and having studied recycling in Geography,*

*J4 presented the first-class assembly of the year on the subject of Climate Change. The children, dressed in their Climate Cops T-shirts, spoke clearly and accurately from memory to an interested audience. Some of the vocabulary was technical and scientific and, therefore, difficult to learn but they rose to the challenge with aplomb! They also sang a little ditty about recycling. Mrs. Breare and Mrs. Auster were immensely proud of the children and how they set such a high standard for others to follow.*

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



### What is Turquoise?

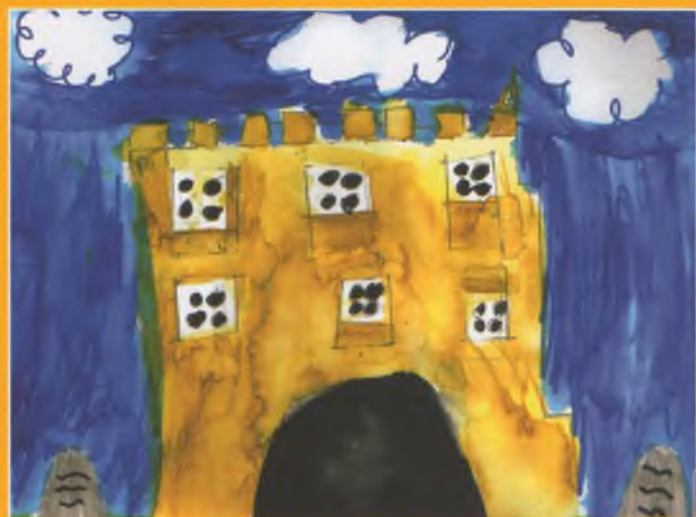
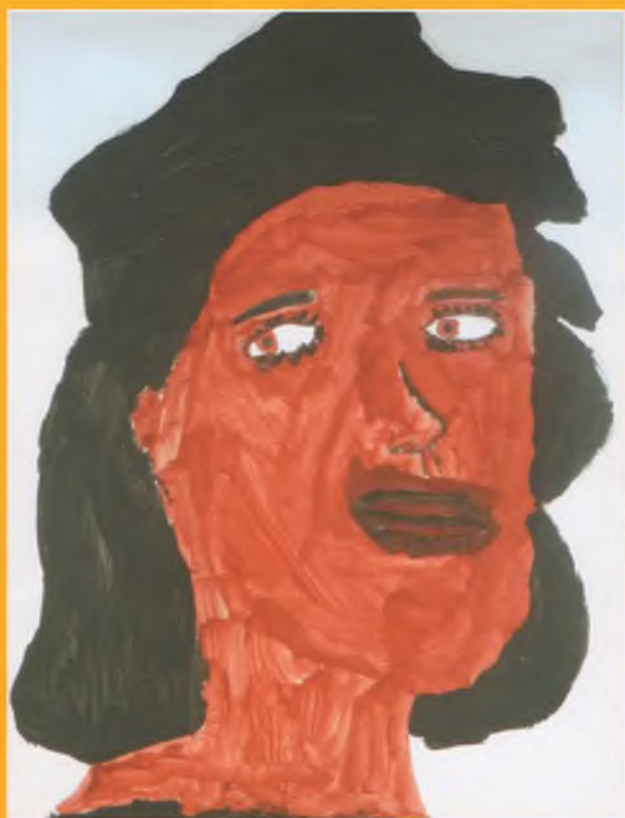
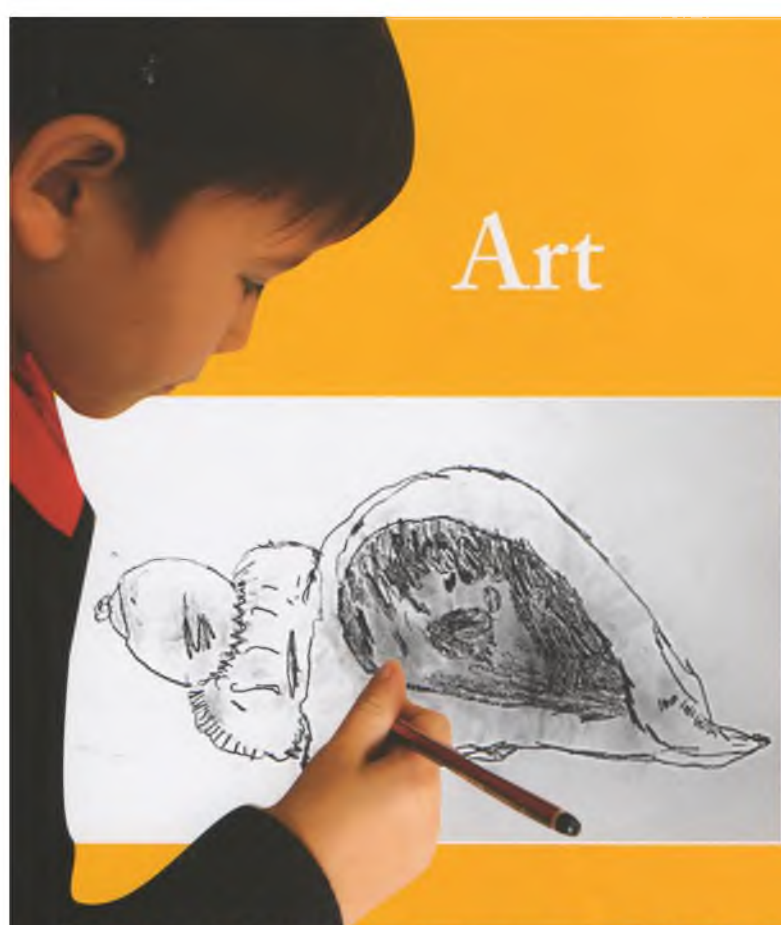
What is turquoise? The sea is turquoise,  
When it is calm, not a noise.  
What is red? Strawberry jam is red,  
Spread it thickly on your bread.  
What is yellow? A buttercup is yellow  
Growing to feed the cows that bellow.  
What is green? Peas are green,  
You'll find them in the school canteen.  
What is blue? A sapphire is blue,  
One for me and one for you.  
What is white? The end is white,  
They say you will see a beautiful sight.  
By Czeska Sztuka



*Thomas Haynes competed in the 2011 Chess Challenge and scored 100% in the school stage. He thus earns the right to be ranked among "The mightiest of minds!"*



# Art









# J5

## Oh I do like to be beside the seaside!

*The J5 pupils went on an expedition to the coastal resorts of Portishead, Clevedon and Weston Super Mare.*

On a sunny but blustery day the pupils studied the coast of each of the areas and enjoyed exploring their differences and similarities.

Poets' Walk in Clevedon provided a bracing hike along the Bristol Channel and the wide sandy beach of Weston gave the pupils a chance to play.

A great game of massive rounders helped to burn off some energy with the whole beach to ourselves. Everyone had a super day and the Geography studied in the classroom was brought to life in a special way.

## A POEM TO BE SPOKEN GENTLY

*It was so silent that I heard  
The sand under my horse's hooves  
Flick into the air...*

*It was so peaceful that I heard  
The clicking of my horses back as,  
It rose to buck me off...*

*I was so still that I heard  
The rush of feelings  
As everything came back to me...*

*It was so tranquil that I heard  
The voice of agony  
Screaming inside my leg...*

*It was so turbulent that I heard  
Nothing, I...  
Was unconscious.*

*By Henry Holloway*

## Lauren's Advice in Haiku Form

*Make the most of life  
Do not be a bad person  
Don't give to receive.  
Lauren Booth*

## Water, Water!

*Water Saving measures are always taken seriously at Rendcomb College Junior School and when Kate came to give an assembly representing Severn Trent Water the juniors listened attentively throughout.*

The J5 pupils were then given a task to conserve water at home and keep a record for 2 weeks. The successful pupils were given a new toothbrush as a reward.



## K'Nex challenge

J5 were set the provoking challenge – to make a house suitable for an Olympic or Para-Olympic contestant out of K'Nex. The pupils worked well in their pairs and the winning team was Oliver Jones and Henry Holloway who went on to represent the school in the regional finals.



Making scones in DT



Home made musical instruments



## 26 MAY 1941 WESTERN MORNING NEWS Luftwaffe Pilot Captured by Village Boys

Two young boys known as "the townies", who were recently evacuated from London, have bravely captured a German Luftwaffe Pilot. The Pilot had sustained bad leg injuries following his plane crashing into a bog, but he was the lucky one as the rest of the passengers did not survive. The boys successfully disarmed him, and triumphantly carried him back to the cottage where they were staying with the Reynolds family. Mr Reynolds was astonished to see a German Pilot at his door, but recovered his composure and then took the gun from the boys, before calling the army. Unemployed and looking for work, then...

By intrepid reporter, Morgan Seatter-Messer

## The playful kitten

*The playful kitten pounces,  
As the ball bounces,  
With speed like a cheetah,  
It catches up, metre by metre.  
Past the mitten,  
Speeds the kitten,  
Past the lonely mouse,  
As it races all around the house.  
By Philip Harrison Josey*



Greek artefacts





# J6

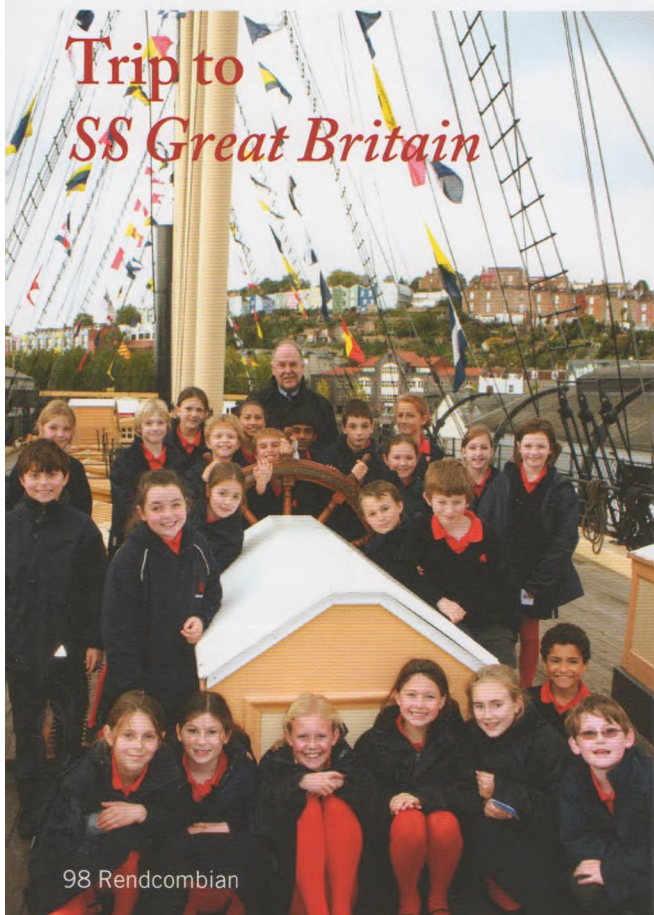


## Kingswood Activity Centre

*Phoebe Janes was the South West Runner-up of the ABTA Schools' Art Challenge.*

Her prize was for the whole of her year to go to an Outdoor Education Centre for the day, J6 travelled to Kingswood Activity Centre in Wolverhampton. The children were full of excitement, trepidation and enthusiasm as they arrived.

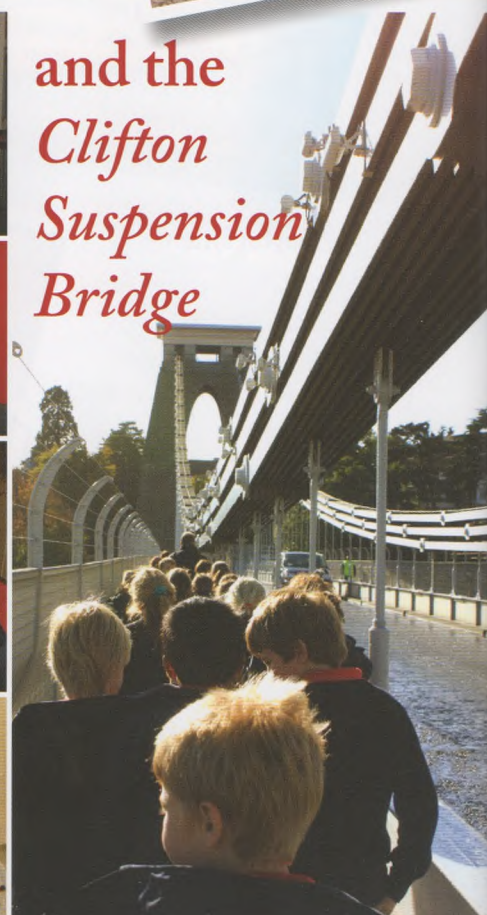
They all took part in aeroball, zipwire, quad biking and team challenges. The pupils enjoyed themselves immensely and all agreed that it was a great day out.



## Trip to SS Great Britain



## and the Clifton Suspension Bridge





# Trip to *Warwick Castle*



## Kilve Court

*Blessed with fabulous weather, J6 thoroughly enjoyed the annual pilgrimage to Kilve Court.*

A wide range of exciting activities allowed everyone to face new challenges and enjoy fresh experiences of abseiling, archery, grass sledging, rifling, mountain biking, night hill walking. The fossil hunt on Kilve beach proved to be one of the most lucrative ever and the children returned home with their treasures as well as many wonderful memories.





# ON AIR



## Winners of Corinium Radio Competition

*Rendcomb College Junior School  
were the successful winners of  
the Corinium Radio competition:  
"Write Out Loud".*

The competition was organised by Mrs. Linda Dyson. The poetry section was won by Mathew Hansel with "Memories" and "Winter". Timothy Chandran and Rebekah Breare were runners-up with "Winter Personification" and "A Bonfire Night to Remember". India Ross was winner of the story writing competition with "I Love Being Winter". Paul Anderson and Matthew Hansel were runners up with stories entitled "Winter Chill". Podcast recordings of the winning entries and the pupils being interviewed can be listened to on the Corinium Radio website: [www.coriniumradio.co.uk](http://www.coriniumradio.co.uk).

### Winter Chill

*By Mathew Hansel*

There was no noise or movement in the deserted park. Only the trees that grew in the rich soil beside the footpath will remember the sudden cold sweeping across the area. Winter was at its peak of cold, as it had been for the past week or so. At first children were rampaging through the park, building snowmen and forts and other such things. But now they were bored. Bored of the cold, the wet and the pain when a snowball hit them. They were just waiting for the hard bare trees to blossom once more. Waiting for the mushy, murky sludge to leave the roads, and waiting for Christmas day.

It may be a snowy Christmas, but no one would notice after weeks of white. People were chilled to the bone. Heating was permanently left on. All because of a winter chill, the biggest winter chill anyone could remember. The trees were not being thawed out, only left to die in the hands of the merciless snow.

This particular December was special. The first bud for months had come through. In the nights to follow, more and more shoots, leaves and buds appeared. The sludge melted off the road, and the park was back in its former state. Spring had come. The winter chill had gone.

### Winter Chill

*By Paul Anderson*

Every February, when it's really cold, my family goes to a ski resort called Bryce. We like Bryce because they are really nice to us, the ski slopes are fun and their hot chocolate is terrific! Me, Lauren and my dad ski while my brother snowboards and my mom sits in the ski lodge.

One day, it was my dad's birthday. We decided to make it a very special day. At the beginning, we went on the inner tube runs and later, we had fun on the ski slopes. At the end of the day my dad said "Last run of the day!" We were all looking forward to going to the nicest restaurant there.

My brother went down the hill fast with my sister

while I and my dad went the long way. By the time I got down, we didn't see them until my dad heard someone calling his name. I then saw my brother lying on the ground. I grabbed him on the arm to pick him up but he screamed. By that point, my dad knew something was wrong.

The ski medic came and picked Phil up. They then went to the medical centre. We found out that Phil broke both of his arms. My mom, dad and Phil spent the night in a cold emergency room while my grandparents, I, my sister, my two uncles and four of my cousins ate in a warm and cosy restaurant.

### A Bonfire Night to Remember

*By Rebekah Breare*

The fifth of November,  
Was a night to remember.  
With a bang and a whizz,  
The night started with a fizz.  
When the fireworks started,  
The darkness parted,  
Ooos and aahs were said,  
Glistening and sparkling above everyone's head.  
The fireworks were like a door to space,  
Everyone thought it was ace.  
The stars started to wink,  
Because they enjoyed the show I think!  
A plane flew by,  
To watch the display from way up high.  
The fireworks screeched like the sirens on a police car,  
But the dazzling colours were the best by far.  
Red, silver, gold, blue and green,  
The amazing sight, the best ever seen.  
Everyone applauded at the great show,  
And so...  
That was the day I remember,  
I can't wait until next November!

### Winter Personification

*By Timothy Chandran*

Every year winter comes around  
And starts to get to work.  
He takes a step, a leap and a bound.  
On his face a little smirk!

He speeds along the roads and paths  
And covers them in snow,  
He spreads while he laughs and laughs  
With his icicle making bow.

But now that his work is done this season  
He goes away like one in a dash  
And changes his clothes for the season.  
So from winter to spring, he changes in a flash!

### I Love Being Winter

*By India Ross*

I love being winter  
I love frosting all the trees and plants.  
I get to see all my friends:  
Like Winnie the Witch and her pet Batty Bat.  
I love seeing all the children going ice-skating  
Sledging in the deep snow  
And hearing the little ones scream with delight.  
I love being winter  
I love frosting all the trees and plants.  
I am the one who can see Jack Frost  
And help the fairies catch him.  
They flounder about looking for the goblins.  
With their green pointed ears,  
Looking like devil's horns.  
Then after the fairies go home to bed  
They go to sleep in their own winter bed.

I love being winter  
I love frosting all the trees and plants.  
When I look up into the sky  
I see all the beautiful white glistening stars  
Throwing stardust over the world below.  
The moon is wearing his eiderdown  
And telling stories of the little children  
He has heard singing a beautiful song.  
Sweet little stars go and say to the angels of heaven  
To come in their gorgeous white sparkling dresses.  
Bring all the sorrowing people to us  
And they can live forever.





# J6 Cocktail Party

Good luck to all of J6 and best wishes for their future

## Prizes

The following prizes were awarded in Final Assembly: -

### Boys' Cross Country Cup

Oliver Jones

### Girls' Cross Country Cup

Grace Knapp

### The Meborn-Hubbard

Girls' Victor Ludorum

Grace Knapp

### The Henniker-Gotley

Boys' Victor Ludorum

Robert Sharman

### Reeves Cup for

Improved Reading

Oliver Wade

### Roberts' Family Cup

(Otters Effort)

Jack Bellamy

### Carden Cup for Music

Luke Jarman

### Dufosse Art Cup

Sophie Tice

### Shackel Cup for Drama

Paul Anderson

### Shark Cup for Most

Promising U9 Sportsperson

Emily Musgrave

### Osborne Cup for Girls' Sport

Grace Knapp

### Palmer Cup for Boys' Sport

Alexander Dennett

### Phelps' Effort Cup

India Ross

### Arkle Cup for

All Round Improvement

Phoebe Janes

### Trim Happy Cup

Lauren Dudlyke

### The Kindness Cup

Megan Hardie and

Annabelle Foley

### Potter Cup for

Overall Contribution

Amelia Ward

## Academic and effort prizes

J3L

### Academic

Finn Dawson

### Effort

Isabel Wateridge

J3H

### Academic

Carmen Lee

### Effort

Isabel Verey

J4A

### Academic

William Nichol

### Effort

Thomas Breare

J4B

### Academic

Gemma Harvey

### Effort

William Evans

J5

### Academic

Philip Harrison Josey

### Effort

Grace Tushingham

J6A

### Academic

Matthew Hansel

### Effort

Grace Knapp

J6W

### Academic

Sophie Tice

### Effort

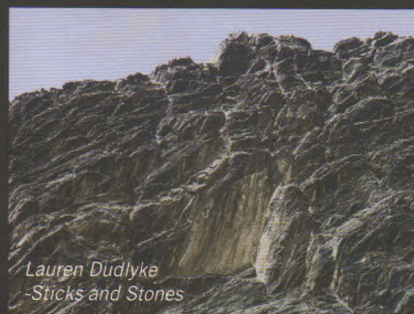
Rebecca Breare

## Photography

### Competition



Grace Knapp Crabs - open photography



Lauren Dudlyke - Sticks and Stones



Max McKeown - Play





# *Dream On*

*"To sleep,  
perchance to dream"*







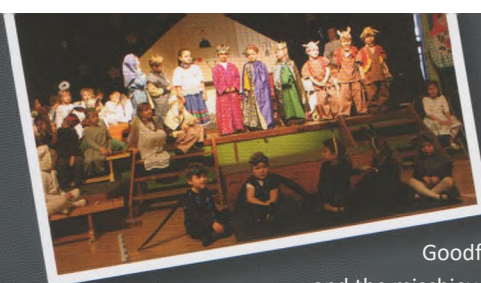
# Drama

*"Babushka" was this year's Nativity play. Amina Chambers in J2 played the part of Babushka whilst all the other Otters and Nursery children played the parts of animals, angels, Russian villagers and dancers.*

This, along with the J3-6 Candlelit Carol Service in St Peter's Church rounded off the Michaelmas Term in a wonderfully festive way. At the end of the Lent Term the Otters and Nursery children entertained the crowds again with their Easter show, "Happy Hat Land."

Meanwhile all the J3-6 children were busy rehearsing for their end of year production of "Dream On," a fantastic musical adaptation of Shakespeare's romantic comedy "A Midsummer Night's Dream," written by Malcolm Sircom. It was the biggest show the Junior School has ever done with a 90 strong cast. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to experience and learn about Shakespeare at a young age. The students worked hard to bring the story to life, including many famous lines as well as some very vibrant performances.

Phoebe Janes played the part of Mary, Shakespeare's maid, who held the show together and helped explain the complex storyline to the audience as well as assisting in the writing of the play! A very mature and excellent performance came from Paul Anderson as Oberon, the masterful king of the fairies. Luke Jarman was superb as Robin



Goodfella and the mischievous Puck. The audience were delighted by his "Goodfella Rap" with the comic Corleone brothers (Regan McGriff, Ronaldo Hyde and Megan Hardie.) Rebecca Breare was simply charming as Titania, the feisty queen of the fairies, along with her entourage of Peaseblossom (Lauren Booth- understudy), Cobweb (Annabelle Foley), Moth (Victoria Farthing) and Mustardseed (Maddy Morgan).

The four star-crossed lovers, Lysander (Alex Dennett), Demetrius (Timothy Chandran), Helena (Annabelle Pearce) and Hermia (Sophie Tice) also gave excellent performances both dramatically and musically.

Hippolyta (India Ross) and Theseus (Robert Sharman) gave convincing performances and an entertaining Venezuelan Tango and Conga! Amelia Ward was excellent in the role of Philostrate( I go... I come back! ) and Cameron Watt was very paternal as the father of Hermia, Egeus.

One of the highlights of the show was the play-within-a-play performed as the entertainment for the wedding celebrations by Nick Bottom (Matthew Hansel) and the other Rude Mechanicals: Director- Peta Quince (Grace Knapp), Flute/Thisbe (Josh Timmis) Snug/The lion (Lauren Dudleyke), Snout/ The wall (Megan Channer) and Starveling/ Moonshine (Luke Hall and Percy Vincent- understudy). Who can forget the melodramatic "death scene" of Pyramus and Thisbe?

Matthew Hansel appropriately hammed his way through the production as Bottom the Weaver, especially when his head was

transformed by Puck into a donkey's and Titania fell in love with him. We were very grateful to have the impressive donkey's head lent to us by Tony Kubisyn, who played the part himself some years ago.

There were many Olympic athletes and "Pretty little fairies" and punk pixies on stage this year, including Mr Watson, in a very fetching outfit!

All the pupils who played understudy roles had a fantastic opportunity to learn their roles as well as getting to play them during rehearsals (all good practice for next year's production. ) Two J5 pupils actually had to perform in the actual shows and they certainly rose to the challenge! Julie Scase worked her wonders with all the costumes again this year to create such a colourful vision on the stage at all times.

Andy Webb, Miles Metcalfe and Will Owen brought the show to life by creating a magical atmosphere with the lighting and amazing fog effects ("Blues on a foggy night. ") The audience really felt like they were in the middle of an enchanted forest. The wireless microphones made such a huge difference to the main characters' performances.

We were blessed to have a live band who played magnificently throughout, led by the ever enthusiastic Mr Philip Colls. The Junior School staff were paramount to the success of the show both on set and behind the scenes.

It was yet another huge team effort from all the students and staff; for which I am immensely grateful and proud.

Amanda Brealay



Babushka





Babushka



Happy Hat Land



## Dance

*In the Royal Academy of Dancing Ballet examinations this year a 100% pass rate was achieved and Sky Jamieson was awarded a bronze medal at the Cheltenham Festival of Performing Arts.*

The children particularly enjoyed choreographing their own dance pieces during the Summer Term and I can see a lot of potential. Some children also had the chance to perform at Distinction Assemblies - a combination of Festival dances and Exam work. Keeeep dancing!

Mrs Liebenberg





# Rugby

## U11 Rugby

From the outset it was apparent that this year's side lacked experience and real physicality. Much of the squad was made up of J5 boys and they will have benefitted considerably from being so involved and undoubtedly, we will reap the rewards next season. Up front the forwards tried hard. In set play we were competitive with Matthew Hansel leading by example. However, in the loose only Ronaldo Hyde played with real instinct and determination. For someone new to the game he played superbly well.

In the back department, we possessed good speed and athleticism but too often the ball was not moved sufficiently. Defensively we were very inconsistent.

However, Morgan Seatter-Messer worked tirelessly in defence and his performance augurs well for next year. To close the season with wins, losses and draws even was a good outcome and I thank all the boys for their enthusiasm and good spirit.

## U9 Tag Rugby

It was an excellent unbeaten season for the U9 tag Rugby team. The side was captained by Thomas Breare, who led by example. Everyone supported each other and there were many close matches. The tries scored were evenly distributed amongst the team. Thomas Breare, Thomas Haynes and Michael Crofts had a particularly solid season, as did Josh Carr whose pace allowed him the freedom and space to score many tries. Well done the boys for a most enjoyable and satisfying season.



# Girls' Hockey

## U11 A

From the outset, it was very evident that we were going to have a good season, though we couldn't have predicted how good it actually was going to turn out! Being unbeaten was a super achievement but more impressive was the style that we played with. Generally, the opposition was outclassed in every aspect of the game and we proved to be far too strong in all departments. In fact, the team only conceded one goal all season. The side was captained by the inspirational Grace Knapp, but our success was not about 1 or 2 individuals but was due to excellent team work. From goalie to centre-forward everyone worked hard, supported each

other and demonstrated individual and collective skill. Well done girls on a superb season, and it is lovely to now see so many of you enjoying Hockey so much that you have now joined local clubs.

Colours were awarded to: Grace Knapp, Rebecca Breare, Phoebe Janes and Amelia Ward.

## U11 B

Played 3: Won 2 Lost 1

The U11 B team benefited from training alongside a particularly strong A team squad. With an early 2-0 win against Berkhamstead under their belts, training sessions were buoyant and all the girls showed great commitment. Another excellent performance away at Richard Pates just before half term saw another



thoroughly deserved 1-0 victory. Winter weather disrupted the tail end of the season yet some valuable experience was gained by our younger players as they move into J6. Well done girls!

## U9

The girls worked very hard this season and collectively showed more focus and application of effort. Individual skills developed well and vitally more of the girls grasped a better understanding of match play and tactics. In goal Deia White demonstrated good technique while on the pitch Emily Musgrave again proved to be the hub of our team. Most importantly the girls' self-confidence grew and this was instrumental in facilitating a pleasing rate of development.



# Football

## U11/10

From the outset it was clear that the squad included some very skilful players but that it lacked experience and physique. The latter proved to be crucial in matches against big schools where we were out muscled and out-paced. Emerging having won half our fixtures was a great credit to the character and industry of the boys. Alexander Dennett captained the team very well and often displayed good individual skill and reading of match situations. A special mention is deserved by our American contingent who adapted well to 'soccer' and demonstrated superb commitment and enthusiasm. Most encouraging was the flair displayed by our J5 boys. Their performances were very impressive and the experience gained this season will hopefully pay dividends next

year. It was pleasing to see us play some fine football at times but importantly a good attitude was always evident. Well done boys. Colours were awarded to: Alexander Dennett

## U9

The U9 football teams once again had a good season with many goals being scored. Josh Carr's hat trick before half time against Kings' Gloucester was a definite highlight and the goal of the season was Milo Wills' volley from an in swinging corner. Other noticeable performances were; Sam Shipperbottom who was solid in defence and Thomas Breare who ran many a mile in midfield.

Many of the squad were playing for the first time including U8's Edwin Ward and Finn Dawson who played in the B team. Overall all those who represented the school teams did so with respect, pride and commitment.



# Netball

## U11 A

**Played 5: Won 4, Lost 1**

Having been unbeaten last year as U10's there was high hopes for this year's U11 A team and they did not disappoint, proving themselves to be the strongest netball side I have coached in many years. The girls began on a very positive note, notching up 30 goals and conceding just 10 in their first three games with convincing wins over Rosehill Westonbirt, Berkhamstead and Hatherop. The second half of term began equally well with a fourth win this time over King's Gloucester. Hopes of an unbeaten season were unfortunately dashed in our final fixture away at Pinewood. This year's successful team was ably captained by Rebeccah Breare (GA) who, with Amelia Ward, shared the shooting honours notching up a combined total of 42 for the season. Working equally hard in defence were Sophie Tice and Annabelle Pearce who continued to make many a shooter's job difficult. Grace Knapp controlled the centre court, ably supported by Phoebe Janes and Izzy Attwood -Brown. The three of them made the link superbly between attack

and defence. The key to the considerable success of this team was not due to one star player but to seven girls who all contributed equally, worked tirelessly and never gave up. For this reason, all seven were awarded their School Colours. Congratulations on a super season girls. Colours were awarded to: Rebeccah Breare (capt.), Amelia Ward, Grace Knapp, Phoebe Janes, Isobel Attwood-Brown, Annabelle Pearce and Sophie Tice.

## U11 B

This season the U11 B team had a number of fixtures all in various weather conditions. A huge highlight was claiming victory with a 12-9 win against King's Gloucester. Well done girls, you have all shown enthusiasm and determination throughout the season and good luck for the next netball season.

## U9

Unfortunately, the weather was not always on our side often making it difficult to play at times. Fixtures were against Hatherop, Berkhamstead and Rosehill Westonbirt. All girls played very well and should be very proud of themselves. Good luck for next season.





# Cricket

## 11A

The U11's were led by Timothy Chandran and supported well by his vice-captain Alex Dennett. Alex continued his fine batting from the previous season; being our leading run maker. All the boys should be congratulated for their teamwork and hard work throughout the term and especially those making their debut for the first eleven and those who had never played the game before; for example Ronaldo Hyde, Regan McGriff and Paul Anderson. Both Matthew and Michael Ferreira, Daniel McLaughlin and Oliver Jones show true potential for the next season. Well done boys. Colours were awarded to: Alex Dennett

## U9

The U9 cricket team, lead confidently by Thomas Breare was unbeaten all season. This was a team who really enjoyed their cricket and it showed in matches and during practices. Some of their matches were extremely tense affairs, eventually winning their matches in the last over. The batting partnership which carried their team to victory on these occasions were Thomas Breare and Milo Wills, who were outstanding with the bat and useful bowlers. I have been delighted by the enthusiasm, progression and attitude the boys have shown this season.



# Swimming Gala

*On a cloudy, damp afternoon the Junior Swimming Gala bravely proceeded.*

The J3's started the gala before the heavens opened. After a short interval the gala continued, finally finishing with the girls' medley. Throughout the afternoon there were many close races and super performances most notably Andrew Gallop, Isabel Wateridge and not forgetting Matthew Hansel and Sophie Tice who again shone in the pool winning their races and breaking a school record. Here's to better weather next year.



108 Rendcombian

# Rounders

## U11 A

**Played 4: Won 3 Drew 1**

The girls made a steady start to the season and although lacking match sharpness, Rendcomb led throughout to finish with a comfortable win over their first opponents Berkhamstead. A tougher contest followed with a very competitive match against Hatherop in which saw the game come down to the very last ball of the match where Rendcomb managed to gain a 11½ all draw. Next came the girls' best and most satisfying performance of the season by far. Rendcomb batted well and edged a fabulous victory by 12- 11½ against Pinewood due to their outstanding fielding performance. Finally, to claim their unbeaten crown, the girls had to complete the season against King's Gloucester. Another characteristic fielding performance, coupled with superb batting saw Rendcomb quickly steam ahead, ending the season with a comfortable 8½ - 5 victory and an unblemished record. Special mention must go to Grace Knapp whose personally tally of 14 rounders kept many a game alive. Many congratulations to everyone who played their part in the success of this season, it will take some matching! Colours were awarded to: Amelia Ward (capt.), Grace Knapp, Rebecca Breare and Annabelle Foley.

## U11 B

All of the girls have shown great commitment and dedication to the rounders team this year. They have shown tremendous team spirit and have improved throughout every game and have all grown in confidence. The girls fielded well with Maddy as a solid backstop, Victoria bowled some strong balls and Annabelle caught some good balls at second base. Top scorer was Emily Musgrave, closely followed by Lauren Dudleyke and Annabelle Pearce. The most improved batter throughout the season was Nadia Williamson. A very positive season girls, well done!

## U9

The girls worked extremely hard throughout the season and significant improvement occurred in all aspects of match play. Individual skills developed at a good rate especially in respect of batting. For some the fear of a hard ball restricts their effectiveness in the field. However, overall much better reading of match situations occurred and a pleasing shape resulted. Unfortunately, unsettled Summer weather kept competitive matches to just one. Special mention needs to go to Emily Musgrave and Mollie Tice who represented the U11B team, demonstrating excellent potential as a batsman and bowler respectively.





## Junior Sports Day

*There was great anticipation at this year's Junior Sports Day as to who would win the events and how many records would be broken.*

The children and the parents who came to support were not disappointed; with Grace Knapp, Robert Sharman, Rafael T-Jones and Emily Musgrave winning many of their events and setting many new school records. A good day was had by all with many close finishes and some dead heats. All bodes well for the Olympic year next year!!

## Otters' Sports Day

*Otters' Sports Day took place on a gloriously sunny afternoon.*

All children from Nursery to J2 competed in many closely contested races, including a new event - the sack race. However, the highlight most will agree was the Dad's 100m race in which some Dad's may consider warming up next year before taking part!



## Cross Country

### Winter Warmer

*A record number of 38 pupils volunteered to race this year.*

The combination of the mud and the hills give a true reflection of the difficulties of cross country running in its purest form. As in previous years it was a well fought contest. Oliver Jones won the year 5 & 6 race in a time of 8 minutes and 37 seconds. The year 3 & 4 race was won by Tom Breare of J4. Well done to all those involved, a truly inspiring race to watch.

### U11 Tournament

*at St Francis'*

*The course was very technical and included many hills and tight turns, which played into our hands.*

All our participants raced exceptionally hard, the results speak for themselves. Grace Knapp 1st, Robert Sharman 2nd, Amelia Ward 3rd, Oliver Jones 6th, India Ross 8th, Emily Sharman 9th, Thomas Breare 10th, and Morgan Setter-Messer 60th. Our race positions meant that we won the U11 boys' and girls' race and also the overall U11 cross country shield, which now stands very proudly in our trophy cabinet. Several of the participants were running two years above their age group, which bodes well for the future.

### Rosehill Westonbirt

#### Tournament

*Rendcomb travelled to Rosehill Westonbirt to compete in their annual cross country tournament.*

The weather was fine and dry and the going was good to firm. The race was fast and flat. All of our children ran well but were disappointed about a lack of hills.

The results are as follows: - U9 girls Emily Musgrave 3rd, Mollie Tice 14th. U9 Boys Milo Wills 2nd, Tom Breare 7th, Thomas Haynes 10th. U10 Boys Oliver Jones 5th, Henry Holloway 5th, Morgan 19th.

U11 Girls Grace Knapp 2nd, Amelia W 14th, Emily Sharman 15th. U11 Boys Robert Sharman 9th, Ronaldo Hyde 19th, Alex Dennett 22nd. A fantastic afternoon's racing was had by all, many thanks to the parents who came to support.

### Rendcomb College Junior

#### School Tournament

*Rendcomb ran its own tournament for the fifth time at the end of March.*

The ground conditions were perfect for fast running. The course is particularly hilly and suits the stronger more powerful runner. Four schools took part, Rendcomb College

Junior School, Berkhamstead, Rosehill Westonbirt and King's Gloucester. There were two races, a year 3 & 4 race and a year 5 & 6 race. All of the Rendcomb children raced well. Both starts were very fast and it immediately became obvious that our children were a little more conditioned than many of the others who were taking part. The results follow: Years 3 & 4 race Milo Wills 3rd, Tom Breare 4th, Edwin Ward 12th, Freddie Haynes 14th. Emily Musgrave 7th, Mollie Tice 9th, Millie Butler 27th, Freya Angus 28th. Years 5 & 6 race Oliver Jones 3rd, Robert Sharman 5th, Ronaldo Hyde 9th, Henry Holloway 12th. Grace Knapp 2nd, Amelia Ward 8th, Emily Sharman 26th, Lauren Booth 27th. Medal Winners Milo Wills, Bronze, Emily Musgrave, Gold; Mollie Tice, Bronze. Grace Knapp, Gold, Oliver Jones, Silver, Amelia Ward, Silver. We featured so heavily in the top placings and had a good spread across the top part of the race, which meant we won the whole tournament overall. Well done to all those children who took part and thank you to all the parents and staff who supported and marshalled.



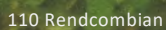


# Forest School

*It's been another successful year of Forest School. Mrs Breare has now completed the Forest School Leaders Award Level 3.*

Nursery through to J6 have all taken part in Forest School, either as a timetabled lesson or an after-school club. Favourite sessions have included shelter building, mallet and tool work, creating natural art pictures, making clay woodland animals, bird watching, sensory activities, to name but a few.

The children have really enjoyed using our new digital microscope, looking closely at feathers, leaves and bugs. The latest addition to our Forest School area is the 'Thunderbox' compost loo which will enable groups to stay out having fun in Forest School for extended sessions. The children are already looking forward to Forest School sessions next year.

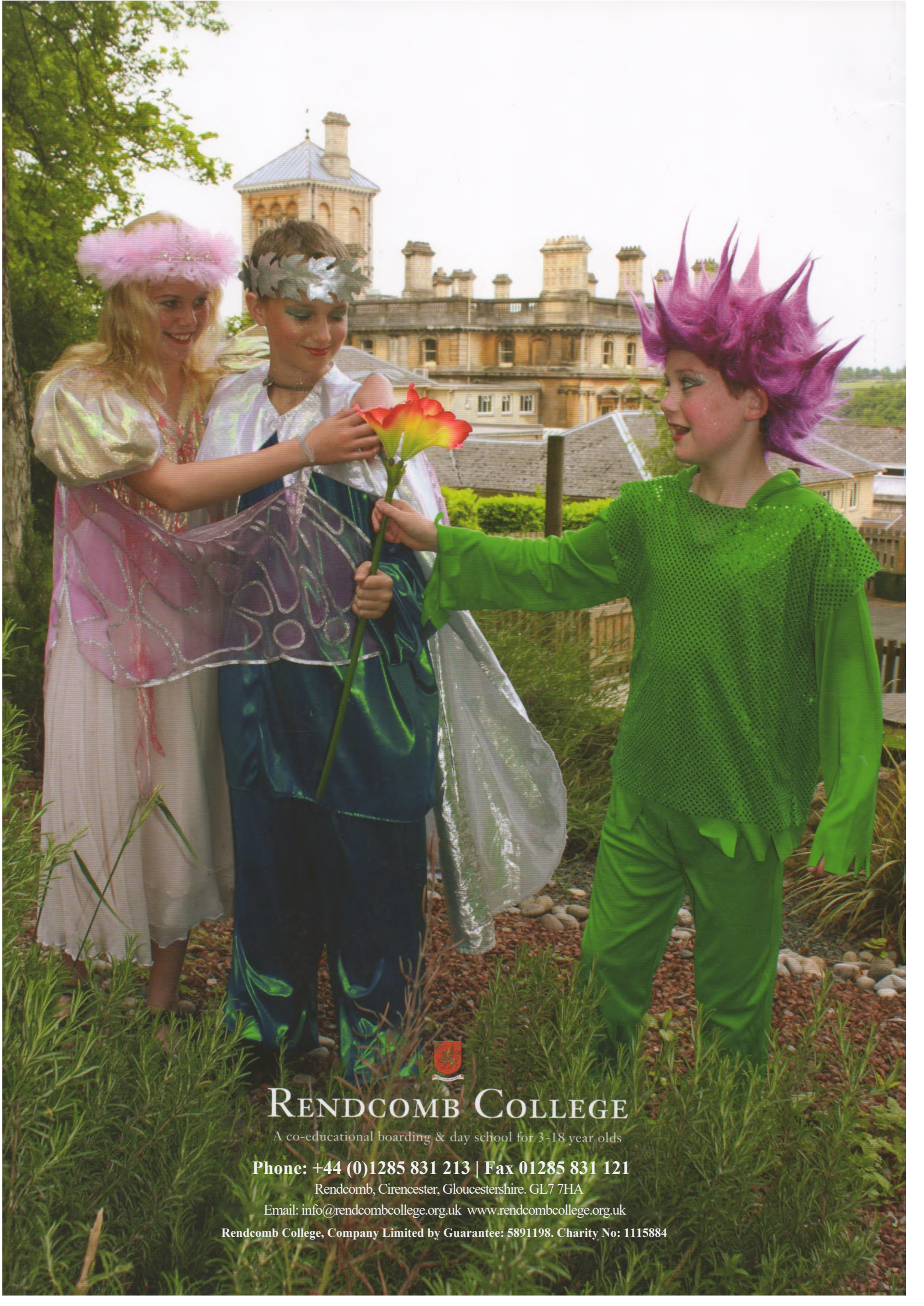




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