

SUMMER 2012

review

Speech Day

INTENT ON REWARDING EXCELLENCE

Out and about
Learning beyond the classroom



Up the Creek: sink or swim on Dartmoor residential

Inspiring a Generation: meeting the Olympic athletes at London 2012

Exit Stage Left: bowing out in dramatic fashion at Ondaatje

Regular features: Trips & Visits ▷ Music & Drama ▷ Sports Reports ▷ Staff on the Spot ▷ Bob the Blob!

“There is something for everyone and that remains a great strength of the school...”



As I said goodbye to children and parents at the school gate on the last day of term I was struck by the speed at which the year has gone by. It seems like just a few moments have passed since Sarah, Lottie, Harry and I were moving in to the house and getting to grips with our new lives at Blundell's and here we are now, having completed a whole year. What have been the highlights? Well you only have to thumb through this copy of the Review and those of the Autumn and Spring terms to see the volume of opportunities which have been enjoyed by children, staff and parents alike. It is the sense of community that has perhaps been the most striking quality of the school, and this copy of the Review celebrates the way that our parents

are invited to be involved in the education of their children and the many opportunities that they have to join us for events. Whether it be popping champagne corks at the Summer Concert, cheering their children on at Sports Day or celebrating the quality of the Year 6 performance of 'The Wind in the Willows', there are countless ways that parents are invited to be part of school life.

I was delighted to welcome so many parents and guests to Speech Day just a few weeks ago. All who heard Dr Lara Herbert MBE speak could not have failed to be impressed by her words of wisdom, born out of the remarkable life that she has led. I know that the children were inspired, as a number of them came to speak to Lara at the end of proceedings. They wanted to know more about her climbing exploits, of her time in Afghanistan and of her journey to become a doctor. Her story had resonated with them and echoed the sentiments of my final thoughts at Speech Day when I used the words of Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall to highlight my hopes for the children at BPS. When asked what he was proud of in his life he simply said that he 'did the best that he could with what he had' and that is the challenge that we present to the school on a daily basis.

The children fit a great deal into their lives and this is shown in all its glory within the pages that follow. There is something for everyone and that remains a great strength of the school. Over the holidays I have asked the children to take on a number of challenges, ranging from keeping their rooms tidy and writing letters to friends and family, through to seeing how many of the National Trust's, '50 Things to do before you're 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ ' they can complete. When I ran through some of the list in assembly before the end of term I was pleased to see that many of our children had already accomplished a great many of the 50 activities – they do like an adventurous challenge!

I do hope that you and your families enjoy the summer break and that the sun decides to put in an appearance at some stage over the next eight weeks. I look forward to welcoming everyone back to school in September, refreshed and ready for the challenges of the new year.

My best wishes to you all.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Southgate".

Andy Southgate Head Master



Cook Booked

We were delighted to welcome Jessica's Mum, Mrs. Payne from *Teoni's Cookies*, who came into School at the end of term to help Year 3 make some most delicious chocolate chip cookies!



Crowning Glory

The Parent and Toddler group finished a fun-filled term by saying good bye to several children and wishing them good luck when they start school in September. One of our highlights this term was making Diamond Jubilee crowns with 'real' jewels! If you are interested in joining our group, please visit our section on the school's website for more details. [W.J.N.](http://www.bps.wj.nhs.uk)

Art Retrospective

Art work including lino prints, pottery, photography, painting and batik celebrating the local environment were all displayed as part of the exhibition.



In May Parents were invited into School to see some of the wonderful art work produced during Creative Arts Week last term.

Eggstreme Science

At the end of June four Year 5 girls were selected to attend Westonbirt School in Tetbury for the Girls' Science and DT Challenge Day. The girls took part in three egg-themed workshops in the morning: making an egg cup, cooking meringues and using chemicals to investigate the composition of eggs. In the afternoon they worked together as a school team to compete in the Egg Race Challenge. The girls had to buy materials and then make a capsule for an egg that would be catapulted across the school grounds! Our girls won 'Most Eggcellent design' (!) for their capsule and their unbroken egg came second in the catapulting competition. The girls thoroughly enjoyed themselves, with the chemistry session being their highlight of the day! J.M.H.



FUNDAMENTAL MATHS

Children throughout the School enjoyed solving a series of Mathematical problems and challenges on Maths Day. Children in the Pre-Prep joined together to play a variety of board games and enjoyed participating in Maths activities both inside and outside the classroom, including searching for numbers in the sand and playing skittles. Further conundrums faced the Prep School children, including the puzzle of making a football from tessellating pentagons and hexagons. Much fun was had by all!



Mayor Lindus subsequently attended Speech Day at the end of term – see page 12.



Year 6 Fare Well

Year 6 treated their parents to an emotional farewell evening at the end of term, serving food they had prepared themselves, before showing some slideshow presentations, singing and sharing some of their favourite memories of their time at the school.



Greece Enlightening

On 26th June all of Year 3 came dressed as Ancient Greeks. We sat down in the marquee and a man called Stuart Davies came from BBC Horrible Histories to talk to us about Ancient Greeks and their lives.

Amelia Rose Richards and **Lottie Southgate**

"In the Greek play, Theseus and the Minotaur, I was the Minotaur and had my head chopped off!"

William Venner

NEWSPAPER CLUB

Your reporters for the Review this year have been: Kiera White, Charlotte Tait, Jasmine Mackay, Anna Sides, Kitty Harvey-Brade, Cara Read, Issy Fraser, Emily Mettam, Katie Martin, Maddie Wright, Scarlett Fawcett and Jodie White, Year 6.



DON'T FORGET

You can keep up to date with the latest Blundell's Prep News at www.blundells.org/prep/news



OLYMPIC DAY

Olympic Day was a great opportunity to really celebrate the forthcoming 2012 Games and join in with National Sports Week. The children had a busy day filled with a variety of activities including learning the mascot song and dance, making smoothies, writing poetry, researching Olympic countries and making Olympic torches. It was wonderful to see the children from Year 3 to Year 6 working so well together, embracing the Olympic values of friendship and respect. The day turned out so much better than I had even dreamed and a huge thank you must go to Mr. & Mrs. Horan and Global Games for bringing in an inflatable sports timer (not sure who had more fun, the staff or the children?); also to Helen Youngs, Olympic Torch Bearer and member of the Senior School staff, who allowed the children to get up close to a real Olympic torch. She is very grateful for the donations she received for the Youth Sports Trust Charity. Special thanks also go to Barbara Moys, our fantastic Catering Manager, for the delicious chocolate medals and to Mrs. Edge and Mrs. Watson for their inspiring and yummy smoothies – Mr. Southgate sampled all eight and was most impressed! 2012 is an exciting time and I do hope that you enjoy the Olympic Games!



Guard of honour

Something that the London bid promised as part of their legacy for the Games was to inspire a generation, and for eight students from Years 5 and 6 this came true on Friday 27th July, as they set off to London for the opportunity of a life time – to be a part of the Guard of Honour at the 2012 Olympic Games Opening Ceremony. Blundell's Prep was one of just 250 schools invited to mark the occasion and it was a great experience to visit the Olympic Park, meet the mascots and see the athletes arriving!

As part of the build up to the Games, Blundell's Prep had become partner schools with Beach Allen Primary School in Saint Kitts and Nevis, and as a part of the Guard of Honour we were there to celebrate and support the team from St. Kitts & Nevis - a team of just five athletes who would compete in the men's 100m, 200m and the 4 x 100m relay. The team were impressed to see us and the beautiful banner we had made to welcome them. They signed autographs and gave the children pin badges, and we followed them along the parade giving them extra support all the way into the stadium. The evening was topped off by cheering for Team GB. It is something to look Tom Daley in the eye and give him a smile, and to high five Chris Hoy moments before he carried our flag into the stadium! After the excitement of the athletes parade we made our way back to the hotel, where we caught the closing stages of the ceremony and heard the inspirational speech from Lord Coe, before dashing outside to see the fireworks go off!

On Saturday morning the group awoke to another treat – the athletes from St. Kitts and Nevis were coming to visit us at our hotel! It was quite a surreal moment to greet the team, their manager and coaches on the streets of London and invite them in to meet the group. They mingled, signed our banner and chatted to the children. We sat and watched some of the TV coverage of the Games together, discussing life in the Olympic Village and their dreams for the Games. Kim Collins had competed at the Olympic Games before and was quite capable of giving Usain Bolt a run for his money! His team mates were experiencing their first Olympics and they all seemed as excited as us to be in London!

When the athletes had gone and we were making our way back to Tiverton again, Milly Curtis commented, "They weren't like famous athletes, but more like our friends!" Thank you to Mrs. Watson for her support on the trip and to everyone who helped to make it happen. The children did a great job of representing Blundell's Prep and I hope they will remember the experience for ever. L.M.M.

“The team were impressed to see us and the beautiful banner we had made to welcome them”





Fantastic Gymnastics

Gym Club put on an enthusiastic show for the School and Parents on the last day of term.



Surprise Party



Year 3 worked very hard to prepare a surprise tea party to congratulate Miss Harrison on her forthcoming wedding to Grant Carter in the summer holidays. During their F.T. lessons, Mrs. Watson had helped the children to prepare delicious savouries and a huge chocolate cake, which were then arranged on a long table in Room 1. A group of girls had organised 'Club Springers', working tirelessly in their lunchtimes to make coloured paper springs, which decorated the classroom. The children and Year 3 parents presented Miss Harrison with travel vouchers. She was completely taken by surprise! [W.J.N.](#)

PLAYING APART

Many had the opportunity to perform some of the music they had been learning for their Parents at our last Tea Time Concert of the year in May.



Old School: Grandparents' Morning



Monday morning lessons took on a slightly different style as we welcomed over eighty grandparents into our classes at the beginning of term.

They were able to participate in lessons alongside their grandchildren with maths being the main theme of the morning. Many commented that maths now seemed much more fun than in their school days and one or two wondered if they could come back to school! The grandparents were also invited into assembly during which a few brave grandparents sat a test with their grandchildren in front of the Prep School. Luckily they got the questions right and did not have to stay behind for detention! During a question and answer session with the Head Master our grandparents showed an up to date knowledge of the technology used today, and a debate ensued on the merits of ipads versus Kindles. Mr. Southgate also rated the merits of books highly as well! This was our fifth annual Grandparents' Morning and an event we hope to hold for many years to come.

B.J.S.





The Wind In The Willows has been a favourite of mine since before I can remember. The story is full of imagination, adventure... and talking animals! We were especially grateful to be able to bring the story to life using the state of the art facilities at the School's Ondaatje Theatre, and must thank Stage Manager Roger Winwood for his expert support and guidance throughout. Performing beneath the lights on a full size stage with professional audio-visual effects really helped the young actors to gain in confidence and grow into their characters.

The Wind *in the Willows*

My aim for this production has been to show our Year 6 that acting can be fun and that anyone and everyone can have a part. I wanted the experience (for the pupils at least!) to remain light hearted and enjoyable. The cast have been fantastic this year. They have embraced the whole experience by performing at an audition before being allocated parts and then learning the lines early – allowing us time to develop the play and make it their own. As always with a production of this size and nature there are a whole host of people who have been involved in helping with the production, working on set design, costume and make-up amongst many other things. We would especially like to thank the unsung heroes who mostly remain in the shadows or behind the scenes but without whom we would not have had a production, and thanks must go to the Prep and Big School staff who offered advice and continual support throughout my first year as Head of Drama. T.M.C.



Our guest scenery designer Rory Nugent produced the most amazing backdrop and again highlighted what a talented parent body we have at Blundell's.



"I was nervous playing the part of a stoat because we had to sing a song, but we got the words right! The make-up was epic!"

Ed Olsen



"I think that it was awesome being in the play. I loved my part. It's a shame we can't do it all again next year. I overall think this was one of the best things that ever happened to me!"

Joshua Cowap



Play Time



Hooray For The Little Red Hen

This year's Kindergarten Summer Play told the charming story of a Little Red Hen who wanted to make a loaf of bread. She asked her friends to help her but they were reluctant to help. Luckily, her many chicks offered to help and then enjoyed eating the bread afterwards. The moral of the story was the importance of sharing and thinking of others. The children thoroughly enjoyed performing in front of their friends, parents and teachers. They spoke their lines confidently and sang their songs with enthusiasm. There was some solo singing too which was super. Well done to the children for such a wonderful performance! T.N.



Stone Soup

The Year 1 children thoroughly enjoyed performing their summer play. They sang some super songs that told the story of six hungry soldiers who tricked some villagers into sharing their food with them by making some stone soup. The soup started off as a soup made from stones but slowly the soldiers persuaded the villagers to add their carrots, onions, bones, salt and pepper and barley. Once the soup was made, it was so delicious that they all had a party together to celebrate. The children spoke their words confidently and provided their friends and families with some marvellous entertainment! T.N.

The Three Cornered Hat

The Nursery classes performed their Summer Play with great enthusiasm. The Three Cornered Hat told the story of villagers from Greenfield, Redbridge and Yellowstone, who were starving because they wouldn't share. One village had seeds, one had water and the other had tools but they were all too selfish to share and so it was impossible to grow anything. Luckily, a three cornered hat visited the villagers and helped them to learn that they must work together. Despite being so young, the children all had words to say and songs to sing. Many of the songs were accompanied by actions and it was a delight to watch. Well done to the Nursery for such super entertainment! T.N.



out *and about*

In order to complement the curriculum and **push the learning experience beyond the classroom**, children from across the school have been lucky enough to visit many of the local attractions and facilities available in Devon this term.



Nursery 2 enjoyed their visit to **Pennywell Farm** at the end of term, where much fun was to be had in feeding the sheep and petting the smaller animals. We even had a ride on the Red Rocket in the rain!



KIA ORA FARM

Nursery 1 explored Kia Ora Farm in the rain this July, but nobody's spirits were dampened by the inclement conditions! We played hide and seek, and discovered nursery rhyme figures hiding in the beautiful gardens; swans, ducks, geese and fish were also spotted and some even obliged by eating the bread carefully thrown for them! **D.McD.**

THE WORLD OF COUNTRY LIFE

Kindergarten had a wonderful time at The World of Country Life in Exmouth this June. The children loved going on the deer train to see the deer, llamas and Jacob's Sheep. Most of them were brave enough to feed the animals from the train. The next activity, walking the goats, caused great hilarity because it was really the goats walking the children. The goats knew where they wanted to go and the children had to follow! After a delicious picnic lunch the children were able to enjoy a falconry display. There were gasps of fear and delight as a harris hawk, eagle owl and falcon swooped low overhead. The children also had tremendous fun playing on the enormous pirate ship and in the soft play area. **J.K.P.**

RING MASTERS

Year 4 made their annual pilgrimage to Sampford Peverell and visited the Methodist and the Church of England Churches in May. The bell ringing was a highlight of the trip and the fact that Mr. Hirst forgot the question sheets made the trip even more exciting! There was a musical twist this year as all the children were encouraged to have a go at playing the organ too. **E.S.H.**



ESCOT PARK

On Friday 15th June **Year 2** went on a trip to Escot Park. First we went and did the maze. It took a long time to do it! After that we saw the otters and the birds of prey. We saw a Golden Eagle and a Peregrine Falcon! Then we did the swamp walk. It was fun! After that we went to cook marshmallows on a fire. They were very tasty. My favourite bit was doing the swamp walk. **Joshua Withey**, Year 2

BABBACOMBE MODEL VILLAGE

Year 1 ended the term with a wonderful trip to Babbacombe Model Village and Kent's Cavern. Despite drizzle in the morning, the children had a lovely time walking around the Model Village – and looking out for Where's Wally? Once in the caves at Kent's Cavern the weather ceased to be important and the children had a lovely time hearing about the wild animals, cave men and women who used to inhabit them. They enjoyed finding out about how the stalagmites and stalactites were formed and after the tour, we found that the sunshine had come out and we were able to sit in the garden and enjoy an ice cream! It was a great day out and lots of fun. **T.N.**



Summer Concert

GOING FOR A SONG



The Summer Concert in the marquee was a real celebration of all the music making that happens throughout the School and it gave every child in Years 2 - 6 the opportunity to perform.



The programme for the Summer Concert was very varied and included both instrumental and vocal performances. It was lovely to see some of the Pre-Prep children joining in with the string and brass groups. Other groups performing included the wind group, orchestra, guitar ensemble, piano sextets, recorder group, flute duets and clarinet trio. Year 3 had spent all year learning to play the recorder and they performed their two part piece 'Square Dance' with great confidence.

Singing featured throughout the concert with a variety of songs being sung, such as Somewhere Out There, Life's a Happy Song (from The Muppets) and Don't Stop Believing. Year 2 got us into the Olympic spirit by singing a song called Go For Gold and the whole school joined together to sing Drop in the Ocean. The Choir, Chamber Choir, Staff and The Mamas and Papas all performed and everyone in the marquee joined in with a four part song called One More Song.

A huge thank you must go to all the children who took part in what was a fantastic concert, and to all the parents who have supported them in practising their instruments at home. Thank you also to all those visiting teachers who not only worked so hard to prepare the children for the concert, but have also worked so hard throughout the whole year. B.L.C.



Musical interlude: parents and children enjoyed a picnic on the lawn together during the interval, before returning to the marquee for the concert's climactic crescendo.



Main picture: Anna Rose Gabbitass and Ralph Morris, Head Girl and Head Boy, thank Guest Speaker Dr Lara Herbert MBE



Left: Tristan Cox receiving the Pinder and Tuckwell Cup for Academic Excellence
Above: Mr Peter Johnson, Chairman of the Preparatory School Committee





The culmination of the school year saw pupils, staff, parents and Governors come together to celebrate the achievements of our talented children with prize giving in the marquee. We were also joined by local dignitaries, including His Worship the Mayor of Tiverton, Mr Tom Lindus and Paul Davies, The Regional Inspector of the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary. Our guest speaker was Dr Lara Herbert MBE and she was inspirational as she shared her experiences of growing up in Zimbabwe and subsequent training as a doctor in Ireland before embarking on the challenges of the Commando course at Lympstone and tour in Afghanistan. The children were enthralled as they were advised to follow the 3 D's, dedication, determination and a desire to succeed and were captivated as Dr Herbert showed them the equipment that helped her to conquer Mount Makalu. It was left to Head Girl, Anna-Rose Gabbitass and Head Boy, Ralph Morris to offer words of thanks before the Prep School Chair of Governors, Mr Peter Johnson invited everyone to enjoy some welcome refreshments. Without question the day was the highlight of the Prep School calendar.

“ Without question the day was the highlight of the Prep School calendar ”



Above: Barbara Moys led the catering team in providing refreshments for the afternoon
Top right: Mr Cedric Clapp, Chairman of the Governing Body, and Mayor of Tiverton Tom Lindus, talking to pupils



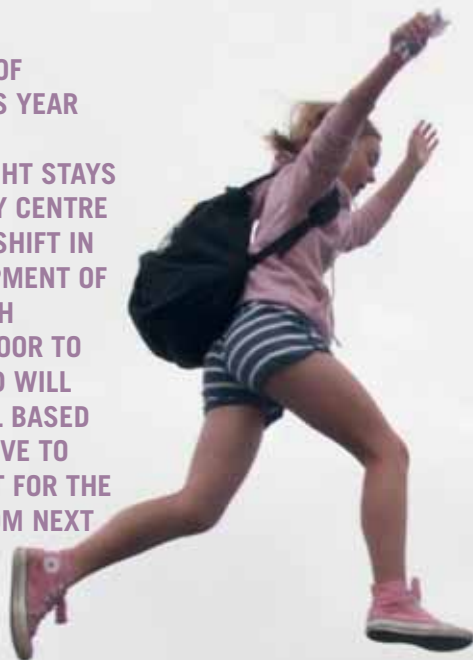
Left: Greg Kitson, with cricket and drama awards



Above: Mr Andy Southgate, Head Master, signing Year Books
Left: Parents and guests outside the marquee enjoying the strawberries and cream



AN EXCITING REORGANISATION OF RESIDENTIAL EXPERIENCES THIS YEAR SAW BOTH YEAR 5 AND YEAR 6 UNDERTAKE SEPARATE OVERNIGHT STAYS AT THE KELLY COLLEGE ACTIVITY CENTRE ON DARTMOOR. THIS MARKS A SHIFT IN TIMING TO ALLOW THE DEVELOPMENT OF TEAM BONDING SKILLS THROUGH OUTDOOR PURSUITS ON DARTMOOR TO MOVE TO THE YEAR 5 SLOT, AND WILL ALLOW THE POPULAR CULTURAL BASED RESIDENTIAL TO LONDON TO MOVE TO BECOME AN END OF YEAR TREAT FOR THE OLDER CHILDREN IN YEAR 6 FROM NEXT YEAR – WATCH THIS SPACE!



Overnight *sensations*

Folly Farm

In June Year 4 went to stay at the Folly Farm Centre, a nature reserve near Bath run by the Avon Wildlife Trust.

This was a new trip for the school and for Year 4, and although it rained for the entire time we were there, a good time was had by all. Most of the time was spent outside getting closer to nature and learning basic survival skills. Lighting fires without matches was a favourite activity, particularly as it involved cooking and eating marshmallows. The weather was ideal for pond dipping and we managed to catch some very rare newts. There was much excitement on the final morning when we investigated our humane traps, and we discovered we had caught a bank vole and a mouse! We returned to school on Friday much wetter, but much wiser! E.S.H.

Working together as a team, and developing the confidence to take a risk and stretch beyond the comfort zone were key aims of the Dartmoor experience, and both were constantly revisited through a wealth of different activities, including abseiling, archery, rock climbing, tree climbing, canoeing, kayaking, raft building, orienteering, letterboxing, wide games, problem solving, Olympic challenges and performing in a campfire concert...

Dartmoor Rocks

We went to Fogintor Quarry for rock climbing and abseiling. We had to wear a helmet and a harness to go up and down the rock faces. There were two climbs, one was easier than the other but everyone had a go at both of them. Then we tried the abseil. This was very high, and not everybody did it, but a lot of people did conquer their fears by stepping over the edge and climbing down. This was my favourite activity – I wish I could do it again!

Katie Martin & Jasmine Mackay, Year 6



Head Above The Water

We all had so much fun raft building! We had to build our rafts in teams, and then we had a race against the other teams to see who could paddle across to the other side of the lake first – we had to swap positions on the raft and paddle back to the bank first. When we finished we all jumped into the lake! We also got very wet when we capsized our canoe on the canal, when we had water fights in the kayaks, and when we did the river walk – especially when we had to float down giant pipes under the water. I was glad it was sunny otherwise we would have been freezing!

Scarlett Fawcett & Ed Olsen, Year 6

Branching Out

I loved it when we went on the High Ropes course. This was like an obstacle course in the air: we had to climb up a ladder to a platform high in the trees, and then go across a rope bridge and a rope swing, all the time climbing higher off the ground. Then we had to jump and reach for a rope, before abseiling back down to the ground. We also had to try the trapeze – jumping from a platform in the trees to grab a trapeze bar. We then hung from this upside down and had to tell a joke before our team lowered us back down. This was scary and I didn't think I would be able to do it, but I did and it was fun! **Oliver Kilbride & Charlotte Tait**, Year 6

Leap of faith: Anna Rose Gabbitass pictured rock hopping, top. Still smiling through the rain: Year 4 at Folly Farm, left.



“

...a lot of people did conquer their fears by stepping over the edge and climbing down.

”



Beaford Arts



Year 3 had a very exciting and rain-free residential trip to Beaford Arts Centre in May where amongst other things they enjoyed creating Olympic headdresses under the guidance of a professional artist. They also designed their

own art aprons which looked fantastic! The following day, after a good night's sleep(?) they headed off to Broomhill Sculpture Park where they studied some amazing sculptures and then tried out their own sculpting skills on the beach at Saunton Sands.



Head over heels: Year 3 with Olympic head wear at Beaford Arts Centre.

Staff on the Spot



This term: *Mrs. Nicholls*

1, How long have you worked at Blundell's Prep?

Eleven years.

2, Where did you work before?

Hilton Pre-Prep, Exeter Prep and Kelly College.

3, What are your favourite subjects to teach?

Geography and History.

4, What are your hobbies outside of school?

Pilates, tennis, embroidery and reading.

5, Have you got any children?

I have three daughters, Hannah, Jenny and Rebecca.

6, Do you have any pets?

I have a rabbit called Snowflake.

7, What is your favourite...

Sport? Tennis

Food? Anything with chocolate!

Song? You've Got a Friend, by James Taylor

Book? The Gruffalo, by Julia Donaldson

TV programme, film or play?

Spooks, Silent Witness and Downton Abbey

8, What place in the world would you most like to visit?

Vancouver and the Rocky Mountains.

9, What one thing would you bring with you if you were stranded on a desert island?

A solar powered Kindle!

10, What has been your most embarrassing moment?

When I left Year 3's spending money in the safe at Beaford!

Interview devised and conducted by **Maddie Wright** and **Jodie White**, Year 6.

Busy Bees

Busy Bees enjoyed a visit from Ruth who runs Party Pieces at the end of term. Ruth played party games with the children and then told them the story of Peggy the Scarecrow who had lost some of her friends, the crows. The children helped Peggy to find the crows and enjoyed watching Ruth dress up as a scarecrow. This is always a Busy Bees favourite with Mrs. Kimber and Mrs. Nash,

and the children enjoyed it too! T.N.



As part of their P.S.H.E lessons Year 6 visited Pre-Prep to help out in the Nursery. Further plans for next year will see a more formal 'buddy' system established across the School. Watch this space!

Joke of the Term # 19

Q: Why did the cow cross the road?

A: To get to the udder side!

Joke supplied by **Estelle Tucker**, Year 3.

Tell your favourite funny to Mr. Moore or any member of Newspaper Club to see your joke published here next time.

Bob the Blob presents *Diamond Jubilee: Did You Know...?*

In 2012 Queen Elizabeth II celebrated her Diamond Jubilee: sixty years on the throne. How has the world changed in that time?



- 1952: Mr. Potato Head is invented
- 1959: The Barbie Doll is invented
- 1966: England win the football World Cup
- 1967: Handheld calculators are invented
- 1969: Man first steps on the moon
- 1973: The first mobile phone is invented
- 1981: The first laptop is invented
- 1995: Toy Story is released
- 1997: Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone is published
- 2001: The first iPod is released
- 2010: The first iPad is released
- 2012: England host the Summer Olympics



Original characters created by Frances Auger, Kristiane Wheeler and Emily Nash.

"...there were some outstanding performances as well as a strong team spirit that was evident whenever the rain stopped for long enough for us to venture outside"

Cricket



UNDER 10 CRICKET

This year's U10 cricket squad proved to be a very competitive group of boys in which any one of eighteen could have played for the A Team and performed with skill and determination. The U10 A Team was led superbly by George Gibbs, who showed an

excellent knowledge of the game to accompany his outstanding ability. Top scorer was Joe Hancock who proved to be a devastating striker of the ball with a mature understanding of the importance of building an innings. All of the boys bowled with credit throughout the year, especially Jasper Pring with his effective left-arm pace bowling, and Dominic Vause whose probing line and length earned him many victims, and in the B Team Liam Napier showed that he can bat with the best, William Sawyer bowled his spin with great effect, and there was able support from Jack Swain, Daniel Stagg, Jack Winzer, Henry Richards and Henry Dyke. This is an incredibly promising year group and I hope to see them continue to dominate opponents next year.

J.C.K. & S.G.S.



UNDER 9 CRICKET

The U9A and B Teams experienced mixed results in the games that were played this season, but the weather was the biggest talking point with conditions being similar to those we would normally experience in January! In spite of the wet conditions we still managed victories at St. John's, Plymouth College and Wellington, showing some encouraging potential for the future. Captain

Tom Reynolds led the A Team by example and was ably supported by Duncan Johnson-Ferguson, Rocco Hartley and Nathan White. The performance of the season came with William Farmer taking a six wicket haul in a match against Exeter Prep. All the boys played with a tremendous amount of enthusiasm and effort and despite the number of games being cancelled, the boys always stayed positive during training sessions and matches. S.J.M.

UNDER 11 CRICKET

Sadly the inclement weather caused havoc with the fixture list this term and with many matches being cancelled it was difficult to establish any continuity or momentum.

That said, there were some outstanding performances as well as a strong team spirit that was evident whenever the rain stopped for long enough for us to venture outside. Jack Klinkenberg's four wickets and 44 not out and Greg Kitson's 33 not out against Queen's in our first game helped to secure a seven wicket victory for the U11 A Team, and the team also took victory against touring side The Ridgeway, thanks in no small part to the bowling exploits of Kinna Yewdall, who took three wickets in one over. There were losses against Wellington, Exeter Prep and Millfield, but there were determined efforts from the squad, and notably Marcus Lloyd, William Hall-Tomkin and Captain Byron Knowles, who gave their very best throughout the season. The U11 B Team found the season tough going, but there were valiant efforts from Oliver Kilbride with the bat, William Spencer with the ball and Miles Lawler behind the wicket, and the whole team showed a determination to do their best whenever the weather allowed. My thanks go to all of the boys who wanted desperately to play and to enjoy their cricket but who were often thwarted by the endless rain.

A.D.S. & S.G.S



PREP SPORTS DAY

Quad Athletics allows everybody in the school to compete on an individual basis whilst at the same time gaining points for their House, and the four events in which all competed on Sports Day were the sprint, the distance run, the throw and the jump. All had practised each discipline in PE lessons, but on the day a large number of school records fell as all competitors pushed each other to new heights. Notable performances came from Grace Francis, Anna Rose Gabbitass, Jasmine Mackay, Mia Butterfield, Jack Klinkenberg, Greg Kitson, Joe Hancock, Joe Horsey, Rebecca Hamilton, Tom Reynolds, Kit Barnes, Anna Maunder and Sam Olive. After the scores were added up Grenville came first, Drake second and Raleigh third. Many thanks go to the Prep School staff for measuring and recording the performances, and to the many parents who came along to support and cheer on the children – adding much to the atmosphere of the competition. S.G.S.



Athletics

BLUNDELL'S ATHLETICS

The Senior School athletics meeting is a major competition with large teams entered from many different schools in the area, and the junior and intermediate team entered by Blundell's Prep has traditionally done very well at this event. This year with some very strong performances from lots of individuals the school came out on top in these age groups once again. There are many budding athletes in the team who should go on to great things in their own events. They show natural ability, the desire to improve with coaching and the determination to succeed.

NATIONAL ATHLETICS

Four young athletes were selected on their past performances to represent the South West team in Birmingham at the Alexander Athletic Stadium in July. This stadium had recently hosted the Great Britain 2012 Olympic Trials which made competing there very special. The weather wasn't great for peak performances but this didn't seem to deter those who came to compete to the best of their ability.

After the heats of the 100m Greg Kitson was placed in the final with a tricky lane draw of being on the outside. This did not deter him and he ran a very quick time. He finished 7th in the country, an amazing achievement. Grace Francis was entered into the high jump and in spite of having to endure constant rain and cold conditions she came second in the country. There was a moment when she could have perhaps won but athletic events can be decided on the smallest of margins. Anna Rose Gabbitass also finished second in the final of her event, the 100m sprint, having qualified with one of the fastest times in the country.

Tyler Olding competed in the discus against some much bigger opponents but he didn't let this deter him. With everybody finding it hard to grip the discus the playing field was levelled. Tyler was able to produce a national winning throw of over 25 metres, to become the 2012 National Prep Schools U12 Discus Champion.

It was fantastic to see such success at a national finals competition, well done to all! S.G.S.



*Pictured: Tyler Olding,
2012 National Prep Schools
U12 Discus Champion*

Mr. Damian Marshman, Head of School House, awards the Blundell's Athletics trophy to Greg Kitson and Anna Rose Gabbitass, left.



Hockey



Despite having to train in the pouring rain the U11 team were as ready as they could have been for the Mini Regional Finals at Millfield in April.

This was the rearranged event after qualifying back in December. Our pool included Millfield Prep, Bristol Grammar School and St. Richards, from Cornwall. We started off slowly and Millfield took the first victory. After a clear team talk we went out against BGS and won convincingly, and then followed this up with another win against St. Richards. With goals coming thick and fast from Anna Rose Gabbitass and Rebecca Hamilton, the team advanced into the quarter finals where we were set to play Dean Close, tipped as the tournament favourites. This did not un-nerve the team and we played the best game of the season, finally winning on penalty strokes. This took us through to face The Elms School in the semi finals. Once again it came down to penalties, although this time the result didn't go our way and we lost 2- 1. This was a tough result as the whole team had given their all throughout a long and cold day, but I was so proud of the team for their attitude and approach, well done girls! Thank you to Mr. James Mayes for his hockey coaching and input, to Mr. Southgate for driving and to our wonderful parents and families for supporting.

L.M.M.



PRE-PREP SPORTS DAY

Due to very inclement weather at the end of term, the Pre-Prep Sports Day had to be held in the Sports Hall this year. It did not deter the parents, grandparents or friends and there was a wonderfully supportive audience to cheer the children on in their races. We had some topical races with "Pass the Olympic Torch" (above) and "Dress the Jubilee Queen", and for the first time for many years, the Nursery children took part as well – and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves! Every child took part with enthusiasm and all were rewarded at the end of the races with a chocolate medallion. There was great competition amongst the Dads to see who would win the Walking Race and the Mums were good sports too, taking part in the Egg and Spoon Race. The whole afternoon went off very smoothly and everybody had a great time! T.N.

Rounders

Wet, wet, wet! Despite the poor weather our teams did manage to get a few games in this term and they performed well, demonstrating some great team work and effort. Rounders can be a frustrating game at times but I was pleased with the way the younger girls got to grips with the rules. It was very disappointing to have to cancel so many games but with all the schools in the same position we made the most of the Summer Term, and the U11 team did well at the Millfield Tournament early on in the term – they thoroughly enjoyed the experience of playing different teams and schools from further afield. Well done to all the girls who kept their spirits high and worked hard. Here's to a dry start to our Hockey season! L.M.M.





Singing *in the Reign*



The sun came out in May, when the School came together to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The children came to school dressed in patriotic colours, with many a Union Jack accessory. A mass street party was staged in the playground, where the kitchen staff served a fantastic lunch of party foods, complete with ice-cream and a right royal celebration cake shared by all. After lunch, we all stood up to sing the National Anthem together, and some vigorous flag waving ensued. This was a wonderful way in which to mark the milestone occasion of the Queen's sixty year reign. T.N. & L.P.M.

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Blundell's

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