1CV1CW



"The friendships that the children forge now are so important and provide the feeling of safety from which every opportunity available at school can be enjoyed."



During our whole school assembly on the final Wednesday of term I asked the children to highlight their favourite event. "What has been the best thing that you have done this term?" I asked and the response was 200 raised hands and lots of children eager to share their thoughts. We had mentions of Grandparents' Day, sports matches, musical performances, the 'Play in a Day' but the final response from Meredith was the one that drew the most smiles from the staff – "I have had fun being with my friends." This is what any parent, teacher and Head Master would want to hear and it is a defining quality of our school. The friendships that the children forge now are so important and provide the

feeling of safety from which every opportunity available at school can be enjoyed. Yes, there will be bumps in the road and from time to time things do not go to plan but that is the time when the partnership between school and home becomes all the more important. It is this partnership that we have looked to develop even further over the course of the term through a host of different events. Aside from the legendary team teas at Blundell's Prep (the scones are talked of throughout the county!) we have also welcomed parents to Coffee Mornings and Award Assemblies, plays and concerts, Year 1 and 2 tours of the Prep School, the FoBP and Parent Liaison Supper, the Cooking with Parents Workshop and of course, Grandparents' Morning and the Year 3 Parents Lunch. I am delighted to say that one of our Year 3 parents, Mrs. Harris, was so taken with the roast beef and rice pudding, that she kindly wrote about it for this Review so do look out for that article. As you thumb through this edition you will notice the smiles and not just on the faces of the children. We are a family school and I am very proud of that.

Creative Arts Week was a highlight of the term and brought together the very best of Art, Music and Drama at BPS. Over the last few weeks I have looked through a great many Creative Arts Week books and have enjoyed seeing the many different activities in which the children have taken part. What stands out in all of these wonderful records of the week is the children's capacity for creativity. Every book is unique, with different materials used and different artists focused on. Many of the children have developed the themes from the week with their own creations and have then spent time bringing these to life in various forms. Over the five days of Creative Arts Week I was fortunate to spend some time working alongside the Year 3 children during their puppet making workshop and through a haze of glue and tissue paper I was able to see first-hand the joy of having the freedom to create. It was a very powerful reminder that we are all born with the ability to be creative and this is a skill that must be nurtured and developed if our children are to be prepared for the future and life beyond school.

I would encourage as many parents as possible to join us for Creative Arts Week next year, especially those who would suggest that they lack creativity - the children will show you the way!

My best wishes to you all.



Andy Southgate Head Master



Out of the Frying Pan

As tradition dictates, the annual House Pancake races took place on Shrove Tuesday, and although Grenville won both Junior and Senior races, some flipping good fun was enjoyed by all!



Kids Who Care

Blundell's Preparatory School was delighted to welcome Cathy Kingham from the local charity 'Kids Who Care' to assembly this term. The whole school gathered to present Cathy with a cheque for £3,194.93 which the children had helped to raise through Christmas themed events at the end of last year. Kids Who Care supports and works with children and young people from across Mid Devon, up to the age of 18 who look after or support parents, relatives or siblings with care needs. Cathy had previously talked to the children about the work of the charity and about the lives of some of the carers. This certainly touched some of the children and Kids Who Care became the school's chosen charity of the year.

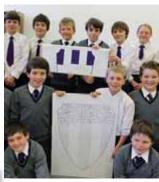
Fundraising events included a Christmas Market which brought together businesses from the local vicinity. Amongst the goods on offer were fresh fish, cheese, jewellery and ceramics. The school also held a Festival of Carols with local primary schools Two Moors, St. John's and Tidcombe. B.J.S.



In February we once again opened our doors to our Grandparents. We were delighted that over 90 were able to join us for assembly and coffee and cake. The highlight for most of our grandparents was the time that they were able to spend with their grandchildren in their classes. They enjoyed lessons ranging from Food Technology to

Drama and from English to Science. One grandparent confided that she was not sure that she had helped much as her ruler had been upside down! B.J.S.





A Stitch in Time

With the current Year 6 now having completed their sewing contribution, the Blundell's Prep Cross-stitch Shield continues to move slowly closer towards completion.

Responsibility now falls to Year 5 to continue the project. Look out for further updates soon!

High Fliers



Years 5 & 6 enjoyed a great morning visiting Pre-Prep to help Kindergarten & Year 1 build and test a range of

test a range of
different paper
spinners, helicopters and
aeroplanes in Science Week.
All allowed their ambitions to
soar and the number of paper
aeroplanes subsequently
discovered on the Pre-Prep roof
paid testament to the
aeronautical expertise on show.
The theme of Science Week was
Discovery and Invention, and
many imaginative flying
machines were designed,

including flying tractors and trains, hot air calloons, airships and even a Daddytron' – designed to fly and grab the designer's father and bring him



Tudor Times

On Monday 21st January, **Year 5** came to School dressed

in Tudor costume ready for Tudor Day. They had been studying the Tudors in History, and were visited by an actor who played King Henry VIII. He talked to them about life in Tudor times, before holding a Tudor quiz, sentencing the losers to a spell in the stocks, and finishing off the day with a jousting tournament! Olivia Rhodes, Year 6





Congratulations go to George Gibbs, Rebecca Hamilton, Tara Hayes-Pankhurst, Grace Labdon, Sophia Marr, Jasper Pring, Olivia Rhodes and Henry Richards for gaining Academic Awards to the Senior School, and to Sophie Clough, Rebecca Hamilton, Frances Hunt

and Grace Labdon for gaining a Music Award. This year congratulations also go to Jessica Barnes, Hector Marr, William Maunder and Georgia Withey in Year 2 for gaining a Junior Scholarship. Well done to all!

Otters

The Year 2 Otters club meets every Wednesday and the children have great fun doing a variety of different activities, from disco dancing, to crafts and making sandwiches and biscuits. They especially loved decorating biscuits and performing for the other children in 'Showtime'.



World Book Day was celebrated this year with a range of exciting literary activities, including visits from The Travelling Book **Company Book Fair, local author Amy Sparkes,** who read her story 'Hodge the Hedgehog' to the younger children, and visiting story teller Anthony Pedley, who entranced the children with his retelling of Roald Dah's The BFG for the Pre-Prep, and his biographical tour de force 'A Taste of Dahl' for the Prep School. Children in the Pre-Prep also enjoyed dressing up as their favourite book characters, and the ever popular 'Book at Bedtime' saw the children return to school once it was dark dressed in their pyjamas and clutching sleeping bags and teddy bears. The teachers read bedtime stories by candlelight. They had hot chocolate and cookies and snuggled up together to enjoy the



stories. It was a super way to end such a fun day! T.N.



Wild in the Country

Neil Vaughan visited Kindergarten recently with his 'Really Wild Encounter'. Before the day there was great excitement and speculation amongst the children about what creatures he would bring. A bear and a baby elephant were two hopeful suggestions! Luckily the animals that he brought were rather smaller and safer. Firstly they met Brian and Briony the African land snails. Several

children were brave enough to hold one of them but not so keen on the slime that they produced. Neil used Ginny the bird eating spider to help dispel some of the

myths that exist about large hairy carnivorous spiders. The final creature was Wally the water dragon. The children were reassured to hear that he did not breathe fire. They were fascinated to feel his scaly skin and learn about how his colours enabled him to be camouflaged in his habitat. LKP





On Friday 8th February the Prep School held its Spring Disco, organised by the Friends of Blundell's Prep. Former pupil Oliver Tobey, otherwise known as DJ Zedline, provided the lights and music, and there were lots of refreshments including pizza, ice cream, sweetie bags and fruit cocktails! There were also rope lights for sale, but the main attraction was the dancing, and after some energetic moves on the dance floor, winners were announced... Congratulations to Amelia **Richards and Henry Crease in the Junior** category, Imogen Davey and William Farmer in the Senior category, and to Mr. Moore for winning the staff dance-off! Everybody had a **GREAT time!**

The Friends of Blundell's Prep also organised a Pre-Prep Party at the end of term. The children greatly enjoyed the antics of Professor Fumble who kept everyone entertained and amused throughout the early evening, before party games and tea. Many thanks to the FOBP for organising these events.

Luli Mountbatten and Olivia Charteris, Year 6



There were some very chocolaty faces at Toddler Group during the last session of the term. The children made some delicious Easter nests and not everyone could wait until the end to lick their spoon! Other activities this term included: finger painting sheep, growing cress seeds, sponge printing tortoises, designing clown hats, painting rainbows and making rabbits. If you and your baby or toddler would like to join us on Wednesday afternoons from 2pm to 3.30pm, you would be very welcome. W.J.N.



Year 2 performed their play Hansel and Gretel at the end of term. The actors had spent a long time preparing and each and every performer



lines to the best of their ability. The play who laughed along and joined in show! A huge thank you must go to all of the children in Year 2 who had Well done everyone! G.J.R.





Master Chefs:

Parents' Cookery Workshop



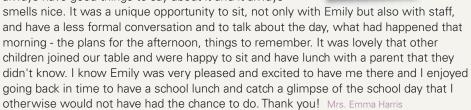
We were delighted to welcome in 16 brave and intrepid parents to our inaugural Cookery Workshop in February. Amidst much laughter and fun, the ladies (a father's Cooking Workshop is next on the agenda!) cooked Twice-Baked Goat's

Cheese soufflés, Crispy Chicken with Pancetta and Chocolate and Pear Pudding with Chocolate Sauce. The food looked and tasted delicious and all agreed that more of the same would be perfect. B.J.S



Eating In: Parents' Lunch

We were very kindly invited to join our Year 3 children for lunch at school in January. As a new parent it was really comforting to be able to come in to be with my daughter and see how a very normal lunchtime operates. It was great to be able to taste the food for myself - the children always have good things to say about it and it always



Pre-Prep Prepares Sweet Treats for Parents

Children from the Pre-Prep came up to cook in the Prep School Food Technology Room earlier in the term. They were preparing chocolate crispy cakes and flapjacks ready to serve to their parents when they came up for a cup of coffee and a tour of the Prep School. They worked in pairs and had a wonderful time chopping and mixing; they had to take turns with the washing up and drying of equipment afterwards, and subsequently waited on their parents with the wonderful wares they had made.









Lily Mackay, Kata Lee, Sophia Marr and Olivia Rhodes from Year 6 enjoyed a residential trip to Beaford Arts Centre in February, working together on a range of art projects including charcoal drawings, modroc sculptures and felt pots. Meanwhile, the rest of the School came off timetable for a whole week of Creative Arts! There were drumming workshops, music and singing in the House Music Competition, improvisation and drama behind the scenes of the Year 4 'Play in a Day', and much multimedia art to be explored, expressed, conceived, cut, sketched, stuck, painted and performed by all...

UNITED ARTISTS

The theme for our annual Creative Arts Week was puppets... shadow puppets, Punch and Judy puppets, finger puppets, even bin bag puppets... they were everywhere!

Years 3 and 5 spent two fantastic days working with visiting artist Don Newton to create amazing puppets using black bin bags, masking tape and milk bottles. Year 3 were also busy silk painting and using acrylic paint to create artwork liked to their fable theme.

Everyone enjoyed watching Year 4 perform their 'Play in a Day'. Fairy tale characters were brought to life through child-led improvisation. They also made clay 'Three Little Pigs' piggy banks, real gingerbread men and 'magic beans' from felt with Marian Beresford from Cheriton Ceramics.

Year 5 made clay beach huts and seaside-themed net banners. They also made willow fish with visiting artist Katy Styles.



Year 6 were lucky to work alongside the talented Rory Nugent. He inspired them with his amazing fish paintings and they then produced four beautiful underwater collages which are now on display around the school. The children also visited the Senior School where they enjoyed various art activities organised by Head of Art, Bertie Matthews.

We are all eagerly awaiting the Summer Exhibition when we can celebrate the children's fabulous artwork.

The Creative Arts staff would like to thank all the visiting artists and parents who supported the week.













...shadow puppets,
Punch and Judy puppets,
finger puppets, even bin
bag puppets... they were
everywhere!











The Pre-Prep was buzzing with excitement when the children spent two days watching puppet shows, learning how to make

puppet shows, learning how to make puppets and performing stories with thei puppets.

They were enthralled by a shadow puppet show and then spent the rest of the day learning how to make their own shadow puppets before getting the opportunity to show their puppets behind the light box. All of the children in Pre-Prep made puppets – ranging from shadow puppets and hand puppets to pop-up puppets and spoon puppets. They worked in small groups to think up a story for their characters and had great fun performing their stories to the other children in their class. S.A.S.











PLAY SCHOOL

What an eventful day Year 4 had when producing their 'Play in a Day'! The theme this year was Fairy Tale characters. Sarah Middleton joined us from The Plough Arts Centre, Torrington, working alongside Mr. Hirst and Mrs. Charlesworth for the day. Sarah introduced us to the Zombie game, led us in singing Bananas of the World Unite and completed our warm up with pupils, in groups, trying to impersonate a full English breakfast on a plate!

The story groups were Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk and Robin Hood. Sarah explained that each story had to have five main plot points, one of which must have been the capture of one of the characters. The captured character was then to be kept in the 'Scary Castle' until the end of the play, when hopefully they would be rescued. Throughout a very busy morning the children improvised their own stories around this premise. They enjoyed every aspect of the production, and many parents and friends joined Year 4 at the end of the day to celebrate their success in producing their play in a day! T.M.C.



Creative Arts Musical Notes





This term has been yet another busy musical term with many children performing in a variety of concerts as well as having the opportunity to watch musicians playing in 'live' concerts.

Year 6 travelled to Exeter University to a concert given by the Music For Youth Orchestra. It was a varied programme with Japanese Taiko drumming, folk music on a violin and double bass and Hungarian folk music played by a String Orchestra. The finale saw all the children in the audience joining in with a Gospel medley played by a Jazz Orchestra, which included the songs Swing Low Sweet Chariot and When the Saints Go Marching In.

The following week saw Years 5 and 6 visiting the Senior School for a concert given by the RAF Band. The children were really taken aback by the huge sound that the band produced, playing pieces such as *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *Tea For Two* (accompanied by some of the children on percussion), *Skyfall*, *Hurt*, *Let Me Entertain You* and *Candy*. It was a fantastic concert and it had everyone dancing in their seats.

As part of Creative Arts Week all the children took part in a percussion workshop. Our percussion teacher, Mr. Cartwright, spent the morning with the children rehearsing rhythms on the snare drums, floor toms, drum kit, agogos and cow bells. These rhythms were put together and the results could be heard throughout the school! Fun was had by all and it was wonderful to see the children working together to make music.

Our House Music Competition took place at the end of Creative Arts Week and proved to be one of our closest competitions ever! All the children were involved and all the staff worked hard to rehearse and choreograph their House songs. Songs performed this year were Price Tag, Lean on Me and Man in the Mirror. Small groups also performed including wind bands, guitar ensembles, recorder groups, string groups, piano trios and small singing groups. Judging was very difficult but in the end Grenville were announced overall winners by just 0.2 of a mark! Thank you very much to Mr. Barlow for judging the competition.

Seventeen of our pupils took part in the annual Orchestra Day held at Blundell's Senior School. Children from local schools spent the day rehearsing in their orchestra sections. The day finished with everyone coming together and performing a 'mini' concert for family and

friends. Many thanks to Mr. Barlow for organising this event.

On the final Tuesday of term the Joint Concert was held at the Senior School. This provided the opportunity for children from the Prep and the Senior School to perform together. The evening included a great range of music including string and wind groups, choirs, the Big Band and the first ever performance by our newly formed boys' choir 'Boys Aloud'. It was a super evening enjoyed by all.

A few days later our small House singing groups and some of our instrumentalists went to St. George's Church to entertain people enjoying a Frugal Lunch held to raise money for charity. Sophie Clough performed a cello piece, Rebecca Hamilton a piano piece and Frances Hunt a singing solo.

We have also had children taking Associated Board and Trinity exams this term and many children have performed in our Tea Time Concerts. We had seven children audition for music scholarships at Blundell's Senior School and Sophie Clough, Rebecca Hamilton, Frances Hunt and Grace Labdon have all been awarded scholarships for next year. Well done girls!

A big thank you to all the children and staff who have made this term's music so successful. B.L.C.



KNIGHTSHAYES COURT

Despite inclement weather conditions, Nursery 1 ventured out to hunt for the Easter Bunny at Knightshayes Court at the end of term. They were not disappointed, for the rabbit also proved equal to taking on the elements and left enough eggs for everyone! The daffodils were beautiful, even in the rain it was possible to have our annual egg hurl (our adaptation of an egg roll!) and the picnic tasted good in the minibus! D.McD.



EXETER CATHEDRAL

On Thursday 21st March Year 2 visited Exeter Cathedral as part of their Religious Education curriculum. Children were taken on a guided tour of the cathedral and they saw many interesting features. They asked lots of good questions and Harry and Ottilie even got a chance to try on bishop's robes! The children were then able to have

a go at brass rubbing in the Chapter House. After a delicious packed lunch the children went back into the cathedral to do some sketching of some of the things they had seen. It was hugely beneficial for the children to see some of the things such as the font, stained glass windows and the pulpit, which we had studied in the classroom. We all had an enjoyable day and the children were chatting about all that they had seen and done all the way back to school despite the wind and the rain outside! D.M.K.

ST. NICHOLAS PRIORY

An enjoyable trip to St. Nicholas Priory in Exeter reinforced the children's learning about the Great Fire of London in 1666. The children in Year 1 always enjoy this topic and they loved dressing up and exploring this fascinating building. They were particularly interested in the kitchen and the bedchamber where there were lots of objects to look at, and were surprised at how heavy the leather bucket was that would have been used to try to put out the fire in London. S.A.S.







Sun, sea and smiles! Great food, good company, group work! Team play, tremendous views and terrible hair! Wonderful disco, wild zoo and winning! These are just some of the ways the Year 6 Jersey Tour could be described this year.

It was an absolute pleasure to accompany the trip and well worth the early start on the Saturday morning – well done parents for making the 4.45am meet at Exeter airport! An action packed four days on the island proved successful in every respect. I'm

certain all of the children and staff will have fond memories of Jersey and the Blundell's Prep sports tour of 2013. There were so many highlights...

S.G.S & L.M.M.



girls later returned to face
their Jersey opponents at hockey – with the A Team
taking victory this time! The boys also found some
success when taking on a Guernsey rugby team!

events to keep us busy throughout the four days.

The girls enjoyed shopping at the Jersey Pearl – and the opportunity to fish in a tank of oysters for pearls.

We all came together to go to the cinema to watch Wreck-It Ralph – complete with popcorn! We also went bowling, toured the German Bunkers, and enjoyed a visit to Gorey Castle. Other highlights included fish and chips on the beach, a visit to Aqua Splash, and a Crazy Hair Disco at the hotel – with a serve-yourself buffet and dancing until 11:00 o'clock! A favourite with many was our trip to the Gerald Durrell Zoo – where we got to prepare food parcels of dried fruit and porridge for the gorillas!

Everybody who went on tour had a great time, and we would like to say a big thank you to Mr. Swain and Mrs. May for organising it all, and to Mr. Kerr & Mr. Hope for giving up their time to come with us.

Amber Sharp, Tara Hayes-Pankhurst, Olivia Charteris & Sophia Marr, Year 6







U8 Nethall

Mrs. Carter has been very enthusiastic about the U8 Team and it is very encouraging to see how confidently they are playing. I thought their performances in the House Netball matches were superb and a reflection of all their efforts this term. Well done girls!

U9 Netball

Both the A and B Teams have played some super netball this term and enjoyed lots of success throughout the term against other schools. After a shock defeat early on to Exeter, and some subsequent re-shuffling, the A Team have gone from strength to strength, finishing as runners up at the Queen's tournament, third on goal difference, then proving that they had what it took to win at the Exeter School tournament, scoring 17 goals and conceding none. Good luck as you move into U10 and well done to all the U9 girls who played for their School teams.

U10 Netball

Well done to the U10 Teams who have been very enthusiastic over the term, playing with a great understanding for the rules and with much confidence. At a very chilly Queen's tournament the U10 A Team were determined not to be beaten by the weather and went on to dominate their matches. A super performance from all girls and a heart stopping goal from Alexandra Pawson against Queen's in the clinch match was enough to grasp a well-deserved first place in the tournament. On the last Wednesday of term both teams played – The B Team had a wonderful afternoon playing lots of netball at The Maynard's annual festival whilst the A Team travelled to Millfield Prep to compete in their U10 tournament. Here they played some lovely netball, really raising their game in preparation for U11 standards and they finished runners-up in their pool, making the semi-finals against Millfield Prep where they narrowly lost. Our overall finishing position was fourth in the tournament of eight teams.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the girls for their enthusiasm, patience and efforts and I hope they continue to love playing netball and remember what they have learnt... I'm hopeful that next season when they stand on court they might just remember me shouting, "Move towards the ball, get in front of your player!" I do wish the girls at all levels and in all teams the very best. Thank you as well to all the parents and spectators who have supported the girls and teams, and very importantly a special thank you to Mrs. Clare Leyshon for her support with umpiring – it is all very much appreciated. L.M.M.



U6 & U7 Tag Rugby Festival

Fifty three children from Years 1 and 2 took part in this year's Tag Rugby Festival. Children from five local schools joined us for the afternoon and they all had a lot of fun playing matches against each other. Many parents came to watch and it was wonderful to see the

children experiencing the excitement of playing against other schools. All commented on the high standard of rugby being played. There was a delicious match tea after the games and Mr. Southgate presented certificates to all the children who took part. Thank you to Mr. Edge and Mr. Hopkins for refereeing, and a special thank you to the Year 6 children who helped to make the festival run so smoothly in their roles as school helpers, assistant referees and scorers.

T.N. & S.G.S.



On a bright but bitterly cold Tuesday 12th March,
Year 2 welcomed Kelly College to Blundell's
Prep. There had been great excitement for
weeks leading up to this event and the children
were not disappointed. The boys played two
fantastic games of football, with everyone working
together as a team. The boys scored an unanswered seven
goals to win their first match with goals from William
Maunder, Jasper Winsley, Toby Butler and Archie Hull.
The second match was more closely fought but the

Blundell's boys persevered to win 3-1 with goals from Barnaby Hull and Jack Anderson. The girls also did very well with their netball matches and they worked hard as a team passing the ball. The girls narrowly lost their first match 2-3 with a last minute goal coming from



with a last minute goal coming from Kelly College's superb Goal Attack. The Blundell's girls gathered their spirits and played excellently in their second match to win 4-0. All Blundell's goals were scored by an outstanding Honor Tobin who deserves a special mention. It was a fantastic afternoon, well done to everyone in Year 2 for their excellent sportsmanship. G.J.R.





Football

"The U8's have shown the enthusiasm of premiership footballers this term."





U8 Football

The U8's have shown the enthusiasm of premiership footballers this term. They have covered every blade of grass and marked every player. With this 100% all-out attitude there have been victories, including a stunning display against Exeter Junior School where the team won 11-3! The team had a couple of very safe goal keepers in Oscar Winsley and Taylor Wonnacott, and a fantastic striker in Harry Bouchier-Hayes. A team to watch in the future!

U9 Football

The season was a hard, cold and wet one. However, we showed plenty of commitment in our training despite the awful weather, and played well with decisive wins against Kelly, Stover and West Buckland just before the half-term. Nathan White, Joseph Provis and Dominic Wielenga were very steady and organised in defence and were well supported by Christopher Churcher playing some excellent football in the

centre. Our two wingers, Joshua Withey and Henry Crease, played the long ball with pleasing accuracy, and Kit Barnes and Oscar Prior-Palmer, our two strikers, often made good use of the loose ball – with Oscar being our season's highest scorer. Our goalkeepers, Harry Huggett and Finn Muirhead, always kept us in the game, on many occasions making some outstanding saves and contributing hugely to the team's success.

U10 Football

The U10 season saw a developing team play some exceptional football. The movement off the ball was very impressive and the squad of boys made some great offensive moves, gaining multiple shots on goal. With many players committed to attack, however, the team were at times open to counter attacks, and the team know very well that a greater balance between attack and defence will be needed next season. There were notable performances from Boris Ames and Duncan Johnson-Ferguson, who both showed great skill beyond their years.

U11 Football

The U11 team demonstrated a stout defence throughout the term, and were able to move the ball forward with lightning speed to catch the opposition out. The weather at times has been cold, wet and windy, but this did not dampen the team spirit at all. Everyone battled to the final whistle, and the midfield worked tirelessly to provide the strikers with opportunities – but on occasions too many touches on the ball invited a tackle from the opposition and the flow of attack was interrupted. When the goal was sighted there weren't many chances missed and goals were scored in every game; the team played some particularly attractive football at the Exeter Junior School tournament. Harry Charlesworth, as goalkeeper, deserves a special mention for his tireless play and skill as the last line of defence.

Thank you to all who supported the teams at our matches throughout the term. S.G.S. & S.J.M.







Blundell's Road, Tiverton
Devon EX16 4NA
Telephone: 01884 252393
Email: prep@blundells.org