

SUMMER 2013

# review



Signing Out: Year 6 celebrate on Speech Day  
 Outdoor Learning: thinking outside of the box  
 Strings Attached: violin instrumental in Summer Concert success

## London Calling

Sent to the Tower, museums and galleries, Tudor Times on the Golden Hinde and a *Wicked* time at the theatre... a Year 6 residential to cap it all



*“...my visitors always comment on the children, how happy they look, how polite they are and how engaged they are in their learning...”*



The Summer Term has to be my favourite for all the obvious reasons. The sun comes out (finally) and the opportunities to explore the great outdoors become all the more enjoyable. This term we have seen the next stage in our Outdoor Learning programme come to fruition with workshops for all of our children, including making fires, camp building, orienteering and teamwork challenges. When we return in September we will have the use of our new 'Hub' and this will provide a focal point (as well as much needed shelter from the inevitable rain!) for further workshops and daily use of our beautiful grounds. The Summer Term has also provided plenty of opportunities to enjoy cricket, rounders, athletics and tennis as well as many hours playing with

friends. The Summer Concert was a magnificent showcase for the musical talent at Blundell's Prep and the Sports Days showed the athletic potential that is being realised in our very youngest through to our senior pupils. There is no doubt that the Summer Term is the most action-packed and this has been exemplified by all that our Year 6 pupils have enjoyed during their final weeks with us.

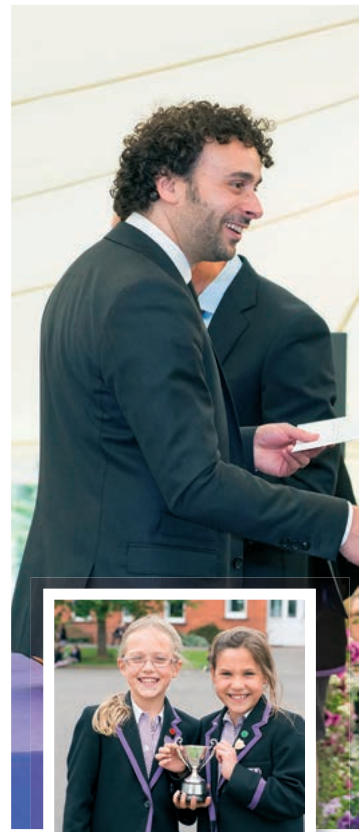
The final year at Prep School is the most exciting. It is also the most challenging, both academically and pastorally. The children focus on their Entrance Exams and work tirelessly to prepare, completing practice papers and looking at exam technique in a quest to do themselves justice when the day of the 'real thing' arrives. This year's cohort was very successful and passed with flying colours, managing to win eight academic scholarships in the process. They were all delighted when the results came through and we celebrated their success. Having successfully navigated this hurdle you might imagine that these 41 children would down tools and sit back. This could not have been further from the truth as they embarked on their Balsa scheme, or Blundell's Adventure, Leadership and Service Award, devised by Mr Mildren and run by our Year 6 tutors, Mr Moore and Mrs May. Over the two terms that followed the exams the children looked for ways to win points towards the Shackleton, Scott or Fiennes Awards and this required full engagement in the many activities that had been arranged at school but also an even greater emphasis on taking part in activities outside of school. All of our children move on to senior education in September and the Balsa scheme is aimed at helping them to develop the skills needed to make that transition and to thrive in their new environments. Throughout the pages of this edition of the Review you will see some of the activities that they have enjoyed this term, helping to ensure that their final year at Prep School is packed full of challenging, purposeful and stimulating activities.

I have been fortunate to welcome many guests to the Prep School over the year and one of the best parts of my job must be giving tours. Without exception, my visitors always comment on the children, how happy they look, how polite they are and how engaged they are in their learning. The photographs and articles in this edition of the Review capture many of those qualities and are a wonderful representation of our school. As the academic year comes to an end I hope that you will enjoy looking through these pages as much as I have.

Have a great summer.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Andy Southgate".

**Andy Southgate** Head Master







Head Girl, Luli Mountbatten and Head Boy, George Gibbs (above, with the Head Master), thanking Guest Speaker Mr Ralph Heimans (left)

# Speech Day

We were delighted to listen to Mr Ralph Heimans speak at Speech Day. Last year Ralph painted an amazing portrait of the Queen standing in Westminster Abbey, and Ralph spoke to the audience of approximately 600 guests, children and staff about his life, the experience of both meeting and painting the Queen and how each of his paintings encapsulates the story surrounding the subject. His inspirational talk was listened to by a rapt audience, who at the end of the speeches, were able to view copies of some of his work, including a copy of the portrait of the Queen. The School now owns a signed copy of the painting which will be on display soon.

Speech Day also included a speech by our Head Master, Mr Andy Southgate, which looked back over a highly successful and eventful year for the School.

There were a large number of children who received prizes for their hard work throughout the year and these they received from Ralph Heimans.

The afternoon was rounded off by a delicious tea provided once again by our super catering team. Our Year 6 leavers spent much time hunting down 'autographs' for their Leavers' Books – with Mr Heimans's being the most popular!



The children got to grips with learning outside of the classroom when Tom and Chris from Exeter Forest School and Andy from School Outdoor Learning visited to lead them in such activities as building fires, making dream catchers using willow and wool, and using saws and drills to make 'tree cookies' to wear around their necks. The different activities were interspersed with various games and challenges that helped to develop self-confidence, team work and listening skills. All had a wonderful experience, and are very much looking forward to developing their outside learning skills further next year.



## POND DIPPING

Year 3 visited the Tiverton Canal Basin on a somewhat cold afternoon. The Ranger explained how to Pond Dip and the three types of habitat in which they were going to dip. The children then had the opportunity to dip and collect specimens from each habitat with the Ranger on hand to identify any species that the children could not locate on their information sheet. The Year 3 children returned from the canal with tales of "millions of creatures" and thankfully no-one fell in!



# BLUNDELL'S ADVENTURE, LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE AWARD

The BALSA programme provided a fresh focus for Year 6 following their Entrance Exams this year, offering opportunities for all to show their initiative and develop their citizenship and service skills both inside and outside of School...



## NAVAL GAZING

It is not every day that you have the opportunity to tour the flagship of the Royal Navy but thanks to the generosity of Captain Andrew Burns, our Year 6 children were able to do just that. No part of HMS Bulwark was left unexplored as we climbed ladders, negotiated our way through narrow corridors and saved the ship from sinking through a system of wooden wedges! We were welcomed onto the ship by Captain Burns and then escorted in three groups by members of the crew who gave their time so generously to explain how the ship worked to a group of very excited 11 year olds. Uniform was tried on, the captain's hat was shared around and every type of military weapon was handled, including the 20mm deck-mounted canons! The highlight of the day was the trip around Devonport in a launch, accompanied by the Commandos who are stationed on Bulwark. We are grateful to Mr Rees and Captain Burns for their generosity and hope that we can do something similar next year. A.D.S.



## COASTAL EXPEDITION

In May Year 6 enjoyed a day at Croyde Bay pursuing the 'Adventure' element of their BALSA scheme. There was opportunity to work in teams for some problem solving activities before donning wetsuits and taking to the beach for a surfing workshop. Some serious coasteering challenges, on and off the rocks, presented the opportunity for all to step out of the comfort zone and really test themselves, and all responded fantastically to the experience, to make the most of their learning experiences outside of the classroom!







## SPEED WATCH

In June we welcomed Radio Devon and Spotlight to Blundell's Prep as they were keen to see how the Year 6 Speed Watch project was being used to help children to better understand the dangers of excessive speed on our local roads. All of the children in Year 6 have had the opportunity to use the police speed guns to identify those drivers who were exceeding the limit as they enter the 30mph zone on Blundell's Road. Some drivers were then interviewed by the children and were asked some challenging questions, the most challenging perhaps being 'How would you feel if you knocked me or one of my friends over?' It would be difficult not to feel a pang of guilt and it is hoped that this will help to reduce speed outside schools across the region.

If you saw the Spotlight report on BBC news then you would have seen the confidence with which the children spoke whilst on camera, how articulate they were in their questions and how engaged they were with the project itself. They are impressive young people and that really came across strongly on the television. As you might imagine, it caused some considerable excitement in School! A.D.S.



The Big Beach Clean Up proved a great success and some of our Year 6 were amongst 30 plus volunteers who turned up to Exmouth Beach one morning in April to help the Marine Conservation Society in conjunction with M&S to undertake a national beach survey.

The children had taken an interest in how much rubbish is polluting our shores after watching a moving film clip about Midway Island. They had discussed the impact of plastics and other waste that affects our sea and wildlife, and in the spirit of the Balsa scheme, they had been keen to get involved with this project and do their bit to help.

It certainly gave them a better insight into what is really happening in the world outside of the classroom. Amongst the items found were a large tractor tyre that the class dug out for the council to remove and lots of plastic bottle tops and sweets papers.

It was a really good experience for the children and I do hope that they continue to take an interest in the impact of pollution on the environment, and will spread the word that we can all do our bit to use less packaging and dispose of waste appropriately. L.M.M.



## Year 6 Farewell Evening

Year 6 parents were welcomed with an array of appetizing food as they joined their children and the staff for the Balsa and Farewell Evening at the end of term. The children had spent the day preparing delicious treats which included honey coated sausages, mini sandwiches, bacon wrapped vegetables and chocolate strawberries. After ensuring that their guests had been sufficiently replenished the children sang 'Skyfall' by Adele. The evening was an opportunity to recognise the children's achievements in the Blundell's Adventure, Leadership and Service Award scheme (BALSA) and every one of our 41 Year 6 pupils was presented with a Shackleton Award; there were also a number who had put in a great deal of extra effort in order to go well beyond the elements worked on in school alone, and ten pupils received their Scott Award for showing initiative to undertake many extracurricular activities in service to the wider community outside of school as well. Two managed to gain the Fiennes Award, the highest level, a truly remarkable achievement and one fully deserved by Milly Curtis and Jasper Pring for all of the hard work and endeavour they had invested in pursuing this scheme. The evening ended with the children sharing some of their favourite memories of their time at Blundell's Prep School.





## 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...

# out *and about*

### ESCOT WALKERS

Year 2 enjoyed a fantastic day at Escot on Wednesday. It was raining for most of the day but to their credit the children didn't let that dampen their spirits. Needless to say the children were very excited about their trip but they all behaved extremely well and were a credit to the school. When we arrived we went straight into the maze. The maze is very tricky, however this didn't deter our intrepid explorers and every one of them made it to the finish. After a short rest stop which included name badge making, we went over to see the otter and bird of prey shows. Once the packed lunches had been devoured the children were treated to a dessert of fire-roasted marshmallows. The afternoon saw the highlight of the trip for most people: a walk through a chest-deep swamp! To their credit the children (and teachers!) braved the muddy water with smiles on their faces. Once we had been hosed down the children ended their day with a rope scramble, a spot of wild garlic munching and then a calming look in the pond. All in all a great day was had by all!







## NURSERY TIMES

Nursery 1 have had a busy term exploring places in our locality. Tiverton Museum, Tiverton Library, West Exe Park and St. Paul's Church have all been visited. Halberton Court Farm was the source of delicious strawberries; the children had fun picking these and distributed them to all of the children in the Pre-Prep! Our final trip was to Kia Ora Farm, Cullompton. Here the children discovered model nursery rhyme characters, saw a large carp being caught and were fascinated by a peacock giving a full tail display. It was an excellent morning rounded off by a delicious picnic! **D.McD.**



## SUPER MODELS

The children in **Year 1** had a wonderful day on their trip to Babbacombe Model Village and Kent's Cavern. The children loved walking around the grounds of the Model Village looking at the model houses and buildings. The fire breathing dragon and the burning house particularly caught their attention. After a delicious lunch in the gardens of Kent's Cavern, Terry, the tour guide, enthralled the children with tales of mammoths, lions, bears and cave men and women. The sun appeared as they came out of the cave and they enjoyed an ice lolly before returning to school, tired but happy!

## VICTORIAN HISTORIANS

**Year 1** enjoyed an interesting day out at Tiverton Museum in April. They loved dressing up as Victorian school children and finding out just how strict the teachers used to be. They looked at a variety of wooden toys and learnt how to make a peg doll, which many Victorian children would have made at home. There was so much to see and do at the Museum that we could easily have spent a 2nd day there. **S.A.S.**



## COUNTRY LIFE

The **Kindergarten** children were all very excited when it came to boarding the coach to take them to The World of Country Life in Exmouth. They just couldn't wait to get there! Although the weather was a little cloudy this did not dampen their enthusiasm and after a quick stop for snack we all headed off to feed the calves and the lambs. They must have been even hungrier than the children because the bottles were soon empty and it was time to take the lambs for a walk or perhaps a run was more accurate! Then it was off to the train ride to feed the deer. There was one tiny deer which was only two days old and everyone seemed to want to take it home. Most of the children were brave enough to feed the deer and there were a few llamas that joined the queue too. After eating our own lunch we all went to watch the falconry display. The birds flew so near and one of the owls even landed on the seat beside us. We certainly had a fantastic view! We all agreed that it had been a great day out for everyone and even the sun came out to say goodbye.

## CASTLING

On a gorgeous sunny morning in May, Year 2 travelled in the school minibuses to visit Tiverton Castle. We were met there by Mrs Gordon and she kindly gave us a tour. We looked at many interesting features, which we had talked about in the classroom. The children particularly enjoyed looking at the armour, trying on the helmets and holding the heavy cannon ball. They were not quite so keen to see where the old lavatories used to be and hear that young children, of about six or seven years old, would be expected to climb up and clean them! The children listened carefully to Mrs Gordon as she told them the history of the castle and a ghost story too. It was a very enjoyable trip and the children learnt many interesting things about Tiverton Castle. **D.M.K.**



## A ROOM WITH A PEW

Year 4 enjoyed a visit to the church at Sampford Peverell to support their R.E. studies this term, where they got a chance to see behind the scenes from pulpit to bell tower.



“

...walking up the  
river and slipping  
and sliding through  
the tunnels was  
EPIC!

”

# Overnight





ht

# sensations

In a move to bring the residential experiences into line in the Summer Term, the School strived for a Trips Week this May, when all at the Prep School had the opportunity to enhance their education offsite, whether through academic, artistic or cultural endeavour, or physical or outdoor pursuits – whilst of course having a lot of fun away from home in the process...



## Year 5 on Dartmoor: Stretching the Comfort Zone

**Year 5 enjoyed four days at the Kelly College Adventure Centre on Dartmoor...**



There were loads of activities to do on Dartmoor, including abseiling, rock climbing, kayaking, canoeing, raft building, river walking, climbing the high ropes and the trapeze; we also went weaselling (which involved climbing through tiny gaps between rocks) and letter-boxing, which was looking for stamps hidden in tins all over Dartmoor. Some of the activities were very scary (especially the high up ones!) but the instructors were all friendly and encouraging and everyone had fun! We had to wear wet suits and helmets and buoyancy aids for the water activities, but walking up the river and slipping and sliding through

the tunnels was EPIC! In the evenings there were other activities to do, including wide games like Capture the Flag and Camouflage on Dartmoor, or archery and orienteering at the Adventure Centre. The food at the centre was amazing, and we all talked and talked into the night in our dormitories (at least until Mrs Garcia came in and told us off!) Everyone had a great time and we didn't want to come back again! **Laura Smith & Holly Nugent**



## Year 3 at Beaford: Artists in Residence

**Year 3** enjoyed two fantastic days at Beaford Arts Centre in North Devon. Under the guidance of the professional artists at the centre, they enjoyed making mythical driftwood creatures (almost as much as they enjoyed spending a night away from home!) The next day they moved on to look at the amazing statues at Broomhill Sculpture Park, which they used as inspiration for building their own sand sculptures on the beach at Saunton Sands. The overall experience was one that will leave an indelible impression!





# Overnight *sensations*

## Year 4 at Folly Farm: Back to Nature



We had an action-packed time at Folly Farm. The first thing we did was pond dipping. We caught a newt and named it Steve! We also caught some snails and some wiggly things! Then we went minibeasting and found centipedes and worms! We also looked at owl pellets and went badger watching – we saw four badgers, it was amazing! The next day we went den building with sticks; our team worked well together. We also collected wood to make fires, and cooked bread on the fires. One of the best bits was setting traps to see what animals we could catch – there was a really funny bit when Eve looked into our trap and thought there was a slug in it, but there wasn't! We had a fab time at Folly Farm!

**Lottie Southgate &  
Anna Maunder**



**Year 6 enjoyed three days in London, staying at the Baden Powell House Youth Hostel near Hyde Park and using this as a base for a fantastically busy schedule of sight-seeing, theatre-going, cultural tours and educational workshops in the capital...**





# Year 6 in London: *A Capital Adventure*

## ITINERARY

### Wednesday 22nd May

- 09:00** Depart School; snack at Services.  
Eat packed lunch on coach.
- 13:30** Tour Natural History Museum.
- 16:00** Check-in at Baden Powell House.
- 17:00** Supper at Baden Powell House.
- 18:00** Depart on coach for Apollo Victoria Theatre.
- 19:00** See West End play: Wicked.
- 22:00** Return to Baden Powell House.
- 22:30** Bed.

### Thursday 23rd May

- 08:00** Wake up and shower.
- 08:30** Breakfast at Baden Powell House.

- 09:00** Tour Science Museum.
- 11:00** Depart on coach for Tower of London.
- 11:30** Arrive at Tower of London.  
Eat packed lunches.
- 12:00** Tour Tower of London;  
Imprisonment, Escape and Execution Workshop.
- 15:00** Walk across Tower Bridge to Southwark Cathedral Refectory.
- 15:30** Eat tea in Southwark Cathedral Refectory.
- 16:30** Walk to Golden Hinde for Living History Workshop and supper.
- 21:00** Return on coach to Baden Powell House.
- 22:00** Bed.

### Friday 24th May

- 08:30** Wake up and shower.
- 09:00** Breakfast at Baden Powell House.
- 09:30** Depart on coach for Tate Modern.
- 10:00** Tour Tate Modern galleries.
- 12:00** Walk to National Theatre.
- 12:15** Backstage tour of National Theatre.  
Eat packed lunches.
- 14:00** Walk to meet coach at Southwark Bridge.
- 14:15** Depart London; snack at Services.
- 18:45** Arrive School.





# Musical notes



## Music in the Forest

The sound of woodpeckers could be heard in the school grounds when the children in the Pre-Prep enjoyed a wonderful afternoon of music making with Mervyn Bedford from Musikgarten. After starting with a welcome song the children joined in an action song about a dandelion. They each had a scarf which they blew into the air to represent the seeds. A song about a woodpecker was accompanied by children pulling strings to play some wooden woodpeckers that Mervyn had attached to the trees. A variety of songs and movement followed and all the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves.







# Summer Concert



## Tea Time Concerts

Our Tea Time Concerts were held over two evenings this term, and kicked off with a Junior Tea Time Concert, providing an opportunity for children in Years 3 and 4 to showcase their musical talents. Pieces performed in what was a very varied and enjoyable concert included traditional French music, the Chattanooga Choo Choo and Part of Your World, from The Little Mermaid. It was wonderful to see so many of our younger musicians performing with such confidence and enjoyment. Our Senior Tea Time Concert followed, and saw children in Years 5 and 6 performing, with performances including music from the musicals (Oom Pah Pah, Where is Love, Cabaret and My Favourite Things), a Hungarian Folksong and Take That! Amber Sharp performed Adele's 'Rolling in the Deep', playing the piano and singing – a first for one of our Tea Time Concerts. Both concerts were thoroughly enjoyed by all, well done to everyone who performed. *B.L.C.*



## The Mamas and Papas: Sing for Shelter

Tickets sold really well for the Mamas and Papas concert on Friday 3rd May. Our programme started with Chattanooga Choo Choo, continued with songs like Penny Lane, Lullaby of Birdland and Nobody Does it Better, and finished with Irish Blessing. There were places where the audience were asked to join in and join in they did, which was marvellous. Altogether there was a wonderful atmosphere.

The music was followed by something to eat and drink and a very successful raffle. The evening went a long way towards raising enough money to buy a complete Shelterbox and I would like to thank everyone who came along, bought tickets and supported us.

*R.J.B.*

**The Summer Concert** in the marquee was a real celebration of all the music making that happens throughout the School. 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 trios, recorder group and flute group. Year 3 had spent all year learning to play the violin and they performed their three pieces confidently, joined by the Year 2 string group and some of our older violin and cello players.

Singing featured throughout the concert and three of our newly formed groups made their marquee 'debut'. *Only Boys Aloud* sang 'Raw Energy Rag', *Girls Aloud* sang 'Summer' and *The Scholarettes* performed Adele's 'Set Fire to the Rain'. Other songs performed included Mr Blue Skies, The Lion King and a Tribute to Queen. Year 2 sang We're Going Swimming and the whole school joined together to sing Lean on Me. The Choir, Staff and The Mamas and Papas all performed and everyone in the marquee joined in with a four part song called Pop Idol.

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 and learning their song words at home. Thank you also to all those visiting music teachers who have worked so hard with the children throughout the year. *B.L.C.*





# Playtime

## Dazzle

Year 6 dazzled in their Leavers' Play at the end of term... Dazzle is set in a funfair fallen on hard times and tells a story full of imagination, mystery and opportunity. The cast have all been amazing! 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 our own. This year they have been encouraged to add some features of 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 us. We would especially like to thank the unsung heroes who mostly remain in the shadows or behind the scenes, without whom, we would not have a production! Many staff have rallied, helping out backstage and providing support and props, proving what a very talented Prep Staff we have at our School. Final thanks must go to the Senior School staff for their continual support – and for allowing us to use the fantastic facilities at Ondaatje Theatre! T.M.C.



## The Garden

It was a real treat to watch the Nursery children perform their Summer Play, The Garden. It was a delightful story about a palace garden that had no flowers or vegetables growing in it.

Luckily, help appeared in the form of many Bob the Builders and two fantastic magicians who helped dig the soil, get rid of the stones and weeds and plant the seeds. The end result was a beautiful garden for the King and Queen. The children sang some lovely songs including "Bob the Builder" and many traditional Nursery Rhymes. They were all having such a wonderful time on the stage that many of them were reluctant to come off at the end! T.N.



## Noah's Ark

The **Kindergarten** children performed a wonderful summer play for their friends and families which told the story of Noah's Ark. There were all sorts of animals on the ark including pigs, ladybirds, rabbits and penguins. There were two raindrops who brought the flood and a dove and a raven who went to look for land. The children sang lots of lovely songs and spoke their words loudly and clearly. It was a most wonderful performance! T.N.





*The very best thing about Dazzle is everything and I loved every single moment of it. It has been absolutely amazing fun from the start to the end!*

Jack Swain



## Tattybogle

**Year 1** performed a super play called Tattybogle, which told the story of a scarecrow who was not very good at scaring the crows away...

*I was Tattybogle. It was fun. I did my own solo. We worked really hard on the play. There were three crows called Charlie, William and Harry. There were pretty dances. The crows were really funny and kept saying caw. I wore really tatty clothes. My favourite bit was when I was on stage with the dancers doing the wind wolves dance. I felt a little bit scared when I saw the big audience.*

**Grace Horan**, Year 1







*"...There were selection headaches from day one with the eleven places hotly contested between a number of enthusiastic cricketers..."*

# Cricket

## U8 CRICKET

The enthusiasm of the Year 3's has been infectious and a delight to see! They have chased every ball hit, although they do need to learn that fielding is the responsibility of the nearest player, not everybody every time. There have been a few tennis or golfing shots played during the batting innings, but the boys are learning and the team spirit on show during matches and practices has been heartening. There is good potential here for next season. *S.G.S.*

*"...The enthusiasm of the Year 3's has been infectious and a delight to see!"*

## U9 A CRICKET

We started the season with high expectations after an excellent win against Exeter Cathedral. Unfortunately it didn't last; our next match against St. Peter's went right down to the last over and sadly we weren't the victors, St. Peter's winning by just three runs. The team regrouped and we had good wins at Stockland and West Buckland with some excellent bowling performances from Nathan White, Zebedee Winzer and Kit Barnes. We drew our first match after half term against Kelly College, but followed this up with a convincing win at St. Joseph's. Our final match of the season, against Exeter Prep, was supposed to be our one and only hard ball game; however in a fixture mix-up Exeter arrived with their B team so it was sadly not to be. However, not to be outdone, we arranged our own hardball fixture in the last week of the term against Mr Swains U10s. The U9s bowled and fielded superbly and kept the U10's score down to just 70 runs. A splendid batting performance saw the match finish on a well deserved draw. My thanks go to the boys for all their hard work in the nets and on the field this summer. *S.J.M.*

## U9 B CRICKET

'Massive enthusiasm' are two words that sum up our season this year. Ollie Butler, Will Cave, Thomas Labdon, Dominic Wielenga, and Joshua Withey were our star players. Thomas Labdon bowled and batted very well and the whole team improved as the season progressed. There is still room for further improvement, but this was a thoroughly enjoyable season. *E.S.H.*

## U9 C CRICKET

The team have been very gracious towards each other – and often to the opposition too. Cricket is a game for gentlemen but it is also competitive. There is still some work to do to develop a hunger for victory and improve tactical play, but this will come as the raw ingredients of energy and teamwork is found in this happy squad in abundance. *S.G.S.*



## U10 A CRICKET

The U10 A squad has been supported by a strong backbone of players who have constantly played their part in both the batting and bowling sides of the game. By the very nature of the game it is always possible to mistime a shot and lose a wicket cheaply, but the team has got batsmen throughout the order who can all contribute to the total. Duncan Johnson-Ferguson, as captain, has been excellent at rallying the troops and keeping the squad committed to the very end of play. I'm sure that next season will see the team continue to gel as a forceful unit intent on working together for victory. *S.G.S.*



## U10 B CRICKET

Following some early disappointments, the U10 B squad improved as the term progressed and should be congratulated on the success they enjoyed in some of their later matches. Leo Ogden-Barker was our biggest improver and he well deserved his promotion to the 'A' team. John Bishop and Mathew Tait also improved and the whole team always showed a good spirit, playing with a smile on their faces. *E.S.H.*





## U11 B CRICKET

A strong squad of thirteen boys represented the U11 B team this term and were victorious in every game bar a bit of a wash-out at St. Peter's. The team was led superbly by Theo Rees who combined his captain's duties with those of wicket keeper which he also shared with the reliable pairing of Joe Horsey and Harry Charlesworth. These three also scored plenty of runs for the team and they were ably assisted in this by Daniel Stagg, Jack Swain and Liam Napier. A real highlight of the year was the wonderful improvement in our bowling, typified by the excellent progress of Jack Winzer, Henry Richards, Sam Willder and Tom Greenfield. These boys were supported by some fabulous fielding and catching, most notably from Liam Napier, Sammy Provis and Oliver Leyshon. J.C.K.

## U11 A CRICKET

The weather was kind to us this year and we managed to play every game, even if one or two of them were in the rain. This year's cohort has been cricket mad and has relished every opportunity to play and to practise. There were selection headaches from day one with the eleven places hotly contested between a number of enthusiastic cricketers, all of whom wanted to show what they could do with bat and ball. The final stats of played 9, won 5, lost 4 tell the story of a season that included some very close contests and some wonderful individual performances. The five victories came against Queen's (Joe Hancock 43, George Gibbs 28), St. Peter's (Jasper Pring 47), Stockland (a win by 4 wickets), Exeter Junior School (Joe Hancock 3-6, George Gibbs 2-24, Luca Kemp 2-19) and Exeter Cathedral School (Dom Vause 25, Luca Kemp 5-9). Defeats came against Taunton Prep in the first game of the season, Millfield (George Gibbs 4-19), our Old Boys and Claire's Court (Jasper Pring 50 not out, Joe Hancock 50 not out). Every member of the squad made valuable contributions with bat and ball, and fielded with remarkable skill and athleticism. Ben Gresswell's catch against Millfield whilst running backwards was astonishing! George McIntyre, Daniel Stagg, Liam Napier, Harry Charlesworth, Alex Venner, Will Sawyer, Jack Swain, Joe Horsey and Henry Dyke were all part of this talented squad and I am grateful to them all for their efforts throughout the season. A.D.S.







# Athletics



## SWIMMING

**The ESSA Schools Relay competition was a very exciting event with lots of schools from all over Devon, Cornwall and Somerset competing at Millfield. 21 schools competed in 3 heats, and both the girls and boys teams swam strongly in their races. This was a wonderful opportunity to swim in a large competition against the best in the region, and the teams were a credit to themselves and the School. L.M.M.**



## PREP SPORTS DAY

Having lost out to the weather on a previous date, this Sports Day was set to be sunny and warm. How true that was. All of the children were dressed in their House coloured t-shirts and were keen to compete for points for their Houses.

With track and field events happening at the same time, there was a real buzz about the place. Many of the races were closely fought and two school records fell in the first two events, with Anna Maunder and Harry Huggett both running with determination.

The relay races saw a fantastic display of teamwork, and were fiercely contested, with both Senior and Junior races requiring the smoothest of change overs to ensure victory.

Margins between the Houses were very narrow throughout the afternoon, but finally, when the last race was run, Grenville emerged victorious, closely followed by Raleigh then Drake.

Tea was enjoyed by all throughout the afternoon and many thanks go to the catering department for this.



Mrs May presented the medals to those coming 1st, 2nd & 3rd as this was her last Sports Day at Blundell's Prep. Anna Maunder, Sam Olive, Rebecca Hamilton and Joseph Horsey were all awarded the top athletic prizes for outstanding performances during the afternoon. S.G.S.





## PRE-PREP SPORTS DAY

It was touch and go with the weather but luckily the rain held off for long enough for the Pre-Prep to hold its Sports Day outside on the field. There was a wide variety of races, every child was involved in a Sprint race and there were lots of novelty races too. Nursery 1 children showed off their expert gardening skills with their "Pick a Flower" race. The children in Nursery 2 enjoyed taking part in a "Happy Event" race which involved working as a team to carry different types of baby equipment to the end where an "expectant Mummy" was waiting. The Kindergarten children tried their hands at the Egg and Spoon race, Year 1 children jumped their way down the track in their sacks and the older children in Year 2 were very competitive with their different ball skills races. There were even races for the Mums and Dads which was very exciting for the children. Many children went home after an extremely entertaining afternoon happily clutching a well-deserved certificate.

# Rounders

Rounders is a very tactical game with so many different scenarios and decisions to be made. A good all-round player has to have the ability to bat, sprint, judge distances and then make quick decisions, throw accurately and catch. This is a lot to ask of the girls, but I have been pleased with the progress of all the players and teams and we have done extremely well over the term against many schools far and wide. We have also been more fortunate this year with the weather and not had as many cancellations.



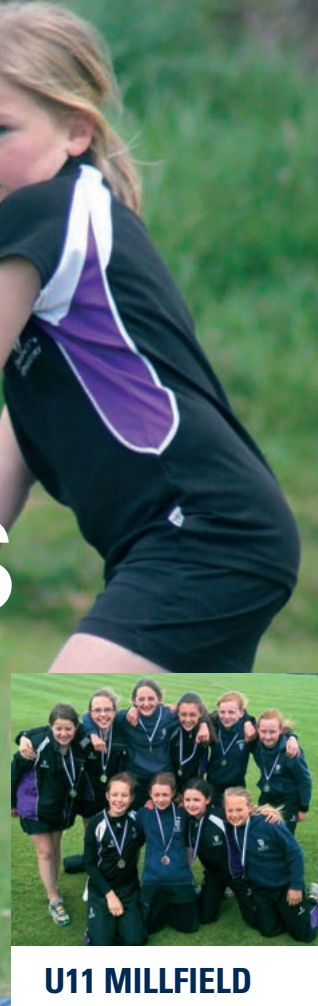
Following their excellent result at Millfield at the start of the season, the U11 girls have enjoyed a great season of rounders. Both A & B teams have played extremely well and worked hard to involve everyone fully within their team. We have had some super performances from all of the girls and many memorable moments!

It was unfortunate for the U10 girls that Millfield had to cancel their tournament as it would have been a wonderful experience and opportunity for them. The U10 girls have had some tough games this term but they have worked hard and played in great spirits.

Well done to the U9 girls for finishing runners-up in the Millfield U9 Tournament, and only narrowly missing out to Millfield in the final. It was the only match we lost throughout the whole term. The U9 B team have also been very successful, winning the majority of their matches too.

The U8 girls in Year 3 have worked hard with Mrs Carter and I am delighted with their progress and playing ability. I am certain that this team will go on next year to do well in matches and tournaments. They show great potential!

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all of the girls for the hard work and effort that they put into Games over the year. It has been an absolute pleasure to teach and coach the girls and I wish each and every one my best wishes for playing and representing the School in the future. L.M.M.



## U11 MILLFIELD TOURNAMENT

The girls performed outstandingly at the Millfield U11 Rounders Tournament held at Millfield Prep School. With a last minute revised playing order, due to wet weather and some teams having to withdraw, Blundell's Prep enjoyed the round robin competition. We started well and clinched a victory over The Downs School with our last batter, Rebecca Hamilton, sprinting to secure a 5 1/2 to 5 victory. We then drew against Millfield, lost narrowly to Monkton, who had been improving with each game and then beat Perrott Hill. We were very pleased with our second place medals behind The Downs. Zoe Labdon was our team's player of the tournament for her consistent and strong left handed batting, but well done to all the girls, especially for some excellent catching in the field.



# *Summer Smiles*

## at Parent and Toddler Group



Parent and Toddler Group meets on Wednesday afternoons during term time. There is always lots of fun to be had using the role play, arts, craft and play equipment inside or out, refreshments are served before a group singalong and a different structured activity each week ensures that there is always something new and constructive to do. Activities this term have included creating collages, painting murals, growing sunflowers, making flags and puppets. If you would like to know more, please feel free to join us from 2:00 on a Wednesday afternoon.

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# Blundell's

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