

AUTUMN 2013

# review



Inside:  
All dressed up:  
bringing book  
characters to life,  
and making a  
drama at  
Christmas

## *Learning Outside*

Using the School grounds, and beyond,  
to take thinking outside the box

*"...when used well, learning outside the classroom is a powerful tool in the armoury of any teacher..."*



At the start of the term I asked all of the teachers to consider ways in which the outside could be used to enhance learning in their subjects and the response was nothing short of remarkable. They set about planning how their subjects, be they Maths or English, Art or Music, could be taken outside of the classroom and into the wonderful surroundings, and it has been fascinating for all of us as educators

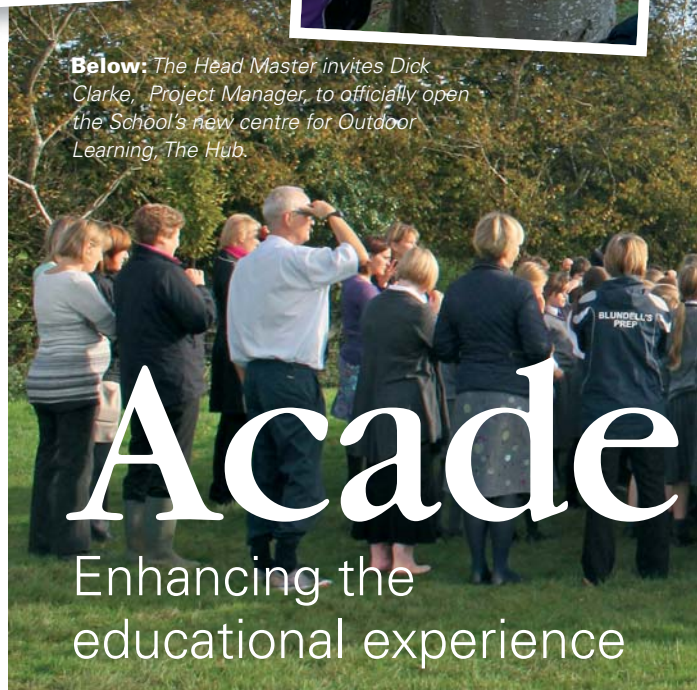
to see the way that the children have reacted. Learning takes many different forms and by simply changing the environment in which learning takes place, the impact can be profound as I saw during a Year 2 spelling lesson around the fire pit. The children used sticks to scratch the words into the sand and then read them out before stamping on them to erase them and start the next word. The joy on their faces was clear to see but importantly, they were engaged, focused and determined to get the correct answers. This is just one small example of how a change in environment can impact on levels of motivation and ultimately, attainment.

On the penultimate day of term we welcomed Blundell's A Level Art students to the school for a Year 5 workshop. The senior pupils had masterminded the whole event and set the children tasks of collage making and sculpture, all taking place outside, and the results were astonishing. I realise that Forest School is far from a new concept and we are mindful that not every lesson suits being taken outside, nor does every child relish the opportunity to cover themselves in mud or hunt for creepy-crawlies, but when used well, learning outside the classroom is a powerful tool in the armoury of any teacher and it is developing the confidence, the skill set and the freedom to experiment with learning that is such a fundamental aspect to our own version of Outdoor Learning. It is evolving and will continue to do so next term as we work alongside 'Exeter Outdoors' in order to develop our Programmes of Study as well as our fire-lighting skills! Our January staff training is certain to be entertaining and challenging in equal measure!

**Andy Southgate** Head Master

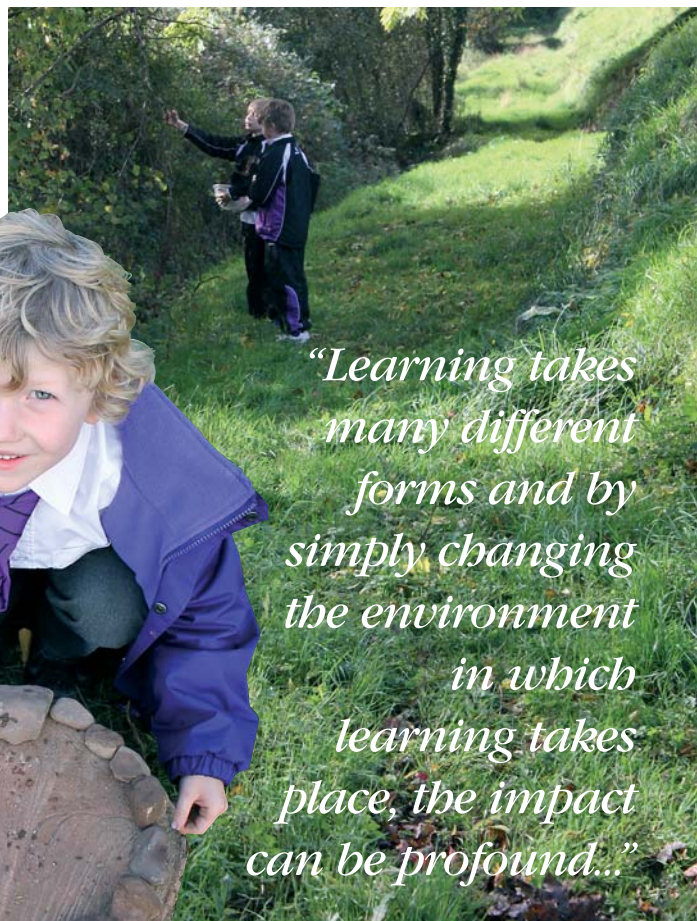


**Below:** The Head Master invites Dick Clarke, Project Manager, to officially open the School's new centre for Outdoor Learning, The Hub.



# Acade

Enhancing the educational experience



*"Learning takes many different forms and by simply changing the environment in which learning takes place, the impact can be profound..."*

**Right:** Children from Year 5 getting artistic in the outdoors with Blundell's A Level Art students.



# mic Innovation

## READING, TYPING, ARITHMETIC

The curriculum is constantly being reviewed, and all are delighted with new innovations this year which have seen dedicated learning time beyond English and Maths lessons given both to reading for pleasure, and to focused mental maths challenges. The ever increasing role of ICT in the modern world has also been recognised with a higher profile for Touch Typing which has now been incorporated into the Prep programme at Years 5 & 6 to complement classroom teaching – and Type Quick, an exciting new online resource, has ensured that all are fully challenged!

**Below** ERIC: Everybody Reading In Class. New Reading Diaries have also been introduced to help Form Teachers to keep a closer track of the reading progress of all in their forms.



**Above** Type Quick: Certificates are awarded to children if they can maintain at least 90% accuracy as they type at quicker and quicker rates – will anyone reach 60 words per minute?

**Right** Mathletics: The online Maths programme can be tailored to match individual needs, or can be used to challenge other subscribers from around the world in quick fire numeracy quizzes





### By Cycles

On Friday 20th September the School was lucky enough to see Sir Bradley Wiggins competing in the Tour of Britain. The Stage had started at Sidmouth and went on to finish at Haytor on Dartmouth – after passing right along Blundell's Road on its way! Simon Yates won the Stage for Team Great Britain, but Sir Bradley Wiggins took the overall tour title for Sky Procycling. A pack of police cars and motor bikes patrolled past, making sure the road was clear for the cyclists, and the School cheered and waved Devon flags to support the riders on their 85 mile trek.

**Mia Butterfield and Olivia Cowap, Year 6**



### Curry On Cooking

It was the turn of the Dads to show off their culinary skills to their families as they joined our cookery workshop this term. Curry was on the menu and our Dads ranged from complete novices to those who cook regularly. Amidst much laughter, a delicious aroma pervaded the air as chicken and veggie curries successfully emerged. Many thanks to Julie and Sarah, our wonderful Food Tech ladies, for running this event.



## CHILDREN IN NEED

All enjoyed supporting the **Children in Need** appeal again, and as well as coming to School dressed in unconventional neckwear, some children also earned money for helping out with jobs at home and this year cakes were also baked, bought, sold and scooped to raise money for the charity. Altogether more than £600 was raised by the School. Thank you to everyone for your support!



## SPEAKING OUT

Mr Rochfort and his Speech & Drama students have had a very successful term culminating in a set of extremely impressive LAMDA grades, with all the children who participated not only passing but many achieving a Merit or Distinction. These results could clearly be seen in the Speech & Drama Recital this term, in which the pupils spoke and acted with extreme confidence and clarity. Well done to all! TMC



## Leading by Example

Congratulations to Boris Ames, William Blowers, Mia Butterfield, Elizabeth Curgenvin, Zoe Dare, Sam Morrison and Holly Nugent (above), who have all served as Prefects this term. All pupils and staff had the chance to vote for the boys and girls in Year 6 whom they thought set the best example to the rest of the School by their manners, appearance, the way in which they behave and the effort that they put into their work. They were all awarded a Prefect tie to wear, and have been on hand to help Mr. Southgate with special duties such as showing visitors around the School, or reading in assemblies. Special recognition should go to William Blowers and Mia Butterfield who were appointed as Head Boy and Head Girl this term – and to Sam Morrison and Zoe Dare who will take over this role in the Spring Term. More Prefects may be chosen as the year goes on – keep trying Year 6!

Other positions of responsibility have included the House Captains and School Councillors. Congratulations to Emma Edwards and Sam Morrison for leading Raleigh this term, to Elizabeth Curgenvin and Alex Curtis for leading Drake and to

Rocco Hartley and Holly Nugent for leading Grenville – all entrusted with the most important duty of organising and cheering on the Houses at inter-House events including House Matches – and next term the House Music Competition and Pancake Races!

Each Form also elected a representative to take their view to the School Council this term. The Council meets regularly with Mr. Kerr to discuss issues raised by the pupils themselves, including suggestions to alter the way Privilege Time is organised, the possibility of mixing teaching groups, the provision of wet play equipment and the popularity of menu choices. Congratulations to the following for representing their Forms in this forum this term: Duncan Johnson-Ferguson, William Farmer, Kaitlyn Sellar-Elliott, Finn Muirhead, Joseph Provis, Finlay Williams, Joshua Ramsay-Smith, Shea Clark, Isobel Morrison, Florence Chapman, Will James and Grace Horan. Others are encouraged to step forwards to represent their Forms next term!

**Emma Edwards, Year 6**

## NIGHT VISION

The Friends of Blundell's Prep hosted another great bonfire party this year. There were burgers, hot dogs and hot chocolate for everyone, sweets for the children and a bar for the adults, as well as glow sticks, glow bunny ears and glowing glasses for sale. The bonfire burned brightly, before a spectacular range of rockets and colourful fireworks lit up the sky. Fortunately the weather was fine, and everybody had fantastic fun!

Olivia Cowap, Mia Butterfield and Grace Chapman, Year 6



## Pyramid Scheme



**Above:** Constructing pyramids in a slightly quicker time than the Ancient Egyptians did.

**Year 3** had an exciting day when they experienced life in Ancient Egypt over 3,000 years ago. To begin with, they took part in a mummification ceremony, in which 'Pharaoh Constance' was prepared for burial. All the children had an important job to perform in the ritual – from brain hooking to sarcophagus painting! A competition was held to make the most efficient shaduf to collect water from the 'River Nile.' Pyramids were constructed, Anubis headdresses were designed, hieroglyphs were written on real papyrus, amulets were fashioned from clay and the Ancient Egyptian game of Seega was also played. It was a busy and fascinating day which really helped to bring history alive for the children! [W.J.N.](#)



## Judo

Congratulations to all the children who took part in Judo Gradings this term. Sensei John Goldman was thrilled with the progress that the children had made and they should all be proud of their achievements. Our Judo Club is more popular than ever and it was lovely to see boys and girls enjoying this wonderful sport and moving through their grades at speed.



## THERE BE DRAGONS

Shrieks of laughter filled the hall when the West Midlands Theatre Company visited to perform 'George and the Dragon'. With much audience participation, the children loved joining in with shouts and scary dragon noises... [SAS](#)

## Booking an Author



**Book Day** was fantastic fun again this year. We were delighted that popular children's author and illustrator **Shoo Rayner** could visit to share his writing and drawing experiences with the children. Shoo read extracts from some of his books, answered questions on life as an author, and ran some fantastic drawing workshops based around some of his best known characters.

Shoo has written more than 175 children's books, creating such characters as The Ginger Ninja, Monster Boy, Axel Storm, Ricky Rocket, Viking Vik and The Secret Society of Scaredy Cats. He has also rewritten Rudyard Kipling's Just So stories for a younger audience, and has illustrated books for authors including Michael Morpurgo, Rose Impey and Michael Rosen. Shoo has also posted his own Drawing Lessons on YouTube to reach as wide an audience as possible.

The children in Pre-Prep dressed up in some wonderful costumes for the day, including mermaids, pirates, dinosaurs, Peter Pans, Harry Potters and even a "Where's Wally?" There was also a story writing competition, and the ever popular 'Book at Bedtime' - with the younger children returning to school dressed in pyjamas and clutching sleeping bags, pillows and Teddy Bears. The teachers read bedtime stories to the children and they enjoyed cookies and hot chocolate before going home to bed. It was a great way to end the day! [LPM & TN](#)





## Out and about

Classroom teaching is often brought to life by visits into the local community and beyond, and a whole range of subjects, from History and Geography to Art and R.E., have all benefitted from trips to some of the many beautiful attractions available in the local area this term...

# out and about

### BUDLEIGH SALTERTON & EXMOUTH

Year 2 visited Budleigh Salterton in September to look at many of the local features including the beach huts, the promenade, plants, fishing boats and of course all the pebbles on the beach. We then carried on walking towards the estuary and the River Otter. The children loved seeing the river meeting the sea and all the wild birds on the river – which were making more noise than they were! We then did some sketches of all the things we had seen. The weather was a bit drizzly at lunch time but that did not stop us enjoying our picnic on the beach while we took in the sea view. We then travelled on the coach to Exmouth where we all bought a delicious ice-cream. Most of us had a paddle in the sea and some children found seaweed there too. Playing on the sand was fun and lots of shells were collected. We noticed lots of interesting things in both seaside towns and the children were able to remember lots of things for our geography, history and science lessons this term. DMK





## TIVERTON



Year 3 set off in glorious weather this October to explore Tiverton and the surrounding area as part of their geography syllabus. Their first stop was at Tiverton Canal where they discovered that the canal was built to carry limestone to the kilns at Tiverton by horse drawn barge. The children then

explored the confluence of the River Exe and the River Lowman and learnt that the name Tiverton is derived from 'Twy-ford-town' meaning 'two ford town.' After stopping briefly at Heathcoat's Textile Factory, they drove up to Knightshayes Court to see where the Heathcoat-Amery family used to live. They had a tour of the house and the beautiful formal gardens. The children were amazed at how many fruits and vegetables were grown in the walled garden. **WJN**



## SCHOOL HOUSE

Year 6 enjoyed visiting the Senior School for a tour of School House at the end of term. They were met by Mr. Marshman, Head of School House, who gave a flavour of all that SH has to offer, before sharing refreshments with some volunteers from Year 7, who were keen to answer questions on what to expect of life beyond the Prep School.



## KILLERTON HOUSE

The Year 1 children dressed up in their best Victorian clothes for the Christmas trip to Killerton House. The sun was shining and the gardens and house looked fabulous; there were baubles hanging from the trees outside which were glistening in the sunshine, and the house was decorated with beautiful Victorian decorations. As we moved from room to room, the children learnt about different aspects of Christmas in the past and at the end of the visit we gathered together in the music room to sing carols in front of the fireplace. It was a very special start to the Christmas season! **TN**

## BROOMHILL SCULPTURE PARK & SAUNTON SANDS

In Art this term Year 3 were studying sculptures and how they enhance environments. We enjoyed a great morning at

Broomhill Sculpture Park in Barnstaple, North Devon, looking at all the sculptures made from different materials in their gardens. Everyone voted for their favourite entry in the Broomhill National Sculpture Prize competition, and in the afternoon we moved on to Saunton Sands, where the children created team sand sculptures based on the theme 'The Seaside'. Each group worked really well together and made effective use of natural materials found on the beach. The winning sculpture was of a giant ice-cream! **JMC**



## PENNYWELL FARM

Nursery children enjoyed a seasonal visit to Pennywell Farm at the end of term, where they had great fun acting out the Nativity story with the help of some real farmyard animals – before going on to collect presents from Father Christmas for being such good boys and girls!

## A Midwife Crisis

Year 3 led this traditional Nativity, sharing the story through the eyes of a midwife who travelled through ancient lands looking for a special baby. First the midwife and her donkey discovered a census of townspeople in Bethlehem lead by some very officious Roman soldiers. The midwife continued her journey, enjoying the opportunity to meet some 'Very Royal Kings' along the way. The audience continued to be treated to many opportunities to laugh but the highlight must have been when the camels danced and the sheep sang whilst being looked after by some very confident shepherds! The heavenly angels entranced us with some great moves when dancing and were led by a brilliant Star to Bethlehem. The narrators helped keep us on track and led us beautifully and clearly through the story to a very happy ending. Year 4 made a significant contribution to the production through singing and bringing about the feeling of a very magical Christmas. Well done to all! T.M.C.



## The First Nativity

The youngest children in the Pre-Prep took to the stage for 'The First Nativity' production in the final week of term. The children looked fabulous in their gorgeous costumes and those who had words to say tried really hard with them. The singing was lovely with everyone trying their best. The children also did really well with remembering where they needed to be on the stage too. Everyone very much enjoyed watching this splendid play. Well done Nursery! DMK



## Fishing For Stars

The children in Kindergarten were all stars in their Nativity Play, which was called 'Fishing For Stars'. It told the story of a little boy who, whilst dreaming about fishing for stars, was taken on a journey by a big star to find the Baby Jesus; he was closely followed by the shepherds and the kings. There was

a gasp of amazement from the children in the audience when they saw the big star appear on stage with lights all around her. Despite being so young, the children spoke their words confidently and they sang their songs with pride. They enjoyed themselves enormously on stage! TN

## Baa Baa Bethlehem

The Year 1 Nativity Play was called 'Baa...Baa....Bethlehem'. It told a delightful story about some young shepherds who were feeling second best to the older shepherds who did all the important jobs like taking the sheep to market. They ended up being the first to see the angels appear in the sky as they sang their beautiful song to them; this made them feel very important and special. The children sang beautifully; the stars performed a lovely dance and the children spoke their words with great confidence. The audience of friends and family thoroughly enjoyed the performance! TN



## Prickly Hay

Year 2 gave a really fantastic performance in their Nativity Play, 'Prickly Hay', which was enjoyed by all. The energy and enthusiasm was great to see and all the children sang with gusto. All had clearly worked very hard and the performance was seamless!

# Starring Roles

Blundell's Prep ON STAGE

The end of the Autumn Term is always a dramatic time, and this year was no different – with all from Nursery to Year 6 involved in Nativity Plays or Panto Productions, there was much to make a song and dance about at the start of the festive season...



# Starring Roles

## Panto Pandemonium

Year 5 lead us ably through this year's Christmas entertainment: 'Panto Pandemonium'.

The characters Boo and Hiss kept everyone in good voice, encouraging us all to join in and sing along. The Seven Dwarfs made a spectacular sight with the seventh dwarf obviously having enjoyed too much Christmas cheer! Jack, having lost his list, should have looked behind him! The witches and bad cats were positively evil with the backup of their evil henchmen Spotty, Totty, Dotty and Grotty. The Giant made a significant entrance although he was only 2ft tall. The Ugly Sisters, Apple White and Magnolia, were hysterical and gave the performance of their lives treating us to a wonderful duet. Cinderella managed to triumph over her sisters and the glass slipper was successfully returned to its rightful owner. Aladdin offered us hope in an ever changing world and explored what three wishes

could bring. But thank heavens for the magic of the Good Fairies and their good cat who managed to defeat the dastardly villains and their Master Plan of destruction. Year 6 added to the production with a fantastic tuneful accompaniment, and were outstanding in supporting the cast to create a superb pantomime loved by all.

TMC





**In November we took our Choir to the Taunton Music Festival. It was a wonderful experience for all the children, singing on a stage in a large concert hall, and they sang fantastically. Grace Chapman, Alice Lilley, Jessica Payne, Laura Smith and Lottie Southgate all took part in the solo class with Grace being awarded third place and Lottie being awarded second place. Well done!**

**W**e seem to have more and more children taking part in our Tea Time Concerts, which is fantastic to see. It certainly highlights how much musical talent there is and how much goes on musically within the school. Both our Tea Time Concerts this term saw children from Year 3 through to Year 6 taking part, performing a wide variety of music with confidence and enjoyment.

The Choir have been very busy in the run up to Christmas. They sang at the Christmas Market and two days later they took part in a Charity concert in aid of the Philippines Typhoon Appeal. This was a very enjoyable concert and provided a wonderful opportunity for our local community to come together to help those in need.

At the end of this busy week some of the Choir also sang in town for the turning on of the Christmas lights. This year the children sang on the main stage, where they entertained the crowds with some Christmas songs to get them in the festive spirit.

We hosted our annual Festival of Carols in the Chapel, with three other schools joining us – St. John's, Tidcombe and Two Moors. The sound of so many children singing together in celebration was a real delight to listen to. Our own Carol Service was a celebration of music and readings, the candlelight creating a thought provoking, atmospheric occasion. The singing was wonderful and the readers read with tremendous confidence and clarity.

Our Christmas plays A Midwife Crisis and Panto Pandemonium brought the children together through drama and music. A lot of fun was had with catchy songs, traditional pantomime and superb costumes.

Thank you to all the children who have performed this term and to all the staff who have helped in the music department. It has been a very busy term for all! **BLC**



**Pupils from Blundell's and other local schools came together for the Festival of Carols.**

# Christmas Cheer



**The Choir performing on the main stage for the switching on of the Christmas lights in Tiverton...**



**... and practising in the Chapel for the end of term Carol Service.**

The Christmas Market this year raised money for Force and for the Philippines Typhoon Disaster Fund. The Choir entertained with Christmas songs, and more than 33 stalls were open, along with activities including a craft room, bouncy castle, face painting, a raffle, refreshments and of course Father Christmas! It was a great morning, thank you to the Friends of Blundell's Prep for organising it all!

Christmas Lunch was another highlight at the end of term, with Barbara Moys and the catering team excelling in providing more than enough Christmas fare for all the pupils and staff to eat – although everyone did give it a very good go! Party hats, crackers and cheesy Christmas music complemented the banquet on offer and everybody thoroughly enjoyed the feast! Many thanks to the kitchen staff for all their hard work at Christmas – and throughout the year!

From a visit by Father Christmas to Parent and Toddler Group, to an end of term Christmas Quiz for Year 6, Christmas Parties seemed to be the order of the day throughout the School in the last weeks of term. The tree was trimmed, classrooms decorated and the excitement became almost palpable as Christmas songs were sung, cards exchanged, games played, and Santa was kept very busy with multiple visits... It marked a well earned treat for all at the end of a very busy term. We wish everyone a very merry Christmas – and a very restful holiday!





## U11 RUGBY

The U11 A Team has developed and played some exciting team rugby. With strength, speed and guts the squad have the qualities to play a brand of 'total rugby'. From solid set pieces, thanks to the forwards, to flamboyant backs moves, thanks to the three quarters, the team have played flowing, offloading, hard, total rugby. Going forwards was the team's strength, but in defence there was also a grit and determination to each tackle made. There were notable performances from Alex Curtis at scrum half, who often broke the gain line and was the lynch pin between the forwards and backs, from Rocco Hartley who set the standard leading the pack from the front and from William Farmer, who wrestled so much ball from the opposition and carried it forwards with such determination.

The U11 B Team has also had a wonderfully enjoyable year, led superbly by Sam Morrison who has applied himself to the new role of second row with typical dedication and selfless commitment to the team. He has been aided in the forwards by a front row of Toby Hull, William Honey and Harry Perring who have dominated all before them. In the backs, Alexander Lawler and Matthew Tait have developed into strong running scrum halves and George Humphries has flourished in his new role of fly half, combining superb running skills with an ever-improving kicking game. John Bishop has added a superb running threat to our back line when not defecting to the A team. Freddie Frankpitt has shown enormous bravery throughout the year as his tackling has developed strongly. This term, we have been joined by Dominic Blackmore and Thomas Bunting in their first year of competitive rugby and both boys have equipped themselves manfully. The team has had plenty of highlights throughout the season and these include some big wins over West Buckland School (40 – 30), Wellington School (50 – 20), Stover School (66 – 0) and St Peter's (19 – 14). Well done boys!

## U10 RUGBY

The U10 A Team has enjoyed a successful season that has seen them play 11 games, winning 8, drawing 1 and losing just 2. From the first training session they showed themselves to be a very committed group of rugby players and the progress that they made throughout the season was great to see. We got off to a great start with wins against Kelly Prep, West Buckland, St. Peter's and Stockland Primary. Confidence was high but the quality of the QEJ team meant that the boys experienced their first defeat of the season. A resounding win at Millfield then brought the half term to an end. Queen's were a tough team and we had to battle hard to draw 20-20. We returned to Queen's just 3 days later in order to take part in their U10 Tournament, and progressed through to the quarter-finals where we met All Hallows. Sadly we lost by 5 points to 0 but we were right up there with the best teams in the competition. A comfortable win against Tiverton Rugby Club followed before a heavy defeat to Exeter Prep. With lessons learnt and wounds licked, the boys bounced back to beat Wellington and then Taunton School to finish the season on a high.

The U10 B Team experienced some tough matches this season but although we lost a number of matches, the team played with plenty of spirit and well deserved to finish the season with a convincing win against Taunton School. Sam Olive was the top try scorer and Tom Swain the most improved player. Well done!



## U9 RUGBY

It has been quite a season for the U9 A Team! In 13 weeks 10 boys played 30 games, winning 26, drawing 3 and losing just 1. The squad played impressive, attacking rugby; they seemed almost carefree in their approach, catching everything and running at defences causing confusion and panic amongst their opposition. All played a part in the overall success. Joshua Withey, our leading try scorer, was a potent running force, superbly supported by Zebedee Winzer, Alexander Smart, William Maunder and Dominic Wielenga, who also defended with determination and spirit. Harry Bouchier-Hayes was key in gaining possession of the ball and distributing it effectively to the backs to secure the score. Barnaby Hull showed strength as a ball carrier and Harry Southgate and Oscar Winsley held their positions on the wing, scoring a number of tries in the outside channels. Taylor Wonnacott's try in the Mount House tournament was surely the most memorable; his tackling skills improved throughout the season and he was at his most decisive when driving defences back towards their own line. To have tournament wins at Millfield, Stover, Mount House, Plymouth and when hosting the Blundell's Tournament is testament to the level of commitment and enthusiasm displayed by the boys throughout the season; on and off the pitch they have been great ambassadors for Blundell's, they are a great unit who have achieved much success and been a pleasure to coach.

This has been a hard, but enjoyable season for the U9 B Team. Performances have improved as the season progressed. We did particularly well in the Blundell's Tournament against some very tough opposition and by the end of the season nearly everyone was tackling and running well with the ball. The team shows great promise for the future! Top try scorer was Gus Tiernan and most improved player was Joshua Sellar-Elliott. Well done boys!

## U8 RUGBY

The mighty U8's have had a fantastic season with a few magnificent Tag Rugby wins. All have also competed in the contact format of the game and a number of the squad have played up a year group where they have cemented themselves as future stars!



## U7 RUGBY

The Year 2 boys had been training for their match against Kelly College all term. The Tag Rugby concept was embraced by all as a running fluid game based on teamwork and communication. Certainly Year 2 were good at that and ran well with the ball, thoroughly enjoying their away fixture!

SGS, JCK, ADS, ESH & SJM



## Super Sunday

The Exeter Chiefs put on quite a show for Year 6, who attended an excellent morning of rugby skills and drills with the Chiefs players earlier this term. With one Blundellian in the Chiefs squad we had lots to live up to, but the boys soon proved they were young Chiefs in waiting! After a tour behind the scenes at the Sandy Park ground, we all settled down to watch the Chiefs v. LeicesterTigers! A thoroughly good day out was had by all.

## Moulsford Mini Sports Tour

The Moulsford Tour was a fantastic rugby spectacle. Both sides played some wonderful rugby, both in attack and defence. Games like this are won and lost on small margins. The Blundell's U11 team played some of the best rugby seen this season and the Moulsford defence was tested time and again. The forwards were a ball winning force and the backs ran with conviction, but, having led the team throughout, it was most fitting that Captain Alex Curtis should score. He was ably assisted by Rocco Hartley, who was voted player of the match. The team were hosted by Moulsford families overnight and all met up the next day to travel back to Tiverton in high spirits. Rugby tours like this create a great team bond and memories that last a life time. Many thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Southgate for their support throughout the weekend and to all those parents who travelled to Oxfordshire to see the boys play.

## Rugby Lambs

Alex Curtis, Rocco Hartley and William Farmer were selected to play in a trial day for the Rugby Lambs (formerly Barbarians). Following a heartening speech from Mrs. Huggett in Big School Hall with the top two or three boys from schools all around the Southwest, everybody went off to train and bond as a team. Then two matches were played in front of parents and selectors. After some scintillating rugby the boys were exhausted from playing at their best against the best, and all went to tea. Mr. Saunders, Director of Sport at Blundell's School, congratulated everybody for making the selector's job very hard by performing wonderfully. We subsequently learned that Alex and William have been successful and they will now go on to represent the Southwest of England team against the Southeast of England team in an attempt to win a place in the England Lambs Rugby team to tour Ireland. Good luck boys!

*"...Every member of this team has given 100% this season and should be proud of their achievements..."*



# Hockey



## U11 HOCKEY

This has been a challenging yet rewarding season for the U11 A Team. We have come across some tough opposition but the girls have battled hard both physically and mentally to perform to the best of their ability. A highlight of the season was reaching the semi-final at the Queen's College and Exeter School Tournaments. On both occasions the girls drew a very skilful Mount House team who unfortunately knocked us out. Although a highly skilled unit, the U11A's have at times struggled with the psychology of playing a strong side, and with the help of some calming Bob Marley in the mini bus they have worked hard to maintain their positive attitudes never to give up on a match! The team has won many games this season and should be proud of their performances, having held some very strong teams such as Millfield, Mount House and Exeter School to a draw! Mia Butterfield has been the engine of the team, covering a great deal of ground and often carrying the ball from a defensive position to score a goal. A reliable defence is just as important as scoring goals and nothing comes better than the cool head of Laura Smith, the determination and drive of Zoe Dare, and the outstanding reactions of Holly Nugent in goal. Every member of this team has given 100% this season and should be proud of their achievements. Well done, girls!

The U11 B Team has also enjoyed a super season. They have worked hard to develop their individual responsibilities within a game, to pass the ball effectively, and to take free hits more quickly. Of the seven games they played this season, the girls maintained a respectable record, losing only one match and battling hard to earn deserved draws against strong Queen's College and Maynard sides. Emma Edwards has played a crucial role in all of the games this season, making vital saves to prevent the team from losing. At the opposite end of the field Imogen Davy and Kaitlyn Sellar-Elliott have worked well together, linking effective passes to convert goal scoring opportunities. Well done!



## U10 HOCKEY

The U10 A Team hit the ground running this term, with only two losses they displayed some excellent free flowing hockey and often finished moves with a clinical precision. Anna Maunder proved a potent force on the right wing and was ably supported and fed by Lottie Southgate at centre-mid. Honour Huggett at centre improved her striking skills throughout the season and was often on the end of some well-constructed moves. Cosima Mundy played the difficult role at left wing with skill and tenacity, and often made searching runs into the opposing teams' half. A strong team performance is nearly always reliant on a good defence and Eliza Lloyd, Freya Marr and Gabriela Ciappara in goal, all played their part, being very reliable and dependable when the need arose. The season could be no more suitably summed up than by the U10's excellent last performance, beating a strong Queen's side within the first half period. There is much to look forward to from this team next year. Well done girls!

The U10 B Team have had some very close games this season and I have been pleased with individual and team performances over the term. The girls have worked hard and have demonstrated developing skills and understanding of the game. Abigail Horan and Eve Nugent have battled hard in defence whilst Alice Williams, Jessica Payne and Tyler Read have created chances up front. A promising season girls and exciting potential for next year. Well done!



## U9 HOCKEY

This has been an outstanding season for U9 hockey. It started with a friendly festival at St. Peter's School which was a much needed warm up for the U9 A Team. As the season progressed it was clear to see how hard the girls were working, how well they gelled together, and how determined they were to win. The U9 A Team had convincing wins over local schools including Plymouth, Maynard, Wellington and Kelly, and in fact did not lose a single fixture during the entire season! The girls attended three tournaments during the term and came away as medal winners from each one: silver medallists at Millfield, gold medallists at Plymouth College (fending off a strong Mount House team in the process), and gold medallists at our home tournament (beating Queen's in the final). A recipe of strong tackles and clearances from Elizabeth Honey, fierce hits and short corners from Shea Clark, and outstanding goal scoring from Rachel Brown made the U9 A Team a real force to be reckoned with. I have been most impressed with how the pupils made such intelligent use of the space on the pitch in hockey this season, sending the ball out wide and using the wingers, a skill which usually takes years of practice. A special mention must go to Isobel Morrison who contributed much to the success of the A Team even though she was not only new to Blundell's Prep, but was also new to hockey in September.

There is great strength and depth in the U9 squad, so much so that the U9 B Team also had an undefeated season, winning at Exeter, West Buckland, Plymouth and Maynard. The experience of representing the school, team work, and of course the match teas is one that the pupils will have greatly benefited from. I must congratulate the B Team for their unbelievably positive attitude in their approach to the Blundell's Tournament. Every team they faced was an 'A' team and they did themselves proud playing some great hockey. Very well done, girls!



## U7 HOCKEY

The Year 2 girls have spent this term practising their hockey skills and learning some of the rules involved in the game. They were thoroughly excited to travel down to Kelly College and experience their first hockey match on an astro-turf pitch. The girls split into two groups to play two short matches. Some strong performances from Florence Crease, Olivia Imregi, Grace Horan and Meredith Thomas saw the girls come away with a 1-0 win. They thoroughly enjoyed chatting to the Kelly College pupils over cake and squash! A great start to their hockey playing experience!

## U8 HOCKEY

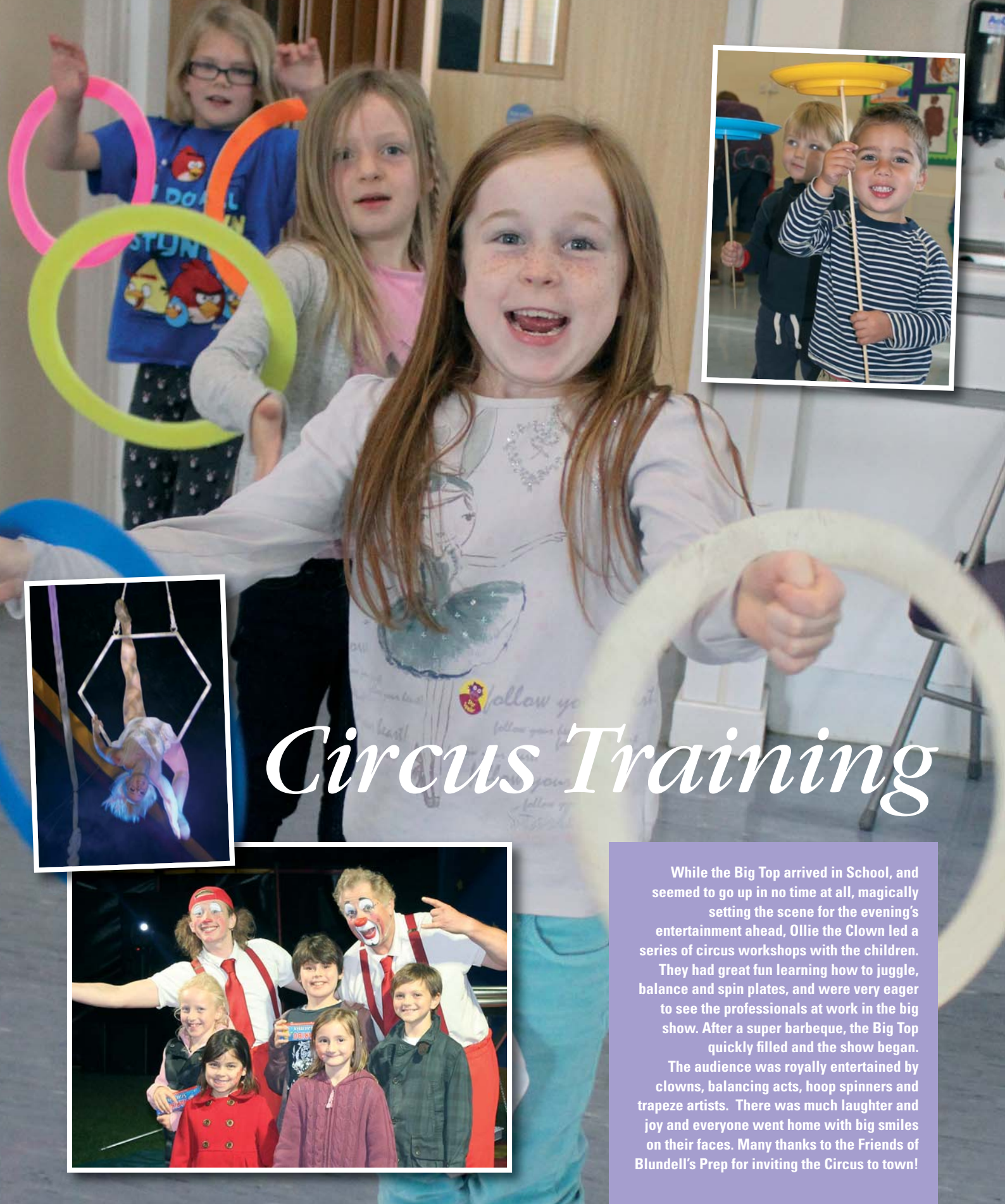
The U8's have worked really hard this season at perfecting their control and distribution of the ball. The pupils have enjoyed working as a team and show great potential even though they are fairly new to the game. As an U8 squad they have been undefeated in the three matches they played. Many of the girls' talents have been recognised with selection for the U9 B Team and for the odd few the U9 A Team, experiences which I am sure they have enjoyed! A special mention must go to Constance Paterson who has demonstrated very promising ball carrying skills. Well done, girls!

FLE, SJM & BLC

## MOULSFORD MINI SPORTS TOUR, DECEMBER 2013

The Moultsford Tour was a fantastic experience for all involved. 13 boys and 9 girls made the long trip up to Oxford on Saturday 7th December, where the girls had a challenging fixture against The Dragon, a school comprising of 700 pupils! As an ex-pupil this was a match Zoe Dare did not want to lose! Both sides played some skilful and determined hockey but Mia Butterfield's attacking break could not be stopped as she fed a ball through to Grace Chapman on the left post to put us a goal ahead. The Blundell's team really showed their determination during the 2nd half as the long hockey season and some tired legs were evident. The defence remained solid and substitutions made by The Dragon could not dampen the pupils' ardour. Anna Maunder sealed the victory for the U11A's during the second half with a lovely burst down the right wing to score a second goal.

The team were kindly hosted by Moultsford and very much enjoyed staying overnight. What a great experience for all involved!



# *Circus Training*

While the Big Top arrived in School, and seemed to go up in no time at all, magically setting the scene for the evening's entertainment ahead, Ollie the Clown led a series of circus workshops with the children.

They had great fun learning how to juggle, balance and spin plates, and were very eager to see the professionals at work in the big show. After a super barbeque, the Big Top quickly filled and the show began.

The audience was royally entertained by clowns, balancing acts, hoop spinners and trapeze artists. There was much laughter and joy and everyone went home with big smiles on their faces. Many thanks to the Friends of Blundell's Prep for inviting the Circus to town!

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## Blundell's

PREPARATORY SCHOOL  
— 3 YEARS - 11 YEARS —

Blundell's Road, Tiverton

Devon EX16 4NA

Telephone: 01884 252393

Email: [prep@blundells.org](mailto:prep@blundells.org)

[www.blundells.org/prep](http://www.blundells.org/prep)