

SPRING 2014

# review



**Inside:**  
**Creative Arts Week:**  
 getting stuck in  
**Outdoor Learning:**  
 all wrapped up  
**Science Week:**  
 in a whirl



## *In the Running*

A track record for sporting chances across all fields

Regular features: Head Master's News ▷ Trips and Visits ▷ Music and Drama ▷ Sports Reports

*“...The benefits of participation in regular sporting activity are well-known...”*



It gives me great pleasure to write the introduction to this Spring edition of the Review. My thanks to all who have contributed, but especially to Mr. Moore for his editorial expertise and to Mrs. Southgate for her photos. It embodies all that takes place during the term, from Creative Arts Week to Science Days, and from Scholarship success to Joint Concerts. Happy reading!

Each Review has a particular focus and for this edition we have chosen to look at the importance of sport. If you consider the key ingredients that make up an outstanding Prep School I am certain that Sport would be one of the most important and most loved. In fact, it is likely to be a fundamental part of a school's DNA and at Blundell's Prep that is certainly the case. The children will tell you that the days on which they have Games lessons are their favourite (especially if they have Food Technology on the same day!) and as they run out onto the fields or courts you can understand why. The children work very hard during their days in school and their afternoon sessions of Games give them the opportunity to challenge themselves physically in a wide variety of athletic activities. Each term has its major sport, but the Rugby, Netball, Hockey, Football, Rounders and Cricket matches are added to with wider opportunities to participate in Cross Country, Athletics, Judo, Fencing, Squash, Golf and even Fives. There is so much choice, if only there were more hours in the day! The benefits of participation in regular sporting activity are well-known and ever more important at a time when children's use of technology is so prevalent. It also teaches some very important lessons for life and encourages team work, empathy, resilience and the ability to win and lose with good grace – difficult lessons to learn when you are a competitive seven year old, but so very important nonetheless.

Participation in team sports is highly valued by the children but many of them also enjoy the chance to take part in individual sports and this is where breadth of opportunity becomes so important. You only have to look into the Prep Hall on a Tuesday afternoon to see Sensai Goldman putting the children through their paces on the Judo mats. This popular club combines the fundamental elements of strength,



agility, determination and discipline, qualities that we would want all of our children to have in their lives. On a Friday afternoon we see our fencers in action and you cannot fail to be impressed with the focus and technique that these budding swordsmen and women employ.

Of course, without the commitment of our very talented Games teachers, those opportunities would not be fully realised. Mr. Swain and Miss Edwards put together a busy and varied fixture list and their team of teachers and coaches then support the children in all of their sporting endeavours. We are fortunate to share the superb facilities at the Senior School and on top of this we also have access to elite coaches for rugby and hockey, ensuring that our children are given every opportunity to develop their skills.

During the course of the term we have seen success for all of our teams in the major sports of Netball, Hockey and Football, as well as considerable success in Cross Country. There are a great many highlights and they are recognised in the pages that follow. Our Under 9 boys and girls continue to excel and have enjoyed tournament wins at Exeter School as well as regular victories in their weekly matches. Our U10 netballers have been outstanding and have battled it out with Millfield and Exeter on more than one occasion this term. Our U11 hockey boys have also made significant progress and have got stronger and stronger as the season has gone on. The most encouraging thing of all is the volume of sporting opportunity that all of our children have been given access to. These are not only for the Prep School children, as we have also seen our Pre-Prep involved in an ever-growing sporting programme. The much loved fixtures against Kelly Prep, the U7 Tag Rugby competition and the hotly-contested Football and Netball House Matches have certainly been highlights.

Sport has the ability to bring people together and this term we have seen that in action. I am not certain how many prawn sandwiches or cream and jam-covered scones have been consumed during our regionally renowned teas but it would be a sizeable number. It has been lovely to welcome so many guests to the school and with a summer of Cricket and Rounders ahead, we look forward to welcoming many more.

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

**Andy Southgate** Head Master



**Right:** Rachel Brown leading the field at Blundell's Larkman Cup



# A Sporting Chance

Whether aiming high in Netball, pursuing goals in Football, trying hard in Rugby, courting success in Tennis or in it for the long run in Cross Country, sporting opportunities abound in all fields at Blundell's Prep...







BLUNDELL'S  
PREP!

# Good Sports Tour in Jersey

The weather never puts off a tourist!  
And certainly this year the wind didn't stop  
Blundell's Prep sports tour of Jersey. When  
we arrived on the island the sun came out  
and smiles beamed all around.





Tough matches were played against 'international opposition'! The girls lost by one goal in netball to the Jersey national team. The boys put up great defence and gutsy attacks but were beaten by a small margin in rugby.

The hotel was as luxurious as ever and very welcoming to all of us. Throughout our time on tour everybody we met commented on how well behaved and what great ambassadors the children were for the school and for young people. These compliments were seen by all as a sign of the growing maturity of those on tour.

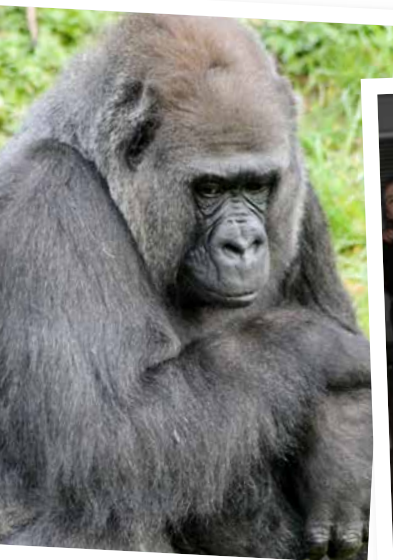
Besides our sporting fixtures, we were bowled over by our high scores in bowling, made a splash at swimming, broke island records at the pizza parlour and became prime mates with an adopted gorilla at Jersey's conservation zoo. We were also captivated by a tour of the castle and taken aback with stories of the War Bunkers – but overall we most enjoyed the companionship of those around us.

Many thanks to Miss Edwards and Mr. Hope for all their support on tour, and to our sponsors Mr. Blowers and Mr. Lilley. [S.G.S.](#)



"The theme of the Jersey disco was crazy hair night, and some of the hairstyles were FUNKY! There was a buffet and a DJ with cool lights and great music. Some of the boys' dancing was hilarious to see! After a long night with many embarrassing and funny moments, we finally went to bed shattered and with legs hurting from so much dancing and jumping all night!"

**Mia Butterfield**







## Word of Mouth

As part of their topic, 'All about Me', the children in Nursery 1 went to visit the dentist. Dr. Curtis had kindly invited the class to visit him at Castle View Dental Practice. When they were taken into the treatment room Dr. Curtis demonstrated how he checks our teeth and what all the equipment was for. It was a fantastic opportunity to learn firsthand about dental care and we would like to say a huge thank you to Dr. Curtis for so kindly giving up his time. S.M.A.



## Party Dances

Many thanks to the **Friends of Blundell's Prep** for organising the Pre Prep Party and the Prep Disco this term. Professor Fumble kept the younger children thoroughly entertained, whilst the older ones looked good on the dance floor!



## HORRID HENRY

One Monday in January, Year 5 came to school dressed up in Tudor costume. Henry VIII had come to visit us! He told us we had to stand when he entered the room, and said that we had to call him 'your highness'. He talked to us about his six wives and all about what it was like to live in Tudor England – before giving us a quiz on it all. He also talked about crime and punishment in Tudor times, and put Honor and Thomas in the stocks! After that we had a jousting tournament with the girls against the boys, but sadly the girls lost!

Freya Marr, Year 5



## Pet Sounds

The Year 2 children were very excited about performing in their Spring Play, 'The Musicians of Bremen'. Many of them were dressed as woodland animals and enjoyed wearing wonderful costumes and face paints; there was a cat, a dog, a cockerel and a donkey who were the main characters. There was also a very mischievous band of robbers. They sang some super songs and spoke their words loudly and clearly. They enjoyed themselves on the stage as much as their families and friends enjoyed watching them! T.N.



## Grandparents' Morning

It was wonderful to be able to welcome our Grandparents into School in January. We were delighted that so many were able to join us to witness at first hand the types of activities that their grandchildren are experiencing in the classroom. There was assembly time, coffee and cake, and of course the opportunity to go with their grandchildren into lessons, where they helped with many different areas of the curriculum, including Information Technology, Mathematics and English. Many Grandparents shared the opinion that school life seemed to have changed a lot since the days when they were at school, but children and Grandparents alike all thoroughly enjoyed the experience!



## Scholarly Success

Congratulations go to Grace Chapman, Duncan Johnson-Ferguson, Isaac Low, Holly Nugent, Harry Perring, Ellie Salisbury, Laura Smith and Ben Wright for gaining Academic Awards to the Senior School, and to Grace Chapman and Laura Smith for also gaining Music Awards! Congratulations also go to James Dawkins, Madeleine Llewellyn-Otto, Meredith Thomas and Valerie Wilson in Year 2 who have all been awarded a Junior Scholarship. Well done to all!



## Construction Works



On Wednesday 12th March, children in the Pre Prep came together to celebrate 'World Maths Day'. The children relished the opportunity to work in mixed-age groups and it was lovely to see the older children take the younger ones under their wings. The

day began with a team building activity in which the children were asked to build the tallest structure that they could, using 30 sticks of spaghetti, some sticky tape and string. The structure needed to be strong enough to support the weight of a marshmallow! The tallest free standing structure, at 58cm, was created by Savannah Kerr, Jesse Aldridge, Cecily Raper, James Dawkins, Edward Harris and Amber Tucker, and the tallest non-free standing structure, at 62cm, was created by Sam Curtis, Ben Weeks, Alexander Morrison, Amelia Churcher, Arabella Gresswell and Amara Lilley. Well done to all! The children then set off on a problem solving number trail around the school grounds. Everyone tried really hard to solve the problems and to figure out where the next clue would be. The children had a fantastic time and really enjoyed the day. G.J.R.



## Wild at Heart

Sounds of the rainforest could be heard from the Pre Prep hall when Neil Vaughan visited with his Really Wild Encounter. The first creatures that the children met were a pair of African land snails called Brian and Briony. They all had the opportunity to touch their shells and learn about how snails have their skeleton on the outside of their body. Several children were brave enough to hold a snail and see how much slime it produced. Ginny the bird eating spider was the next creature that the children met. They were all delighted when she waved her hairy legs at them. The final creature that the children met was Norris the skink. They learned about the importance of using the back of their hand to stroke any kind of reptile. One of the children in Kindergarten was thrilled to have the opportunity to let Norris crawl over her head! J.K.P.



## Wee Willie Winkie Verses Little Bo Peep

The children in the Pre Prep came to school dressed up as poetry or Nursery Rhyme characters on World Book Day. There was an amazing variety of fantastic costumes, including Wee Willie Winkies, Little Bo Peeps, witches, pirates, dragons and even an 'I'm a Little Teapot.' The children were able to take part in a Best Decorated Poem competition, we

held a poetry recital, and we were also entertained by a group of Year Eight children from the Senior School who joined us to perform a poem called 'Year Six.' They were brilliant and a real inspiration for the Pre Prep children. It was a wonderfully fun and exciting day for all! T.N.





# Rocket Ships

The Cool Magic Science Show, presented by Lea Biddiss, covered many aspects of Science with fun, noisy and wet demonstrations! The show finished outside in the playground with the launch of two rockets made from plastic bottles. The children were impressed with the height that the empty bottle reached but were absolutely amazed at how high the bottle containing some water went. Some of the teachers were fearful for their cars as the bottle shot high over the car park!

The children then had the opportunity to have a go at some of the things that they had seen and were really enthusiastic and keen to try everything out for themselves.

Sally Jackson, from Resource Futures, talked to the children about what materials can be recycled and got them involved in actions to remember the need to 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle', and children from Kindergarten and Nursery explored 'Mini beasts in the Compost Bin' - after learning about what can be put in a compost bin, the children enthusiastically moved around the hall as different kinds of mini beasts. Even the teachers joined in the fun as they became hens trying to eat the slugs!

The Pre Prep competition this year involved making boats out of recycled materials, nearly every child took part and there was a wonderful variety of boats on display in the Pre-Prep. In the Prep School the children were challenged to build 'eggmobles' to safely transport an egg. The designs were fantastic...using everything from Lego, to golf balls and roller skates! Well done to everyone who joined in the competition and especially to the 2014 Supreme Champions Alex Curtis and Duncan Johnson-Ferguson!

J.K.P. &  
J.A.A.



## Westonbirt Science Challenge

Some girls from Year 5 enjoyed a visit to Westonbirt School during Science Week, where they were invited to take part in a series of exciting Science and DT challenges.





# Field work

In the Prep School children have enjoyed a whole range of different activities outside. These have included making pictures and messages using outdoor objects including twigs, sticks, stones and leaves which they collected from the school grounds and a walk through the woods. Trying to make fires without matches was a popular activity, as was den making in the woods. Year 5 tried their hand at orienteering, using map reading and co-ordinate skills to find their way around a course set up across the school grounds, collecting letters to solve a riddle as they went, and Year 6 enjoyed their time outside learning semaphore and using flags to communicate code messages around the grounds, which was harder than it sounds! All were involved in a range of team building challenges, including navigating a marble through a network of pipes, scavenger hunting and working together to overcome a blind maze. Some got very wet and muddy, and some had better weather, but everybody thoroughly enjoyed the opportunities of working together in the outdoors!

**Kaitlyn Sellar-Elliott** and  
**Imogen Davy**, Year 6

It has been great to see all in the School continue to make extensive use of our fantastic outdoor facilities throughout the term, making the most of learning opportunities outside regardless of the weather...

Children in the Pre Prep have enjoyed visiting the Hub. They kitted themselves out in their wellies, coats, hats, scarves and gloves and enthusiastically braced themselves for the January temperatures! Having covered the story of the Great Fire of London in History, Year 1 were keen to learn about fire making and why the fire spread so quickly. Mrs. Shelbourne managed to get a huge fire burning and she put some wood in a tin on the fire to see whether we could make charcoal. The children hunted for suitable sticks to help keep the fire burning. It was a real treat to stop and warm up with a mug of hot chocolate and a biscuit. Then they all sang 'London's Burning' around the campfire and accompanied the singing with musical instruments whilst learning about beat and rhythm. An exciting end to the session was finding out that the wood that had been put onto the fire had actually turned into real charcoal which could be used in future art lessons... T.N.





# Creative Arts

## Art, Music and Drama



The Prep School came off timetable for a wonderful week in February, and enjoyed a curriculum tailor made to promote creativity across the arts. There were drumming workshops, music and singing in the House Music Competition, improvisation and more than a little drama in Year 4's Play for a Day and as much researching, reviewing, recording, designing, painting, drawing, sketching, moulding, building, crafting, snapping, cooking and otherwise creating as could possibly be pencilled in to a single week...

A gallery of artwork created will be on exhibition for all to see next term!



### GRAND CANAL WORK

Creative Arts Week 2014 celebrated the 200th birthday of the Grand Western Canal. The week kicked off with a fascinating assembly by Jo the Canal Ranger who told us all about the history of the canal, from its original construction to the catastrophic breach in 2012. Each year group in the Prep School then enjoyed an action-packed week of canal related activities. Year 3 looked at brightly coloured bargeware and created clay shire horses. Year 4 followed a watery theme, dressing up as Ratty and Mole to perform *Wind in the Willows*. Years 5 and 6 focussed on the Industrial Revolution and L.S. Lowry; Year 5 printed with visiting artist Tony Minnion to create a stunning canal banner, and Year 6 painted fabulous factory cats with artist Rory Nugent.

Thank you to all the parents and visiting artists who so generously gave up their time to help with this year's Creative Arts Week. J.A.A.







“ ...researching, reviewing, recording, designing, painting, drawing, sketching, moulding, building, crafting, snapping, cooking... ”



## Water Way to go

The theme of an underwater world was embraced with enthusiasm in the Pre Prep and the children thoroughly enjoyed the extra art this entailed. First of all, each year group became picture



detectives as they were shown several famous paintings by our visitor from Magic Lantern. They were given the opportunity to dress up as the characters and act out what was happening in the painting. The children all made observational drawings of fish and some made collages in their sketchbooks. All the children then contributed towards our underwater world. Year 2 made rocky columns and 'peel off paint' fish for the windows. They also had lots of fun attaching seaweed to netting. Year 1 made watery panels and hanging 3D fish which they painted with glass paints. Kindergarten made underwater plants and fish collages. The Nursery children made jelly fish, starfish and bubbles. They also made a huge octopus and a diver which are on display on their Nursery boards. Kindergarten even did some printing using real fish! It was lovely to see the children working so hard and collaboratively towards a large piece of art work, which they now swim through on their way to assembly! S.A.S.





# Creative Arts

Art, Music and Drama



This year we were invited to come to school dressed as a Woodland Creature to create 'A Play Day,' based around the very familiar story of Wind in the Willows. We started off the day meeting Sarah Middleton from the Plough Theatre, Torrington. She began the day with a series of dramatic ice-breakers to wake us up, before we then split into groups and started to look at how the animals in Wind in the Willows moved. Mr. Hirst led the way with a legendary moment in which he became Mole lying on the floor with his hands and legs waving in the air!

To decide who could be the main characters in our story a vote took place; Dominic Wielenga was voted Chief Weasel, Shea Clark was Ratty, Zebedee Winzer was Badger, Tabitha Farrington was Mole and Alexander Smart was Toad. The rest of Year 4 were then placed in groups with the leads to make a scene of their own to do with that character. Sarah, Mr. Hirst and Mrs. Charlesworth helped with some ideas. Sarah said she knew a song that we could all now learn together called, 'It feels good to be bad.' We really enjoyed singing this song!

In the afternoon we put our play together, and everyone then had the experience of stage make up (which 'tickled' according Joshua Ramsey-Smith!) Having then rehearsed our play our Mums, Dads, Grannies, Grandpas and friends arrived to see our performance in the Hall. All of the characters on the day were excellent, but Alexander as Toad was especially funny. "Play in a Day allowed us to get to know each other better," said Shea. "I really didn't want the day to end because we had had so much fun!"

T.M.C. & Year 4.

"At the beginning of the day I felt very nervous about the play but at the end of the day I was okay."

Lochy Cronkshaw



It has been another busy musical term with many children performing in a variety of concerts and workshops.

Our Tea Time Concerts were split into a Junior and a Senior Concert again this term, providing an opportunity for many of our children to perform. In our Junior Concert, children in Years 3 and 4 performed with confidence and enjoyment. It was wonderful to see over half of the children in the concert performing for the first time. In our Senior Concert, children in Years 5 and 6 performed music ranging from Disney songs to blues music.







As part of our 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, cow bells as well as some more unusual instruments - tin cans, metal drainers and wooden spoons. The music was heard throughout the school and ears were ringing well into the afternoon!

Our House Music Competition took place at the end of Creative Arts Week. All the children were involved and all the staff worked hard to choreograph their House songs. Songs performed this year were 'I've Got a Feelin'', Mamma Mia and Shine. Small groups also performed including wind groups, guitar ensembles, string groups, piano trios and small singing groups. For the first time ever the Pre Prep also took part. Children from Kindergarten, Years 1 and Year 2 performed The Super Supper March in their Houses. Judging was very difficult and close but in the end Drake were announced the overall winners. Thank you very much to Mrs. McDowell and Mrs. Tucker for judging the competition.

Some of our string players took part in a folk music workshop at Stover School. This was in preparation for a concert being held in Exeter Cathedral in May. The room was full of violins, cellos and harps and the sound was amazing. The focus was folk music and by the end of the afternoon the children were playing without music and improvising in a folk style.

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, Boys Aloud and the Big Band. It was a fantastic evening, very much enjoyed by those taking part and those in the audience alike.

We have also had children taking Associated Board and Trinity exams this term. We had six children audition for music scholarships at Blundell's Senior School and Laura Smith and Grace Chapman were awarded scholarships for next year. Well done girls!

A big thank you to all the children and staff who made this term's music so successful. [B.L.C.](#)

**Top:** It was great to welcome the Pre Prep joining in with the House Music Competition this year!





# 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.



## Life Skills

Year 6 joined other local schools for an invaluable opportunity to meet with representatives from a range of health and safety agencies at Tiverton Youth Centre. They talked with police, fire and ambulance service personnel, practised administering emergency first aid, learned about the dangers associated with internet and social networking communications, as well as receiving advice from the coastguard, road safety officers, 999 call centre staff and the electricity board on how best to respond in a range of emergency situations. All found it a fascinating morning's education!



## EXETER CATHEDRAL

Year 2 visited Exeter Cathedral as part of their Religious Education topic, as they have been finding out about places of worship from different religions this term. Children were taken on a guided tour of the cathedral and they saw many interesting features. They asked lots of good questions and then later on the children were able to have a go at brass rubbings in the Education Centre. 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 have studied in the classroom. We all had an enjoyable day and the children were chatting about all that they had seen on the coach on the way home.

D.M.K.

## BUCKFAST ABBEY

Year 3 had a very enjoyable trip to Buckfast Abbey in February. The children were able to interrogate a monk and even Mrs. Nichols joined in. Everyone very much enjoyed their 'hands on' experience in the Education Centre, and our packed lunches were fantastic!







### ST. NICHOLAS PRIORY

Children in Year 1 visited the St. Nicholas Priory in Exeter to reinforce their learning of the Great Fire of London and look at a building which dates back 1000 years. They had great fun dressing up in period costumes and having their portraits taken....

First of all Year 1 got on the coach to go to St. Nicholas Priory. When we arrived we went in the kitchen. When I looked in the kitchen I saw a dead rabbit that used to be alive and had been stuffed. Next we went to do a portrait. Then we looked at the bedroom. We looked under a bed and saw a pot that you can wee in. Someone had to come to collect the wee and they used it for making fabric. And then we looked in the loo. Only poo can go in the toilet. The poo was used for the crops. Finally we mimed out the Great Fire of London. I really enjoyed the day, I am definitely coming again with my family.  
Sophia Rushton, Year 1



## Powderham Castle

“  
It was a hard  
day's work for  
a Victorian  
servant!  
”

Year 6 dressed up in Victorian costume for their trip to Powderham Castle in January. When they arrived at the castle, they were met by the housekeeper, Mrs. Croomes. Then they went inside and started cleaning: they polished boots, ironed clothes, made paper twists for the fire, they even scrubbed the floor down on their hands and knees. Some might say it was child labour! For lunch the children went to the servants' quarters to eat the Victorian packed lunches that they had made for the trip at School – these consisted of cheese sandwiches, sausage rolls, water and an apple. After lunch the children got straight back to work – this time cooking in the kitchen. They made pastry decorations for Lord and Lady Devon's savoury pies, and griddle cake (made from flour, sugar, butter, currants and eggs). It was a hard day's work for a Victorian servant!  
Laura Smith, Year 6





# Netball



## U11 NETBALL

The U11A team have experienced a huge amount of success this season. They have worked hard in training and played some challenging matches. Our focus for the season was to get out of the 'hot potato' habit and the girls worked hard to catch, balance, and time their passing. They have been victorious against some strong sides including St. Peter's and Exeter Junior School and have in fact only lost one fixture this season. The tournaments, however, have proved to be more of a challenge, but the girls fought really hard and reached the semi-final of the Exeter tournament. Congratulations must go to Honor Huggett who participated in many of our tournaments, playing a year above her age group! Mia Butterfield has been a rock at Centre, covering a lot of the court and making some superb passes into the circle, linking nicely with Laura Smith, who has been consistent with her shooting. With the strong defence of Holly Nugent and Zoe Dare and stealth like movements and footwork from Ellie Salisbury this team has displayed some beautiful Netball. Well done, girls! F.L.E.

The U11B team won 4 of their 6 matches this season (with hard-fought wins against Millfield, West Buckland, Kings Hall and Wellington). Our emphasis this term was focused around developing our team spirit and trying to improve passing and moving skills. The progress from all members of the team has been commendable, but a special mention must go to Grace Chapman and Imogen Davy whose determination and skill shone through. All of the girls have developed their ability to use the space created by others and have worked hard at linking the play from the back to the front. Well done to all the team! J.H.

*"The U11A team have... worked hard in training and played some challenging matches..."*





## U10 NETBALL

The U10A team have had a fantastic season of Netball, winning all bar one of their matches and reaching the semi-finals in both the Millfield and Exeter school tournaments. Jessica Payne and Freya Marr have totted up a high number of goals between them as Goal Shooter and Goal Attack and with Jess's cool approach and Freya's lightning speed and determination they have complemented each other brilliantly in the circle. Anna Maunder and Lottie Southgate have shared the responsibility of Wing Attack and Centre positions and have displayed excellent passing skills and movement off the ball. Lottie's determination and quick decision making have helped to keep the team ahead on many occasions and Anna's fast and precise passes up the court have left opposing teams' defenders way off the pace. Eve Nugent joined the team slightly later in the season and has gone from strength to strength in every single game, perfecting her footwork and proving to be a menacing defensive player. Cosima Mundy and Honor Huggett have been a formidable defence and always make a great number of interceptions in order to keep the team on the attack. Honor has shown great strength in her timing of interceptions and reading of the game and Cosima has been both dynamic when bringing up the ball in attack and consistently reliable and strong when marking in defence. Emily Sellar-Elliott, Eliza Lloyd, Gabriela Ciappara and Estelle Tucker have also represented the A team this term and have played important roles in the team's success. Most importantly, all girls have displayed a great attitude and superb sportsmanship throughout. Well done! [L.B.](#)

Year 5 is a large cohort with a great deal of talent. All of the girls have given 100% commitment during Games lessons and matches this term and it is super to see each and every pupil participating and proudly representing Blundell's week in week out. The U10B team have had an outstanding season, in fact, an unbeaten season! They have been a force to be reckoned with! As the term has progressed they have grown in confidence, used space more effectively, and made decisions more quickly. They have come away victorious against many schools including Queen's, Maynard, Wellington and West Buckland, an achievement they should be thoroughly proud of. I feel a special mention must go to Isabel Leyshon, Estelle Tucker, and Tyler Read for taking every opportunity to convert scoring opportunities in the circle. Very well done to each and every one of you! [F.L.E.](#)



## U9 NETBALL

The Netball season for the U9A team has been filled with jubilation! A very promising start was made with a win over Exeter, and Blundell's were victorious in six out of seven fixtures. I have such high expectations of these talented individuals that I sometimes have to remind myself they are only seven and eight years old! The pupils work so hard in training and want to succeed. The tournaments we attended included Queen's, Exeter and Millfield and all three were closely fought events. The girls won every game at the Exeter Tournament, beating both St. Peter's and Exeter School (who had beaten us at Queen's). It just goes to show that with talent, team work and determination anything is possible! In order to succeed each and every player on the court has to work hard, make good decisions and fully commit during the game; I have been particularly impressed this term with Millie Evans and Rachel Brown. The accuracy of passing and movement from Millie linked beautifully with Rachel's ability to convert goal scoring opportunities. They made a formidable pair! There were also three players in this squad in Year 3 who have shown great potential this term. Well done Constance Paterson, Isobel Morrison and Honor Tobin. This team thoroughly deserved to bring home Gold medals and a trophy! Well done! [F.L.E.](#)

The U9B team have had an extremely positive and rewarding season with just as much success. The girls won 6 out of their 7 matches including victories at Exeter, St. Peter's and Maynard. They showed great determination during each match and although they were beaten by Wellington 11 goals to 7 they played some great netball to the very end. Each of the girls played extremely well but special mention must go to Sophia Fields for her tremendous determination throughout games and Tabitha Farrington for her great shots on goal. Overall a great season girls, well done! [K.M.](#)

## U8 NETBALL

There is so much strength and depth within the U8 squad that some pupils have earned the privilege of representing the U9A team, and many others have also represented the U9B's. The U8's have also had three matches of their own this season and it is clear to see next year will be a very exciting one! They have worked hard this season on their footwork, passing, catching, marking and movement. It is clear that all of their hard work has paid off as they were undefeated in the three fixtures they had, even beating an U9 team! The U8's also had the opportunity to attend The Maynard Netball Festival where they were able to mix with other children, experience different playing positions and just enjoy participating. I look forward to next term when the U8's will be attending their first Rounders tournament. Well done, girls! [F.L.E.](#)

## U7 NETBALL

The Year 2 girls have spent this term working hard to perfect their catching and throwing skills. A highlight of the term was the inter-house Netball matches where all Year 1 and 2 pupils represented their respective Houses. Well done Grenville for winning the event! The Year 2's also enjoyed an away fixture at Kelly College. They played a close fought Netball game on a lovely sunny afternoon and although the result didn't go our way, great fun was had by all. Congratulations to Amara Lilley and Mia Ferrari-Relf, who both had superb games! [F.L.E.](#)





*"All of the boys played with  
ruthless determination  
throughout the term..."*

# Hockey

## U10 HOCKEY

The U10 Hockey squad came together after a season of Rugby which enabled all to practise skills of marking, diagonal passing, positional and space awareness. The new skills added were stick work in defence and attack. This came easier to some than others, but the matches played enabled everybody to gain experience in competitive Hockey and many lessons were learnt which will stand all in good stead for next season. S.G.S.



## U11 HOCKEY

The boys in the U11A team have gained an enormous amount of enjoyment from their hockey throughout this term and with the emphasis moving towards Hockey as the only sport for our Year 6 boys, they have been able to play and learn a great deal also. We started the term with our annual participation in the Sherborne Hockey Festival which provides an excellent opportunity to experiment with positions and playing styles, while also learning from more experienced teams. All of the boys played with ruthless determination throughout the term, epitomised by the tireless work of Rocco Hartley and Will Farmer who proved to be an excellent defensive unit. William Blowers and Charlie Hutchinson shared the goalkeeping duties with wonderful skill and fearlessness not to mention good humour and team-spirit. The squad was boosted by the arrival of Isaac Low and Harry Rackham and both boys settled into the group seamlessly. Our attack was led superbly by the skilful Tom Reynolds who was excellently served by Duncan Johnson-Ferguson, Ollie Wright and Ben Wright on the wings. As this term ended, the boys' final match was a wonderful victory over a Millfield team filled with excellent players which was a fitting end to a superb season. J.C.K.

The U11B team played six matches this season winning 2, losing 3 and drawing 1. The season started with a very tough match against a well-organised and confident Stockland A team. The boys learnt a great deal from that and after some tactical practice sessions managed a good win against Mount House the following week. A narrow loss to Queen's was followed up by a gutsy draw at Millfield and a pleasing win away from home at St. Peter's. Our last match of the season saw us face a very strong Exeter Prep side. Although we contained them in the first half we were overrun in the second, losing 3-0. The boys have shown glimpses of really good Hockey and have demonstrated strong potential. They have learnt a great deal from the competitive situation. S.J.M.

## CROSS COUNTRY

**During the term three competitive Cross Country events saw our four teams compete against 24 schools, and our overall results were strong. In the team events we were never out of the top three. Anna Maunder, Joshua Withey, and Ollie Wright all achieved individual success, but our stand out runner this year was Rachel Brown, who placed in the medals at St. Petroc's and won the U9 Girls' Larkman Cup. The Larkman Cup once again proved successful for us, with a combined team made up of U13s, U11s and U9s scoring consistently better than the other 11 teams on the day to regain the trophy. Our House Competition was won for the first time in living memory by Raleigh and full marks to them for producing an outstanding team event in tough conditions. 'Good things come to those who wait!'**

**U9 Boys:** Joshua Withey, Alexander Smart, Gus Tiernan, Zebedee Winzer, Dominic Wielenga & Joshua Ramsey-Smith.

**U9 Girls:** Rachel Brown, Georgia Withey, Lucie Spencer, Phoebe Jerreat, Sophia Fields & Jessica Barnes.

**U11 Boys:** Oliver Wright, Dominic Blackmore, Alex Curtis, Ben Wright, Tom Reynolds, Alex Lawler & Finn Muirhead.

**U11 Girls:** Cosima Mundy, Eve Nugent, Freya Marr, Holly Nugent, Mia Butterfield, Olivia Cowap & Zoe Dare. S.J.M.







## TAG RUGBY

Twelve teams lined up at the start of the Year 1 & 2 Tag Rugby Festival, all eager to score tries and take tags. Once the warm ups were complete the first games were started. With children running in numerous tries it was wonderful to watch rugby being played with such enthusiasm. Those watching couldn't help to be impressed with the skills and gamesmanship on display. Everybody playing in the festival was red faced and blowing deeply by the end, having played hard but fair throughout each match. With a final address and presentation of certificates from the Head Master, all tucked into their well-earned match tea. Many thanks to Martin Stevens and the Police Community Support team for their support at the event. S.G.S.

## RUGBY 7'S

The Rugby 7s squad showed determination, pace and considerable skill in the Millfield 7's Tournament, and a great win against Taunton set up a pool final against Millfield. Home advantage saw Millfield go up a try, and then in the closing stages with our weakened legs Millfield scored again. In the plate competition the squad battled through to the semi-finals where they were beaten by the eventual winners. This group of players will surely go on to match the best in the future. S.G.S.



## U9 FOOTBALL

13 wins, 2 defeats and 3 drawn matches saw one of the strongest performances by an U9A team for many years at BPS. A small squad of eight boys played some delightful football, gelling beautifully as a team to score some excellent, well worked goals. Our leading goal scorer was Joshua Withey who linked effortlessly with our left and right wingers Harry- Bouchier-Hayes and William Maunder. Zebedee Winzer at centre-half tackled hard and often got us out of difficult situations. Our defensive team of Harry Southgate, Alexander Smart and Dominic Wielenga were rock solid. Our goalie Taylor Wonnacott was outstanding as the statistics show – in 18 matches we only conceded 7 goals. This is a superb achievement for such a young side. We finished the season winning Exeter School's annual U9 tournament which was a fitting end to a great term of football. Well done boys! S.J.M.

This has also been a successful term for the U9B team, in which they have won most of their matches. Much of their success comes from keeping a very settled team and by the end of the term they were able to play to a particular pattern, scoring many goals and conceding very few. Oscar Winsley played particularly well in goal, throughout the season and the most improved player was Joshua Ramsay-Smith. E.S.H.

## U7 FOOTBALL

There was a buzz of excitement in the Pre Prep on the day of the House Matches. The Year 1 and 2 children were desperate to represent their Houses in Football and they all played extremely well and battled hard for their goals. In the end, Drake were victorious. Many parents came to support the children and then enjoyed a delicious match tea afterwards. The Year 2 boys also fought hard in their away fixture at Kelly College, where all enjoyed a beautiful afternoon of sport in the spring sunshine. T.N.

## U10 FOOTBALL

The U10 football tactics were based on fast paced counter attacks. With tackles won on the pitch, the whole team worked towards providing the strikers with goal scoring opportunities. The pace of our defence and midfield enabled frequent interception of opposition passes, and with good positional awareness, the team were often able to unlock defences to put the ball in the back of the net. The team were ably supported by a capable goal keeper, and all were fully committed on the pitch. Well done boys! S.G.S.



## U8 FOOTBALL

The U8 squad was made up of a highly motivated group of individuals who came together to form a close knit team. Enthusiasm was boundless as was encouragement for each other. The game plan, followed to the letter, saw the team perform beautifully, beating two St. Peter's teams and other schools in a great season. From these good wins the U8's are certainly ready to make the step up to U9 football next year. S.G.S.





It is not just the pupils who have been enjoying the School's fabulous Food Technology facilities this term, with parents being invited to share their culinary skills at a Chinese themed cookery workshop. It was great to see so many Mums and Dads come in to cook, and to smell some of the delicious aromas created! Year 3 parents were also invited to join their children for lunch earlier in the term, an experience very much savoured by all!

# *Cooking on Gas*



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