

SPRING 2015

review

**Inside:****The Owl and the Pussy Cat:**

a flying visit in Science and dressing up for Poetry Day

**Also inside:****A Day at the Races:**

jockeying for position on a Maths trip to Exeter Racecourse



Fine Arts

**Hands-on opportunities
for brushing up on
self-expression in
Creative Arts Week**

“The artistic highlight of the term is certainly Creative Arts Week as it provides an opportunity to spend a full five days immersed in all things artistic.”



If I had a pound for every time I heard someone, usually an adult, say “I’m not very good at art” I would be a wealthy man. It is something that many people feel they either can or cannot do – it doesn’t tend to have much of a middle ground. I speak from experience here and I have always considered myself firmly in the ‘not good at art’ camp. I am certain that with the variety of artistic opportunities on offer at Blundell’s

Prep there would be very few children who would feel that way. The children have daily access to a huge range of creative opportunities with a curriculum that is broad in the truest sense. Timetabled lessons of Art, Design Technology, Music, Drama and Food Technology are enjoyed by all in the Prep School and you only have to walk into our Nursery and Pre-Prep to see that the creative arts play a very significant part in the school day. The volume and quality of art on display is remarkable. Take for instance the recent project on birds which has seen children come up with some stunning creations. After school clubs also play their part in our artistic offering with Creativity Club, Grow and Bake and Art Clubs in both Prep and Pre-Prep giving children the chance to flex their creative muscles on a daily basis.

The artistic highlight of the term is certainly Creative Arts Week as it provides an opportunity to spend a full five days immersed in all things artistic. Guest artists are invited into school alongside talented parent volunteers and our ever-resourceful teachers. This year we welcomed a 9ft dragon made of wool and saw our children become slightly obsessed with finger knitting! We also welcomed Rory Nugent to work his magic with Year 6 once again. You only have to walk the corridors to see the stunning pieces that he and his willing charges have created over the last few years. There was pottery to enjoy, milk bottle birds, tie-dye and totem poles. There was screen printing, dream catchers and the wonderful willow deer that now inhabit our school grounds. The children baked animal biscuits, enjoyed marbling and made hundreds of pompoms. They also took part in a drumming workshop in which ear defenders were a must! There was a Play in a Day for the Year 4 children to enjoy, with Robin Hood taking centre stage in his quest to save the day. The highly anticipated House Music Competition also showcased the children’s talents with Grenville running out worthy winners. It was as creative a week as one could ever wish for and over the five days the school was buzzing with excitement. This is what the creative and performing arts does for children. It provides an opportunity for them to discover unknown talents or to

develop a passion for something new. They also have a huge amount of fun in the process and our thanks go to Mrs. Aldridge and Miss Brook for their hard work in organising the week.

The Outdoor Learning team have also been hard at work this term and the children have enjoyed workshops in our own woodland as well as further afield. Our youngest children have braved the elements to explore the school grounds and The Hub continues to be used on a daily basis. With the prospect of a warm and dry summer ahead, it is certain to be in high demand over the coming weeks. We have seen considerable academic success this term with nine of our Year 6 children being awarded scholarships to Blundell’s and achieving some exceptional results in the process. A highlight of the term was the Spring Concert, a joint venture between Senior School and Prep and an opportunity for our young musicians to be part of the full school orchestra, something I am sure they will remember for many years to come. We have also enjoyed some considerable sporting success with the highlights being our U11 netball players who qualified for the National Finals. There have been unbeaten seasons for our U9 A and B Netball teams and countless wins at regional tournaments hosted by Queen’s, Exeter and Millfield. The number of medals and trophies presented in our Friday assemblies has never been so great but more importantly, all of our boys and girls have represented their school and have done so with determination and pride. We have also seen our first House Quiz Competition this term and after a very close contest it was Raleigh who were victorious. All of the children were involved in the ‘qualifiers’ and on the day itself with many expressing how keen they are to extend their general knowledge – something for parents to help with over the coming holiday perhaps?

In the pages that follow you will read of the events I have mentioned and much, much more. As always, my thanks go to all of the staff who have worked tirelessly to provide the children with such a variety of exciting opportunities and to Lee Moore, our Editor and Quiz Master extraordinaire.

Happy Easter to you all.

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

Andy Southgate Head Master



Art in the Right Place

The Pre-Prep had a very busy week creating art work and music inspired by the theme of the outdoors. We were lucky enough to have Stefan Jenkins in for two days at the beginning of the week to help make four wonderful deer out of willow with all the children, from Nursery 1 up to Form 2. The children were completely enthralled in making these magnificent deer and they are now standing proudly in the grounds. As well as the deer, Form 1 and Kindergarten made beautiful dream catchers with the willow. These can be found outside hanging in the trees around the Pre-Prep. Form 2 designed and made sun catchers. These are bringing a lot of colour to the Prep-Prep foyer and hopefully will attract some good weather! Both Nursery classes were very busy making vibrant dream catchers and totem poles to go outside their classroom. Totem poles made by Forms 1 and 2 are now up in the grounds of the Prep-Prep and the children have been so excited to see all of their hard work on display both in and outside of the department. A busy and thrilling week for all! c.b.



Creative Arts Week ▶



Rory Nugent took Year 6 for some lessons in Creative Arts Week. We were aiming to make a bird tree. We patterned a tree cut out using the colours brown, grey, black and white, then we did the background for the tree. We used our hands to paint the sky and ground before drawing the birds. We also made clay tiles with Mr. Mildren - first we had to draw a gnarled tree on a bit of paper, we then had to re-create our ideas on a piece of square clay. It was fun! In finger knitting we learnt to knit with our fingers. We learnt to cast off and soon it became the craze in the playground!!!! **Molly Joyner & Meggy Sharp**



Creative Arts Week

Art, Music and Drama



Deer to the hart: Year 1 get stuck in fashioning their willow creations.



Year 5 enjoyed many fun lessons in Creative Arts Week: Totem Poles, Knitting, Milk Bottle Birds, Clay Garden Sheds, Willow Dream Catchers, Willow Deer and, best of all, Screen Printing! Artist Tony Minion came in to help with this, and everyone especially enjoyed using a piece of equipment called the SQUEEGY! They also designed their own creative art week books, writing diaries, filling in evaluation sheets and adding their own drawings related to the theme of the outdoors. **Izzy Leyshon & Freya Marr**





Year 3 had an exciting time making bird feeders out of clay. First they made the shape of the clay bird feeders and then they had to put them in the kiln. Later they painted their bird feeders bright colours for the birds to see and live in, before taking them home to hang for the birds. They also made felt birds' nests using stones, bubble wrap and soapy water, and different types of model birds using milk bottles and pom-poms. Finally they created tree silhouettes by blowing through a straw on blobs of paint to shape branches and twigs, before using watery paint to create a lovely colourful background!

Anna Maunder & Honor Huggett



Year 4's Creative Arts Week was jam packed with fun! They drew some totem animals then made their own totem pole. Native American families would have a totem pole which would have stylised animals on them which described their personality. Year 4 also made marbled fairy tales, mixing ink to make a marble effect on the paper. Afterwards they cut out Robin Hood themed silhouettes from black card and stuck them on the marbled background. This linked in with their 'Play in a Day' performance of Robin Hood. They also made tie dye t-shirts, used Photoshop to find and edit pictures from the internet and, like all the year groups, they had a fun percussion work shop and music quiz. **Gabriel Harrison-Kinnaird**

Creative Arts Week

Play in a day



Robin Hood and his Merriment

This year's Play in a Day was based on the story of Robin Hood. Year 4 had looked at the story in depth and explored the characters in their Drama lessons before Creative Arts Week. Sophie from the Plough Youth Theatre Company then helped us to put together a 'Play in a Day'. We had fun making our own bows and arrows and really enjoyed the opportunity to perform to an appreciative audience of parents, friends and family. [T.M.C.](#)

"I enjoyed being Guy of Gisborn because I was a main character and I used some exciting props. I really liked being a bad guy because you can do whatever you want!" **Florence Chapman**

"Doing small parts of the play in groups was good because we got to do it with friends."

Jessica Barnes



"It was a truly wonderful concert and a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to perform with older and more experienced musicians"



It has been another extremely busy musical term with the Young Voices Concert, House Music Competition and the Spring Concert being just a few of the highlights.

Excitement had been building for the Young Voices Concert since September as we began to learn the songs and dance moves. On Friday January 16th the day finally arrived. Fifty of our Choir travelled to Birmingham to take part in the National Young Voices Concert at the Genting Arena. The Choir joined 6000 other children to sing together in what is the largest series of school choir concerts in the world. They performed a variety of music including a Tribute to Nelson Mandela, an Andrew Lloyd Webber Medley, a Pop Medley and a rock version of Mozart's Requiem. The children were joined by musicians and artists including Lucy Spraggan (who reached the finals of X Factor) and dance company Urban Strides. The children sang and danced to a packed arena. It was an amazing experience for all involved, giving us a real taste of what it is like to perform in an arena concert! On our return to school I

asked the children if they would like to take part again next year – it was a resounding "yes". I have already sent off our application!





Musical notes

Back by popular demand was Mr. Cartwright and his percussion workshop during Creative Arts Week. The familiar sound of snare drums, floor toms, drum kit and cow bells rang throughout the school. Our House Music Competition took place at the end of Creative Arts Week. Songs performed this year were Happy and Counting Stars and, as always, all the children and staff worked hard to perfect their performances. Small groups also performed including wind groups, guitar ensembles, string groups, piano trios/quartets and small singing groups. The Pre-Prep also took part with children from Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 singing You Can't Keep a Horse in a Lighthouse. Judging was very difficult and close but in the end Grenville were announced the overall winners. Thank you very much to Dr. Leaman for judging the competition.

Our Spring Concert took place towards the end of term and saw pupils from the Prep School performing with pupils from the Senior School. The Prep School Choir performed two songs whilst some of our Year 6 choristers sang Litany to the Holy Spirit with the Senior School Choir. Our instrumentalists performed Alla Hornpipe from Handel's Water Music in a Combined Orchestra and the concert ended with everyone joining together to sing The Best Day of My Life by American Authors. It was a truly wonderful concert and a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to perform with older and more experienced musicians.

On the very last day of term some of our Year 6 singers and instrumentalists went to St. George's Church to entertain people enjoying a Lent Lunch held to raise money for Christian Aid.

Our Tea Time Concerts have continued throughout the term, providing an opportunity for many of our children to perform. We have a huge number of children having music lessons and it is just wonderful to see them performing in these concerts with confidence and enjoyment.

We have also had children taking Associated Board and Trinity Exams this term. We had six children audition for music scholarships at the Senior School and Freya Marr, Cosima Mundy and Lottie Southgate were awarded scholarships. Well done girls!

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



Blundell's Prep NEWS



Recipe for Success

This term's Parent Cooking Workshop saw Mrs. Watson working with Senior School Chef, Craig Sampson, to help parents create a marvellous Spanish chicken dish with wild mushroom risotto and cappuccino mousse.



Plate Competition

Year 3 were excited to welcome their parents to school lunch. Many platefuls of delicious lasagne were consumed but the highlight was the chocolate pudding with chocolate sauce. There were many comments wondering where the lumps in the sauce had gone! Those fond memories of school lunches were resurrected with the unanimous agreement that school lunches today are so much better!



Ancient Egypt: Mummification's the Word

Year 3 were transported back over 3,000 years to Ancient Egypt, where they experienced a day full of exciting activities and challenges. They started by attending a mummification ceremony where 'Pharaoh Harry' was prepared for burial. All the children had an important job to perform in the ritual – from brain hooker to sarcophagus painter! This was followed by taking part in six activities. They built pyramids, designed Anubis headdresses, wrote their names in hieroglyphs on papyrus, made clay amulets and played a game of Seega. Finally, each group competed to construct the most efficient shaduf to collect water from the 'River Nile.'

I was so excited when we all heard that we were going to mummify Harry! When we got to the Drama Studio, we all had a job to perform in the ceremony. I was a priest. **Charlie Cracknell**

On Ancient Egyptian day we mummified Pharaoh Harry. We took out all his organs, except for the heart, and put them in canopic jars. We put natron on his body to dry it out and then spices and oils. We bandaged up his body and then prayed for the dead Pharaoh. **Ruby Wetherall**

On our Ancient Egyptian day we mummified Harry and I was Anubis who was in charge of the ceremony. I had to make sure that everyone did their jobs properly. I thought the day was brilliant. I wish it was every Friday!

Tamsin Clover



Pancake Monday

For the first time ever the Prep Pancake races had to be held on a Monday, a consequence of Shrove Tuesday falling within the dates of half term. Despite adverse weather conditions and gale force winds, Raleigh's preseason training reaped massive dividends with both their teams winning. A comprehensive win for Raleigh!

The Nursery children also enjoyed a pancake themed activity day. They listened to the story of Mr Wolf's Pancakes, cooked and ate pancakes and made charts of their favourite toppings. At the end of the day they dressed as chefs for their pancake races, which most of them managed to complete with their pancakes still in their pans!

E.S.H. & S.A.

Really Wild



Neil Vaughan brought his Really Wild Encounter to visit the Nursery and Kindergarten. The children were excited to have the opportunity to learn about different creatures from the rain forest. Giant Hissing Cockroaches from Madagascar were the first of the animals that they had the chance to stroke. They found out that their skeleton is on the outside of their body and that they eat the leftover fruit on the jungle floor. Ginny the Bird Eating Spider from Chile was the next creature and the children loved it when they waved at her and she waved one of her legs back! The final animal was Norris a Blue-Tongued Skink from Australia. One of the children was brave enough to allow him to rest on her head!



Tudor Times

On Monday 19th January Year 5 had a Tudor Day. When I arrived at school I saw lots of different types of Tudors: some were poor, some were rich and some were kings and queens! Everyone looked magnificent in their costumes. When we met Henry VIII he told us about his wives and what life was like in Tudor Times. In the afternoon we learned about crime and punishment and some of us went in the stocks! Then we had a jousting tournament, we had a boys' match and a girls' match and my team won! It was a fantastic day! **Kezia Holman**



Grandparents Morning



On 26th January over 100 grandparents came to school to take part in the children's lessons. They took part in all sorts: FT, English, Maths, DT, Science and even Computing! They also came to the children's assembly, where they watched Cosima Mundy and Freya Marr perform the violin and cello, and

Finn Muirhead, Alexander Lawler and George Worcester recite poetry that they had learned in their Speech and Drama lessons. Then Lucy Fitzherbert and Izzy Swain's grandmas tried their hands at some shaving foam art! Everyone enjoyed having their grandparents in school, and we hope that the grandparents enjoyed their experiences in the classroom too!

**Cosima Mundy
& Lottie Southgate**





Friday Night Fever

Thank you to the Friends of Blundell's Prep for the Friday Night Disco. We had music like Happy, Uptown Funk and the Macarena. We danced and bought sweets. It was really fun! Harry Cracknell



Cracking Codes

During the Autumn Term, pupils in Year 6 spent their Computing lessons developing their very own computer games. Some were quite simple, whereas others involved complicated levels, timers and scoreboards! In February children from the Pre-Prep were invited to Year 6 Computing lessons to try out these games, and then were supported by Year 6 children in creating their very own versions of the best-seller, 'Flappy Bird'! Everyone had a great time and it was lovely to see how mature the Year 6 pupils were in teaching their younger schoolmates, whilst the enthusiasm shown by Years 1 and 2 was truly infectious. Coding is now a huge part of the Computing curriculum and we have some real stars of the future right here at Blundell's. Well done everyone!



French Connections



On Wednesday 25th February, Years 5 and 6 joined with Years 7 and 8 at the Senior School to watch a French play called 'The World's Gone French!' performed by a French theatre company called Onatti. We were given an extract from the play in advance to study in lessons, as well as all the French words which would appear in the play. The children were encouraged to participate in the performance and use their French, which they did with increasing confidence. Dominic Wielenga and Elizabeth Honey both chose to sit on the front row of the performance to get a bird's eye view and both ended up in the play itself! Ben Hutton and Carsten Wood were also chosen to speak French and help the characters on stage. C'était fantastique! C.F.H.

Scholarly Success



Congratulations go to Molly Joyner, Eliza Lloyd, Freya Marr, Anna Maunder, Eve Nugent, Jessica Payne, Joseph Provis, Megan Sharp and Lottie Southgate for gaining Academic Awards to the Senior School, and to Freya Marr, Cosima Mundy and Lottie Southgate for gaining Music Awards! Congratulations also go to Harvey Cronkshaw, Cecily Raper, Sophia Rushton and Alexandra Tarrant in Year 2 who have all been awarded a Junior Scholarship. Well done to all!



The Moon Thieves



Poetic Licence

It was wonderful to see that the children and staff had made such a super effort to dress up for Poetry Day. They all came to school dressed as their favourite character from a poem or a Nursery Rhyme and there were some fantastic costumes. Many of the children also entered the Recital Competition and it was a very difficult task for Mr. Rochfort to judge winners for the various categories. Mr. Moore also had the unenviable task of judging the Best Decorated Poem Competition. There were many super entries in this competition, well done to everyone who took part. It was a real treat to have pupils from the Senior School join us for the morning to recite a poem. They were fantastic and very entertaining with their poem about school lunches. This was a great way to round off Creative Arts Week! **T.N.**

The Year Two play was a delight to watch. The children told the charming story of 'The Moon Thieves' which was about a Granny who lived with a rat, a cat and a boy; they were very poor and had no money to buy food. They dreamt of having enough money for some treats in life like a saucer of cream for the cat, a piece of cheese for the cat, a penny for the boy and a cushion for the Granny. They even went to the market to see whether they could raise some money but they had no luck. They were about to give up when they were saved by the woodland creatures. The story ends happily with the family realising that they had friends who cared about them. The children sang some super songs and spoke their words confidently. The performance was well supported by many friends and family members who thoroughly enjoyed watching the story unfold. **T.N.**

The Year 1 children had a wonderfully exciting workshop on the Great Fire of London. Mr Hugh Scrivenor, a merchant from Exeter who had been staying in London at that time, came to school to tell them all about what had happened. They took part in practical activities as well and learnt about money, clothing, food, housing and portraits. They had the opportunity to use quills and feathers and to practise writing in the handwriting style of the time. The day ended with a lively retelling of the story which they all acted out with great enthusiasm! **T.N.**



House Quiz



Quiz Club is a general knowledge competition that many schools enter and Blundell's have always been a part of it, entering teams into the regional heats at Millfield Prep School. This year however, Mr. Moore decided it was time to give everyone a taste of what it was like and what better way to do that than by having a House

Quiz Competition? All children took part in qualifying heats, from which an A team and a B team were selected to represent each House in the final. There were some tough questions to be faced and the teams battled hard to become the winners of the first ever House Quiz Competition! In the end the mighty Raleigh won - but there's always next year Drake and Grenville!

Test yourself: can you answer these Quiz Club questions...?

1 What did Violet Beauregarde turn in to?

A, Violet B, Blueberry C, Cauliflower D, Carrot

2 What is the more common name for the shape that can be described as a hexahedron?

A, Cube B, Hexagon C, Sphere D, Pyramid

3 What is the main ingredient in a risotto?

A, Potato B, Pasta C, Rice D, Corn

Answers: 1B, 2A, 3C

Gabriel Harrison-Kinnaird

The Great Fire of London





MATHS IN ACTION AT EXETER RACECOURSE

It is not every day that a school would encourage their pupils to go to the horse races to study numbers, statistics and data...but in March that is exactly what we did! The British Horseracing Education & Standards Trust (BHEST) kindly welcomed us to Exeter Racecourse for a day of 'Maths in Action'. Who knew so much Maths was involved in the running of a racecourse; from calculating the perimeter of the parade ring to understanding the complex handicapping system, and looking at the construction of fences, the pupils in Year 6 had a wonderful day learning how Maths extends beyond the four walls of the classroom. Many thanks to former Grand National jockey Ollie McPhail for making it such a memorable day for all of the children! *D.J.M.*



BUCKFAST ABBEY

Year 3 enjoyed their visit to Buckfast Abbey to learn about the abbey and how it was built. They had a very hands-on session in the education centre learning about life in the abbey and then they were able to 'grill' a monk with any question they liked. The afternoon was spent touring the abbey and learning more about the life of a monk.

out *and about*



POWDERHAM CASTLE

Year 6 dressed in their finest Victorian clothes when they visited Powderham Castle to learn the art of Victorian baking and cleaning. Dusting, boot polishing, carpet beating and griddle cake eating were just some of the treats for the newly enrolled servants. Many thanks to Mrs. Watson for organising such an enjoyable and educational outing!

Exeter Cathedral and Mosque



On Thursday 26th March Year 2 visited Exeter Cathedral and then Exeter Mosque as part of their Religious Education curriculum about places of worship. Children were taken on a guided tour of the Cathedral and they saw many interesting features. 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. They asked lots of good questions and Jemima was able to try on the Bishop's robes and Harvey put on a choristers outfit.

The children then participated in a fun activity whereby they had to follow a map of the cathedral to find brass rubbing plaques and then once they found them they needed to follow clues as to which part they needed to rub over for their worksheet.

After a delicious packed lunch we got back on the coach and travelled the short distance to Exeter Mosque where we were able to see many of the things we had talked about at school. The Imam talked to us and answered lots of questions. The children saw where Muslims wash before praying and they were very interested that men and women washed and prayed in different places within the Mosque. They were also invited to watch some Muslim men pray and they sat beautifully and watched the rituals that they had heard about at school. The Imam then offered the children and adults refreshments and happily answered the questions that children had about what they had seen and heard.

We all had an enjoyable day and the children were chatting about all that they had seen and done all the way back to school.

D.M.K.

Jersey Sports Tour



The Jersey tour went by in a blur. This is the sign of a successful trip, and it left everybody feeling tired but elated at the same time.

Hard fought matches for both the boys and girls over the first two days saw the Blundell's Prep tourists battle hard against what are Jersey's national rugby, netball and hockey teams. At the end of each match all of the children had the chance to chat to each other and make some new friends. Jersey sports teams are very grateful for the chance to play high quality opposition. They welcome Blundell's back year on year with a smile and a sense of the competition to come.

Besides the sporting activities the Jersey tourists also had the chance to see something of the cultural heritage of the island. There were visits to the War Bunkers, the Maritime Museum and Gerald Durrell Conservation Zoo. Also there were many great evening activities, including the cinema, bowling and a disco.

The children especially enjoyed their food on tour, as every meal whether at The Pomme D'Or Hotel, Pizza Hut or Collen's Café was of a high class and outstanding. All came away smiling and wanting the same again!

Many thanks to Miss Edwards, Mrs Watson and Mr Morris for their time and support on this adventure! S.G.S.



"On the Saturday at Jersey all the girls played Jersey's national netball teams. After the matches they treated us to a lovely picnic snack lunch that they had prepared. It was a great experience and we all enjoyed ourselves thoroughly!"



Outdoor *learning*

Whether exploring the school grounds, classifying plants and trees, cooking outside, den building in the local woods or rambling on Exmoor, everyone has again enjoyed many opportunities to use the outdoors to enhance the learning experience this term. Many curriculum areas have benefitted from outside work, and cross-curricular links have abounded whether looking at early settlements in geography and history, researching the setting for Robin Hood in Drama, using nature as inspiration in Creative Arts Week or simply appreciating the aesthetic beauty of our surroundings. This is an area of study enjoyed by pupils and staff alike, and will continue to play an increasing role in bringing teaching to life as we move into the summer term. L.P.M.

LEAVING THE NEST

The sun shone on the Year 3 children during their morning in the woods. They started off with an egg trail looking for 'nests' containing 5 fresh eggs which had colour-coded facts written on them. The children had to locate the 'nest' then carefully bring their egg back to the camp so they could write down their fact. When they had collected all their eggs they had to work out what the bird was before making egg bread with their eggs. The children also made clay plaques of birds on tree trunks, thinking carefully about the beaks and feet, before having a go at building nests themselves, having previously looked at three different types of nests in class. Altogether, we had a fabulous morning. The children loved the freedom of the woods and worked well together in their groups. S.A.S.

Den City: On a visit to the local woods Year 6 worked hard to build the sort of dens early settlers might have constructed for shelter – before toasting crumpets over a fire to reward their efforts!



Ranger Rove



Years 5 and 6 enjoyed Ranger led treks across Exmoor, investigating the moorland flora and fauna as well as learning a little of the history of human settlement in the area. The natural beauty of the scenery was captivating, and all enjoyed picnicking on route!



On a Cold and Frosty Morning

On a frosty January morning Nursery 2 children enjoyed looking for signs of winter. They used magnifying glasses to examine the patterns made by the frost and looked in awe at the frozen pond. They were fascinated by the prints their wellies had made on the frosty grass. They finished their morning of exploring with a hot chocolate to warm them up. S.A.



GIVE ME SHELTER

On Friday 13th March Year 2 enjoyed an outdoor learning morning. The weather was overcast and raining but that did not stop us! It was Red Nose Day so it was quite fitting that it was quite chilly so most of us had red noses by the end of the session! The children enjoyed learning how to make fires and we managed to heat some milk to make hot chocolate. This took longer than we imagined. They also looked for suitable sticks then crafted them so that they would spear a marshmallow – which they then toasted on the fire. Later on the children had opportunities in their groups, which they had organised, to build a shelter. They were just getting started when their Year 5 Buddies arrived to lend a hand. It was a very enjoyable morning with lots of cooperative working as well as lots of fun! D.M.K.

Fire Starters

As part of the History topic on the Great Fire of London, the children in Year 1 enjoyed a frosty morning outside collecting wood, making a fire, singing campfire songs over a mug of hot chocolate and making charcoal. They had a great deal of fun as well as learning about what happens when wood burns. T.N.



Leave it Out:
Year 5 enjoyed taking their artwork outside, making full use of the local woodlands to hunt for, sketch and paint a range of natural subjects in their own environment.



Netball



U11 NETBALL

The U11A team has had a hugely successful season and what a fabulous way to finish their Prep School netball. Unbeaten in their school matches and runners up in the Millfield tournament, the girls should be really proud of how much they have achieved as a team. The biggest highlight would have to be qualifying for the Nationals at the Millfield IAPS tournament where they played over 10 matches against the best schools in the South and only lost 2 games by a narrow margin. This meant we qualified in second place and had a luxury weekend in Brighton, where the team would compete against the best schools in the country. It was a fantastic weekend and an incredible experience where the girls played brilliantly against some fierce competition. Well done to Cosima Mundy and Honor Huggett - the dynamic duo in defence, to Freya Marr, Anna Maunder, Eve Nugent and Emily Sellar-Elliott - the centre court superstars and to Lottie Southgate and Jess Payne - the super successful shooters. [L.B.](#)

The U11B team started the season with some demanding matches against the strong opposition of Millfield and West Buckland, however, all was not lost as this appeared to raise their game for the remainder of the season. The girls focused well in training and strived to achieve success in their forthcoming matches in which they were victorious over Taunton, Maynard, King's Hall and Wellington. There has been such a depth of talent within the year group with excellent shooting from Issy Leyshon and Estelle Tucker. Controlling the centre of the court and enabling goal scoring opportunities, Molly Joyner and Eliza Lloyd battled hard to maintain possession and feed the ball into the circle. In defence Abi Horan worked tirelessly and showed great determination to intercept the opposition and turn over the ball. Overall, the entire team demonstrated an unwavering positive attitude and has made some great progress. Well done, girls! [F.L.E.](#)

U10 NETBALL

I think it is safe to say that it has been a very busy and successful term for many of our sports teams and it was no exception for the U10A team. The 10 week term has been jam packed with training, House events, fixtures and tournaments. The girls started off the season in the best possible way, beating Millfield! I'm not sure they were too thrilled! There seems to be quite some rivalry developing between the two teams. The season continued in an unbeaten fashion, gaining victories over strong competitors such as Taunton, Queens, King's Hall and St Peter's. Millie Evans and Rachel Brown's consistent shooting and movement in the 'D' meant that we were able to take advantage of every attacking play. Jas Shaddick, Clem Bantock and Elizabeth Honey proved to be formidable in defence. Kezia Holman dictated play from the centre circle, defending beautifully and seamlessly switching back to attack. Shea Clark and Scarlett Vaux both played their part on the wing, making sure the ball was fed into the circle at every opportunity. Every member of the team has played an important role in what has been a most successful season. They work well together, support each other, and congratulate good play. I have no doubt that this positive work ethic is strongly linked to the team's outcome on paper. A special mention must go to Rachel Brown and Kezia Holman whose contribution at the IAPS tournament helped Blundell's qualify for the Nationals. Very well done girls! [F.L.E.](#)

The U10B team has come a long way since the start of the season and has worked extremely hard in order to improve their passing and movement within a game. Esme Burnett, who was new to netball this year, shone with her catching and scored some promising goals. Lucie Spencer and Phoebe Jerreat battled to find space on the court in attack and mark their opponents when possession was lost. Although the team came across some tough opposition they never let their heads drop and fought positively until the final whistle. This was evident during their final game of the season where they demonstrated the progress they had made and played well together to maintain a 4-4 draw. Well done, girls!

[F.L.E.](#)



U9 NETBALL

The U9A team has had an outstanding term of netball, winning all of their individual matches and also finishing as winners in three highly competitive tournaments at Queens, Exeter and Millfield. For such a young team, they have showed a huge amount of skill in their timing, movement and spatial awareness and it has been wonderful to observe them working so well together. Flossy Ames, Tilly Lane and Honor Tobin have all contributed to some high scoring victories with their accurate shooting and Issy Morrison, Georgia Withey, and Jess Barnes have been a sharp trio getting the ball to them in attack. Constance Paterson and Flo Cave have been fantastic in defence, learning how to time their interceptions and stick close to their opponents in order to prevent them from scoring. A fabulous term girls, let's try to do the same in rounders! [L.B.](#)

The U9B team has had a season to be proud of. They have worked extremely hard in training and their efforts have paid off, they have had an unbeaten season! It has been a real pleasure to umpire their matches and watch some of the beautifully linked passes where the ball travelled from one side of the court to the other, and then straight into the hands of Hattie Barnes or Florence Chapman for a shot on goal. I have been most impressed with their movement into space, their committed marking, and their composed catching. Otilie Davy has been a rock in defence, you can safely say that if there was a loose ball and Otilie or Sophia Rochfort were nearby it would be a Blundell's ball! It has been great to see such determined and passionate netball from such young pupils. Lucy Squibb, although brand new to the game, made her presence felt by finding every possible space on the court in order to receive a pass. Every member of the squad has participated with enthusiasm this season and has played an important role in the team's success. We couldn't even be defeated when an 'A' team was sent to challenge us. That's because the U9B's are an A class team! Very well done girls! [F.L.E.](#)

Girls have been aiming high and passing their netball skills on in competitive fixtures from U7 up (right).

U8 NETBALL

The U8A team has had an unbeaten record in their first term of netball. The main highlights for me were when they showed unbelievable grit and determination to win a match in horizontal hail (which felt like being pelted with gravel) against King's Hall, and a fabulous result at the end of the season against Plymouth College. The girls also beat Exeter, Mount Kelly, St.Peter's and Taunton. Amara Lilley, Mele Borradaile and Bella Boyde all contributed to the high scores with fantastic skill in the 'D' and excellent defending from Maya Corbin, Amber Tucker and Olivia Imregi kept the opposition in check. Ruby Wetherall, Floss Crease, Lucy FitzHerbert and Grace Horan played with brilliant speed, skill and energy on the wings and the centre to make for a team that proved to be unbeatable. Very well done to you all. I very much look forward to seeing the girls' skill on the rounders pitch in the summer! [C.F.H.](#)

The U8B team has thoroughly enjoyed its netball this season. The girls have taken on board lots of information and are now more familiar with the positions that can be played, where the players are allowed on the court and they also have a good understanding of the many complex rules involved in the game. They have worked hard to improve their catching, footwork and defending and are now beginning to see the importance of moving into spaces rather than standing still. I have been particularly impressed with Arabella Gresswell and Sophie Robshaw who have both made concerted efforts to listen intently and improve their skills as the season has progressed. All of the girls were able to enjoy hosting and travelling away to visit other teams. The season ended with a lovely festival at The Maynard where all of the team participated with enthusiasm and enjoyed showing what they had learnt. Well done, girls! [F.L.E.](#)





U11 HOCKEY

The U11A team has had a wonderfully enjoyable year, with all of the boys learning a huge amount about the skills and teamwork required in this ever-evolving sport. An initial thanks must go to Mr. Harry Jones, the Senior School's first team coach and former Welsh national hockey coach, for his regular tuition of our boys and for the extra sessions that he provided during Friday lunchtimes. All of the boys learnt a huge amount of useful skills from him and their hockey improved visibly throughout the term. With a full Hockey season being a new experience for the boys we ensured that all of them participated in as many matches as possible. We also ensured that they were able to experience as wide a variety of positions as possible, often within the same match. However, one position that did remain fairly consistent was that of goalkeeper and for the whole season Will Venner and Nathan White filled this position superbly. Both boys developed into superb shot savers and fearless defenders at times of flying hockey balls and sticks. Out of goal all of the boys' skills improved enormously and this was typified by Henry Crease and Joe Provis who, along with Will Venner were worthy recipients of their Colours. All of the boys ensured that this season was immensely enjoyable and they finished having won more matches than not; top scorers were Ben Hutton and Finn Muirhead. J.C.K.



U10 HOCKEY

The U10 players have only just started hockey this term. But the transition from football is a simple one: use a stick not your feet. This was easily accepted by the U10 boys who excelled when it came to skills and matches. With the A and B teams on a near par it was hard to separate individuals out. The B team certainly employed better teamwork but the A team found individual flair a better option. With more experience these two styles of play will merge and the teams will be unbeatable. A number of players had a go in goal and all enjoyed the experience of being encased in protective gear and kicking out a saved hockey ball. S.G.S.

A full fixture list of seven games for the U11B team this season resulted in five wins and just two losses. Team lists changed regularly for both the Bs and the Cs and all of the boys benefitted from representing the School teams. There was a great fluency between the teams and their positions which developed the boys' understanding of competitive matches. S.J.M.



CROSS COUNTRY

Our season started with some promising runs at St. Petrocs in Bude. James Clarkson won the U9 Boys race and we achieved three first team places on the day: U9 Girls, U9 Boys and U11 Girls. Next we travelled to Stover and although we could not replicate the individual results from St. Petrocs, our teams were well up the rankings, and we were presented with the overall trophy. The Larkman Cup proved once again a successful hunting ground. The U9 Girls were our standout team, as they have been throughout the season, for the third time in succession taking the team title. Our other three teams stuck to their task in a huge and really competitive event with the largest number of schools competing in recent years. The culmination was another overall trophy win which finished our inter-school season perfectly. Our own House Run was won for the second time in a row by Raleigh which I must admit is a fitting end to my 28 year tenure as Master i/c of Cross Country. My thanks to you all for all your support in a sport which isn't always loved by all but often brings out the very best in the children who are prepared to try. S.J.M.





Football

U9 FOOTBALL

Twelve wins, two drawn matches and two defeats saw a very enthusiastic U9A team achieve a very good season of football. Our defeats came against Exeter Prep and St Peter's. Our best result was at the Millfield Tournament where we were unbeaten in five games and awarded silver medals as tournament runners-up. Captain Harry Southgate led from the front and was ably supported by a well worked defence of William Maunder and James Clarkson, who, aided by Jasper Winsley in goal, were able to close out games. Toby Butler and Toby Low improved immeasurably throughout the season on their respective wings. The centres, Barnaby Hull, Raffy Crowe and Ethan Moran took their chances and were often on the end of some well worked goals. S.J.M.

The U9B team had enthusiasm to burn during this year's season. They were often first to finish the warm up and get themselves into position ready to go before the opposition had taken off their tracksuits. This will to play for their team and keep going no matter what the score was, was the backbone of the team. With individuals improving throughout the season there were great wins against St. Peter's (away) and Exeter Cathedral (home). The rest of the matches weren't so successful but the will to carry on never wavered. There were systems of rotation put in place so all had a chance to play in different positions and add their bit to the team effort. Overall the boys enjoyed their football season and are looking forward to putting the teamwork to the test in hockey next year. S.G.S.

Boys have enjoyed setting goals for developing their football skills in competitive fixtures from U7 up (far right).

U10 FOOTBALL

A brief but successful football season was enjoyed by the U10 boys with six wins, one draw and one defeat in the eight games played. They began with victories against Bramdean (9-1 & 5-1) and then followed this with wins for both A (3-0) and B (3-1) teams at Millfield. The boys then travelled to Bristol to play the very strong QEH with the B team playing superbly well to win 4-1. The A team had a tough encounter and were unfortunate not to score during a nail-biting 0-0 draw. Exeter Junior School was the final match of the season and this saw honours shared, the A team winning 5-1 and the B team losing narrowly. Once again, the Year 5 boys showed themselves to be very able and competitive sportsmen and they should be proud of what they achieved over the first half of the term. A.D.S.

U8 FOOTBALL

Following on from the extremely successful rugby season, it was of great interest to see how the Year 3 boys would take to football during the Spring Term. The boys played many matches throughout the term; a triangular tournament in a freezing cold Launceston against St. Joseph's and St. Petroc's kicked things off. A slight dip in form away to a talented West Buckland team showed the boys that they would really have to work like a unit if they wanted to win more matches, and in a most mature manner the following week at home to St. Peter's they dug deep and produced their performance of the season. Will Edwards received all of the plaudits from the opposition's coach due to his amazing goalkeeping skills, while Fraser Willatt, Jacob Tucker, James Saunders and the Cracknell brothers also deserve a mention for their tireless running, determination and great enthusiasm. Most pleasingly in this match was seeing how the boys had learnt from their mistakes the previous week and were now really beginning to gel as a team, setting them up nicely for the remainder of the season.

S.G.S.



TAG RUGBY

With twelve teams taking part across three pitches, the U7 Tag Rugby festival certainly had lots of energy. Blundell's entered five teams so that all Year 1 and 2 boys and girls represented the school. An incredible number of tries were scored over the afternoon and the spectators were treated to some wonderful rugby. Quick feet dancing out of tackles and excellently timed passes saw each team win games and enjoy themselves. The referees commented on how high the standard of play was, with many players showing the potential to go on and play the full game of rugby at a high level in the future. Many thanks to the referees, to the team coaches, the catering department for keeping parents warm with hot drinks and delicious sandwiches and cakes, and to the many parents who supported this event. S.G.S.

RUGBY 7's

Rugby7's is about keeping the ball and staying out of contact. These were not always the first two things in the mind of our 7's players. They preferred to try and punch holes in defences and get those around them through the hole. However with only seven on a team this kind of support play is not really an option. Passing, out stepping, looping, not taking a tackle are far better tactical options. After the Plymouth College 7's, where the squad of players learnt a few important lessons, they went better experienced to the Millfield 7's. At Plymouth they won the Southwest Plate competition and at Millfield they were semi-finalists in the main competition. Both results were a great credit to the commitment and ability of the whole squad to adapt to a new form of the game. S.G.S.

High Flyers

The theme for this year's Science Week was Birds



The week started with a fabulous display of bird models and posters which the children had made for our Science Week competition.

As well as making a model or poster the children were asked to learn some facts about their chosen bird which they presented to their class. There was an amazing variety of birds from small garden birds like robins to exotic birds such as parrots and peacocks. They had obviously put a huge amount of effort and enthusiasm into what they produced.

Yarak Birds of Prey then flew in to visit us. Handlers Amy and Di brought a wonderful range of birds including Hen Harriers, Owls (Barn, Pharaoh and long eared) and a kestrel. In the morning, the children watched a flying demonstration from these majestic birds and learnt about their hunting habits, senses and diets. In the afternoon, year groups had a question and answer session and each child was given the opportunity to handle a bird. Just before leaving, Amy commented on the high calibre of questions asked by the children and how well behaved they all were. J.K.P & J.M.C.

Non  Sibi

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