

AUTUMN 2015

review

OUT AND ABOUT

taking education to the world
outside of the classroom –
down to the woods, field, farm
and orchard, canal, river,
estuary, beach and
beyond...



Flushed with Success

**Year 5 Fun Run: fund raising for Tearfund's
Toilet Twinning charity challenge**

Inside:

Power Dressing:

king for a day

Book at Bedtime:

ready teddy go

Dress as your Hero: super
community support



“The children get a huge amount from these events and are tireless in their appetite for fund-raising.”



If you were to ask the children what the school motto is, I am certain that they would be able to tell you. They would also be able to explain what it means and, most importantly, what they do to make sure that it is more than just words. ‘Non Sibi’ or Not for Oneself is an important part of our school’s DNA and it influences much of what happens throughout the year. This term we have seen this in abundance as the children have

looked to think of others, not just within school but also in the wider community and overseas.

In November we were joined by Senior School Head Boy, Christopher Hamilton and Head Girl, Emma Jackman, who shared their thoughts on Kindness and Tolerance Week. Now in its 2nd year, K&T Week encourages everyone to think about how they can make a positive impact in others’ lives and this was supported within form groups by form teachers who reinforce this important message through weekly PSHE sessions. There are numerous opportunities for the children to raise funds for charities and if they had their way I am certain that we would have daily cake sales! This term we have supported the Church Housing Association Team or CHAT, as well as Children in Need through a non-uniform day and yes, you guessed it, a cake sale. Earlier in the term we supported the Devon Air Ambulance Trust with a ‘Dress as Your Hero Day’ which saw all manner of costumes being worn by children and staff alike. Our Christmas Market also raised much needed monies for The Oliver Croker Fund and Young Minds charity, both of which are very close to the hearts of our teachers here at Blundell’s Prep. One of our Year 5 forms decided that they wanted to support the charity ‘Toilet Twinning’ and they set about raising money through three different events: a sponsored run, a litter pick and the much loved cake sale. In total they raised nearly £500 which was used to build a toilet block in a Nepalese village. The children get a huge amount from these events and are tireless in their appetite for fund-raising. The School Council are always ready to offer suggestions for future campaigns and with the Year 6 BALSA programme fast approaching, I imagine that our senior pupils will be keen to make their own plans for charitable work through the rest of the academic year.

As the pages that follow in this edition of the Review demonstrate, our children are always keen to do all that they can to help others. I hope that you will enjoy reading of their many exploits during the Autumn Term.

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

Andy Southgate Head Master



TOILET TWINNING

In October, 5CO decided to complete several charity fundraising events to raise money for the Tearfund associated ‘Toilet Twinning’ charity. The children voted on a sponsored 3km run, a litter pick in the school woods and a bake sale. All of the children took part and got stuck into the challenges they had set, they really were a credit to themselves. Following the events, the children described their endeavours in a school assembly and were happy to tell the school that they had raised a total of £480 for the charity. This equated to a new toilet block in a school, as well as three new toilets in separate villages. As a form the children decided to choose Nepal as the location for the funds to go to, bearing in mind the recent earthquake that occurred there last year. All of the children should be extremely proud of their efforts. **A.R.C.**



Non-Sibi



CHILDREN IN NEED

On Friday 13th November we supported Children in Need day. Children from Year 6 brought in cakes to sell and the whole school brought in a donation to wear home clothes. Thanks to the money bought in from all year groups we raised more than £400 for the charity, which helps disadvantaged and disabled children across the UK. It was nice to know that we could be helping others through having fun and eating cakes!

Kezia Holman, Year 6

"Pupils contribute significantly to charity fund raising, with many causes chosen by themselves, such as a local church, recognised national initiatives and international natural disasters, to which they are swift to respond."

ISI INTEGRATED
INSPECTION, JUNE 2015

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

This term the school has focused on the theme of kindness and tolerance. The Head Girl and Boy from the Senior School came to share their ideas with us, and to encourage us all to put our school motto of Non-Sibi into action by doing Random Acts of Kindness for others...

Some acts of kindness recorded in the Honours Board this term have been:

- Merrianna Sparkes for helping the younger children to learn the words of the Nativity songs.
- Darcey Beszant for being really kind and helping another child on with her coat.
- Emma Scoble for being extremely kind and

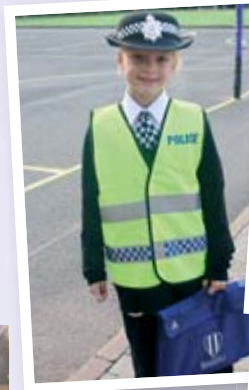
thoughtful towards another child who was upset at playtime.

- Eduard Le Grand for tidying up the tray of plastic nuts and bolts all by himself without being asked.
- Ruby Corbin for being extremely helpful and polite towards one of our visitors at Toddler Group who had lost her phone.
- Camarra Hill for being extremely kind and thoughtful towards another child in the class who was the last to finish changing for PE. Camarra asked if he would like her to wait with him then they both went out to play together.

Phoebe Jerreat and Sophia Fields, Year 6

DRESS AS YOUR HERO

IN SEPTEMBER WE ALL CAME TO SCHOOL DRESSED AS OUR HERO FOR THE DAY.



We did this because we were raising money for the Devon Air Ambulance Trust. Rosy from the trust came into school to tell us about the vital service that the ambulance team provides, and how it has saved so many lives by rescuing people from all manner of different locations. On the day people came dressed in all sorts of different wonderful outfits, and we all brought in donations for the charity; altogether nearly £250 was raised, which will all go towards helping the trust to save even more lives in the future.

Esme Burnett and Victoria Curgenvin, Year 6



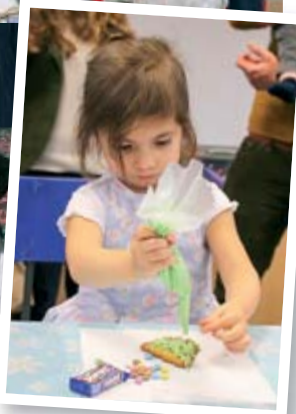
Kindness and Tolerance



THE CHRISTMAS MARKET

On Saturday 14th November the Friends of Blundell's Prep hosted our annual Christmas market. We sold lots of things including sweets, toys, books, Christmas cakes, cards and decorations and much much more. There was also face painting and children's crafts, the choir sang, Year 6 ran a raffle and even Father Christmas paid a visit! Festive refreshments were available and it was great fun for everyone! Nearly £800 was raised to support the Oliver Croker Fund and Young Minds charity, two worthy causes which were also supported by collections at the Carol Service and Festival of Carols. Many thanks to the Friends for organising it all!

Esme Burnett and Victoria Curgenven, Year 6



"The pupils' social development is excellent... The older pupils support younger pupils through various 'buddy' schemes, as well as by taking on roles as house captains, prefects and monitors."

ISI INTEGRATED
INSPECTION, JUNE 2015



Harvest



Many thanks to all who donated food items at Harvest. All gifts were passed on to the Churches Housing Action Team in Tiverton, who were very



grateful for the donation, which will enable them to continue to support the homeless, poor and vulnerable in our local community.



School Council

Every term each class holds an election to vote for a School Council representative. The Councillors regularly give up their own time to meet with Mr. Kerr to discuss suggestions raised by their forms to improve the school experience, before reporting back to their classmates in Form Time. Topics for discussion this term have included charity fund raising initiatives, playground equipment and privilege time provision. The School Councillors this term have been: Emily Harris (6AL), Rachel Brown (6MO), Jasper Winsley (5RO), Honor Tobin (5KE), Archie Joyner (5CO), Edward Harris (4CR), Amara Lilley (4CH), Ethan Moran (4RI), Flynn Williams (3ND), Harvey Cronkshaw (3SH), Ruby Corbin (2K) and Cyrus Tucker (2H). There will be further opportunities for others to put themselves forward to serve on the Council next term.

Running parallel with the Council are the Year 6 Prefects, who carry out a range of duties to aid the smooth running of the school. This year in a bid to give all the opportunity to step up to the mark and experience some responsibility, it was decided that all in the Year Group would take their turn serving as a Prefect. This term they have been ably led by Head Boy Oscar Winsley and Head Girl Phoebe Jerreat. Well done to all for setting such a good example to the School!

LPM, with input from **Councillor Emily Harris, Year 6**

news



Shapes and Adders

The sun was shining as we all gathered on the playground for a fun morning of Maths. The children from Nursery, Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 were mixed and split into 6 teams and challenged to collect a number of items including: 20 blades of grass, 10 small leaves, 5 small stones and 1 feather. The teams then had to create a collage using all that they had collected. Their picture had to include at least one shape made from the items collected. The total number of items on the collage then needed to be counted. Each team were supported by two members of staff as they went collecting and then sticking and counting and the winning team received a certificate. Everyone had a lot of fun and worked very well together outside. **D.M.K.**



Art Competition Ends in a Draw



THE BIG DRAW

The Big Draw was a drawing competition open to all: the children had to draw a page in an autograph book illustrating their personality and family. Harvey Cronkshaw, Sophia Rochfort and Florence Chapmen were the lucky winners, but well done to all who took part for showing such an enthusiasm for art!



CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

There was also another art competition in school this term: to design the Blundell's Christmas Card. The entries were so good that in the end three winners were chosen: congratulations to Shea Clark, Florence Crease and Spencer Baxter, and well done to everyone who decided to give it a go and take part!

Kezia Holman and **Clem Bantock, Year 6**

Seasonal Celebrations

The last day of term was a very festive, cheerful occasion. The children spent the morning involved in fun, Christmassy activities, before enjoying a delicious Christmas feast – many thanks to Barbara and the catering staff for the veritable banquet that was served up! This was followed by a party in the afternoon, and Father Christmas was kind enough to call in to the party to give everyone a present - even the teachers! The children played lots of party games and went home tired but excited. We wish everyone a very peaceful Christmas holiday! **T.N.**





ROMAN *Charges*

Year 4 had a great day when they were transported back in time to 49CE. They arrived at school dressed as members of the Dumnonii Tribe. The children had put a lot of effort into their costumes and all were very excited. The day began with a tribal gathering to discuss the possibility of a Roman invasion. The children had the opportunity to handle artefacts from Iron Age Britain and learn more about the Celtic way of life. They were then greeted by a Roman emissary who offered the tribe a choice between a battle with the Romans or an acceptance of life under Roman rule.

Over at the Roman base the children were able to find out what life was like as a Roman by looking at objects and handling weapons and armour. After lunch the children made the decision to join the Romans and were subsequently put through their paces as soldiers in the Roman army. The climax to the day saw the newly trained Roman warriors battle a gang of unruly Britons (thank you Year 3!) using their newly learned tactics and training. The children had a fantastic experience and learned a lot about Iron Age life in the South-West. **G.J.R.**



More than Just Desserts



IT WAS GREAT TO SEE SO MANY PARENTS GAME FOR TRYING SOMETHING NEW AT THE CULINARY WORKSHOP THIS TERM. DO LOOK OUT FOR FUTURE INVITATIONS TO JOIN CRAIG AND SARAH FOR MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE GREAT COOKING TIPS TOGETHER!



LIGHT ENTERTAINMENT

Bonfire Night was a great success! There were lots of refreshments including crepes, sweets, burgers and drinks, and the firework display was spectacular!

Thanks to the Friends of Blundell's Prep for organising the whole evening!
Sophia Fields, Year 6





PAPERBACK WRITERS

The Prep School was thrilled to be visited in September by children's author David Lawrence Jones, creator of the Bradley Baker adventure stories and the Jig & Saw picture books. David used props including monsters, masks and a light-up bath tub to bring his stories to life, sharing a little of his journey from reluctant reader to children's author and encouraging pupils, including Ethan, Joshua, Reuben and Sophie to act out some of his fictional creations! There was a real buzz around the show he put on, and the children agreed unanimously that they had all been inspired to read and write more! The huge numbers who returned to have one of David's books personally signed showed just what an impact he had had on the children, and after his visit nearly everyone in the Prep School was reading Bradley Baker! To find out more about David and his books visit his website at www.davidlawrencejones.co.uk.



Reading Characters

Children dressed up as their favourite story characters on Book Day, they brought their favourite books to school, and the teachers read their favourite stories too. At the end of the day, we also had the very popular Book at Bedtime. The children returned to school in their pyjamas clutching their sleeping bags and teddies. They cuddled up in the hall whilst teachers read them bedtime stories. It was a super day when everyone was able to focus on the joy of reading and books. **T.N.**



David was not the only author to visit this term... Chris Wormell, author and illustrator of many children's books including *An Alphabet of Animals*, *The Animal Train* and *Through the Animals' Eyes*, visited the Pre-Prep on Book Day and entertained the children with some of his inimitable stories and drawings. Local author Amy Sparkes also joined us to share two of her Christmas stories, *Alien's Crazy Christmas* and *The Goodnight Star*, and Year 6 joined with Year 7 to hear children's author Sophie Cleverly talk about her *Scarlett and Ivy* mystery series. Hearing successful authors talk about their work first hand is a real inspiration to young writers, and provides an invaluable complement to the literacy learning that takes place in school every single day.

LPM & Lucie Spencer, Year 6



MUSICAL *Notes*

As the term draws to a close, I am, again, left reflecting on the musical activities which have taken place over this term. The music department continues to be busy with groups or ensembles meeting on most days. Our Choir continues to grow and this year we have had a very strong intake from Year 4 who sing with wonderful confidence and enthusiasm.

Our Tea Time Concerts continued to give the children the chance to perform and for many it was their first concerts. We also had

some 'Premieres' of pieces composed by the children for the String group.

A small choir of Year 6 children took part in the Two Moors 15th Anniversary Songs of Praise Service at St Peter's Church. They joined together with the School House Choir to perform John Rutter's Clare Benediction in a service led by the Bishop of Exeter.

Singing features enormously in the children's musical education and in the run up to Christmas the children have been

extremely busy learning song words for their Christmas plays and carol services. We hosted our annual Festival of Carols in the Chapel, with three other schools joining us for carols and readings – St. John's, Tidcombe and Two Moors. The sound of so many children singing together filled the Chapel and was a delight to listen to. Our own Carol Service was again a thought provoking, atmospheric celebration of music and readings.

Just after term finished a small group of children entertained visitors to Knightshayes. The Christmas trees, candles and Christmas lights certainly created a very festive atmosphere. Thank you to all the children who have performed this term and to all the staff who have helped in the music department. **B.L.C.**





Tea Time Concerts: Close-Up

The first Tea Time Concert this year was a Junior and Senior Joint Concert which was a huge success! There was some piano playing, also there was a string group and even a multi-instrument duet featuring Shea playing the violin while Sophia accompanied on the piano. A singing trio and duet also performed, along with a wide range of instruments including drums, saxophone, clarinet, flute and many others.

"I enjoyed the concert where I sang Smugglers Song and played my flute. It was sort of terrifying, but fun at the same time!" Maya Corbin

The second Tea Time Concert was split into two parts. The Junior Concert was first and then the next evening was the Senior Concert.

"I played the piano, my piece was Kumbaya, it went really well and everyone was amazing. There was so much talent on show, the concert was a great success!" Fraser Willatt

"The Concert was epic, I loved playing Can you Hear Me? on the drums. Other drummers performed as well, everyone was really good and I really enjoyed it." Lucie Spencer

Phoebe Jerreat, Sophia Fields, Elizabeth Honey, Year 6





The Stable Boy

The Year 1 Christmas Nativity Play was delightful to watch. The children acted with such confidence and positivity. They spoke out clearly and sang some super songs. There were also one or two dances as well. The story was about a stable boy, James, who was fed up with keeping the stable clean and feeding the animals; he really preferred the idea of being a fisherman. Eventually, he grew up to be one of Jesus's "Fishers of Men." The hall was packed full with friends and relatives and all thoroughly enjoyed the performance! **T.N.**

STARRING *Roles*



Witnesses

Year 2 kicked off the Nativity season with a modern adaptation of the happenings that occurred in Bethlehem over two thousand years ago. This humorous take on the story of the birth of Jesus involved two reporters interviewing the various characters from the story; they loved the angels so much that they asked for a "selfie" with them! The children performed confidently and sang beautifully. It was a super way to start the festive season! **T.N.**



A WRIGGLY NATIVITY

The Nursery delighted everyone with their performance of A Wiggly Nativity. All the children took part from the very youngest at only two years old to the veterans of four years old. Some children said lines and sang by themselves or in small groups and every word could be heard. The costumes for Mary, Joseph, shepherds, inn keepers, sheep, cows, chicks, donkeys, stars, angels and kings were all splendid and the children looked great. We heard enthusiastic singing and saw some confident acting as well as dancing and yes there was a lot of wriggling! **D.M.K.**



STRAW AND ORDER

Year 3 performed their Christmas play superbly! Not only did they learn their lines, but they really acted their parts, putting in lots of expression which really lifted the play. The singing was wonderful too, and supported with enthusiasm by the Year 4 children. The two soloists sang beautifully and a big thank you must go to James for stepping in at the last minute as Casper. Well done to all! **S.A.S.**





"Like all good plays there was a happy ending in an emotional Carol service, and Year 6 backed up the younger actors superbly with some very forceful singing..."

HUMPH THE CAMEL

We all thoroughly enjoyed the Kindergarten Christmas Nativity Play this year. It was a delightful story about a camel called Humph who was very grumpy. He was so grumpy that he didn't even want to go and visit the special baby that had been born in a stable. His camel friends persuaded him to go with them to the stable and when he saw Baby Jesus, he realised how special he was. The experience turned him into a much happier camel! The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves on the stage, it was lovely to hear them singing and watch them dancing and speaking their parts with such gusto. It was a tremendous production! **T.N.**



CHRISTMAS 1914

An incredibly moving musical performance by Year 5 this year celebrated the festive truce, with German and British soldiers coming together on the front line to celebrate Christmas, singing Silent Night in English and in German. The play took us from the shores of Blighty with Joe and his friends joining up to go to war, leaving their sweethearts behind to 'man' the factory while waiting to hear back from their brave boys.

The play had many themes running through it, but most poignant must have been the story of Mrs. Schroder, who illustrated so well the mistrust that war can create, and helped us to realise that not every German was a spy.

Like all good plays there was a happy ending in an emotional Carol service, and Year 6 backed up the younger actors superbly with some very forceful singing. It is a play I believe our very appreciative audience will never forget. **T.M.C.**





Outdoor Learning



OUTGOINGS UP

From investigating animal habitats in the school grounds, pond dipping in the wildlife area, boat floating in the river, constructing mud bricks and den building in the woods, to collecting wood for campfires, cooking and carving pumpkins, sampling pumpkin soup and traversing pumpkin trails, all have enjoyed taking their learning outside this term, making the most of the wonderful grounds and outdoor facilities we have at the School... Year 4 even had their art in the right place – outdoors!





Core Skills: OUT TO IMPRESS

Year 6 went to Killerton to pick apples in September. Killerton has 52 acres of orchard, and 600 apple trees, which grow two different types of apple – the Killerton Sweet and Killerton Sour, which are used to make apple juice and cider. We went to pick apples first – we had 20 minutes to see which group could pick the most apples, and after that we took the apples to the apple press – which is 200 years old. We chopped up the apples we had picked and put them into the grinder, which crushed the apple pieces to extract the juice; we took it in turns to turn the grinder handle. We weren't allowed to drink the juice that we had squeezed because it needed to be pasteurised first, but we did have a drink of some apple juice that had been made at Killerton earlier – which was delicious! We also took some Killerton apples back to school with us, which we used to make apple cake in FT!

Ben FitzHerbert and **Elizabeth Honey, Year 6**



Out and about

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



COAST BUSTERS

With the sun shining brightly, Year 2 headed to the coast with the aim of comparing two of our closest beaches - Budleigh Salterton and Exmouth. Our first stop was the pebbly beach at Budleigh. After a quick snack we strolled along the promenade, creeping past the gulls, swans and geese down the estuary to catch sight of the river after which our Year 2 club is named - the River Otter! As we walked back along the sea front towards the town all eyes were peeled. The spiky, gnarly shells of the spider crab were certainly the most popular and sought after find this year.

Back in the town we met with the coach and headed off to the next stop, Exmouth. After a short journey we tucked into our lunches in the sunshine. With the pit stop over we each bought an

ice-cream before heading to the sea for a paddle and building some impressive sandcastles; it was only right that we indulged in the full seaside experience!

I think it was fair to say that everyone had a brilliant day, and the children were able to identify many of the differences between the two locations, building a bank of experiences to help us as we followed up our seaside learning in class. **C.A.H.**

YOUNG FARMERS

Nursery finished off their term with a festive trip to Pennywell Farm, where they employed the use of some real farmyard animals to help enact the Nativity story, as well as finding time to meet Father Christmas!



Booked Out

Children from Nursery enjoyed their visit to Tiverton Library this term, sharing some big books together to mark the occasion.





LIVE STREAMING

YEAR 4 VISITED THE LOCAL RIVER TO FIND EXAMPLES OF RIVER FEATURES STUDIED IN CLASS, INCLUDING EROSION, DEPOSITION AND MEANDERS.



FAITH JOURNEY

The children in Year 4 enjoyed a fantastic and highly informative trip to Exeter Synagogue. As part of their Religious Studies unit on Judaism, the children had the opportunity to sit inside a synagogue and listen to a talk by a religious leader. A particular highlight of the trip was when Mr. Halsey opened up 'The Ark' at the back of the synagogue to reveal the Torah scrolls. Much to the children's amazement, he then proceeded to read from the scrolls in Hebrew. The children behaved impeccably during the trip and were a credit to the school. **G.J.R.**



Blundell's Prep OUTDOORS

SCULPTURE VULTURES

The sun shone on Year 3 during our trip to Broomhill Sculpture Park and Saunton Sands. The children loved looking around the Sculpture Park and trying to decide what each sculpture represented, what it was made of and how much it was worth. They were fascinated by the variety of different sculptures. The children then had great fun at Saunton Sands making their own sculptures. The competition was won by Miss Bennett's group: Reuben, Jemima, Josh, Atticus, Bea and Sophia who made a sculpture of a dolphin. Everyone had a great day out and we all finished by having an ice-cream before returning to school! **S.A.S.**



COUNTER PRODUCTIVE

NURSERY ENJOYED THEIR VISIT TO MORRISONS SUPERMARKET, WHERE THE FISH COUNTER WAS THE PLACE TO BE TO LEARN ABOUT FOOD PRODUCTION.

Year 3 toured Tiverton and visited Knightshayes Court and the Grand Western Canal as part of their studies in Geography looking at important features of the locality.



LOCAL AUTHORITIES



The Chronicles of Killerton

Year 1 came to school dressed in Victorian clothes for their annual Christmas trip to Killerton House. The theme for this year was C.S. Lewis's famous story, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. The Education Officer, Mrs. Eileen Dillon, captivated the children with her animated retelling of the story. Each room in the house was decorated to represent part of the story. The house was very atmospheric with its white, snowy Narnia style decoration. The children loved seeing Mr. Tumnus, Aslan and the Ice Queen. They played lots of lovely games that were centred around the story. To finish off the visit, they sang a Narnia themed song called "Aslan Lives."

It was a wonderful way to start the Christmas season. **T.N.**



The U11 Girls with England internationals Georgie Twigg and Susie Gilbert at the National Finals in Repton.

Hockey

U11 HOCKEY

What a fantastic season of hockey the U11 A Team has had, with so many highlights and achievements to mention. Some of the girls may need some extra space at home to hang all of their medals! An unbeaten season bar one match against King's Hall (where we were down two players) is no mean feat and matches regularly finished with huge score lines of 8-0, 7-0, or 6-0. The first tournament at Exeter School was where the girls were suddenly put under more pressure than they were used to, and they were forced to step up their games in the pool matches in order to qualify for the semi-final and later on the final. They emerged triumphant after a big effort in the final and this was their first trophy of the season. From here, they had the Regional Tournament at Millfield to qualify for the Nationals in Repton. They won their pool matches fairly convincingly but almost lost out in the quarter-finals to a feisty Taunton team. After a strong half-time team talk however they improved their pace and urgency and managed to grasp a 2-1 victory to take them to the semis. Here they met a team they had already defeated in the pool stages so were confident and secured a 4-0 victory, taking them through to the final against well-known rivals Millfield. It was a very intense game with nothing much between the 2 teams and with only a few seconds left on the clock it was 2-2. Unfortunately a foot in our D meant Millfield

had a short corner to take at the end of the game and they executed it brilliantly, winning 3-2 on the final whistle. Blundell's therefore had qualified in 2nd place – good enough for the Nationals. Repton was a fantastic experience for the team and they had a very busy day of hockey with nine matches to play in total and twenty-four teams from across the country competing. It was a fast pace that we had to quickly adjust to and the girls fought really hard in all of their matches, managing to win three games, draw two and narrowly lose four by one or two goals. They finished in 14th position overall, which was a super result. But they weren't finished yet! They still had the Devon Tournament at the end of the season and it was one we were very keen to win. It was a round robin competition against five other schools and the girls played phenomenally well to win every game by at least two goals. The title of Devon Champions was theirs! Well done to all of the girls. It has been an absolute pleasure coaching you all and I am looking forward to netball season!

L.B.

The U11 B Team faced some tough opposition this season. Our first match against Mount Kelly was lost narrowly 2-1. Excellent goal keeping was seen from both Jas Shaddick and Sophia Fields, and Scarlett Vaux worked her socks off in defence. In spite of added help from Tilly Lane and Amelia

Mitchell, we then lost 5-2 to Wellington. Next came our first win of the season against St.Peter's, with Florence Chapman scoring the goal. Emily Harris and Esme Burnett were strong in defence which led to a 1-0 win. Our next win was a convincing one against Plymouth, with excellent goal scoring from Scarlett, much determination from Victoria Curgenven and great defence from Hattie Barnes. A real team effort from everyone resulted in a well-deserved 4-0 win. Hurray! Our first away match of the season was against Millfield whose strength in attack proved too much for us on that occasion and we lost 3-0. After half term we played in high winds and cold conditions and lost to King's Hall and Exeter but had a convincing 6-0 win against The Maynard. Our final match took us to Queen's where we played some fantastic hockey. Scarlett, Amelia and Phoebe Jerreat were outstanding in attack, contributing to a 4-0 win. Lucy Vaux stood in for Elizabeth Honey in goal and with the help of Hattie, Emily and Esme not one goal was allowed in. My one word to the girls at full time was 'Awesome!' which was heart felt. I was so proud of their efforts and their well-earned win. The girls have been great to work with: positive throughout, showing perseverance and great team work. I look forward to seeing their netball skills next term. **C.F.H.**

U10 HOCKEY

Having started with a 2-1 loss away to Mount Kelly, with a couple of alpacas as spectators, the only way was up for the U10 A Team!

After this indifferent start to the season, the team went on to score 21 goals in the next three matches and no goals were conceded. Full of confidence, they went to the Millfield Tournament where they won all their group matches, they then beat Sherborne 2-1 in the semi-final but unfortunately lost 2-0 to an extremely strong and organised Kingswood team in the final. However, the

team were thrilled to finish the tournament as runners up. The girls continued their brilliant run by winning the next five matches, scoring 20 goals and conceding only 2, beating the likes of Millfield and the U11 Maynard A Team. Overall, the girls won 13 matches and lost 3, scoring a magnificent total of 56 goals and conceding only 9! Everyone played their part in the team. Although Honor Tobin did not always have much to do in goal due to excellent defending by Flossy Ames, Constance Paterson and Otilie Davy, she made some vital saves during matches. The ever reliable midfield, comprising of Jessica Barnes, Izzy Morrison and Georgia Withey, dominated matches and scored important goals. Finally, both Flo Cave and

Florence Chapman made opposition defences tremble due to their determination to score goals. It has been a huge pleasure to work with this team – well done to you all! **J.R.**

What a season the U10 B Team has had! A huge congratulations to all who have played for your undefeated record. The season began with a 2-0 win in glorious sunshine at Mount Kelly. Amelia Mitchell and Hattie Barnes found lots of open spaces to drive the ball forward. The next week, in cloudier circumstances, the girls worked well as a team to gain a second win, this time against Stover. Super feeding of the ball into the 'D' by Sophia Rochfort and Lucy Squibb enabled Florence Chapman to score the only goal of the match. Lots more goals came against St. Peters on the 23rd September. Well done to Tilly Lane for scoring a hat-trick and to Bronte Dash and Georgia Withey for their effective sweeping passes. Our first away match was at Taunton, but the girls were unfazed and went on to secure a 2-0 victory. The goals kept coming when we visited Millfield in October and Florence thoroughly deserved her hat-trick. 3-1 was a great score against strong opposition. The penultimate match was in the second half of term against Exeter at home, and ended with a 2-0 win. The girls were nervous for their last match against Kings Hall, as they were desperate to maintain their winning run. Amsi Sims, Ellie Frost and Lucy Vaux were all great in defence, tackling hard against very strong opposition. The match ended with a 3-3 draw and the girls were delighted not to have stumbled at the last hurdle. A great season girls, can we do the same in netball next term?! **J.M.C.**

U9 HOCKEY

The U9 A Team has been fiercely competitive this term in hockey and the girls have developed their basic stick skills and spatial awareness to a much higher level as the term has progressed. It has also been a big part of our training to ensure that we always worked well together as a team. With eight matches played in total they secured four wins, three draws and suffered only one loss against Mount Kelly. A very good season indeed. In the Plymouth Tournament, they did superbly well, coming runners-up to Exeter Cathedral and only missing out on winning in the final due to penalty shuffles. This was a real shame as they had already beaten Exeter Cathedral in the pool matches! At the Blundell's Tournament they did very well in chilling winds and managed to get through to the main competition semi-finals. Again however, it was the penalty shuffles that got the better of us and Queen's went through to the final against Kings Hall. Well done to all of the girls! **L.B.**

The U9 B Team had a tough first match of the season against Exeter which we lost 2-1. Excellent saves came from Bella Boyde in goal and grit and determination were shown by both Poppy and Mele Borradaile. The following week saw our first win of the season. Excellent work in attack from Annabel Wood, Olivia Soutar, Valerie Wilson, Sophie Robshaw, Rosa Flay and Meredith Thomas led to a 5-1 win. The girls were thrilled and rightly so! A narrow win against King's Hall 1-0 came next when all the girls worked their socks off against a strong side. We then had the chance to compete in our own tournament. Playing in 40 mph winds and biting cold conditions, the girls again showed grit and determination against strong opposition: Queen's, Exeter Cathedral and Exeter. Our final match of the season was a home game against Taunton School where we

scored a goal in each half, to win 2-0. A great finale with each girl contributing to our success!

C.F.H.



U8 HOCKEY

The U8 Teams have shown much enthusiasm throughout the season and have enjoyed the competitiveness of the matches as well as the match teas! Although the U8 A Team has won just one match and lost three, they have all improved tremendously and become determined to win the ball. In particular, Alicia Perry, Sophia Rushton and Alex Tarrant have shown strength and confidence when tackling. The midfield and attack comprising of Anni Butterfield, Bea Morrison, Jemima Sides and Amelia Churcher have worked tirelessly to create opportunities when attacking and determination to stop the opposition by defending well. They have all scored some amazing goals. The U8 B Team has won one match, drawn one and lost one which is a credit to the team who have grown in confidence and listened carefully on how to improve their match play. Ruby Lane was thrilled to score her first hat-trick during the last match of the season. Furthermore, Lana Johnson, Sydney Boyde, Ophelia Thorpe and Mimi Brent have all enjoyed learning new skills and applying them to a game situation. The U8s have certainly shown a lot of promise and they are already eager to start the next season! **J.R.**

HOUSE HOCKEY

The House Matches were a great occasion. The Seniors had a tough time trying to defeat each other. Drake played Grenville and it was close with Grenville winning 3-0. After that Grenville played Raleigh which couldn't have been closer. They battled against each other, until the last second but at the end it was a 0-0 draw. The last match was very tense indeed! Raleigh had to beat Drake by more than three to win the whole competition. It was very close but the end score was 2-0 to Raleigh. So Grenville won over all and Raleigh came second then Drake. In the Junior House Matches Grenville won then Drake then Raleigh. Well done to all the girls for trying so hard! **Shea Clark and Lucie Spencer, Year 6**



Rugby

U11 RUGBY

The U11 A Team has gone from strength to strength this season. With a new format of laws from the RFU the team adapted quickly and saw much success. The team was victorious over the majority of Prep Schools in the South West, often by large margins. All of the boys were able to run, pass and tackle, the corner stones of rugby, with many players able to switch fluidly between positions. Defence is often key to winning, and strength in this area, together with a greater emphasis on the art of tackling for today's game, has led to great results in match play. Thanks go to Mr. Yapp, the Elite Development Coach at Blundell's, for his expert coaching input, and well done boys for trying so hard! **S.G.S.**

This has been a hugely successful season for the U11 B Team as they have gone unbeaten throughout the term. All of the boys showed great commitment and team spirit in

every match. This was typified by the joy shared by all when Harvey Dawe scored the first try of his rugby career, set up by the incredibly unselfish play of Louis Hinchliffe in a match against Exeter Cathedral (in which Louis himself went on to score a hat-trick!) Throughout the season the team was led brilliantly by Oscar Winsley. Oscar's selflessness and consideration for all around him made him the perfect leader, and a natural focal point for all of the boys who may have felt nervous or uncertain at the start of the term. Oscar, along with Louis, Lochy Cronkshaw, Josh Ramsay-Smith and Sam Robshaw, formed the core of a wonderful team in which the less confident were encouraged to flourish and develop their skills at their own pace. These included Harvey and the fast-improving Oliver Yeadon, as well as a few guests from the under 10 B Team on

occasion. The boys always tackled their hearts out and it was often this ruthless defence that gave them the initial edge at the start of a match, before their strong running was able to cut holes in the opposition line. The ball won in the tackles was used superbly by Harry Pryce, whom we were lucky to have for the majority of the season before he was quite rightly poached by the A Team. However, this meant we were able to welcome Gus Tiernan to the team, whose sheer speed helped to preserve our unbeaten record against a very strong Exeter Prep. At the end of the season the boys had played in twelve unbeaten matches (eleven wins and one draw) and scored ninety-eight tries. It was a wonderfully enjoyable season and I hope that every one of the boys goes on to even bigger and better things next year. **J.C.K.**



U10 RUGBY

The U10 A Team had a remarkable season in which they won all 19 of their matches, scoring an amazing 765 points and conceding only 80. They were victorious in all of their matches at the Millfield Festival and later in the season they won the Queen's Tournament, helping Blundell's to retain the trophy. The key to their success was a combination of a highly organised and ferocious defence coupled with pace and power across the field. They took advantage of any mistake made by their opponents and always managed to raise their level of play whenever they were put under pressure. Whilst many of their

matches were one sided affairs, there were also some very close battles, particularly in the final at Queens' against a well organised Paragon side. Exeter School also provided some very tough opposition and they scored three interception tries during a nail-biting encounter. Thankfully our boys adapted to the conditions and took a more direct route to the try line, something that they were always happy to do. The squad of boys always trained and played well as a team, and this was a major factor in their success. Archie Hull, Toby Butler and Alexander Fewtrell provided much needed muscle, with Toby Low, Barnaby Hull, Jasper Winsley and Archie Joyner providing guile and pace in abundance. James Clarkson was deadly when given an inch and Harry Southgate stole the opposition ball on countless

occasions, allowing William Maunder to dominate just about every side that we played during the season. All of the boys played as a team and gave their very best in every training session. I have been fortunate to coach some very committed rugby players over the years but these boys would be right up there with the best of them. Well done to them all. **A.D.S.**

The U10 B Team made huge progress as the season developed, culminating in their first victory of the season in the final fixture of the term against Taunton School. The boys really stepped up in their approach to their rugby as the term progressed and got fully stuck into each match. Narrow losses against St. Johns and QEH Bristol were disappointing for the boys and didn't reflect their efforts. In the penultimate match against St. Peters the boys drew 5-5 with the final play of the game to record a fantastic draw. The result against Taunton showed how far they had come and was a wonderful way to finish a great season. **A.R.C.**



U9 RUGBY

Having made the transition from tag rugby at U8 level, the boys in the U9 A Team enjoyed a successful first season of contact rugby and recorded some fantastic results. The season started slowly with a difficult match against Exeter School and a challenging festival at St. Peter's, however the boys made extremely good progress and made huge strides in their level of performance. An excellent festival at Millfield followed a fantastic result at the King's Hall Tournament, and great wins against Mount Kelly and Stover followed with the boys experiencing further success at both the Mount Kelly and Plymouth Festivals. The team finished a superb 3rd in the Blundell's Tournament, recording a win against Wellington and a narrow loss against Taunton in the final fixture of the term. All the children in the team improved a great deal and clearly enjoyed their first forays into contact rugby. They should all be extremely proud of their efforts and I look forward to seeing their rugby as U10s. **A.R.C.**

The U9 B Team gained in strength and technique over the season, and a few players developed further to earn places in the A Team. With the new rules learnt and put into practice, the team adapted well and a fast attacking style of play with a robust rushing defence was employed to great effect. Every week the team were tested and came away winners, with notable victories over Exeter, Wellington and Taunton by more than 50 points. Well done to the whole squad and many thanks to the supporters who braved some wet and windy weather during the season to cheer them on. **S.G.S.**



U8 RUGBY

The Autumn Term has been one of great progress for the boys in Year 3. Gone are the days of lessons about how to get changed quickly – it is all about the rugby now! Over the course of the term we have taken part in several tag rugby festivals with all of our boys making massive strides towards being ready for 'real' rugby in Year 4. The children really enjoyed playing against local primary schools at home, as well as taking part in exciting away matches against schools such as St. Peter's and Mount Kelly. The boys have developed confidence in the skills of passing and running with the ball, and have improved in the more tactical sides of the game such as forming defensive lines and a few set plays. The boys have gone largely unbeaten for most of the season and they should be very proud of their efforts. Special mentions must go to William Maitland-Walker, Harvey Cronkshaw, Monty Charteris and Reuben Wielenga for their confidence and mature attitudes in matches, whilst Tom Yandle, Freddie Cox and Josh Read have all transformed as players over the course of the season. It has been a superb few months for the boys in Year 3 – the future of rugby at Blundell's Prep is looking very strong!

D.J.M. & G.J.R.

HOUSE RUGBY

The Rugby House Matches were very close this year, with lots of hard work from all of the boys. The Houses battled hard and showed some fantastic rugby. At the end of a close Junior competition Drake came first, followed by Grenville then Raleigh, and in an even closer Senior competition Raleigh and Grenville came joint first overall ahead of Drake. Well done to all the boys!

Lochy Cronkshaw, Year 6



Exeter Chiefs were riding high in the Rugby Premiership and with London Harlequins in town Super Saturday had all the makings of an 'epic' match day. After training with some of the Chiefs A Team players, the U11 boys were shown around the inner workings of Sandy Park by Sam Simmons (Chiefs A Team and England U21) and Keith Fleming (Chiefs Match Day Manager). The sports science that goes into rugby at the highest levels was fascinating to behold. During lunch the boys were privileged to watch the U16 Devon Elite Squad train – including Sam Maunder, from Blundell's Senior School. After lunch Harlequins arrived and the boys raced around to collect autographs. These included those of Chris Robshaw (England Captain), Danny Care (England Scrum Half), Mike Brown (England Full Back), Nick Easter (England no. 8) and Joe Marler (England Prop). A star studded line up indeed! Finally the match kicked off, with Blundell's Prep forming the Guard of Honour on the field. Exeter had to work hard to win the match, securing victory by a single point in deteriorating weather conditions. Everybody had a memorable and inspiring day supporting the Exeter Chiefs! **S.G.S.**



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