

SUMMER 2016

# review

Inside:

Clowning Around:  
circus of delights

Hopping Mad: at the zoo

Gale Force Winds: return to Oz



## Generation Games:

10 Years of  
Blundell's  
Preparatory School



*"...it was a privilege to hear of the genuine affection that people have for Blundell's Prep – here's to the next 10 years! ..."*



As the school year comes to an end there is always a great deal to celebrate, and this term we have seen this in abundance as the pages that follow illustrate. The Summer Term is a special time at Blundell's Prep and heralds fine weather (!) and the opportunity to get outside to enjoy all that this beautiful part of the world has to offer. What makes this Summer Term particularly special is that it marks the 10 Year Anniversary of Blundell's Preparatory School coming into existence and in June we welcomed old boys and girls, their families and members of

staff from past and present, back to BPS for an evening of celebration. The history of the school goes back a great deal longer than 10 years but the change in name marked the expansion of the Blundell's educational offering to encompass all children aged 6 weeks to 18 years, and the anniversary gave us the opportunity to reflect on those years through the eyes of current and former pupils. Our Prep Heads of School from the Autumn and Spring terms spoke of their memories of time spent in the Nursery, Pre-Prep and Prep, and they thanked all of the teachers for the opportunities that had helped to shape their lives thus far. Current Year 8 student, Holly Nugent offered some fond memories of her time at the school and how it has equipped her with the skills to go on to great success at the Senior School. It was then the turn of Year 13 student, Rory Clark to entertain the assembled guests with tales of his time in the Nursery and the importance that he placed on getting first dibs on the scooters and tractors in the playground. He also spoke with great warmth of the teachers who had supported him throughout his Prep School years and brought the house down with confessional stories of his own misdemeanours whilst a pupil at the school. As well as speeches there was music provided by our School House Musical quartet and the School House Choir joined forces with our very own Mamas and Papas to entertain our 250 guests. A sporting element was provided which included a variety of games as well as a speed gun to really get the competitive juices flowing, and for those who wished to enjoy a more sedate evening, there was a wonderful exhibition of old photos, year books and copies of this very publication, the Review, for guests to peruse. Our Senior School catering team then laid on a sumptuous spread which was enjoyed by all. Having been a part of this wonderful school for just half of those 10 years, it was a privilege to hear of the genuine affection that people have for Blundell's Prep – here's to the next 10 years!

Inside the pages of this Summer Review, you will see all of the opportunities that the children have enjoyed during an action-packed term. As ever, my thanks go to the hard-working teachers who make all of these things possible and to our editor, Mr Lee Moore, for his tireless efforts in bringing everything together in this superb publication.

Have a great Summer everyone!

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

**Andy Southgate** Head Master



## CELEBRATING *Success*

Where Are They Now? **Ben Willder**



Ben is pictured working with Mrs Shelbourne in Year 5. Having recently come back to Blundell's to mentor some of the Senior School students for their School House diploma, Ben is now reading Politics, Philosophy and Economics at the University of Durham.



# Celebrating Success:

## PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

### 10 Years of Blundell's Prep: Blast from the Past



Head Master Andy Southgate welcomed former pupils and parents to a reunion to celebrate 10 years of Blundell's Prep. Many former staff also attended, including former Head Master Nick Folland and Deputy Head Richard Cross, and all enjoyed exchanging fond memories during an evening of fine food, music, fun and games and the occasional speech! Current Year 6 students were magnificent in helping to host the evening and run tours of the building, and all raised a glass to the next 10 years as the school continues to move on from strength to strength!



### 10 Years of Blundell's Prep: Future Perfect

When the very youngest members of the school came together with their parents and teddy bears for a celebratory picnic at the end of term, all very much enjoyed making their teddy bear hats, following their teddy bear trails and tucking into their teddy bear party food. The Toddlers of today will be leading the way tomorrow and it seems as though the next 10 years are in good hands for Blundell's Prep!

### 10 Years of Blundell's Prep: Present and Correct

**The current students came together to mark the occasion with a wonderful celebration lunch, complete with cake cutting ceremony, before enjoying a fabulous afternoon of fun and games for all!**

The Pre-Prep and Prep School children enjoyed a terrific afternoon filled with a variety of sporting activities. The children were bowling at skittles down the corridors, playing golf and hockey, dancing to musical statues and many more activities. As the Year 6 children were off enjoying a taste of life at the Senior School at the time, the Year 5 children were responsible for looking after the younger children and they did a great job at this! The Nursery children said that they loved making new friends.

It was an amazing afternoon for all of the children from Nursery to Year 5 to enjoy and thankfully the weather stayed dry for us too! **SJ**







# BALSA

BLUNDELL'S ADVENTURE, LEADERSHIP  
AND SERVICE AWARD



Horse riding, beach tidies, sponsored hikes, sailing challenges, charity collections, cycle rides, helping around the home, supporting the local community... the children in Year 6 have been inventive and tireless in their many different approaches to giving time or raising money for others through the BALSA programme.







The Blundell's Adventure, Leadership and Service Award, or 'BALSA' as it is more commonly known, has grown from strength to strength over the years, offering our Year 6 pupils a way of really enriching their lives in school and beyond. Students collect points by putting themselves forward for responsible positions in school, by showing leadership in challenging situations, through helping others and by pushing themselves to do things that they might not normally have done. Many of these points are gained in school through Prefect responsibilities, by showing leadership on the sports fields or when taking part in our numerous exciting trips and residential.

Perhaps the most satisfying achievements, however, are the ones that take place at home, where teachers are not chasing them and where the children are able to really think about their own strengths and how they might be best used. It would be impossible to list all of the activities that have taken place this year, but it is fair to say that all of the pupils have been an absolute credit to their families and the school – cake sales, charity football matches, teddy bear sleepovers, treks on horses, sponsored silences and 'blind days', beach clean-ups, hikes across Dartmoor and along the coast, car washes, fun runs and talent shows have all raised huge amounts of money for charity and helped the children to grow as individuals. In fact the class of 2016 have incredibly raised just under £12,000 to date for twenty different charities - amazing!

Alongside this, and perhaps more impressively, the less 'glamorous' acts such as visits to residential homes, helping out around the house or in the garden, reading with younger pupils or assisting siblings with homework, and helping neighbours who struggle on their own have all proven to be hugely rewarding experiences for the students as they prepare themselves for the next stage in their education.

In June we were delighted to welcome Richard Salter, a young man from nearby Bolham, to our BALSA Celebration Evening. He spoke about the huge amounts of work

that he has done to raise money for charity, whilst also talking about his experiences with St. John Ambulance, and how the skills and confidence that he has acquired have helped him to build a successful career in finance in London. The pupils, and parents, were captivated by his words as he talked about how the skills and experiences the children have gained throughout the BALSA scheme will help them in their future lives.

BALSA has certainly given the children a wonderful end to their time in Year 6, with all learning huge amounts about themselves and others, but for many of our pupils this is just the start – and we look forward to following the progress that these wonderful young individuals will make through further Adventure, Leadership and Service initiatives as they move into Year 7 and beyond. **DJM**



## BLUNDELL'S GOT TALENT

Poetry recitals, drama, dance, music, singing, gymnastics, comedy... the Blundell's Got Talent show organised for BALSA by Phoebe Jerreat and Lucie Spencer had it all! Congratulations to Ophelia Thorpe for winning the contest with some beautiful unaccompanied singing, but everyone was a winner in this most popular of fund raising endeavours!





# Out and about



## Year 2 at Escot Park

Year 2 had a fabulous end of term trip to Escot Park. The coach arrived to greet nineteen very excited children and everyone was well prepared to face every eventuality of weather! On arrival it had stopped raining and the children enjoyed exploring the maze and trying to find their way out. After that the children made necklaces from tree biscuits and decorated them. We were then whisked off for a walk through the woods which ended at an adventure park which was lots of fun. The children were then ready for their delicious picnic provided for us by the School kitchen; there was not a lot left at the end as all were really hungry. For an extra dessert the children were able to toast marshmallows on the open fire. A quick trip to the gift shop occurred before we were off to watch the otters being fed. We were given an informative talk about the otters and the children asked some interesting questions. Finally we went on the much anticipated swamp walk. Everyone went through at least part of the swamp if not all the way and it was extremely muddy! It was great to see everyone helping each other along with either an encouraging word or a helping hand. After a quick change into dry clean clothes and a huddle around the fire to warm up, the children had a quick play before we headed back to Tiverton. The coach was full of happy, tired if rather dirty and smelly children and adults after the swamp and camp fire, but a great day was had by all! **DMK**

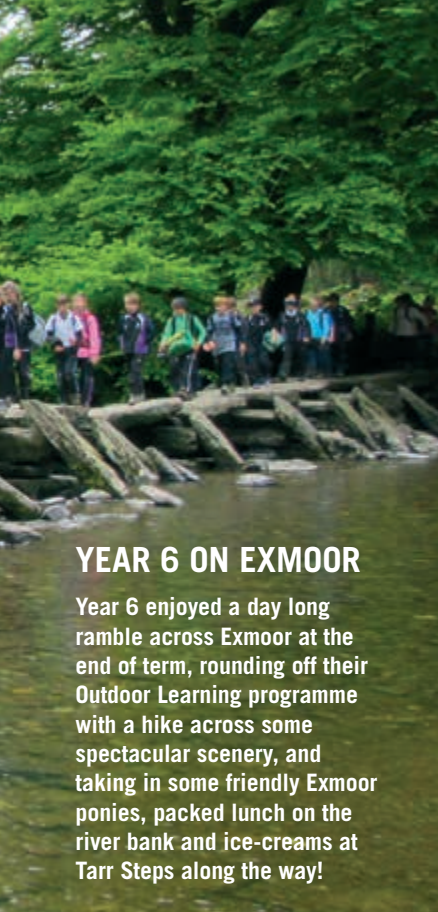


## YEAR 4 AT KILLERTON HOUSE

The children in Year 4 had a fantastic day at Killerton House. We began the day by exploring the chapel trying to notice the features of churches that we had learnt about in RE. After that the children tested their map reading skills on a small treasure hunt in the grounds of the chapel. The children were then given a more detailed map and key with which to test their skills on a beginner level orienteering course. After a delicious packed lunch, the children were split into groups to tackle a real orienteering course. This was challenging and fun and the children were shattered by the time they had finished! Overall, Year 4 really enjoyed their day!

**GJR**





## YEAR 6 ON EXMOOR

Year 6 enjoyed a day long ramble across Exmoor at the end of term, rounding off their Outdoor Learning programme with a hike across some spectacular scenery, and taking in some friendly Exmoor ponies, packed lunch on the river bank and ice-creams at Tarr Steps along the way!



## YEAR 5 AT PIZZA EXPRESS, TAUNTON

Year 5 had a fantastic morning visiting Pizza Express in Taunton as part of their pizza project. They made delicious margherita pizzas as well as finding out about food miles and the seasonality of ingredients. When they got back to school, the children then set about designing their own pizzas to share with their Year 2 buddies, who were all most grateful to join in on the act and become a pizza the action too!



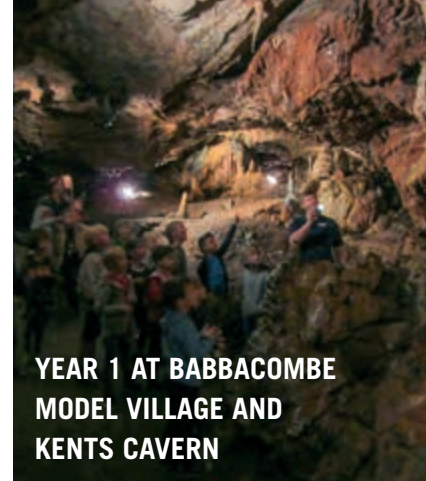
## Kindergarten at The World of Country Life

The Kindergarten children had a marvellous day out on their trip to The World of Country Life. They skipped onto the bus full of excitement for what the day held. The morning was jam packed with pirate ship escapades, goat walking (or child walking!) and a chance to feed the deer and llamas. The children were lucky enough to see two little fawns and some very friendly sheep! They tucked into a packed lunch swiftly followed by an amazing Birds of Prey display, and finished off the day with a visit to see the baby wallabies and rheas. It was a very busy day with lots of happy faces and a few sleeping beauties on the way home! **CB**



## YEAR 3 AT RHS GARDEN ROSEMOOR

During trips week Year 3 went to Rosemoor. We walked along the path through the beautiful flowers to the education centre. This is where we spent most of the day, we learnt to make paper out of lots of different materials like mashed up paper or banana. We made 2 pieces of plain paper entirely by ourselves, then we went to the gardens to collect little leaves and petals that had fallen off the plants. We pushed them into some of the mixture that was still wet to decorate the paper. We then had lunch and walked back through the lovely flowers and plants to where a little ship made out of plants sat, it was called The Green Ship. We did a water colour painting and found all of its different shades of green. We had a really nice school trip at Rosemoor and would really like to go again! **Sophia Rushton, Year 3**



## YEAR 1 AT BABBACOMBE MODEL VILLAGE AND KENTS CAVERN

The Year 1 children thoroughly enjoyed their trip to visit Babbacombe Model Village and Kents Cavern. The sun shone for most of the morning which was fortuitous. They had lots of fun in the 3D cinema and were fascinated by the wonderful model houses and buildings. They devoured a yummy picnic for lunch and then toured the caves. The tour guide told them lots of interesting facts about what life was like in the caves thousands of years ago. The trip ended with a delicious ice lolly. A happy day was had by all! **TN**



## NURSERY AT THE BIG SHEEP

The Nursery classes had a wonderful family day out at The Big Sheep. The children, along with parents, younger siblings, grandparents and friends spent the day learning about the sheep. They had the opportunity to find out about the different breeds, feed the lambs and watch the sheep dog at work. The tractor and train rides were extremely popular, along with the piggy ride. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day and certainly came away knowing a lot more about sheep! **SMA**





# Overnight *Sensations*

## THE ULTIMATE ADVENTURE CENTRE

Year 6 enjoyed a fabulous time on their residential stay at The Ultimate Adventure Centre, Bideford. The range of activities on offer ensured something to challenge everyone, whether climbing on the High Ropes course, surviving sniper fire at Laser Tag, braving the Drop Slides at The Big Sheep or surfing at Westward Ho! Coastal walks, zip wires and fire pits all added to the mix, but perhaps the highlight of the stay was attempting the famous Ultimate Assault Course... with its slide into a deep plunge pool, monkey bars, cargo nets, tube slides, balance beams and of course, giant floating balls! All enjoyed pitting themselves against this fiendish challenge, but when working together as a tag team to conquer the course in the quickest possible time the year group really excelled, showing proper team spirit to set a new course record! This summed up the positive, co-operative, have-a-go attitude of this exceptional group of children over the course of their stay at The Ultimate Adventure Centre, and their career at Blundell's Prep. Good luck to all next year!

LPM



## PAIGNTON ZOO

Year 3 were very nervous about their first residential, but it turned out to be extremely AMAZING! First we got on the minibus and began our journey. When we got there we had an adventurous ride around the zoo on the train where we got our first glimpse of the fierce tigers. After lunch we went off in our groups and saw the gorillas and the new baby giraffe. After our exciting day, we went to the hotel to find out who we were sharing a room with. Then we had the most delicious roast dinner, the teachers were surprised at how much we ate! We went back to the zoo in the evening, we were the only ones there! We had an awesome night walk. We stayed up until 10 o'clock drinking tea and hot chocolate. We had an amazing time and we were exhausted when we got home!

Ruby Lane, Year 3





## FOLLY FARM

Year 4 had an absolutely fantastic time at Folly Farm. On Wednesday everyone was very excited to get on the coach and leave for our two night residential trip. On arrival, we were greeted by our teachers for the time that we would be there. We were then shown to our rooms and given a little time for unpacking. The children spent the first two days filming and learning about two distinct habitats: the woodland and the pond. Once all of the filming was complete the children learnt how to edit and add sound to their films. A highlight of the trip was 'film night' when we had the opportunity to enjoy all of the finished wildlife films while tucking in to hot chocolate and shortbread! The children worked really hard on their films and the final products were fantastic. David Attenborough beware!

The children also enjoyed a host of other activities at Folly Farm. They searched through owl pellets for evidence of the meals that the owls had eaten. During this activity the children found the skulls and bones of voles and shrews. We also caught our own small mammal while setting mammal traps. The bank vole was released quickly and carefully the next morning but it was great to see. On the first night at Folly Farm the children went on a dusk walk in search of badgers. We were lucky to see around ten badgers playing and searching for food outside their sets.

The children had a great time at Folly Farm and were a credit to the school. We are now looking forward to the adventures that Year 5 will bring! **GJR**



## Dartmoor

Year 5 had an amazing four days and three nights at The Adventure Centre, Tavistock, enjoying every minute of their outdoor adventure on Dartmoor! The children learned about the comfort zone and how to push themselves beyond it in a diverse range of opportunities including abseiling, kayaking, raft building, canoeing, high ropes, hiking, climbing, orienteering and many others. Through these activities the children developed self-confidence, teamwork and leadership skills, underpinned by lots of fun and enthusiasm! Each day of challenges was followed up by feedback sessions building on the individual and teamwork skills put into practice, and evening team games, sports and challenges (who could build the tallest flag pole?) brought the year group together to cement a real sense of camaraderie. All had made the most of their experiences and it was a thoroughly exhausted year group that returned to school on Friday afternoon – fully ready for the half term break ahead! **LPM**







## TEA TIME CONCERTS

Our Junior and Senior Tea Time Concerts continued this term with the children introducing the pieces that they were going to play. Congratulations to all who have performed this term and over the past year; the dedication, enjoyment and confidence shown in all the performances has been an absolute pleasure to see. Well done to all, and thank you to all the visiting music teachers who have worked so hard with the children throughout the year.

**BLC**



## MUSIKGARTEN

The children in the Pre-Prep had a wonderful time when Mervyn Bedford from Musikgarten visited. Unfortunately the wet weather meant that he was unable to do his music workshops outside, but the weather did not dampen our spirits and the activities took place in the hall instead. The children listened intently and joined in all the singing and actions as Mervyn led them in activities connected with the topic of Spring. They thoroughly enjoyed using a variety of percussion instruments to accompany the songs! **JKP**





# Musical *Notes*



## Summer Concert

The marquee was up and the rain held off.....perfect for an evening of music and picnics! This year's Summer Concert saw children from Year 1 through to Year 6 performing in what was a real celebration of music throughout the school.

The concert began with the theme from 'Star Wars' played by our newly formed orchestra. Other groups performing included the wind group, guitar ensemble, piano trios, flute group, Senior and Junior strings groups, including violinists and cellists from the Pre-Prep, and the Pre-Prep brass and recorder groups.

As always singing featured throughout the concert. Songs performed included an 'Annie Medley' and 'Dance Evolution', a tribute to dance songs throughout the decades. Year 2 sang 'I Just Can't Wait to be King' and the whole school joined together to sing 'Power in Me.' The choir, Boys Aloud, Girls Aloud and The Mamas and Papas all performed and the staff sang Queen's 'Don't Stop Me Now' to a very enthusiastic and appreciative audience!

A huge thank you must go to all the children for providing a truly fantastic evening of music. **BLC**







## THE THREE LITTLE PIGS

The Year 1 Summer Play was a triumph. The families and friends who watched it were full of admiration for the efforts of the whole cast. The story told was that of The Three Little Pigs and the children performed with great enthusiasm and enjoyment. Many of them had solos or duets to sing and they did so with amazing confidence. Every child rose to the occasion and sang, spoke out and acted to the best of their ability. Well done to all! **TN**



# PLAY *time*



## NOAH

The Kindergarten put on a wonderful summer play called Noah for their friends and families to watch. The children enjoyed retelling how Noah escaped the floods by building an ark and filling it with two of every kind of animal. They looked wonderful in their costumes; there were pigs, penguins and giraffes as well as a dove and a raven. The children danced and sang and spoke their lines with great confidence and there was a great deal of loud applause afterwards from a very appreciative audience! **TN**



## THE MAGICAL LAND OF NURSERY RHYMES

All of the Nursery children, aged from two years to four years, were involved in a wonderful production called The Magical Land of Nursery Rhymes. They looked so happy to be on stage and to be taking part in some very traditional nursery rhymes. There was a Humpty Dumpty falling off his wall. He had to be checked over by Doctor Foster. The Grand Old Duke of York came to inspect Humpty's broken wall. He then called for the help of Bob the Builder to mend it. The children sang the Bob the Builder song with huge enthusiasm. Miss Polly then put the kettle on to make Bob a cup of tea and so it went on. The audience was asked to help with the last song, Rock around the Clock, whilst some very lively mice rocked and rolled in front of the Hickory Dickory Clock. It was a thoroughly entertaining performance and an incredible achievement for children of such a young age! **TN**







## THE WIZARD OF OZ

I believe I first encountered the story of *The Wizard of Oz* when I was about 6 or 7 years old and it had been chosen as the Christmas Day family film on BBC1 at 3pm. I was very excited but very quickly disappointed to find that the film started in black and white! Fortunately it wasn't too long until we were introduced to the most colourful and wonderful world of Munchkinland... a land found 'Somewhere over the Rainbow,' where everybody and everything talked...

In the story we are quickly introduced to Glinda the Good Witch (Victoria Curgenvén) and the Munchkins. Dorothy (Elizabeth Honey) follows many adventures on her way along the yellow brick road to the Emerald City, encountering along her way a Scarecrow without any brains (Lochy Cronkshaw), a Tinman without a heart (Louis Hinchcliffe), and a cowardly Lion (Oscar Wetherall)! The Wicked Witch (Sophia Fields) is mean and evil but the Wizard of Oz (Oscar Winsley) has the power and ability to make everything alright, or so we are led to believe.

The play covers so many aspects of life and I truly believe that it offers our Year 6 the life skills they need to know, namely that it is important to know how to use your brains wisely, to open your heart to love and to have the courage to pursue your dreams.

The production this year was a huge success due to the commitment of all in Year 6, and especially the main characters who stole the show. Well done to all, I am sure you will remember this performance for a long time to come! **TMC**



## CELEBRATING *Success*



Where Are They Now?



### Jenny Mettam and Georgina Scott

Friends Jenny and Georgina are pictured in their Kindergarten Nativity Play: *The Little Angel*, and, more recently, at the Blundell's Leavers' Ball this year. Jenny is now off to Bristol University to read Zoology, and Georgina is going to read Theatre Writing, Directing and Performance at York University.



## MACBETH

*If it were done when 'tis done,  
then 'twere well it were done  
quickly...*

And quickly indeed it was done, with Year 5 having only one day to familiarise themselves with this play, prepare props, practise and perform! All had a great day coming off timetable to immerse themselves in Shakespeare, before screwing their courage to the sticking place and rounding off their Play-in-a-Day with a haunting production for parents! Well done to all! **LPM**



# news



## 2016: A SPACE ODYSSEY

The children enjoyed a visit by the Space Odyssey space dome at the start of term. Simon Ould from Space Odyssey led an exciting tour of the solar system from inside the dome, filling heads with amazing scientific facts and bringing the cosmos to life with space age projections! Following the visit the children also had the opportunity to watch the transit of mercury between the earth and the sun, streamed live. The visit was met with universal approval!

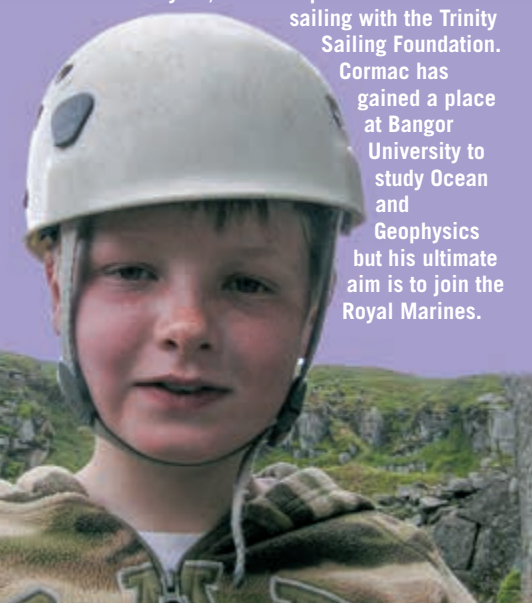
**Kezia Holman** and **Clem Bantock, Year 6**

## CELEBRATING *Success*



Where Are They Now? **Cormac Oliver**

**Cormac** is pictured climbing on Dartmoor back in 2009. He graduated from the Upper Sixth this year, and has spent the summer sailing with the Trinity Sailing Foundation. **Cormac** has gained a place at Bangor University to study Ocean and Geophysics but his ultimate aim is to join the Royal Marines.



## Al Fresco Learning

The children in the Pre-Prep enjoyed a marvellous day in the sunshine in June. All the children from Nursery to Year 2 were involved and all worked together extremely well. In the morning they built shelters in mixed age groups and had lots of fun designing them. For snack they made popcorn and toasted marshmallows around the fire before getting back into their groups to create some works of art using natural materials. There was just enough time to sing songs under the shade of the trees before tucking into a delicious picnic. The afternoon brought foraging for Year 2 and the serious task of making a tasty soup. The other children made some delightful animal homes and thought carefully about what

they would need. The end of the day meant we could all try the amazing soup which Year 2 had lovingly prepared – using their Blundell's grown vegetables and herbs. Toasted bread twists accompanied the soup which all went down extremely well with all the children.

I think it was safe to say that everyone went home with a big grin and slept well that night!

**CB**



## GREEK SQUAD

Year 3 came to school dressed as goddesses, gods and some vicious warriors, the teachers thought that we looked amazing! We ate delicious food that the ancient Greeks ate. We had grape juice instead of wine and we made honey bread. While Mrs Shelbourne lit the flaming bonfire, we got into groups and attempted some of our tough quiz questions with the help of the sixth formers. Mrs Milne and the sixth formers brought beautiful costumes and helped us perform a play called 'The Frogs'. Then we travelled back in time and held an Olympics to honour Zeus. We threw javelins and discs and then sprinted along the track. Finally we acted out the battle of Marathon using our own shields. It was a great day!

**Ruby Lane** and **Amelia Churcher, Year 3**

## Speech Day

It was smiles all round as much silverware was awarded on Speech Day by Guest Speaker Mrs. Nicola Huggett, Head of the Senior School. Mrs. Huggett reiterated Mr. Southgate's message that with ever closer integration of the Prep and Senior Schools, the future for the whole of Blundell's looked very bright indeed. She congratulated the prize winners on their achievements this year, and urged all to embrace the many broad and varied opportunities open to them at the school. All in Year 6 were then presented with their fabulous Leavers' Books as a fitting reminder of the times they have enjoyed and friends they have made at Blundell's. We wish all of our leavers well as they move on to the next chapter in their education and their lives.







# ATHLETICS

## SPORTS DAY

### PREP SPORTS DAY

With the sun and picnics out Sports Day this year was set to be the largest Sports Day ever! Exciting events and races, great participation and new records saw a thrilling afternoon's sport and by the end of the day over 210 medals had been presented. Everybody had had the chance to compete at the highest level they could achieve and to gain points for their House in three athletic events either on the track or in the field. The field events continued while the fast track events were run and school records fell in both disciplines. The children were keen to get to their allotted events and determined to compete to the best of their ability. The relay races rounded the day off in great style with teamwork in the changeovers key to a successful race. The overall end result saw Raleigh take the victory. Many thanks to all of the parents for making such a wonderful atmosphere at all of the events around the field and track. **SGS**

### PRE-PREP SPORTS DAY

The Pre-Prep also enjoyed a fantastic Sports Day. The weather was on our side and it managed to stop raining in time for the children's races. All the children competed in a variety of races from the bucket and spade race to the 100m sprint. We also had House Races in which the children worked with their sibling or a partner. We cannot forget the Fathers and Mothers races either, and we were particularly impressed with the competition in the Mother's Potato and Spoon Race – with so many contenders that we needed five heats! Thank you to the Year 6 children who also supported and helped the children and the staff. A great day was had by all! **SLJ**

### BLUNDELL'S ATHLETICS TOURNAMENT

The Senior School athletics meet is a major competition with large teams entered from many different schools in the area. The Junior and Intermediate team entered by Blundell's has traditionally done very well at this athletics meet. This year with some very strong performances from lots of individuals the school came out on top at these age groups again to win the Blundell's Athletics Shield. The relay teams won all but one race, not only showing great speed in running but also great team work in the changeovers. There are many budding athletes in the team who should go on to great things in their own events. They show natural ability, want to improve with coaching and have the determination to succeed. Well done to all who represented the school. **SGS**



## NATIONAL ATHLETICS QUALIFYING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The athletics season saw six pupils excelling in different events during lessons and on sports day and they therefore were selected for the National Athletics Qualifying Championships. Excitement mounted as we arrived at the Millfield Athletics Arena to a buzzing atmosphere. Rachel Brown was first off in the 1500m and she faced some stiff competition. She kept with the pack well for the majority of the race but was unable to finish in the top three. From long distance racing, Rachel went on to sprint in the 100m and finished a creditable 4th in her heat. Ben FitzHerbert also took to the track to compete in the 800m and did well to keep up with the leaders throughout the whole race. He finished 3rd, gaining a bronze medal and a place at the National Finals. Joshua Withey and Harry Bouchier-Hayes were next to race and were fortunate to have been drawn in separate heats. They both raced extremely well and won their respective heats which meant they both made the final of the 100m. This was a fast race with the best of the South West involved. Harry Bouchier-Hayes sprinted well but did not quite make the much needed top three position. However, Joshua Withey made a flying start and there was never any doubt that he would lose his lead. He finished well ahead of second place to claim the gold medal and qualification for the National Finals. In the Shot, Louis Hinchliffe was unfortunate to have his longest throw disqualified which would have placed him in the top three. However, he thoroughly enjoyed the experience and the competition he was up against. Gus Tiernan raced in the 200m but was unable to secure a place in the final. However, he performed strongly in the Long Jump and through his sheer determination as well as great technique, he claimed the gold medal and a place in the National Finals easily. Well done to all the athletes who took part and represented Blundell's Prep so admirably, and congratulations to Ben FitzHerbert, Joshua Withey and Gus Tiernan who all qualified for the National Finals in Birmingham. Unfortunately, both Ben and Joshua are away on holiday when the finals take place but we all wish Gus the best of luck when he represents Blundell's Prep in the Long Jump and the High Jump. **JER**



*"The U8 Team has gone from strength to strength during the Summer Term... Elated, having won all their matches except one, the team is already looking forward to next season!"*

# ROUNDERS



## U8 ROUNDERS

The U8 Team has gone from strength to strength during the Summer Term and the girls are certainly getting to grips with all the rules and tactics needed to play the game. Elated, having won all their matches except one, the team is already looking forward to next season! The girls have all had the opportunity to try out different positions and have thoroughly enjoyed perfecting their batting technique and scoring lots of rounders, which has resulted in a total of 94 rounders for the season! Everyone has played their part well but Anni Butterfield has made an excellent backstop; both Sophia Rushton and Jemima Sides are bowling with greater consistency, and Bea Morrison and Sydney Boyde have displayed great accuracy when fielding. Well done to the whole team for a tremendous set of results! JER







## U9 ROUNDERS

The **U9 A Team** has had another highly successful term of sport, winning 7 out of their 8 matches and also finishing as winners of the Millfield tournament where they beat Exeter, The Downs and Millfield. The girls' batting has shown the biggest improvement over the term, with Amara Lilley, Olivia Imregi and Floss Crease scoring whole rounders in almost every game that they played. Amara also bowled superbly throughout the term, and Lucy FitzHerbert and Floss were a fab combo as backstop and 2nd post. Jemima Mitchell undoubtedly wins the award for the most outstanding catches in the field and Olivia Imregi's focus and tactical awareness when she played on 3rd and 4th post was always spot on. As a team, the girls learnt the importance of communication both when fielding and batting, and by the end of the season all players had a great understanding of the important – if sometimes confusing – rounders rules and tactics! Well done to all the girls; I am already looking forward to the hockey season next term so get practising!!!

**LVB**

The **U9 B Team** has had an excellent summer term of rounders, with the girls enjoying both the training and matches. The girls have really improved over the season in both their understanding of the many rules and their skills on the pitch. Hand-eye coordination and batting technique improved and by the end of

the season the girls were also able to direct their hits more tactically as well. We played St.Peter's first which resulted in a narrow loss but from then on the girls were determined not to be beaten and went on to win every single remaining match in the season, against The Maynard, The Duchy, Mount Kelly and Plymouth. Our final match of the season was against Exeter Junior School where we won by 5 rounders. The girls were rightly very proud of their performance. What a rewarding term it has been! **CFH**



## U11 ROUNDERS

A typical British Summer put paid to far too many rounders matches this term, however, when the **U11 A Team** did get the opportunity to play, they were a strong side. They were unbeaten apart from their first match against Queen's, and a highlight was winning the Millfield Tournament where they beat All Hallows in the final. Rachel Brown bowled consistently well throughout the season, varying the speed and height of her bowls in order to make it difficult for the batters to hit. Clem Bantock and Kezia Holman were the biggest scorers overall, with Clem scoring 4 ½ rounders for the team in one match alone! It would have been nice to have played more rounders matches in the final term, but well done for working so hard throughout and for being such a great bunch of girls to work with. You will be very much missed next year! **LVB**

The **U11 B Team** has had an enjoyable summer term of rounders with impressive results. We won our first match of the season against Queen's with the girls remembering many rules and tactics from last season. We then faced Taunton, a strong side who beat us 16-11. Our next challenge was the Millfield Tournament, where we played six matches back to back and came runners up! The girls were thrilled to come home with medals and so was!! We beat Wells, Millfield and All Hallows. Our last game of the season against Perrott Hill was closely fought but we managed to win 21.5 to 19.5 – a great end to a successful season! Very well done girls and good luck to you all in Year 7. **CFH**

## U10 ROUNDERS

On the second day back after the Easter break, the **U10 A Team** faced their first match away to Queen's. Without any practice, they narrowly lost by two and a half rounders in a high scoring match which saw some great batting from both teams. Although the team found this result unsatisfactory, it gave them the determination to both improve their skills and tactical understanding for the coming matches. The team won their next three matches and then narrowly lost to Exeter School. However, they soon regained superiority over Exeter School when they beat them at the Millfield Tournament and went on to claim first place and some well deserved gold medals. Everyone has shown a real team spirit this season but special mentions must go to Flossy Ames and Honor Tobin for bowling so well and taking some splendid catches when positioned on the bases. In addition, Isobel Morrison and Sophia Rochfort have shown excellent tactical awareness and fantastic fielding skills. Furthermore, Cosi Paterson has perfected the role of backstop. Well done to the whole team for a fabulous end to the season! **JER**

The **U10 B Team** has worked really hard on individual skills this term and many of the girls have gone from struggling to hit the ball when batting to striking it out into the field and scoring half or whole rounders. Lucy Squibb and Hattie Barnes have bowled consistently well in matches and the team has become much more accurate at judging where to position themselves in the field, and the best place to throw the ball in order to limit the number of rounders scored by the opposition. The weather has not been kind to us this term and unfortunately many matches had to be cancelled due to rain. Despite this, the girls were always upbeat and continued to work hard in training sessions in order to develop their game play. Well done! **LVB**





## GIRLS' CRICKET

On Thursday evenings the girls from Year 6 have been taking part in cricket sessions after school. From the very first session the girls showed a willingness to learn, natural sporting ability and a huge enthusiasm for the game. This led to numbers growing steadily throughout term with seven girls participating in the sessions on a regular basis. Their first game was against an experienced East Devon team. The girls showed aggression and power when batting, and some very economical bowling at the end saw them worthy winners. The second game versus East Devon was a much closer match. East Devon batted first and scored 271. The girls were on 254 with three overs left when rain halted the game. It would have been a very close finish. Unfortunately, we had our other fixtures cancelled due to the weather, as well as the tournament at Exeter school. During the latter sessions the girls have been introduced to hard ball cricket and have shown that this will be a natural progression for them for next year. Several of the girls are now playing cricket outside of school and have become part of the East Devon set up, which is fantastic to see. I hope that all of the girls continue to play cricket over the summer and continue to make such good progress! **PD**



# CRICKET

## U10 CRICKET

The **U10 A Team** experienced a fantastic cricket season this summer. The boys enjoyed an unbeaten run of 7 matches, with all players making significant progress in their level of performance. The season began with a close victory against Queen's, followed by outstanding wins against St. Peter's and King's Hall. Harry Southgate led from the front as Captain scoring three 50s! He was extremely well supported by his opening batting partner Will Maunder, who also scored an excellent number of runs including two 50s and kept wicket to a superb standard. James Clarkson opened the bowling with pace, accuracy and skill, taking significant and telling wickets throughout the matches and all the boys fielded with effort and concentration in every match. The highlight of the term was the victory over East Devon by 48 runs, a fantastic team performance! **ARC**

The **U10 B Team** has battled all season as a tight unit. With an 'all for one' attitude the boys have consistently worked hard for each other. Every good shot was greeted with a call of delight and with poor shots or no balls the team offered encouraging advice. Line and length is of utmost importance in bowling and the boys presented a strong bowling attack, taking good wickets weekly in each match. Playing with a straight bat is what the boys now need to focus on in order to achieve more really big scores. It has been great to see so many individuals developing their skills, and the boys coming together in such a supportive team. **SGS**

CELEBRATING *Success*   
Where Are They Now? **Ben Steer**



Ben was always an outstanding sportsman, and is pictured here in 2007 with one of the many trophies he won for the Prep School. Having joined Plymouth Argyle's Centre of Excellence Ben has gone on to represent the Plymouth Argyle FC Academy as Midfielder for the club.



## U8 CRICKET

The **Under 8s** have had a fantastic cricket season. Every player has made a huge amount of progress and this has been lovely to see. The boys have enjoyed some fantastic matches this season and they should all be very proud of themselves. Our first victory of the season came away to Trinity in a very tight match where the A Team managed a narrow 11 run victory. The B Team came away with an even narrower 5 run victory! The following week saw Joshua Read and Thomas Jerreat take a wicket each against St. Peter's in a match that presented a thrilling climax when William Maitland-Walker took two wickets in the final over to ensure a 2 run victory for the B Team. After the half-term break the boys undertook the long journey to Mount Kelly and came away with a well-deserved 41 run victory. The outstanding performer on this occasion was Harvey Cronkshaw who took an amazing diving catch and a wicket. Monty Charteris also chipped in with a couple of fours. An emphatic 50 run win over Exeter School in their last match of the year rounded things off brilliantly! Tom Yandle deserves a special mention for the improvement in his bowling this season; he managed a couple of maiden overs which is a fantastic achievement at this level. Oliver Verdon-Smith and Freddie Cox have also made great progress in all areas of the game. It has been a very successful year and we look forward to seeing further progress as this team becomes the Under 9s! **GJR & DJM**

## U11 CRICKET

Hopes were high as the **U11 A Team** embarked on the cricket season, for we had a strong core of District cricketers in the side as well as some talented players who were keen to develop their skills. The strength in depth across the year group meant that we had a policy of player rotation and this gave lots of boys the opportunity to experience 1st XI cricket. We began with a tough game against Queen's in which the team managed to chase 141 to win, Ben FitzHerbert making an unbeaten 49 and Harry Pryce matching this score but losing his wicket just one short of the half century. Confidence was high as we took on St. Peter's and Ben's fine form continued as he made 75 in a total of 161 from 20 overs. Excellent bowling from Sam Robshaw, Gus Tiernan and Lochy Cronkshaw, well supported by wicket keeper, Oscar Winsley, made it hard for St. Peter's to score and the boys won by 55 runs. King's Hall were a far tougher prospect and although we bowled and fielded well, the highlight being Joshua Ramsay-Smith's two wickets, both catches at deep long off by Joshua Withey, we were unable to chase the 143 needed to win. Game four was one to forget as Exeter skittled us out for a mere 37, the only glimmer of hope being Dominic Wielenga's gutsy bowling to take two wickets. Thankfully the side got back to winning ways on a sunny afternoon at the Exeter County ground as Dominic smashed the Exeter Cathedral attack to all parts in his unbeaten 52, well supported by Taylor Wonnacott (10no). Harry Pryce then launched the ball into the carpark, making 25 from 7 balls including 4 sixes in one over! Brilliant bowling from Zeb Winzer, our standout seamer all season, and some great

catching from Oscar Wetherall, ensured a resounding win by 76 runs. Touring side Magdalen College were our next opponents and unfortunately our biggest enemy was 'extras' as we conceded far too many and made the 150 to win from 25 overs rather a tall order. Joshua Withey (36) and Harry Pryce (46) got us in to three figures but in the end it was not enough. The final match saw us take on the East Devon U11 Team. In spite of a magnificent 63 from Harry Pryce and some terrific bowling from Harry 'Golden Arm' Bouchier-Hayes (21-3) we were not able to chase the 128 set to win. Although results did not always go our way, it was a hugely enjoyable season as the team were keen to do their best and always played in the right spirit. Well done to them all! **ADS**

The **U11 B Team** has developed into a formidable force this season. Their bowling, batting and fielding have all been fine-tuned and many oppositions found it hard to break them down in any aspect of the game. Some of the squad were rotated into the A Team to give them experience of hard ball 20/20 cricket and each team member enjoyed this challenge and took positives back to the squad for the next game. Many games had scores of more than 100 runs and when the team bowled there were many excellent deliveries with plenty of dot balls keeping down the opposition total. There is still some room to chase down the ball more efficiently in the field, but overall it has been a most successful season. Well done to all the boys, and thank you to all of the spectators who came along throughout the season to keep cheering the team on! **SGS**

## U9 CRICKET



The **U9 A Team** enjoyed a wonderful season achieving 7 victories from 9 matches. All the boys made excellent progress and showed a much better understanding of the game which will put them in an excellent position when moving into Year 5. After a narrow victory against St. Peter's, the team went on to beat Wellington, Taunton, King's Hall, Mount Kelly, Exeter Cathedral and Plymouth. Will Edwards bowled with speed and accuracy in every match, supported by excellent wicket-keeping from Ethan Moran. Harry Clarkson and Harry Cracknell both bowled and batted well and Charlie Cracknell, Raffy Crowe and Edward Yeadon all took several great catches in the field. In their first experience of a hard ball match the team narrowly lost to an experienced Exeter Junior side but showed a superb attitude and effort throughout the match. They should be extremely proud of their achievements this term. **ARC**

The boys in the **U9 B Team** have been very gracious to each other and often to the opposition too! Cricket is a game for gentlemen but it is also competitive. Sometimes the team has been a little generous with its fielding, allowing more runs to be scored. We have lost a few wickets with run outs, but our batsmen have often come out fighting, showing great conviction and enthusiasm. With all developing their cricket skills, the boys can be pleased with the progress they have made as the season has gone on. Special mention must go to Benji Provis for taking a hat-trick, which was the only hat-trick of all of the school teams this season! **SGS**





*“As always, these events would not be possible without the hard work and military style organisational skills of our FoBP Committee...”*

# Top Triumphs

## MARQUEE DE HAPPY

This term we enjoyed the spectacular Happy's Circus – it's not every day that you have a Big Top in the school grounds! Over 500 people joined us for an evening of entertainment from Happy and Pip, as well as their entourage of Eastern European artists, and what an evening it was. A world record level of candy floss consumption during the interval ensured that noise levels rose even further in the second half and the introduction of a water gun by Happy and Pip brought near hysteria. Those of us who prefer our food to be slightly less sugar-charged were treated to a delicious hog roast or freshly cooked pizza, as well as the customary liquid refreshments. As always, these events would not be possible without the hard work and military style organisational skills of our FoBP Committee – thank you to them all. **ADS**



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