

SPRING 2017

review

Bowled Over

Nursery enjoy getting into the mix on Pancake Day!



Inside:
Seeing is believing in
Science Week
Stars shine on Poetry Day
Taking the bait in
Creative Arts Week



"What I saw was a room full of bright eyed children, all keen to share their ideas and to be part of what was going on, and that is the hallmark of any outstanding Nursery and Pre-Prep."



This term's edition of the Review provides an insight into all of the exciting events which have taken place within our wonderful Nursery and Pre-Prep.

There has

been a lot going on, including visits from creepy-crawlies courtesy of The Really Wild Man, through to trips out to see a castle, a cathedral and a canal, and on to a Play in a Day, House Matches in netball and football and the much loved, House Music Competition. Every week has included a variety of opportunities for the children's learning to be enriched, and they have enjoyed every moment, as the pictures in the pages that follow will illustrate. There have been opportunities for our parents to come and see what is going on at school whether it be through the Pre-Prep Coffee mornings, the Nursery Café event or the weekly Toddler Group. In addition, we hosted an Early Years Open Event and were delighted that so many new parents came along to see what is on offer here at Blundell's. You only have to set foot inside the Pre-Prep to get a sense of the fun and the happiness that emanates from the classrooms and corridors. I recently joined our Nursery 2 teacher, Mrs Thornton, as she used the story of *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* as the basis of a week's learning and it was incredible to see the way that the children responded to the different activities that she had planned for them. What I saw was a room full of bright eyed children, all keen to share their ideas and to be part of what was going on, and that is the hallmark of any outstanding Nursery and Pre-Prep.

The Spring Term has included the usual array of events, be they academic, musical, sporting or artistic. In January, eleven of our senior pupils won Academic Exhibition Awards from the Senior School and three children received Music Exhibitions. Academic ambition continues to be at the core of our offering and during the term the children have enjoyed taking part in the NSPCC Number Day which involved Year 9 students teaching

Pythagoras Theorem to our Year 6 pupils. The introduction of the Accelerated Reader Programme continues at a pace with planned changes to the timetable providing more opportunities for focused reading, combined with the renovations to the Prep School library, which are set for completion in September. A highlight of the term was most certainly our Quiz Team's victory in the Regional Quiz Club heats, which took place at Millfield School. The four boys involved were delighted and they will take part in the next round during the summer term – we wish them well. The Spring Concert in conjunction with the London Chamber Orchestra was a spectacular event and one that allowed our young musicians to perform alongside some of the most accomplished musicians in the country. The image of Charlie, Hector and the two Harrys playing their trombones alongside the LCO will live long in the memory. Success on the sports pitches has continued and our decision to develop boys' hockey has paid dividends as our Under 11 boys narrowly missed out on qualification for the nationals having only played hockey for just over 10 weeks in total. During the regional qualifiers they gained a hard fought draw against the eventual national winners so that bodes very well indeed for the future of hockey at Blundell's. Creative Arts Week brought colour and vibrancy to the school with a seaside theme providing ample opportunity for children to explore a huge variety of artistic mediums. Science week then brought great excitement not to mention various explosions, as we were joined by the Senior School Heads of Chemistry, Physics and Biology during a week of workshops. This provides a flavour of what has gone on since the start of 2017 but the articles that follow will provide so much more. My thanks as always to our esteemed editor, Mr Moore, for all of his hard work in putting together this edition of Review for us all to enjoy.

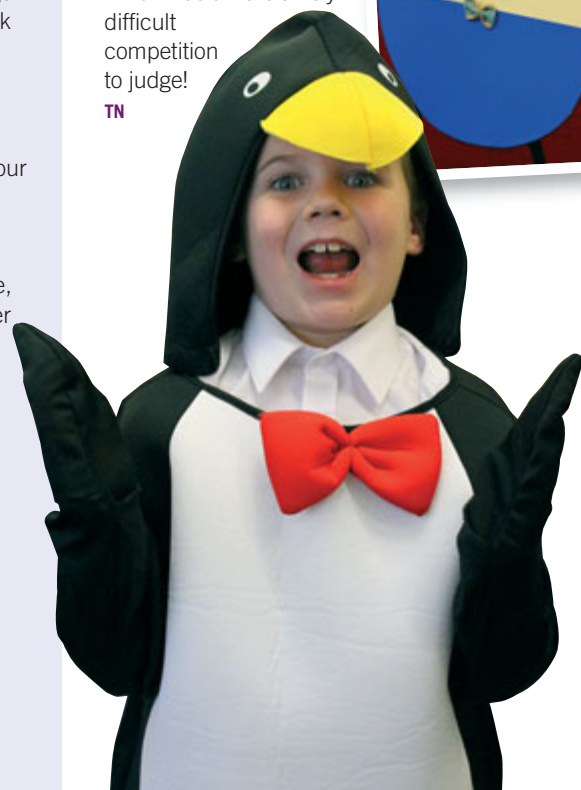
Andy Southgate Head Master



Pre-Prep Poetry Day

Poetry Day made a fantastic finale to Creative Arts Week in the Pre-Prep. The staff and children came to school dressed up as some wonderful poetry and nursery rhyme characters. Poetry Slam visited for the day and helped every child to create and recite a poem with actions. It was lovely to see so many children enter the recital competition; a lot of hard work had gone into the learning of some great poems and many children had to summon huge courage to recite their chosen poems in front of an audience. We were delighted that the Speech and Drama pupils from Year 8 were able to join us in the afternoon to help judge the recital finals and to recite their own poem for us. The younger children watched in awe as they recited "The King's Breakfast" by A.A. Milne. There were also some super entries into the "Best Decorated Poem" competition, which was an extremely difficult competition to judge!

TN



Hot and Cold

Scientists from Year 2 had great fun cooking up a storm in the kitchen and wrapping up warm in the outdoors in their investigations into reversible and irreversible changes this term.



THE Young Ones



Youth Teams

Year 1 and 2 thoroughly enjoyed an afternoon of House Matches at the end of term. The children showed fantastic netball and football skills. They proved that not only can they be competitive but that they are also very good sportsmen and women and all enjoyed the afternoon without worrying too much about the score. Well done to everyone and especially to Raleigh for winning the Netball and Drake for taking the Football title. The children were particularly delighted to finish their matches with a delicious healthy snack, and look forward to experiencing more competitive sports play – and match teas – in the Prep School! **SLJ**



Really Wild Show

Screams of excitement could be heard from the Pre-Prep hall when Neil Vaughan made his annual visit to the children in the Nursery and Kindergarten. During his Really Wild Show the children had the opportunity to meet some Giant Hissing Cockroaches, a Chilean Pink Bird Eating Spider and a Blue-tongued Skink. They found out all about where they live, what they eat and other interesting information. Some of the children were brave enough to stroke the cockroaches or let one crawl up their arm! Many of the children carefully stroked the Skink and one boy even allowed Neil to place it on his head! **JKP**



Out and About with Nursery

This term the Nursery children have taken part in a number of short, local trips to become acquainted with the local environment. Covering the 'Understanding the World' area of learning, we have used our topics of 'My world' and 'Fairy Tales' as a starting point for our educational visits.

Our first trip was to Tiverton Pannier Market. The Nursery 1 children were looking at the buildings and shops, finding out what they are used for and what shapes and patterns they could see in the buildings. Nursery 2 had been reading 'The Enormous Potato'. They bought some potatoes from a market stall and on returning to school made their own chips for an extra snack!

Next was a visit to Tiverton Castle. Many of the fairy tales that the children read involved castles so it was with great excitement that we ventured into the castle and found out about some of the Princes and Princesses that used to live there long ago. A firm favourite was trying on the helmets and trying to lift the cannon balls. They had hoped to see Rapunzel in the tower, but we think the Prince must have already been to rescue her!

The Nursery 1 children also went looking for signs of Spring on a trip to Tiverton Canal. They enjoyed looking around the information centre and looking at the flowers and canal boats. They had to be very careful to stay with an adult when they were near the water!

ELT



How To Tame Your Dragon



Children in KG had fun celebrating the Chinese New Year. They learnt about Chinese food, made money envelopes, created Chinese music and even tried their hand at writing their names in Chinese. The most fun was had when they worked together to create a Chinese dragon. **SMA**

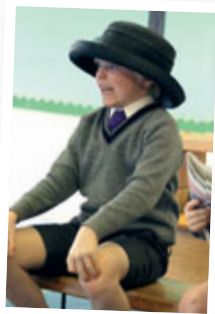
THE Young Ones



1J had great fun learning about the colourful Indian festival of Holi for their class assembly. Instead of following the traditions of painting each other, they covered a huge piece of paper which the children thoroughly adored doing. Whilst covering the paper, they answered questions about Holi Week in order to move on to using their next colour! SLJ

Very Young Voices

Pre-Prep singers were delighted to join with the Prep School for the annual House Music Competition this term. Congratulations to all of our very youngest singers who enjoyed singing their hearts out – and a special well done to Raleigh for coming out on top on the day!



VOICES IN THE PARK

This year Year 2 tried something a bit different and, as part of Creative Arts Week, they created their very own 'Play in a Day'. Helped along by Kate from Big Foot Arts Education, the children created a performance to share with their families in less than six hours! Their play, based on the story 'Voices in the Park' by Anthony Browne, was a great success. They are already excited about the prospect of taking their Drama further in the Prep School! **CAH**



Medical School

Children in the Pre-Prep were thrilled to meet paramedics and look inside a real working ambulance when it visited at the end of term.



Exeter Cathedral and Exeter Mosque

On Wednesday 15th March, there was great excitement in Year 2 as the children set off on a trip to visit Exeter Cathedral and Exeter Mosque as part of the Religious Education Curriculum about why some places are special. Lindsey, our guide, took us on a very informative tour of the Cathedral and the children saw many interesting features including the font, stained glass windows, various altars and the pulpit. Lindsey was delighted with the amount of information the children already knew and they asked some really good questions too. Later the children enjoyed doing their own brass rubbings to bring back to school before enjoying a delicious packed lunch.

After lunch, we got back on the coach and travelled the short distance to Exeter Mosque where the Imam met us. He explained the way in which Muslims in Exeter use the Mosque, not only for prayer but also for learning Arabic at weekend school for children from five to fifteen, youth clubs for boys and girls and women's yoga sessions. We were invited to watch some Muslim men pray and the children sat quietly and behaved respectfully, as they observed the rituals that they had heard about at school. The Imam then offered refreshments to the staff and children before we went on a tour of the Mosque to look more closely at different areas, such as the women's prayer area and the washrooms. All the children listened very carefully and they had the opportunity to ask questions about what they had seen and heard.

Year 2 had a very interesting day and the children were very keen to share all the things that they had enjoyed on our return to school.

DMK

Great Fire of London

Spark Out



Year 1 thoroughly enjoyed their Great Fire of London day. They learnt to write with a quill, studied the coins and clothes used during the 17th Century and created a drama piece retelling the events of 1666. The children all decided that they would much prefer to be a rich person than a poor person during the reign of King Charles II! **SLJ**



news



Academic Scholars

Congratulations to Jessica Barnes, Georgia Baxter, Toby Butler, James Clarkson, Alexander Fewtrell, Archie Joyner, Hector Marr, William Maunder, Amelia Mitchell, Isobel Morrison and Harry Southgate for gaining Academic Awards to the Senior School.



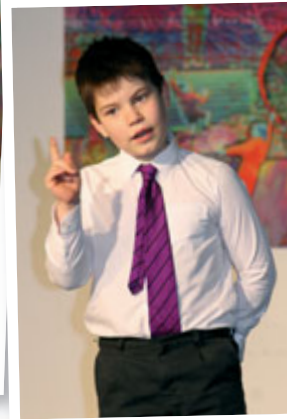
BLOOD BIKES

Many thanks to all who contributed to the School Stalls at the Christmas Market, Tea Towel sales and the Carol Services, we were able to send a donation of more than £2000 to Blood Bikes. The children were delighted when Mr. Nash from Devon Freewheelers was able to bring his bike into school this term and explain how the Bloodbikes charity would use the money to help fund emergency transportation of blood, breast milk and other medical supplies to those in need.



QUIZ MASTERS

Congratulations to Jesse Aldridge, William Maitland-Walker, James Saunders and Hector Marr for taking the Blundell's Quiz Club team to first place in the regional heats at Millfield this term – the first time that a Blundell's team had achieved this success! The team now progress to compete in the National Semi-Final at Beaudesert Park School in June. We wish them luck!



PLAIN SPEAKING

Speech and Drama continues to go from strength to strength at the Prep School with the pupils achieving some fantastic results in their LAMDA exams. A group entertained and impressed an audience of family and friends with a poetry and prose recital that showcased their talent brilliantly this term.



Out of the Frying Pan

Across the School, children had fun celebrating Shrove Tuesday by making and racing pancakes... culminating in the fiercely fought House Pancake Races, won this year by Raleigh!



OUTSOURCING

Den building, camp creating, fire lighting, barbecue cooking, pond dipping, nature trailing, willow weaving, dream catching, moor walking, photo snapping, art appreciating, team playing... pupils at Blundell's Prep continue to make the most of the outdoors in their learning, both close to home and further afield, finding everything they need and using everything they find to complement lessons learned in the classroom with life lessons in the real world.





Grandparents' Morning

Every year Blundell's has a Grandparents' morning when grandparents can come into school and help their grandchildren with some of their lessons. It is really nice for the grandparents to see what goes on in school, and also for the children to spend some time working with their grandparents. In the morning the grandparents got to have yummy cakes and coffees and teas, then they were invited in to watch Assembly before they met up with their grandchildren and went off to join in with some lessons. Many different activities were taking place inside – and outside – of the classrooms, and between them the grandparents got to join in with Art, Cooking, Computing, Maths, English and Science! The generation gap was seen at work in one English lesson looking at how vocabulary changes over time: "What do you think 'wireless' means?" asked the teacher, and there were some very different responses from the grandparents and their grandchildren! **Jasper Winsley** and **Alexander Fewtrell**, Year 6



OUTNUMBERED



The NSPCC Number Day saw children from across the school working together to investigate and solve a range of number problems both inside and outside the classroom; a particular highlight was the visit by Year 9 pupils from the Senior School who worked with Year 6 to teach the tricky subject of 'Pythagoras' Theorem' – they were absolute stars, showing great patience and understanding throughout. Year 6 then got to help some of the younger children when playing Maths games with Year 3! Other activities included tessellations, Maths stories, building 'gnome homes' and cracking codes. In the Pre-Prep, children arrived in their old clothes and wet weather gear, ready to tackle a number of mathematical challenges. In the specially constructed sand areas the question was: Which group could build the tallest sand structure and which would have the largest perimeter? The children worked together producing a range of structures and with the assistance of some Year 4 children, they were able to measure and record them. A second challenge involved making symmetrical pictures using the resources around them. The staff were very impressed by the innovative ideas and the final pictures they produced. The shape hunt was extremely popular. The children donned their waterproofs and wellies and shrugged off the rain to explore the school grounds to find the hidden shapes and numbers. Once this had been achieved they returned to The Hub where they worked together to crack a code. Throughout the day, the children were fully engaged with the activities and it was such a pleasure to see them all working so co-operatively together and embracing the outdoor learning opportunities.

DJM & SMA



ANCIENT EGYPT



Year 3 had a fantastic day exploring and recalling many aspects of the Ancient Egyptian culture. The great Pharaoh Tilly became mummified, watched over by Anubis (Sammy). They decorated an Anubis headdress and recalled his important job. After that they decorated sarcophagi with beautiful Egyptian patterns. They also made clay amulets and learnt how to make 'paper' using the papyrus plant which is grown along the Nile. They wrote their name on this papyrus in hieroglyphic writing. This great day really brought the ancient past back to life!

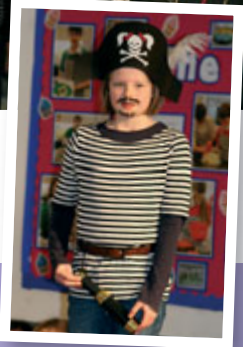


Jolly Roger

Year 4 put on a great performance during Creative Arts Week with their Play in a Day: 'The Jolly Roger and the Monster's Gold'. An actress from the Big Foot Theatre Company helped to direct the play with many Year 4 pirates and lots of different parts. The audience fully appreciated the effort the children had so obviously put into the day and the final performance was given rapturous applause. **TMC**

"I ENJOYED PLAY IN A DAY BECAUSE I GOT TO BE THE HEAD OF THE SEA MONSTER. I HAD TO WEAR MAKE-UP!" **Zaynah Singh**

"IN PLAY IN A DAY I ENJOYED DOING THE DRAMA WARM-UPS BEFORE THE PERFORMANCE. MY PART WAS BEING A NARRATOR. I LOVED PUTTING FACE PAINT ON BECAUSE IT MADE ME FEEL MORE LIKE A PIRATE AND MORE IN CHARACTER." **Harvey Cronkshaw**



Service Included

Year 6 were transported back in time as they joined the ranks at Powderham Castle for a Victorian Day to remember. They were immediately put to work by the very strict Housekeeper and had to polish boots, beat carpets and scrub the floors, jobs that they performed with great enthusiasm, although the time spent in the kitchen making griddle cakes was possibly more to their liking. We also had a super tour of the castle and a privileged look behind the scenes, exploring some of the hidden doors and passage ways through this beautiful 600 year old home. **ADS**



KING FOR A DAY

The children in Year 5 were very lucky to be visited at school by none other than King Henry VIII himself! During the morning King Henry explained about his and his family's life and he entertained the children with stories of his six wives. He also told tales of life in Tudor England including stories of torture, execution, punishment and various illnesses and their cures. It goes without saying that this was a particular highlight for most of the children! In the afternoon, the children competed against each other in a jousting tournament. It was fiercely contested between teams of boys and girls but in the end the boys came out as winners. The Year 5 children had an amazing day and special mention must go to Amara Lilley who displayed fantastic knowledge of the Tudors. She won some of 'Good King Hal's' jewellery when she correctly answered his questions! **GJR**



Pedalling Success

The 'Blundell's Adventure, Leadership and Service Award', or Balsa as it is more commonly known, is a scheme which recognises pupils in Year 6 who are willing to go a bit 'above and beyond' to help others, are keen to challenge themselves and

looking to do things that they might not normally do. This year, for the first time, bicycle safety was introduced as a new Balsa initiative. At the start of March, thirty seven of our Year 6 pupils completed their Bikeability Level 1 and 2 courses. Working in small groups, they braved the elements to learn how to ride a bike safely on the roads. The course began on the school playground, with children demonstrating to their instructors that they could ride a bike. They also studied the checks that they should make before heading out for a ride – are their brakes working, are the tyres safe, etc. On the second day of the course, they went out onto the roads of Tiverton – learning in a controlled environment how to signal and turn, how to position themselves on the roads properly and finding out what different road signs mean. The children behaved themselves brilliantly, and really did impress our fabulous instructors, Sam and Chris. The course was very hard work, but what an important life skill these children have gained! **DJM**





An action packed Creative Arts Week began with a bang and a slap this year as Mr Punch took to the stage in all his glory to inspire the children and begin their week of seaside art and puppet making. Armed with their ideas, children created puppets of all shapes and sizes and artwork that beautifully captured underwater and seaside scenes. The week continued with acting, outdoor learning, music and poetry performances. It was certainly a busy and inspiring week! But as Mr Punch would say... *'that's the way to do it!'* CAH

CREATIVE ARTS WEEK: *Life's A Beach*





...acrylic fish, batik, clay beach huts, clay sea creatures, computer animations, concertina puppets, dark room photography, film making, monoprints, papier mache puppets, pastel and ink seashells, photo montages, seascape canvasses, seaside mosaics, screen prints, shadow puppets, tie-dye designs, wax relief marine scenes, willow fish weaving...



Thanks to all the willing parent volunteers and visiting artists who swept into school on a wave of enthusiasm to whet our appetites and fan tidal currents of creativity across the school...





It has been another busy term in the music department, providing a variety of musical opportunities for the children.

On Friday 27th January 70 of our Year 5 and 6 children travelled to Birmingham to take part in the National Young Voices Concert at the Genting Arena. The children joined 6700 other children to sing together in what is the largest series of school choir concerts in the world. They performed a variety of music including a Pop Medley, a Folk Medley, a South African song and a Jazz Medley. The children were joined by artists including Tabby Callaghan (who reached the finals of the X Factor), dance company Urban Strides and the amazing Beatbox Collective who had us all beatboxing along with them. The children sang and danced to a packed arena. It was a fantastic experience for all involved, giving us a real taste of what it is like to perform in an arena concert!

Our House Music Competition took place during Creative Arts Week. Songs performed this year were Can't Stop The Feeling – Justin Timberlake, Everybody – Backstreet Boys, History – One Direction and Troublemaker – Olly Murs. Small groups also performed including wind groups, guitar groups, string groups, piano trios/quartets and small singing groups. The children and staff, as always, worked hard to perfect their performances and the enjoyment from all was very clear to see. The Pre-Prep also performed with children from Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 singing The Prehistoric Animal Brigade. Mrs Smith,



one of our violin teachers, had the difficult task of judging the competition. It was very close but in the end Raleigh were announced the overall winners.

In last term's Review I spoke about the Flash Mob performance given by the London Chamber Orchestra. This was followed this term with the opportunity for some of our musicians to take part in a workshop given by some of the members of the LCO. Our musicians spent the afternoon playing with the orchestra, working on both pieces and improvisation which would be performed in the Spring Concert. They were also given an interesting insight into what it is like to play in a professional orchestra.

The Spring Concert took place a couple of weeks later and provided the children with a wonderful experience as they played alongside professional musicians and students from the Senior School. The children played Simple Gifts and some of our other musicians formed

a small choir to sing the very well known melody line. It was a fantastic evening of music and I know that the children were very excited to be involved. It was an experience that they will remember for a long time.

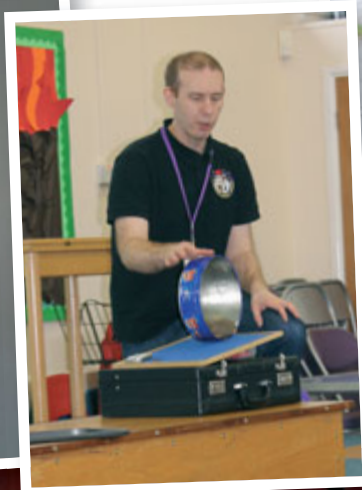
Our Tea Time Concerts have continued throughout the term, providing an opportunity for many of our children to perform, whether they have been learning for a few months or a few years. It is so important for the children to have the opportunity to perform to an audience and it amazes me how confidently the children rise to this challenge.

We have also had children taking Associated Board and Trinity Exams this term. We had three children audition for Music Scholarships at the Senior School and all three were awarded scholarships. Well done to Sophia Rochfort, Harry Southgate and Toby Low.

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



BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK



Science dominated the curriculum during British Science Week, and the children loved it! Senior School Head of Chemistry, Mr. Mead, put on a chemistry show to end all chemistry shows, with those 'awe and wonder' moments that we look to bring to the lives of the children in their learning exploding one after another with apparent chemical abandon! The children were also enthralled when Dr. Matt Pritchard presented his 'Surprising Science' show. He used everyday objects to perform various magic tricks and Science experiments that the children could safely replicate at home. They were encouraged to think about how the experiments worked and put forward their ideas. When an empty biscuit tin was seen to roll up a slope there were many theories as to how it might happen from invisible threads pulling it to a hamster running around in the tin! The children in the Pre-Prep focused on 'change' as they pursued a number of scientific investigations (many involving cooking!) and in the Prep School the Senior Heads of Chemistry, Physics and Biology took it in turns to run workshops which included such diverse activities as identifying microscopic creatures, exploring different chemical reactions, testing for friction and launching rockets! All enjoyed a fascinating, hands-on week of Science and were left clamouring for more! **ADS & JKP**

"Senior School Head of Chemistry, Mr. Mead, put on a chemistry show to end all chemistry shows, with those 'awe and wonder' moments that we look to bring to the lives of the children in their learning exploding one after another with apparent chemical abandon!"



"We had to meet at Exeter Airport at 4:30 am! Then we had to go through security and finally we boarded the aeroplane. Then we were off to Guernsey then... finally... we arrived in JERSEY!"

Marinka Lambert-Gorwyn



The weather never puts off a tourist! And certainly this year the wind and snow didn't stop the Blundell's Prep tour of Jersey! But only a day later the children were paddling in the sea and building sand castles on St. Helier's golden beach. From frozen hands to warm smiles, Jersey has it all!

Tough matches were played against 'international opposition'! The girls battled valiantly against Jersey's national teams, and the boys put up great defence and gutsy attacks against St. George's Prep, St. Helier's and Jersey's first team.

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

We were bowled over by the high scores in bowling, splashed with spirit in swimming, full after the pizza challenge, engaged and enlightened by the visit to Jersey's conservation zoo, captivated by the castle trip, taken aback with the stories about the War Bunkers but overall we enjoyed the companionship of those around us. **SGS**





U8 NETBALL

The Year 3 girls have had a most successful Netball season. The arrival of Heidi Robinson, Edie Munro and Illiana Lane has greatly strengthened the squad and we have been in the lucky position to be able to field two teams each week. There has been a good mix of festival style games and competitive fixtures enabling all of the girls to have maximum time on court, to develop their skills and form a better understanding of the rules of the game. The progress that has been made by all of the pupils is something they should feel proud of. We have seen some accurate shooting from Mae Millington, Mimi Griffiths, Issy Joyner, Tilly Horan, Heidi and Bea Squires. Daisy Faulkner, Harriet Hyde, Illiana and Antonia Timperley have all worked hard to increase the pace and accuracy of their passing and Ruby Corbin, Edie and Sofia Zurita Crowe have been a force to be reckoned with in defence. I must commend all of the Year 3 girls for their 'sportsman' like behaviour and willingness to change positions to allow opportunities for others. Enjoyment and participation are first and foremost and it is safe to say the Year 3's have thoroughly enjoyed their netball, however, it is also nice to win a game or two. Well the girls have certainly surpassed all expectations and both teams have finished the season unbeaten! Very well done and have a thoroughly deserved Easter break! **FLE**

NETBALL

U9 NETBALL

What an outstanding netball season the **U9A team** has had this term! The girls have won all of their weekly matches and managed to secure two more trophies for the trophy cabinet, winning both the Exeter and the Queen's tournaments in the same week. They also travelled a little further afield to the Millfield Festival where they were again unbeaten and scored 31 goals in five matches and only conceded one. This was an outstanding achievement. They have shown great determination and team work throughout the term with Sydney Boyde and Ruby Lane scoring over 100 goals between them. Scarlett Brock, Sophia Rushton, Jemima Sides and Amelia Churcher have been a tough defence to break through for the opposing teams and Anni Butterfield and Bea Morrison have supplied the shooters with some super passes into the D in order to help the team on their way to such great victories. Well done for such a superb effort! **LB**

The **U9B team** had a tough first match of the season against St.Peter's where we lost 17-2. Putting this defeat behind us, the girls showed real determination to win their next game against a tough opposition: King's Hall. Sure enough we secured a 4-2 win, with both Alicia Perry and Lana Johnson contributing to the goal scoring. Our next match against Stover saw an even greater improvement of basic skills such as footwork, movement into space and accurate passing. Excellent scoring and defending from all involved resulted in a 15-0 win. This time Amelia Churcher and Ophelia

Thorpe also scored some of the 15 goals. This was a great team effort. Needless to say, I was ecstatic! In the second half of term we played The Maynard, Exeter Junior School, Wellington, Exeter Cathedral and Plymouth and the girls again showed grit and determination along with strategies of what to do when faced with giants on the netball court. The last game of the season was against Mount Kelly which we won 17-1. This was a great way to end the season, with every girl contributing to our success and each player having made massive improvements in their ball skills, footwork and tactical awareness. Well done! I look forward to seeing your Rounders skills next term girls! **CFH**



The Year 2 girls also played some competitive netball this term, when they took part in a friendly tournament with St. Peter's, Exeter Cathedral and Mount Kelly. There were many mini-matches, a fair amount of scoring and lots of learning during the afternoon, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experience!



U11 NETBALL

The **U11A team** kicked off the season with a competitive tournament at Bryanston School where they really stepped up to the plate, winning all six games in their pool and qualifying for the cup semi-finals. Here they met PGS who were a well drilled team with plenty of fast play and who really put them to the test. It was the hardest match of the day and the girls played with great determination and strength, only losing by one goal on the final whistle. From here, they went on to win every weekly match they played bar one against Queen's. At the Millfield Tournament they were again winner of their pool but unfortunately were knocked out of the final by a strong Millfield side. The regional qualifiers at King's Bruton School were a real highlight of the season where the team played their best netball of the term. They were confronted by some very strong teams from across the region and finished 5th overall, narrowly missing out on the National finals by one place and only one goal in the final matches. Well done to all the girls, who have been an absolute pleasure to teach and a great deal of fun! **LB**

The **U11B team** has had a great season. Including the tournament at Millfield, the girls have played thirteen different schools and have won eight of those matches! The opposition at Millfield was particularly tough but we still managed to beat Port Regis, Sherborne and Millfield. Marinka Lambert-Gorwyn, Alex Heathman and Daisy Parker showed real stamina to play so many matches in one afternoon and Georgia



Withey and Lucy Squibb played really impressive, determined netball, feeding the ball consistently and accurately into the D, into the safe hands of Hattie Barnes and Lucy Vaux to score. It was a pleasure to watch. A few of the girls were new to the school or new to netball this season and have made fantastic progress. Isabella Wren's accurate throwing, Marinka's determination, Alex's competitive spirit and Daisy and Zia Singh's skills in defence all contributed to our successes. The last match of the season against The Maynard was a particular highlight for me seeing a culmination of great skills. Amsi Sims was a standout defender and Bronte Dash and Florence Chapman's shooting was incredible, scoring 13 goals between them! All the girls have been great to work with: positive throughout, showing perseverance, a great sense of humour, lovely team work and beautiful singing in the bus! **CFH**



U10 NETBALL

The **U10A team** has experienced a mixed season of highs and lows, winning four matches and losing three. During their matches, they displayed some fast flowing and fluent netball which showcased their improved passing and movement. However, the team also faced some challenging opposition who all seemed to be so much taller than them! The team entered two tournaments and again there was a fair share of wins and losses. At the Exeter School tournament, the team came third in their group, winning two matches and very narrowly losing the other two. Amber Tucker and Maya Corbin have defended well throughout the season and Gracie Horan has shown that she is a very versatile player, whether attacking or defending. Amara Lilley, Lucy FitzHerbert and Molly Duckworth-Chad have all played their role as shooters well and have scored a total of 46 goals during the seven matches played. Well done to the whole squad for putting so much effort into all their matches and tournaments. **JER**

The **U10B team** had a very solid and successful netball season this term. Throughout the season they have secured victories over Millfield, Wellington and King's Hall, with closely fought draws against Taunton and The Maynard. This season they have successfully scored a wonderful total of 45 goals. The squad showed a lovely positive team spirit, developing the understanding of flexibility by playing in a variety of positions. This allowed them to develop their knowledge of the role of each player and the importance of spacing and movement. This will create a strong foundation upon which to progress as Year 6 netballers. A brilliant effort this term girls, well done to all of you! **HGM**





HOCKEY



U11 HOCKEY

The key element of 'teamwork' is organic, cohesive, yet it has to be formed, moulded and spread evenly for it to show its true potential. The **U11A team** certainly doused themselves in this element, as their play was more like that of one collective than separate individuals. With the addition of some elite tactical input from Mr. Jones, the team scored a huge number of goals. The IAPS regional hockey tournament at Clifton College saw the team tested against similar teams from other local schools. With no losses the team was denied progression to the National Finals by the eventual winners on goal difference alone. But they had certainly made their mark. After this fantastic tournament Hector Banton was awarded his hockey colours. This is unusual as it was midterm but Hector is an awesome player, who would be the first to say the team around him enable his dazzling ball control and accurate passing to be so successful. Well done to the whole U11 squad, which benefitted from the opportunity of allowing B team players to step up and play their part in the A team too. Many thanks to all of the supporting parents at every game. **SGS**

The **U11B team** enjoyed a wonderful hockey season during the Spring Term. They enjoyed significant victories against Mount Kelly, Taunton, and a draw against Millfield. The boys developed their skills incredibly well and improved their understanding of the game immensely. All the team should be proud of their efforts and look forward to playing hockey when they move to the Senior School. Well done boys! **ARC**



U10 HOCKEY

If winning matches were just down to commitment, hard work, enthusiasm and sheer determination to improve, the **U10 A team** would have won every game this season. Unfortunately scoring goals also helps, but this was not something we found easy to come by! At times we did everything right but could not finish with putting the ball in the back of the goal. We played some very strong opposition who had been playing for a number of years. However, this did not dishearten the boys, who played some truly lovely hockey throughout the season and deserved more than some of the score lines suggested. Well done to all those who played and good luck with your hockey in the future. **SPH**

The **U10 B team** made tremendous progress during the season and achieved some wonderful results, the most impressive perhaps being their wins over Queen's College at the end of the season. Having started the term with no experience of hockey, the boys worked hard to hone their skills and very quickly understood the need to maintain their shape across the field. As confidence grew, they began to expand their game and it was great to see them enjoying dribbling the ball and taking on opposition defences. Millfield for their first match was a big ask but the team responded well and it ended up being a close affair. We then enjoyed a series of quadrangular matches, allowing all of the boys to get lots of time on the pitch against a range of opponents. At times it was rather a baptism of fire against the more experienced hockey playing schools, but what was noted by all of our parental supporters was the progress that our boys made in very quick time. They were a super group to work with and can feel very proud of all that they achieved. I look forward to seeing how they get on next year. **ADS**

U8 HOCKEY

The **Year 3 boys** had a wonderful term learning hockey skills for the first time and representing the school in several matches. All the boys made significant progress in their skill level and understanding of the sport, which bodes well for the future. Victories against Mount Kelly, Exeter Cathedral and West Buckland were particular highlights as was the tournament at Millfield where the whole year group played incredibly well. **ARC**



U9 HOCKEY

The **Year 4 squad** was made up of a highly motivated group of individuals who came together to form two close nit teams. Enthusiasm was boundless as was encouragement for each other. The game plan, followed to the letter, saw the team produce an epic performance in the Millfield hockey tournament. All of the boys have had the opportunity to play in different positions, gaining experience and a tactical awareness about how this ultimate team game needs to be played. From this excellent introduction to the sport, all of the boys will go onto become great hockey players in the years ahead. **SGS**



FOOTBALL

The **U7's** played a mini festival against St. Peter's, Mount Kelly and Exeter Cathedral. They won all of their matches showing great team spirit and footballing skill. The positions were rotated around the field so everybody experienced playing in different roles. It was a wonderful afternoon of sport for the young stars of tomorrow! **SGS**



TAG RUGBY

Eight teams lined up at the start of the Blundell's Year 1 & Year 2 Tag Rugby Festival, all eager to score tries and take tags. Once the warm-ups were complete the first games were started. With children running in numerous tries it was wonderful to watch rugby being played with such enthusiasm. Those watching couldn't help but be impressed with the skills and gamesmanship on display. Dummy passes, offloading, tagging a sprinting winger and scoring tries from tight angles were some of the great moves seen. Everybody playing in the festival was red faced and blowing deeply by the end, having played hard but fair throughout each match. With a final address and presentation of certificates from the Headmaster, all tucked into their well-earned match tea. Many thanks to PCSO Dave Waller and the community police team for their support and refereeing. **SGS**

Cross Country



Over 600 runners from 18 schools across Devon and Somerset took part in the **Larkman Cup** cross country race this year. The weather played its part too, with a rain shower just before making the course soft enough to enable all to wear spikes for added traction, and then sun for each race! The spectators welcomed the fine conditions and refreshments along with the determined running on show. The Blundell's team consisted of 8 runners in all age groups from U9's to U13's: a big squad of talented runners, who each challenged themselves to run faster than ever before. The final result saw Blundell's regain the Larkman Cup, beating Queen's, Mount Kelly, Exeter and Wellington in a close fought battle.

The **House Cross Country** course was awash with green, red and blue t-shirts, as everybody in the School took pride to represent their House in the race. From first to last, everybody's score counted, and with many determined runs, the scoring was close for an overall winner. The course was very muddy, meaning that everyone was challenged to step out of their comfort zone. All tried their hardest but in the end Drake won the House Cross Country by a small margin. Well done to all the runners, and many thanks to the great number of spectators, course marshals and staff for making Cross Country at Blundell's such a success. **SGS**



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2½ YEARS - 11 YEARS

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