



Cokethorpe
SCHOOL

THE OCELLUS

The termly newsletter of the School

From the Headmaster



I am sure that on many a school pupil's Christmas gift list, an end to homework might feature quite high up! You might imagine, though, that it would be a wish shared by few others. Many parents believe that a school can be measured by the hours of homework set for pupils, and many teachers see it as a necessary extension to the work they do in the classroom. A certain ex Chief Inspector of Schools is definitely a great fan. So it may come as a surprise to some of you that within educational circles there is a lively debate about the merits of sending children off to their bedrooms, to do hours of work in splendid isolation. Some say that it even hinders learning. A more considered view is that only some types of homework are beneficial, and that more is not always better than less.

Certainly no child should find that their waking day consists of travelling to and from school, being in school, doing extra work for school when they get home, and then going to bed. There should be time for relaxation, for families, for hobbies, for fresh air. We need to be sure that when homework is set, it stimulates the love of learning rather than tranquillising it! I hope that none of our pupils have got themselves too excited. They will not find an end to homework in their Christmas stocking. But, in the New Year, I do intend to open up the homework debate at Cokethorpe. I think it could be an interesting and fruitful discussion.



ROUND UP

Contents

	Page
From the Headmaster	1
Round Up	2
Academic	3–4
The Sixth Form	5
The Arts	6–9
Sport	10–11
The Houses	12
Fundraising for Charity	13
The Junior School	14–17
Adventures and Expeditions	18
New Developments	19
Staff and Parent News	19
Cokethorpe Parents' Association	20
Visitors	21
Wider Community	21
The Cokethorpe Society	22
From the Archives	23
Tail Feathers	24

A Level Examination Results

	2007–08	2006–07
Grade A	30%	15%
Grades A to B	61%	38%
Grades A to C	80%	73%
Grades A to E	99%	98%
Avg UCAS	300	267

GCSE Examination Results

	2007–08	2006–07
Grade A*	9%	6%
Grades A* to A	31%	26%
Grades A* to B	61%	58%
Grades A* to C	91%	90%
Pass Rate	100%	100%

University Destinations

Some of the universities that recent leavers have attended are:

Bath
Bournemouth
Brunel (London)
Cambridge
Canterbury Christ Church
Cardiff
Central Saint Martins
Durham
Edinburgh
Exeter
Hartbury College
Keele
King's College London
Leeds
Liverpool
Loughborough
Nottingham
Oxford Brookes
Portsmouth
Queen Mary's
Roehampton
Royal Veterinary College
University of Wales
University of the West of England
York

Front Cover:

Junior School children meet visitors from the British Legion following the Remembrance Service.

Examination Results 2008

Last summer's results may seem a long time ago now, but this is an apposite time to be reading about them. For the Year 11 pupils awaiting mock results, for those pupils cramming for January AS and A2 modules and for the Upper Sixth eager to hear from their selected universities, now is the time to reflect on last year's success and consider how to make 2009 better still.

At GCSE 91% A*–C passes were obtained with an excellent 31% at A* and A grades across all subjects. Science topped the table of compulsory subjects with 96% pass and 39% at A* and A. Other areas of excellence abounded, in particular the Geography and Spanish departments, each with a 100% pass rate and with 52% top grades for Geography and 60% for Spanish.



A2 Level results were a similar success story, with 30% of exams taken being passed at grade A and a very impressive average points score of 300, equivalent to BBB. Small wonder then that the table of destinations of the recent leavers looks very impressive indeed – full details can be found on the School website.

AS results are of course a useful indicator of success at A2. The signs look good, with the current Upper Sixth having performed at a very similar level to last year's cohort – great things are expected from them, and reading down the list of universities to which they have applied, it is clear that they are placing high demands on themselves. Good luck to all.



Trip to Lesotho

As the dust settled on the Summer Term, a group of intrepid Sixth Form students visited the tiny nation of Lesotho, Southern Africa. Accompanied by Mr Uglov and Mrs Copeland, the group spent their first week living and working in the villages around the town of Teyateyaneng. They shopped in the local markets, visited local families, and spent time working in the local secondary school. They took with them a cheque for £7,500 – the result of last year's 5000 miles, 5000 pounds fundraising appeal – to be spent on the construction of a much needed staff room and the boring of a well.

Following their hard work in the village, the students headed into the mountainous interior of the country.



After a six-hour drive along some spectacular roads, they arrived at a remote village called Molumong, where they spent the night, before heading down into South Africa via the incredible Sani Pass – the highest pass in Africa. The exploration of the Drakensburgs took the group to the little-visited national park of Lesotho, Sehlabathebe. Here, students were able to climb the 'Three Bushmen' mountain, pony trek to a hidden waterfall, and discover more about the life of the roaming shepherds.

The trip was a great success and students were introduced to a wide range of new experiences and have built a long-lasting relationship with Lesotho. Thoughts now turn to next summer and the prospect of returning.



Philosophy Day

On 5 November, Year 11 and 12 took part in a Philosophy Day organised by Mr Schofield. All pupils had their 'philosophical health' checked, and attended subject-specific philosophy lessons. After break, all gathered in The Shed for a plenary led by Dr Michael Lacewing on the challenging question 'Where do ideas come from?'. The morning provoked much discussion.



Year 7 Trip to Blackwell's

The English Department and Library teamed up once again to take Year 7 to the Blackwell's bookshop in Oxford. The aim was to encourage pupils to make informed choices of new and challenging fiction. Pupils have been reading and discussing their responses in their library lessons. Thanks to Natalia de la Ossa and her staff at Blackwell's for organising tours, seminars and short-lists for pupils.

Year 11 Business Studies

As part of the GCSE Business Studies syllabus the pupils have to complete an investigative report on two contrasting businesses. In June the Business Studies pupils visited the famous Wedgwood factory in Staffordshire, which proved to be a valuable eye opener into the complex process of pottery making. The dexterity and skill of the expert gilders, carefully hand painting some of the world's most famous Wedgwood designs was mesmerising to watch. Much information was gained from the visit and the pupils took notes in preparation for their coursework. They will be comparing the Wedgwood factory to that of Creative Corner in Abingdon, which they visited last term.

Kitchen Garden Produce

Lunchtime at Cokethorpe on Wednesday 8 October was particularly special as the vegetables used for the weekly roast dinner were grown from the School's very own Kitchen Garden. Guided by Miss Townsend, there are a number of pupils that work diligently during AOB and have produced some absolutely remarkable pumpkins and provençale vegetables.



Year 8 Time Traveller

Year 8 were visited by a representative from the Sealed Knot Society and were able to dress in the body armour of a Cavalryman, and wield the 'Bone Crusher' used by the Musketeer, whilst learning about the problems encountered by those fighting in the English Civil War. The visit will assist pupils on their assessment looking into the way the war divided families and turned society upside down.



Film Studies

Having formally studied *The Kite Runner* in class, the Film Studies students visited the Phoenix Picturehouse to enjoy watching the whole film, where they benefited from a greater understanding and appreciation of the narrative having already explored its micro elements.



Good Schools Guide Award

The School has been awarded the Good Schools Guide GCSE Award 2007 for the best results at GCSE achieved by girls taking Sociology at an English Independent School.

HPV Vaccinations

The Year 8 girls received the first of their three HPV vaccinations on Thursday 20 November. The human papilloma virus vaccine protects against two of the HPV types that cause cervical cancer, and some other genital cancers.

Year 9 Dragon's Den

Year 9 pupils once again took part in Cokethorpe's own version of Dragon's Den in December. Four groups produced an advertising campaign for their product 'Froops' and pitched their ideas to the Dragons in The Shed. The 'Dragons', Mr Fenton, Mr Walton, Mr Williams, Mr Walwyn and Mrs Landon, were suitably intimidating and grilled the pupils about their products with sometimes tough questions.

English Literary Recitals

The programme of English Literary Recitals continued this term with Mr White and Mrs Jackson both reading to a full Cranham Library on Friday 19 September and Friday 28 November respectively.

Facts about The Kite Runner

- Though most of the film is set in Afghanistan, most parts were shot in Kashgar, China, due to the dangers of filming in Afghanistan at the time
- Much of the film's dialogue is in Dari Persian (with English subtitles) and English
- The child actors are native speakers, but several adult actors had to learn Persian
- The Afghan government has banned the film from cinemas and shops because of the rape scene and the ethnic tensions that the film highlights
- The author of the book, Khalid Hosseini, can be seen in a cameo appearance as the person the couple are talking to while in the park in the last scene before Amir goes to buy a kite

Wedgwood Factory

The factory was founded in 1759 by Josiah Wedgwood who is remembered as 'the Father of English Potters'.

iPod Competition

Last term the Headmaster set the whole school a task to recommend a recent song to go on his iPod and explain why this song had been chosen.

Some of the songs that were recommended were:

<i>House of Cards</i>	Radiohead
<i>Hope There's Someone</i>	Anthony and the Johnsons
<i>St Trinian's</i>	Girls Aloud
<i>Soul Man</i>	The Blues Brothers
<i>Love Machine</i>	Girls Aloud
<i>Viva La Vida</i>	Coldplay
<i>Humuhumunukunua</i>	Sharpay and Ryan
<i>African Lullaby</i>	Nyandolo
<i>Heartbeat</i>	Scouting for Girls
<i>I Wish I Was James Bond</i>	Scouting for Girls
<i>To Burn the Eye</i>	Trivium
<i>Two Doors Down</i>	Mystery Jets
<i>Shut Up and Let Me Go</i>	Ting Tings

Alison Roberts (Year 10, Gascoigne) won a silver iPod Nano, recommending *Human* by Jon McLaughlin.

An extract of her entry is as follows:

When told to choose one song I wondered how many songs are there in the world? Some say as many as there are stars in the sky. Others say it is roughly 802,881,920,039,053. Now to me that is a lot. So you see my dilemma about recommending just one. Should I choose rock, pop or indie? What is the right song to recommend to your Headmaster? That is the question.

Finding my answer *Human* by Jon McLaughlin, another worry crept into my head. Why do I like this song? Where does our musical taste come from? Is it our genes or our personality? It is our own choice. You can't like something unless you are prepared to be open minded.

The main reason I like it so much is the lyrics... The hidden agenda telling you it is okay to be human. I could ramble on for hours about what this song means to me but I will spare you. Someone once told me that the only way to promote a song is to let people hear it themselves. So I will take their advice and pass it onto you.

Politics in Action

The following Year 10 pupils were in the Cokethorpe team:

Duncan Bruce (Vanbrugh)
Timothy Knight (Vanbrugh)
Letitia Cookson (Harcourt)
Jack Bennett (Feilden)
Marianne Pearson (Swift)

Girls' Committee

A new committee of girls, to represent Years 10 to 13, for each of the six houses, met in November to discuss topics of interest and any areas of concern. The open forum allowed for much animated and lively discussion which ranged from the School uniform to sport and games provision for girls. The girls can always be relied upon for their opinion and honesty which enables the School to hear their thoughts and to respond to their needs and desires appropriately. The committee will meet again during the Lent Term.

Year 12 Trip to Westminster

On Monday 1 December the Year 12 Government and Politics students travelled to Westminster. They spent the majority of the day at a Students' Conference held in the prestigious Westminster Central Hall. The packed hall listened to and questioned a number of high-profile political figures, including William Hague, Nick Clegg, and George Galloway. The group then embarked upon a tour of some of the key political sights in central London. The trip was very successful and thoroughly enjoyed by all the students and staff.



Year 10 Politics in Action

Barry Norton, Leader of West Oxfordshire District Council, started the day by talking about what the council does. This really opened my eyes and I appreciate all that they do for us such as keeping crime levels low, cleaning our streets, improving towns and much more.

We were then given our challenge: to spend a million pounds however we saw fit. Our team chose to create a centre to teach important life skills to teenagers. Half way through our brainstorming David Cameron gave us a talk about what politicians do. It was very enlightening.

After two hours of developing our idea and designing a poster all the hard work was presented. It was Carterton Community College, however, who were the overall winners.

Midyis and Yellis Testing

Parents of pupils in Years 7 and 10 may be aware that their children have been tested for Midyis and Yellis this term. These are not new tropical diseases but Middle Years and Year Eleven Information Systems, run by the CEM centre at Durham University. Cokethorpe has been involved in this national project for six years. The tests assess the ability of pupils in a variety of tasks, similar to IQ tests, and give information to help the School better target teaching, choose subjects and appraise the value that the School adds to each pupil.

Year 7 Trip to Warwick Castle

Battling against the freezing wind, and towards the end of the day, the driving rain, Year 7 made their way to Warwick Castle in order to help them with their assessment project for the Christmas break, which focuses on the way in which castles developed through the Medieval period. Pupils were treated to a guided tour of the castle, and enjoyed time exploring the ramparts and getting a sense of the evolutionary process that started in 1068 when William the Conqueror first ordered the construction of the Motte.



The final activity was the group debate; whether the voting age should be lowered to 16. Some people had very strong views so it was difficult to get a word in edgeways. Those in favour won the day. I returned to School with lots of new information about how my home town, Witney, is run.

Marianne Pearson, Swift



THE SIXTH FORM

City Challenge

The Lower Sixth enjoyed their induction day taking part in the City Challenge in Oxford before term started in September.

General Studies Lectures

The Sixth Form academic enrichment curriculum, in the form of General Studies, has taken off once again most successfully. Dr Peter Bennett's talk about HMP Grendon's unique therapeutic approach was given real emotional heart by Steven, a reformed inmate. Political Scientist Dr Martin Holmes examined the prospect for a Brown re-election and a Cokethorpe parent, Mrs Catherine Ferrier from Oxfam, visited to tell all about this very local yet international charity.



Age Concern

Towards the end of term, ten of the School prefects attended the annual Age Concern Christmas Carol Concert at Christchurch Cathedral (spot the alliteration) as ambassadors of Cokethorpe. They assisted some of the less mobile guests to their seats and helped during and after the service. Worth a special mention is Jack Frith-Powell who had to run extra hard round Tom Quad in Christchurch with his wheel-chair bound old lady shouting 'faster, faster!' A day to remember for all.



Team Mathematics Challenge

Helena Jennison, Qian Han Ma, Novia Chen and Vicky Sun competed in the Senior Team Mathematics Challenge regional heat held at St Edward's School on Thursday 20 November.



Philosophy Cafés

The Philosophy Department organised a further two Philosophers' Cafés in Costa Coffee to continue the tradition began last year. The first, chaired by Mr Mann, discussed whether assisted suicide should be legalised in this country. Mr Maskery kindly agreed to speak at the second event, at which the debate focused on whether athletes should be allowed to use performance enhancing drugs. Both debates were well attended, involved some fierce debating, and were enjoyed by all who took part.



Chemist of the Year

Cokethorpe nominated Edward Brooks as their outstanding Year 13 student for the Sixth Form Chemist of 2008 Award, hosted by Oxford University, The Society of Chemical Industry and the Oxfordshire Independent and State Schools Partnership (OISSP). Edward was presented with the award by Professor Peter Atkins on 23 October, after a tour of the Central Research Laboratories.

Senior Maths Challenge

Best in School, Gold Award:
Novia Chen 84

Gold Award:
Rebecca Herd 75

Silver Award:
Helena Jennison 73, Vicky Sun 68,
Albert Gan 68, Rafael Hambleton 67,
William Lawson 63

Bronze Award:
Joe Cook 60, Karim Bahou 59, Callum
Staff 57, Hannah Jones 54, Michael
McLoone 52

The cut off marks were:
Gold ≥ 74 Silver ≥ 61 Bronze ≥ 51

A Level Geography

The A Level Geography students enjoyed a GIS mapping course in Oxford and the AS Level Geography students visited St Edward's School in Oxford for a lecture on Globalisation.

Science Visit

Sixth Form Science students visited Imperial College London on Monday 8 December to learn about virtual surgery training for doctors.

Design Technology Trip

The Sixth Form Design Technology students visited JSP Manufacturing, based in Minster Lovell, to learn more about the company and its international reputation for manufacturing a broad range of safety and protection equipment.

Oxbridge Interviews

The Oxbridge Group students were given valuable interview practice when a number of professionals from a range of industries and Oxford colleges visited to give mock interviews to the candidates.

Oxbridge Group Trip

The Oxbridge Group visited Worcester College, Oxford on Monday 20 October to meet Dr James Kelly, Lecturer in English and Research Fellow and to learn more about the university.

Sixth Form Social Events

The Sixth Form enjoyed an evening bowling at the Kassam Stadium in September. The annual Christmas shopping trip to Birmingham took place on Saturday 29 November and the Sixth Form students and tutors also enjoyed a Christmas Dinner at Freud's in Oxford on Friday 12 December.

THE ARTS

Young Musicians' Platform

Ross McKee French Horn
Romance from Concerto in E-Flat Major
by W A Mozart

Rosanna Cull Voice
All that Jazz from *Chicago* by Kander
and Ebb

Huw Williams Guitar
Menuet by G A Brescianello

Luke Frith-Powell Drum Kit
Solo 57

William Dagul Bass Guitar
Extract from the first movement of
Suite 1 for Cello by J S Bach

Alison Roberts Flute
Dove Sono from *The Marriage of Figaro*
by W A Mozart

Benjamin Lane Guitar
Time of Your Life by B J Armstrong

William Draper Alto Saxophone
Jamaican Rhumba by A Benjamin

Peter Kemp Piano
Tango III Argentine by M Seiber

Joseph Grant Guitar
Love is Come Again (Anon)

Luke Saunders Voice
Castle on a Cloud from *Les Miserables*
by Bouil and Schoenberg

James Woolley Drum Kit
Riffs arranged by J Woolley

Freddie Miles Voice and Piano
Music of the Night from *The Phantom of the Opera* by Andrew Lloyd Webber

James Francis-Barrie Drum Kit
Mercy Mercy Mercy by J Zawinul

Paul Berry French Horn
I Got Rhythm by G Gershwin

Tom Goodger Guitar
Cavatina from *The Deer Hunter* by S Myers

Music Recitals

The Music Department hosted three lunchtime music recitals in the Corinthian Room during this term.

Oxford Playhouse

Two Cokethorpe School pupils featured in the Oxford Playhouse's 70th anniversary celebrations at the end of October. Zoë Mace appeared in *Many Happy Returners*, hosted by Libby Purves and Toby Pugh joined the line-up for *Seventy Not Out!* hosted by Gyles Brandreth.

Year 7 and 8 Choir

The Year 7 and 8 Choir performed *Ocean World*, a musical that tells the story of a female humpback whale as she journeys to her northern feeding grounds. The production was not only a musical triumph with beautiful solo and group performances, but it also encompassed an environmental element, by drawing the audience's attention to the problems that threaten the existence of the sea.



Year 11 Musicians' Platform

The Young Musicians' Platform allowed Year 11 pupils to showcase their wide and varying musical abilities in an assortment of performances, with pieces

ranging from Mozart to Andrew Lloyd Webber. The audience enjoyed all the performances, which were recorded for the pupils' GCSE Music examinations.



National Youth Jazz Orchestra

On Monday 1 December Cokethorpe was treated to their first taste of Christmas festivities when the widely acclaimed National Youth Jazz Orchestra, composed of many of the country's best young musicians, donned their Christmas hats to showcase their jazz orchestra ensemble in The Shed. Led by Bill Ashton MBE, the audience thoroughly enjoyed the evening's music.

Rotary Club Carol Concert

The Chamber Choir were invited to perform at this year's Christmas Concert hosted by Witney Rotary Club in the High Street Methodist Church. The church was full to capacity as Emily Sayers sang the solo in the first verse of *Once in Royal David's City*. The choir sang twelve items and led the carols with which the audience joined in. Money was raised for Hearing Dogs for Deaf People.



Idol UK 2008

Congratulations to Zoë Mace (Year 9, Harcourt) who was the runner up, out of 20 finalists, in the Idol UK U18's category.

Orange Unsigned Act

Toby Pugh (Year 12, Harcourt) has reached the final three of the Orange Unsigned Act competition, currently aired on Channel 4. The School wishes Toby luck for the rest of the competition.

THE ARTS

Art Trip to Stackpole

On Thursday 3 October the A Level Art students packed their warm clothes and wellies and set off for Stackpole in Wales. The long journey was alleviated by games of Happy Families and Snap. Finally we arrived at the Stackpole Centre in Pembrokeshire. Despite the pouring rain we immediately set out to investigate the surrounding area. Friday morning brought the sun and an eagerness to pursue a full itinerary. After pancakes and coffee, the group headed out for two of the most beautiful beaches in West Wales. Throughout the day the group enjoyed creating sand sculptures and recording large amounts of visuals in the form of photographs and drawings.

After a wonderful day, we walked over the moors back to a very welcome art room. Here we spent the twilight hours making sense of the day's experiences and working in our sketchbooks.

Saturday's weather was miserable but a trip to Tenby brightened everyone's day, photographing the boats and the picturesque houses along the quayside. The afternoon consisted of work in the art room and on Sunday we headed home laden with exciting ideas and starting points for the forthcoming coursework. Happy memories of a great trip will be remembered by all.

Emily Sayers and Hannah Gleeson



Photography Trip to Bradford

The photographers travelled to the Bradford National Film and Photography Museum and were soon modelling their first animation characters. The photography and film exhibits were also visited and by 4.00pm each student had completed a short animation, combining their photography knowledge with numerous new techniques. It was a long, jam-packed day, but well worth the journey.

Photography Competition

Jamie Unwin (Year 9, Harcourt) entered the Oxfordshire Shell Wildlife Exposed Photography Competition and was extremely pleased to win the Under 16 category with his 'Running Deer' photo

(below). He also awarded a highly commended with his 'Standing Deer' photo. The photos were on display at Science Oxford during November and December.



Art Exhibition

Mr Lawson held a mixed exhibition at the Ovada Gallery in Oxford during August, as a conclusion to a postgraduate course he had been taking last year.

OVADA

The Oxfordshire Visual Arts Development Agency exists to facilitate and promote access to high quality visual arts for all the residents of, and visitors to, Oxfordshire.

Museum of Modern Art

31 January – 29 March
Encounters Series: Raphaël Zarka

31 January – 29 March
The Body of Others,
by Regina José Galindo

The North Wall Arts Centre

12 – 23 January
Journeys II, printmaking, sculpture and drawing, by Rob Campbell

26 January – 13 February
Odds and Sods and Death and Dogs,
a collection of street photography,
by Paul Freestone

16 February – 7 March
Impress Oxford, by Oxford Printmakers

23 March – 11 April
Morph, exploring the theme of perception,
by students at The Ruskin School

14 April – 1 May
Found, printmaking and sculpture,
by Kirsty Jones

Science Oxford

Science Oxford is a modern science gallery in Oxford. Set up and managed by the Oxford Trust, it is the scientific equivalent of an arts centre. It:

- Encourages the pursuit of science and enterprise
- Makes science an integral part of the cultural life of Oxfordshire
- Provides a focal point for the engagement between the scientific community and the public
- Encourages young people to become scientists, technicians and engineers
- Is socially inclusive, engaging audiences not traditionally interested in science
- Improves understanding of the science-society relationship
- Contributes to the economic growth of Oxfordshire

THE ARTS

The Woman in Black

The Woman in Black is a 1983 horror novel by Susan Hill about a menacing spectre that haunts a small English town. The story centres on a young solicitor, Arthur Kipps, who is attending to the funeral of Mrs Alice Drablow, an elderly widow who lived alone. It was adapted into a stage play by Stephen Mallatratt.

The Cripple of Inishmaan

The Cripple of Inishmaan is a dark comedy by Martin McDonagh who links the story to the real life filming of the documentary *Man of Aran*. The play first opened in 1997 at the Royal National Theatre in London.

Drama Scholars

The six drama scholars that performed in the showcase were:

Gerard Smith (Year 13)
Brontë Coppock-Cudd (Year 12)
Alexander Lawson (Year 11)
Luke Saunders (Year 11)
Louis Taylor (Year 10)
Lucy Grout (Year 9)

The Crucible

Year 11 Extracts for GCSE Assessments

Group 1

Peter Small	Giles Corey
Tom Goodger	Mr Putnam
Luke Frith-Powell	Reverend Parris
Victoria Goulder	Abigail Williams
Thomas Wood	John Proctor

Group 2

William Dagul	Judge Danforth
Jack Bakker	Reverend Parris
Henry Daniels	Reverend Hale
Joseph Grant	Herrick

Group 3

Victoria Hughes	Elizabeth Proctor
Max Williamson	John Proctor
Rose Parker	Mary Warren

Group 4

Jonathan Herring	Reverend Hale
James Metcalfe	Giles Corey
Dominic Walls	John Proctor
Alexander Lawson	Judge Danforth
James Woolley	Reverend Hale

My Mother Said I Never Should

Rosanna Cull (Year 11, Queen Anne) recently helped stage-manage a production at the Pegasus Theatre in Oxford as part of the Oxford Theatre Guild's performance of *My Mother Said I Never Should*. The play, by Charlotte Keatley, explores the lives of four generations of women against the backdrop of a changing world.

Theatre Trips

This term the A Level Theatre Studies students visited the Oxford Playhouse twice as part of their course and wider learning. The first trip was to see the



internationally renowned *The Woman in Black*, on tour from its 17 years in the West End. Despite some inaudible dialogue, the screaming from the audience proved that the old ones are still the best. *The Cripple of Inishmaan* by Martin McDonagh was a darkly comic and unsentimental account of rural Irish life in the 1930s. Ranging from the savagely funny to the heart-breakingly cruel, each actor's performance was superb. Next term's eagerly anticipated visits include the Royal Shakespeare Company's version of *Othello*.

Drama Scholars' Showcase

The drama scholars from Year 9 to 13 presented a variety of monologues for an audience during a lunchtime showing in November. The talented six entertained those present with extracts from playwrights such as Marlowe, Shakespeare and Shaffer. They also performed these extracts during Open Morning and impressed prospective families as they had a tour of the School.



The Crucible

The Year 11 drama pupils took to the stage to complete their penultimate GCSE performance assessments in November. The scripted extracts from Arthur Miller's classic play, *The Crucible*, told the chilling story of the Salem witch-hunt in 1692, described as 'one of the

strangest and most awful chapters in human history'. The 31 pupils who took part dressed in period costume and put together fantastic performances, demonstrating their abilities and knowledge of practical skills in drama. Each group's extract was enjoyed by all those present.



THE ARTS

All Through the House

The Senior School Christmas Production was a festive comedy entitled *All Through the House* by William Gleason. The cast included pupils ranging from Year 7 to Year 13 and was a hilarious tale of one man's struggle to keep everyone happy during the season of goodwill. William Garrett (Gerard Smith) is hosting one of the weekly poker games that go under the guise of 'The Shakespeare Study Club'. Proceedings are constantly interrupted by a series of unwelcome characters preying on his good nature. Not only must he contend

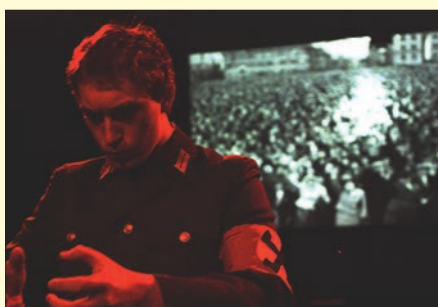
with the anguish and suffering caused by his demanding mother-in-law (Rachel Wood) and an over-zealous vicar (George Lawson), it seems there may also be a murderer in the house (Alex Lawson). A truly magnificent, laugh out loud performance from all involved who played their eccentric characters to the full. There are far too many pupils to mention who deserve special praise, the whole cast provided a thoroughly entertaining evening, which was enjoyed by all who supported the event during the two performances.



The Protocols

The Year 13 Theatre Studies students presented their A2 devised examination performance in The Shed in November. This powerful and thought-provoking original piece of theatre explored the origins of anti-Semitism through the conception, personification and trial of *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*. The book documented the proceedings of

a meeting between high ranking Jewish officials and their plan for world domination. This meeting never actually occurred. The hard-hitting and fascinating performance, written by the students, highlighted how political groups worldwide have used the fictitious 'Protocols' to defend and perpetuate their anti-Semitic campaigns.



All Through the House

William Garrett
Gerard Smith
Abigail Garrett
Brontë Coppock-Cudd
Nora Garrett
Zoë Mace
Lula Hawkins
Rachel Wood
Nick Lawson
Alexander Lawson
Ira Pickens
Thomas Wood
Violet Pickens
Lucy Grout
Charles Butler
Angus Warwick
Johnny Ward
Joseph Grant
Marcus Stoner
Dominic Cannon
Reverend Fowler
George Lawson
Scout Master
Louis Taylor
Scouts
Frederick Orme
Katie Jenkins
George Hooper
Katherine Woolley
Lauren Bates-Brownsword

The Protocols of the Elders of Zion

A2 Production: Secrets and Lies

Dominic Cannon
Lawyer, Gendarme, Nazi Officer,
Red Dragon Leader, BNP Member,
Narrator
Tim Forrest
Hitler, KKK, Narrator, Lawyer,
Gendarme, BNP member, Physical
Entity
George Lewis
Rachkovsky, Maurice Joly, Nazi
Officer, Narrator, BNP Member
Kim Lyzba
Court Clerk, The Dialogues.
Goebbels, Reporter, Nick Griffin,
Narrator
Gerard Smith
The Protocols, Gorymikin,
Gendarme, Nazi Officer, KKK
Member, Narrator
Marcus Toumazou
Judge, Nazi Officer, Ahmedenajad,
KKK Member, Gendarme, Narrator

The Protocols

The Protocols of the Elders of Zion is an anti-Semitic tract alleging a Jewish and Masonic plot to achieve world domination. It has been proven to be a plagiarism, literary forgery, fraud and a hoax. It is claimed that The Protocols are the minutes of a meeting of Jewish leaders at the first Zionist Congress in Basel, Switzerland, in 1897, in which Jews plotted to take over the world.

Rugby Results

First XV

Magdalen College School	L 25-21
Cherwell School	W 44-7
Burford School	W 17-0
Rendcomb College	W 63-3
Dean Close School	W 19-12
Shiplake College	W 22-21
Lord William's School	W 24-10
St Edward's School	W 24-0
Hereford Cathedral School	W 39-0
Burford School	W 33-5
Pangbourne College	W 15-12
Henley College	W 26-7
Reading School	W 19-0

Second XV

Magdalen College School	W 17-13
Henry Box School	W 27-14
Sibford School	W 55-0
Wood Green School	L 17-3
Dean Close School	D 12-12
Shiplake College	W 10-7
Akeley Wood School	L 24-21
Kingham Hill School	W 34-5
Hereford Cathedral School	W 60-0
Stowe School	W 19-5
Pangbourne College	L 19-7
King's School	L 26-12
Reading School	L 10-0

Third XV

Magdalen College School	L 29-0
Abingdon School	L 39-0
Rendcomb College	W 27-7
Stowe School	L 30-0

Hockey Results

First XI

Wychwood School	W 2-1
Tudor Hall School	W 3-2
St Edward's School	L 1-0
Akeley Wood School	W 7-0
Gosford Hill School	W 5-0
County Tournament	
Lord William's	D 1-1
Our Lady's Abingdon	W 1-0
Headington School	W 1-0
St Edward's School	L 1-0
Oxford High School	W 3-0
Henley College	L 2-1
Stowe School	L 2-0

Second XI

Oxford High School	L 1-0
King's School	W 4-1
Carterton Community College	W 3-2
Rendcomb College	W 5-0
Bloxham School	L 4-0
Cranford House School	W 1-0
Gillotts School	W 1-0
Our Lady's Abingdon	L 2-1
Stowe School	W 3-1
St Helen and St Katharine	W 2-1

All of the term's sports results are available on the School website and are updated weekly. www.cokethorpe.org.uk

Rugby Report

Both senior XV's have proved very competitive with the 2nd XV playing many teams that three years ago, the 1st XV played. The 1st team were extremely successful, only losing once all season. It is also remarkable to note that nine players played at county level.

The U16 squad can arguably claim to have one of the toughest fixture lists and although they have lost three times this year, the defeats have only come when the small squad was depleted by injury.

Having struggled at the start of the season, the Junior Colts deserve great credit for battling against sides that have often been considerably larger, with increasing success. They worked hard to improve their team and unit skills and



County Success

Cokethorpe pupils' sporting achievements continued this term when Julian Watkins and Andrew Berry were not only selected to play for the county in U16 and U18 Rugby, but were also both made captains. Meanwhile Amy Williams has also been made county captain of the U14 hockey team. Congratulations to all them all on this notable honour and achievement.



their efforts have been a real testimony to their 'never say die' attitude.

The U14s deserve great credit for some superb performances and their team spirit. They narrowly lost to Lord William's in the cup semi-final, but had significant wins in games versus Abingdon, Shiplake, and Dean Close.

The U13s have struggled this season by having a small squad in both a numerical and physical sense. Their victory against Bloxham was a particular highlight.

The Terriers who have been well led by Redford Curtis have proved to be very competitive all season. They have won 70% of their fixtures and show real promise for the future.



Rugby County Cup Final

Cementing an already fantastic season, Cokethorpe's 1st XV celebrated yet more success on 3 December when they confidently played their way to victory in the County Cup final. After overcoming Lord William's School in an extremely tough quarter final, the final match saw them storm to victory with a decisive 26-7 win over Henley College.



Oxfordshire Judo Champion

Congratulations to Alice Bird (Year 8, Gascoigne) who has become Oxfordshire girls' judo champion for the second year running. Alice fought hard to secure gold in the championships in November and was thrilled to retain her title. She is now training hard with the Oxfordshire squad and will represent the county at the National Championships to be held in May.

Hockey Report

The 1st XI had an excellent season and despite some tough opposition, they still managed to win 77% of their matches. One of their most notable games, in which they surpassed expectations, was a 3–0 win against Oxford High.

The 2nd XI has gone from strength to strength and after last year's 25% success rate, this year saw a huge improvement with a rise to 71%. The team played particularly well against Stowe, winning 3–1.

The U15 team is the strongest year group that Cokethorpe has had for some time, as highlighted by their brilliant season: winning 8, losing 2 and drawing 1. They have played in a way that surpasses players of their age, as demonstrated by two impressive wins against Bloxham and Kingham Hill's 1st teams.



National Hockey Player

Takara Haines, a player for the Under 21s Great Britain hockey team, has been a welcome addition to hockey coaching at Cokethorpe this term. Takara not only brought her specialist expertise, but provided inspiration to many of the School's young and aspiring hockey players.

Cross Country

Pupils from Years 7 to 10 travelled to John Mason School on Thursday 9 October to participate in a cross country competition against a number of other local schools. There were some good individual performances, displaying much potential for the future.



Despite a number of injuries and illnesses this season, the U14s have done well, achieving a 58% win ratio. This team has much potential and with hard work next season, many of the draws will be converted into wins.

Despite being a very talented group of girls the U13s ran into a few problems this season, and a change from 7 to 11 a-side in particular, has had a big impact on results, with the girls winning or drawing 50% of their fixtures. Special mention should however go to Connie Gascoigne and Katherine Woolley who have had an exceptional season.

The U12s have made good progress this year winning 50% of their fixtures. Wins against Rendcomb, Carterton and Bartholomew were impressive, but the draw with Oxford High was the best game of the season.



England Equestrians

Cokethorpe pupils Alfie Bradstock and Ella McEwen have been chosen to represent England's Equestrian A team. The fact that only 12 riders in total were selected makes this accomplishment all the more remarkable.

Sports Dinner

The termly sports dinner for the hockey and rugby 1st teams took place on Thursday 4 December. The awards were as follows:

Players' Player	Karim Bahou
Isobel Landon	
Most Improved	Daniel Wakeman
Sarah Davey	
Coach's Player	George Lewis
Laura Sensecall	

County Honours

Below is a list of pupils that have been chosen this term to play at full county level or beyond.

Rugby

Mark Jones
Karim Bahou
Andrew Berry (U18 Captain)
George Lewis
Joshua Atkins
Edward Church
Ahlexi Enjily
Jonathan Morris
Laurie Gibson
Julian Watkins (U16 Captain)
Jacob Wilson
Danny Burford
Nicholas Baboolal

Hockey

Lizzie Ferrier
Lydia Farrell (Regional Player)
Shona Stanley
Hannah Gleeson
Laura Sensecall
Isobel Landon
Suzy Russell
Gabriella Evans
Amy Williams (U14 Captain)
Amy Watson

Soccer

Jamie Amer
Guy Biggs
Billy Webb
Natasha Jones

Cricket

Philip Allen

Netball

Suzy Russell
Alyce McNaughton

Golf

Jamie Amer
Declan Duffy

Equestrian

Alfie Bradstock
Ella McEwen

Sports Colours

Full Colours

Hockey Isobel Landon
Laura Sensecall
Sarah Davey
Emelie Metcalfe
Rugby George Lewis
Daniel Wakeman
Karim Bahou
Jake Geekie
Christopher Lord
Canoeing Timothy Muller

Half Colours

Rugby Adam Maskery
Jack Reardon
Samuel Miller
Canoeing Frederick Reif

THE HOUSES

Most Recommendations

Year 7: Emma King (Harcourt)
 Year 8: Cameron Pickering (Vanbrugh)
 Year 9: Luke Davis (Queen Anne)
 Year 10: Tom Donovan-Brady (Queen Anne)
 Year 11: Amy Hewes (Harcourt)
 Year 12: Novia Chen (Feilden)
 Year 13: Gerard Smith (Swift)
 Overall Winner: Luke Davis
 House Winner: Gascoigne

Inter-House Rugby Results

1st: Gascoigne
 2nd: Harcourt
 3rd: Vanbrugh
 4th: Feilden
 =5th: Queen Anne
 =5th: Swift

Inter-House Hockey Results

1st: Vanbrugh (42)
 2nd: Queen Anne (32)
 3rd: Harcourt (32)
 4th: Gascoigne (30)
 5th: Swift (24)
 6th: Feilden (20)

Inter-House Music Winners

Electronic Music Class:
 William Dagul (Feilden)
 Band Class:
 Harcourt (*Crazy*)
 Guitar Solo Class:
 Tom Goodger (Queen Anne)
 Piano Solo Class:
 Letitia Cookson (Harcourt)
 Instrumental Solo Class:
 Rory Gratwohl (Feilden)
 Solo Singing Class:
 Gerard Smith (Swift)
 Ensemble Singing Class:
 Swift (*Tequila Samba*)
 Acoustic Ensemble Class:
 Gascoigne (*Spence Will*)
 Whole House Singing:
 Harcourt (*Misalliance*)

Overall Winners:
 Harcourt

Individual Contribution:
 Toby Pugh (Harcourt)
 Rory Gratwohl (Feilden)

Vanbrugh Grand Day Out

The Drayton Manor trip was great. Although it took us ages to get there, it was worth it. The queues for the rides were tiny, which meant that we could go on all the great rides at least twice. The weather wasn't perfect, but it didn't rain! We had a great time – definitely a place to go to again. Everyone is looking forward to the next Vanbrugh House trip.

Hugo Van Dorssen and Edward Parker



Inter-House Music

The Inter-House Music Competition saw contributions from every member of the Senior School during a whole day of music-making. The day began with electronic music and electric bands, passing through four solo categories and two further ensembles, and culminating

in the whole House singing, with every House singing songs by Flanders and Swann. Everyone did a fantastic job, especially this year's winners, Harcourt, who had narrowly lost the title to Swift the previous year.



Advent Services

The six Houses celebrated Christmas this year with individual Advent Services in the Chapel during lunchtimes. Led by the School Chaplain Reverend Turner, the services included Christmas carols, readings and prayers, as the importance of the events of so long ago were remembered. Pupils and staff then enjoyed a House lunch in the Dining Hall following the service.



Inter-House Rugby

The tournament was once again a fiercely contested affair despite freezing conditions. The Years 7 and 8 final saw Harcourt see off the challenge of Gascoigne 12–5. The Years 9 and 10 section was comfortably won by Gascoigne and the senior final was deservedly won by Vanbrugh with Ahlexi Enjily playing at fly-half.



Inter-House Hockey

This competition was split into two sections: Years 9 to 13 played on full pitches for the first time and the standard of the matches was excellent. Years 7 and 8 were 5 a-side on half pitches and the teams gelled really well. Vanbrugh won the senior girls hockey whereas Queen Anne won the Lower School tournament.

Vanbrugh Ice Skating

On 9 October, Vanbrugh House had a Sixth Form trip ice skating in Oxford. The evening was a tremendous success with lots of impressive performances both from the students and Mrs Pratley and Mr Schofield. This was certainly one of the best activities of the year. Many thanks to Mrs Pratley who organised such an enjoyable trip and to Mr White, the photographer.

Vicky Sun



FUNDRAISING FOR CHARITY

Funsani Hospice

Year 9 students from Swift House proudly presented Funsani Hospice in Zambia, with a cheque for £500 that they have been busy fundraising over the past few months. Funsani is a small charity that aims to provide a home for the many children orphaned by AIDS in Africa and to create a stimulating environment where children will grow up feeling loved and cared for.



Santas on the Run

A number of Cokethorpe staff and pupils joined thousands of runners on Sunday 7 December to take part in Santas on the Run. The event, which involved a 2 mile run around University Parks in Oxford dressed as Santa Claus, was designed to raise money for Helen and Douglas House Hospice. The run was enjoyed by all and a total of £10,000 is expected to have been raised.



Operation Christmas Child

The children of the Junior School showed an excellent response to their Christmas charity appeal, managing to fill a total of 166 shoe boxes with an array of small gifts for children in Africa and Eastern Europe. Year 4 had the responsibility of counting and sorting the boxes before they were sent away to start their long journey overseas. The Junior School would like to thank all of those children, parents and friends who contributed to this fantastic effort. A special mention goes to Mrs Daphne Smith, who knitted a rainbow assortment of woollen hats to go inside the boxes.



Year 8 Fundraising

Year 8 pupils have been working tirelessly this term to raise money to buy text books for Ha Fusi Secondary School in Lesotho. Events have included cake sales, a 'human vending machine', a hot chocolate and muffin stall, candy cane 'kisses' and some very welcome sponsored silences. Plans are under way for Lesotho 2009, and flights are already booked. The trip comes at a very exciting time for the Lesotho school, with a new office block having just been constructed, and a bore-hole sunk, all added with money raised by Cokethorpe School last year.



Whole School Fast Day

On 14 November the whole School sacrificed their usual Friday lunch of fish and chips to partake in Fast Day. Instead a hearty meal of home made soup and fresh bread was enjoyed.

Cokethorpe Charities

The School is a supporter of a number of charities including

Ha Fusi Secondary School, Lesotho
Helen and Douglas House
The Nasio Trust
Cecily's Fund
Children in Need
MIND
Downside Up
Funsani Hospice
Marie Curie Cancer Care
Operation Christmas Child

Charity Facts

Below are some interesting facts and information about charities and fundraising:

- The word charity entered the English language through the old French word *charité* which was derived from the Latin word *caritas*
- A charity is a particular type of voluntary organisation – one that takes a distinctive legal form and has a special tax status
- In the UK today there are probably over 500,000 voluntary organisations – fewer than 200,000 of these are registered charities
- In England and Wales the total annual income of the 168,794 'main' registered charities stood at £42,138 billion
- The biggest single source of donations for UK charities is from individuals
- 6% of voluntary income to UK charities comes from charity shops
- Cancer Research UK is the charity in the UK that attracts the highest amount of donations each year
- The Gift Aid scheme allows charities to claim an extra 28p from the Treasury on every £1 given by UK tax payers
- The Charity Commission is responsible for regulating charities in England and Wales
- Charity is one of the Seven Heavenly Virtues along with chastity, temperance, diligence, patience, kindness and humility

THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Mathematics Challenge

The Primary Mathematics Challenge is an annual event run by the Mathematical Association with the aim of enriching knowledge and understanding of maths, boosting children's confidence in their mathematical abilities, raising the profile of mathematics in schools and engendering enthusiasm for the subject.

Sleeping Beauty

'I loved the Prince because he had stripy trousers and a really tall hat'

Ralph Anderson, Year 1

Junior School Production Cast

The Stars Come Out For Christmas

The Hosts (6MO)

Announcer	Charlie Dunmall
Noel Knowles	George Wood
Carol Singer	Charlotte McMackin
Chrissie Pressie	Cate De Buriatte Moglia
Ollie Leaf	James Staples
Goldie Ring	Amy Creed
Holly Berry	Alexandra Cross
Gabriel White	Noah Hustler

The Fans (6MO)

Matthew Brown
William Cuddy Watts
James Duffield
Sergej Kundik
Henry Leonard-Taylor
Samuel Menon
George Smith
George Stone
Roland Viserálek

The Christmas Cards (4RO)

Arthur Alden
Charlotte Bury
Kate Hooper
Harry Jobling
Matthew Jobling
Louisa Mattinson
Madeline Pound
Luke Smith
Alexander Wallace
Jennifer Wells

Santa Claus and His Helpers (3JD)

Elves	Annabel Clarke Oscar Craik Lottie Fellows Emma Foster Jessica Foster Antonia Haar Michaela Logue Ruby Plumridge Jack Smith India Thomas
Reindeer	Toby Brown Nicholas Meyer Alexander Wilde George Williams
Santa	Maximillian Lotter

Year 4 Ashmolean Trip

On Friday 21 November, 4RO went to the Ashmolean Museum with Mr Ettinger and Mrs Timms. We went there because we won the Headmaster's writing competition about a brooch which was found at Cokethorpe Chapel about forty years ago. We thought the brooch was very small, and it had small patterns on it. It was a very exciting experience. For lunch we went to Pizza Hut then we got back onto the bus and played a few games. We had a lot of fun.

*Jennifer Wells, Madeline Pound and
Louisa Mattinson 4RO*



European Day of Languages

In September the Junior School held a European Day of Languages, giving the children an opportunity to learn about different languages and cultures. Mrs Evans visited 5HL to teach them her native language Dutch, whilst Sergei Kundik taught Russian to 6MO.

Reception also had fun learning about France, and some of their national foods. After visiting Sainsbury's to buy lots of typical French delights, they returned to the classroom where some of the children discovered that perhaps not all French food was to their liking!



Viking Visitor

Children from 3JD, who have been learning about the Vikings this term, were given special insight into this fascinating period of history when a 'real life' Viking paid a visit to the School. Luckily he was very friendly and showed the children a range of authentic swords, helmets, spears, drinking horns, mail shirts and shields. They were also lucky enough to try on some of the clothes and to hold the weapons. Mr Siddorn also showed the children how to strike a coin and make fire with a special magnifying ball which catches light from the sun.



Sleeping Beauty

As part of their work on traditional tales, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 went to Chipping Norton Theatre on 21 November to see a production of *Sleeping Beauty*. It was great fun, especially getting into the pantomime spirit... Oh yes it was!

Trip to Ducklington

Reception went to Ducklington this term to learn about houses and homes. They looked at the different types of houses and materials that are used to build them before returning to the classroom to practise writing their addresses.



Christingle Service

The Junior School gathered in the Chapel on Monday 8 December to hold their annual Christingle service and to reflect upon the meaning of Christmas. Reverend Turner led the service that included a number of carols, readings and prayers. At the end of the service the Chapel was filled with candlelight and singing as the children lit their handmade Christingles and sang *Silent Night*.

THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Primary Mathematics Challenge

In November nine children took part in the Primary Mathematics Challenge. 'I thought the challenge was difficult yet fun because there were questions I didn't understand but I could work out in the end!' commented one pupil. The children really applied themselves and showed great determination. Matthew Brown was awarded a gold certificate; Nancy Battersby, James Staples and Joseph Wilde silver certificates; and Benjamin Foster and Samuel Menon bronze certificates.



SS Great Britain

Year 5 stepped back in time on Wednesday 26 November when they travelled to Bristol to discover the truth behind the SS Great Britain. The children greatly enjoyed the opportunity to experience the sights and sounds of life on board, as it would have been for its Victorian passengers all those years ago, and they even got to have a go behind the wheel of the ship.

Acting Workshop

In preparation for their trip to see *Romeo and Juliet* at the theatre, Children from Years 3 to 6 welcomed the Shakespeare4Kids Workshop into the Junior School, where the actors and children worked together to perform Shakespeare's most famous tragedy. As Rory Atkins and Elliot Bowden from 6GM commented, 'The workshop was really enjoyable. They made some parts of it funny and some sad. It was good because they made it easy for us to understand, although they had to change the story a little. It was very well organised and we all really enjoyed it.'



Cheltenham Festival

We went to see Caroline Lawrence at the Cheltenham Literature Festival, the author of the *Roman Mysteries*. She talked to us about the things a story needs: a problem, a desire, an opponent, a plan, a battle, knowledge and a new level. She also explained the characters a story needs: a hero, a faithful sidekick, a funny one, a wild one and a wise one. She admitted that she borrowed ideas from stories like Postman Pat and Sherlock Holmes. *Nancy Battersby and Heidi Lawson 6GM*

Lifebuild Presentation

As work on the new Dining Hall and Sixth Form Centre got under way, Mr Philip Wolfenden, the safety officer from LifeBuild, came into the School to give a presentation to the Junior School about the importance of avoiding the dangers of building sites. It was both informative and enjoyable and most importantly everybody learned how to keep themselves safe.



Roald Dahl Museum

In October Year 4 visited the Roald Dahl Museum where they enjoyed a day of exciting and educational activities, such as experimenting with the BFG's sound table. They also acted out the story of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and tried science experiments involving mirrors and cameras, in which some children followed in the footsteps of Roald Dahl's character, Mike TV and were 'shrunk'. There was also an exhibition showing the work of Quentin Blake who illustrated many of Roald Dahl's books and the children had the chance to try some illustration work for themselves.



Pantomime (4MM)

Narrators	Luke Garbutt Evangeline Garbutt
Cinderella	India Hurford-Jones
Mother	Skye Gough
Lily	Alexander Cooper
Grace	Alexander Reid
Fairy Godmother	Anna De Buriatte Moglia
Prince	Teyte Skinner
Herald	Nathan Black
Guests	William Howard Camilla Hulewicz

The Christmas Trees (6GM)

Narrators	Emily Hastings Nancy Battersby
Brian	Henry Grimwade
Barry	Rory Atkins
Clifford	Charles Dyde
Dolcie	Heidi Lawson
Charles	Alexander Game
Gunvor	Jacob Phillips
Neville	Matthew Clarke
Gemma	Erika Davies
Girl	Sofia-Louise Svanikier
Tree Seller	Elliot Bowden
Teacher	Benjamin Tracey
Hippy	Archie Fellows
Posh Gent	Harry Foster
Old Lady	David Mallett
Manager	Cameron Spilsbury
Boy	Joseph Ciampoli-Messiou

Christmas Dinners (5MC)

Julia	Anya Duffy
Colin	Matthew Ellacott
Roy	Arthur Blake
Becky	Ella Perry-Cain
The Tudors	William Alden Laura Fiedorowicz Isabel Fisher Emily James Emily Rowe Jordan Smith
The Tudor Chef	Richard Turner
Orphans	James Crook Joshua Lowe
Mrs Gradgrind	Eloise Fraser-Paterson
Mr Gradgrind	Joseph Wilde
Mrs Cratchit	Keely Harding
Belinda	Alyssia Lotter
Mr Cratchit	Alastair Grime

Beth and the Nativity (5HL)

Beth	Jessica Williams
Narrator	Benjamin Foster
Angel Gabriel	James Thomas
Mary	Sydney Bennett Miller
Narrator/Angel	Elisha Evans
Joseph	Louis Sharpe-Ward
Narrator/Angel	Madeleine Barnicoat
Narrator/King	Thomas Smith
Innkeeper/Servant	Michael Hook
Innkeeper/Servant	Oliver Cook
Narrator	Victoria Blake
Shepherds	Alexander Jobling Jamie Langford
Narrator/Angel	Luisamae Lisi
Narrator/Angel	Mollie Robinson
Kings	Jake Ellis Oonagh Ryley
King Herod	Matthew Roche

THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Pre-Prep Production Cast

The Bossy King

Narrators Alfie Rowe
 Michael Ogilvie
 George Donald
 Louis Ciampoli-Messiou
 Joshua Cook
 Grace Ettinger
 Rosa Birchenough
 Jack Wilde
 Benjamin Shaw

The Bossy King Dennis Catrini

Servants Frederick Gascoyne
 Ralph Anderson
 Benjamin Shaw
 Jack Wilde
 George Langford

Angels Grace Ettinger
 Rosa Birchenough
 Emelia Wardle

Market Traders Harvey Gould
 Max Watkins
 Thomas Smith
 Jake Crozier

Shepherds Louis Ciampoli-Messiou
 Joshua Cook

Sheep Hester Beer
 Jamie Hammond
 Isabella Dovey

Kings Alfie Rowe
 Michael Ogilvie
 George Donald

Joseph Simon Ogilvie

Mary Lorna McBain

House Captains

Feilden Matthew Clarke
 Gascoigne Alexandra Cross
 Harcourt Sofia-Louise Svanikier
 Queen Anne Erika Davis
 Swift Emily Hastings
 Vanbrugh Archie Fellows

End of Term Prize Winners

Reception Max Watkins
 Year 1 Rosa Birchenough
 Year 2 Michael Ogilvie
 Year 3 Michaela Logue
 Year 4 Alexander Cooper
 Charlotte Bury
 Year 5 Anya Duffy
 Thomas Smith
 Year 6 Charlie Dyde
 Matthew Brown



Junior School Christmas Play

The Shed was transformed into the set of a glittering award ceremony in December, as Years 3 to 6 presented the Christmas showbiz event of the year, *The Stars Come out for Christmas*. Audiences watched as the 'stars' battled it out for the top award of 'Outstanding Contribution to Christmas'. Nominees included the Christmas Cards, Santa and his helpers, the Christmas Trees, the Christmas Dinners, the Pantomime Characters and Beth and the Nativity. In the end it was Beth, the star of Bethlehem, who scooped the top award. The performance concluded with the children treating the audience to an array of Christmas carols. The play was a huge success and the children wowed everyone with their spectacular costumes, singing and acting performances, leaving everyone feeling full of the joys of Christmas. A special thank you goes to Mrs Du Feu who worked tirelessly to help make the play such a great success.



Pre-Prep Christmas Play

During the last week of the Michaelmas Term the children of the Pre-Prep put on a wonderful performance of *The Bossy King* in front of a packed audience of parents in the Corinthian Room. Dennis Catrini was terrific as The Bossy King who ensured that all of his servants not only worked hard, but bowed continuously to please him. The Angels, played by Grace Ettinger, Rosa Birchenough and Emelia Wardle, appeared to the King in a dream telling him of the 'real King', and taking their advice, he set off to find baby Jesus in the stable. The children all acted and sang beautifully including several moving solos. It was especially exciting for many children for whom it was their first role in a school play. Every child in Pre-Prep had lines to say including the sheep played by three reception children. After the performance parents were invited for a festive glass of mulled wine and mince pies in front of the roaring fire in the Mansion House.



THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Hockey

The U11s were by far the most successful junior team this year, winning 85% of their fixtures. Nearly every match was won convincingly and they worked very well as a team. Notable wins were against Rupert House, Our Lady's, Carterton U12s and Burford U12s.

The U9 team have worked enthusiastically this term learning lots of new skills and testing out their game. Overall it was a good season and with some more hard work next year, they show promise to become a very good team.



Inter-House Rugby

The Junior School tournament proved to be an entertaining and hotly contested affair with the group stages seeing some very close matches indeed, particularly in the group containing Queen Anne, Harcourt and Gascoigne. The matches for the minor places were also fiercely contested, but the deserved winners were Feilden House, with the Junior School player of the season, Charlie Dyde, impressing throughout.



Rugby

The U9s had a successful season winning 6 matches and losing 3. Their main strengths have been their pace and agility and Luke Smith, George Williams, Max Lotter and Matthew Jobling all deserve special praise.

The U11s have had their best season ever with the A team winning 8, drawing 2 and losing 2. The highlight was undoubtedly the tournament in which they finished unbeaten. A special mention should go to Rory Atkins, Alastair Grime and Charlie Dyde, who scored just under 100 points in total.



Inter-House Hockey

The hockey was of a very high standard and matches were played in the best of spirits. Year 3 and Year 6 played alongside one another and it was very rewarding to see goals scored by all year groups. Special mention should go to Nancy Battersby and Ruby Plumridge (Gascoigne); Elisha Evans and Oonagh Ryley (Swift); Luisamae Lisi (Harcourt); Jessica Williams and Michaela Logue (Vanbrugh); and Annabel Clarke (Feilden).



Hockey Results

U11 As

Rupert House School	W 5-1
St Hugh's Prep School	D 3-3
Our Lady's Abingdon	W 6-0
Prior Park Prep School	L 7-0
Chandlings School	D 1-1
Carterton School	W 7-0
Burford School	W 6-1

U11 Bs

Rupert House School	D 2-2
Prior Park Prep School	L 2-0
Chandlings School	L 2-0

U9s and U8s

Rupert House School	L 2-0
Prior Park Prep School	D 0-0
Our Lady's Abingdon	L 4-1
Chandlings School	L 4-2
Akeley Wood School	L 55-0
New College School	W 35-12

Rugby Results

U11 As

Hatherop Castle School	W 33-0
Sibford School	W 37-14
New College School	W 50-5
Akeley Wood School	L 40-7
New College School	W 24-14
St Hugh's Prep School	L 7-0
Rendcomb College	W 29-12
U11 Rugby Tournament	3rd

U11 Bs

Hatherop Castle School	W 39-30
New College School	W 80-5
Akeley Wood School	L 26-5
St Hugh's Prep School	L 17-7
New College School	L 37-0

U11 Cs

St Hugh's Prep School	L 25-20
New College School	L 22-19

U9 As

St Hugh's Prep School	L 15-5
New College School	W 37-5
Rendcomb College	W 55-50
Prior Park Prep School	L 40-10
Akeley Wood School	L 55-0
New College School	W 35-5

U9 Bs

St Hugh's Prep School	W 10-0
New College School	W 12-11

Inter-House Hockey Results

1st	Swift
2nd	Feilden
3rd	Gascoigne
4th	Harcourt
5th	Queen Anne
6th	Vanbrugh

Inter-House Rugby Results

1st	Feilden
2nd	Queen Anne
3rd	Vanbrugh
4th	Gascoigne
5th	Swift
6th	Harcourt

Ten Facts about Spain

- 1) Spain is made up of 17 autonomous communities including the Balearic Islands and Canary Islands
- 2) Spain has 4,964km of coastline
- 3) Spain is a monarchy; the present king is Juan Carlos
- 4) The population is nearly 45 million
- 5) The capital is Madrid
- 6) The currency is the Euro. Until 2002 it was the peseta, which in turn had replaced the escudo in 1869
- 7) It is a myth that bullfighting is Spain's national sport. Spain's real national sport is *fútbol* (or soccer)
- 8) Tapas are a way of eating food, not a type of food. A tapa is a small dish, usually taken with a drink
- 9) Spain is one of the most mountainous countries in Europe, and includes the Pyrenees and the Sierra Nevada mountain ranges
- 10) Spanish is the only official language of Spain, though some of the autonomous communities have other official languages

Duke of Edinburgh

A group of intrepid Year 11 adventurers underwent their Bronze Assessment expedition in the Cotswold Hills during a chilly October. The first day's navigation went very well with the pupils walking ahead of schedule and keeping exactly to their route with no mistakes. However, as the day ended the weather started to get worse. During the night there was a continuous downpour of rain that continued through the morning. This made packing away the tents and having breakfast a difficult task. The pupils remained in high spirits however, and continued to walk on the second day to the standard of the first. The group worked really well as a team and showed that they have the skills to move on to the next level.

Nature Trail

The Educational Nature Trail is progressing well. The pupils at the end of the summer helped clear the weed from the nature pond. More pond plants have been added. A bird and butterfly garden has been planted. This term a selection of trees have been planted around the pond and more bird boxes and bug boxes have been erected. The woodland trail has been cleared of weeds and areas have been prepared for four growing willow structures to be grown. The structures include a Dome, Teepee, Tunnel and Chair. Watch this space for the next exciting addition to the nature trail next term.

Modern Languages Trip

In October the Language Department organised a trip to Valencia in Spain for 20 pupils from Years 10 and 11, and two slightly anxious teachers Mrs Ryan and Miss Larabi. We arrived in Spain and after a brief bus journey, were met by our host families.

On the second day we visited Terra Mitica, a theme park in Benidorm that overlooks the sea. Everyone had settled in perfectly with their families and all was well. At the English Spanish Centre we received intensive Spanish lessons of four hours each day. These included large amounts of grammar and vocabulary, but also touched on Spanish culture.

The afternoons were spent in Valencia visiting museums including El Museo Principe Filipe (The Science Museum), El Museo Ceramica (The Ceramics Museum) and El Museo Taurino (The Bullfighting Museum), where mixed opinions of the sport were shared. We visited a cinema to watch Spanish films and also enjoyed a tapas evening, where we tasted the traditional Spanish drink, Horchatas.

Everyone benefited greatly from the amount of Spanish spoken. Thank you to the host families and of course to Mrs Ryan and Miss Larabi.

Jacob Booty, Year 10 Swift



Year 7 Malvern Hills Trip

The 71 Year 7 pupils that visited the Malvern Hills Outdoor Centre in September were to grapple with the big outdoors and courageously face their fears. The three days were jam-packed with activities such as problem-solving, a low rope obstacle course, archery and pole climbing. All pupils bravely tackled

the 36 foot high 'parachute jump' and held onto their stomachs on the terrifying 'king swing'. The excursion encouraged the House spirit to thrive, with events such as the raft-building competition, and allowed new friendships to form, as new pupils integrated themselves into the Cokethorpe community.



Fly Fishing Trip

As an extension to the CEW and AOB programmes, a group of experienced and novice fishermen enjoyed an autumnal day's fly fishing during half term at Salford Lakes. Instruction was given by two local ghillies and all but three of the Cokethorpe team hooked a trout or two. A further trip is planned over Easter, particularly for those who have not experienced the thrill of their first catch.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Junior School Playground

Lunchtimes at Cokethorpe have been especially exciting this term due to the addition of a brand new play area. Children returned from their summer holidays to a set of tire swings, a slide, monkey bars and a climbing frame. Despite the increasingly chilly weather, everyone has been taking full advantage of having a new and fun place to play.



Dining Hall and Sixth Form Centre

Back in July work on the much needed and eagerly awaited new Dining Hall and Sixth Form Centre got under way. Since then work has progressed rapidly and everything is going to schedule.



Currently block and stone work is the main task in hand and as the weeks go by the shape of the building can now be seen, as the architect's drawings really begin to come to life.



Construction Progress Diary

There is a month-by-month progress diary of the new Dining Hall and Sixth Form Centre on the School website with further details of the development so far and photographs illustrating each stage of the construction.

Maintenance Projects

The following maintenance projects have been completed over the past two terms:

- Renovation of the water tower to create a new Photography studio
- Putting up fencing around the Boat House and repairing the track
- Renovation of the outside staff toilets
- Redecoration of the corridors, classrooms and stairwell of the academic block
- Reorganisation and redecoration of the Sixth Form Block
- Levelling of one rugby pitch

Inspection Announced

The School has been informed that it will be inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate in October 2009.

STAFF AND PARENT NEWS

Bike Ride

Mrs Holmes, along with 420 other cyclists, undertook a 320 mile bike ride from Croydon to Paris. Despite a few wrong turns, soaring temperatures and nearly missing the ferry, Mrs Holmes made it to Paris in one piece, whilst raising £1,484 for Action Medical Research.



London Parade

Mr Heaney played the electric violin as part of a Lantern Parade called *The Phoenix Garden* at the London Thames Festival. This took place along Embankment in the form of a large carnival parade which was attended by thousands of people.



Baby Boys

Congratulations to Mr Heaney and his wife on the birth of their second son, Edward Alexander, who was born on 11 November weighing 8lb 6oz. Mr Jackson and his wife also became proud parents: Euan Matthew was born on 13 July weighing 7lbs 1oz. Congratulations to both the Jackson and Heaney families.



AMDIS Diploma

Congratulations to Miss Rutland on achieving a distinction in the AMDIS Diploma in Schools' Marketing (The Association for Marketing and Development in Independent Schools). She was also awarded the honour of being 'top student' of the group that completed the diploma with her.

Honorary Degree

Tish Francis, a parent at the School, was awarded an honorary degree in September by Oxford Brookes University in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the Arts. Mrs Francis, who up until recently had been the Director of the Oxford Playhouse for 19 years, had been instrumental in restoring the venue to its former glory back in 1989.

Open University Degree

Congratulations to Mr Owen, guitar teacher, on recently graduating from the Open University with a BA in Music.

Marriages

Congratulations to the following members of staff on their recent marriages:

Mrs Hennigan (née Currill)
Mrs Davies
Mr Forsey
Mrs Semenzato

New Appointment

Congratulations to Mr Uglov for being appointed to Deputy Head of Sixth Form.

CPA Committee

Chairman: Ruth Wigham
rwigham@ocvc.ac.uk
Vice Chairman: Peter Lodowski
Treasurer: Flynn Reid
Secretary: Bernadette Mitchell
bernadettemitch@aol.com
Damian Ettinger
John Bennett
Diana Cannon
Howard Cooper
Sue Furneaux
Julie Grime
Simon Hooper
Adi Hughes
Theresa James
Jan Johnson
Valerie Krol
Jane Le Coyte
Linda Mace
Peter Mace
Sarah Plumridge

Forthcoming Events

Burns Night

Friday 23 January. Masonic Hall, Witney.
Join in the celebrations of Burns Night dancing to a traditional ceildh band and piper to bring in the Haggis.
Tickets: £25 (includes a 3 course meal and shot of whisky for the toast).
For tickets please contact Jan Johnson (jan@johnsons.gb.com).

Peacock Ball

Saturday 11 July 2009
Tickets £55
Box Office: 01993 892338
Email: boxoffice@cokethorpe.org
The theme this year is 'Bollywood'.

Money Raised

During last year, CPA events have raised sufficient funds to pay towards the 'Busking Booth', located in the Upper Quad. Pupils have been performing throughout the term in all aspects of The Arts, including singing, playing an instrument, drama or public speaking.

Oxford Wine Company

Do not forget to use the Parents' Loyalty Card at the Oxford Wine Company.

www.buy.at/cokethorpe

Help generate money for the CPA when shopping online from well-known retailers.

Tickets for Schools

Raise money for the School whilst enjoying top shows (musicals/concerts), attractions (Alton Towers/museums) and events (sports fixtures/exhibitions). See website for full details.

CPA Coffee Mornings

As a way for new parents to meet each other the CPA hosted a weekly coffee morning in Costa Coffee during the Michaelmas Term. Many parents have enjoyed each others' company following the school run and have made new friends. Whilst it was not a recruitment drive for the CPA, two new members have joined the committee and many new ideas have been put forward.



Fireworks Extravaganza

Following weeks of wet weather the School was blessed with the perfect crisp evening for the backdrop of the CPA's most magnificent fireworks display to date, courtesy of Firemagic. The roaring bonfire and mulled wine kept everyone warm whilst the delicious pig roast, supplied by Foxbury Farm, ensured no one went hungry. This, together with the ever popular fairground, helped raise a record amount for the School.



Murder Mystery Evening

Following the successful performances of the past two years The Cokethorpe Players excelled themselves once again with another hilarious production of *The Mystery of Talbot Manor*. Not surprisingly, the show was sold out in record time. There were, as always some outstanding performances but a special mention goes to Miss Hooper and Mr Walwyn who had the audience in stitches with their portrayal of Ruby and Grimes. A hilarious evening packed full of puzzles, red herrings, fun and laughter, was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. The costumes were superb, some of which you can see from the photos below, and the entire set purchased for the evening has been donated to the Drama Department for future Cokethorpe productions. Thank you to Paul Bradford and his team of caterers for serving a delicious dinner. Watch this space for next year's production.



VISITORS

Year 9 Assessment Day

Nearly 30 potential Year 9 candidates for entry in 2010 visited the School on 13 November. They spent the morning sitting tests in Maths and English and in the afternoon they worked in groups with a number of current Year 9 pupils to create a poster entitled 'The really good things about being a Year 9 pupil at Cokethorpe'.

Open Morning

Visitors to this term's Open Morning fought through the fog to come but were treated to a wonderful range of activities and displays. All the departments exhibited and demonstrated the pupils' work and answered prospective families'



questions. Many visitors were excited to see the progress of the Dining Hall and Sixth Form Centre. Audiences appreciated the outdoor performances from the Drama scholars, the musical pieces and the sports matches.

Remembrance Day

The School's Remembrance Service involved over 800 people in the Upper Quad, supported by veterans from the Royal British Legion. Afterwards, some Junior School children enjoyed chatting to the visitors about their experiences. One child asked if a veteran was rich as he had so many medals, to which he replied 'only in memories'.



Cokethorpe Food Festival

Educational and Delicious!

To celebrate the completion and opening of the new Dining Hall and Sixth Form Centre Cokethorpe School will hold a Food Festival. This is scheduled for 9 and 10 October 2009.

The Food Festival will have an educational focus and local food producers and suppliers will be invited to be part of the two days. If you are involved in food related products, crafts and services or the supply or production of food and you would like to be involved in the Food Festival please contact the Registrar, Mrs L M Berry for more information.

Email: registrar@cokethorpe.org
Telephone: 01993 892324

Royal British Legion

The Royal British Legion is a UK charity providing support to the serving and ex-service community and their families.

WIDER COMMUNITY

Biology Dissection

On 18 November a group of A Level Biology students from Cherwell School visited Cokethorpe to increase their exposure to the A Level specification. During the morning they took part in a rat, an eye and a lung dissection, to supplement work on sense organs and thoracic diseases. After lunch the students enjoyed their first taste of clay pigeon shooting and then returned to the classroom to learn about rapid reactions and the manufacturing of fireworks.

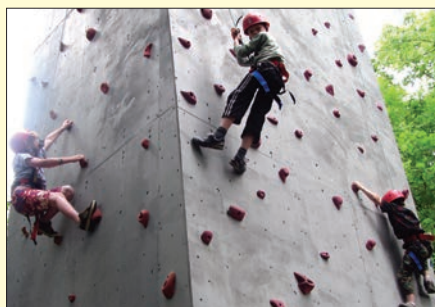
Scouts Camp

All contingents from the Oxfordshire Sea Scouts once again enjoyed their three day annual camp here at Cokethorpe.



Summer Activity Weeks

Over 140 children from Cokethorpe and the surrounding area took part in this year's summer activities weeks, enjoying a variety of activities at the School and at Hardwick Water Park.



Elite Rugby Training

The elite rugby team have once again used Cokethorpe as their training ground this term and will continue throughout much of the Lent Term.

Future Events

Burford Singers	24 January
Rover Hockey Festival	19-20 April
Schools' Mixed Hockey Festival	26 April

Beavers and Scouts continue to use the School facilities on Thursday evenings and Wychwood Hockey Club make use of the AstroTurf pitches for training and fixtures.

Minibuses

The School is delighted to have lent its minibuses to the following groups:

Gateway Primary School, Carterton
Bampton Primary School
Oxford Rover Hockey Club
Senior Oxfordshire County Hockey

West Oxfordshire

Kit Campbell, working for the West Oxfordshire District Council, visited the School recently and has highlighted Cokethorpe as having some of the best sports facilities in the county.

THE COKETHORPE SOCIETY

The Committee

Chairman: James Whittenbury (1992)
Treasurer: Tony Baker (1964)
Secretary: Simon Lancaster (1992)
Warwick Daniels (current staff)
Peter Green (former staff)
Mike Hilder (1967 and parent)
Philip Vaughan-Fowler (1976)

Anyone interested in joining the committee, please do get in touch.

Society Contact Details

Email: society@cokethorpe.org or
Telephone: 01993 892339.

If any former pupils are in touch with others that are not receiving the Society mailing, please encourage them to update their contact details via the School website.

Facebook

There are now 425 former pupils connected to the Cokethorpe Society profile (under the name Katherine Rutland). The number is continuously growing and helping to reconnect former pupils with their old classmates.

'Lost' Former Pupils

Are you in touch with any of the following Cokethorpe former pupils? If so, please get in touch with the Foundation Office with their contact details or ask them to contact us directly.

1956, 1957 and 1958 Leavers

Patrick W Campbell
Guy J Greville
David R Jupp
Nigel P Lane
John R Symonds
Khorrow Nourbaksh
Sadique Shariff
John R Bickerton
Richard B Bird
Barry J Brothers
Hamid Gharabally
Charles A Gwyn
Richard D Holmes-Walker
Abdulla A Khalifah
David Law
Freydoun Saraffran
Vinodchanra J Shah
William R Tweedie
Adrian Walker
David C Walston
Guy C Wingfield
Shillo Shariff
Muhtar Muhtar
Hector M Gordon
Mehrdad Alizadeh
Abolghsem Aussia
Nigel S Hildred
Geoffrey C Howard-Ady
Richard J Richardson
Robert Abrahamian
Roger Woolcott
Alan P Mountstevens
Hassan Palizi
Reza Palizi

Please look at the website for a full list of former pupils that the School does not have confirmed addresses for.

East India Drinks Reception

On Friday 19 September, the Headmaster and the Cokethorpe Society hosted a drinks reception at the East India Club, a well-known gentlemen's club in London. Over 30 former pupils attended the event, ranging from recent leavers to those that left the School more than 40 years ago. There were also speeches about how the Society is gaining momentum and everyone enjoyed the evening.

Book Donations

Thank you to Peter Green (former master) for donating over 200 books to the History Department, along with some cricket balls, that had been used on the original nomads tours, and a pair of unused cricket gloves.

Thank you also to Simon Lancaster (1992) for donating a second batch of books for use in the Library.



Jo O'Neil

Miss White visited New York during half term and took the opportunity to see Jo O'Neil (2008) who recently started her Art Foundation course at Parson's School of Design.

Matthew Yeo

The School was extremely pleased to see former History teacher Matthew Yeo as the captain of the Manchester University team on University Challenge on BBC2 this year. Matthew, who taught at Cokethorpe for two terms during Mrs Edeson's maternity leave in 2006, left to start a PhD at Manchester University on the History of the Book. So far, the Manchester team has beaten teams from the University of Bristol and the University of York in the first and second rounds, with more games to come. Matthew says Paxman is just as frightening and rude in real life as he is on television, although in one round Matthew got to impress Paxman with his knowledge of 1970's punk bands.



James Binning

The School is pleased to have commissioned former pupil, James Binning (2004), to build the furniture for the new Dining Hall and Sixth Form Centre, which is to be opened in September 2009. James, and his company 'Deep in Wood', will be carving 28 refectory tables and 48 benches in seasoned oak ready to be used by over 800 pupils and staff each day.

Forthcoming Society Events

The School is delighted to announce that there will be another succession of Reunion Dinners for former pupils and staff in 2009, following the success of the Fiftieth Anniversary events during 2007. Dates are yet to be confirmed but the reunions will take place in the new Dining Hall once the development has been completed. More details coming soon.

Richard E B Figgis

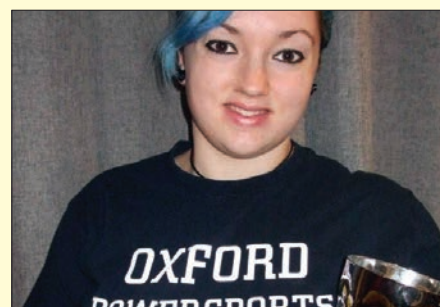
The School was sad to hear that Richard Figgis (1967) had died at the age of 57, on 2 November 2007 after a long illness.

Peter Cranham

A memorial plaque was recently placed in the Chapel in memory of former History Master, Peter Cranham, who died in November 2006, whilst still working at the School.

Flik Denham

On 25 October Flik Denham (2006) took part in the British Weightlifting championships in Kilmarnock to become the Under 23's women's British Champion at 18 years old. She snatched 55kg and cleaned and jerked 75kg to get a total of 130kg in the 75+ kilo weight class. On 15 November she also competed in the Central England Championships and won her weight class again, this time with a snatch of 57kg (a personal best) and a clean and jerk of 72kg making a total of 129kg. Cokethorpe has supported Flik's weightlifting by sponsoring her last year to purchase some much-needed equipment. Flik would like to thank Cokethorpe for the ongoing support.



FROM THE ARCHIVES



Swift House Photo

Thank you to Simon Pedoe (1988) for sending this photo of Swift House (above) just before he joined Vanbrugh. Simon is second row from top and third in from right (not looking at the camera as he had been distracted by Michael Stead who is making others laugh!).



The Good Old Days

When I arrived at Cokethorpe almost fifty years ago the attitudes to discipline were somewhat different than today and we were expected to do the bidding of the masters and our seniors without question. Amongst the number of methods available was the use of the cane across the backside of the culprit. Other punishments included detention, essay writing, clearing the school up and being 'gated' (not being allowed out).

To give the impression that Cokethorpe was a school based on a Dickensian novel would be untrue. During my five years at Cokethorpe I was caned on three occasions although others seemed to be caned on a more regular basis. To illustrate the crimes that made one eligible for the cane it would be easier to recount the reasons why I received this punishment:

1) Whilst making our beds after breakfast we decided to hide and leap out on the last one returning to the dorm. It all went well except that the victim screamed in shock when we surprised him. We were next to Matron's room and she didn't appreciate our antics. The Second Master was summoned and all ten of us got two strokes each!

Photos from Facebook

Peter Lee (1996) posted the two photos below on Facebook and has given permission for them to be printed.

Left: Alistair Stretch, Dennis Li, Peter Lee, Roger New, Ed Eysers, Paul Derow. *Right:* Matt Hojoon Kang, Paul Derow, Ryan Kim, Dennis Li, Howard Tsung, Chris MacAlpine.



2) The changing rooms were untidy with sport clothes spread everywhere. We were told to clear them up but the prefects found two bits of clothing of mine on the floor. I and several others received a stroke for each item of kit found.

3) Following a disagreement about the need to leave the Dining Room quickly I had to write a small novel on some very boring subject. So lots of adjectives in my best scrawl lead me to being reported to my housemaster and getting six of the best, as they could not read it.

If one knew that you were going to be caned there were steps that could be taken to mitigate the effect of the cane, supposedly. Nothing as crass as putting cushions down one's trousers, but turning ones pants round the other way was a favourite. It was a myth. A lot depended on the person carrying out the punishment – those who could hit the same spot were the ones to avoid!

Although the canings I received were for minor misdemeanours, it did teach me one thing and that was not to get caught!

Steven 'Lofty' Hague (Queen Anne, 1964)

History of the School

The School is looking to publish a history of Cokethorpe and would be extremely grateful for any photos, letters, memorabilia or indeed short stories and memories from anyone connected to the School. Please contact the Foundation Office – foundationoffice@cokethorpe.org or 01993 892339 – with information or if you are interested helping with the production of the book.

Heads of School

Below are the names of all the previous Heads of School. Their names are also displayed in the Mansion House.

1959–1960	Richard Peirce
1960–1961	David Lumb
1961–1962	Rodger Marrett
1962–1963	David Gardner
1963–1964	Tony Baker
1964–1965	Jethro Tull
1965–1966	William Webb
1966–1967	Peter Bulmer
1967–1968	Robert Cullen
1968–1969	Christopher Farah
1969–1970	Mark Kitchin
1970–1971	Raymond Adeniyi-Jones
1971–1972	Andrew Sargeantson
1972–1973	Allan Mellaart
1973–1974	Russell Massey
1974–1975	James Tomlinson
1975–1976	Gerard Manley
1976–1977	Roderick McKenzie
1977–1978	Stuart Macleod
1978–1979	Paul Murphy
1979–1980	Julian Keenlyside
1980–1981	Frederick Walsh
1981–1982	Siamak Iran
1982–1983	Allan Wigglesworth
Stefan Haas	
1983–1984	Richard Porter
1984–1985	Bamikole Akande
1985–1986	Jason Jones
1986–1987	Jonathan Reeve
1987–1988	Samuel Smith
Vincent Kehoe	
1988–1989	Adule Wariebi
1989–1990	Nicholas Horn
James Horada	
1990–1991	Justin Price
1991–1992	Michael Read
1992–1993	Simon Gregg
1993–1994	Andrew Perritt
1994–1995	Luke Hollick
1995–1996	Howard Tsung
1996–1997	James Johnson
1997–1998	Peter Brown
1998–1999	Jonathan Cranston
1999–2000	Thomas Laybourne
2000–2001	Craig Harrington
2001–2002	Timothy Cranston
2002–2003	Simon Jess
2003–2004	Alistair Buchan
2004–2005	Michael Klimes
2005–2006	Helen Davey
2006–2007	Erika Jennison
2007–2008	Charles Bartlett
2008–2009	Isobel Landon

Ave

J A W Capel

The Geography Department welcomes Mr Capel, a keen sportsman and jazz lover, after previously teaching at the Glasgow Academy in Scotland for the past ten years.

Miss M Bennett

Miss Bennett joins the School as Head of Languages after spending the last ten years teaching in London and Wiltshire. Although self admittedly she is not a keen sportswoman, she was however School Marbles Champion in 1978!

H R Kennard

Mr Kennard (Physics) graduated from Oxford University last year and enjoys travelling, folk music and is an avid guitarist.

Ms G Kruger

Ms Kruger joined Cokethorpe as a teacher of piano. She often appears as a recitalist, both in chamber music and as a piano soloist, outside School.

T J Mann

After graduating from Oxford University last year with a degree in Philosophy and Politics, Mr Mann makes a welcome addition to Cokethorpe's Philosophy and Politics Department. Beyond work Mr Mann is a keen musician and traveller: most notably he enjoys performing with his jazz quintet and back in 2007, caught the train half way across the world to Hong Kong.

Mrs P P S Paterson

Mrs Paterson (Mathematics) came to England with her husband in March 2008. They are enjoying the chance to travel and love living in Oxford. Before that, she was teaching in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa.

R J Phillips

Mr Phillips (English) joins Cokethorpe from John Mason School. He is married with two children under five. His interests include music and he has played bass guitar in a band for ten years. He is also a keen thespian.

Mrs L A Walwyn

Mrs Walwyn joins Cokethorpe from Langley Grammar School in Berkshire, having previously taught Music for five years. Prior to that she trained as an EFL teacher and taught English in Italy and London for several years. As a saxophonist and clarinetist she enjoys playing rhythm and blues in a local band.



Ave Atque Valet

Mr S J Rae

Cokethorpe sadly says farewell to Mr Rae who has enjoyed the last nine years at the School. He will be greatly missed by pupils and staff alike, who will remember him best perhaps for his love of VW camper vans.



Mrs T Bennett

After ten terms at Cokethorpe, Mrs Bennett leaves the School to return to life as a full-time mother, before hopefully going back into education, this time to study Conservation at university.

Youngest Ever Reader

The Ocellus, it would appear, is reaching and being enjoyed by a wide and varying audience including our youngest ever reader Miss Jessica Timms who is only two years old. Perhaps not yet old enough to enjoy the articles, she certainly has fun looking at the pictures!



Open Morning

Saturday 7 February: 9.30am – 12 noon

Prospective parents interested in entry at any age are warmly invited to attend. All departments will be open, and there will be refreshments and activities. Headmaster's address: 10am and 11am.

For personal visits at other times, for a tour, discussion with the Registrar, Head of Junior School if appropriate, and to meet the Headmaster, please contact the Admissions Secretary, Chris Bowerman (01993 703921 or admissions@cokethorpe.org).

Key Admissions Dates

Junior School Assessment Day:

27 January 2009

Year 7 Assessment Day: 31 January 2009

Please contact the Admissions Office for further information.

Contacts

Headmaster

Email correspondence is particularly welcomed during the Headmaster 'Live' hour (8.00–9.00pm, on the first Monday of each month during term time). dje@cokethorpe.org. At other times please contact the Headmaster's Secretary, Mrs Timms (01993 892325 or hmsec@cokethorpe.org).

Senior Academic Staff

Second Master: K Walton

kw@cokethorpe.org

Director of Studies: D H Williams

dhw@cokethorpe.org

Head of Junior School: Mrs C Cook

cc@cokethorpe.org

Housemasters and Housemistresses

Feilden: Miss P S M Townsend
psmt@cokethorpe.org

Gascoigne: C Maskery
cm@cokethorpe.org

Harcourt: G J Rees
gjr@cokethorpe.org

Queen Anne: Miss F M M Hamon
fmh@cokethorpe.org

Swift: J E Bown
jeb@cokethorpe.org

Vanbrugh: Mrs J L Pratley
jlp@cokethorpe.org

Photographs

For digital copies of photographs in this newsletter contact the Marketing Manager, Katherine Rutland on 01993 892339 or email ksfr@cokethorpe.org

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www.cokethorpe.org.uk