



Cokethorpe
SCHOOL

THE OCCELLUS

The termly newsletter of the School

From the Headmaster



In the course of a recent conversation, the thought was expressed that 'we don't own our children'. I found myself pondering the truth of that idea and its implications. It means, of course, that we have no right to expect our children to grow up in our image – each child is an individual and has the right to develop that individuality. But it can also have another important meaning. We often see in the papers that some children's lives go badly awry, and some commentators are quick to blame poor parenting. The very fact that we place such emphasis on the family certainly points to our belief that a secure and loving family helps to lay a strong foundation. But we also know that children from good and loving families sometimes go astray and others, whose family backgrounds seem hopelessly dysfunctional, can still flourish. Every young person is a mixture of their genes and their environment, the influence of their families, their schools and their peers. They also possess free will and make personal choices that influence their future. No one is in overall control! We rejoice if that journey is a smooth one, but should not be surprised or dismayed if there are bumps along the way. We do know for certain that mutual trust, support and cooperation provide the best possible environment in which our children can develop the character they need if they are to face life's challenges.



ROUND UP

Contents	Page
From the Headmaster	1
Round Up	2
Academic	3–4
The Sixth Form	5–6
The Arts	7–9
Sport	10–11
The Houses	12
The Junior School	13–15
New Developments	16
Cokethorpe Parents' Association	16
Visitors	17
Wider Community	17
The Cokethorpe Society	18
From the Archives	19
Tail Feathers	20

Scholarship Awards 2009-2010

Year 7

Academic

Nancy Battersby (Gascoigne)
Heidi Lawson (Gascoigne)

Art

George Wood (Gascoigne)

Sport

Charlie Dyde (Feilden)

Year 9

Academic

Saul Garrett (St Hugh's)
Ewan Johnson (Queen Anne) (Re-Award)
Molly Williamson (Vanbrugh) (Re-Award)

Drama

Miles Beirouti (Abingdon Prep)
Saskia Kovandzich (Harcourt)

Music

Katherine Woolley (Queen Anne)

Art

Jake Bisley (St Hugh's Prep)
Will Cunnington (Gascoigne)

Sport

Jackson Burton (Abingdon Prep)
Holly Keylock (Feilden)
Francis Plummer (Queen Anne) (Re-Award)

For Sixth Form Scholarships see page 6.

Please note that at the time of writing some decisions were still to be made.

Front Cover:

Bronté Coppock-Cudd, the Queen of the Fairies, from the Senior School Music and Drama production of *Iolanthe*

Ski Trip to Italy

On 13 December a group of 24 pupils from Year 7 to Year 9 departed for a week's skiing in Courmayeur, a little town nestling beneath Mont Blanc in north east Italy. Having travelled through the night, the group arrived to be greeted by heavy snowfall. A metre of new snow ensured that the group enjoyed superb snow conditions on largely empty pistes throughout the week. Pupils received four hours of instruction each day, as

well as supervised skiing with staff. During the evenings the group participated in a variety of activities including pizza and crêpe evenings, ice skating, a very noisy disco, and on the last evening attended a presentation with their instructors.

The group returned to School in time for Christmas, tired but full of wonderful memories of an action packed week.



The Big Freeze

The snow was not only enjoyed by those who travelled to Italy on the skiing trip this term, the heavy snow that descended on England during February meant that Cokethorpe was forced to close for two days. Although disruptive, the unusual weather brought with it lots of fun, especially for the younger children for whom it was the first time that they had seen snow.



Open Morning

One event that the snow and icy driving conditions did not hamper was Open Morning on 7 February. Dedicated staff and a few invited pupils were on hand to show families around, bringing them back to the Mansion House for a warming cup of tea in front of the roaring fire. All departments were open for parents to talk to teaching staff about the opportunities offered at Cokethorpe. Thank you to all the staff and pupils who made it through the snow!

Cokethorpe Senior School, and for their parents. This is true not just for our own Junior School children but also for those joining from a range of other primary and prep schools. We were extremely lucky to choose a sunny Saturday in January for the children to sit the examinations, the final part of the assessment process. Following a testing morning and a good lunch, the candidates were then able to choose afternoon activities including sport, creative writing, art, drama, science, music and design. By the time they met up with their parents over tea and cake all thoughts of the tests were forgotten and the children were able to say goodbye to new friends – hoping to see them again in September.

Year 7 Assessment Day

January is a nervous time both for the children in Year 6 taking assessment for



Careers Convention

The Careers Convention in March provided the opportunity for a wide variety of experience and information to be conveyed to pupils in Years 9 and above. The 43 stands, which filled the Sports Hall, had representatives from top universities, local employers, and also parents and former pupils providing their professional expertise. The displays were vibrant and eye catching and ranged from dentistry, accountancy and architecture to the Royal Navy, the National Trust and the Oxford Playhouse. The Sports Hall buzzed with conversation as pupils and their parents quizzed the exhibitors about their occupations or organisations. Visitors picked up prospectuses, eco-bags, pens and sweets, as well as helpful tips and an awareness of the many opportunities in the world of work and Higher Education.

Oxfordshire Youth Parliament

Jack Bennett (Year 10, Feilden) was chosen in a whole-school election to represent Cokethorpe at the Oxfordshire Youth Parliament, which meets four times a year. Below is a report on the first meeting.

'This was a chance for all the young representatives from schools across the county to meet and discuss the problems that really matter to them. After learning everyone's names we had some quick-fire agree/disagree questions. Ranging from 'McDonald's is better than Burger King' to 'Obama is an inspiration to all'. We then visited the Chambers where we met senior council members and employees of the county council, who gave us contextual and relevant feed back. The evening was interesting, enlightening, and a real eye opener.'



Lunchtime Lecture

Lunchtime lectures continued this term with a talk from Lieutenant Ian Cain, of the Royal Australian Navy. Lt Cain, a parent of the School, spoke about life in a modern navy. Most revealing was the sheer amount of humanitarian work they undertake. He encouraged students to 'study hard first time' and avoid the circuitous route he has taken to gain a Master's degree.



Year 8 Geography Trip

On 24 February and 13 March Year 8 visited Didcot Power Station to support their term's study of energy supply. The visit began with a lecture on electricity-generating stations and a video discussing the reasons behind recent moves towards cleaner fuels and renewable energy sources, such as wind and tide. The group then visited the coal store, control room, generating plant and transformers.

The pupils learnt many facts such as that the height of the tallest tower is 199 metres, the dome of St Paul's Cathedral is able to fit inside one cooling tower, that the coal and gas comes from Russia, biofuel is palm nut husks coming from Indonesia, and that the highest generating output is after an episode of Eastenders. It was a very good trip.

Careers Convention Stands

Educational Institutions

Birmingham University
Cambridge University
Cardiff University
Cokethorpe Sixth Form
Nottingham University
Oxford Media and Business School
Regent's College, London
Royal Agricultural College
Royal Holloway College
Southampton University
Spasholt College
The Royal Veterinary College

Employers

AKS Engineers
Ambulance Service
Army
Darbys Solicitors
Kingerlee
M Group Accountants
Navy
Nightingale Associates Architects
Oxford Playhouse
Rutherford Laboratory
Sara Louise Kakes
Siemens
STL Communications
The National Trust
Year in Industry
West Oxfordshire District Council

Professionals from Industries

Art and Design
Chemistry
Dentistry
Human Resources
Marketing
Medicine
Nursery Nursing
Graphic Design
Publishing
Physics
Physiotherapy
Property Management
Psychology
Public Relations
Teaching
Independent School Careers Organisation

Maths Challenge

Ethan Bosse, Teague Bond, Molly Williamson and Callum Breslin represented the School in the UKMT Team Maths Challenge, held in the Oxford University examination rooms. This was a challenging and enjoyable day out. The team performed very well and came 12th out of 41 schools, narrowly missing out on the top ten.

Electronic Registering

From the start of the Summer Term, the Senior School will be using an electronic registering system to record morning and afternoon attendance. This will make monitoring of pupils' attendance more efficient and easily assessed by form, year group and academic house.

To School and Back

Below is the winning entry in the 'To School and Back' competition that took place during the Lent Term. This was held as part of the Travel Plan (see page 16). The runners up were George Lawson (Year 9, Gascoigne), Emma King (Year 7, Harcourt) and Emelia Wardle (Year 1, Queen Anne).

'Naked ears bleed from the alarm of razors. Bleary cornflakes. Hassled father's scarlet ears reek of stress as he bundles us into the Saab. Sleepy car, with its seats of leather lullabies. Forced into crush of cold, eating away at helpless skin, merciless and cruel, quickly devouring feeling. The hydraulic prison opens its gate, packed with fellow zombies. The leaden murmur soothes the mind as the voyage begins.

Mist cocoons proud stone. Learning approaches and with it an unspoken sigh of necessary tribulation. Limp legs are wrenched up and off the trembling hulk and onward to the new day.

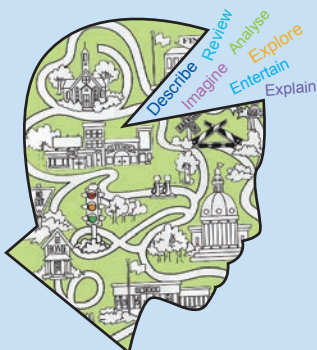
Companions are spied and smiles are exchanged, jovial insults traded. Energy floods uncertain limbs, minds ignite and muscles grow vigilant. Teachers inspire, ravenous intellects wolf knowledge rapaciously. Lunatic children erupt from their classrooms, assaulting friends with infantile glee. Nourishment is snatched before recapture. Memories of home cloud their previous avarice.

Return to the jittering monstrosity, but the previous tranquillity has evaporated into the cool night sky. Instead, buoyant and frantic voices wrestle for supremacy and the great vehicle itself seems elated to be in the presence of such vigour.

The journey must end some time however and steps are taken into the electrifying night. Good byes are mumbled and the leaden feeling returns.

A smile contorts dry lips as memories of home spring to weary minds.'

Max Williamson (Year 11, Vanbrugh)



Year 9 Trip to Ypres

Having spent the term studying the causes and course of World War I, Year 9 ended the year with a trip to Ypres in order to see for themselves the land over which so many lives were lost. The weather was uncommonly kind, and the mud of Flander's Fields was nowhere to be seen – but this did not detract from what was an educational and emotional experience. Led by two expert guides, the group visited the Advanced Dressing Station at Essex Farm, the German trench network at Bayernwald and, at 8pm on Sunday evening, joined the daily ceremony of Remembrance at the Menin Gate – the memorial to those who died and whose bodies have never been found.



The group were keen to build personal links between pupils and the conflict, and it was good to be able to pay their respects to various ancestors, including Mr Williams's Great Uncle, who died in a Casualty Clearing Station at Mendinghem. Probably the most moving experience though, came when the group gathered at Tyne Cot for a moment of reflection. James Ellacott played the *Last Post* and the emotive poems *Anthem for Doomed Youth* and *Lamplight* were read.

The trip was a great success. It is always good to take students out of the classroom for a learning experience, and this is one that they will not forget.

English Workshop

At the end of January the A2 Language students joined with the AS Literature students to attend a workshop by 'The Chaucer Man', Trevor Eaton. It gave them a wonderful opportunity to hear passages of *The Merchant's Tale* being dynamically performed in Middle English, as well as gaining a fascinating insight into the life and times of Chaucerian England.



Year 10 Poetry Live

Once again, Year 10 pupils experienced poetry in performance from some of the UK's leading contemporary voices and were treated to a range of unique and dynamic personalities on stage at Reading Town Hall. The poets spoke emotively about the power of poetry; John Agard raised the roof with his irreverent and touching verse and Simon Armitage engaged the audience with his northern wit and incisive poetic style. The experience illustrated the possibilities within this form of creative expression.

engaging with child heroes and responding empathetically to their situations, fears and dilemmas. He stressed the important difference between those books through which we learn the mechanics of reading and those that inculcate a love of literature. He read selections from *Treasure Island*, *Great Expectations* and *Coraline*.

Lunchtime Lecture

Mr Phillips's literary recital, on the theme 'The Child Hero in Literature', began by explaining how his early enthusiasm for reading as a child developed from



THE SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form Trip to Washington

2009 has already been a heady year for Washington DC; the first black President has been sworn in, the largest bail-out package ever has been approved, and 23 students from Cokethorpe School have made their first visit to the Capital. Put them in whatever order you will.

Led by Mr Schofield, the group took in each of the major institutions of the Federal Government, including a guided tour of Congress and a talk given in the Courtroom of the Supreme Court building. Outside the White House the group came across politics in action, with a demonstration against the continued use of Guantanamo Bay, and were able to ask questions both about the issue specifically and about political lobbying in the US more generally.



Sixth Form PSHE

The new Sixth Form PSHE programme has been a great success this term, where students have been focusing on life 'Post-Cokethorpe', particularly preparing for university. Groups have looked at budgeting, healthy eating, cooking and have even had a trip to Sainsbury's where they tried buying a week's worth of shopping on a university budget – an eye-opener for many!

The Sixth Formers also welcomed a speaker from Drive Tech, a leading road safety organisation, who specialise in increasing young people's awareness of the hazards involved with driving.

The Lower Sixth have been focusing on the UCAS application process. It is an exciting time, and the universities being considered are increasingly aspirational.

Is Meat Murder?

This term's Philosophy Café asked 'Is Meat Murder?' with Mr Kennard, Physics teacher and organic food connoisseur, presenting a case in favour. His thought-provoking talk was well received by the floor, many finding his argument most compelling. The event enjoyed some fierce and sophisticated points of debate. Suggestions for the themes of future Cafés are most welcomed.

Ensuring a balance between Politics and History, visits were made to the National Archives to see the 'Holy Trinity' of American documentation – the Declaration of Independence, Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Time was also spent in the Library of Congress and the African American Civil War Museum, where the students received a talk on 'slave' involvement in the Civil War.

Washington DC is not all about academia though; the group urged the Washington Wizards to victory against the Minnesota Timberwolves, visited the world-renowned diner, Ben's Chili Bowl, and even managed to get into the filming of a US comedy, Free Modea. The trip engaged in the political, historical and cultural mix that represents the USA.



Drama Trip

In February 13 drama pupils went to see the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of *Othello* at the Oxford Playhouse. It was a fascinating interpretation of the play with some intriguing and challenging elements emerging. The production highlighted the enduring nature and contemporary relevance of the issues raised by the story line.



National Basketball Association

The NBA is North America's premier professional men's basketball league, composed of thirty teams: twenty-nine in the United States and one in Canada.

The NBA is one of the five major North American professional sports leagues, which also include Major League Baseball (MLB), the National Football League (NFL), the National Hockey League (NHL), and Major League Soccer (MLS).

Film Studies

Below is a list of films seen by the first Film Studies students during the Michaelmas Term.

In Their Entirety

Goldfinger
The Kite Runner

Long Segments

Children of Men
Nosferatu (original)
Dr. Calagari's Casebook
Metropolis
A Clockwork Orange

Study Segments Related to Sound, Cinematography, Mise-En-Scene, Performance and Editing

2001
Buffy the Vampire
Gladiator
Die Hard
Sunshine
The Corpse Bride
Tom and Jerry
Ten Things I Hate About You
The World is Not Enough
Ocean's Eleven
Pan's Labyrinth
M
Billy Elliot
Citizen Kane
The Diving Bell and the Butterfly
Donnie Darko
The Battleship Potemkin
Double Indemnity
Children of Men
The Quick and the Dead
Harry Potter
Blade Runner
Johnny Mnemonic
Perfume
Pirates of the Caribbean
Casino Royale
Erin Brockovich
Juno
Shakespeare in Love
Se7en
The Untouchables
The Killing Fields
North by Northwest

On Friday 13 February the Year 12 Film Studies students took part in a screenplay writing workshop.

THE SIXTH FORM

Oxbridge Conference

Oxbridge aspirants attended the Oxford and Cambridge Student Conference in Cardiff on Wednesday 25 March. This provided up-to-date information on the application and admissions procedure at both institutions, as well as providing an insight into student life and talks on student finance.

Oxford Crown Court

Lower Sixth Law students visited the Oxford Crown Court on Tuesday 27 January to see court proceedings in action.

Genetics

Genetics, a discipline of biology, is the science of heredity and variation in living organisms. The modern science of genetics began with the work of Gregor Mendel in the mid-19th century. Mendel observed that organisms inherit traits in a discrete manner—these basic units of inheritance are now called genes.

Scholarship Awards 2009-2010

Sixth Form

Academic

Caroline Jenkins (Queen Anne)
Alison Roberts (Gascoigne)

All Round

Huw Williams (Swift)

Drama

Alexander Lawson (Swift)
Edward Bird (Henry Box)

Music

Paul Berry (Queen Anne)
Ross McKee (Gascoigne)

Sport

Daniel Burford (Feilden)
Millie Herbert (Gosford Hill)
George Miller (Burford)
Sunny Ricketts (Henry Box)
James Silver (Burford)
Shona Stanley (Vanbrugh)
Julian Watkins (Swift)
Luke Withey (Harcourt)
Jacob Wilson (Gascoigne)

Please note that at the time of writing some decisions were still to be made.

OISSP

The Oxfordshire Independent/State Schools Partnership is the largest Independent/State School partnership in Britain, with 47 of the 54 schools in Oxfordshire members. OISSP has helped to develop schools INSET, conferences, celebration events and projects for Oxfordshire schools, teachers and pupils.

General Studies

This term the Sixth Form welcomed two outstanding speakers, both from medical fields. In January, Dr Dominic Heaney, from the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery in London, gave a revealing and superbly illustrated talk about epilepsy. It is only in the past few decades that a real understanding of this very common condition, its nature and treatment, has begun to take effect. As a result, students turned a page in their comprehension as to how medical practice, and social prejudice, has changed in recent years. Dr Heaney was delighted by the attentiveness and questions of the students, saying they were quite a cut above his average second-year undergraduate classes!



In a similar vein, Dr Linda Tyfield gave a participatory lecture about our genetic heritage. Her dynamic talk, informed from her recent research with the NHS and Bristol University, demanded everyone in the room to take a colour-and-alpha-numerically coded card. These stood for specific moments in the development of human genetic history. Indeed, her experiment seemed to 'prove' that rugby players are indeed of Neanderthal origin – much to the hilarity of all concerned. Dr Tyfield was delighted at the reception she was given; her comments, and indeed those of all our speakers and students who gave feedback, can be found on the General Studies website.



Biologist of the Year

Tim Muller (Year 13, Vanbrugh) received an award from Honorary Research Assistant, Dr George McGavin at the Biologist of the Year ceremony held at the University of Oxford Museum of Natural History, hosted by the OISSP. Tim was selected from all the students to feature in an educational video series to encourage interest in the study of biological sciences.



Geography Trip to Wales

After being delayed by the February snow, the Year 12 Geography students set off to Betws-y-Coed in North Wales to research coastal management strategies and the re-branding of areas. Each morning we had a short lesson and then got kitted out for the typical Welsh weather. We headed off to Criccieth where we underestimated how cold and wet it would be. We were all freezing while looking at the effects of long shore drift and measuring pebbles.



During the next two days we went to Llandudno and Betws-y-Coed, carrying out surveys and bipolar analysis. The journeys in the Land Rover were the highlights of the trip, telling jokes and spotting all the other 'fellow defenders'.

Thank you to Mrs Martindale, Mr Capel and Mr Bown for a very memorable trip.

Hannah Brownrigg-Gleeson and Louise Ford



THE ARTS

Gig Night 2

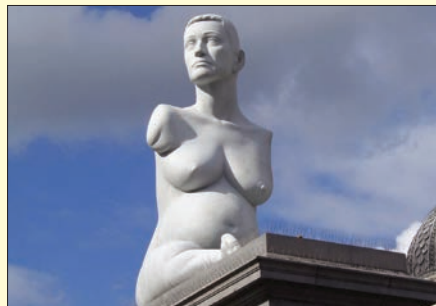
On 24 March, Cokethorpe School held its second Gig Night to a sell-out crowd, who witnessed a wonderful night of music from all the different styles – from Pop to Rock, Jazz to Hip-Hop. There were 20 acts who performed over two hours involving nearly 50 pupils. Entry

fee money was donated to Comic Relief, raising over £300 on the night. It would be unfair to mention any single act as all brought something special to the evening. Huge thanks to Mr Mullin for encouraging everyone who took part. The next Gig Night is eagerly anticipated.



The Cokethorpe Plinth

Inspired by the Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square and drawing upon Cokethorpe's artistic flair, the School will be exhibiting its own art work on a specially commissioned Cokethorpe Plinth. This project will run from the second half of the Summer Term and is open to all. See the School website for more information and details on how to get your art work displayed on the Cokethorpe Plinth.



Music Recitals

Pupils, parents and staff filled the Corinthian Room again for lunchtime recitals this term. The series began with some pianists: Fraser Logue, Harry Lovibond and Constantin Patt (Year 7) and Junior School pupils Nancy Battersby, Eloise Fraser-Paterson and

Jessica Williams. French horn trio Paul Berry, Freddie Miles and Ross McKee (Year 11) performed, and Zoë Mace sang a programme of items including her own composition. She was joined for one item by the Soul Singers, who will be giving their own recital next term.



Textiles Work

These pieces by Ella McEwen (Year 10, Gascoigne) were inspired by the artist Giuseppe Arcimboldo. He is best known for his portraits made out of objects such as fruit, vegetables, fish or books, arranged on the canvas in such a way that they form a recognisable likeness of the subject.

Gig Night 2 Performers

The following pupils performed at Gig Night 2:

Jack Biggs
Jack Bennett
Jacob Booty
Duncan Bruce
Spencer Buckley
Jake de Buriatte Moglia
Edward Collins
Oliver Cookson
Jack Cully
William Dagul
William Draper
Matthew Ellacott
Christian Ettinger
Henry Ettinger
Harry Fellows
Elizabeth Ferrier
James Francis-Barrie
Joshua Gale
Ellen Garbutt
Thomas Goodger
Joseph Grant
Ruby Grant
James Hand
Harry Hastings
Holly Keylock
Joshua Kim
Aidan King
Elliot Kratt
George Lawson
Heidi Lawson
William Lawson
Fraser Logue
Christopher Lord
Harry Lovibond
Zoë Mace
James Metcalfe
Charlotte Mobbs
Gregory Muller
Cameron Pickering
Francis Plummer
Henry Plumridge
Toby Pugh
Melanie Severn
Isaac Staff
Richard Thompson
Charles Tobin
Thomas Waddington
Evie Wilson
Jack Wollner
Thomas Wood
Benjamin Woodard

The Fourth Plinth

The Fourth Plinth, popularly known as 'the empty plinth' and located in Trafalgar Square in London, was originally designed by Sir Charles Barry and was built in 1841 to display an equestrian statue. Due to insufficient funds the plinth was left empty and remained so until recently, where it is now used to display a series of temporary works of art. To date these have included works such as *Alison Lapper Pregnant* by Marc Quinn (see above) and *Model for a Hotel* by Thomas Schütte. Works to come include *One and Other* by Antony Gormley and *Nelson's Ship in a Bottle* by Yinka Shonibare.

THE ARTS

Iolanthe Cast

Baron Ighton the First	Dominic Cannon
Celia	Sian Keegan
Count Alfred of North Yorkshire	Fred Orme
Duke Dilgo-Dodo	James Ellacott
Earl of Mountararat	Guy De Vos
Earl O'Stute	Oliver Parker
Earl Tiddlepomp the Seventh	Daniel Pye
Earl Tolloller	George Lawson
Elektra	Katie Jenkins
Evil	Luci DiMascio
Fleta	Saskia Kovandzich
Hex	Katherine Woolley
Icicle	Pip Sayers
Iolanthe	Lucy Grout
Ivy	Izzy Berger
Jinx	Charlotte Ferryman
Leila	Lucy Furneaux
Lord Chancellor	Gerard Smith
Lord Ethanol	Luke Saunders
Lord Smiley the Fifth	Fraser Logue
Menace	Rosie Turner
Phyllis	Zoë Mace
Poison	Amy Williams
Pompom	Beth Mulloy
Prickle	Anna Withey
Private Willis	Dominic Cannon
Queen of the Fairies	Bronté Coppock-Cudd
Roxy	Rosanna Cull
Scabs	Connie Manning
Skulls	Melanie Severn
Smokes	Lucy Nielsen
Spike	Ellen Garbutt
Strephon	Myles Osborn-Banton
The Marquis of Hampstead Heath	Patrick Hooley
Thistle	Alice Bird
Trixie	Jessie Grimwade

The Production Team

Assistant Director	Mr T Walwyn
Costumes	Mrs L Mace
Production Manager	Mrs J Pratley
Set Artist	Mr G Lawson
Set Construction/ Stage Manager	Mr P Warner
Backstage Manager	Freddie Miles
Lighting Design/Technician	Peter Small
Lighting Assistant	George Hooper
Sound	Mr S Henderson

The Band

Leader/Electric Violin	Mr B Heaney
Flute and Percussion	Mr M Mullin
Piano	Mr T Mann
Bass	Mr R Phillips
Kit	Mr I Bush

Special Thanks

Art Assistant	Gabriella Evans
Midi-programming	Mr S Henderson
Box Office	Mrs T Bennett
Choreography	Miss Lynn Hall
Choreographer's Assistant	and the Production Team
Programme Concept	Miss G Ringham
	Mr B Heaney, Mrs C Hooper
	and Daniel Pye
Programme Design	Miss K Rutland
Poster/Ticket Design	Mrs J Freeston
Photography	Mr B Heaney
Set Construction	Mr D Williams
Loan of V-Drums	Joshua Gale

Iolanthe

As you entered The Shed, you found yourself walking through the middle of a litter-strewn shopping arcade. The set (built by Mr Warner and Mr Williams) and artwork (Mr Lawson) was stunning; the boarded up shops were covered in graffiti (spray paint by Luke Frith-Powell and Dominic Walls), and the vandalised central water fountain spewed out discoloured water. This vision of London in 2020 was set against the contrasting backdrop of the Houses of Parliament, where 'God Save the Queen' remained scrawled in the sky.

Then, as dusk fell and the mist rose, something magical happened – out of the air-vents, dustbins and almost as if from nowhere, the fairies appeared. Not pretty darting-winged creatures but mischievous and evil fallen angels. They crawled and crept from their hiding places to form a menacing gang of punks and goths. The immortal chaotic band of fairies led by the terrifying but striking one-eyed Queen (played beautifully by Bronté Coppock-Cudd), resplendent in her Vivien Westwood creation and armed with a six-foot whip, had the colour and energy of a hundred whirlwinds. The world of politics, represented by the peers – arrogant and corrupt, all grey suits, bowler hats and matching umbrellas provided such a contrast to the underworld that they rightly became objects of ridicule.

The adaptation and direction by Mrs Hooper and Mr Heaney provided an edge-of-the-seat experience and at the end of the evening there was a collective feeling that something wonderful had just happened. Zoë Mace and Myles Osborn-Banton played their parts as the young lovers with just the right amount of naivety and cynicism. George Lawson's exceptional Earl Tolloller had us in fits of laughter along with the ridiculous Earl Mountararat, brilliantly portrayed by Guy De Vos. From the moment Lucy Grout appeared from the fountain, she was mesmerising as the haunted Iolanthe and sang her final ballad beautifully. Gerard Smith gave a powerful performance as the Lord Chancellor, with a good mixture of humour, menace and innocence. Every member of the ensemble played their part to the full and clearly enjoyed doing so. One had to keep reminding oneself that these were school children and not professional performers.



THE ARTS

GCSE Assessed Performance

Year 11 Drama pupils were assessed on their devised work in The Shed recently, drawing on all of their skills for research, script-writing, improvisation and directing. The pupils were exceptionally mature in their approach to the difficult topic of 'Drug Culture' and there were some fantastic performances for the examiners to see.

From the effects of alcoholism and prescription drugs on the family to the dangers of marijuana and cocaine abuse on health, life and friends, each group was unrelenting in their portrayal of the harsh realities of addiction. The pieces ranged from straightforward gripping narrative to expressive surrealism, informed by classical poetry and horror films. This was an outstanding finale to a series of strong and thoughtful performances from this year group.



Year 7

The whole of Year 7 took part in a lunchtime performance of Mime during March, drawing on a term's hard work of experimenting and devising with this most challenging of forms. There were some brilliant performances with titles ranging from 'The Attack of the Snowmen', 'Fairground Attractions' and 'Lost Tomb of the Pharaoh'. A boy was attacked by space invaders in 'Reality TV' and the unfortunate survivors of a plane crash were consumed by cannibals in the darkly comic 'Tea for Two'.



Year 8

Year 8 have been experimenting this term with the complexities of Physical Theatre and have all developed strange and wonderful machines, using only their bodies and imagination. Several groups performed their machines in The Shed, along with some brilliantly satirical adverts selling their product. The machines ranged from a devise that could turn rubbish into laptops to one that could complete your homework. There will be further performances of these and many others in our new 'Busking Box' during lunchtimes.



Year 9

This term Year 9 have been working on their improvisation skills, devising sequences from simple stimuli such as one prop, one line of dialogue or one location.

The audience were treated to some wonderfully exuberant performances: from the medical panic of a lion attack to the sombre heartbreak of a lovelorn soldier; from the hilarious consequences of time travelling with an alarm clock to the surreal madness of a teapot-wielding game show host. This was a lunchtime



performance full of skill and invention that proudly demonstrated the technical skill and vivid imaginations of the Year 9 pupils.

Inter-House Drama Casts

Queen Anne

Basil Fawley	Declan Duffy
Sybil Fawley	Olivia Plummer
Polly	Rose Parker
Manuel	Alex Shuttleworth
Major Gowen	Brian Clark
O'Reilly	Francis Plummer
Stubbs	Myles Osborn-Banton
Garden Gnome	Edward Mordue

Swift

Basil Fawley	Gerard Smith
Sybil Fawley	Louise Ford
Mrs Richards	Bronté Coppock-Cudd
Manuel	Alex Lawson
The Major	Joe Grant

Vanbrugh

Basil Fawley	Alex Wilson
Sybil Fawley	Chloë Pickford
Mr Carnegie	Greg Muller
Polly	Rebecca Fellows
Terry	Joshua Relfh
Manuel	Tom Wood
Mr Gatsby	Hugo Van Dorssen
The Major	Alex Wallace

Gascoigne

Basil Fawley	George Lawson
Sybil Fawley	Sophie Truran
Polly	Rachel Wood
Manuel	James Metcalfe
Colonel Hall	Alex Lord
Mrs Hall	Christie Batty
Mr Twitchen	Alex Lister
Mrs Twitchen	Luci DiMascio

Feilden

Basil Fawley	Ben Saugman
Sybil Fawley	Kim Lyzba
Manuel	Luke Saunders
Polly	Sian Keegan
Terry	Lucy Grout
Mrs Tibbs	Jessica Green
The Major	Louis Taylor
Mr Carnegie	James Ellacott

Harcourt

Basil Fawley	Toby Pugh
Sybil Fawley	Zoë Mace
Polly	Lucy Furneaux
Manuel	Rafi Hambleton
Colonel Hall	Jonathan Jones
Mrs Twitchen	Jessica Wulff
Mrs Hall	Francesca Ferrier
Mr Twitchen	Edward Hall

Judges

Mrs Hooper
Miss Ringham
Mrs Rachel Johnson

Twelve Dreams by James Lapine

AS Theatre Studies students will present this moving and disturbing drama to the public on Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 May at 7.30pm in The Shed. Tickets not required. This event is free.

Soccer Results

First XI

Park House School	L 1-5
U19 County Cup	W 2-1
Abingdon School	W 3-2
County Cup v Wood Green	W 5-2
The Oratory School	D 1-1
Reading Blue Coat School	D 2-2
County Cup v Lord William's	D 3-3
1st XI/2nd XI v Burford School	L 0-1

Second XI

Park House School	L 1-5
Abingdon School	W 4-3
Akeley Wood School	L 0-1
The Oratory School	L 0-1
Reading Blue Coat School	L 1-3
Henry Box School	L 0-4
1st XI/2nd XI Burford School	L 0-1

Third XI

Kingham Hill School	L 2-4
The King's School	L 2-4
Akeley Wood School	L 1-3
The Oratory School	L 0-7
Reading Blue Coat School	L 0-6
Magdalen College School	L 0-6

Overall Statistics for all year groups:
Despite a tougher fixture card,
Cokethorpe won or drew 69% of their
fixtures.

Netball Results

First VII

Bloxham School	L 25-40
Shiplake College	W 19-5
Akeley Wood School	W 37-16
Headington School	L 15-35
Oxford High School	L 11-15
St Helen and St Katharine	L 11-26
Stowe School	L 29-30
The King's School	W 20-11
Cokethorpe Boys	W 5-2

Second VII

Kingham Hill School	L 1-0
Bloxham School	W 4-1
Shiplake College	W 3-2
Akeley Wood School	W 5-0
Headington School	L 4-0
Oxford High School U16s	W 1-0
Oxford High School 2nd VII	W 1-0
St Helen and St Katharine	L 2-1
Stowe School	W 3-1
The King's School	W 2-1

Third VII

Bloxham School	L 11-19
Headington School	L 15-19
Oxford High School U16s	L 2-14
Oxford High School 2nd VII	D 4-4

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

Soccer Report

It was with confidence that a range of prestigious schools was added to the fixtures card this year, resulting in a higher standard of soccer. Scores have reflected this stronger opposition, nonetheless matches have been very competitive.

The 1st XI enjoyed another excellent season, in particular superb wins came against Wood Green and Lord William's School in the U19 County Cup.

The 2nd XI played 8 matches this term, 4 of which were against the opposition's 1st XI. Praise must go to Zachary Latcham-Ford (Queen Anne) for his leadership and attitude.

The 3rd XI enjoyed their first ever season of soccer, playing 7 fixtures. The team was competitive and determined, despite tough fixtures.



Clay Pigeon Shooting

The Cokethorpe clay pigeon shooting team were delighted to beat 17 other School teams, including Bloxham, Millfield and Rugby, to take first place at the Southern Regional Championships-The Warwick Challenge. The team, consisting of Henry Wenman (Vanbrugh), James Nettlefold (Vanbrugh), George Kerr (Feilden), Jordan Gillies (Feilden) and captained by Michael Staples (Swift), won the championships with an impressive 182 points out of a possible 250. This regional competition leads onto the National Championships which will take place in Buckinghamshire on 2 May.



The U15s played a lot of strong opposition and physical stature must be added to their game to complement the technical ability that the team possesses.

The U14s have had a successful term, with their outstanding match being an excellent 1-0 win over Henry Box School. Oliver Creed (Swift) and Jordan Cross (Gascoigne) had a particularly good season. Many players demonstrated potential for the future.

The U13s had a somewhat disappointing season and must build on their team performance next year.

The U12's most notable win was against the Dragon School. Charles Cassettari (Vanbrugh) and Ryan Oliver (Swift) are proving to be excellent players in this side.

Kayaking

The Club, which continues to grow and diversify, now has 20 students from Years 13 through to 9, including a steadily growing number of girls. They also now have 3 canoes and 1 Katakano, which is ultra-stable and offers differentiation in their access to the water. Competing continues to be the main aim of the club, and Sunday races and weekend training have seen the regular and new names winning awards and moving up divisions. The forthcoming Devizes to Westminster Easter race remains the Holy Grail of events, in which we wish them the best of luck.



Netball Report

In total 62 matches were played during the Lent Term, of which 50% were wins.

It has been a rewarding term for the 1st VII in terms of development and improvement. They met the challenge of reducing goal difference from last season against some strong teams.

The new 2nd VII have gelled well and have emerged as an extremely strong side for the future.

Three players for the 3rd VII deserve special mention this term for their commitment and hard work: Caroline Jenkins (Queen Anne), Amy Watson (Feilden) and Alison Moore (Harcourt).

The U15s have been a fantastic team who have worked hard in training to improve. Despite tough opposition, they had a great win against Headington

School. Player of the season goes to Jenna Gordon (Gascoigne) and most improved player to Felicity Mason (Queen Anne).

The U14s have worked hard to improve their skills and understanding of the game. Their excellent win against Burford School demonstrated that they have the ability to do very well next year.

The U13s have displayed sheer enthusiasm and an excellent capacity to pick up new tactics. Player of the season goes to Ruby Grant (Harcourt) and most improved player to Pip Sayers (Swift).

The U12 team have learnt a lot about the game this term and have consolidated their basic skills. They won two games against Gosford Hill and The King's School.



Individual Sporting Successes

Congratulations to Julian Watkins (Year 11, Swift), who has secured a place in England's Under 16 rugby squad for the Four Nations Tournament. Julian who plays back-row forward, will join the 26-man party for the tournament against Wales, France and Italy, which is to take place in South Wales during April.

Jacob Wilson (Year 11, Gascoigne) has also had a successful term in rugby. It was announced that he has been picked to play for the South West England

Rugby Union against the USA team over Easter.

Well done to Molly Williamson (Year 8, Vanbrugh) who competed in the Oxford and North Buckinghamshire County Swimming Championships. Molly won gold medals in the 50m butterfly, 200m butterfly, 400m freestyle and 800m free style, and now has automatic qualification for the South East England regionals, which will take place in June this year.



Sports Colours

Full Colours

Netball Suzy Russell
Isobel Landon
Sarah Davey
Laura Sensecall
Soccer Adam Maskery
Luke White

Half Colours

Netball Chloë Pickford
Soccer James Amer
Guy Biggs
Billy Webb
Zachary Latcham-Ford
Andrew Tucker

Sports Dinner

The termly sports dinner for the soccer and netball 1st teams took place on Wednesday 25 March. The awards were as follows:

Players' Player

Suzy Russell
George Lewis

Most Improved

Laura Sensecall
Andrew Berry

Coach's Player

Suzy Russell
Jack Morton

Olympic Gold

Takara Haines, who coached hockey at Cokethorpe during the Michaelmas Term, won a hockey gold medal in the 2009 Australian Youth Olympic Festival in January.

Cross Country

The Oxfordshire Cross Country Championships took place on Tuesday 24 February, and many of the Cokethorpe teams achieved places within the top half of the competing schools. Particular mention should go to the U17 girls who were placed in the top four teams.

Samuel Miller (Year 13, Harcourt) also achieved a place in the County Team, with Shona Stanley (Year 11, Vanbrugh), Chloë Pickford (Year 12, Vanbrugh) and Gorgia Lisi (Year 11, Harcourt) picked as reserves.

Netball: Staff v 1st VII

In an entertaining but very competitive game, the 1st VII Netball team were beaten 9-8 by the Cokethorpe Staff Team.

THE HOUSES

Most Recommendations

Year 7: Courtney Bates-Brownsword (Feilden)
 Year 8: Daniel Cooper (Feilden)
 Year 9: Ben Sydenham (Gascoigne)
 Year 10: Letitia Cookson (Harcourt)
 Year 11: Isabelle Evans (Swift)
 Year 12: Jordan Gillies (Feilden)
 Year 13: Rafi Hambleton (Harcourt)
 Overall Winner: Courtney Bates-Brownsword
 House Winner: Gascoigne

Crawford Relay Results

1st: Vanbrugh
 2nd: Gascoigne

Inter-House Soccer Results

Overall

1st: Swift (17 points)
 2nd: Feilden (12)
 3rd: Gascoigne (11)
 4th: Harcourt (10)
 5th: Queen Anne (9)
 6th: Vanbrugh (7)

Years 7 and 8

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

Years 9 and 10

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

Years 11 to 13

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

Inter-House Netball Results

Years 9 to 13

1st: Gascoigne (23 points)
 2nd: Swift (21)
 3rd: Feilden (19)
 4th: Queen Anne (14)
 5th: Harcourt (9)
 6th: Vanbrugh (8)

Inter-House Drama Results

=1st: Gascoigne (51/60)
 =1st: Queen Anne (51/60)
 3rd: Vanbrugh (38/60)
 4th: Harcourt (37/60)
 5th: Feilden (35/60)
 6th: Swift (34/60)

Crawford Relay

Charlie Cassettari (Year 7) describes running the course: 'It was the first year I ran in the Crawford Relay. It was very very hard, especially along the front drive where running on the gravel was tough. But the feeling when I handed the baton over was amazing. When Vanbrugh House won, I felt proud of myself as I had done my part in a team that had all worked equally hard as me.'



Senior Inter-House Soccer

The senior inter-house soccer competition took place over two afternoons, with the Upper School tournament played in the rain. Harcourt won the Year 7 and 8 group but Swift took victory for the Year 9 and 10 and Year 11 and above classes, leading them to be the overall winners.



Senior Inter-House Netball

The Year 9 to 13 tournament once again went really well. All the girls involved competed with good spirit and enthusiasm, with Gascoigne coming first. The Year 7 and 8 tournament has been postponed because of the weather, so the overall winner cannot be announced until next term.

Inter-House Drama

The competition was a fantastic success, with strong performances and excellent effort across the board. Each group presented an episode from the legendary sitcom *Fawlty Towers* and the Houses were there in full support of the

hilarious escapades on show. There were barmy Basils, sultry Sybils and manic Manuels aplenty, as the groups battled it out for comic supremacy. The standard was so high that Gascoigne and Queen Anne were crowned joint winners.



THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Arts Week

The Junior School Arts Week began with the Evening of the Arts in which an amazing art display, including paintings, sculptures and collage, was exhibited on the ground floor of the Mansion House. Parents were later treated to music and poetry performances, including the Orchestra, Recorder Group, Choir and recital of poems by a variety of poets including WH Auden and Walter de la Mare. The largest number of pupils ever were involved in the evening, and it was gratifying to see the confidence with which they all exhibited their talents.



The week's finale was Book Character Day for which the children came to School dressed as their favourite literary characters. There were some fantastic costumes and many of the literary world's favourite children's characters became Cokethorpe pupils for the day, such as Harry Potter, Cruella de Vil, Dennis the Menace, Willy Wonka and Cinderella. The Head of the Junior School, Mrs Cook, was transformed into Miss Trunchbull from Roald Dahl's *Matilda*, but luckily for the children she was not quite as mean!



IMPS trip to Witney Hospital

Year 6 pupils visited Witney Hospital on 23 February to take part in the Injury Minimisation Programme for Schools, a health education programme for children that teaches them the knowledge and skills to help minimise injury, provide basic life support and take safer risks. The day also taught the children important first aid and resuscitation skills. In addition to being extremely useful, the day was also fun and the children got the chance to visit the A&E department where they had their fingers plastered!



Rainbow Walk

Early in the Lent Term, the Junior School children and their teachers wrapped up warmly in their rainbow colours to complete a sponsored walk of the beautiful grounds of Cokethorpe. An excellent total of £3,457.50 has now been raised and the money has been presented to Cecily's Fund, a charity which supports the education of orphans in Africa. The Junior School would like to thank everyone for their generosity. The photograph shows Mr John Fox who came to talk to the children about the charity's work in Zambia.



Book Day Characters

Some of the characters that the Junior School children dressed up as were:

Harry Potter
Dennis the Menace
Hermione Granger
Cinderella
Willy Wonka
Cruella de Vil
Miss Trunchbull
Jack Sparrow
Luke Skywalker
The Milky Bar Kid
Ben 10
Star Wars Storm Trooper
Charlotte (*Charlotte's Web*)
Bugsy Malone
Robin Hood
The Three Bears
Power Ranger
Angelina Ballerina
A Gladiator
Cat in the Hat
Alice in Wonderland
Mary Poppins
Bob the Builder
Alex Rider
Rapunzel
Tom Tom the Farmer's son
Jan (*The Silver Sword*)
Tin Tin
Camilla Fritton
Batman
The Artful Dodger
Princess Jasmine
Jane Eyre
The Sapphire Fairy
The Saffron Fairy
Grace the Glitter Fairy
Lauren the Puppy Fairy
Winston Churchill
The Terminator
Coco the Clown
Moody Margaret
Horrid Henry
Andy McNab
Frodo
Peter Pan
Just William
Winnie the Witch
The Worst Witch

Miss Trunchbull

Extract from Matilda:

'She was above all a most formidable female. She had once been a famous athlete, and even now the muscles were still clearly in evidence. You could see them in the bull-neck, in the big shoulders, in the thick arms, in the sinewy wrists and in the powerful legs. Looking at her, you got the feeling that this was someone who could bend iron bars and tear telephone directories in half. Her face, I'm afraid, was neither a thing of beauty nor a joy for ever. She had an obstinate chin, a cruel mouth and small arrogant eyes. And as for her clothes... they were, to say the least, extremely odd.'

THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Cross Country Results

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

House Captains

Harcourt	Sofia-Louise Svanikier
Feilden	Cate De Buriatte Moglia Matthew Clarke Charlie Dyde
Gascoigne	Alex Cross Rory Atkins Nancy Battersby
Queen Anne	Erika Davies Joe Ciampoli Messiou
Swift	James Staples Emily Hastings
Vanbrugh	Archie Fellows Cameron Spilsbury

End of Term Prize Winners

Reception	Matilda Hurford-Jones
Year 1	Jack Wilde
Year 2	Dennis Catrini
Year 3	Annabel Clarke
Year 4	Alexander Reid Arthur Alden
Year 5	Keely Harding Elisha Evans
Year 6	Alexander Game Amy Creed

Poetry Competition Winners

Year 1	Rosa Birchenough Benjamin Shaw
Year 3	Michaela Logue George Williams
Year 4	Evie Garbutt Louisa Mattinson Alexander Reid Luke Smith
Year 5	Madeline Barnicoat Isabel Fisher Alyssia Lotter
Year 6	Jessica Williams Emily Hastings Henry Grimwade Charlotte McMackin George Wood

Poetry

'To have read the greatest works of any great poet, to have beheld or heard the greatest works of any great painter or musician, is a possession added to the best things in life.'

Algernon C Swinburne (1837–1909)

'Poetry... should strike the reader as a wording of his own highest thoughts, and appear almost a remembrance.'

John Keats (1795–1821)

Year 6 Drama Group

The Year 6 Drama group performed the musical *'What a good idea!'* at lunchtime in the Corinthian Room during the final week of the Lent Term. The story involved the Headmaster and pupils of Cokethorpe School who were surprised to discover that an eccentric group of inventors turned up for a School assembly one morning to debate which historical invention was the most important. Was it paper, the light bulb, phone or microchip? Leonardo da Vinci and a cast of others put their cases forward. In the end, however, the wheel was announced the winner!



Inter-House Cross Country

On 5 March the eagerly awaited Inter-House Cross Country saw every pupil in the Junior School compete for their House. There were four races in total with varying courses dependant on age: Reception were first, completing their run around the chapel. Next were Year 1 and 2 running the same course as the Reception class. Year 3 and 4 completed a longer run around half of the sports field and Year 5 and 6 completed a whole lap of the games field. The enthusiasm of the pupils was excellent and the support for individuals and House teams was tremendous. The competition for positions saw some very close races and there were some outstanding individual performances from Annabel Clarke (Feilden), Elisha Evans (Swift), Erika Davies (Queen Anne), Charlie Dyde (Feilden), Max Watkins (Vanbrugh) and Alexander Wallace (Swift). All the individual scores were added together to produce a House result, with Swift taking first place.

Reception Poetry Recital

The Reception children recited poems to an audience in the Corinthian Room during a Lower Junior Assembly this term. After carefully learning and practising their poems they stood up individually in front of parents and the children of the Junior School to recite them. They all spoke beautifully and everyone was very impressed to see them perform with such confidence.

Scholarship Awards

Congratulations to the Year 6 children for their well-deserved success in the Senior School Entrance Examinations which took place in January. Nine Junior School children in total were invited to take further assessments for Academic, Sport and Art Scholarships, which is a fine achievement in itself. Academic Scholarships were awarded to Nancy Battersby (Gascoigne) and Heidi Lawson (Gascoigne); a Sports Scholarship was awarded to Charlie Dyde (Feilden) and an Art Scholarship to George Wood (Gascoigne).



Corinium Museum

On 26 January, Year 4 travelled to Cirencester to visit the Corinium Museum. 'We found out about Roman clothes and jewellery and also played a game of Tabula. After that we looked at some real Roman mosaics and patterns. Once we had eaten lunch we looked at Roman pottery and got the chance to dress up in Roman style clothes. During our trip we learnt a lot of interesting facts about the Romans which will be very useful in our History lessons.'

*Alexander Cooper
and Alexander Reid 4MM*



THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Inter-House Soccer

The U11 House Soccer was keenly fought throughout the group and play-off stages. The initial stage involved the Houses being split into two groups and playing in a round robin tournament. The respective winners, Harcourt and Gascoigne, then went on to play the runners up, Feilden and Swift, in the semi-finals. Beating Swift 2–1, Gascoigne progressed to the finals, as did Harcourt who defeated Feilden 3–1. The final was a very tight match. However, Gascoigne proved to have the better all-round team winning by 3 goals to 2. Their win was orchestrated by man-of-the-tournament George Stone, who showed composure and skill playing in the centre of mid-field.



Netball

With several games cancelled due to bad weather, this has proved to be a mixed season; of the 11 games played, 4 of them were wins.

The U11 As have achieved some creditable results, the most notable being against Oxford High; although they lost by 3 goals, they played exceptionally well and deserved to win. They also finished the season with an excellent win over Sibford School 14–0.

The U11 Bs have had a very successful season, producing some excellent performances and beating both Rupert House and Sibford School.

The U9s have also worked hard. They played well against Sibford School not only winning 3–1, but showing excellent determination. No doubt they will continue to develop and win more games next year.



Inter-House Netball

After a wet and windy start, play on the Astroturf was abandoned for the sanctuary of the Sports Hall. The atmosphere was one of concentration, determination and consideration for other players. The standard from all was very high, and although closely contested by Swift, the top spot went to Gascoigne. Special mention goes to: Emily Hastings, Elisha Evans, Ella Perry-Cain (Swift); Jessica Williams, Charlotte Bury, Michaela Logue, Lottie Fellows (Vanbrugh); Annabel Clarke, Keely Harding (Feilden); India Thomas, Luisamae Lisi (Harcourt) and Alexandra Cross, Victoria Blake, Ruby Plumridge, Emily Rowe (Gascoigne).



Soccer

The U11's fixtures were restricted this season due to bad weather and the opposition being unable to fulfil fixtures. Of the 5 matches played, 3 were won and 2 lost; the highlight being a 15–0 victory over The King's School. The team had good balance throughout: George Smith (Queen Anne) was aggressive in defence, George Stone (Swift) showed composure on the ball, whilst Alastair Grime (Swift) and Charlie Dyde (Feilden) proved a handful for the opposition's defenders. The team was also well led by Charlie Dunmall (Harcourt) who was vociferous in his support and encouragement.

The U9s won 3 matches, drew 3 and lost 3. Despite having a small squad, they played admirably; although lapses in concentration sometimes lead to defensive errors. Special recognition goes to Luke Smith (Queen Anne) and Alexander Wallace (Swift) who have been outstanding.



Netball Results

<i>U11 As</i>	
Chandlings School	L 1-11
Rupert House School	L 7-11
Oxford High School	L 4-7
Sibford School	W 14-0

<i>U11 Bs</i>	
Chandlings School	L 1-9
Rupert House School	W 6-5
Sibford School	W 5-0

<i>U9 As</i>	
Rupert House School	L 7-0
Sibford School	W 3-1
Headington School	L 0-1
Chandlings School	L 0-10

<i>U9 Bs</i>	
Rupert House School	L 2-10

Soccer Results

<i>U11 As</i>	
Sibford Junior School	W 6-3
The King's School	W 15-0
New College School	W 6-2
St Edward's School	L 2-4
Rendcomb College	L 2-1

<i>U11 Bs</i>	
Our Lady's Abingdon	L 1-3
New College School	W 11-0
St Edward's School	L 3-2

<i>U11 Cs</i>	
New College School	W 3-2

<i>U11 Ds</i>	
New College School	W 7-0

<i>U9 As</i>	
New College School	W 3-1
Akeley Wood School	L 1-4
Rendcomb College	W 1-0
U9 Tournament	4th
St Edward's School	L 1-3

<i>U9 Bs</i>	
Akeley Wood School	L 0-7

Inter-House Netball Results

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

Inter-House Soccer Results

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

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Construction Progress Diary

Don't forget to visit the month-by-month progress diary of the new Dining Hall and Sixth Form Centre on the School website.

Maintenance Projects

The following projects have been completed during the Lent Term:

- Redecoration of corridors and stairwell of Vanbrugh Building
- Re-roof and general repair of the cricket pavilion
- Redecoration of external doors and windows

Travel Questionnaire

Method of Transport	Current	Preferred
Foot	3	14
Bike	0	94
Car	155	234
School Bus	357	143
Public Bus	0	8

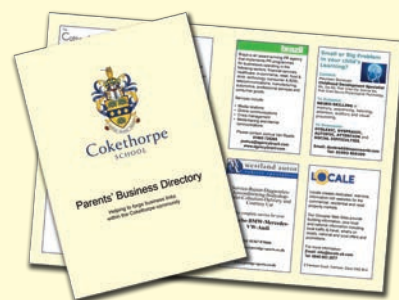
78% of pupils completed the survey.

Website Statistics

On Thursday 5 February, the day when the School was closed due to the snow, 2,967 people visited the website.

Parents' Business Directory

The first edition of this directory was well received and a second edition will be distributed this half-term. Please contact the Foundation Office if parents – or pupils – would like to advertise their businesses.



Travel Questionnaire

During the Michaelmas Term pupils completed a questionnaire about travelling to and from School. The results are available on the website.

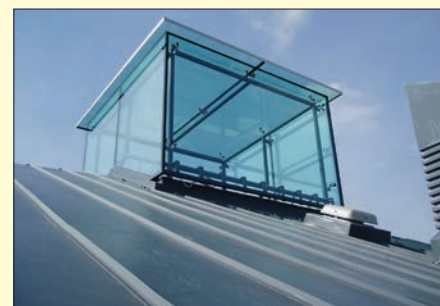
New Signage

Visitors to the School will have noticed that the signs around the School have been updated, to reflect the new crest.



Dining Hall and Sixth Form Centre

The impressive roof lanterns and the external windows and doors have now been installed. The plastering has been completed and the interior decoration has commenced.



COKETHORPE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

CPA Committee

Chairman: Ruth Wigham
 Vice Chairman: Jan Johnson
 Treasurer: Flynn Reid
 Secretary: Sarah Plumridge

Damian Ettinger: John Bennett
 Diana Cannon: Rebecca Spilsbury
 Sue Furneaux: Victor Farrier
 Simon Hooper: Adi Hughes
 Theresa James: Amanda Howard
 Valerie Krol: Shaun Foster
 Linda Mace: Peter Lodowski
 Bernadette Mitchell

Peacock Ball

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

Calendar of Events

If you have not received a copy of the CPA Calendar of Events, please contact Ruth Wigham: RWigham@ocvc.ac.uk

Burns' Night

Burns' Night celebrations were a welcome addition to the CPA events calendar this year, with around 40 Cokethorpe parents attending the Scottish celebration that was held in the Masonic Hall in Witney. There was lots of fine food and everyone had great fun dancing to Pitchpole Jack. The night was such a success that another one is already planned for next year!

Junior School Treasure Hunt

Children of the Junior School scoured the School grounds on Saturday 21 March following clues to lead them to the buried treasure. After fighting off Captain

Hook and Captain Sparrow they walked the plank to receive their rewards. The pirate costumes were all wonderful, the BBQ and cakes delicious and the first glorious sunshine of the year ensured that a good time was had by all.



FUNDRAISING FOR CHARITY

Charity Update

It is increasingly clear that the best way to raise money from the Cokethorpe student body is to appeal to their stomachs. The recent sale of Easter eggs during the lunch break was an incredible success, with around £500 being raised by the Sixth Formers travelling to Lesotho this summer.

This, when combined with the whole-school non-uniform day in March, represents a total sum of just over £1,100 raised this term. This will be split between the Ha Fusi School project in Lesotho and Seesaw – a local charity working with bereaved families.



As this goes to print, the jewellery sales at lunchtime are continuing. Pupils from Ms Bennett's jewellery-making AOB have been selling the fruits of their labour, with the proceeds to go to the Lesotho Project.

Brainstrust

James and Matthew Ellacott (Year 9 and Year 5, Feilden) have raised £1,314.40 for Brainstrust. This was mostly by busking over the Christmas break at Sainsbury's in Wantage, although £32.40 of this was raised with the help of Year 9 Feilden. BrainsTrust is a charity that supports people living with a brain tumour in the UK, and also explores brain tumour treatment worldwide.

Marie Curie Daffodil Sale

£144.30 was raised for Marie Curie Cancer Care from the annual daffodil appeal.

Events in Oxfordshire

Below is a list of just some of the events that are taking place in Oxfordshire in the next few months. Why not enter and raise money for your chosen charity?

Helen & Douglas House: 'Walk Henley on Thames'. 10 May 2009

Marie Curie: 'Great Daffodil Run', Northampton. 10 May 2009

Against Breast Cancer: 'Classic Oxfordshire Bike Ride'. 11 May 2009 from Harwell Science & Innovation Campus

British Heart Foundation: 'Charity Run' 17 May 2009 at Blenheim Palace

Breast Cancer Care: 'Ribbon Walk' 30 May 2009 at Blenheim Palace

Cancer Research UK: 5km 'Race for Life' 6 and 7 June at Oxford University Parks

WIDER COMMUNITY

England Rugby

A number of spectators turned out to watch the U16 England rugby squad, including Cokethorpe's Julian Watkins, play Worcester at Cokethorpe School on 15 March.

Young Farmers' Hockey

On 22 March the YFC Seniors held their County Hockey Competition at Cokethorpe. Bicester, Enstone and Witney (including former Cokethorpe pupil George Brown) all competed.

Juniors' County Hockey

The National Mini Girls' and Boys' Hockey Championships took place at Cokethorpe on 15 March.



ESRFU Final

The England Rugby Football Schools Union, South West Division U14s Championships were held at Cokethorpe on 20 March. Spectators included President of the ESRFU, Eric Blackman.



Elite Rugby Training

Over the course of the Lent Term a team of county and national coaches, under the leadership of Kevin Robinson, have used Cokethorpe's facilities to train the elite rugby players of Oxfordshire.

Burford Singers

On 24 January the Burford Singers practised and performed to a packed audience in The Shed.

Future Events

Girls' County Cricket
Downs' Cricket Club League Fixtures
National Hockey Festival

Charity

Two Cokethorpe minibuses are being loaned to a group of cyclists who are raising money for Katherine House Hospice, The Association for the Blind and Help for Heroes. The minibuses will be used to bring them back from Worcester.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Turning Back the Pages

Below are some news items chosen from past issues of *The Bell Tower* and *The Peacock*.

5 Years Ago

- 23 U14 boys visited Amsterdam for a rugby tour
- The first Inter-House Drama competition took place, with Vanbrugh the winners
- The first Inter-House Singing competition also took place
- The Junior School raised £1,700 at their Charity Day, raising funds for The Nasio Trust and Antics, a Witney-based charity. Antics brought their mascot, Antics the Horse, to the School where the children were able to meet him

10 Years Ago

- Mr Peter Harrison, then Director of Studies, ran the London Marathon in just under 3 hours
- Helena Cantwell (2002) won the Blackwell's Children's Bookshop Spring Poetry Competition
- A group of Sixth Formers performed an abridged version of *Blood Brothers* in the Corinthian Room

20 Years Ago

- David Crawford was appointed to succeed David Goldsmith as Headmaster
- Reverend David Lane retired as the Church of England Chaplain after being associated with the school for 27 years
- Colin Dexter, author of the *Inspector Morse* series, visited to give a General Studies talk to the Sixth Form
- Cokethorpe entered two triathlon events, involving a 500m swim, 20km cycle and 5km or 6km run. Matthew Searson, Tom Shannon, Nicholas Ford, Sean O'Farrell, Robert Martyr and Henry Kitching all took part

30 Years Ago

- David Goldsmith was appointed as Headmaster succeeding John Trevis
- The Cokethorpe School section of the Air Training Corps (ATC), Witney Squadron, was formed
- There were five visits to the opera during the Michaelmas and Lent Terms

40 Years Ago

- William Howbert and John Blandford secured places at Cambridge and Oxford respectively
- David Sewell, Simon Morley-John, Marcus Steel and Nicholas Hazeldine represented Cokethorpe at the British School Judo Championships. Queen Anne won the Inter-House Judo Competition
- The Wind Band was established

Biology Experiment

Russell Baxter (1987) pointed out that the photo of Mr Daniels, on page 21 of the last issue of *The Ocellus*, looked remarkably similar to a photo of Mr Daniels doing the very same experiment, which appears in the 1983 edition of *The Peacock*. This was one year after Mr Daniels had joined the school – and of course he doesn't look a day older now than he did then!



Archives Donated

Edward Petty (1962) returned to the School in March for the first time in nearly 50 years. He brought with him some photos from his time here, including the two below. The left is of Nick Danvers (left, 1962), Ed Petty (middle) and Steven Hague (1964).



The right-hand photo is after a rowing regatta. Ed Petty, the cox, is being thrown in by Gardner (left) and Steven Hague (right). Ed also donated two 12-inch long rowing blades with the School colours painted on them and some regatta programmes from when they competed.



Hidden Cokethorpe

This new feature of *The Ocellus* seeks out the places around the School that may have escaped your notice – until now! Next to the lockers in the Middle Quad it is noticeable that the bricks below the wooden beam are newer than the rest of the building. As far back as the 1960s this was the firing point of the School's rifle range. It is now the office of the Director of Studies, Mr Williams.

Photos from Facebook

Thank you to Philip Barry (1991) who recently posted some photos of his time at Cokethorpe on his Facebook profile. He has kindly sent us the images as well for reproduction here. Over twenty former pupils appear in the album of photos on his profile – are you one of them? The School is always delighted to receive stories and photos from former pupils and staff.



THE COKETHORPE SOCIETY

Forthcoming Society Events

The Cokethorpe Society AGM will take place on Wednesday 29 April at 7.30pm in the Foundation Office. All former pupils and staff are invited for a buffet supper before the AGM commences.

The response to the Society cricket match on Friday 22 May has been excellent and it is hoped that two teams may now be fielded. Please contact the Foundation Office if you are interested in taking part.



Matthew Yeo

Congratulations to former member of staff Matthew Yeo for captaining the winning team in BBC2's University Challenge. Despite losing in the last four minutes of the quiz show, the BBC later disqualified Corpus Christi College, Oxford for breaking the rules by using a contestant who was no longer a student. The title was therefore transferred to the University of Manchester, where Matthew is doing his PhD.

Paul Derow

Congratulations to Paul Derow (1996) and his wife Michelle on the birth of their first child, Millie Ellan Christine who was born healthy and happy on 26 January 2009.

Legacy Programme

The Foundation Office recently unveiled its new Legacy Programme, the latest stage of Cokethorpe's long-term initiative to foster support for the School. The programme encourages former pupils, staff, parents and other friends to express their affection for Cokethorpe by means of a legacy. The response has been extremely encouraging with a number of positive responses having already been received.



Lucy Boggis

Lucy Boggis (2005) recently helped the Great Britain team to gold in the women's Under 23 Pentathlon at the tri-nation indoor Combined Events international

Dates of the Reunion Dinners mentioned in the last issue of The Ocellus have now been finalised and are as follows. Formal invitations shall be sent in due course.

1955–1964 Leavers:
Saturday 12 September, 12 noon
2006–2009 Leavers:
Friday 18 September, 6.30pm
All Former Pupils and Staff:
Friday 13 November, 6.30pm
Saturday 21 November, 12 noon

Mark Girling

Congratulations to Mark Girling (1977) who was awarded a silver medal for completing his fifth Vätternrundan cycle last June. He is aiming for his sixth 186m marathon bike ride this year. This Swedish bike ride is the largest recreational bicycle ride in the world and in 2008 over 15 000 cyclists finished the race, although there is no traditional time-keeping and no winners are listed.

Flik Denham

Flik Denham (2006) has continued her winning streak by lifting the English Olympic crown in the 75kg class at the English Weightlifting Championships at Halifax in February.

Young Farmers' Hockey

George Brown (2004) played for the Witney YFC in the County Hockey Competition that was held at Cokethorpe.

Careers Convention

Thank you to Christian Perkins (2005), Emma Tolson (2006) and Alex Sayers (2007) for attending this year's Careers Convention and talking to current pupils about their occupations and professions.

Robert Denton

Robert Denton (1959) has published his first book *Activating Spontaneous Healing*. It looks at cancer and the body's healing system and inner intelligence.



featuring Spain, France and hosts Great Britain. Lucy achieved personal bests in the long jump, shot and 800m, helping her to gain the individual silver medal. She was also named Great Britain's athlete-of-the-match. Lucy's overall score put her tenth on the all-time best performance list, and with another two years to go in this category she will be targeting the No. 1 spot in 2011.

Society Committee Members

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

Please get in touch if you are interested in joining the committee.

Society Contact Details

Email: society@cokethorpe.org
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 452 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.

1959 Leavers

Peter Barry
Roger Beasley
Anselm Buchanan
Barry Church
Jon Clayton
James Cullingham
Sydney Elliott
Richard Ellis
Simon Fairbairn
David Fisher
David Garrett
David Gollins
Duncan Gourlay
Michael Grillage
Adalbert Hadinger
Gordon Hawthorne
David Jarrett
Andrew King
Michael Lea
Peter Madden
Hormoz Moghaddam
Jose Montalvo
Gunter Olsen
Stephen Reszitry
David Riley
James Rought
Charles Stewart-Robinson
Michael Williams
Roy Winston
Keith Worby

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

Ave

R I Hardie

After teaching at Clifton High School in Bristol for the past 11 years, Mr Hardie joins the ICT team. Prior to this he worked in Computer Operations, Media Management and Networking for a large telecommunications company. After serving 22 years in the Territorial Army, he retired in 1999 with the acting rank of Tech. WO2 for the supply squadron of 24 Air Mobile Brigade.



Baby Announcements

M Cooper

Congratulations to Mr Cooper and wife who have become the proud parents of a new baby boy, Alfie Edward (9lb 8.5oz). Alfie was born on Monday 2 March 2009 and nearly made his entrance into the world in the Costume Department at Cokethorpe School!

Mrs E Semenzato

Monday 2 March also saw Mrs Semenzato and her husband become parents to twins Giovanni (5lbs 12oz) and Antonio (5lbs 7oz). The babies were born at 9.14pm and 9.26pm.

T Searls

Congratulations to Dr and Mrs Searls whose baby daughter, Elizabeth, (9lb 7oz) was born on Thursday 19 March at 9.21am. The arrival of a daughter came as somewhat of a surprise since they were convinced that it was going to be a boy!

Staff Social

Cokethorpe members of staff celebrated the end of what has been a very busy and productive term on Friday 27 March at the Witney Lakes resort. Mr Heaney and Mrs Hooper acted as DJs, providing the evening's music, and a few members of staff even indulged in some rather impressive moves on the dance floor! A great night was had by all.



Staff News

Miss S Collis

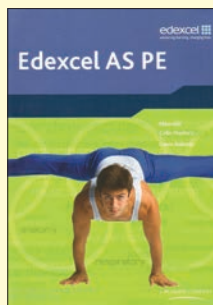
After having been put forward on a recommendation Miss Collis has been accepted as an OCR examiner. She looks forward to moderating schools for GCSE Art and Textiles this summer.

J Hedgecock

Congratulations to Mr Hedgecock who has passed a number of IT exams to gain a Microsoft Certified Professional Transcript and a MCSA (Microsoft Certified System Administrator) qualification.

C Maskery

Mr Maskery, Principal Examiner for Edexcel, has added two more PE text books to his list of publications. The first was published in September and the other is due to be published in May.



Harcourt Housemaster

Congratulations to Mr Capel (Geography) who will replace Mr Rees as Harcourt Housemaster at the beginning of the Summer Term.



Open Evening

Wednesday 29 April: 4.30pm – 6.30pm

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: 5pm and 6pm.

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).

Contact Information

Headmaster

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

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: J A W Capel
jawc@cokethorpe.org
Queen Anne: Miss F M M Hamon
fmh@cokethorpe.org
Swift: J E Bown
jeb@cokethorpe.org
Vanbrugh: Mrs J L Pratley
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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