

THE OCELLUS

From the Headmaster

I read recently of someone who said they only ever lied when it was a kind way of saying 'no'. Perhaps that was in the mind of the FIFA delegates who said they would support our World Cup bid, but then voted for Russia! Or perhaps they had other even nobler motives. I am sure that Julian Assange of Wikileaks is a noble champion of the value of openness and truth, though his impartiality will become apparent the day Wikileaks also encourages whistle-blowing from within the Taliban or the Russian secret police. I am reminded of a play by Molière, called Le Misanthrope, about a man who decides he will always tell the truth, and always say exactly what he is thinking – the consequences are at once both comic and alarming. Is it right that everything that is hidden should come to light? Would we want that of all our innermost thoughts and opinions? Should we want that of every opinion expressed by a politician or a diplomat, as they go about the precarious business of conducting foreign policy in a volatile world? I suspect not. But then the practice of deception is not a trait we would want to see develop in ourselves or in our children, or to become the norm in what is supposed to be an 'Open Society'. I am sure that sometimes it is kinder to lie, sometimes it helps protect lives, but lying can also sow the seed of a serious character flaw. I hope no one is now eagerly expecting me to resolve this conundrum! But whether we are teachers of children, or parents, or indeed children asking themselves how to act with integrity, it is a challenge we have to face, sometimes on a daily basis.

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Academic

Examination Results

A Levels

	2009–2010	2008-2009
Grades A* to A	27.8%	28.4%
Grades A* to B	58.0%	58.9%
Grades A* to C	81.1%	85.4%
Grades A* to E	99.5%	99.3%

GSCEs

	2009–2010	2008–200
Grades A* to A	38.3%	36.8%
Grades A* to B	70.8%	69.5%
Grades A* to C	94.3%	93.5%

Cambridge Pre-U in History

Cokethorpe is among the first centres in the country to undertake this new qualification. Two pupils gained Distinctions and three gained Merits. See website for more details.

Editor's Note

This is the sixteenth issue of *The Ocellus*. marking the start of its sixth academic year. Over the last five years this termly newsletter has grown in both the number of pages and the amount and type of news and information that it covers. It is only right that publications see such evolution and it is hoped that this new design is welcomed, whilst retaining the feel of its previous format. Indeed, with the website now providing almost instantaneous write-ups and photographs of many of the School's events, this newsletter also serves as an important permanent snap-shot of the term. The introduction, therefore, of the icon is to illustrate that a longer write-up and/or further photographs are available online.

Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road?

In a recent Assembly, the Headmaster spoke about how famous people and well-known fictional characters may answer the age-old question 'Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road?'. He then asked the pupils to consider how particular members of Cokethorpe staff might respond to which he received over 120 replies. The winner, presented with a prize on the last day of term, was Jonathon Harling (Fourth Form, Gascoigne), whose answer refers to the Head of Philosophy, Religion and Ethics, Mr Schofield:

'Not why did the chicken cross the road in the first place but in fact how was the chicken created or how was the road created? Was this the work of God? Where did the egg of that chicken come from — therefore it wouldn't be 'the' egg because there is more than one egg. So it would be 'Why did A chicken cross the road?' Which therefore brings us back to the first question, making this a cosmological paradoxical situation.'

Front Cover

Isabel Berger (Fifth Form, Swift) taking part in the Charity Fashion Show in September.

'Ocellus' (pronounced 'oh, sell-us') refers to the eye in the tail feathers of a peacock.



Examination Results

Cokethorpe exam results continued their spectacular rise with another record breaking haul of GCSE results complemented by an impressive collection of A Level grades. At GCSE, a very healthy 94% pass rate at A* to C was retained while the proportion of top grades (A* to A) increased to 38%. The only problem with this sort of exceptional performance is that it makes year on year improvement all the more tricky; additionally, base-line testing indicates that the School is adding vast amounts of academic value leading to the inevitable concern that future results could be limited to incremental progress. There is every confidence, however, that the current GCSE cohort has the will and the ability to build on the successes of their predecessors and to push academic standards higher still.

At A Level the excellent performance from 2009 was carried through into 2010 with a steady 58% achieving between A* and B and 28% achieving an A or A*. The pass rate at A* to C was again in line with previous years at 81% with total passes at 99%. ALPS (Advanced Level Performance System) analysis indicates that even more value is being added at A Level than at GCSE but we cannot rest on our laurels: the focus next year has to be to shift up through the grades, turning Cs into Bs, Bs into As and As into the elusive A*. Again, there is every reason to believe that the Upper Sixth are very much up for the challenge and are set to do themselves and their School proud.

English Literary Recitals

The English Department's lunchtime literary programme continued this term with five recitals from staff and Fourth Form pupils. Mr Monaghan explored *Shakespeare's Best Bits!* and two IGCSE classes presented *Would I Lie To You?* and an *Anthology Based on Drama*. Mr Elkin-Jones took the audience to Hell (but not back) as he explored Dante's *Inferno*, and his Fourth Form group explored aspects of *Socialism in Literature*, with a specific focus on *Of Mice and Men*, the class's set Literature text.





'This year the Spanish exchange was organised with a school in Bormujos, near Seville. There was a small amount of uncertainty at the start of the trip as we wondered how we would get on with our host families. However, the matches turned out to be perfect and we were made to feel very welcome. Naturally everyone spoke a lot of Spanish and encountered some new and interesting phrases. The Spanish students were all so kind and we made some life-long friends. We cannot wait for February when they come to England!'

Jacob Booty (Lower Sixth, Swift) and Jack Cully (Lower Sixth, Feilden)

Academic

Politics in Action

Six Fourth Form and Sixth Form pupils took part in the Politics in Action day held at the West Oxfordshire District Council offices in November. They worked together, and with local politicians, to formulate a detailed proposal relating to increased links between schools and local businesses. Their innovative ideas were well received by other students, as well as Prime Minister David Cameron, who also answered the group's questions about items on the national political agenda. It was a most successful event.



Biology Field Trip Twenty of the School's Upper Sixth Biologists enjoyed a weekend at Preston Montford Field Studies Centre during the first week of term. This bespoke field trip is designed to aid students in their study of fresh water ecology and biological succession and ultimately prepare them for their A Level examinations.

Lower Sixth Politics Trip

'On 7 December the Lower Sixth Politics class travelled to Westminster to visit the Houses of Parliament. We embarked on a tour of the Palace of Westminster, which provided information about the history of the two Houses and a useful insight into how they function on a day-to-day basis. We then witnessed the work of a Select Committee that was investigating Commonwealth development, which gave us first-hand experience of the scrutiny role the government performs. The highlight of the trip was observing health questions with Andrew Lansley, Secretary of State for Health, from the Strangers' Gallery. We also witnessed Kenneth Clarke reading a Green Paper on sentencing policy, which made the next day's news. This was an enjoyable and educational trip.'

Declan Duffy (Lower Sixth, Queen Anne)

RIBI Youth Speaks Competition

'Two groups of enthusiastic Cokethorpe pupils attended the RIBI Youth Speaks Competition, run by Witney Rotary Club, on Wednesday 24 November and performed really well. They bravely stood in a packed Corn Exchange with a large audience of parents, students from other schools and members of the public. Our intermediate group gave a speech on 'Computer Game Age Ratings'. Although they impressed the judges it was not enough, being narrowly beaten by the winners, Carterton Community College. The senior group spoke with great confidence and interest on 'The Nature of Education' but were only to be runners up to Burford School. Despite not taking the top prize, we came back with more than when we went, certainly with more than we'd expected.'

Matteo Catrini (Fourth Form, Gascoigne)

Civil War Time Traveller

'On Friday 12 November, the Civil War Time Traveller visited Cokethorpe. He told us about the different types of soldiers; a Musketeer, Pikeman and a Cavalry Officer. He let us dress up in costumes, hold authentic weapons and told us about the different swords used, in particular the 'bone crusher', used to crush a skull. In the body armour there were two bullet holes, so you really knew it had saved someone's life, TWICE! Using different techniques he told us how the cavalry worked and how they would defeat the enemy. I thought it was really interesting and learnt a lot. It was also good fun.'

Beth Cattell (Upper First, Gascoigne)



Third Form Philosophy Talk

In October, Third Form Philosophers benefited greatly from the visit of a life prisoner from Springhill Prison to recount his personal history, and to answer questions on life in prison. Many were deeply affected by both his rehabilitation and the candour of his answers. As such the experience motivated many to fundamentally adjust their thinking and attitudes regarding the purposes of punishment.

Design Technology Trip

Eight Sixth Form Design Technology students experienced a unique view of the manufacturing processes employed at the BMW Mini plant at Cowley, Oxford on Friday 5 November. They got to see up close the large robots lifting, spot welding and assembling the zinc-coated steel sections that make up the chassis of the Mini. They were then taken to the assembly line for the engine, dashboard and electrics before eventually seeing the cars go through the vigorous visual checks prior to being made ready for delivery. It was fascinating to see how some 200,000 Mini cars are made every year. The tour will be invaluable in the students' topic on manufacturing theory.

RIBI Youth Speaks

Intermediate Group:

Mia Biles (Lower First, Gascoigne)
Fraser Logue (Third Form, Vanbrugh)
Harry Lovibond (Third Form, Queen Anne)

Senior Group:

Jack Cully (Lower Sixth, Feilden) Jack Bennett (Lower Sixth, Feilden) Timothy Knight (Lower Sixth, Vanbrugh)

AOB Achievements

This term, tutors have had the opportunity to nominate pupils from their AOB groups who have shown particularl dedication, flair or aptitude for their chosen activity. These pupils were awarded certificates at the end of term House assemblies:

- Louis Allen (Fifth Form, Harcourt)

 Christmas Production
- Dylan Rafferty-Scott (Fourth Form, Vanbrugh)
 ICT Club
- Justin Foster (Third Form, Harcourt)
 Mixed Hockey
- Philip Thornton (Upper First, Harcourt)
 Dance and Choreography
- Emily Hastings (Upper First, Swift)
 Dance and Choreography
- Arthur Blake (Lower First, Gascoigne)
 Sketching Club
- Laura Fiedorowicz (Lower First, Vanbrugh)
 Sketching Club
- William Parsons (Third Form, Gascoigne) Rugby Sevens
- Archie Fellows (Upper First, Vanbrugh) Rugby Sevens
- Megan Bird (Upper First, Harcourt)
 Creating Mosaics
- Emma Roake (Third Form, Swift) Knitting and Crochet
- Becky Coles (Third Form, Swift)
 Knitting and Crochet

Academic

Chinese Lessons

Timothy Knight (Lower Sixth, Vanbrugh) has been taking Chinese lessons from Fifth Form pupils Alan Chan and Yinan Wang during lunchtimes as he prepares to apply to read Oriental Languages at university.

General Knowledge Quiz

'On 1 October Cokethorpe entered the Inter-Prep School General Knowledge Quiz at Magdalen College School. The team consisted of myself, Cam Spilsbury (Upper First, Vanbrugh), Laurel Mulloy (Lower First, Swift) and Nancy Battersby (Upper First, Gascoigne), with Mark Rogers (Upper First, Vanbrugh) on standby. Our University Challenge star, Mr McLarin, took the group. There were seven rounds on different subjects and Cokethorpe came 10th, with the winners being New College School. Cokethorpe was closely beaten by Abingdon Prep by only one point. Although we didn't win, we did have lots of fun.' Thomas Christensen (Upper First, Swift)

School Trips

Other trips that have taken place this term include the Lower First History trip to Oxford Castle as part of their research project focusing on the development of castles during the early medieval period, and the Lower Sixth Law visit to the Oxford Magistrate's Court to observe court process.

Army Veterinary Talk

Pupils considering a career working with animals often assume that they must become a vet, yet there are a diverse and wide range of jobs available within this sector. The Army in particular offers many opportunities to work with animals, as was demonstrated to Fifth Form

pupils during PHSE in October. Captain Tom Roffe-Silvester, of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps and who trained at Cambridge, explained that as well as vets, the Army employs dog handlers, trainers, and veterinary technicians, to name but a few. His informative presentation also explored the protection and detection work of dogs in Afghanistan, and the ceremonial duties of horses in London.

The Apprentice

The ability to present to an audience, or persuade a crowd, is a key life skill and one which many adults would undoubtedly feel they could improve. How fortunate, then, were the Third Form pupils in English this term as they undertook the annual 'Froops' speaking and listening task. Pupils studied the written and spoken language of advertising and then worked in groups to design, target and market an advertising campaign around a health food product of their invention, entitled 'Froops'. Heats were held in classes and winning delegates from each then presented their ideas before a panel of staff who, with Mr Walton as 'Lord Sugar', had taken on the roles of the experts in the infamous television programme *The Apprentice*.





The Houses

Lower House Heroes

Lower House Heroes are nominated twice a term by tutors and awarded to those that have shown particular drive, grit, determination or general all-roundedness and who may not ordinarily be recognised in other ways.

First Half of Term

Keely Harding
Mia Biles
Joseph Wilde
Adam El-Megrisi
Hetty Watts-Lay
Jessica Williams
Nadiya Rashid
Roland Viserálek
Sam Moffatt
Noah Hustler
Harry Steel

L1 Feilden

L1 Gascoigne

L1 Harcourt

L1 Queen Anne

L1 Swift

L1 Vanbrugh

U1 Feilden

U1 Gascoigne

U1 Harcourt U1 Queen Anne

U1 Swift

U1 Vanbrugh

Second Half of Term

Archie Fellows

Gemma Luteiin L1 Feilden Ethan Leslie L1 Gascoigne LuisaMae Lisi L1 Harcourt Clare Berry L1 Queen Anne Sam Coles L1 Swift L1 Vanbrugh James Jeffs U1 Feilden Charlie Dyde Beth Cattell U1 Gascoigne Cate De Buriatte Moglia U1 Harcourt George Smith U1 Queen Anne Thomas Christensen U1 Swift Cam Spilsbury U1 Vanbrugh

Inter-House Drama

This year each House performed an extract from the fabulous historical sitcom *Black Adder*, with pupils portraying some of the weird and wonderful characters from series two (Elizabethan period), three (Regency period) and four (First World War). All Houses worked hard under the leadership of their Drama representatives and there were some extremely funny moments in all the presentations. Each House was marked by the Drama and Music representatives on vocal ability, characterisation, ensemble work and entertainment, with Vanbrugh taking overall victory. It was a very enjoyable afternoon.



Advent Services Pupils, parents and staff enjoy

mince pies and mulled wine before attending their respective House services in December. Taking place in the School Chapel they were led by Revd Canon Roger Humphreys and accompanied by the Schola Cantorum. Lower House pupils took part in their own advent service

during one lunchtime. 🗳



The Houses

Inter-House Music

For the first time representatives coordinated the preparation of their House's entries. As a result, the competition had an even higher standard of performances and was closely contested in each of the individual and ensemble instrumental and vocal classes, which took place throughout the morning. The highlight of the day is always the Whole House Singing, which counts for double points. After gathering in the Sports Hall in the afternoon to hear the morning's winners, the whole of each House performed together in a very entertaining succession of theme songs from James Bond films. When Gascoigne took to the stage, however, they sang with a power and passion that carried them into an unassailable lead in this class and in the competition as a whole.

Lower House Disco

To conclude the first half of the Michaelmas Term, nearly 100 of the Lower and Upper First pupils joined together in The Shed for an evening of popular music, dance extravaganzas and good old-fashioned fun and games. Sixth Form students were responsible for helping to make the evening run smoothly and the Lower House tutors enjoyed the atmosphere created by their charges. During the evening, the pupils enjoyed the music chosen from the top 40, Michael Jackson and even the Village People, and they also took part in a number of games. Sam Coles (Lower First, Swift) and Ben Tracey (Upper First, Vanbrugh) won the Street Dance Exhibition; Eloise Fraser-Paterson (Lower First, Queen Anne) and Joe Sweeney (Upper First, Harcourt) won the Air Guitarists competition; and LuisaMae Lisi (Lower First, Harcourt) won the Heads and Tails game.





Inter-House Hockey

Due to frozen Astroturfs the Inter-House hockey took the form of two indoor tournaments, for Lower House and senior pupils. The competition was good-natured and competitive in the same vein, with Swift performing most consistently in both age categories to take overall victory.

Inter-House Rugby

This year's competition took place as two touch rugby tournaments, for Lower House and Third and Fourth Form pupils, to allow for the inclement weather. The resulting points from each were added together leaving Gascoigne and Feilden joint top, but taking into account tries scored placed Gascoigne as overall winners by 13 to 12. Given the weather conditions and the change in format the players adapted well and played with the usual House spirit.



Crawford Relay After a successful House Drama and Music Competition, the whole school joined together to cheer on the runners in the annual Crawford Relay. After the Bell Tower tolled its bell for the third time, the race commenced and the teams took off on the first leg of the course. There were many outstanding performances both from the children and staff. Feilden crossed the line first, breaking the School record with a time of 10mins 30secs, but once all the teams had crossed the line and the scores tallied up it was Harcourt who were crowned champions.

Most Recommendations

Lower First: Five-Way Tie (Roll-Over) Upper First: Thomas Christensen (Swift) Third Form: Emma Roake (Swift)

Fourth Form: Katherine Woolley (Queen Anne)
Fifth Form: Brian Clarke (Queen Anne)
Lower Sixth: Jonathan Chan (Feilden)
Upper Sixth: Annabelle Hunter (Swift)
Overall Winner: Thomas Christensen

House Winner: Gascoigne

House Hockey Results

Senior:

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

Junior:

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

Overall Standings:

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

Inter-House Drama

1st Vanbrugh (157 points)
2nd Gascoigne (148 points)
3rd Swift (147 points)
4th Harcourt (143 points)
5th Feilden (142 points)
6th Queen Anne (96 points)

Outstanding Individual Performance:
George Lawson (Fifth Form, Gascoigne)

Inter-House Music

1st Gascoigne

Best Overall Performance:
Hanna Young (Fifth Form, Swift)

Crawford Relay

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

Lower House Ashes Cup

This is a fortnightly cup that Lower House tutor groups compete for; a recommendation is worth +2 points and a referral -1 point.

17 September Lower First Gascoigne
1 October Lower First Swift
15 October Lower First Feilden
5 November Lower First Vanbrugh

19 November Lower First Harcourt3 December Lower First Feilden

Sixth Form

Helen & Douglas House

The Headmaster and Second Master took the Heads of Houses to the Helen & Douglas House Annual Open Day on Monday 8 November. They were able to learn more about the work of the hospice that cares for children and young adults and see how support and donations really do make a difference. The visit was arranged following the talk given by Sister Frances Dominica OBE at Prize Giving in July.

Phoenix Enterprise Team

Jack Cully
Alex Lord
Archie Napper
Hugo Van Dorssen
William Bennett
Tom Donovan-Brady

Managing Director Finance Director Director of Sales Operations Director Marketing Director Secretary

Cokethorpe Enterprise Society

This is a scheme through which Sixth Form students gain practical experience of business and enterprise by setting up and running their own real company over the course of one academic year. The aim of the Society is to offer the opportunity for students to raise share capital by marketing and financing a real product or service of their own choice and selling it to Cokethorpe's community. Through doing so they develop essential skills such as teamwork, communication, problem solving, managing risk, creativity, innovation and leadership and gain invaluable knowledge about working in a business context.

SHMIS Prefects' Conference

'From 24 to 26 August 2010 Caroline Jenkins (Upper Sixth, Queen Anne), Luke Withey (Upper Sixth, Harcourt) and myself travelled to Dover to attend the SHMIS Senior Prefects' Conference at the Duke of York's School. Prefects representing schools from all over the country attend this event to learn about what is in store for them in their last year at school as a senior prefect. We attended lectures and hands-on sessions in such areas as public speaking, leadership skills and organising big events. The end of the conference was finished off in style with a formal dinner and a very informative speech by Toby Mullins, Vice-Chairman of SHMIS. It was a huge success and the prefects in question have been putting their new skills to the test this academic year.'

Huw Williams (Upper Sixth, Swift)



Enterprise Society

Phoenix, a company established in September 2010 as part of the Cokethorpe Enterprise Society, produced calendars for 2011 incorporating picturesque photographs of Cokethorpe's surroundings for each month of the year, outlining the School term dates as well as public holidays. The first 100 calendars were so popular with pupils, parents, staff and friends of the School that Phoenix requested a second print run, which soon sold out as well. Well done to all the team.



OXPUNE)

OISSP Science Awards

Philip Quadri (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne) represented Cokethorpe at both the Oxfordshire Schools' Chemist of the Year and Biologist of the Year Awards evenings at Oxford University in November. Hosted by the Oxfordshire Independent and State School Partnership (OISSP), prize-winners attended talks and demonstrations and were presented with certificates and book tokens by TV broadcaster and presenter, Dr George McGavin and Professor Peter Atkins, the well-known Chemistry author.

Sixth Form Christmas Meal

'This year's Sixth Form Christmas Meal proved once again to be a dynamic and resounding success. The evening quickly got into full swing as all manner of unexpected attire was unveiled including the exuberant return of the Chilean miners, led by our own Deputy Head of School, Nicholas Baboolal (Upper Sixth, Swift). The grandeur of the Dining Hall was fully complemented by the quality of the food, thanks to our wonderful caterers. The calibre of the costumes made judging the winner of the best dressed, Philip Quadri (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne) as Hagrid, a



Sixth Form

General Studies

General Studies this term has more than met its aim to delight and surprise. Nicholas Ridley (right) described his tales of scaling the heights of Peru's mountains; Ben Crystal (left) gripped imaginations as he took the Sixth Form students back in time to Shakespeare's era, reading and performing scenes in what linguists now think is the Bard's original accent – a cross between a West Country drawl and London banter. Entertaining and educational in one go – mission accomplished!





Sixth Form Committee

The newly appointed Sixth Form Committee has worked hard this term to serve the members of the Sixth Form Common Room. The Committee's primary functions are to represent the interests of the Sixth Form body as well as to organise a variety of charity and social events. The Committee took a lead role in organising the Christmas Meal this term and are planning events for 2011 including a wine tasting evening and an auction of promises for charity.

Team Maths Challenge

Four of the Sixth Form's top mathematicians competed against over 30 schools in the Oxfordshire heats of the UKMT Senior Mathematical Team Challenge in November. Hopes were high for this year's team consisting of Jonathon Chan (Lower Sixth, Feilden), Young Kong (Upper Sixth, Queen Anne), Francis Binnie (Lower Sixth, Harcourt) and captain Luke Withey (Upper Sixth, Harcourt). The team did not disappoint, finishing in fourth place; Cokethorpe's best result to date.



Philosophy Café

'Fossil fuels are exploited, greenhouse gases emitted and the earth warms up... right? This is the most accepted theory of anthropogenic climate change yet when I held this term's Philosophy Café, I was keen to engage pupils in the moral and ethical debate surrounding the subject, rather than this over-simplistic view. Questions discussed included; 'Should we care about climate change?', 'Is climate change a geopolitical tool?' and 'Is the damage already irreversible?' Purious ere insightful and knowledgeable in their comment, and although their scepticism didn of much mine as devil's advocate, I am sure it brought a fresh perspective to their understand harm the subject.'



General Studies Feedback

'I had a tremendous day at Cokethorpe...
The programme is a brilliant idea, and it was wonderful to get the chance to try to inspire these young minds. The students were a delight, and I was particularly pleased to talk with a group of Theatre Studies students after the main lecture. We could have talked for hours.'

Ben Crystal

'I was not let down by Ben Crystal's Shakespeare on Toast, which opened my eyes to the alternative interpretations of Shakespeare's work by a very enthusiastic and talented actor and director. He gave me a renewed interest in Shakespeare.'

Nicholas Baboolal (Upper Sixth, Swift)

'I could not have asked for a more polite, more attentive or more receptive audience... Warmest thanks for hosting me so assiduously. Cokethorpe gave me the impression of being a most warm and vibrant school.'

Nicholas Ridley

'Mr Ridley captivated the audience with an enthralling account of his climbs in the Andes. Aside from the beautiful pictures and immensely exciting tales of his journey, his mantra of expanding one's mind through the experience and challenges of travel was inspiring throughout.'

Gabriel Gavin (Lower Sixth, Queen Anne)

Senior Maths Challenge

Best in School, Gold Award and Qualification to British Mathematical Olympiad Round 1: Jonathan Chan

Gold Award Winners: Young Hoon Kong, Francis Binnie

Silver Award Winners: Ross McKee, Luke Withey

Bronze Award Winners:

Sophie Fisher, Charlie Elder, Gregory Muller, Philip Quadri, Alison Roberts, Lloyd Cadman, Hugo Van Dorssen

The cut off marks were:

Bown

Qualification for Olympiad Round $1 \ge 96\%$, Gold $\ge 85\%$, Silver $\ge 70\%$, Bronze $\ge 58\%$

Performing Arts

Urban Myths Cast

The Face

Sydney Skinner

Danielle Batty

Monty McKenna

Celeste Black

Harry Norton-Shaw

Charlotte Dewhurst

A Piece of the Puzzle

Matthew Pickup

Matthew Hunt

Frederick Orme

Laura Cardy

Jake Wilkes

Harry Blake

The Girl in the Woods

Charlie Cassettari

Harry Austin

Henry Gardner

Cameron Hughes

William Ward-Naranjo

Christian Ettinger

Thorne-Rian Owen Katie McLachlan

Rem Coppock-Cudd

Jake Halfacre

Kieran Husband

William Parsons

Jack Saunders George Wenman

The Mental Clown

Becky Coles

Edward Collins

Angus Haines

Annabelle Hulewicz

Ollie John James Murphy

The Legend of Knockout Ned

Luke Watkins

George Murrin

Taisia Graves

Jason Cardy

Mike Davis

Jonathon Lane Schoolboy's Revenge

Beth Stanley

Toby Farrant

Ryan Oliver

Thomas Deabill

Sebastian Fisher

Laurence Moloney

The Circus of Horrors

Alex Haywood

Holly Cooper Vanessa Blake

George Grime

William Sayer

Christian Wernham-Bourke

Stuck!

George Hooper

Justin Foster

Andrew Berry

Melanie Severn

Harry Lovibond Lindsay Turvold

The Shopping Murderer

Toby Watts-Lay

Edward Mordue

Ben Armstrong

John Morrison

Redford Curtis

Jane

Elijah Vieira-Faria

Toyah Overton

Harry Hastings

Charlie Tobin

Nicholas Caddy

Urban Myths

This term the Third Form pupils created their own original Urban Myths in Drama. Inspired by the legend of The Vanishing Hitchhiker, in which people pick up a hitchhiker who subsequently vanishes without explanation, this was a challenging task which gave the pupils the opportunity to explore the art of storytelling. Most groups had a sinister twist in their tales and some were positively terrifying. Each group wrote, performed and filmed their myths and then evaluated their work.





Drama Scholars' Showcase

The Drama Scholars presented their eclectic mix of monologues and duologues during October, Ella Ashdown (Lower Sixth, Vanbrugh) began proceedings with a measured, but harrowing piece from Low Level Panic. George Lawson (Fifth Form, Gascoigne) and Miles Beirouti (Fourth Form, Queen Anne) lightened the mood with a comic presentation of Monty Python's The Cheese Shop. Alex Lawson (Upper Sixth, Swift) gave a strong performance of Jimmy in Look Back in Anger assisted by Rachel Wood (Lower Sixth, Gascoigne), who also presented a subtle and gentle extract from Catholic Schoolgirls. Sydney Bennett-Miller (Lower First, Gascoigne) then delivered her comic monologue as Roxy. Lucy Grout (Fifth Form, Feilden) gave a beautiful rendition of Juliet's last moments from Romeo and Juliet followed by a sad tale of abandonment from the Chat Room by Saskia Kovandzich (Fourth Form, Harcourt). Ella Ashdown wound up proceedings with an interpretation of Lady Macbeth's 'mad scene'.

Theatre-In-Education

During October Fifth Form GCSE Drama pupils performed their unique interpretations of Romeo and Juliet and Much Ado About Nothing to the Junior School as part of their Theatre-In-Education Assessment. Designed specifically for each age group, the pupils injected a great deal of humour and sensitivity into every presentation. Much Ado has a complicated plot which the actors managed to convey using multi-roles, excellent character choices and some quick changes. The tangled web of love and deception was handled well and delivered with gusto. Meanwhile, three groups presented very different interpretations of Romeo and Juliet: one was set in the studios of The X Factor, another in a school where the Naughties (Capulets) battled with the Geeks (Montagues) and the last was more traditional, albeit with the successful addition of Friar Lawrence's pet chicken!



Performing Arts

Physical Theatre

The Upper First Physical Theatre lunchtime presentation on 18 November demonstrated the fantastic variety of disciplines and excellent talent within this year group. There were some music-led pieces portraying rebellious toys and puppets, as well as break-dancing robots and zombies. Other groups created fantastical machines with very funny adverts and the final performance was utterly mesmerising. This set created the world of the subconscious, a realm of dreams and nightmares, all to an ambient trip hop soundtrack. This was physical theatre at its best and we look forward to seeing the Upper First perform again in the future.



Mime

On 11 November the Lower First presented their mimes during a lunchtime performance. The pieces, wholly created by the pupils, were engaging, humorous and highly original. With titles such as A Trip to the Cinema; Total Wipeout; Around the World in Eight Minutes; and Take Care of Your Teeth, Or They Will Take Care Of You, there was something for everyone to enjoy. The audience was impressed by the skills on show, including the pupils' commitment and professionalism, and their ability to communicate complex narratives without using any words. It was a delight to see so many of them on stage and refreshing to see them quite so quiet!

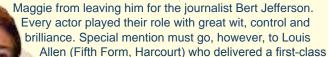


Theatre Trips

The Oxford Playhouse played host to the wonderful Kneehigh Theatre Company in October and Cokethorpe's GCSE and A Level pupils were taken to see their production of *The Red Shoes*, based on Hans Christian Andersen's classic tale warning of the dangers of desire. The actors, dressed only in vests, y-fronts and clogs, and with shaven heads and sunken eyes, wondered in and out of the traffic outside the theatre, clutching their suitcases looking for a place to tell their story. Kneehigh never fails to deliver, and this wonderful production was no exception. Later in the year AS Drama students returned to the Oxford Playhouse for a very different experience. The University of Oxford's student drama company, Indigo Productions, presented *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams. There were some excellent performances from the young cast and, despite it being a very long play, it was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The Man Who Came to Dinner

The Senior School Christmas Production of the festive comedy, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, went beyond all expectations! When Sheridan Whiteside slips on the icy doorstep of Mr and Mrs Stanley's home, he is confined to a wheelchair and forced to stay for Christmas. As he takes over the household the audience meets a stream of eccentric visitors and are privy to his plotting to keep his secretary





caustic Whiteside and Lucy Grout's (Fifth Form, Feilden) mature and polished portrayal of Maggie. Christie Batty (Fifth Form, Gascoigne) was terrifyingly believable as the deranged Harriet Stanley and the hopeless Doctor Bradley was played brilliantly by Brian Clarke (Fifth Form, Queen Anne). Zac Bamford's (Fifth Form, Feilden) theatrical Bill Carton practically brought the house down and Zoë Mace (Fifth Form, Harcourt) played the social-climbing, femme fatal Lorraine Sheldon beautifully. Miss Preen portrayed by Rachel Wood (Lower Sixth, Gascoigne) received a resounding applause when she handed in her notice and Ella Ashdown (Lower Sixth, Vanbrugh) and George Lawson (Fifth Form, Gascoigne) were wonderful as the neurotic, hapless hosts. This was a slick, comedic production which could easily have graced any professional stage.

Urban Myths Cast Cont.

Ghost in the Forest

Ry Gavin

Henry Plumridge

Richard Thompson Emma Roake

Aidan King

Lucy Nielson

The Price

Fraser Logue

Katie Jenkins

Courtney Bates-Brownsword

Thomas Amor

Joe Bulman

Bethany Mulloy

The Comrade's Will

Toby Cole

Emma King

Shannon Dalton

Lois Waknell

Daniel Pye

Ellen Garbutt

Radio Podcast

Upper First pupils had the opportunity to write, perform and record their own radio show during the Wednesday Performing Arts AOB this term. It was a hugely successful enterprise last year and continues apace this year. Please visit www.cokethorpe.org.uk/go/radiopodcasts to listen to Bonkers FM.

Good Schools Guide Award

Cokethorpe was pleased to receive the Good Schools Guide's award for best (2009) results at A Level achieved by boys taking Drama and Theatre Studies at an English Independent School.

The Man Who Came to Dinner Cast

Mrs Stanley Richard Stanley John Miss Preen June Stanley Mrs Dexter Mrs McCutcheon **Earnest Stanley** Maggie Cutler **Doctor Bradley** Sheridan Whiteside Bert Jefferson Metz Baker Henderson **Turner** Harriet Stanley Sandy Lorraine Sheldon Bill Carlton Radio Producer **Carol Singers**

Zoë Mace Zac Bamford Sydney Bennett-Miller Emily Thompson Alice Bird Anna Withey

Ella Ashdown

Daniel McCall

Rachel Wood

Laura Wood

Lucy Grout

Louis Allen

Jack Revell

Joe Bulman

William Lewis

Fraser Logue

Christie Batty

Miles Beirouti

Timothy Knight

Brian Clarke

Saskia Kovandzich

Charlotte Ferryman

George Lawson

Alfie Turner

Jessica Williams Rosie Turner Clare Berry Alexander Lawson

Banjo Policeman

Joe Bulman

Performing Arts

Lunchtime Recitals

Scholars' Recital: 23 September 2010
Ellen Garbutt (Third Form, Feilden)
James Ellacott (Fifth Form, Feilden)
Freddie Miles (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne)
Edd Bird (Guest, Upper Sixth, Gascoigne)

Sixth Form Recital: 7 October 2010
William Draper (Upper Sixth, Harcourt)
Edd Bird (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne)
Paul Berry (Upper Sixth, Queen Anne)
Freddie Miles (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne)
Thomas Wood (Upper Sixth, Vanbrugh)
Hanna Young (Guest, Fifth Form, Swift)

Fifth Form Recital: 4 November 2010
Lucy Furneaux (Harcourt)
Christie Batty (Gascoigne)
Lewis Williams (Vanbrugh)
James Ellacott (Feilden)
Harry Fellows (Vanbrugh)
Amy Williams (Swift)
Daniel McCall (Vanbrugh)

Training and Selection Day

Over 30 musicians took part in a 'pre-season training' day on Thursday 2 September. Instrumentalists and vocalists took part in ensembles and solo work and it was an enjoyable and productive day of music-making for all.

Music Achievements

Matthew Ellacott (Lower First, Feilden) has been awarded a place in the National Children's Wind Orchestra following his recent audition. The orchestra is for those aged 10 to 19 and requires a standard of grade 7 and above. Matthew will now attend a nine-day residential course in April 2011.

Luke Saunders (Upper Sixth, Feilden) appeared in the Oxford Operatic Society's production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* at the Oxford Playhouse during November.

Freddie Miles (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne) has been invited to take part in a conductors' experience course with the London Symphony Orchestra through Guildhall.

Ross McKee (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne) and Paul Berry (Upper Sixth, Queen Anne) performed at the National Youth School Music Proms in the Albert Hall in November. They are part of the Oxfordshire Central Music School, whose Sinfonia orchestra recently receive an outstanding achievement award at the National Music Festival for Youth Competition.



St Cecilia Concert

This year's St Cecilia Concert featured a varied programme of ensembles and solos. The evening started with Italian-themed refreshments in honour of St Cecilia, the Patron Saint of music and musicians, whose feast day is on 22 November. The auditorium seating and the performing space were full as sixty pupils took to the stage. Several winners of classes in the recent Inter-House Music Competition presented their performances, and there were also items from a range of School ensembles. The newly formed Céilidh Band played for the first time and there was the usual high standard of performance from the Clarinet Quartet, Saxophone Quartet, Jazz Band and Schola Cantorum. The two largest ensembles, the Soul Singers and Wind Band, took up half of the stage each, and the programme was enjoyed from start to finish.

Choral Evensong

This term's Evensong took place in the School Chapel on Wednesday 13 October. Schola Cantorum led the singing with Charles Wood's setting of the *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis in D*; the solo by the Bass section being particularly well received. The anthem was *Turn Back O Man* with words by Clifford Bax, set to music by Gustav Holst.



Chipping Norton Festival

The Jazz Band participated in the Chipping Norton Jazz Festival 2010 on 26 September in the schools' event held at Chipping Norton Theatre. The organisers, the Rotary Club, said that the players gave the best performance of the day. 'Chippyjazz' is an all day festival with free gigs around the town; this year £3,500 was raised for charity.

Oxfordshire Choirs' Festival
On Saturday 9 October, Schola Cantorum sang in the Chapel at Radley College, joining the Royal School of Church Music Choirs' Festival for the Oxfordshire area. The afternoon was spent rehearsing with three hundred massed voices before a Festival Evensong which concluded the day. The service consisted of three anthems as well as a setting of the canticles, some fiendishly tricky responses, a psalm and hymns. This was an opportunity which will long be remembered both by those who took part, but also by the parents and friends who came along to listen.

Creative Arts

Photography Trip

On Tuesday 12 October the Photography students visited the Tate Britain and Tate Modern in London. Arriving at the Tate Britain the students set off to explore the Art Now section. which included photographers such as Clunie Read and James Richards. They then gathered for their timed entry to the Eadweard Muybridge show. Muybridge was a pioneer of many technical aspects of photography including the renowned images that proved that a horse lifted all four feet off the ground when it galloped. After some lunch, the group caught the boat to the Tate Modern, which they viewed whilst enjoying ice creams and shooting photographs. Here the students looked at the Photographic Typologies collection; a wide range of photographers' works including part of August Sander's comprehensive photographic index of the German population, taken in the 1920s just before the Nazis gained absolute power. They were also lucky enough to see the huge installation of hand-painted and crafted sunflower seeds by Chinese artist Ai Weiwei. The exhibit had opened that day and they were allowed to walk on it, pick up the seeds and experience it as the artist had intended. Two days later access was denied to visitors for health and safety reasons.



Fine Art Trip

On 20 and 21 October the AS and A Level Fine Art students visited The Natural History Museum, Botanical Gardens, Ashmolean Museum in Oxford and Wittenham Clumps near Wallingford. Oxford is familiar to the students of course but on this visit they were concentrating on art rather than shopping! Wittenham Clumps is lesser known but falls into an area of outstanding natural beauty. Thriving with wildlife it provided the ideal location for their coursework project based on natural forms. In the morning they gathered research to take back to the art rooms and start developing their drawings. Both days were thoroughly inspirational and the wide variety of places they visited meant that everyone was able to find relevant artists and information to base their projects on. Prior to the visit they had all made sketchbooks to use during the educational visit, which they filled with drawings, photographs, collages and ideas.





Photography Competitions

Jamie Unwin (Fifth Form, Harcourt) was recently announced as runner-up in the Youth Your View category of the Take A View Landscape Photographer of the Year 2010 – receiving a Highly Commended for his photograph of 'A Small Stream Near Where I Live'. Jamie was also a finalist in the RSPCA National Young Photographer of 2010. Ben Fogle announced the winners at the RSPCA Awards Ceremony, held at the Tower of London on 12 December, in which Jamie's 'The Out Goer' was Highly Commended.

Reception Class Door

Thank you to the three Art students, Katie Finlayson (Lower Sixth, Queen Anne), Katy Bennett (Upper Sixth, Feilden) and Amy Hewes (Upper Sixth, Harcourt), who helped beautifully decorate the door to the Reception Class area.

Lower First DT Project

This term Lower First have had the exciting project of designing and making their own model car. Each and every one was unique, with plenty of additions ranging from spoilers, spare wheels, headlights, and snow guards, not to mention the go faster stripes! Oliver Cook and James Jeffs (both Vanbrugh) enthusiastically made the ramp for the competition, which took place in the final week of term.

Charity Fashion Show Win

Lissi Mason (Lower Sixth, Queen Anne) recently took part in a Charity Fashion Show, held at St John's School, Marlborough, and won a week's work experience with fashion designer Tanva Sarne (founder of the London fashion house Ghost). The evening, entitled 'Salvage', was in aid of Charlie's Charity and over 300 people aged 14 to 21 entered the competition, for which they designed, styled and created their own sustainable outfits and accessories and submitted 200 words about their piece. 150 entries were short-listed to take part in the 'Trashion' Show on Saturday 13 November, with the designers also modelling their creations. There were five categories in which to enter and on top of individual category winners there were four main awards to be won including Lissi's prize. Lissi entered a design based on the artist Magnolia Pearl into the Fantasy category and also hopes to use it as part of her Textiles A Level.

Cartoon Strip Competition

Lower First pupils designed an eight-part cartoon strip based around school life during Art lessons this term. They researched other cartoons and famous characters for inspiration. The standard was very high and the Art Department found it difficult to select from the strong competition entries. After much deliberation first prize (shown left) was awarded to Laurel Mulloy (Swift), second to Keely Harding (Feilden), third to George Hudson (Gascoigne) and fourth to Wiz Binnie (Harcourt). Certificates will be presented in the Lent Term.

Sport

Sports Colours

Full Colours:

Rugby Julian Watkins (Swift)

Alex Da Silva Isidro (Queen Anne) Danny Burford (Feilden) James Silver (Queen Anne) George Lane (Harcourt) Jacob Wilson (Gascoigne)

Hockey Sunny Ricketts (Swift)

Shona Stanley (Vanbrugh)

Half Colours:

Rugby Nicholas Baboolal (Swift)

Paul Prinold (Vanbrugh) Henry Purdy (Queen Anne)

Hockey Millie Herbert (Queen Anne)

Amy Watson (Feilden)

Sports Captains 2010-2011

Rugby Julian Watkins (Swift)
Hockey Shona Stanley (Vanbrugh)
Soccer Alexander Cade (Swift)
Netball Sunny Ricketts (Swift)
Cricket Jack Biggs (Feilden)
Tennis Alex Da Silva Isidro (Queen Anne)

Kayaking Louis Taylor (Feilden) Shooting George Kerr (Feilden)

Rugby Tour to South Africa

Thirty-four Fourth Form and Sixth Form boys spent two weeks in South Africa on a rugby tour during July. Please visit the website for a day-by-day diary and to view a gallery of photos from their travels.

European Pony Championships

Alfie Bradstock (Lower Sixth, Gascoigne) competed as one quarter of the GB pony eventing team at the European Championships in July. Following dressage, show jumping and cross country competitions, Alfie and the GB team took home the gold medal. Well done.

Cross Country Results

Lower First Girls:

2nd Freya Rowe (Lower First, Harcourt)

3rd Sophie Wheeler (Year 5, Lockwood)

Lower First Boys:

2nd Daniel Bailey (Year 6, Symonds)3rd Matthew Ellacott (Lower First, Feilden)

U15 Girls:

2nd Elisha Evans (Lower First, Swift)3rd Erika Davies (Upper First, Queen Anne)

U15 Boys:

1st Luke Watkins (Third Form, Swift)

U17 Boys:

1st Tom Binnie (Fourth Form, Harcourt)

U19 Girls:

1st Amy Brooker (Lower Sixth, Feilden)2nd Lydia Farrell (Lower Sixth, Vanbrugh)3rd Gorgia Lisi (Upper Sixth, Harcourt)

U19 Boys:

1st George Miller (Upper Sixth, Harcourt) 3rd Gregory Muller (Lower Sixth, Vanbrugh) Rugby



Oxfordshire Schools of Rugby. There is much to be proud of in a season that has seen the School

receive recognition of its standing nationally by having two reviews in the magazine Rugby World.

Archery Taster Day

On Saturday 6 November, pupils, parents and staff took part in an archery taster session. With expert guidance from Level 2 and Level 1 coaches, the 'novices' shot using the Olympic Style (recurve) bows. Everyone very much enjoyed the day and many showed a natural aptitude for the sport. Thank you to Mrs Drake and Mr Stuart for organising the event.



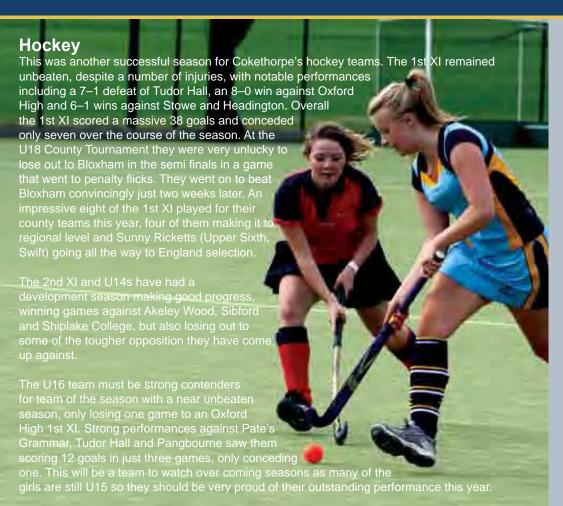
Cokethorpe Kayak Race

U16s. A further eight junior players have been attending the

Seventy-eight competitors, in eight different categories, took part in the annual 10-mile kayak race along the River Thames, from Radcot to Newbridge on Sunday 17 October. The races finished at the Cokethorpe Boat House, where competitors and supporters enjoyed refreshments, followed by the presentation of awards to the winners.







Clay Pigeon Shooting

Cokethorpe recently shot against Stowe School fielding a team of six boys and three girls, the traditional number for school shooting. After very consistent shooting Cokethorpe boys won 227–198 and the girls won 92–56. Cokethorpe also got High Gun for both the boys and girls. An encouraging result for the competitive season, which starts in earnest in the Lent Term.



England Hockey Success

Congratulations to Sunny Ricketts (Upper Sixth, Swift) who has been selected for the Under 18 England hockey squad. Sunny took part in a regional tournament, representing Oxford and the Midlands, and was one of 37 girls from the 72 that took part, to be invited to an England trials day. From there the England training squad of 24 players was selected.





Boxing Victory

Henry Daniels (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne) started boxing at Cokethorpe and for almost two years has been training three times a week with the Windrush Valley Amateur Boxing Club. On 20 November, Henry won his first public senior fight against Portsmouth rival Sam Blainey, in front of 250 spectators at the Langdale Hall.

Indoor Kayak Success

On Saturday 20 November Kieran Husband (Third Form, Harcourt) and Amy Turner (Lower Sixth, Swift) represented Falcon Canoe Club at the British Indoor Kayaking Championships 2010 in London. Amy and Kieran did extremely well in this national competition, with Amy winning both the 500m and 1,000m races, while Kieran came second in the 1,000m.

Devizes to Westminster Blog

Christian Field (Fifth Form, Harcourt) is writing a blog to record the long and exciting journey preparing for the Devizes to Westminster Kayak Race on 22 April 2011. Visit www.cokethorpe.org.uk/go/dwblog for the latest entry.

Shooting vs Stowe

Boys:

George Kerr (Captain, Upper Sixth, Feilden) Archie Napper (Lower Sixth, Harcourt) Ethan Bosse (Fifth Form, Vanbrugh) Charlie Von Hoven (Fifth Form, Vanbrugh) Andrew Fiedorowicz (Fourth Form, Vanbrugh) Mattias Athwal (Fourth Form, Swift)

Girls:

Lucia Nettlefold (Captain, Lower Sixth, Vanbrugh) Lizzie Hardie (Lower Sixth, Queen Anne) Ella Ashdown (Lower Sixth, Vanbrugh)

Joint High Gun Boys: George Kerr and Andrew Fiedorowicz (43/50)

High Gun Girls: Lucia Nettlefold (34/50)

Sky Sports Coaching Award

Having been nominated by the Oxfordshire Cricket Board for a Sky Sports Coaching Award, Cokethorpe coach Mr Martindale was invited by the English Cricket Board to attend a presentation during an Oval Test Match in August. Not only was Mr Martindale one of sixteen coaches from the UK to be presented with the award for Outstanding Coaching Achievement by David Lloyd, Sky Sports presenter and former England batsman and coach, but he was also named the winner of the Southern Region.

High Jumping News

Following a successful high-jumping season, Alexandra Cross (Upper First, Gascoigne) has been invited by the National Coach Mentor for High Jump, to spend a day training with GB athletes Lou Hazell and Vikki Hubbard – both of whom competed in the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi in October.

Christingles

A Christingle is a symbolic object used in Advent Services to express the message of Christmas. The Christingle consists of:

- · An orange representing the world
- A lit candle signifying light in the dark, like the love of God
- A red ribbon going all around the world to symbolise the blood Jesus shed when he died
- Four sticks pointing in all directions and symbolising north, south, east and west, as well as the four seasons
- Fruit and nuts (or sometimes sweets)
 embodying the fruits of the earth, nurtured
 by the sunshine and the rain

Pre-Prep Cast List

Narrators Tilly Hurford-Jones

Jossy Brown Isabella Smith Tom Orton

Little Soldier Tom Orton Soldiers Jake Crozier

Harvey Gould

Thomas Smith-Donald
Market Sellers Edith Wannell

Edith Wannell Jamie Hammond Holly Drake

Hester Beer Gracie Karslake David Haar

Mary Maddie Flaherty
Joseph Henry Birchenough
Innkeepers Hester Beer

David Haar Jamie Hammond

Innkeeper's Wife Holly Drake
Shepherds Harry Furlong

Harry Furlong
Jadon Washington

Ben Orton
Liam Crozier
Tabitha Haward

Kings Tabitha Howard
Olivia Reece
Holly Kendrick

Kye Carrington
Jasmine Hammond
Joseph Curry

Theo Langford
Dee Biles

Father Christmas

Angels

Father Christmas is known by many different names around the world, such as:

Austria: Christkind (Christ Child)
Belgium: Sinterklaas (Santa Claus)

and De Kerstman (Father Christmas)

Canada: Santa Claus and Père Noël

(Father Christmas)

Denmark: Julemanden (The Yule-Man

or The Christmas-Man) Joulupukki (Yule Goat)

France: Père Noël (Father Christmas)
Germany: Weihnachtsmann

(Christmas Man) and Christkind (The Christ Child)

Hungary: Mikulás (Nicholas), Jézuska and Kis Jézus (Child Jesus)

Italy: Babbo Natale

(Father Christmas)
Netherlands: Sinterklaas (Santa Claus)

Russia: Ded Moroz

(Grandfather Frost)

Spain: Papa Noel (Father Christmas)



Christingle Service

The Junior School marked the end of the Michaelmas Term and the lead up to Christmas with a moving Christingle Service in the Chapel on 9 December. The service, led by Revd Canon Roger Humphreys, consisted of readings and carols, which the children and staff sang with great enthusiasm. The Address told of how God represents light and Revd Canon Humphreys explained the symbolism of advent candles and Christingles themselves. As the service came to an end the lights were dimmed and the Chapel was lit up with Christingles whilst everyone sang Silent Night. 🗹

Pre-Prep Christmas Play

The Pre-Prep captivated parents with their performance of *Busy, Busy Bethlehem* in December. Tom Orton (Year 2, Gwyn) was the soldier sent to Bethlehem by Caesar Augustus to organise everyone in the city. He insisted in the severest terms that they all lined up to be counted. Mary and Joseph, performed by Maddie Flaherty (Year 1, Lockwood) and Henry Birchenough (Year 1, Baker) arrived late and the soldier is very cross. However his mood softens and he forgets all about his organisation. Could it be because a very special baby is about to be born? The children acted and sang beautifully, and there were a number of impressive soloists. It was especially exciting for the children for whom it was their first role in a School play. After the performance, parents enjoyed festive refreshments in front of a roaring fire.



Christmas Production

The freezing conditions in December provided the perfect backdrop for the Junior School Christmas Production; a feast of drama, poetry, music and carols. The first carol, On Christmas Night, set the scene for Dickens's classic tale, A Christmas Carol, performed by Year 6. Year 3, dressed in white, complete with matching glasses and snowflakes, recited several poems on the subject of snow. Year 4, in their sparkly costumes, (including Christmas trees and a dinosaur!) also presented their Christmas poems.

The Junior Chamber Choir concluded the evening with the Cantata *One Bright Star*. They were assisted by Year 5 children who illustrated the songs with the Nativity play and a selection of poems. Following the final carol, *O Come All Ye Faithful*, parents were invited to the Dining Hall to enjoy a glass of mulled wine and mince pies.

Finland:

Friday Adventurers

Children from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have been spending their Friday activity time taking part in different exciting adventures throughout the Michaelmas Term.

One group, sporting chefs hats and aprons, has been learning how to cook an array of delicious treats such as shortbread, cheese straws, chocolate hedgehogs and pizza. Meanwhile the other groups have been outside gardening in the play area, where they have learnt to plant bulbs, made bird feeders or got to grips with bark rubbing and paper weaving.



Salt Box Workshop

On 12 November Michelle from Salt Box Music Company came to visit the Reception children and their friends from Westfield House. Her theme was 'Up and Down' and the children enjoyed singing about spiders going up and down spouts and The Grand Old Duke of York. Michelle brought a selection of instruments to tap, shake and bang. When she put up her umbrella, the children had to play the instruments and when she took it down they stopped. She also had a bubble machine and everyone had fun popping the bubbles as they floated up and down.



New House System

The Junior School launched a new House system at the start of the Michaelmas Term. The system exists to encourage children to socialise, support and compete with each other and the recent introduction of the Lower House in the Senior School gave the Junior School the chance to establish four Houses of its own. They wanted to maintain a link to the Mansion House and therefore named the Houses after three of the first boarders: Charles Gwvn. Martin Lockwood and John Symonds. The fourth House is named after former pupil and recently retired governor Tony Baker.





Visit From Father Christmas

The Pre-Prep children had a lovely surprise at the end of the Michaelmas Term. During story time they were startled by a knock on the door and answered it to find Father Christmas with a sack full of presents. Rudolph and the rest of his reindeers waited outside while, with much excitement and giggling, the children all enjoyed telling him about themselves and how they had, of course, been very well behaved girls and boys all year!

Prize Winners of the Term

UUINI	Juseph Curry (Symonus)
01RO	Holly Kendrick (Baker)
02LO	Hester Beer (Lockwood)
03JD	Amelia Leslie (Lockwood)
04MM	Ben Wannell (Baker)
05MC	Louisa Flaherty (Gwyn)
05HL	Antonia Haar (Lockwood)
06GM	Kate Hooper (Symonds)
06MO	Yukiko Nishikawa (Symonds)

Cokethorpe Carousel

Cokethorpe Junior School hosts a 'Carousel' every Wednesday afternoon and Friday morning. Children aged from 31/2, as well as Westfield House Nursery's eldest class, the 'Robins', join the Cokethorpe children for a variety of fun activities. Sessions include creative play, music-making sessions, art and craft, dressing up, action-songs, sand play, puzzles, 'small-world play' and imaginative play. The children have refreshments and use the Junior School playground. The Saltbox Music Company also visits twice a term to lead interactive, fun, imaginative educational music sessions. The Carousel sessions help prepare the children for moving on through the education system, whilst also letting them experience first hand Cokethorpe's excellent care and

House Captains

Following the launch of their new House system, the Junior School invited children in Year 5 and Year 6 to stand for election as the new House Captains. The children had to prepare speeches, which they gave in front of their peers to win their vote in a secret ballot. Congratulations to the following children on their election:

Madeline Pound (Year 6) Baker Toby Brown (Year 5)

Gwyn Sam Biles (Year 6) Louisa Flaherty (Year 5) Luke Smith (Year 6) Lockwood

Alexander Wilde (Year 5) **Symonds** Sam Bird (Year 6) Ruby Plumridge (Year 5)

Primary Maths Challenge

On Thursday 17 November, a group of Year 5 and 6 children took part in the national Primary Maths Challenge, a test with 25 multiple-choice problems, organised by The Mathematical Association. All the children tackled the questions well, with the top marks being awarded as follows:

Gold Certificate Mike Billing Silver Certificates Hannah Berry

Luke Garbutt Sam Riles

Bronze Certificate Madeline Pound

Trip to Sainsbury's

The Reception class went to Sainsbury's in Witney during October to buy English vegetables to celebrate Harvest time. Once they had filled their shopping baskets with a variety of fresh produce, they returned to School where they had great fun turning it into homemade soup and then of course 15

Cotswold Wildlife Park

'The meerkats eat all kinds of insects!'

Dee Biles

'The snorty pigs (the peccaries!) made their hair grow because they were miserable and they wanted us to go away!'

Kye Carrington

'We saw the giraffes. One was in his house and one had his head down because he was eating grass.'

Jasmine Hammond

'The meerkats were digging, because they wanted to find treasure!'

Joseph Curry

Day of Languages

The Junior School Day of Languages took place on Thursday 23 September. The children spent the day attending special language lessons, including:

French (France) Reception German (Germany) Year 1 Dutch (Holland) Year 2 Kiswahili (Kenya) Year 3 Year 4 Maori (New Zealand) Polish (Poland) Year 5 Year 5 Spanish (Spain) Russian (Russia) Year 6 Year 6 Japanese (Japan)

Corn Dolly Making

On Monday 8 November Year 4 children welcomed Mrs Daphne Smith to their Design Technology lesson, to demonstrate the traditional skill of corn dolly making. They made the Countryman's Favour, however other traditional designs include:

Cat's Paw

The Glory

The Mare

The Staffordshire Knot

Horns

The Cambridgeshire Hand Bell

The Cambridgeshire Umbrella

The Crook

The Suffolk Horseshoe

The Pickering Chalice

The Yorkshire Candlestick

The Essex Terret

Mother Earth Hereford Fan

Welsh Fan

Cross of Our Lord

Cross of St George

Cross of St Andrew

Devonshire Cross Devonshire Crown

The Keys of St Peter

The Anchor of St Clement

Snowman Raffle

The Christmas Appeal raffle was drawn during a lunchtime in the final week of term. The winners of the Snowman Scene and two individual snowmen, kindly knitted by Mrs Daphne Smith, were won by the following children:

1st Holly Kendrick (Year 1, Baker)2nd Isabella Smith (Year 2, Symonds)

3rd Frankie Brown (Year 4, Baker)



Wildlife Park

Children in Reception to Year 3 visited the Cotswold Wildlife Park in Burford on Friday 17 September. They toured the whole park and enjoyed looking at and learning about the different types of animals that the zoo houses. They saw giraffes, meerkats, penguins, monkeys and reptiles to name a few, many of which they had never seen before. They also had the chance to have fun in the exciting adventure playground.

Trip to Bucks County Museum and the Roald Dahl Gallery

On Wednesday 10 November the chilldren in Years 3 and 4 visited the Bucks County Museum and completed two mathematics trails, in which they had to exercise their mathematics skills and answer a variety of questions based on the museum exhibits. This was followed by an exciting time in the Roald Dahl Gallery during the afternoon. The children were encouraged to try scientific activities based on Roald Dahl's stories. They experimented with mirrors and cameras and the BFG's sound table. Next they visited Matilda's library, explored the tunnel of Fantastic Mr Fox and entered James's Giant Peach! There were also opportunities for dressing up, looking at creatures through microscopes and for riding in Charlie's Great Glass Elevator. Finally, they all helped with a drama sketch, by providing the sound effects when Augustus Gloop was swept away in a chocolate river, getting stuck in the bubble tube!



Fundraising

This term the Junior School continued to find enterprising ways to fundraise for its chosen charity, The Nasio Trust. For their Harvest Appeal they filled a large box full of stationery and raised £140 by baking and selling an assortment of cakes, while in their Christmas Appeal they filled 87 colourful party bags, for the children that the Trust supports in Kenya. On the last day of term a Snowman Scene Raffle was held, raising a further £40 to add to the pot!



Harvest Cantata

The Junior School Chamber Choir performed their Harvest Cantata to a packed audience of parents in the Corinthian Room on the final afternoon before half term. The themed songs were very well received and the pupils from Years 4 to 6 delighted the parents. Highlights included *Lord of the Harvest*, which had everyone's feet tapping, and the beautiful *Harvest Prayer*, sung by members of Mrs Du Feu's Friday singing ensemble. Mrs Griffin accompanied on her saxophone alongside Luke Garbutt (Year 6, Baker) and George Williams (Year 5, Symonds), both on trumpet, and Joe McBride (Year 5, Lockwood) made a fantastic debut on drums.





Archery Success

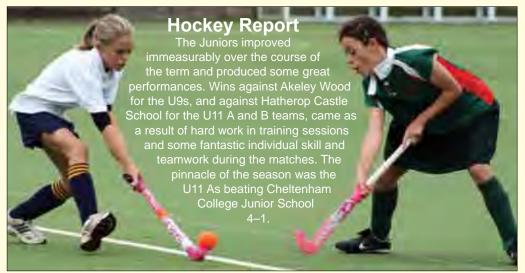
Congratulations to Ryan Kendrick (Year 6, Lockwood) who took Bronze in the British Indoor Archery Championships held in Telford during December. Ryan competed against other U12 archers to take third place, only narrowly missing out on Silver and Gold having taken the lead for the first third of the

Ryan has also enjoyed other archery success over the past year, including winning the County Championships with his Dorset and Wiltshire County club and, at only 10 years old, being named the youngest ever Junior Master Bowman in British archery history. Next year Ryan hopes to travel to South Korea during the Easter holidays for coaching with a world-acclaimed Olympic coach and he also aspires to compete in the 2014 Junior Olympics in China.



Swimming Gala

Teams from Years 5 and 6 competed in a Swimming Gala hosted by Chandlings School on Friday 8 October. The children put in some impressive performances, including a number of individual wins. The team captains, Luke Garbutt (Year 6, Baker) and Katie Husband (Year 5, Symonds) swam superbly and led by example winning four and three races respectively. Well done to all swimmers for a tremendous effort!



Hockey Results

U11 As		
Chandlings School	L	2-5
Cheltenham College School	W	4–1
Akeley Wood School	L	2-5
Hatherop Castle School	W	3–0

U11 Bs

Akeley Wood School 0-5 Hatherop Castle School

U10s

Chandlings School 0-5

1196

Akeley Wood School

Rugby Results

U11 As

Hatherop Castle School	W	34-0
Abingdon Preparatory School	L	0-36
Akeley Wood School	L	0-38
St Edward's School	L	33-0
New College School	W	56-12
U11 Rugby Tournament		6th

U11 Bs

Akeley Wood School	L	4-65
St Edward's School	L	28-0
New College School	W	47–7

U9 As

Sibford School	L	25-35
New College School	D	20-20
Abingdon Preparatory School	L	5-40
Akeley Wood School	L	25-35

U9 Bs

New College School 35-5

Swimming Gala Winners

The children who won their events in the Swimming Gala at Chandlings School were:

Luke Garbutt (Year 6, Baker) Harrison Brown (Year 5, Lockwood) Katie Husband (Year 5, Symonds) Sophie Drake (Year 5, Symonds) Madeline Pound (Year 6, Baker) Antonia Haar (Year 5, Lockwood)

Extra-Curricular Activities

Junior School children had the opportunity to take part in a number of extra-curricular activities this term:

Art Group

Ballet

Board Games

Chamber Choir

Computer Club

Construction Club

Cross Country

Golf

Hockey

Homework Club

Introduction to Violin

Lower Junior Singing

Modern Dance

Orchestra

Samba/Percussion Club Singing Ensemble

Soccer

Story Time

New Developments

Maintenance

As ever, a considerable amount of work was achieved over the summer holidays. There being no big building projects, the main focus was on renovation and decoration. The most significant were:

- Renovation and complete refit of the boys' toilets
- Decoration of the Science corridor in Vanbrugh and the stairwells
- Decoration, new carpet and general refurbishment of the Music and Drama classrooms on the top floor of Vanbrugh
- · New flooring in the Drama classroom
- Refurbishment of the windows in the Stable Block (Learning Support)
- Construction of a new retaining wall and extension of the block paving, to tidy up the area next to the Boiler House
- Continuation of the renovation to the Mansion windows
- New bus shelter
- Move of the Reprographics Room to enable the creation of a new IT classroom
- Creation of a light-proof lobby to the Photography Dark Room
- Decoration and new furniture for the top floor of the Library Building to create a Common Room Library for staff and Sixth Formers
- General decoration and minor repairs to many offices and classrooms
- Excavation of the path and re-lay of the concrete outside the boys' changing rooms
- Repair to the roof to the boys' changing rooms

Cricket Nets

A four-bay all-weather practice facility for cricket has been in development this term. Situated near the Maintenance Barns, this project has been partly funded by a generous grant from the Robin Greaves Sports Foundation, established in memory of the late Robin Greaves to provide financial grants to charitable organisations working to promote sports and recreation in Oxfordshire and the surrounding area. These high specification cricket nets are now near to completion and the School looks forward to benefitting from them in the Summer Term.

Weekly Email

An email to Senior School parents every Friday has been introduced. This provides hyperlinks to the latest letters placed online and a reminder about upcoming events.



Annual Fund 2011

A number of new donations have been received for this year's Annual Fund to complement existing regular gifts and over £11,500 has been pledged or donated so far. The fund has already provided two video towers for sports matches, the Junior School has a portable cooking trolley and equipment, and the Biology Department has welcomed 'Hermione' the tortoise!



Fundraising for Charity

NSPCC HACK

Miss Haynes and Ms Turner took part in a 25-mile Cotswolds HACK – Hike Against Cruelty to Kids – in aid of NSPCC on Sunday 5 September. Following many weeks of training they, along with 150 other participants, set off from the Cornbury Park and 'stomped' their way around the cross-country route, map-reading as they went. Despite a short shower interrupting an otherwise dry day, they took in the sights of Blenheim Palace, the forest of Wychwood and the river Evenlode and completed the marathon just over nine hours later. Their fantastic efforts were rewarded with raising over £700 for the NSPCC.

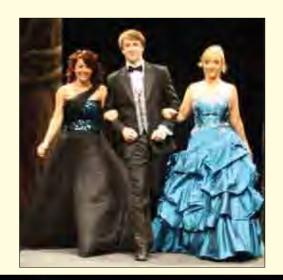
On the Catwalk

The girls and boys conveyed a great sense of fun and professionalism both on and off the catwalk. The following shops and designers were profiled during the evening:

- Dorothy Perkins
- Catherine Ellis
- EVA
- Proposals
- DominoesHarpers
- Aspire
- Nick Harvey (OC 2008, Vanbrugh)
- Lizzie Hardie (Lower Sixth, Queen Anne)
- Mrs Mace and the Cokethorpe Wardrobe
- Hockey and Rugby 1st Team Kits

Charity Fashion Show

On Monday 4 October, the Girls' Committee organised an evening for which over 30 pupils transformed into models to profile local clothes designers and retailers and raise money for charity. The audience arrived to find The Shed transformed by a catwalk dominating the space, surrounded by seating. Proceedings, compered by Mr Mullin, were accompanied by a soundtrack selected by Georgia Smith (Lower Sixth, Harcourt). By the end of the night £500 had been raised to be split between Helen & Douglas House and Rapid UK, representatives of which gave short talks briefly explaining their work. The foundations have now certainly been laid for many fantastic fashion shows to come! &





Cokethorpe Parents' Association

Fireworks and Bonfire Extravaganza

This year's Extravaganza took place on Friday 5 November and, despite a very wet and windy evening, was most successful. Nearly 1,000 pupils, parents, staff and friends of the School braved the weather, many seeking refuge under the marquees and keeping their hands warm around a glass of mulled wine or hot chocolate. Foxbury Farm once again provided a large number of very impressive hog roasts and committee members feverishly manned the barbecue and prepared the buns to keep up with the demand for sausages and burgers. Candy floss, popcorn and sweets were also aplenty. The fairground rides were continuously on the go and there was much excitement and cheers of victory from the rifle range and High Striker. The bonfire was soon lit and roared to life to provide a distraction from the rain. All eyes then took to the sky as Fire Magic once again produced a truly tremendous display of fireworks. 🗹





Treasure Hunt by Car

Twenty-five teams of families, friends, couples and staff took part in a Treasure Hunt by Car on Sunday 26 September. Fuelled with bacon butties and warm drinks served from the CPA Trailer, competitors departed from the School armed with 38 cryptic clues and directions. Cars then followed a 19-mile route around the countryside hunting for the answers and exploring parts of Oxfordshire that they may otherwise have passed unnoticed. The team members were welcomed back by a waving chequered flag, an ale tent and more hotdogs and tea. All answered most of the questions accurately, although only three teams got all 38 correct. Of those who got full marks, the winners, the Grimwade family, completed the course in 1 hour 26 minutes, driving 22 miles, with the Withey family coming runners up (1 hour 58 minutes, 24 miles). Thank you to Mr and Mrs Murrin for organising this excellent addition to the CPA calendar.





Murder Mystery Evening The Murder Mystery Evening on Saturday 16 October was once again a great success. A maximum capacity audience of 115 enjoyed an evening of clues, murder, suspense and hilarity. The mystery proved hard to crack, with only two parties correctly identifying the perpetrator. The cast members were hilarious and suited their roles perfectly and a delicious dinner, provided by Mr Bradford and his team, completed a wonderful evening.

CPA Committee

The 2010-2011 committee was elected at the CPA AGM on Wednesday 6 October.

Chairman: Ruth Wigham Vice Chairman: To Be Confirmed Treasurer: Flynn Reid Secretary:

Foundation Office John Bennett Catherine Christensen Victor Faria Shaun Foster

Kirsteen Fellows Jan Johnson Julie Grime Simon Hooper Maggie Neil Nigel Murrin

Damian Ettinger

Sue Furneaux Helen Grimwade Martin Kendrick Adi Hughes Sarah Plumridge

Forthcoming Events

CPA events are popular so ensure to book early to avoid disappointment! For tickets please contact the Box Office on 01993 892338 or email boxoffice@cokethorpe.org

Burns' Night Supper Friday 21 January 2011 7.30pm - 11.00pm

The evening will feature traditional Scottish entertainment, including bagpipes, a céilidh band and dancing. Tickets are £30 each and include a three-course meal and a shot of whisky for the toast! Last year, over 130 parents and staff enjoyed the evening of festivities, dressed in an array of black tie, kilts and plenty of tartan.

Quiz Night

Saturday 12 March 2011 7.30pm – 10.30pm

Contestants, organised in teams, battle it out as a professional Quiz Master conducts the proceedings. Delicious fresh Fish & Chips will be served during the break at 9.30pm. Tickets are £10 per person, including Fish & Chips.

Junior School Pirate Treasure Hunt Saturday 23 April 2011 11.00am - 3.00pm

Classic Car Show and Fathers' Day Out Sunday 19 June 2011 11.00am - 3.00pm

Coffee Mornings

The Coffee Shop was very popular each Tuesday morning of the Michaelmas Term as new and existing Cokethorpe parents met and socialised over hot refreshments.

About the CPA

All parents and guardians of current pupils, current members of staff of the School and Governors are automatically members of the Cokethorpe Parents' Association (CPA). The committee organises social events, which sometimes have an element of fundraising for specific projects. The general aim of the Association is to give parents, staff and governors the opportunity to meet informally and socially and to support the further development of the School and its amenities.

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Wider Community

Ladies' Hockey County Cup

Seven ladies hockey teams from around Oxfordshire competed in the County Cup at Cokethorpe in September. Final standings were as follows:

1st Banbury
2nd Oxford Hawks
3rd Witney
4th Henley
5th City of Oxford
6th Rover Oxford
7th Wallingford

Citizens Advice Bureau

The Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) was established in 1939 to exist as a free public advisory service. It provides people with advice on a range of issues such as debt, benefits, tax, employment, housing, relationships and family. It is the largest advice-giving networks in the UK, regularly providing advice from 3,500 locations.

Wider Community

Royal Navy

Over the course of the academic year 2009–2010 the following groups have used Cokethorpe's grounds and facilities:

Wychwood Ladies Hockey Club Young Farmers Downs Cricket Club Oxfordshire Hockey Association Rover Oxford Hockey Club **Burford Singers** Ride and Stride Oxfordshire Elite School of Rugby Standlake and Cokethorpe Beavers Standlake and Cokethorpe Scouts **Private Weddings Private Christenings** BBC Radio 4 The Lady Taverners Assisted Reading for Children in Oxfordshire (ARCH) English Schools Rugby Football Unions Oxfordshire Science Festival

Lent Term Open Morning

Reading Area Bursars' Group

The next Open Morning will take place on Saturday 12 February 2011. Friends and families are invited to visit the School between 9.30am and 12.00 noon.

Estimation Competition

The Maths Department ran an estimation competition during the Michaelmas Term Open Morning. The task involved six different estimating tasks, with points awarded for each task depending on how close the estimation was to the true value.

Out of the seventy people to participate, it was Mr and Mrs Bibby who won the competition and were awarded the prize of a wonderful cake home-made by Mrs Rushton.

The winner of the jar of sweets was Clemmie Young, a pupil at a local primary school. Jamie Langford (Lower First, Vanbrugh) came a close second.



More than 150 children from Cokethorpe and their siblings and friends enjoyed two weeks of activities at the Cokethorpe Summer Activity Weeks in July. A thoroughly enjoyable time was had and a large number of water skiers learnt to long line over the course of the week. Next year the School is looking forward to another two weeks of activities at the start of the summer holidays – this time in the hope of a little Mediterranean sunshine!

External Affairs

A variety of groups, societies and sporting teams continued to make use of Cokethorpe's extensive grounds and facilities over the course of the 2010 Michaelmas Term. Wychwood Ladies and Oxford Hawks Hockey Clubs held their training sessions and matches on the School's Astroturfs, as did the Oxfordshire Hockey Association. Meanwhile, the Oxfordshire Elite School of Rugby, comprising the best rugby players in Oxfordshire (including many of Cokethorpe's own pupils) continued to make use of the School's rugby pitches during term time and holidays.

Cokethorpe was also pleased to host the Citizens Advice Bureau's fundraising Quiz Night and Fish Supper in the Dining Hall on Saturday 13 November. The 100 people from the local area that attended had a wonderful evening and the event generated £1,500. The School's Lecture Room and music facilities were also used, when the Burford Singers held a training day for thirty of its singers at Cokethorpe.





Open Morning

Over 130 families arrived to a wonderful array of activities and displays at the Michaelmas Term Open Morning in October. All of the School's departments were open, exhibiting and demonstrating pupils' work and answering prospective families' questions. There were also a number of hands-on activities on offer for children and parents to try such as clay pigeon shooting, wonderful Science experiments and testing Maths competitions. As visitors explored the School's beautiful grounds they also stumbled across monologues from Drama Scholars, musical performances in the Busking Booth and a number of sports matches.

Wider Community



DT Plinth Exhibit

The Design and Technology Department's installation on the Plinth over the second half of the term reflected some of the principles of mechanisms that the Upper First pupils have been investigating this term. It used cams to change rotary motion (turning the handle) into reciprocating and rotary motion (the movement of the scene on top). The Upper First pupils have been designing and making mechanical toys, using a combination of softwood, manufactured board and acrylic to create their designs.



Around 25 pupils from Cokethorpe's feeder preparatory schools including Abingdon Prep, Ashfold, The Dragon, St Hugh's, Pinewood, Swanbourne House and Winchester House, attended the Cokethorpe Third Form Assessment Day on Wednesday 17 November. Having completed Maths and English papers in the morning the candidates were then able to work with a select group of current Sixth Form students to complete an assignment entitled 'What is best about being a pupil at Cokethorpe?'. The candidates agreed that the day had been challenging, yet enjoyable; especially the afternoon assignment.



Remembrance Day Service

Wearing their symbolic poppies, the whole School gathered in the Upper Quad on Thursday 11 November to take part in this year's Remembrance Day Service. Revd Canon Humphreys was joined by members of the British Legion as he led a poignant service, in which pupils and staff observed a two-minute silence and said prayers as a tribute to those who have lost their lives fighting for their country since the First World War. The School Brass Ensemble also paid homage to the fallen, playing the *Last Post* and *Reveille* on trumpet, which was organised, rehearsed and directed by Music Scholar Freddie Miles (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne).



An Unexpected Meeting

Sophie was pinning up her first poster on the village notice board. Sophie's poster says, WANTED, in big Wild West lettering. Sophie sees two other posters between hers, they are advertising a book club. Sophie's grandma would never take her to anywhere like that. She was too busy going to parties and listening to music, definitely not spending time with her granddaughter. As Sophie went to put another poster up she thought about why she was putting the posters up for a new grandma in the first place.

Two weeks before, Sophie's grandma had come over in the pink limo and fluorescent pink dress, she had been partying all night but the party was not over yet. No, grandma had just wanted to borrow some lipstick because she had run out. I looked down the stairs at my hideous grandma in her outrageous dress! For one she had tassels hanging down from all sides and the dress was too short, it was quite strange. Her shoes made me madder still, they looked about a foot high and were blue, but this blue did not match her dress. I looked at her a little longer and wondered why she couldn't be like a normal grandma?

One week ago was the final straw. Grandma came around in another hideous dress. She turned to my mum and whispered something, which I could not hear, and then she turned to me and in her shallow voice asked if I wanted to go sky diving with her! AS IF! Like I wanted to go sky diving with her, I have far too many books to read. Besides, she would probably jump putting make up on, as if it were some kind of party.

That is when I decided I need a new grandma. I pulled a notepad and pen out of my pocket (I always carry one around to let out a brain storm, otherwise I will burst out screaming; this is not a good thing). The heading read: What grandmas should be like – they must bake cakes, knit, read books and all the other granny stuff. They must not party all night, listen to music because if they do I will FIRE them on the spot!

Sophie strolled down the street to the last notice board. As she got there, there was already a poster. But this poster had a picture of Sophie on it. Above it said, WANTED: GRANDDAUGHTER. Below Sophie's picture it said: Must like loud music, partying all night and must not be a book worm. Sophie turned and ran down the street outraged. But as she got home she chuckled to herself. The next day came quickly. The door bell rang. Sophie peered down the stairs to see who it was. It was grandma! Quickly, Sophie slipped on her best dress and ran downstairs to see grandma carrying her knitting and some muffins! 'What an unexpected meeting' she laughed. Sophie laughed. 'Grandma' she said, 'I think I know someone who will fit the bill!'

> Rosie Hunt (Prospective Pupil September 2011, Lower First)

From the Archives

Turning Back the Pages

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

15 Years Ago

The Sports Hall was officially opened on the evening of 28 November 1995 by Mr David Crawford. There were a number of displays, including badminton, fencing, trampolining, basketball, netball, soccer, short tennis, hockey and aerobics. There was an unofficial opening in the morning with the whole school present.

25 Years Ago

Stonesfield Slate was used on the new roof at Cokethorpe. The slate was formed millions of years ago in the bed of a river. It was dug out of the ground in the summer, covered with wet cloths in the winter and water poured on them. With the arrival of the hard frosts the slates split naturally. The renovations also yielded examples of original 1700 plaster using real horsehair as the binding factor.

30 Years Ago

Mr and Mrs Davies have generously presented the School with a peacock and a peahen. This handsome gift is much appreciated by us all, and these living specimens of the School's emblem will be a welcome and decorative addition to the sights of Cokethorpe.

Cokethorpe Society: The highlight of last year's events was the handover of the Church to the School on 6 July 1979. Vivian Williams, on behalf of the Society, handed over the Deeds to John Trevis, representing the School. A slate plaque has been inserted into the wall on the north side of the Church and the Chaplain, Revd Lane, blessed this and said prayers with the congregation. The Church was filled with friends, boys and local residents from Hardwick and Ducklington, many of whom have close connections with the Church, and everyone was delighted to find how well the renovation had been done.

35 Years Ago

This year Basketball experienced a revival, not having been played seriously for a couple of years. Fifteen boys joined the club with such enthusiasm that a match against Burford House was arranged. The game was both exhausting and close, ending in a 14–14 draw.

40 Years Ago

Philately: This year's activities have been over-shadowed by 'The Fire' which consumed Richard Loraine-Smith's collection (OC 1972). Although he has with great courage, started to collect again, the edge has been taken off his enthusiasm. We now have Allan Mellaart (OC 1973) collecting, as might be expected, Turkey; Alan Greenhalgh (OC 1971) Great Britain and the West Indies; Mark Pateman (OC 1973) USA and Portugal; Francis MacGinty (OC 1972) Covers only; Geoffrey Hodge (OC 1974) anything he can come by honestly; and Michael Stallard (OC 1971) anything he is given or can afford to buy.



Twelfth Night and 1964 School Photograph

In preparation for a visit from former pupils David Wood and Lewis Watts, the School Archivist dug out some articles and images that they would recognise. Lewis was particularly pleased to see photographs and a programme for a production of *Twelfth Night* in 1963 where he played Curio, 'one of the gentlemen attending on the Duke'. He also found evidence of his one appearance for a rugby match in the fixtures and results books! During their grand tour they viewed the Mathematics corridor of whole school photographs and noticed the absence of 1964; Lewis has since kindly donated his copy to the Archive for which the School is extremely grateful.

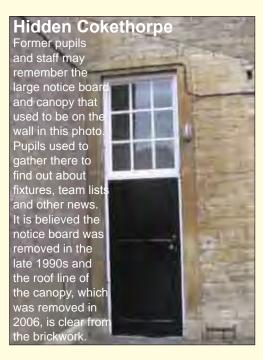


Summer of '68

On his recent visit to the School, Steven Pudney (OC 1968, Queen Anne) brought with him a number of photographs from his time here (example bottom left) as well as some absolutely fascinating film footage (a still from which is shown right). This nine-minute film was shot by his father during the Speech Day of 1968, Steven's final year. This unique view of the School illustrates, in colour, a side of the School's history that cannot be brought to life by photographs or memories in the same way. The film includes appearances from the then Headmaster Peter Allen and his wife, and other former pupils including Andrew Forbes (OC 1968). A huge thank you to Steven for taking the care and effort to transfer the footage to digital format and the School is proud to state that the film is available for all to watch on the Archive pages of the School website (under Community, then Cokethorpe Society).

David Stevens

The School is extremely grateful to former member of staff David Stevens for donating a number of Peacock magazines, some Cokethorpe Society newsletters, a couple of prospectuses and a copy of the 'Cokethorpe Park School Magazine' dated April 1958, Vol 1 No 1. The foreword introduces the magazine as being produced 'at the end of our first full term after our inauguration as a school on 17 November 1957 in Witney Parish Church'. This is the only copy in the School of a previously unknown publication. David joined the School in 1981 as a groundsman. He used to live in Ducklington and on a rare visit back to the village recently, from his home in Wales, he presented the magazines to Mr Daniels. David still has fond memories of his time at Cokethorpe and the School is very pleased that he had the foresight to keep his copies of the publications and generously donate them to the Archive.



The Cokethorpe Society





The School was delighted to welcome a number of former pupils during the term. John Rogers (OC 1958) and Steven Pudney (OC 1968, Queen Anne) visited on Wednesday 29 September (above left) and both had some fascinating memories of the School in its early days. John was one of Cokethorpe's first pupils in 1955 and other than a brief visit in the 1970s had not been back to the School properly since he left in 1958. David Wood (OC 1965, Swift) and Lewis Watts (OC 1965, Queen Anne) visited on Thursday 11 November (above right) and regaled the members of the Foundation Office with stories from their time at Cokethorpe; Lewis returning to his old School for the first time. Emma Tolson (OC 2006, Vanbrugh) also popped in and Toby Pugh (OC 2009, Harcourt) visited following a six-week recording session in America.

Sausage Williams

Sausage Williams, the much-loved dog belonging to former Director of Studies, David Williams (2004-2010), was recently featured in the Letters page of the Daily Telegraph on Saturday 6 November. Ann Flute, David's mother-in-law, responded to an article in which the writer objected to having a well-behaved dog in a restaurant:

'SIR - Sausage Williams, a chocolate Labrador with impeccable manners, dines regularly with his well-behaved family at the Trout Inn, a completely dog-friendly pub. In fact if he is not with us, one of the waitresses is reluctant to let us in. She spoils him with treats, after receiving the mandatory ecstatic licky kiss. The only thing he does not do is pick up the bill."

Jeremy Ng

Jeremy Ng (OC 1987, Harcourt) was knighted by the Malaysian State King on Saturday 1 May 2010 and has been given the title 'Datuk'. He received the award of 'Darjah Kurnia Setia Perkasa Diraja Melake' for his contribution and commitment to the Malay Melaka Sulanate and for serving with devotion to keeping a very good diplomatic relationship between the Malaysian Government and the Republic of Indonesia.





Abi Pritcher

Congratulations to former member of staff, Abi Pritcher (2002-2008), and her fiancé Clint, on the birth of Jack Bower Victor Rudd, born on Wednesday 13 October 2010, weighing 8lb.

Joshua Gale

Joshua Gale (OC 2009, Queen Anne) is the drummer for We Are Revival, a Christian hardcore/progressive band based in Coventry. They are currently writing and recording their first EP, with release scheduled for early 2011.

Joelle Gardner

Joelle Gardner (née Stratton, OC 2001, Swift) and her husband Daniel held a christening for their daughter Elise on Saturday 11 December 2010 in the School Chapel.

Aidan and Pete Brown

Congratulations to Aidan Drewett (OC 1997, Harcourt) and Pete Brown (OC 1998, Harcourt) who got married on Saturday 14 August 2010 (below middle).

Kieren McLoughlin

Congratulations to Kieren McLoughlin (OC 1996) on his marriage to Georgina on Saturday 3 September 2010 (below right) for which Paul Derow (OC 1996, Queen Anne) was best man and Tom Nelson (OC 1997) an usher.

University Destinations

The destination of the 2010 leavers is correct as of September 2010. Those re-applying, or whose destinations are unknown, are not listed. To make any additions or corrections please contact the Foundation Office on 01993 892339 or email foundationoffice@cokethorpe.org.

East London Amer, J Atkins, J Manchester Bennett, K Lincoln Berry, A Leeds Metropolitan

Bhella, G King's College London UWF

Bhella, H Biggs, G Leeds Sparsholt Booty, A Breslin, L Portsmouth Brownrigg-Gleeson, H Cardiff Cade, G Bournemouth Central Lancashire Cheal, J

Chen, N **UCL** Church, E Reading Coppock-Cudd, B **Brighton** Couper, D Sheffield Hallam Bath Spa Curtis. H Eagle, T Portsmouth Easter, D Wolverhampton Enjily, A Liverpool Fellows, R Nottingham Ford, L **Exeter**

Oxford Brookes Fullarton, J Exeter Gan. E Gillies, J York

Brighton Glew. G Gratwohl, R Worcester Jelfs, L Kingston Jennison, H Liverpool Bangor Jones, H **UWIC** Jones, M Keegan, S Cardiff Queen Mary Kruip, P Nottingham Trent Lambe, M Lawson, W Birmingham Sheffield Lee, J Liu, W Lancaster Ma, Q **UCL** Mallett, K Nottingham Birmingham McLoone, M Morris, J Leeds Morton, J Newcastle

Needham, D Loughborough Pickford, C Nottingham Trent Plummer, O Reading Protheroe, C Liverpool Russell, S Bath Saugman, B Gloucester Oxford Brookes Sayers, E

Shellard, O Gloucester Canterbury Christchurch Smith. J Sweeney, E Sheffield

Portsmouth

Sydenham, E Southampton Tyrer, P Leeds Uren, R Newcastle Wallace, W Cardiff Webb, B Canterbury Christchurch

Severn, M

Wheeker, C **UWE** Whelan, P Nottingham Wigham, M Newcastle Willett, E Southampton Wishart, R **Plymouth**

First Class Honours

Congratulations to Lena Beardsell (OC 2007, Feilden) who has graduated from St Mary's, London, with First Class Honours in Drama and Physical Theatre.

Tail Feathers



Ave

Ms S C Dixon (Modern Languages)

Ms Dixon has been teaching for six years and is a graduate of St John's College, Cambridge. She has recently completed some Spanish studies through the Open University. A keen hockey and cricket player, she is delighted to be involved in the games programme at Cokethorpe. She recently spent some time teaching in New Zealand and is an enthusiastic knitter and likes to crochet.

J P Floyd (Director of Studies)

Mr Floyd joins from Eltham College, London, where he was Head of Government and Politics, Liberal Studies and Careers. He is a keen sportsman whose ability never quite matched his enthusiasm but that doesn't stop him cycling into School whenever possible! Mr Floyd is a relatively recent convert to teaching having spent several years as an equity broker and in-house political analyst in South-East Asia.

E Monaghan (English)

Before teaching Mr Monaghan spent several years as a broadcast journalist. He left to go to university as a mature student and gained his BA in English Literature and Language from Harris Manchester College, Oxford. He then won a Birmingham University Schools' Scholarship and took his MA in Shakespeare Studies at The Shakespeare Institute in Stratford. He enjoys walking, going to the theatre and follows Kent County Cricket Club.

Staff News

Wedding Bells

Congratulations to the six members of staff who have recently been married: Miss White (English) married Simon on Saturday 17 July and is now Mrs Howells; Ms Fraser-Paterson (Maths) married former member of staff Alan on Saturday 24 July and is now Mrs Hutchings; Miss Rutland (Marketing Manager) married Chris also on Saturday 24 July and is now Mrs Green; Mrs Richards (Reprographics Technician) married Mark on Sunday 19 September and is now Mrs Druce; Mr Cooper (Junior School) married Sophie in the School Chapel on Friday 22 October; Mr Sheer (History) married Sara on Sunday 12 December.

Salsa

A number of staff have been enjoying Salsa lessons from Mrs Giraldo after School this term.

Mrs K L Murphy (Photography)

Mrs Murphy studied Photography at London College of Printing. She worked for a local newspaper and then in a large photographic studio, specialising in cars. After freelancing whilst her children were small, she began teaching A Level Photography in 2004.

G J Sheer (History, Housemaster)

Mr Sheer joined as Gascoigne Housemaster from The Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe where he was Head of History. He studied at the University of Wales, Swansea, and gained his PGCE from Bristol University. He is also a keen sportsman.

Miss S Shortland (Music)

Miss Shortland is a graduate from King's College London. As a student she also studied 'cello at the Royal Academy of Music and performed with the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain. In her spare time Miss Shortland practices Ashtanga yoga.

Miss C S L Timbrell (Science)

Miss Timbrell joins from the School of St Helen and St Katharine, Abingdon. She has been teaching for four years and started her career in Worcestershire. After completing her degree in Biological Sciences at the University of Birmingham, she travelled around Asia, Australia and New Zealand for six months, before starting her teacher training.

Institute of Groundmanship Conference

Assistant Head Groundsman, Mr Brain, who joined in September from Radley College, was a finalist for the Institute of Groundsmanship's Most Promising Sports Turf Student of the Year in 2009. He was recently part of a panel at the IOG's Industry Conference for a Q&A session with the 'young guns of the industry'.

University Challenge

Congratulations to Mr McLarin (History), who has captained Oxford Brookes (where he is completing his MA) to the quarter finals of *University Challenge*, being aired in January.

BBC Radio Oxford

Mr Mullin (Music) has been on BBC Radio Oxford quite frequently recently; both on the Phil Mercer show discussing the day's newspapers and also in a Desert Island Disc style interview for the Join The Afternoon show.

Open Morning

Saturday 12 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. All welcome.

Headmaster's Addresses:

10.30am and 11.30am

For personal visits at other times, for a tour, discussion with the Registrar, Mrs L Berry, or the Head of Junior School if appropriate, and to meet the Headmaster, please contact the Admissions Secretary, Mrs C 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 (8.00pm – 9.00pm, on the first Monday of each month during term time). At other times please contact the Headmaster's Secretary, Mrs P Timms (01993 892325 or hmsec @cokethorpe.org).

Senior Management Team

Second Master: K Walton

kw@cokethorpe.org
Bursar: Mrs S A Landon

sal@cokethorpe.org

Head of Junior School: Mrs C Cook

cc@cokethorpe.org
Head of Sixth Form: Mrs S M L Copeland

smlc@cokethorpe.org

Senior Tutor: E J Fenton

*ejf@cokethorpe.org*Director of Studies: J P Floyd

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Housemasters and Housemistresses

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Photographs

For digital copies of photographs in this newsletter contact the Foundation Office at *foundationoffice@cokethorpe.org* or call 01993 892339.

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