



Cokethorpe
SCHOOL

THE OCELLUS


From the Headmaster

The past twelve months have been another successful year at Cokethorpe, and it is right that we celebrate that success here in *The Ocellus*. But I suppose one of the dangers of small communities such as ours is that we can become somewhat self-absorbed, and it is important that, from time to time, we take a step back and have a look at the wider context. After all, the vital part of education is that it prepares young people to play their part fully in the world that lies in store.

Beyond our little corner of Oxfordshire it has not been an easy year. The Middle East is as inflamed as at any time in its history, and the moral rights and wrongs are as opaque. They do say that the price of liberty is eternal vigilance, but we have been made acutely aware of late of just how much liberty and vigilance can come into conflict. The debate about the dangers of climate change continues to be in a state of paralysis. Back home we continue to face the intense moral dilemma of deciding who most deserves a slice of the austerity cake. Against this backdrop, it seems that we are witnessing the final stages in the life of Nelson Mandela, whose personal integrity has made his life a moral signpost, and we are conscious that there are precious few of those to lead us forward.

Such a stepping back for a wider vision serves to remind us of one of the most important purposes of education. Beyond finely-acted drama and sporting success, even beyond good grades and Higher Education. We hope we send our young people out with a combination of intellectual skills and a moral compass. That way they stand a chance of negotiating through such a moral melee with confidence and integrity.

Editor's Notes

The  icon indicates that a longer write-up and/or further photographs are available on the School website.

Upper First pupils are referred to as such, despite their transition into the Second Form for two weeks at the end of term.

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



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Front Cover:

RAF Falcons complete a parachute display before landing on the Cokethorpe cricket pitch to honour Mr Walton's retirement during Prize Giving.

Prize Giving Awards

Year Prizes for Academic Excellence

Lower First	Hannah Berry
Upper First	Samara Clark
Third Form	Clare Berry

Year Prizes for Academic Progress

Upper First	Elise Loeffen
Third Form	Alexander Billing

Fourth Form Prizes

Art	Nancy Battersby
Biology	Heidi Lawson
Business Studies	Joe DeBanks
Chemistry	Nancy Battersby
DT (Res Mats)	Billy Garrett
Drama	Heidi Lawson
English	Cate De Buriatte Moglia
English Literature	Eilish Malliagh
Geography	George Wood
History	Heidi Lawson
ICT Technology	Charles Hadley
Mathematics	Thomas Christensen
Languages	Heidi Lawson
Music	Thomas Christensen
Physical Education	James Staples
Physics	Thomas Christensen
Psychology	Eilish Malliagh

GCSE Prizes

Art	Thomas Amor
Biology	Bethany Mulloy
Business Studies	Ellie Willett
Chemistry	Bethany Mulloy
DT (Graphic Prods)	Rebecca Witchell
DT (Res Mats)	Harry Hastings
Drama	Katie Jenkins
English	Bethany Mulloy
English Literature	Shannon Dalton
Geography	Ellen Garbutt
History	Charlie Tobin
ICT	Matthew Hunt
Mathematics	Ellen Garbutt
French	Ellen Garbutt
Spanish	Thomas Amor
Music	Fraser Logue
Philosophy	Charlie Tobin
Physical Education	Alex Haywood
Physics	Nicholas Caddy
Psychology	Shannon Dalton

Exam Results

It was another good year for examinations at A Level and GCSE with a number of pupils getting straight A or A* grades at both levels and GCSE candidates bucking the national trend with an increase in the percentage of A* grades. The Upper Sixth are off to universities across the country, mostly their first choice, whilst the Fifth Form face the new challenges of life in the Sixth Form and the rigours of the A Level and Pre-U courses on which they are embarking.

Senior School Prize Giving

Senior School Prize Giving took place on Friday 12 July in glorious sunshine, to celebrate the many achievements of pupils throughout the academic year, with parents and families in attendance. The ceremony commenced with singing from the Schola Cantorum, followed by an excellent and humorous speech from outgoing Head of School Harry Fellows (Upper Sixth, Vanbrugh). To present the many awards this year, the School welcomed Professor Tony Travers, Director of the Research Centre at the London School of Economics and a Visiting Professor in the LSE's Government Department, who delivered an insightful and thought-provoking speech. Following presentation of the awards, the students of the Upper Sixth collected commemorative prints of the School from the Headmaster, whose speech paid tribute both to the outgoing Upper Sixth and School staff.



RAF Falcons Display

On Friday 12 July pupils, parents and staff were treated to a spectacular display by the RAF Falcon Parachute Display Team during the annual Prize Giving celebrations. The day is always special in itself but this year was a particularly momentous occasion as the School bid a fond farewell to Second Master, Mr Keith Walton, following his retirement. After the formal proceedings, everyone exited the marquee and gathered around the cricket pitch. From the clear blue sky there appeared seven parachutists who carried out a number of formations before expertly landing in front of the crowd. The RAF Falcons then gave a special ground display for Mr Walton, who has been at Cokethorpe for 24 years. He also received the salute from Flight Lieutenant Jon Connor and his team.



STEM Day

Cokethorpe hosted a Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) day in June. During the day the Bloodhound Supersonic Car team gave presentations on its conception, design and progress. The car will hopefully reach speeds in excess of 1,000mph next year. The pupils were then set the challenge of building and testing their own balloon cars. Lunchtime provided an opportunity to see a scale model of a rocket car in action on the School drive.

In the evening a Family Challenge was run by Kevin Stenson from the Engineering Development Trust. After some brain teasers and a talk from Emma Roffey, Marketing Director of Cisco, a bridge building competition commenced. There were some interesting design and building tactics. The bridges were then tested with how many Mars Bars they could support before collapsing.





Higher Education and Careers Fair

With over 200 pupils in attendance, the Higher Education and Careers Fair on Thursday 18 April was one of the most successful to date. The School welcomed around 40 organisations from a broad range of sectors, providing insightful information to all who attended. There were representatives from a wide range of universities and local and national employers, giving valuable tips on entering competitive markets in the future. Several organisations also offered short talks during the evening, giving detailed information on specific university courses and a variety of professions.

Upper First Science Trip

Upper First Physics pupils visited the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in May. They were given a tour and met scientists and engineers working there, visiting cryogenics labs, the computing centre that processes data from CERN, the space research centre that develops satellite technology and more. They experienced 3D projection technology and interactive screens, built their own space launcher and saw a demonstration of liquid nitrogen.



EAL Cultural Trips

'The first EAL trip this term was ice skating in Oxford. The rink was quite big, but it was not too crowded. It was great fun and the time went very quickly. We were all very tired at the end. The second EAL trip was punting on the Cherwell. It was a lovely sunny afternoon. The water was very deep which made punting quite difficult. We stopped for some drinks in the sunshine. We were lucky that none of us got wet!'

Andrew Wang (Third Form, Gascoigne)



GCSE Geography Field Trip

38 GCSE Geography pupils completed excellent coursework on the protection of the Dorset coastline. They assessed the management of four sites from Hurst Spit Castle on the Solent to the beach in Swanage itself. They were also able to peer down on the recent cliff collapse, which had given the sea such a perfect colour that the Dubai tourist board wanted photos for their brochures. It also served as a reminder of the topical nature of Geography to the pupils.



GCSE Business Studies Trip

Fourth Form Business Studies pupils visited two local businesses in June: Aston Pottery and Millets Farm Centre. At each location pupils interviewed the owners and managers about the promotion and operation of the business. The visit to Aston included the opportunity to see the pottery works and even decorate their own plates. The trips gave valuable practice in preparation for their GCSE controlled assessment task, which they will begin researching over the summer.



Prize Giving Continued

AS Level Prizes

Biology	Ewan Johnson
Business Studies	Samuel Farrant
Chemistry	Ewan Johnson
DT (Product Design)	Freddie Jewson
Drama	Beth Sandland
Economics	Connie Gascoyne
English Lang/Lit	Emily Thompson
English Literature	Beth Sandland
Geography	Katherine Woolley
Politics	Tom Dee
History	Katie Buckley
Mathematics	Saul Garrett
French	Saul Garrett
Spanish	Alexander Owen
Music	Ross Battersby
Philosophy	Harry Bryson
Photography	Anna Withey
Physical Education	Olivia Jones
Physics	George Hallett
Psychology	Rosie Turner
Textiles	Will Cunnington

A Level Prizes

Art	Lewis Williams
Biology	Isaac Staff
Business Studies	Christie Batty
Chemistry	Ethan Bosse
DT (Product Design)	Lewis Williams
Drama	Zoë Mace
Economics	Joe Biscoe
English Lang/Lit	Zoë Mace
English Literature	Ally Hutchinson
Geography	Oliver Lloyd
Politics	Peter Zinovieff
History	Louis Allen
Law	Oliver Lloyd
Mathematics	Yinan Wang
Further Maths	Ethan Bosse
French	Harry Fellows
Spanish	Lucy Grout
Music	Harry Fellows
Philosophy	Saman Ridha
Photography	Peter Zinovieff
Physical Education	Henry Logan
Physics	Ethan Bosse
Psychology	Joe Bernard
Textiles	Charlotte Ferryman

Open Awards

Cranham Prize	Alfie Turner
Lancia Fulvia Prize	Francis Plummer
Stephen Cookson Memorial Prize	Katie Buckley
Grove Music Prize	Jacob Yolland
Sonia Tollady Memorial Prize	Justin Foster
Kate Perritt Prize	Nathalie Dixon-Young
Martin Browne Memorial Prize	Isabel Berger
Sparks Clark Award	Louis Allen
Gordon Dennis Memorial Prize	Christie Batty
Daniel Sumpter Sportsman of the Year	Henry Logan
Boggis Rosebowl Sportswoman of the Year	Gabriella Evans
Richard Reah Prize	Tilly Johnson
Headmaster's Prize	Harry Fellows

Examination Results

A full breakdown of GCSE and A Level examination results are on the website.

Scholarships and Awards

The following Third Form pupils have been given scholarships and awards for 2013–2014:

Academic Scholarships

Mike Billing, Samara Clark, Katie Foster, Florian Goette, Grace Henstone, India Hurford-Jones

Art and Design

Cameron Knox, Mathew Turner, William Turner, Yasmin Wall

Drama

Sam Bird, Anna De Buriatte Moglia, Louisa Mattinson, Lydia Wannell

Music

Jessica Alexander, Wilf Cartwright, Florian Goette, Jonathan Taylor

Sport

Daniel Bailey, Sasha Cammack, Tighe Handley, William Kent, Sam Orton, Evie Phillips, Jennifer Wells

Junior Maths Challenge

Gold Award Winner, Best in School and Best in Upper First

Luke Garbutt

Gold Award Winner

Alexander Swancott

Silver Award Winner and Best in Lower First

Jacob Short

Silver Award Winners

Samara Clark, Mike Billing, Florian Goette, Jessica Alexander, Harry Brown

Bronze Award Winners

Nick Meyer, Harry Stradling, Hannah Berry, Freddie Holford, Arthur Alden, Harriet Goss, Toby Brown, Sam Bird, Felix Macken, Luke Jackson, Grace Henstone, Matthew Dray, Felix Checksfield, Elise Loeffen, Kate Fisher, Eddie Binnie, Alexander Wallace, Boris Pavlov, Callum Rowe

Thirteen in 13

Below is an extract from a winning entry of the Anne Frank 'Thirteen in 13' campaign by Kate Fisher (Upper First, Gascoigne). To read the full entry visit www.annefrank.org.uk.

'I think there should be meetings across the country where senior citizens and teenagers could meet, share and exchange skills such as social media, music, internet and woodwork. This would give people the opportunity to learn new skills and make sure old games and stories are not forgotten. I also think senior citizens could be more involved with our generation such as learning how to use the internet for example to buy goods online. There would be a group of teenager volunteers and anyone could be involved. I feel this would help connect the generations and get youngsters to see the elderly as real people who have a lifetime of experience and to look up to them with respect as is the case in many other countries.'

English Literary Recital

A vicar's job in simple terms can be summed up in three words: 'hatch, match, dispatch'. With warmth, humour and panache, Mr Elkin-Jones took an engaged and appreciative audience on a journey through literature to explore the range of emotions that accompany the significant phases in our lives: birth, marriage and death.

The beautiful sonnet of Ben Jonson, about the love he had for his seven-year-old son, evoked a poignant atmosphere that the audience enjoyed. Readings, including Laurie Lee's *Cider with Rosie*, Caitlin Moran's *How to be a Woman* and a faultless recitation of Percy Bysshe Shelley's poem *Ozymandias*, allowed the audience to understand so much more of the force of human nature. The final reading came from the Koran and the concluding advice from Voltaire, that we ought to 'believe in God... just in case', would have been well-received by any vicar who may have been present. ➡



¿Cuántos?

When Will Riman (Lower First, Feilden) completed a scrapbook of his trip to Spain he was rewarded with a guess in the MFL Department's 'How Many Sweets In The Jar' competition. Not only did Will win, his guess of 180 was only four away!

English Workshop

The whole of the Third Form examined the idea that 'all that glitters is not gold' in a special Shakespeare day, dedicated to their study of *The Merchant of Venice*.

Pupils studied the play with professional directors, actors and writers from Creation Theatre before staging their own performance of the whole text. They put together an innovative forty-five minute version that saw every pupil play a part, and also brought in physical theatre, dance, music and even a little farce. Creation Theatre said that the standard of Cokethorpe's Merchant was 'superb' and highlighted performances from Elisha Evans (Swift), Alex Epelle (Queen Anne) and Richard Turner (Feilden). There was also special praise for Joe Whittington (Gascoigne) who took on the Shakespearean tradition of boys playing the role of girls with an incredibly believable and entertaining Portia.



Public Speaking

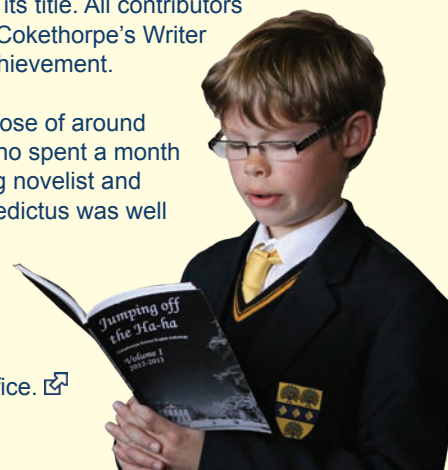
Brian Clarke (Lower Sixth, Queen Anne) competed in the Rotary Club Youth Speaks national final in April. Prior to this, Brian and his team from The Oxford Oratory had won the Oxford, county, district and regional finals, beating over 2,000 teams to qualify. Unfortunately, they were unlucky not to have been awarded first place, in what was a very narrow defeat. Despite this, they acquitted themselves with great confidence and flair.

English Anthology Launch

Senior School pupils celebrated seeing their literary creations in print at the launch of *Jumping off the Ha-ha*, Cokethorpe's first creative writing anthology. A packed event on Tuesday 7 May saw selected pupils reading from their work to an enthusiastic and receptive crowd. Highlights included *Sidelines* by Tom Binnie (Lower Sixth, Harcourt), *The Portrait* by Anna Withey (Lower Sixth, Harcourt) and Brian Clarke (Lower Sixth, Queen Anne) with *May I Just Remind You*, a line from which gave the Anthology its title. All contributors were presented a first edition copy of the Anthology by Cokethorpe's Writer in Residence David Benedictus to mark their superb achievement.

The Anthology, which features the poetry, drama and prose of around 40 pupils, was produced with the help of Benedictus, who spent a month in School during the Michaelmas Term. As a best-selling novelist and dramatist and former head of drama at Channel 4, Benedictus was well placed to give advice to writers of all types.

The contributions are of the very highest standard and the edition is beautifully illustrated by pupil photography of the School and grounds. Copies of the Anthology are available to purchase for £5.00 from the Foundation Office. ➡





Junior School Prize Giving

The sun shone on the resplendent Mansion Lawn, complete with fairground carousel, providing the most glorious setting for the Junior School Prize Giving, which took place in the marquee on Thursday 11 July.

As is traditional, the day began with drama productions from each class, in which every child had a speaking role as well as a quite splendid costume. A number of performances were linked to particular curriculum areas studied throughout the year and many parents commented on the success of this development, as well as the quality of the drama on offer. The Junior School Chamber Choir also performed and the event concluded with all the children on stage to sing a Summer Medley.

A picnic lunch in the wonderful parkland setting is always a popular part of the day

and the enjoyment was enhanced by the chance to ride on the fairground carousel.

The formal Prize Giving began with selected Year 6 musicians joining the Senior School Schola Cantorum to sing the processional hymn in Latin. In her thought-provoking and humorous speech, Mrs Cook, the Head of Junior School, highlighted the many impressive achievements of the Junior School children as well as the success of the various initiatives that had been introduced throughout the year. The Headmaster then presented prizes to the Prize Winners.

The ceremony ended with prayers led by The Revd Canon Roger Humphreys and the singing of the School hymn. The occasion was a celebration for the end of a very successful year for the Junior School and a fitting farewell to the Year 6 leavers. ☞



Life Education Bus

The Life Education Bus spent a week at the Junior School to give workshops on topics such as Friendships, Feelings and Healthy Living. Children from Reception up to Year 6 were given the opportunity to learn about and discuss how to look after themselves and others, through activities and learning-based workshops. They even received useful advice from Harold the Giraffe on how to be kind and considerate and to make sure nobody was left out.

Year 6 Leavers' Barbecue

Saturday 15 June saw the Year 6 children and their parents enjoy an afternoon of rounders and a barbecue. Happily, the sun came out just as the families arrived and continued to shine throughout the afternoon. Teams were made up of children joined by parents and the barbecue was timed to perfection by Mr Sweet, with the delicious food much appreciated. Perhaps the highlight for the children was the surprise visit of the ice cream van, which arrived festooned with balloons. It was a lovely way for Year 6 to mark the end of their time in the Junior School and thanks go to Mrs Sweet and Mrs Wannell for their excellent organisation of the event. ☞



Prize Giving Awards

Academic Prize Winners

Reception	Rebecca Williams (Gwyn)
Year 1	Monty Bolton (Lockwood)
Year 2	Dee Biles (Baker)
Year 3	Henry Birchenough (Baker)
Year 4	Tilly Hurford-Jones (Baker)
	David Haar (Symonds)
Year 5	Libby Flaherty (Symonds)
	Rosa Birchenough (Gwyn)
Year 6	Tara Devine (Lockwood)
	Neve Macken (Lockwood)

Pupil of the Year

Reception	Amelia Furlong-Price (Lockwood)
Year 1	Madeline Goldie (Lockwood)
Year 2	Jasmine Mellor (Symonds)
Year 3	Tabitha Howard (Symonds)
Year 4	Emily Mumford (Gwyn)
	Tom Orton (Gwyn)
Year 5	Geneva Hedges (Baker)
	Sam Elek (Gwyn)
Year 6	Ella Mattinson (Baker)
	Harry Hanson (Gwyn)

End of Year Awards for Effort

Reception	Jack Turner (Baker)
Year 1	Tiggy Buckingham (Baker)
Year 2	Ruby Sharp (Symonds)
Year 3	Jadon Washington (Gwyn)
Year 4	Hester Beer (Lockwood)
	Jake Crozier (Baker)
Year 5	Frederick Gascoyne (Lockwood)
	Jack Wilde (Gwyn)
Year 6	George Kinniburgh (Lockwood)
	James Shaw (Lockwood)

Cup Winners

Julie Stormont Art Cup:	Joe Spilsbury (Baker)
Claire Hooper Drama Cup:	Hayden Camidge (Lockwood)
Louise Bridge French Cup:	Dennis Catrini (Baker)
Improvement and Progress Shield:	Ben Wardell-Yerburgh (Symonds)
Music Cup:	Charlie Clarke (Symonds)
Sports Cups:	Frankie Brown (Baker)
	Ben Wannell (Baker)
Junior School Cup:	Frankie Brown (Baker)
Clarke Award:	Neve Macken (Lockwood)

Life Education

The Thames Valley Life Education programme helps children attending schools in Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Swindon make healthy choices. It is part of Coram Life Education, which reaches 800,000 children every year in over 3,500 primary and secondary schools, teaching life skills to children aged 3–16 years old through fun, interactive and age-specific activities.

The programme has been created by child development experts and is delivered by qualified educators in specially-designed mobile classrooms.

For details about the programme visit www.lifeeducationcentres-thamesvalley.org.uk

Word Power

The *Word Power* anthology went on sale to the general public in June, with 50% of the profits donated to The People's Book Prize charity to help eradicate illiteracy.

In the UK, one in five people are illiterate; the charity aims to provide one-to-one tutor support and guidance. Their aim is to help lower the number of people unable to read in the UK and by doing so give them and society greater opportunities to grow.

Space Show

On Thursday 20 June Year 5 and 6 children explored the universe with Science Oxford's new Space Show, looking at orbits, learning why we have days and nights, and even why planets spin. All of the children then calculated their ages in Martian years and held an iron meteorite that was an incredible four and a half billion years old! ☞

LAMDA Awards

July 2012

Duo Grade 1

Lily Sweet and Ezme Pickford Merit

Duo Grade 2

Ben Phillipson and Hayden Camidge
Distinction

Ella Mattinson and Chloe Thomas Merit

Eloise Shirburne Davies and Athis Knox
Merit

Solo Grade 2

Toby Brown Merit

Entry Level Group Drama

Hayden Camidge Merit
Jack Harding Merit
Gabriel Emerson Merit
James Shaw Merit

Chloe Thomas Merit
Neve Macken Merit
Frankie Brown Merit
Tara Devine Merit
Ezme Pickford Merit
Eloise Shirburne-Davies Merit

December 2012

Solo Grade 3

Ella Mattinson Merit

March 2013

Duo Grade 2

Lily Sweet and Ezme Pickford Merit

Duo Grade 3

Ben Phillipson and Hayden Camidge
Distinction
Eloise Shirburne Davies and Athis Knox
Merit

Solo Grade 1

Gabriel Emerson Merit

July 2013 results will be printed next year.



Writing Success

Year 6 children Tara Devine (Lockwood) and Ben Phillipson (Gwyn) had their work selected for the Mauve Square Publishing Anthology, in a national competition run in conjunction with The Society of Heads. The anthology *Word Power* is on sale in major booksellers such as Waterstones and Amazon and 50% of the profits made will be donated to The People's Book Prize charity to help eradicate illiteracy. This success comes shortly after fellow Year 6 pupil Barney Bolton (Symonds) reached the national final of the RIBI Young Writer Competition 2013, both of which are terrific achievements for Cokethorpe's young writers. ☞

Year 6 Mexicolore Visit

On Wednesday 12 June the Corinthian Room was transformed into an Aztec wonder by the Mexicolore workshop! The morning started with the Year 6 children learning to chant and count in Nahuatl, the Aztec language, to the beat of the traditional drums. Everyone got the chance to dress in colourful Aztec costumes and the children learned how to play a tricky Aztec ball game! The morning really brought this fascinating period to life for Year 6. ☞



Year 4 Trip to Witney Cinema

In June, Year 4 took a short trip to Witney cinema to watch a live screening from The British Museum. Called *Life and Death in Pompeii and Herculaneum*, this was the first ever live cinema broadcast from the British Museum which showed the reasons behind the volcanic eruption that devastated the towns. It also included some scientific experiments to show how volcanoes erupt and featured an exhibition of artefacts from these Roman towns. It was a particularly special experience as these items had never before left Italy.

Year 4 Milestones Trip

On Wednesday 8 May, the Year 4 children dressed up as evacuees, tied on their labels, collected their gas masks and their World War II packed lunches and set off for the Milestones Museum. The children explored the old sweet shop and toy shop, a gramophone shop and a bicycle shop, and took cover in an Anderson shelter. The children then met 'Jane' and 'Maggie', who demonstrated how to use items from the time period. The trip was a valuable learning experience, thoroughly enhancing the children's understanding of life in the 1930s and 1940s. ☞



Year 3 Sulgrave Manor Trip

On Monday 24 June, Year 3 visited Sulgrave Manor, a superb example of a modest manor house of Shakespeare's time. The children dressed as Tudors and took an authentic packed lunch to add to the excitement of the day, exploring the Great Hall, Kitchen and Bedchamber amongst the furniture and artefacts during the period of Lawrence Washington, who bought the estate from Henry VIII in 1539. The children acted out the story of the Tudor Kings and Queens and even had the chance to take part in a Tudor dance! The trip was thoroughly enjoyed by all. ☞





Charity Week

The children in the Junior School held a week of events in June to support their chosen charity, Pennyhooks Farm, which provides a special experience to children and young people who have autism and communication difficulties. These events included a raffle, a toy sale, cake and lolly sales, 'Guess the Number of Sweets' and 'Fish for a Bag' stalls! The children also enjoyed a House Day where they dressed in their House colours and joined in with an exciting afternoon of fun sports, followed by a barbecue tea. Overall the Junior School raised a fantastic £1,031 and also collected 54 packets of seeds for the children at Pennyhooks to plant and care for. Mr Gareth Lewis from Pennyhooks accepted the cheque and the seeds on behalf of the charity at a Junior School assembly. ☑

Teddy Bears' Picnic

Despite a little rain on Wednesday 2 July, the Pre-Prep spirits were not dampened for the Teddy Bears' Picnic. The children had already taken their teddies to Forest School for the morning, so everyone was ready for a lovely picnic lunch and had a wonderful time introducing their favourite toys to one another. It was a pleasure for the staff to meet Barry, Poppy, Monkey and Chip among many others! ☑



Year 1 Steam Museum Trip

On Thursday 16 May, Year 1 visited the Steam Museum of The Great Western Railway in Swindon. The children were transported back in time to the Victorian period, learning about the pioneers in the age of steam. The afternoon was spent exploring exhibits, including the express train engine *Caerphilly Castle*. The children had a very enjoyable time and were captivated by the whole experience. ☑



Year 4 Author Visits

Tom Farrell, a local author, talked to Year 4 in June about his experiences of being an evacuee in wartime. After showing the children his shrapnel collection he signed copies of his book *Tim Oliver Evacuee*. Earlier in the term, Year 4 also met with author Shirley Dixon, a travel guide writer. This provided a useful insight into designing and writing literature, as well as supporting the children's Geography curriculum.



Reception Farm Trip

The Reception children paid a visit to Farmer Gow's Activity Farm for a day of fun and learning on Monday 17 June. Activities included bottle-feeding the baby animals, trailer rides and even a treasure hunt in the hay bales! The children had a great time meeting all the animals and playing on the farm in the lovely weather. ☑



Music Awards 2012–2013

Grade 3		
Isabelle Carnell	Piano	Dist
Benjamin Shaw	Piano	
Benjamin Shaw	Theory	
Grade 2		
Hayden Camidge	Violin	Dist
Tilly Hurford-Jones	Voice	
Tom Orton	Voice	
Grade 1		
Charlie Clarke	Guitar	
Maddie Flaherty	Piano	
Tom Flory	Piano	
Geneva Hedges	Guitar	Merit
George Langford	Drums	
Neve Macken	Guitar	
Jonathan Peach	Clarinet	Dist
Jonathan Peach	Guitar	
Harry Phipps	Flute	
Benjamin Shaw	Violin	Dist
Isabella Smith	Clarinet	
Finley Wightman	Drums	
Debut		
Elliot Staggs	Guitar	

Farmer Gow's

The Reception Class children all enjoyed the trip to Farmer Gow's Activity Farm.

'On Monday we went to Farmer Gow's and we saw the pig being naughty!'
Jack Turner (Baker)

'On Monday we went to Farmer Gow's. We went on a trailer ride and we fed the pigs. We played on the hay bales. We held the chicks and we fed the goats with a bottle.'
Nancy Beer (Baker)

'On Monday we went to Farmer Gow's. We went on a tractor ride and we saw some pigs. Mark shoed the bull away.'
Edward Allen (Gwyn)

'On Monday we went to Farmer Gow's. We collected eggs and the mummy hen got cross. Then we played in the hay bales and we fed the pigs.'
Rebecca Williams (Gwyn)

'On Monday we went to Farmer Gow's and we made a barrier for the chicks and fed the sheep. We matched the bottle colours with the sheep colours, so they didn't get mixed up.'
Amelia Furlong-Price (Lockwood)

'On Monday we went to Farmer Gow's. We collected eggs from the hens and we put them in the basket. We held the chicks and my one went to sleep on me. We played on the hay bales.'
Jack Hammond (Symonds)

Did You Know?

Caerphilly Castle is one of only eight steam engines in its class that have been preserved, out of the 171 that were originally built. The weight of the locomotive is a staggering 126 tonnes!

Junior School

Forest School

There are dedicated areas of woodland at the Ernest Cook Outdoor Education Centre used for regular Forest School sessions. This is a way of incorporating outdoor learning experiences for children and young people into their normal school life; children spend regular sessions in an area of woodland that is natural, safe and accessible, working to their usual curriculum but in an outdoor setting.

Forest School has allowed the Junior School children:

- The time and space to explore and learn at their own pace
- To develop a relationship with their outdoor environment through frequent and regular experiences throughout the year
- To use their own inherent individual style of learning
- To develop their own self-esteem and confidence
- To learn to work as part of a team

Forest School offers children:

- Opportunities to make their own assessments of risk
- Opportunities to develop thinking, speaking and problem solving
- Opportunities to build on their innate motivation and positive attitude to learning
- Opportunities to help them understand, appreciate and care for the natural environment

First Impressions

Some of the first impressions given by Cokethorpe Junior School Reception Class children.

'On the first day I couldn't reach the table in the Dining Hall but now I am bigger. Now my blue and white trainers do not fit me anymore.'

Edward Allen (Gwyn)

'On the first day I held Edward's hand and I liked playing.'

Jack Hammond (Symonds)

'The first day at school was scary and different. I would not let go of Mummy's hand. Now I want to come to school every day and at the weekends.'

Rebecca Williams (Gwyn)

'I could not write my name and I could not read. I liked to sing the sounds to help me learn them.'

Nancy Beer (Baker)

'On the first day I dressed up as Buzz Lightyear but it does not fit me now.'

Jack Turner (Baker)

'On the first day I could write my name and I held Nancy's hand because I knew her from Squirrels.'

Amelia Furlong-Price (Lockwood)



Year 6 Residential Trip

The Year 6 children travelled to North Wales in May for a week's residential at the Kingswood Activity Centre, where they enjoyed activities such as Boulderling, Laser Zone and Aero Ball on the first day alone! Over the next few days the children took part in a Scrap Heap Challenge, Caving, Abseiling, Climbing, Giant Zip Wire, Survival Skills and Orienteering, finishing with Frisbee-Golf and the Leap of Faith before an evening disco. The children had a fantastic time despite poor weather, and instructors commented on how impressed they were with their exemplary behaviour. ☑



Forest School

This term the Pre-Prep children have been watching the woodland at Forest School spring into life, as Winter turned into Spring and then Summer. The children have taken part in many activities to enrich their school learning in an outdoor environment, such as maths trails, orienteering, nature hunts, and outdoor storytelling activities, as well as

drama and set building. The children have also been taught how to carry sticks and logs safely, how to build a shelter and how to light a campfire. However, the most exciting thing is having the opportunity to toast a marshmallow on a stick sharpened personally by them!

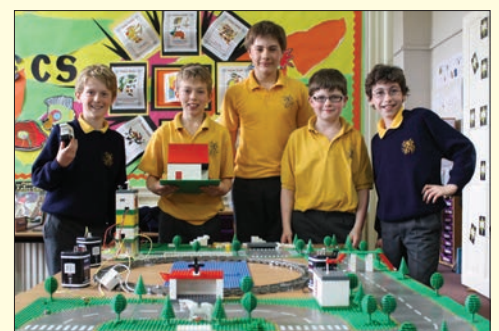
Year 2 Living Rainforest Trip

In April the Year 2 children visited The Living Rainforest in Newbury after learning about endangered animals and habitats. The children really enjoyed exploring the greenhouses and finding out about animals. They also took part in an 'Edible Forest' workshop, with the cocoa tree of particular interest for obvious reasons! ☑



Year 6 Lego Workshop

Year 6 children took part in an electric Lego building workshop on Wednesday 8 May. All six groups developed an exhibition of Lego structures, including railways, airports, bridges and small towns. The teamwork and enthusiasm was commendable and it proved impossible to select a winning group over the three-hour project. ☑





Junior School Sports Day and Mini Olympics

The Junior School Sports Day and Mini Olympics on Thursday 27 June was bathed in sunshine. A multitude of events was in store for the Pre-Prep children, with Trike Formula 1 and Space Hopper races among the events enjoyed by both children and staff alike. The Year 3 to Year 6 boys and girls were able to choose the Track and Field events they wanted to take part in; the competition was fierce and all of the Houses remained close up until the relay races. Over the week all the teams had been practicing their baton change overs and a lot of hard work and effort had gone into the races. Following completion of the relays, Lockwood House was crowned as the overall winner. The Burfitt Award, which is given to the athlete that performs consistently well all afternoon, was awarded to Luke Munday (Year 5, Baker). 🏆

Cricket Report

The U11 teams have had a successful year, with both teams securing victories against New College School and St Edward's School, Cheltenham. The U9 teams have also had victories against the same opposition, but also experienced narrow defeats to Abingdon Preparatory School.



IAPS National Sailing

Barty Gray (Year 5, Symonds) and Fletcher Sharp (Year 5, Gwyn) represented the School in the IAPS National Sailing Regatta in May. In horrendous weather, Barty and Fletcher's superb teamwork meant that they stormed to victory in their heat. They then went on to win silver medals for coming second in the afternoon's nail-biting sprint race final. 🏆



Adam's Bath Rugby Win

Adam Kendrick (Year 6, Symonds) and his Bath U11 rugby team won the Landrover Cup in April, with the team undefeated throughout the day and taking victory in the final against Bournemouth. Adam and his teammates paraded their winners' cup to a full Twickenham stadium at the Aviva Premiership Cup Final in May.



Inter-House Rounders

The Junior Inter-House Rounders involved all girls from Years 3 to 6, with the event relocated to the artificial pitches due to rain. Every team batted well, with several girls hitting the ball over the netting, scoring a rounder after each hit! The standard of play was excellent and once calculations were completed it was Symonds who emerged victorious.



Rounders Report

The Junior School Rounders teams have been in fine form and have thoroughly enjoyed the season. All teams have been particularly strong in their batting skills which led to high-scoring matches, including against Akeley Wood School and Sibford School.

Inter-House Cricket

No Inter-House cricket matches took place this term.

Lasting Impressions

Some lasting impressions of Cokethorpe Junior School by the Year 6 children.

'I have been in this School since Year 5 and it already feels like years and years. I have taken part in cross country and in regional competitions for hockey. I have been Captain for Lockwood. I am sad to leave the Junior School but I am looking forward to the Senior School.'

Neve Macken (Lockwood)

'I know this is a happy and caring School. I will always be proud of being Captain of the B team in football and scoring a hat trick.'

Oliver Charles (Lockwood)

'I remember going to football matches and cross country competitions and winning English writing competitions. I have been here since Year 4.'

Ben Phillipson (Gwyn)

'I have been at Cokethorpe for four years now and my memories will never be forgotten. I have enjoyed every minute.'

Dennis Catrini (Baker)

'I have enjoyed my time here and all the teachers have helped make it even better. I will find it hard to leave.'

Barney Bolton (Symonds)

'When I first started I was scared because it was new to me. But when I leave the Junior School it will be like leaving a big family but I know I am going to move into a new one.'

Ella Mattinson (Baker)

'I will always remember Mr O'Connor's terrible jokes! I will thoroughly miss the Junior School but look forward to Senior School.'

Finley Wightman (Baker)

'I joined in Year 2 and we had really fun trips. The last year was the most fun. We went on the residential trip to North Wales with Mr O'Connor, Miss Smith and Miss Shipperley and we all laughed.'

Louis Ciampoli-Messiou (Symonds)

Sixth Form

Prefects 2013–2014

Head of School Rosie Turner

Deputy Heads of School

Brian Clarke

Saul Garrett

Heads of Houses

Feilden Saul Garrett

Gascoigne Connie Gascoyne

Harcourt Anna Withey

Queen Anne Ewan Johnson

Swift Mattias Athwal

Vanbrugh George Hallett

Lower House Alexander Owen

Prefects Oliver Armstrong

Holly Keylock

Oliver Parker

Ross Battersby

Jacob Yolland

Tom Binnie

Katie Buckley

Callum Breslin

Olivia Jones

Francis Plummer

Beth Sandland

Emily Thompson

Katherine Woolley

Harry Stevens

Jon De Vos

Tom Dee

Shannen Forry-Purvis

Scholarships and Awards

Lower Sixth students given scholarships and awards for 2013–2014:

Strickland: Bethany Mulloy

Drama: Aimee Epelle

Sport: Jason Cardy, Lois Waknell

Further scholarships and awards will be made following GCSE results.

Lower Sixth Scholars

Topics included:

- Saul Garrett (Feilden): *Political Motivations: Self Interest or Altruism?*
- Rosie Turner (Feilden): *Social Evolution of Gossip and Social Networking*
- Chris Hutchinson (Queen Anne): *Schizophrenia*
- Anna Withey (Harcourt): *Why Do We Dream?*
- Ewan Johnson (Queen Anne): *Superconductors and Quantum Applications in the Future of Computing*
- Jon De Vos (Vanbrugh): *Genomics, Cancer and their Potential Future Together*
- Alexander Owen (Feilden): *Should Short Selling Be Illegal?*
- Brian Clarke (Queen Anne): *How Has Humour Been Used for Political Subversion?*
- Katie Buckley (Harcourt): *Shakespeare: A Man of All Seasons?*
- Samuel Farrant (Vanbrugh): *Diversification in Farming*
- Beth Sandland (Queen Anne): *Should One Defend A Rapist? Using the Legal Principle of the Golden Rule*
- Harry Bryson (Harcourt): *Conflicts Between Freedom of Speech and Societal Values*
- Katherine Woolley (Queen Anne): *Why Has TB Increased in Europe?*
- Jacob Yolland (Gascoigne): *What is Music? (When does music stop being music?)*

Head of School

Rosie Turner (Lower Sixth, Feilden) will be Head of School from September 2013. She will be supported by Deputy Heads of School, Brian Clarke (Lower Sixth, Queen Anne) and Saul Garrett (Lower Sixth, Feilden). Speaking shortly after the announcement, Rosie said 'I am very happy to have been appointed as Head of School and, together with my Deputy Heads, am very much looking forward to facing the challenges of the year.' ☞



Lower Sixth Scholars

On Friday 19 April the Lower Sixth Academic Scholars presented the findings of their Extended Projects. The brief was to find an academic area of interest and prepare a 4,000 word academic work on the subject and a 10–15 minute presentation. Students were solely responsible for the planning and coordination of these projects, which included finding appropriate guidance and support from members of the staff teaching body. These projects allowed the Academic Scholars the opportunity to develop their skills in research and analysis, and the results were universally impressive. These students now have expertise and skills which are not only useful for UCAS forms but they are now better prepared to meet the challenges of the wider world. ☞

Prefects' Dinner

'With the academic year coming to a close, the School had a dinner on Thursday 9 May to thank us for our efforts as Prefects. Sixth Form Tutors, Heads of Houses, and Senior Management were invited to join us for the evening, commencing with drinks while the guests arrived. We were served a fantastic three-course meal, which was followed by speeches from Mr Walton and Head of School Harry Fellows (Upper Sixth, Vanbrugh), who then presented Mr Walton with a thank you gift for his support to us Prefects. The evening concluded with a raffle and a quiz, and was thoroughly enjoyed by both the staff and Prefects. The Prefects would like to thank the Catering staff for providing a lovely meal.' ☞

Fleur Carter (Upper Sixth, Harcourt) and Tilly Johnson (Upper Sixth, Swift)



Oxbridge Trip

On Monday 24 June the Oxbridge and Competitive Admissions group visited London to build skills for university applications and beyond. First was the British Museum where the students traced the history of a specific theme of interest. The groups then visited a variety of companies linked to their theme. These included the Law Courts and meeting with Ben Irwin of UBM, who works within corporate law; a personalised tour around the laboratories at UCL by the Vice Dean of Engineering for those interested in pursuing STEM subjects; meeting with Adam Treanor at Schroder's Investment Bank; and a trip to ITV studios for those interested in the arts and humanities. The final meeting point was the East India Club, which provided an exciting setting for debrief and evaluation. ☞





Sixth Form Ball

The Sixth Form Ball was celebrated in glorious style on Friday 12 July, held in a 'Great Gatsby'-themed marquee on the School grounds. The marquee was resplendent in black and gold décor, made all the more decadent with the inclusion of the fantastic 1957 Bentley S1 car, kindly loaned for the evening by School Governor John Bond-Smith. Following an excellent three-course meal, the Sixth Formers and staff danced to the entertaining cover and party band *The Vibes* and enjoyed a firework display, which included a burning 'lancework' reading Class of 2013. The School also welcomed former Radio 1 presenter, Dave Vitty, as guest DJ for the evening. 'Comedy Dave' was Chris Moyles's sidekick on the BBC Radio 1 Breakfast Show for 14 years and has also appeared on *Dancing On Ice*, *Ready Steady Cook*, *Celebrity Mastermind* and *Hole In The Wall*.

The evening was a huge success and thanks must go to all who helped make it such a memorable occasion. Go to www.capturemyevent.co.uk to purchase photos from the event, by clicking on the Cokethorpe gallery (username 'harcourt', password 'swift').

Maurice Lubbock Lecture

'On Wednesday 15 May, Tom Empson (Lower Sixth, Feilden) and I attended the prestigious 39th Maurice Lubbock Memorial Lecture, at the Department of Engineering Science at Oxford University. We first toured around two exhibitions: the 4th Year Engineering Science Projects and another relating to research undertaken by the department. Both were very thought-provoking and gave us an insight into a range of cutting-edge engineering developments, such as how to run aeroplane turbines at lower temperatures to use less fuel. We then went to the much anticipated lecture, given by Stefano Domenicali, Team Principal of Scuderia Ferrari. He gave a fascinating talk about how Ferrari has remained at the top of Formula 1 for so long, outlining how they have developed and evolved as a team while keeping the Italian traditions that Enzo Ferrari put in place when he created the company. He explained how Ferrari is looking to develop and stay on top in an increasingly competitive sport. It was a very engaging afternoon and one that furthered my drive and interest in Formula 1 and pursuing a career in Engineering.'

Oliver Armstrong (Lower Sixth, Feilden)

Work Experience

The Lower Sixth students used time wisely in the final week of term by securing a variety of work-based placements to gain insight into and knowledge of the world of work. They used their networking skills and initiative to find settings where they were able to experience both civil and mechanical engineering, quantity surveying, physiotherapy, accountancy and banking, dentistry, medicine, journalism, film production, teaching, corporate communications and the hospitality industry. This list is not exhaustive and the students should be commended on their efforts; hopefully their experiences will provide much food for thought and helpful direction in the future.

Enlightenment Lecture

Cokethorpe welcomed Richard Glass for the final Enlightenment Lecture of the academic year, entitled *Treading the Thin Line*. Richard is a retired Colonel from the Army's Tank Regiment, who now works as a Strategic Planning Officer for the United Nations, based in Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. During his lecture, Richard enthralled the Sixth Form audience with tales about his life in the army as a tank commander, about the warmongers in the DRC, the UN mission, the reasons behind the lack of media coverage in the Western World, and the remarkable institution that is the United Nations.



Lasting Impression

'Driving into Cokethorpe on my first day, the very first thing I was struck by was the overwhelming grandeur of the School grounds. Yet it quickly became apparent that what truly makes Cokethorpe stand out is the small, warm community of staff and students that exists behind the splendour of its setting. It is this close-knit community that I will miss most about Cokethorpe. It is a School that strives to bring out the best in every one of its pupils, whether this is through academic achievement, on the sports field or in the Drama Studio. The wide variety of talents that exist among the student body make it the School's greatest asset.'

For all of the Upper Sixth students, the thought of now leaving Cokethorpe incorporates a whole spectrum of emotions: excitement, apprehension and nostalgia. However, a sense of being prepared for the new challenges and experiences that we will face overrides the inevitable sadness we will all feel. It is a testimony to our School that we readily anticipate this change; I could not have asked for more support from the School's staff and I am extremely grateful for all the encouragement I have been offered.

I have no doubt that Cokethorpe will continue to inspire its future students to be the very best they can be. As this year's leavers say goodbye, I am confident they do so with a sense of pride and privilege and I look forward to returning to a School that will continue to go from strength to strength.'

*Ally Hutchinson
(Upper Sixth, Queen Anne)*

Enlightenment Lectures

Enlightenment Lectures for 2013–2014 include:

Tuesday 24 September 2013

Dr John Matthias
The Sound Of The Brain: Adventures In Music And Physics

Thursday 14 November 2013

Professor David Nutt
Drugs, Science And The Media: An Unholy Trinity?

Tuesday 26 November 2013

Professor Andy Phippen
Does Digital Technology Change What Society Feels Is Acceptable?

Tuesday 28 January 2014

Dr Peter-Caddick Adams
The Shadow Of The First World War: How Nothing Was The Same Again

Tuesday 25 February 2014

Amoret Whitaker
CSI – Crime Scene Insects

Tuesday 11 March 2014

Dr Nancy MacDonald
The Pen Is Mightier Than The Sword: Using Graffiti To Build Identity

Sports Captains 2013–2014

Athletics	Lois Waknell
Cricket	Jason Cardy
Hockey	Connie Gascoyne
Kayaking	Oliver Parker
Netball	Olivia Jones
Rugby	Callum Breslin
Clay Pigeon Shooting	Mattias Athwal
Soccer	Scott Cade
Tennis	Evie Phillips

Sports Representatives

County, Regional (*), All England (**) and National (***) representatives for 2012–2013:

Athletics

Jessica Alexander
Becky Alexander
Elliott Couse
Redford Curtis**
Erika Davies
Keely Harding
George King
Lois Waknell**
Joe Whittington

Badminton

Hannah Craig

Cricket

Jason Cardy
Cameron Elphick
Harvey Eltham
Jack Hobbs
Eloise Maxa
Max Smith
Thomas Smith
Jack Tomes
George E Williams

Cross Country

Elisha Evans

Equestrian

Caitlin Belsham***
Will Fletcher***

Hockey

Daniel Bailey
James Dodimead
Elisha Evans
India Hurford-Jones
Sebastian Sawyer
Jennifer Wells

Kayaking

Louis Allen***
Sam Glover***
Kieran Husband*

Netball

Emily Kent
Evie Phillips

Rugby

Redford Curtis
Tom Dee
Tom Empson
Olivia Jones*
George Murrin
Joshua Poole
Jack Taylor*
Elijah Vieira-Faria

Soccer

Tilly Johnson
James Tanner
Ross Tanner
Joe Whittington

Tennis

Hannah Craig
Evie Phillips

Cricket

The 1st XI, led by captain Jason Cardy (Fifth Form, Feilden), has shown promise despite a difficult season. Having been constructed from mainly the Third, Fourth and Fifth Form, they have gained valuable experience for the coming years. The U14A team won six out of their seven fixtures including a nine-wicket victory against Magdalen College School. Lower First pupils Jack Hobbs (Queen Anne) and George Williams (Vanbrugh) deserve special mention for their performances during the Lower House Ten10 tournaments. 🏏



Rounders

The weather has provided a wonderful atmosphere for a successful season with the girls winning nine out of eleven fixtures and showing enthusiasm and tactical awareness, particularly against Kingham Hill and Bloxham School and at the invitational tournaments at St Helen and St Katharine. With a particular focus on fielding, our teams were much more united in their quest to win with some fantastic displays of teamwork. 🏏



Sports Awards Dinner

Thursday 20 June saw the annual Sports Awards Dinner. A fine three course meal was enjoyed by the senior sports performers and coaches, with awards presented in recognition of those who have excelled in the major sports this year. Retiring School Nurse, Mrs Haste, presented the awards, with Louis Allen (Upper Sixth, Harcourt) receiving the Director of Sport Award for Excellence in Kayaking. 🏆



Athletics

Cokethorpe's athletics team began with the English Schools' Athletic Association (ESAA) North Oxon Athletics Championships on Tuesday 21 May at Horspath Stadium, with Joe Whittington (Third Form, Gascoigne) winning the 400m and Jessica Alexander (Upper First, Feilden) storming the 100m final. This was followed by the first round of the ESAA County Schools Athletics Competition on Sunday 16 June, with two of the fourteen athletes representing the School becoming County Champions in their respective events. Congratulations to both Redford Curtis (Fifth Form, Harcourt) who threw a PB in the Javelin and Lois Waknell (Fifth Form, Harcourt) who ran the national entry standard in the 100m and competed in the England School Championships in early July. 🏃

Tennis

This term, U13 and U15 Boys and Girls took part in the Oxfordshire Aegon Team Tennis League. The U13 Girls won the Division 2 title, with the U13 Boys narrowly missing out on the regional play-offs. The U15 Boys and U15 Girls both won two of their four matches. In the U14 Road to Wimbledon event, Upper First pupils Tom Craig (Gascoigne), Sam Orton (Swift) and Evie Phillips (Swift), along with Hannah Craig (Lower First, Gascoigne), reached the county finals. The team of the season is the U13 Girls for their incredible team spirit, energy and league title win.





Devizes to Westminster Kayak Race

Congratulations to Louis Allen (Upper Sixth, Harcourt) and George Barnicoat (OC 2010, Harcourt) for winning the 60th Junior Devizes to Westminster Canoe Race. Travelling 125 miles over four days from rural England to the heart of London, the race is widely regarded as one of the toughest canoe endurance races on the planet. The winning pair finished in a time of 15 hours, 12 minutes, 56 seconds – nearly two hours faster than second place and only just short of the record! Well done also to Oliver Parker (Lower Sixth, Feilden) and Jamie Unwin (OC 2011, Harcourt) for their finish in 27th position out of 79 starting pairs, having completed the course in 21 hours, 33 minutes, 57 seconds. 🏆



Clay Pigeon Shooting

On Saturday 27 April, Cokethorpe's Shooting Team travelled to Buckinghamshire to compete in the British Schools and Young Shots Championships, with over 70 teams coming from as far North as Strathallan in Scotland, Cheltenham from the West, Norwich from the East, Millfield from the South and Harrow from the capital. An exciting competition of 300 targets per team saw Cokethorpe taking fourth place, with the top five separated by the smallest of margins.

Inter-Schools Show Jumping

On Wednesday 3 April, two members of the Cokethorpe Equestrian Team went to Addington to compete in the Headington School NSEA Inter-Schools Show Jumping Competition. In Class 2, Luke Smith (Upper First, Queen Anne) rode a fantastic double clear in a very quick time to claim individual first place and become Oxfordshire Schools County Champion for 2013. George Smith (Fourth Form, Queen Anne) also scored highly, securing individual fifth place in Class 5, a superb achievement for his first time competing at this level. 🏆



Caitlin's GB Success

Caitlin Belsham (Lower Sixth, Gascoigne) has been longlisted for the Junior British team for the European Championships in France. The selection process to reach this stage has involved participating in two of the three trials on an U21 Intermediate course, followed by a run in an international three-day event. After a very successful eighth place out of 60 riders at Weston Park, an amazing second place at Belton and two top ten finishes in France, Caitlin travelled to Tattersalls International in Ireland, where she was the third highest placed British Junior. Caitlin was subsequently delighted to receive an invitation to join the 15 riders longlisted. 🏆



Sports Awards Dinner

Director of Sport Award
Excellence in Sport: Louis Allen

Clay Pigeon Shooting
Excellence in Clays: Ethan Bosse
Most Improved Shot: George Wood

Cricket
Coach's Player: Jason Cardy
Players' Player: Alexander Owen

Hockey
Most Improved: Charlotte Brain
Coach's Player: Amy Williams
Players' Player: Elisha Evans

Kayaking
Excellence in Kayaking: Louis Allen
Endeavour in Kayaking: Oliver Parker

Netball
Most Improved: Alexandra Cross
Coach's Player: Olivia Jones
Players' Player: Olivia Jones

Rugby Union
Most Improved: Alex Haywood
Coach's Player: Harry Stevens
Players' Player: Joshua Poole

Soccer
Most Improved: Max Harrington
Coach's Player: Jack Wollner
Players' Player: James Holifield

Sports Colours

The following pupils received Colours at the end of the Summer Term:

Clay Pigeon Shooting
Full Colours: Ethan Bosse
Charles Von Hoven
Half Colours: Mattias Athwal

Silver Sam

Sam Glover (Fourth Form, Queen Anne) achieved a silver medal in the U16 K1 500m Final at the British Canoe Union (BCU) National Sprint Championships.

Wasps Rugby

Lower First pupils Archie Nicholson (Swift) and Freddie Gray (Gascoigne) took part in an U12 Wasps Rugby training course in April, joined by Junior School Year 6 pupil Adam Kendrick (Symonds) who was playing up a year. Cokethorpe pupils won the two course prizes, with Archie winning Player of the Course for his competitiveness and Adam winning Most Improved Player for his game awareness and brave tackling.

Sports Website

The Sports Department is pleased to announce that from September 2013 the service Schools Sports will be used to manage the fixtures, results and team sheets for all the principal sports in the Junior and Senior Schools. For details visit www.schoolssports.com/school/?id=2266.

Summer Shakespeare

The Merchant of Venice

Shylock	George Lawson
Bassanio	Louis Allen
Portia	Charlotte Ferryman
Nerissa	Zoë Mace
Antonia	Katie Buckley
Jessica	Emily Thompson
Gratiano	Saul Garrett
Lorenzo	Ardan Devine
Duchess Jemima Kyle	Beth Sandland
Morocco	Zac Bamford
Aragon	Fraser Logue
Fans/Shylock's PAs	Mia Biles
	Jessica Williams
	Ellie McBride
	Marion Bird
	Clare Berry
Geordie Shaw	Mr T Walwyn
Pipette	Mrs C Hooper
Lasagne	Mrs G Ringham
Costumes and Props	Mrs L Mace
	Shannen Forry-Purvis

Lower Sixth Production

Monologues

Beth Sandland:	<i>Miss Julie</i> by August Strindberg
Alice Bird:	<i>A Talk in the Park</i> by Alan Ayckbourn
Jacob Yolland:	<i>The Chair</i> by Edward Bond
Francis Plummer:	<i>Rumors</i> by Neil Simon
Katie Buckley:	<i>Medea</i> by Euripides
Holly Keylock:	<i>Breathing Corpses</i> by Laura Wade
Miles Beirouti:	<i>Room to Let</i> by Paul Tucker

The Hothouse

Roote	Francis Plummer
Cutts	Beth Sandland
Gibbs	Katie Buckley
Lamb	Jacob Yolland
Lush	Miles Beirouti
Hogg	Alice Bird
Tate	Holly Keylock

Fourth Form Theatre Trip

As part of their GCSE course and for their wider appreciation of theatre, the Fourth Form Drama pupils went to London to watch the famous production of *War Horse*. From the amazingly lifelike puppetry to the moving narrative, this outstanding production was enjoyed by all and gave them plenty to analyse in their controlled assessment.

Arts Academy Showcase

Extracts from the following stories and plays were performed:

- The Glass Slipper*
- Blue Remembered Hills*
- Adventure Camp*
- The Wizard of Oz*
- An Embarrassing Incident with a Parrot*
- Daisy Pulls It Off*
- An Old-Fashioned Girl*
- Arabian Nights*

Summer Shakespeare

Into the roaring heat of Prize Giving afternoon on Friday 12 July, blazed a production of Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*, with searing performances and scorching wit. Set in the contemporary age of empty bank accounts, invasive TV, failed reality stars and endless tweets, this was a very modern production and the last chance to see some of Cokethorpe's brightest stars.

The play began with the gagging hysteria of the five Salarrio sisters. This multi-roling ensemble delivered superb energy and noise as the fans, also providing a sympathetic narration as oppressed PAs later on in the play. The object of their obsession was Bassanio, a vain yet failing TV star, played with pomp and pose by Louis Allen (Upper Sixth, Harcourt). He sought the help of his friend and producer Antonia, a confidently classy performance by Katie Buckley (Lower Sixth, Harcourt), to see if she could spare him the cash to get on to one last TV show. In Bassanio's wake came the feeble entourage of Gratiano, marking a return to the stage by a strong Saul Garrett (Lower Sixth, Feilden), and Lorenzo, played by the increasingly brilliant comic performer Ardan Devine (Third Form, Queen Anne).



Lower First Production

Every pupil in Lower First took part in a fantastic group performance on Monday 1 July in The Shed. The audience was treated to the tale of *Ernie's Incredible Illusions*, featuring Ernie Fraser, a young boy with an imagination so vivid he is able to make his daydreams come true. Each tutor group worked excellently as a team for their own part of the story to help deliver a professional and thoroughly entertaining production.



It is an ordinary day in the Fraser household when Ernie, reading a book about the French resistance, begins to imagine what would happen if a squad of soldiers turned up looking for a hidden radio transmitter. Pandemonium ensues as British pilots, resistance fighters and a handful of Nazi soldiers appear! Other events included Ernie's day at the fair with his aged Auntie May, who took on and conquered the hitherto undefeated boxing champion; a dead secret agent in the reference section of a library and the librarian climbing the third highest mountain in the world to change a light bulb; and a visit to see *Hamlet* by the Royal Shakespeare Company with the actor playing Hamlet reverting to his TV role as *Doctor Who*, the appearance of Cybermen, and the disappearance of Ernie's grandad vanishing in the TARDIS. This was a fun-filled, laugh out loud evening.

This troop was bound for Belmont, where the new marital game show *All That Glitters Is Not Gold* was taking place. Whoever chooses the correct casket wins the hand, and vast fortune, of glamorous bachelorette Portia. Into these expensive shoes stepped the superb Charlotte Ferryman (Upper Sixth, Queen Anne), brilliantly supported by Zoë Mace (Upper Sixth, Harcourt) as Nerissa.

This would not be Summer Shakespeare without the talents of George Lawson (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne). His Shylock was arrogant and greedy, whose previous rejection by Antonia compounded his desire for a pound of her flesh. His harsh façade melted, however, in the presence of his disobedient daughter Jessica, played by Emily Thompson (Lower Sixth, Queen Anne). When it came to the moment of Antonia's punishment the audience was transported to a morning talk show with the 'Daytime Duchess' Jemima Kyle, portrayed by Beth Sandland (Lower Sixth, Queen Anne).

There was terrific comic support in the guise of the unsuitable suitors trying their hand at winning Portia. First the energetic Zac Bamford (Upper Sixth, Feilden), whose portrayal of a Welsh Prince of Morocco was ludicrously prissy and vain. Next came a bravely-attired Fraser Logue (Fifth Form, Vanbrugh) whose violently aggressive Prince of Aragon stomped like a nightmarish blend of Rab C Nesbitt and Begbie. There were also some shameless cameos from Mr Walwyn, Mrs Hooper and Mrs Ringham as game show hosts. It was wonderful to see such a packed audience brave the sweltering heat for this topical, hilarious and faultless performance.





Lower Sixth Production

Lower Sixth Drama candidates presented their practical work to the visiting examiner on 14 May 2013.

The evening began with the delivery of monologues in the Drama Studio. Beth Sandland (Queen Anne) opened with a powerful portrayal of Miss Julie, an aristocrat's daughter who is driven towards insanity by her interactions with men and her struggle for power in a man's world. Alice Bird (Gascoigne) lightened the mood with her comic performance as Doreen, a middle-aged woman with a passion for dogs who just needs someone to talk to. Jacob Yolland (Gascoigne) gave a sensitive portrayal as Billy, an 18-year-old with learning difficulties who lives with his guardian in a block of flats in the year 2077 and expresses himself through drawing stories. Francis Plummer (Queen Anne) was hilarious as Lenny, a friend of the Deputy Mayor of New York, who was trying to save his friend from any bad press after a dinner party went horribly wrong. Katie Buckley (Harcourt) was

commanding as the unhinged and tormented Medea. Another successful comic monologue came from Holly Keylock (Feilden) as Amy, a chambermaid who discovers a dead body in a hotel bedroom. Miles Beirouti (Queen Anne) concluded this section with his rendition of Roger, who is about to wreak revenge on his errant father who he has tied to a chair.

The second half of the examination was an ensemble performance of *The Hothouse* by Harold Pinter in The Shed. Set in an 'institution' where the heating is jammed, the intercom is clogged up and the snow has turned to slush, the audience see the lives of the staff begin to unravel. The cast gave an exceptional performance which took the audience on a dark comic journey through a warped world of grotesque, Pinteresque characters and bizarre relationships. This was an entertaining and thought-provoking evening, which highlighted the exceptional talent and humour that is a hallmark of Cokethorpe Drama. 📺



and with minimal dialogue the audience was transported from the haunted mountains of Romania to the whistling coast of Whitby, exploring ruins and tombs, deep in shadow. Travelling by carriage through misty woodlands and boarding doomed tall ships across stormy waters, this cast did a superb job in creating a dark, menacing and exciting atmosphere.

In *Frankenstein*, the audience was thrown into the howling wilds of the Arctic with a fantastic sequence aboard a frozen ship and there was wonderful creativity in the invention of various laboratory machines. This sad monster turned to evil by rejection was expertly played by many members of the ensemble and the moving depiction of the lonesome young Doctor Frankenstein was particularly poignant. The suspense created by the narrative was built upon by the excellent use of choral work as Frankenstein hurtled towards his final horrific experiment. 📺

Second Form Production

The entire Second Form performed two unique renditions of the classic gothic horror stories *Dracula* and *Frankenstein* on Tuesday 2 July. Drawing upon their skills in physical theatre, this talented year group brought to life a vivid world of vampires and monsters, using only minimal props and costume.

In *Dracula*, the central roles were shared by the ensemble



LAMDA Awards 2012–2013

Grade 2

Toby Brown	Acting	Merit
Charlotte Jeffs	Acting	Merit
Michaela Logue	Acting	Merit
Billy Morrison	Acting	Merit
India Thomas	Acting	Merit

Grade 3

Arthur Blake	Acting	Merit
Arthur Blake	Verse and Prose	Dist
Megan Cambrey	Group Acting	Dist
Samara Clark	Group Acting	Dist
Alexander Cooper	Verse and Prose	Dist
Anna de Buriatte	Moglia	
	Acting	Dist
Lottie Fellows	Group Acting	Dist
Kate Hooper	Acting	Dist
Charlotte Jeffs	Acting	Merit
Michaela Logue	Acting	Merit
Michaela Logue	Group Acting	Dist
Ruby Plumridge	Acting	Merit
Ruby Plumridge	Group Acting	Dist
Verity Smith	Acting	Dist
Millie Taylor	Group Acting	Dist
India Thomas	Acting	Merit
Lydia Wannell	Acting	Dist
Darcie Wilkes	Acting	Merit
Darcie Wilkes	Verse and Prose	Merit

Grade 4

Alexander Cooper	Verse and Prose	Merit
Alexander Jobling	Acting	
Harry Jobling	Acting	
Verity Smith	Acting	Merit
Lydia Wannell	Acting	Merit

Grade 5

Mia Biles	Group Devising	Dist
Marion Bird	Acting	Merit
Alexander Cooper	Group Devising	Dist
Anna De Buriatte	Moglia	
	Group Acting	Dist
Katie Foster	Group Acting	Dist
India Hurford-Jones	Group Acting	Dist
Ellie McBride	Group Devising	Dist
Louisa Mattinson	Group Acting	Dist
Alexander Reid	Group Devising	Dist
Melanie Severn	Acting	Merit
Lydia Wannell	Group Acting	Dist
Sofia Ward-Naranjo	Group Acting	Dist

Grade 6

Aimee Epelle	Bronze Medal	Merit
Charlotte Ferryman	Bronze Medal	Merit

Arts Academy

This term, the groups have been working towards their next LAMDA exams in January. The pupils have had a lot of fun working on these pieces as well as playing numerous drama games. The Academy presented a showcase at the end of the term, along with Mr Mullin's musicians. It was a lively and entertaining occasion, followed by a buffet lunch. New members from the Senior School are always welcome; all that is required is commitment and enthusiasm. There are three Upper First pupils attending the Arts Academy who have given Drama Awards next year: Anna De Buriatte Moglia and Louisa Mattinson (both Harcourt), and Lydia Wannell (Feilden). Many of the pupils are also taking private LAMDA lessons in Duologues and Monologues.

Exam Results 2012–2013

Grade 1

Millie Taylor Piano

Grade 2

Louisa Flaherty	Jazz Sax	Merit
Luke Garbutt	Drums	Merit
Maddie Garrett	Jazz Sax	Merit
Freddie Gray	Voice	
Henry Hall	Piano	
Lizzie Pickup	Voice	Merit
Shannon Skeffington	Voice	

Grade 3

Hannah Berry	Piano	
Maisie Coolman	Voice	
Evie Garbutt	Guitar	
Evie Garbutt	Voice	Merit
Luke Garbutt	Trumpet	
Florian Goette	Piano	
Kate Hooper	Voice	
Joe McBride	Guitar	Merit
Edward Woolley	Jazz Sax	

Grade 4

Ellie McBride	Piano	
Anika Patel	Voice	

Grade 5

Wilf Cartwright	'Cello	Merit
Christian Ettinger	Guitar	
Zoë Mace	Piano	
Richard Turner	Jazz Clarinet	Merit

Grade 6

Thomas Christensen	Piano	Distinction
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Grade 7

Katherine Woolley	Oboe	Merit
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Grade 8

Ellen Garbutt	Voice	Distinction
Zoë Mace	Voice	Distinction

Summer music examination results will be published next year.

Arts Academy

The following pupils, who have been attending the Arts Academy each Saturday this term, performed in an end of year showcase on Saturday 6 July:

Thomas Christensen (Fourth Form, Swift)
 Hollie Kenworthy (Lower First, Queen Anne)
 Joe McBride (Lower First, Gascoigne)
 Wilf Cartwright (Upper First, Queen Anne)
 Daniel Pye (Fifth Form, Vanbrugh)
 Harry Creak (Third Form, Feilden)
 Christian Ettinger (Fifth Form, Harcourt)
 Henry Plumridge (Fifth Form, Gascoigne)

Uniformity Performers

Clare Berry	Sam Bird
Olivia Busby	Sam Coles
Lottie Fellows	Laura Fiedorowicz
Michaela Logue	Alyssia Lötter
May Manning	Laurel Mulloy
Anika Patel	Jacob Yolland
Shannon Skeffington	Luke Smith
Ben Tracey	Josh Tracey
Rosie Turner	Hetty Watts-Lay
Anna Withey	
Sergei Kundik (OC 2012)	
Matthew Roche (Lighting)	
Alexander Jobling (Stage Hand)	

May Day Madrigals

In wonderful spring sunshine, Morley's *Now is the Month of Maying* and Rand's *Let There Be Love* were sung by the Schola Cantorum from the Mansion Balcony to the whole school gathered below, to mark May Day. [↗](#)



Lunchtime Music Recital

The informal Lunchtime Music Recital on Thursday 27 June allowed the younger members of the School to shine, with some excellent performances on the saxophone, piano, violin and trumpet. All the pupils were from the first two years of the Senior School (Lower House) and showed tremendous potential as music stars of the future. [↗](#)



Choral Evensong

The Summer Term Choral Evensong took place on Wednesday 19 June. Schola Cantorum provided the singing; the canticles were to a setting by William Harris and the anthem was the cantata movement *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* by J S Bach. Canon Revd Roger Humphreys, the School Chaplain, gave the address. [↗](#)



Uniformity Dance Suite

The Uniformity Dance Suite is still a relatively new event in the School calendar but has already attracted a very enthusiastic following and the performers have set a high standard. The show on Thursday 4 July featured a good mix of dance styles including traditional ballet, tap, street and freestyle, but also ventured into hybrids that included exciting mixes of Indian, modern, jazz and hip-hop. From the opening piece, a breathtaking solo routine by Ben Tracey (Fourth Form, Vanbrugh), the audience was treated to excellent choreography which struck a fine balance between serene and exciting. It was wonderful to see a broad age range and a good cohort of boys, all working together to produce a very successful show.

There were some simply stunning performances and although it might appear unfair to single out just two from the fourteen pieces shown, it must be said that the solo ballet number by Rosie Turner (Lower Sixth, Feilden), largely given *en-pointe*, and a complex hip-hop performance by Sam Coles (Third Form, Swift), both demonstrated mind-boggling levels of self-control. For the final number, once again a large body of staff got up from their seats and gave a wonderfully choreographed group performance set to Caro Emerald's *That Man*. [↗](#)





Gig Night

Now a feature at the end of every term, Gig Night is the platform for some of the best musical performance skills to be found at Cokethorpe, and this most recent event was one of the best yet. There were 24 acts and the audience was once again treated to a diverse and eclectic mix of well-known, lesser-known and totally original pieces. There were many first time performers, well-supported by familiar Gig Night faces, and the technical control of the evening was almost entirely managed by pupils.

There were tears brought to the eyes of staff and parents when Tom Orton from the Junior School (Year 4, Gwyn) sang Bruno Mars's *When I Was Your Man*. Later in the evening, Upper First pupil Daniel Bailey (Gascoigne) gave an *a cappella* version of the same song performing with a moving emotional intensity and excellent technical control.

There was laughter when Harry Fellows (Upper Sixth, Vanbrugh) performed his original piece, *Bread*, an ingenious nonsense song extolling the virtues of the ingredients and manufacture of bread and other baked goods. Incidentally, this was the first time he had sung solo in public.

Choral Society Concert

Following the success of last year's *Carmina Burana*, the Cokethorpe School Choral Society was on top form again on Saturday 27 April, performing a pair of choral works by the British composer John Rutter. Firstly, the serenely beautiful setting of the *Requiem* was performed wonderfully by the choir, with some poised and polished solos from Ellen Garbutt (Fifth Form, Feilden), Miss Shortland ('cello) and Miss Recine (oboe). The *Gloria*, relying as it does on sprung, jazzy syncopations, rounded off the concert with tremendous drive and energy from the choir, with coruscating accompaniment from the organ and percussionists. 🎵



Generally, throughout the evening there was a serious attitude towards performing. This came through in the manner that the performers conducted themselves on and off stage, and noticeably through the choice of material performed. In particular, the acoustic performance of *Doll Parts* by Upper First pupils Evie Garbutt (Feilden) and Kate Hooper (Swift), from Courtney Love's grunge-rock group Hole; the choice of Annie Lennox material by Marion Bird (Third Form, Feilden) and the Brian Wilson-inspired piece for voice and piano performed by Fraser Logue (Fifth Form, Vanbrugh).

Special mention should be made of the debut performance of The Glee Club, the members of which gave a heart-rending (and suitably edited) version of Radiohead's *Creep*. This is a group who meet during one of the School's AOB clubs and are expertly directed from the piano by Miss Wise. Another debut performance was the Lower House Band, bringing the house down during the interval.

This was a rapturously received and slick event. If you have never been before, book now for the next show!

Gig Night Performers

Fraser Logue
Charlie Dewhurst
Christian Ettinger
Henry Plumridge
Ry Gavin
Millie Taylor
Sophie Wheeler
Hollie Kenworthy
Scarlett Howard
Ellie McBride
Joe McBride
Thomas Christensen
Tom Orton
Marion Bird
Clare Berry
Billy Morrison
Nancy Battersby
Heidi Lawson
Cate De Buriatte Moglia
Amy Didcock
Wilf Cartwright
Luke Garbutt
Evie Garbutt
Ellen Garbutt
Matthew Ellacott
Jacob Yolland
Harry Lovibond
Daniel Pye
Richard Thompson
Anna De Buriatte Moglia
India Hurford-Jones
Melanie Severn
Daniel Bailey
Emily Thompson
Kate Hooper
Harry Fellows
Mia Biles
Matthew Roche
Anna Wallace
Max Harrington
Eddie Binnie
Harry Brown
Will Riman
George E Williams
Rebecca le Maitre
Megan Cambrey
Elliott Swancott (and Sound Technician)
Laurence Lodge (Sound Technician)

Jazz Band

On Saturday 1 June the Cokethorpe School Jazz Band (CSJB) performed for the Lord Mayor's Celebrations as part of Bonn Week. The band performed a number of songs that had the Oxford Lindy Hoppers dancing away in the Gloucester Green Square. There were some good solos performed by Harry Fellows (Upper Sixth, Vanbrugh), Aidan King (Fifth Form, Gascoigne), Isaac Staff (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne), Harry Creak (Third Form, Feilden) and the usual fantastic vocals from Marion Bird (Third Form, Feilden). Madeleine Brook of Oxford Lindy Hoppers said 'What a talented group you have at Cokethorpe'.

On Saturday 15 June CSJB performed at Hatherop Castle School, as part of its Picnic in the Park event. The band played to their normal high standards, including a bass guitar solo from Wilf Cartwright (Upper First, Queen Anne). Melanie Severn (Fifth Form, Gascoigne) sang with the band and did a grand job in the absence of Marion Bird.

Art Coursework

Below is an example of the artwork on display at the exhibition in July. This piece was produced by Emma King (Fifth Form, Harcourt) as part of her GCSE coursework, which explored the theme of food. She made her own cakes and photographed them as a resource for this water colour painting.



DT Coursework

Visit the School website to view a gallery of the GCSE Design Technology Graphic Products and Resistant Materials coursework completed this term. Below is the work of Harry Hastings (Fifth Form, Swift). [↗](#)



Photography Competition

Toby Brown (Lower First, Queen Anne) recently won first prize in the 11–14 years old category of the Young Photographer competition run by Newbury Rotary Club. His prize is the chance to attend a masterclass course in Digital Photography.

Cokethorpe Plinth

The exhibit on the Cokethorpe Plinth this term was created by the Art Award Holders.



Art, Photography and Textiles Exhibition

The annual Fine Art, Photography and Textiles Exhibition took place in the Art rooms on Thursday 4 July. The work of the A Level and GCSE pupils was all on display, showcasing their final projects and coursework. Family and friends turned out to celebrate the work on display and everyone agreed it had been a very busy and productive year. Postcards showing examples of the work were available to buy, with a total of £80 given to Helen & Douglas House. The work on display was more imaginative and original than ever, showing how hard the staff and pupils have worked throughout the academic year. [↗](#)

Stuart Roper Art Workshop

'The Art Workshop day was led by an inspiring contemporary illustrator Stuart Roper, who works commercially and has had several successful solo exhibitions. His work ranges from children's books, illustrated maps and leaflets to concept drawings. The aim of the session was to present us with new techniques such as pen and wash, which can be used in a series of quick drawings. After a quick presentation about his works and achievements, the pupils produced their own endeavours in the artist's brisk manner. Pupils enjoyed participating in this educational class, learning to distance themselves from superfluous details in order to reflect only the essence of a subject.'

Adina Utebergenova (Lower Sixth, Harcourt)



Photography Trip

'On Friday 21 June, we visited the Free Range exhibition at The Old Truman Brewery, showcasing the work of degree students from a range of colleges and universities. I was particularly looking at the way the work was displayed, from the scale of the photo to what materials had been used to print on, such as printing on used train tickets. I saw a theme of 'Portrait' throughout much of the work, but it had been interpreted in many different ways. There was no chance of being bored because it was filled with many different photographers and this is what I really enjoyed. I went from being drawn to a colourful photo one minute, to a black and white photograph the next.'

Gabrielle Sadones (Lower Sixth, Vanbrugh)



Upper First Paddle Testing

Despite inclement weather the Upper First pupils arrived at the Boat House with paddles in hand, enthusiastic to test and evaluate their designs. There were varying degrees of success to propel the canoes along the river. Those groups whose paddles were of a good design and whose team worked well together were able to successfully manoeuvre their canoes and reach a good speed in the time trial.



Cokethorpe Parents' Association



Summer Fête

The CPA Summer Fête on Saturday 22 June provided a lovely opportunity for children to meet outside School while their parents socialised over Pimm's, pig roasts and teas against the backdrop of the Mansion House.

Marquees beautifully decorated with flowers and bunting surrounded a central ring, together with a Jousting Horse, Beat the Goalie, Aunt Sally, bouncy castle, fairground rides and a fire engine. Children were entertained with fun races throughout the afternoon. The Junior School Samba Band marked the opening of the Fête. Mr Mullin and various School musicians provided background music, and those present were honoured to have a performance by former

pupil Toby Pugh (OC 2009, Harcourt), stage name Toby Sebastian, following the release of his debut album.

The fête ended with a Tug of War competition between the fire crew and the Old Cokethorpean rugby team, who then pitted their wits against the children. A very exciting girls versus boys competition followed. Thanks to everyone who came and supported this event, to all the parents who helped serve food and drinks and run the races and various stalls. Also to all who baked delicious cakes for the tea tent and cake stall. Finally, thank you to parents, grandparents and local businesses who donated raffle prizes. 📧



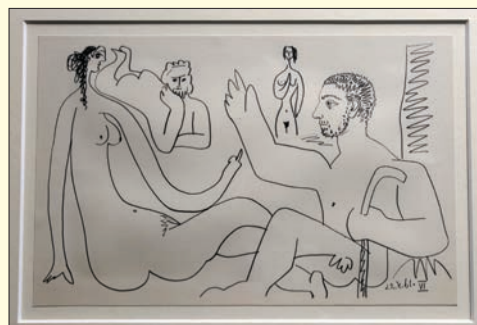
Leaving Gift for Mr Walton

A set of six whisky tumblers engraved with the School emblem, together with a bottle of malt whisky, were presented to Mr Walton one coffee morning on behalf of current parents by Secretary of the CPA Mrs Hughes. The glasses match the decanter that the prefects gave Mr Walton at their dinner earlier in the term.



Limited Edition Picasso

The CPA has presented the School with a limited edition lithograph of a Picasso, which was part of the auction at the West Oxfordshire Citizens Advice Bureau Gala Dinner held at Cokethorpe. Bought for £1,500 this original print is one of only 150 and entitled 'Le déjeuner sur l'herbe' (The Luncheon on the Grass), dated 22.8.61.



Forthcoming Events

CPA Coffee Mornings

Every Tuesday during term time
8.30am – 9.15am
Cuppa Coffee Shop
Beginning Tuesday 10 September, all current and new Cokethorpe parents are invited to socialise over hot beverages.

CPA AGM and Committee Meeting

Wednesday 11 September
8.00pm – 9.00pm
Corinthian Room
All current and new Cokethorpe parents are welcome to attend – no obligation to join the Committee!

Murder Mystery Evening

Saturday 19 October
7.30pm – 11.00pm
The Shed
Book early to avoid disappointment!

Bonfire and Fireworks Night

Friday 8 November
7.00pm – 9.00pm
Buy your tickets in advance to avoid queues on the gate!

Christmas Fayre

Saturday 30 November
12.00 noon – 4.00pm
Mansion House

Please visit the School website for further details closer to the event.

Book tickets through the Box Office at boxoffice@cokethorpe.org or on 01993 892338.

Summer Fête

Thank you to the following individuals and companies for the donation of raffle prizes for the Grand Draw at the Summer Fête.

- Mrs Buckingham, Managing Director of ITB Ltd, for the donation of an iPad
- The Fleece, Witney
- Cotswold Wildlife Park
- Millets Farm
- The Feathered Nest Country Inn, Nether Westcote
- The Entertainer toy shop, Witney
- The Beauty Room, Milton-under-Wychwood
- The Shake Shop, Witney
- Mr and Mrs Knox for the donation of two nights bed and breakfast in Edinburgh
- Aston Pottery
- Mrs Ogilvie for a number of prizes

Picasso

Pablo Picasso was born on 25 October 1881 in Malaga, Spain and by the time he died in France on 8 April 1973, had created a staggering 22,000 works of art in a variety of mediums, including sculpture, ceramics, mosaics, stage design and graphic arts. He was one of the greatest and most influential artists of the 20th century. He is widely known for co-founding the Cubist movement.

Second Form CEW

As part of Curriculum Enrichment Week, the Second Form pupils worked in groups to promote an environmental product they had designed, with the final ideas presented to a panel of judges.

Winning Team:
Team Stealth

Product:
Shake n' Straight Kinetic Energy Hair Straightener

Project Manager:
Sam Bird (Harcourt)

Group Members:
Evie Phillips (Swift)
Lizzie Pickup (Gascoigne)
Daniel Bailey (Gascoigne)
Harriet Stone (Swift)
Charlotte Bury (Vanbrugh)

AOB Achievements

The following pupils have excelled in their AOB Activities this term:

British Sport
Grace Henstone (Upper First, Queen Anne)

Team Ball Sports
Elliot Couse (Lower First, Swift)

Public Speaking
Fraser Logue (Fifth Form, Vanbrugh)
Bethany Mulloy (Fifth Form, Swift)
Saul Garrett (Lower Sixth, Feilden)
Alexander Cooper (Upper First, Gascoigne)
Harry Lovibond (Fifth Form, Queen Anne)
Gabby Smith (Fifth Form, Feilden)
Sam Biles (Upper First, Gascoigne)
Rebecca LeMaitre (Lower First, Vanbrugh)
Brian Clarke (Lower Sixth, Queen Anne)
Rachel Dodimead (Lower First, Queen Anne)
Alexander Reid (Upper First, Queen Anne)
William Howard (Upper First, Vanbrugh)

Astronomy
Georgie Edwards-Lowe (Third Form, Feilden)
Arthur Blake (Third Form, Gascoigne)
James Thomas (Third Form, Harcourt)
Niamh McCall (Third Form, Queen Anne)
Matthew Brown (Fourth Form, Queen Anne)
James Duffield (Fourth Form, Queen Anne)
Thomas Christensen (Fourth Form, Swift)

Taekwondo Taster

On Friday 21 June, the Sports Academy and Taekwondo AOB pupils took part in a taster session and demonstration run by Christie Bytom, a 5th Degree black belt who runs clubs in Oxfordshire and has appeared on Channel 5's *Combat Club*.

The pupils were taught a number of kicks and strikes, as well as having a go at sparring. The session ended with a demonstration of patterns and board breaking by Mrs Bytom, Mr Galvin and James Ellacott (Upper Sixth, Feilden). The pupils greatly enjoyed the experience of trying something new!



World Challenge

Cokethorpe's intrepid group of 'Challengers' departed for Thailand and Cambodia on Sunday 14 July, arriving five airports, four countries, three planes and sixteen hours later in Phnom Penh. After a night in a questionable guest house, the group journeyed to the orphanage in Kai, where they undertook their project for the next six days. Having raised \$1,200 for the project, the Challengers built new tracks and roads, worked on the farm and taught classes in the outdoor classroom. They formed unforgettable bonds with the children, leading to some emotional goodbyes at the end of their stay. The group then journeyed to Siam Reap and the magnificent temples of Angkor Wat before leaving Cambodia behind on a ten-hour bus journey to Thailand, heading north to Mae Sot to begin their six-day trek through the jungle. All of the Challengers performed magnificently, working incredibly hard and staying consistently motivated to contribute in any way they could. Mr Stuart and Miss Giraldo are very proud of their achievements, but have not missed their singing since arriving home! 📺

Lower First CEW

The Lower First Curriculum Enrichment Week was centred around Geology. Pupils visited Bath's famous Roman Baths, Bath Abbey and the Georgian terraces, ending with an evening of rest and relaxation. After spending the night in a youth hostel, the group headed to Cheddar Gorge for a guided tour of the caves, complete with maturing cheese and the views from the top of the 274 steps of Jacob's Ladder. Staff and pupils then descended and squeezed through the ancient iron works of the Clearwell Caves before linking these experiences to the geology of the Cokethorpe site and the River Windrush. 📺



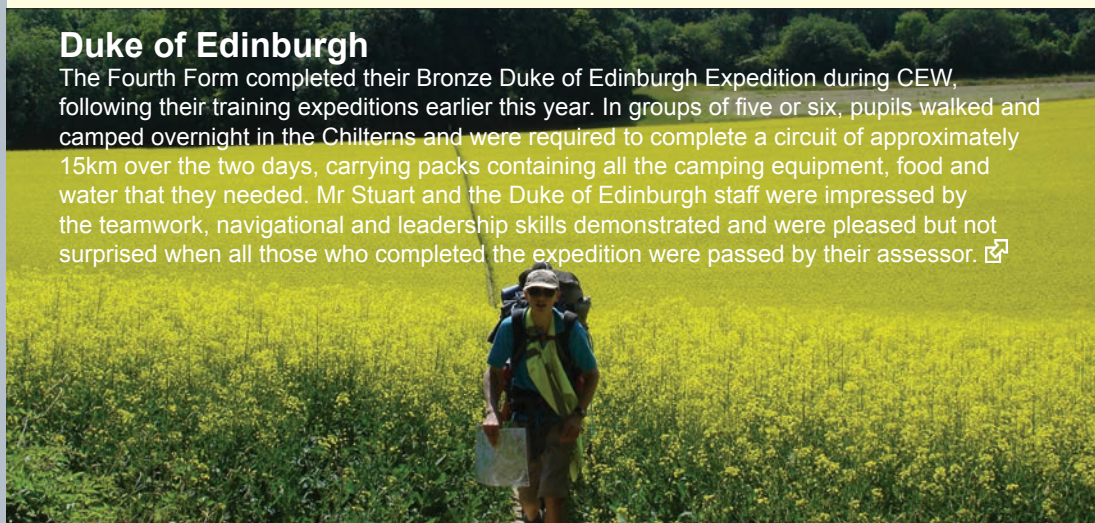
Third Form CEW

Water was the unifying theme for the Third Form Curriculum Enrichment Week. A carousel of activities led pupils through fly fishing for their supper at Bushey Mede Fishery, to learning bushcraft skills. Pupils built, and paddled, their own canoes using willow, tubing, tarpaulin and rope (and rather too much gaffer tape in some cases). Another sunny day was spent paddling katakanus along the ten-mile course from Radcot to Newbridge, negotiating three locks along the route. The week culminated in a trip to Lee Valley White Water Centre to raft along the Olympic Course, with spills and thrills the order of the day. 📺



Duke of Edinburgh

The Fourth Form completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition during CEW, following their training expeditions earlier this year. In groups of five or six, pupils walked and camped overnight in the Chilterns and were required to complete a circuit of approximately 15km over the two days, carrying packs containing all the camping equipment, food and water that they needed. Mr Stuart and the Duke of Edinburgh staff were impressed by the teamwork, navigational and leadership skills demonstrated and were pleased but not surprised when all those who completed the expedition were passed by their assessor. 📺



Fourth Form CEW

The majority of Fourth Form pupils spent a challenging day at Head4Heights on an aerial assault course near Cirencester, working up to 16m above the ground. The aim of the day was to overcome fear of 'falling' and work as a team through physical and mental challenges, while under the pressure of time and team competition. It was pleasing to see pupils working to help, support and encourage each other and enjoying the tasks set for them. 📷



Second Form CEW

The Second Form enjoyed a week of environmental participation, beginning at Dartmoor Zoo with the pupils gaining insight into habitats and sustainability. Tuesday involved a visit to the Eden Project for a workshop on plants, before the heat and humidity of the Rainforest Dome. Wednesday saw a visit to Sutton Courtenay Environmental Centre, learning the importance of recycling and reusing existing materials. These fact finding days were put to good use on Thursday when the pupils worked to design and promote an environmental product, with the final ideas presented to a panel of judges at the end of the day.



Cookery Course Week

Cokethorpe was delighted to play host to Easy Peasy Cookery in June, for a week of lessons designed to help the pupils from Lower First to Fourth Form learn basic cooking and food preparation skills, as well as how to eat healthily and food hygiene. The activity was paid for by the Cokethorpe Annual Fund. All the pupils thoroughly enjoyed their lessons; there was a real buzz about the site as the groups prepared everything from pizza to samosas and muffins to strawberry shortbread. The sessions hosted by Tish and Jane were fun and exciting, leading many of our pupils to question when they could have another go! 📷



Second Form Camp

'At first, the idea of the Second Form Camp was greeted with mixed opinions from the Upper First. People were wary about the sleeping conditions and the challenges, while some were excited by the prospect. During this camp, we knew that we were going to have to step out of our comfort zones by doing demanding activities such as Climbing, Kayaking, Teambuilding and Orienteering. While doing the activities, we had to rely on our group members heavily and support them in return mentally and physically. Through facing challenges and our worries and fears, all the groups formed a tight bond and people became friends with people they hadn't been before. After sleeping, eating and working together during the two days, the year as a whole formed into a team bonded by all the experiences and laughter. Hopefully we can continue this team spirit into Third Form... and we will certainly envy next year's Second Form when they have their camp.' 📷

Cam Müldür (Gascoigne)

Cookery Course Week

'On the afternoon of Tuesday 18 June, we were invited to take part in an hour-long cooking class. We made mini pizzas with a variety of fresh ingredients and were taught chopping techniques, and kneading. We then topped our scrumptious pizzas with locally grown produce, including oregano from the School's own Kitchen Garden.

After washing our kitchen utensils, we tucked into our delicious warm, freshly baked pizzas on the school lawn. Other groups cooked muffins and shortbread.

It was a fantastic experience that the whole of the Lower First, Second, Third and Fourth Form benefitted from. We thank Tish and Jane for a fun and memorable week.'

Elisha Evans (Third Form, Swift)

Second Form Camp

'The Second Form Camp was fun and exciting, but sometimes exhausting. The instructors that we had were really fun and planned loads of interesting activities. The best was probably Bushcraft because we were making our own shelters in groups and then got to make a campfire from the twigs that were lying around. I really enjoyed the groups we were put in because I got to spend time with people I am not normally with. There were some challenges though, like in the Kayaking when we had to swap boats with people while we were still on the river. In our free time we also had a lot of fun being in the tents. Altogether it was a really enjoyable experience.'

Christopher Singleton (Queen Anne)

'The Second Form Camp was a great way for us to get ready for September. The activities allowed us to work with different people who we would not have thought to hang out with before. There were loads of activities, but my favourite was probably Kayaking. We had lots of fun racing upstream, but got very wet in the process. I also enjoyed the Orienteering because we wanted to find the clues before everyone else. Even though my partner and I eventually lost, it was still great fun running around the School. The instructors from Reach Outdoors were brilliant and soon became our friends. Everyone enjoyed the two days a lot, even though we were really tired at the end.'

Sofia Ward-Naranjo (Queen Anne)

'Blistering' Pace

Air Cadet William Cowley (Third Form, Swift), a member of the RAF Thames Valley Wing, took part in a 50 mile march in April. Upon successful completion of the march, William was presented with his medal.

For those who did not see them, Will's blisters were almost as impressive as the medal he received!

The Houses

Sports Day Results

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

The Burfitt Award for the best performance was won by Callum Rowe (Upper First, Harcourt).

Records that were broken throughout the event:

800m Upper First Boys
Callum Rowe, 2.25.05

800m Third and Fourth Form Girls
Elisha Evans (Third Form, Swift)
2.29.00

4x 100m Relay
Vanbrugh, 0.51.39

100m Lower House Girls
Jessica Alexander (Upper First, Feilden) 0.13.05

400m Fourth Form Boys
Ross Tanner (Fourth Form, Vanbrugh)
0.59.79

1,500m Third and Fourth Form Girls
Elisha Evans (Third Form, Swift)
5.21.00

1,500m Upper First Boys
Callum Rowe, 5.04.00

Inter-House Rounders

1st:	Queen Anne (38 Points)
2nd:	Gascoigne (34 Points)
3rd:	Swift (33 Points)
4th:	Feilden (32 Points)
5th:	Harcourt (28 Points)
6th:	Vanbrugh (22 Points)

Inter-House Tennis

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

Ashes Cup Winners


The Ashes Cup is presented on a fortnightly basis to the Lower House tutor group that wins the most points for number of recommendations (+2 points) and referrals (-1 point) they receive.

Lower First Gascoigne (15 April)
Upper First Gascoigne (29 April)
Upper First Gascoigne (13 May)
Lower First Vanbrugh (3 June)
Lower First Gascoigne (17 June)

Lower First Gascoigne won the cup the most during 2012–2013 with five wins.

Senior School Sports Day

Thursday 4 July saw the eagerly-awaited Senior School Sports Day take place at Tilsley Park in Abingdon. The atmosphere had been building after exciting performances during early events held at the School, with records broken by Callum Rowe (Upper First, Harcourt) and Elisha Evans (Third Form, Swift) in their respective races. In particular, Callum's 1,500m time broke a record that had been held since 1979. These events had already given Gascoigne and Vanbrugh the lead, with Harcourt behind by six points.

The sunshine held out for the afternoon's events at Tilsley Park, during which a further eight records were broken. All of the pupils who took part showed how athletics at Cokethorpe has developed in recent years, with the House competition won by just one point. 



Inter-House Rounders

The Inter-House competition was met with the usual team spirit and enthusiasm and each afternoon was full of closely fought matches. For Lower House it was Feilden that was victorious, beating Gascoigne by a single rounder; in the Senior School competition, Queen Anne took the top spot with an unbeaten record. For all teams it was an outstanding display of teamwork and decision-making and was a great deal of fun. Once the Lower House and Senior School results were added together the overall champions were Queen Anne. Congratulations to both Annabel Clarke (Lower First, Feilden) and Nancy Battersby (Fourth Form, Gascoigne) who were nominated as Player of the Tournament in their respective competitions.



Inter-House Cricket

Gascoigne were comfortable winners of this year's Inter-House Cricket. The competition was split into a Lower House and a combined Third and Fourth Form competition. Gascoigne lost only two of their ten fixtures to beat Swift to the 2013 title. Joe Whittington (Third Form, Gascoigne)

deserves a mention for his positive batting throughout the matches, chasing and setting totals for his House.



Inter-House Tennis

This year's Inter-House Tennis proved to be an exciting competition, with each House fielding two doubles pairs, and results combining to give the final standings. Conditions proved difficult due to high winds but the pupils remained composed and focused throughout. Swift dominated the A string tournament, with Evie Phillips and India Hurford-Jones (both Upper First, Swift) taking a narrow victory against Gascoigne's Rosie Hunt (Upper First) and Hannah Craig (Lower First). However, Gascoigne proved too strong in the B division, and took the win to clinch the overall victory.



Lower House Assemblies

Each tutor group in Lower House is responsible for their own Assembly each year and, to add a competitive edge, the best is awarded a prize. The assemblies were all of a high standard; moral, interesting, engaging and extremely entertaining. The winning group was Lower First Swift, with an hilarious interpretation of 'Take Me Out: The Friendship Edition', explaining what makes a good friend. The winners were treated to a trip to The Shake Shop in Witney, where they designed and enjoyed their own milkshake.



Lower House Barbecue

'The Lower House Barbecue was a chance for members of the Lower House to convene, talk to each other and enjoy each other's company. Having a large portion of time to do this is quite a present, especially with the addition of food and drink provided by the School, and even some pudding provided by parents. Everyone had a great time and we all really enjoyed ourselves.'

Nick Meyer (Lower First, Feilden)

Gascoigne House Barbecue

'Despite poor weather on the morning of Friday 21 June, the sun came out to provide a happy atmosphere for the Gascoigne House Barbecue. Mr Stuart and Mr Mason were charged with flipping the burgers and sausages and Head of House Joshua Poole and prefect Isaac Staff (both Upper Sixth) led games of rounders. A few members of the House got their face painted by Connie Gascoyne (Lower Sixth) whilst everyone ate ice creams and listened to the sounds of 'DJ Battersby'. It was really nice for the whole House to get together and for the Upper First to meet with the Senior House. Thank you to Mrs Semenzato for organising the event.'

Nancy Battersby and Heidi Lawson (Fourth Form)

Lower House Heroes

Lower House Heroes are nominated by tutors for reasons such as having a positive contribution to School life, good behaviour, or working especially hard on a particular activity or event.

First Half of Term

Megan Cambrey	L1 Feilden
Lukas Russell	L1 Gascoigne
George King	L1 Harcourt
Amy Didcock	L1 Queen Anne
Jack Smith	L1 Swift
George Williams	L1 Vanbrugh
Will Freeston	U1 Feilden
Sam Biles	U1 Gascoigne
Sam Bird	U1 Harcourt
Olivia Messenger	U1 Queen Anne
Harry Jobling	U1 Swift
Maisie Coolman	U1 Vanbrugh

Second Half of Term

Hannah Berry	L1 Feilden
Freddie Gray	L1 Gascoigne
Eddie Binnie	L1 Harcourt
Hamish Emerson	L1 Queen Anne
Sophie Wheeler	L1 Swift
Michaela Logue	L1 Vanbrugh
Luke Garbutt	U1 Feilden
Sam Biles	U1 Gascoigne
Katie Foster	U1 Harcourt
Alexander Reid	U1 Queen Anne
Harriet Stone	U1 Swift
Alexander Swancott	U1 Vanbrugh

Fundraising for Charity

The Nasio Trust

'For the past seven months, I have enjoyed working for The Nasio Trust, a charity that runs two purpose-built daycare centres in western Kenya – Noah's Ark and St Irene's. The centres work with the local community to provide education, meals, medical care and support to impoverished children, many of whom live with HIV. Based in Musanda, a small village outside Mumias, I was given responsibility for teaching IT and coaching sport. I have made great friends and hope very much to return. This was an experience I would recommend to anyone considering a break away from the books and the English climate! A video from my time there is available to watch on the School website or at <http://youtu.be/QvWlmzieET4>.'

Henry Ettinger (OC 2012, Harcourt)



Race for Life

On Sunday 14 July, a team of 19 pink-clad 'Busby Babes' took part in the Oxford Race for Life event, in aid of Cancer Research. The race had a special significance as Mrs Busby, mother of Olivia (Third Form, Feilden), was diagnosed with Breast Cancer at the beginning of the year and is currently undergoing treatment. Supporting Olivia and her mother was the 'Cokethorpe Crew' of eight of Olivia's Third Form friends, Isabel Fisher and Marion Bird (both Feilden), Niamh McCall and Lucy Didcock (both Queen Anne), Hetty Watts-Lay and Laurel Mulloy (both Swift), and Elizabeth Allen and Grace Wood (both Vanbrugh). Nearly £1,700 has been raised so far. For more details or to show your support please visit www.raceforlifesponsors.org/the-busby-babes.



Helen & Douglas House

£400 was donated to Helen & Douglas House hospice following a Senior School non-uniform day in May. In addition, £80 was donated to the charity following the sale of postcards showing the work of GCSE and A Level Art, Photography and Textiles pupils.

The Nasio Trust

Cokethorpe supported The Nasio Trust charity in July by lending a School minibus for the transport of runners to London to participate in the British London Bupa 10km race. The runners raised £2,000 to support the 308 HIV/AIDS orphans and vulnerable children that The Nasio Trust supports in Kenya.

Sponsored Walk

On Sunday 23 June Mrs Semenzato took part in a 12-mile sponsored walk, organised by a Warwickshire radio station, in aid of the Emergency department at Coventry Children University Hospital. Taking into account the adverse weather conditions (strong winds and horizontal rain), Mrs Semenzato covered the distance in 2 hours and 30 minutes. Mrs Semenzato thanks all who sponsored her and helped her achieve just short of £400.

Staff News

Guardian Recipes

Congratulations to Mr Chim, who had one of his recipes chosen to be printed in the *Guardian Weekend* supplement of *The Guardian* newspaper on Saturday 6 July. Why not try creating your own Chicken Poached in Miso and Soy Milk?



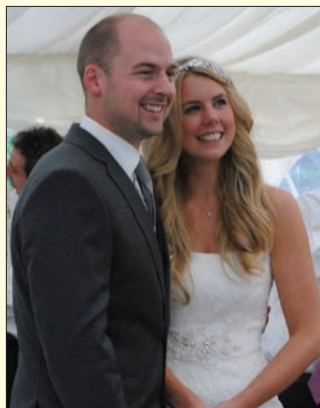
Chef of the Year

Cokethorpe Sous Chef, Stephanie Newing, was the Runner-Up in the first Palmer & Howells Chef of the Year competition in July. Following an initial stage, Miss Newing was shortlisted to cook against four other school chefs. The judges were impressed with her Moroccan Lamb and Lemon Syllabub. Both dishes had to be made within a £1.50 per head budget and using a selected list of ingredients. Despite winning the cooking stage, Stephanie was beaten by just one point when all the stage points were added up.



Staff Weddings

Congratulations to three members of staff who have married since the last issue of *The Ocellus*. Miss Smith married Christopher Hickin on Saturday 3 August, Miss Ringham married Richard Beer in the School Chapel on Saturday 30 March and Mr Dawson married Sian on Saturday 13 July.



New Developments

Maintenance Projects

The most significant maintenance projects undertaken over the summer holidays were:

- New Mathematics classroom in the Vanbrugh Building
- Renovation of Girls' Changing Rooms
- Renovation of the Bell Tower Flat to create three offices
- Redecoration around the site
- New fibre optic broadband connection of 100MB and an upgrade to a new wireless 1GB network

Annual Fund 2013

The Annual Fund 2013 closed on Thursday 31 July. Through the donation of entrance deposits, regular standing orders and one-off gifts, the total raised was £11,987.48. This has allowed the School to purchase an electronic cricket scoreboard for the 1st XI pitch, cover the cost of providing every pupil in the Senior School with an hour's cookery lesson and also order a new set of hymnbooks for use during Chapel and School Assemblies.

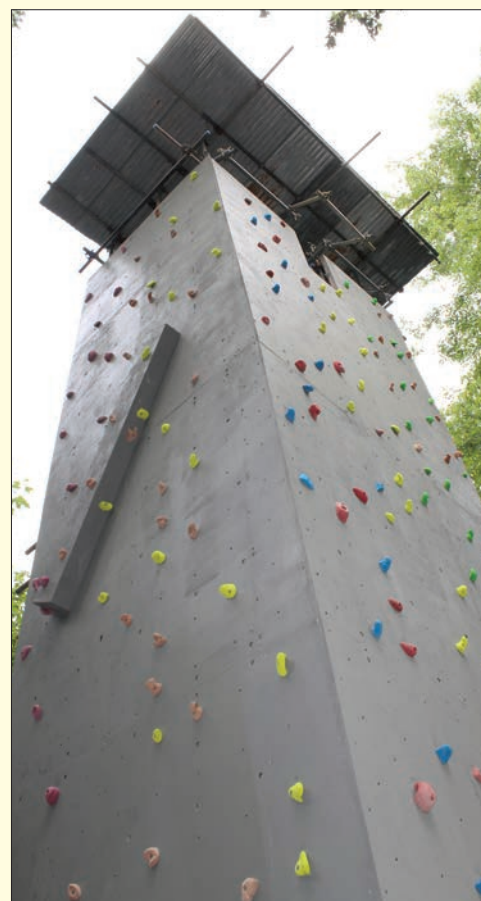
Thank you to all those who generously supported the Fund this year. A full report will be available in due course, along with the outline of the new projects for the Annual Fund 2014.

Climbing Wall

Whilst pupils and teaching staff are enjoying their summer holidays, the maintenance team are hard at work completing a number of projects ready for the start of the new term. In addition, the company Far Peak visited to revamp the School Climbing Wall, including the instalment of 13 new routes, with new grips and protrusions to allow for a variety of difficulty levels. Pupils will now be able to take climbing as an AOB option in the Michaelmas Term.

Top Food Hygiene Rating

The Cokethorpe Catering Department is delighted to report that it has been awarded with the top score of 5 following their most recent Food Hygiene visit from West Oxfordshire District Council. Catering Manager Ms Sheldon comments: 'This enables us to give complete confidence to our pupils, staff and any other visitors who will use our catering facilities. We are rated on Food Hygiene practice, structure and cleanliness, confidence in management and control system. We pride ourselves in all of these areas and will always continue to keep these standards extremely high, assisted by the fantastic commitment from all the Catering team.'





Beavers and Scouts

The Standlake and Cokethorpe Sea Scouts and Beavers have been meeting at Cokethorpe again this term. They have been enjoying doing lots of new and exciting activities. In particular an excellent time was had with Dr Flaherty as the Beavers met with him to complete their Experiment badge. They found the experiments fantastic, including the amazing giant bubble and a Coca-Cola explosion as the grand finale. The Beavers were so excited and now want to be scientists!

As well as their weekly training at the School, the Beavers have also recently enjoyed using the grounds of Cokethorpe as their base for their various weekend activities including the production of their now famous home-cooked breakfasts.

Witney 2 Westminster

Under the umbrella and expertise of Jon Cox, Director of Adventure Plus, a group of local children and adults undertook the gargantuan task of canoeing from Witney to Westminster in June for charity. They completed the task in glorious spirits and weather, using the Cokethorpe Boat House as one of their bases during the trip to London.



Citizens Advice Bureau

West Oxfordshire Citizens Advice Bureau held its Gala Dinner for 150 guests at Cokethorpe in May. The evening raised £13,000 through donations, sponsorship, raffle tickets and auction lots, which included a classic car ride from Governor John Bond-Smith and a Clay Pigeon Shooting lesson donated by Cokethorpe School.



National Hockey Festival

Cokethorpe once again hosted the Rover Oxford National Hockey Festival in April, now in its 21st year. There were 73 teams for boys and girls in age groups from U8 to U14. Many local clubs were represented as well as teams from as far away as Northern Ireland. Organiser Nick Malden said: 'It was a terrific weekend of hockey and the standard of play was very high.'



White Star Dance Performance

'White Star Performers premiered their first Dance & Theatre production at Cokethorpe on Saturday 29 June, with an infusion of Bollywood, Street, Contemporary and Freestyle dance. *Rhythm of the Night* was a roaring success with performers from all over Oxfordshire ranging from 3–14 years old. Cokethorpe pupils performed a wonderful contemporary piece by the artiste Rebecca Ferguson that gave audience members 'shivers', then moving into a colourful and uplifting Bollywood routine that brought smiles and energy to the room. A big thank you to Mr Daniels for his endless help, to Lighting Technician Alexander Owen (Lower Sixth, Feilden) and to the talented Mrs Mace for providing amazing costumes and props.'

Tanya White, Cokethorpe Dance Teacher and White Star Performers



Admissions Round Up

Admissions events in the Summer Term welcomed many families to Cokethorpe; those who will be joining the School in September as well as many families who have not visited before.

Transfer Day saw pupils starting Cokethorpe Junior School or starting out in the Senior School enjoying a day spent meeting their new teachers and tutors, as well as sampling some of the lessons they will undertake in the new academic year. They had plenty of opportunity to make friends with the other pupils who will be in their class before the start of the summer holidays. Older pupils joining the Senior School also had the chance to meet each other and have their questions answered by their new housemaster and tutor at the Welcome Tea.

Open Evening allowed visitors to see the School in action at the end of the normal School day. Pupils and staff keenly demonstrated their work and showed Cokethorpe School to visitors. One of the highlights at the Open events is always the opportunity to try out the various activities and many enjoyed the chance of seeing the green-powered go-kart in action. The next Open Morning will be held on Saturday 5 October, when the School will be pleased to see you, and your friends and families.

Royal Dutch Federation

The Royal Dutch Federation of Rowing used the Cokethorpe Boat House over two separate weekends this term. Each time, the Boat House was used as a base as a team of 25 rowers completed the famous route from Lechlade to Westminster. Next term, the Cokethorpe Boat House will again be used as a base during the Thames Festival, a large kayaking and sailing event.

Use of Facilities

Other uses of the Cokethorpe grounds and facilities this term have included:

- Wychwood Hockey Club
- Oxford Downs Cricket Club 3rd XI
- Oxfordshire Hockey Association
- Oxfordshire District Cricket Festival
- British Judo Council Convention
- London Welsh Rugby Summer Camps

Forthcoming Wider Community events:

- Wychwood Hockey Club's 40th Anniversary Celebrations: Saturday 7 September
- Oxfordshire Historic Churches Ride and Stride: Saturday 14 September
- Witney Hockey Club Festival: Sunday 13 October
- Witney Chess Tournament: Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 October
- Rotary Club of Witney Fundraising Quiz Night: Friday 1 November
- Bampton Classical Opera Competition: Saturday 2 and Sunday 3 November

Turning Back the Pages

Below are news items from past issues of *The Bell Tower*, *The Peacock* and, for the first time, from the very first school magazine, published in 1958.

15 Years Ago (1998)

After Prize-giving the guests made their way to St Mary's Church where the Bishop of Dorchester performed a service of rededication and the bells were rung for the first time since 1978.

20 Years Ago (1993)

Cricketers will have mixed feelings about the demise of the horse chestnut on the corner of the 1st XI field. Last laugh to the tree perhaps, it is proving to be a tough nut to shift.

25 Years Ago (1988)

The beginning of the cricket season is usually the signal for the Heavens to open and for Cokethorpe to be in danger of floating away. However, 1988 broke the mould for the start of term was dry.

30 Years Ago (1983)

Since the School obtained a Commodore 'Pet' computer there has developed a growing interest in the Computer Club. This enthusiasm has led to many new 'programmes' and games being designed and written by the boys themselves.

35 Years Ago (1978)

The Summer Term was as grey as it was cold and as dismal as it was raw. This dearth of sunshine prompted the apposite witticism that the only person seen wearing dark glasses was an off-duty weather forecaster trying to avoid recognition.

40 Years Ago (1973)

'Ordinary masters,' said a discerning boy, 'get fed-up if you ask them the same question more than two or three times; Dr Dyson never got cross, even if you asked him nine or ten times.'

45 Years Ago (1968)

Since the last edition of the magazine the most important event has been the placing of the School on the list of schools 'recognised as efficient by the Department of Education and Science'.

50 Years Ago (1963)

The primary object of our unofficial Arduous Training trek on Dartmoor was to enjoy ourselves in the least civilised part of England. Despite the limitations of the weather which was itself an unforgettable experience, the object was achieved.

55 Years Ago (1958)

I am glad to be able to introduce this little school magazine. This magazine will grow in size and develop its qualities. Its aim is to act as a record of what goes on here, to be a link with Parents and Old Boys and to provide a space for those who wish to write. May it long continue to serve these useful purposes.

The Cokethorpe Chapel



The Church of St Mary the Virgin stands in Cokethorpe Park some distance from the Mansion. The first mention of it is in 957 when King Edgar the Peaceable gave the estate to 'Eanulf his faithful minister'. In that charter it is known as the 'old church at east Lea' so it seems probable that there was a place of worship on the site for some considerable time before 957. It is thought that the village it was built to serve was wiped out by the Black Death leaving the Church in its rather solitary location. The first mention of a rector of the parish is in around 1100 when mention is made of 'William, the parson of East Lea'.

It is said that in medieval times a hermit lived in or near the chapel. In 1549 a manuscript states that 'the said chapall of Cokthop was founded, erected and used principally for the oblation and offrrings to the picture of our lady in the said chappall; and for the most part once in the week...'. It is also recorded that there was a well just outside the porch and it is said that people came from miles around and cures of all kinds took place under the influence of the Virgin.

However, by 1584 it was reported that the chancel was 'in great decay and hath been ever since the suppression of the abbeys' and the rector, Lavis Evans, was sued for neglect.

By the time Sir Simon Harcourt purchased the Cokethorpe estate in 1704 the Church had presumably been repaired as many famous people, including Pope, Gay, Swift and Queen Anne herself visited. It is entirely possible that Queen Anne worshipped there when she stayed in the House in 1713.



Lady Harcourt presented some fine silver to Cokethorpe in memory of her husband who died in 1727. Three chained books inscribed with 'Cockthorp' on the covers were given in 1734. Two of the books, which have been restored, remain, as do the Churchwarden's accounts which were started by Robert Alden, the Cokethorpe Churchwarden in 1795. Some of the entries in the accounts make interesting reading; two ladies were paid 8d a day to clean the chapel. The present font cover was made for fifteen shillings and, that same year in 1800, a surplice was purchased from Mr Cox of Oxford at a cost of £1.7s.3d.

Between 1807 and 1810 the Church was vastly improved. It may have been at this time that the top to the tower was added. In 1842, Mr Farley, the then rector and an amateur carpenter, made the pulpit and reading desk out of wood removed from Magdalen College tower. A major restoration of the Church began in 1872. It was enlarged by the addition of a north aisle at a cost of £650, and the west window was enlarged at the same time. The font was moved from the centre of the chancel to its present position. The north aisle was added in memory of Walter Strickland who owned the Cokethorpe estate in the 19th century.



In more recent times the great gales of 1976 severely damaged the Church. In fact the Church Commissioners decided that the cost of the repairs was so great that it was beyond the resources of the parish. Thankfully for Cokethorpe School, the Cokethorpe Society stepped in and launched a Chapel Appeal to raise funds to purchase the Chapel. The Church Commissioners agreed to the purchase and the Society bought the Chapel, paid for the repairs and presented the Chapel as a gift to the School. The presentation was made on 6 July 1979 when the deeds were handed over to the then Headmaster, Mr John Trevis. The Cokethorpe Chapel is used by the School on a regular basis and is the focus for services in the School community.

Society Sports Festival

The annual Society Sports Festival took place on Saturday 22 June. OCs, staff and parents prepared for the day ahead by watching the British Lions defeat the Qantas Wallabies 23–21 in Cuppa, fuelled by coffee and bacon baps. First was the Old Boys' soccer match against the current 1st XI with the addition of Mr Bown and Mr Fernott. Despite the Old Boys going 1-0 up early on in the game, they found themselves trailing by 5–1; two goals from the Old Boys in the final 10 minutes allowed for a fairer result of 5–3. Meanwhile in the Sports Hall a group of Old Girls and staff took on the current 1st VII netball team. The Old Girls took an early lead and by the fourth quarter were ahead 18–11. The Cokethorpe team pushed hard for a comeback but the final score ended 19–14. Throughout the afternoon seven Clay Pigeon Shooters were fighting it out for the honour of High Gun. The final result saw former Shooting Captain Michael Staples (OC 2009, Swift) be awarded the trophy with a total of 19 out of 24. Close behind was Ellie Frearson (OC 2007, Vanbrugh) with 17. ☑



Francesca Roberts

Francesca Roberts (OC 2008, Swift) recently interviewed guitarist Harry Fellows (Upper Sixth, Vanbrugh), bassist Wilf Cartwright (Upper First, Queen Anne), breakdancer Sam Coles (Third Form, Swift) and music producer Aaron Levvy (Lower Sixth, Vanbrugh) about their self-taught talents. This was for a film documentary as part of her Masters in Broadcast Journalism at City University, available on the School website. ☑



Henry Purdy

Henry Purdy (OC 2012, Queen Anne) was part of the England U20s rugby squad that recently won the Junior World Championships in France. During the course of the tournament Henry made an appearance in every single game and scored three tries. This follows a successful season with Leicester Tigers and having represented England U20s in the Six Nations earlier in the year. ☑



Lizzie Hardie

Congratulations to Lizzie Hardie (OC 2012, Queen Anne), who has been elected Captain of the Royal Agricultural College Ladies' shooting team for 2013–2014. Lizzie has had a successful 2012–2013 season, including being part of the winning teams at the RAC Cirencester Cup in April (winning third High Gun) and the 2013 National Agricultural Colleges Championships in May.



Recent Leavers' Reunion Dinner

60 Old Cokethorpeans returned to Cokethorpe on Saturday 22 June for the annual Recent Leavers' Reunion Dinner. The former pupils, belonging to the Classes of 2010, 2011 and 2012, shared stories of university, gap years and employment with the Headmaster and a number of current and former members of staff. Following the three-course meal in the Dining Hall, the Chairman of the Cokethorpe Society, Tony Baker, addressed those present and spoke of what membership of the Society means to Old Cokethorpeans and the School. The OCs continued to catch up with one another and the Cokethorpe staff until a Cokethorpe minibus helped take those wishing to carry on the festivities into Witney. ☑



Society Sports Festival

Soccer Player of the Match:

Guy Biggs (OC 2010, Feilden)

Netball Player of the Match:

Lily Cartwright (OC 2012, Queen Anne)

Clay Pigeon Shooting High Gun:

Michael Staples (OC 2009, Swift)

Society AGM

The Cokethorpe Society held its 2013 AGM on Wednesday 17 April and welcomed Harry Fellows, out-going Head of School, to the committee.

Degree Results

Alex Mayhew (OC 2007, Vanbrugh)

History, King's College London

BA (Hons), 1st (2013)

Awarded Brewer Undergraduate Prize for outstanding work in modern history

George Lewis (OC 2009, Gascoigne)

Applied Sports Science with Coaching, Northampton University
BSc (Hons), 2:2 (2012)

Simon Atkinson (OC 2009, Gascoigne)

Geography, Durham

BSc, 2:1 (2013)

Vicky Sun (OC 2009, Vanbrugh)

Economics and Management, Bristol
BSc (Hons), 2:1 (2012)

Eve Garrett (OC 2007, Feilden)

Drama with Creative Writing, UWE
BA (Hons), 1st (2013)

Dom John (OC 2009, Harcourt)

Film and Video Production, Derby
BA (Hons), 1st (2013)

Michael Staples (OC 2009, Swift)

Industrial Design and Technology with Professional Development, Brunel
BA (Hons), 1st (2013)

Sarah Bridle (OC 2009, Swift)

Textiles and Surface Design, Buckinghamshire New University
BA (Hons), 1st (2013)

Tim Muller (OC 2009, Vanbrugh)

Medicine, University College London
BSc, 1st (top) (2012); MBBS in progress

Emily Sayers (OC 2010, Swift)

Early Childhood Studies, Oxford Brookes
BA (Hons), 2:1 (2013)

Katie Bennett (OC 2010, Feilden)

Marketing and PR, Lincoln
BA (Hons), 2:2 (2013)

Novia Chen (OC 2010, Feilden)

Mathematics, UCL
BSc, 1st (2013)

Sian Keegan (OC 2010, Feilden)

Diagnostic Radiography, Canterbury Christ Church University
BSc (Hons), 2:1 (2013)

Eleanor Sweeney (OC 2010, Queen Anne)

Psychology, Sheffield
BSc (Hons), 1st (2013)

Steven Hornsey (OC 2007, Vanbrugh)

Biochemistry, Southampton
BSc, 2:1 (2013)

Ave Atque Valet

Mr K Walton (Second Master)

'It is impossible to sum up 24 years in one paragraph. When I joined in 1989 the School was very different to what it is now but clearly had enormous character and potential.

Over the years there have been huge developments to the infrastructure, academic curriculum and pastoral support. The School is now in a very strong position and offers a huge range of opportunities to pupils. I am proud to have been part of this process and although I leave with a heavy heart I will continue to look back at a whole host of fond memories. I look forward to my retirement and hearing of the School's developments in the months and years to come.'

Mr R I Hardie (Information Technology)

'I'd like to thank the Headmaster for providing me with the opportunity to give something back to society. I have taught at a number of leading independent schools; my time at Cokethorpe has helped me prepare for the issues I will encounter at my new school. I wish everyone at Cokethorpe all the best for the future.'

Mr D R Harris (Music)

'Although it has been a relatively short stay, my time at Cokethorpe has been unforgettable and the School's unique quality will be something that I treasure and miss. Amongst many standout moments, those that have involved pupils performing at the various concerts throughout the year are etched firmly in my memory.'

Mrs L S Haste (School Nurse)

'As I prepare to leave Cokethorpe and move to the Scottish Borders with my husband it is hard to believe I have been here 15 years. I will take away many fond memories of pupils, staff and parents who I have met during my time here.'

Mr A J McLarin (History and Politics)

'I have thoroughly enjoyed my time teaching at Cokethorpe and will always look back with fond memories upon the pupils and staff I have worked with. I hope to remain in touch with all the good friends I have made here and wish the School all the best in the future.'



Mr E W Monaghan (English)

'I leave after a rewarding three years, during which I've been delighted to develop Cokethorpe's public speaking programme. My English Department colleagues are constantly inspiring and I shall miss their wise advice and scurrilous humour. Most of all, I'd like to thank my pupils – I'm privileged to have taught each of you.'

Miss R G Ogilvie (Junior School)

'I joined Cokethorpe in 1999 when the Junior School was in its infancy and the Mansion House still had boarders. So much has changed since then and I am proud to have contributed to the Junior School's growth and development over the last 14 years. I will miss the excitement and enthusiasm of the children, and my friends and colleagues.'

Mrs A O Petersen (Psychology)

'A big thank you to both staff and pupils who have made me feel so welcome and with whom I have shared many hours of work and laughter. Cokethorpe is a truly special school with a unique family atmosphere and I am taking with me so many memories. I will be joining my local school – The Cotswold School in Bourton-on-the-Water – where I will be teaching Psychology and Sociology.'

Mrs K S F Green (Marketing Manager)

'I have enjoyed seven amazing years at Cokethorpe and learnt and experienced so much. There is a huge amount I will miss.'



Open Morning

Saturday 5 October: 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:

10.00am and 11.00am

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, Ms C Bowerman (admissions@cokethorpe.org or 01993 703921).

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 (01993 892325 or hmsec@cokethorpe.org).

Senior Management Team

Bursar: Mrs S A Landon
sal@cokethorpe.org
Deputy Head: Mr J C Stevens
jcs@cokethorpe.org
Head of Junior School: Mrs C Cook
cc@cokethorpe.org
Senior Mistress: Mrs S M L Copeland
smc@cokethorpe.org
Director of Studies: Mr E J Fenton
ejf@cokethorpe.org
Head of Sixth Form: Mr G J Sheer
gjs@cokethorpe.org

Housemasters and Housemistresses

Lower House: Mrs J L Pratley
jlp@cokethorpe.org
Feilden: Miss P S M Townsend
psmt@cokethorpe.org
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