



Cokethorpe  
SCHOOL

# THE OCELLUS

## From the Headmaster

Towards the end of 2014, Malala Yousafzai became the youngest ever winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. The citation on her award spoke of her struggle for the right of all children to an education. It is something we can take for granted, even to the extent that some children in this country squander the opportunity. They long to free themselves, as they see it, from the shackles of education. But in countries where it is denied, or is a scarce commodity, children understand its value, and they long for the opportunity to study, to advance their learning, as a form of liberation.

We read of street children in India who dream of being able to become doctors and lawyers; children who never see the inside of a classroom because they are forced to work from infancy; children in parts of Africa who will walk miles and miles each day to get to the nearest school. Malala reminds us that there are some people who would deny the opportunity of an education to others because they think that, by doing so, they can keep them subjugated.

This should cause us to think about what education brings and why it is so important. It is partly a preparation for work, of course; gaining the knowledge and learning the skills required to follow a certain career. That, in itself, has great value. Having work allows people to be more secure, to own homes and to raise families. But education is much more than that, as Malala Yousafzai knows only too well. It is a form of liberation. It frees people from life's routines and allows them to read and to travel, and to understand the world's variety. It allows their imagination to soar, and unfetters their hopes. It equips them to ask questions of those in power, and to demand what is fair and just. Malala receiving the Nobel Peace Prize emphasizes that education is indeed part of the road to peace. There will be no lasting peace in a world where huge numbers of people are subjugated by ignorance, and by the want of their own chance to flourish.

Front Page Photo: Ice-skating at the CPA Christmas Fayre.



Contents	Page
From the Headmaster	1
Academic	2-4
The Arts	5-8
Cokethorpe Parents' Association	9
Junior School	10-13
Sixth Form	14-15
Sport	16-19
The Houses	20-21
AOB and Fundraising	21
Wider Community	22
New Developments	22
The Cokethorpe Society	23
Tail Feathers	24

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


## Debating and Public Speaking

It has been a busy term for Public Speaking and Debate at Cokethorpe. In addition to the weekly club the School has participated in three public competitions. The season began with the Thomas Cranmer Award on Thursday 13 October. This prestigious award requires entrants to recite and perform an excerpt from *The Book of Common Prayer* with the national final taking place in London. Aimee Epelle (Upper Sixth, Queen Anne) represented the School in the Senior competition. She presented the King James wording of *1 Corinthians 13* with purpose and sensitivity. Abbey Malin (Second Form, Feilden) read *The Sixth Sunday After Epiphany* and was runner up in the Junior competition determined to return triumphantly next year.

In the Cambridge Schools Union Debate pairings of Laurence Lodge (Lower Sixth, Vanbrugh) and Ed Woolley (Lower Sixth, Queen Anne), and Marco Leone (Lower Sixth, Feilden) with Isadora Klène (Lower Sixth, Feilden) acquitted themselves well in their first public debate. The first debate discussed whether young children should go to prison with their parents in the event that their parents are incarcerated. Beth Mulloy (Upper Sixth, Swift) and Harriette Brennan (Upper Sixth, Vanbrugh) were praised for the presentation of their arguments by the moderator. The second debate considered whether British values should form a part of the curriculum in British schools.

Beth Mulloy and Harriette Brennan went on to represent Cokethorpe at the ESU Mace. The English Speaking Union promotes the need for language to be used in an eloquent and precise manner throughout the English speaking world. The topic of the debate was that the NHS should not fund the use of alternative medicines. This was a topic with which both competitors passionately agree so it was fortunate that they were given this side of the debate. They were successful and will begin preparing for the second round when the next topics are released in the new year.

## Poetry by Heart

Each year, every pupil learns one of the poems from the 200 choices in the anthology representing the canon of English poetry for the *Poetry by Heart* competition. This year the winner from the First to Third Form competition was Lukas Russell (Third Form, Gascoigne) performing *Arms and the Boy* by Wilfred Owen. The winner of the Senior School round was Louisa Mattinson (Fourth Form, Harcourt) performing *The Force that Through the Green Fuse Drives the Flower* by Dylan Thomas. Louisa will now represent Cokethorpe in the county round in January. 



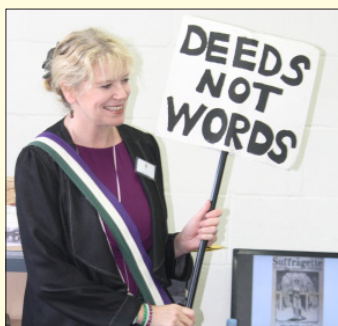
## Biology Field Trip

Before term began in September, A Level Biologists enjoyed three days in Shropshire at the Preston Montford Field Studies Centre. The students carried out three investigations in the field and worked hard analysing their data in the classroom. The hands-on practical work allowed the students to get a sense of the joys and challenges of field experiments. Highlights of the trip include measuring invertebrate diversity and, of course, afternoon cake!



## French Exchange to Quimper

On Wednesday 15 October a group of A Level French students visited our partner School Lycée Brizeux in Quimper as part of the French exchange programme. Miss Bennett was able to meet with her old exchange partner Olivia. They have been friends ever since their first exchange way back in 1986!



## Suffrage Talk

Philippa Bilton, Emily Wilding Davidson's Great Great Niece gave an interesting and informative lecture to Third Form pupils to consolidate their projects exploring how women got the vote in 1918. She explained how Emily came to believe in the cause of female suffrage, and how she found herself a martyr for the Suffragette cause. Pupils gleaned a lot of useful information to help them with their projects, and several members of the year group were lucky enough to re-enact the horrors of force-feeding.

## Cultural Visit

On Friday 19 September the Headmaster of The Alpha Academy Primary School outside Accra in Ghana, Albert Koomson, spent the morning visiting the Geography Department. Mr Koomson sat in three lessons where pupils were learning about development issues in Ghana and our pupils enjoyed finding out how much of life is similar as well as different for school children in Accra.







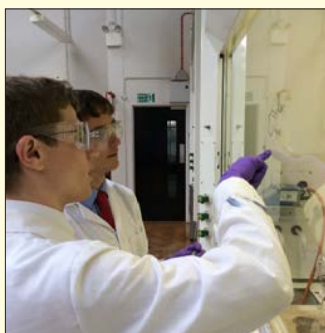
## Classics Trip to Greece

'We arrived at Delphi after a long day's journeying and the following morning we visited our first major site: the Temple of Apollo at Delphi. We then travelled to Athens and visited the Parthenon and later in the day the Acropolis. Back on the road again, we soon found ourselves standing in the centre of the largest open-air theatre in Greece at Epidauros. Our final visit was to Mycenae which proved to be an awe-inspiring end to our trip and provided us the perfect opportunity to process just how much we had learnt about ancient Greece, and the greater perspective we now had for not only Classical Civilisation, but also a vast amount of our other chosen subjects as well.'

*Elijah Viera-Faria (Upper Sixth, Harcourt)*

## Chemistry Workshop

In September, A Level Chemistry students had a fantastic opportunity to put their years of finely-honed laboratory skills into practice at the undergraduate laboratories at Oxford University. Having only made the acquaintance of infrared spectroscopy via the textbook, students had the opportunity to analyse a sample they had made earlier using this important technique. A tour of the historical department also reminded students that they had just been working in the same building as a number of Nobel Prize-winning Chemists.



## Hypnotherapy Workshop

On Monday 8 December, Lower Sixth Psychology students attended a hypnotherapy workshop on stress and anxiety at the University of London. Students have been studying the effects of stress and this experience provided them with the opportunity to gain a more in-depth knowledge of some of the available therapies. The whole group underwent a deep relaxation session where they were encouraged to put the theory into practice. Following this a volunteer was individually hypnotised and the group were able to witness the impressive application of the 'anaesthesia glove effect' which is an experimental treatment becoming more popular in operations where patients are at risk under anaesthetic. A thoroughly interesting and enjoyable day with everyone feeling the benefit of this de-stressing therapy!

## Fifth Form Geography Field Trip

On Friday 3 October, four Cokethorpe minibuses, one trailer and Mrs Webb's Mini set off for North Wales with 62 excited GCSE Geographers. By mid-afternoon the group had arrived at Rhyd-y-Creuau field centre, just outside Betws-y-Coed and were quickly armed with waterproofs and wellies in preparation for the heavy rain that was forecast over the weekend. During the trip pupils timed litres of water infiltrating different surfaces of the Conwy Valley. They also measured land use, land value and assessed the flood defences in the town of Llanrwst before trusting Mr Capel's judgement that a good Sunday activity was to scramble up a river gorge. With wellies full of water and protected by full waterproofs, a buoyancy aid and helmet, pupils smiled all the way up before volunteering to take a plunge into the lake at the top of the gorge.



## Philosophy Cafe

In this term's Philosophy Cafe students discussed whether feminism had gone too far in the UK or not far enough. There was some agreement that to improve the rights of women in the UK it might be necessary to increase male rights in terms of childcare and paternity leave. There was much more disagreement about whether the loud shirt worn by scientist Matt Taylor sent the wrong message to women in science. The session was well attended by philosophy students and non-philosophy students alike, with some ideas from the discussion going into a design for art coursework.

## A Level Literature Conference

The A Level Literature students were lucky enough to be invited to attend the EMag Literature Conference 2014 at The Institute of Education in London. The five lecture format really gave the students a taste of university level education. There were lectures on the importance of voice in novels, how and why it is important to compare texts, gender and genre in Shakespeare, why poetry is special and understanding the relationship between drama on and off the page. Listening to the enthusiasm of academic voices was really motivational and the passion with which poetry and drama were analysed really opened the students' eyes to the style of writing demanded of them at this stage of their essay-writing lives.

## Spanish Exchange Trip to Salamanca

'As it turned out, the rumours I had heard that Salamanca was essentially 'the Oxford of Spain' were, for the most part, true. On a wide street in this stunning, albeit small city was Academia Mester; an intensive Spanish school for all ages and levels, where Tom Amor (Upper Sixth, Queen Anne) and I spent a week both studying high level Spanish grammar and taking part in conversation classes. Along with the unbeatable experience of actually living in a Spanish city, with Spanish families, these classes really furthered our immersion both in the language and the culture of Spain. As well as opportunities to meet other Spanish students from all around the globe, a plethora of extra-curricular activities were made available to us by Mester; from discussions with local experts about Spanish art history and politics, to a tapas tour around the city, and simple group cinema outings. It is safe to say we were never left with nothing to do. The further week of work experience really put our speaking and listening skills to the test, as we were fully involved with real jobs, working with people with little or no knowledge of English. All in all, a fantastic time was had, and we really felt like we gained a huge amount of experience from the whole trip.'

*Aidan King (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne)*



## White Devil Theatre Trip

It is always exciting to visit the Royal Shakespeare Theatre and this occasion was no exception. A Level Literature students travelled to Stratford-upon-Avon to see *The White Devil* by John Webster; a play full of controversy, intrigue, violence and an endless cycle of death. The latest production was an energised display of modernisation at its best, the fact that it was written in 1612 was neither here nor there. A great night, a great production and hopefully great coursework as a result!

## Fifth Form University Visit

On Thursday 6 November Fifth Form pupils had an exciting opportunity to spend the day with admissions tutors, current students and lecturers at Bristol University. After an introduction to the process of applying to university, students were taken on a whistle-stop tour of the campus and given a flavour of university life by the excellent student ambassadors at Bristol. Following lunch in the refectory, our pupils took part in two fascinating lectures. The physics lecture led the students through the process of making ice-cream, exploring different physical states and phase changes. A gripping lecture on medieval poetry challenged preconceptions and provided plenty of moments for both reflection and humour. Pupils were surprised to learn that they could understand a great deal of Middle English already.

## Kids Lit Quiz

This year for the first time Cokethorpe entered a team into a national literature competition called the Kids Lit Quiz. This puts pupils on the stage competing in the 'sport of reading'. Our team of four Second Form pupils answered questions across ten categories covering everything from shipwrecks in literature to Greek myths and poetry. It is a fiercely competitive quiz with 45 school teams entered into the Oxfordshire round. The team finished in a very commendable 15th position overall and achieved joint 1st place on a round entitled Wolves in Literature. It takes courage to put yourself forward for this team and we are extremely proud of the 2014 Kids Lit Quiz team. Now we have the measure of this competition, we have lofty ambitions for our 2015 team!

*Nicola Patrick, School Librarian*

## Young Scientist of the Year

Young scientists from across Oxfordshire were presented with certificates at the Young Scientist of the Year Awards in recognition of their exam results, progress in class or just enthusiasm and commitment. Congratulations to Beth Mulloy (Upper Sixth, Swift), Justin Foster (Upper Sixth, Harcourt) and Nicholas Caddy (Upper Sixth, Harcourt) who were the nominations from Cokethorpe for Biologist, Chemist and Physicist.



## Politics in Action Day

'Six Politics students visited the Witney Council Offices to participate in Politics in Action Day, competing against nine other schools. Students were tasked with creating a presentation on an important local issue and how it should be tackled. Although we were unlucky not to win, one of the Labour councillors for the area personally praised us for our thorough and innovative idea on how to improve traffic flow on the A40.'

*Matthew Clarke (Lower Sixth, Feilden) and Ed Rick (Lower Sixth, Harcourt)*



## Castilla-La Mancha

'Considering that both the region itself and the famous film *Volver* are part of our A Level course, a trip to Castilla-La Mancha where the film is based and filmed was an excellent idea. From the beautiful walled medieval town of Toledo, to the small, rural town of Granátula de Calatrava where the opening scene of the work was filmed, we not only enjoyed the region for its fascinating culture but also learned much about it as well.'

*Aidan King (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne)*



## Oxford Science and History Trip

On Friday 14 November, the First Form visited Oxford on a combined History and Science Trip. The day started with a tour of Oxford Castle followed by an activity which saw pupils dressing up in medieval costumes and testing the design of Norman castles against attack. In the afternoon, pupils visited the History of Science Museum where one of the curators demonstrated early experiments with electricity, a truly hair-raising experience! The group then visited the newly refurbished Natural History Museum, which provided the ideal location for pupils to expand their knowledge of biology and nature.



## Argentine School Visit

On Tuesday 23 September, students from a visiting school from Buenos Aires arrived at Cokethorpe as part of a cultural exchange. Pupils had the opportunity to converse with each other in Spanish, improving their fluency. It was a fulfilling and beneficial experience where new friends were made and many new words were learnt. The School looks forward to further contact with them in the future.



## Berlin Trip

'On Friday 17 October, Fifth Form pupils flew to Berlin to learn more about Nazi Germany. During the trip we visited the Brandenburg Gate, the site of Hitler's bunker, the Reichstag Building, the Berlin Wall, Checkpoint Charlie, and the Sachsenhausen concentration camp, where we had a guided tour. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the trip having learnt a great deal and returned home very tired, but with a much better understanding of this historical period.'

*Freya Rowe (Fifth Form, Harcourt)*



## Saatchi Art Gallery and Tate Modern Museum

'AS Art students went on a trip to London to explore and experience art in its physicality as part of our project 'Portraiture and the use of Mixed Media'. Our visits to both the Saatchi Gallery and Tate Modern had an immediate effect on our project, inspiring all of us with ideas to develop and artists to research. We visited the Saatchi first where the exhibition included amazing use of mixed media and also focused on the distortion of living objects. The Tate Modern on the other hand presented more relatively traditional artists, giving us ideas on how to combine artistic techniques from both the past and the present.'

*Eilish Malliagh (Lower Sixth, Feilden)*



## Lotus Trip

The Sixth Form Design and Technology students were extremely fortunate to be given the opportunity to visit Lotus F1. During the tour students were given a valuable insight into the design, manufacture, research, development and testing at this cutting edge facility in Enstone. Some areas were off limits as next seasons car was under construction and maintaining the secrecy of the new design is imperative.



## Oxford Photography Festival

The Photography Department visited six different exhibitions held in different locations across Oxford at the first festival of photography to be held in the city. This included the amazing and moving World Press 2014 show at Oxford Brookes which displayed a vast array of the best news photography from the year. Later in the day the group visited the exhibition of some Norwegian Fine Art photographers which was held at St John's college, followed by a visit to the Story Museum, then to Art Jericho and finally to Lady Margaret Hall to see an exhibition called *Photography and the Art of Persuasion*, a show put on by Oxfam to show the different images they have used over the years to inspire people to support the charity.



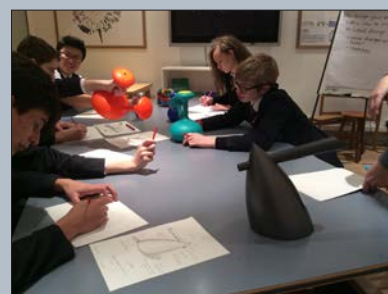
## Royal Academy Life Drawing

During the October half term, A Level Art students and senior Art Award Holders took part in a life study and portrait workshop held at School by the Royal Academy Outreach Programme. This was the first time many of the students had tackled this genre of art and coped admirably with the demands. This knowledge was taken to London the following day where they completed a critical analysis workshop at the Tate Modern on the theme of self-portraiture. The afternoon was spent at the Anselm Kiefer exhibition at the Royal Academy where students studied his use of mixed media and use of historical events.



## Design Museum Trip

The Fifth Form Design and Technology Resistant Materials pupils took a trip to London to visit The Design Museum near Tower Bridge. At the museum the group had the chance to explore the permanent exhibitions, where they were able to see many of the products they have been researching from their chosen design eras as part of their coursework. The group then settled down within the museum to design and sketch ideas of their own based on their surroundings, many finding new creative design solutions for their coursework. After lunch spent by the Thames and following a few close encounters with London's seagulls the group participated in a Mystery Products workshop. All in all the day was a great success, with the group all coming away with new ideas and solutions for their coursework.



## Visit to JSP

On Thursday 13 November both the Lower and Upper Sixth Form Product Design groups were given the opportunity to visit the JSP factory in Minster Lovell. The students were able to see the impressive design and 3D modelling facilities available to JSP in order to develop and manufacture their range of safety equipment, interestingly with the same software used at Cokethorpe. After seeing the design offices the group was given a guided tour of the factory, where they first saw the fully automated production line in action, from injection moulding at the start through to automated packaging and delivery at the end. The final stage of the visit was to see in action the testing of the safety equipment, where they were given the chance to shoot ball bearings at goggles and drop heavy weights onto helmets. The trip was capped off when JSP kindly handed out a range of multi coloured safety helmets and glasses to the group to take away with them, safety first!





## Christmas Production

### Cast List

William Garrett	Tom Amor
Abigail Garrett	Beth Mulloy
Nora Garrett	Lizzie Allen
Nick Lawson	Ardan Devine
Reg Pickens	Harry Lovibond
Violet Pickens	Mia Biles
Charles Butler	Sam Biles
Sergeant Traitor	Sam Topley
Sergeant Bridger	Sam Bird
Sergeant Harper	Arthur Blake
Lula Hawkins	Isadora Kléne
Aunt Mabel	Aimee Epelle
Lysander	Alex Cooper
Johnny Ward	Aidan King
Reverend Fowler	Harry Norton-Shaw
Mr Roper	Laurence Scott
Marcus Stoner	James Bennett
Scout Master	Laurence Lodge
Scouts	Frankie Brown
	Grace Ettinger
	Mae Topley
	James Shaw
	George Kinniburgh
	Ella Dalton
Mrs Gertrude Partridge	Sophie Wheeler
Jessamina	Megan Cambrey
Lucina	Elizabeth Flaherty
Pashmina	Grace Bartle
Edwina	Anna Wallace
Rowena	Michaela Logue
Philomena	Amy Didcock
Jill	Charlotte Jeffs
Mary	Lydia Wannell
Joseph	James Davis
Narrator	Scarlett Howard
Angel Gabriel	India Hurford-Jones
The Three Wise Men	Louisa Mattinson
Shepherd and flock	Rachel Dodimead
Star and Innkeeper	George Williams
Herod	Hayden Camidge
Deirdre	Marion Bird
Dandelion	Verity Smith
Rosie	Hannah Berry
Primrose	May Manning
Lily	Tara Devine
Lettuce	Louisa Flaherty
Grand High Tigress	Sophia Ward-Naranjo
Chancellor Lioness	Anna De Buriatte Moglia
Panther Padawan	Luke Jackson
Sniffing Snow Leopard	Ella Mattinson
Chief Cheetah	Fredi Traish
Leaping Leopard	Annie Bell
Jumping Jaguar	Abbey Malin
Kitten Kaiser	Ruby Plumridge
Tabby (Gerald)	Alex Reid
<b>Production</b>	
Director	Mrs C L Hooper
	Mr T Walwyn
Lighting	Mr N Byng
Costume/props	Mrs L Mace
Set	Mrs L Mace
	Maintenance Team
Crew	Matthew Roche
	Alex Jobling
	Edward Owens
	Tom Whittenbury
	Elliott Swancott

## Coming Soon

The eagerly awaited 2015 Inter-House Drama competition will take place on Friday 13 February in the Sports Hall. Houses compete in two categories – monologue and ensemble, the theme this year is *Superheroes and Villains*.

## All Through the House

This year's Senior School Drama production was another runaway success featuring a host of bizarre characters and hilarious situations all portrayed with great professionalism by pupils from every year group.

The plot revolves around William Garrett (Thomas Amor, Upper Sixth, Queen Anne) and how his enjoyment of Christmas is thwarted by the entire town. It begins with the constant interruptions during his sacred poker game - which goes under the guise of The Shakespeare Study Club. First his hyper-active daughter Nora (Lizzie Allen, Fifth Form, Vanbrugh) uses emotional bribery to con her father into buying her a very expensive dress, then the eccentric Reverend Fowler (Harry Norton-Shaw, Upper Sixth, Vanbrugh) and his alarming organist Mr Roper (Laurence Scott, Fifth Form, Swift) break the news that his mother-in-law (Isadora Kléne, Lower Sixth, Feilden) has donated William's funds for the purchase of a church bell in her honour. A band of scouts arrive to fleece more funds from William and his friends, as do the Saint Willamina's Girls' School for their forthcoming llama polo tour.



by the police from Coventry for shooting a conman who bankrupted his family many years ago. There were several sub-plots in this festive comedy which were expertly played by the entire cast and there were far too many brilliant performances to mention all by name. Suffice to say that this was another excellent, laugh out loud production which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who supported it. 📺

## Choral Evensong

The School Choir gave their first evensong of the year in November, which was a first for many of the new choristers. All were in fine voice as they sung Goodall's now famous arrangement of *The Lord is my Shepherd* (as heard in BBC's *The Vicar of Dibley*) and *Magnificat and Nunc in D Minor* by Walmisley. The School Choir were joined by many parents and staff who warmly joined in with congregational hymns in the frosty Chapel. A beautiful rendition of the blessing *Go Forth into the World in Peace* by John Rutter brought the service to a close.



More strange visitors arrive including the local amateur dramatic society who present an alternative interpretative dance version of the nativity, PEKU (Preservation of English Kitchens United) and the cat worshippers Catalix led in to the house by the strange crochet expert Lysander (Alex Cooper, Fourth Form, Gascoigne). Meanwhile, William's closest friend, Nick Lawson (Ardan Devine, Fifth Form, Queen Anne) is being pursued

## Music Award Holders Concert

The Music Award Holders' Concert delivered a feast of musical delights to a large and appreciative audience of students, staff and parents. Scarlett Howard (Third Form, Gascoigne) and Ollie Charles (Second Form, Gascoigne) both demonstrated great skill in accompanying their own singing on piano and guitar respectively. Hayden Camidge's (Second Form, Vanbrugh) percussive accompaniment to Ollie's melody was rendered sensitively and musically. Adept solo piano performances were given by Hollie Jackson (Second Form, Swift), Charlie Clark (Second Form, Harcourt), Lukas Russell (Third Form, Gascoigne) and Jonathan Taylor (Fourth Form, Feilden) on piano. Other solo instrumentalists included Will Riman (Third Form, Feilden) playing trumpet and Katie Reid (Third Form, Harcourt) who performed on flute. Fredi Traish (Third Form, Swift) played a beautiful Shostakovich piece on violin and Wilf Cartwright (Fourth Form, Queen Anne) on cello handled some demanding Vivaldi with conviction and poise.

## First Form Mime Presentations

First Form pupils performed their devised pieces using the discipline of mime on Thursday 20 November in The Shed. Each group had worked hard to create a believable world and communicate a story using only their bodies and facial expressions. 1A presented *Haunted House* with a variety of mime and physical theatre. A young boy foolishly enters a haunted house and is subject to a catalogue of terrifying events. 1B performed *Fast Food* in a chaotic restaurant where the staff left a lot to be desired; relationships fell apart, an assortment of strange diners came and went and a dangerous gunman was foiled by two gymnasts. 1C presented *In the Summertime* that told the story of a family's trip to the beach. 1D's *Freaky Fairground* included a group of schoolchildren and their teacher visiting what at first appears to be a normal theme park but no-one comes out alive! 📺



## Electra Theatre Trip

A Level Drama and Classics students enjoyed a superb performance of *Electra* by Sophocles at The Old Vic in London on Wednesday 19 November. With a combined interest in Greek Theatre both subject sets were treated to an awe-inspiring portrayal of the eponymous Electra by Kristin Scott Thomas. The tale of grief, loyalty, love, hate and revenge was brought to life in such a way that it made a story written circa 410BC effortlessly accessible to a modern audience.



## Drama Award Holders Performances

Pupils, teachers and parents were treated to a variety of monologues and duologues presented by Cokethorpe's Drama Award Holders in a lunchtime showcase which was held in The Shed on Thursday 16 October. There was a wide range of theatre on offer from Shakespeare to Red Dwarf demonstrating the great potential of the up and coming talent from the First Form to Fifth Form.



## Creation Theatre Workshop

Creation Theatre came to Cokethorpe on Monday 15 December to deliver workshops on devising and characterisation to Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Form Drama candidates. The pupils quickly got involved in a wide variety of games and exercises that inspired great creative responses and led to some original and inventive performances. The Sixth Form were given some challenging tasks designed to help them take risks in their exploration of text and stimuli while the GCSE sets experimented with space, rhythm, genre and mime.



## Italia Conti Visit

Vice Principal Gregory Apostolidis and Financial Controller Susan Jolley from Italia Conti Academy of Theatre Arts came to Cokethorpe on Friday 14 November. They visited both the Senior and Junior School and saw a variety of performing arts in action including music, drama and dance. They were very impressed with the diversity of arts on offer and the enthusiasm of the pupils.

## Arts Academy

This term, the groups have been working on pieces in preparation for their group LAMDA examination at Easter, with a mixture of devised and scripted works between the groups. The new group of members are currently working on *Alice in Wonderland*. Another group is working on *Blood Brothers* and the two other groups are preparing devised pieces written by themselves. The devised pieces are in preparation for the Grade 6 Bronze Award and the Grade 7 Silver Award. The works will be shown in the final showcase at the end of the year. It is a lively group of about twenty members who meet every Saturday between 10am and 1pm. New members from the Senior School are always welcome; all that is required is commitment and enthusiasm. Many pupils are also taking private LAMDA lessons.

## Drama Award Holders Performances

Ella Dalton and Ella Mattinson  
*The Origin of the Roast Pig* Chinese Fable

George Kinniburgh  
*Troy* by George Kinniburgh

James Shaw  
*Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens

Abbey Malin  
*Macbeth* by William Shakespeare

James Davis and Fredi Traish  
*The Reluctant Thief* by Alan Carmichael

Anna De Buriatte Moglia and Louisa Mattinson  
*A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams

Ardan Devine and Sam Bird  
Extract from *Red Dwarf* by Grant and Naylor

Anna Wallace  
*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl

Hayden Camidge  
*The Importance of Being Ernest* by Oscar Wilde

Lydia Wannell  
*A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams

Sophie Wheeler and Rachel Dodimead  
*Blood Brothers* by Willy Russell

## Music Award Holders' Concert

Scarlett Howard  
*Not About Angels* by Birdy

Hollie Jackson  
*Trés Vite* by Telemann

Ollie Charles and Hayden Camidge  
*Picking Up the Pieces* by Faith Will Riman

Katie Reid  
*Ribbon in the Sky* by Wonder

Charlie Clark  
*Sicilienne* by Fauré

Fredi Traish  
*Adelita* by Tárrega

Lukas Russell  
*The Gadfly* by Shostakovich

Jonathan Taylor  
*Fantasia in D Minor* by Stanford

Wilf Cartwright  
*Wisebud* by Rebello

*Sonata in E Minor - Allegro* by Vivaldi



## Gig Night Performers

Danny Pye	Casper Bolton
Aidan King	Thomas
Tom Alford	Christensen
Sam Hunt	Heidi Lawson
Izzy Carnell	Annie Bell
Olivia Stacey	Eddie Binnie
Tom Whittenbury	Joe McBride
George Langford	Will Riman
Jamie Langford	Toby Watts-Lay
Wilf Cartwright	Will Ward-Naranjo
Billy Morrison	Charlotte
Harry Brown	Dewhurst
Frankie Brown	Elliott Swancott
Charlie Clarke	India Hurford-
Aimee Epelle	Jones
Scarlett Howard	Anna De Buriatte
Hayden Camidge	Moglia
Charlie Tobin	Grace Ettinger
Francesco Bisley	Christian Ettinger
Tom Orton	

## The Cokethorpe School Jazz Band

The Cokethorpe School Jazz Band or CSJB performed at the Chipping Norton Jazz and Music Festival in the Town Hall on Sunday 28 September 2014. The band started their set with Wilf Cartwright (Fourth Form, Queen Anne) on piano, along with Charlie Tobin (Upper Sixth, Feilden) on electric bass and Jamie Langford (Fifth Form, Vanbrugh) on drums playing *Footprints* by Miles Davis with Harry Creak (Fifth Form, Feilden), Wilf Cartwright and Mr Mullin taking performing solos. The CSJB played a Kenny Burrell tune next entitled *Chitlins Con Came* with everyone taking a solo and setting the room on fire! The Jazz Band's next tune was an improvised blues song and was well received by the audience. They then performed jazz versions of *Good Times* by Chic and *Part Time Lover* by Stevie Wonder, with Harry Creak leading the way on alto sax these two songs had members of the audience dancing in the back of the room. The set finished with a Bob James tune *Westchester Lady* that had every foot in the building tapping along to the groove. Before the band could pack up their instruments the organisers were asking if the CSJB would perform in next year's festival. The Cokethorpe School Jazz Band did the School and themselves proud.

## Advent Service

Thursday 4 December saw the very first open air advent service in Cokethorpe's history. It was lovely to see the whole School together lit only by candle light as Téio Loeffen (Second Form, Gascoigne) began the service with the Senior School Choir singing *Once in Royal David's City*. The congregation were treated to beautiful performances from the Junior School and the Junior School Chamber Choir as falling snow was projected behind them and merrily joined in with renditions of favourite advent carols accompanied by the Concert Band.

## Gig Night

On Tuesday 16 December 2014, a large audience was treated to a night of fantastic music from the students of Cokethorpe. There were far too many great performances to mention them all but praise must go to the First Form band who, under the guidance of Mr Gower, played in their first gig night and did themselves proud. There were some more great performances from Danny Pye (Upper Sixth, Vanbrugh) and Aidan King (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne), Ollie Charles (Second Form, Gascoigne) and Frankie Brown (Second Form, Vanbrugh), Grace (First Form, Harcourt) and Christian Ettinger (Lower Sixth, Harcourt), Thomas Christensen (Lower Sixth, Swift) and Heidi Lawson (Lower Sixth, Gascoigne), Annie Bell (Third Form, Gascoigne), Tom Orton (Year 6, Gwyn) and Casper Bolton (Year 6, Gwyn). Those interested in taking part in the next Gig Night should contact Mr Mullin.



## St Cecilia Concert

The St Cecilia Concert was a celebration of the hard work and achievements of some of Cokethorpe's finest musicians. It also saw the debut performances by the newly formed Concert Band and String Ensemble who performed a varied programme with enthusiasm. The soloists were impressive particular highlights being Izzy Carnell (First Form, Vanbrugh) on cello and Oliver Parker (Upper Sixth, Feilden) on trumpet. The First Form gave a rousing performance of *Hakuna Matata* from *The Lion King* before the Jazz Band closed the evening with a fantastic performance of *Westchester Lady*.



## Lunchtime Music Recital

The first recital of the school year saw a piano spectacular with performances given from a wide range of pupils from the Senior School. Performers included Lukas Russell (Third Form, Gascoigne), Hollie Jackson (Second Form, Swift) and Florian Goette (Fourth Form, Queen Anne) with Tom Christensen (Lower Sixth, Swift) closing the recital with a very sensitive performance of Chopin's *Prelude in D Major*.



# Cokethorpe Parents' Association

## Murder Mystery Evening

On Saturday 11 October the CPA Murder Mystery transported guests back to the age of glitter, dodgy dancing and bad hair, the year, 1978. The scene was set in a village hall as the chairman of the local wine society attempted to recruit new members by hosting a cheese and wine disco. The evening featured the brilliant Cokethorpe Players; Mrs Hooper, Mrs Ringham, Ms Bennett, Mrs Mace, Mrs Cooper, Mr Walwyn, Mr Lawson, Mr Farrow and a brilliant debut performance from Mr Chim. Mr Byng and Miss Mace (OC 2013, Harcourt) provided back stage technical support with lighting and sound. Mr Cooper returned as Inspector Foot of the Yard to bring order to proceedings and to help teams extract the evidence from the suspects who edged around the truth! The audience were requested to consider all evidence and solve the mystery. Only one team 'I have absolutely no idea', succeeded in establishing Amelia Phoebe-Wellborn (Mrs Hooper) was the murderer and Rachael Hunter (Mrs Cooper) was the victim. ☞



## Christmas Fayre

Following the Advent Service Cokethorpe pupils and their families made their way to the CPA Christmas Fayre to carry on the evening's festivities. The Christmas market was made up of over twenty stall holders selling a wonderful range of gifts, books, clothing, accessories and flowers. Guests also enjoyed a wide selection of food and drink stalls with a queue of customers throughout the evening. We were even lucky enough to have a visit from Father Christmas and children were able to meet him in the beautifully decorated grotto. The ice rink, set up in the middle quad, was extremely busy all evening. Many pupils, including some of our younger and very adventurous participants, would have stayed on the ice the whole night had they had the chance! ☞



## Fireworks Extravaganza

The weather remained dry on Friday 7 November allowing Cokethorpe families and friends to socialise in front of the beautiful Mansion and watch the spectacular fireworks lighting up the sky! Everyone enjoyed delicious homemade soups, hog roast and barbecue food. Mr Ettinger and parents served up warming mulled wine and hot chocolate with marshmallows and cream, whilst members of the World Challenge Team manned the tuck shop. The fairground rides provided an evening of entertainment for those daring enough, and the teacups for those less brave.

Thank you to all parents who helped run this event, to Mr Stevens for being chief bonfire lighter and our Head of School Harry Lovibond (Upper Sixth, Queen Anne) for starting the fireworks. Special thanks to the Maintenance Team for all their hard work in preparing the bonfire and providing car parking, tents and lighting.



## CPA Thanks

### Murder Mystery

The CPA would like to thank; Mrs Mace for pulling the event together and for the amazing costumes, the Catering Department for providing a delicious curry supper, the Box Office for managing bookings and the Maintenance Team for their support in setting up and tidying away. Congratulations and thanks again to all the Cokethorpe Players.

### Christmas Fayre

Thanks to; the School Nurses for ensuring everyone remained safe during the evening and on the ice, the Catering Department for providing delicious hot food and mulled wine and the Maintenance Team for all their running around in preparation for the event, helping to install the ice rink and all the tidying up afterwards.

## Macmillan Coffee Morning

Cokethorpe joined the Worlds' Biggest Coffee morning by hosting a coffee afternoon on Friday 26 September in the Corinthian Room. As well as raising an enormous £342 it provided a lovely social end to the School week.

## CPA Coffee Mornings

Every Tuesday during term time from 8.30am to 9.15am in Cuppa. New and existing parents are invited to socialise over hot refreshments during the Lent Term, commencing Tuesday 6 January 2015.

## Burns Night

Friday 23 January 2015  
7.30pm - 11.00pm, Dining Hall  
Please visit the School website for further details. Book tickets through the Box Office at [boxoffice@cokethorpe.org](mailto:boxoffice@cokethorpe.org) or on 01993 892338.

## CPA Committee

Chair:	Catherine Christensen
Vice-Chairs:	Kirsteen Fellows Sara Knox
Secretary:	Adi Hughes
Treasurer:	Flynn Reid
Members:	Damian Ettinger Victor Faria Julie Grime Nick Moglia Sarah Plumridge Clare Priestley-Smith Hannah Wharton Louise Wightman Catherine Mason

The CPA Committee meets once a month at 8.00pm in the Corinthian Room. They are always keen to welcome new members and if you are interested in joining please get in touch. There are many people who prefer not to join a committee but are willing to volunteer their help at specific events. A list of such 'helpers' is kept and the Committee is always grateful to hear from anyone willing to join it. Please email [catherine@o-a-c.co.uk](mailto:catherine@o-a-c.co.uk).



## Cheltenham Literature Festival

'On Thursday 9 October, Year 6 went to the Cheltenham Literature Festival. We saw Caroline Lawrence who had written the *Roman Mysteries*. She told us how to write amazing stories. She also told us about her stories and what the actual meanings are. All the children said they loved it and wanted to see it again! I've read one of the *Roman Mysteries*; it was called the *Assassin of Rome*. It was fantastic and all the detail inside the book was absolutely amazing. Caroline Lawrence is a great author and her books are truly breathtaking. We all want to hear more.'

*Ben Clarke (Year 6, Baker)*

## Mother Goose Pantomime

On Wednesday 3 December the Pre-Prep children enjoyed a fun filled morning watching a pantomime at the Chipping Norton Theatre.

They followed the story of *Mother Goose*, the kindest, loveliest, friendliest lady in all the land, who was tempted to abandon her friends and family for beauty and riches. This classic tale was adapted into a sparkling, snow filled adventure crammed full of trolls, snowmen, woolly jumpers and even the occasional moose!

It was great fun and the children thoroughly enjoyed it... *oh yes they did!*

## Rugby Report

The U11s played some skilful rugby during this term and finished the season with an even record after playing six games and winning three. Several players stood out this season but in particular Tom Orton (Year 6, Gwyn), Zach Newcombe (Year 6, Symonds), Tom Riman (Year 6, Lockwood) and Ben Clarke (Year 6, Baker) who all showed skill, strength and vision during the matches. The captain, Casper Bolton (Year 6, Gwyn) led the team intelligently and the Most Improved Player, Harry Furlong (Year 5, Symonds) was a rock in defence.

## Inter-House Rugby

The Inter-House Rugby was a competitive tournament that delivered some quality phases of play. The final was well contested with Symonds edging the win over Gwyn.

### Results:

1st:	Symonds
2nd:	Gwyn
3rd:	Lockwood
4th:	Baker



## Thor the Viking

On Monday 6 October Thor the Viking came to talk to Year 3 about the Viking way of life. They have been studying this topic in their History lessons this term and immediately became engrossed in his presence as he proceeded to tell the children exciting stories and adventures about these historic Nordic invaders.

The children were shown a wide range of authentic objects such as armour, weapons, musical instruments, real furs and a quern with which to grind corn. The experience really enhanced every child's learning about this period in time. During the last part of his visit he demonstrated the use of the sword and fired arrows across the Corinthian Room....safely of course! Thank goodness he was a friendly Viking! 🏹

## Jump Jam

The children in Year 4 enjoyed a visit from Mrs Anne Spiers, a primary school teacher from Tauranga on the North Island of New Zealand. This is her third visit to Great Britain and Cokethorpe has welcomed her on each occasion. Mrs Spiers talked about her country, her teaching and her cat, Noah! She presented the Year 4 children with some delicious kiwi fruit chocolate, stickers of Kiwi birds and rugby shirts. Mrs Spiers also led a Jump Jam session which is a New Zealand fitness programme linked to dance moves. 🇳🇿

## Languages Day

On Monday 29 September the Junior School celebrated their Languages Day. Each class welcomed a visitor who taught them some basic words and phrases from a new language and told them all about the country where that language is spoken. There was a wide range of languages being explored this year, including German, Japanese, Spanish, Afrikaans, Russian, Turkish, Maori, Ki-Swahili, Italian and French. The Junior School would like to thank the parents and Senior School staff who gave up their time to teach the children.

At the end of the afternoon all of the classes gathered together for a special assembly to show each other what they had been doing. They enjoyed songs and mini-conversations as well as an expert demonstration of the Haka from New Zealand by one of the Year 3 classes. Plenty of children could be heard greeting their parents in a new language at the end of the day! 🌍





## Year 5 and Year 6 Bushcraft Camp

On Thursday 25 September Year 5 and Year 6 set off for their annual overnight Bushcraft stay in Cornbury Woods. Blessed with fine weather and weighed down with rucksacks and roll mats everyone was in high spirits as they made their way to their respective camps.

During the day the children learnt how to build and light fires using various techniques. They built shelters from materials they found in the forest and some intrepid members of the group even camped out in their homemade shelters overnight. The highlight of the day was learning how to prepare and cook a whole salmon, which was then eaten for supper.

After a good night's sleep and hearty breakfast everyone returned to School exhausted, but delighted with what they had achieved.



## Roald Dahl Gallery Trip

During October the Year 4 classes visited the Roald Dahl Gallery and Bucks County Museum. The children were reading *Danny the Champion of the World* and so the visit offered a great opportunity to explore the literary world of Roald Dahl. In the gallery the children were encouraged to try scientific activities based on Roald Dahl's stories. They experimented with mirrors and cameras and the BFG's sound table. They explored Matilda's Library, crawled through Fantastic Mr Fox's tunnel and entered James' Giant Peach! The children also had the opportunity to look at creatures through microscopes and took a ride in Charlie's Great Glass Elevator.



## Space Workshop

On Monday 13 October Year 5 were treated to a very interesting Space Workshop. A Science Oxford specialist took the children on a journey through the solar system, which Year 5 has been studying this term. They were all fascinated and had prepared a range of questions to ask such as 'Where does the moon come from?' and 'Why do planets spin?' A highlight was having the opportunity to hold a 4.5 billion year old iron meteorite and to hear about the James Webb Space Telescope.

The children also enjoyed a practical demonstration of an infra-red camera. They were intrigued to discover that these cameras could be used by astronomers to find previously undiscovered stars, planets and even possible signs of life!

## Inter-House Hockey

The Junior School Inter-House Hockey tournament was played over two days on Tuesday 9 and Thursday 11 December with the girls from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. All the matches were competitive and played in good spirit with the older girls taking care to look out for and include the younger ones. The overall winners were Baker who showed some impressive form to win the tournament undefeated and also won the Fair Play Award.

### Results:

1st:	Baker
2nd:	Symonds
3rd:	Gwyn
4th:	Lockwood

## Cokethorpe Invitational Cross Country

On Friday 14 November Cokethorpe held the First Junior Invitational Cross Country Competition. The sun made an appearance for the afternoon after a miserable start to the day. Over 100 pupils from The Manor School, John Blandy Primary School, Stanton Harcourt Primary School, Buckland Primary School, Ducklington Primary School and Cokethorpe Junior School all took part.

The U8s started the competition with the U11 Boys and Girls bringing the competition to an end. All who took part should be congratulated on their performances.

The pupils were rewarded for their efforts with hot chocolate and doughnuts in the School Dining Hall where a medal ceremony for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place was held. Many thanks to the Senior School Sports Academy who helped Miss Woodcock organise and marshal the event throughout the afternoon.





# Junior School

## Year 6 A Christmas Carol

### Cast List

#### 6MO

Narrators                      Hester Beer  
   Ciara Quillinan  
   Max Hanson  
   Gracie Karslake

#### In the Office:

Ebenezer Scrooge              Casper Bolton  
Bob Cratchit                    Thomas Orton  
Fred (Scrooge's Nephew)      Zachary Newcombe  
Three Gentlemen (doing charitable work)      Jamie Hammond  
   Jake Crozier  
   Benjamin Skey  
A Girl Singing Christmas Carols      Carol  
   Szofia Homoki

#### In Scrooge's Room:

Ghost of Jacob Marley              Matilda Hurford-Jones

#### In the Past:

Ghost of Christmas Past              Emily Mumford  
Child Scrooge                    Marni Cox  
Fan (Scrooge's Sister)              Isabelle Stagg  
Mr Fezziwig                       Jack Roberts  
Dick Wilkins                       Taiga Kobayashi  
Belle                                Jocelyn Brown

#### 6HL

Ebenezer Scrooge                      Ella Shaw

#### In the Present:

Ghost of Christmas Present              Jonathan Peach  
Bob Cratchit                              Thomas Riman  
Mrs Cratchit                               Jenny Allen  
Peter Cratchit                               Thomas Wardell-Yerburgh  
Martha Cratchit                              Edith Wannell  
Tiny Tim                                    Joe Ferrier  
Fred    Benjamin Clarke  
Fred's Wife                                  Theresa Goette  
Fred's Sister-in-Law                        Zoe Smith

#### In the Future:

Ghost of Christmas Future              Sam Marples  
Drinker 1                                  Thomas Smith-Donald  
Drinker 2                                   Felix Miller  
Lady 1                                       Elizabeth Braithwaite  
Lady 2                                       Georgia Hawes  
Laundress                                  Jocelyn Brown

#### Christmas Morning:

Boy    Isabella Smith  
Narrators                                  Harvey Gould  
   Heidi Green

## Christingle

On Monday 15 December the Junior School made their way to the Chapel for the traditional Christingle Service led by Reverend Turner.

Two children from each class had been chosen to carry the Christingles that had been beautifully made by Year 2. At the end of the service they lined the aisle and the School sang *Silent Night* in flickering candlelight.

## Harvest Cantata

On Wednesday 15 October, the Junior School Chamber Choir performed their annual Harvest Cantata to parents in the Corinthian Room. The children from Year 4 to Year 6 sang with huge enthusiasm throughout and this year every member of the choir had a special 'Harvest' costume and lines to say.

It was a lively and varied performance which included an amusing Tango, singing vegetables and refuse collectors. A change of mood heralded the performance of songs about hunger around the world with some very moving solos.

After a thank you and prayer, the parents were treated to a fitting finale with the all-singing and all-dancing *Harvest Rock and Roll!* 🎵



## Lower Junior Choir Harvest Show

The Lower Junior Choir, comprised of children from Year 1 to Year 3 with a scattering of Reception Class pupils, delighted a packed Corinthian Room with an exuberant performance of Harvest songs.

The Choir performed two excellent mini musicals; *The Little Red Hen* with acting from Year 2 and *The Gingerbread Man* with acting from Year 3.

The audience thoroughly enjoyed the performances. All of the children danced and, having memorised the words, sang the very catchy songs. Everyone agreed that the quality of the singing was of a high standard for such a young age group. 🎵



## Onatti Theatre

On Wednesday 10 December Year 5 and Year 6 joined the First Form from the Senior School to watch the latest play from Onatti Productions called *The World's Gone French*. The play follows Nathan who wakes up in his bedroom in North London where everything appears normal until he realises that everyone around him is speaking French!

The play reveals that Nathan had a magic puzzle that had turned his world French. The actors were superb; they were very clear and did not speak too quickly so the French was easy to follow. It was especially funny when they asked for audience participation.

It was a great experience for the children to hear familiar French in a real play.





## Pre-Prep Nativity

The Pre-Prep children gave two fantastic performances of *Angel Express* in the Corinthian Room on Friday 12 December.

There was great excitement in Heaven! The *Angel Express* newspaper, delivered by Edward Allen (Year 2, Gwyn), announced that Jesus, the Son of God, was about to be born. Some angels decided to learn a song for the big event to welcome him into the world. There was not much time to rehearse, but the angel choir conducted by Molly Ferrier (Year 2, Baker) were made to practise several times until they were perfect and these pupils did a superb job of making their singing sound 'terrible'!

All of the pupils from Reception to Year 2 acted and sang wonderfully. For many it was their first time performing on the stage. As ever, Mrs Mace had prepared superb costumes including the most intricate head dresses for the star and angels. ☑



## Year 6 A Christmas Carol

This term Year 6 have been exploring the script of *A Christmas Carol* as part of their drama lessons. On Tuesday 16 December they had the opportunity to share their hard work with parents.

The Corinthian Room was transformed into an atmospheric Dickensian scene complete with candlelight and costumes by Mrs Mace. The accompanying music and special effects for the three ghosts were composed and performed by a selection of Year 6 pupils to great effect.

The acting and commitment to this performance by all the pupils was superb and the audience were highly impressed. In particular, Casper Bolton (Year 6, Gwyn) and Ella Shaw (Year 6, Baker) must be congratulated for their outstanding performances as Ebenezer Scrooge.

The afternoon concluded with a festive rendition of *We Wish You a Merry Christmas* sung by all of Year 6 and their parents. ☑



## Nativity Cast List

### Reception Class

Donkey: Merryrn Tattersall  
 Sheep: Stephanie Smyrk  
 Heather Homewood  
 Harrison Barnes  
 Carter Burrige  
 Daisy Drake  
 Isabelle Sales  
 Stanley Harris  
 Maggie West  
 Jonathan Smyrk

### Year 1

Mary: Bo Carrington  
 Joseph: Antonio Virk  
 Innkeepers: Andrew Homewood  
 Thomas Rohlf  
 Hattie Hunt  
 Star: Chomba Lukama  
 Shepherds: Claudia Goldie  
 Jack Harris  
 Angel Gabriel: Abigail Shaw  
 Kings: Thomas Blackmore  
 Giovanni Virk  
 Finlay Barnas

### Year 2

Narrators: Rebecca Williams  
 William Sawyer  
 Thomas Underwood  
 Grace Clear  
 Angels: Amelia Furlong-Price  
 Jack Turner  
 Nancy Beer  
 Amelia Atkinson  
 Lachlan McCormick  
 Angel Readers: Jack Quillinan  
 Cash Burrige  
 Amy Maguire  
 Jack Hammond  
 Angel Paper Boy: Edward Allen  
 Conductor: Molly Ferrier

## Fundraising

During the term the children have taken part in a range of fundraising activities in aid of the Nasio Trust.

As part of the Harvest Appeal children collected coins in plant pots totalling £665. The children also collected games, jigsaws, Duplo bricks and other toys. For Christmas, they filled gift bags for the children in Kenya who are supported by the Trust and sent them a variety of knitted hats. They also raised £95 from a Snowman raffle. We are very grateful to Mrs Daphne Smith who donated the hats and the prizes.





## Vaccine Group Workshop

On Tuesday 25 November, three Sixth Form students with a passion for medical sciences took part in the Oxford University Vaccine Group Workshop, as part of our on-going link with the laboratory and their meningitis study.

The day included an opportunity to role play a situation whereby we had to create our own vaccine to combat the imaginary condition called 'Sewelitis'. We met with a range of professionals involved in the process of vaccine creation and implementation and were lucky enough to hear directly from doctors working in this field, which reinforced our understanding of immunology.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable day which has only further encouraged us to pursue a career in medicine.

*Heidi Lawson  
(Lower Sixth, Gascoigne)*

## Sixth Form Open Evening

In November the Sixth Form entry process began with two important events that took place on the same day. In order to provide context to A Level choices, the whole of the Fifth Form visited Bristol University where they experienced lectures in English and Physics as well as a tour of the facilities.

On their return to School, pupils joined with their parents to attend the Sixth Form Open Evening. Mr Sheer welcomed everyone and then Dr Willis gave details of the changes to A Levels that were taking place nationally. There was then an opportunity for pupils and parents to meet with Heads of Departments and discuss the various courses on offer.

## Business Placement Scheme

The Business Placement Scheme is now open again to Fifth Form pupils who would like to participate next year. This is an opportunity for Sixth Form students to undertake challenging yet rewarding placements in highly prestigious firms in areas such as Law, Media and HR, as well as many more.

The placements give students a valuable opportunity to find out more about their interest in future career pathways. The experience allows them to develop enterprise and employability skills, such as communication, organisation and teamwork.

## Six Magazine

In preparation for next years Sixth Form entry, the current Fifth Form received a copy of Six Magazine. The magazine has been designed to give Fifth Form pupils an insight into the next stage of their education at Cokethorpe.

## Sixth Form Christmas Dinner

On the last Friday of the Michaelmas Term the Sixth Form gathered for their annual Christmas Dinner. Fancy dress was the order of the day and an eclectic mix of costumes was on show, ranging from the humorous and clever to the somewhat bizarre. The Catering Team delivered a mouth-watering three course dinner and the evening was rounded off in style with what has now become the traditional singing of *The Twelve Days of Christmas*.



## Positive Voice WIT

On Tuesday 9 December Emma Cole delivered a powerful talk to Sixth Form entitled "Positive Voice". This gave us a broad insight into the life of someone living with HIV. Despite the obviously serious subject matter, Emma injected humour into her talk and she was a most powerful speaker, whose words had a real impact. In addition to useful factual information and health advice, the talk also discussed the impact of the condition on family life and relationships, and also covered discrimination against those living with the condition. It was inspiring to hear how someone can cope with a life-changing diagnosis and build a new life.'

*James Millett (Upper Sixth, Harcourt)*



## Green Party Talk

On Tuesday 18 November, Lower Sixth students had the chance to hear a talk from the local Green Party candidate Stuart MacDonald. The talk inspired a great deal of discussion and debate amongst staff and pupils alike. 'Stuart MacDonald came to speak to the Lower Sixth, as the Green Party candidate for the Witney Constituency. He talked to us about party policies (they are not just environmental!) and how the Green Party wish to create a 'fairer Britain' for everyone. We found his talk very interesting and informative, it was unusual to hear from the perspective of one of the 'smaller' political parties.'

*Niamh Walsh (Lower Sixth, Queen Anne)*

## BTEC Business Visit to Witney Trade Fair

The BTEC Extended Diploma Business students visited the Witney Trade Fair on Friday 19 September. This was a very valuable visit for the students as they had the opportunity to engage in several conversations with the local business community and find out first-hand what is involved in the running of a variety of businesses. The students were also offered the chance to visit the Shoreditch offices of Digital Remit, a digital agency specialising in webdesign and online marketing.





## Enlightenment Lectures

### *To Seek, to Find and Not to Yield*

'On Tuesday 23 September, we enjoyed a fascinating lecture by Alex Hibbert. I assumed it would be a mundane speech about following a certain path, which nowadays is finishing school with high results, attending university and obtaining a decent job. To my surprise this had nothing to do with being pressured into conformity. Alex Hibbert talked about how he too was following this predestined path but realised somewhere along the way that there is more to life than just surviving it. Life is meant to be lived and for him, this meant becoming an arctic explorer. He had a clear goal and he pursued it. This can only lead to a deeply satisfying life because if there is anything worth fearing in this life, it is living in such a way that gives us cause for regret.'



*Isadora Kléne (Lower Sixth, Feilden)*



### *Why Should I... Bother with God?*

On Tuesday 7 October the Bishop of Oxford Rt Rev'd John Pritchard responded to this question posed by Sixth Form students in an Enlightenment Lecture.

'Why bother with God when you have got an iPad? Or an iPhone 6? Or when there is poverty? Injustice? Evil? It is a brave person who tries to answer these questions at all, let alone to 130 Sixth Form students. It requires humour, chutzpah and a good dose of theological rigour. Bishop John Pritchard of Oxford accepted the challenge. He presented us with life's 'big questions'.

He succeeded in making his audience engage with concepts like charity, the divine, forgiveness and curiosity. Never patronising, and always keen to answer questions, Bishop John may not have given us all of the answers to the questions posed by the lecture's title but he did make us think beyond the immediate world we all face.'

*Iago Elkin-Jones, Enlightenment Lecture Co-ordinator*

### *Why Should I... Bother with Europe?*

On Tuesday 12 November the Sixth Form were lucky enough to receive an Enlightenment Lecture from not one but two passionate politicians. The topic of Europe is never out of the media. It often sparks controversy provoking heated debate, a debate which has arguably divided the nation. George Jeffreys and Graham Jones supplemented our understanding of the EU, its history and its institutions, with knowledge and clarity. Their passion was in stark contrast to the often unbalanced opinions expressed in the popular press. The lecture provided us with a foundation upon which we might build our own opinions, rather than just bombarding us with cheap sound bites about this most topical of topics.



*Christian Ettinger (Lower Sixth, Harcourt)*



### *Drugs Awareness Talk*

On Tuesday 25 November, Sixth Form students were given a Drugs Awareness talk from Chip Somers. Chip is a former drug addict who attended rehab for his addiction and subsequently became an addiction counsellor working at drug treatment centres. Chip is now a leading voice in the campaign for abstinence-based treatment and alongside Russell Brand, gave evidence to the Home Office Select Committee Inquiry into drug policy.

'I found the talk from Chip Somers very influential in a unique way. He did not try and force any idea upon us; he simply and clearly outlined what had happened to him when he became addicted to drugs. I found his story extremely shocking and very powerful. This was much more effective than any talk I had had before about drugs as it exposed the reality of life - how it can change in a moment from one extreme to the other, as a result of bad decision-making. Chip has advised the government on drugs policy and on the treatment and rehabilitation of addicts; this aspect of the talk also invited us to consider the wider impact of drug use on society.'

*Ed Rick (Lower Sixth, Harcourt)*

## Enlightenment Lecture Speaker Reviews

'I come across a wide range of approaches as to how schools might educate their young people and launch them into the wider world. Some are conservative, some are intentionally radical and some are lacking direction or vision. I was left with an overwhelming sense of optimism having visited Cokethorpe and met the teenagers who are about to make their own journeys - both literal and figurative. There was an energy, a positivity, and above all a self-esteem which typifies the very best that independent sector education can offer. It was also abundantly clear that the staff absolutely adore their jobs and that whilst with a measured authority, their interaction with the students was warm, supportive and representative of what they will experience when they leave formal education. A real gem of a school nestled in wonderfully attractive surroundings.'

*Alex Hibbert  
Arctic Guide and Photographer*

'On Tuesday 7 October, as part of the Sixth Form Enlightenment Lecture series, it was my pleasure to introduce as our guest speaker The Rt Rev'd John Pritchard, Bishop of Oxford. He spoke on the subject *Why Should I Bother with God?* It was well received by his audience and initiated some in-depth discussions between the students, and raised some challenging questions. I am sure everyone left with much to think about, whatever their views. This was one of the Bishop's final engagements before he retires at the end of the month - we wish him well, and are grateful for his visit.'

*Canon Roger Humphreys  
Former Chaplain at Cokethorpe*

'I was very impressed with what I saw of Cokethorpe. The young people were engaged and responsive. I'm sure parents are very satisfied with the quality of teaching and learning, and the burgeoning confidence of the School.'

*Rt Rev'd John Pritchard*

'I enjoyed the occasion very much indeed. I was impressed by the students' careful attentiveness, which tells me they appreciate the series and I can well imagine there will be lively discussions in class in the days ahead. The Enlightenment Lectures are well named. During our time in the School I was also impressed by the pupils' respectful behaviour towards each other. That goes with the family atmosphere that is very evident at Cokethorpe; its students clearly feel at home and cared for. It was a privilege to visit the School and I wish the Sixth Form students the very best of luck as they make the next great step in their lives.'

*Dr Graham Jones, FSA  
Committee member, European  
Movement, Oxford Region Branch*



## 1st XV Rugby Results

Crypt Grammar School	29-31 L
Cheltenham Bournside School	59-3 W
Shiplake College	46-14 W
St Paul's Catholic School	54-0 W
Sir Williams Borlase's School	31-15 W
Wycliffe College	28-10 W
Stowe School	7-40 L
Pate's Grammar School	0-28 L
Chosen Hill School	17-21 L
King Edward VI School	20-15 W
Watford Grammar School	31-17 W

## 1st XI Hockey Results

Kingham Hill School	2-0 W
Bloxham School	2-2 D
Magdalen College School	1-8 L
Pangbourne College	0-5 L
Akeley Wood School	3-0 W
Tudor Hall School	2-5 L
St Edward's School	5-3 W

## Sport Colours

### Full Colours

Rugby  
Elijah Vieira-Faria (Upper Sixth, Harcourt)  
William Parsons (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne)  
Alex Haywood (Upper Sixth, Harcourt)  
Jason Cardy (Upper Sixth, Feilden)

### Hockey

Izzy Smith (Upper Sixth, Harcourt)

### Show Jumping

Caitlin Belsham (Upper Sixth, Gascoigne)

### Kayaking

Sam Glover (Lower Sixth, Queen Anne)

### Half Colours

Rugby  
Jon Lane (Upper Sixth, Queen Anne)  
James Millett (Upper Sixth, Harcourt)  
Will Routledge (Lower Sixth, Queen Anne)  
Charlie Dyde (Lower Sixth, Feilden)  
Archie Fellows (Lower Sixth, Vanbrugh)  
Jack Taylor (Lower Sixth, Gascoigne)

### Hockey

Elly Stradling (Upper Sixth, Swift)  
Laura Cardy (Upper Sixth, Feilden)  
Fran Hook (Upper Sixth, Feilden)  
Josie Dennis (Lower Sixth, Harcourt)  
Dani Peffers (Lower Sixth, Swift)

## Basketball

Freddie Holford (Fourth Form, Feilden) successfully completed trials during the Summer holidays and has been selected to play for the U16 Oxford Hoops Basketball Team. Since selection Freddie has been a regular in the starting line-up, playing Centre for the Hoops in their National U16 Basketball League games.

## Rugby Pre-Season

Cokethorpe's Rugby teams worked hard at the beginning of the term with some pre-season training and tournaments. Cokethorpe's U15 and U18 squads travelled to Hampshire in September to play in a pre-season festival, the weekend proved to be a huge success for Cokethorpe. Unfortunately the 1st XV lost 7-0 in the final to Wisbech Grammar School having shown much promise in the earlier games, however the U15s returned home as festival winners, remaining undefeated throughout.

Cokethorpe enjoyed a large amount of support from a number of parents who travelled down and both the staff and players would like to thank all of those who made the effort to cheer on our teams and who helped with transporting some pupils back home, following a mechanical glitch with one of our mini buses!



## International Roller Hockey

Rowan Paton (Second Form, Swift) and Elliot Stagg (Second Form, Harcourt), play for the Oxford Blues roller hockey team. They were lucky enough to be one of two English teams chosen to participate in the international tournament in June this year. In 30 degrees heat they narrowly missed a place in the finals but secured a well-earned third place.



## Equestrian

On Saturday 27 September Camilla Kilgour (Second Form, Swift) and her pony Kizzy represented Cokethorpe in the Senior Inter-Schools One Day Event at Stonar School in Wiltshire. With both show jumping and cross-country rounds completed, Camilla finished on dressage and was awarded twelfth place. 📷







## Oxfordshire Hockey

A selection of Cokethorpe hockey players have been put through their paces this term, trialling for a place in various age groups for the Oxfordshire hockey squad. Well done to Neve Macken (Second Form, Vanbrugh), Alexia Zamani (Second Form, Gascoigne) and Frankie Brown (Second Form, Vanbrugh) who were selected to represent the U13 girls squad, Finn Rumsby (First Form, Vanbrugh) for being selected for the U13 boys squad and Dila Müldür (Second Form, Gascoigne) selected for the U13 girls squad.

## Cross Country

After a successful Area Championships, Cokethorpe Junior Boys Cross Country team travelled to Bedfordshire for the Regional Round of the National Competition. The weather was good and the course ran well although the Cokethorpe team were struck with injury and illness which prevented their overall team total to count and be placed. However, Ben Wannell (Second Form, Feilden) ran extremely well displaying excellent running tactics and determination throughout the race. Competing against boys who were bigger and stronger, he managed to maintain his place throughout the race to finish third overall. This was a race with over 80 boys competing in total, so a big congratulations to Ben and all the Cokethorpe Junior Boys in the Cross Country team.



## Sailing Report

'Well done to all our sailors who have braved all weathers, come sun, rain or shine. The group has shown great commitment and it is safe to say they have all made good progress. This term saw the start of two new instructors, Richard who is the Senior Instructor of the Oxford Sailing Club and Ashley Robathan (Lower Sixth, Gascoigne). Together they have provided fun and interesting sessions which all pupils have enjoyed. Fingers crossed for some good sailing weather next term!'

*Toby Evans, Head of Sailing*



## Hockey Pre-Season

Cokethorpe's 1st XI hockey team were put through their paces in pre-season training in early September. The girls worked hard on their fitness and tactical play which they then put in to match play. Tudor Hall School had also travelled over to Cokethorpe to take part in the pre-season session, so Cokethorpe were able to play a pre-season match against them before the season got fully under way.

## Kayaking Report

The Kayaking team have been improving the skills needed to master effective techniques in preparation for the long distance training taking place over the cold winter months. With five current teams preparing for the Devizes to Westminster International canoe race which is a four day, 125 mile event that takes place over the Easter weekend. Clocking up the miles and becoming familiar with the 77 portages is vital. Students regularly train and race over parts of the course including the Thames and sections of the Kennet and Avon Canal. The chance to race other schools leading to the event provides early competition amongst the competitors.

## Cross Country Squad

### Junior Boys

Ben Wannell (Second Form, Feilden)  
Harvey Bell (First Form, Vanbrugh)  
Cameron MacDonald (First Form, Queen Anne)  
Alex Wheeler (Second Form, Swift)  
Orlando Cox (Second Form, Vanbrugh)  
Joe Sydenham (First Form, Swift)

### Junior Girls

Sasha Palfreyman (Second Form, Swift)  
Georgie Kent (Second Form, Harcourt)  
May Topley (First Form, Harcourt)  
Zoe Gibbons (First Form, Swift)  
Tenisha Aparo Iboch (Second Form, Harcourt)

### Intermediate Boys

Tom Craig (Fourth Form, Gascoigne)  
Callum Rowe (Fourth Form, Harcourt)  
George King (Third Form, Harcourt)  
Luke Jackson (Third Form, Swift)  
Tom Jackson (Third Form, Swift)

### Intermediate Girls

Sophie Wheeler (Third Form, Swift)  
Georgie Vallance (Third Form, Vanbrugh)  
Scarlett Jewson (Third Form, Swift)  
Hannah Craig (Third Form, Harcourt)  
Dulce Gibbons (Third Form, Swift)  
Anna Wallace (Third Form, Swift)

## Squash

Amelia Leslie (First Form, Gascoigne) has been crowned the Oxfordshire U13 Squash Champion. She won all three of her games in the County Tournament and was awarded a shield and squash racket for her accomplishment. Amelia is now progressing through to the Super Regionals stage, where the top players from the South Region trial it out for a place in the South Squad. Well done to Amelia, and we wish her the best of luck in the next stage.

## Heart Rate Monitors

On Friday 5 December Fourth Form pupils had the chance to use the new 'Activo' heart rate monitors that the Physical Education Department had purchased. They allowed the Fourth Form GCSE group to monitor their heart rates and make adjustments to ensure they were performing in their target zones.



## U14 Netball Squad

Emily Kent (Third Form, Harcourt)  
 Chloe Barlow (Third Form, Feilden)  
 Georgina Bibby (Third Form, Swift)  
 Megan Cambrey (Third Form, Feilden)  
 Annabel Clarke (Third Form, Feilden)  
 Louisa Flaherty (Third Form, Harcourt)  
 Georgie Vallance (Third Form, Vanbrugh)  
 Anna Wallace (Third Form, Swift)  
 Georgie Kent (Second Form, Harcourt)

## U16 Netball Squad

Evie Phillips (Fourth Form, Swift)  
 Sasha Cammack (Fourth Form, Swift)  
 Sasha Hargreaves (Fourth Form, Swift)  
 Harriet Stone (Fourth Form, Swift)  
 Rosie Hunt (Fourth Form, Gascoigne)  
 Louisa Mattinson (Fourth Form, Harcourt)  
 India Hurford-Jones (Fourth Form, Swift)  
 Danielle Bengier (Fourth Form, Gascoigne)

## Cross Country Cup

On Friday 10 October the first round of the English Schools Athletics Association Cross Country Cup took place at Blessed George Napier School in Banbury, with a group of 22 Cokthorpe pupils entered in to all four races.

The Junior Boys' team ran a superb race. Ben Wannell (Second Form, Feilden) took 2nd place with Harvey Bell (First Form, Vanbrugh) hot on his heels to take 6th place. Cameron McDonald (First Form, Queen Anne) Alex Wheeler (Second Form, Swift) Orlando Cox (Second Form, Vanbrugh) and Joe Sydenham (First Form, Swift) followed closely enabling the team to gain 3rd place overall. This placing means the Junior Boys' team have qualified for the Regional Championships.

Sasha Palfreyman (Second Form, Swift) was in fine form and led the Junior Girls' team from the start finishing a commendable 17th place with Georgie Kent (Second Form, Harcourt) following closely behind in 19th place. Mae Topley (First Form, Harcourt) also impressed in her debut race.

The Intermediate Boys' team ran a great team race with Tom Craig (Fourth Form, Gascoigne) taking 10th place and the rest of the boys coming in at 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th.

In the Intermediate Girls' race Sophie Wheeler (Third Form, Swift), Georgie Vallance (Third Form, Vanbrugh) and Scarlett Jewson (Third Form, Swift) also demonstrated good grouping. Hannah Craig (Third Form, Gascoigne) showed determination by pulling out all the stops to close the gap to join the front pack. Both intermediate teams gained 5th place in their events.

## Regional Success in Netball

Netball has seen some great success this term at the U14 and U16 County Netball Tournaments. The U14s approached the competition with a no nonsense attitude and set to the court focused to win. The team maintained an excellent level of play beating all the opposition convincingly, which saw them crowned County Champions. The U16s won their first two matches against Oxford High and Headington School. They faced a tough final match against St Helen and St Katharine's and despite an excellent performance from the team they pulled away to win by five goals. The runner up position came down to goal difference between Oxford High, Cokethorpe and Headington School. Fortunately because of early victories, the team came through on top, progressing through to the Regional Finals in January. 🏆



## Rugby Report

In total Cokethorpe have played 93 fixtures in the Senior School and, as always, the School teams have performed extremely well.

The 1st XV laid the foundations for a successful season at summer camp. The second half of the season concluded as it started with fine wins, they worked extremely hard and showed that they could play attractive rugby and score from long range. They were outmuscled on occasions, nevertheless they should be congratulated on a 61% success rate.

The U15 rugby team had a good developing season this year under the considered leadership of Alex Swancott (Fourth Form, Vanbrugh) and the wholehearted effort of pack leader Austin Welch (Fourth Form, Swift). The highlight of the season for the U15s was winning the Hampshire Collegiate Tournament.

The U14 team had strong results at the start of the season against Abingdon and Burford Schools with some outstanding performances both in attack and defence. Unfortunately the loss of key players at crucial times had a detrimental impact on results.

A good season in terms of development for the U13s even if not so positive in results. Admirably led by Barnaby Bolton (Second Form, Vanbrugh) and well supported by his team mates, particularly Ben Wannell (Second Form, Feilden) and Finley Wightman (Second Form, Queen Anne).

The U12A side has enjoyed a very successful season. The team outlined their potential with a fine unbeaten run of six matches. Captain, Cameron MacDonald (First Form, Queen Anne) led by example at number eight, and was well supported by the back row. Joe Sydenham (First Form, Swift) was a live wire at scrum half.





## Visit from Rugby International

On Friday 12 December, our 1st XV rugby team were lucky enough to have a training session with Scottish International and Sacarens player Jim Hamilton. Our players were put through their paces and then had the opportunity to ask Jim about his career and how he got to where he is today, an aspiration some of our players have.



## Hockey Report

This season has been marked out by the fantastic attitude of the players across the squads. This has been led from the top by the 1st XI who have gone in to every match with 100% determination and effort. The 1st XI have come up against some very strong sides this season but have recorded some excellent wins against Akeley Wood and St Edward's School, Cheltenham. The number of goals scored has significantly increased and they should be proud of their

team performances throughout the term. The 2nd XI, U14 and U12 teams have made huge improvements moving the ball around the pitch with fluency and strength but it has been the U15 and U13 teams that have shone this term. Jenny Wells (Fourth Form, Queen Anne) has led the U15 team to beat some extremely strong hockey schools; Pangbourne, Tudor Hall, Bloxham and Stowe have all been defeated by this very talented squad of girls. However it is the U13 girls, led by Frankie Brown (Second Form, Vanbrugh) who are crowned team of the season. They have drawn only one game; winning all other fixtures. They have scored an impressive 46 goals in only ten games this season and out of the starting seven have four County squad players, they are certainly a team to watch! Well done to all the hockey girls this season for their performances.



## Cardio Tennis

This term the Sports Academy had the opportunity to learn a new form of fitness training known as Cardio Tennis. It is a type of circuit training that includes body weight exercises and ladders but also incorporates short rallies to help improve our tennis. This was a fun way to exercise and we had upbeat music in the background. Cardio Tennis is a great way to stay fit and I would recommend choosing it as one of your AOB options.

*Georgie Vallance  
(Third Form, Vanbrugh)*

## Tennis

Congratulations to Georgie Kent (Second Form, Harcourt) who won the girls Singles Final in the Aegon Tennis Regional Finals Competition at Bisham Abbey on Thursday 25 September.

## 1st XV Rugby Squad

Elijah Vieira-Faria	(Upper Sixth, Harcourt)
Will Routledge	(Lower Sixth, Queen Anne)
Will Ward-Naranjo	(Upper Sixth, Queen Anne)
Harry Lovibond	(Upper Sixth, Queen Anne)
Arthur Whitehead	(Lower Sixth, Queen Anne)
Jonathon Lane	(Upper Sixth, Queen Anne)
Thomas Smith	(Fifth Form, Swift)
Ryan Smith	(Fifth Form, Vanbrugh)
Alastair Grime	(Fifth Form, Swift)
Archie Fellows	(Lower Sixth, Vanbrugh)
Alex Haywood	(Upper Sixth, Harcourt)
Jonathon Lane	(Upper Sixth, Queen Anne)
William Parsons	(Upper Sixth, Gascoigne)
Rory Atkins	(Lower Sixth, Gascoigne)
Matthew Clarke	(Upper Sixth, Swift)
Jason Cardy	(Upper Sixth, Feilden)
Charlie Dyde	(Lower Sixth, Feilden)
Jack Taylor	(Lower Sixth, Gascoigne)
Billy Garrett	(Lower Sixth, Feilden)
Will Thompson	(Lower Sixth, Gascoigne)

## 1st XI Hockey Squad

Maya Grell	(Fourth Form, Gascoigne)
Anya Duffy	(Fifth Form, Queen Anne)
Georgie Edwards-Lowe	(Fifth Form, Feilden)
Keely Harding	(Fifth Form, Feilden)
LuisaMae Lisi	(Fifth Form, Harcourt)
Niamh McCall	(Fifth Form, Queen Anne)
Oonagh Ryley	(Fifth Form, Swift)
Makhaila Stanton	(Fifth Form, Queen Anne)
Megan Bird	(Lower Sixth, Harcourt)
Josie Dennis	(Lower Sixth, Harcourt)
Elizabeth Morrison	(Lower Sixth, Vanbrugh)
Dani Peffers	(Lower Sixth, Swift)
Fran Hook	(Upper Sixth, Feilden)
Izzy Smith	(Upper Sixth, Harcourt)
Elly Stradling	(Upper Sixth, Swift)



# The Houses

## Ashes Cup

Every half term, the total recommendations in Lower House are calculated. The average amount per tutor group is counted and the Form with the best average is awarded the Ashes Cup. Pupils are kept up to date weekly by a bar chart in Mrs Pratley's window.

In the first half of the Michaelmas Term, Queen Anne walked away with the Cup. After being fairly consistent throughout the Michaelmas Term winning the weekly recommendation race made Queen Anne pretty much unbeatable.

Queen Anne are the outright winners of the Ashes Cup for the Michaelmas Term, however, the Cup will be contested another four times this year.

## Half Term Heroes

Lower House Heroes are selected for reasons such as good behaviour, positive contribution to School life or receiving a high number of recommendations. Below is the list of Lower House Heroes for the Michaelmas Term.

### First Half

Jack Harding (First Form, Feilden)  
Amelia Leslie (First Form, Gascoigne)  
Libby Flaherty (First Form, Harcourt)  
Elen Moore (First Form, Queen Anne)  
George Lay (First Form, Swift)  
Izzy Carnell (First Form, Vanbrugh)

### Second Half

Henric Schmidt (First Form, Feilden)  
Matthew Bell (First Form, Gascoigne)  
Jack Wilde (First Form, Harcourt)  
Tom Skey (First Form, Queen Anne)  
Victoria Cowley (First Form, Swift)  
Joshua Algar (First Form, Vanbrugh)

They have each received a certificate and a £5 voucher that they can put towards books, DVDs, stationery, magazines or even a chocolate bar or two!

## Inter-House DT

Houses were set the challenge of making a powered paper aeroplane. Mixed teams from First Form to Fourth Form had four sessions during lunch breaks to design, make, test and refine their ideas. The entries were judged primarily on length of flight, however team work, applied graphics and quality of manufacture were also taken into account. Each team had a Sixth Form 'mentor' to offer advice and encouragement. Competition was fierce during the mid-week sessions when the air was thick with paper aeroplanes. Final testing took place in the Sports Hall with a wide variety of designs achieving different levels of success, however in the end the results were very close. All teams deserve congratulations for their team work, perseverance and positive attitude despite some serious setbacks. After a final reckoning of the scores congratulations go to the Swift team who won the trophy with a mere 0.1 second lead over Gascoigne.

## Inter-House Music

With a great showing from all houses, the 2014 annual Inter-House Music Competition took place on Friday 10 October and displayed the diverse musical talents of Cokethorpe pupils. The theme this year for the House songs was Simon and Garfunkel, and the performances did not disappoint. The competition was kindly adjudicated by Richard Dunster-Sigtermans: organist, accompanist, conductor and ex-Director of Music. He was very impressed with the high standards of all the ensembles and soloists. The prize for best soloist went to Tom Christensen (Lower Sixth, Swift) for his beautiful performance of Chopin's *Raindrop Prelude*, with trumpeter Ollie Parker (Upper Sixth, Feilden) finishing a close second. Best ensemble and house song went to Queen Anne for their renditions of *All About The Bass* and *Bridge Over Troubled Water* meaning that they took first prize overall and the House Music Cup. It was an enjoyable afternoon for all and great to see so much musical talent on stage. 🎵



## Lower House Disco

The first half of this Michaelmas Term concluded with a fantastic evening of music and dance for our First Form pupils. The Lower Sixth student team did a great job in helping to get the Lower House disco set up; downloading music, setting up the lights, organising the refreshments, decorating the Corinthian Room, along with compering the whole evening with style and panache. The Lower House had a great time and some superb dance moves were noted, especially from Jarvis Drew (First Form, Gascoigne) who won the prize for being the best dancer of the night.



## Inter-House Rugby

The rugby term culminated with three exciting House competitions, played in excellent conditions throughout. The Senior competition was won by Feilden, beating Harcourt in the final 26-24, Alex Hayward (Upper Sixth, Harcourt) scoring a hatful of tries during the tournament. The Third and Fourth Form again had a hard fought series of matches and in the final Swift overcame Vanbrugh 21-14. Probably the hardest fought games were played out by the First and Second Form. The final was between Feilden and Queen Anne, which resulted in a 14-14 draw, this went to drop kicks with Feilden eventually emerging triumphant.

## Inter-House Hockey

We had to wait all term to crown the Inter-House Hockey Champions as the Senior competition started in September while the Junior Competition was only played in December. All the girls represented their Houses with great spirit; some girls even put their body on the line to score that vital goal that would put their House ahead of all the others. Harcourt dominated both competitions and were crowned overall champions of the Inter-House Cup for the second year in a row.





## Crawford Relay

On the Friday before the half term break the annual Crawford Relay was run around the quads and grounds of the School.

As usual, each House entered a team comprising of runners from all age groups, all individuals running a leg before passing the baton on to their team mate.

The staff also entered a team under the leadership of Mr Van Zyl, however it was Harcourt who retained the cup in a time of ten minutes and thirty seconds. Perhaps they can record a hat-trick of victories next year? 🏆



## Inter-House Hockey Results

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

## Crawford Relay Results

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

## Inter-House Rugby Results

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

## Inter-House DT Results

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

# AOB and Fundraising

## First Form Malvern Hills Trip

'Our trip to the Malverns was a great experience. Stepping off the coach with my future classmates and speeding up the hill with our suitcases, only weighed down by the vast quantities of socks (my mum packed me eight pairs of socks for two days, was that really necessary?) Once we arrived at the Centre we were put into bedrooms and firmly told that there would be no jumping off the bunk beds! After dropping off our stuff we were allocated to an activity group. The activities included climbing, king swing, zip-wire and bushcraft. Each activity presented a challenge that was met head-on by the groups. People tried things they had never done before, conquered fears and most of all, had fun! Thank you very much to the team at Malvern and to all the teachers that sent us on this epic adventure!'

*Lauren Thomas (First Form, Queen Anne)*



## Movember

For the month of November, six Cokethorpe staff sported a variety of moustaches to raise money for research into and awareness of men's health issues, including mental health. The team are very grateful for all donations made by friends, family and Cokethorpe staff and pupils. This year they raised over £300 taking their Movember tally to over £2000 raised in last three years.

## Christmas Hamper Campaign

As has become traditional, the run up to the end of term has been punctuated by collecting and making up food hampers for those in the locality less fortunate than ourselves. This year saw a record number of hampers being put together by tutor groups. The School received a letter from The Rev'd Toby Wright: 'I wanted to write to you and express our huge gratitude to the students and parents who have prepared the Christmas hampers this year. The generosity and support for those who are in need is tremendous. It is a wonderful joy to be able to take them round to those in need. The look on their faces is something to gladden the heart as they are often so overwhelmed. I really cannot thank you enough.'

## BTEC Charity Business Projects

This term BTEC Business students have been putting their skills to the test on behalf of the charity Helen and Douglas House. Jem Müldür (Lower Sixth, Gascoigne), Will Ford (Lower Sixth, Vanbrugh) and Will Thompson (Lower Sixth, Gascoigne) have been competing against each other in a variety of *Apprentice* style challenges. They have raised roughly £300 and are planning a charity comedy event in Shipton-under-Wychwood next term.



# The Cokethorpe Society

## Calling all Old Boys between 1955 and 1960

Martin Lockwood (OC 1959) is arranging an anniversary reunion event at Cokethorpe on Saturday 3 October 2015, including a tour of the School, buffet lunch and speeches in the Corinthian Room. More details to follow but please note this date in your diary.

The School would like to encourage more Old Cokethorpeans to organise their own reunion events. The School can host a limited number of reunions on a first come first served basis. Please contact Nicole Rolfe in the Foundation Office on [society@cokethorpe.org](mailto:society@cokethorpe.org) or telephone 01993 892352 for more information.

## Forthcoming Events

### Society Social at the East India Club

16 St James's Square, London  
Thursday 12 March 2015  
6.30pm - 9.00pm

### Cokethorpe Society AGM

Cokethorpe School  
Wednesday 22 April 2015  
7.00pm - 9.00pm

To register your interest for either event please contact Nicole Rolfe on [society@cokethorpe.org](mailto:society@cokethorpe.org) or telephone 01993 892352.

## Successes

Congratulations to Toby Pugh (OC 2010, Harcourt) who has landed a role in the hit American fantasy drama, *Game of Thrones* under his stage name Toby Sebastian. Toby will play character Trystane Martell during season five of the HBO series.

Henry Purdy (OC 2012, Queen Anne) made his Aviva Premiership debut at Kingsholm on Friday 19 September as Gloucester Rugby took on Exeter Chiefs in a nail biting match that saw Exeter narrowly beat Gloucester by 25 points to 22.

Henry moved to Gloucester Rugby from Leicester Tigers in the summer of 2014. Mr Cummins comments 'I, Mr Morgan and no doubt all those who watched or played alongside Henry at Cokethorpe have enjoyed witnessing his progress. Being involved in two successful U20 World Cups, gaining opportunities with Leicester and now making his Premiership debut for Gloucester is an exciting development in his short rugby career to date.' Henry has recently been awarded with a senior contract at Gloucester.

Congratulations to Alex Cade (OC 2012, Swift) who designed and oversaw a £120,000 facelift of Summertown's Oxford Nursery on Marston Ferry Road. Alex is in his third year of a seven-year degree at Sheffield University studying architecture.



## 1987 and 1988 Leavers Reunion

On Saturday 4 October, 23 former pupils and staff came back to Cokethorpe School for a tour and an opportunity to see their old bedrooms, classrooms and stomping grounds. The OCs came from far and wide; the closest OC travelled the short distance from Witney whilst the furthest travelled for hours from Bangladesh! After a very animated tour of the School the group went to the Corinthian Room for refreshments and to continue with the story telling. The Headmaster and staff were delighted to hear about the OCs' time at the School and the anecdotes of their mischief!

It took Ian Ogborn (OC 1987, Queen Anne) two and a half years to organise the reunion and he did so with great success. Ian said: 'Friday was really exciting as we waited to see old friends who travelled to Witney the day before the official reunion. As soon as one story was told it sparked another memory, soon with everyone adding their own snippets. Saturday was just as exciting and everyone had their own memories and private recollections of Cokethorpe. For a brief moment we were transported back to our school days. It had been 27 years since we had all been together.' 📷



## Old Cokethorpean News



### Chris MacAlpine

'After getting my MPhil I obtained an internship with UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) that turned in to a job offer. I spent two years in Hong Kong and then two in Thailand interviewing asylum-seekers and deciding if they were refugees. I specialised in torture survivors and sexual assault survivors, and in applicants from certain countries such as China, Pakistan and Iran. I then moved to UNHCR Nepal where I spent nearly three years working with camp based refugees from Bhutan as the head of the Anti-Fraud Unit. I am now back in Hong Kong heading up the Durable Solutions Unit which resettles refugees from Hong Kong to countries where they can have a future.'

*Chris MacAlpine (OC 1998, Queen Anne)*



### Vincent Paul Kehoe

'After leaving Cokethorpe to work in farming, I decided to convert barns to sell products. My early mornings and evenings were spent on a dilapidated moped distributing leaflets! Moving to London in 1989 I worked as a gopher in a small Soho advertising agency later joining the post room of Bates Dorland UK. Trained in press and print production, I later moved into account management and retail quickly became my absolute passion and interest. I moved to Golley Slater to run a new business before being enticed back to Bates in 2001 to run the B&Q account. I have since run local, regional and global accounts. Brands of experience are Castrol, Microsoft, H.Samuel, MFI, Brantano and Mazda.'

*Vincent Paul Kehoe (OC 1988, Swift)*





## Witney Chess Congress

'The weekend of 18-19 October saw more than 80 chess enthusiasts descend on the Dining Hall and Sixth Form Centre for the second Witney Chess Congress. The top quality playing conditions, rated by many of the players as the best they had ever seen for a chess tournament, were an excellent showcase for one of Oxfordshire's most prestigious chess events.'

*Mike Truran, Event Organiser*

## Oxfam and WOAPA

'Students from West Oxfordshire Academy of Performing Arts were recently commissioned by Oxfam to record and film a song originally produced by gaming company Yogscast. The secret project was planned to say a big thank you to Yogscast for donating over £400,000 to the charity since 2011. Oxfam and WOAPA would like to thank Cokethorpe for generously allowing the use of The Shed and for making them feel so welcome. The video was presented to a very appreciative Yogscast and can be seen at the following link, [www.woapa.co.uk/news\\_item.php?wnID=8946](http://www.woapa.co.uk/news_item.php?wnID=8946).'

*Brian Conroy, Principal at WOAPA*

Yogscast are a group of YouTube broadcasters who produce online video game commentaries and songs. The song, *Diggy Diggy Hole* was first sung off-the-cuff in a video in 2011 and was then made into a recorded track in July, which has had over 11m YouTube views to date.



## Festival of Hockey

'Witney Hockey Club teamed up with Cokethorpe School to host a county-wide Festival of Hockey. Children from eight different hockey clubs attended - some 150 budding youths - to deliver a fabulous opportunity to develop hockey amongst tomorrow's youth. Thank you to Cokethorpe School for being such an excellent Ambassador for sport across the county.'

*Ben Campion, Club Captain Witney Hockey Club*

## Use of Cokethorpe Facilities

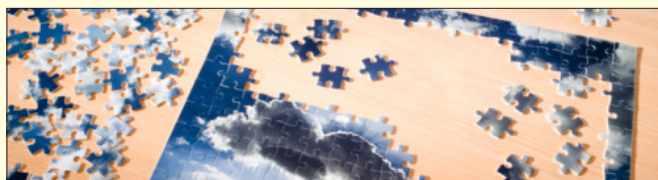
This term the School has supported:  
Wychwood Ladies Hockey Club  
Standlake Beavers, Scouts and Explorers  
Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust  
Witney Hockey Club  
Witney Weekend Chess Congress  
WOAPA and Oxfam

Whilst we cannot commit to the regular use of our grounds and facilities we have been able to accommodate many last minute requests from local groups and businesses and hosted many one-off events. Please contact Nicole Rolfe on 01993 892352 or email [externalaffairs@cokethorpe.org](mailto:externalaffairs@cokethorpe.org) for more information.

# New Developments

## Annual Fund 2015

For the 2015 Annual Fund we are seeking support for the projects below. We have intentionally chosen a wide range of projects supporting academic, sport, music and social areas of the School. The projects are also of varying value so that you can make a contribution towards your preferred project or purchase a whole project outright for the School. We have put an approximate cost for each venture below so that you are aware of its value. ☞



## Projects

Wind Turbine - £2,000  
Spectator Bleachers - £10,800 (£2,700 each)  
School Pond - £6,000  
Circus Skills Workshop- £525  
Choir Folders - £1,300  
Puzzle Challenge Day - £650

## Ways of Giving

All donations to the Annual Fund are put to good use immediately, so the impact of your gift will be felt by current as well as future generations of pupils. Participation is the key, not the level of generosity. Quite simply, every gift helps.

There are many ways you can support and donate to the Annual Fund and more information about each of these can be found on our website:

[www.cokethorpe.org.uk/annualfund](http://www.cokethorpe.org.uk/annualfund)  
Some of the most popular ways to give include:

Regular Giving  
Single Gifts  
Bequests  
Payroll Giving  
Matched Giving  
Stocks and Shares

## What to do Next

Full details of how you can support the Annual Fund using any of these methods can be found on our website. Alternatively you can get in touch using the details below if you wish to discuss making a gift.

E: [foundationoffice@cokethorpe.org](mailto:foundationoffice@cokethorpe.org)  
T: 01993 892352  
A: Cokethorpe School, Witney, Oxon, OX29 7PU



## Ave Atque Valet



**From Left to Right:** Mrs J K Webb (Geography), Dr E Thackrey (Music), Mrs J C Gregory-Newman (Business Studies), Mr J E Hughes (Music), Miss N M L Mladek (Junior School), Mr M J Joiner (Geography), Mrs C M McCormick (Learning Support) and Miss K E Fagan (Junior School). **Additional new staff include:** Dr A P Willis (Director of Studies), Miss R L Mitchell (Music), Mrs E K Smith (Science), Miss J S Weaving (Learning Support) and Mrs C A Brash (Junior School).

### Dr A P Willis (Director of Studies)

'I was previously ten years at Abingdon School, six of them as Director of Studies and I am really pleased to have joined such a strong team. I teach Physics and sing in the choir so I have already got to grips with some of the breadth we offer. The development of the whole child is clearly at the centre of all we do at Cokethorpe. In a busy first term I have particularly enjoyed meeting individually with students to talk through decisions crucial to their achieving their lofty ambitions, in the classroom and beyond.'

### Mr J E Hughes (Director of Music)

'I join Cokethorpe from Eastbourne College where I was Head of Music Technology for five years. Having moved to the area I have thoroughly enjoyed my first term at the School and the challenges that come with my new role. I am delighted to have received such a warm welcome from pupils, parents and colleagues and I am looking forward to many more terms packed full of music making.'

### Mr D J Mason (Physics)

At the end of term we were sorry to say goodbye to Mr Mason who left Cokethorpe for a new post teaching Physics at Abingdon School. After five years he will be greatly missed by both students and staff. His ingenious and imaginative approach to teaching Physics has inspired and motivated students into achieving some great examination results and he has been the key to a good number choosing to further their study of Physics at university. We wish him all the best for the future.

## Staff News

Congratulations to Mr Uglov and his wife Arani on the arrival of Ella Indra Uglov born on Saturday 11 October weighing 7lbs 5oz.



Congratulations to former staff member Mr Dawson and his wife Sian on the arrival of Charlotte Eleanor Dawson born on Saturday 1 November.



Congratulations to Ms Gaddu and her husband Paul on the arrival of Shreya Erika Winch on Sunday 28 September.



'On Saturday 11 October I had the great pleasure of seeing my daughter, Evelyn Rose Hughes, receive her baptism at the Cokethorpe Chapel. Canon Roger Humphreys performed a lovely service. We were fortunate to have many family and friends as guests, particularly Evelyn's great-grandparents who travelled from Cubert, Cornwall.' *Mr Hughes*



Congratulations to Mr Hole and his Fiancé on the arrival of Joshua George Hole on Thursday 27 November weighing 6lb 9oz.



## Open Morning

**Saturday 7 March:**

9.30am to 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 S M L Copeland, or the Head of Junior School if appropriate, or to meet the Headmaster, please contact the Admissions Secretary, Ms C Bowerman ([admissions@cokethorpe.org](mailto:admissions@cokethorpe.org) or 01993 703921).

## Contact Information

### Headmaster

Email correspondence with Mr Ettinger ([dje@cokethorpe.org](mailto: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](mailto:hmsec@cokethorpe.org)).


### Senior Management Team

Bursar: Mrs S A Landon  
[sal@cokethorpe.org](mailto:sal@cokethorpe.org)  
Deputy Headmaster: Mr J C Stevens  
[jcs@cokethorpe.org](mailto:jcs@cokethorpe.org)  
Head of Junior School: Mrs C Cook  
[cc@cokethorpe.org](mailto:cc@cokethorpe.org)  
Director of Studies: Dr A P Willis  
[apw@cokethorpe.org](mailto:apw@cokethorpe.org)  
Head of Sixth Form: Mr G J Sheer  
[gjs@cokethorpe.org](mailto:gjs@cokethorpe.org)  
Registrar: Mrs S M L Copeland  
[smlc@cokethorpe.org](mailto:smlc@cokethorpe.org)  
Senior Administrator: Mr E J Fenton  
[ejf@cokethorpe.org](mailto:ejf@cokethorpe.org)

### Housemasters and Housemistresses

Lower House: Mrs J L Pratley  
[jlp@cokethorpe.org](mailto:jlp@cokethorpe.org)  
Feilden: Miss P S M Townsend  
[psmt@cokethorpe.org](mailto:psmt@cokethorpe.org)  
Gascoigne: Mrs E Semenzato  
[es@cokethorpe.org](mailto:es@cokethorpe.org)  
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[wgl@cokethorpe.org](mailto:wgl@cokethorpe.org)  
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[mhdc@cokethorpe.org](mailto:mhdc@cokethorpe.org)  
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[tjw@cokethorpe.org](mailto:tjw@cokethorpe.org)

## Editor's Notes

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

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