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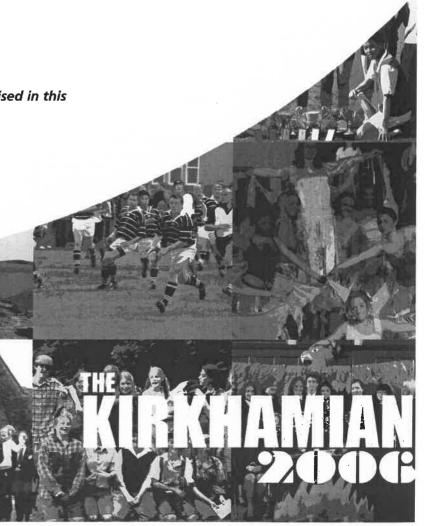
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#### KIRKHAMIAN FOREWORD 2006

As we embark on my fifth Speech Day at Kirkham Grammar School and having sat through many years of prize givings and listened to a series of Headmasters give their annual report, I was attracted to a story I heard the other day. Needless to say this was in my research for my GCSE History class, I might add.

The story related to the Japanese attack on Singapore during the Second World War where many will be surprised to know that the fiercest resistance came from the campus of a British school. Against massive odds, eventually it capitulated.

The Headmaster, Deputy and Head Boy were brought before the enemy Commander-in-Chief who said to them:

"We are a merciful people and will grant one last request before we shoot you."

The Headmaster thought carefully and asked that he be allowed to make one last speech.

The Deputy asked that he be allowed one last night on the town.

The Head Boy thought carefully, and then asked if he could be shot before the Headmaster made his speech!

More seriously, each year at this time we, in schools, are just recoiling from the annual scrutiny of the press as our examination results are dissected and manipulated into a variety of league tables. While all schools now play this game I believe it is becoming a blight on our educational system and is in fact in danger of undermining our children's education.

Of course we care how our school scores. We all like to climb up the table – one only has to see the grey faces of the football managers to know the impact here. Yet the danger that we become fixated by this single criterion of school success is too often becoming detrimental to our pupils' educational experience. I realise that it is easy to view this as a teacher pleading for an easier life but I base my judgement on simple truths.

Firstly the figures can be spun to mean so much. I do become more sympathetic with the words used by Disraeli in Mark Twain - "There are three kinds of lies: lies, damn lies and statistics"! This belief comes from the knowledge of how often the results are tweaked to cast best light on them or even worse that young people are denied access to exams they have worked towards because they may not do well enough to improve a school's league position. Courses are being chosen by schools to enhance results and not to benefit the education of the pupil, and youngsters are being overburdened with unnecessary exams just to boost points scores. This is not part of my vision of education and I am pleased we at Kirkham are able to review our results with a clear conscience.

Secondly we are in a world that is over-examined seemingly to serve the needs of this rudimentary assessment of a school's performance. What is perhaps even more worrying than the stress on our pupils is the impact on the Examination boards. The strains are showing and my discussions with other Headteachers show just how many exam papers are being remarked and those marks being revised. Even a successful outcome of a remark cannot erase the disappointment of the original receipt of the result and it has the consequence that we all lose trust in the system itself. A reduction in assessment would concentrate the marking on the senior examiners and go some way to ensuring an acceptable standard was maintained.

Perhaps most important of all, however, is the failure of League tables to take account of the ethos of a school and the kind of young people it produces. Of course I want to see our results continue to improve and I shall unashamedly boast of that improvement in a moment but I still believe that here we have done what we are expected to do. What I am most proud of, are the young people who leave the school at the end of the Sixth Form and the manner in which they are prepared to take on the next crucial part of their lives. That is the measure of a school and no League table can rationalise that. Our duty is to bring out the strengths of all our youngsters and develop the confidence and breadth to get the best out of life whatever the chosen career. This is the joy of education and it is what gives me my enthusiasm, not the sight of a League table grasped by the press to mean something fundamental about a school.

The essence of a school such as ours is the breadth of talent and the fact that each individual has a role to play in the school's success. This is the basis of tonight's celebration as we recognise our pupils many achievements but we must also recognise the contribution of all the staff who have supported them in these ventures. The award of Investor in People status in December gave recognition to the work undertaken in school to upgrade skills through in-service training and further recognition of the teamwork that is involved in such an organisation. I thank all my colleagues; those on the teaching staff and those that support them in providing this educational experience. both for their contribution to the achievement of this award but even more for their work on behalf of the pupils.

Having harangued the League table system I can nonetheless take pleasure in the continued improvement in external examination results achieved by the school.

I am though chastened by the tale of the mother who said to her child, "How many millions of times has your father told you not to exaggerate!"

Once again the students' performance at A-Level was the best ever and represents an improvement in top grades of no less than 20% over 4 years. Some 63% of the grades were awarded at A or B while the pass rate was 100% in all subjects. Individually mention must be made of Joanne Box who achieved no less than six grade A's; two distinctions and a merit in the Advanced Extension award papers and a mark in the top five nationally of those who took the A-Level General Studiesexamination. This remarkable achievement from a young lady who also played hockey for the school, excelled in debating and carried out the arduous role of Captain of School. This is what a Kirkham experience is all about. We wish Joanne well as she takes up her place at New Hall College, Cambridge.

A further three pupils achieved five 'A' grades, Paul Barber, Harold Buchanan and Derek Ho gaining this outstanding achievement. Also this year, thirteen candidates achieved a minimum of three A grades. All four students who gained offers from Oxford and Cambridge achieved their required grades with Harold Buchanan and Joanne Forrest gaining further distinctions in the AEA qualifications.

At GCSE we enjoyed another successful year although not quite matching the dizzy heights of last years results. The number of top grades was still the second best achieved by the school with a pass rate of 93% and with 96% of pupils achieving a minimum of 5 grade A-C passes we outperformed our nearest rivals. Within the year, four candidates achieved a full set of A\* grades, Christopher Box, Soraya Dunn, Jenny Patel and Rose Whitehead, while no less than twelve pupils achieved a full set of A grades. The school once again recorded 100% pass rates in Mathematics and English with many other subjects also reaching that high level.

Two pupils, Jonathan Jacobs and Jennifer Patel, gained marks ranked in the top five in the country in one of their subjects. Jonathan scored one of the highest marks in English Literature where there were over 360,000 candidates while Jennifer achieved a top five mark in Music amidst an entry of almost 20,000.

Once again in the Kirkham tradition we have also celebrated many achievements both within and beyond the classroom.

In our annual entry for the UK Maths challenge I was encouraged by the number of pupils gaining recognition and at the top end of the school must congratulate Derek Ho & Paul Taylor on their Gold awards, achieved amidst strong competition nationally.

I was also pleased that we engaged in a new scheme to allow our students to link up with the exciting technical work at BAE Systems locally. The visits arranged for our Technology and Physics students to Warton have been met with enthusiasm and I hope this link will continue to

grow and offer our students a continued opportunity to see engineering in action. We are bucking the national trend in providing so many well-qualified scientists to Universities and this new opportunity can only enhance the enthusiasm for engineering.

While on the theme of partnerships I must also mention the exciting link created by the Art Department that has seen Government funding allow the "Coasters" project to take place. Visiting artists; trips to Galleries and even I gather a trip to the Pleasure Beach have all been undertaken to develop the skills of our budding confess the Pleasure Beach artists. I must request must have caught me in a weaker moment! We are though hopeful that this scheme can be extended and developed next year.

Within our school one of the central, yet oft unsung areas, is the Library and yet this facility is at the heart of any school. We are very fortunate



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to have an energetic librarian in Mrs Copland who is determined that the Library will be at the centre of learning within the school. The number of books read continues to grow but equally importantly the use by departments in their teaching is growing just as fast and the regular use by the Scribblers Club is a joy to behold. In these days of computers being so central to our lives I am firmly of the belief that books remain central to our learning and it is encouraging to see the Library remain such a popular venue in School.

Once again our debating team has had a lively year and I am pleased to report that we now have nearly one hundred pupils undertaking LAMDA assessments under Mrs Heney's expert tutelage.

In the world of music we have been royally entertained by our young performers in so many different arenas. From Preston Minster to the Old People's party; from the Rotary Proms to the House music finals our musicians have risen to whatever occasion they have been presented with, as of course they have tonight. Mr Barrett, Mrs Miller and Mr Dalton have my thanks for getting ready so quickly for this evening. One particular highlight for me last year was the First Year concert which saw 25 youngsters perform so magnificently in their first school event.

While still with the creative arts I know that Miss Barrie and Mrs Walker are still in euphoric state over the new Drama Studio within the Lawrence House Pavilion. To watch their responses as the final touches have been added has made it all worthwhile and also made it clear why our young performers are themselves so enthusiastic. This last year saw a vibrant adaptation of the Tempest and a memorable, if very wet, open air performance of Potter's "Blue Remembered Hills" by our GCSE pupils. I know I will not be forgiven if I do not mention also the Second Years' performance at the Junior School and also how pleased we are that our Junior Thespians will be performing with the Royal Shakespeare Company once again this year.

Colonel Scott's Cadet contingent has also enjoyed a splendid year and I know that he is rightly proud that members of the school have been awarded two Army Scholarships to Sandhurst over the past twelve months, with Luke Sanders and Andrew Moncreiff the recipients. We have also received more officer training awards than any other North West school. The year has also seen the Corps venture abroad to Cyprus alongside a series of camps and expeditions both involving adventure training and Duke of Edinburgh Award.

This year's Young Enterprise team, Phoenix, swept the board in the local finals, winning four trophies including the overall title. Although they could not quite repeat this at Regional level, Rebecca Preskey and her team did an outstanding job and I know they benefited greatly from the experience.

Every year we embark on a new House competition and every year not only does Mr Smith expect School House to win but the rest of the school tries to prevent what School House sees as inevitable. Well, over the past couple of years the unthinkable has happened and School has not come out on top but this last year saw normal service resumed as they lifted the Whitby Cup. The enthusiasm this competition engenders never ceases to amaze me and I am convinced it plays a key role in the Schools atmosphere. Now for this years challenge!

Any successful year at Kirkham will include a number of sporting accolades and this year is no exception as your programme demonstrates. I cannot possibly mention all those achievements nor would you wish me to but given the hours we, as parents, dedicate to spectating on wet and windy mornings there are one or two memorable highlights that I must recount.

The number of boys and girls achieving county honours continues to mount with over 25 girls in County hockey sides and over 20 boys on the rugby front. Further progression has been achieved by Kate Gledhill and Harrison Pickervance both of whom have attained divisional honours.

Our International Hockey festival once again provided a great day's sport and will be even better this year with the shelter provided by the pavilion!

While the girls were immersed in the hockey festival and winning the Cheadle Sevens tournament, the boys had an outstanding visit to the National Rugby Sevens at Rosslyn Park. Finishing as Quarter finalists the squad showed great spirit, coming from behind from a 20 point deficit at one point.

Our cricketers saw the culmination of their season only this week with the Under 12's appearance in the Lancashire Cup Final. Although they were defeated by Manchester GS they have put up a great show over the season.

In cross-country our runners have dominated in local competition.

In Athletics the girls reached the finals of the National TSB competition once again while the boys had a truly memorable season in all competitions. Sweeping the board in the Fylde Championships at all age groups, they also reached the TSB finals and proved victorious in the North West Lancs competition at Under 12 level. The boys and girls now have a lot to live up to. Particular congratulations must go to Sarah Hatch, Melanie Smith and Chris Travis for their individual victories in the County Championship.

In the swimming-pool we have seen one of the most outstanding highlights in sport by Sophie Ward. Her recent acquisition of five gold medals at the national championships, her selection in the GB age group squad and her national qualifying times represent a magnificent achievement and we look forward to hearing of further success over coming years as the Olympics approach.

Overall the year has seen a series of great successes but has been marked by the balance between the excellence at 1st XV or 1st XI level but also the breadth offered by numerous B teams and large numbers participating. That is the ideal balance and very much the vision for sport at KGS.

As you can tell my job is the easy one. I can just sit back and enjoy our young people making the most of their opportunities and let my dedicated staff take the strain.

I am very fortunate to be able to rely on such a hard working and professional management team who take such pains to keep the school working smoothly and to maintain and improve standards.

Further to this I am indebted to the work of the Friends of Kirkham Grammar School and their chairman Robert Dunn. Not only do the Friends provide us with great entertainment but this year their grant of £30,000 made our bid for the new pavilion successful and has led to this magnificent new facility being available for the pupils. Thank you all Ladies and Gentlemen.

As we reflect on all the developing facilities at

school, including an impressive boarding refurbishment this summer, it is important that we view this very much as a work in progress. I know the Governors are determined to maintain the pace of development. I must though make a personal plea, as our timetabler keeps placing my lessons in the smallest classroom in the Wareing building. I am sure he is making a point and it would be nice to have a change into a brand new one in my Christmas box.

As the new year begins the pace doesn't slacken and we are all keenly aware of the expectations upon us. What is done in schools like ours, will be done, not for the benefit of League tables and press consumption but because we are privileged to work in an environment that is forever youthful and forward moving, one that is centred in individual care and one that is true to its traditions.







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and a drink? En suite rooms here cost as little as £52.00 per room or choose one with spa bath from £64.50 for extra indulgence. Family owned and run by the Wilkinson family for 26 years · this is a venue which even has its own thatched cricker pavilion and all weather pitch and offers crown green bowling with Boddingtons Pavilion to hire for 18th / 21st Birthday Parties etc. Conference facilities, meeting and private function rooms are also available. Ask for details at reception. Guy's Late Night Venue now open: Tommy Halton's open 'til 2am for dancing & drinking

Call in and see us soon - A warm welcome awaits you



M55

To Blackpoo

Preston 1

#### Friends of KGS

Every member of the Friends and those who support us can feel proud that they have helped towards the building of the new Drama Pavilion. The Friends presented a cheque for £30,000 to the school at their January meeting. Without this sum, the school could not have secured the generous funding from the Lawrence House Trust to build the much-needed pavilion. Of course, making the decision to present the cheque was the easy part - raising such a large amount of money has taken over two years to accumulate, not forgetting the KGJS piano and the £6,000 a year lease for the new minibus and several other smaller items the Friends have provided during this period.

Our Winter Ball raised £4,200. The Friends started planning for the event 12 months previously, booking a venue, menu, band, DJ, etc. Raffle prizes and auction items were obtained and floral table arrangements created, tickets sold and table plans produced. This all came together on November 19 at the Imperial Hotel, Blackpool, where 250 guests gathered to have a great night dining and dancing the night away.

The next event on the Friends' calendar was the Christmas Fair. Preparations started in late September with letters going out, raffle tickets being printed and planning meetings being held. It culminated on Friday, 9 December, when

members and helpers of the Friends gathered in the early morning to set up all the stalls and games ready for the 4pm start. The first-time little ones may have been in awe of Father Christmas and the noise of the event, but they soon settled down like the rest of the children to spend some of mummy and daddy's hard earned cash. By 6pm it was all over and all that remained was to put things away and tidy up and oh... count up! Last December's event raised £3,200, not as high as some years, but still an enormous amount to take in two hours!

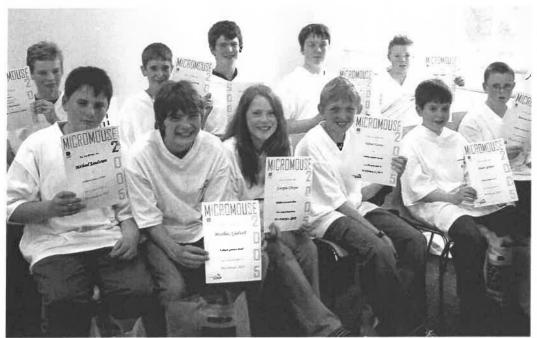
The Friends' Family Fun Day epitomizes the ethos of Kirkham Grammar School. Unfortunately on the day the rain started at 11am and continued non-stop until 5pm, making the field soggy. The inflatable slide, football and basketball could not be used and the model aircraft flying display was cancelled. However, everybody came together to make the day a great success.

Members of the Friends, 30 additional volunteer helpers and about 20 teachers all turned up. Their efforts were rewarded by the loyalty of over 500 loyal followers who, despite the rain, made the effort to come along and support the school. Financial losses and despondency were averted as the family of Kirkham Grammar supported one another and had a great laugh along the way. In fact, £2500 was raised on the day, a marvellous effort by all concerned.



SCHOOL YEAR

#### **10** School Year



The Young Engineers enjoyed success in the 'Micromouse' Competition



Old Kirkhamians' XV playing SpoonAA's XV



Cadets at Army Camp in Cyprus

Alex Bonney and Lauren Aspden on Mount Kilimanjaro



Staff rehearsing with the School Orchestra for 'The Toy Symphony'



The German Exchange Party

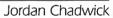
#### School Year



Patrick Callery



Both boys were selected to play in the National Children's Orchestra





Scene from 'The Tempest'



Adventure training at 'Go Ape'





Mrs Miller, who completed the Great North Run to raise money for various charities

Musicians rehearsing for the Summer Concerts



Primary school pupils enjoying a 'Taster Day' at KGS



The fourth year cast of 'Blue Remembered Hills'

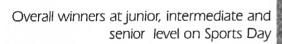


Enigma's farewell concert

#### **16** School Year



Sixth formers at the Leavers' Ball





The ski party at Les Alpes

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#### Donations were made to the following charities

| British Legion                          | £200 | Médecins sans Frontiéres                  | £200  |
|---|------|---|-------|
| Red Cross                               | £200 | Help a local child                        | £100  |
| Action Aid                              | £360 | Brian House Hospice                       | £200  |
| Gideons International                   | £50  | Cystic Fibrosis                           | £300  |
| Breast Cancer Campaign                  | £200 | Action Aid (Fair Trade Coffee morning)    | £300  |
| Crisis                                  | £500 | Children of Chernobyl                     | £900  |
| Terrence Higgins Trust (World Aids Day) | £500 |   |       |
| Teenage Cancer Trust                    | £500 | Donations for the academic year 2005/2006 | £4510 |

Other activities also raised significant amounts of cash for charitable causes, most notably the climbing club's sponsored climb, the disco held for members of the lower school, Mrs. Miller's sponsored Great North Run, the concert given by the fifth year boys' acoustic guitar group, the staff- sixth form coffee mornings, the sixth form chocolate machine and the sponsored run in aid of the Rosemere Cancer Trust, adding over a further £4000 to the overall total raised.

The grateful thanks of the charities concerned should be extended to all those who have been so generous over the past twelve months and also to those who have given their time so willingly to enable us to make such generous donations.

We should mention in particular Sam Dunn, who is taking a gap year and will be spending time working on a development project in Uganda, and Ben Fisher, also taking a gap year to go to Sri Lanka where he will work on a reconstruction project following the devastation caused by the Tsunami in December, 2004. We wish both of them well.



Last year the sixth form chocolate machine was successfully managed by both Mel Smith and James Walker. This project is operated solely for charity and both sixth formers managed to generate a large sum, the proceeds of which have been distributed to four separate charities.

Mel Smith has decided to donate £250 to Macmillan Cancer Support which provides practical, medical, emotional and financial support for patients, help carers, families and communities.

James Walker asked that £250 be donated to the charity Myfanwy Townsend Melanoma Research Fund. This charity raises money specifically for people suffering from malignant melanoma. This is a comparatively rare form of skin cancer, but very serious and develops in the pigment forming cells of the skin and is unfortunately one of the fastest growing cancers in young people.

Two additional charities that were supported this year were Trinity Hospice in Bispham, which each year has to raise a considerable sum from the local community to help continue the work in maintaining the care and services offered to its patients and families. £200 was donated to Trinity Hospice

A further £200 was donated to the Cystic Fibrosis Trust, following a very powerful and personal account given in assembly by Mrs John. The Trust raises money to fund research to develop a cure and provide treatment for sufferers of Cystic Fibrosis.

Many thanks to Mel and James who did a sterling job throughout the year and kept the sixth form common room well supplied with break time snacks, whilst at the same time raising much needed cash for the four charities mentioned.

Mrs F. Lang

#### Rosemere Cancer Fun Run

On the May Bank Holiday Monday, twenty seven staff and students took part in the Rosemere Cancer Care 5km Run at Moor Park, Preston. Despite the cold and slightly wet conditions, the KGS spirit was not dampened and all who took part completed the course and did so with much effort and enjoyment.

Kristian Musty was first home for KGS in a time of 20.18 and was closely followed by his team mates. Matthew Barnes, Clark Tung and Brian Tung. As a team they were placed fourth overall, just behind teams from North Fylde Athletics Club, Preston Harriers and Wesham Road Runners. The first KGS female across the line was Lucy Knowles in a time of 24.57.

The event was not just for elite runners; there were many, including our staff, who took on a real challenge to complete the 5km and they deserve to feel very proud of their achievement.

Special mention must go to the four who completed the course in fancy dress - Jane Duncan who ran dressed as a nun, Soraya Dunn as Pocahontas and Alice Parr and Molly Heap as fairies.

On behalf of all who took part, I would like to say thank you to Christine Brown, our Bursar, for supplying refreshments and looking after personal belongings during the run and also a big thank you to all the parents who came to support and all those who sponsored the runners. Over £900 has been raised for the Cancer Care Foundation by their efforts.



Success in the Fun Run.

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THE ARTS

#### Music

The school year 2005-6 was a very busy year for the school musicians, with a number of new ventures alongside the regular weekly activities and concerts. The monthly Coffee Concerts continued to be well supported and we heard many excellent performances from pupils of all years. It is very pleasing to see an increasing number of parents attending and also pupils supporting their friends as they perform in the Old Hall. One new venture was the inclusion in the usual concert programme of a concert presented by twenty five first year pupils, called A Celebration of Talent, which drew a large and appreciative audience in the Old Hall in November. The wealth of talent in the year augurs well for the continuation of excellence in KGS music over the coming years.

Also in November three fifth form pupils put on an excellent concert of songs with acoustic guitar in the Old Hall. James Edgar, Ashley Parkinson and Jamie Coleman performed a set of 18 songs to a packed hall, raising £130 for Teenage Cancer Trust.

The Choir has continued to provide music of the highest standard for both the formal concerts and the important school events such as the Carol Service and Founders' Day. The Lower School Choir also contributed well to these occasions, although progress was limited owing to Mrs Miller's absences.

The Concert Band has performed excellently under its new conductor, Mr Paul Dalton, and the members of the band were honoured in being selected to join the King's Division Normandy Band in its Gala Concert in Preston Minster in March. The exposure to music that is at the limit of many players' techniques is a great challenge, a challenge to which they rose admirably.

The Orchestra and String Group have both benefited from the arrival in school over the past two or three years of some very good string players. Alongside the established wind, brass and percussion players, both groups have made great progress this year.

One of the 'highlights' of the year came in the inclusion in the Christmas Concert of a performance of Leopold Mozart's *Toy Symphony*. Mr Barratt held intensive music reading classes with staff 'volunteers', preparing them to play the toy instruments, and few who witnessed the performance will forget the masterly performance of the Headmaster on the nightingale, Dr Luker on the triangle, the bevy of beauties playing recorders or various percussionists endeavouring to keep each other in time.

The house music festival continues to grow in scale and in standard. Almost 400 performances were presented and the decisions involved in reaching 25 finalists were very difficult. Particularly pleasing was the continued increase in standard of the vocal and instrumental ensemble and composition classes. Many pupils excelled themselves in preparing very musical performances. The eventual winner of the festival was Jenny Patel playing the xylophone and marimba, closely followed by two singers, Lucinda McDade and Caitlin McMillan. The ensemble winners were Caitlin McMillan, Charlotte Jackson and Grace Garlington, with a special commendation going to the Nigerian ensemble of Biggy, Joe and Yomi.

KGS musicians continue to be strongly represented in county and national ensembles and we were delighted at the end of the year to hear that Jordan Chadwick (trumpet) has achieved a place in the prestigious Halle Youth Orchestra, giving Jordan the opportunity to play with international soloists and conductors.

The year, then, has been very busy and also very successful for KGS musicians and congratulations are due to so many individuals. I would like finally to express my thanks to Kara Williams who fulfilled her role as secretary of the Music Society excellently. Her place has been taken for 2006-7 by Jemima Clarke.





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#### **Drama**

We have had another year of frantic activity in the KGS Drama department. The year opened with our Christmas production of **The Tempest**. Over seventy pupils participated in Shakespeare's windswept shipwrecked magical tale. We had a live band on stage re-creating the Summer of Love scene. Outstanding performances were turned in by Caroline Desborough, Josh Wardell and Oliver Fisher, ably supported by Chermaine Hewitt, Robert Loxham and Matthew Denham. The entire production was again of a professional standard and, as we played to capacity audiences over three nights, it means that some 700 people attended. We look forward to next year's production of **Romeo and Juliet** for which rehearsals are well underway.

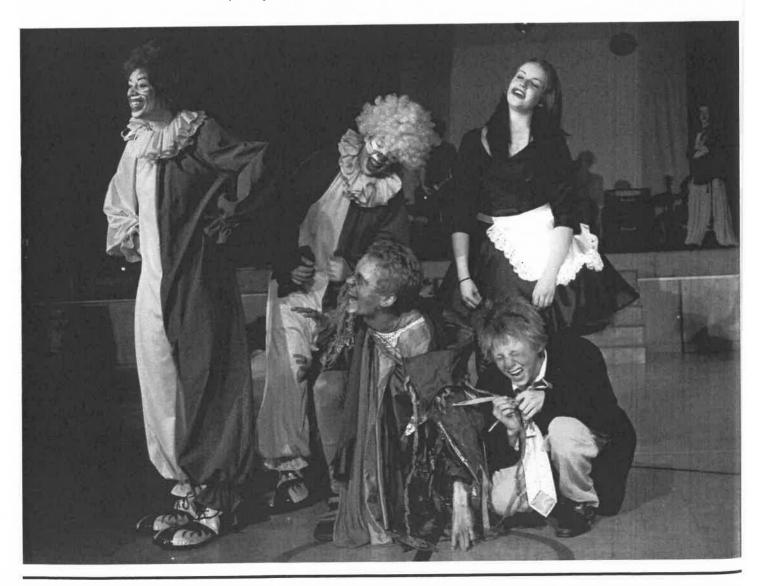
Theatre visits continue to flourish and we have again been lucky enough to see some cracking performances. From **Accidental Death of an Anarchist** to **Chitty Chitty Bang Bang**, all trips have been well attended and huge enjoyment and cultural enrichment have been achieved across all year groups.

Our examination productions all achieved an exceptional standard this year. Our A2 group chose the script **Playhouse Creatures**, set in the early

days of woman on stage in the seventeenth century. They decided to spend their budget hiring fabulous and meticulously authentic costumes from The Royal Exchange in Manchester. Their performance was stunning, with every student achieving an A grade and Susie Leyland achieving 100%! Susie has gone on to study Costume Design in London; we wish her well.

For the AS exam, the group looked at the different subject of the 7/7 London bombings, again achieving very good grades and producing a thought provoking and intelligent piece of theatre. At GCSE, we had fourth year performances of Dennis Potter's **Blue Remembered Hills** outside in the woods on the wettest day of the year. The pupils were playing parts of 7 year old children and actually relished the opportunity to get as muddy as possible; it was a highly enjoyable, though rather damp day overall, with many parents attending (with wellies and umbrellas) to see their children shine.

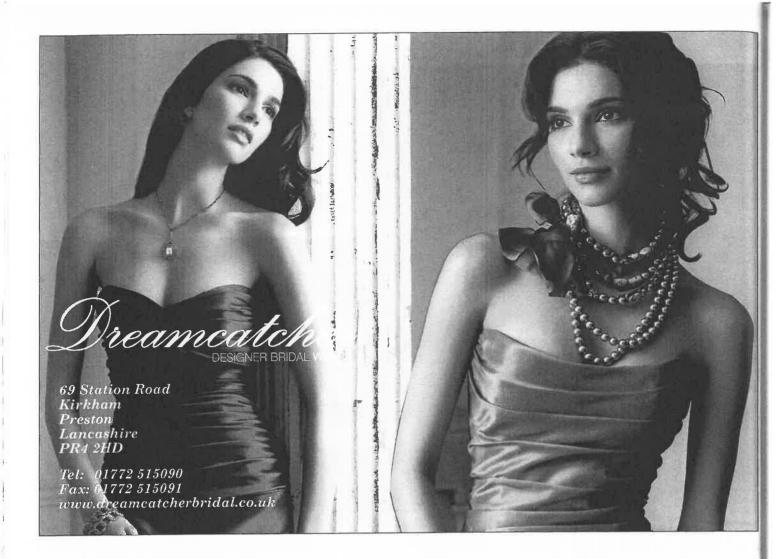
We also had a visit from a touring theatre company based in Durham University. They brought their outdoor production of **Measure for Measure** to the front lawn in June. The audience were encouraged to picnic beforehand and we all enjoyed a thoroughly civilised evening.





Scenes from 'The Tempest'









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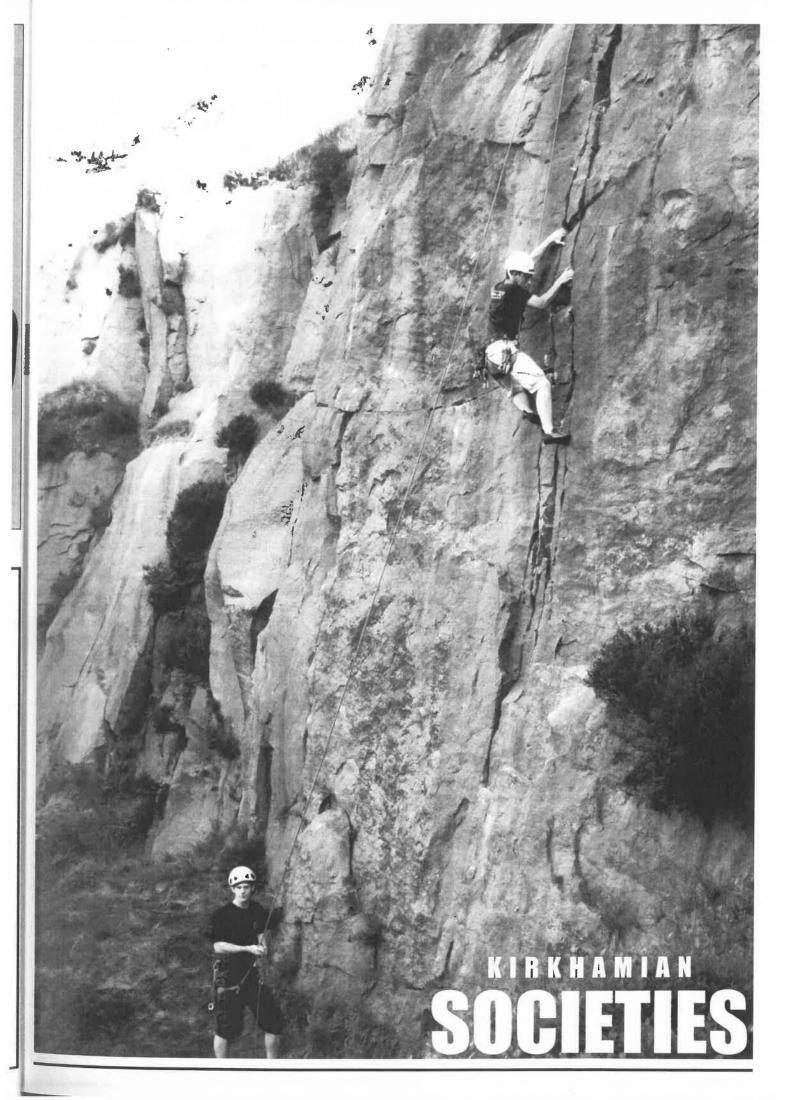
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## Young Engineers Royal Navy Intercept 2006 National Finals



Pictured in front of a Royal Navy Wessex helicopter are Joe Douglass and Oliver Youngman with their boat, HMS Dauntless at the Royal Navy Operation Intercept 2006 National Finals held at HMS Sultan in Gosport.

The competition attracted entries from eighty schools nationally, of which thirty were selected for this year's National Final. In a re-enactment of a recent real-life Royal Navy operation involving HMS Westminster, teams had to design, build and remotely control a model craft that could both disable a fleeing 'drug running' vessel and collect packages of 'drugs' from the surface of the water.

Teams had to make a five-minute presentation of their design to senior Royal Navy officers and were also judged on the quality of their final design, teamwork and corporate ID. Joe and Oliver's craft successfully completed the challenge, but unfortunately in a time outside of the prize winners.

Other high points of the event were an overnight stay aboard HMS Bristol and a flight over Portsmouth for all competitors in a RN Sea King Helicopter.

Oliver Youngman provides an account of the team's experience.

Our task was to design and build a remote-controlled boat which, according to the scenario, could chase and capture a drug smuggler's boat and pick up boxes of 'drugs' which were floating in the water. Joe Douglass and I had been designing the boat since September and had sent off our designs, complete with Pro Desktop computer drawings, to be scrutinised by a panel of judges in December. They had liked what they had seen and Joe and I were awarded a place in the national final.

At half past ten on Wednesday morning Joe

Douglass, Mr. Hancock and I set off on the long journey to Portsmouth. The journey lasted five hours in total which was quite tiring because of the limited legroom in the back of Mr. Hancock's car, but there was entertainment in the form of P.G. Wodehouse and Joe Douglass' inquisitive nature.

We arrived at three o'clock and because we were very early, we decided to have a look around the bustling metropolis of Portsmouth. While Mr. Hancock was determined to visit the Spinnaker Tower, Joe and I scoured the shops in search of some paint to finish our entry for the competition.

We arrived at our accommodation for the evening at five o'clock. HMS Bristol was a Royal Navy Destroyer but now it is used to accommodate sea cadets and Young Engineers. We were one of the first arrivals and so were able to meet the designer of 'Robot' Wars' robots and 'Brum', who made Joe and me a whistle out of a stick and clearly had never heard of political correctness. We then had a good meal and met some of our opponents before going to bed (at around 11 o'clock).

We had to get up at six o'clock, so we were rather tired and within two hours we were at the aircraft hanger at HMS Sultan, an engineering facility, ready to begin. We were assigned a Royal Navy guide for the day and shown to our table. We had some time before our first attempt, so we tested the boat. To our joy and surprise, it worked quite well.

We had our first run but did not achieve very much due to problems with the batteries, but we managed to resolve the issue and, having given a good presentation on our boat to the judges, we had our second attempt and succeeded in coming within an inch of the target we had to hit. Although we did not win, Joe and I were still very pleased with the outcome and with the helicopter trip we had later. We certainly enjoyed ourselves and we have already begun to design our entry for next year.

#### **Croquet Society**

The Croquet Society continues to flourish. Recent contests have taken place on the Headmaster's lawn at lunchtime whenever the sun shines. Matches take place in a good natured but competitive manner. A keen group of sixth formers even persuaded the powers that be to allow croquet to be played in the Wednesday afternoon games slot, with video analysis of the main shots afterwards. Indeed, the players found that the inherent nastiness of the game was an ideal way to relieve the stress of exams. The annual Grimbaldeston Prize for the best shot was awarded to Nicola Clough, who swung her mallet with such vigour that John Gladwell's ball was sent flying into the car park. Well done her and to all the players for their high levels of commitment.

#### nebating Society

Once again the Debating Society has enjoyed a busy and successful year. We have welcomed several new members from lower down the school who have enjoyed actively participating in debates. Particular mention should go to the fourth years Caitlin Macmillan, Miranda Hopkins, Grace Garlington and Misty Hammond who have attended on a regular basis and made significant contributions. In addition to debates held on Monday lunchtimes, we have also fielded teams in external competitions. Misty Hammond and Chris Box represented Kirkham in the Daniel Nelstrop Debating competition at Clitheroe Royal Grammar School back in September. Although Misty and Chris both spoke excellently, they were sadly not successful in reaching the second round of the competition. However, they deserve sincere congratulations as this was an excellent effort from a young and relatively inexperienced team.

On the 5th December we sent a team of four speakers to Loretto College in Manchester to participate in 'The Institute of Ideas and Pfizer Debating Matters Competition'. This was the first time Kirkham had participated in this relatively new competition, and the modern format dictated that two sets of speakers were to be prepared to debate. Harold Buchanan and I proposed the motion 'This House would make pollution society's top priority'. and a heated debate between Kirkham and the hosts Loretto College followed. Unfortunately. Kirkham was unsuccessful in this debate, which meant that the very well prepared team of Ben Fisher and Alex Miller was unable to speak in the final. The debates were enjoyed by all the support team, and I hope that with better familiarity with the the format of the debates, we can be more successful next year.

The evening following this debate, Joanne Box and I travelled to QEGS in Blackburn to participate in the first round of the ESU Mace Debating Competition. Opposing the motion, 'This House would ban boxing', we faced a difficult challenge as local rivals Arnold 'squirrelled' the motion! Despite improvised speeches, Kirkham was chosen to go through to the second round of the competition alongside Runshaw College. The second round took place in early February, at Crossley High School in Yorkshire. Kirkham opposed the motion 'This House would allow parents to choose certain genetic characteristics of their children'. The standard of debating in the second round of the competition was extremely impressive and we were delighted to be declared runners up, although unfortunately only one team went through to the regional final.

Following the successes of speakers in the external competitions, we looked forward to some interesting engagements in the Inter-House Debate. After a close first round between Preston and Kirkham, Kirkham's team of Joanne Box and Ben Fisher was declared as winners. School House's <sup>formi</sup>dable combination of Harold Buchanan and Rachel Brown joined them in the final. The final itself was heated and following excellent speeches,



Kirkham and School engaged in fierce questioning, with the Kirkham team of Joanne Box and Alex Miller being declared eventual winners.

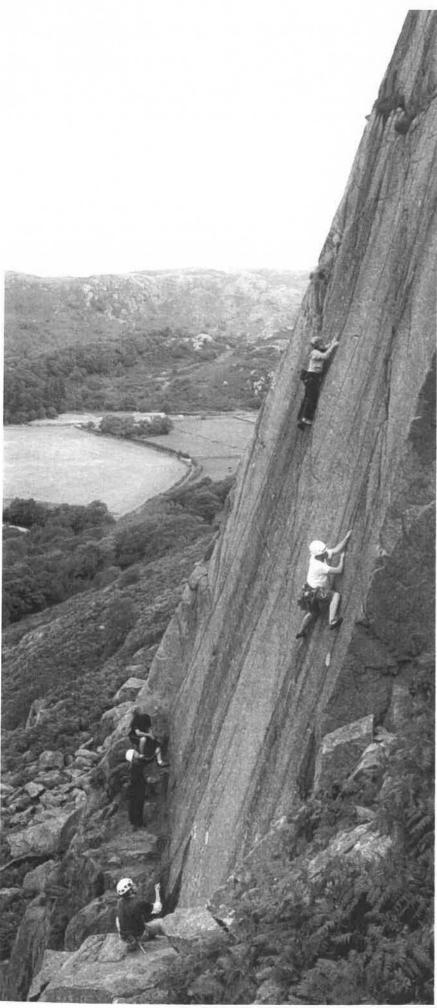
Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Hawkes for his support over the past year. Although his map reading skills and sense of direction leave much to be desired when driving across the North of England, we could not wish for a more dedicated and enthusiastic mentor and I hope he continues to enjoy success with the society next year.

Joanne Forrest

#### Magic Circle

Under the aegis of Grand Sorcerer Matthew Denham (fifth year), the apprentices of the Magic Circle have continued along the path of enlightenment. They now possess amazing powers to make a card disappear and reappear anywhere in the deck; to make a pen pierce a tenner without leaving a hole; and to predict the losing numbers in the national lottery. Next year the apprentices hope to learn the art of mind-reading and mind-control. And Matthew plans to stand on his head on a rugby post for 24 hours while reciting Proust's 'A la recherche du temps perdu' and simultaneously performing the entire Ring Cycle on his harmonica, a feat never before performed at KGS, although Isobel Birley once turned William Grimbaldeston into a newt after he said her apron was 'very last year'.





#### Chess Club

Another year dominated by the Fieldings - Tom (fourth Year) and his sister, Lucy (second year). They were among a group who represented the school at the Regional Final of the annual UK Chess Challenge. Indeed, Tom won his section of the final and went on to the National Finals, where he came up against very strong competition. Back at KGS, the Chess Club met every week throughout the Autumn and Spring terms. The standard of play continues to improve, although no one has yet challenged the Fielding supremacy. Maybe next year will see the emergence of a new pretender and the end of the old order.

#### Climbing Club

The club has flourished this year, but the sponsored climb to raise money for aid to Sri Lanka stands out. Over nine hundred pounds was raised that will contribute towards helping a member, Ben Fisher, to teach English in tsunami affected areas during his gap year. Some members even completed the climbs in fancy dress, though for next year certain members, who shall remain nameless, should remember it is usually girls who wear tutus!

This year has also seen the club venture further afield. During the winter Cliff's Barn re-opened for the first time in over five years, meaning it was new to all but a few members. With its unique style and atmosphere, it was soon a favourite amongst new members. As exams approached, so did long summer evenings and the club ventured, albeit in smaller numbers, to the local Lancashire quarries. The climbing was very different to the indoor training walls and was described as "proper climbing" by the staff as routes were mastered with technique and balance, not just strength. A new member, Misty Hammond, found the outdoor climbing hard due to her fear of heights but, to everyone's delight, overcame this to complete a long route at the last possible moment at the club's last meet this year at Troy Quarry.

This year has, sadly, been the last for a large number of upper sixth formers. Ben Fisher, Will Horton, Jo Forrest, Dave Spencer and myself are now departing to university (grades permitting!), but will no doubt be making "special guest appearances" next term We would all like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Scott, Mr Hancock and Mr Gaddes for running the club, and putting up with smelly tinned mackerel being eaten on the climbing bus.

As we depart, Nicola Clough, Paul Taylor and Joe Robinson take over as the officers of the club next year and we wish them the best of luck, and warn new members that Nicola has already proved, with the merciless squashing of a family of frogs, what might happen if you don't pay your bus money.

Matthew Gaddes

ed ut.

ng ibt



'Sociable Meercats'

#### **Environmental Action Group**

Chester Zoo Trip, June 2006.

Club members enjoyed a Saturday trip to Chester Zoo following the summer exams. The majority of the enclosures were well designed and spacious.



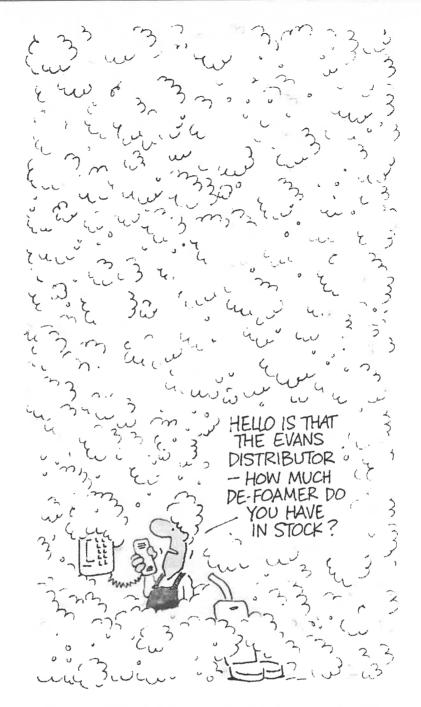


#### **Biology Field Work**

A2 Ecology studies at Ainsdale sand dunes, June 2006.

Students investigate how the distribution of marram grass changed at different distances from the beach.





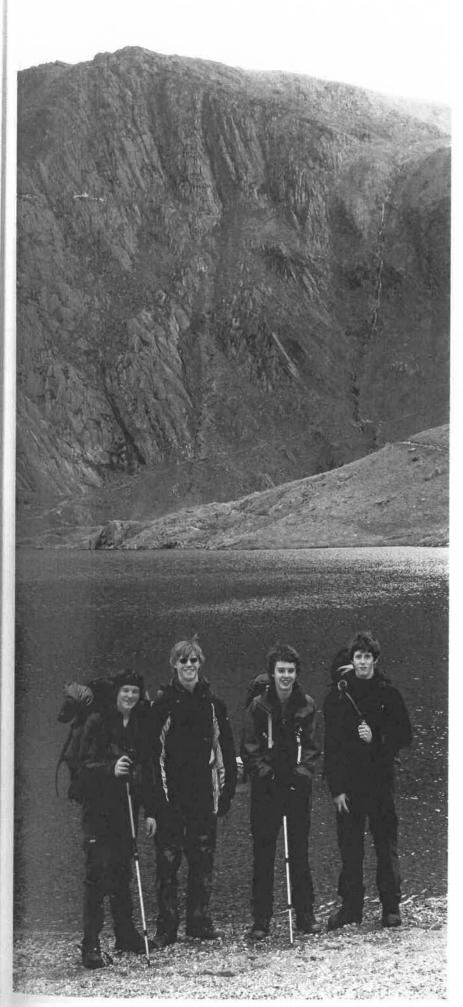
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#### **Duke of Edinburgh**

This year over forty five students have started their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award, a further twenty five are undertaking their Silver and seventeen sixth formers are working their way through the Gold Award.

During the May half-term twelve fourth years completed their bronze expedition and returned from Snowdonia wanting to go back. Thanks must be expressed to the staff, Mr Callister, Mrs Copeland, Miss Cummings and Mr Hancock for making their expedition an experience to remember.

This summer saw eleven students complete their Gold expedition. The participants travelled by foot across the Lake District from Pooley Bridge to Ravensglass, spending four nights under canvas and carrying all their equipment and food with them. They impressed the external assessors greatly with their teamwork, motivational skills and with their knowledge of campcraft and navigation and it was fantastic to hear that all eleven have been successful. A further four students also completed their Silver expedition this summer. They too impressed their assessors and have been successful in this part of their Award. Thanks to the staff involved, Mr Callister, Miss Cummings, Miss Knight and Mrs Sutcliffe.





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## KIRKHAMIAN COMBINED CADET FORCE



#### CCF Report, 2006

It has been a very busy time for KGS CCF over the last twelve months. As well as the usual camps, field days and inspections, I must extend my sincere thanks to Lt Janet Knight for all her hard work in organising what may become a regular event, the Regimental Dinner which took place at the beginning of March. As this year's sixth form NCO's had worked so hard and performed so well, it was decided to dine them out in the traditional manner. All the military finery, regimental silverware and even the Old Regimental Colours were on display. With the addition of some excellent speeches, this made for a thoroughly memorable evening for all who attended.

We had a very successful overnight, inspection and field day at Waddecar in October. To quote the inspecting officer,

'From the outset I was extremely impressed with what I saw. Morale was first class across the board, as was the application and commitment of all'

We therefore decide'd to offer the current fifth form cadets a chance of a more military overnight exercise at Weeton camp later on in the year, in March. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part. The remainder joined the company the next day to experience full bore live shooting on the 30 metre range, an obstacle course, several initiative exercises and more military tasks.

Meanwhile, the fourth year cadets had a very tiring day of varied activities at Halton on Lune training camp, Lancaster. Here they all experienced their first live firing of the cadet rifle (having recently passed their weapon handling test), ran through an assault course, conducted further weapon training and had a thoroughly good time. A small group of seniors also went climbing with Mr Gaddes and Mrs Scott and the RAF visited Woodvale. In all, the day was a logistics nightmare.

KGS CCF also provided a small standard bearers' party for a Lions International event in Preston. Thanks must go to those concerned and to Lt Reeves

for his leading the colour party. Congratulations are extended to both Lt Reeves and Lt Knight on their promotion to first Lieutenant.

The beginning of April was the date for the annual Adventurous Training camp at St John's in the Vale. A full report appears elsewhere. Easter is also the time for the Cadet Leadership Courses run at Nesscliffe Camp. This year we were allocated more places then ever before. Five lower sixth NCO's attended these courses and very favourable reports were received, which also improves their BTEC grading. Some cadets have also applied for the Frimley leadership course in August.

I would like to congratulate acting Sgt Luke Sanders on his success in being awarded an Army Sixth Form Scholarship. These are few and far between and we have had two in as many years.

Other successes have come with the very large number of pupils being interested in armed services careers. The Army Schools' Careers Officer interviewed over twenty potentials from the fourth, fifth and sixth form this term.

Currently at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, is Nick Bridges, who helped us out over the last few years in many ways. Not only has he provided the young legs and endless enthusiasm on camps and field days, he (along with the RSM) carpeted the cadet hut! He represents Kirkham Grammar School at Sandhurst and is on his first term, while on the. second term (along with one officer Cadet William Wales!) is another old Kirkhamian, Warren-Marginson. We wish them both good luck in their future careers, as we do to all our senior NCOs who leave this summer after serving KGS CCF for four years. My sincere thanks go to them along with my best wishes. Hopefully, some may even continue with University Officer Training Corps and some have already decided to go on to Sandhurst. Our special best wishes go to our departing Army Scholar, and first ever Cadet RSM in the Corp, Andy Moncrieff.

The BTEC award has gone from strength to strength this year, with twelve lower sixth NCO's almost completing their assignments and three upper sixth awaiting their certification. It is hoped to push this qualification even more with next year's applicants as more timetable time will be dedicated to its delivery.

The fourth year (army) recently had an overnight exercise and field day at Holcombe Moor Training Camp (home of the Krypton Factor assault course, if you remember it?). Great fun was had by all on what was probably one of the hottest days of the year. Despite this, our CO managed to sink a minibus in a hidden spring on the training area! On the same day the RAF went flying at Woodvale and finally in a hectic year, we all look forward to summer camp at Warcop (report elsewhere).

My heartfelt thanks must also go to all my officers and the civilian staff who also help out on Thursday afternoons and field days. Some even give up their holiday time to help us out on camps. Without their contribution, KGS CCF would not be in the healthy condition that it finds itself in at the end of one of the busiest and most successful years I can remember - and I've been around a long time!

Lt. Col. I.M.Scott

#### **Adventure Training** April, 2006

At the end of the spring term, 32 cadets and several staff set off to St John's in the Vale, again, for their annual AT camp. April weather was expected. but this year the cadets experienced four different seasons in as many days. Heavy rain, wind, spring sun and thick snow all occurred within four days. Son Ldr Callister was in his element, 'If it ain't raining, it ain't training!'

One group set out early to walk to their overnight campsite in Glenridding, living off operational ration packs for 24 hours and walking back to the base via the Helvellyn range and Sticks Pass. The remainder arrived at the centre for the evening meal, created by our master chef (complete with harlequin trousers) followed by a briefing of the week's activities. One group was to spend the day canoeing in Derwent Water with 40 Cadet Training Team; another was to mountain bike around the Keswick area and return early to prepare for their overnight expedition. The final group had an interesting trip to the South Lakes, where they had half a day orienteering in Great Tower Scout Plantation. The other half of the day was a rather different activity. In Grizedale Forest there is a commercially run high ropes course called 'Go Ape'. Several of our 'baboons', accompanied by 'gorillas' (adults), had an exciting and testing experience. As an adventurous activity this really did test confidence and ability to overcome fear of heights.

The whole aim of the week was to develop both team work and leadership skills in a semi arduous environment. The targets certainly were fulfilled as the cadets had to plan routes and navigate upland fells, using map and compass in quite difficult but interesting weather conditions. This also satisfied the basic expedition requirement for the BTEC award, if chosen to be completed in the sixth form. Also the two other adventurous training activities of canoeing and mountain biking are part of the qualification.

The week was also enhanced by the element of intersection competition. Not only were all activities assessed on group performance (even the domestic chores in the kitchen!), but there was a challenge for the number and variety of wild woodland creatures seen! Sights of Ilamas (which were Shetland ponies!) and otters had to be confirmed; road kill of rabbits, pheasants and even badgers were seen, but in the end Cpl Jonathan Knowles took the prize otter! Congratulations to Sgt Major Alex Miller's section who won the overall competition and claimed their silly hats prizes on the final evening. They excelled in all the activities and it showed the good leadership and teamwork necessary in producing strong performances - even in the kitchen! No moaning was allowed. Wooden spoons were issued to each section and if anyone had a gripe they had to moan to the spoon and be responsible for it for the rest of the day! This worked very well, until one section lost their spoon!

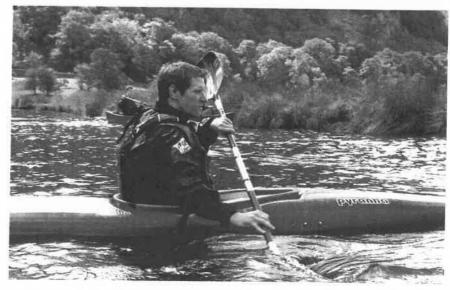
Thanks must go to all the staff involved. It is a result of our success and ability to produce such a fun Camp that many non CCF staff come along and others just pop in for a few days. Our thanks go to

them all and I hope they enjoyed their adventures. Mr Hancock's help with the camping and walking was much appreciated. Old Kirkhamian Paul Stanford, yet again, gave his valuable time for the orienteering and U/Offr Nick Bridges, as usual, was there with his unending enthusiasm and energy. We wish Nick all the best in the future at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.

Huge thanks must go to Sqn Ldr Callister for his training programme and without him, WO2 Shaun Savage and Lt Janet Knight, the overnight part of the expedition would not have happened. They camped out every night in some quite difficult weather conditions.

There were some funny memorable moments to enjoy over the few days. It was interesting to see Sgt Gaddes' body armour for mountain biking. Resembling a storm trooper from Star Wars, he did not need it. But it was a shame Alex Miller did not wear it when he went over the handlebars of his bike! It was later revealed that he was actually videoing himself with his mobile phone while going downhill at the time of the accident! Luminous lycra cycle suits seemed to be in vogue and several senior cadets went on extra rides to show them off to the locals. This sartorial elegance was repeated in the attire for canoeing. F/Sgt Spencer resembled Bertie





Bassett in his colourful wetsuit and Paul Taylor was not unlike a stick of liquorice!

All these humorous moments and more were brought to light on the final presentation evening. Several interesting and devious games were devised by the staff - some resulting in a bit of a shock for the participants. Carl and Tom should have realised that the officers have been hoodwinking cadets for many years now and that there is never a winner when 'Spoons' is played!

#### Warcop Central Camp July, 2006

Back to our own brigade camp this year, which meant a shorter journey up the M6 to Cumbria, or is it Westmoreland? Appleby, the nearest small town, claims to be its capital. KGS CCF has attended this location several times and our expectations were fulfilled. An excellent training package was provided by the 42 (NW) Bdn training teams from Preston, Manchester and Liverpool.

This was, however, the first time we had worn our new khaki berets with the recently created cap badge of the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment. The former Queen's Lancashires have amalgamated with the King's Own Royal Borderers and the King's Regiment from Liverpool, forming the only regiment that recruits from the north west and also the only infantry regiment with the Queen as Colonel in Chief.

It was straight into the action. The first day's activity was the full infantry training day called 'Warcop Wanderer'. This was a very physical day, but everyone enjoyed it and it was very novel for the younger cadets to fire blank ammunition. The second day brought the navigation and initiative exercises, which proved fun. Congratulations to Georgina Burton's section for coming first in our contingent. In the afternoon we were on the watermanship stand after an interesting lunch of 'range stew' (with pasta?). It was, however, better

than the horror bags with cheese and onion pasties!

The rafting was great fun. The Royal Engineers, especially WO2 Lindsay, had a knack for getting KGS CCF cadets very wet, especially Tom Watson, who was selected for the 'man overboard' drill! The next day brought the range package. Live firing on the 30 metre range; simulated shooting on the DCCT range, which was like a very expensive computer game, and a full section in defence range firing blank and the LSW machine gun. This was a terrific experience for all who had never even seen this weapon before. It was quite coincidental that we had a visit from some very important regular army officers that day. The Chief of Staff of 2 Division just happened to be the uncle of Paula Lomax and made a beeline for our contingent. Also visiting was the CEO of the Cadet Association and important links were forged. After the range firing, everyone was walked through the obstacle course as a preparation for the march and shoot competition later in the

The combat first aid stand on Wednesday was great fun and KGS thespians excelled in their acting as casualties in the exercise. The wounds were so realistic that the medical orderly was quite shocked when he saw Brook Bowden after a bang on the head. The photographs need to be seen to be believed. Tom Anstis lost an eye; Sarah Hatch an arm and Charlotte Jackson and Grace Garlington were superb as hysterical victims of shock. Charlotte did rather enjoy squirting the stage blood all over people and Katie Jones showed how projectile vomit could cause problems by staining uniforms! The Royal Signals' package, after yet another 'range stew' lunch, was one of the best experienced by our senior cadets. Sometimes playing with radios can be tedious, but the directing staff managed to make it very interesting. That evening we had another chance to fire on the DCCT in camp.

Thursday was adventurous training. Because of the numbers involved (66 cadets and 6 officers), we chose between canoeing, climbing, caving and a small group went for a walk in the Lake District. The weather was very kind to us and all the groups reported having had an excellent time and some went as far as to say the best ever canoeing day. Lt Reeves did find that Derwent Water was quite cold, as he discovered on first entering the lake and capsizing immediately! But all the cadets enjoyed themselves on the AT day, whatever activity they participated in.

On the final day was the march and shoot competition, which consisted of a route march, timed assault course and then a marked shoot. We entered two teams of twenty. In the afternoon there was a cross-country run. Despite several good performances, no trophies were won but, again, KGS cadets threw themselves into all the activities. With our own internal awards it was very close between several individuals. In the evening presentation Lt Col Scott thanked the departing upper sixth NCO's and presented them with regimental mementoes and ties. CSM Alex Miller was awarded the customary pen for having

attended every possible camp during his four years in the CCF.

The competition for the Anzac trophy, for the best fourth year cadet on camp, was very fierce. Many of the fourth form excelled on their first camp. It was decided to award the prize to Wasim Riley, who actually only decided to attend camp on the Friday before departure! Charles O'Flaherty was also a contender, as too were Elly Gaddes, Maria Hindley. Charlotte Jackson, Corin Heney and Caitlin McMillan who all performed very well throughout the week.

Old Kirkhamian Nick Bridges had donated a new trophy at our recent regimental dinner. It is called the Waterloo Trophy and it is presented to the best fifth form cadet. It was shared by Katie Jones and Paula Lomax who both thoroughly deserved the award.

Finally the promotions for next year were announced. The CO has been very impressed with the quality of the lower sixth NCO's this year. It was decided to confirm all the acting sergeants and add to them Chris Ward, Charlotte Chambers and Kate Turner (who agreed to be our Quarter Master Sergeant). Three colour sergeants were appointed: Luke Sanders (our army scholar), Nicola Clough and Lisa Isles (who only started CCF last September).

It was decided to appoint two Company Sergeant Majors. Rachel Bird and Jonathan Knowles will take over in September to be in overall charge of the fourth and fifth form platoons. We congratulate our new cadet RSM, Natalie Roberts - the first girl cadet to reach this rank, and wish her well in this position of responsibility. She, of course, receives the Colonel's Trophy for the best NCO on camp.

We all look forward with anticipation to Summer Camp 2007, which should be at Wathgill in Catterick Garrison. Places, as usual, should be in great demand.

#### **RAF Camp** Honington

Sqn Ldr Callister, Flt Lt Taylor and PO Hayton, along with Miss Kelly, all went all the way to Suffolk with several RAF cadets to experience life on a regular RAF station. Cadet accommodation, however, was under canvas a few miles away, at RAF Barnham, and this proved interesting as it was the hottest week of the summer.

Several different visits were organised, interspersed with swimming at the local leisure centre in Thetford in an attempt to keep cool. Everyone had the chance to fly at RAF Wittering - even Ms Kelly enjoyed her loop the loop! We saw how the RAF Regiment train parachutists and fit 23 bodies into a life raft. We had a visit to a Sea King search and rescue squadron and (the most enjoyable) the RAF fire service. The latter was an excellent way to cool down after a very hot day!

We visited the RAF Regimental Museum, which was a touch of nostalgia for Flt Lt Taylor, as it was his former unit 20 years ago, but he still managed to discover a few old colleagues. Weapon handling instruction and live firing on the range were the





preparation for a night exercise. All in all we had a very full programme for a very hot but very enjoyable week. Thanks must go to Sgn Ldr Callister for all his hard work and organisation as Camp Commander. It was so good even Lt Col Scott came down for a few days to see how the RAF run their camps. He was impressed - especially with the officers' mess. We also must thank PO Hayton for all the time that she has given to the RAF section of KGS CCF. We do hope that she keeps in touch and possibly comes on camp again. Thanks also to Ms Kelly who, we hope, may be convinced to join to replace Mrs Hayton?

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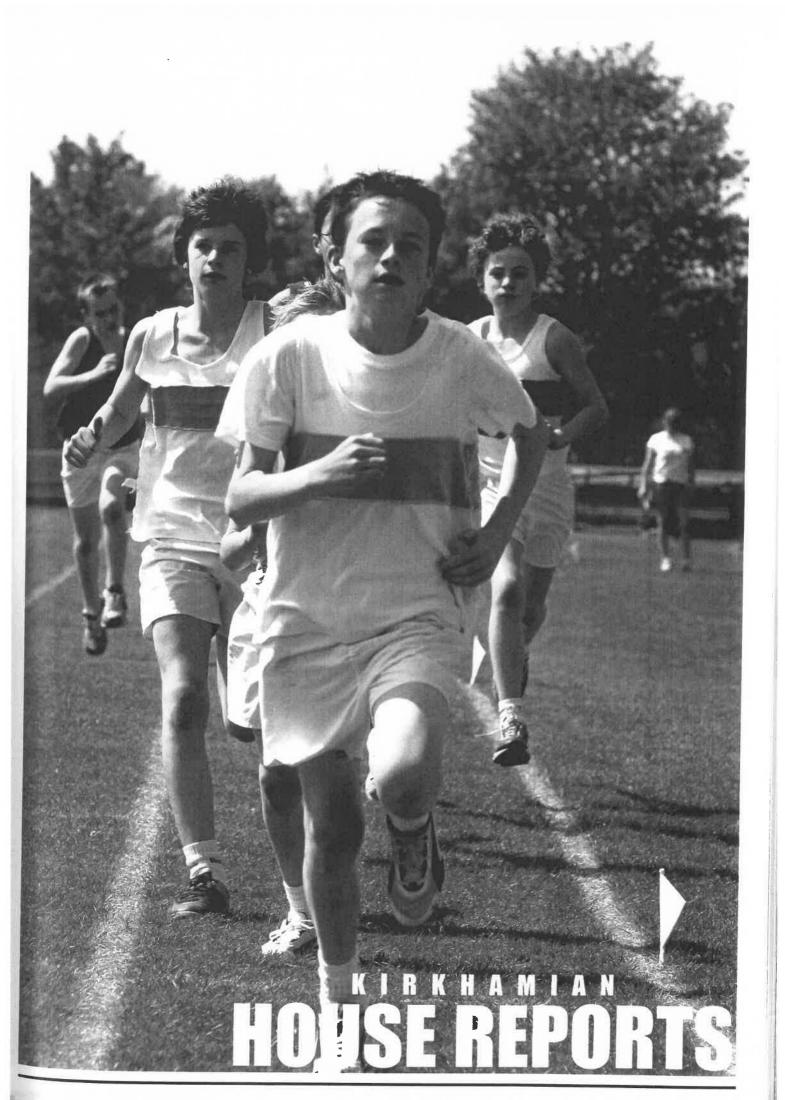
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#### **Preston House**

The house events started last September with the chess and basketball competitions. It does not seem that long ago at all, but since then there have been over thirty different events. The competitions are always approached with enthusiasm and commitment and it is a credit to the whole of Preston House that there is a positive attitude throughout from the first years to the sixth form. This was also typified by the excellent House Captains we had last year in James Carpenter, Fran Hughes, Natalie Hayhurst, Sam Dunn and Caroline Desborough. They have worked with enthusiasm, intelligence and have set an excellent example to the younger members of the House.

#### **Autumn Term**

So let's go back to September, a term in which we have struggled to gain good points in the past. However, with the introduction of house basketball, the intermediate boys helped us to gain a first place. They beat School House in the first match, drew with Kirkham and then in the last minute of the final match against Fylde, Rody Hothersall managed to score two baskets and we won the competition. As Mr Smith said, 'The team that won today was the team that wanted to win the most'. The term also ended with a very good second position in the swimming gala, thanks to the exceptional talent of Rachel Armistead. She broke the school record in the senior crawl and was first in the butterfly. Luke Patterson also broke the record in the intermediate freestyle and was first in the individual medley. For the first time in years we did well in the junior quiz, gaining a second place. The juniors also won the chess competition, with both Patrick Callery and Adam Patel winning all their matches, and the senior girls came second in the netball after a thrilling competition, in which our goal shooter, Claire Pasquill, was outstanding. So, overall, it was a mixed start to the year, with many excellent performances, but still too many fourth places.

#### **Spring Term**

The house music was the first event of the Spring Term and, as reigning champions, we were looking forward to defending our crown. However, with the absence of Mrs Miller, we struggled to get as many auditions as in previous years. We had some excellent auditions and had ten finalists including the house choir with 'The Rhythm of Life'. Our finalists included Rachel Kitchen, Grace Garlington, Rose Whitehead, Rachel Einemann, James Ford, Lucinda McDade and Richard Kwasnicki.

The spring term is traditionally a stronger one for Preston House and we carried on the tradition with some excellent results in the cross - country events, with the junior boys and junior girls coming first and second respectively. The intermediate boys finished in fourth place, however the intermediate girls were excellent, finishing in a record first position with notable performances from Rachel Armistead (first), Camille Knowles (second), Lucy Knowles (third), Rebecca Nutbrown (fifth) and Grace Ford (sixth). The seniors carried on the excellent results, with the boys in second position and Georgina Burton won the girls' event. Mr Smith asked if Preston House had

been training at altitude over the Christmas holidays.

In the house debate, Preston proposed the motion, 'This House would rather watch the movie than read the book'. Natalie Roberts opened the debate with an organised and succinct account and was well supported by an excellent speech from Alex Dean. The debate sprang into life in the second section when the audience was invited to ask questions. However, even Alex's wit and guile were not quite good enough to beat the defending champions of Kirkham House.

We were also unlucky to finish third in the house shooting, even with Jonathan Knowles finishing second in the overall competition. The senior girls also finished third in the hockey competition, but we deserved better after a magnificent performance from Fran McNeela. It was beginning to look as though we were picking up too many third places to challenge the leaders of the overall house competition.

The intermediate sevens took place next. We drew the first match to School House, lost the second against Fylde, but won the match against Kirkham by 26 points to 19, with Wasim Riley and Nick Evans being the try scorers. Overall, we came third. The senior sevens was a much closer affair, in which we finished second to School after beating Fylde in the final match by 34 points to 14. The attitude and team spirit was excellent throughout this tough tournament.

#### **Summer Term**

Due to inclement weather and other fixtures, the junior sevens tournament took place at the end of March after the Easter holidays. Our squad of players was very talented and had been practising on Wednesday lunchtimes for four weeks. The first match against Kirkham was won convincingly. Ben Jones, the captain, scored twice, Joe Casson also scored twice, Anish Chandresakar and Jake Baxter both scored one each. In the second match against Fylde the forwards, led by Bobby Garlington, outpowered their opponents and won by 38 points to 7. The last match against School was a classic, because they had also won both matches and this was the final. It was end-to-end stuff; we scored, and they scored, until, with one minute to go, the score was Preston 17 to School 19. However, Ben Jones (the player of the tournament) tackled a big School forward on our 22 yard line, ripped the ball from him and, three passes later, Joe Casson was flying down the wing with Lyman Choi in hot pursuit. The clock was ticking down, but Joe flew under the posts to score and James Coulthard converted this. The final score was Preston 26 to School 19 and it was the highlight of the year so far. Tremendous team spirit from a talented squad.

Well done to all those who competed in the preliminaries for Sports Day and on the day itself. We had 100% participation, even though the whole event was organised and completed in just over a week. There were many notable performances, but I was very proud of the overall commitment and attitude of the House, from the spectators to the competitors. Mrs Miller said that the feeling in the competitors' enclosure was truly inspiring and the support given when an athlete was running could

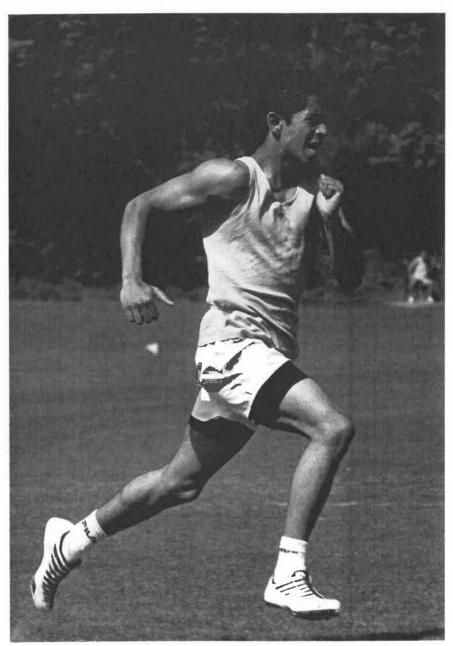
not be faulted-true Preston spirit. The athlete of the day must surely have been Wasim Riley, who won the Victor Ludorum in the intermediate boys, coming first in the 100 metres, 200 metres, 400 metres and second in the long jump. We had 18 first places and 16 second places, but it is not just about winning, it is also about taking part. I will always remember Camille and Rochelle Knowles chasing their brother Dominic to the finishing line as he came second in the 1500 metres and Caroline Desborough in her final sports day competing in five events. Richard Morrell won both the 800 metres and 1500 metres on the same day, as did Joe Casson in the 100 metres and 200 metres. Yet again, we unfortunately finished in third place by 9 points to Fylde in second.

Going into the last week of term, there was only six points between three of the Houses. This year's competition has been closer and more competitive than ever, with Mr Reeves pushing Fylde for a repeat of last year's winning performance and Mrs Glover, in her first year as a Housemistress, encouraging Kirkham to some improved performances. The tennis tournament was very competitive, especially in the lower school. We came third in the juniors, Kerry Emmett and Oliver Rowlands playing especially well, and fourth in the intermediates. However, in the senior competition, we had a bit of luck this year, because Jenny Dewhurst was back from Wimbledon (she was only watching this year, but may be competing next year). With James Hall, Jonathan Knowles and Chris Ward it was a pretty awesome quartet and they went through the tournament undefeated, winning every single match.

In the junior cricket we reached the final after easily beating Fylde by nine wickets. Captain and man of the match Nick Evans took five wickets off four overs for twelve runs and also scored 31 not out. He was well supported by Bobby Garlington on 27 not out. In the final against School we won the toss and put them in to bat. They scored 120 for 4 off 15 overs, quite a large score to aim at. We did not start well, losing two wickets in the first over, but then Mo Riley got twelve runs off the second. Our wickets were given away too easily and we only managed to score 80 all out. Nevertheless, it was very rewarding to see Preston in the final.

On the same day the junior girls competed in the rounders tournament, an event we had never won. It was also the last event of the year and with only single points between three of the houses, it was important to do as well as possible. We started well, beating Fylde by 14.5 rounders to 7, then beat Kirkham by 7.5 to 6. The last match was lost, but on the count up we were awarded first place. The captain Grace Ford ably led the team, but Abi Kos, Natalie Yates and Kerry Emmett were outstanding. So, the only event left to add up is the Work Cup. Good luck to you all and thank you all very much for all the effort and the time that you have given to Preston House this year.

have thoroughly enjoyed leading Kirkham House this year! The members of Kirkham House have been an absolute credit, they have shown a real Willingness to represent the House and a



Wasim Riley, Intermediate Victor Ludorum

determination to perform to the best of their ability. I would like to thank all of the Kirkham House staff and pupils for their efforts this year. I would particularly like to thank Alex Miller, Jennifer Ireland and Matthew Lee for their total support and commitment throughout the year as house captains. Congratulations and good luck to Jessica Ashworth, Philip Hingley and Simon Pitman, captains for 2006-2007.

#### **Autumn Term**

The guiz was the first of the house events and unfortunately we were drawn against a very strong School team in both the senior and junior competitions. Our teams performed very well indeed, but lost narrowly in both age groups.

Basketball proved to be a real 'eye opener'! It was undoubtedly competitive and the 'no contact' rule appeared to be ignored regularly. Our senior boys performed extremely well and finished in third place. After a slow start, our inter boys rose to the challenge and the last match to be played decided Come in and see the wide ranges stocked!

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our final position, second or fourth. We lost by one point and obviously were very disappointed after leading the match right up until the last thirty seconds. Many thanks to Charles O'Flaherty who captained the team and to all our senior and inter basketballers.

In the chess competition we fielded a strong team of Matthew Lee, Tom Fielding, Oliver Youngman, Lucy Fielding, Chris Bentley, Oliver Evans, Seb Luker and Peter Armstrong. We performed exceptionally well and were extremely unfortunate to finish in second position by half a point.

Netball has seemed to be one of our strengths over the years. This year was no different. Our junior team had a slow start and after a disappointing defeat to Fylde, they bounced back to beat Preston House convincingly to finish in third place. Thank you to Katie Gorman for captaining the team. Our senior girls performed superbly once again. They defeated Fylde in the semi-final and Preston in the final to win the competition once again. Thank you to Alex Bonney and Zoe Kirkham for their captaincy and organisation and to Jessica Ashworth, Rebecca Sharples, Katie Jones, Charlotte Baker, Fiona Gardener, Jade Mottley, Caitlin McMillan and Jordan Leeson.

The junior hockey event changed its format this year and the event was a great success. Our team was extremely strong and really should have qualified for the final. After dominating the semi-final against Fylde, we lost on penalty strokes. The girls stepped up a gear against Preston House in the third - fourth play off and won this match 3-0. Well done to all our hockey girls.

Swimming was the final event of 2005, a competition in which traditionally Kirkham has excelled. This year was no different. Captained by Phil Hingley and Zoe Kirkham, our swimmers performed superbly. One person kindly volunteered to fill in whenever we were short and she won all of her races with ease! Alex Bonney, prepare yourself, you are in everything next year! Thank you and congratulations to all of our swimmers, there are far too many to name them all.

#### Spring Term

2006 started with a bang! Organising and preparing for one of the biggest house events was unbelievably chaotic. However, we managed it and Kirkham performed superbly in the music competition. We had 111 individual entries in the auditions and led the points table after the first stage. Thank you and well done to all those people who represented Kirkham in this massive event.

We had a fabulous time rehearsing the house choir. A wonderful blend of talented, tuneful and 'out of key' choristers practised regularly and performed a Sister Act medley superbly. Thank you to Caitlin McMillan for her help and support. Congratulations to Alex Miller, Caitlin McMillan, Jenny Patel, Ben Fisher and Jonathan Davies for reaching the music finals. Special mention should go to Caitlin, Jenny and Alex who finished in the top five. Finally, I could not have organised Kirkham House in this huge

competition without the constant help and support of Alex Miller. He was terrific throughout and I would like to give special thanks to him.

The dreaded cross country followed. However, I was delighted with the willingness of our pupils to compete. All of our teams gave absolutely everything and I was extremely pleased with the results. Both our junior boys and girls finished in fourth place, our inter boys and girls finished in second place, our senior boys finished third and our senior girls finished in second place. Well done to all of our cross country runners.

Our shooting team, ably led by Phillip Hingley, finished in second place. A great effort by Phillip, Oliver Youngman and Luke Sanders.

Joanne Box successfully led our debating team with Alex Miller to yet another victory in this event. Thank you to Mrs O'Flaherty and the team for all of their time and effort in preparing and delivering the argument.

The rugby teams battled extremely well. The juniors won one match and finished in third place. Both the inter and senior teams finished in fourth place, but they were very unlucky. Well done to all the rugby teams and thank you to Jack McPherson, Tom Sanders, Charles O'Flaherty and Harrison Pickervance for captaining the teams

#### Summer Term

Sports Day was the first of our summer events. Though we knew this was going to be difficult, we fielded a full team of athletes in all events. We had a real mixed ability team, with many of our competitors competing for the first time in this sport. We finished in fourth place, but competed to the best of our ability. All of our athletes were a credit to Kirkham House, however I would like to mention just a few for their outstanding attitude and contribution to our team: Nathan Loftus, Jack McPherson, Johnny Taylor, Fiona Gardner, Adam Kelsall, Jade Motley, Stephen Hamilton, Tom Sanders, Matt Davies, Simon Pitman, Katie Jones, Luke Sanders, Harrison Pickervance, Will Horton and Kristian Musty.

Our senior cricket team defeated Preston House in a very close semi-final match. We battled well in the final, but unfortunately lost to a very strong School team. Our iuniors were also drawn against a good School team. Again we performed very well indeed, but were beaten in the semi-final. Thank you to Mr. Browning, Mr Duncan and Mr Carter for their help and support.

The tennis competition was one of the last events. Thank you to Heather Morgenroth, Joanne Jackson, Simon Pitman and Harrison Pickervance. These four combined for the first time and the lads had never really played competitively before. Though we finished in fourth place, our team played very well indeed. Our inter and junior teams were outstanding and both teams won the event convincingly. Congratulations to Peter Rigby, Christian Luker, Adam Kelsall, Johnny Leyland, Kristian Turnbull, Stanley Graham, Anna Rigby and Max Baker.

Rounders was the final event and one which we needed to do well in. Our team, captained by Grace O'Flaherty, played really well, but unfortunately lost each game by just one rounder.

The final trophy of the year, and traditionally a trophy that Kirkham has won regularly, is the Work Cup. This year was no different. The hard work of all the Kirkham House members in their academic subjects certainly paid off and Kirkham was once again a worthy winner!

I am extremely proud to lead Kirkham House. After seventeen years' involvement, I am gold through and through. The results this year for the Champion House were the closest recorded. Being the competitive person that I am, I cannot wait to lead Kirkham through yet another hectic year of events this next time we will be giving it everything to challenge for the title!

J Glover

#### Fylde House

"I Don't Believe It!"

As is tradition (A.R. Baines, 1963), the House report must start with a quote, and what an apt one it is. As the dust settled after another intense year, the news that Fylde House had won their first Whitby Cup travelled quickly. The summer transfer window was siezed upon by Kirkham House and with the House committee never one to shy away from controversy, we saw the introduction of our first Housemistress, Mrs. Glover. With Mr. Sampey a staunch Prestonian, family conflict was surely on the horizon. Mr. Duncan's retirement was a disappointment to many (particularly to the new House recorder) and lucrative offers were made to lure him back to his spiritual home of Fylde House. However, his decision was to stay yellow through and through. The scene was set for another fantastic House competition.

September arrived and the quiz teams were first to take the floor. The School teams were in intimidating form in both competitions. Jacob Hilton and "Howard" Buchanan (sic) appeared to be mirror images in their respective finals. No team could stand up to their superior knowledge or quick fingers. School House and Mr. Smith were back - and didn't we know it!

The basketball competitions are always a great spectacle and this term was no exception. The intermediate competition resembled a heavy game of touch rugby and the shooting was more Rodney Trotter than Dennis Rodman. However, all teams played with superb spirit and Preston House emerged victorious. The senior competition closely followed - could School replace Oye's magic of last year? The magic was there, but this year it was wearing a green vest. Chris Bowden was prolific that afternon and led Fylde to their first victory of the year, which had Mr Smith staring in admiration. Whether or not this was at his skills on the court or Fylde House's collection of retro basketball accessories, we are not too sure.

The senior netball returned to familiar and less slippy surroundings this year with the quad full of spectators for the two lunchtimes. Kirkham dominated the competition, and Mrs Glover was rarely worried by the obvious expertise of her rival

housemasters in this field. A sweet victory indeed; their first of the year. The junior girls' competition was also full of skill and breakneck speed, with Lizzie Woodburn and Lamara Hill playing superbly. Once again, School just had the edge in the final and won by one point.

As Wembley nears completion, Preston Sports Arena was the second choice for the junior hockey competition this year. On reflection, it was the most exciting and nerve-wracking event of the term. Support from parents and house staff ensured the atmosphere that evening was electric. In the semi-final Fylde faced a motivated Kirkham team and superior tactics of Mrs. Glover. All the girls played an excellent game and full time arrived with a stalemate situation. This brought penalty flicks again the teams could not be separated and it went to sudden death. The girls formed a Liverpool-in-Istanbul huddle and it was down to the dudek-like reflexes of goalkeeper Airey to put Fylde through to the final. This was a very close run affair, but the skills of Nicole Pike were a little too much. Another trophy for Mr Smith...

The swimming gala was then upon us, with several hundred willing volunteers being selected across the four houses. The housemasters' curse struck Preston House this year, with one junior boy informing Dr. Rollins of illness at 9:05am. The atmosphere for the event was electric and closely run throughout. Kirkham surged ahead, despite the best efforts of Rachel Armistead and her Preston team-mates and Mrs. Glover was triumphant in the first double-pointer of the year. The battle for third was just as exciting, with Fylde edging out School over the last two races. This was particularly memorable, with Richard Draper ensuring that he avoided Physics homework that evening by forcing his relay team to win their race.

So, 2006 arrived and the Whitby Cup standings saw School in the lead, but only narrowly. A rejuvenated Kirkham held the second spot, while Preston and Fylde were close behind. However, the spring term frequently sees change, with Preston's athletes training at altitude over the Christmas break for the cross country competitions and a new addition to the Boarding House, Miss C. Church, being a key competitor in the house music competition.

The New Year began with two first places in the dreaded cross country for the junior girls and intermediate boys. The senior girls and the junior boys came third overall and the senior boys as well as the inter girls came a respectable last. This was followed by a record number of entries in the House Music. Our finalists, Thomas Bennett, Jordan Chadwick and Jemima Clarke ensured second place. Despite the efforts of Mr Reeves, the house choir, with its rendition of "Sit Down" was unsuccessful in making the final. School marksman lain Croall was head and shoulders above the rest in the house shooting, to gain one last victory as the spring term drew to a close.

In a very interesting and lively debate with Jemma Thackray and Andrew Hatch leading the way, we gained a respectable third place overall. The junior rugby came fourth overall, but there was fantastic effort and hopefully a promising future for players. The senior rugby managed a third place, with an

excellent performance from the first team players; unfortunately this also saw Max Fulford-Brown breaking his foot in the process. The final of the inter rugby again saw us narrowly missing out on collecting a trophy, but great performances were put in by all involved. The last event was the senior hockey, which saw Fylde come second after narrowly losing out to School House.

The junior and inter tennis teams performed excellently by coming second in their respective competitions, with very pleasing displays from Sam Wignall and Richard Draper. Cricket was less successful and both our squads unfortunately experienced defeat in the semi final. House Captain lane Jackson put in a sterling performance but failed to stop our senior tennis players finishing in third. Fylde definitely saved one of its best for last - our junior rounders team played with real determination and once again, we came second overall.

The summer term saw the retirement of our four house captains, Andrew Hatch, Emily Martin, Jane Jackson and Max Fulford-Brown. We thank them for

their efforts over the year and, as a leaving present, we allow them to organise the massive event that is Sports Day. Going into the relays, we were narrowly ahead of School House, but things soon changed and we found ourselves back in second place at the climax. There were many excellent performances, with Lamara Hill winning the Junior Victrix Ludorum and Des Bowden the Senior Victor Ludorum, both winning four of their five events.

School House convincingly won the Whitby Cup this year, but Fylde gained a very creditable second which is still a great deal better than many previous years!

Mr Reeves and the house captains would like to thank all the house members for their enthusiasm over the year. Congratulations to our new captains, Jemma Thackray, Kate Gledhill and Lisa Isles. We wish them well for the year ahead. The Whitby Cup is up for grabs once again...



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#### School House

This time last year all members of School House were as stunned and upset as an England penalty shootout team, having been placed third in the Whitby Cup for the second consecutive year. However . . . the smiles are now well and truly back and Cheshire cats are once more plentiful. We three new house captains were determined to put School House back in the premier position.

And so . . . Fylde get your safety net in place as you will be leaving that pedestal without a doubt! . . . and fast!!!

The year could not have started better, with two emphatic wins in the senior and junior guiz. Very well done to Mel, Sarah, John, Harold, Jacob, Hannah, Henry and Matthew. This was followed by two second places in the senior and junior basketball competitions. To be honest, we should have won both, but just failed narrowly to maximise our potential in the final games. Then came the chess tournament, a competition that we had not won for some time. The injection of new blood into both the senior and junior teams, with James Lau and Nishant Parekh, must have done the trick as we went on to beat the mighty Kirkham by just half a point to take the title. The senior girls came third in the netball, but the juniors made up for this by beating Fylde in the final. Most of our talented squad then went on to play in the junior hockey tournament, held for the first time at Preston Sports Arena. Playing under floodlights always creates instant atmosphere and certainly inspired the girls. We beat Preston in the semi-final and went on to overpower Fylde in the final to achieve another memorable victory - our fifth of the term. Term one, as always, finished with the swimming gala, which is not our favourite event as we have so few club swimmers. School was placed fourth, but many individual wins were recorded.

Term two, and the pressure is back on with the house music festival. With a million entries (or so it seems!) and a song to choose for the choir to sing, life is hectic to say the least. It sure is worth it when once again we find that School has achieved the greatest number of finalists to maintain our outstanding record in this competition. With superb individual performances and an excellent contribution from the choir, we were assured of first place overall. We would also like to thank the other eighty plus School House members who took part in the auditions, most of whom achieved maximum marks.

Most houses simply dread the six cross-country competitions, but not us. We have no trouble fielding teams, even in the senior girls' competition. In the junior and intermediate competitions, we achieved three third places and one second but, as is usual, our seniors lead by example and won both the boys' and girls' events. Special congratulations to Ashley (individual winner), Nicole, Josh and Rebecca for outstanding performances.

In the debate, Harold Buchanan and our House Captain Rachel Brown took to the floor to try to overcome our 'Nemesis' of the previous three years. We gave Fylde a good beating in the semi and then met Kirkham once again in the final in front of the Whole Sixth Form. We gave it our all, but once again it was not guite good enough and we had to settle for second place for the fourth consecutive year.

In the shooting trophy, Richard, Phil and Ben set their sights high, but were simply outgunned.

Three competitions remained in the Spring Term, the senior hockey and the intermediate and senior rugby. The term ended with a real "purple patch". with School unable to do any wrong! The girls were outstanding in the hockey festival, winning overall. with Jess Morris being one of the key players in our victory. The senior boys' sevens team convincingly beat all opposition, as did the intermediates. Special congratulations to James Moncrieff and David Ellis who were exceptional in both leadership and attack.

The Summer Term began with the final rugby sevens competition for the juniors. We never do well in this tournament, but this year was different. Lyman and James, fresh from Hong Kong, certainly left their mark and saw us progress through to an exciting final against Preston. It was truly a great game which unfortunately we just lost in the final thirty seconds of the match and so we had to settle for second best on this occasion.

Sports Day, however, was a different kettle of fish. Second would never be good enough, having lost by just a few points last year. Six teams - three boys and three girls - went into battle and six teams did us proud. School had the greatest number of winners overall - far too many to mention by name, but a few need special congratulations. Individual athletic champions were Lyman Choi in the junior boys, Lizzie Woodburn in the intermediate girls and Jess Morris in the senior girls, with four firsts and one second place. This win overall was a truly wonderful team performance by everyone concerned.

The day after Sports Day, the senior boys took on Kirkham House in the final of the cricket tournament. Kirkham set us a target of 129 runs to win. We soon notched up 130 runs for the loss of only four wickets. The junior cricket competition proved a much easier hurdle for us as we have a genuinely talented side. They polished off Kirkham in the semi final and then destroyed Preston in the final itself. Jamie Roper, Adam Galley, Josh Morris and Philip Brook were particularly impressive. In the final five competitions, we gained two fourth places, two third places and one second place. These results, however, by this stage were immaterial, as we had already won the Whitby Cup by rather a lot of points, with Fylde second, Preston third and Kirkham fourth.

So, School House is back where we belong - at the top, with 14 victories during the year from 30 competitions. This statistic has only ever been bettered once before and that again was by School during the 2002/03 academic year. It has taken a great deal of time, sweat and sometimes tears to get us here - but was it worth it? . . . Absolutely, without question.

Thank you all for your constant support and the way you fight to win.

Congratulations to you all.

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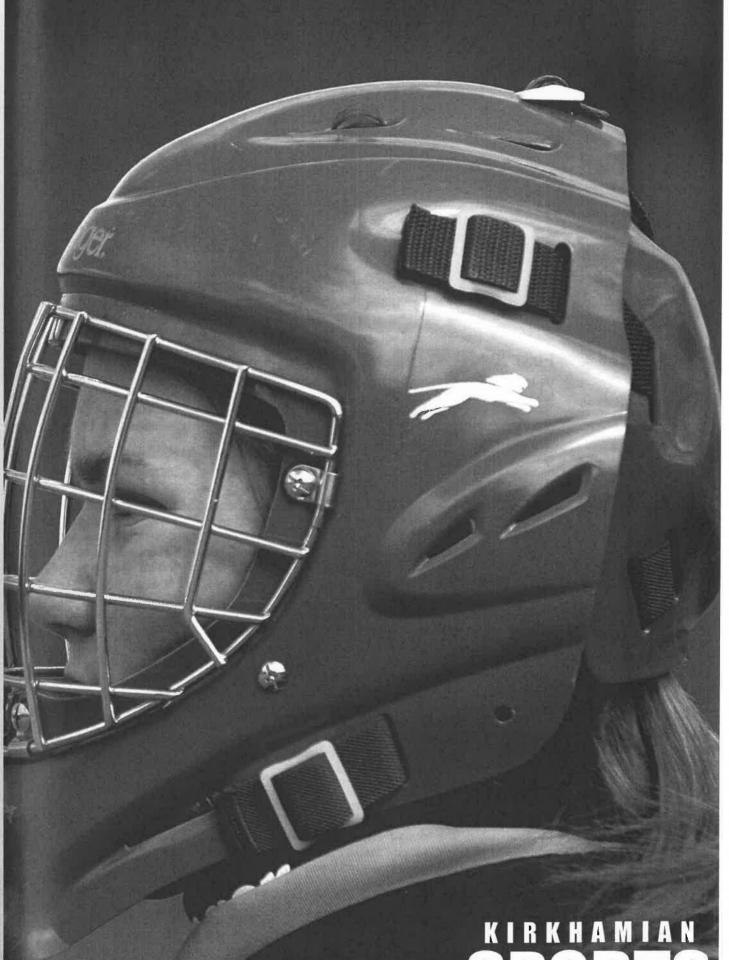
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#### RUGBY First XV P15 W11 L4 P0 F253 A182

This year's team was very inexperienced with no full colours and only four first choice players returning. This inexperience was shown in early matches. It had been hoped that many of the previous season's under sixteen team would form the basis of this year's team, but sadly only two players conditioned themselves over the summer to a satisfactory standard and consequently only two progressed to be regular first choice players.

A pre-season warm up against Monmouth School and the first school fixture against Manchester Grammar School gave a false impression of the team's standing, as neither was as strong as usual. In the next fixture against Colston's some players experienced top class school rugby for the first time and were shocked by the opposition's skill levels, conditioning and intensity, losing heavily. Colston's treat Kirkham as one of their top fixtures and are at their best for the fixture, as are all schools. KGS was unfortunate to lose to Colston's last season and this made them all the more aware of the threat KGS posed. It is a compliment to KGS first XV to have such a reputation, but the gap between age group and first XV rugby is something young players often take a while to comprehend.

However, the players reacted in a positive manner, realising the standards they had set themselves had to be upgraded. The younger players could now relate to the standards which the coaches had set for them and realised the inadequacies of their summer efforts. The team improved steadily, apart from the odd setback, until the Sedbergh match. Against Newcastle the team arrived late and players were not prepared physically and mentally and consequently the team underperformed.

As a result of Kirkham's outstanding performance in beating Llandovery College last season after Llandovery had been the first team to beat Colston's for three seasons, KGS was invited to be the guest team in the annual 'Vivian Jenkins Memorial Match' at Llandovery. KGS was only six points down by half time, despite playing into a strong wind, but influential opposition replacements and the disintegration of the lineout meant the opportunity for a famous victory slipped away. Nevertheless, the hospitality shown to KGS by our hosts, both at the pre-match dinner on the Friday evening and throughout the match day, left an indelible impression.

The following week the team played very well to beat Hartpury College. Hartpury is where the RFU Academy at Gloucester Rugby Club is based. The players performed with true intensity and skill against a powerful opposition, the performance reflecting the considerable improvement of the team during the season so far.

The performances against Llandovery and Hartpury boded well for the Sedbergh match, but in this match the players played like headless chickens in the first fifteen minutes to throw the match away. Players must always keep their attention on playing as they have been coached when under pressure. Failure to do so and reinvent playing techniques and strategies means a sad day like the one listed above. Losing is not a sin, but to underperform because of your own misjudgements is unacceptable.

After this unexpected performance the team never regained its impetus, despite winning all its remaining matches. A five per cent drop in performance means teams struggle against any inspired opponent, as all Kirkham opponents are. Consequently, many matches were close which should not have been.

The pack was exceptionally raw at the beginning of the season and the smallest fielded for years but developed to be able to compete well against any opponents. The three-quarters possessed considerable pace, but too often lacked the ability to recognise space and run correct angles to preserve space by fixing defenders to put away scoring chances. Early in the season the team's defence was akin to a colander, but it steadily improved as the season progressed.

Many players improved greatly, but special mention must be made of Harrison Pickervance who had followed the summer training schedules. His game improved immensely by doing so and, from having no representative honours as a junior player, he progressed to the North of England Under 18 and narrowly missed gaining an England cap. Harold Buchanan trained hard to develop his skill and conditioning greatly, while Matthew Barnes, a junior team 'C' player, developed into a mainstay of the first fifteen. All are examples of what can be achieved when players are motivated to achieve their potential. Old Kirkhamian Richard Wigglesworth. who gained selection to the England Saxons ('A' Team) this season, and played an outstanding game in the Premiership Final at Twickenham, possessed similar qualities of determination. He was not recognised as one of the top players in the junior teams at Kirkham but kept plugging away and training harder than some more naturally talented players. He continued developing until he made KGS first XV, England Schools' 18 Group, England Under 21 and became a full time professional before gaining this outstanding honour.

Top scorer was Oliver Moore with eighty one points, top try scorers being Adam West, Des Bowden and Adam Anderson. Adam West was consistently outstanding all season, despite a period when he was played out of position, and Adam Anderson showed his potential when voted 'Man of the Tournament' at the Manchester Grammar School Under 17 Development Tournament.

I wish to thank Oliver Moore for his continued enthusiasm as captain, vice-captain Adam West and secretary Alex Redshaw for their efforts during the season. I also wish to thank Mr Trenhaile and Mr Browning for their unstinting efforts.

#### REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS

North of England 18 Group H J Pickervance

Lancashire 18 Group

A P Anderson

A P Anderson

A D Bowden

T D Higham R M Kwasnicki

P J Leigh

O S Moore

H J Pickervance

S J M Pitman

A West

COLOURS

FULL

M K Barnes

O S Moore

H J Pickervance

S J M Pitman

A West

HALE

T D Higham

A P Anderson

H F Buchanan

P J Leigh

B Gornall

#### Birkenhead Under 18's Sevens Tournament

The first seven played with enthusiasm and style to reach the semi final of the Birkenhead competition, narrowly missing reaching the final.

In the group stages of the competition, there were fine wins over St David's School, Llandudno (45 - 5), Birkenhead School (24 - 0), Rydal School (35 - 7) and Sandbach School (50 - 12).

Vice-captain and centre Adam West and forwards Harrison Pickervance and Tommy Higham were outstanding players in these matches.

In the quarter final, Kirkham played against Wilmslow High School, who were a very big, physical side, but with half backs Adam Anderson and Phil Lee controlling the game, KGS played extremely well to record a 35 - 5 victory, with winger Des Bowden finishing extremely clinically.

In the semi final, the two favourites, Kirkham and Sedbergh, were brought together. In an evenly matched contest, both teams scored three tries but Sedbergh, who were the eventual tournament winners, converted all of their tries to run out 21 - 17 victors.

Captain Ollie Moore led by example in this game which was enjoyed by a big crowd, with KGS looking forward to the rest of the sevens programme.

#### Fylde Sevens

Because of the inclement weather, many tournaments were cancelled or terminated in the middle of the tournament, as at the Royal Navy sevens, due to be played on the Saturday and Sunday, 11th and 12th March at Fylde Rugby Club.

At the Fylde sevens, the KGS senior team had made a very promising start, beating one of the tournament favourites, Warwick School, in the first match of the tournament. Warwick had already won the Windsor sevens, but in a match of very high standards, KGS was triumphant, giving hope to further success on the Sunday.

The KGS senior seven also beat Adams GS and Bedstone College, both from Shropshire, on the Saturday in the group matches before the onset of the wintry weather halted the progress of the tournament.

#### National Sevens at Rosslyn Park

Kirkham Grammar School entered the under 18 category of the National Sevens at Rosslyn Park. The tournament was sponsored by The Wooden Spoon Society, the RFU's chosen charity for disadvantaged children. It is the biggest rugby tournament in the world, involving nearly all the top school sides in the UK. KGS entered the "Open" Tournament for schools which play rugby for two terms. The matches were played on Thursday, 23 and Friday, 24 March.

The first part of the tournament is played in group matches, with five teams per group. KGS won three

of their four matches, but won the group as the team which beat KGS also lost a match. This qualified KGS to play in the next round which was an extra match which only some schools played in order to balance up the numbers for the next round. In this match KGS were pitted against the powerful Oakham side, one of the tournament favourites, and played outstandingly well to beat them and gain a place in the last sixteen.

In the last sixteen KGS played Durham who have qualified to play at Twickenham in the final of the "Daily Mail" this season and again played outstandingly to beat top opposition to qualify for the quarter final.

Injuries, playing the extra match which their opponents did not have to play and having to play all their group matches flat out caught up with KGS in the quarter finals and they lost to the powerful Warwick team whom KGS had beaten recently in their opening match of the Fylde sevens.

Nevertheless, KGS acquitted themselves with great distinction, beating some of the top sides in the UK and were one of only two northern teams left in the tournament by the quarter final stage.

Adam West was particularly outstanding all



tournament, Tommy Higham played very well in the later stages and Alex Spratt showed much potential in a fine squad effort.

RESULTS.

Group Matches.
v Bro Myrddin W 38-10
vTruro College L 7-36
vSt Bede's, Manchester W 68-0
v Arnold W 27-17
Extra Match.
v Oakham W 24-21
Last Sixteen.
v Durham W 21-17
Quarter Final
v Warwick L 7-44

#### Sedbergh Tens

After reaching the quarter-finals of the National Sevens at Rosslyn Park, the first VII squad and the rest of the first XV squad travelled to Sedbergh for the National Tens. This tournament attracts some of the top teams in the United Kingdom.

After stiff competition in the groups, Kirkham Grammar School moved on through to the semi-final stage, defeating Barnard Castle 19-14 and Bristol Grammar School 17-12 after being behind in both group games.

KGS just missed out on a final place after drawing with Llandovery College 0-0 and losing 12-10 to Filton College.

Tommy Higham, Adam West and captain Oliver Moore were outstanding throughout the two days of competition.

A. E Trenhaile

#### Second XV P16 W5 L11 P0 F246 A326

After pre-season training, it was felt that the second fifteen would be able to field a stronger side than had been fielded the previous season. At times this did appear to be the case and the team showed they were capable of playing good rugby. The forwards proved the strength of the side and, on Thursday evening practices, they regularly gave as good as they got against the first team pack. The backs suffered from numerous injuries outside fly half. It was, therefore, difficult to play a consistent back line and the standard of play suffered accordingly.

The pleasing aspect of the season was that the local schools, King Edward Queen Mary, Arnold and Hutton, were all beaten. However, the first fifteens of Penrith, Giggleswick and Calday Grange again proved too strong, as did the second teams of schools such as Colston's, Lancaster and RGS Newcastle. The game against Woodhouse Grove should have been at least a draw. A late, late penalty was run and came to nought, when a kick at goal would have produced a draw. Having had the better of the game at Merchant Taylor's, a late (3 minutes from time) kicked penalty resulted in a

defeat, while at Cowley a more positive performance would have turned defeat into a comfortable victory.

Max Fulford-Brown at fly half was comfortably the leading points scorer with nine tries, twelve conversions and a penalty. Sixteen other players contributed to the forty try total, with Alex Redshaw leading the way with four. Stuart Rowland landed six conversions and a penalty and also led the appearances list, missing only the first game of the season. Max finished the season with thirteen appearances, after missing only the first two, while Michael Giddings, James Carpenter and Andrew Darlington all managed twelve. Apart from these. only two other players played in over two thirds of the games. Usually there are upward of ten players falling into this category, so it might also give an indication of why the second team struggled to put consistent performances together.

At this point, the efforts of the captain, James Carpenter, must be acknowledged. He led by example on the field and his efforts to motivate the players before a match were outstanding. Even when injured, he travelled with the team, helping out and supporting from the touchline. He really deserved to captain a side with a better playing record and he was also very unlucky not to show what he could do in the first team.

Finally, it would be unfair to end this report without acknowledging the efforts of Mr. Gornall and Mr. Trenhaile in coaching the side.

#### Under 16 XV P17 W8 L8 P1

I must admit that as September 2005 approached I had great reservations about the forthcoming season. Rumour had it that this was not going to be an enjoyable experience and the few games that I had watched the team play in the lower school confirmed my worst fears. They had been labelled, amongst other things, as being very talented individuals, but spent most of their energy arguing amongst themselves, generally being self-destructive and they were losing matches which they should have won.

In reality, the 2005-2006 season turned out to be one of the most enjoyable and rewarding seasons that I have coached, not because of the results - yes, we should/could have won a few more matches - but because of the individuals in the squad I got to know as the season progressed. In short, I saw young boys, some of them self-centred and immature, develop into mature, confident, young men who came to believe in the ethos of hard work, working together for the team and giving of their best, week in, week out!

As the weeks progressed, it became more and more difficult to pick the starting fifteen. The so-called 'reserves' made huge progress and the squad developed as a group where every player was valued and respected by his fellow team mates.

Highlights of the season included:-

- Alex Spratt and David Kos representing the first XV at various stages of the season.
- Alex distinguishing himself in the Senior Sevens and the Senior Tens squads.
- Twenty five players represented the squad throughout the season.
- Fifteen of the squad played for the second XV in different games throughout the season.
- Congratulations to Alex Spratt, James Edgar, Phil Berry, Matthew Davies, Richard de Carpentier who each represented Lancashire.
- Congratulations to James Walker, Joe Brown, Daniel Gyi, Andrew Brown, Richard de Carpentier, all of whom started every match.
- Highest points scorer was Joe Brown with 75 points.
- Highest try scorer was Alex Spratt with 11 tries.
- Best rugby played was our first half performance against Arnold - final result 45-5.
- The match in which we showed the most commitment, courage and team spirit was against a very powerful Newcastle team. I was proud of all 22 in the squad!
- The worst performance of the season was against Calday Grange. We learnt from our mistakes and I think it was the turning point in our season!

A very big thank you to.....

- our courageous captain, James Edgar, and his able assistants, Richard de Carpentier and David Kos.
- all those referees and coaches especially Mr Mark Sutcliffe - who helped and supported us during the season.

Thank you, gentlemen of the under 16 squad, I hope that you enjoyed the season as much as I did and that, some way or other, you will stay in the game and move forward...... to greater success and enjoyment.

#### Under 15 XV

Building on last year's progress, the under 15's have continued to improve and this has been a pleasing season.

As the players have physically matured, the skills and techniques have also improved and as a result the team has become a much more efficient unit. There has been strength in the pack and their play particularly going forward - has been impressive. The backs have worked hard in defence and have begun to show the ability to release pace at key moments.

There is still much work to do, especially as under 16

players are on the verge of senior rugby. They will find that the physical and technical demands go up a gear during the next year. A fantastic prospect of a tour to South Africa awaits the squad next summer and they should enjoy the preparations for such a trip of a lifetime.

Nearer to our shores, the under 15's finished off their 2005/06 campaign with a very successful tour to Italy during the Easter break. The boys performed admirably, winning all three games. This was a fitting way to complete an encouraging season. Well done.

A special well done to this year's captain, Wasim Riley, for his performances and ability to lead the team. Well done to all players for your enthusiasm and commitment. Particular congratulations to Harry Mills, Wasim Riley, Charles O'Flaherty and Tom Sanders for their selection for the county squad.

M. Whalley





#### Under 14 XV A Team P15 W7 L8 P0 B Team P11 W3 L8 P0

The season started very well with an away victory at Manchester G.S. by 22 v 17 and reflected some promising pre-season training sessions. Another win against local rivals KEQM by 7 v 5 showed the teamwork developed from last season and the 8 team enjoyed their game, scoring 71 v 0. However, the fixture at Woodhouse Grove highlighted one or two areas of concern. The A team competed for forty minutes, defended well, but did not use the ball to turn the possession into points and lost by 49 v 0. In other important fixtures against Newcastle GS, Lancaster GS and Hutton GS, the boys also needed more discipline at this level to convert their undoubted ability into sustained concentration and to dominate the games.

All the boys worked well in training, the captain Chris Travis leading by example, supported by Matthew Edgar, Toby Townsend, James Gardiner, Ethan Harvey and the most improved player of the season, John Platt. Some of the best tries of the season came from the forwards, such as the one David Hobin scored against Arnold in an excellent win by 12 v 5 and the try of the season against Hutton finished off by Henry Tomlinson after an interlinking move combining at least seven passes. The most improved players in the B team were Howard Chan, Sebastian Luker and Christopher Coplestone.

Many thanks must go to the parents for their support and to the sponsors of the kit, Ashworths Products Ltd and W.R.T Group plc.

Mr P. T. Reeves/Dr A. B. Rollins.

#### Under 13 XV P20 W12 L8 F340 A308

The under 13 squad began their season with two tough encounters against Manchester Grammar and Ripley, losing both heavily but showing signs of improvement by the end of the latter game. Local rivals KE & OMS were soundly beaten at home, but unfortunately we came up against two strong schools in Wirral G.S. and Woodhouse Grove who beat us easily. However, the 'B' team prospered and remained unbeaten for the first four games until their run of success was ended by a large and robust RGS Newcastle outfit, although the margin of defeat was narrow. The 'A' team put in some creditable performances leading up to Christmas, but ran into some strong opposition in Lancaster, Calday Grange and Birkenhead School, losing all three matches although we did end the term with a strong performance to dispatch Merchant Taylors 38 - 10.

When we returned after the Christmas break, our next five opponents were easily beaten, including local rivals Hutton and Arnold, but our Lancashire Cup opponents Ripley again came away with a

victory, albeit a close one due to an excellent performance by the forwards. Pleasingly, the 'B' team had a wonderful season, only losing the one game and it was they who provided the strength in depth to the squad, as many of them gained promotion to the 'A' team during the season. Two boys in particular, James Lau and Lyman Choi, deserve a mention as they started the year having not played before, but by the end of the season both were regular 'A' team players.

Overall, this was a very satisfactory season with much improvement made by the whole squad. My sincere thanks go to Mr Francis for his efforts with the 'B' team. I hope next season will reflect this season's effort and that the squad as a whole can build on their performances.

J R Lyon

#### Under 12 A XV P16 W10 L6

These are probably the best results produced by a first year team for many years. What is even more important and rewarding is that the huge difference in ability which existed between the 'A' team and the 'B' team last September almost vanished towards the end of the season. There is now a genuine depth of talent

The enthusiasm and effort shown by the whole squad was infectious. The attendance in training was excellent, with 39 players representing the school in both teams.

Looking back on the matches played by the A team, we could say that they should have won two or three more games, but this was probably due to inexperience, sometimes over-confidence in our own ability and some of the team relying too much on a few others in our team.

We have the raw materials needed for producing a very strong and competitive year group who, with continued hard work and the patience to listen to sound coaching advice, could develop into a very exciting squad. Some of the rugby they tried to play was truly exciting and sometimes 'à la Barbarians' in its execution. Over the next few years, without losing the wide expansive game in our armoury, we need to work hard on the fundamentals of basic skills. With continued hard work, we can convert the potential of this year group into a very exciting, competitive squad!

Pluses of the Season:

- Top try scorer Sam Hall with 31 tries
   Followed by:
- · Josh Rowlands with 13 tries
- Michalis Papagelis with 10 tries

All ably supported by the captain, Will Roper, who contributed 72 points with his kicking

Best match of the season:

St. Anselm's

During the first half the ball seemed to be moved through fifteen pairs of hands, from one side of the

field to the other. It seemed as if all that the coaches had preached throughout the season worked. Unfortunately, the second half was not so good!!

Most disappointing game of the season:

Hutton...... Why?

Best opposition:

• Monmouth School - hopefully we learnt from them.

Most improved player of the season:

• The whole 39 players in the squad!

Most inspirational to team effort:

• Tom Hurst's tackle count in each game.

On behalf of the coaching team of Mr. H Porteous, Mr. D Carter, Mr. M Whalley, Mr. R Taylor, Mr. R Wu and myself, we would like to thank that loyal band of supporters who travelled far and wide to support us in home and away matches. It really makes a big difference and is much appreciated!

Finally, our thanks to the whole squad for a very enjoyable season!

J Davies



#### Under 12 B XV

#### CRICKET

regular Saturday and mid week fixtures. particularly after half term, for our cricketers to play At last, the weather has been kind enough,

indication of potential for the future. individual and team performances, giving an season. There have been some encouraging improvements in technique and play throughout the The ability to play regularly has resulted in

more mature side compete more prominently in our should return next year and we would hope to see a bat and ball. Looking forward, this squad of players been some pleasing individual performances with of results (2 wins out of 10 matches), but there have The first XI has had a relatively poor season in terms

schools' Cup. which they are semi finalists in the Blackpool season. We await the result of the 20/20 cup in played well enough to represent the first XI this performances as a team and some individuals have Nevertheless, there have been some good chance to win games when they present themselves. learn to apply skills in game situations and take the won more games than they actually did. They must eason and it is true to say that they should have Dniteritarit a fo terlwomos bed sed IX 21 rebru of T strong fixture list.

requirements of all aspects of the game. performances, but there is a need to understand the as a team. Once again, there have been some good technique and learn how to plan match campaigns have the potential to do well, but all must work on The under 14 XI has had a fairly mixed season. They

their rapid progress in rugby this year and work hard some indication of potential. They must learn from remain steadfast. The couple of wins achieved give but their enthusiasm, interest and commitment On paper, the under 13 XI has the poorest results,

their progress in the semi final of the Lancashire Cup ball with some key individual performers. We await appear to be a side with real potential with bat and season. They have lost only two matches. They The under 12 XI has had the best record of the to become competent, skilled players.

at the end of the term.

developed strength in depth in all squads. these fixtures in the Blackpool Schools' League has B squads, and there is no doubt that the playing of extremely impressed by the enthusiasm of the players, often from strong clubs. I continue to be betnelst nistnoo tedt smeet A 'sloodss redto teniege games, we must not forget that they often play ranges. Whilst we do not see too many wins in these We must not forget our B teams at all junior age

Porteous and Mr Wu. Mr Carter, Mr Lyon, Mr Taylor, Mr Duncan, Mr done to all players and coaching staff - Mr Painter, coaches and groundstaff in preparing facilities. Well this year is testament to the hard work of all players, The fact that the school has played so many fixtures

narrow margin 10-5. against Wirral GS where the game was lost by the being a loss. However, there were signs of potential Grove, Newcastle GS, Lancaster GS, with each result games against challenging opposition: Woodhouse The rugby season began with a run of several tough

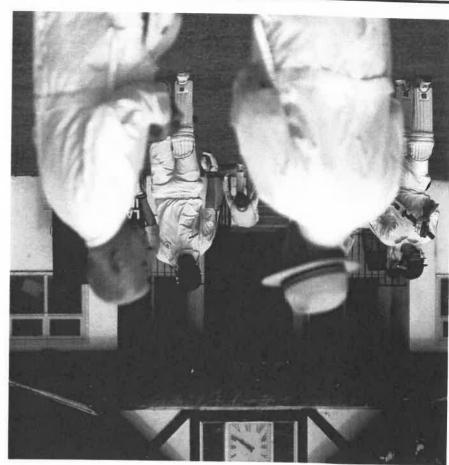
led 10-0 at half time! marginal defeat of 17 - 10 to Hutton after KGS had at KGS), results became closer, with an unfortunate who had not played the game of rugby until arriving As confidence grew (especially from several boys

wisseq; tackling of every player, with hardly a tackle being of the Kirkham forwards, as well as the ferocious were overrun by the determination and aggression grabbing both tries). The score flattered Arnold, who a long overdue victory of 10-7 (with Joe Waring boys produced their best display of the season, with The following game was away at Arnold, where the

many players contributing to the scoresheet. reward for both players and supporting parents, with thrashed King Edward's 55-0, which was a pleasing In the final game of the rugby season, the boys

blace in the second year. of the boys playing or challenging for an 'A' team in the years to come. I look forward to seeing many coaching staff are confident of further improvement over the year, and with this firm foundation the All aspects of the game have developed massively

Mr D. Carter



M. Whalley

#### First XI

This season has proved to be a steep learning curve for this squad of young players. Led by the enthusiastic captain Harrison Pickervance, the team has worked hard in all games, but inconsistencies have often led to our downfall. The strength of the team is in the bowling and there is the potential for the side to have a balanced attack in future.

The key bowlers Pickervance, Kos D, Parkinson, Edgar, Kos R, Knowles and Parekh are talented but need to work on technique in order to take regular wickets and tie sides down. They can do this, as displayed in the pleasing win against Rossall.

Generally, the batting has been inconsistent until recently, when some players have shown form. The recognised batsmen Brown A, Berry, Knowles, Darlington, Parkinson, Kos D, Kos R all should score regularly, given their talents. I hope to see some big scores

The fielding performances have been promising, but a first XI should not drop as many catches. Jonathon Knowles is worthy of mention as his wicket keeping has improved throughout the season.

All the players must be commended for their enthusiasm and commitment to play throughout a busy summer term. Well done to Harrison for his hard work behind the scenes preparing the team for the fixtures. We look forward to next season - a longer one - in which we play more fixtures. Plans are being made to allow more time for winter nets so that players can prepare more thoroughly. If we do so, we could have an excellent season.

# Under 15 XI's A Team P8 W2 L6 B Team P3 W1 L2

The first game of the season against Woodhouse Grove set the tone for what was to follow. A good start was followed by a lack of concentration to allow the hosts to get to 135. A good start by Leyland and Rigby put Kirkham in a strong position, only to be followed by some indifferent batting resulting in a defeat by 27 runs. The game against QEGS Blackburn followed a similar pattern. A good opening spell by Ahushan and Riley was curtailed with an injury to Ahushan and Kirkham was left chasing 145, despite Conway's 2-2 and Rigby's 2-9. The failure of any one batsman to stay in for a length of time culminated in a 72 run defeat.

The game against KEQM was much more evenly matched, with both teams having opportunities to dominate. After a shaky start, Kos and Rigby, with a stand of 75, helped KGS to a total of 151. Needing 39 in the last six overs, King Edward's made it with three balls to spare, despite Luker's 4-28. The game against Lancaster went much the same way - a good start of 90-3 off fourteen overs was destroyed by 4 wickets falling for the addition of one run. Thanks to a rearguard action by Anstiss and Kelsall (26), a total

of 148 was achieved. A good opening spell by Ahushan 1-18 off five overs and Pickbourn's 2-22 was not enough to avoid a three wicket defeat. The game against Giggleswick was reduced to 25 overs due to impending bad weather and a total of 143-8 by the home side seemed formidable, but having taken 3-28 Stover then went on to make an unbeaten 53 to seal the season's first victory in 19 overs in the forecast rain.

Confidence was high for the visit to Bury GS, but with the home team on 51-2 off nine overs this quickly waned, only to be followed by some good bowling by Kos and good ground fielding to reduce them to 110 all out. Over confidence then took over and left Kirkham at 4-4 after three overs!! Some sanity prevailed as players tried to stay at the crease, but the bad start culminated in KGS losing by 27 runs.

The batting performance at Rossall was much better after an equally ropey start of 19-4 off seven overs. Sensible batting by Bennett (23) and some good hitting by Kelsall (53) saw a stand of 56 help towards a final score of 136-6 declared. Some fine bowling by Luker, supported by Riley, Conway and Stover, reduced Rossall to 68 all out.

The final game was against Arnold at Kirkham and hopes were high. Kirkham batted first and at last demonstrated they could try to build an innings. They were never able to dominate the bowling, but reached 145-9 off their 30 overs thanks to a last wicket stand of 29 by Anstiss and Martin. Good bowling, catching and ground fielding restricted the visitors to 115-9 off twenty six overs. Unfortunately, the last four overs summed up the season as Arnold passed the KGS total with two balls to spare.

The team developed considerably over the season, despite the results and was well led by Will Stover. It





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Tel: 01772 787501 Email: admin@icebluedevelopments.co.uk was unfortunate that they were eliminated in the first round of the cup on a bowl off, otherwise I am sure more victories would have ensured.

The B team had a great game at Arnold, reaching 125-9 off the allotted 20 overs and then bowling and fielding well to restrict them to 114 off 18 overs. A great finish saw one run needed off the last hall, unfortunately it went in the home team's favour. The game against Milifield in the cup saw KGS in trouble at 64-9, but a stand of 32 by Gayle and Askew got them to a final total of 96. Some indifferent bowling then ensued until, with five runs needed off the last over, Millfield could only get

The opposition withdrawing from the next round put KGS in the semi final against Baines who proved far too strong.

It was unfortunate that more games were not played, as there was a good deal of potential shown by several players who never got a chance in the A team.

**H B Porteous** 

#### Under 14 XI P9 W4 L5 DO

On paper the under 14's have had a mixed season. The poor weather in the early weeks of the season meant that only two matches were completed before the half term break. The first fixture of the season saw Woodhouse Grove defeat Kirkham with ease, although the second defeat of the half term to QEGS Blackburn was much closer. Unfortunately, in this game, QEGS scored too many runs batting first and we struggled to score at the required rate to knock off the 159 runs required. The half term ended in further disappointment as we lost 'a bowlout' in pouring rain to Arnold in the first round of the Lancashire Cup - not the way to lose, as I am sure you will agree.

Happily the weather was kinder after the break and all seven games scheduled were completed. As in the last academic year, the team saved their best performances for the local derbies, recording their first victory of the season against rivals KEQMS, Lytham. An impressive half century from Nicholas Evans, supported by Matthew Edgar's 28 not out, saw the team total 134 for 4 off their 25 overs. Josh Morris, new to the school this year, made sure that this total was well defended and he returned figures of 4 for 12 off 5 overs - Kirkham winning by 45 runs. Unfortunately this was not the turning point we all hoped for, the next three fixtures ended without success. After being outplayed against Lancaster RGS and Bury GS, the most disappointing defeat of the season was recorded against Rossall. After having to score only 84 runs to win, the team fell short by 2 runs, with last man Sam Pearson being run out off a wide. Only in junior cricket! It looked like the team had reached rock bottom, but luckily they persevered with a good spirit and saved their best performances for the last week of term, where they recorded three successive victories. Arnold were put to the sword on a hot and humid Monday afternoon when Nicholas Evans' 79 easily saw off another local rival and then Mr. Whalley inspired the team to two further victories, against Hutton and Giggleswick, albeit by closer margins.

As I reported last year, this team is talented but lacks consistency and concentration at key times. While many setbacks weakened the team's strength on paper, such as the loss of last year's captain, Dean Bell, and the injury to Henry Tomlinson, last year's player of the season, there were still many opportunities that the team failed to take full advantage of. On a more positive note, however, the team's fielding was much tighter than that of the previous season, although erratic bowling has let the team down at crucial times. As often happens, the burden of captaincy puts pressure on a player's form and Jamie Roper, although captaining the side well, had a disappointing season with the bat. Nicholas Evans was a clear choice for player of the season, scoring over 200 runs at an average of over 30, as well as chipping in with 10 wickets. Credit should also be given to 'new boy' Josh Morris, whose form got better and better as the season progressed.

Mr. S Duncan

#### Under 12 XI

#### P12 W9 L3

In a shortened summer season due to a late Easter vacation, the cricket season appeared from the outset to be thwarted. How wrong the omens were as a total of twelve games were played and even then two weekend games were lost to rain.

Against our closest rivals, Arnold, we started the season on a bright note, with a comprehensive six wicket win. Both M Baker and W Roper opened the campaign with some lusty hitting. Our bowlers soon gave a glimpse of where our depth lay as most boys can turn their arm over.

An early set-back at Woodhouse Grove against a strong cricketing school started to confirm the relative ability each pupil possesses. The final margin of 37 runs could have been considerably closer with fewer extras and better batting application. The following weekend, we played Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Blackburn, a favourite game with a lot to prove. Their total of 163-6 was in the main due to Alex Davies of Lancashire whose mature batting was a pleasure to watch. On our home patch and fairly shortened boundaries the score was within range. With six overs left and still fifty to win, the result looked beyond our scope. M Baker and S Hall had other ideas and, with some generous extras, the total was reached with an over to spare.

The Lancashire Schools' Cup game gave the season genuine focus and belief and Heysham High School was swept aside by five wickets, with overs to spare. King Edward and Queen Mary is always a keenly contested affair; this year we posted 145-7 with a cultured knock of 45 from F Burnie, our captain. The winning margin of 117 runs tells its own story as each bowler enjoyed success

Perhaps the internal exams took their toll, but a defeat to Lancaster by 40 runs was not a true reflection of each team's respective ability. The hot, sunny weather seemed to sap our composure as run outs and injudicious shot selection brought our downfall. The emergence at this point of A Galley as an all-rounder, though, was pleasing

A scintillating game at Bury Grammar School, in which we triumphed by 1 run, showed Kirkham could deal with pressure and learn from the occasion. With such an array of bowlers, from medium fast to seam and to leg spin, the team poses a host of questions to any side.

Back to the Lancashire Schools' Cup and, after lengthy delays, we finally played St Theodore's of Burnley at Burnley Cricket Club. With the early loss of three wickets, the team's recovery was built around A Galley, with 28 not out. A final total of 106-9 after twenty overs gave us a fighting chance. True to our form, the bowlers performed with control and measure, the leg-spin bowling of H Moulding reads 4 overs, 2 maidens, 1 run for 2 wickets. With five run outs, the winning victory was comfortable in the end.

The eagerly awaited last sixteen of the Lancashire Schools' Cup game against Arnold proved to be well worth the wait. Early blitzkrieg hitting by our middle order batsmen left us with 96 to defend. A late order 10 not out from R Williams proved just what depth the team possesses. With precious few runs to play with, the early bowlers all applied themselves. Arnold could not break free. The end came as R Vaughan produced one of his regulation, you miss, I hit' deliveries!

The final eight of the Cup campaign saw us head to Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Blackburn who were itching for revenge after that early season defeat. Kirkham amassed 133-8, with telling contributions from Burnie, Gally, Roper and Papangelis. The reply from Queen Elizabeth's ebbed and flowed, each team gaining control only for the other to come back strongly. With twelve runs needed off the final over boundaries were essential. In W Roper, though, the school has a calm practical head, provided he is bowling! Each ball was sent down with mathematical accuracy and the batsman failed to gain the necessary runs. The winning margin of seven runs was a fine reward for an excellent game of cricket played in the right manner. With each step of the season the boys looked a stronger team, with all eleven players working together as one unit.

And so we reached the semi-final of the cup - St Margaret's of Liverpool, at their home ground in Aigburth. Although we had only played on one astro-pitch before, the boys showed tremendous resolve whatever the opposition. After losing H Moulding to the first ball of the game, we battled back and reached 97-7 as Galley 25 not out and W Roper 23 each applied themselves with aplomb.

Sometimes lady luck can play her part, and in only the second over, Vendome of Lancashire steered a low full toss into the safe hands of W Roper at midwicket. Fine consistent pressure was then applied and with 24 needed off the final over, the ensuing run out hardly mattered. The winning margin of 14 runs was again well deserved.

After a summer vacation and very little practice, the final was played at Fleetwood Cricket Club, on Wednesday 13 September against Manchester Grammar School. Our opponents had beaten Bolton School two days previously and had a slight advantage of having recent match play. Nevertheless, an undeterred Kirkham Grammar School was asked to field as Manchester batted first on a benign track. Steady batting from Manchester Grammar School, coupled with a few wides, gave our opponents a healthy start. Some late order running between wickets and lusty hitting from Webber tilted the game in our opponents' favour. A target of 135 after twenty five overs was a tall task and required steady batting down the order. Throughout the season slow bowling has been our downfall and has caused some batsmen certain problems. The one exception has been Adam Galley and, once again, he rose to the challenge and dispatched the ball to all parts of the field. With his retirement on 26 not out, sadly we lost momentum and with it our chance of victory. A final total of 85 all out was so near, yet so far. Well done to Manchester Grammar School, who have now won this competition five times in the last six seasons. The weather was fine and the game was a credit to both teams. Sadly, the result went against Kirkham Grammar School this time.

Never before has a first year cricket team from Kirkham reached such dizzy heights. Even as early as the previous September, just looking at the boys playing in the school quad, genuine ability was lurking. Although far from being the finished article, each individual contributes to the team's success. In F Burnie and W Roper there are two astute readers of the game. The pace bowling of A Galley, F Burnie, W Roper, R Vaughan, M Eaton and J Walsh shows an understanding of basics, but they now need to refine and strive for accuracy and variation to add to their game plan. As a young spin bowler, H Moulding is a jewel to be treasured and carefully nurtured. Few can spin the ball at all, but in Harrison we have a pupil who can bowl orthodox leg spin and then the googly at will! In Tom Hurst, a slow left-arm china man bowler and developing orthodox spinner, the team has a wealth of variety. Sadly for Tom, his opportunities this season were limited, but with each season he will add to the team's options.

Each season is built around a strong bias towards catching and fielding; this year has been no exception. As the season has unfolded, catches have been taken and perhaps none more important than M Papangelis against Arnold in the Cup.

It has been a pleasure to coach the boys and, -hopefully, as each season unfolds, they can develop as individuals and cricketers as they head towards adulthood.

#### **BOYS' ATHLETICS**

This has been an outstanding season for the boys' athletics squads at Kirkham. The results are proof that there are some extremely talented athletes in the first four years at school. There have been some excellent individual performances which have combined in year teams to produce winning team results. In the English Schools' Track and Field Cup both the junior and intermediate teams won the area final held at Stanley Park, Blackpool. This resulted in the teams' qualification for the regional final at Sport City, next door to Manchester City F.C. Whilst the teams did not progress after this high quality competition, a significant number of personal bests were established on the way.

In the area competitions held at Salt Ayre, Lancaster, the teams again performed well against strong opposition from North Lancashire. The first years were second behind LRGS in their competition. The second years and fourth years were second and first respectively in their competitions - both excellent results.

In the Fylde Coast Secondary Schools' Competition at Stanley Park, the teams all won their respective year group competitions. A fantastic achievement, highlighting the strength of our athletics this season.

Finally, in more local events, the school competed well against Arnold School, winning two out of three age groups (under 12, under 13), whilst at home, KGS has competed against Hutton GS at

under14 and under 15 level (a defeat overall) and away at Hutton at under 12 and under 13 level (a win at under 12, loss at under 13).

Such pleasing results are a product of talent and hard work. All pupils have worked hard in athletics lessons and in practices. Thank you to Mr Sampey for his hard work and technical expertise in selecting teams, Mr Taylor for his work and involvement with the squads and, notably, Mr Davis for his work on conditioning the pupils on the track.

#### VOLLEYBALL

The school has been represented by three teams in the Preston and District Volleyball League this season

The senior team, captained by Chris Bowden, performed well throughout the season and was placed runners-up in the final league standings.

This was a great achievement for a young side playing amidst teams that had many years' experience. Squad: Chris Bowden; Max Adlmaier; Freddie Buxton; Paul Bowden; Andrew Hatch: Chris

The two other sides, made up from members of the fourth year, have not had as much success, but these teams are very much in their infancy. The fourth year players have worked hard on their skills and have played with pleasing enthusiasm and commitment. If they continue to improve, they will be a force to reckon with next year.



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#### HOCKEY First XI

The first XI had another successful season, losing only one match throughout two full terms of hockey. Although the team had a great set of results. the season ended up an extremely frustrating one! The girls proved that they could defeat all the schools on our Saturday fixture list, indeed they did this in convincing style, with a 5 - 0 victory against Stockport, 4 - 0 victory over Altrincham, 6 - 0 victory over Bradford and two comfortable wins against Arnold 4 - 1 and 3 - 1 respectively. However, in the major competitions, though the girls dominated once again, they struggled to 'stick the ball in the back of the net'. In the County round of the National Competition Kirkham did not lose a game. Against Arnold we totally controlled the match. In fact Arnold only managed to take the ball into our half of the pitch four times, yet the frustration of failing to convert any of our numerous chances left us with a 0 - 0 draw and a runners-up spot overall on goal difference. This was repeated in the Lancashire under 19 tournament, where after total domination our lack of goals left us in second place once again, even though we were undefeated.

Thankfully, in the prestigious Cheadle Hulme 7-a-side Invitation Tournament our girls not only dominated their games but proved their class, scoring eighteen goals in total. A victory over Arnold in the final added the finishing touch to a fabulous day's hockey.

The highlight of the season was the KGS National Invitation Tournament. The standard of hockey and calibre of teams in this event is as good as any national hockey finals. In fact, the organisation and atmosphere is reminiscent of the old style finals that used to take place at Milton Keynes. Our girls played in the Kirkham style, showing real grit and determination throughout. After a nervous start, the girls grew in strength and confidence and played some of the best hockey that I have ever had the pleasure of watching at KGS. Our performance against the British Colleges' under 19's was spectacular! We took control from the first whistle and showed real strength of character and composure in defence. The midfield controlled the game with a tremendous work rate, as well as great skill and vision, whilst the forwards pace and finishing were superb. This was certainly a match to remember, a 3 - 1 victory over the British Colleges is a memory that I will treasure for a long time. In the tournament, we won two matches, lost two and drew one. A good day's hockey against terrific hockey schools.

would like to thank all of our first XI girls for their commitment, loyalty and terrific work ethic throughout the season. The girls were led superbly by captain Fran McNeela, who was a real pillar of strength at the back. She was supported by a very strong defence of Alex Bonney, Lauren Aspden, Mel

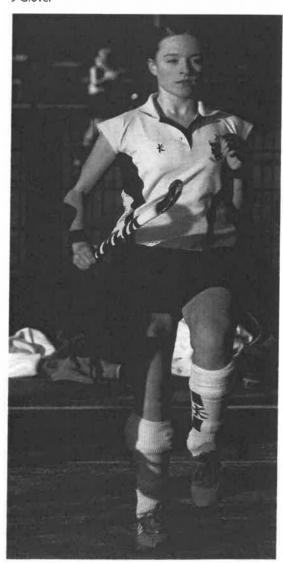
Smith and Zoe Kirkham. In midfield, Kate Gledhill was playmaker, controlling and driving the team forward and she was very ably supported by Becky Preskey and Olivia Hawtin. Our forwards, Emily Martin, Steph Bedford, Jess Morris and Liz Tomlinson, had real pace and skill and regularly left the opposition standing as they scored numerous first class goals.

I thoroughly enjoyed every minute of the season, our girls were an absolute pleasure to work with. Unfortunately, I have to say a goodbye to several of them at the end of this season. I would like to say thank you to the following who are leaving this year: Fran McNeela and Emily Martin who led the team throughout their final season, Liz Tomlinson and Steph Bedford who leave at the end of the sixth form. Zoe Kirkham and Olivia Hawtin who are leaving at the end of the fifth year. Good luck and best wishes for the future.

I would also like to thank all of the parents and supporters who have followed us throughout the season. Your support is truly appreciated.

Finally, I would to thank Lil for everything! We have a superb working relationship and I really appreciate her expertise and total commitment to KGS first XI.

J Glover





#### Second XI

The second XI hockey squad was captained by Rachel Brown this season who led by example from the start.

The second XI was particularly strong in all areas of the pitch. The team started well, with wins against Canon Slade first XI, Merchant Taylors' first XI and Arnold.

The girls trained hard in all weathers and made excellent progress throughout the season.

At the under 19 Lancashire tournament, KGS was set to face some tough opposition. In the first match, KGS faced Rossall and, in the early stages of the game, opened the scoring with a goal from Abi Wilkinson. We continued to apply the pressure and this resulted in a second goal from Katie Jones. In the second match, we faced Queen Mary. KGS started well, with good build up play from Rachel Brown, Lisa Isles and Sarah Cooper, and went on to win the match 2-1.

As the opposition got tougher, KGS found themselves under a lot of pressure, and matches against Arnold and Lancaster were lost.

However, the girls have had a very successful season, enjoying victory in the majority of the games they played.

#### Under 16 XI

The under 16 squad this season was led by Rebecca Sharples and proved to be a force to be reckoned with.

The squad started their season with the first round of the National Championships at Preston Sports Arena, against Arnold and Lancaster GGS.

The girls had little time to settle, with games of only ten minutes each way. The girls played hard and went one nil up against Lancaster with a great goal from Lizzie Whittle. Unfortunately, at the start of the second half, Lancaster managed to fight back and score a goal to equalise. In the second game against Arnold, we were under a lot of pressure. With fast Arnold forwards, the pressure kept coming and was absorbed by a strong KGS defence, with Jenny Bowden and Sam Shopland-Reed proving to be key players. The game finished at 1-0 to Arnold.

In the President's Cup, KGS could bring more strength to their side, with some first team players who were not allowed to compete in the under 16 competition due to their involvement in the under 18 round of the Nationals.

KGS took to the pitch to defeat all opposition in the group rounds which led them to the semi final against Queen Mary School.

After a tight start, it became clear which was the better side and KGS opened the scoring with a great goal from Emma Fagan. KGS went on to win this match 4-2 to take them into a tough final against Arnold School.

As the match began it was clear that this was going to be end to end hockey. Unfortunately, in the last minutes of the game, Arnold snatched a goal to take the score to 1-0, leaving KGS as runners up in the under 16 President's Cup.

#### Under 15 XI

The under 15 squad has worked hard this season.

They started the season well, defeating both Lancaster and Merchant Taylor's.

All of the girls worked hard in both training and game play to achieve the best results possible.

In early October, KGS played Altrincham, which was set to be a difficult fixture. As the girls took position on the pitch, adrenalin was flowing and the girls looked set to put up a fight. At half time the score was one nil to Kirkham with a great goal from Lizzie Whittle. The match went on to finish at 3-0 to Kirkham and was a game that was full of excitement and determination from both sides.

The team was led by Emma Fagan, who worked hard to ensure that the whole team worked together both on and off the pitch.

The team went on to defeat Wakefield, Bradford Girls' Grammar School and Canon Slade.

After some excellent wins and superb goals from Maria Hindley, Lizzie Whittle and Emma Fagan, the team went into the Lancashire Schools' Hockey Tournament at Preston Sports Arena with some excellent wins under their belt.

The girls played against Lancaster, Ripley St Thomas, Arnold and Queen Mary.

With some tight results, it was clear that KGS could win the under 15 Lancashire tournament.

The work rate from each member of the team showed fitness, commitment and drive. The team worked well, with Sam Shopland-Reed, Sarah Hatch, Fiona Gardner and Phoebe Le-Saint being key players in defence and Emily Rayson, Lucy Knowles and Jade Mottley proving a driving force from midfield.

An excellent season for all involved! Well done.

#### Under 14 XI

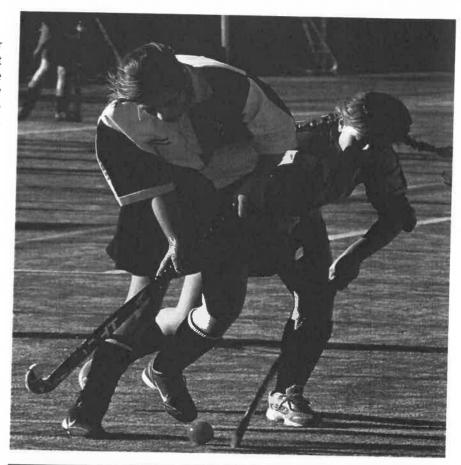
This season proved to be a most frustrating time for both players and coach. It seemed impossible to get a clear run of practices and matches with all the squad available. Our practice nights were frequently sparsely attended as a number of the squad were required for either netball or swimming matches scheduled on the same night. Then the astroturf was put out of use for several weeks by bad weather conditions, and, in addition, illness or injury kept at least three of our girls out for various lengths of time.

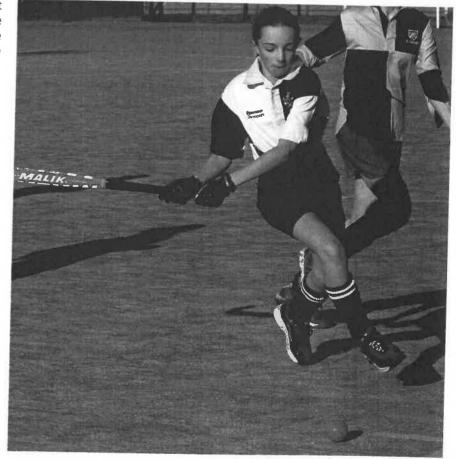
It was not surprising, therefore, that the squad found difficulty in developing a sense of continuity so important in building a platform for success. Nevertheless, of the thirteen inter-school matches played, the team won 6, lost 6 and drew 1. More significant, I think, is that all six losses were by a single goal and, in fact, the goal tally from all matches played shows Kirkham scoring 26 goals and conceding 16.

Defensively the team performed very well overall. Gemma Halketh in goal improved in confidence and in performance, particularly towards the end of the season. Hannah Duckworth, Helen Bailey and Kathryn Hayes performed admirably at the back, being both reliable and consistent. Grace O'Flaherty settled very well into her new role at centre back and had a very encouraging season, showing great commitment throughout. Katie Gorman and Grace Ford both worked tirelessly in midfield. Katie suffered an injustice not to be included in the Lancashire squad and probably lost confidence for a while, but as the captain of the under 14 team she stuck to her task and has the ability to move on and work with the senior squad next year. Grace Ford has a great deal of potential and just now needs greater self-belief. Becky Lewis was asked to play in a number of positions and did so with great spirit and showed what a fine team member she is. Emily Fisher and Laura Salisbury were introduced into the squad and both showed a great attitude and worked hard at their game. It was unfortunate then that injury or illness restricted their involvement at different times of the season.

Francesca Hughes had a good season and was our most consistent player in attack. Taibi Rankin showed much better touch when moved to the wing and seemed to relish playing on grass! Katie Fisher was always reliable and in the latter part of the season showed the potential to become a neat link up player in midfield. I was disappointed that Maxine Galley was unable to play for most of the season. She would have been an asset to the team. I hope she returns free of injury and enjoys a successful year. Hannah Quarmby came more into the squad as the season progressed and showed a positive attitude and clear focus on the pitch. I hope she develops her game next year. Erin Briggs was a very capable back up goalkeeper with real potential and I hope she is keen to play next season.

The season finished on a high note with an excellent performance in the highly competitive HMC





tournament, where we reached the semi-final, losing narrowly 1-0. The girls deserve great credit for their attitude and effort throughout this difficult season and I wish them well next year.

S Sampey

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#### Under 12 XI

In my first year in charge of the under 12 hockey squad, I was lucky to work with a squad of talented and dedicated girls who were keen to have fun and work together as a team. It was a difficult task to split the girls into an A and B team as all showed the necessary skills and tactical awareness necessary to compete at the top level.

Once the two squads were established, each team developed to an extremely good standard. In our regular Saturday fixtures both teams won all their games, an amazing record and one that will be a challenge to maintain.

The B Team got stronger and stronger throughout the season and were able to take on, and beat, A teams from other schools.

The A Team, led by captain Jessica Balmer, was always hungry for victory. In the Lancashire Schools' under 12 Hockey Tournament, the team came second on goal difference by one goal, and in the Arnold under 12 Invitation Tournament missed out on going into the final by way of penalty flicks. Despite not winning any silverware, the girls did not concede a goal in either competition. The team's excellence was demonstrated when I entered them in the under 13 mini hockey tournament, in which they finished third in their group after beating the KGS under 13 team!

I have high hopes for this group of girls, and I am sure that they will continue to excel as an under 13 squad next season.

#### NETBALL Under 12

The under 12 netball squad held practices on Mondays after school and Friday lunch times. The girls worked hard and eagerly anticipated their matches later in the year.

The season was generally successful, with the toughest matches being a well fought draw against KEQM and a well deserved win against Arnold. All other matches were close and fairly contested, with the Kirkham girls being a credit to the school with their good standard of play and enthusiasm for the sport.

The season culminated in the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Schools' tournament, held at Stanley Park on a glorious day. Both teams played tremendously well, with the A team unlucky to miss out on a semi-final place.

Well played, girls

S A Atkinson

#### Under 13

I was delighted with the enthusiasm of the under 13 netball squad. Throughout the season all girls were committed to attending practices and used these times well to develop their skills and tactical awareness. Team selection was always difficult, with competition for places in both the A and B teams.

The friendly matches were always played in a

pleasing spirit and, with many victories recorded, the girls looked forward to the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Tournament. The B team worked exceptionally hard to finish third out of nine teams in their group, whilst the A team played and won some tough group matches to go on to breeze through the quarter finals and earn a semi-final place. Despite playing their best netball of the season, the girls lost to St George's (the evenutal winners) by one goal after extra-time.

All girls should be congratulated on the progress they made throughout the season. They have been a delightful year group to coach and will hopefully go on to success next season.

K H Glover

#### Under 14

The under 14 netball squads have had a successful season. With regular matches for A and B teams, the girls have worked hard as a unit to make progress and develop more advanced netball skills.

The A team, who always looked strong in attack, worked well together in all league matches, playing seven and winning five. They approached the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre tournament with determination to do well. After coming top in their group games, the girls went on to win their quarter final match and reach the semi-finals. Special mention should go to Lizzie Woodburn for her excellent captaincy throughout the season.

Great improvements were made in the under 14 B team, largely down to having a dedicated squad of players. With mixed results in the friendly matches, the team approached the tournament with excitement. Winning eight out of their nine matches the team was placed second and thoroughly deserved this success.

K H Glover

#### **GIRLS' ATHLETICS**

The girls have had another very successful season. We have had a squad of more than seventy girls training regularly and competing for KGS in a number of fixtures.

Our girls never cease to amaze me. They have been totally committed and determined to perform to the best of their ability and they certainly did that!

In total, our squads competed in 21 fixtures between them, winning 17, drawing 1 and losing 3. We have enjoyed victories over Queen Mary, Lancaster, Bradford, Cheadle Hulme and Canon Slade.

Our first year girls went from strength to strength and improved considerably throughout the season. This group has the ability to be a very strong athletics squad. Our second years have real potential and some outstanding individuals; this we can build on further next year. Our third years made real progress this season and proved that they could compete against, and defeat, some of the best schools in the area. Our fourth year girls led by example. I was delighted with their attitude and commitment throughout the season. This year group

has a real spread of talent. They trained extremely hard, performed superbly and were terrific role models for the younger girls.

Once again this season we competed in the Sainsbury's National Cup Competition. We entered both a junior and an inter team in the county round at Stanley Park in May. Our girls performed extremely well, finishing second in both age groups and scoring over 326 points to qualify for the regional finals. In the regional finals we had a number of girls recording personal bests in their events and both teams finished third.

The Fylde Coast Championships are always the highlight of the season and, once again, the girls were an absolute credit to the school. In this final event we had more girls achieving personal bests than ever before. I was absolutely delighted with the grit and determination shown on the track and in the field. In fact, all of our middle distance runners achieved personal best times. Special mention should be made of Sophie Abbott and Lamara Hill, both members of the under 14 squad, who won the 800 metres and the shot respectively, and Sarah Hatch (under 17), who won the discus.

All our girls performed superbly in this competition. Every athlete qualified for the finals and finished in the top eight. We were very unfortunate to finish runners-up by just a couple of points in every age group.

Special mention must be given to Sarah Hatch (inter discus) and Melanie Smith (senior hurdles). Both of these girls were first in the Lancashire Schools' Athletics Competition held at Robin Park, Wigan on June 10th.

I have thoroughly enjoyed coaching our girls this summer, they have been an absolute pleasure to work with. I would like to thank all of our girls for their tremendous efforts and total commitment this season.

Thank you very much to Melanie Smith and Jessica Morris, our athletics captains. These girls were terrific throughout the season, coaching, organizing and supporting all our athletes at every practice and every match. These two have been the best captains that we have ever had and I really appreciate their commitment and total pride in their positions.

I would also like to thank Mr Reeves, Mr Browning, Mr Trenhaile, Mr Harrison, Mr Callister, Dr Rollins, Mr Duncan, Mrs Miller and all of those students who helped to run our home matches.

Finally, I would like to thank Miss Pumford, Mr Sampey and Lil Dykes for their total commitment and expert coaching throughout the season. The enjoyment and success of our girls is down to teamwork and I am very fortunate to work with a great coaching team.

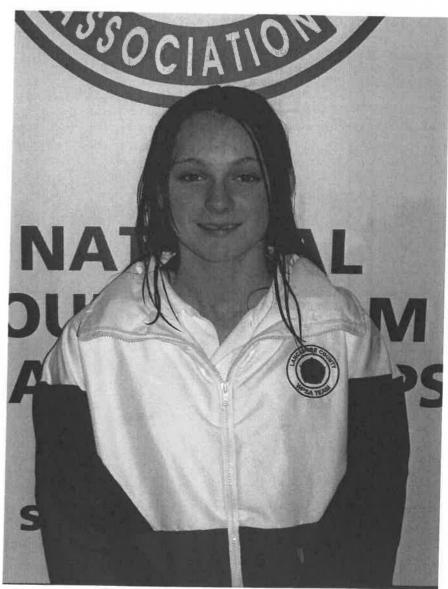
J Glover

#### **SWIMMING**

As swimming continues to strengthen at KGS, the swimmers took to the pool in style, producing great results against Stonyhurst College, Hulme Grammar School, Westholme, Merchant Taylors and Hutton.

The team has worked hard to improve and trained well in the water. A special mention should go to the following swimmers for their achievements both in and out of school:

Sophie Ward Nathan Loftus Ashley Bradshaw Chloe Walker Nicole Pike Lucy Fielding Catherine Moss Toby Townsend Phillip Clarkson Thomas Fielding Rachel Armistead Luke Patterson



Sophie Ward, a member of the GB junior swimming team

#### **TENNIS**

The tennis season of 2006 has been a thoroughly enjoyable one for all concerned. Teams were entered in the boys' and girls' Lancashire under 13 and under 15 leagues, with all teams finishing second in their divisions.

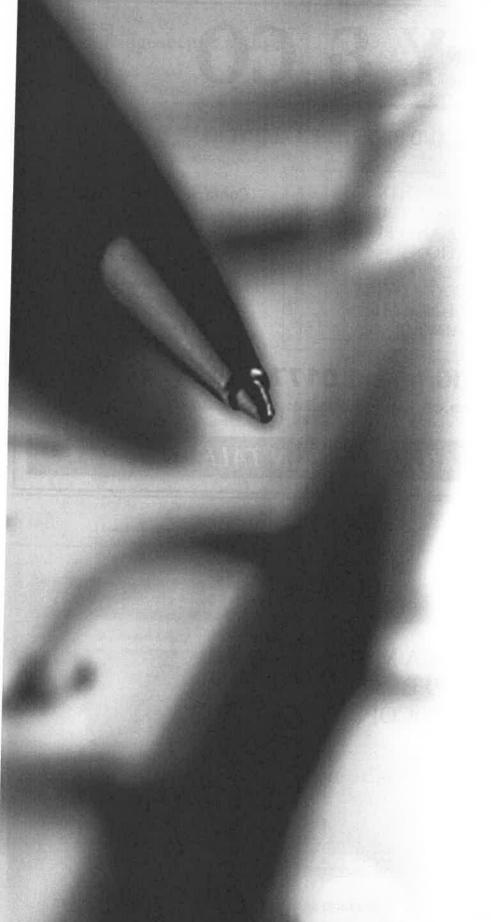
Training sessions for squad players and beginners were led by LTA coach David Shaw, who was delighted with the enthusiasm and dedication of the players. The Wednesday afternoon sessions were invaluable in developing the improvers' groups, and the second session for second to fourth year pupils was vital to the progress of the boys' tennis. The Friday morning squad sessions were well attended, despite some wild and windy conditions and tactical, decision making skills were noticeably improved upon by all girls.

A busy Saturday fixture calendar was followed, which included strong opposition from schools throughout the North West. The girls recorded victories in all of their Saturday matches, including wins over Cheadle Hulme and Arnold School

Games lessons were used to play whole year group matches, often taking twelve pairs to compete against other local schools. A pleasing total of 143 girls represented Kirkham Grammar School over the course of the summer term.

The senior tennis players were keen to compete in the few weeks of the term they were available. Jane Jackson, in her final year at KGS, must be thanked for her good captaincy and organisational skills. It is hoped that next season will see the introduction of some senior mixed tennis matches.





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### Vengeance of a Lover

You took my hand, Kissed it delicately And said I was the only one. My heart pulsed, Almost bursting out of my chest. My hands sweltered as We gazed into each other's eyes. We headed in for our first kiss It was the best moment ever, Even though there was some slobber! I rested my head onto your jumper And felt its coarse material. We parted, you kissed me once again And said you had to go. I tried to clutch you. But your nimble body got away from me. You waved and then were gone. My legs felt like they had jellied And it was hard to walk, I was so in love.

Then one day I was walking along And I saw a most obscene sight. My love was in the grasp of another girl. He had destroyed my trust, Was he punishing me for something? What had I done wrong? I stormed up to him And asked what he thought he was doing, My voice croaking with the oncoming tears. He was blunt with me and said he had been seeing this putrid thing of a girl behind my back.

I looked into his so perfect eyes and hated him. He had broken my heart. It was as if my world had come to an end. I could feel my heart ripping apart inside me, He had made me feel so much pain. A single tear drop rolled down my cheek. It was then I vowed vengeance.

### An Imaginary Friend

I have an imaginary friend who is my guide. She chats to me and plays with me and never leaves my side.

We play around the garden and also in the house-No one else knows about her because she's quiet as a mouse.

She's there for me when I'm lonely or feeling sad. She knows to leave me alone when I'm angry and mad.

Her name is 'Mary-Anna and she's like a sister to me-Without her I really don't know where I would be.

She helps me with my maths homework and also my French, She comforts me in hockey when I'm sitting on the bench.

When I've had a bad day, she'll hug me if I cry-She's the one person I know on whom I can rely.

When I'm happy, singing and dancing around She joins in with me, but only I make a sound.

We're always sharing secrets, she knows all of mine. I trust her with my life, so I know it will be fine.

Mary-Anna and I, together forever, We will never be parted, not now, not ever.

Charlotte Robinson





### Dove

Little white dove on the window sill,

You are the sign of peace, not hatred,

Sitting there so quietly

Soft, white feathers and your sweet voice

Echoing, echoing around the room.

You fill it with the feelings of good things,

Wanting everything to be alright,

But hatred still goes on.

Killing and wars still happen.

Do people have no conscience,

No bad feelings or sadness when they see all this?

So please, little dove, stay on that sill

And everything will be alright in here at least.

Hannah Quarmby

### **Alarmed Awakening**

I was awakened this morning from my dreams by the unwelcoming sound of my mum's screams. 'We've slept through the alarm,' she shouted at me, She hadn't had her morning cup of tea. In the toaster she popped some bread then she went upstairs and pulled me out of bed. I groaned as I put on my clothes, I was still slightly in a doze. As I came downstairs, only half dressed, My mum became very stressed. I grabbed the burnt piece of toast As my mum opened the morning post. The morning sky was dull and grey, then finally we drove away. In the car I began to sag When I realised I'd forgotton my school bag.

Jessica Hewitt-Dean

### Gadgets Galore

My new gadget:

I have a new gadget that's all mineIt dries, it blows, it makes hair shine.

Technically, for me, it's going to be the best
Because I've done my hair and put it to the test.

It comes in blue, red and green
With all works left complete and clean.

You plug it in and turn it on,
Before you know it, my hair's all done.

For the natural look, with brightness, too,

It certainly is the one for you.

It's on the market for £9.99

So go out and buy it for hair like mine.

Charlotte Corkhill

### **FAIR TRADE**

Red and green hot spicy chilli Brought by cart to a local village. Sweet mangoes, spilled high on the ground, The market smells are all around. "You want to buy!" the men say "I have food for you today." Fake clothes, Armani and Diesel, Sweat shop made, imported by weasels. But what's the real price they pay? Families working night and day. In the corners children lean, Brown eyes, brown face, silently bleed. Just a few pence, hands stretching. I walk outside, my stomach wretching. I leave the market far behind, Wishing the world could be more kind.

Daniel Gregg

### The Journey through the storm

Crashing, bashing, swirling waves, "Heave the sails!" the captain raves. Black, tempestuous, stormy skies. Bad moods mixed with unpleasant vibes, An echo of screams, shouts and wails, Raging roars above the gales. Ebony skies with fluorescent streaks. Desperate, eerie, crooked creaks As the ship turns, moves, teeters, Water, sea, litres and litres, Gushing in, drenching us. The thunder roars and raves above Captain cries, "To the hold!" "We can't take more of this cold!" Hungry, worried, weary, tired, A musket, loud, fiercely fired As crew rush, bustle, push past To get to the warm and dry, fast. Finally warm, safe, dry, Every member of crew lets out a sigh. The sigh soon turns to a gasp of astound As the ship, coming back from glowing Palestine Had been stacked with goods at the heaving coastline. The crew had no idea what goods were in store. Luxurious items, never seen before, Silk, copper, ivory, gold, Antique cedarwood, years and years old, Silver, diamond, barrels of rum. Emeralds, topaz, violet baskets of plums, Saffron, oranges, juicy grapes galore, Gingernut plant and clinking maidores. Oriental spices and ruby red gems.

Laura Mason

### Spring

The blossom swarmed on the trees, The sunlight burst between the hills and the bullfrog croaked. The long days were coming back with a vengeance. The birds headed towards the trees, The mother bird helping the infants. The powerful spring sun shone into the eye, The geese quacked, returning from the south, The leaves decaying from the previous autumn, Clotted cream scones on the table. The jellied frog spawn, The grasp of the bird with the worm in its mouth, Daddy said, 'Can't wait til summer.' The fierce sounds at night, The grass swaying, This is the spring I can remember.

Michael Sanderson

### Merlin

Whoosh! A wizard jumped out of my pencil case, Cobwebs, grime and mud on his face. He told me his name was Merlin From beneath his beard which was curling.

His robes were silk and dark blue His hat was floppy, it was blue too. On his robes were planets and stars And a couple of fast sports cars.

He could ban maths And other things, like baths. He could change bell times With spells that rhymed.

He could help me in tests, Get rid of pests, He could do my work And give bullies a jerk.

But then he vanished with a pop Back into my pencil case top. never saw him again in my life, But I told everyone, including my wife

Liam Williams

### Mr Magic

My new teacher's just plain weird-He has a kind of shabby beard. He comes to school with this great big pouch. It has a wand in it, no doubt. He has bloodshot eyes, like he'd seen a lot. He's Mr Magic and he's covered in blots.

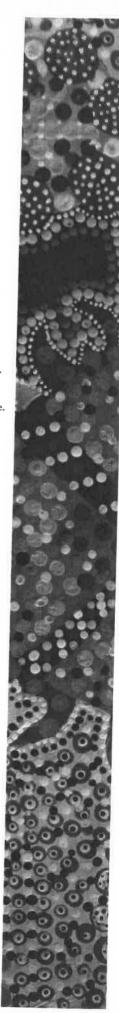
My new teacher's the weirdest guv-You do something wrong and you try to lie He casts his spell and when you're about to fib Just truth comes out and he's used the Denib. He knows you're here before you make it clear-He's Mr Magic and he's always near.

My new teacher lives across the road-It's an old house and his pet is a toad. When I look through his window there's a green light. There are sometimes explosions in the middle of the night. When I go home he's always there. But I always leave before him while he's collecting his fare.

Matthew Ross

### God's Week

- Day 1. Made lots of clouds and a big bowl of water today.
- Day 2. Invented the light bulb so I could see.
- Day 3. Made the sky, filled with air, so I could breathe
- Day 4. Made land for me to stand on.
- Day 5. Made the land green.
- Day 6. Made animals in the water.
- Day 7. Invented the T.V. and sofa so I could put my feet up.





### The place to be alive

This room is a strange place
It is the source of all things unnatural.
This room stirs with unease, roars
with anger and floats in celebration.

This room can soar between mountains,
Slice through the oceans,
and silence the jungles.
This room is where pots and pans bang
together and where butterflies rest their wings.

This room is the place to be alive.

Josh Green

### The Creature I Am

When I think of you, I am a...

Panda, sitting on a grassy hill with a mountainous backdrop,

The sun shining through the large canopy of leaves. I am sitting reclined against a trunk.

While scratching my large, fluffy back against the towering tree,

I inspect my long reed of bamboo.

When I see you I am a...

Squirrel, burnt copper in colour.

Scuttling through the gold, red and orange leaves
I make a crispy sound, under my tiny paws
as I take a huge leap through the windy air

towards a deep brown oak tree.

When you walk away I am a...
Sheep, on a hot summer's day, lonely,
Ruminating on clumps of dark, green grass.
The muddy ground swallows my feet
as I stand like a statue, only my jaw in motion.
There is nothing for miles but me.

Rebecca Green

### **Shopping Stress**

Sliding doors, shopping trolleys, Screaming children, clutching dollies, People weaving through the shelves, Snatching things just for themselves.

Perfect pizza, yummy chips, Sausages, crisps and bread-stick dips, Crunching chocolate, twirling twix, Munching mars and 'pick and mix'.

Checkout chaos, tapping feet, Drumming fingers in the sweaty heat, Bags packed, chip and pin, Cash back-done, what a din!

Shopping finished, grab a take-away, Let's get home, what a day! Queuing cars with horns that beep, I've got to get out of this boiling heat!

Anna Rigby

### YOU

When I think of you I am a... Graceful butterfly with shimmering silk wings, Vibrantly prancing over The verdant green grass.

When I see you
I am a...
Soft, clumsy penguin,
Waddling out from the ripples of the crystal sea,
Staring with watery eyes
Of adoration.

When you walk away I am a...
Jet, black jaguar,
Full of zest,
Racing through the
Tropical terrain
After you.

### My Metaphors of Me

I am the colour red Because I have a desire to do well.

If I were an animal I would be an Owl As they are the spies of the night.

If I were a place I would be Mull Because it is nature's unspoiled castle.

If I were a machine I would be a boiler Because it is the heart of the house.

If I were a fruit I would be a pear, Dangling in the tree.

If I were a planet I would be Saturn, The heavenly swish deep in space.

If I were a road I would be a country lane Because they are gateways of peace.

If I were a tree I would be an oak Standing strong day by day, Serving as pillars to the great blue sky.

Chad Bentley



### Thoughts of You

When I think of you
I am a:
Seagull,
Floating on the wind,
Just skimming the smooth surface
of the sea
Imprinted against the rising sun.

When I see you
I am a:
Butterfly,
Bursting out
of the prison
in which I have been kept
for so long.

When you walk away
I am a:
Moth,
Blending into the background,
Searching for a light,
Finding only darkness.

Beth Williams

### When Things Go Wrong

On Monday morning the toaster broke down, I looked at it with a frown. Last night's homework still undone. I switch on the computer, feeling glum. The Internet's not working, how bad can this be? Mrs Jones will give me a D. I turn on the radio, needing to sing, The tuning's all fuzzy, I can't hear a thing. Mum's pacing the house, angry as can be, The kettle isn't boiling, she can't have her cup of tea. Deciding I need a shower, I turn the water on, The water is so cold, I might just miss this one. I plug in the hairdryer, but the fuse bursts, Everything is going so wrong, I think I might be cursed. Finally, my mum shouts, 'The car is out of fuel' "Well," I sigh, 'it looks like I'll be walking to school!"

Jessica Hewitt-Dean

### T.V. Thief

Off the bus and through the door,
We'd better be quick - it's half past four.
The race is on, and off we bound
To be the first one in the lounge.
Stampeding through the hallway and then up the stairs,
We hurtle along the corridor and into the T.V's lair.

My sister gets there first, Grabs the remote, Chooses the channel, Plunges onto the settee And stares at the wall. The television has gone!!

Lucy H. Fielding

### Football Match

Shouting, screaming, chanting noise, Jumping, laughing, crying boys, Perfect pitch, all lush and green, Players and fans now are keen. Whistle blows, the first half gone, Stressed and angry - goals are none. Kicking, shouting, passing ball, Team united, one for all. Striker scores with all his might, Fans go wild, cup in sight.

Joe Wareing

### The Unforgettable Sunset

E very night I take a peek, G et out of bed, I'm only here a week.

Y es, I'm just on time,

P yramids standing in their prime.

The sun is setting - golden - on their ancient tips, I can hear their cold words speak to me, with their frozen lips.

 ${\sf S}$  uperb, is all I can get myself to say. Underneath the sun they stay,

N of a care in the world, but to stay standing,

S un glaring in my eyes, no wonder I'm chanting.

Every night I take a peek,

The time has come, it's the end of the week.

Charlotte Lewis

### Magic

My bed made in the morning without me touching it-What's this? Magic.

My rugby kit washed and ironed-What's this? Magic.

My room tidied without me even moving a thing-What's this? Magic.

My bag packed without a book being lifted-What's this? Magic.

My clothes ironed and hung up-What's this? I think there's someone magical in my house.

Joe Wareing



### vanished

when I see you I am a
Silent spider, scurrying up the clammy wall
With not a moment of hesitation,
Urgently trying to battle through the torrential rain
To see the remarkable thing the other side.
To see my goal.

When you walk away I am a
Fragile bird, flapping violently to rescue myself from
the battering storm,
Being forced dangerously close to the intense sea
Which was jumping up as if trying
To pluck me out of the darkening sky.

When I think of you I am a
Large deadly cat,
Prowling through the thickening woodland,
Tensing my body to scan the blustery, desiccated atmosphere,
Searching for my lost, wounded prey.

Peter Rígby

### THE THING!

One hot day there was a thing! It had a gargling voice and could not sing. It had dirty teeth and its breath was rank, Its sweltered and slimy body really stank. The thing had boils that needed to be popped, It was so violent it needed to be stopped. It had invaded the school and nothing could be done, It was truly the most festered thing under the sun. From its mouth the sticky slobber did drool, The children wanted vengeance because it was uncool, There it sat, poised and ready, All the scared pupils were very unsteady. It hopped around like a giant bullfrog And made our pool smell like a bog. All the nimble children did run away, Their croaking sent the monster astray. Ugly and fat was this gross-bellied creature, Then they all realised it was only a teacher.

Danielle Simpson

### **Magic Moments**

As you swim in the Mediterranean Sea You gaze up at a crimson and orange pearl in the sky. A miraculous and mesmerizing sight.

As you look out of an ornate window
To see the landscape covered in crisp, white snow,
A beautiful and magical scene.

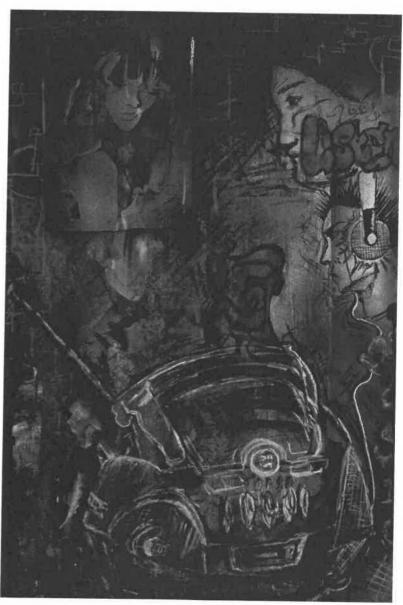
The wind rushing through your hair As you plummet to the ground, then are suddenly stopped by the bungy rope, The pure exhilaration must be amazing.

As you sprint, thinking you've got nothing left, You get a burst of adrenaline and strength. As your body screams stop, you touch the ball down for a try.

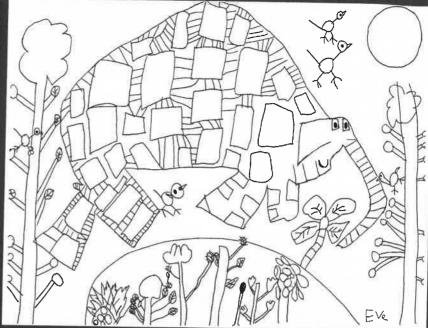
You see the bowler charging in and you focus on the ball, You hear the sound of leather on willow And breathe a sigh of relief as you see the ball sail over the boundary.

All the agony and pain must be worth it To bring a new life force into the world, To bring a being as small and delicate as a baby Into the world – a truly magical experience!

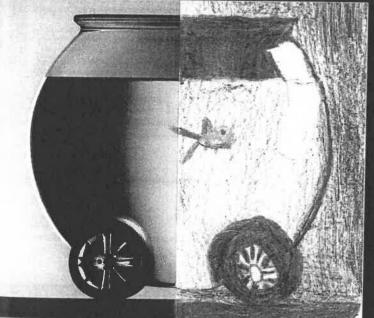
Patrick Parr





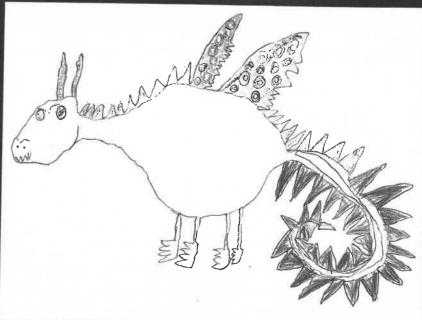


## Kirkham Grammar Junior School









### 84

### **Staff Changes**

This year has seen a number of staff changes in all areas of the school. In March we said farewell to Mrs Julie Bell as she left on her maternity leave and greeted Mrs Julie Hall who taught I2X in her place. Mrs Kate Aldeen also left on her maternity leave in June and we welcomed Mrs Lucy Dixon back to the fold to teach I3Y after the birth of her daughter, Daisy, last August.

We were delighted to hear the news of the safe arrival of Katie Louise Bell in March, weighing 6lb 12oz, and Mrs Bell returned to school at the end of the year.

We have also seen some changes in our caretaking staff this year. We said goodbye to Mr Glyn Henson

earlier in the year. Mr Jim Taylor joined us temporarily while we organised a permanent replacement, a post that was filled competently by Mr. Steve Smith in April.

It is with great sadness that we had to say goodbye and good luck to Mr Michael Moore who has done an excellent job with boys' games and PE lessons since he joined more than two years ago. We wish him every success and happiness in his future career path.

Mr Dave Procter has also moved on to pastures new after working within the school as IT technician and junior classroom assistant. Congratulations must go to Mr Procter in obtaining a teaching post for September after gaining a 2:1 in his degree.

### Sport Rugby

Under 11's: Beat Liverpool College 45-5

Lost to Merchant Taylor's 54-7 Beat St. Mary's Crosby 26-0 Beat Altrincham 28-0 Drew with Rossall 14-14 Lost to Merchant Taylor's 28-14 Packwood Haugh 7's Runners-up A.J.I.S. rugby 7's semi-finalists

Under 10's: Lost to Liverpool College 50-0

Lost to Merchant Taylor's 45-7 Lost to St. Mary's Crosby 7-5 Lost to Merchant Taylor's 50-0 Budge 7's semi-finalists

Under 9's: Beat Merchant Taylor's 35-5

In what has been an extremely frustrating, weather-interrupted season, there has been some excellent rugby played by all year groups. The Under 10's struggled in their games, but had it not been for fighting spirit and team work, the results could have reached three figures. Due to the high number of cancellations, the boys weren't able to gain much more match experience, however, they continue to work hard in training.

The Under 9's have made an excellent start to their school rugby careers beating Merchant Täylor's by 7 tries to 1. Once again, Arctic weather conditions have prevented the boys participating in a number of other matches and competitions this term in which I am confident they would have been hugely successful.

The Under 11's have had another excellent year. the teamwork and individual talent evident last year has continued into this one and huge improvements have been made. The boys didn't manage to hold

onto their lead against Merchant Taylor's and were desperately unlucky to lose. Kirkham managed to get their revenge over MTS at the Packwood Haugh 7-a-side tournament in Shropshire, beating them 14-7 in the Semi-final. Runner's up is the highest position a KGS side has achieved in this prestigious competition for the past 11 years so well done to all the boys who took part.

I am once again extremely proud of all the boys who have represented KGJS so well this term and I wish them all the very best for the future.

Mr M. Moore



### Hockey Report 2005-06

All girls and boys who have played hockey this year have worked very hard in practices and have deserved their phenomenal success. Over 30 girls and 18 boys have regularly attended practices and we have held a number of fixtures for the following teams; Under 11 girls 'A', 'B' and 'C' teams, Under 10 girls, Under 10 and Under 11 boys.

The girls have enjoyed an extremely successful season, making very good progress. The Under 11B team were undefeated this season and qualified for

the North Finals - a first for KGJS. The Under 11 A team have also had an excellent season culminating in winning the St. Mary's Hall Tournament, the Budge 7's Tournament, being crowned A.J.I.S. Champions and coming runners up in the North Finals.

The boys team this year have gone from strength to strength winning all of their friendly fixtures and having 2 teams compete in Lancashire Hockey championships in which the A team came a creditable 3rd, losing out on qualifying for the North Finals on penalties.

All teams results: Won - 18 Drew - 4 Lost - 2

### Netball

Netball practices have been extremely well attended with over 40 girls regularly taking part. We have had matches throughout the Autumn and Spring terms for A and B teams.

The results were: Won - 10 Lost - 5 Drew - 2

We also took part in the A.J.I.S. tournament and the Highfield Priory Tournament at the end of the Spring term. In the A.J.I.S. tournament we won 2 games, lost 2 and drew 1, finishing 3rd in our section. In the Highfield Priory tournament we achieved the following results:

v Harris Lost 2 - 1

v Arnold Drew 3 - 3

v Highfield Won 3 - 2

v Broughton Won 5 - 0

v Westholme Lost 2 - 0

v Pius X Won 5 - 1

These results meant we finished 4th overall.

### **Cross Country Report 2005-06**

The girls and boys have made excellent progress over the two terms in cross country. Having a regular fitness/cross country lesson every week certainly seems to have paid dividends to the children's level of fitness. The highlight of the Autumn term was the House Cross Country competition. It was held at the senior school and involved over 90 children from J1 - J4 taking part. We had one friendly fixture against Rossall in which we won 2 age groups and lost 2. We also competed in the A.J.I.S. Cross Country Championships.

Particular congratulations to the Under 11 girls team who came 2nd.

### **Swimming Report 2005-06**

The girls and boys that have competed for the school swimming team have achieved very good results against schools that have their own pools. A fantastic season - unbeaten in all but one match. In the A.J.I.S. Swimming Championships at Merchant Taylor's School on Monday 21st November we

achieved some very good results. They came 2nd in the Medley Relay and in the Freestyle Relay. Particular congratulations to our A.J.I.S Swimming Champion 2005, Maddy Robinson, who won the individual medley.

### **Athletics Report 2005-06**

We entered both under 11 and 10 girls and boys in the A.J.I.S. Athletics Championships on Monday 14th June. There were thirty schools taking part in this prestigious event. It was a little daunting for some of the athletes who had never competed on a proper athletics track or in such a big competition. Congratulations to all athletes who competed.

Particular congratulations to Hannah Pike who is the A.J.I.S. U11 girls high jump champion 2005-06 and the U11 girls relay team who are also A.J.I.S. champions (Sophia Crawshay, Laura Johnson, Alix Townsend, Rachel Williamson and Hannah Pike).



### Cricket Report 2006

Results:

Kirkham vs Arnold - Lost by 88 runs Kirkham vs Liverpool College - Lost by 10 wickets Kirkham vs Merchant Taylor's - Lost by 7 wickets Kirkham vs Rossall - Lost by 122 runs

After a mixed start to the season, the boys have started to improve in all areas of the game particularly batting. With more fielding practice and more disciplined bowling, the games have become more evenly matched. A heavy defeat by Rossall was the only real worry of the season. Good luck to all next year and all the best for the future.

Mr M. Moore

### Tennis Report 2005-06

Tennis practices have taken place every Friday evening during the Summer term and they have been well attended by over 30 girls from J3 and J4. All the girls have improved their basic skills and have learnt how to serve, score and play a full game.

The boys in J3 and J4 have also had tennis practices during lunchtime and are making progress.

The tennis team (12 mixed couples) played a match against KGS 1st year team and drew 10 matches each, we also played St. Pius School and lost 10-7. There were some very close matches and some good tennis was played.

#### Rounders

We have had 10 friendly matches and both A and B teams remain undefeated. We have had over 40 girls attending rounders practices and they have all made good progress.

A.J.I.S. Rounders Tournament on Monday 19th June in Cheshire.

Results:

v The Grange - won 5 - 1½

v St. Bedes - won 8½ - 1½ v Kings Mac - drew 2½ - 2½ These results meant we won our section

Quarter Final v Withington - lost 5½ - 5 v St. Bedes - won 6½ - 2½ v Cheadle Hulme - won 6½ - 2

These results meant we came 5th overall. Congratulations to all who played. You played some very good rounders, particularly fielding. I received a number of very complementary remarks from other members of staff saying how good you all were. You were very unlucky to lose to Withington.

Player of the tournament: Natasha Linton

### House Competitions House Cross Country Results

1st Colborne - 254 points 2nd Clifton - 266 points 3rd Birley - 284 points 4th Drapers - 285 points

#### Individual winners

J4 Boys - Sam Gale

J4 Girls - Maddie Robinson

J3 Boys - Sam Norris

J3 Girls - Alex Hastie

J2 Boys - Josh Powell

J2 Girls - Rebecca Nixon

J1 Boys - Bradley Yates

J1 Girls - Eleanor Greenhalgh

### House Netball - Thurs 9th Feb

1st Colborne

2nd Birley

2nd Drapers

4th Clifton

Colborne were convincing winners but it was a very close competition between the rest of the teams. Congratulations to all the J4 girls - every girl took part.

### House Hockey - Mon 13th Feb

1st Colborne 2nd Clifton

3rd Drapers

3rd Birley

A close competition between the top two teams. An excellent standard of hockey was played by all J4 girls - a pleasure to watch.

### House Rugby - Mon 13th Feb

1st Clifton 2nd Colborne 3rd Birley 4th Drapers

Clifton were convincing winners which was not surprising as the Clifton team consisted of most of the school 7's team who did so well in Packwood.

### House Rounders - Thurs 22nd June

Colborne won convincingly. All the other three houses came joint second place! It was an extremely enjoyable event with some good rounders played by all.

### House Swimming Gala - Mon 22nd May

The annual house swimming gala was an extremely enjoyable event with some fantastic performances from all those involved. Every pupil in the junior school swam in at least two events for their house. It was a pleasure to see so much team spirit and particularly the amount of encouragement the less able swimmers were given. There were many close races and the overall result was a win for Clifton house, but the highlight of the day was definitely the teachers' race - a victory for Mr Doherty, Mr Moore, Mr Butterworth and Miss Baxter who challenged the fastest swimmers in the school - keep up the practice for next year!!

### **Sports Day**

All children from J1 - J4 took part and thoroughly enjoyed themselves on a lovely sunny day. Highlights of the day included the hurdle sprint relay, the agility relay and the closely contested high jump competition.

It was a pleasure to see so many children working hard for their house and supporting and encouraging their team mates. The children had devoted a lot of time and effort to practising their events and the standard of competition was high.

All children competed with determination and gave of their best whether they came first or last. The teachers' challenge race was closely contested and entertaining to watch, with plenty encouragement from the children, but yet again a victory to the teachers - Mr Moore, Mr Butterworth, Miss Cooper and Miss Baxter.

The overall girls athletics champion was Hannah Pike who competed very well in the 600m, 200m 60m and high jump (a fantastic 1.28m). The overall boys athletics champion was Louis Mottley who competed very well in the hurdles, 60m and high jump. Congratulations to Colborne who were the winning house.

### **Special Achievements**

This year has seen many individual achievements. which merit acknowledgement.

Hannah Pike and Aimée-Jade Tiffin-McGuirk have both been selected to join the North England Hockey Development Group. Hannah has also represented Lancashire recently in indoor athletics. In swimming, Maddie Robinson has qualified to swim for Great Britain in no less than eight events! Alexander Bruce came second in the North West

Championships for his weight category in judo. Bradley Yates also achieved a second place, this time in the North West Biathlon in the Under 10 age group, at the tender age of just eight!

In the more unusual sport of motor cross, Sam Norris has been competing in the Schoolboy National Championships and is aiming to finish in the top twenty.

Congratulations to all these children on their magnificent achievements and good luck for all your future pursuits.











Sam

Alexander

Maddie

Bradlev Hannah

### Music

Again we have had a varied, exciting and successful year on many levels.

During the Autumn Term the Ensemble operated in School and featured in the Christmas Concert. The Choir contributed to the success of the Christmas Concert and took part in the BBC Songs of Praise Competition. The Remembrance Service in November was enhanced by the excellent playing of Zak Wardell and Jordan Chadwick (Trumpets).

The Percussion Ensemble was re-launched by Mrs French and entertained us all so well in the MPH at Christmas. The Staff Brass Ensemble made two sparkling appearances, at Book Week in September, entertaining the Junior School children and in the process introducing the children to popular music throughout most of the decades of the 20th Century. They also provided some high quality, 'lighter moments' during the Christmas Concert. Vocalists and instrumentalists entertained patients at Wesham Hospital again and the Christmas Readers had the opportunity to present their Christmas Readings to the day patients. All offerings were very much appreciated.

Open Evenings in both the Autumn and Spring Terms gave several musicians the opportunity of performing live to the many visitors who attended.

We congratulate especially, Joseph Martin and Gemma Broomhead who were this year's Music Scholars, together with Maddie Robinson and Sophia Crawshay, both Exhibition Winners. We were again delighted to contribute four outstanding musicians to this year's Scholarship Competition.

Throughout the year, there have been many outstanding achievements, vocal, instrumental and theoretical at Associated Board Exams. We are regularly celebrating 'musical' successes in our Friday Assemblies. The Infant Ensemble have continued to rehearse and progress though the year and we look forward to their members stepping up into the school ensemble when they move into the Junior School.

A Vocal Ensemble, drawn from the School Choir, won 1st prize at the Lytham St. Annes Music Festival on 2nd April, just before we finished for the Easter Holidays.

The scheme of music followed by the pupils appears to be appreciated by the children, who have encountered styles from several cultures around the world during their music making.

The 'Musical Year' was completed by further successes during the summer term by individuals during examinations, and the musical contributions made at Prizegiving by Joe Martin and Gemma Broomhead.

None of the successes could have been possible without a lot of hard work by the visiting teachers who lay the foundations to enable the children's talent to come to the fore.

On behalf of the School, I thank all the visiting music teachers for their continued effort, support and encouragement of our talented young musicians.

We wish the fourth year pupils well, as they leave and move to Secondary school and we look forward to seeing them growing and developing as musicians in the years to come, by becoming part of the musical life of the Senior School.

Enjoy a lunga pausa during the summer, until we return in September when accelerando will occur leading us all to allegro ma non troppo!!

Peter Lockett, Head of Music.

On the 17th June, 2006 the vocal ensemble were invited to take part in the 'Summer Proms,' organised by the Rotary Club Of Kirkham and Rural Fylde. This was a super event and the children sang

beautifully. Joseph Martin was a guest soloist and he sang four fantastic solos. The other guests included the Senior School Concert Band, Peter Jebson, Blackpool Brass and local singer Karen Robinson. All the audience were invited to have a picnic in the school grounds and join in the traditional flag waving and Proms Sing-a-long. Congratulations and thank you to all involved in this enjoyable event!

Mrs Helen Shuttleworth

Rehearsals are already under way for the K.G.J.S production of 'Aladdin' which will take place in March 2007. After several rounds of auditions the main characters have been cast but there are still lots of opportunities within singing, dancing and chorus parts to be created. Congratulations to the children who have been awarded a part and good luck with all the hard work that will be required! Thank you to all the parents who have already offered their assistance for costumes, props and publicity.

Mrs Helen Shuttleworth/Mrs Lindsey Case

### Infant Ensemble

This year's Infant Ensemble musicians included William Atkinson, Gabriel Bland, William Bruce, Rebecca Chatwin, Andrew Collins, Amelia Dalzell, Hannah Davies, Hannah Knight, Philippa Kollard, Arron O'Neill and Haydn Price.

During the Autumn term the Infant Ensemble practised a famous song, 'When the Saints go marching in'. The musical instruments included the key board, violin, recorder, xylophone, glockenspiel and percussion. The children were learning not only to read their own musical parts, but also to listen carefully in order to play together successfully with their fellow musicians. The Infant Ensemble did their first performance of this song to an audience of infant children.

Some musicians had the opportunity to learn to play another type of instrument for the song, 'Clementine', which they practised in the Spring term. The group performed this confidently in front of a whole school audience. This was a valuable experience for the Infant Ensemble.

We would like to congratulate the children on all their efforts and achievements during the year and wish them success and continued enjoyment with their musical pursuits as they enter the Juniors.

Mrs. J. Knowles and Mrs. S. Kenchington

### **Class Visits**

Class visits form an integral and popular part of the curriculum at KGJS. Over the year all the classes have enjoyed a range of educational experiences out of School. I1 made a trip to Lowther Gardens for an autumn walk. The children talked to the Park Keeper to link in with their 'Book Week' topic. In

the spring it was a visit to Lytham Hall to see the snowdrops and finally in summer they went to Williamson Park to see the fascinating creatures in the Butterfly House and the mini-beast enclosures.



I2 took a short walk to the postbox on Ribby Road as part of their project about the Post and talked to the postman who was emptying the box. They enjoyed a walk to Kirkham Park to study the plants growing there. Finally for their main class visit I2 went to Blackpool Tower where they had a panoramic view of the whole town, were able to



play in the indoor adventure area and watch a first rate circus.

13 visited the opticians, 'Eyedeal Vision,' in Kirkham, where they handed in the spectacles they had been collecting as part of their Geography topic on the Global Eye. These glasses would then be sent to help people in third world countries.

The nature reserve at Leighton Moss near Carnforth was visited to study different habitats as part of their Science work. The year ended with a trip to Beacon Fell for a nature walk.

J1 visited Chester where they not only went on a boat on the River Dee but also marched on the walls of the city with a real live Centurion! Chester is the only English City to have retained all of its walls and they are two miles long! They also visited the Roman lifestyle museum to experience what life was like for a typical Roman almost 200 years ago.

J2 have visited the Lake District National Park Visitors' Centre at Brockholes. This has one of the best outdoor adventure playgrounds in the country. They also enjoyed a boat trip on Windermere and an orienteering exercise.



J3 travelled to Eden Camp in North Yorkshire to extend their knowledge of World War II. In June they enjoyed a trip to Windermere where they travelled on a steamboat and then the Haverthwaite steam train. Another experience was a visit to a Buddhist Priory in Conishead. The year ended with a 'Taster Day' at KGS where they participated in Drama, Science and DT activities.

J4 went on a long coach ride to the Ardeche in France for a week of fun in the sun. Adventure was the key word with climbing, absailing, canoeing and kayaking being typical events of the day.

Visitors to school have also provided a different aspect to a child's education. I1 were treated to a 'Yummy' day when 'Chicory' Chef Felix Santoni taught some of his cooking skills to eager mouths. The teachers made sure they had their share too! The children also enjoyed seeing piglets, ducklings and lambs which were brought into school at different times over the year. Finally Martin and Rob the builders taught the children basic skills on how to build a brick wall using different tools.

12 enjoyed a visit by Dr. Cartmell and his 'Robosapien V2 Robot' which performed fascinating moves.

13 experienced a visit from 'Kirby's vegetable shop' owners and 'Broadhurst's Optometrists', to link in with their work on 'Vision Aid' sending glasses overseas.

All the infants learnt about caring for dogs from Miss Nicola Taylor, The Fylde Community Dog Warden who brought in her dog, Mutley.

In the Juniors, J1 have been trying to lead healthy lives! They enjoyed a visit from Mr Brady, a dentist and Anne Blydgen, a healthy eating and fitness instructor. The children benefited from an aerobics class based around the Commonwealth Games.

Finally J4 listened to a fire safety talk given by local firefighters.

### **Action Aid**

This year it was decided by all the staff to raise money for Action Aid, by sponsoring one child per year group in an under-developed country. Each year group was allocated a different child and were then sent away to think of the best way to raise money. Many ideas were put forward and over the course of the year, some of them were carried out.

In total £1,356 was raised by the following activities:

12 (Vietnam) Guess the date of Mickey and Minnie's weddina

13 (Ghana) Sponsored skip

J1 (Nigeria) Unique Creations gifts

J2 (Ecuador) Cake sale

J3 (Nicaragua) Cake sale

J4 (Peru) Red and white England day - own clothes day.

A big thank you to all the children, parents and staff who have helped raise this amazing total for Action Aid.

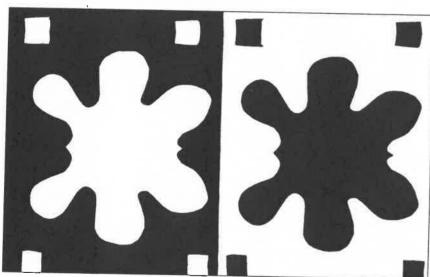


### JUNIOR WORK

My 10 Favourite parts of . . . The French Trip!

- 1 The Ardeche descent, capsizing as soon as we got onto the river in our trusty canoe!
- 2 The night-line, being told where to go by Tim and as a result of that, falling into a ditch!
- 3 The disco, and dancing the night away!
- 4 The vertical play-pen, and at the top screaming 'GET OFF MY LAND!'
- 5 The zip-wire, and doing 'Matrix' impressions!
- 6 The Team-Challenge! And playing on the giant see-saw!
- 7 Kayaking, capsizing again!
- 8 The high ropes, and doing 'Tarzan' impressions!
- 9 Singing songs on the coach.
- 10 The Bivvy, scorpians and poisonous caterpillars!

Madeline Robinson J4Y



Darcey Bray J2Y

### 'Taster Day'

On Monday 27th June we were ensured our first real experience of Kirkham Grammar Senior School. We met Mrs O'Flaherty who split us up into two groups, one of which went to perform Drama with Miss Barrie and the other group of I2 went to the library to be read a story by Mrs Copeland. After some exhiliarating performances with theatre masks we departed to D.T. - making 'Jitter Bugs' was our project. We had the opportunity to try soldering and to use the hot glue gun.

When we had finished we took our 'Jitter Bugs' to a delicious lunch of exotic pineapple, pasta and baguette - too healthy for me normally! Next it was time to move on to the study of Physics, with Mr Gaddes. We studied a machine called a datalogger, which looks at the amount of light and heat in the air. Then we went up stairs to my favourite part of the day, Biology, the study of living creatures. We looked at water snails, leeches and shrimps. Next Mrs O'Flaherty took us down to the playing field for a game of Softball. I don't know how, but I scored a home run and our team won 3-1 although none of us were very good!

Thanks to all the staff for arranging our visit, especially Mrs O'Flaherty and (if I pass the entrance exam) I look forward to coming in September 2007.

By Harry Mason J3Y

### The Sunny Day

I am inside looking outside On a sunny day

Blue sea sparkling Golden sand boiling Huge waves crashing Happy children screaming Speed boats zooming Roasting sun tanning

I am inside looking outside At the sunny day

Saachin Nantheesan J1X

#### Christmas

Chestnuts roasting on an open fire,
Holly decorated round the Christmas tree,
Reindeers dancing in the sky above,
In Santa's sleigh there are presents we love,
Santa with his red coat,
Turkey dinner on Christmas day,
Mince pies we're having today,
A present for everyone,
Snowmen saying Happy New Year!

Seline Turner J1Y

### X-MAS

Candy cones hanging off the tree,
Holly bright red and green,
Roasting turkey on an open fire,
Igloos standing on the frozen ice,
Snowmen are waiting to be built,
Time to go out and play in the snow,
Mummy is making the Christmas cake,
A full Christmas dinner is waiting to be served,
Sleeping time, what an exciting Christmas day!

Maria Sayers J1Y

### candy Island

Candy Island is a small island on the other side of the world that hardly anyone has ever visited. The people that live on Candy Island work all day long making sweets and chocolates for all the children in the world to enjoy.

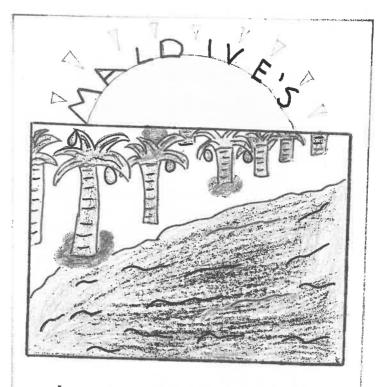
Candy Island is in the middle of a dark chocolate ocean. The sand on the beach is made of soft white sugar. The trees are made of chocolate fingers. There is a huge volcano that pours out hot melted chocolate all day long and there are hot chocolate wishing wells everywhere. Even the pirates on Candy Island sail in little white chocolate rowing boats and have dark chocolate swords.

Sam Beard J2X

### The Fairy Pastle

The Fairy Castle is magical. It sits high on a green hill, above a valley where Spring time never ends. It is made from pink, glitter bricks that sparkle in the sun shine. White doves sit on the round turrets and the heart-shaped shutters are always open. Inside the castle there is glorious, golden furniture encrusted with precious jewels. Elves sing sweetly as they tend to the velvet, green lawns, the rainbow coloured flowers and the lemonade fountains. They are so proud to serve the Queen of the Fairies.

Lucy Brown J2X



ATROPICAL ISLAND PARADISE SURROWDED BY WATER AS CLEAR AS GLASS WITH RANDOW COLOURED FISH AND BERNTIFUL CORAL REEFS. THE BEACHES HAVE PALM TREES AND THE SAND IS BLEACHED WHITE BY THE ENDLESS DAYS OF SUNSHIME.

IF YOU NEED TO GET MUNY AMDHAVE A REST, COME TO THE MALDINES WHERE WE KNOW YOU WILL HAVE A HOLIONY OF A LIFETIME!

Megan Crowther J2X

### Limericks

There once was a man from Berlin Who needed to empty his bin It smelt so bad That he asked his dad Could I put some perfume in

Dominic Grimshaw I2X

There was a young boy called Sam His favourite food was roast lamb Every day after school He would act like a fool When all he was offered was jam!

Sam Beard J2X

There was a young boy called Sam Who loved to eat bread and ham He took a large slice Ate it up in a trice And said, "Now I'll add some jam!"

Lucy Brown J2X

### Woodville

Here we are, We've got so far, With Woodville at the front of school, Everyone thinks it's really cool.

It started off as a piece of wood, But now it looks really good, We got the idea from a book, Go past the office and have a look.

Mr Procter with a saw, Mrs Brindle laid down the law, Mr Locket with a glue gun, And all us kids just having fun.

Everything is brill, We have no more space to fill, We've got houses, churches and choppers, And maybe a few frequent shoppers.

We have got a mine, We've got a church that tells the time, We've got bus stops, train stations and cars, And on the other side of town some bars!

We've got horses, dogs and cows, We've even got a cat that meows, Men, women, girls and boys, Most of them have lots of toys.

I'm sad to say we're near the end, So I've got one last thing my friend, We really enjoyed making Woodville, But I wonder, how much was the bill?

Sophie Breedon J3X

### Could a first Day get much worse?

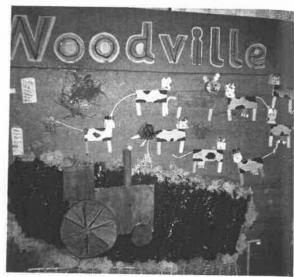
It's nine o'clock I am late, My mum's car conked out at the gate, I'm really worried of my fate, I've got myself in a right old state.

I get to school and I'm oh so worried, I really wish my mum had hurried, My friends are in I'm all alone, I want to turn and run off home.

In Biology I get a toad, I start to cut and it explodes, The teacher's cross and starts to shout, "You naughty boy, get out, out, out."

And now I'm seeing the Headmaster, My little heart beats so much faster, This awful day has gone and ended, I've just arrived and got suspended!

Harry Rimmer J4X



### A Desert Island

So this was it! I scrambled ashore, gazing around myself in wonder. The silvery sea on which I had been sailing gave me a sensation that I was looking at heaven's gates, gently rippling across my toes. I raised my gaze to the sky. The sunset was very different here than my home country, the red sun was reflected off the silvery seas to make burning shapes in the sky. The effect this wonder had on the light, fluffy clouds above my head was wonderful. The late sun's rays coloured the clouds in pinks and purples making them look like floating candy-floss. The beach gave me the same kind of feeling, with the warm sand sinking beneath my feet and glistening in the sun. The more I looked at the scenery around me, the more I loved it. Far away in the distance, the mountains stood motionless with the green forests hugging its feet, like a warm green blanket.

Maddie Robinson J4Y

### MY ALIEN

My pet alien, the eighteen toed cyclops is the oldest living alien from Venus. He is a massive 8998 years old showing no signs of aging. He is the size of an average human. My alien has orange wavey hair like he has just been electricuted. Right in the middle of his round head, he has an eye, but not just any old eye, this one does not blink, but stares until he really likes something then its non stop blinking. If he doesn't like someone, he stomps round them until he passes out because he's so dizzy. His mouth is a black, wavey, worried looking feature. He does not have a nose on his pea green body. He has two arms, fifteen fingers and two legs and eighteen toes. I really like my pet alien except he speaks in a weird whale voice which I don't understand. My alien also likes reading books, his favourite being Harry Potter.

Elaine Chiekrie J4Y

### THE HAUNTED HOUSE

In the bathroom is

A bath which is filled with dead spiders
A toilet covered in mould
A blood-stained, old shower curtain
A cobwebbed light flickering on and off
And the only sound
Is the dripping of a leaky tap

In the bedroom is
A spine-chilling ghost family painting
A bunk bed crawling with rats
A toy box filled with headless dolls
A wardrobe of transparent clothing
And the only sound
Is the snoring of a somnolent ghost

In the dining room is

A table decorated with bats

A few chairs which move on their own

A bone-rattling picture with moving eyes

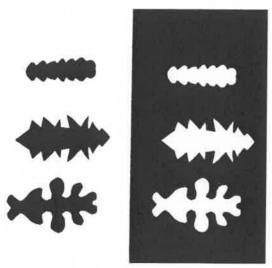
A headless waiter standing at the door

And the only sound

Is the screaming of people who've been eaten

In the kitchen is
A dirty, rusty, old cooking pan
A cookbook with a freaky name
A spatula covered in blood
A ghoulish chef waiting to cook you alive
And the only sound
Is the clattering of pots and pans.

Stephanie Ashcroft J4Y



Jessica Bevington J2X

### Eden Camp

On Friday, 4th November we set off on a 2½ hour journey to a World War II museum called Eden Camp. It is in Malton in the North of Yorkshire.

When we arrived, we began to look in the huts 1-12. They were all interesting and I found out a great deal of facts I did not know before the trip, such as what happened in other countries during the war and how much Britain prepared for sudden air raid and gas attacks.

Eden Camp makes you think you are in history by making realistic scenes as well as giving out strong smells!

I enjoyed all the huts, however, I especially enjoyed Hut 5 and Hut 10, which were about The Blitz and Prisoners of War. This was because I didn't realise how terrifying the Blitz was. I also was amazed at the skill and accuracy of the prisoners of war's craftwork.

The hut I found most frightening was hut 3, the U-boat Menace. The submarine is under attack, so is creaking and quaking. Pale faces peered through the portholes at you as a horrific roaring sound filled the boat's atmosphere.

As well as Hut 3, 'The Museum Within a Museum' huts also made me glad I didn't live in that time! When I saw the bones of a Japanese prisoner piercing through his thin, wispy skin, my heart filled with pity.

I really enjoyed Eden Camp and was tired but happy when I got home!
Elsie Linley J3Y

### My 10 Most Memorable Moments of K.G.J.S

- Passing my entrance exam!
- 2. Having a great entrance exam party!
- 3. Taking part in the cast for Joseph!
- 4. Getting into the D.T rocket's final!
- 5. Being given a Headteacher's award for an I.T project!
- 6. Taking my grade 1 flute exam, I was very nervous!
- 7. Reading to the 11 children, I read to Polly!
- 8. The first time I won the merit in the infants, my mum was very proud
- 9. Having great Christmas parties!
- 10. Going to all the fun school fairs!

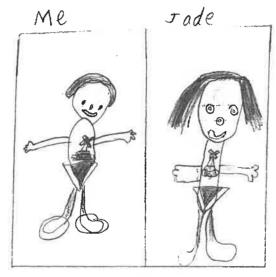
Bethany Gargett J4X

### INFANT WORK

### The Mysterious Egg

Once upon a time there was a boy called Gabriel. He had a beautiful big egg. He was clearing his room he saw his egg he thought it was getting a little bit dirty. So he cleaned it up and put it in his wardrobe and went to sleep. "Zzzz". When he woke up he saw a hugh red and black snake. He screamed and the snake slithered away. The snake was never to be seen again. Then Gabriel woke up and it was all a dream.

Gabriel Bland I3Y



Rachael McCrae 12X

### Infant Sports Day

On Monday it was infant sports day it was on the field. I was in the egg and spoon race, the sack race, the relay race and the bean bag race. I came third in the sack race and I came second in the relay race Then Mr Moore gave us our rosettes then it was home time.

Isabel Kavanagh I2Y

### Why is Mum so thoroughly glu

Why is Mum so thoroughly glum?
I can't understand it at all
Maybe she cries because her hamster dies
Maybe the boy who popped her football
Or the crow who ate her best bow

It just doesn't make sense

Maybe she was shy because she wore a tie
I wonder why she was so tense

Or the bird who ate her lemon curd Or because some of her best plates broke Or the bed in her shed Or her best dress got a soak

Rebecca Chatwin I3X

### Blackpool Tower our class vis

On Tuesday 20th June my class visited Blackpo Tower and the circus. The circus was fun. There was Mooky the clown he was funny. Mr Maxi was funny too. There was a strong lady she wastrong. Also there was an American lady she shout of a cannon it made a big bang. There were Chinese acrobats they were fantastic. I was shocked. There was a tight rope lady, she was good. There were ladies rolling on a ball it was good. Next we went to Jungle Jim's. We played the play room. We went down the slides they were fast. We went in the ballroom there were dancers. They were good. After we went on the coach back to school and when we got back we packed out bags and went home.

Olivia Huyton I2X

my mum helpsme.
my mum makestea.
My mum hoovers.
my mum hugsme.
I Love My mum.
Edward Nuttall 11X

It is exactly how we wanted it to look and your service has been fast, efficient and helpful. I wish our dealings with everybody else had been as hassle free as our dealings with you.

E. Allott - Freckleton

We are writing to thank you all for the professionalism and expertise you showed while designing and fitting our new wardrobes.

G&P. Watt - Fulwood

Please compliment your staff with the degree of care taken in the detail of the manufacture of the various different units, coupled with the care and attention in the fitting which was excellent

E&M. Kingston - Lancaster

# thankyou

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essence of our business.

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Many thanks for the professional and efficient service you have provided.

A pleasure to have done business with you.

P. Rhodes - Fulwood

I have been impressed with your service from start to finish and am absolutely thrilled with my new fitted bedroom.

L. Nelson - Preston

Once again, a fantastic job!

Thank you very much, until the next time!

L. Heys - Preston

wakeup...

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