



Kirkham Grammar School

The Kirkhamian 2003



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The Kirkhamian 2003

contents

Headmaster's Report	4
Staff	6
The School Year	9
Girls' Sport	16
Boys' Sport	30
School Visits	48
The Arts	53
Combined Cadet Force	59
Societies	63
Charity	66
House Reports	68
Poets' Corner	72
Junior School	77

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The School wishes to thank all who have advertised in this magazine

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I am pleased to preface this my first magazine, for it represents one of the final duties in a most eventful year and allows me to pay tribute to all the hard work that has gone into making the year a successful one. The breadth of activity and many examples of excellence in such a multiplicity of areas have been stimulating to witness and all has only been possible through the commitment of so many dedicated professionals. In particular, I must thank Mr Rushton for all his efforts in compiling this magazine. It is not my brief to review the year, for that is undertaken within the body of this publication, but I would like to pinpoint a number of personal highlights to emphasise the variety of experience that the school displays.

My first Speech Day marked one of the first great challenges but proved a most enjoyable occasion. It was marked by a high attendance and the presence of many parents and guests, all of whom made me feel very much at ease. How much easier the occasion will become remains to be seen!

I shall recall my first Carol Concert for a long time, particularly as it was Mr Catterall's last. The marvellous music and special atmosphere were memorable and a packed house received the occasion with rapturous applause. I am unsurprised that Mr Barratt is changing the theme for this year to avoid trying to replicate JC's farewell!

Our young hockey players provided another highlight with their magnificent run to the National Finals where they represented us so well. Frustrated at not being present in Portsmouth, I was pleased such a large band of travelling supporters was able to attend and, I gather, provided excellent vocal support.

The sporting theme continued with the success of our Junior teams in the Lancashire Rugby Cup. Having a parental involvement did spice up the interest, but our Under 13 and Under 14 XV's did remarkably well to reach the finals and we all had a great day in Manchester on Finals' Day. The continued news of Under 13 success at Rosslyn Park gave the last days of term a real drama. As if that were not enough, the victory by the 1st XV at

Sedbergh 'Tens' added the final glory to a great sporting week.

My visit to the Drapers' Company with the Head of School, Rachael Horton, provided another highlight. An excellent meal, first class speeches and splendid hospitality did much to convince me of the benefit of our close links with the Drapers' Company and I am sure those who visited recently will concur. We are delighted that the strong bond remains and are pleased Admiral Ross will present our prizes at Speech Day this year.

The launch of the website is another occasion that will remain with me, particularly for Marshal Parker's arrival in a helicopter, but also for the technical mastery exhibited by the Web-Wizards. 'Mission Impossible', as it was termed, was made to look easy by these youngsters and emphasised the challenge facing us in the teaching profession to provide a stimulating and challenging environment for them. That is certainly my commitment to Kirkham and the day just further emphasised this.

The Leavers' Ball, followed by the tremendous Friends' Ball, made a memorable weekend in June. Our Sixth Form looked the part on a great occasion in the marquee on the front lawn. The evening was once again a great success but it was matched by a stunning evening at the Friends' Ball. This was really a night to remember, and Sylvia and I were amongst many who enjoyed a wonderful evening.

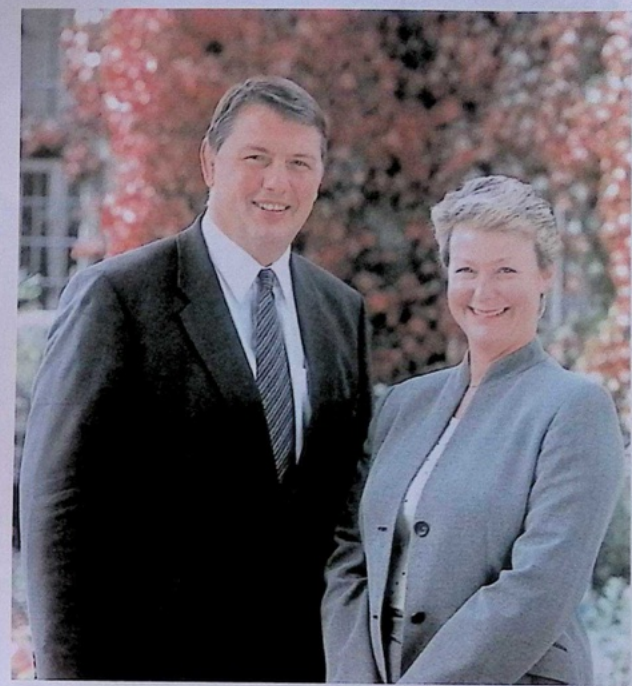
Towards the end of term I was privileged to attend the 'Secret Dinner' dedicated to Lt Col Sayer's retirement. The Dining Hall looked superb bedecked in regimental colours and silverware and the occasion matched it. First class presentations by Major Scott and his team gave Fred an appropriate send off and provided a great occasion for us all to savour.

Perhaps I have missed an important occasion or two but certain events do seem to stick in the memory and this year's seem almost too many to single out. I hope these potted memories give a flavour of what lies within the magazine without being too repetitive. The hard work of so many pupils has

underpinned the successes of the school this year as in all years and this includes all their achievements, not just the ones that may hit the headlines. The poetry competition, the Maths Challenge, LAMDA, the Biology competition, and a host of house activities have provided the breadth of opportunity for so many to find a niche for their talents. I hope we can maintain and enhance these opportunities in the years to come, for this provides such an important impetus in educating our youngsters in this busy modern world.

Finally, I must thank all my teaching colleagues for their hard work during this busy year and all the support staff including all our caretakers, caterers, administrative and accounts staff, cleaners and grounds staff for their exceptional work throughout the year. No successful organisation can function without teamwork and this appears the hallmark of the Kirkham community. I hope we can ensure that this continues and grows even stronger in years to come.

J.R. Walker



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

The year saw the retirement of two of the longest serving members of the KGS staff.

Mr. Brian Taylor retired as Head of German after 35 years' service. Brian arrived in 1968 after taking his degree at Leeds University and his PGCE at Liverpool. Arriving as a fresh faced youth, Brian oversaw the development of German throughout the whole school. He was initially appointed by Bill Kennedy and subsequently worked with four headmasters. During his time here, Brian made a significant contribution to the life of the school. He was housemaster of Lytham House until its demise – at which point he transferred to Preston House and remained at the helm for several years. On the sporting front, Brian was in charge of junior cricket for many years and also held the lofty position of captain of the staff cricket team. Legend has it that he was a fine wicketkeeper who always kept the slips on their toes! Brian even drove our first XV on their first ever tour abroad, to Narbonne in 1977. He did, of course, lead many trips abroad in his role as linguist and was responsible for the success of the German exchange with the Anne Frank Schule in Linden. As chairman of the Fell Walking Society, Brian led generations of KGS pupils across the hills and dales of the Lake District and more recently managed to persuade the ladies of the staff room to take to the hills at weekends. His talents also extended to the school choir, of which he was a stalwart for many years, and his recent role in the staff play, as Mr Peach in the Farndale production of Macbeth, was unforgettable. In his twilight years, Brian assumed the unenviable task of President of the Staff Common Room and led this diverse body with much patience and good humour.

He now looks forward to a long and well-earned retirement and takes with him the best wishes of all at KGS.

Also retiring after 31 years' service was our Director of Music, Mr John Catterall. As a boy, John attended KGS, where, he claims, he enjoyed all aspects of school life, apart from winter games. He apparently spent most of his games lessons practising the psalms on the wing, managing successfully to avoid the scrums. He was, however, an avid Preston North End fan, and as a youth was a regular singer on the terraces, although today he is more of an armchair supporter. But music is his passion, and John was already a church organist before leaving school to study music at Chester College. John joined the staff of KGS in 1971 and to sum up his career since then is an impossibility. Apart from teaching music, he played a full part in the life of the School by his boarding duties and all the productions he staged, ranging from choral presentations of solemn masses to light hearted Gilbert and Sullivan. The quality of his work is incredible. Nobody who ever attended one of his concerts could doubt the dedication and effort of the man. It is through John that the school and his parish church enjoy an exceedingly high reputation in the world of music and his award of the MBE recently was richly deserved. His kindness and willingness to help colleagues could not be faulted; his presence illuminated many a break and lunchtime in the staff common room.

Now that John has left KGS, he will have his church music to occupy his time, so we do not know how much he will miss KGS. We do know that the school and the staff will certainly miss him. We wish him a long and happy retirement.



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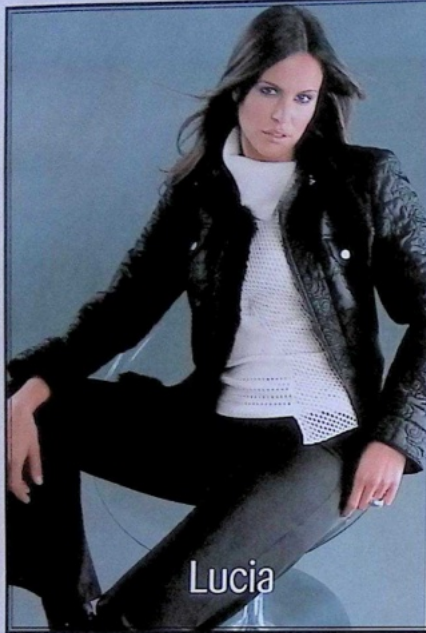


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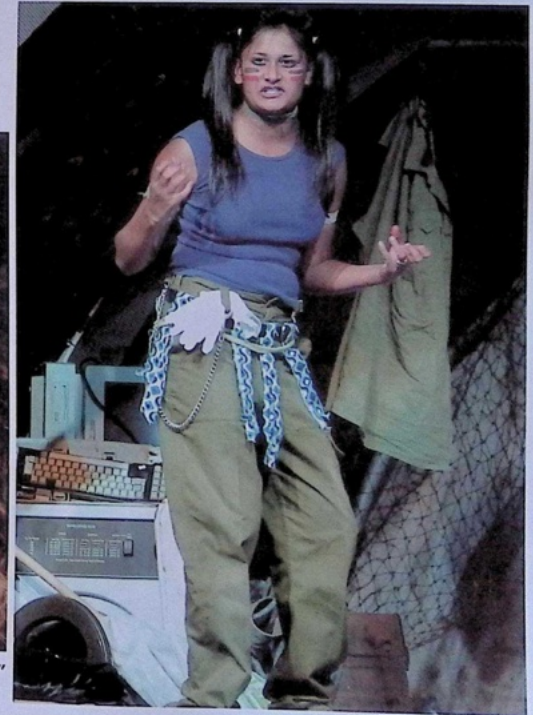
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The First XV, 2002 Season



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Mr R. Evans and Mr J. Catterall who this year retired from KGS Music Department

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Pupils enjoying the ski trips

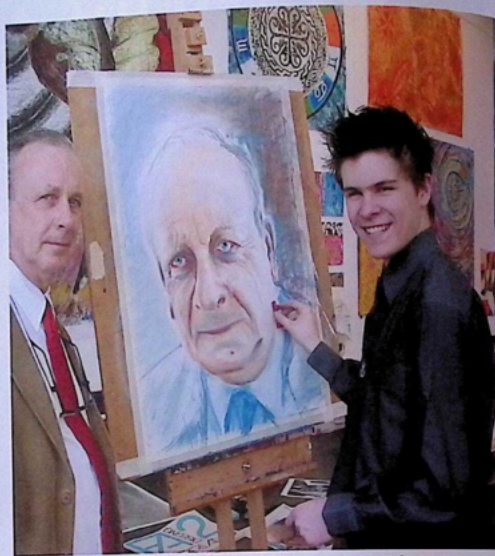


Pupils on the climbing wall in the M.P.H.

The Under 15 Team receive their award from Tim Henman in the National Schools' Tennis Finals.

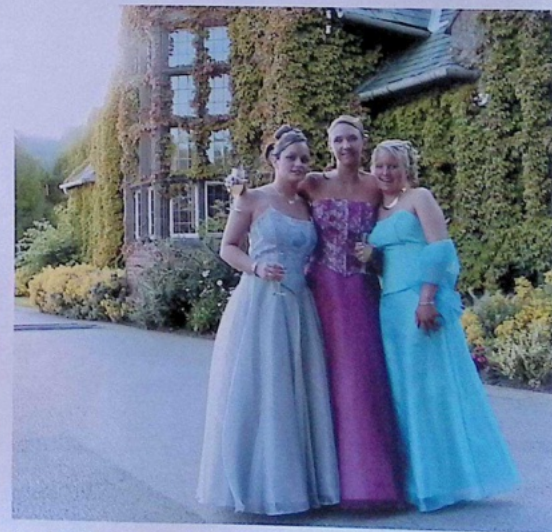


Sports' Day Junior, Intermediate and Senior Champions



James Anderson with his portrait of Mr. F. Sayer

Pupils on expedition for The Duke of Edinburgh's Award



At the Sixth Form Ball

Overview

Once again, K.G.S girls have experienced a very successful year of sport. Not only have we continued to dominate in our major sport of hockey, but we have also experienced increasing success in our minority winter sports of netball, swimming and cross-country. It is my hope for future years to maintain our exceptionally high standard of hockey, whilst improving our standards in our other competitive sports. I hope that in doing so a greater percentage of the girls in each year group can experience the enjoyment and personal fulfilment of competing for their school.

The senior hockey teams have continued to show a committed and mature approach to both their matches and training sessions. Both senior teams have played with determination and a strong desire to succeed and have gelled into two cohesive squads. The first XI has been extremely successful, winning the majority of its matches and was very unlucky not to qualify for the regional round of the Under 18's BAe Systems competition. The second XI has experienced similar success, with many of their Wednesday games being played against First XI mixed or men's sides.

The junior hockey teams have also performed admirably throughout the season. The Under 15 team had a somewhat shaky start, but their game improved immeasurably throughout the season. Our most successful team was undoubtedly the Under 14's, who were crowned county and regional champions, and went on to compete in the National Schools' Hockey finals. The team was also crowned Under 14 7-a-side champions in the HMC Lancashire Schools' tournament. The Under 13 team has also performed superbly this season, winning 16 of their 21 matches played, and scoring a tremendous 67 goals. The 7-a-side team qualified for the North mini hockey finals and enjoyed a fabulous day's hockey at Belle Vue. The Under 12 teams improved immensely towards the end of the season, with their most impressive performance being saved for the Arnold Invitation tournament. They are now looking forward to 11-a-side hockey next year.

I would like to thank the 'Friends of K.G.S.' for their support and funding of the new first year team shirts and goal keeping equipment. The girls are delighted with the new kit and look forward to their coming matches.

In addition to our hockey success, the girls have also competed well in netball, swimming and cross-

country. The Under 14 netball team lost only one of their league matches, and competed well in the Blackpool Schools' netball tournaments, as did the Under 13 and Under 12 teams. The girls' cross country teams also performed well in the Fylde Coast Championships at Hodgson High School. The first and second year teams were runners up, and the third year team came in third place. Jane Greenwood performed superbly to achieve first place in the senior girls' event. The Under 14 swimming team is made up of many talented swimmers and has won all but one of its matches this year.

The success of the girls' sports teams is due to the girls' personal commitment and hard work, the tremendous support of their parents, and the dedication and expert coaching offered by the coaching staff. I am truly grateful for all of the hard work and enthusiasm shown by the coaches throughout the season. I really appreciate their commitment and professionalism.

J. Tabb

Exciting ICT Links

This year has seen revolutionary links develop between the technology and P.E departments. With the advance of digital photo technology and the developing knowledge and understanding of both pupils and staff alike, numerous exciting possibilities have become apparent.

From April this year the pupils have had access to the Physical Education sports photos library found on the 'J' drive of the school computers. This gives the girls the ability to browse through the photos and print off any which they would like. Team photos are also available, as are action photos from all sports.

From September this year the Physical Education pages on the Web site will be up and running displaying team sheets, fixtures lists, results cancellation numbers, newspaper cuttings, tour information and photographs. This will form a useful link between home and school. It is hoped that pupils will also be able to use the web site whilst on sports tours to let their families and friends know about the activities they are taking part in whilst they are away.

J. Tabb

Sporting Achievements

Hockey

U13 Lancashire Mini hockey - Runners Up
U13 North Mini hockey - Semi Finalists
U14 Lancashire - Champions
U14 North - Champions
U14 National Hockey - Finalists
U14 HMC Schools' 8 a-side - Champions
U14 7 a-side Lancashire Tournament - Runners Up
U16 Lancashire Schools Tournament - Runners Up
U18 Lancashire Schools Tournament - Runners Up
U19 Lancashire Schools Tournament - Runners Up

Tennis

U15 2002/3 HSBC North of England Champions
U15 2002/3 HSBC National tennis finalists - fourth place
U15 Lancashire doubles champions - J. Dewhurst and J. Jackson
U15 Lancashire doubles runners up - Jo Jackson and Ashworth
U19 Lancashire Singles champion - S Briggs
U19 Lancashire Singles runner up - J Greenwood
U15 Lancashire League - Finalists
U14 Derrick Hill (Lancashire Cup) - Runners Up

Athletics

U12 Fylde Coast Championships - third place
U13 Fylde Coast Championships - Runners up

U14 Fylde Coast Championships - Champions
U17 Fylde Coast Championships - Runners up

Cross country

1st year Fylde Coast Championships - second place
2nd year Fylde Coast Championships - second place
3rd year Fylde Coast Championships - third place
Outstanding individual achievement - U17 Fylde Coast - first place - Jane Greenwood

Hockey Honours 2002-2003

Under 13 development squad

Rebecca Sharples - U13 A team
Zoe Kirkham - U13 A team
Francesca Britton - U13 A team
Abigail Wilkinson
Olivia Hawtin
Jane Duncan

Under 14 development squad

Kate Gledhill - U14 A team
Jessica Morris - U14 A team
Georgina Fulford Brown - U14 A team
Rebecca Preskey - U14 A team
Maddie Eaves - U14 B team
Jessica Ashworth

Under 15 Lancashire Team

Caroline Desborough
Louise Lord
Emily Martin
Francine McNeela
Nicola Rogerson
Elizabeth Tomlinson

U18 Lancashire Team

U18 Captain - Kate Sannagadu
U18 Vice Captain - Lorna Sissons
Laura Matrin
Lucy Martin

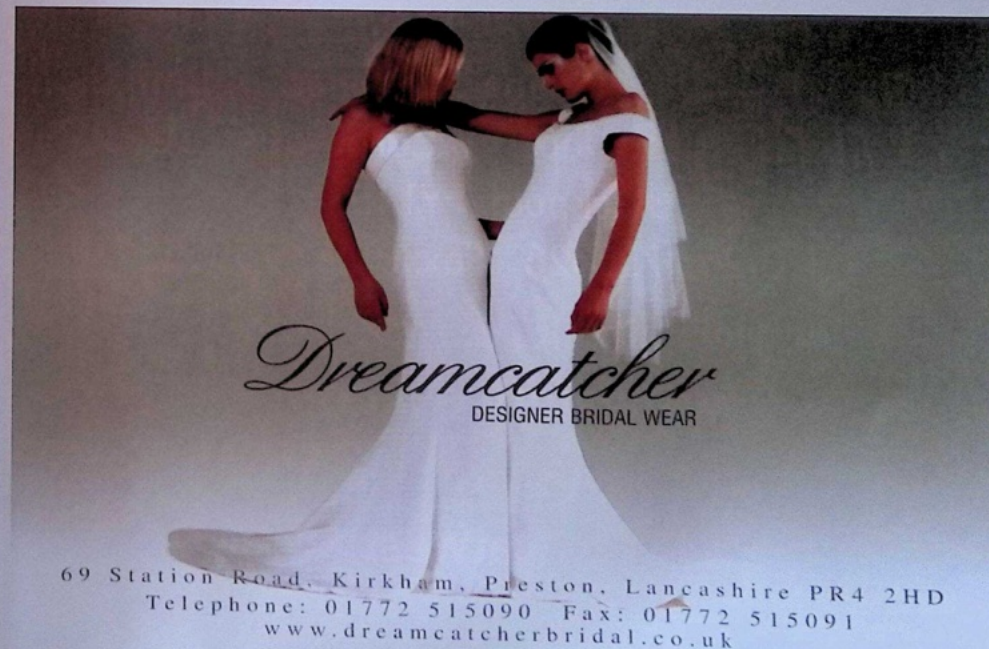
REGIONAL

North of England U14 Team
Rebecca Sharples

North of England U16 Team
Kate Gledhill

North of England U18 Development Squad
Kate Sannagadu

North of England U18 Team
Lorna Sissons



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HOCKEY First XI

This season has seen the development of a brand new hockey team after losing seven of our key members at the end of last year. Although now a relatively young side, a team crammed with enthusiasm, commitment and, of course, skill was determined to prove once again they were one of the best in the north!

The season started well and after our first game, a victory away to Stockport, we knew we were capable of a successful season. After much training and gruelling fitness sessions, the team finally came together in time for the Millfield match. This was to prove one of the toughest games of the season and, despite a fantastic performance, the goals did not go our way with the match ending 5-1 to Millfield.

The next challenge of the season was the Lancashire round of the BAe Systems tournament. Taking place early in October, it was a true test of just how well the team had come together. We could not have had a better start to the morning with a 4-0 victory over Ripley. After a short break it was straight back to face our rivals, Arnold. The game was fiercely fought and despite dominating the second half Kirkham lost 2-1, heartbreaking after such a brilliant performance.

Not discouraged by this setback, the team quickly bounced back. A series of successful results was to follow, including defeating Arnold twice, 3-0 both home and away. In fact the team continued to do nothing but improve, and by Christmas a run of 7-1, 7-0, 6-1 and 7-1 victories was uninterrupted.

The second half of the season saw the team develop into a force to be reckoned with. We were solid at the back, conceding few goals thanks to the vision, strength and tackling skills of Toni Ashcroft, Danielle

Grundy, Lucy Martin, Fiona Morgan and Meg Duncan. Knowing we had such a formidable defence, the confidence of the team escalated. The midfield worked exceptionally hard and mention must be made of Katie Gough, Abigail Hookey and Jane Greenwood who gave nothing less than 100% every game. Goals were plentiful thanks to the pace and agility of Laura Martin, Milly Hookey and Leanne Soper. By the end of the season Lorna Sissons (undisputedly top goal scorer) was scoring six goals per match! Lorna's distribution and individual skill often left other teams baffled.

Our final efforts of the season were concentrated on the Lancashire Under 19 tournament. After winning three group games convincingly against Ripley, Rossall and Our Lady's, Kirkham advanced to the final stages of the competition. Following a strong performance, the 2-2 draw of the Arnold game proved quite a shock. Now only a win over Lancaster would ensure the title. Although winning 2-0 at half time, a late Lancaster comeback saw us concede two goals and the 2-2 draw left Kirkham in second place. Although disappointed, we knew we had given it our best effort and a combination of exhaustion and pressure had simply led to our downfall this time.

The ups and downs of the season are what made it so exciting and memorable. All squad members have improved massively and the team has gone from strength to strength. A special mention must be made of Miss Dykes who kept us going and instilled in us the confidence we needed to become the team we are - it would not have been the same without her. Also thanks to Mr Miller, whose controversial refereeing and readiness to brandish any card provided much entertainment throughout the season!

Kate Sannegadu



P	W	D	L
24	16	4	4

1st XI •

Second XI

Another excellent season! The girls played to a high standard throughout the year. With just three upper sixth formers available, it was feared that the team would lack experience and we would not bond well. However, these fears were soon dismissed and we became a close unit which was reflected in our victories over arch rivals Arnold and Queen Mary's.

I was particularly impressed by the girls' commitment and determination and that was just to win Mr Gardner's prized chocolate bar! In matches and in training sessions the girls acquitted themselves extremely well. However, we did have a spell in the middle of the season when three of our players were injured, including our goal keeper, so a big thank you to all the girls who stepped in to help us during this time.

This season's success has not been without the support of our four coaches, Mr Miller, Mr Gardner, Mrs Sutcliffe and Mrs Salt. Thank you also to Mrs Tabb who has worked tirelessly to organise so many fixtures for us.

Charlotte McNeela

Under 15 XI

The Under 15 team has made excellent progress this year. They have worked hard in training and their skill level has continued to improve. Individually all of the players have made progress, however certain players deserve a special mention, Elizabeth Tomlinson has made the most progress and has become a talented right forward. Louise Lord and Emily Martin have both played well throughout the season. Francine McNeela has been a good captain and an outstanding defender on the pitch.

Lancashire Under 15 tournament

The team started slowly, drawing 0-0 with Lancaster RGGGS (this was a bit of a disappointing result as we had beaten them 4-1 on the previous Saturday). The team then gained two victories and drew a further two matches, playing some very good hockey. Having not conceded a goal and not lost a game, they should be very proud of their performance. In the last game against Arnold, who were the eventual winners of the tournament, they played with determination, skill and were very unlucky not to win the game. The girls came third overall.

To conclude this report, I would like to wish the whole squad the very best and I hope they all continue to make good progress in the senior hockey squad next season.

L. Baxter

Under 14 XI

When the Under 14 team won the Independent Schools' Trophy at the end of March they completed an unbeaten sequence of matches which began seven months earlier in September, 2002. In particular, they completed a unique treble of trophies, having previously won the Lancashire Schools' Championships and later the North of England Championships. Only in the English Schools' National finals did they suffer a defeat, but being fourth best school in England showed the level of performance they had achieved.

This was undoubtedly a talented squad, but talent without hard work would only have produced occasional success and the outstanding achievement of this team was built on developing talent, application and tremendous team spirit.

Each girl made a vital contribution and each deserves special mention. Jemma Thackray became increasingly dominant in goal to a point where she could intimidate the opposition, and her penalty flick saves at each of our Championship finals were crucial. Jessica Ashworth as sweeper was ever reliable and her tackling became a strong part of her game; Alex Bonney as right defence was a great enthusiast who grew in confidence; Melanie Smith at left defence was probably our most improved player as she added a better understanding of the game to her outstanding speed. Jennifer Dewhurst and Rebecca Preskey formed a formidable

partnership at the heart of the defence, Rebecca being an excellent ball winner while Jennifer was able to transfer defence into attack by her strong, long, accurate passing. In midfield, Georgina Fulford-Brown showed commendable endurance and skill while Lauren Aspden was another player who improved impressively as the season unfolded. Maddie Eaves, who missed part of the season through injury, returned to play some of her best hockey in the latter stages, whilst Sarah Cooper deserves great credit for the way she approached her change of role from defender to left attack. Francesca Emery did an important covering role in a number of positions and was a valuable squad member. Jessica Morris had an excellent season on the right wing, fast and direct and a constant threat to opposition defences. Throughout the season the team was led by Kate Gledhill from the centre of midfield and in every sense Kate was the heart of the team. A totally committed player who never gave anything other than her best, it was fitting that in the last match of the season it was Kate who stepped up to score the winning penalty to secure our third trophy.

This team now needs to go on from here to perform at more senior levels. By staying focused, working on skills and remaining willing to learn, they will continue to bring great credit to themselves and to the school.

It was a season I was proud to share. Thanks for the memories.



Under 14 XI •

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Under 13 XI

The Under 13 team has made exceptional progress this season. Saturday matches have been enjoyable and exciting, and the squad oozes enthusiasm, both at practices and matches. The team has been led superbly by Zoe Kirkham, whose lively character has encouraged success from week to week, and vice captain Olivia Hawtin has consistently led by example on the pitch. Set plays have been well rehearsed and have led to a remarkable 67 goals being scored by the team's skilful attack. The defence has also played extremely well, with only 13 goals being conceded this season.

On Saturday, 6th February, the Lancashire 7-a-side Tournament was held at K.G.S. The competition was a very exciting event, and both the A and B teams played well against some very strong opposition. The A team successfully made it through to the finals, where they met Arnold School. The final was high spirited and very nerve wracking, with both teams playing with determination and a strong will to win. Unfortunately, K.G.S narrowly missed out on the win, losing 2-3, and finished runners-up in the competition, thus qualifying for the North final.

P	W	D	L
21	16	0	5



Under 13 XI •

Mini Hockey

On Saturday, 16th March, the Under 13 team played in the North round of the Under 13 Mini Hockey Championships, which is a competition for both school and club teams. The tournament was held at Belle Vue Stadium, the venue for the Commonwealth Games last summer.

It was a fantastic day and the girls played extremely well. In the group matches the girls drew 1-1 with Mowden Hall who were representing the Borders, beat the Mini Panthers who were representing Cheshire 2-1, and lost to the City of York who were representing Yorkshire 4-1. Our results qualified us for the semi finals where we met Hymers School. After an exciting 20 minutes the score remained at 0-0 and therefore the girls had to take part in a penalty shoot-out to decide the finalists. Devastatingly, Hymers won 2-1 on flicks and went on to win the overall competition. KGS finished in third place.

I have thoroughly enjoyed coaching the girls over the last two years and wish them every success for the next season.

J. Tabb

Under 12 Teams

The Under 12 hockey teams have worked extremely hard this season, and all of the girls should be commended for their continuous dedication and high levels of enthusiasm. A number of players before this year had not experienced competitive hockey, and they have made excellent progress, with their match play now reflecting a good level of understanding and tactical awareness.

A Team

P	W	D	L
11	7	0	4

B Team

P	W	D	L
10	4	4	2

C Team

P	W	D	L
3	2	1	0

D Team

P	W	D	L
3	2	0	1

On Saturday, 22nd March, the Under 12 A team took part in the Arnold Invitation Tournament, which saw their best performance by far this season. The girls played with real domination and composure and the day was thoroughly enjoyed by



Under 12 squad •

everyone. After some very tight group matches, the team was delighted to make it through to the semi finals, where they met an excellent side from Arnold. Inevitably, the match was close and very exciting and I was delighted by the girls' level of determination and effort. The match was finally won 1-0 by Arnold, however, everyone agreed that it was the best first year match that both teams had played all season.

It was a fabulous end to the season. I look forward to the future with this year group.

J. Tabb

SWIMMING

The girls' swimming team continue to make progress, performing well against teams who have the advantage of their own swimming pool. We have had five swimming fixtures, winning one of them overall. The matches have been closely contested, losing our last match to Westholme by only 4 points.

The Under 14 team is a talented team, having won 4 out of 5 matches. Congratulations to Kayleigh Kuroski and Alex Bonney who have won most of their individual races. The Under 13 and Under 12 teams continue to make good progress and have participated with enthusiasm in every fixture. Congratulations to Rachel Armistead who is a very talented swimmer, having won every one of her individual races.

L. Baxter

NETBALL

The development of the standard of netball throughout this season has been apparent in all age groups and I have been delighted by the enthusiasm and determination shown by all teams.

Under 15

Initially, the Under 15 team found it hard to compete against teams who had worked together as a unit for the last three or four years, and the results reflected this. However, the team soon began to play as a cohesive unit and set plays were well rehearsed and executed. Although the girls were not accustomed to victory, the margin by which they were losing narrowed and they must be commended for the improvement in their play.

P	W	D	L
10	2	0	8

Under 14

The Under 14 team worked well throughout the season and gelled into what became a strong squad. Well rehearsed centre passes proved beneficial and the girls' marking and down court passing improved immeasurably. Despite



Under 14 Team •

losing some of their friendly matches, the team consistently performed well in their league matches, winning seven out of the nine they played.

In the Blackpool Schools' Netball Tournament, which took place on Thursday, 13th March at Stanley Park, the girls played with real determination and came within just a few points of making the semi finals. We came third in our section, which consisted of 9 local schools. This is a tremendous achievement.

P	W	D	L
19	9	2	8

Under 13

The Under 13 team played some excellent netball this year and their game improved greatly over the season. The girls developed some good centre pass routines and demonstrated real commitment to both their practices and matches. The team thoroughly enjoyed the Blackpool Schools' Netball Tournament, which was held at Stanley Park on Wednesday, 19th March and was delighted to achieve a place in the semi finals. They also performed well in the first ever HMC Schools' netball tournament, which took place on 27th March.

P	W	D	L
11	5	0	6

Under 12

The first year girls worked hard in all of their practices and matches. It is evident that we have some very promising players and although the team lost a number of their matches, the games were close for the most part. We look forward to further development next season.

P	W	D	L
12	3	1	8

J. Tabb

ATHLETICS

In a very busy term the girls began their season with a match against Arnold School where honours were even, with Arnold winning the first and second year matches and Kirkham being successful in third and fourth years. Our second fixture produced a comprehensive victory over King Edward and Queen Mary, Kirkham winning all four age groups.

The English Schools' Team Championships were soon upon us and in the Regional Competition at Stanley Park our intermediate team won their age group, while the junior team came third in their section, both teams progressing to the North West Finals. The intermediate 'A' final at Stretford, where the standard of competition was extremely high, was a valuable experience for our girls, nine of whom will be eligible to compete again next year. Our junior team went to Lancaster for their 'B' final and finished a highly creditable third overall. Both competitions produced many personal best performances. These team competitions were quickly followed by individual success in the Lancashire Schools' Championships at Blackpool,

where eleven girls were chosen to represent the Area Team. On the day, Jane Greenwood was second in the 300 metres, Melanie Smith was second in the 75 metres hurdles, Maddie Eaves third in the Long Jump and Isolyn Donald-Ellison came second in the 100 metres.

Three days later we filled a fifty seater coach to compete in the Fylde Coast Championships, again at Stanley Park. On another glorious day our girls competed magnificently throughout, again setting many personal best performances, and at the end of the competition against twelve other schools, our first year team came third, second year team came second, our third year team came first and our senior team came second, a very fine performance from first to fifth year.

Finally, in terms of reliability both for practices and for competing, special mention should go to Charlotte Baker and Olivia Hawtin in the second year and Emily Martin and Jane Jackson in the fourth year.



Fylde Coast Athletics Performances

1st Year
Sarah Hatch 1st Discus 20.24m

2nd Year
Abigail Wilkinson 1st Hurdles (75m) 12.5 sec

3rd Year
Melanie Smith 1st Hurdles (80m) 12.1 sec

4th Year
Jane Greenwood 1st 300 metres 42.8 sec

5th Year
Aja Hall 1st 1500metres 5.45.4

In the Lancashire Schools' Championship the following girls achieved County standard.

100 metres Isolyn Donald-Ellison
Long Jump Maddie Eaves
300 metres Jane Greenwood

There were also best performances from:

1500 metres Olivia Hawtin
800 metres Georgina Fulford-Brown
Discus Jane Jackson
Long Jump Jessica Morris

TENNIS

This season has once again brought both enjoyment and success to the girls' tennis teams. Apart from the unfortunate bouts of bad weather during our Friday pre-school team training sessions, the weather has been kind on the whole. This has encouraged the participation of a large percentage of girls from all years, not only at team practices, but also during lunch time social sessions. The number of girls playing socially and for local clubs has been very encouraging and I am delighted with the growing number who are participating in weekly 'out of school' coaching sessions.

Friendly Fixtures

Unfortunately, the process of arranging weekend fixtures with other schools is growing ever more difficult, with many schools failing to honour Saturday fixtures. The girls, however, played several friendly fixtures and made excellent progress throughout the season.

The Under 15's were worst hit for fixture cancellations, which was disappointing, as several of our girls made noticeable progress this season. Caroline Desborough and Gina Logan in particular spring to mind.

P	W	D	L
2	2	0	0



The Under 15 squad, finalists in the National Schools' Tennis Tournament •

The Under 14's is an extremely strong squad captained by Jenny Dewhurst, who narrowly missed out on the National Under 15 tennis squad this year. Joanne Jackson, Jessica Ashworth, Georgina Fulford Brown and Jessica Morris have also shown vast improvement this season and have obviously benefited from playing in club sides. This age group also has an extended squad who train with David Shaw on Wednesday evenings.

P	W	D	L
4	4	0	0

The Under 13's made great progress this season and played with determination in their friendly fixtures. Many girls in this age group are keen social players and I enjoy watching them play at lunch times.

P	W	D	L
3	2	0	1

The Under 12's showed good promise this year and are potentially a strong squad for the future. Once again, several of the girls in this age group are club players and will hopefully make good use of the clubs throughout the summer holidays.

P	W	D	L
2	1	0	1

Under 13 and Under 15 Leagues

The Under 13 league team, made up of Rebecca Sharples, Genevieve Melling, Jennifer Bowden and Francesca Britton, was unfortunately not to make the semi finals, as several of their matches were very close indeed. They did, however, play very well throughout the season and have improved their match play.

The Under 15s league team was once again a force to be reckoned with, and we are hoping that they make the National Schools' Tennis Finals for the third season in succession. The team is made up of three out of the four girls who played in the National finals last year, namely Jennifer Dewhurst, Jane Jackson, Joanne Jackson, together with Jessica Ashworth, who was our reserve last year. All of their league games were won quickly and convincingly and the girls won all 24 rubbers played. They hardly dropped a single game. Unfortunately, our number two player, Joanne Jackson, was injured late in the season and was unable to play in the semi finals against Westholme School. Georgina Fulford Brown, however, played superbly in the match. The match was won by K.G.S who move into the final.

Under 14 Lancashire Cup

Kirkham Grammar School has won this prestigious trophy for the last three years, and therefore, once again, the pressure was on to bring the cup back to school. The team this season comprised of Jennifer Dewhurst, Joanne Jackson, Jessica Ashworth and Georgina Fulford Brown. Unfortunately, Joanne's injury meant that she missed the semi final and final, however Jessica Morris played well and benefited greatly from playing against strong club players. The girls played some excellent tennis in the rounds leading up to the finals, beating St. Joseph's 3 - 1, and Canon Slade 3 - 1 in the tie break games in the semi finals. The final was held at Robin Park on Wednesday, 18th June, where the team met a strong and experienced side from Bury Grammar School. All four girls played well, but on this occasion the opposition was too strong and Bury took the match four games to love. As runners up, the team was awarded £75 for tennis equipment.

Lancashire Tennis Tournaments

Under 13 Singles Tournament

Four girls from K.G.S took part, Rebecca Sharples, Genevieve Melling, Jennifer Bowden and Francesca Britton. All of the girls played well and Rebecca Sharples made it through to the semi finals. The tournament was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

Under 19 Singles Tournament

Once again our girls dominated. Defending champion Sarah Briggs took the title for a second year in succession and fellow Kirkham pupil Jane Greenwood was the runner up.

Under 15 Doubles Tournament

The only entrants for this competition were girls from K.G.S, and, therefore, further county success was inevitable. Jennifer Dewhurst and Jane Jackson were crowned champions and Joanne Jackson and Jessica Ashworth were runners up.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the girls for making the summer season so enjoyable and for their dedication and commitment to their training and matches. I would also like to thank Mr David Shaw, professional tennis coach, for all of his hard work. It is truly appreciated.

J. Tabb



CROSS COUNTRY

On Wednesday, 15th January, 2003 the girls took part in the Lancashire cross country trials at Stanley Park, run with a view to selecting the Blackpool Schools' cross country team. The first year girls were represented by Fiona Gardner and Jade Motley, the junior girls were represented by Olivia Hawtin (second year), the inter girls were represented by Georgina Fulford Brown and Jessica Morris (third years) and our senior girls were represented by Jane Greenwood



(fifth year). All of our runners competed well, and Fiona, Jade, Olivia and Jane were successful in making the Blackpool Schools' cross country team. The Lancashire Schools' cross country championships took place on Saturday, 1st February at Witton Park, Blackburn. Again our girls ran well and out of eleven teams Blackpool came in sixth position.

On Thursday, 20th March the girls took part in the Fylde Coast cross country championships, which were held at Hodgson High School. The first year team came second out of 12 competing schools, with an excellent performance from Jade Motley, who finished seventh out of 82 competitors. The second year team also came second, with an exceptional individual performance from Olivia Hawtin, who finished second out of 59 competitors. The third year team came third overall, with Melanie Smith achieving eighth place from a total of 50 runners and our senior team also experienced some outstanding individual success with Jane Greenwood achieving the first place.

Congratulations go to all our runners for taking part in a sport which is notoriously gruelling and requires sheer grit and determination.

J. Tabb

Cairns Chemist

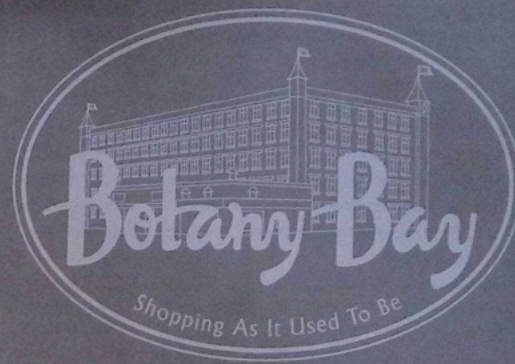
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Kirkham Grammar School

RUGBY First XV

Because the fixture list was stronger than ever this year with a particularly difficult start to the season, it was decided to improve pre-season training with two matches against club sides containing elite youth players in Wales. Both matches were lost and, although players had responded to the stimulus of a tougher pre-season, the players new to first XV rugby were surprised by the standard at which the matches were played. Dimitris Kazantzidis incurred a serious knee injury in training which sadly meant he missed playing until the end of the season. His absence was highlighted by the outstanding performance he gave on his return in the Sedbergh Tens. He showed great determination to condition himself after injury and play as full a part as possible in the squad.

It was realised that the first match against Manchester would be tough but although enough possession was obtained to win, it was frittered away aimlessly, the result being a draw. Colston's followed and overall KGS matched them, but gave away two soft tries in the first half. The last twenty minutes were dominated by KGS, but the handicap was too great to overcome and the match was lost 11-19. These first four matches illustrate that players need to play against good teams regularly in order to eradicate silly tactics and poor technique.

King Edward, Lytham, Woodhouse Grove, Wirral GS, Newcastle RGS, Lancaster and Calday Grange were all beaten, but the coaches and knowledgeable observers felt the team was holding something in reserve. The injury to Adam Newton against Woodhouse Grove which necessitated him missing all matches until Sedbergh may have been partly responsible for this. Every cloud has a silver lining, however, and Adam returned from injury a vastly improved player.

Sedbergh were next. KGS had rehearsed tactics to beat them for ten days. Sedbergh had rehearsed tactics they felt they had to use to stop us and beat us for ten days. The scene was set.

The whistle blew and KGS coaches, the England Under 19 coach and club scouts all watched in disbelief as KGS employed the opposite tactics to those practised. Sedbergh wanted to win more than KGS. The team greatly underperformed so, of course, the game was lost.

After much straight talking the team focused on thinking about the tactics and the commitment required. The team next gave two outstanding performances, against Birkenhead and Merchant Taylor's.

In the Spring Term, Hutton GS and Arnold were beaten and an Under 17 development game versus Sedbergh showed much potential. The Under 16's playing in this match showed what talent they have if only they realise it. Captain Adam Newton improved to such an extent that he played for England 18 group XV as did Danny Greenhalgh and Martin Halsall. Therefore KGS had three of the England pack which dominated possession against France and Wales and played well against Ireland. Danny Greenhalgh was particularly outstanding. Mark Darlington received a late call up to the England 18 Group XV which was a just reward for a marked improvement this season.

Vice Captain Stuart Blackburn was a mainstay of the team, not only because of his playing ability, but because of his great enthusiasm for the game and loyalty to the team. He made a big impression when he moved to scrum half. Stuart played in every position in the three quarters for the first XV during three seasons, a rare achievement. The inexperienced locks, Andrew Crook and Luke Talbot, both performed with exemplary attitude and rapidly increasing skill, while Michael Marshall showed he has the potential to be a good lock also. Alastair Horabin developed considerably as a blind side flanker and his work at the breakdown was excellent. His performance against Sedbergh shone like a beacon out of the gloom of mediocrity and was an example that a sportsman's determination is the most important part of his physical and psychological make-up. James Cooper was an

outstanding open side flanker, John Townsend played as if turbo-boosted in three different positions in the pack and as a winger in the first XV, 7's and 10's teams. Adam Kyriacou developed greatly as a fly half and Marcus Jackson showed potential as a fly half also. Tom Albinson also improved greatly as a centre, both in attack and defence, as did Adam Glover, who also played with great power on the wing. Matthew Gargett could be an excellent player anywhere outside the half backs. Richard Westerman developed a sound defence and had the pace and balance to beat anyone on his day. Marcus Plowright, Ivan Teri, Adam Kwasnicki and Joel Unsworth all contributed greatly to the squad's success, the last two mentioned showing potential for next season. Chris Gorman also fits into the latter category, but his winning try in injury time at the Sedbergh Army National Super 10's will stay in the memory of Kirkhamians present at the final.

As can be seen by the individual honours gained

B. Gornall

P	13
W	10
D	1
L	2
F	448
A	83

Honours

England 18 Group Final Trial

Danny Greenhalgh
Martin Halsall
Adam Newton
Tom Albinson
Alastair Horabin
Richard Westerman

North 18 Group

Danny Greenhalgh
Martin Halsall
Alastair Horabin
Adam Newton
Richard Westerman
James Cooper
Tom Albinson
Mark Darlington

England North (North & Midlands) 18 Group

Tom Albinson
Mark Darlington
Alastair Horabin
Joel Unsworth
Richard Westerman

Lancashire 18 Group

Tom Albinson
Mark Darlington
Matthew Gargett
Danny Greenhalgh
Mark Halsall
Alastair Horabin
Adam Newton
Richard Westerman

Lancashire 18 Group A XV

Andrew Crook
Adam Kwasnicki
Michael Marshall
Luke Talbot
James Wigglesworth

Lancashire Under 20

Stuart Blackburn

Cheshire 18 Group

Adam Glover
Joel Unsworth

North 16 Group Trial

Marcus Jackson

Lancashire 16 Group

Marcus Jackson

Lancashire 16 Group 'A' XV

Tom Armer

Colours

Full Colours

Re-award

Stuart Blackburn
Danny Greenhalgh
Martin Halsall
Adam Newton

New Award

James Cooper
Mark Darlington
Alastair Horabin
Richard Westerman

Half Colours

Andrew Crook
Adam Glover
John Townsend

Second XV

At the end of last season, in the game against Arnold, the team was made up entirely of fifth and lower sixth formers and it was hoped that those who were not involved in the first team would form the nucleus of the second team for the 2002/3 season. This turned out to be the case, and after a successful training camp in Wales, the start of the season was approached with optimism.

However, playing Colston's Collegiate in the second match of the season was a real eye opener. Everything they did was at the highest skill level and at great speed. The second team spent the afternoon chasing shadows. A number of people were heard to comment that Colston's would be a match for many first teams, let alone second teams. It showed what could be done and should have given the players a level to aim for.

The second fifteen did play some very good rugby in the winter term and there were good wins against King Edward & Queen Mary School, Wirral GS, RGS Newcastle and Merchant Taylor's. As a result of these performances, the likes of Adam Kyriacou, Adam Kwasnicki, Terry Ogdin and Luke Talbot pushed themselves into the frame for first fifteen places. However, the team played inconsistently within games and the close defeats, at Manchester and Woodhouse Grove, could quite easily have been turned into victories had there not been lapses in concentration. Sedbergh proved too strong, though the second team made them fight for the victory and was by no means overwhelmed. The surprise team of the season was Birkenhead, who had put together their best side for a number of years, and their aggression and team play caught us

unawares. However, the team did not give up and had the satisfaction of scoring the final try and conversion of the game.

In the spring term, two matches were played and both were won. At Hutton, the team probably played their most consistent rugby of the season. Hutton found it difficult to compete and the second team ran out winners more comfortably than the score suggested. Against Arnold the team played against the elements in the first half, but still looked in control. However, one missed touch allowed Arnold to reach half time in the lead. Arnold defended their lead aggressively in the second half, but KGS did not panic and eventually the Arnold defence cracked. Three late tries secured a satisfying victory.

Again, no player dominated the points scoring, though Adam Kyriacou and Chris Gorman both scored nearly forty points, each from about half the total number of games played. Gordon Kipling and Sam Bensky, in their last season, had

P	W	D	L	F	A
13	6	1	6	193	23

the satisfaction of scoring most tries and they, along with Terry Ogdin and Evan Beswick, should be thanked for their enthusiasm, efforts and contribution to KGS rugby during their time at the school.

Finally, it would be fair to say that the second team would not be as successful as it is without the efforts of Mr. Gornall and Mr. Trenhaile, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their efforts.

Senior Sevens and Tens 2003

First VII

A promising start was made to the season at the Christ College Brecon Sevens, where we were defeated in the quarter final by Wellington College. We then reached the semi-final of the Birkenhead School Tournament, but after a major disappointment at the North of England Tournament changes were made to the squad for the prestigious Fylde RUFC National Sevens. This proved to be the turning point of the sevens season. During the first day of the tournament we progressed easily through the group stage. Wins over Denstone College (last 16) and Arnold School (quarter final) left Kirkham in the semi-final against the extremely talented St Bees School from Cumbria. A last second try by Andrew Crook secured a final place against Colston's Collegiate. Although the final was lost, this was a fantastic effort which showed that the squad was totally committed to reach the top.

This new spirit continued at the National Sevens at Rosslyn Park, where we won our group, but

then lost dramatically to Colston's again 15-14 in the first round of the knockout stages. Suddenly everyone believed in themselves as we went forward to tens competitions.

Second VII

The second VII managed to retain the Austin Friars Sevens Plate, which was won last year by the first VII. This was an excellent effort which reflects the strength of sevens at KGS.

Tens

The Tens squad produced a magnificent victory in the Sedbergh National Tens, which included wins over Bristol GS 17-0, King's, Canterbury 24-12 and Mount St Mary's 26-0 on the first day. On the second day, in the semi final group, we also defeated Haberdasher Aske's, Elstree, 15-7, QEGS Wakefield 21-0 and Sedbergh 21-10. This resulted in a grand final against Brighton College. A last minute try and conversion secured a 12-10 victory in a superb match. Special mention must go to Andrew Crook, Alastair Horabin and Richard Westerman who were outstanding in this fantastic end to the season.

A.E.Trenhaile



The First VII Squad •

Under 16 XV

P	12
W	4
D	0
L	8
F	154
A	230

The season began with an encouraging game against Manchester Grammar School using the whole 'A' squad available in the process. Kirkham had the best of the initial exchanges, but could not quite match Manchester Grammar School in the backs. A win followed at Heysham, 24-0, but then two losses, first unluckily at Woodhouse Grove and then comprehensively to an excellent Newcastle Grammar School team comprising of seven county players. The season seemed to take an even worse turn with a home loss to Ripley St Thomas, 36-0, but was salvaged by a huge win over Lancaster Royal Grammar School. The team's confidence seemed to return, the tackling and overall commitment was superb and the genuine belief and determination to win showed no bounds.

Two of the squad, Marcus Jackson and Tom Armer, had deservedly been selected for Lancashire Under 16's squad; Marcus has also been a regular in the first XV.

Only two matches were played in the spring

term, versus Cowley and Arnold School. Against a powerful and elusive Cowley side we were outgunned, particularly in open play and certainly learned a lot about lines of running and defence.

After half term we were into the sevens season. Unfortunately, the inclement weather meant the cancellation of the Stonyhurst Tournament which left us a little under prepared, although practices had been well attended and had gone well. At Merchant Taylor's, we lost two matches and beat a good St Mary's side. In the two losses we performed well against Hymer's and Cowley, the eventual winners.

The following week at Stonyhurst College we had a tough draw, first against King's Macclesfield (the eventual winners) and the Oratory School and Ampleforth, to whom we lost 22-19 in injury time. However, we did manage to end the tournament on a high by defeating Oratory 19-7.

Playing in the two tournaments our performance undoubtedly improved and we were grateful for the experience.

Under 15 XV

The 2002-2003 season proved to be a hard and demanding one. However, there is much to praise. There was a lot of hard work and toil during the winter training nights, but I feel the team improved considerably both in attitude and performance.

There have been some notable victories, particularly against Manchester Grammar School, Woodhouse Grove and St Peter and St Paul. However, the away victories at Arnold School and Birkenhead stick in the memory. Colston's Collegiate and Sedbergh were two notable defeats. Both teams were very strong, and gave us much to think about. Nevertheless, we responded well and bounced back.

The progress and development of some players has been quite remarkable. Andrew Hatch, Christopher Calvert, Robert Thackray, Thomas Walker, Robert Hutton and Matthew Rossall have made excellent progress and deserve much praise. Samuel Dunn, Oliver Cawdell and Alexander Dean are also worthy of commendation. They have worked tirelessly

throughout the season, and have made real progress. Their efforts have been rewarded!

The team was also very unlucky not to be joining the Under 13 team in the Lancashire Cup Finals. We played in a very competitive and highly charged game against Hutton Grammar School. This was arguably our cup final, losing in the end narrowly 18-0. The team's all round performance was exemplary. Oliver Moore and Robert Sissons were particularly outstanding. A lot of sheer effort, commitment and dedication was quite evident during this game.

At the end of the season the sevens squad competed in the Bradford Grammar School 'Storm 7s'. This proved to be the icing on the cake for the squad. The boys went into the plate, beating Stonyhurst College 28-5 in the semi final and winning the plate final against the hosts, Bradford Grammar School. It was a fitting end to a hard and challenging season. Oliver Moore, the captain, went on to represent Lancashire Schools' Under 15's.

R.D. Taylor

P	17
W	12
D	0
L	5

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Under 14 XV

P	W	D	L
17	12	0	5

Generally, the Under 14 XV has had a very good season. The team has developed in most areas, and whilst there is still a lot of work to be done, the future looks promising.

Although the team won most of their games, the defeats highlighted the need to work hard on fitness, skills and tactical awareness. Such defeats do more for learning than any win born out of a contest between unevenly matched teams. An undefeated season can be a very dangerous thing for the long term development of young players!

I have been delighted with the squad's willingness to learn from mistakes and their desire to improve. Although the A XV has been fairly stable over the first two years, more and more of the B XV squad are making excellent progress and should push for A XV selection next



year. Their improvement has been highlighted by their success recently, especially after suffering some heavy, possibly demoralising, defeats before Christmas. I praise their dedication.

On Sunday, 23rd March the A XV took part in the Lancashire Under 14 Cup Final in which they played Stonyhurst. Having defeated some strong sides en route, the question remained as to whether the side could become County Champions for the second year running.

Stonyhurst started strongly and controlled the game for the first ten minutes, resulting in a try after sustained pressure. However, Kirkham clawed their way back into the game and scored a well worked forward try just before half time. In the second half, Stonyhurst once more gained control and, as fatigue began to become a key factor, they scored two more tries. At 15-7 Kirkham may have collapsed, but the spirit of the team shone through and they scored a gritty try to take the score to 15-12. Unfortunately, the conversion was missed, time ran out and Stonyhurst became County Champions.

The team should feel pleased with their efforts. They lost to a better side on the day and they gave their all in trying to win the Cup

Under 13 XV

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Rosslyn Park National School 7's Semi Finalists

Lancashire Cup Winners

Winners of the King Edward & Queen Mary Under 13 Sevens

Runners Up in the Birkenhead School Under 13 Sevens

An impressive start was made to the season with coveted victories away at Newcastle R.G.S. and at home to local rivals Lancaster R.G.S. In both of these matches, the team showed the high standards of which they are capable; ferocious rucking and mauling from the pack and straight, hard running from the back line. However, lapses in concentration and ill-discipline have allowed the opposition to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat at both Wirral G.S. and King Edward and Queen Mary School, Lytham.

A very strong Liverpool College team was defeated on the way to the Lancashire Cup Final, and local rivals Arnold and Hutton were beaten comprehensively during the remaining Saturday 15-a-side fixtures.

Their first real experience of sevens competitions has also allowed the second year boys to shine. With little preparation they came second in their first tournament (the Birkenhead School sevens) and then proceeded to better this achievement with victory in the Nora Lipscombe sevens, hosted by King Edward & Queen Mary School, Lytham.

The highlight of the year was the week commencing Sunday, 23rd March. The Under 13's had their Lancashire Cup Final and then travelled directly to London to take part in the prestigious Rosslyn Park sevens the next day! The Lancashire Cup Final at Tyldesley was a fantastic occasion, which saw the boys defeat a big Manchester Grammar team with flair and skill. Injuries meant replacements were brought in for the trip to Rosslyn Park, but the strength in depth in the squad meant that players could be interchanged with minimal disruption. The boys were a credit to themselves and the school - commitment and graft saw them win through to the last four in the country. Without a doubt this was the achievement of the season.

It would be unfair to single out any one player for praise as the overall success of the season cannot be attributed to individuals. As the squad members began to learn and understand that talent is of little use without personal discipline, they evolved into an outstanding side that respected and played for each other. This is the hallmark of all successful teams and it is hoped that the boys will continue with this philosophy and go from strength to strength.

Under 12 XV

The Under 12's have made sound progress this year with the technical aspects of the game. Mr Worth laid a solid foundation in the autumn term then Mr. Trenhaile combined the technical aspects into match situations so that both A and B squads, many of whom had never played rugby before, gradually gained in confidence during this season. Each game saw a significant improvement in areas such as scrummaging and recycling the ball. Most of the boys in the first year played in competitive fixtures at one time or another (A, B and C teams). Their commitment and enthusiasm for rugby never waned as they were ably led by the Captain William Stover and Vice Captain Roddy Hothersall. The season finished successfully with a short tour of North Wales and a victory against Rhyl High School.

A. Rollins.

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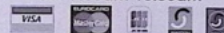


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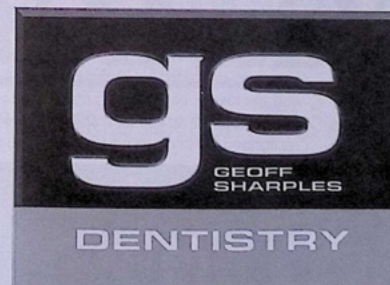
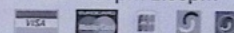
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CRICKET

First XI

The first XI has played eleven games which includes an Under 17 Lancashire Cup game. They have won two, lost six and drawn three. Better weather this season has meant that the team has played on a fairly regular basis which has helped develop a sense of continuity.

The season started off well with a good win over Arnold. KGS scored 157 off 30 overs (Peter Reeh 71). Arnold replied with 137 all out (Matthew Hopton 5 for 5, Bradley Hamilton 4 for 19). Then the team played a strong Hutton G.S. side who could only manage 47 all out batting first (Peter Reeh 3 for 8), with KGS winning by seven wickets at 48 for 3.

Unfortunately, the game against Woodhouse Grove was cancelled due to poor weather. This new fixture would have proved a stern test for the squad.

The team then travelled to the Isle of Man to play two fixtures on a short tour. In the game against King William's College, KGS posted 181 declared (Matthew Hopton 42, Adam Newton 52) King William's threatened to overcome this score with their own South African representation, but eventually could only reach 136 for 6 before they ran out of time - match drawn.

The day after, the team played a very strong Isle of Man representation team which contained many older players. The select team scored 159 off their 30 overs (Adam Newton 5 for 42). In reply, the first XI could only manage 53, the select bowling proving too strong for our batsmen. Nevertheless, this was a valuable learning experience.

After a break for exam duty, the team returned to



play two fixtures. In the best game of the season, against Lancaster, KGS batted first and scored 153 off 35 overs, mainly due to the efforts of the 'Marcuses', 37 by Marcus Jackson and a late flurry of 31 not out by Marcus Plowright. In reply, Lancaster looked to be coasting to victory, but good tight bowling towards the end of the game (Matthew Hopton 3 for 21) put the late batsmen under real pressure. The score was only finally reached with two balls to spare.

Next, the first XI played King Edward and Queen Mary School in an all day declaration game. KEQM, with the help of some shoddy fielding and bowling in the early part of the game, posted a good score of 237 all out. In reply, KGS responded well (Matthew Hopton 30, Peter Reeh 39), only to lose quick wickets. A late rally by Captain Bradley Hamilton (38) got the team back on track, but a lack of firepower in the tail resulted in us falling short at 190 for 8 - match drawn.

In the annual match against the MCC, our guests scored 194 declared from 39 overs. This left a potential 50 overs to achieve the score, but poor batting, except for gritty displays by Marcus Jackson (29) and Joel Unsworth (34), resulted in a disappointing collapse at 111 all out.

In the Under 17 Lancashire Cup, the team faced a very strong Turton High School side. In only 25 overs they amassed 189 for 4. Kirkham responded well to the run chase (Unsworth 46), but a lack of overs left us 27 short.

Against Sedbergh School the team bowled well but were let down by poor fielding. However, the score of 191 off 40 overs was not an impossible task. However, the batting gremlin once again got to us and the loss of early wickets made the task too tall to climb. Once again, Joel Unsworth was the only recognised batsman to hit form with a battling 47.

In the penultimate game of the season, the school entertained Belfast Royal Academy. In a declaration game the visitors scored 190 off 57 overs. We bowled well in this marathon fielding effort, with Adam Newton providing the mainstay of our attack (3 for 46). With only a miserly 33 overs to chase the total, we were always under pressure from the fiery opposition and the characteristic collapse soon reared its ugly head. However, a fantastic knock of 59 from third year Robert Sissons provided the much needed momentum to get going. As he was ably supported by Adam Newton (26), the scoreboard ticked away, but when these two fell, we were lucky to hold out for the draw.

In the last game of the season the school narrowly lost to Queen Elizabeth's School, Blackburn. Both teams were weakened by unavailability and Kirkham's score of 122 off 40 overs did not seem enough. However, at 78 for 8 QEGS appeared dead and buried, but their late rally and an interesting series of bowling changes led to our downfall. A disappointing way to end the season, especially for the U6 playing their last match.

Generally, I have been delighted with the team's attitude and commitment during the season,

especially during exam time when communication with each other becomes difficult, practice becomes impossible, and the demands of revision and exam schedules naturally take precedence. But once players were back in circulation after the exams, the season picked up again. Tough challenges against the MCC, Sedbergh School, Belfast Royal Academy and Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, as well as the Lancashire Cup, have provided a fitting climax to the season.

The team has been well led by Bradley Hamilton. The all-round talents of Matthew Hopton, Peter Reeh, Adam Newton, Joel Unsworth and Marcus Jackson have created a strong back bone to the team. They have been supported by good contributions from Kit Ingham (WK), Jack Ward, Marcus Plowright, Ali Bhatti, Alex Tudge, Luke Dickinson, Liam Hanley and Sam Bensky. Darren Bell fitted in to the team well whilst on the short tour to the Isle of Man. Adam Kyriacou has performed well recently, Robert Sissons is first XI standard as a third year and Mark Hodgkinson, Chris Calvert and Matthew Lee, all from the fourth year, did not look out of place when they played for the first XI against QEGS.

M. Whalley

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Under 14

The Under 14's had a good start to the season. Before half-term the team, led by Robert Sissons, won all three of its matches, against Arnold, King William's College, and Hutton Grammar School. In the opening game at Arnold, our bowlers struggled to get any real consistency and allowed the opposition to get 147 runs in 30 overs. Fortunately, the whole team batted with maturity and after a steady opening from Jonathan Knowles and Robert Sissons, Darren Bell's 67 not out was enough to secure a five wicket victory. Hutton proved to be much stronger opposition and the match went to the final over. After two early wickets fell, captain Sissons scored a forceful 49, falling one short of his first 50 of the season. Kirkham's 91 for 6 off 20 overs did not look enough, but thankfully the bowlers bowled with much more discipline and composure. Darren Bell's 3 wickets for 4 runs in his 4 overs set the team up for an unlikely victory. With 6 needed to win off the last over, Ryan Drage's 'death bowling' only conceded 3 runs and Kirkham won their tightest game of the season. With Bell and Sissons unavailable for selection in the next match against King William's College, William Norris, captain for the day, led by example scoring 74 in a comfortable victory. It was particularly pleasing to see the team play so well.

After half-term the team faced Lancaster Royal Grammar School, one of the top cricketing schools in the area. On a hot day, Lancaster scored a daunting 201 for 6 off 35 overs as Kirkham wilted somewhat in the hot humid conditions. Kirkham's reply started strongly and at one stage the team was nicely poised at 110 for 2. Unfortunately, wickets fell and the lower order collapsed to 140 all out. The following week saw a trip to King Edward's, Lytham in what proved to be the most disappointing performance of the season. Kirkham won the toss and bowled first. Again, the team was in a strong position with Lytham floundering at 38 for 6. Unfortunately, we could not kill them off and a seventh wicket partnership of over 100 was to prove decisive. Kirkham's reply lacked discipline and when Sissons fell for a duck we knew it was not going to be our day - Kirkham all out for 92.

Thankfully the team saved their best form of the season for the much-delayed Lancashire Cup

matches. In the last 16, a rampant Kirkham side demolished Arnold. Bowling first, KGS dismissed Arnold for 61 in 27 overs and rattled off the 62 runs needed to win in less than 7 overs - the biggest victory margin of the year. The next day we faced Lancaster, eager to seek revenge for our defeat earlier in the season. Thankfully the team was on a roll and played magnificently. Robert Sissons led by example and scored an unbeaten 130 - sheer class. On the final day of the term we travelled to Crosby for our semi-final against Merchant Taylor's. Bowling first, we restricted the opposition to 125 in 30 overs and won comfortably by 8 wickets, with Robert Sissons 67 not out. With a few of our players on holiday and therefore unavailable for the final on the following Monday, we had to summon up players from the Under 13's to face Manchester Grammar at Blackpool Cricket Club. The day started well when Robert Sissons 'reserved' the home dressing room and won the toss. Unfortunately, that was the end of our good fortune, as Manchester showed why they are one of the premier cricket schools of the country, scoring a daunting 275 in their 40 overs. Nevertheless, the team did not give up and performed creditably, batting positively after a shaky start. Unfortunately, we fell short, finishing 122 all out. Nevertheless, getting to a Lancashire final is no mean achievement and a rarity for the school in recent years.

In a team often reliant on the runs of Sissons and Bell, the team has worked much better as a unit this year and their progress has been most impressive. The experience of playing Saturday cricket against top opposition has improved the boys' game, and to play against the likes of Manchester Grammar over 40 overs will benefit the players' all-round game. As well as singling out our two superstars, special mention must go to a couple of players who have broken into the team this season. Dan Naylor and 'new-boy' Anthony Bolton have both made telling contributions. It has been a season to remember and we are proud of the team's efforts.

S. Duncan/A. Rollins

ATHLETICS

All four age group teams have competed well in their programme this season. The first years are settling into an efficient outfit and there is much potential for the future

In the area competition held at Salt Ayre in Lancaster they finished fourth out of nine schools - a good effort. In their own area championships, The Fylde Coast Secondary Schools, which took place on Thursday, 19th June, the team finished fourth overall out of fourteen schools which was a very commendable result. In the annual fixture against Hutton Grammar School, the opposition proved much too strong, but there were some good performances to build upon next year.

The second year squad is a strong outfit. In the competition at Salt Ayre the team finished fifth, but the team performed superbly at the Fylde Coast Championships to win with an overall total of 281 points against thirteen other schools. In the annual match against Hutton, the team lost narrowly in a closely fought contest.

In the competition at Salt Ayre, the third year team finished third overall. There were some excellent performances. In the Fylde Coast Championships on June 19th, however, the team won with a total of 326 points. Against very powerful third and fourth year Hutton G.S teams, KGS competed very well in the field, but could not compete with our opposition's domination on the track. Although we lost both fixtures, the third year match was only decided on the final relay.

The fourth years finished fourth at Salt Ayre behind very powerful opposition. However, the team performed well at the Fylde Coast and finished second overall. This completes four successful years for this team.

Earlier on in the season the Junior (first and second years) and the Intermediates (third and fourth years) took part in the first round of the English Schools' Track and Field Cup at Stanley Park, Blackpool. The Intermediates competed well enough to qualify for the Regional round, but sadly the juniors, although strong on paper, did not perform (literally!!) in two events and therefore failed to qualify for the regional round. In the regional round of the ESAA Cup at Stretford, the intermediate team gathered 384 points from their combined efforts against formidable opposition. Whilst this will not be enough to carry them forward to the National finals, it remains a creditable performance. Notable performances included a national standard Pole Vault from Max Eaves (3m 20cm) and an English Schools' qualifying standard 80m Hurdles time of 11.79 by Robert Sissons.

We looked forward to some of our boys competing in the Lancashire Schools' Championships on Saturday, 21st June at Stanley Park. They were Richard Newton (1500m), Oliver Boardman (1500m), Stephen Hatch (100m Hurdles), Matthew Eaves (Discus), Max Eaves



(Pole Vault), Robert Sissons (80m Hurdles), Darren Bell (Discus) and Oliver Moore (Javelin). We were not disappointed. The performances by our boys were fantastic:

Robert Sissons First - 80m Hurdles. (English Schools Qualification).

Richard Newton First - 1500m. (English Schools Qualification).

Darren Bell First - Discus.

Matthew Davies Second - 80m Hurdles. (PB).

Max Eaves Second - Pole Vault.

Oliver Boardman Third - 1500m (PB).

Matthew Eaves Fourth - Discus.

Oliver Moore Fourth - Javelin.

Stephen Hatch Seventh - Hurdles.

Well done to all concerned throughout the season.

M. Whalley



TENNIS

In the Lancashire Under 13 and Under 15 leagues the teams have competed in three fixtures each. The Under 13's defeated Hutton G.S 5-3, lost to a strong Broughton High School 8-0 and then were defeated 5-3 in a close match with All Hallows' School. Unfortunately, they failed to progress to the county semi-finals. The team was Sam Geny, Ashley Parkinson, Christian Martin-Roffey and James Edgar.

The Under 15 team defeated Hutton G.S. 4-2, Broughton High School 4-2 and All Hallows 6-0. They played King Edward and Queen Mary School in the semi-final and were well beaten on the day. However, these boys still have a year to go in this year group. The team has been Michael Walker, James Hall, Chris Ward and Jonathon Knowles.

M. Whalley.



The Under 15 team

CROSS COUNTRY

From Christmas through to February half term, the boys at KGS participate in Cross Country on a regular basis. Its importance is seen in terms of personal fitness, opportunities to show determination, individual achievement and participation in a true team sport.

The boys are set weekly challenges to improve on previous times or placing on set runs around the school grounds. The results are posted weekly for all to see. These lists enable the boys to see their progress and, whilst some reluctant participants would not admit it, they sometimes can be seen checking their results after a run!

These runs prepare the boys for the Blackpool Schools' Trials, the Fylde Coast Schools' Championships, the House Championship and fixtures against other schools. All the boys involved in such events this season have performed admirably.

At the senior end, special mention must be made of Richard Newton who has continued to excel in Cross Country. Having won the Lancashire Schools' title, Richard then came sixth in the English Schools' Championships in Brighton earlier in March. This great performance then resulted in Richard's selection for the England Schools' team which took part in a Home International in Dublin at the end of March. Richard produced a fantastic performance. He finished second overall, and was England's first counter - a wonderful achievement.

During the summer Richard turns his attention to the track. Last year he was third in the English Schools' Championship. If evidence from the winter Cross Country season can be used to predict his progress this summer, more congratulations shall be in order!



Richard Newton (Number 24) competing in the Lancashire Schools' Cross Country Championships

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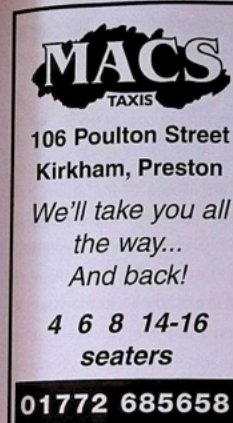
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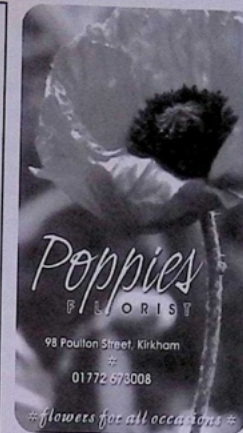
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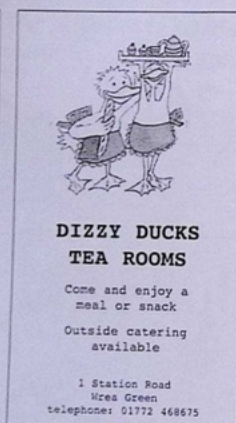
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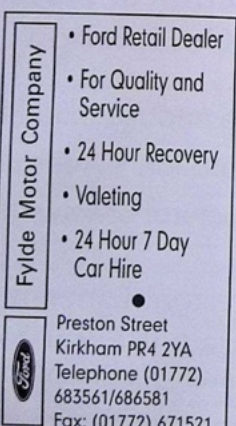
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Valloire, December 2002

Yes, it was meant to be Châtel, but at very short notice Mr Scott was informed of a change in location due to the lack of snow in the Northern Alps. Valloire, a very attractive French 'station village' in the Savoie Alpes, was the new venue. KGS had visited here at Easter in 1992 and so some of the older staff remembered it.

With apprehension the information was passed on to parents, friends and relatives at 3.30 a.m. when departure was due from school at 4.45 for an early morning flight to Geneva. It was also a slightly longer transfer time, so arrival at the resort was later in the afternoon than expected. It was during this first afternoon that the party (mainly juniors and over 50% complete novices) discovered the delights of the mountain village. Crêpes and pommes frites could be purchased, in Euros of course, and there was a multitude of shops for gifts and sweets.

The next morning was absolutely idyllic. It had snowed overnight and the village streets were beautiful and untouched - until KGS discovered the fun of snowballing before breakfast. At least twenty centimetres of fresh snow had fallen on the ski slopes and even the absolute beginners realised how much more forgiving powder is and easy to learn on. The party was assessed on ski ability and there was a small advanced group, with Tristan Brooke indicating that he had spent time skiing in France before. About ten were intermediate skiers, but the vast majority were novices. So good were the conditions that on the first day in the afternoon lessons all the groups were at the top of the mountain, skiing Le Crêy du Quart at over 2500 metres! This was certainly remembered by the likes of Jennie Ireland and Jemma Thackray. The staff's help was much appreciated by the ski school in picking up the debris of bodies on the first run down. But, by the end of the week, all were flying down the mountain with great speed and control. The steep learning curve of youngsters on skis was a joy to see and all of them progressed to a very competent standard amazingly quickly.

So good were the ski conditions (it snowed again on the second night) that Robert Sissons, Jamie Best and Jonathan Knowles all graduated to the

intermediate group in a couple of days. Later on in the week the beginners were seen hurtling down red runs in the full racing tuck!

After the lessons, Mr Scott (our Alpine Ski Leader) took any volunteers for an extra run or two before lunch or before the lifts closed in the afternoon. Some great falls were observed and certificates were awarded accordingly every night. It was terrific fun skiing and falling in the powder, but difficult to put skis back on and impossible to locate your ski sometimes.

It was because of the good conditions that accidents, fortunately, were very few. Maddie Eaves did strain a ligament landing after a jump, but rest and physiotherapy allowed her to ski again before the end of the week. Unfortunately, Mrs Walker's innocuous slip on the third day put her out of action on the slopes for the rest of the week. The only other casualty was Tristan, who broke a finger on the bum boarding night, but the excellent French medical services put it in a splint that would not affect his skiing.

The evening entertainment was also good fun. Some of the older staff rediscovered their skills at ten-pin bowling. We had a slumber party in the dining room and watched some great videos. We had a quiz night and some wanted to go bowling again. After the final night's presentation of ski certificates by the Ecole du Ski Français, we went to 'Le Village', the local disco for our last night out. This enabled some of the girls to dress in clothes more suited to Tokyo Joe's rather than the sub-zero temperatures experienced in the mountains. Frostbite of the navel was a distinct possibility!

Despite the concern over the changed location this proved to be one of the best ski holidays in recent years. The location, hotel, staff, ski conditions and even the food (yes, we did have frogs' legs!) were all very good. Thanks must go to all KGS staff who gave up the first week of their Christmas break to accompany this first ever juniors-only ski trip, especially Mr Scott who, as party leader, does all the organisation and paperwork and to Doc. Hall who organises Ski Clobber and runs the bank.

Long may skiing flourish at KGS.

Spain, February 2003

Yes, one usually associates Spain with the Costas and a summer holiday. But this February half term a group of 31 senior pupils and four staff flew out to Barcelona, heading for Alp 2500 and the ski station of Masella in the Pyrenees.

We arrived at the Hotel Alp in Masella and that was what it was - a hotel and a few other time-shares. No shops, cafés, bars or any other entertainment! The hotel was huge (five other English schools and too many very noisy Spanish children). The food, however, was very good and as much as one could eat, which was a lot by the lower sixth boys. The rooms were fine after the initial overcrowding which was eased by moving some fifth form girls out.

The skiing was the main purpose of the trip. The next two days' weather was not too good. Poor light and visibility, cold and a wind starting later indicated the beginnings of storm conditions. The advanced group did brave it to the very top of Mt. Tosa (2500 m), to discover that the girls' hair froze and it played havoc with the complexion. Sure enough, the third day brought a blizzard! No skiing at all, as none of the lifts were open. Back to bed was the cry; it may blow over! This was the first time that our leaders could remember losing a full day due to inclement weather.

Mrs Cassidy and Mrs Sutcliffe decided to go for a walk in the storm. It was only six kilometres to the nearest village of La Molina. Some gallant sixth form lads decided to accompany them to ensure their safety and allegedly to purchase some supplies. They did, however, leave the ladies to walk back as they hitched a lift in a local land rover! The weather was so bad we could not even get our coach transport up to the hotel to take us to the village that night.

Never mind, the next day brought blue skies, sunshine and mountains of fresh, powder snow.

We all set off with great excitement, as Mr Scott said it was the best snow to learn on! Disappointment came when the jet lift did not open. Unfortunately, nobody had told the Spanish that we wanted to ski that day. The main chairlift did not open until after 12 o'clock, the reason was too much snow at the top!

At last, the lifts opened, just in time for us to go for lunch! It was noticed that The Doc and our Alpine ski leader skipped lunch in order to recce the pistes for the afternoon. Thursday and Friday were excellent skiing days. However, the Spanish pisteurs had still not opened the top of the Tosa! Still too much snow, there had been an avalanche in the next resort and, despite the wide open pistes having been bashed, we could not ski on them! There were plenty of runs open lower down, but all led to the one rather overcrowded chair lift.

The staunch skiers of KGS were not daunted. 'Onwards and upwards', was the battle call. Numerous interesting falls and attempts at trick skiing were observed as Mr. Scott and Doc. Hall guided the beginners down the 'big ones', helped by the ladies who picked up and dusted down. Fortunately, injuries were non-existent. Whether it was good tuition or the piste conditions, but we had no serious accidents at all.

Doc Hall enjoyed the karaoke evening in Paddy's Bar in La Molina on the Friday night. From the very first renditions of 'Three Lions on my Shirt' to 'Summer Loving' from Grease, one now realises why the inter house music competition is so over-subscribed! Even Mr Scott and Doc Hall showed their abilities with 'Daydream Believer' (again!). Everyone agreed that this was one of the best social evenings on recent ski trips.

This was the first time that Mr. Scott had organised a senior ski trip, as the main one was full after only two days. Skiing seems to be going from strength to strength at KGS and let's hope these trips can continue.

Junior Hockey Tour Valkenburg and Disneyland, Paris

The Junior Girls' Hockey Tour to Valkenburg, Holland and Disneyland, Paris was once again a great success and a thoroughly enjoyable experience.

The party left K.G.S on the morning of Saturday, 19th October, immaculately kitted out, thanks to McNeela Constructions Limited, who kindly sponsored the girls' tracksuits.

After a tiring night of dancing on the ferry, and a long journey through Belgium to Valkenburg, the girls and the staff had little time to perfect their karaoke performances. Mr and Mrs Tabb led the competition with their spectacular performance of

'You're the one that I want' from the musical Grease.

The world cup hockey competition, which took place each morning while we were in Holland, was a very competitive and high-spirited affair. Australia was eventually proclaimed as winners after narrowly beating England.

Whilst in Valkenburg, the Under 13, Under 14 and Under 15 teams played three matches. The girls experienced some very demanding games, playing against club teams rather than school teams, although all teams were extremely successful.

Whilst in Valkenburg the girls also enjoyed a trip to the bowling alley, four exciting runs down the bobsleigh, a trip up to the highest point in Valkenburg on a chairlift, an exciting quiz night and a shopping trip, including a visit to the local chocolate shop.

Following our four hectic days in Holland, the girls were rewarded with two nights in Paris. We visited the Eiffel Tower whilst in transit, celebrated Hallowe'en in true spooky fashion in the hotel and spent Friday in Disney Studios and Saturday in Disneyland itself, experiencing the thrills of Space Mountain.

The entire tour was a thoroughly marvellous experience and a wonderful opportunity to nurture close relationships.

Many thanks must go to Mrs Tabb for organising the tour and to Mr Whalley, Mr Sampey, Mr Tabb and Mrs Whalley for all of their hard work and endless energy on tour.

We look forward to similar antics in 2004!



Scarborough, April 2003

Straight after Easter the annual lower sixth field course prepared to depart for Scarborough. Once the minibuses were packed, we were ready to set off east over the Pennines.

The weather en route was simply appalling. Very heavy rain, low cloud and even wind - why were we venturing into Yorkshire? Even when we arrived in Saltaire, Bradford, it was still spitting, so the walk around Sir Titus Salt's factory village was cut short slightly and we were forced to adjourn to a McDonald's for lunch!

By the time we arrived in Scarborough the sun began to shine. The Cliffside Hotel (a new venue this year) was ideally placed and we could leave the minibuses safely without risk of parking tickets. It was decided to walk up to the castle for the historical introduction by Mr Scott and so that Mr Harrison could point out the coastal defences being constructed in the North Bay. A brief drive through the old town and a walk around the harbour soon gave the geographers a renewed appetite. In the absence of McDonald's, Mr Scott insisted on seafood. Cockles and mussels were tasted by only a few, but Tom even tried an oyster, with some reluctance. Many thought that ice cream was much safer.

The evening work session went on until 9.00pm as much had to be prepared for the river survey the following day. We were fortunate to have excellent, sunny weather for the River Derwent study. The area of Hackness and Harwood Dale (all part of the North Yorkshire Moors' National Park) was very attractive and restful until KGS geographers disturbed the peace. A hearty meal was enjoyed by all that evening as appetites had built up during the day.

The second full day was spent in the beautiful city of York. Here, the heritage and tourist industry was being studied, as specified in the AS Module 3. Mr Harrison also guided the group around the Foss Flood Barrier and the other river defences that have been built to combat recent flooding on the River Ouse. Evidence of the terrible floods of 2000 was seen along the riverside. Mr Scott gave a guided

tour of Clifford's Tower, Fairfax House, The Merchant Adventurers' Hall and the Shambles. After lunch with the pigeons, the afternoon was then spent in the famous Castle Museum. After a full and very tiring day, again the group work lasted until 9.00 pm, preparing the coastal survey day. Some of the party required even further sustenance and Alex Newton (despite four Weetabix for breakfast and a full fry-up) discovered a nearby take-away Chinese and determined to eat his way through North Yorkshire!

The introduction to the coastal module was covered from outside the hotel. Here, we could observe the various sea defences that have been used along the cliffs and the new, reinforced sea wall. The site of the Holbeck Hall was visited, where a plaque informed us of the demise of the hotel which slipped into the sea a few years ago. We continued the coastal work all the way down to Bridlington. The classic case study of Flamborough Head was studied, much to the delight of Charlie! This area had been mentioned and studied in class, but here it could be studied first hand - read the book - get the tee shirt! (Much of this information, along with the coastal management scheme in Scarborough, was actually examined in the module!).

On returning to Scarborough, Mr Scott took the group down to the North Bay again, to see the force of the waves, as it was high tide. Despite health and safety warnings from IMS, some of the group managed to get a drenching from the waves. The final night's work finished, the group was allowed a little R and R, but more was in store the next morning. Breakfast as usual, several Weetabix, full fry-up and lots of toast for Alex to give him strength to load the minibuses!

Our return trip took us through York, again a little wet, but a very impressive walk of the walls to the north of the city, visiting King's Manor, the Minster and, of course, McDonald's, to see how it has been architecturally blended in to the surrounding buildings!

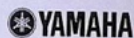
Thanks must be given to Mr Scott, Mr Harrison and Ms Oliphant for all their help and organisation.

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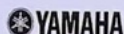
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Music

This year has been a year of change for the Music Society with the departure of Mr Catterall, who retired at the end of Autumn Term. The annual Speech Day was the first performance for the Choirs and Concert Band. The evening saw a new orchestral arrangement of the hymn, 'Lord for the years', written for the event by Upper Sixth former Matthew Hopton and the musicians' performances were much enjoyed by pupils and guests alike.

The Carol Concert once again featured a mix of traditional and contemporary carols. The Concert Band performed Leroy Anderson's lively medley 'The Christmas Festival Overture' and the Girls' Choir gave another excellent performance with two foreign carols and Andrew Lloyd Webber's hit 'When children rule the world', sung with a small wind ensemble. However, the Special Choir took centre stage, singing a wide variety of carols complemented by seasonal readings read by LAMDA students. This concert was the last such event for Mr Catterall and Mr Evans who were both retiring. Over the past few years the Concert Band has rapidly improved under Mr Evans' baton. Band Principal Jak Berry presented Mr Evans with a gift on behalf of the band to thank him for all his efforts over the time he has worked with them.

Mr Catterall taught music at Kirkham for 31 years and this, along with his work at Broughton Parish Church, has led him to become one of the most respected choirmasters in the country. Mr Catterall has worked tirelessly in helping the choir improve and was presented with an engraved fountain pen by senior choristers Felicity Long and Evan Beswick. However, this was not the only present, as John Rutter, whose name appears regularly on the Christmas programme and is known as the 'Father Christmas of carols', sent his new CD personally signed to Mr Catterall. The Upper Sixth (complete with wigs) led the audience and musicians in singing ABBA's, 'Thank you for the music' to bring JC's last concert to a close.

In January, the Music Society welcomed the new Director of Music, Mr Barratt, who was immediately immersed in performances during the House Music Festival. Over 500 pupils took part and the standard was extremely high. The final saw a variety of instruments and musical styles, all competing to win the Rosemary Greaves' Music Prize. The choice was difficult for Miss Dickinson, this year's adjudicator, but she chose Leanne Bonney after her expressive performance on the clarinet.

At the Spring Concert the Concert Band, under new director Mr Andrews, played three pieces and the Girls' Choir sang. The Dambusters' March



The Girls' Choir at Speech Day

was one of the pieces performed by the much-improved Orchestra. The Choir closed the concert with two John Rutter choral works. The 'Sanctus' from the Gloria and 'All things bright and beautiful' were enjoyed by all.

The latter piece was also performed at St Walburga's Church, Preston in front of the television cameras of Granada's 'My Favourite Hymns'. The programme of the Harvest Festival will be shown on ITV on Sunday, 12th October. The choir led the large congregation in a number of traditional harvest hymns and performed the anthem during communion. Despite numerous interruptions due to broken cameras and the many retakes needed, the day was a new experience for all and we look forward to seeing the end result.

The Summer Concert was held early in the summer term due to exams. The programme was dominated by the leaving Upper Sixth students, including pieces from the A-level recitals given by Jak Berry, Matthew Hopton and Hannah Smith. Helen Thrower again thrilled the audience with another exceptional display of dancing which has led her to national success. The Concert Band, Orchestra and the newly formed String Group played. The Girls' Choir performed a varied programme from Bryan Adams to Lerner and Loewe. The Choir performed arrangements of

three well known pieces, 'I got rhythm' and 'Tea for Two' were followed by 'In the Mood'.

This concert was the final one for the Upper Sixth, one of whom, Jak Berry, is entering a career in music and starts at Trinity College of Music in September. Jak, a flautist in the National Youth Wind Orchestra and Lancashire Students' Concert Band has demonstrated his amazing performing skills over the past few years on various instruments and has been one of the school's best musicians. We wish him every success and hope to see him in the future on the professional stage.

Many pupils from all years have had the opportunity to perform in the many Coffee Concerts held in the Old Hall at lunchtime. The King's Normandy Band again held a concert with the Concert Band and the wind quintet were invited to play at the Lord Lieutenant's Receptions and at Colonel Sayer's retirement dinner as Commanding Officer of the CCF.

On behalf of all the students involved in the Music Society, I would like to thank Mr Barratt and Mrs Cassidy for all their hard work and effort with accompanying and practising which results in such excellent concerts.

Matthew Hopton (Music Secretary).



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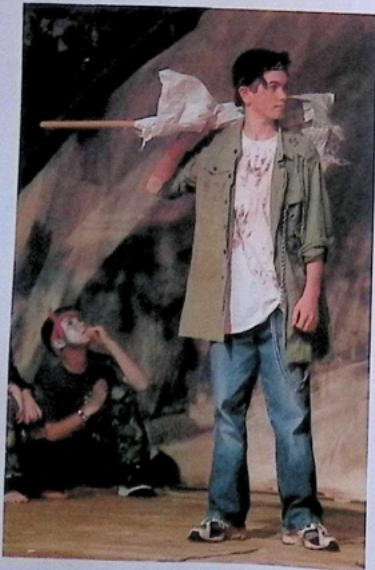


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Drama

Within two weeks of the start of the Autumn term, the fifth form GCSE Drama group presented an evening of Drama with a 'promenade' performance in two venues, the Old Hall and the Multi Purpose Hall! The Old Hall was the setting for a performance of 'I was a Good Lil Girl til...', a powerful piece about the suffragette movement which was very effectively conveyed with Jenni Gill as Mrs Pankhurst and Ian Duncan as Mr Asquith in a cast of 15. Meanwhile, in the MPH, another group was setting up 'Titanic' using the fixed seating to convey the idea of the Titanic's ruptured sides. Vicky Biggs and Isobel Morley took us through a music hall interpretation of this tragedy, their humourous contributions pointing up the harsh facts of this piece.

We were delighted to welcome a theatrical make up artist into school to pass on her expertise and skills to members of the fourth and fifth form GCSE groups. In total some 60 students were able to spend time with Louise Grant from 'Grimas' and to gain hands on experience. Louise has worked a great deal in television and was able to let us into the secrets of how that perfect black eye is achieved in 'Hollyoaks' or 'Coronation Street'. Alex Dean was given 'a right shiner' which had members of staff



on duty at lunchtime stopping him and wondering what had been going on....Lauren Emery volunteered to be aged by about 50 years and astounded all by the transformation that she underwent. There were one or two nasty injuries too, including gunshots to the head, severed wrists and burns. On a lighter note, Louise was able to help us with the designs for the make up for 'Grimm Tales' and we had great fun trying on beards, feathers and a range of prosthetic noses while trying to create the right mood and atmosphere for both the piece and the characters.

This year's dramatic production was 'Grimm Tales', an adaptation of some of the best known and best loved fairy tales from Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm. There were lots of 'firsts' in this production: Juniors worked alongside the Upper Sixth for the first time, the new lighting system installed in the MPH and so generously sponsored by 'The Friends' was put through its maiden voyage by Mrs Alison Walker and the enormous stage of the MPH was given a totally new look by Mr Hill's huge steel and corrugated card structure.

The interpretation of the piece was to be as far removed from the saccharine sweet idea of fairy tales as possible, with the cast dressed as 'urban warriors' inhabiting a tunnel, damp and graffitied, stuffed with junk, old washing machines and rusting bicycles. The cast created their costumes themselves and a very able group of GCSE Drama students added the finishing touches with make up which ranged from tribal markings through to full face paint for a dog and a lion! The accompanying sounds for the world of chaos and disorder which the cast created were splendidly provided by the improvisations of Hannah Smith on organ and Martin Cropper on drums. Evan Beswick created six original electronic pieces for the interval music, all of which did a great deal to convey the quirkiness of this grim world. Megan Davies added to this, too, with her hauntingly breathy rendition of a song which captured a longing for the innocence of childhood.

The evening began with the Sixth Form's presentation of 'Hansel and Gretel', with Janyll Rawlins as a very compelling witch. Rebecca Ridley and Travis Peters were the unfortunate children, lost

in the forest who eventually meet up again with their father, played very memorably by Andrew Gregson.

In 'Iron Hans', Freddie Buxton and Oliver Fisher headed up a very strong cast in a tale which allowed these two talented young actors to play good comic roles.

'The Lady and the Lion' gave Maddie Eaves and Nick Rhodes an opportunity to show off the strength of their acting partnership as a couple who lose sight of each other, largely because the boy keeps turning into different animals!

The audience was led into the interval by a beautifully choreographed piece, 'A Riddling Tale', which showed the dance skills of Amy Bleach, Amy Dupres and Susie Leyland.

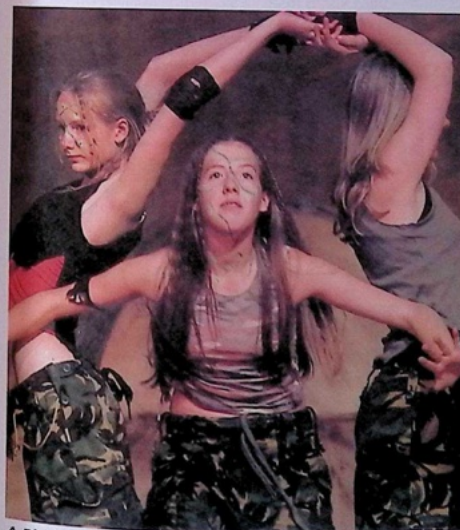
Act Two opened with 'Aschputtel', or Cinderella as we more commonly call it, with Hannah Spacey as a very compelling Aschputtel.

The Juniors returned to the stage for 'The Magic Table and The Donkey' and this is perhaps the place to mention the wonderful and creative work which

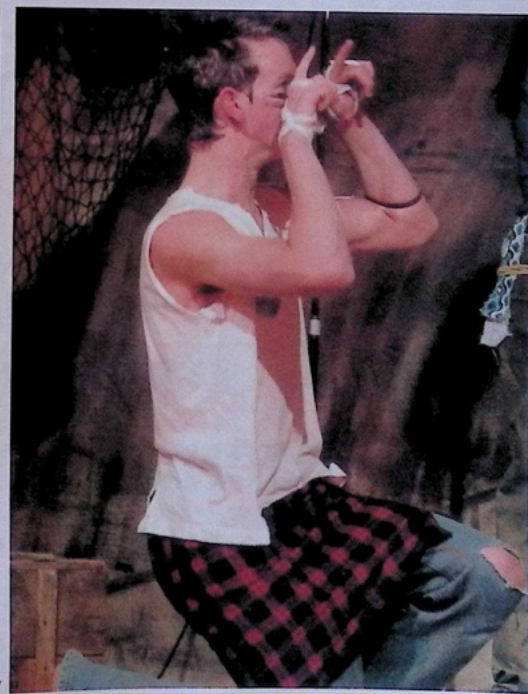
the first year girls did in making the landscape for the various plays. They provided the hills, dales, relatives, soldiers, forests, animals..... you name it, all through mime and their own creativity. Not only that, but they had more rehearsals than anyone else, and they were never late (others take note, please). KGS can look forward to a bright future with the commitment and energy which these girls have shown in their earliest weeks at school. Although it is difficult to single out actors from this particular play, mention must be made of Grace Garlington as a splendidly funny goat and donkey, Michael Bennett as the three(!) workmen and Melissa Swain as the very nasty landlady.

The evening was rounded off by the seniors again in 'The Golden Goose', with Andrew Gregson also playing three sons.

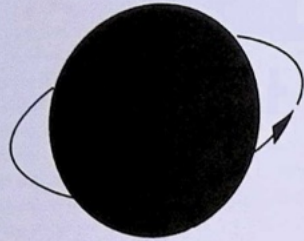
Our Director of drama, Mrs Lynda Poole, left us in May to take up a new post at Teeside School for Girls where she has accepted the position of Deputy Headmistress. Mrs Poole has run the Drama Department with great energy over the past four years. Her enthusiasm for drama has never dampened and she has left some treasured memories for many pupils.



A Riddling Tale



Andrew Gregson in "Cinderella"



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CCF SUMMER CAMP WARCOP, JULY 2003

What an excellent send off for Colonel Sayer! The weather was fine, the training was excellent and the cadets performed superbly - it could not have been better. We even brought home some trophies!

After three consecutive years at Cultybraggan (one forced because of foot and mouth), it was good to have a change of venue and locate at our own brigade camp in Cumbria. Warcop has always been a favourite and much frequented in the past. As our CSM said in his valedictory speech, his first day spent as a cadet was at Warcop . . . and so was his last. This moving farewell brought even the hardest NCO's close to tears. It is not usual at the end of camp to see the CSM and CO hugging each other through bleary eyes. The customary thanks and gifts were given and some interesting photographs of the week's training were shown by Mrs Knight (who is, along with Mrs Cassidy, a new potential officer).

The first day was a gentle introduction in the leadership competition, which consisted of five groups navigating 18 points and at some of them there were command tasks and memory exercises. We won this trophy in 1999, so we thought it best this year to let Framlingham and Langley share it and we came third. This morning workout did develop the teamwork and competitive element of the camp and moulded the sections together. So much so that the afternoon's Combat First Aid Trophy was convincingly won by KGS CCF. It was probably helped by the fact that the Sgt Major in charge of the exercise came from the same hometown as Major Scott!

The next day's range packet was of great interest to many. For some of the junior cadets it was their first chance to fire blanks on a simulated shooting skills range with electronic targets. As well as live firing the cadet rifle on the 30 metre range, the superb session on the SAT range (small arms trainer) was a little like a very expensive computer video game. Cadets enjoyed this so much that Capt Crowther took everyone for another session one evening.

Tuesday morning was the Royal Artillery gunnery stand. The whole camp was sponsored by 103 Regt RA (V) and we had a chance to play with their big guns - the 105 field gun. Again, a competitive element was introduced in seeing how fast it could be set up. KGS managed to do it in just under a minute, but a time of 43 seconds won.

That afternoon saw the challenge that KGS CCF always rises to. The March and Shoot competition consists of a three mile fast march with an obstacle course at the end and finally a timed shoot. We posted the fastest times for both and had the second best shooting score, so winning the trophy by 100 points. Congratulations must go to the team of twenty who put so much into it.

Wednesday was the big infantry exercise - Warcop Warrior, a tiring but enjoyable learning experience for many and a chance to put theory into practice and test the leadership of the NCOs.

The signals stand for the next morning was just right to recover before the watermanship, or wet training, on the lake. Basically, it was raft building and racing (and then nearly sinking) and then paddling assault boats to specific locations with the intention of stopping the other team by fair means or foul! All, including the staff that joined in, had great fun. The photographs of all the week's activities will be available on a CD-Rom at a small charge.

The final day was left to contingent training. Colonel Sayer was a little miffed when the army would not authorise his walk along the Pennine Way with the junior cadets! This was an exercise he had been doing for thirty years but does not have a suitable qualification to take a party of over 20! So High Cup Nick was out. Instead the colonel engineered a low level nature ramble that involved some mapwork skills and quite a long walk. Despite the initial disappointment, all enjoyed this walk as it was the CO's last day's training with cadets.

Meanwhile, Major Scott had devised our own infantry exercise, which many said was even better than that organised by the army! This consisted of a tactical movement through an area to clear it of the Cumbrian Freedom Fighters (a group of anarchists led by Capt Crowther and comprised of cadets with blisters and bad knees!). The first task was to locate the enemy without being seen. Great enthusiasm was shown, especially from the younger cadets, as they had never really been given the chance to think for themselves on an exercise. As a result of this, and all the week's other training, the Anzac Trophy for best junior cadet was awarded jointly to Cdt Alex Miller and Cdt John Gladwell. Congratulations to both who, along with all the others, have learned a lot during the week.

The other internal award which is new this year is the Colonel's Trophy. This statuette has been presented by Lt Col Sayer to mark his retirement as CO, and will be awarded on Speech Day to the best Junior (L6th) NCO on camp. It gave us all great pleasure to announce that Sgt Graham Hacking is the first to receive it. Coincidentally, I have also decided, after close consideration and consultation with fellow officers and departing NCOs, to promote Graham to Contingent Sergeant Major for this coming year. His Staff Sergeants will be Caroline Cheadle, James Cooper, Louise Robinson and Gregg Skinner. Congratulations and good luck to you all.

Finally, it gives me great pleasure to take over the contingent, especially as it is in such good working order. The main reason for that is because of Colonel Fred and all the hard work he has put in over 33 years (18 as Commanding Officer). We cannot thank him too much from all cadets past and

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present, officers and staff who give up their time for the CCF. I personally must thank them too and hope that we can all keep the good ship KGS CCF on an even keel even though the skipper has jumped overboard! He will still be around for another year to help me out. It was significant how many people came to the Regimental Dinner we put on for him at school to mark his time in the CCF.

To paraphrase the motto of the Queen's Lancashire Regiment

"Loyally he has served"

Many thanks, Fred, for all you have done.

Lt Col I.M Scott CO KGS CCF

RAF SUMMER CAMP RAF COTTESMORE

Yet again we were sent down south to imbue all those we met with our northern culture! Cadets from Hampton, Haileybury, Giggleswick and St Peter's, York joined KGS cadets for a week of flying, canoeing, raft-building and orienteering. Many opportunities were opened up for those seriously considering a career in the Royal Air Force - Isobel Morley cannot decide now between medicine or maintenance after spending a day at the Centre for Aviation Medicine at RAF Henlow and with a Harrier Squadron at RAF Cottesmore! Should she mend pilots or planes?

Richard Walker, as Flight Sergeant, won a coveted silver trophy for being commander of the winning flight for the week. This went some way towards countering the award he got for his constant tardiness! Sharon Tsang again delayed her return home to Hong Kong in favour of donning her blue uniform. Lloyd Helmn was an indispensable Sergeant. David Spencer and Sean Carlucci-Mills were also good ambassadors for the school, making many new friends along the way.

As for the Officers, John Callister and Pam Hayton, what can we say? Nothing! So we won't.

ADVENTUROUS TRAINING APRIL 2003

Early April adventurous training in the Lake District can be troubled with very wet weather. This year's camp in St. John's in the Vale Diocesan Youth Centre was blessed with sunshine all week and all concerned had an excellent time. Several of the fairer skinned individuals suffered from quite red faces after having tramped the fells and forests of Cumbria.

This pre-Easter period seems an ideal time to perform our adventurous training, as not only is the weather better, but there is more daylight available than in February. Next year we are hoping to return

to St. John's and possibly include canoeing as an additional activity.

This year's cadets were treated to several different and varying training activities during their week. Immediately on arrival, a group was sent out to Borrowdale for a 24-hour cooking, camping, map reading and walking exercise, devised by the devious Flt Lt Callister. This was by far the most arduous but also the most enjoyable activity. Various fells were scaled: Great Gable, Blencathra, and Haystacks, to name a few, all in superb weather conditions. The evening meal was always interesting. For some cadets this was their first time using 24-hour ambient ration packs. The cadets were given sufficient food, but pot noodle seemed to be the favourite, even for breakfast! James Best concocted a strange chocolate mixture and Mr Scott's cooking back at base was certainly appreciated on return.

In Winlatter forest a day was spent orienteering around a very arduous course. The best recorded time was by Marcus Plowright. This day usually ended up with a relaxing swim in a local pool, or was it just to clean off? Another morning was spent rock climbing with Mr Gaddes and Mrs Scott on various challenging rock faces. The afternoon session varied from either mountain biking with Capt. Miller around the Keswick area, or a select band of equestrians were invited to pony trek with the Colonel. Despite his advancing years, FWS displayed quite adept horsemanship and even managed to get a gallop out of good, old 'Trojan'. It was noticed that the colonel's gait did become a little stiffer as the week wore on and his muscles wore out.

All these fun and arduous activities were complemented by the excellent culinary skills of Major Scott. What he can create out of army composite rations is simply amazing. The beef in red wine went down very well, especially as he put a full bottle of the colonel's best claret into it. The final day's exercise was another Point-to-Point, testing the map reading and navigation skills we had been learning all week. Nobody got lost this year! Success at last!

Thanks must go to all officers, staff, civilian instructors and 40 Cadet Training Team, and Guinness the dog for all their help, time, energies and enthusiasm in all the different activities. A special mention must go to Flt Lt J.W. Callister, as not only did he spend every night out under canvas, he then stayed on for several more nights in the Lake District to supervise the D of E expedition. A final thanks to the colonel for all the years he has put into KGS CCF. This was his final adventurous training camp after starting in the CCF in 1969! - Does that mean he has been on 34? - He deserves his long service award.



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YOUNG ENTERPRISE

'Realize', this year's Young Enterprise Company, have had a successful and busy year. After careful market research, the 'achievers' soon realised what the customer wanted and were able to produce a clear and detailed business plan. With over £200 raised in share sales and sponsorship from local businesses, the company had the necessary capital to fund their activities for their company year.

Young Enterprise is all about learning by doing and this year members of the team had a chance to chair a meeting in the first half-term. With four candidates to choose from, the company voted Stuart Harrison as Managing Director. Stuart and the other candidates all submitted impressive letters of application, gave excellent five minute presentations to the company and answered questions from both link teachers and advisers.

So, with thorough market research completed and a board of directors elected, the business was off the ground. As the saying goes, everyone loves a party and the market research suggested that a disco would be a successful and profit-making start to the year. The company 'realized' the demand and potential success of a Junior Hallowe'en disco and, on my thirtieth birthday, I was lucky enough (!) to spend the evening supervising 150 pupils dancing the night away! All had a successful night, with £300 profit for the achievers and tired legs for all the pupils!

After the disco profits had been banked, the company decided to hit the Christmas market. The production team busied themselves over half term to produce enough products to sell at the many school events in the vital months of November and December. I am delighted to say that 'Realize' produced a wide range of presents for everyone's Christmas needs and sales were good. Their range of novelty gifts has been very successful and their range of 'flashing' necklaces, Christmas wreaths, fluffy fridge magnets and fluffy files all made a healthy profit.

After the Christmas holidays, and with the pressures of AS exams, the company decided to delay their start to the New Year. At the first meeting of 2003, the team decided to concentrate their efforts on their long-term projects. Producing a successful sixth form yearbook proved to be quite a challenge, but the company succeeded and a scaled-down book was published in the summer term.

At the start of summer term, the company competed in the Fylde Area Board Finals, where twelve schools were judged on an eight-minute presentation, a written report and a trade stand.

Kirkham's company report was well received by all the judges and everyone was delighted when we won the 'Best report' trophy. Our presentation was also well received and entertained the audience and judges alike. This year the pupils had to 'prove' they were a good company, basing their presentation in a fictitious Young Enterprise court. Judge Jenna (Lodge) was very strict with the slimy prosecutor (Greg Skinner), who was trying to prove the company was ineffectual. Fortunately, the company had two first-rate witnesses (Sarah Critchley and Caroline Cheadle) who blew the prosecution's case away and succeeded in defending the honour of Realize and Kirkham Grammar! Needless to say, Realize won the case on the night, although the company was unlucky not to scoop the best presentation award.

Both Miss Howe and myself have been delighted with the company's success and hope they have learned a great deal from their year. We wish them well in the cut and thrust of future enterprise.

S. Duncan/S. Howe

VOLLEYBALL CLUB

**In the Preston and District
Volleyball League**

This new club, despite restricted opportunities to practise on a regular basis, has continued to make steady progress throughout the season. Playing against generally much more experienced players, the team has responded well to advice from their ageing team mate and has learned to play this difficult game to a perfectly reasonable standard. If you think it is an easy game, come and try it! Most important of all, the boys and girls seem to enjoy themselves thoroughly.

If the majority of the squad stay together next year, and we can recruit a few more, we should see standards improve even further and we shall undoubtedly win more matches. For information, the league operates every fortnight, contains nine teams and during the season (which runs from September to Easter) each team will play each other twice.

Squad 2002-2003

Kit Ingham (capt.), Luke Talbot, Jack Ward, Oliver Twambley, Joshua Wright, Charlotte McNeela, Anna Marsden.

P	W	D	L
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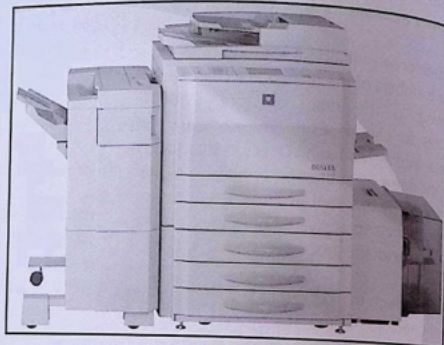
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SCIENCE CLUB

Science Club was a brand new club this year. For 2002/3 it has been open to first years only, but from September will be open to first, second and third years.

Science Club met every Wednesday lunchtime. In these sessions the students carried out many activities. They made fire extinguishers, fireworks, bouncy balls from custard!, grew crystals and many more interesting and unusual things.

In the spring term we visited Jodrell Bank Observatory in Cheshire. The students learned about our solar system and the universe through many interactive exhibits. All had a fun, if tiring, day.

Four members of the science club represented Kirkham Grammar School at Salters' Festival of Chemistry Competition at the University of Manchester. They competed against schools from across the north of England in two chemistry-based challenges. The students found it very interesting and challenging and are looking forward to next year's competition.

Despite Terry's departure, there are still many good climbers in the club spanning the years from first to sixth form. In particular, Matthew Gaddes is developing all the time and, having finely tuned his technical climbing, has begun training in a more dynamic manner, much to Mr Gaddes' dismay!

Our newest member, Graham Hacking, has proved to be the most annoying addition to climbing club so far, as he continues to use his unfair height advantage to complete climbs that we shorter climbers are forced to complete in a far more technical, and therefore more difficult, manner! His technical skills are, however, visibly improving all the time and I believe he will become an accomplished climber extremely quickly, a rare thing in this sport. Mr Gaddes continues to provide us with an enviable example, as he consistently leads many difficult routes outdoors that even our strongest and most dynamic climbers would be more than a little fazed by! Mrs Scott also provides an excellent example in the form of perfect belaying technique, as she agrees constantly to belay anyone and everyone with little regard for her own climbing, and usually ends up belaying almost the whole climbing session!

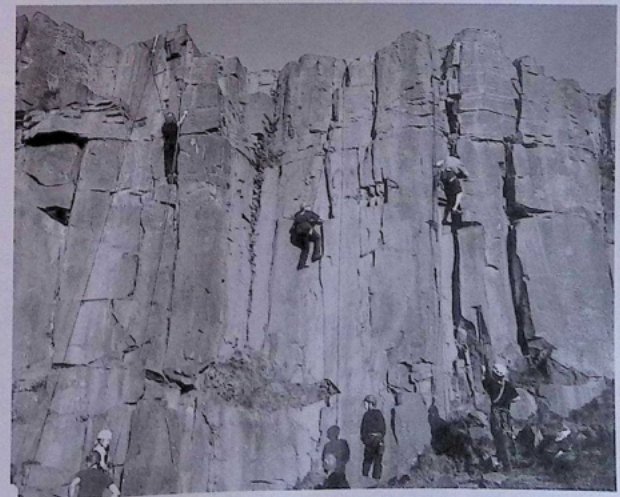
I would like to thank the teachers and all of the members for supporting the club. I foresee another great year ahead with the new additions that will undoubtedly appear with the new first formers in September.

CLIMBING CLUB

It has been yet another successful year for the Climbing Club, with many new members joining and the current ones improving all the time. Despite the closure of one of the club's favourite venues, Cliff's Barn Climbing Wall, we still managed to maintain a variety of climbing during the winter months by venturing further afield to indoor walls in Clitheroe and Blackburn as well as the usual West View Leisure Centre. The weather was also warmer much sooner this year, allowing us to venture outdoors much sooner than usual, providing even more variety over the summer months.

With the end of the year we will lose a valued member of the club. Terry Ogdin has not been with us very long but has certainly made a lasting impression on the club, if only because we never have any chalk left when he has been climbing! He is, however, taking a gap year before leaving for Liverpool University, so I suspect we will still be seeing a lot of him, as I believe he will be returning to climb with the club when he can.

James Fletcher (Secretary of the Climbing Club)



CHARITY

The donations from the weekly charity collections and from the termly non-uniform days have been divided amongst a variety of local, national and international charities. In September, as always, we support Action Aid and our two sponsored children in Africa and South America. Following that, donations were made to Pear Tree School and to the local branch of the Gideons who visit school every year to talk to our first years about their work. As always, in November the school supports the British Legion Poppy Appeal, whilst our fundraising in the run-up to Christmas is allocated to the work of Crisis, an organisation working with the homeless and which at this particular time of year provides accommodation, food and temporary care in our major cities.

During the Spring Term we were pleased to welcome Mr Ben Jones from the Teenage Cancer Trust into school. Following a talk in assembly to the whole school, he then visited some second, third and fourth year classes as well as a sixth form discussion group, providing us with much information and leaving us with much to think about.

Comic Relief also came around again this year and, amongst other activities, the school held another Weakest Link competition. Well done to Andrew Gregson for beating off the competition, albeit with a certain amount of tactical voting!

In the Summer Term our attention turns towards the annual visit of the children from Chernobyl. In an assembly shortly after our Easter break, Miss Wilson, from the Kirkham and Wesham Friends of the Children of Chernobyl, provided us with much information about the situation in that area and about the lives of the children. As always, we sponsor one of the children who come to Kirkham for a four week stay in the summer and we take the whole group for a day out during their stay. In addition, the boy we have sponsored for the past six years or so, and who is now too old to spend time with the group, also came to Kirkham and spent a month at school, going to lessons with 2y and participating in all school activities. This proved invaluable for Viktor, who wrote us this brief note:

'My name is Viktor Kurguzov, I'm 13 years old, I live

in Mogilev in Belarus, I have come to England for one month every year since I was six.

This year I went to K.G.S. I have many new friends. The teachers were kind. I like all subjects. My best sports are running, cricket, football, baseball. I liked lunch in school. I like K.G.S. uniform, in Mogilev no uniform. I liked very much going to 'Camelot'. Going to K.G.S. had helped me learn more English. I liked English K.G.S. very much.

I want to thank Mr. Walker very much.

Thank you all. Viktor Kurguzov

In addition during the summer term, on Sunday 11th May, a large number of students, staff and parents braved the heavy rain to take part in fundraising events for the Rosemere Cancer Care Foundation, a local charity which funds cancer care in Lancashire and the Lakes.

The first event was a sponsored walk with a number of KGS parents and pupils taking part. It was then the turn of the fun runners to complete the 5km course. All the runners tried their best and completed the course. Special mention must go to Terry Ogden, Max Fulford-Brown and Tristan Brooke who were placed second, fifth and seventh respectively. However, all the runners gave of their utmost and raised a large amount of money for a very worthy charity.

We are also pleased to support three of our third year pupils, William Norris, Tristan Brooke and Luke Sanders, who are trying to raise money to provide a new wheel chair for a local boy. The three have entered a number of fun runs and in September will take part in the Great North Run. We wish them well.

Donations for year 2002-03

Action Aid	£240
Gideons	£50
Pear Tree School	£50
Project Child	£150
Teenage Cancer Trust	£750
Comic Relief	£600
Bryan House	£100
Children in Need	£100
Crisis	£600
Children of Chernobyl	£550
Médecins son Frontières	£300
British Legion	£110



The children from Chernobyl enjoying their day at Camelot



KGS pupils taking part in the fun run for the Rosemere Cancer Trust

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. This was typified by the excellent House Captains we had last year in Martin Halsall, Charlotte McNeela, Matthew Hopton and Danielle Grundy. We will never forget Martin growling at the junior cross country teams as they came around the Wareing buildings to the finishing line or his 'lullaby' in the House Music competition.

So let's go back to the Autumn Term. With the introduction of basketball, we gained a second place in the intermediate event in which Michael Ayre proved to be a real star. However, we struggled to compete with the chess internationals of Fylde House and the juniors struggled in the hockey. The term ended with a brilliant first position in the swimming gala, thanks to a recount and the exceptional talent of Rachael Armistead, Joe Leeming and Chris Gayle, all first years.

The house music was the first event of the winter term and, as reigning champions, we were looking forward to defending our crown. Mrs Cassidy worked very hard on the choir and encouraged as many volunteers as possible to enter. We gained seven final positions, including Matthew Hopton on piano and own composition, plus Isolyn Donaldson-Ellison with voice. She turned out to be the star of the final and gained second position in the overall competition.

We gained third place in the debate, the junior quiz and the shooting, but with some other houses losing points for not turning up, we were still holding on to second place overall, not far behind School House. In the cross country we had some better results, with a second in the senior girls being the highlight because so many of the runners stepped in at the last minute to replace injured or absent competitors. Special thanks to Helen Thrower, Stephanie Witts and Charlotte Berry.

The intermediate boys' cross-country team also performed very well, gaining a first place. Tristan Brooke came home in an excellent first place and Richard Hollows was a close third. The intermediate girls matched the boys and showed true Preston House spirit to come in first overall, the notable performances coming from Jenny Dewhurst (first) and Kayleigh Kuroski (fourth). Many thanks to Mr. Sampey for his thoughtful tactics and excellent coaching. The junior boys also carried on the tradition of strong cross-country running, finishing in second position. Mr. Sampey's tactic of running in groups worked, but when the senior boys finished in a group, I do not quite think he meant twentieth, twenty first etc.

In the final events of the term, the rugby and hockey tournaments, we needed to consolidate our second position and put pressure on School House. We had mixed success, with three third positions in the rugby (I blame Martin, he had no right to choose an England cap over Preston House), but a very pleasing second position in the senior girls' hockey.

The summer term started very hectically with the preliminaries and then Sports' Day itself taking place within a couple of weeks of the Easter holidays. We competed very well in most events, gaining ten first places, but we struggled with the relay events and finished a disappointing fourth. Laura Martin had three firsts, including two records, and Charlotte Smith was third in the Victrix Ludorum for the juniors.

The better weather saw the return of more victories in the intermediate tennis, which we won by eleven games to ten against Fylde in the final thanks to Jonathan Knowles, Chris Ward, James Hall and Jenny Dewhurst.

It has been another thoroughly enjoyable year in Preston House and everyone has given a great deal of time and energy. Thank you very much and thanks to Mr. Taylor and Mr. Crowther who will be sorely missed as they leave us.

Who is going to mind the doors now?

SCHOOL HOUSE

Kirkham House....don't ever say that you were not warned!!! When we were pipped at the post last year, we threatened to be back with a vengeance and we were!! There is no bigger or more tenacious fighter than School House when we get knocked off our throne.

Traditionally, the Autumn Term has always been our weakest competitive period, but not this year. School House won five out of the nine events. In the Swimming Gala, we came second to Preston by just two points, but managed to gain a clean sweep in all senior girls' and boys' events. We must make one of our priorities next year to import several top chess players from Russia to ensure victory in the chess competition. At the end of the term we were in the lead by one point from Fylde, Kirkham were well behind in fourth place.

The Spring Term began with a terrific overall performance in the House Music Festival. The result - joint first with Preston, with School having the greatest number of finalists for the tenth year in succession. To our surprise, the choir did not make the final with their rendition of 'Mr. Blue Skies' by E.L.O. oh well, back to the drawing board and get started much earlier on next year's offering with the aid of Aled Jones and Charlotte Church who are both boarding from September (I wish!!!). After narrowly losing the final of the debate, we went on to gain victories in both intermediate and both senior cross-country competitions, the House shooting and senior rugby sevens. Stars to appear this term were Vicky Biggs and Stuart Harrison in the debate and Chris Lee in the shooting competition. At the close of term, School House was now clear by fifteen points from Preston House with Kirkham and Fylde joint third, a further four points behind.

Would it be possible to better terms one and

two?... Of course. With School House, anything is possible!! Eight events were on the card, with Sports' Day high on the list of priorities. We have a more than enviable record in Sports' Day and we were determined that this year would be no exception. With superb professional organisation, true grit and determination, we set out to retain our crown. We won by more than one hundred points, with too many outstanding performances to list. Abigail Wilkinson, Melanie Smith and Jane Greenwood won the junior, intermediate and senior Victrix Ludorum respectively. A truly fantastic feat and well deserved. In the senior cricket final, we annihilated Preston, with a wonderful batting partnership between Adam Newton and Joel Unsworth, who scored 150 not out. The bowling was pretty impressive also. In the senior tennis final we thrashed Preston and went on to repeat this victory in the junior tennis. The rounders tournament was a further victory.

Without doubt this has been a phenomenal year, with so many classic team and individual performances. To have been an integral part of this all conquering side will bring back a flood of happy memories in the years to come.

It would be difficult to highlight all individual winners, but a few should be named for truly outstanding performances throughout the year. Melanie Smith, Jessica Morris, Jane Greenwood, Aja Hall, Abby and Milly Hookey, Marcus Plowright, Tara Fisher and Richard Westerman all worked hard to ensure success for School House.

The Whitby Trophy is ours once again, having won seventeen of the house competitions over the past year.

Long may your support continue.

J. Kitchen A. Newton

KIRKHAM HOUSE

The year started well when the new Headmaster decided to come to Kirkham House assembly to present the Whitby Cup to the champions. Unfortunately, we found that defending the trophy was much tougher than winning it and School's determination and desire to regain their previous successes wore us down over a busy and demanding year. Nevertheless, a strong finish to the year lifted us from bottom to second overall and showed the strength in depth and determination in the House to succeed.

Results in the autumn term proved to be somewhat of a mixed bag. The new basketball competition proved to be a nightmare as the opposition soundly beat us in both the intermediate and senior competitions. Fortunately, we recovered our pride and gave a true champion's performance in the chess competition. Norman Ralph led the way and won all his games, as indeed he has over the last seven years of competition. Thomas Fielding also played with a great deal of maturity. The girls' netball competitions proved to be very exciting this year and both the seniors and juniors played well. School played particularly well and defeated us in the seniors, but we got our revenge in the juniors! In my four years as Housemaster I have never seen such a comeback by a house team. House captain Kate Sannegadu gave the team talk of her life and the team recovered from a 5-1 semi-final deficit at half time to win 7-5 in extra time - clearly the champagne moment of the year, especially when we went on to win the final against Fylde.

The real shock of the whole year came just before Christmas when we came last in the swimming gala. I knew the day would come when our long run of victories had to come to an end, but to finish last was a cruel blow and indicative of our year. I have to admit it took a long time to get over, although it was the closest competition for years.

The New Year started well and the house performed with a great deal of credit in the music festival. Again in a very close competition our third place seemed to be disappointing, but the House gave their strongest performance for some years. Our sports players did particularly well during the

winter and in the six cross-country races of the year we won two, came second in one, and third in three - a commendable performance. The juniors ran really well, winning both races and I am pleased that this talented year group has started so well - the future looks good. Special mention for their performances goes to Patrick Bell, John Soper, Matthew Davies and Michael Giddings, all finishing in the first five of the race. The boys also did well in the rugby competitions, winning the juniors and coming second in the seniors. The senior girls' bad luck in the hockey tournament continued, although as least we were not bottom this year! Many thanks must go to Hannah Spacey who was inspirational in her last year competing for her house. Although this year's quiz competitions did not go to plan, we performed very well in the debate, where Andrew Gregson and Norman Ralph won their sixth successive victory for the house. They really are true champions and will be sorely missed next year.

Traditionally the summer term goes well for the House and I am pleased that this year was no exception. Sports' Day went well and our second placing was truly deserved. The juniors were again our strength and the whole team competed well in every race. Michael Giddings led the way and we were all delighted when he won the Victor Ludorum for his age group.

The tennis competitions were also well contested and the juniors and inters were placed second in their competitions. The boys also played well in the cricket competition. Darren Bell was particularly impressive in the semi-final demolition of Preston. The final against School also went to plan when Darren scored a magnificent century to defeat School - an outstanding personal achievement.

Thankfully a win in the Work Cup was just enough to secure second place overall in the house competition. The House's final flurry of points balanced out the bad run earlier in the year. As all good managers say, luck evens out over a season and although this year has been somewhat frustrating, I am delighted with our final placing.

Many thanks to everyone in the House for all their efforts and energy over the year.

Mr. S Duncan

FYLDE HOUSE

This year has shown changing fortunes for Fylde House. We shone throughout the autumn term, winning the intermediate boys' basketball and coming second in a magnificent six events: the senior basketball, chess, senior and junior netball, junior hockey and the senior quiz. After several recounts, we eventually finished a close third in the house swimming. Our lowest position of the term was in the junior quiz, where the quick-fire round proved to be our downfall and we drew in third place with the creditable Kirkham team. By Christmas we were neck and neck with School in first position in the Whitby Cup.

Whilst the Spring term brought two wins, in the intermediate rugby and senior hockey, we were let down by the majority of our cross country teams. A special mention, however, must go to the junior girls, who battled hard to achieve an extremely creditable second position in this hard fought event. Meanwhile, despite what we considered to be an enormous effort in the massive music competition, we eventually finished behind the other three houses. Perhaps, on reflection, this was due to the overwhelming number of individual entries from our competitors. We avoided complete defeat in the senior rugby, when typically School House's army went on to victory, whilst we settled comfortably for third place. Meanwhile the debating team was perhaps a little disappointed to only finish third equal. There was, however, a tremendous effort in both the shooting and the junior boys' rugby, leaving us at the end of the second term in third position, four points clear of Kirkham and only one point behind Preston.

The summer term brought with it the pressure of both external and internal exams and perhaps Fylde members were concentrating more on revision than house events. In all three tennis competitions and the senior cricket we tied for third place. In the junior cricket, despite having a team with enough potential to win, we were taken by surprise and had no team present on the day. However, we showed

determination at Sports' Day and achieved the required two competitors in all events and eventually finished in third position, only a few points adrift of second place. Nevertheless, the term ended on a high with our junior girls in the rounders. Although the event concluded with Fylde coming an unlucky second due to "goal difference", our girls demonstrated a perfect example of teamwork.

Fylde House has plenty to be proud of. We are privileged to have some of the best individual competitors in the school. This year has proved that we have the talent required to succeed and has shown that with an increased level of commitment to activities and support for the house captains, we should soon be battling for first position.

Alone In The Storm.

Alone,
Separated by the storm,
Dazzled by light,
A cheated cheetah,
Tracks washed away,
Sounds overpowered,
Smells blur,
Alone.

Stiff with fear,
Stiff with cold,
Shot at by watery bullets,
Fur plastered to its body,
A coat of ice.
Wind stings its eyes,
Can't breathe,
Can't move,
Still with fear.

Watching
Swords of light,
Blue and yellow sky,
Fire-scorched trees,
Desert sand now a sodden peat.
Nowhere to hide,
Nowhere is safe,
What to do?

Alone,
Stiff with fear,
Watching,
Alone.

Alexandra Leech

The Storm

Towering waves thundering majestically,
Howling winds goading them on.
Endless the night seems to stricken sailors,
Searching in vain for a sight of the shore.
Turning to starboard, a light in the distance
Offers them hope that all is not lost.
Right round the cliffs, the harbour is waiting.
'Men!' cries the captain, 'We're heading for home!'

Georgina Burton

The Storm

A savage storm is raging in the east.
Its darksome clouds gather above,
Sirens scream to mark its presence,
Though its deadly force is hard to escape.
Vigorous bolts of lightning ignite the horizon
Like lethal fireworks.
Thundering explosions shake the earth,
Buildings blaze and plumes of white smoke fill the sky.
Casualties cry
And shrill, bloodcurdling screams
Echo through the deserted streets.
The sight of blood and murdered souls
Doesn't bring the storm distress.
Metal rain showers the ground,
A cacophony of frightening sounds
Are unforgettable.
The eye of the storm sees peace and justice,
But the innocent people are the ones
who are suffering.
They are suffering great pain.

Alexander Robson

My Dream

I dream of
The speed of an open-top Ferrari
With the wind rushing through my hair
And the comfy, red leather seats,
Which my back is hitting in acceleration.

I dream of
Diving to the bottom of the sea
With rays and other amazing fish
And finding a ship which was sunk in the war
With all its treasures and guns.

I dream of
Living in a mansion in deeply silent bluebell woods
But here the bluebells are green and
The grass is blue and all the
Horse chestnut trees grow tennis balls!

When I fall asleep, I shall dream of
Diving to the bottom of the sea in a Ferrari
With all the fishes to the sea bed
Which is silent wood-covered coral.

Peter Ruyby

Dreaming

I open the lid of my box and find:
The dreams I didn't understand.
The wishes I fear to make,
The person I would rather be.

I open the lid of my box and feel:
The innocence of a child,
The love given by a mother,
The smile of a champion.

I will go into my box and reappear:
On a beach,
On a cloud,
Up a tree.

I will go into my box and reappear:
At sea,
In Heaven,
On the moon.

My box is diamond-encrusted with the sweet smell of
Frankincense and lavender
And the feeling of euphoria.
Its lid is made from the softest sand.
Its base is a warm sea.
Inside, a silver lining ready for my dream clouds to fall in.

Grace Surlington

Enchantment

Magic's pure and simple,
It fills our lives each day,
Its power lies in everything
We do, or think, or say.

In every dream we ever dreamt,
In every step we take,
We feel it in the air at night
And with every move we make.

It follows us like shadows
And if we get the chance,
We catch its beauty in a second,
But only for a glance.

From dark and scary corners,
To big enchanted woods,
It fills our mind with fairies,
Goblins and skeletons with hoods.

As children, we loved its mystery,
Its power, wonder and awe.
But as we all grew older,
We began to believe in only what we saw.

We lost our faith in fantasy,
The power to believe in what's not there,
But if we opened up our minds and eyes,
We'd see that magic's everywhere.

Natalie Kenry

My Magical Adventure Cupboard

When I open my cupboard, I see...

Shining silver stars which sparkle in the moonlight,
The bright blue eyes of a husky, sat in the fluffy snow,
And the shining summer sun that keeps us alive.

In my cupboard, I hear the soft sound from a harp
And a witch's harsh cackle,
The sound of Christmas Eve
And the bangs of fireworks on Bonfire Night.

In my cupboard, I can fly on a carpet from
Country to country and sea to sea
And I lie awake in a tent
To hear all the strange sounds around me.

In my cupboard, I am on a tropical island
Drinking the fresh milk from a coconut
And I slide down a dragon's neck and
Land in piles of treasure and jewels.

In my cupboard, I discover a dinosaur egg
Which is just about to hatch
And there is a unique plant in my back garden
Which grows pound coins.

My cupboard is covered in silk and satin
And decorated with shells, pearls and jewels.
The key is made out of gold and behind the lock
There are more adventures waiting to happen.

When I open the door, shooting stars fly out
And the sound of the calming sea spills out of the
corners.

Harriet Martin

Which Door Shall I Go Through?

Which door shall I go through today?
I shall go through the door
Where I can hear cries of exotic birds
And the soothing melody of trickling water.
I shall go through the door
Where I can see seas of clear, blue, warm water
And look at the points of a turquoise floater.
I shall go through the door
Where I can taste cool coconut milk on my lips
And the tang of wild spices of strange origin on my tongue.

I shall go to an exotic island.

Which door shall I go through today?
I shall go through the door
Where I can hear the long, sad howls of a snowy fox
And the moans of a hungry polar bear.
I shall go through the door
Where I can see endless plains of crisp whiteness
And the light, faded sun, trying to shine through the cold.
I shall go through the door
Where I can taste the fresh fish, just caught from the sea
And the freezing water of a nearby lake.

I shall go to Antarctica.

I go through many doors to many worlds.

Corin Heney

The Fantasy Safari

'Come on in!' the monkey said, with a bright and toothy grin,
'It's time for you to truly see the wonders that lie within.
You haven't lived until you've seen the thirteen-headed ant,
The flying fox and rhino-fish and homework-eating plant.
The billipedes are foraging and the cattle-bees are grazing.
The rainbow-coloured octopus is really quite amazing.
The arctic salamander will soon be on display,
So won't you come to our safari? There are no fees to pay.
A world of magic and wonder lies right behind this door.
Our animals are nothing like you've ever seen before!'

Jenny Jacobs

My Wonder Trunk

To see it, you would think it's just a dull, leather trunk,
But if you could open it, you would be utterly amazed.
Leap inside and close the lid
And commence the magical adventure ride!

Push against a panel and the controls appear.
Which magical adventure shall we choose today?
Will it be a trip through time?
Or shall I visit the moon, or the stars?
Neptune looks superb, is it far?

Perhaps I'll choose a tropical isle
And find the hidden treasure left by pirates.
Or maybe I'll visit the Bloody Tower
To see who's waiting to die!

I might travel to Egypt and watch pyramids being built,
And I'll travel to Old Trafford and help United lift their fifth triple
crown!
How about a quick trip to Disneyworld?
I'll decide over a lovely cup of tea.

I know, I'll climb Mount Everest and meet Edmund Hillary,
That's something I've always dreamed about
And then come skiing back down again like 007.
What a tremendous thrill!

To cap it all, I'll travel to the point when time began,
And then to when time will end.

What a dilemma! Will the scope of my magic box adventures
Never reach an end?

Michael Bennett

Grandad Jack

Anyone who is fortunate enough to have a grandad, who claims to have a pet dinosaur living in the woods opposite his house, should count themselves lucky. Small, slightly overweight and with silver-white, wiry hair, he often gives off a strong lingering smell of cedar aftershave. He is a unique, fun-loving character who lives each day as if it's his last. His slightly protruding ears (that now function with the aid of modern science), his elongated Roman nose and thick, bushy eyebrows highlight his dark, black, mischievous eyes. A ruddy red complexion due to time spent in the cold easterly winds. Tell-tale signs of high blood pressure, audible breathing occasionally peppered with fits of coughing resulting from long years spent toiling at the coal face.

He regularly retells his unusual and always interesting experiences of a by gone age, where cobbled streets, smoky towns and damp, dusty mines made up his world. But his favourite tales are those that recount his knowledge of his life as an evacuee during the war. He regularly sings the repetitive songs to me that would have kept himself and his friends entertained during the long war period. Unfortunately, being completely tone deaf, doesn't improve his performances!!

He speaks in a language all of his own, a canny Geordie accent. He has a vocabulary which needs a thesaurus to translate, and which includes some words you wouldn't expect to find in the standard English dictionary! His eagerness to help, his very sociable ways and ready smile ensure everyone who meets him loves him.

Always an active person, he frequently enjoys a stroll along the nearby cycle path, which runs alongside his house, en-route to visit his dear old brother, my great uncle Tom. A few pints of lager and a game of bingo at the local social club regularly appear in his list of things to do!

He lives in a cosy, little terraced house in the small seaside town of North Seaton, in Newcastle, where he has spent his entire life.

If you are ever passing, drop in. He'll welcome you in his own special way and although it might take time to understand him, you'll never forget him. That's my grandad!!

Memoirs of A-Level English Literature (with apologies to Emily Bronte)

"I turned and dozed, and dreamt again, if possibly, still more disagreeably than before.

This time, I dreamt I was sitting at a desk at the back of Room W5 and I heard distinctly the gusty wind and the drumming of the rain and the birds in the CCF wood repeat their teasing sound. But they, together with the fact that I had been compelled to write yet another timed essay, annoyed me so much that I resolved to silence them, if possible and I rose and endeavoured to open the fire escape door.

"I must stop them, nevertheless!" I muttered, grabbing hold of the iron bar and trying to push open the door. But my progress was stopped by the sound of a melancholy voice from outside.

The intense horror of the timed essay came over me. I continued to try to escape, but a most melancholy voice sobbed,

"Let me in - let me in!"

"Who are you?" I asked, struggling meanwhile to force the fire escape open.

"One of Mrs Jones' past pupils," it replied. "It's twenty years," mourned the voice, "twenty years since I did my A-levels and the nightmare of a double English lesson still haunts me!"

"Begone!" I shouted, "or I shall end up a waif like you, haunted to the end of my days by the memory of double English in W5, because I was never able to finish a timed essay on William Congreve!!"

Felicity Long

Memories of a bygone Age

Should she choose a luminous pink ice lolly or a lurid green one? Her round, chubby pink face was furrowed with serious thought. Dressed in cotton shorts, a flowery T-shirt and black sandals, she was identical to the other children on the compound. The desert sun had bleached her hair white blonde, and it had been wrestled into two short stubby bunches that bobbed up and down as she walked.

Behind the owlish glasses, two dark eyes considered the ice lollies seriously. They cost three riyals each, an enormous amount that left the piggy bank sadly bare if one indulged in them too much. Her eyes shifted to the cola-flavoured selection.

It was a momentous decision and Vicky did not take decisions lightly. She was meticulous in everything she did - except tidying up. One had far more important things to worry about, her cluttered and untidy bedroom stated scornfully.

Vicky was a leader on the compound. She had a loyal following of children, snippets of sunburnt delinquency, who lived like Just William. They were forever at war with a rival gang led by Lindsey Milligan, who in peacetime was a fiery but fickle ally. And, whenever someone broke the compound rules and there was an Inquisition, Vicky was always tangled up in the trouble somewhere.

It was Vicky who convinced Sobia Zuberi, her little brother Ahmed and Suzanne McCrudden to go sailing in a rubber dinghy on the Al-Roudha pool - with their clothes on. The ship capsized in the middle of the ocean, with disastrous results. But it wasn't Vicky's fault. When blamed, it was, "Ahmed had his feet over the edge!" I was trying to get back to shore, but Ahmed" and Suzanne and Sobia obediently came round to her point. Poor old Ahmed found himself being henpecked by three irate, dripping wet females. Vicky didn't apologise, even when she grew up a little. She laughs shame-facedly over it now.

She was different from the other 'expat brats': she had a fascination for the Arab way of life. Dressed in shalwar-khamees, she picked up the rudiments of Arabic from Sobia, became a junior Islamic theologian and was ostracised by most of the British juvenile population. You didn't learn Arabic. English people didn't do that.

Vicky didn't care.

She was incurably bossy, and she ordered people around, criticised them all, and reduced poor little Christine Milligan to tears once. But she had a generous streak in her and would cheerfully spend all her capital on ice pops for her following. She liked to be benevolent; she wore her generosity like a subtle garment, with suitable nonchalance. On Ahmed's birthday, she fathomed the mysteries of Betty Crocker and baked him a chocolate cake - after several very minor setbacks, which led to a reckoning with Providence. Mum.

English with an Arabic flavour, bossiness outlined in every feature, a strong lover of animals and books and ice lollies, drama and writing, a little trick of benevolence beneath the belligerence; Vicky's eight-year-old mind is not easy to fathom. On her ninth birthday she wrote a letter and sealed it with the words, 'From myself at 9 to myself at 14'. She obviously thought of 14 as the peak in life; her mind boggled at anything greater.

On my fourteenth birthday I dug out the child's letter, having kept it in my diary for five years. It was etched out in painstaking red biro ornamented by blots, a breath of some childlike world, now long forgotten.

Vicky Biggs.

Kirkham Grammar Junior School



Staff Changes

This year saw the arrival of five new faces at KGJS. Mrs. Pauline Edgar, Head of Infants, is working with Mrs Diane Cooper-Smith in I1Y. Miss Lucy Strong returned to KGJS as I1X teacher and working along side her, Miss Claire Doxey, new nursery nurse. Miss Kate McArdle joined I3Y and is core-curriculum co-ordinator. To lead girls'

sport, Ms Linda Baxter has joined our team here at KGJS.

Mrs. Shelia Russell is currently teaching J2X during Mrs. Lindsey Case's maternity leave. We were delighted to hear about the birth of Lucy Reanna Case who was born in May. Both mother and daughter are doing well!

SPORT

Swimming

What fantastic improvement we have made, having beaten five out of the seven schools which we have competed against. This is even more surprising when you consider that all the schools that we compete against have their own pool and specialist swimming coach.

The progress made was made clearly apparent at our own swimming Gala when 17 new school records were established in the individual events. Throughout the course of the year in both competition and practice over 30 records have been improved. Outstanding performances existed in all age groups but special mention must go to Katie Gorman and Jamie Roper as school Swimming Captains, for their conduct, organisation and performances. In J4 special mention to Richard Beswick and Alice Whitehead, J3 to Nicole Pike and Jack McPherson, in J2 to Sophie Ward who has been quite outstanding, especially so performing as she did for the J3 team, Ashley Bradshaw, William Roper and Nathan Leftons and finally in J1 although often representing J2 Madeline Robinson, Hannah Pike and Sam Gale.

Well done everybody, you were superb!

Cross-Country

Last year we competed with six teams at three age levels which for this year has increased to eight teams at all junior levels, such was the demand to compete. We took part in the AJIS Championships and for a first time finished a commendable 11th out of 22 schools for the boys whilst the girls in their first

competition finished 17th. Outstanding performances were made by Nicole Pike who finished 3rd and Rachel Gregson who finished 11th for the girls and Jake Hodgkinson 9th and Benedict Fulford-Brown 19th for the boys out of fields of 140 competitors.

Fixtures against other schools have been hard to find and last year's fixtures against Stockport and Bolton could not be repeated. However, fixtures against firstly Bury Grammar School in terrible conditions, finished honours even, but against Rossall on a much better day resulted in an overwhelming victory for us. This was highlighted in the J2 boys' event, where our whole team had finished before a single competitor for Rossall.

Triathlon Champions

Triathlon Club started in September comprised of weekly runs and gym tests and of course swimming within the curriculum. All this and more the club members responded to with increased efforts. Training programmes were set throughout the Christmas holidays and on our return in January extra lunchtime running and swimming was added to the schedule. The race was on to get into the teams for the event, and an internal competition was held the week before to select the teams. As last year one team from J4 and one from J3 (to prepare for next year) would represent the school.

Saturday 15th February arrived and 12 nervous competitors assembled at West View Sports' Centre for the event. Both teams had done well but it had been hard work to judge how well as the teams performed their tasks separately - we would have to await the results and see. The results were announced in reverse order and the tension mounted as at first one school and then another was announced (11 teams in all) until finally the last team was called and it was KIRKHAM - yes we had done it!

But that was not all, not only did we win the team event but Richard Beswick and Nicole Pike gave us a hat-trick of victories as they won the Best Individual performances for boys and girls respectively.

I would just like to say that this was just reward for all the hard work the club members put into this event, not just the team in making this fantastic performance possible. Well done to you all!

Rugby

The increase here can best be seen first by the results which of course do not tell the whole picture:

Last Year: P.7 W.4 D.0 L.3

This Year: P.16 W.8 D.1 L.7

Plus 4 major 7's competitions.

This is perhaps the hardest of all our sports to be successful in as it requires the largest number of participants and with such small numbers of boys in comparison to the schools that we play - that is difficult. However, we have played more than twice as many games as last year and still maintained a positive percentage success rate.

This years senior side lacked size and mobility in the forwards and left our potentially good backs, having to defend too often. Our chances came to display our talents in the 7-a-side game, to which we were far more suited. At the end of the four competitions in which we played they had evolved into a very good 7's side capable of playing classic sevens rugby.

Well done boys, I wish you every success next year when you continue your rugby in senior school.

Cricket

Last years young side has made commendable progress. With many more fixtures and a new square being developed for us, along with our nets the new season was eagerly awaited.

Results so far:

1st Match v St Pius - Won by 40 runs

2nd Match v Kes/QMS - Won by 10 wickets

3rd Match v Birkenhead Prep - Won by 10 wickets

4th Match v Rossall School - Won by 102 runs

Again the statistics speak for themselves, what a revelation - not just a win but four of them one after the other and all by huge margins. The team as a whole has performed well, especially in respect of bowling and fielding (especially the catching) as



all the teams have been bowled out by us. On the batting front Captain Dean Bell has been quite outstanding scoring 99 in 50 minutes against Rossall in the last match, and having been not out in the other 3, he has an average of 174 which for a boy of his age is phenomenal. I hope that his performances will inspire the rest who can now survive at the crease but need to develop the ability to hit the 'bad ball' and score runs.

We look forward to our last two matches against Merchant Taylors and Bolton School which should provide much sterner opposition by which to really gauge our progress.

Mr. A. Jones

Hockey

Hockey practices at lunchtimes and after school have taken place throughout the Winter and Spring terms. The girls have worked extremely hard and have made good progress. We have held friendly fixtures for two J4 teams and one J3 team, and out of 14 matches played we won 6, lost 5 and drew 4, a very creditable set of results. The J4 'A' team were involved in a number of hockey tournaments towards the end of the season The results of which are outlined below:

BUDGE 7's UNDER 11 HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

SUNDAY 16 MARCH 2003

Kirkham came second in their section and qualified for the semi-finals.

BUDGE 7's UNDER 10 HOCKEY TOURNAMENT SUNDAY 16 MARCH

Congratulations on being runners-up of the whole tournament. The team played well in patches but what was most pleasing about their performance was the amount of effort and determination they showed.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS - LANCASHIRE ROUND SUNDAY 26 JANUARY

The term started with the Lancashire round of the National Schools Hockey Championships on Sunday 26 January. During the tournament they played some very good hockey, keeping their shape well and setting up some very good passing moves. The first three matches were easily won and this seemed to settle any nerves, and the team went on to win their section and were joint winners of the Tournament. The under 11 team therefore qualified for the North Finals on Sunday 30th March at the Bellevue Stadium in Manchester.

THEY CAME IN FIFTH PLACE OVERALL IN THE NORTH.

The team played some good hockey, their level of effort and team spirit which never faltered throughout the day was commendable. I'm sure the girls that played learnt some very valuable lessons for future matches - especially about defending. This was the U11 Team's last hockey tournament - they have been a pleasure to coach and I wish them all the very best.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO PLAYED.

Ms L. Baxter and Mr. C. Butterworth

Tennis

Tennis practices have taken place every Monday evening this term and they have been well attended by over 20 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 lunchtimes and are making progress.

We are playing a mixed tennis match against Rossall

on June 24. We have also held house tennis finals and results were as follows:

- First - Drapers
- Second - Clifton
- Third - Colborne
- Fourth - Birley

Ms L. Baxter

Netball

The netball squad have trained hard this term in preparation for our fixtures and the AJS Netball Tournament. Our first match of the term was against Queen Mary School, Lytham. The A team played a very difficult match and struggled with the speed of the game. This then became our focus in training, to speed up our own game play. The B team played well although they were hampered somewhat by the lack of light outside. Nicole Pike played well and held the team together resulting in following weeks to her promotion to the A team. Cheadle Hulme, Manchester, was to be our next fixture as they visited us whilst on their annual tour of our local area. Due to the number of girls they brought along on their tour this gave us the opportunity to play a C team also. The A team played an end to end match and just lost by one goal, the B team drew 4-4 and the C team match ended with the girls having won 12-0. Harris School, Preston were our next fixture and due to illness we had many team changes and as a result lost 8-4. Alex Fell stepped in as reserve and played a fantastic match as Goal Shooter scoring most of our goals. Well done, Alex. We travelled to Arnold School, Blackpool and despite the cold weather the girls played hard and attacked well and it was looking promising until the second half came and Rebecca Bridgwater went down injured. We then lacked height and strength in defence and lost 4-1. The B team struggled with the height of their opponents and also lost 5-2. Sadly the AJS Tournament was cancelled due to bad weather this year but we have two further matches versus St Pius, Preston and Harris School, Preston towards the end of March to look forward to.

Miss L. Strong and Miss K. McArdle

The Musical Year

We have enjoyed another busy and successful year. In the Autumn Term the third and fourth years combined to present their 'Year Group Concert', held on October 3rd in the M.P.H.

Many of our older, more experienced musicians provided background music for the 'Open Evenings' held in the Autumn and Spring Terms. The many visitors enjoyed the talents on show.

Many children have once again entered for Associated Board Music Exams and have enjoyed a high level of success, earning many Distinction and Merit Certificates. A very large audience attended the Christmas Carol Concert held on December 12th in the M.P.H. Everyone enjoyed the lessons and readings. The Choir (Mrs. H. Shuttleworth), and Ensemble (Mr. P. Lockett), were excellent in their performances.

An instrumental ensemble visited the Wesham Hospital Rehabilitation Unit just before the Christmas holidays and entertained the patients with Christmas Readings, Songs and Carols lead by Mr. Lockett, supported by Mr. Farrell. This has become an annual feature in our calendar.

One of the special events of 2003 so far was the whole school production of the musical 'Annie'. The standard of singing and dancing was excellent throughout. The performance was enhanced by the orchestra, directed by Mr. Lockett. Our thanks go to all the visiting teachers who helped out, performing so magnificently after only three rehearsals!

We said goodbye to Mr. Richard Evans at Christmas after several years distinguished service to music in both schools. Mr. Greg Banks has now settled into school as his replacement and is doing a fine job encouraging the younger children. Mr. Paul Clayton joined us in the Spring Term, teaching the guitar. More recently, the Brass Ensemble and Choir entertained us in Assembly. The visiting teachers played for the Junior School Children, forming a brass ensemble, joined by Mr. Lockett (Tuba) and Mrs. Taylor (Trumpet). The children enjoyed the wide variety of music ranging from 'Eastenders' to 'William Tell'. This was a very educational recital and has stimulated much interest from the younger

children who have been inspired to request music lessons. In June the J1 and J2 children gave their 'Year Group Concerts' in the Junior School Hall. Also in June, we were treated to a concert by the string players, lead by Ms. Jackson. Yet again we were amazed by the talent on show and the confidence of the children which shone through. Finally, the Choir performed beautifully at Prizegiving, and we also had the chance to hear our Music Scholar, Hannah Duckworth.

We congratulate all our musicians on another memorable year, and wish the fourth year pupils much enjoyment and success in their music making for the future. Our young musicians are supported by a fine, dedicated group of visiting teachers who give so much encouragement to them.

We say goodbye to Miss. Emily Keeton who has taught singing and piano in the Junior School, and achieved so much with the Vocal Ensemble. We wish her well, and the new family addition when he or she arrives!

Mr. P. Lockett, Head of Music

Infant Ensemble

The girls have worked hard to develop their musical skills on their chosen instruments - violins, recorders, keyboards, glockenspiels and percussion.

During weekly practises, the group has learnt to develop their talents to play musically as an 'Ensemble'.

I wish these young musicians enjoyment and success with their musical activities as they enter the Junior School.

Mrs. J. Knowles



Choir

After all our efforts last term with Annie, it was a mad panic to prepare new pieces in time for our prize-giving ceremony. Choir practises had to increase to twice a week and the younger children at school had to be very patient, as their choir practises were postponed until September. Not to worry, because we will be even busier next term preparing for our debut at the Preston Guild Hall at Christmas! The choir once again pulled out all the stops and sang beautifully. Earlier in the term they contributed to a school assembly to practise their songs with an audience before the big event. I must make a special mention to our very talented singers in J4. Many of these children have had the opportunity to be part of the choir when we gained the highest mark possible in our singing exam and won first prize last year at the AJS competition. I wish them every success as they move on from KGJS and hope they keep their singing alive. I also hope that being part of the choir has given them confidence and a real enjoyment for music-making. Thank you to Mr. Morrison for giving up his time to accompany the choir so beautifully and thank you to all the children in the choir for working so hard.

Mrs. H. Suttleworth



The Choir

'Annie' - 'The sun'll come out tomorrow!'

- and it certainly did at the Junior School 'Annie' performances held in March.

It was 'A Hard Knock Life', in the spring term for the Junior Department! They worked so hard at their singing, acting and dancing for the school production of Annie. The hard work and commitment were rewarded with fantastic feedback from their excellent performances. The staff, parents, caretakers and friends worked so hard behind the scenes, building and painting set, rehearsing songs, helping with costumes - the list was endless! The children with lead parts also had the opportunity to perform live on Radio Lancashire. This was an exciting and enjoyable venture and one that will be remembered for a long time.

WELL DONE TO EVERYONE AND A BIG THANK YOU!



The Cast of 'Annie'



The Nursery and Infant Departments shone like little stars in their performance of Tiny Tim's Christmas.

Class Visits

Nursery

This term the nursery have been learning about growing things. As part of the topic the children enjoyed an outing to the garden centre where they were able to choose some plants to grow in the play area.



The Plant Emporium, Blackpool

Mr Foley brought a variety of plants for us to look at and touch so that we could decide which ones had a pleasant scent and which ones didn't. Some plants had a most unpleasant smell - we certainly did not choose those for school! We'd like to thank the Plant Emporium for an interesting visit - and for the beautiful plants we brought back with us.

I1

Children in the reception class have been working on the topic 'Food' over the last term. As part of their work Miss. Strong and Mrs. Edgar took them to Silverdell Ice Cream Parlour to find out how ice cream was made. They found out about the one hundred flavours Silverdell produces and were lucky enough to have had a special ice cream made for their visit that day - 'Bubble-gum Gunk'! The children had a lovely time sampling ice creams and the teacher had a taste too of course!

I2

2 Classes enjoyed a day visit to Martin Mere Wildfowl & Wetlands Centre, where we enjoyed classroom activities including rubbings of birds and badge making. This was followed by an exciting journey to observe many species of birds.



Martin Mere, Wildfowl & Wetlands Centre

I3

3 have been on a trip to Leighton Hall, near Carnforth. We had a wonderful day, which involved a Nature Walk, seeing the birds of Prey fly and a tour of the actual Hall. We heard stories about the history of the Hall and learnt about some of its past inhabitants. Although it rained all day, all had a great time!

J1

J1 experienced the light, sounds and smells of Roman Chester as part of their annual school trip. It proved to be a most enjoyable and interesting visit to the Roman fortress of Deva. In the course of the day the children touched the past themselves in a 'hands-on' studio where they had the chance to try on a replica suit of Roman armour and handle ancient pottery and animal bones. The highlight of the day was to partake in a Roman soldier Patrol lead by Legionary Gaius Valerius Crispus - the chance to learn a little Latin, understand the rudiments of strong discipline and appreciate the city sites of interest and historical importance. A superb day out ending with an ice cream and leisurely boat trip along the River Dee.

J2

J2 visited the Brockhole Centre in the Lake District. They investigated and tried out the interactive displays about the wildlife and landscapes of the National Park. Later the children spent their time running around searching for orienteering clues, playing on the adventure playground, building dry stone walls and relaxing on the boat journey around Windermere Lake. All had a fantastic day!



Brockhole Centre, Lake District

J3

It was a super day out when J3 went on their school trip to the Lake District. They chugged through the countryside on the Haverthwaite Railway, sailed across Lake Windermere and explored the displays and sea life at the Aquarium of the Lakes. All the children enjoyed the experience.

J4

On Tuesday 17th June, the J4 pupils who did not go on the school holiday to France went Ten Pin bowling to Lakeside Megabowl in Preston. The children all really enjoyed it and the superb bowling talents of Nicholas Evans. Two games were played and then we all had lunch.

Visit to Lou Valagran (France), Summer 2003

Forty children together with six members of staff recently attended a nine-day outdoor pursuits holiday in Southern France. Activities included kayaking, caving, climbing, high ropes, hiking, initiative exercises and a 2-day white water river descent with overnight open air bivouac. Excellent accommodation, wonderful facilities, good food and first class instruction all played their part in ensuring that the whole party enjoyed an unforgettable holiday.

Miss L. Strong

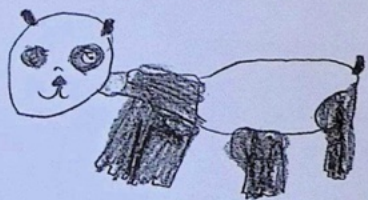


Trip to France

Gazette Young Seaside Arts and Crafts Exhibition

This year KGJS entered into the Gazette Young Seaside Arts and Crafts Exhibition that went on display to the public between 14th March and 26th April at the Grundy Art Gallery in Blackpool. Infant and Junior pupils responded well and produced some wonderful paintings, drawings, collages and models and around twenty five pieces were selected and entered into the individual section in the exhibition. A large group 'Batik' was entered also that had been produced by Junior pupils during Art Club sessions that took place over several lunchtimes. The display looked fantastic and many children enjoyed visiting the gallery to see their work on display in a 'real' gallery! Congratulations to Spencer Grimshaw in 11X and Erin Briggs in J4X who produced the winning pieces.

Our Talented Youngsters



A tiny caterpillar
Grew so fat.
He shed his skin,
Now fancy that!

Todd Roper (11Y)

Friday 2nd May
dolphin

I am a dolphin I eat fish.
I like in the water, I don't
like to be out of water. I
jump out of the water then
back in. I am blue I swim in
the water. I am a big
animal. I like swimming.

Phoebe Johnson (12X)

Beautiful butterfly flying high,
Spreading her wings,
Up to the sky.

Olivia Anderton (11Y)

A panda is a large black and white animal. It looks like a bear and lives in china.

Harriet Judge (12Y)

A recipe for a great
Daddy

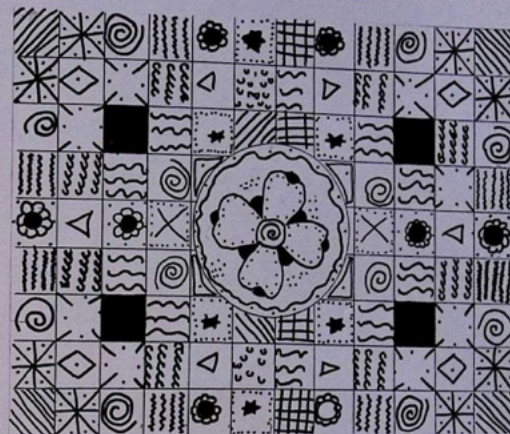
Ingredients:

A splash of humour
A cup of love
Two spoonfuls of hugs
Five pinches of joy
A sprinkle of kindness
A drop of patience

What to do

Put the humour and the love in and mix them together. Then mix the hugs and joy together. Next put the patience together. Finally bake for eight years.

Sam Norris (13Y)



Alexandra Lord (11X)

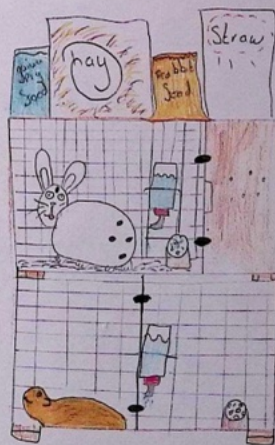
Mibbles my first pet

Black spots.
White fur.
A little nose,
big eyes,
That's what
you remember
before they
die. You remember
their tiny paws on
your clothes.
That's all you
remember before
there you.

Then you get
a new pet.
As important
to you as
your old one.
But you won't
forget...

... your
first
pet.

By Jordan
Kenny age 9 class J4y



I saw a jolly sailor
Sailing on the sea
He had a jolly rosy face
As nice as can be

He loved his life of sailing
And sailed the seven seas
Drinking, laughing, singing
Moving with the breeze

Every fine dear sunny day
He sailed on his boat
And even on the worst of days
He kept it all afloat

I saw a jolly sailor
Sailing on the Sea
He had a jolly fine life
And was as happy as can be

Arun Nantheesan J2Y



21st November 2002

A trip to the beach.

On the sandy beach in the sticky blazing sun
 Hundreds of people having enormous fun
 Building great sand castles so high,
 That they nearly reach the sky,
 Children splashing in the hard, cool waves,
 While others are climbing in the cold, dark caves
 Happy people hopping on the hot dry sand,
 While others lie lazy, getting pleasantly tanned.

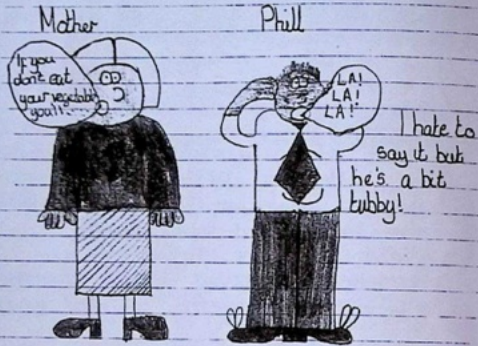
On a cold freezing winter's night,
 The sand glistens in the soft clear moonlight
 The beach is now empty, they have all gone home
 Apart from a sandcastle standing all alone
 The freezing waves are creeping slowly up the shore,
 Now the beach castle is not more.

On a cold freezing winter's night,
 The beach is empty not a thing in sight.

Charlotte Dalzell J3X

Lesson:- Eat your vegetables!

Phill never ate what he should,
 He ate sweets whenever he could,
 Then one day his mother said,
 "If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll soon be dead"
 But of course he didn't heed
 So lots and lots of toothpaste is what he will need!



Vicky Willocks J4X

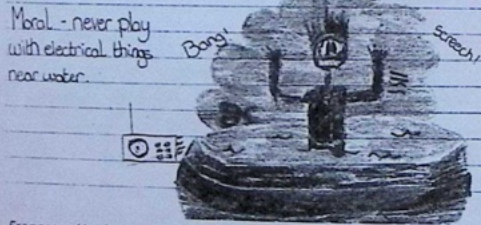
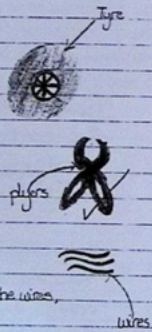
Sam was a boy, a naughty boy,
 who always played with a dangerous toy.
 He played with eyes,
 He played with pliers
 but worst of all he played with wires.

One day when he came home from school,
 his dad had bought a new paddling pool.
 He filled it up and jumped straight in,
 not knowing what was in store for him.

His mother had warned him again and again,
 that water and wires did not blend.

But he reached for the radio and pulled out the wires,
 with a pair of very big pliers.

But the wires slipped out of his hand,
 and the paddling pool went up in a bang.



Francesca Hughes J4X



- (L-R)
- Row 1 - Mr Lockett, Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Taylor, Miss Carr, Mrs Shuttleworth
 - Row 2 - Mr Battenworth, Mrs Giddings, Mrs Horrocks, Mrs Brindle
 - Row 3 - Miss Evans, Mrs Coxe, Mrs Russell
 - Row 4 - Mr Jones, Ms Baxter
 - Row 5 - Mr Edgar

Alice Whitehead J4X





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