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Advertising: Mrs J. Taylor  
Junior Kirkhamian: Mrs J. Knowles  
Mrs L. Case

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

Kirkham Grammar School  
Ribby Road, Kirkham, Preston, Lancashire PR4 2BH  
Tel: 01772 684264 Fax: 01772 672747  
Email: [info@kirkhamgrammar.co.uk](mailto:info@kirkhamgrammar.co.uk)  
Web: [www.kirkhamgrammar.co.uk](http://www.kirkhamgrammar.co.uk)

Kirkhamian  
**2005**

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## Kirkhamian Foreword 2005

This report represents a much anticipated opportunity to herald the achievements of our School in a year that has resonated with positive news. It has been something of a whirlwind including, as it has, a major building programme; an ISI Inspection; and further exciting news of the next development of our teaching facilities.

I am, therefore, as a very proud Headmaster as we embark on another year, aspiring to maintain the impetus of recent years. Headmastering can be a serious business and there is always a danger that one begins to take oneself too seriously. Indeed, when one is immersed in crucial finances; chairing vital meetings; or analysing seemingly endless statistics, there is always the fear that a fundamental omission can have such an impact. The beauty of the role, however, is that, as this self-significant feeling settles in, you are jolted out of it by the activity of one of our pupils. Should one ever feel over mighty, you can so easily be brought to earth. In one moment this summer this feeling was encapsulated. Enjoying a quiet beach in Spain, your Headmaster was just arranging his underwater snorkel with all the embarrassing distortion of the hair and ears this that brings, when what should he hear at that vital moment but that familiar rejoinder, "Hello, Sir". To say that I jumped is an understatement. How do you retain dignity with a snorkel hanging from your ear, flippers half on and a silly grin, desperately trying to ascertain where this little voice came from? Surrounded by young people as we are, any danger of complacency and an exaggerated sense of our own self-importance are quickly dispelled. We are forced to keep our feet on the ground and to recognise how lucky we are in working in a community that is forever young, energetic and engaging.

Our year opened with the visit of the ISI Inspection Team in November and this presented an immediate challenge. One cannot deny that our community welcomed the Team with a degree of circumspection. In the event, they provided us with a thorough report which identified so many of the key strengths of the School. The Inspectors understood our ethos and reflected upon our work with that ethos as a backdrop. It is significant to note that in their gradings they ranked the School as never less than 'Good', and so often 'Very Good' in all its key aspects. This reflected so well on the work of all our staff, both teaching and support staff, who worked so hard to make the Inspection a success. We were grateful to the ISI Team for their diligence and will not shirk from the challenge of implementing any recommendations to ensure that KGS sustains its development, not just in the fabric of its buildings, but also in the fundamental work within School.

I have often said that "Buildings do not make a school, people do" but I cannot disguise that outstanding learning facilities do help. The opening of our new Science facility has provided real

impetus to our teaching in School. Exciting opportunities in Science and an interactive learning environment are allowing our teachers to extend their practice and access the wide-ranging resources now at their disposal. The further experience that these electronic facilities around the School provide is creating a stimulating learning environment that will continue to be extended to all the areas of the School. Science at KGS is extremely popular and successful, contrasting with the national figures and we hope that our new facilities will provide further encouragement in this vital area of the curriculum.

Our position within the BAE SYSTEMS International Schools Network is a matter of considerable pride for both the School and myself. We have been the recipients of not only two major international visits this year, but also a significant upgrade in our technology equipment. We are deeply grateful for this continued support and also excited by new links locally that promise to develop opportunities for our Young Engineers and Scientists to see the practical application of their subject in the most exciting arena possible. We will be working very hard to bring this to fruition over coming weeks.

We were very pleased to hear of the success of our planning application for our new Pavilion and Drama Studio, borne from a successful bid for funds from the Lawrence House Trust. This facility is aimed at enhancing our dramatic and sporting provision, and developing our links with our community users. It represents the first phase of our Community Programme – a plan that envisages not only further enhancement of our facilities in many areas, but also that we work closely with community users to ensure those facilities do not stand idle at any stage. Such a venture would also not have been possible but for the tireless work of the Friends who have made a large grant to the project from funds generated from their highly successful social and fundraising programme. The Friends have played such a vital role in assisting us to provide those 'extras' that give our pupils so much encouragement, and they have my grateful thanks for all their hard work on our behalf.

With such support we hope that yet another addition to our developments will be on view even before we embark on the further extension of our classroom project which remains the Governors' ultimate objective. Our pupils can therefore be assured that their School remains committed to improving their environment and that we will never sit back on our laurels.

To reflect upon such important events over the last year is a matter of some pleasure but I must take this opportunity to express my gratitude, on behalf of the whole school, to our Governing Body who work so selflessly for the School. The Governors' commitment to bring a vision into reality allows our School to move forward with confidence into the challenging times ahead, and I would add my personal thanks for their considerable moral support over past months.

Amidst this ever-improving environment is the School's greatest asset – the pupils themselves, and they have once again taken centre stage in this eventful year. As if not to be outdone by the prior events, our public examinees surpassed all before them on results day.

At A2 our pass rate remained near perfect but the proportion of top grades hit new heights. No less than 61% of grades were at A/B, representing a rise of nearly 10% from last year and some 18% over three years. This allowed us to enjoy reviewing the League Tables as we were placed above all our local rivals in the Independent Sector. Individually, Vicky Biggs was placed in the top 5 nationally in English Language and Literature, while Emma Kendall gained this level in English Language. Vicky, in fact, has subsequently learnt that hers was the best paper in English Language and she has been invited to receive a silver award from the AQA Board in London and has been nominated for the Board's Student of the Year Award. To achieve this, and to publish a book at the same time, indicates we have a young lady of whom we are set to hear a good deal in the future. Vicky, along with a further 5 pupils, achieved the grades to take up their Oxbridge places, while no less than 16 gained a minimum of 3 straight A grades.

As if not to be outdone, our Fifth Form then rose to the challenge a week later. Again, very high pass rates were accompanied by a notable increase in the higher grades achieved. Half the grades awarded were at A\*/A and no less than 20 students gained a minimum of nine A\*/A grades. To celebrate this considerable achievement we have instigated a new certificate to be presented to these successful candidates tonight. Individually Jennifer Dewhurst and Louise Nuttall achieved all 9 A\* grades, while Tristan Brooke and Sam Geny were ranked in the top 5 in French. Again, these results saw an increase of over 12% on previous years and allowed us to celebrate elevated positions in the League Tables.

I do feel, however, that we should beware of these statistical measures used by our journalists. They do stimulate interest and do allow us to compare our own performance year on year. It is clear, however, that schools have very different policies on excluding candidates from sitting papers; they vary on the number of vocational courses offered, and they all have very different intakes. We remain committed to enabling our pupils to fulfil their own potential and we will continue to be an inclusive school based around our family values. So let us enjoy our success but never allow it to colour our vision of what we stand for – a keen sense of balance, in developing responsible, well-rounded young people.

The variety of activity in School remains breathtaking and our pupils continue to stretch all boundaries in pursuing their goals.

In the co-curricular sphere our entries to the UK

Maths Challenge met with conspicuous success when John Kings and Jacob Hilton achieved Best in School status, and Jacob went on to the Maths Olympiad.

- The Debating Team emerged victorious against all local rivals, reaching the Regional finals.
- Our Technologists travelled the country from Portsmouth to Manchester and enjoyed an excellent day at the Rotary North West competition with a victory for our First Year Engineers, matched by their older teammates in the Senior competition won by the Fifth Form team.
- Our LAMDA students gained no less than 23 distinctions and medals under Mrs Heney's careful guidance.
- In the dramatic world, Miss Barrie's team sustained the pace set last year. A bloodthirsty rendition of 'The Scottish Play' saw large numbers once again actively engaged in a Shakespearean production. It has also been refreshing to see such large numbers setting out on regular visits to develop their appreciation of the theatre. We also had exciting news when Tristan Brooke was invited to attend the National Youth Theatre – a tremendous achievement. Significantly Tristan also gained 9 excellent GCSE grades, played a XV rugby, and took part in the school play! This diversity has been so apparent in the productions our thespians have created, and I look forward to their further success with anticipation.
- Our musicians populated a most enjoyable House Music Festival with over 400 entries, while the Choir performed wonderfully at the annual Carol and Founders' Day Services. We were lucky once again to welcome the Normandy Band to School in the Spring. I would also thank Mr Barratt and Mrs Miller for working so hard to get our pupils ready for this evening's performance.
- The CCF remains integral to the School with over 250 Cadets and our students are increasingly taking up the opportunity to undertake the BTEC qualification in Public Services for NCOs. Certainly the opportunities provided by the Cyprus and Barry Buddon camps are ones not to be missed by those keen on adventurous activity.
- In Young Enterprise we could not match the trophy haul of last year, but 'Shazaam' gained best runner-up following an excellent presentation and all-round performance. The group were also brave enough to stage-manage the School's first football competition!
- Our charitable work this year has centred on no less than 15 charities, raising over £9,000. The tragedy in the East caused by the Tsunami

galvanised the pupils to raise money by a series of Form and School events, raising £1,200 for that appeal alone. A popular concert was held and I am grateful to Mr Rushton for co-ordinating our vital work in this area.

In our pursuit of balance there is no doubt that sport plays a central role. On the principle that a healthy body means a healthy mind it offers much to our young people and they have had another busy and successful year.

- On the rugby field our 1st XV enjoyed a successful season with only 3 defeats and a host of hugely entertaining victories. No less than 5 boys went on to play for England and Glen Townson captained the U18 team – a great honour indeed. At junior levels, the U16s played in some tense cup matches before reaching the final of the Merseyside Floodlight competition, while the U14s achievement in reaching the County final ensured that the season retained excitement until the final days of March.
- Not to be outdone, the girls in the 1st XI overcame a bitter disappointment in the National knockout by going on to win the County Championship and Cheadle Sevens. The hosting of the School's first Hockey Festival was a highlight of the season with notable visitors from British Colleges, Scotland and Millfield. The girls produced some outstanding hockey throughout the season and entertained their loyal band of supporters with some thrilling performances. Individually no less than 21 of our players reached County level reflecting the strength of all the teams.
- In Athletics, both girls and boys enjoyed successful seasons. Victory in the Fylde Championships by the girls at U17 level and the boys at U13 and U12 level was followed by no less than 4 pupils becoming County champions – Sarah Hatch, Roddy Hothersall, Wasim Riley and Christopher Travis. This athletic prowess was matched by the Junior Cross Country team who recorded victories at U12 level in both girls and boys' events and U13 boys in the Fylde Championship, with excellent individual victories for Jack McPherson and Richard Morrell.

Continued high levels of participation and considerable success in basketball, cricket, netball, swimming, and volley ball ensure that school sport remains in good health and reflects so well on the many staff who give up so much of their free time to provide a wealth of coaching expertise and sheer enthusiasm.

Perhaps the epitome of enthusiasm over this last year was that shown by the members of Fylde House. Mr Reeves created a keen team spirit and demonstrated what can be achieved by sheer enthusiasm. Congratulations to all members of the House on their first Whitby Cup.

There is no doubt that the success of this year is based to a large degree on the hard work and care of all the staff in so many varied areas. To provide a balanced array of activity requires a committed team and I am proud to work with such a group. The teachers' support for the pupils in all their pursuits is vital to their success and the support staff work tirelessly to maintain the environment and the organisation to ensure the School runs smoothly; that we are all well fed; that photocopying is completed; accounts are updated; fields mowed; and letters typed, etc, etc. The School is a complex institution and it relies upon all members of the team to fulfil their important role.

Each year we say goodbye to important members of our staff. This year was no exception with the departure of Mr Reid and Mr Wood.

Mr Reid left us after 20 years as Head of Mathematics. An outstanding Mathematician himself, Mr Reid enjoyed more than teaching his Sixth Form the intricacies of his beloved subject and generations of Kirkhamians have benefited from his experience. He can take great pride in the standards achieved at KGS as he goes on to seek new challenges.

Mr Wood left us to take up his Headship at The Dixie Grammar School. He also contributed to the Maths Department but his greater contribution was in his role as Deputy Headmaster. Mr Wood led the School forward in the field of ICT and he took great pride in the efficiency of his day-to-day organisation. His organisation of the curriculum was done with ease but he utilised his keen intellect to the best interests of our students. We wish him well in facing his new challenges which inevitably prevent him joining us here tonight.

In saying goodbye, however, we move on and welcome our new Deputy Headmaster, Dr Luker, and his family, to Kirkham and look forward to his contribution to the further development of the School.

In reflecting upon our year it would be remiss not to mention our flirtation with the media this summer. The programme 'Smarter Than Your Kids' must resonate for a number of us, as parents. The programme allowed us to market the School in a most positive manner and we were very pleased at the publicity received. To see the School on national television was a real highlight and its traditional features enhanced the programme immensely.

Education is now the subject of considerable exposure in the media and an unfortunate level of sensationalism. Schools are so often bombarded by new initiatives to undertake, endless bureaucracy to fulfil, and an atmosphere where pupils appear almost an afterthought in this complex equation. At Kirkham Grammar School we are fortunate in having pupils who motivate us to provide challenges and opportunities to put before them.

These youngsters ensure we retain our perspective and that we remain committed to provide an environment that is always aspiring to new heights. They also ensure we retain our sense of humour – a vital component in keeping in touch with reality, even in those embarrassing moments on a distant beach somewhere in the Mediterranean.

Our independence at School within HMC allows us to develop our distinctive ethos and to continue to engender the balance that is so central to our life at Kirkham Grammar School. Our commitment to provide a well-rounded education remains undimmed and I believe continues to fulfil the objectives of our founders.



*J.R. Wood*



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



## John Wood

Mr John Wood left us this summer after over seven years as Deputy Headmaster at Kirkham Grammar School. Joining the School in January 1998 from Nottingham High School he arrived with an outstanding record as Head of Mathematics in one of the Midlands leading Independent Schools. Throughout his tenure at KGS he has maintained his enthusiasm for his subject, teaching to all levels, writing and publishing a textbook and generally putting his Cambridge degree to good effect. The move to Kirkham from the Midlands must have been a significant wrench after some seventeen years at the High School but his return to the county of his childhood has been a highly successful one for John and his wife Johanne.

As Deputy Mr Wood first supported Mr Stacey in promoting significant changes within the school. A firm advocate of the use of ICT in education Mr Wood has overseen, with notable success, the implementation of a whole school computer management system, a rolling programme of ICT development and continuing professional development for staff in all areas of school life. His expertise in the timetable has allowed greater flexibility in A level and AS level provision. Certainly the challenges of Curriculum 2000 were overcome without any mishap.

During Mr Stacey's absence through illness, Mr Wood took the helm in School as Acting Headmaster and handled the responsibility with his usual aplomb. An outstandingly efficient administrator, John is able to take most situations in his stride.

Perhaps one of Mr Wood's greatest challenges was playing a key role in the induction of a new Headmaster. He has carried out this task with his usual good humour, clear thought and educated guidance. His strength of solving perplexing problems and thinking "outside the box" have been of great influence in the continuing development of the School and he has played a significant role in the recent planning for the new Science Centre.



John Wood

I am sure parents will be grateful for his work on the Friends Committee and many old pupils recognise the loyalty shown to the Old Kirkhamians' Association. Without doubt John and Johanne's first love has always been the music at school and I know that both Mr Catterall and Mr Barratt have valued their support in all its guises.

Mr Wood will be a hard act to follow but I have no doubt that he will relish the challenge of the Headship of The Dixie Grammar School and we look forward to hearing of his success in years to come. We hope he will feel able to visit us from time to time to keep us up to date and renew the many friendships made at KGS.



Andrew Reid

## Andrew Reid

Mr Reid leaves the Mathematics Department after twenty years as Head of Department. As he sets out to seek new challenges, he can reflect upon the significant numbers of senior mathematicians he has guided towards Oxbridge entry and success in Mathematics. He has overseen the department's introduction into the UK Mathematics Challenge and taken a particular interest in our Hong Kong students as a consequence of his interest in Cantonese.

During his time at KGS, Mr Reid has been the Treasurer of the General School Committee, keeping a close eye on the finances of the various societies and clubs within the school; he has accompanied various language trips to France – his most notable moment being in the "haunted" hotel in Ernée, when he managed to keep his head when all around ...

More recently, he has been a member of the SCR Committee, an indication of the trust and esteem in which his colleagues held him, and his input here has been invaluable. Beyond that, he has joined the school orchestra, playing the piano at numerous concerts and Speech Days. As far as colleagues on the teaching staff were concerned, his background music at Charity Coffee Mornings has always been appreciated and has set the right tone for a relaxed break during a hectic school day. And let us not forget his Les Dawson-esque performance in the staff production of "the Scottish play" a few years ago.

To wish him well, a large number of staff joined Mr Reid for a leaving meal at the Birley Arms, where a convivial time was had by all and we were treated to his own particular brand of humour.

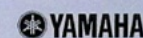
As he leaves, we wish Mr Reid well for the future. His genuine concern for his colleagues, his humour and his enthusiasm for his subject will be missed.

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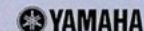
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SCHOOL YEAR



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England Under 17 Football International Robert Sissons



The Senior Netball Competition



On the Adventurous Training Camp



The King's Division Normandy Band Concert



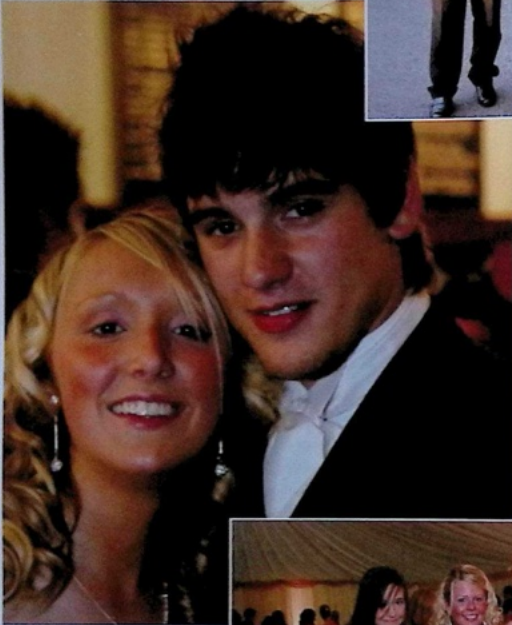
The third form visit to Helmsshore Mill



At the VE - Day Commemoration

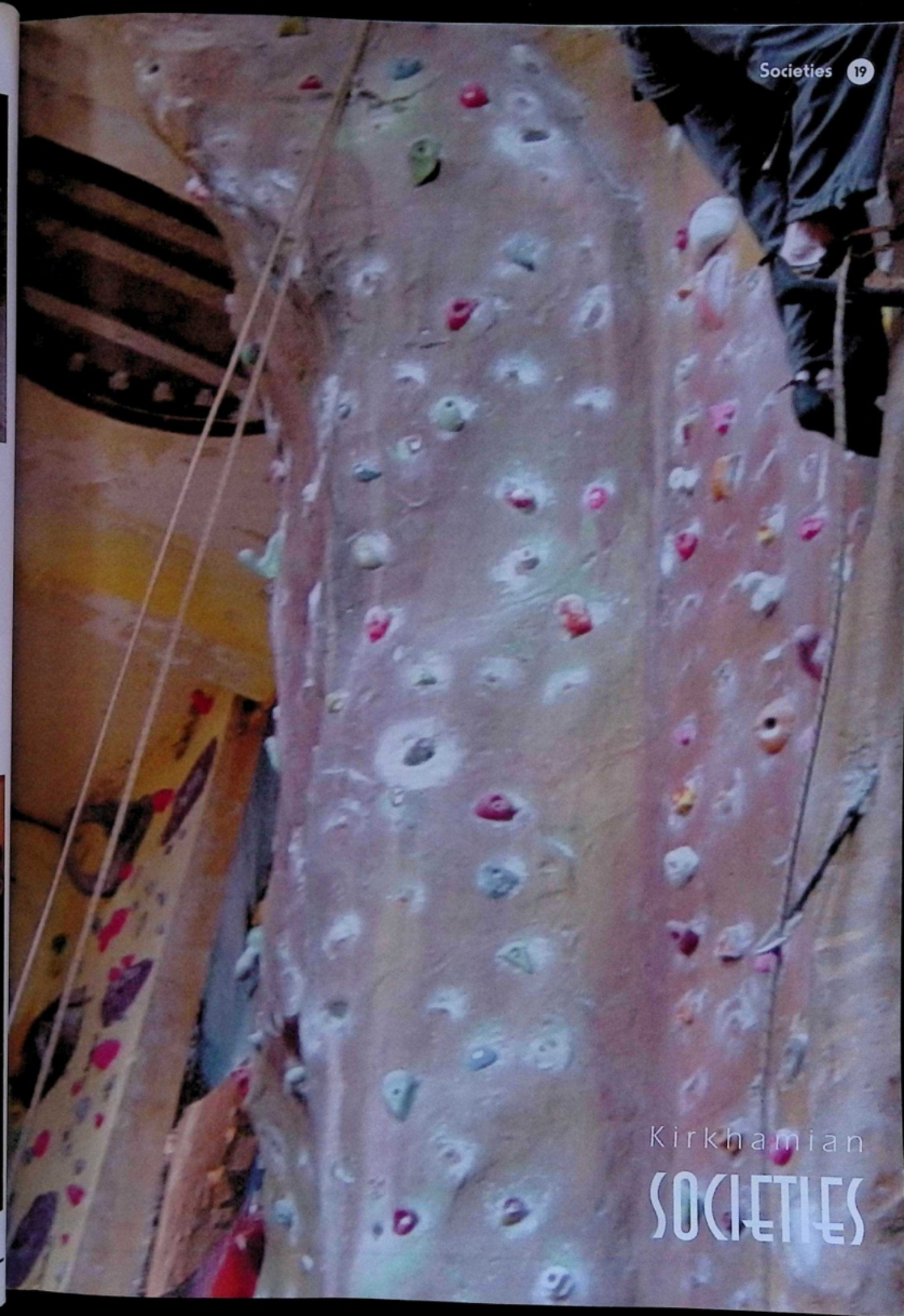


KGS players Marcus Jackson and Adam Lewis in international action



KGS

VI Form Ball



Kirkhamian  
SOCIETIES

## Chess Club

Familiar names continue to dominate the Chess Club plc as Tom Fielding (third year) and his sister, Lucy (first year), deal with all opponents quickly and efficiently. Tom managed to win the regional section of the UK Chess Challenge in May and thus secure a place in the National Finals. He has attracted a certain amount of local press attention. As yet this has not gone to his head, although there were difficult talks over the summer regarding appearance money and other contractual matters. This was not helped by the Glazer family's purchase of the Chess Club in a private transaction and its flotation on the stock exchange. Chief executive, Mr Melling, has been unavailable for comment. His PA, Miss Houghton, says that he spent the proceeds of the deal on a slot machine in Blackpool. A serious consequence of all these shenanigans was the rescheduling of the Club's weekly meetings from Thursdays to Tuesdays in an attempt to bolster the Club's share price. Our advice is to sell your Chess stock and buy Magic Circle.

Mr. M.P. Melling

## Climbing Club

The academic year started successfully, with the club venturing to one of the more remote Lake District valleys, Eskdale, for the staff to show the young members what "real" outdoor climbing was all about. Though there was some rain, and some question as to whether some members were present for the barbeques or the climbing, the trip was a success and the different style of climbing was enjoyed by all.



The start of the year also saw the completion of the school climbing wall, with one metre added to the left, creating another problem for the wall, a steep corner. This new piece of wall has been enjoyed by the club during the popular Tuesday lunch time sessions, and by the C.C.F., which especially benefits from the extra station to climb from, allowing more cadets to enjoy the wall.

The funds required for this extension have been raised by the club through sponsored activities over the last few years and with the generous support of BAE Systems. There are now five climbing stations on the wall and the extension provides climbing which is more like climbing on limestone than the gritstone-like climbing of the original wall. Various club members have very much enjoyed setting new routes on the new piece of wall and the extra space is very useful.

As two of the senior climbers, James Fletcher and Graeme Hacking, have sadly left the club to progress to university, studying in areas suspiciously near to the mountains, there were vacancies in the club that were quickly filled. The fifth formers Natalie Roberts, Nicola Clough and Joe Robinson have attended regularly, and progressed into competent climbers, whilst Harriet Roethling-Cook is one of the best female climbers to have been a member of the club.

Naturally, the club has been quiet during the exam season, but all members would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, Mr Gaddes, Mrs Scott and Mr Hancock, for their time and expertise throughout the year.

Matthew Gaddes

## Debating Society

This year the debating society has continued to build on its previous success. After losing a large number of our former members to their various university courses, we were delighted to welcome many new faces, all of whom have made a valid contribution to the society whilst greatly improving their skills in communication. Over the past year we have held debates of varying intensity, often involving issues directly related to young people or society. We have also enjoyed two "balloon debates" which allow everybody to get involved as well as providing much entertainment; Mr Hawkes' impersonation of Jonny Wilkinson will not be forgotten in a hurry!

We have also competed in several debating and public speaking competitions, most notably the Daniel Nelstrop Debating Competition. In the first round, Jo Box and Joanne Forrest saw action at Clitheroe Royal Grammar School on Wednesday, 20th October. Competing against teams from Clitheroe Royal Grammar School, St Augustine's and Arnold, our team opposed the motion "This House would return to rationing food". The debates were spirited and standards were high, with articulate and sharp witted teams waging well-mannered yet intense campaigns. At the end of the evening, we were deservedly adjudged the winning team of the four and so progressed to the Regional round. Eventually, we reached the semi finals of the competition, held in Leeds, where we were unfortunate to lose to an outstanding team from Yorkshire. We would like to congratulate our competitors once again and we hope to reach next year's final!

We were also unfortunate not to reach the second round of the B.P.W public speaking competition. With Jo Box as chairperson and Natalie Hayhurst providing the vote of thanks, Rachel Brown delivered a passionate and thought-provoking speech about the important role played by school outings and holidays in a child's education. However, we hope to surpass our previous efforts in the forthcoming year.

Finally, in the summer term, a substantial number of our members competed in the Inter-House Debate, displaying an impressive level of ability as they constructed coherent arguments and presented their views in an articulate manner. After lively clashes between Kirkham and Preston and then School and Fylde, the Kirkham team of Jo Box and Kate Denham was eventually declared a marginal winner in a spectacular final against School.

We would like to thank Mr Hawkes for his unwavering support throughout the past twelve months, often driving our teams across the North of England, and we look forward to another prosperous year.

## Croquet Society

First played at KGS in 1558, croquet is enjoying something of a renaissance since the re-founding of the Croquet Society in summer, 2005. Under the auspices of what was then known as Ye ffofietee Crockettee, the earliest recorded match at KGS took place in 1558 in celebration of the defeat of the Spanish Armada. Isobel Birley (red and yellow) and William Grimbaldeston (black and blue) slugged it out on the Cabbage Patch, with Grimbaldeston failing to match Birley's skill and cunning with a mallet. The more recent contests have taken place on the Headmaster's lawn at lunchtime whenever the sun shines. Matches take place in a good-natured but competitive manner. It is hoped that we can stage an annual competition to win a little plastic bag containing the ashes of what remains of the old croquet set which used to be in the School House.

## Scribblers' Club

The club has not been held every week during the Summer term because of sporting events, although work has continued to be produced. Printing problems have delayed the production of the Anthology - we hope it will be ready in time for Christmas.

Carnegie Award winning author, Alan Gibbons, spent a day in school in February, 2005 and gave some excellent workshops to pupils, including a creative writing seminar to which all Scribblers were invited. We all learned how to pace a story and his visit was voted a huge success. A few weeks later, we were lucky enough to be asked to host a visit from Joan O'Neill, an Irish author who has written excellent books for older teenagers.

With the departure of Vicky Biggs to university, a new Secretary needs to be chosen and Mr Sampey and Mrs Copland will be meeting in September to look at promoting and expanding the Club.

Vicky Biggs/Mrs Copland

## Young Engineers' Club

As the school year draws to a close, it marks the end of a remarkable first year for the Kirkham Grammar School Young Engineers' Club. Each lunchtime T2 has been a hive of activity as pupils from a wide range of year groups design, build and test their particular projects under the guidance of the club secretaries, Joe Douglass and Jamie Panepinto.

In March this year the Young Engineers' Club entered three teams in the 2005 Rotary Technology

Tournament. The competition, held at the University of Central Lancashire, attracted over 25 teams from schools across the local area and required the students to design and build a weight-powered vehicle. Our first year team of William Rickson, Stuart Spencer, Oliver Evans and Rowan Leech took first prize in the Basic category of the competition. A team comprising Paul Taylor, Philip Hingley, William Bruton and Joe Robinson won the advanced category of the competition, with our fourth year team narrowly missing out on the honours in the intermediate competition.

Later in the same month four of our fourth year Young Engineers, Peter Armstrong, Joe Douglass, Jamie Panepinto and Oliver Youngman headed off down to HMS Sultan in Portsmouth to take part in the 2005 Royal Navy Operation Storm National Finals. The challenge involved piloting their radio-controlled salvage craft, HMS Panther, through a harbour entrance before picking up a range of objects from the sea-bed and transferring them to designated areas. The students also had to make a presentation of their ideas and designs to a panel of Navy officers. Technical problems with the radio-control transmitter and the sheer complexity of the challenge saw the team achieve only limited success, but many lessons were learned and the team are keen to enter next year's challenge.

At the time of writing eight teams of Young Engineers are making final adjustments and modifications to their 'Micromice' in preparation for the National Schools' and Colleges' Micromouse Finals to be held in Manchester on 2 July. Micromice are small autonomous robots, which can navigate their way around a maze made up either of white lines or small wooden walls using motors and infrared sensors. The teams are looking to better the first and second places we attained in our first attempt at the competition last year. A tough undertaking - but watch this space!

Mr. M. Hancock

## Maths Club

Over fifty pupils from the fourth and fifth years entered the UK Intermediate Mathematics Challenge. The challenges are aimed at the top end of the ability range, so to get even a bronze certificate is an achievement. We were delighted with the results. Eighteen pupils gained either a gold or silver award, with gold awards going to John Kings (awarded best in school), Paul Taylor, Heather Reid and Nicola Clough. Even more impressive was the fact that John and Paul both scored highly enough to gain entry into the European round of the competition in which they were both able to gain very creditable marks.

We also entered twenty six pupils for the UK Junior

Mathematics Challenge. Of these, over sixty percent gained a certificate, well above the national average. There were eleven gold and silver awards, with golds going to Jacob Hilton, Catherine Gaskell, Heather Cara and Alice Whitehead. Jacob achieved the high distinction of being selected to take part in the Junior Mathematics Olympiad. He will be undertaking the examination for this event soon. We wish him all the best.

It is pleasing to see once again that, despite problems nationally which we read about in the press about engaging pupils with the subject, at Kirkham interest in mathematics is high.

## KGS Magic Circle

Sorcerer Matthew Denham (fourth year), an amateur magician, has been introducing a group of apprentices to the arcane world of magic throughout the Summer Term. Members of the Circle are sworn to secrecy, but it is rumoured that they have been learning card tricks and slights of hand. Our undercover photographer managed to snap them in action before the group turned him into a frog. Next term they hope to practice sawing people in half. Any volunteers should contact Matthew.

## Young Enterprise

The name of this year's Young Enterprise Company, "Shazaam", was voted by the pupils of Kirkham Grammar School in September. The Lower Sixth team of entrepreneurs began the company year by producing necklaces made out of guitar plectrums, and these were on sale at the rock concert in October. These proved to be very popular and were definitely a unique idea. Their first event, the Hallowe'en disco, just before half term, was thoroughly enjoyed by all the first to third year pupils who came and it certainly put the group's organisational skills to the test. At the Christmas Fair the company did face painting, sold handmade cards and gifts as well as running a "Guess The Teacher" competition. Thanks to the staff who provided photos.

Shazaam's efforts throughout the year were rewarded at the Fylde Area Board Competition, which took place in Fleetwood at the beginning of the summer term. At the competition, this year's Young Enterprise company produced a five minute presentation in the style of a news broadcast to summarise their company year. They also produced a trade stand and a company report which included financial accounts as part of the competition. Shazaam received the trophy for 'runner up' company in the Fylde. The team was a little disappointed with this, but all members should be proud of their performance.

The company year drew to a close in May, leaving the members to concentrate on their AS levels. All profits have been donated to various charities. We hope that all involved have enjoyed the Young Enterprise experience as well as gaining skills which will be useful to them in the future. We would like to thank the company's business advisors, Paul Desborough and Robert Dunn, who have helped to make Shazaam such a success and also all staff and pupils at KGS who have supported the company throughout the year.

We look forward to starting again next year with the current fifth year and we encourage all potential entrepreneurs to begin to think of ideas.

Miss. S. Howe & Miss. A. Johnson

## Science and Animal Club

It has been an interesting year for Animal Ark in terms of both format and line up. We said goodbye to Ice, Tonic, Leo, Popcorn and Moley, but gained our new Roborovski, named Maverick, from departing sixth former Eloise Tidswell. At one point in the year we also gained two chinchillas, named Skippy and Nelson, but felt the school environment was too stressful for them and so we found them a new home.

We tried a new theme this year by incorporating some science experiments into our weekly schedules, such as making sparklers and fire extinguishers and fire writing. The club also monitors the condition of nine bird boxes situated

in the school grounds and we were fortunate this year to have breeding pairs of blue tits and robins nesting in them.

Due to the departure of many of our senior members, jobs have been allocated to younger members for next year. Clare Newbery and Alex Leech will be taking on the positions of senior supervisors. Laura Horrocks and Anne Boardman will take joint responsibility for the positions of secretary and treasurer.

A visit to Blackpool Sea-Life Centre in February gave us hands on experience of handling starfish, crabs and shrimps. The shark feeding demonstration was another highlight, especially since we were directly underneath the feeding platform in the underwater tunnel. Finding "Nemo" also caused much frivolity, although he was probably rather dazed by the numerous camera flashes which resulted.

Another successful outing was to Martin Mere. We were lucky to have a warm, dry afternoon at the end of the Easter term and yet the visitor centre was relatively quiet and peaceful. In fact, some of our group were so engrossed in colouring badges and fridge magnets that we practically had to drag them outside to actually see the birds! However, once our tour was underway, we had great fun discovering the various hides and spotting unusual waterfowl. The Hawaiian geese were a popular attraction as they could be encouraged to peck seeds from our hands.

Further visits to Farmer Parr's and Blackpool Zoo proved informative and enjoyable.

Mrs. M.E.Scott





Over the academic year 2004/2005, we made donations to the following charities:

Action Aid .....	£300
Trinity Hospice .....	£500
Gideons International .....	£60
Red Cross (Beslan) .....	£250
British Legion .....	£130
Crisis .....	£800
Terrence Higgins Trust .....	£1050
Tsunami Appeal .....	£850
Brian House .....	£200
Comic Relief .....	£800
Barnardo's .....	£300
Help a Local Child .....	£150
Medecins Sans Frontières .....	£250
Children of Chernobyl .....	£1050
Rosemere Cancer Trust .....	£1350
Cystic Fibrosis .....	£100
Age Concern .....	£100

As usual, we have tried to vary our donations throughout the year, responding to emergency appeals, as well as supporting international, national and local charitable organisations.

It has been particularly encouraging this year to see that so many pupils were willing to support and organise their own events in response to events around the world - we had large numbers of pupils taking part in the collection for Barnardo's and the British Legion Poppy Appeal; the third form organised their own cake sale to raise money for the Tsunami Appeal; members of the Sixth Form organised a Beetle Drive for the first form to raise money for Brain House; a selection of bands drawing on pupils from all years arranged a marvellous evening's music in the summer term for a variety of causes; a large number of pupils participated enthusiastically in the fun run to raise

money for the Rosemere Cancer Trust; and, at the end of the year, senior pupils once again escorted the children from Chernobyl to Camelot for a day of fun and frolics.

No doubt many other events took place, and we are grateful to all who have supported the efforts of our pupils over the past year and have helped to raise such fine amounts.

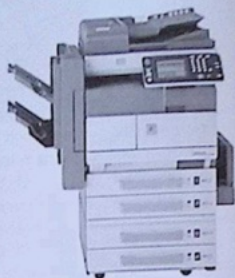
One final plea to all our pupils, please continue to give as generously as you can to our charity collections on Friday mornings - these are the basis of our giving.



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**THE ARTS**

## Music

The end of the Autumn term always places a heavy burden upon the musicians in the school, but yet again the musicians of KGS rose to the challenges presented and acquitted themselves admirably. The sheer variety of music performed bears testimony to the wealth of musical talent across the school.

Two of our trumpeters were invited to take part in Remembrance Day services in local churches, playing the Reveille and Last Post as part of the services. Nicholas Long, who also played at the school Remembrance Service, played at Kirkham, whilst Thomas Bennett played at Wrea Green. Thomas, who completed his Grade 8 trumpet examination in the summer of 2004, is to be further congratulated on gaining a place in the National Youth Wind Orchestra of Great Britain. He gained his place after exacting auditions held at the Royal Northern College of Music. The orchestra takes members from 15 - 21 years old, making Thomas one of the youngest members. He joins a long list of present and former pupils of Kirkham Grammar School who have been involved with orchestras and bands at county and national level.

The fifth Form GCSE students presented an excellent Coffee Concert at the end of November, to the delight of the visiting inspectors. A range of ensemble performances, interspersed with solo items, amply demonstrated the talent of this particular group of musicians. The Christmas Concert, held in the MPH on Thursday, 9th December, saw us move from 'Autumn into Christmas' with ensemble items from the various instrumental groups of the school, including the much enlarged Concert Band. In the second half of the concert, the choirs entertained, with the large audience joining in enthusiastically with the 'Birthday Carol', 'The Twelve days of Christmas' and many other carols with orchestra accompaniment.



Seasonal readings and solo musical items completed the programme.

The annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, held on the last afternoon of the term at St Michael's Church Kirkham, gave the chance for both the choir and the lower school choir to shine. Congratulations must go to the three soloists, Grace Garlington, Kara Williams and Caitlin McMillian. Caitlin deserves particular mention for taking over on the day of the service from Charlotte Jackson, who was ill.

The House Music Festival dominates the Spring Term. Once again, there was a very large entry, with many excellent individual performances. I was particularly pleased this year with the standard and scope of the instrumental ensemble groups, as well as some excellent compositions. That students engage in these activities, organising and rehearsing their own groups, is very pleasing to see. Preston House emerged the eventual winners, but congratulations must go to all houses for some splendid music making, and particularly to Fylde House for a 'revitalised' entry in 2005.

We have had some excellent concerts in our series of Coffee Concerts during the spring and early summer terms. Third year musicians started the year on Friday, 29th January with a very varied and most enjoyable concert. On Friday 29th, April the A level musicians presented an excellent event that included Chloë Spencer presenting A2 recital pieces to an appreciative audience. Friday, 27th May saw the musicians of the fourth year present a very enjoyable, and again very varied, concert in the MPH.

*An Evening of Music and Verse* on Thursday, 10th March gave many of the finalists from the Music Festival a chance to shine before a large audience in the Old Hall. The more intimate setting of the Old Hall provided an ideal venue for these musicians, who were joined by four of Mrs Heney's LAMDA pupils in an excellent concert. The summer term started with a further visit from the King's Division Normandy Band on Monday, 18th April. Almost thirty members of our Concert Band enjoyed an excellent workshop with the Bandmaster, Adrian Kingston, after which they took part in an exciting and excellent evening concert. The final formal event of the year was the Spring Concert, held in the MPH on Thursday, 12th May. This concert gave us the chance to say our farewells to a large group of Upper Sixth form musicians, including solo performances from Nicholas Long, Jamie Hill and Chloë Spencer, as well as items from the various choirs and instrumental groups.

My thanks go to Leanne Bonney, who has been an excellent secretary to the Music Society. Her encouragement and example to the younger musicians has been much appreciated.

Mr. A. Barratt

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## Drama

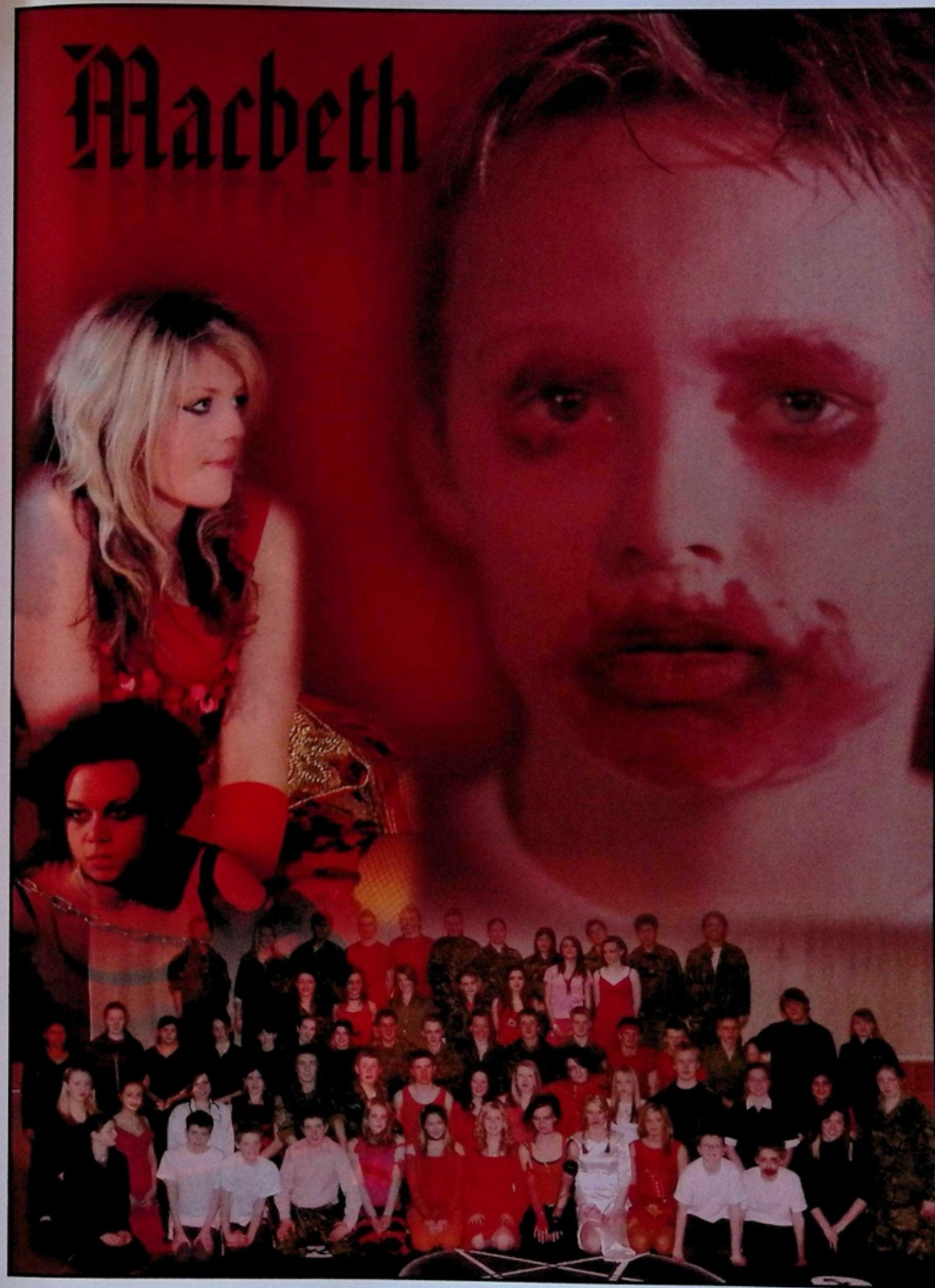
We have had an extremely successful and very busy year in the drama department. The drama department continues to thrive with another successful production behind us, as well as some wonderful theatrical activities and workshops to boot. The KGS production of **Macbeth** in February has been the theatrical highlight of the year. With a cast and crew of over 70 pupils across all years, this was a major event and a triumph. We set the classic Shakespearean tragedy in modern times and really went to town with the grit and gore of the play. Macbeth, played by Tristan Brooke, evolved into a truly evil dictator, a world away from the loyal soldier and sensitive husband of the opening. The final fight scene between Macbeth and Macduff (a fabulous interpretation of the role by Josh Wardell) was almost too realistic to watch. We also went to town with several gory special effects; blood bags that burst on the butchered Macduff children (Peter Chapman and Rowan Leech) who were slaughtered despite the best efforts of their mother, Lady Macduff, played by Melissa Swain; we had a knife that drew blood and a stage jugular vein which successfully spurted as Banquo (Freddie Buxton) had his throat slit. Luckily the stage blood we used was edible as Freddie also had to dribble it from his mouth during the banquet scene. Yum, yum!

We also created a vast metal frame on three levels from which the witches constantly watched and plotted as their temptation of Macbeth drew to its terrible conclusion. In our version, the witches (Caroline Desborough, Lucy Cherry and Chloë Spencer) were life-size string puppets, controlled and encouraged by their puppeteers (Abby Wilkinson, Maddie Eaves and Liz Poskett) and witch goddess Hecate (Sarah-Jayne Kerfoot). Fiona Wright produced a powerful and engaging performance as Lady Macbeth, destined to die at her husband's hands in our interpretation.

The cast was ably supported by a dynamic back stage crew led by Susie Leyland and Grace Skinner. The overall production concept, created with spectacular lighting design by Mrs Alison Walker, some atmospheric music choices by Mr Graeme Barrie, dynamic choreography from Miss Katie Glover and fabulous costume by Mrs Nancy Barrie, was haunting and unsettling, but truly fabulous. Tristan Brooke as Macbeth produced a tremendously energetic and terrifying performance and it will come as no surprise that Tristan has been accepted into the **National Youth Theatre**. This is a tremendous achievement, particularly for a student so young; we congratulate him. Watch this space for further developments in this budding young actor's career.

We started the year with the lower school entry into the Royal Shakespeare Company's Shakespeare for Schools' Festival. Over thirty second and third years participated in an evening celebrating Shakespeare at Preston's Charter Theatre. Our interpretation of a 70's style **Twelfth Night** went down a treat as the KGS Company finished the evening with a cracking performance that brought the house down. We had a live 70's Glam Rock band, an Elvis look-a-like Orsino (Charles O'Flaherty) and a revelling group of drunken chums led by Richard Draper as Sir Toby Belch, Benedict Fulford-Brown as Sir Andrew Aguecheek and Caitlin MacMillian as the disguised Viola, fought a fantastically comical boxing match to a live version of "Eye of the Tiger". Jordan Ledger was glorious as Malvolio, complete with yellow stockings, and was ably supported by Grace Garlington as the gorgeous Olivia. We had a fantastic day at the Charter Theatre; it was a wonderful opportunity for all the pupils to see how a professional theatre operates. All the cast and crew worked tremendously hard and achieved thunderous applause from the many family, friends and staff who attended the evening. Well done to all involved.

We have visited many different shows during the year, giving access to many different cultural opportunities to the whole age range of pupils. We already have several planned for next year, including Matthew Bourne's all male **Swan Lake** and the National Theatre's touring production of Alan Bennett's **The History Boys**.



## Adventurous Training St John's in the Vale, Keswick

February half term saw the annual return to the Carlisle Diocesan Youth Centre in the very pretty St John's in the Vale near to Keswick in the North Lakes. We also reverted to a more wintertime of the year, rather than the spring-like April of 2004 as it was meant to be 'Adventurous Training'.

Fearing this may be more arduous than usual, especially as Sqn Ldr Callister had some devious 24 hour expedition planned, we set off from school on the Sunday of half term, with a wealth of Arctic gear, prepared for the worst possible weather. Despite certain problems with minibus keys, we managed to squeeze our 32 cadets and numerous officers, civilian staff and Old Kirkhamians into our transport. The first section departed earlier than the rest as they had to set up their overnight camp in Borrowdale and live off ORPs (operational ration packs) for 24 hours. Although Seathwaite (according to Mr Scott) is the wettest place in England, we were very fortunate all week, the weather was exceptionally dry but, as expected, sub zero temperatures were experienced. Cadets did realise just how cold it can be at night and in the early morning when under canvas. This exercise was designed to test the cadets' camp craft, navigation and mapwork skills and satisfied the demands of the BTEC expedition unit. It also tested their ability to make the most interesting concoctions from the army's ration packs.

Other activities included an interesting orienteering course, which tested even the most adept and fit competitor. We must thank Old Kirkhamian Paul Stanford for all the time (and lollies) he gave us. The best-recorded time was by Matt Gaddes; the best girls' time was set by Georgina Burton but congratulations to all are well deserved. All the cadets worked hard and enjoyed their day in the South Lakes; the change in venue added to the interest.

The inter-section competition was so intense that, for the first time ever, two sections tied for the highest score, so prizes were divided. I must thank all the NCOs for their input and leadership. We were without several upper sixth NCOs and the lower sixth had to take up the reins. They all fully deserved their promotion to corporal. A mention must be made also that this was the first ever adventurous training camp where the number of girl cadets exceeded that of boys. A sign that girls are tougher, or that they are going for their BTEC qualifications next year?

The daily duty section spent a few hours on mountain bikes on the old railway line around the



Keswick area and returned relatively early in the afternoon to prepare for the expedition. A few spills were recorded when they went on the fells, but there was very limited damage to body or bike, which was quite fortunate.

The newest adventurous training activity for KGS cadets was caving. As there was a well-qualified instructor in Sgt. Mick Lloyd, we were allowed to take up a package at nearby Ingleton in the Yorkshire Dales. None of the cadets had ever tried this before, and it was described by one individual as 'climbing in the dark, underground, while it was raining - with wellies on!' Everyone had great fun in the potholes and the apprehension was overcome once they had mastered the dreaded 'Cheese Press'.

The week went exceptionally quickly and we were all well fuelled by the culinary delights of Lt Col Scott, our CO and master chef. He continues to do wonders with compo. The last evening saw the various presentations of trophies and thanks were given to not only the KGS and CCF staff, but also to 40 CTT and Sgt Lloyd and former pupils Nick Bridges and Paul Stanford for all their help and especially to WO2 Ian Tate for his help on the mountain bikes.

This camp is becoming so popular that many cadets were left disappointed, so to ensure a place for next year, it is essential to book early. It will be in the same place, but at the end of the spring term rather than February. It is hoped to add some even more adventurous activities, such as canoeing, gill scrambling and high wires.

Lt Col I M Scott

Kirkhamian  
COMBINED  
CADET FORCE

## CCF Visit to Queen's Lancashire Regiment, Cyprus

No tickets, flight times changed by four hours, transport to Manchester airport could not be altered - what a good start! We were told to pick up the flight tickets at Aero connect desk. Mr & Mrs Scott - no, Mr plus Jessica, Mr & Mrs Bird, Robin, Crow and Eagle. Was someone having a laugh? This took an hour out of the waiting time, but then £400 cash was required to change the names on the tickets!

Eventually we did get through to the departure lounge and Freddie resembled 'Big Bird' from Sesame Street. All went well after that. We were picked up at a very hot and sticky Larnaca airport by Lt Russ Edmonds and taken to Alexander Barracks. On arrival, we were given our transport for the week, two regimentally coloured minibuses, and allocated our accommodation by C/Sgt Ziggy from Blackpool! Harding Block Transit Camp on Dheklia Garrison was hardly five star luxury. Jess and Jenni were wanting to book into a hotel, 'Where's the en suite bathroom?' Freddie and Bestie had pet cockroaches and, well, what was air conditioning? - open windows, or sleep outside! Capt Miller offered to spend the first nights there as a punishment for forgetting his driving licence, while the other officers were billeted in the Officers' Mess. What hardship! Khan's was discovered, over the road, for cold soft drinks.

Next day was a 'green day', in uniform and being instructed, in a most gentle way, by regular NCOs, on how to march and wear the uniform correctly



whilst on the camp with regulars. Appearances rapidly improved, although hair was a little long compared to regular soldiers. All the cadets had a chance to fire the SA80A2 on the local range, whilst some were even treated to ice creams by Lt Col I Scott. Cpl Grace Skinner had the best shooting score, closely followed by Stephen Hatch. Katie and Rachel both needed to visit the local optician, or was it the excessive heat and perspiration in the eyes? The non-shooters had instruction and fun on the GPMG and competitions were held on stripping and assembling the weapon. Sgt Stanbury's apparent confusion was recorded for all to see on video! A quiet night in the NAAF and early bed was called for, but some of the boys discovered a version of curling along the corridor, using the sweeping brushes and a plastic stone!

Another hot day Whiskey 6 training area for a demo section attack by Cpl Clem and his men - all of them must have shed several pounds in that heat. Map reading, first aid and NBC training all followed, but the heat of the day necessitated an afternoon visit to the watersports beach. The first incident was James Carpenter having a contretemps with a jellyfish and Col Scott took him to the MRS for treatment. Matt Lee then discovered that the rip tide was quite strong and had to be pulled in by one of the canoeists. Wednesday was the day we were looking forward to. Helicopter lift to Pyla Ranges and a patrol competition and section attack with blank rounds. Lizzie caught an ejected round in the face, Freddie cut his finger on the cocking handle and Jess simply ran out of steam. The one and a half hours it took to clean the weapons meant we did not have time to go for a swim to cool down. However, the whole party was taken to the Officers' Mess for a guided tour and appreciation of some of the military regalia and regimental history. An eagle and dining fork, 'liberated' from the French, and a piece of hedge from the Battle of Waterloo and much priceless regimental silver was on display, as well as the colours.

Although it was, again, very hot indeed, we visited the UN base in Nicosia for the Green Line tour. A young RHA officer gave a very interesting and informative presentation and walk along the buffer zone between the Turkish and Greek forces. It really was quite revealing how petty some of the squabbles over the cease-fire line were. At times the opposing forces were only metres apart. We were also given a couple of hours off to shop for souvenirs in the town centre.

That evening, Capt Morris, our liaison officer, had organised a meal at a local café, Ali's. A meze is very similar to Spanish tapas, and Bestie wanted to know where the chips were? Jessica did not realise that you turn the plate over before you serve the salad!

The next day's activities were really strenuous. Sailing, surf kayaking and sun lounging! Some of the more active cadets discovered the 'Black Pearl' and went on a pirate raid. It later broke up and

sank! Some of the girls did have difficulties trying to get into the yachts, but once launched, they enjoyed their sail around the bay. The evening activity of go-karting was one of the most exciting and competitive of the week. Old rivalries were revived and Bowie and Bestie fought it out, allowing Dan to win. Matt Stanbury, it is believed, is to be offered a contract at Ferrari advising Michael Schumacher on how not to take a corner; Freddie tried to demolish the cones on the hairpin bend and even the officers showed an aggressive edge when competing with the regular NCOs. We were indebted again to Sgt Heaton and Cpl Clem for their help and directions.

Saturday was due to be our last day but, due to the changed flight times, we had all day Sunday to enjoy sun, sea, sand as well. After early morning water sports, we were invited into the Officers' Mess for brunch. As Lt Edmonds had been called back to the UK (to play cricket for the infantry!), the local tour to Ayai Napa was cancelled, so another afternoon on the beach was called for. All were greatly impressed by the Mess and it was pleasing to see the cadets dressing for the occasion. It was also Max's 18th birthday, so he and Dan and Stephen were invited to spend a couple of hours with the young 'livers in' in the mess later that evening.

The final day meant packing and cleaning ready for handover to Colour Sgt Ziggy, the scary CQMS. Once done, we could spend our last few hours topping up tans and saying our farewells to the officers and men of Anzio Company, 1QLR. Back to Larnaca airport with the discovery that due to a baggage handlers' dispute the flight was delayed for two hours. This gave Freddie enough time to lose his passport and caused much hassle and extra admin with the police, emigration and the check-in desk. We eventually managed to convince the authorities that he was not an illegal immigrant, but they could not assure us that the UK immigration at Manchester would allow him back into the country!

There were many very tired cadets who arrived back at KGS in the very early hours of Monday morning. Twelve of them were to set off up to Scotland later that day to continue with our annual central camp at Barry Buddon! (see the report elsewhere)

We all have very many, varied and happy memories of our time in Cyprus. Many thanks must go to our hosts, Anzio Company of the 1st Battalion Queen's Lancashire Regiment, Alexander Barracks. A special mention must go to Capt Dave Morris, Lt Russ Edmonds, as well as Sgt Heaton, Cpl Clem and all the other NCOs and soldiers involved in our most successful trip. We must also show our grateful appreciation to all our officers and especially Lt Col Scott, who instigated the idea of an overseas attachment last year and organised the trip. 1QLR are to be posted to Germany by the end of the year. Who knows, maybe in the near future we could look at a similar visit to Osnabruck?

Lt Col I M Scott

## CCF Camp, Barry Buddon, Scotland

This was a totally new venue for KGS CCF annual camp. As a result of Cultybraggan camp closing, the Scottish Division Central Camp was relocated to very new accommodation near to Dundee. On arrival, after a six hour coach journey, we had a further couple of hours travel to Ballater on Royal Deeside to be housed in Victoria Barracks. This was the usual home of the Royal Guard that protects the sovereign when she is in residence.

The first day was very hot indeed. Just what you want when 'taking in a Munroe', that is a big Scottish mountain - no relation to Marilyn. The local midges are also quite big and do like the taste of English people. Some of the less strong cadets struggled to keep up with the pace and realised the importance of correctly packing one's daypack.

Absailing and command tasks were really enjoyed the next day, as was the cultural visit to Balmoral, the Queen's summer residence. On returning to Barry Buddon to start the military training, we discovered that MoD cadet regulations stated there was a maximum temperature for green training. When this was exceeded, all activities ceased and so it was decided to transfer the entire contingent to Dundee, to a leisure centre and water park. As the temperature dropped that evening, the survival package was resumed and we bivvied out in Big Wood. Some cadets did not listen to instructions and cooked in the woods or started fires and consequently discovered the delights of cleaning mess tins the next evening!

The shooting package on the ranges was continued the next day and all the cadets had a chance to fire both the cadet CP rifle and the LSW. The afternoon's instruction continued with lessons on various military skills which would be put into practice over the next 36-hour exercise. An interesting obstacle course was revealed next morning. This involved getting very wet if you failed to cross some of the obstacles, as several of our girls discovered. Later in the day, the engineers' package on the raft was another chance to test how waterproof our cadets were.

The training was very varied and intensive. Blank firing on a CQB (close quarter battle) run was very exciting, as were the Section Battle Drills. All this was building up to a big ambush exercise later that night and another night out under the stars. The evening snooze-out was abruptly terminated as the directing staff awoke the sleepy KGS cadets in the very early hours, to prepare them to move out and attack the enemy in full strength. This included two other schools in the offensive force. Although down on their chinstraps, KGS cadets rallied and the adrenalin started to flow as excited soldiers enacted the realism of the exercise and fatigue seemed to disappear with the fun of the attack.

On return to camp, weapons had to be cleaned and stores tidied away. The early finish also allowed the cadets some time in the afternoon for personal admin and packing ready for our final evening. Lt Col Scott had reserved the Sergeants' Mess for our presentations.

A small group of cadets were awarded silver pan scrubs for their efforts with the mess tins. Our CSMs were given CCF ties and Dan Fryer was awarded a pen for having attended every possible CCF camp, both adventurous training and military, in his time with the cadets at KGS.

This year there were many possible recipients for the Anzac Trophy. This award is for the best junior cadet, usually a fourth year. The shared winners were Olivia Armer and James Edgar, but close contenders were Ben Blackburn, Paula Lomax and Lucinda McDade.

The fifth form cadets also performed very well and noticeable winners for best shooting were Jonathan Knowles and Luke Sanders. This summer four cadets are going to Cadet Training Centre, Frimley, to undertake a cadet leadership camp with a mixture of cadets from all over the country. Next year this group will provide some excellent junior NCOs for our cadre training.

Our lower sixth NCOs were very competitive in their trials for promotion. All acting sergeants were confirmed in rank and additions were made of Peter Greaves, Andrew Hatch, Lucy Gregg and Will Horton. Two colour sergeants were appointed in Caroline Desborough and Rachel Brown and the Company Sergeant Majors are to be Alex Miller for Bravo Coy fifth form and John Gladwell for Charlie Coy fourth form. I wish all these senior NCOs good luck in their jobs and congratulate them on their promotions. The senior position of Cadet RSM is

awarded to Andy Moncrieff, our army scholar, who is hoping for an army career and this challenge will stand him in good stead and test his ability in handling and winning over his fellow senior NCOs. This essential skill of getting the best is a trait he will need in his chosen career.

A final thank you must go to all the officers involved in the camp, especially to Sqn Ldr Callister, who has taken over as training officer and was i/c of the camp until Lt Col Scott arrived from Cyprus. A thoroughly enjoyable time was had by all cadets and we all look forward to next summer's camp at Warcop, which is not only our own Brigade camp, and so uses our cadet training team based at Fulwood, but is also much closer to home.

Lt Col I M Scott

## Field Days

We have had excellent field days over the last three terms. With Sqn Ldr Callister taking over as Training Officer this year, he has devised some interesting and highly enjoyable night exercises for the cadets.

The usual Waddecarr Inspection Day was a success in October and gave the current fourth year cadets a taste of overnight exercises. The new Brigade Commander graced us with his presence and was very pleased with what he saw.

The fifth year decided that they too would like another chance of a night exercise. So, Weeton camp was chosen for the March Field Day. The intention was to create a more tactical, military experience for the troops, as well as the usual bivvy out under the stars. Although very tiring, everyone thoroughly enjoyed the exercise. We were fortunate in having a DCCT (rather expensive video game) range available on the camp, which added some realism. All the cadets really enjoyed this and it also ran as a stand on the following day. It is hoped that we can obtain more time on this range during normal training days and after school.

The fourth years had their very successful March Field Day at Halton on Lune, Lancaster, where an assault course, initiative tests and command tasks were undertaken. The main purpose of the day was to test the cadets on their weapon safety and allow them to shoot full bore for the first time. All of the fourth year cadets have now passed their weapon handling and safety test.

At the time of writing, it is proposed that the summer Field Day for the fourth year will be another overnight exercise, this time at Holcombe Moor Training Camp near Bury. This is resurrecting a location used years ago as a location for Field Days. Some older readers may recall the dreaded Krypton Factor assault course which used to be on TV. This has been upgraded and improved to satisfy current health and safety laws.



## CCF Camp RAF Coningsby

Saturday, 16 July saw six of us set out for RAF Coningsby.

Lucinda McDade had left CCF Camp at Barry Buddon a day early in order to attend two camps back to back. Will Bruton, too, had only just returned from a week of parachuting.

Arriving at Coningsby mid-afternoon, the cadets were allocated to their respective rooms and flights.

The first full day of our visit saw everyone experiencing at least one flight in the Grob Tutor at RAF Cranwell, performing barrel rolls, loops and other aerobatic moves.

A varied programme followed, which included many section visits - police dogs at RAF Tumble, fire section, bomb disposal, carbon fibre repair - but the highlight must have been the opportunity to look into the cockpit of the Typhoon, followed a few days later by a simulated flight, courtesy of 29 Squadron.

Although Coningsby is home to the latest Eurofighter, it is also steeped in history. On Monday night we watched the old black and white film of "Dambusters" in readiness for a visit to the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight the next day, and RAF Scampton later in the week - the base from which Guy Gibson led the 19-strong Lancaster attack on the three German dams and where the grave of the 617 Squadron mascot (Guy Gibson's dog) is still well tended. Scampton also houses the RAF Aerobatic team - the Red Arrows.

Although the 25m range was closed during our week on camp, there was a morning of dry weapon training followed by an afternoon exercise at RAF Woodhall Spa encompassing teamwork, leadership and fieldcraft skills. Believe it or not, the week also afforded plenty of time for bowling, football, basketball and cricket; as well as a little leisure time!!

The final event before the farewell disco was the presentation of awards, based on the enthusiasm and commitment of individuals during the whole of the week. Such are the politics of these awards that every flight won something, and the three individuals singled out for the most coveted awards were from three different schools! I would be failing in my duty if I did not put the record straight - Will Bruton, YOU were the Best Cadet on Camp and Oliver Youngman the true winner of the Best First Timer award. Bethan Watkin, who deservedly won

best NCO, lost the Drill Competition following a tie with another flight. However, the TEST Sergeant inspecting the Drill Competition did not take into account, when deducting points for sloppy dress, that Bethan had eight in her flight whilst the other flights had only seven each. The moral victory was therefore hers. But for the politics, it would have been a clean sweep for KGS.

It is therefore with great satisfaction and pride that I can say Kirkham Grammar School cadets were the best there. It is especially pleasing for me as it was the first time I had taken cadets on camp unaccompanied. I did not have S/Ldr Callister to lean on for support - he was unable to attend as he had been the driving force behind the Barry Buddon Camp which overlapped slightly with ours. Even he can't be in two places at once!

I cannot finish this report without also mentioning Peter Armstrong who showed true determination in completing the swimming test on our last day. Because of this, and the fact that he was almost submerged when a "large" man dived into the pool, I forgive him for overtaking me on the go-karting track but must admit that I was relieved when he and Oliver Youngman collided, giving me the chance to take the chequered flag! And Oliver, I even forgive you for putting your empty chocolate wrappers in my handbag when my head was turned!! Perhaps you hadn't noticed that I had set off just before the green flag was lowered!! If you did, then perhaps you, too, can forgive me.





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SCHOOL TRIPS

## Latin Trip to Hadrian's Wall

On Friday, 15th October, 2004, a group of twenty-four fourth, fifth and sixth form Latin students and staff visited Housesteads and Chesters Roman forts on Hadrian's Wall. This was largely to support the GCSE Latin civilisation topic on the expansion of the Roman Empire.

We travelled by Cosgrove's coach and visited first Housesteads and then Chesters and were able to see this northern outpost of the Roman Empire at first hand.

Although the weather deteriorated during the day, we were able to enjoy a picnic lunch against a backdrop of spectacular Northumberland scenery - a long way from Rome!

An informative and enjoyable day was had by all.

Mrs S P Long

## Sixth Form Trip to Paris

Inspired by their study of Paris as a special topic for part of the A Level French course, our upper sixth French students were joined by a number of their colleagues from both upper and lower sixth for a short break in Paris during the February half term.

Accompanied by Mr and Mrs Long, they enjoyed a highly enjoyable stay in the French capital, with various groups and individuals each pursuing their own particular area of interest: some were there to practise their French and conduct field work for their A Level coursework; some were there to visit the museums and galleries; one of the party met up with her French penfriend and was entertained by her family; and yes, we all did some shopping, sightseeing, and enjoyed some fine food and wine!

We travelled by Eurostar, trying hard to look like seasoned channel-hoppers, but feeling more like excited children let loose in a sweet shop. Armed with Mr Long's home-made Paris guidebook, the students wasted no time in mastering the Métro and heading for their chosen favourite places. Within minutes of our arrival, groups were heading for the Eiffel Tower, the Arc de Triomphe or Montmartre, and by day two, we all felt like Parisian *boulevardiers*, hopping nonchalantly on and off the Métro trains, skillfully dodging traffic and ordering food and drink in cafés without translating the menus (well, nearly!).

A group of us even joined the Sunday afternoon crowd at a cinema on the Champs Elysées to watch *Le Manège Enchanté* - better known as *The Magic Roundabout*!

Like all trips to Paris, it went too quickly, and left us vaguely wishing we could own a little *pied-à terre* somewhere on the Ile Saint-Louis, but knowing we



probably never would. As consolation, we took away some wonderful memories, loads of photographs and, for the A Level French students, bags of inspiration for the coursework project.

Thanks go from all the students to Mr and Mrs Long for their organisation, guidance and enthusiasm. *Au revoir, Paris, et à bientôt!!*

## Helmshore Mill

On 1st March 2005, the third year pupils were lucky enough to go on an educational outing to the industry and textile museum of Helmshore Mill.

The trip was very informative. Seeing the revolutionary inventions up close and trying out skills of ages past gave me a real understanding of how the machines worked and the hardships of producing wool within the family and in factories.

The first experience for my group was to 'hand' spin a string of wool. This 'hands on' approach was especially good for learning about such skills as spinning, as I not only learned about techniques, but discovered how tiring and tedious it must have been for children my age and below in the 1700's. I have also come to appreciate the skill required for spinning a perfect string of wool.

To see a "great wheel" in full working order was also a fascinating learning experience, as the guide that we had explained in enthusiastic and easy to understand detail how the spinning machines progressed and developed to fit the many tasks. It was also surprising for me to learn that spinning with these "old fashioned" techniques still continues in certain areas of the world today, and spinning dates back to Egyptian times and beyond that.



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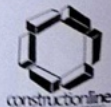
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The next area of the museum we explored was the revolution exhibit. This exhibit was very good revision for various dates and inventions that we had previously studied at school. The exhibitions gave a clear picture of who invented what. For example, we saw a brilliant replica of Arkwright's Water Frame.

The rooms were laid out carefully to form a 'timeline' so as to avoid any confusion and help us to remember dates. Also, along the way, there were informative videos and replicas of the inventions. The guide added extra information to these short video scenes with some amazing facts about how everyday people reacted to the new inventions and how suddenly the working situation had moved away from cottage industries in the country to full-scale production factories.

The replicas of the machinery dotted around the exhibition rooms gave us a real sense of how spinning and weaving was ever increasing in size. When, at the final part of the exhibition, I was faced with a huge cast-iron monster, I thought back to the humble spinning wheels and began to understand what vast changes people had to come to terms with during the textile revolution.

The area that quite literally shook my head into gear was the machinery room. This room of the mill was perfectly preserved. Row upon row of intimidating machinery cluttered the room from floor to ceiling, all menacingly huge and daunting. The atmosphere was amazingly real; the live demonstrations on the machinery gave me a clear understanding of how noisy and dangerous working in a mill truly was.

The fulling room was equally educational, with live working machinery and one of the mill's original water wheels. The guide gave us a very thorough talk about how the water wheel drove the machinery such as the fulling stocks. The stages of cotton and textile production were now understood thanks to the exhibitions and our guide's vast knowledge.

Our final venture was down at the mill pond and the 'head race', a water channel to power the wheel. Features such as the sluice gate provided historical information and also included other information such as knowing that the river deposits less silt on the outside of its meander, and therefore the head race had to be built on the outside to avoid clogging and abrasion from the silt.

I feel that I prospered greatly from the trip to Helmshore Mill. The working machinery provided a realistic atmosphere and increased my understanding. Also, the interactive displays and features added to my appreciation of the skills of the people who wove prior to machines. The realistic atmosphere of the mill was an experience that is not achievable in classroom learning and I will definitely remember vividly what I have seen.

The visit has also increased my pride in Britain's industrial inventiveness, in addition to giving me a better understanding of the textile industry revolution.

Tom Sanders (3W)

## German Exchange

Following the visit of twelve German pupils to KGS in March, our group prepared for their visit to Rottenburg at the end of the Spring term.

The return visit began with auspicious weather and an inauspicious flight delay! All pupils were collected at Stuttgart Airport late in the evening and driven home for a brief night's sleep.

They all assembled the following morning, bleary-eyed, at 7.50 with their partners for the first of their four mornings in school, where they built on the language around them in preparation for their GCSE oral exam.

This time in school was complemented by two full day excursions: the first to Lake Constance and the Swiss border, to visit the world-renowned Sea Life Centre; the second to local Jurassic caves and a nearby water fun park - for many, the highlight of the exchange! To draw the day to a close both the KGS pupils and their partners got together for some competitive ten-pin bowling and a meal.

The weekend was spent in the host families, many of whom had arranged a variety of outings for their guests, including visits to Munich and the German Alton Towers. The last day saw scenes of tearful farewells at Stuttgart Airport and arrangements being made for return visits in the summer holidays. A sure sign of a successful exchange!

Mr. W R McDowell

## Ski Trip

This year's ski trips were a great success, with over 120 pupils and staff hitting the slopes of Europe this Easter. Due to popular demand, the annual party quota of 60 doubled as deposits flew into school. It was decided that we would undertake two trips simultaneously, one junior trip to Pra Loup, France and a senior one to Tonale, Italy. All was set for a busy year for the new Ski Leader, Mr Gardiner.

On the Friday before leaving, our ski company phoned to say that the French ski resort was about to close and that they were looking into an alternative resort. Europe was experiencing rather high temperatures and the snow was melting fast.



After the journey of nine hours, we finally arrived at Pra Loup. This was going to be our base camp as we were to ski in the nearby resort of Vars, our alternative ski resort. As our party poured into our new home for the week, the Hotel Patenoire, the staff prepared for the next phase of our alpine adventure.

For all skiers the first part of any ski holiday is the fitting out of boots, skis, poles and helmets. We had a roster worked out, with groups kitting out, groups breakfasting and staff doing what they do best, leading by example. So, within an hour, we had all pupils and staff ready and sun creamed to hit the blistering slopes. Unlike most resorts, where we would now ascend via cable car to the slopes, we took a rather leisurely scenic route with our Italian bus company to Vars. We continued to weave our way down the steep Alpine valleys past WWII hilltop fortresses, then threaded our way up to Vars. During the week we did this "Hannibal run" twelve times which was not as bad as it sounds as the scenery was spectacular and on the way back it was time to chill, especially for Mr

Watson. By 10.30 am on the first morning all classes were in progress.

After the morning session we were ready for lunch. We picnicked at the drop off point and some pupils sought to supplement the food provided for lunch with crepes whilst furthering their command of spoken French in the local shops. For others, it was a good chance to sit down and discuss what had happened during the previous ski session. The more energetic amongst us took part in the lunchtime sport session, snow balling. Generally, this was confined to our group, but on the odd occasion it revived the love between the two countries separated by the English Channel, as the battle of 'Agincourt' was re-enacted. All weapons were laid down and skis were promptly mounted as the ski instructors approached. In no time at all the groups had been scooped up and ascended the slopes by cable car or chair lift. Our daily routine for skiing had been mapped out and ran smoothly for a further five days.

After very good evening meals each night, pupils still had room for crepes and pizzas bought from the local takeaway. We also enjoyed a full week's entertainment programme, including ten pin bowling, a quiz night, town trail, table football and pool competitions and also the popular Disco Night. Each night before the meal we would also have our own presentations. Categories included 'Blond on the piste' and the 'Huggy Bear Awards', with winners required to wear a selection of wigs. These were awarded for acts of daring or silliness while skiing that day. Recipients of the awards included Henry Redshaw, Rebecca Bridgewater, Thomas Watson and James Gardiner. Several incidents included Tom Watson skiing over a cliff, Matthew Bennett trying to ski through a shed, Rebecca Bridgewater wiping out half her own ski group in one swoop and James Gardiner doing the splits on landing from a jump onto a metal box in the Jump zone. Thankfully, after all that, we had just three minor injuries, one occurring when Mrs Miller was poleaxed by a snow boarder.

We all have happy memories of an excellent trip that will stay with us for many years. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff who have helped me with the smooth running of this trip and all the pupils for their enthusiasm and good behaviour. Mr Scott reports that his trip came to an equally good conclusion and I would also like to thank him and his staff for all their work in Tonale, Italy.

### Lower Sixth Geography Field Course - Scarborough, May 2005

Early May saw a general election ('Vote Labour' was the cry all week - despite the fact that Scarborough and Whitby was a Tory gain!) and it also caused the annual migration eastwards of KGS lower sixth form geographers to Scarborough.



Minibuses packed and personnel allocated to seats, 'Bestie, go with Mr Bob!', we set off to the sunnier climes of North Yorkshire. 'Nine till five' was the chant from Dolly Parton, and even Bob Dylan was heard on the sound system that was operated by Blondie, or was it Ethel and Betty?

When Mr Harrison finally found the handbrake, the journey speed increased, so much so that he encountered wheel spin at one set of traffic light as he tried not to lose Mr Scott. First stop was the planned industrial settlement of Saltaire, just north of Bradford. Located on the banks of the River Aire and built by Sir Titus Salt, a Victorian industrialist who apparently predicted the use of the motorcar. It was not difficult to see where the name comes from... 'Salt aire', Fran! After first finding a pie shop, to satisfy the need for more sustenance for the hungry mob, it was time for lunch. MacDonalds it was, or somewhere where the food was not so swift. Bestie decided to leave his wallet for the first time that week, but he did assist Bob with the driving and trying to extricate the minibus from where Mr Harrison had parked it! A living legend behind the wheel was born.

The view from Oliver's Mount (a motorcycle circuit as dangerous as the Isle of Man) was impressive, but very chilly.

'This easterly wind has no hills or barriers from here to Siberia!' says our geographical leader.

'Can we get back in the bus, please?' whinged the west coast softies.

'Wait till we get to the Castle Headland,' said our venerable leader. Back onto the TT circuit to discover the terrible turns awaiting our passage and the horrible hairpins on the way down. Mr Bob coped like an F1 veteran.

At the Norman keep we discovered some Normans. Over 50 French students were visiting the castle. Forget 1066 and all that. In true English style we managed to get to the front of the queue, where Max had already placed his towel.

'We'll show these Frenchies and get our own back for Harold's arrow in the eye' A quick whiz around 2000 years of history and then it was down to the seaside for cockles and mussels alive, alive-o (or ice cream and candy floss for the less adventurous). Evening meal over, we thought it was time to relax. Not so, ordered the boss. We had listened to 'nine till five', now it was working 'seven till nine'. Another two hours of introduction and preparation for the river day.

Next morning, we were dressed for the great outdoors: Harry in farmer's cap and all were wellie-clad. We were ready for the mighty River Derwent. We had heard about the recent problems of floods and we were prepared for the worst. Paul was the flow meter monitor and Mad Max the German javelin thrower! Harold fell in the river and Helen did not realise that we were following the same river all the time. Great fun was had measuring the hydraulic variables - but the water temperature

seemed sub-zero as it flowed from the Arctic Circle! An early finish was necessary to prevent the onset of hypothermia.

That evening all the inmates had a hearty appetite. 'Soup or fruit juice' followed by lashings of roast and veg - no more fast food for the geographers of KGS. Work, again, lasted till 9.00 pm. We did follow up work from the river exercise, past questions and preparation for the next day.

We were ready for an easy day around the historical delights of the beautiful city of York and an insight into its flood management schemes. The Foss Barrier, the North Street Scheme, Clifford's Tower, Fairfax house and the Merchant Adventurers' Hall were all seen. Bestie managed not to lose anything that day, as he had previously lost his wallet and then his file! The Castle Museum was fun as everyone enjoyed the old fashioned children's games in the prison exercise yard. It was interesting to see how York portrayed its heritage both as a tourist asset as well as a source of education. Later in the week we would visit the north of the city and take in the Minster.

The coastal day was another epic. Mr Bob (careful where you stand) talked us through the day and we examined the new multi-million pound coastal defences at Scarborough's North Bay. We saw where the Holbeck Hall Hotel used to stand. We also saw some magnificent cliffs and erosional features at Flamborough Head. All this information added to the case study material for our AS physical module in June. By now fatigue was setting in, but we still managed to re-enact beach landings and pill box bombing on Cayton Beach (thanks to the help of Max, our friendly German student, who also thought that the lighthouse was a Roman fire station!). A beach football match was arranged with various accidents not foreseen in the risk assessment. Why did Bestie have no shoes on? What was so special about Andy's fall?

The last night was fun as silly games were played in the hotel bar and several people ended up with dirty faces. Numeracy was not very high on the skills rating as Ibble-Obble and Fuzz-Buzz didn't get very far. Mr Bob seemed to enjoy Jenga, as long as he could remain awake!

All had a very enjoyable but hard working week. Thanks must go to Mr Scott for his organisation, Mr Bob for his entertainment and 'Ethel and Betty' for their attendance. We wish these trainee teachers well in their future teaching careers.

Work did not finish there. We even spent another three hours on the way home on a guided tour around the northern walls of York and taking in the Minster and numerous other places of historic and cultural interest. Everyone was very impressed with the sheer size and architecture of the Minster, despite the constant repairs that take place. Mr S had even provided some street entertainment with a singing dog outside the Mansion House (where the Lord Mayor lives). After such a hectic time most

students slept all the way back to Kirkham! - but Dolly was still singing 'Nine till Five'.

Lower Sixth Geographers

### La Rieve: 7 days in heaven

We set off from Kirkham and all waved to our parents as we knew we would not see them for a week. We soon hit the motorway and luckily didn't hit traffic. Soon after, the TV screens came down from the over head compartments (no we didn't get there by plane) and we watched an endless amount of movies all the way to Dover, where there was a sigh of relief as everyone went to stretch their legs. We also managed to get an earlier ferry, which everyone was pleased with. We crossed the channel into France which didn't take as long as anyone expected. We all hopped back on the bus knowing we had a long journey ahead of us, a full 18 hours from the top to the bottom of France.

We eventually arrived at the camp site, everyone got off the bus and staggered to the site which was the other side of the resort. We sat down in the eating area and they gave us a briefing about what we were going to do during the course of the week.

The next day we had a rude awakening at an ungodly hour in the morning (yes, 8 o'clock) and had our first day of activities, which included windsurfing, where we learned techniques.

The next day we went Pico sailing, little two man boats on the biggest lake any of us had ever seen. We arrived at another beach and had a sandwich and stayed there for an hour or so and headed back and played the capsizing game on the way back which was basically... capsizing everyone!

Finally, the day had arrived that everyone was



waiting for, AQUALAND!!! We made the hour long trip to Aqualand Water Park and went on all the rides all day.

The next day we went Hobie sailing which are mini four man catamarans.

The next day we went mountain biking down the best trail I've ever seen and in the afternoon we went windsurfing again.

Then, the last day. We were all sad, but what lightened the spirits of everyone was that we could go banana boating!!! And then, we were off home again. All was not lost, though, as one of the best instructors came home on the coach with us - which was pretty cool. Then, before we knew it, we were back in Kirkham with our bags, memories and embarrassing passport photos.

C. Monaghan

### Duke of Edinburgh Award

The last full expedition took place in Snowdonia over the Easter, with a Silver group of 5, and three Bronze groups totalling 18, completing their expeditions despite sometimes poor weather.

The main aim of this term will be to consolidate the progress of the current members of the scheme, particularly at Bronze level. Too many pupils are signing up to the scheme, completing the expedition, then not completing the other aspects.

The scheme will be offered to the present fourth years once the CCF kitting has been completed in the autumn term. The next full expedition will take place next Easter, however a number of training expeditions will take place before then. We also intend to try and run an expedition over the summer holidays and enjoy some sunshine for a change!

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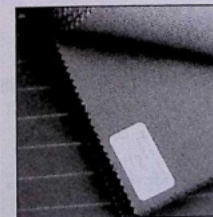
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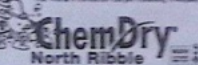
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
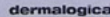
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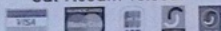


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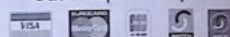
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## PRESTON HOUSE

The house events started last September with the chess and basketball competitions. It does not seem that long ago at all, but since then there have been over thirty different events. The competitions are always approached with enthusiasm and commitment and it is a credit to the whole of Preston House that there is a positive attitude throughout from the first years to the sixth form. The excellent house captains we had last year in Daniel Fryer, Sally Rotheram, Michael Briggs and Charlotte Berry also typified this. They have worked with enthusiasm, intelligence and have set an excellent example to the younger members of the House.

So let's go back to the Autumn Term. With the introduction of house basketball we gained a series of third places, although the introduction of Briège Lavelle to the senior team saw a transformation of the fortunes of Preston House and a well deserved first place for a second year running. The term also ended with a brilliant first position in the swimming gala, thanks to the encouragement by the captains and the exceptional talent of Rachel Armistead, Joe Leeming and Chris Gayle, all third years. Special thanks must go to Mr Sampey and the captains who kept the House running during Dr Rollins' absence due to illness.

The music competition was the first event of the Spring Term and, as reigning champions, we were looking forward to defending our crown and going for the fourth victory. Mrs Miller worked very hard on the choir and encouraged as many volunteers as possible to enter the auditions. We had the most entries of any house (over 100), 381 points going into the final and we gained seven final positions, including Isolyn Donaldson-Ellison, Lucinda McDade, Alice Whitehead, Rose Whitehead and the house choir with 'The Lion Sleeps Tonight'. With a final total of 526 points we won the competition. Isolyn also won the overall competition with a beautiful vocal solo performance.

We continued the term with some excellent results in the cross country events. The junior boys and junior girls both came first, with notable performances from Richard Morrell and Chris Travis, first and third respectively for the boys. The teamwork was again evident with six of the first twelve home coming from Preston House for the boys and, amazingly, five of the first seven girls, Rachel Nuttall coming in third. The intermediate boys finished in first place, with Matthew Wiggins and Alex Spratt finishing in first and second positions respectively. The results just got better and better when the intermediate girls gained another first place overall. It was a brilliant moment when Rachel Armistead, Camille Knowles and Lucy Knowles obliterated the opposition coming home in first, second and third positions. The seniors carried on the excellent results, with both the boys and the girls finishing in second position, with Matthew Barnes winning the race.

In the shooting competition we did not fare quite as well, finishing in third place, but Natalie Roberts gained one of the highest scores. Also in the semi-final of the debate, we were up against strong opposition in the champions, Kirkham House. Nevertheless, Joanne Forrest and Natalie Hayhurst acquitted themselves well.

The first event of the summer term was the rugby sevens, normally played during the spring term. The juniors beat Kirkham in the first match by three tries, but lost in the second match to Fylde. However, in the final match, Joe Casson, Jake Baxter and Nick Evans scored tries to beat School by 21 points to 17 and gain an overall second place. With seven first years in the squad of ten, it bodes well for next year. The intermediates had a very good start, beating School by 26 points to 10, and then had another excellent victory against Fylde, with tries from Wasim Riley and Alex Spratt. In the final match against Kirkham the boys were again on fire, with further tries from Rody Hothersall, Wasim and David Kos ensuring a first place overall.

Sports' Day was the second event of the summer term. The preliminaries went very well and we were in a good position going into Sports' Day. Notable achievements include Michael Briggs second overall, having competed in five events, winning the discus and coming second in the 400m and the shot. He has set an excellent example as a house captain this year. David Kos won the triple jump, was second in the hurdles and high jump and third in the long jump to gain first place in the intermediate Victor Ludorum. In the juniors, we competed very well, winning many events, including a clean sweep in 100m, 200m, 400m, triple jump and relay from Chris Travis to gain the first place in the junior Victor Ludorum. However, it was the team spirit, the third and fourth places, and the people who stepped in at the last moment who helped us to achieve a fine result.

In the senior tennis we beat Kirkham, Fylde and School to achieve an excellent first position. This left the junior cricket, the rounders, the junior and the intermediate tennis as the last events of a very long year. In the cricket final we were put in to bat first and scored 98 runs for 4 wickets off 15 overs, not a bad effort on a wet wicket. Wasim Riley was the pick of the batsmen, scoring 43 runs, including a brilliant six over mid-wicket. Kirkham, however, batted well and managed to get the runs with two overs to spare, losing 5 wickets. It was probably the best final for many years. Well done to all the boys who competed.

The junior tennis was also very close, with draws against Kirkham and School but a loss against Fylde left us in third place. Many thanks to Nick Evans and Kerry Emmett who won most of their matches.

The events during the final week typified the fighting spirit shown by all the members, from the

first years to the sixth formers. Well done to everyone connected to the House and let's keep it up next year.

*The House Captains*

## KIRKHAM HOUSE

After finishing in the top two in the final Whitby Cup standings for the last three seasons, Kirkham House has had a less successful year, finishing fourth in the competition for the Whitby Cup. I think it is fair to say that the House is going through somewhat of a transitional period, with young teams often competing in all three age groups. However, the spirit and character of so many remain strong and our pupils are always keen to uphold the proud traditions of the House. This year, everyone has given of their best and the House has fielded full teams in all events.

The Autumn term started well with a win in the junior quiz, where it was even rumoured Dermot Murnaghan signed the team up to appear on his BBC 'Eggheads' quiz show! Unfortunately, the seniors had less luck, narrowly losing to School House in the semi-finals. As the testing of the brainpower of the school continued, the House's dominance in the chess competition for the last six years was shattered by a strong Fylde team. Nevertheless, there were some impressive performances, especially from Thomas Fielding, who won all three of his matches.

Moving to the sport of the term, the boys' bad luck of recent years in the basketball competition continued. Andrew Crook and Darren Bell were unavailable for selection in the senior competition, meaning that the House had to field a team of mostly fifth years. Fourth position was not unexpected, but with an older team next year, we should do better. In their competition, the inters had to settle for third place. Moving on to the girls, the juniors competed well in the netball tournament and lost a close match to Fylde in the final. In the seniors, the girls played some sensational netball in their semi-final and gave the Lavelle-inspired Preston a real run for their money - unfortunately Preston scraped through and our girls played poorly in the third/fourth playoff against Fylde to finish in fourth position overall. One of those years, I am afraid! The term ended with the swimming gala and, although used to winning this event, everyone was delighted with second place as the House had lost so many swimmers in the summer.

The ever so popular cross-country course awaited our keen runners at the start of the New Year. Unfortunately, things did not go to plan, as we finished third or fourth in all six races. Many thanks must go to those runners who filled in at the last minute. The senior hockey competition was never going to be easy, although Mrs Glover did tell us all that the 'spine' of the team was impressive.

Unfortunately, the rest of the skeleton proved to be more vulnerable to the pace and skills of the opposition and we finished in fourth position. Fortunately, we had better results off the sports field and our debaters were in fine form in the Old Hall for the final against School. Ironically, Kate Denham, a keen and committed political activist, had to argue that she would not vote in the General Election. Fortunately, Kate convinced everyone, and perhaps even herself(!), that voting was a waste of time and the House was victorious. Many thanks must also go to Jo Box for her commanding performance. The final event of the term saw the shooters a little off target as we finished third.

Moving into the Summer term, the House competed in the now almost customary summer rugby sevens. Again, the seniors lacked experience and selection had to come from the younger fifth years, where inexperience and a lack of size and pace meant we had to settle for the wooden spoon. Again, however, this team will come on and compete better next year. The juniors and inters were both fancied to do well but, with a lack of experience in the juniors, and some red-mist in the inters, both teams finished third. Special mention must go to Charles O'Flaherty for keeping his head when so many did not.

The House recorded mixed results in the more traditional summer sports, with the best performances coming in the junior cricket and the junior and inter tennis. The team performance of the year came in the junior cricket semi-final against Fylde, where Kirkham scored a breathtaking 175 runs in their 15 overs - almost as impressive as Lancashire's Twenty20 form I hear you say! Special mention must go to Dean Bell, Peter Rigby and captain Adam Kelsall for their outstanding contributions. Thankfully, we won the final against Preston, with Bell and Rigby again on form. Moving to the tennis courts, both the juniors and inters played well in their matches to finish second. Unfortunately, the seniors struggled as much as Tim Henman's backhand and we finished in fourth position. On paper Sports' Day was not particularly successful, as we finished fourth but, in reality, everyone competed with energy and enthusiasm and there were many excellent performances. Matthew Davies and Michael Giddings particularly impressed in their age group. The Work Cup again proved to be the 'safe banker' of the year, with a comfortable victory secured after the summer exams.

Many thanks must go to Mr. Duncan for keeping the faith in this difficult year. As I said in the introduction, the spirit and belief in the House has never waned and this is largely due to the energy and enthusiasm of the House organisers. As many of you may know, Mr. Duncan has stepped down from his position as Housemaster and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all his hard work over the last seven years and to wish Mrs Glover all the best as she takes over the reins.

*Matthew Lee, Alex Miller, Jenny Ireland*

## SCHOOL HOUSE

Some would say, I am sure, 'Oh, how the mighty have fallen . . .' referring, of course, to School House coming third in the Whitby Cup for the second year in succession. Others, however, who have far more perceptive minds would venture to state . . . 'Haven't the others done well'. We were all genuinely pleased when Preston broke the mould last year and we are even more pleased for all the Fylde House members this year who have waited far too long for this victory.

So, in the post match analysis, what precisely went wrong? Nothing, really, is the truthful answer. Generally, we were simply beaten by better teams or individuals. Term one was actually our most successful start. We gained three first places and three second places and finished a very close second behind Fylde. Victories were gained in the senior quiz, the senior basketball (we will miss you, Oye!) and the junior girls' hockey, which was won in extra time by sudden death penalty flicks for the second consecutive year. School came second in the intermediate basketball, the chess and the senior netball.

The spring term began with the six cross country competitions as usual. We only gained one win, in the senior girls' event, with fine performances for all our team. In this year's house music festival, without doubt, School went primarily for quality not quantity, with a total of only eighty four entries put forward to the audition stage. A total of fifty of those entries gained maximum points and nine entries achieved a place in the final. Our finalists were Suzanne Midgley, Kara Williams, Sam Rowe, Ashley Parkinson, Antonia Limberg, Ben Lucas, Hannah Duckworth and the choir, singing 'Ain't no mountain high enough'. Kara and Hannah gained the most points and, although we had the greatest number of finalists, we still only managed to gain second place overall, just narrowly losing out to Preston House.

In the house shooting we were once again narrowly beaten into second place, even with Amy Duckworth achieving a joint first place with 97 points out of a possible 100 and Anton Mayo coming third with 94 points. Of course, this just goes to show what a high standard of shooting is achieved in the school's C.C.F. Let's move on to the debate. In the semi-final, Vicky was assisted by John Gladwell and then by Harold 'Hal' Buchanan in the final, both of whom proved excellent partners. Vicky was without a doubt outstanding in both rounds, but we still managed to lose by one point in the final. Once again School accepted defeat gracefully, and Mr. Smith simply increased his daily intake of Prozac. The Spring Term finished on a high, with our senior girls playing so well in the senior hockey tournament. Well done to you all.

The start of the Summer Term saw School in third place overall, with a lot of work to do to catch up

Preston and Fylde. This did not appear that difficult, as the Summer Term is traditionally our strongest. Strangely, the Summer Term began with all three rugby sevens competitions, normally arranged at the end of the Spring Term. We put this down to climate change! *Anyway, we were not too successful, with both the juniors and intermediates coming fourth overall and the seniors second (yes - that's right - SECOND!). This goes to prove that both history and talent on paper can be overcome if you want to win more than the favourites!* The senior cricket final also slipped through our fingers when we dropped catches off Robert Sissons' batting - TWICE!

Having lost Sports' Day last year for the first time in a decade, all six squads of School House athletes were really up for bringing the cup home once again. School House girls won all three Victor Ludorum competitions for outstanding female athletes. Lizzie Woodburn won the junior, Abby Wilkinson the intermediate and Jane Greenwood the senior. What an accomplishment - well done, ladies! This year's Sports' Day was one of the best ever, especially on the track. Fylde House just pipped us to the post overall, but who will ever forget that senior boys' relay that completed the days events? Olympics 2012 - here we come.

The exams and leavers' ball came and went. The remaining competitions were the tennis, junior cricket, the rounders and the work cup. School finished fourth in the junior tennis and work cup, third in the intermediate tennis and junior cricket, but finished off the year in real style by winning the rounders under the professional captaining of Sarah Dickie. Very well done, you made us proud.

School House: third overall, as previously stated. These results may not look good when compared to many of our previous years, but it has to be said that many competitions were narrowly lost and only in the final minutes. Ten second places overall could easily have been ten firsts, but we do not complain. We were beaten by two better houses on the days in question and that's life. It is good to know that all our competitors throughout the year competed well and always did their best.

Thank you all for the commitment and support that you have shown throughout the year. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to be the Captains of School House. Good luck for the future.

V. Biggs, T. Howells.

## FYLDE HOUSE

*That was the year that was!*

September started with Fylde House gaining a second place in both quiz competitions. A satisfying start, with the likes of Jamie Hill,

Becki Norman, Lucy Martin, Miranda Hopkins-Coman, Michael Gyi and Corin Heney all showing that Fylde have brains as well as brawn! The Basketball competitions also showed the depth of talent in the House, with our Seniors achieving third after being defeated by the might of School by only 1 point. Our Inters were much more successful and dominated the competition from start to finish. Joe Brown was particularly prolific on that afternoon with his mazy dribbling.

What, I hear you cry? Fylde House? Trophy? Already? Surely not!

Amid the cries of "Beginners' luck" and "Honeymoon period" from all corners of the staff room, it was time to pick the brains of Grand Master Melling for the Chess competition. The brothers Bayliss, after a year of premature retirement, were superb and this was vital in our second victory. Thanks must go to Alastair Ward for turning up and avoiding victory at all costs. Trophy number two of the year. Unthinkable.

Next up was School House in the Senior Netball semi. Our girls were brimming with confidence and played some great netball, but were edged out 4-1. Disappointed at this loss, they took on Kirkham in the third place play off and demolished them 7-3. A memorable performance from Sophie "Dead-Eye" Barton made light work of the challenge from Mr Duncan's girls - and convinced me that my 'defection' from Kirkham was a wise move!

The Junior girls were even more successful. Preston were brushed aside 15-2 in the semi, with Abby Symms netting 11 times. Kirkham in the final was to be more of a struggle. In an end-to-end battle, Fylde edged it 5-4 in the last few minutes. A superb victory on a very cold day - now we had won as many trophies as the whole of last year! The same nucleus of girls then faced School in the Junior Hockey semi and were unfortunate to lose out on penalty flicks, particularly after Harriet Martin's drive cannoned into the post and rolled along the line. No Russian linesman was present on this occasion, sadly.

The Swimming Gala rapidly approached and, luckily for us, all our events were full long before the day. The event itself impressed everyone present and even saw a guest appearance from Mr Sayer as starter. Again, the competition was fierce and saw us come equal second with Kirkham after some tactical selection of relay teams by House Captain Stephen Hatch. Then the joys of Cross Country, with Preston House winning 5 out of 6 competitions. However, we fared extremely well by coming second in all these and winning the Senior Boys run. Thanks to all those who took part in typically 'tropical' conditions, especially our Junior Girls who show great promise for next year.

The Music competition was again of a very high standard and Fylde represented themselves well. Mr Barratt made comment of the calibre of our entries this year and things were very tight indeed. Unfortunately, we were edged into our first (and only!) fourth of the year, but special mention must go to individual finalists Thomas Bennett, Morgan Shaw and Melissa McCarthy, who was placed third overall. Same again next year, please!

Our Shooting team of Stephen Hatch, Robert Sissons and captain Iain Croall showed steady hands and steady nerves and narrowly won the competition in March, while our Senior Girls demolished all opposition in the Hockey, despite fielding a weakened team. All the girls played with determination and showed real skill throughout, which culminated in an end-to-end battle with Preston in the final game, with more goals being scored in those 20 minutes than in the rest of the competition. Our debating team of Katie Edgar and Jamie Hill were not as fortunate and lost out very narrowly to School House, with Chief Judge and 'Fylde House-r at heart' Mrs Jones favouring Mr Smith's red army on this occasion.

The summer term was a long and arduous one, with exams everywhere and Easter coming unreasonably early. Ten trophies were up for grabs, with Preston uncomfortably close behind us after the last update on the Whitby Cup. First up, the rugby sevens postponed from Easter. The Juniors won their competition after an early scare against School House, with Toby Townsend and Benedict Fulford-Brown both showing excellent pace throughout the competition. Then the Intermediates achieved a good second, with Joe Brown impressing in the backs and Jonny Drake doing an excellent impression of a dying swan when he dived for a try with four of the opposition holding on to his legs. Finally the Senior tournament, which has so often been dominated by School House over the years. Every member of the squad played their part on that balmy summer evening. Kirkham and Preston were brushed aside in convincing fashion (and gave a chance for David Hartley to come out of retirement). This set up a final game against School House and its internationals. The game was nerve-wracking and a real spectacle. Final score 20-17 to Fylde, and for the first time in over 8 years, the Senior Rugby Trophy was taken away from School House. Sincere congratulations to all those who took part in that superb victory. I know how much it meant to many of the players.

This meant only a short time was available to organise the chaos that is Sports Day. With preliminary events starting only a few weeks after the start of term, Fylde House had to hit the ground running. Fylde performed very well and were lying in second, only 19 points behind Mr Smith's School House. The scene was certainly set for Wednesday, 11th May.

Before this was the Senior Tennis. The squad was picked long beforehand, but the pairings were only finalised minutes before the first ball was hit. Girls Tennis Captain Jane Jackson was to partner Robert Sissons, while Max Fulford-Brown was due to play with Andrew Hatch. Unfortunately, Andrew Hatch was unable to play, but Steph Bedford ably filled his shoes! Preston House were odds on favourites, but Fylde made it very difficult for them. Another trophy for Preston, but a pleasing second for Fylde overall.

On the same evening, Fylde took Kirkham on in the semi final of the Senior Cricket. The brothers Bell were bound to be a thorn in the side, but our squad of all-rounders were up to the task. A six wicket victory was particularly sweet, as it meant Harrison Pickervance finally stopped sledging all and sundry.

Then, Sports Day. The morning was frantic. Injuries, broken nails and emergency dental appointments were rife throughout the House System, but luckily most avoided Fylde's team. The sun shone on K.G.S. as usual and every competitor gave their all. School remained in the lead for the whole day, until that fateful relay, which still brings Mr Smith out in a cold sweat. A pulled hamstring on the third leg (no pun intended) gave Fylde the chance they needed - when the trophy was presented, the ribbons were green. As nobody could believe it, they are still on the cup as we speak! Every Fylde athlete was a winner; every point counted whether you were first or eighth. That day saw the whole House pull together to overcome all odds. Highlights included the senior boys' 200m, where Des Bowden gained revenge over his School House rival after a very close call in the 100m, Lucy Martin regaining her senior girls' Javelin record and Stephen Hatch winning his seventh consecutive Victor Ludorum. All these successes rightly deserve acknowledgement, but Chris Bowden's determined run in the 1500m epitomises Fylde House. Again, a marvellous achievement.

The next evening was the senior cricket final against School House. Rob Sissons was in magnificent form with the bat, scoring 114 off 11 overs. School ended up being 39 runs short of this total after their allotted 15 overs, and another trophy was ours. After this, the rest of the term was down to the Juniors and Intermediates as our senior students all had the joy of external examinations and study leave. A lot of work still had to be done. Unfortunately, our junior cricketers lost out to Kirkham in their semi-final, but Will Stover was an excellent captain and the team played well, even with only 10 players for part of the fixture.

After internal examinations were a distant memory, the tennis courts were the next port of call for both the junior and intermediate teams. All the players coped with dreary conditions and put in some superb performances. The junior team of Sam Wignall, Charlotte Airey, Benedict Fulford-Brown and Matthew Edgar had to fight right to the death

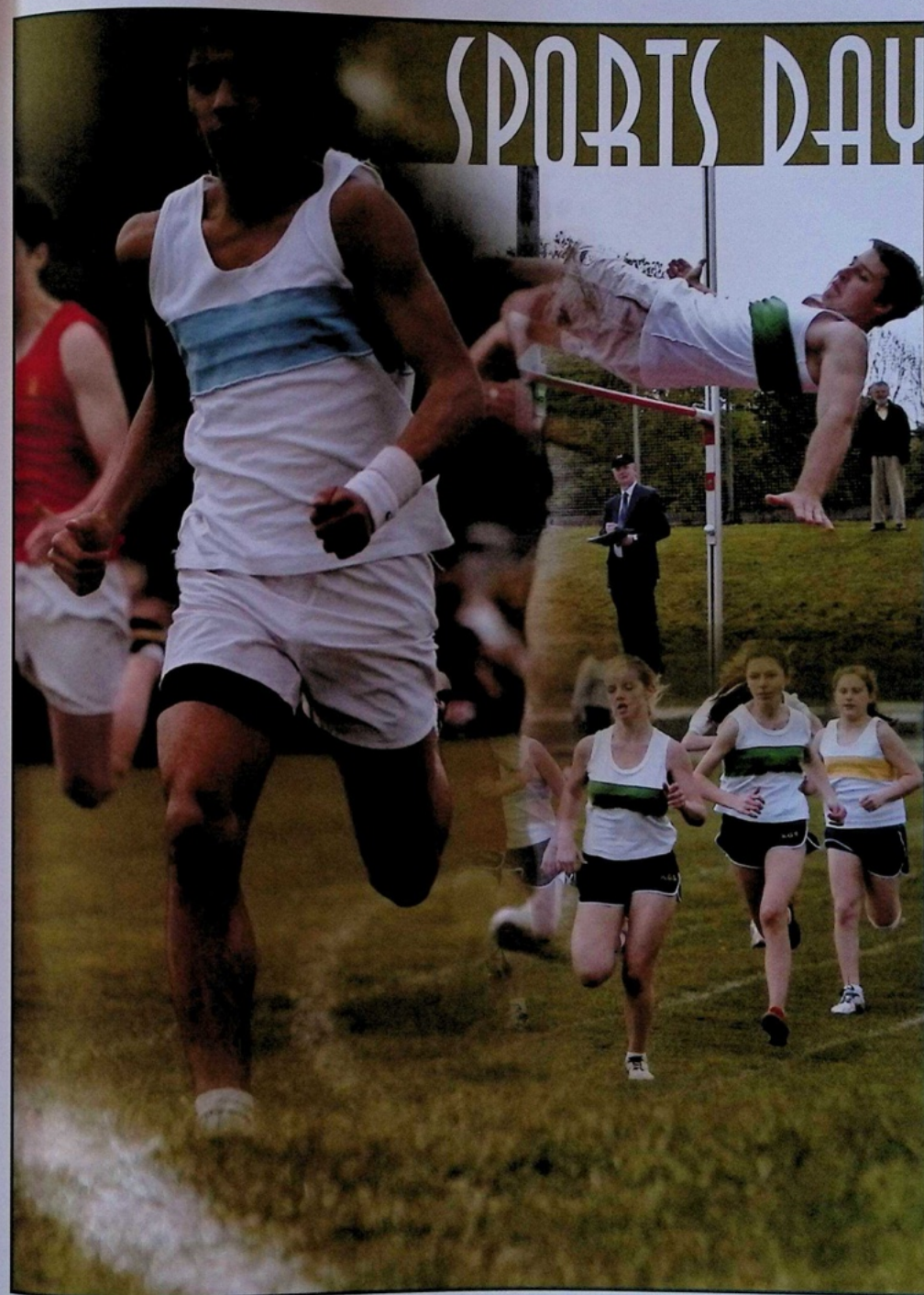
in a tightly fought competition, where they were crowned champions by only 4 points. The Intermediate team found things a little easier, but played some amazing tennis on the way to a convincing victory. Sam Geny, Joe Brown, Zara Walsh and James Edgar only dropped 5 games out of 48 between them, which emphasises how well they played.

Then the final team event was for the girls - the junior rounders. After a delayed start due to some wet grass, Fylde faced School in their first game. Despite some great bowling at the batters heads by Hollie Wilkinson and some superbly disguised tripping up by Phoebe Le-Saint, we were edged out 6-5 by School House. After Coach Reeves had been told that these 'revolutionary' tactics were against the rules, we faced Preston and Kirkham and the game plan changed. Now Claire Gregg was told to hit the ball into the MPH as hard as possible and all the batters had to 'hold on to their bases'. This worked well, and we gained a valuable second place. It was said that in the final game, Fylde also got an extra rounder for a superb fall by Harriet Martin, but that is just a rumour.

So, the end of the term and the destiny of the Whitby Cup was still unknown. Mr Duncan passed the gold envelope containing the Work Cup scores to the Headmaster . . . Preston gained second while we were in third. Kirkham, of course, won this prestigious trophy and gave Mr Duncan a pleasing end to his reign as Housemaster. The nerves were there for all to see. The Whitby Cup scores followed . . . after what seemed like hours, the Headmaster announced that Fylde has done it. Their first Whitby Cup victory in the history of the competition. Preston had battled us all the way throughout the year and Dr Rollins was the first to congratulate Fylde afterwards, but Fylde had pulled 14 points clear in the last few events. What an end to the term!

Thank you to the whole of Fylde House for a great first year - here's to many more!

Mr P T Reeves





Kirkhamian  
GIRLS' SPORT

## Hockey

### First XI

This season has been unusual, but highly enjoyable. Expectations were high and ambitions of succeeding at the highest level were in everyone's minds.

We have been unbeaten in all our friendly matches against other school teams throughout the year and competed to a higher standard against ladies' club teams on a regular basis.

Our first major challenge came when we travelled down to Millfield to face a team with numerous international players. Their status did not faze us and we were outstanding in the first half to gain a 2-0 lead. Unfortunately, we had to settle for a 2-2 draw. However, the match was such a promising start so soon after the beginning of the season and it filled us with confidence.

The week after was the first round of the National under 18 competition. After three teams dropped out at the last minute, the tournament became one match between us and our local rivals, Arnold. We dominated the match, but a breakaway goal meant that a 1-1 draw was decided by penalty flicks. We lost 3-2 and, devastatingly, our hopes of becoming National Champions were lost with it.

In the remainder of the season, there was a number

of highlights which were particularly memorable. At Christmas, we invited the British Colleges under 19 team to play us at Kirkham. We started nervously and conceded in the first 10 seconds. However, we managed to hold our own in the second half and it was a fantastic experience to play a national side.

The season culminated in the annual tournaments. The under 19 Lancashire tournament saw us win our group easily and then go on to the final, where we made sure that we restored our pride and beat Arnold 1-0 to take the trophy. This was followed by the Cheadle sevens tournament. The standard was very high and, not having played sevens all year, we were uncertain at first, but soon settled down. We won all our group matches, beat Cheadle Hulme first team in the semi-final and went on to meet Arnold in the final. It was 0-0 at full time, so it went to penalties. We were calm and composed and came out victorious once again.

The week after was the Kirkham under 18 Invitation Tournament. This year was the first time this has been held and it was an honour for me to lead my team out on such a prestigious occasion. It was a fantastic day, with some of the best teams from around Britain invited to play. The eventual winners were the British Colleges, but it was an amazing experience.

Zoë Kirkham received the 'Greatest Goalie' award which she thoroughly deserved. The prize summed up Zoë's year. The youngest member of the team,


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she is agile and talented and we always had full confidence in her as the last line of defence. In defence, I had the pleasure of playing with Alex Bonney and Mel Smith who have speed, are calm under pressure and out-think their opponents. Fran McNeela, in central defence, has been outstanding all year. I have never seen anyone who is as good at tackling as Fran and her timing is impeccable.

Abby Hookey, Sally Rotheram and Kate Gledhill dominated the midfield with their grit, determination and skill. Sally has improved enormously as the season has progressed and will commit herself to any situation in full. Kate is a very talented player and her vision and understanding of the game add to her skills. Abby, our vice captain, has been brilliant all year. Her fitness, desire to win and her leadership have been outstanding.

We had a very talented forward line this year, with many players offering different qualities to the game. Emily Martin runs at defences, breaking them down and forcing them to make mistakes. Jessica Morris has lightning pace on the wing and has greatly improved the diversity of her play. Steph Bedford only joined us this year, but has made an impact already. Her brilliant ball skills are extremely effective in matches. Milly Hookey has been fantastic this year. Her skill and speed make her invaluable and she has scored some lovely goals.

Caroline Desborough, Rachel Griffiths and Liz Tomlinson have added depth to our squad and have been completely reliable, having the ability to play any position when needed. They have shown dedication all season.

Our final challenge came when we travelled to

Dundee to play the Scottish under 16 national squad. We were fantastic - the best we performed all season. We outplayed them all over the field and completely dominated the match. We won 3-0, which is a phenomenal achievement against a national side. It was a very enjoyable trip and the perfect way to end a great year together.

Finally, thanks must be paid to Mrs Glover and Miss Dykes for all their help, support and coaching this year. It has been very special and could not have happened without your time and dedication. I have enjoyed every minute of it!

Lucy Martin, First XI Captain

## Second XI

The second XI had a strong start to the season and bonded well as a team. The commitment and determination were evident as the team went from strength to strength. The team benefited from a number of Wednesday and Saturday fixtures against some tough opposition, playing to a high standard throughout the year. Despite losing a number of players to the first XI, the team maintained a high standard and stepped up their game which was reflected in victories against Stockport Grammar School, Sedbergh School, Arnold School, Merchant Taylor's and Winstanley College.

Arguably the team's most impressive moment came at the under 19 Lancashire tournament. Despite being up against all first XI squads, the second XI got through to the final stages of the competition.



This boosted the team's confidence and the team delivered a strong and determined performance, but narrowly lost to our own first XI and Arnold, leaving us to finish in a very respectable third place overall. A great ending to an excellent season!

This season's success was due to the support of our two coaches to whom we are extremely grateful - Miss Pumford and Mr. Miller.

Harriet McNeela, Second XI Captain

### Under 15 XI

The under 15 squad has worked hard this season. They started the season well, defeating both Arnold and Merchant Taylor's School. All of the girls worked hard in both training and game play to achieve the best results possible.

In early October KGS travelled to Altrincham. As the girls took position on the pitch, adrenalin was flowing and the girls looked set to put up a fight. At half time the score was 1-0 to Kirkham, with a great goal from Olivia Hawtin. The match went on to finish 3-0 to Kirkham, a game that was full of excitement and determination from both sides. The team was led by captain Fran Britton, who worked hard to ensure that the whole team worked together both on and off the pitch. The team went

on to defeat Wakefield, Bradford Girls' Grammar School and Canon Slade. After some excellent wins and superb goals from Olivia Hawtin, Becky Sharples and Fran Britton, the team went into the Lancashire Schools' Hockey Tournament at Preston Sports Arena with some excellent wins under their belt. The team kept their heads high and fought in bad weather conditions to the final whistle in each game. After leading by two goals at half time in the first game against King Edward & Queen Mary School, Kirkham went on to power in another three goals to take their tally to five before the final whistle was blown. The team went on to play a further three games in a row, winning each game convincingly. Well done to all concerned.

### Under 14 XI

This was a very challenging season for the under 14 squad to which they responded superbly. Lacking in confidence at the start of the season, they had to work very hard initially on organisation on the pitch and team spirit both on and off the pitch. Up to half-term the personnel changed, until a settled team took shape and, by the time the hockey tour to Holland arrived, the team was more aware of individual roles and collective responsibility.

While changes were taking place, the team lost five

of their opening seven matches, although only by one goal in four of them. But we were improving and beginning to look like a team. The tour came at an ideal time, enabling us to work closely together and to see results for our hard work. We won all three matches in Holland and returned in high spirits. From then on we never looked back and went on an unbeaten run from the beginning of November to March in our weekly school fixtures. We finished the year by reaching the semi-finals of the prestigious HMC tournament.

The improvement in our game was reflected in our results after Christmas, where we reversed early season defeats by Altrincham and Arnold into 3-0 and 3-1 victories respectively, and against Stockport, who as second years had beaten us 5-0, where we gained a convincing 3-1 victory.

Of the squad that finally emerged, Abby Symms returned from illness to play particularly well in the latter part of the season, Elly Morton was a cheerful and reliable defender, Lauren Musty always gave her best as sweeper, Sarah Hatch had a splendid year at her true position as centre back, Lucy Knowles did a terrific job in a more defensive midfield role, Phoebe Le Saint, Claire Pasquill and Jade Motley shared the midfield roles and each improved her game significantly as the season progressed.

Lizzie Whittle's enthusiasm on the right wing never wavered and Emma Fagan and Harriet Martin developed a formidable combination down the left hand side of the pitch, with Harriet's ability to spot a pass proving an asset. Jane Gardner was probably the find of the season, making the right defensive slot her own, and Emily Rayson provided a reliable and valuable cover throughout the season.

Sam Shopland-Reed grew into her captain's role and took increased responsibility as time went on. On the pitch she was totally committed, always giving nothing less than her best. Maria Hindley, Grace Garlington and Sarah Bell all offered excellent cover for the team and performed commendably when called upon.

A word also about our 'B' team, which remained unbeaten in its matches and played with enthusiasm and increasing skill.

Overall, the group is now a more confident and organised squad and, combined with their undoubted enthusiasm, they can look to further success next year. I wish them well.

Mr. S. Sampey

### Under 13 XI

The under 13 hockey squad has been a delight to work with throughout the season. Their enthusiasm has been limitless and they have absorbed a vast amount of hockey knowledge in a short amount of time.

The A team lost their first two matches of the season, largely due to the transition from the 7-a-side to the 11-a-side game. After positions were established, the team grew in confidence and went on to enjoy a successful season, winning nine and drawing one of their remaining school fixtures. The team is full of talent and competition for places was healthy. Three of the team were selected for the Lancashire Schoolgirls' under 13 hockey squad: Rebecca Bridgewater, Katie Gorman and Taiba Rankin.



Lancashire Under 14 hockey honours

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It has become increasingly difficult to arrange 11-a-side 'B' team matches. I am always conscious of providing competitive matches for all the girls who attend almost every training session. The girls in the B team squad must be commended for their commitment to improving their hockey skills and I am delighted with the progress that has been made. In the two friendly fixtures that were played, the B team won one and lost one, yet no matter what the result, they thoroughly enjoyed the match experience.

The Lancashire under 13 mini-hockey tournament, held at KGS, was a great opportunity to give all squad players a chance to compete in a tournament situation. It was a challenge for the girls to revert back to 7-a-side game after being so successful at using the vast space available on a full pitch in an 11-a-side environment. However, in true Kirkham style, the players gritted their teeth and worked hard to produce some pleasing performances. The B team was well placed in its group stage and the A team qualified for the semi-final, where they were unfortunate to lose to a strong Lancaster G.G.S. team. It was a fantastic day of hockey on the school grounds and many coaches and spectators commented on the quality of our performances.

To have this particular group of girls as my first coaching challenge at KGS has been a wonderful experience. They have made me proud to be their coach and have helped me to enjoy my first year at KGS. I am sure that the girls will go on to become an extremely successful group of hockey players.

Miss K. H. Glover

## Under 12 XI

A strong foundation has once again been established with the under 12 hockey teams. The girls have worked hard to learn new skills and develop their match play. The A team played six matches, winning four, drawing one and only losing to Wakefield Girls' School by one goal to nil. In the majority of fixtures, the attacking strength of the team was too strong for their opponents and in total the team scored a magnificent 31 goals and conceded only three.

The B team also has had a successful season, going unbeaten throughout the season. Players developed in confidence and as the season progressed began to take their chances in front of goal. The team played seven, won six and drew one, accumulating a goal difference of 13.

In the C and D team squads, enthusiasm and enjoyment were always in evidence. The girls worked hard and made great improvements throughout the season. In the few matches they played, due to the difficulty of arranging C and D

team fixtures, the girls conducted themselves in a competitive manner.

All the girls who have been involved in the under 12 hockey have worked with a determination to succeed. I am sure the girls will go on to achieve more good results next season.

Miss L. Baxter

## Netball

### Under 13

The girls have competed admirably this season, beating some tough adversaries, particularly teams where netball is the main sport. Both A and B squads represented the school impeccably through their fixtures, often willingly changing their normal positions for the strength of the team.

Elizabeth Woodburn captained the A team expertly, always leading by example and demonstrating accurate and skillful shooting. Harriet Watson also deserves special mention for superb shooting and her proficient B team captaincy skills. Netball is a team sport and so all of the girls deserve commendation, as each played her part superbly and for the benefit of the team. A special mention must be made of Hollie Wilkinson for her versatility in playing various positions and of Hannah Quornby for her commitment and reliability.

Finally, the under 13's reached the quarter finals of the HMC Tournament this season, playing with tenacity and determination. A big thank you and farewell to Becky Bridgewater who captained the team for this final event.

Very well done, girls, and thank you to all of you for your support and dedication.

## Athletics

The girls have had another fabulous athletics season! They have trained exceptionally hard and have shown real grit and determination, both in training and matches. All age groups competed in seven matches throughout the summer term, the under 12's won three out of seven, the under 13's won five out of seven, the under 14's won six out of seven and our under 17 team was undefeated. An excellent set of results from all our squads and a good platform from which to start next season.

Our intermediate and junior girls' teams performed extremely well once again in the national TSB Athletics Championships. Both teams achieved high

scores in the county round at Stanley Park in May and secured a place in the regional A finals at Trafford during the exam period. It was a great experience for our girls competing against top club athletes, but we did not really do ourselves justice because of the lack of preparation throughout this important examination period.

All our teams excelled in the Fylde Coast Athletics Championships at Stanley Park on 29th June. Many girls achieved personal bests throughout the day and the overall results were close indeed! Our under 13's finished in third place, our under 14's were fourth, our under 15's were very unfortunate to finish in second place by two points and our under 17's won convincingly. This under 17 team is the only squad to win the Fylde Coast Championships for five consecutive years. Yes, they have won the trophy at every single age group!!

Congratulations to all our athletes, I am extremely proud of you all and would like to thank you for your total commitment throughout the season. I would like to mention the captains for each squad, Jenny Bowden, Fiona Gardiner and Harriet Martin, Danielle Simpson and Taibai Rankin. All of these girls led by example, both in practices and matches.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the lower sixth A Level P.E. group and all the other students who helped to organise and successfully run all of our home matches. I would also like to say thank you very much to all the staff who helped in the smooth running of our home matches. Finally, I would like to say a special thank you to Miss Pumford, Ms Dykes and Mr Sampey for their expert coaching. The enjoyment and success experienced by the girls' athletics teams stems from the great team atmosphere between the staff and the girls. Thank you, once again, to everyone involved in the girls' athletics.

## Mixed Sport Tennis

The tennis season of 2005 has been a thoroughly enjoyable one for all concerned. Teams were entered in the boys and girls Lancashire under 13 and under 15 leagues, with all teams finishing second in their divisions.

Training sessions for squad players and beginners were led by LTA coach David Shaw, who was delighted with the enthusiasm and dedication of the players. The Wednesday afternoon sessions were invaluable in developing the improvers' groups, and it was pleasing to see a high number of talented first year boys make superb progress. The Friday morning squad sessions were well attended, despite some wild and windy conditions and tactical skills were noticeably improved upon by all girls.

A busy Saturday fixture calendar was followed, which included strong opposition from schools throughout the North West. A total of eight

victories were recorded with only two defeats and a total of 112 girls represented Kirkham Grammar School over the course of the summer term.

The senior tennis players were keen to compete in the few weeks of the term they were available and Jane Jackson must be thanked for her good captaincy and organisational skills throughout the season.

Miss K. Glover

## Swimming

Kirkham's swimmers have had plenty of pool time since our return in September. A rearrangement in our PE lessons to ensure the squad swimmers train together regularly has been a great success. Standards have improved and competition for places in the girls', boys' and mixed teams is intense. Our intention is to have more swimmers representing the school in all age ranges for both boys and girls. Whilst we inevitably struggle against some of the larger schools, who have many more pupils to choose from, our heightened competition only shows where some of our swimmers need to improve.

In our mixed galas, the teams have defeated Bolton School and Stonyhurst on two occasions. There were several impressive individual and team displays in these events. In the girls' galas, Kirkham have worked hard to improve their results from last season. The girls convincingly beat Merchant Taylor's in the junior competition, but lost to a very strong Merchant Taylor's side in both the intermediate and senior age groups. In our other competitions, Kirkham beat Canon Slade School and narrowly lost to Hulme Grammar. In the boys' galas, the teams have had very tough fixtures against top class opposition. The teams were heavily defeated by a very impressive Lancaster RGS side. The boys then lost narrowly to Hutton GS and Arnold in a close fought match. More recently, the team was placed third in a quadrangular match at Hutton against the hosts, Arnold and Tarleton.

The galas at both Bolton Grammar and Stonyhurst were mixed swimming galas, which proved to be very enjoyable events. Kirkham managed to defeat Bolton Grammar overall by one point and beat Stonyhurst in a swim off after the final score proved to be a draw. Well done to Luke Patterson for winning that extremely important race.

In a team effort such as swimming, one should not highlight individuals, but at the senior end it would be wrong to ignore the efforts of Phillip Hingley, Lee Ryan, Jonathan Knowles, Stephen Hatch, Andrew Hatch, Luke Dickinson, Kayleigh Kuroski and Grace Skinner throughout their time at school. Rachel Armistead also deserves special mention for reaching the National Swimming Championships this year. Also special thanks to the Shore Cafe in Hest Bank for the sponsorship of the team shirts.

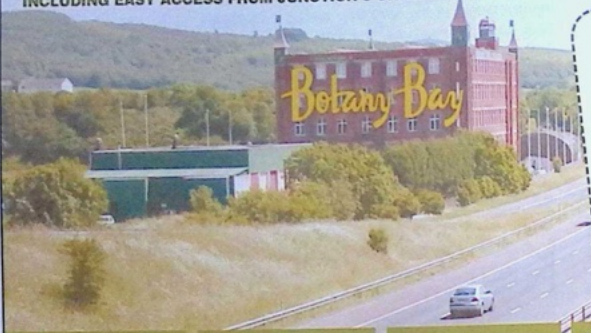
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## Rugby

### First XV

This season the first XV played on a very strong fixture list. Llandoverly College was a welcome addition, whilst Colston's, Hartpury College and Sedbergh were among other top sides played.

The team played to a high standard in most matches and the results show they are a match for any team in the UK when at their best. The highlight was an exhilarating performance in beating Llandoverly 17-0 at Kirkham in an excellent match played in a superb sporting manner. Llandoverly were the first team to beat Colston's for three seasons this year and they also recorded a victory over Sedbergh this season. Llandoverly were so impressed by the team's performance that KGS have been invited to be the opposition in the annual Vivian Jenkins Memorial Match next season.

Defeats came, but only after extremely close battles. Colston's scored the winning try two minutes from time and Sedbergh scored an individual breakaway try from 50 metres when some players were caught napping after a penalty award in another close match. The only other reverse was against Lancaster Royal Grammar School when, after conceding ten points in the first seven minutes, KGS dominated play but panicked and squandered many scoring chances.

The set pieces obtained a regular supply of ball and, although some three-quarters did not secure possession in contact as efficiently as expected, the team usually played with more than 50% possession. Team defence was usually sound, with Luke Doherty, Oliver Moore and Adam Lewis being particularly effective in helping to gain many turnovers. The team attacked efficiently, although too many players were unaware of space and wasted many scoring chances.

Many players developed greatly during the term



and played well, as can be seen by the representative honours gained. Fly half Marcus Jackson, hooker Jordan Page and prop Adam Lewis were selected for the England 18 Group (Jan) XV that played in the Home Nations Tournament and lock Glen Townson was selected as Captain of the England 18 Group (Sept) XV. Luke Doherty received the best possible reward for two years of dedication and great improvement when, after receiving a call up to the England (Sept) squad he impressed so much that he retained his place for the match versus Ireland and gained an England cap. This means that this year KGS had five players who gained England caps. The players should be applauded for their efforts.

Ryan Briggs developed into an outstanding player, as did Adam West at full back. Seven players played in all matches and, but for representative calls, the list would have been longer, Andrew Crook missing four matches through injury. Records such as this indicate morale in the squad was of a high order this season, as is normal. Top points scorer was fly half Marcus Jackson (137 points) and top try scorer was Adam Lewis (7 tries).

It has been hard on the team and Mr. Trenhaile as he has been on his own for all but four weeks, as I have been ill or incapacitated. He attempted to achieve the standards which two coaches normally achieve on his own. His efforts should not be lightly overlooked. I fully appreciate his efforts and hope the players did so also. He was greatly assisted by Captain Glen Townson who performed outstandingly in helping him prepare the team, the players responding enthusiastically to his leadership. I wish to thank him, Vice-Captain Andrew Crook and Secretary Clark Tung for their contributions this season.

I would also like to thank sponsors 'Barron Caravans', 'Canterbury of New Zealand' and 'Lancashire Driveways and Patios' for their assistance in funding.

Mr. B. Gornall

## Second XV

2004/5 proved to be a difficult and disappointing season, where the normal standard of play by a KGS second fifteen was not consistently reached. There was a nucleus of dedicated players who trained as hard as any of the first fifteen players. A number of them pushed hard for a place in the first team and it would be expected that the likes of John Paul Stansfield, Mark Hodgkinson, Phillip Shopland-Reed, James Carpenter, Oliver Cawdell and David Shaw will do the same next season.

The season started with a scratch side losing to Manchester and a defeat by Colston's, where the forwards gave a great account of themselves, but the opposition backs proved too strong. There followed three comfortable wins against King Edward & Queen Mary, Woodhouse Grove and Wirral, before the most unlikely score, a 0-0 draw, resulted from an exciting end to end match with Newcastle. Against Lancaster there was little between the teams for an hour, but then KGS ran out of steam and Lancaster ran in three unanswered tries. After struggling against the first teams of QEGS Penrith and Giggleswick, the defeat by Merchant Taylors' seemed to sum up the season.

Due to injuries and trials, it was necessary to call upon the services of two players who had not played for two years, one who had not played this season and two of the under sixteen replacements.

After Christmas, hard work was made of beating Hutton and the season ended with a disappointing defeat by Arnold, after having the greater amount of possession. There were times when the team played some extremely good rugby and was a match for any opposition. Unfortunately, inconsistency and lack of basic fitness in some players meant that the standard was rarely, if ever, sustained for a whole match.

Oye Oyewumi proved to be a devastating runner with his speed, strength and basketball pirouettes and he scored nearly half of the team's thirty-two tries. Daniel Fryer and Tom Howells between them scored a third of the tries, with Tom also contributing thirteen conversions. The remaining tries were scattered among the rest of the players.

As well as the staff of Mr Trenhaile, Mr Gornall and Mr Whalley, who worked hard to improve the standard of play, Daniel Fryer must be thanked for his enthusiasm and untiring efforts to keep the team together and for his leadership on match days.

## REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS

### LANCASHIRE UNDER 18 'A' XV

Ryan Briggs, Marcus Jackson, Adam Lewis, Jordan Page, Glen Townson, Mark Walker, Oliver Moore, Luke Doherty

### 'B' XV

Luke Doherty, Stephen Hatch, Kristian Horabin, Oliver Moore, Adam West, Des Bowden.

### NORTH UNDER 18

Marcus Jackson, Jordan Page, Glen Townson.

### NORTH PRESIDENT'S UNDER 18 XV

Ryan Briggs, Mark Walker.  
Glen Townson also played for the North Under 19s

### ENGLAND 18 GROUP (JAN)

Marcus Jackson, Jordan Page, Adam Lewis.

### ENGLAND 18 GROUP (SEPT)

Glen Townson (Captain), Luke Doherty.

### COLOURS

#### FULL

Ryan Briggs, Andrew Crook, Luke Doherty, Marcus Jackson, Adam Lewis, Jordan Page, Glen Townson, Mark Walker.

#### HALF

Michael Briggs, Stephen Hatch, Tommy Higham, Kristian Horabin, Oliver Moore, Adam West.

## Under 16 XV

### P16 W11 L5

At first sight the record does not read too badly, considering the very demanding fixture list that we currently play, but with the quality of characters we had playing in the under 16 squad this year, I can imagine that most of the players and coaching staff will feel just a little disappointed. It could have been an unbeaten season.

From the very beginning of the season 'IF' was banned from any conversation relating to our rugby. There were to be no excuses; the results would reflect our performances. We would not rely on luck - we would make our own luck! But, as coach, I am allowed to break the rules and reflect on what could have been.

The pluses have been many:

- four of the games lost were by one score
- we reached the semi-finals in our two cup competitions
- in the first half of the final of the Liverpool St Helens Floodlight Competition we played well enough to win the game, but did not get the points on the board!
- thirty two players represented the team during the season - many playing their best rugby of their Kirkham careers.
- congratulations to Ryan Drage, Michael Williamson, Antony Bolton, Marcus Nicholls, James Walker and George Ward, all of whom started every match.
- a fantastic effort by Robert Sissons who scored 111 points in his seven appearances.
- congratulations to Darren Bell on his appearances for Lancashire under 16's and on his many outings for the first XV.

From my point of view there are many thank you's. Firstly, to the whole squad - for in the many, many years I have been coaching, it was probably one of my most enjoyable seasons. There was always effort and a willingness to learn, professionalism in preparation and, very importantly, lots of humour. As a squad they all matured as young people and gave everything for the cause.

A large part of this enjoyable learning environment was due to the captaincy of our illustrious leader, Harrison Pickervance. He deserves our thanks.

A big thank you must also go to Mr. Mark Sutcliffe for all his support during the season and especially for the 'intricate/secretive' work he did with the forwards.

Finally, gentlemen, I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did and that you will continue to love the game wherever life takes you in the future.

## Under 15 XV

The season began with a fairly easy victory against Manchester Grammar School, 24-5. However, the performance was littered with mistakes but there was plenty of evidence of the team's potential. Our next match against Woodhey High School was cancelled, which rather curtailed our momentum having had good pre-season preparation and an opening victory under our belts. The next match, against King Edward and Queen Mary, was a very hard fought contest with neither side wanting to take a backward step. The KGS pack performed well against a much bigger eight, many of whom went on to represent the county side. Eventually King Edward and Queen Mary ran out winners 16-7 in a very exciting game. After this we went off the rails and we lost our next three games easily, to Wirral (4-17), Newcastle Royal Grammar School (0-43) and Lancaster (7-12), although our performance in the Daily Mail Cup was a marked contrast to the previous two games and we were very unlucky to lose. Giggleswick were dispatched 59-0 in the next game, which was unfortunate, as Sedbergh came to Kirkham the following week. We matched them for two-thirds of the match, trailing 17-7, when one unfortunate collision between two players led to a breakaway try the length of the field. This knocked us back and Sedbergh ran out as winners 39-7. Much credit to the Kirkham side who never gave up and performed extremely well. Before Christmas we lost 31-0 to Merchant Taylor's, but had a resounding win (62-0) against Birkenhead. The second term saw good wins against Arnold (10-0) and Hutton (10-5) and a promising run in the Lancashire Cup, where we dispatched the opposition comfortably on our way to the semi-final, where we had a very hard game against Cowley who ran the ball effectively, showing awareness and great pace. Notable performances came from Wasim Riley (under 14), James Edgar and John Drake in a 19-5 loss. John Soper was the leading try scorer with 16. Many of the squad went on to represent North Lancashire and Lancashire; they were Philip Berry, James Edgar, Alex Spratt and Matt Davies. My thanks to James Edgar who was a great help with team affairs and organisation all season and to Mr Trenhaile for his expert coaching and encouragement.

Mr. J.R. Lyon



## Under 14 XV

Whilst the under 14 'A' XV have not won too many games this season, they can be proud of their efforts, determination and overall development throughout the season. If they continue to work as hard, they will do very well next year.

There were some very tough fixtures throughout this season's campaign and, right from the very first fixture against Manchester Grammar School, the demands and room for improvement in fitness and skills were very clear. To their credit, the squad has improved in these areas and whilst the matches against Woodhouse Grove, Wirral Grammar School, Newcastle Royal Grammar School, Lancaster Royal Grammar School, Calday Grange Grammar School, Giggleswick School and Sedbergh were all lost, there were real signs of improvement as the fixtures rolled on. Against these defeats, victories against King Edward VII & Queen Mary School, Birkenhead and Heysham boosted confidence at key stages in the season. The close encounter with Merchant Taylor's School gave a hint of the potential we might see after Christmas. A defeat against Arnold School was disappointing, but a good win against St Anselm's College rounded off the fixtures on a satisfying note.

In the Lancashire Cup the team progressed nicely through the early stages, with victories against Baines School and then King Edward VII & Queen Mary School. Alas, the team met their match in a strong Stonyhurst side in the semi-final.

In the limited exposure to sevens, the team performed exceptionally well at the Sedbergh Sevens Tournament and, by beating Ampleforth, Yarm, Bradford Grammar School and Manchester Grammar School, managed to reach the semi-final only to meet, once again, Stonyhurst. In a close encounter the team was unlucky to lose 10-19.

Well done to all those involved this year. We must not forget the 'B' XV who have also worked incredibly hard throughout the season. The story is much the same for these boys. They have fought hard, winning four of their games from a very tough set of fixtures, but they have developed and improved throughout the campaign.

Space does not allow a full list of players to be congratulated, but special mention of Charles O'Flaherty, Tom Sanders, Will Stover and Wasim Riley must be made, as they have been key features in the season and have also represented the under 15 XV at times.

Mr. M. Whalley & Mr. R. Taylor

## Under 13 XV

**A team P16 W11 L5 D0**  
Lancashire Cup Finalists

**B team P7 W4 L3 D0**

After a long summer, the squad returned to training the week before the start of the Autumn term. With a game against Manchester Grammar School on the first Saturday back, there was one major worry . . . the vast majority of the pack was very unfit and not particularly mobile! The backs were skilful, but did not gel as a unit and phases of play frequently broke down. The first game saw a defeat, but there were glimpses of real potential. The strong running of the forwards was to be a platform on which many improvements could be made. There was clear progress the following week with a long awaited victory over KEQMS, Lytham away from home. The team played superbly and kept their discipline very well.

The conditions for the rest of the Autumn term were not ideal for flowing rugby, but players such as Matthew Bennett and Ben Lucas ensured ball for

the backs. Despite disappointing results against strong Woodhouse Grove and Monmouth sides, the effort put in by all was exemplary. Fitness training on Monday lunchtimes and in the holidays reaped its benefits and several players, including Daniel Smith, Henry Redshaw and Yameen Shahid looked much fitter and faster than before. This enabled the team to play a more expansive game and control the ball much more easily.

After the Christmas break, Arnold School was targeted as a key game for the side. Nothing more could have been asked of the boys on that day. Every player ran strongly and tackled with real aggression. An early Chris Travis try saw Kirkham go 5-0 up, but it was not to be. A 6-5 loss, but a moral victory, was certainly taken away from Blackpool that morning. From then on, the team played with confidence, with backs and forwards starting to link much more fluently. The campaign for the Lancashire Cup commenced in earnest soon afterwards, and victories against Manchester G. S and St Edward's College (where Dean Bell kicked particularly well) saw the under 13's reach the Lancashire Cup Final at their first attempt.

Sevens tournaments were upon us while preparations were underway for the final at Fleetwood, and the first tournament at Packwood Haugh was a rude awakening for several players. The following day at the Nora Lipscombe memorial sevens, hosted by KEQMS, the boys in both teams played very well indeed. The 'A' VII was unfortunate to be beaten in the semi-final by the home side and the 'B' VII, with their unusual brand of sevens, progressed to the semi-final of the plate, where they were defeated by Hutton G.S.

The next week was a very busy one - Sunday saw the Lancashire Cup Final against Liverpool College, but immediately afterwards a squad of ten was to drive to London for the prestigious Rosslyn Park National Sevens tournament. Training was intense and positions were fought for fiercely. Research by Mr. Reeves, Mr. Trenhaile and Mr. Whalley saw that Liverpool College had strength in the back line, with one prolific centre. A game plan was formulated, but the final started in disaster. Several missed tackles saw the aforementioned player run through and round what seemed to be the whole team twice in the first 10 minutes to put the opposition two tries ahead. Kirkham regrouped strongly and took on the Liverpool pack for the rest of the game. A Matthew Bennett try and extras from the boot of Dean Bell meant a nerve-wracking finish, but more missed tackles meant Liverpool put 10 late points on the board and came out victorious. Overall, the performance was good, but lessons should be learnt and the team will be much stronger because

of this game. After the exertions on the Sunday, it was no surprise that the 'A' VII did not give a fair representation of themselves the following day in London. However, they did beat Llandaff Cathedral School in an exciting final group game and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

All the 'A' squad have produced excellent performances at some time in the season and it has been a team effort throughout the year. In the backs, Jamie Roper and Dean Bell have shown considerable ability, while Chris Brown has successfully made the switch from full-back to centre. Nick Evans has played with determination when available and Ashley Jones is excellent on the counter attack with his runs. Benedict Fulford-Brown and Chris Travis in the back row have been prolific in the latter part of the season, with sevens being a strongpoint for both players. Ethan Harvey, from being a 'B' team back, is now a first choice lock and Matthew Edgar has shown an exemplary attitude to team selection and has always given his all. A lot of the improvement in the forwards is due to the coaching of Mr. Wu, an ex-pupil of the school, who has given up his free time to help the Under 13's this year. This remarkable commitment has been very much appreciated by both the players and the coaching staff. The 'B' squad has also improved considerably, with several players now pushing for starting positions in the 'A' side. Toby Townsend, James Gardiner, Sam Greensmith and Michael Sanderson were all part of the Cup Final and fully deserve their medals due to the effort they have all put in over the season.

In closing, we feel it is fitting to thank the parents who have followed the teams this season, both home and away. Your support is extremely valuable and motivates the team considerably. Thanks must also go to our sponsors, Ashworths Products Ltd., who have supplied our superb team shirts and ensured the team looked the part on all the prestigious occasions throughout the year.

The season has been a very successful one... Both of us are looking forward to the challenge of improving on it next season.

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

### Under 12 'A' XV

It has been a hard introduction to rugby, with tough matches against Woodhouse Grove (Bradford), Newcastle Grammar School and Lancaster Grammar School. These sides were bigger and faster than the Kirkham boys and, although skill level was high and commitment never in doubt,

it has proved difficult for the team to play the rugby they are capable of.

ate in the Autumn Term the team was at last rewarded for its endeavours with a thumping victory against Merchant Taylor's School (38-10).

Then a couple of narrow defeats were followed by a 0-0 draw against Arnold School, after which the Headmaster (who refereed) proudly described the players as 'warriors' for their dogged performance.

A solid performance earned a 31-5 victory at King Edward and Queen Mary's School, before the best result of the season, against Loughborough Grammar School. The team thoroughly deserved the 41-5 victory and showed how much they had improved since September, with excellent recycling of the ball and off loading in the tackle particularly outstanding attributes of the victory.

### Under 12 'B' XV

An excellent win at Woodhouse Grove (14-5) in their first game of the season set the B team on their way to winning more than half of their games. Improvements in many of the players earned them promotion to the A team during the season, especially in the forwards.

An exciting last minute try at Birkenhead School gave the team a narrow 12-10 victory. After Christmas, we were unfortunate to lose 15-17 to Hutton G.S., before finishing off the season triumphantly with three straight victories: 19-14 against Arnold (with Joe Casson scoring a hatrick of tries), 31-0 against St Anselm's College and finally 82-5 against King Edward and Queen Mary's School.

The enthusiasm of the whole squad has been really pleasing and the improvement of rugby skills commendable. I look forward to seeing the boys progress next year.

Mr. D.R. Carter

# John O. Edwards

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## Cricket Overview

Despite some unsettled weather during the first half term, the advantage of a long seven week period after Easter has allowed our cricketers to settle into regular practice and play. There have been some pleasing wins and frustrating losses as the season progresses, but many players and teams have shown indications of their potential as they move through the school.

Amidst exam season, the first XI has fielded eighteen players and has perhaps never has its strongest eleven available for every game. The season started poorly with defeats against Arnold and Hutton, but later victories against Merchant Taylor's and Clitheroe Royal Grammar School indicated that there is considerable talent within our team. The team had many stern tests to come in the period after the exams, including matches against high quality teams from the MCC, Sedbergh, Lancaster and Wesley College from Melbourne. The highlight of the season must be Robert Sissons' excellent innings of 106 against Clitheroe Royal Grammar School.

The under 15 XI had a good season and recorded satisfying victories against many of our local rivals. Two of the under 15 XI have represented the first XI (David Kos and Sam Bell) regularly.

The under 14 XI has struggled throughout the season, but the boys have maintained their interest and enthusiasm. There is real potential in this team and all the coaches feel that with continued hard



work many of the players will make good senior players. A recent victory against Ormskirk has perhaps proven that they are quite capable.

The under 13 XI has probably the most naturally talented cricketers of all our junior sides, but has struggled to 'finish off' opposition when they have worked towards winning positions in games. The game against Lancaster Royal Grammar School in the Lancashire Cup is a good example of this. They need to apply their considerable skill more effectively. We hope to see more victories by the end of the season.

The under 12 XI had a difficult start to the season, but has recorded victories against Rossall and Ormskirk. There are not too many boys in the first year who have played much cricket before, so they are somewhat behind those schools that have boys with more experience. Therefore, they need to practise and learn the difficult skills even more thoroughly in order to catch up. It is very hard to pick a starting XI from the first squad, which indicates that everyone is very keen and that there is not a huge gap in ability amongst the players. This tends to mean that the players will develop together in time to be good players.

Perhaps the most encouraging development of cricket at KGS this season has been the introduction of our 'B' XI's at each junior age group to the local secondary schools' league. The benefits of our B XI playing regularly have been recognised particularly in our under 13 and under 14 teams. The games have given the boys the opportunity to play more regularly at competitive level. It gives them the chance to display their developing talents, which may force them into the A XI, thus making selection more competitive. All this must be good for the standards in cricket and the participation levels are to be applauded. It is fantastic to see so much cricket being played and perhaps counter-balances some of the disappointments of lost fixtures, poor progress in the Lancashire Cup at all age groups and interruptions caused by the exam period.

Mr M. Whalley

### First XI

#### P13 W3 L10

Twenty-seven players have played for the first XI this season. This tells us of the need to use a big squad throughout a campaign that is more and more interrupted by the busy exam schedule undertaken by the fifth and sixth form.

Such interruptions meant that we probably had our strongest eleven available for only two or three matches and in our victories against Merchant Taylor's and Clitheroe the potential of the squad was evident. By the same token, the victory over Lancaster RGS, with a very young side, gave a

glimpse of what might be achieved in the next couple of years.

In other games, the young side has failed to apply itself and defeats against KEQMS, Hutton, Sedbergh and Rossall illustrate the need to improve basic skills. Some of the younger players need to learn how to 'read' and plan strategies in the longer forms of the game. This will come in time.

With the ball in hand, the pick of the bowlers must be Harrison Pickervance, who has worked tremendously hard all season. His haul of wickets is well deserved. Elsewhere, Darren Bell, David Kos and David Hartley have all been efficient. Lately, Ashley Parkinson has displayed promise for the future.

With the bat, Robert Sissons has been the key of the batting line-up, but his limited availability has left us exposed. Some of our older players have not had the consistency at first XI level. A fine 85 by David Hartley demonstrated his talent, but others failed to deliver. In time, some of the younger players, hopefully, will come through, having worked on technique and application. Mark Ashworth, Sam Bell, David Kos, Andrew Brown, Joe Brown, Phillip Berry and Ashley Parkinson all fall into this category.

On the field, dropped catches and misfields have plagued some games and have let down the efforts of the bowlers. Let's hope to improve these basic skills next year so that the overall efficiency of the team will improve.

Mr M. Whalley

### Under 14 XI

In our first match of the season against Arnold, the team arrived with much anticipation, albeit in freezing conditions. We posted a very competitive score of 148 for 5, with Robert Kos hitting a season's best (86 not out) with some clean hitting. Arnold set about the total very positively and were always up with the run rate, but were pegged back by tight bowling from Hothersall, Riley and Kelsall. However, towards the end our hopes disintegrated as one of the Arnold batsmen smashed five sixes.

The next three games were lost but saw some consistent batting from Rigby, Kos and Stover, who had, by this stage, taken over the captaincy from Peter Rigby. Our problem seemed to be in the bowling, where we failed to bowl a good line and length and consequently conceded too many runs.

Our last game before half-term provided the team with a much needed victory against Ormskirk G.S. Will Stover led the way with 3-20, but Robert Kos with 2-1 was the pick of the bowlers. We chased only 75 to win and this was reached in 11.3 overs, Stover proving his all round talent with 37 not out. After half-term we played a strong Lancaster

Grammar side who put us into bat and we parted 130 all out once again, Stover hitting top score with 63 and Robert Kos 20. Lancaster set about the run chase quickly and in only 20 overs passed our total.

In our penultimate game, we overcame a strong Bury G.S. side who had beaten us the previous year with two balls remaining. On a lively home wicket, we restricted Bury to 85-6 with a good bowling display, particularly from Riley and Conway. This allowed us to bat without much pressure. John Leyland top scored with 31, ably assisted by Stover with 21 not out as we passed their total in 14 overs.

Giggleswick were our opponents for the last game and once again our improved bowling allowed us to restrict them to 101 all out in a 20 over match. There were notable performances from Lateef, Stover and Martin, who took 3-3 from 3 overs with a consistent line and length. During the run chase everybody chipped in with scores in the teens as we limped to 104-9, with Riley hitting the last two balls he faced for six and four.

It has been a most enjoyable season for myself and Mr Taylor with an extremely keen and well mannered team of cricketers, several of whom showed potential. Well done to Will Stover on representing the first XI and many thanks to those who supported us over the season.

Mr J. R. Lyon



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## Under 13 XI

P8 W3 D1 L4

The curse of the British summer at the start of the season was particularly frustrating, when bad weather washed out four of the opening five fixtures. Practice using the indoor nets is no substitute for practice in the middle, and in the team's opening three fixtures, too many players lacked form and confidence. After a bad start in the season's opener against Merchant Taylor's, where both openers fell for ducks, the team only posted a below-par 74 all out, clearly not enough - Merchant Taylor's winning comfortably by 5 wickets. Further defeats soon followed, albeit narrow ones, in the Lancashire Cup to LRGs, and to Ripley, Lancaster. Fortunately, the last game before the half term break saw a change of fortune as a depleted side defeated Ormskirk comfortably. Further victories were secured in the latter part of the term against two of the stronger cricket schools of the region, KEQMS and LRGs. The last game of the season proved to be the most exciting, as all three results were possible when the last ball of the game was bowled - fortunately two runs off the last ball secured KGS a tie.

The under 13's are a talented side and, in patches, have shown much promise over the season. However, they have lacked consistency and concentration at key moments where the gap between success and failure is so narrow. If all the team play to their potential, they have the beating of any of our local rivals, as was shown in the strong performances against the stronger sides. Captain Dean Bell has led the team competently and has impressed with his setting of intelligent fields. He has also chipped in with some important innings for the team, notably against LRGs where he scored 37 not out. Looking at the season as a whole, a number of players stand out, but Henry Tomlinson has impressed the most with both bat and ball and deserves the accolade of player of the season.

Mr. S. Duncan

## Under 12 XI

After a number of indoor net and practice sessions, the season began in earnest against Liverpool College, at home. Our early season form was a little shaky, the inability to score runs in this game repeated itself on many occasions. As a team, the boys are battling to come to terms with the rigours of the game.

Half of the team's scoring against Merchant Taylor's came through extras as our hosts breezed past our total with nine wickets remaining. The team has a succession of medium paced bowlers and, sadly, the variety of our attack is too similar. Only Matt Ellis, left arm over, provides an alternative form of attack.



The Lancashire Cup success against Rossall, who were bowled out for 52, rewarded our boys with a convincing win. This could have provided a launch pad to further victories, however St Bede's played with more conviction than in recent years and deservedly won by 30 runs.

As the season has unfolded, J. Taylor has proved a reliable bowler, along with good contributions from M. Ellis, D. Barkley, P. Brook, S. Wignall, B. Garlington and J. McPherson. In quite a few games our batsmen struggled to apply themselves, those who did play straight gained their rewards. In that respect, B. Jones and D. Barkley have, on the whole, been our most consistent batsmen. The ability to judge a run has also proved a stumbling block and needless wickets have been lost as partnerships needed to be built.

A fine win at Ormskirk, who were completely overwhelmed by seven wickets, was quickly reversed against Lancaster Royal Grammar School. Out visitors posted a total of 228 for 7 wickets, which should have been considerably less had we taken our catches. That being said, Lancaster have a county player with a bright future. M. Ellis with 3-19 on the day stuck to his task quite admirably.

In our final game of the season, against Hutton Grammar School, the match ended in a similar manner to the first, not enough runs to defend. The team went down to a seven-wicket defeat.

For all the present difficulties, the team possesses enthusiasm and effort in abundance. As a unit they combine well and are learning with each game, slowly but surely. Provided their enthusiasm remains undimmed and they retain a willingness to learn, they should reap a better crop of results in the seasons to come.

Mr. S. Painter

## Athletics

In their first major athletics competition of the season, the junior (combined first and second year boys) and the intermediate (combined third and fourth year boys) teams produced outstanding results in the English Schools' Track and Field Cup fixture at Stanley Park on Tuesday, 17th May.

Competing against five schools from the North West, both Kirkham Grammar School teams won their age group, with the intermediate boys recording 428 points, the highest ever achieved by a Kirkham team, and the junior team scored 387 points, again a record for a KGS team.

On a fine day for athletics there were many



praiseworthy performances, but special mention should go, in the junior section, to Chris Travis, who won both the 100m and the triple jump and scored 45 points - an outstanding contribution. Then, to illustrate how important is every boy's performance to the team, in the final junior event we fielded an all first year relay team, consisting of two 1500m runners, a shot putter and a javelin thrower, all of whom performed splendidly to boost our final total.

In the intermediate team there were numerous first class performances. Matthew Davies recorded the fastest 80m hurdles on record at Stanley Park; Wasim Riley collected 40 points for top performances in the 100m and long jump, and Tom Sanders, still a year young, picked up 35 points for his efforts in the 1600m and shot putt. It is good to see new faces competing well and overall this intermediate squad is an impressive unit.

Congratulations to all the boys concerned.

Mr. S. Sampey

## Volleyball

Well done to the Sixth Form boys who represented the school at Volleyball this year. The school plays in the Preston and District Volleyball League from September to Easter on a fortnightly basis. Ably led by Chris Bowden, the school finished fourth out of nine in the league. This was a great achievement considering the squad's lack of practice on a regular basis. The team had talent, though, and was capable of playing some good volleyball at times. If the team had played to their potential, and had not lost one or two really close games (two games by one point!), they might well have won the league.

The main squad was Chris Bowden, Stephen Hatch, Andrew Hatch and Max Adelmaier, with appearances by Adam West, Des Bowden, Luke Dickinson and Marcus Jackson.

The school is entering two teams into next year's league. We hope to have a sixth form team and a fourth/fifth year squad introduced to the game. All newcomers will be very welcome!

### Travel by Air by J M Platt

The mischievous breeze wafts through the open window,  
Sending papers tumbling to the floor,  
Twisting and turning like autumn leaves,  
Making wind chimes sing in harmony with the symphony of birds.  
Where has this wind been? What has it done? Who has it seen? Where will it go?

Did it brew in Indonesia?  
Cause chaos among the orang-utans?  
Fell huge trees like a giant's hand, tearing them up by the roots.  
Making seas boil? Causing sailors to cower in fear?

Has it passed through India in the time of the British Empire?  
Whipping through docklands, hurling spices into the air in a blizzard of exotic smells,  
Unravelling turbans which fall to the ground writhing like cobras in the wind?  
A bringer of storm clouds rolling overhead like apocalyptic steeds then thrusting down with its mighty thunderbolt.

Where now will it go?  
No-one can know.  
But none can compare,  
To travel by air.

John Platt (2W)

### My Train Journey

Slowly away the engine gains speed,  
As we all settled down on our journey to Leeds.  
The view through the window gently glides by,  
As the shade of the roof is replaced by blue sky.  
The rhythmical rattle repeats.

As we cross a wide river, the train starts to slow,  
The fast-flowing water glistens below.  
Golden cornfields rush rapidly past,

As the first drops of rain appear on the glass.  
The rhythmical rattle repeats.

Towering pylons reach up to the sky,  
Like a lazy giant dawdling by,  
A tractor lifts hay bales to stack in a pile,  
Whilst a man with a rucksack climbs over a stile.  
The rhythmical rattle repeats.

Now we enter a tunnel the view disappears,  
Darkness surrounds us as a child bursts into tears.  
I look out at buildings as we crawl round a bend,  
Finally we've reached our journey's end.  
The rhythmical rattle desists.

Matthew Edgar

### Butterflies

*When spring came, and the  
Fattening bodies, but slim wings,  
Of butterflies came out to play,  
I was horrified at their  
Obscene fluttering and how  
They invaded the butterfly bush.  
My friends would clutch them.  
In their sweltering hands the  
Butterflies struggled, and then  
I put myself in their place.  
Being trapped in the hot air  
Of a dark place, the warmth  
Hitting me, and sweaty, slimy  
Walls all around me. I had  
To escape that thought and  
Set the butterflies free.*

*I watched them. I saw them  
Delicately fluttering their wings over  
To the bush once more. They nibbled at  
The purple flowers, which were  
Long and like lots of bubbles stuck  
Together. I now saw the butterflies  
As wonderful creatures, some  
Yellow, some green, some a myriad*

### Things that go BUMP

WET IY RUSHED INTO THE ROOM:  
SQUELCH, SQUEAK, SQUELCH!  
THEY PULLED OUT THEIR BOOKS:  
SLIDE BANG SKID!  
THOMAS LIMPED IN: THUMPETY-  
THUMP, THUMPETY-THUMP THUMPI!

A BEE BUZZED IN, ALICE SREAMED.  
THE TYRAND WINDS MOANED, JOE  
DREAMED.  
THE CHAIRS CLANGED, THE DESKS  
CLATTERED AND THE CUPBOARDS  
CREAKED.

PATRICIA HURLED THE GOOEY MUD  
AROUND.  
AS THE RAIN PING, PING, PINGED  
DOWN.  
WHILE MATTHEW SPLISHED AND  
SPLASHED. THEN THE LIGHTNING  
CRASHED, LASHED AND FLASHED.

THE COLD CHILDREN SHIVERED:  
BRR, BRR, BRR.  
THE NAUGHTY BOY YELLED, "IT  
WEREN'T ME, IT WERE 'ER!"  
THE BUILDERS WERE HAMMERING:  
THUNK, THUNK, THUNK.  
THE BOOK IN THE PUDDLE: SUNK,  
SUNK, SUNK.

THE TEACHER SHOUTED, "WILL YOU  
SHUT UP!!!"

AMY EMMETT

### The School Woods During and After School

During school, the trees stand tall the midst of the woods. There is a faint chatter of shouting children, enjoying the summer sun, in the distance. The birds chirp in the trees, belling their rejoices of the summer's day. There is a large, glimmering pond in the middle of the woods, ripples gliding daintily across its surface. Shoals of fish are seimming in the depths and coots and chicks are nesting in their home of leaves and twigs. Every so often, they dive out

*Of colours. Some with patterned  
Dots, some with a pattern nobody  
Could describe. Each one individual  
As they flew past my eyes,  
These creatures are not unlike  
Toys, they're royalty.*

Claire Pasquill 3Z

### A noisy, rainy day

Wet IW raced into the classroom. Stomp!  
Stomp! Stomp!

They yanked out their books with a plonk!  
bang! Wallop!

Injured James struggled in: Clink clonk! Clink  
clonk!

A bee buzzed in, Thomas saw it: Split! Splat!  
Splot!

The wind moaned, the trees groaned.  
And the door sing open with a hefty bang!  
The radiators stared up with a clang.  
Grace's chair clattered, Freya's desk rattled.  
Mean while Josh splashed and splashed in  
the sticky mud outside.

While the tunder crashed and lightning  
flashed.

The builders rattled, crashed and banged.

The lights start flickering.

Noisy children stamped and stomped in the  
corridors.

Doors started creaking and the bell loudly  
rang.

And the teacher shouted and sighed with  
relief.

Jessica Hewitt Dean (IW)

to search for food, hoping that the insects will come out in the warm sun. The pond reflects all the woodland around it, like a large mirror. It reflects all the dappled light around it, from the lush, green leaves to the shaded, darkened undergrowth which is shadowed by the large canopy from the sun. The foliage is so thick, the sun can hardly be seen, so, where the sun shines, the buttercups, daisies and dandelions are just some of the flowers that the woods is home to.

Even though the towering trees cover most of the floor of the forest, the flowers shine out many purples, yellows, pinks and whites, giving the woods colourful approach. There is a bumpy dirt track that runs from this isolated haven to the civilisation around it. This meandering path leaves all the scenic nature behind and runs into the suburbs, covering the birds songs with the sound of engines. The main road is covered with traffic and community life. The woods are like something in a dream ?? the busy, bustling sounds of city life.

After school when the light starts to fade, there is a different atmosphere in the woods. There is a faint breeze brushing the tips of the leaves, chilling the plants around it. The pond lies, still, reflecting its now gloomy surroundings. The murky water seems to attract dragonflies and midges although the chicks anno be seen. The colourful plants also seem to have faded and now a sea of browns, greys and khaki is seen. The tall, withering woodland trees seem to overhang the murky pond if camouflaging the dark depths. There is, once again, dappled patches but, this time, it is from the moon. Along the winding dirt track, the likes of nettles, hawthorns, briars and various grasses replace the flowers at the edge of the path. The ivy creep up the trees like woven hands, scrabbling at it, bare trunk. The young saplings cower under the towering trees above them. These trees are home to birds. The owl screeches in the night, warning any animal it may find that it is hungry. The branches of the trees shade the sky but when out of the woods and in the estate next door, it is seen. Instead of the light blue wash which it is in the daytime, a black, star-studded blanket is wrapped around the world. The silence makes the scene complete. The faint rustle of leaves and a ripple or two is the only thing that can be heard in the dead of night in the heart of the Kirkham Grammar School woods.

Lucy H. Fielding (IW)

## A Window on War

Children's arms outstretched  
No joy, no light  
The dying sun drying their tears  
All is lost,  
Since he was here

Destruction, death,  
Lies everywhere  
A heavenly light shining on the dead  
While the living cower in darkness

An alarm is wailing, he is coming,  
With his deadly weapons  
Pounding the streets,  
Rampaging through lives  
Because he is here

No happiness in there eyes,  
Just grey, lost and full of anguish  
The constant shriek of the bomb  
alarm  
Is mixed with the howl of death an its  
sisters'  
He looms over the towns: a  
thunderous threat

Everything lost  
But still a striving for life  
The children wish for mum to come  
home,  
And when they see her  
He is destroyed by their happiness  
Obliterated by laughter  
And the love that saved the child  
From his evil claws.

Grace O'flaherty

## My Dad

Anytime, anywhere, anyplace,  
My Dad can fall asleep.  
He has the unfailing ability to achieve  
unconsciousness,  
No matter where.

The process is remarkable.  
It starts with eyes becoming dazed and  
unfocused,  
His head slowly drops, jerks and drops again.  
This repeats many times.

## Through The Window

Through the window of my eye  
The whole world stopped except me  
The crystal rain paused in the air  
And made liquid crown which looked ever  
so fair

I viewed the enraged people inside their  
cars  
And people getting drunk at the bar  
Car exhaust pipes giving off fumes  
And I viewed a dancer dancing to some  
tunes

I saw hungry people at KFC  
Also a streaker for all to see  
But as I saw the sculptors men of chrome  
It was then I knew I was alone

Kieran Galaska

## The Others...

Running down the alley,  
My hear pouring,  
My hands wet and clammy,  
Beads of sweat pouring down my face,  
I don't know how far it is behind me,  
There could be more of them ahead,  
Suddenly out of the darkness... blood red  
eyes,  
Misshapen figure and silhouettes,  
I start to run faster,  
More and more figures appear from the  
shadows,  
They make wails like none I've heard before,  
Large, black, hooded creatures,  
How many of them are there?  
What are they?  
Terror is running through my veins,  
Awful, catastrophic thoughts run through my  
head,  
I realise that I am surrounded,  
There is nowhere to run this time,  
Nowhere to hide,  
They have me...

Emily Fisher

His body becomes limp and relaxes.  
His eyes slowly close  
And a deep breath is exhaled,  
In preparation for the first snore!

It is a remarkable sound (origins unknown),  
Deep, yet unique,  
It penetrates throughout the house,  
Lasting for up to three seconds.

In the final stages of the snore,  
It diminishes,  
Leaving an unnatural silence,  
Only for the primitive sound to repeat again.

Grace Ford

## The Window of Wonder

A window to the world,  
to the Universe,  
to the Galaxy.  
Where dreams can come true making  
up a big fantasy.  
This window is magical,  
enchanted,  
unique.  
An entrance to a world which can be  
colourful or bleak.

This window was a door to discover  
the world,  
through the eyes of the ages you  
tumbled and swirled.  
From the Poverty in Africa  
to the Sun and the Moon,  
hoping that someday we can put a  
stop to it soon.

But now it is gone, the window  
destroyed.  
You can no longer see the pain and  
the joy.  
For time has moved on,  
and all is forgotten.  
The world is now blind,  
and is deaf to mankind.

Francesca Hughes

## My Dad

I love my dad, my dad loves me,  
We stick together, a perfect family.

My dad is so amusing when he tells jokes,  
He laughs at himself and I always choke.

My dad loves gadgets, the bigger the better,  
He will try to use them in any sort of weather.

My dad irons gardens and cleans the car,  
I think he's a superstar.

I love my dad, he is really sporty,  
We play golf, squash and tennis even though he's over forty.

I love my dad, my dad loves me,  
We stick together, a perfect family.

Charlotte Airey (12)

## In My Eyes

OUT OF MY WINDOW I WOULD LIKE TO SEE -  
A CRYSTAL BLUE OCEAN  
WITH ROLLING WAVES,  
A GLITTERING RAINBOW,  
A CRIMSON SUNSET  
AGAINST A FLAME-COLOURED SKY,  
A PEACEFUL SUNRISE,  
POPPIES SWAYING ON THE COASTAL MARSH,  
GRAINS OF GOLDEN SAND,  
CAUSING MIST IN THE BREEZE,  
THE SOUND OF DOLPHINS,  
AS THEY PLAYFULLY DIVE,  
SHIPS PASSING IN THE NIGHT,  
MOONLIGHT GLISTENING ON THEIR SAILS,  
THE PLOUGH HIGH UP IN THE SKY,  
BEFORE ANOTHER DAY DAWNS,  
AND I LOOK OUT OF MY WINDOW.

## THE EVIL WINDOW

I'm lying in my bed  
Tossing and turning  
I keep seeing this room  
Dark and cold  
Stone walls  
Stone floors  
With one single flicker  
From a light in the centre  
I suddenly wake  
And creep out of my bed

Slowly drifting  
Up to the attic to where a window lies  
I took into the window  
That I have stared at for ever  
I know I'm not meant to go in  
But I can't risk the temptation  
I have thought about it before  
This time it feels right  
I put my hand through and feel cold  
I see that cold and dark room  
The room in my dream  
There is my mum and dad  
Staring at me with cold eyes  
The man who I have met  
The one in my dream  
The evil laughter  
Is getting near

Rebecca Lewis 2W

## The Carnegie at Kirkham

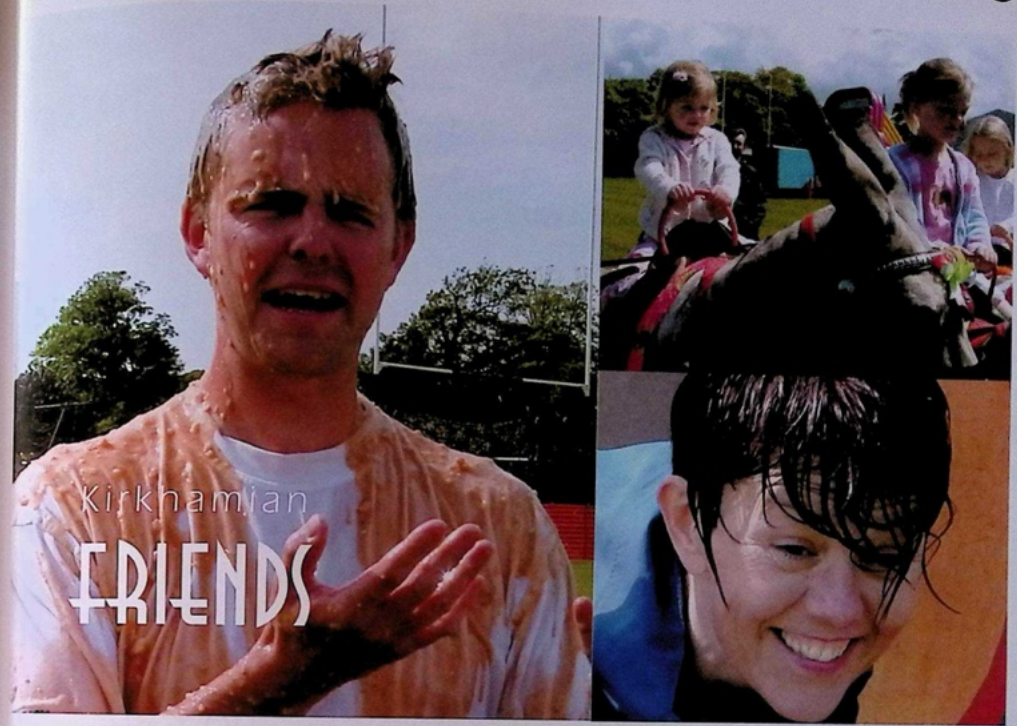
Andrew Carnegie (1835 - 1919) was born in Scotland and emigrated to Pennsylvania with his family. He founded the largest steel company in the world, but believed that rich people should use their wealth to benefit the welfare of their community. To that end, he started a Trust Fund which oversaw the building of 3,000 public libraries worldwide (380 in Britain). In 1936, the Library Association set up the Carnegie Medal to be awarded annually to an outstanding children's book; contenders are appraised for characterisation, plot, style, accuracy, imaginative quality and that indefinable element that lifts the book above the others.

Schools are encouraged to 'shadow' the Award and the pupils are able to post reviews online. Although their votes do not count towards the award, it is fascinating to see how opinions diverge between individual readers as well as between schools! The website is [www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/](http://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/).

Kirkham pupils from all year groups have enjoyed taking part and sixteen have 'shadowed' the award this year. There were six books on the shortlist and a few avid readers were able to read all of them, in spite of exam revision! Last year we held our vote at Silverdell in Kirkham. There were too many of us this year, so we brought Silverdell to the Library, in the shape of ice-cream tubs. Views were exchanged and votes taken while enjoying excellent ice-cream! Our vote went to "The Star of Kazan" by Eva Ibbotson, with "Looking for JJ" by Anne Cassidy a very close second. The team was very surprised to hear that the official winner was "Millions" by Frank Cottrell Boyce, which has recently been released as a film.

Everybody has enjoyed taking part and we are all looking forward to next year's list!

Mrs C Copland, Librarian



Kirkhamian  
FRIENDS

This year, the Friends have brought music to the ears of Peter Lockett, the Head of Music at the Junior School. Mr Lockett received his gift of a piano from the Friends over the Christmas break and is quoted as saying, "It's a pleasure to play". The £3,000 piano will feature in a special Celebrity Concert being organised by Mr Lockett.

Earlier in the Autumn term, the Headmaster received the keys to a brand new 17-seater minibus donated by the Friends. The minibus is on a five year lease, costing the Friends £6,000 a year.

The Friends are able to spend these large amounts because of the hard work put in by its members. During this school year, the Winter Ball raised over £5,000 and the Christmas Fair around £3,000. These large sums are attained by the 'DIY' approach when it comes to organising these events. Wherever we can save money by doing it ourselves, we do, and the school benefits even more, but it does take time and any help is always greatly appreciated. My thanks to everyone who helped at these worthwhile events.

Teachers really do make a difference at Fun Day. The return of Fred Sayer to cook at our barbecue, the wet sponge throwing at the Junior School Headmistress, Lesley Taylor, the gunge pouring over Junior School teacher, Chris Butterworth, and the Junior School Ensemble, led by Peter Lockett, really did make a difference to the fun experienced by children and parents alike. Other teachers, too numerous to mention by name, but nonetheless vital to our success, give their time year after year to raise money to help the school. This year we raised approximately £3,500 in just over four hours and the feedback from the pupils was 'best ever'!

New this time were the snakes and spiders, donkeys and a giant slide and the Rock FM Thunder Truck, but familiar attractions still proved popular, such as the climbing wall, the Army's Assault course and Paintball Shooting, to name but a few. For parents, the search for a bargain could be obtained from the traditional cake stall, the plant stall, the 'As good as new' uniform stall, Julie's stall and the two tombola stalls. My thanks to everyone who made the day such a success.

The school year would not be complete without a mention of the Friends' Summer Ball. This was another remarkable event. It was sold out within weeks of the letter going out. We had to extend the marquee to accommodate a massive 394 guests. We still had a long waiting list for cancellations. Guests arrived to a Champagne Reception in the Old Hall and then transferred to the beautifully decorated marquee, where they ate a magnificent buffet and partied the night away in style. These events are planned well in advance and require a lot of hard work. My thanks to all those involved for making the event such a memorable occasion.

Another school year ends and another commences. Some pupils start, others leave and so it is with parents, which means the Friends lose experienced members. We are constantly looking for help throughout the year to assist at our fundraising events, but if you would like to meet other parents and get involved in the life of the school, then join the Friends. For a 'friendly' chat (excuse the pun!) give me a call on 01253 712890. We do make a difference, raising over £13,000 a year and having fun in the process.

R. Dunn  
Chairman, Friends of Kirkham Grammar School



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## Kirkham Grammar Junior School



## Staff Changes

This year saw the arrival of a fresh new face in the infants. Mrs. Julie Bell joined us from St. Martin's College to teach I2X. She has already proved to be a valuable member of the team. Mrs. Helen Shuttleworth made a welcome return to our fold after the birth of baby Thomas, at the end of the year.

We also welcomed Mr. Glyn Henson to our school as our new school caretaker. He has maintained our school buildings and grounds to a very high standard. He even joined in our Junior Sports' Day!

Mr. Adam Glover spent his gap year with us, assisting the sport staff with great enthusiasm. He will be sadly missed but we wish him well in his studies.



Mrs. L. Dixon

## SPORT

### Swimming

The girls and boys who have competed for the school swimming team have achieved very good results against schools that have their own pools. A fantastic season - unbeaten in all but one match - a superb achievement.

**In the A.J.I.S. Swimming Championships**  
at Merchant Taylors' School on Mon 22nd Nov.

We achieved some excellent results. In the team events the under 10 team were outstanding. They won the Medley Relay having only qualified for the final in the 3rd fastest time and they came 2nd in the Freestyle Relay having only qualified in the 4th fastest time. They improved tremendously in the finals. The girls won a total of 13 medals and certificates between them.

Congratulations to all girls - they were very well behaved and supported one another fantastically - a real credit to the school.

Particular congratulations to our A.J.I.S. Swimming Champions 2004; Sophie Ward, Maddy Robinson,



Miss. K. McArdle

Finally, Ms. Amanda Murphy joined our team as welfare assistant to cover Mrs. Paula Currie's sick leave. As Paula is now fully recovered we must say 'thank you' and 'goodbye' to Amanda.

Mrs. Lucy Dixon also left us to begin her maternity leave. We wish Lucy and Chris a lifetime of joy with their new arrival. This summer Miss Kate McArdle married Mr. Al Aldeen. We wish them both every happiness in their future life together.

Hannah Pike and the Under 10 Medley Relay Team (Maddy, Alix, Annabelle, and Hannah).

**In the House swimming Gala**  
on Mon 25th April

All of the junior school pupils swam in at least 2 races in a very enjoyable competition. It was particularly pleasing to see the support and encouragement for the less able swimmers. There were many close races and the overall result was a win to Colborne house.



A.J.I.S. Swimming Champions 2004

## Rugby

### Results:

#### Under 11:

B-Team:	Lost 20-10	vs	SNR School U12
A-Team:	Lost 43-28	vs	Cheadle Hulme
A-Team:	Lost 33-7	vs	Merchant Taylors
A-Team:	Lost 7-0	vs	Altrincham
A-Team:	Won 38-12	vs	SNR School U12
A-Team:	Lost 28-21	vs	Liverpool College
A-Team:	Won 40-0	vs	Rossall
A-Team:	Won 28-0	vs	Cheadle Hulme
A-Team:	Won 21-12	vs	Arnold
A-Team:	Lost 42-21	vs	Merchant Taylor's

Packwood Haugh 7's:	Semi-finalist
St Mary's Prep 9's:	Semi-finalist
A.J.I.S. 7's:	Semi-finalist
Budge memorial 7's:	Plate runners-up

#### Under 10's:

Won 50-5	vs	Cheadle Hulme
Lost 28-7	vs	Merchant Taylor's
Lost 33-26	vs	Liverpool College
Lost 33-19	vs	Altrincham
Lost 35-0	vs	Merchant Taylor's

#### Under 9's:

Lost 15-5	vs	Altrincham
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It can be seen from the above results that the season has been very mixed. Whenever Kirkham have come up against much larger schools, they have acquitted themselves really well and, as a result of hard training and match experience, have only just been beaten. When they came up against schools of a similar size, they won fairly comfortably at all age groups. It has been very encouraging seeing the under 10's and in particular the under 9's (in their first ever game for the school) do so well. It is positives like this that will bode well for the future of the school.

External coaching from the senior school and continuous extra-curricular rugby training has had an excellent effect on the way the boys have performed this year. I am extremely proud of what they have



achieved and believe that with the same attitude and hard work, Kirkham will be a force to reckon with next year!

Mr. M. Moore

## Cricket

### Results:

Kirkham vs Rossall	Won by 51 runs
Kirkham vs Merchant Taylor's	Lost by 17 runs
Kirkham vs Highfield Priory	Won by 94 runs

This season didn't really get off to the best of starts due to bad weather and two games being called off. However, once the nice weather came along, Kirkham had the chance to show how well they have trained during the early summer months.

The first game was away against Rossall school. The conditions were perfect for cricket and perfect for Kirkham to open the season with a thumping victory. Kirkham batted first scoring 123 for 6 in just 20 overs. An excellent captain's innings of 83 by Will Roper set the tone. Rossall fought back quite well but were held to 72 for 5 in their innings. So a good start.

Next, Kirkham came up against Merchant Taylor's at home, a school fast becoming our main rivals. A rain-interrupted game saw some excellent cricket from both sides. Merchant's batted first and in their innings scored 126 for 4. In reply, Kirkham got off to a slow start and despite an excellent innings of 54 by Michalis Papangelis in partnership with a determined Sam Hall, the boys narrowly missed out on what would have been another brilliant victory.

The final game of the season was against Highfield Priory. Kirkham showed again how well they have progressed this year scoring 162 for 1 in 20 overs. Rhys Williams with 60 not out and Will Roper 54 (retired) lead the way. Some excellent bowling and fielding restricted Highfield Priory to 68 for 6 in their reply.

A short but excellent season all round. I am extremely proud of what the boys have achieved this year, well done.

Mr. M. Moore

## Tennis

We have held practices after school and at lunchtimes - these were very well attended and the children have made good progress. We now have a squad of 24 player - girls and boys.

**House Tennis**

1st - Birley (18 points)  
 2nd - Drapers (10 points)  
 3rd - Colborne (6 points)  
 4th - Clifton (1 point)

Congratulations to all of the girls who took part. There were some very close matches, however Birley were convincing winners in the end, winning all of their matches.

Winning team; Katie Penrose, Francesca Gaeta-Craven, Emily Crowther and Jessica Balmer.

**Athletics**

We competed in the **A.J.I.S Athletics Championships** on Monday 13th June at Stanley Park.

There were thirty schools taking part in this prestigious event. It was a little daunting for some of the athletes who had never competed on a proper athletics track or in such a big competition. Congratulations to all athletes who competed in very poor weather conditions - it was more like November than June. All who took part were a credit to the school - well behaved and some excellent performances.

**Results:**

The following athletes deserve a special mention;  
 Maddy Robinson - U10 600m (3rd)  
 James Baxter - U10 45m Hurdles (5th)  
 Hannah Pike - U10 45m Hurdles (1st)  
 Ben Swift - U10 80m (3rd) and 150m (3rd)  
 Under 10 boys relay team (Scott Rudd, Joe Martin, Louis Mottley, Callum Wilkinson, Ben Swift) - 5 x 80m Relay (2nd)  
 Under 10 girls relay (Rachel Williamson, Maddy Robinson, Georgia Gaeta-Craven, Laura Johnson, Hannah Pike) - 5 x 80m (1st)

**Hockey**

The girls continue to make excellent progress. The Under 11B team were undefeated this season which indicates what breadth of talent we have. The Under 11A team have also had a good season culminating in winning the St. Mary's Hall Tournament, being crowned Lancashire champions and coming 3rd in the North.

The boys team this year has gone from strength to strength winning all of their friendly fixtures and competing for the first time in the Lancashire Hockey championships in which they came a creditable 3rd.

All teams results;  
 Won - 16  
 Drew - 2  
 Lost - 2

**Rounders**

We have had 6 friendly matches winning 5 out of 6.

**A.J.I.S. Tournament on Thursday 19th May**

This was an 'A' team tournament with 24 schools divided into 4 sections. We had been drawn in a tough section and achieved the following results;

v Arnold	Won 3½ - 2½
v Bolton	Lost 4½ - 7½
v Alderley Edge	Lost 3 - 2½
v King Edward/Queen Mary	Won 6½ - 5
v Rossall	Won 5 - 4

These results meant we finished 3rd in the section.

**Netball**

This year with so many commitments to other sports and so much time spent on production we got little time to work on Netball skills. However, a dedicated squad enjoyed taking part in training and worked and played hard in some very exciting matches both Home and Away. Congratulations to two very promising players: Jourdan Kenny and Hannah Pike. We look forward to seeing them both in action next year!

**Results:**

A Team	B Team
W - 0	W - 1
L - 4	L - 3
D - 0	D - 0

At the end of the season we travelled to the Manchester Velodrome Stadium to take part in the A.J.I.S. Netball Tournament. The girls battled hard in the wind and rain before play was taken inside. The girls thoroughly enjoyed the day and enjoyed their experience at the velodrome.

**Results:**

W - 1  
 L - 3  
 D - 0

Mrs. L. Dixon

**Cross Country**

The girls and boys have made excellent progress over the two terms in cross country. Having a regular fitness/cross country lesson every week certainly seems to have paid dividends to the children's level of fitness. The highlight of the Spring term was the House Cross Country competition held on Thursday 10th February. It was held at the senior school and involved over 90 children from J1 - J4 taking part. It

was an extremely close competition with the final result being a draw on points between Colborne and Clifton. Colborne were awarded the trophy for having had the most individual winners.

We had one friendly fixture against Rossall in which we won all age groups. We also competed in the A.J.I.S. Cross Country Championships at Witton Park. Particular congratulations to Ashley Bradshaw who is the U11 Girls cross country champion.

**Music**

Early in the Autumn Term, we all enjoyed the J3 year Group Concert held on the 19th October. The evening was rounded off, with a rousing rendition of Songs from the 1940's. Open evening followed on the 20th October, when several musicians from the fourth year entertained visitors to the School.

November saw the fourth year pupils entertaining us in their Year group Concert, held on the 2nd November. Their concert finished with songs from the Victorian era. The Choir & Ensemble featured in the Christmas Carol Concert. Joe Martin opened the concert singing Once in Royal David's City. The concert also featured the talents of Chloe Walker & Helen Kelsall. Before finishing for Christmas, the Musicians managed to squeeze in a visit to Wesham Hospital, to entertain patients & staff, a yearly event! The last great event of 2004, was the long awaited arrival of the new Yamaha Piano in the Junior School. This wonderful gift was donated by the 'Friends of Kirkham Grammar School.' We were delighted to receive it. The final good news for 2004, was the excellent report the Ofsted Inspectors gave to music in particular. Apart from the classroom music in school, and appreciating the excellent facilities we enjoy, the Inspectors praised the Ensemble and Choir, for adding so much to enrich the life of the school.

In early New Year, the Fourth Year musicians entertained again, this time at the Spring Open Evening.

Rehearsals were in progress throughout the Autumn & Spring terms for the Musical 'Joseph.' Our thanks go to the visiting music teachers who formed the larger part of the 'Joseph Orchestra' assisted by several ex. pupils, now at the Senior school. Their brilliant playing added much colour to the performances. Before Easter, the musicians were on the radio! B.B.C. Radio Lancashire invited Mr. Lockett to visit the studio in Blackburn with some of the members of the cast. Ted Robins hosted the morning show. The children were interviewed, and sang various items from the show. A wide audience appreciated the quality of the children's singing and

the wide P.R. generated across Lancashire, attracted further ticket sales.

On the 20th April, we managed to arrange a 'Celebration Concert,' to mark the arrival of the new piano. Our guest pianist, Ben Smith put the piano well and truly through its paces. Children from the Junior School also gave performances on the piano. The Concert featured the Bolton School Percussion Ensemble, which inspired and amazed all who attended.

The 1st and 2nd Years entertained a packed audience on 17th May in their joint Year group concert. The Finale featured songs from Disney.

On Friday 20th May, 2005, the Choir visited the Drive Methodist Church, Lytham, to attend a workshop organised by the Freckleton Music Festival Committee. Guest adjudicator, Douglas Coombes, listened to the choir perform music from 'Les Miserables' and 'Any Dream Will Do', from 'Joseph,' before passing extremely complimentary comments on their performance. After further coaching by 'the experts,' the choir joined three other school choirs and soloists in an evening concert for parents and friends. Chloe Walker, a previous winner in the festival, also featured as an impressive soloist. Fun day quickly followed, and this time the Ensemble were entertaining parents and friends on Sunday 22nd May in the M.P.H. The concert for young pianists was well received in June, organised by Ms. Jenkins & Mr. Lockett. Towards the end of Term, Parents, Governors and 'Friends' heard the Choir, led by Mr. Lockett, entertain at Przegiving. The Music Scholar, Jordan Chadwick, gave a first class performance of a trumpet Concerto during the afternoon.

Throughout the year, a very large number of pupils entered Associated Board exams in Practical, Vocal & Theory studies. The success was 100%. Some pupils achieved extremely high grades. Well done to you, and thanks to your teachers who coached and supported you.

Our congratulations go to Jordan Chadwick, our music scholar for 2005 and also to Helen Kelsall, winner of a Music Exhibition Award. Well done to both of you, excellent music role models. You have both contributed much to the musical life of the school during your time with us and we hope you will continue to develop your musical talents at the Senior School.

My final thanks go to all the visiting teachers, who have supported our musicians in school. This year, I would like to thank specially all the Junior School Staff who gave so much assistance with the preparation of the Musical, 'Joseph.' I cannot remember a year so busy, and where so much has been achieved.

Mr. P. Lockett

### Broadway...here we come!

After two terms of much hard work, hair pulling (mine!) sweat and tears the Junior School children produced three fantastic shows to rival anything you would see on Broadway! All the children involved enjoyed the experience and will take away memories they will never forget.

The three lead roles were performed brilliantly by Joe Martin (Joseph), Chloé Walker and Helen Kelsall (Narrators). These performances were superb. Many parents and guests commented on their beautiful singing and that of the collective voice of the school.

I would again like to express my sincere gratitude to everyone who helped to make 'Joseph' such an amazing success.

Mrs L. Case

### Infant Ensemble

Throughout the last year the Infant Ensemble developed their musical skills by learning to read music and to listen carefully to other players so that they can play together effectively in front of an audience. Their chosen instruments included keyboard, violin, glockenspiel, xylophone and percussion. Natasha Almond, Olivia Anderton, Clark Brydon, Elyssia Cockshott, Sequoia des-Etages, Millie Foley, Charlotte Gee, Grace Murry, Sachin Nantheesan, Morag Nixon, Rebecca Nixon and Emily Parkinson-Swift are all moving into the Junior department where I hope they will continue to work with the same enthusiasm to develop their musical skills in the Junior Ensemble.



Infant Ensemble

Mrs. J. Knowles

### Class Visits

Class trips provide a different aspect to a child's education and this year the children have enjoyed a number of varied activities. In I1 several visits have been made to Silver Dell in Kirkham for World Book Day and to find out how ice cream is made. Food is obviously important in Reception!

French chef, Felix, from Chicory in Lytham spent the day with the children. They also travelled to Pizze Express in Lytham to make pizzas and they learned about animal habitats in Williamson Park, Lancaster.

I2 enjoyed a visit to 'Colourmatrix' factory to learn how colour is put into plastic bottles. Later they travelled to Knowsley Safari Park where an exciting day was had by all. Some furry friends joined the I2 classes in February! Three policemen showed how police dogs are trained to carry out different jobs. Martin Mere Wildfowl Centre was the destination for the I2 classes' main educational visit. Here they studied various birds and enjoyed a number of practical activities, including badge-making.

The children in I3 visited Leighton Moss in Carnforth to study habitats as part of their Science work. They also went on a nature walk at Beacon Fell and ended the day with a treasure hunt. As part of their Geography topic on the Global Eye the children walked to an opticians in Kirkham where they handed in the donated spectacles to be sent to third world countries.

J1 worked very hard in their Design Technology lessons to design and make kites. On a windy day in June all the children took the kites that they had made to the sands at Lytham to fly. Two days later these two classes travelled to Chester to enjoy a day of Roman fun!



Kite Trip (J1)

In Design Technology in J2 the children enjoyed a visit from Mr. Paul Dunkerley, a local historical enthusiast. He talked to the children about windmills through the ages prior to them making their own working models. Their educational visit was to the Brockholes Centre in the Lake District where they enjoyed a treasure hunt, adventure playground and a boat trip round Lake Windermere.

A competition run by Mr. Craven led to the J3X class visiting Winmarleigh Hall in October, thanks to a winning poster by Hope Murray. A big thank you to Mr. Craven for his generosity. Both classes travelled all

the way to Eden Camp in Yorkshire in November to further extend their knowledge of the Second World War. In June, Bowness was the destination for a boat ride to Lakeside and then a journey on the Haverthwaite Steam Railway, taking in Holker Hall and the motor museum, including the Donald Campbell exhibition.

And so to J4...



France 2005

Lou Valagran

On Friday we arrived in Lou Valagran. Over the week we did lots of activities like canoeing, high ropes,

team challenge, climbing, absailing, zip wire, walk of faith, volleyball, swimming, kayaking, back 2 basics and we also went shopping. I would just like to thank all the teachers for an excellent week in France. It was the best holiday I have ever had.

Emily Crowther, J4X

### My Week

On Friday the 10th of June the J4's set off on a trip to France. Olivia, Sophie, Jordan, Oliver, Lewis, Ryan, Liam, Richard, Joshua and myself stayed at school. We did a number of activities that involved bowling, swimming, painting, sports, DVD's and making traffic lights. We all enjoyed the week and it was nothing like school!

Unfortunately the week flew by and when everyone came back we were back to normal lessons! We would all like to thank Mrs Atkinson for organising the whole week.

Charlotte Robinson, J4X

# Our Talented Youngsters

## Our Trip to Martin Mere

On Thursday, we went to Martin Mere and a lady called Cathy showed us around. At first, Cathy took us into the classroom to put our bags in a box. After that, we went outside to see ducks. We did about senses. First we did smelling mud and grass. It was if a duck family would like to come here. Then, we did site. We picked up things that had fell off the trees up above. We picked buttercups too. Cathy gave us yellow sticky things and we put them on. then we went for lunch. I had a yummy tuna sandwich. then i had an apple and a kitcat. It was yummy! Then we went on the play ground It was great!



Gabriel Bland (I2X)

## The Magic Cave

Estelle opened the dusty cave door and began to rumble. Estelle saw a footprint. She looked at it carefully and then in the distance she saw a dinosaur. She took two more steps then the dinosaur ran near. Estelle was scared. Then she walked on. Then she saw a goblin. The goblin walked and Estelle was frightened. Then she saw a egg and one egg began to crack and Estelle stroked the dinosaur. Then she said bye bye to the dinosaur. She met the goblin and the goblin threw a magic arrow at her house and she was home again.

Jamie Smith I2X

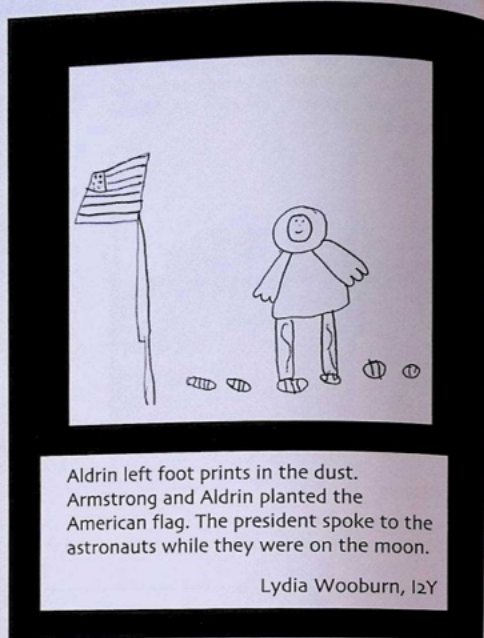


Jamie Smith (I2X)

### Flying My Kite

On Monday 20th June, JI went to fly their Kites that they made in D.T. First of all the coach came, it was a bit late though! We got to St. Annes beach. There was hardly any public there. We all sat down and had a chat about safety for 5 minutes. Then we started. I went 4th. First of all my Kite didn't fly very well. Then I asked Mrs Dixon and she said "Yes." Then my Kite flew very high but soon it went down again. I asked Mr. Procter how to get it back up again. Then I ran to show him and he said it wouldn't fly because the string was too short so we made the string longer and it flew higher and higher. Next we let all the string out and it stayed up high until the end. After that it was time to go so we wound the Kites back in, got back on to bus, got back to school and went home. It was a wonderful day with the help of Mrs Dixon, Mrs Brindle, Mr Butterworth, Mr Procter and Camilla's mum.

Phoebe Johnson, JIX



In 11 we have been learning about Homes and Houses. Our own Bob the builders came to visit us. They told us all about how to build a house and showed us their tools. We even built a little wall with bricks and mortar. We had a fantastic day.

Hannah Sayers, 11



*Cool Compost*

J	R	G	S	L	S	C	C	H	J
F	Z	H	S	E	D	V	A	R	M
B	X	S	R	D	E	N	R	E	K
R	Y	S	N	V	E	Y	B	B	L
O	L	A	W	W	E	F	M	V	
C	A	R	R	O	T	S	S	U	E
O	K	G	H	R	K	L	T	C	Z
L	T	A	E	M	E	J	Z	U	C
L	R	T	S	O	P	M	O	C	K
I	S	K	N	L	E	A	V	E	S

1. Horses eat this.
2. They live in the ground and fertilize the soil.
3. They are a root vegetable and are orange.
4. Plants grow from them.
5. Gardeners hate them.
6. It is a little bit like soil.
7. They look like mini bees.
8. They look like courgettes.
9. You don't see this in compost bins.
10. They grow on trees.

Jessica Riley, J2Y

### My top ten moments at KCGJS

- 1 Being part of the best Under 11 hockey team in Lancashire. (J4)
- 2 Becoming AJS cross-country champion and beating the horse who was 14. (J4)
- 3 Getting told I was going to be Droppers House Captain. (J4)
- 4 Going to France for eight days. (J4)
- 5 Meeting Bronte Edgar, she's now my best friend. (J2)
- 6 Finding out I had won a scholarship for the senior school. (J4)
- 7 Beating Arnold at hockey at Saint Mary's Hall - it was snowing! (J4)
- 8 Scoring my first goal as centre midfielder for the hockey team. (J4)
- 9 Making pizzas in Mr Lockett's class. (J3)
- 10 Going to the Lake District for a day. (J2)  
by Ashley V. Broadshaw J4Y.

**Our food topic was brought alive when Felix a local French chef from the Chicory restaurant spent the day with us. We learnt how to cook lots of delicious dishes including lamb burgers, spring rolls, pasta and fruit tarts. We had a 'magnifique' day.**

Olivia Huyton, 11

My Poem about a Supermarket

People are flowing in and out,  
Crashing their trolleys about,  
The speakers ripple with a message,  
Everyone swirls around,  
They all run strong to a bargain,  
Flooding to a stall, getting what they can.

There is quite a high-tide of happiness,  
Most people leave the shop,  
Now the shop's not overflowing...  
In fact it's almost empty.

Ben Wardell, J4X

I wonder why mum is so thoroughly glum

I wonder why mum is so thoroughly glum,  
I can't understand it all,  
Was it the ball pinned to the wall,  
Or the elephant in the hall.

Perhaps it's the map stuck in the flap,  
Or her cap glued to the floor,  
It might be the kitten that's chewed her  
best mitten,  
Or her finger trapped in the door.

Maria Sayers, 13X

I saw a jolly artist,  
Playing with the jolly paint,  
Did a jolly picture,  
Became a jolly Saint.

The artist liked his jolly painting,  
He called it 'Ode to Mum,'  
Went into a restaurant,  
Had a pint of jolly rum.

Out of the jolly restaurant,  
Came the artist jolly drunk,  
Walked across the jolly street,  
Came across a nun and monk.

"Hello," said the jolly artist,  
"Hello right back to you,"  
Artist said, "Would you marry me?"  
Jolly nun said, "I do!"

Savannah Des-Etages  
Charlotte Whittle  
Harriet Price  
J2X

**A Strange Beast**

In a faraway faraway village,  
There is a story still to be told,  
In the land of Gilli-Mcglacan,  
Where the mountains are frozen and cold.

There lives in these dingy dark mountains,  
A beast that cannot seem to be,  
It flies round the land of Mcglacan,  
On the edge of the Northern sea.

Now this beast is a bit of a strange one,  
Its talons are sharper than swords,  
Its hide is a silvery blackness,  
Its tail like a slippery chord.

So if you do go to Mcglacan,  
On the brink of the Northern sea,  
Look out for this sinister creature,  
The beast that was meant to be.



Madeline Robinson, J3X

**A Young fellow from Spain**

The was a young fellow from Spain,  
Who liked to dance down the old lane.  
He tripped over some pegs,  
And broke both his legs,  
And never went dancing again.



Georgia Shiels & Harriet Brady, J2Y

**A Noisy Poem**

Doors squeak,  
Children shout,  
Lions roar,  
Birds sing,  
Dogs bark,  
Ducks quack,  
Kettles sing,  
Snakes hiss.

Harry Balmer 12Y

**The Cyclops**

In a cave Far aWay  
Something very strange Lay  
It's a Cyclops  
Who only eats cops.

When He's going to eat  
He gets tWo very big Feet  
But When He clips a Nail  
He alWayS goes pale.

He SleepS all day  
AND roAMS all Night  
IF you Were to See HIM  
you'll get a big Fright.

Does He exist?  
Or is He in My Mind?  
That is the question  
The ANSWer is For you to Find.

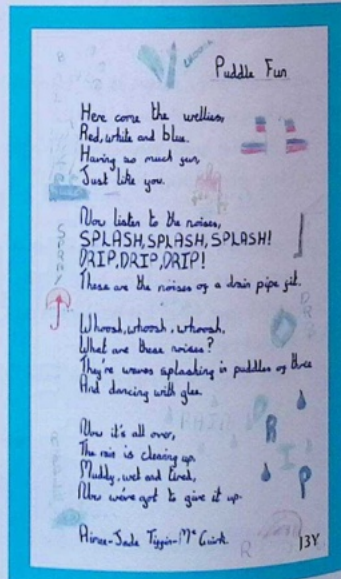


Ryan Barclay, J3X

**Limericks**

There was a young girl called Rose,  
Who always liked picking her nose,  
Her fingers went green,  
Like a runner bean,  
An now she just uses her toes.

Zak Wardell and Ryan Powell, J2X



Here come the wellies  
Red, white and blue,  
Having so much fun  
Just like you.

Now listen to the noise,  
SPLASH, SPLASH, SPLASH!  
DRIP, DRIP, DRIP!  
These are the noises of a drain pipe sit.

Whooosh, whoosh, whoosh.  
What are these noises?  
They're noises splashing in puddles of blue  
That dancing with glee.

Now it's all over,  
The rain is clearing up,  
Puddly, wet and limed,  
Now we've got to give it up.

Alice-Sade Tiffin, 11<sup>th</sup> Girl, J3Y

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