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AND TEN



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Contents

Headmaster's Foreword	04
Leavers	07
The School Year	09
Charity	24
The Arts	29
Societies	37
Combined Cadet Force	49
House Reports	55
Sports	67
Poets' Corner	97
Junior School	105

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

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Additionally we have gained success on the Tennis Court with Olivia Bence leading the way and the intermediate team reaching the regional rounds of the National competition as Regional Champions.

We have, for the first time on record won the local adult volleyball league – no mean achievement.

Although Biathlon has never featured as a school sport before we have some talented competitors who have reached incredible heights this year in both school and individual competitions. Pride of place must go to Imogen Pierce and Bradley Yates who came first and third in their respective age groups in the World Championships this year. Such fantastic achievements are only gained through real dedication and I congratulate them both on their success.

There are in fact so many of our youngsters who combine their hard work in school with extensive commitment to their chosen sphere beyond school and it is always rewarding to hear of their successes like Ellie Jolleys in her dressage, of Ellie Higham and Rachel Fox in gymnastics or Henry Tomlinson, Toby Roberts and Lucy Mellor-Bates in their golf to name only a few. I would encourage everyone to keep us informed of these achievements which we can celebrate in our assemblies.

We have not however slackened our efforts in the team sports and this year has been one of conspicuous success.

On the Hockey field our Under 16 team were North West Champions before falling at the final hurdle before the Nationals. Junior teams recorded pleasing results with all being in County Finals while the Under 13's reached the North Finals. The young 1st XI had an excellent season culminating in the Invitation Tournament at KGS where they gained real success.

The cricket season proved to be a memorable one for many of our players especially if they were lucky enough to go to Grenada. The blog of the tour provided an insight into Caribbean life – on the beach, by the reef or in the pool? They did however find time for Cricket and won five fixtures with Marcus Mollinga scoring two centuries. More widely the 1st XI had its most successful season for some years and achieved a creditable draw with the MCC. Kieran Marmion and Adam Galley gained mention in Wisden while the young side should develop further this year.

Our rugby players also continued their recent successes and the junior teams excelled in gaining three finals on County Finals day. It was heartbreaking that we lost each but it is still of great credit that we achieved this level of success. The 1st XV had a successful season with Kieran Marmion once again being capped by Ireland Schools.

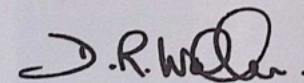
Each year recently I have had to reserve pride of place to our athletes. Not only have all the teams once again replicated recent years with their success in the Fylde Championships but this year both Junior and Senior Girls teams reached the National Athletic Finals. To gain this level of attainment against schools who can often boast four times the number of girls is remarkable and I can only congratulate all those involved. Individually Rachel Williamson, Ben Everson and Daniel Jones emerged from a successful County campaign with selection to the National Finals. All performed their personal best but Rachel gained second place in England in the Triple Jump and was selected to represent her country. An outstanding achievement indeed.

As every year draws to a close we say goodbye to some members of staff and this year was no different. Mr Adam Carter left us after he relocated during the year but he made his mark with the inception of the Rocket Club. After some ten years we said goodbye to our Matron, Mrs Heyes, who ran our surgery so efficiently and who also ensured the welfare of our boarders. Mrs Airey also arrived at KGS a decade ago and took over an almost non-existent Learning Support Department. She built this to be the highly successful unit that it is today and even found time to teach Biology and more recently lead a year group. We wish both Mrs Heyes and Mrs Airey well as they further their careers in the wiles of Cumbria. Mrs Ainsworth has been a member of the Modern Languages Department at KGS for 20 years and has been well known for being a teacher who is firm and stands no nonsense. She has led generations of students however to outperform in their examinations and we wish Mrs Ainsworth well in her retirement.

In 1984 Mrs Taylor joined KGS to teach PE. Little did she realise then that she would leave 26 years later as a Deputy Head with wide responsibilities and with the complete respect of colleagues, pupils and parents. She has represented all that is good about our school and made a tremendous contribution to its success whether that be on the games field, in the classroom or in the major impact she has had on the Pastoral Care offered by the school. We thank her for her longstanding commitment and wish her a long and happy retirement.

So as we look forward from last year, it is clear that our pupils have maintained the standards of their predecessors and in fact in many areas they have set new ones. We must never be complacent but I am optimistic for the future not just of KGS but also for education in general. The very strong hint that we have that central control is being reduced and independence recognised as the key to a schools success, in whatever guise, is refreshing. I remain convinced that schools that have that independence, and that remain true to a clear and strong ethos are those most likely to be successful and I believe that we as a staff and all our pupils are fulfilling the wishes of the founders.

INGREDERE UT PROFICIAS



Mrs Ainsworth

LEAVERS

At the end of summer term, 2010, we said goodbye to some valued colleagues. From the Boarding House, Mrs Heyes, our Matron departed for pastures new. She led the medical team and oversaw our boarding girls' welfare for ten years. Always honest and open, Mrs Heyes helped hundreds of boarders through their time here and assisted them in their personal development. She always held School House close to her heart but will now relish new challenges as her own children move on to higher education and beyond. We wish her well.

From our teaching roll we lost Mr Adam Carter who joined us only last year to teach Physics. In his short time with us, he added to life at KGS with both his teaching and the exciting "Rocket Club". We hope he settles well into his new life in the south of the county.

Mrs Diane Airey left KGS to take over a department at Casterton School in Cumbria. Her contribution to KGS over 10 years was immense, developing Learning Support from a small backwater to a department at the forefront of school. So many pupils and parents benefited from her care and concern at difficult times and she oversaw all the administration of a burgeoning area of school life. Mrs Airey maintained a strong contribution to the Biology Department, teaching junior lessons. As Head of Second Year, Mrs Airey added to her portfolio with the oversight of the pastoral care of a significant proportion of the school. Many owe her a great deal and we wish her well in her new challenge in Cumbria.

Twenty years is a significant portion of one's life and Mrs Ainsworth has spent that period teaching French at KGS. Firm but fair, Mrs Ainsworth always strove for high standards and battled to ensure the teaching of languages had a thorough grounding. Mrs Ainsworth has seen significant changes in the teaching of Modern Languages over these years and took them all with equanimity and very much in



Mrs Taylor

her stride. She travelled significant distances each day to fulfil her role and will no doubt enjoy retirement particularly in avoiding the commuting involved in work. We wish Mrs Ainsworth a long and happy retirement.

Kirkham Grammar School will have to get used to life without Mrs Jane Taylor for the first time in twenty six years. Mrs Taylor joined KGS in 1984 to teach PE and left as a Senior Manager and the architect of the school's highly regarded pastoral system. She has played a key role in early years in the development of school hockey, seeing results improve dramatically. In taking over the leadership of pastoral care she joined a staff room filled with well established and traditionally minded 'gentlemen', while she left with a teaching staff evenly divided between male and female in a fully co-educational school. She always represented what is best about KGS, a willingness to go the extra mile; to look after the vulnerable and pursue the interests of individuals. She has worked tirelessly to ensure youngsters could concentrate on their work while enjoying the activities she spent so much time bringing to fruition. I am sure Mrs Taylor will continue to keep a close interest in life at KGS and we look forward to seeing her keeping in contact as she enjoys a restful retirement.

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SCHOOL YEAR

TWO THOUSAND AND TEN



Summer days at KGS



New first formers at KGS



Pupils relaxing outside the new Drama Studio

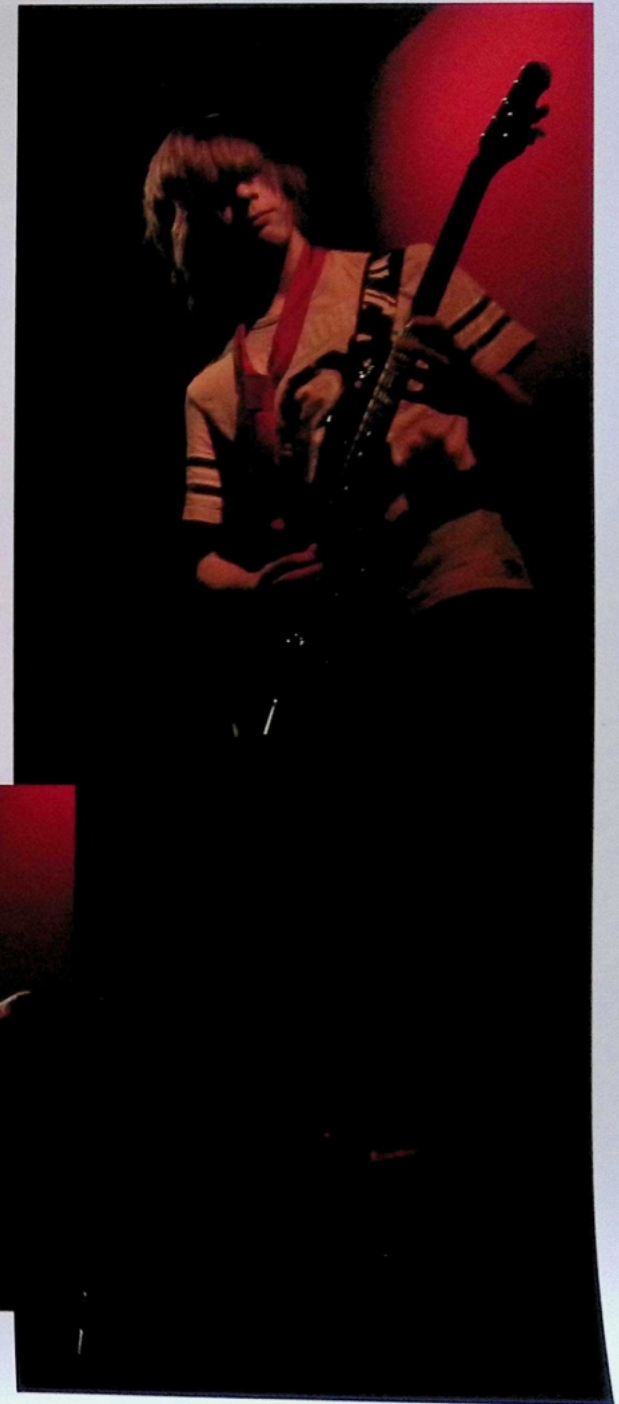
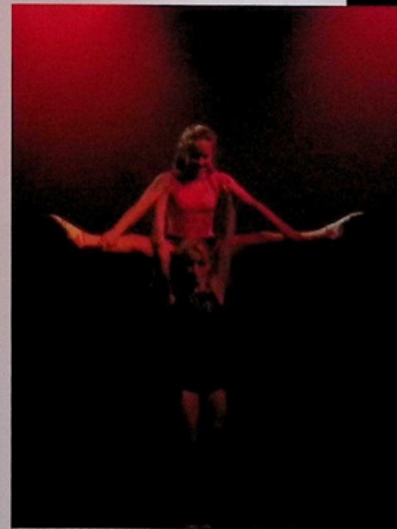


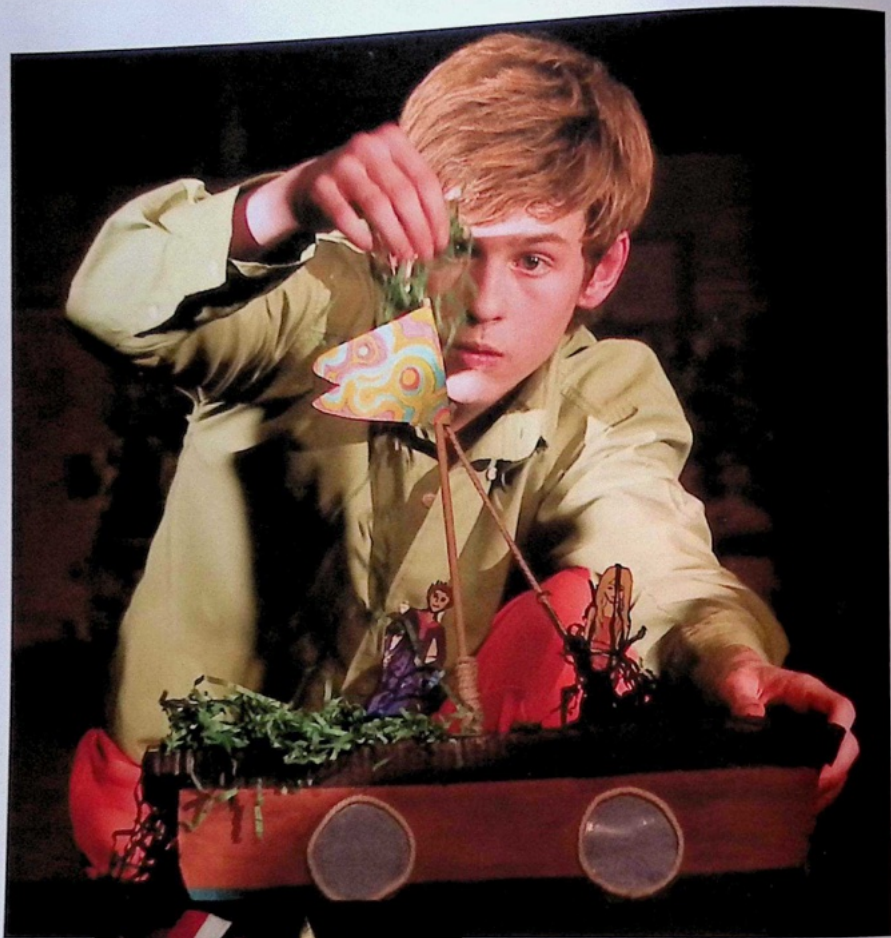


CCF
Field
Day



'KGS has talent'
Charity Concert





First Year visit to Clitheroe Castle

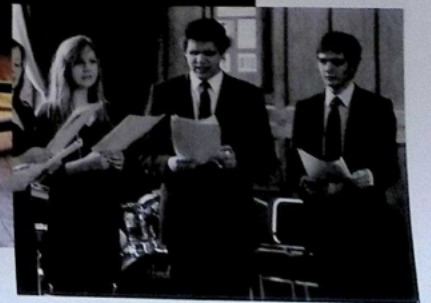
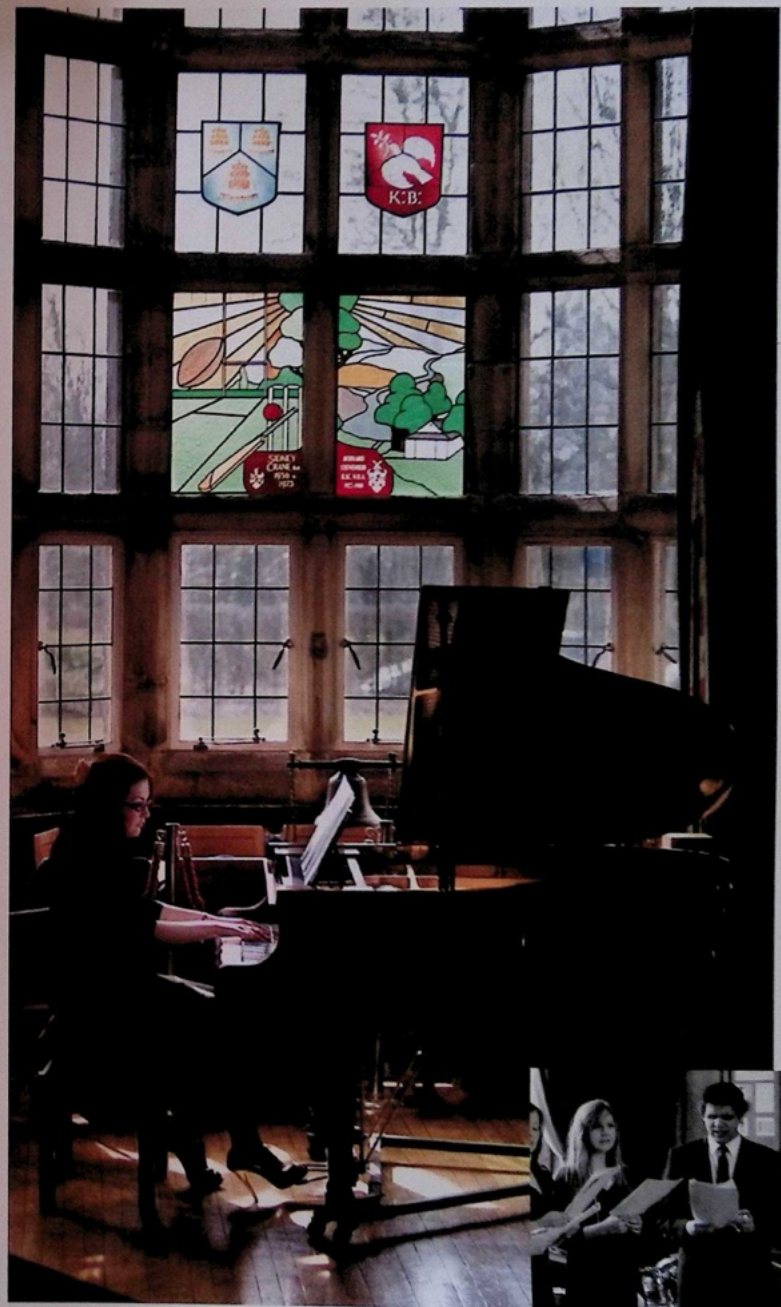


KGS production of
'Twelfth Night'





First XV
in action



KGS musicians



CCF Tactical Weekend



Sixth Form Leavers



Visit to Ingleton Falls



Production of 'Blue Remembered Hills'



Duke of Edinburgh summer expedition



Waiting for the school photo



Third year trip to Helmsore Mill



Athletes in County Finals



The
Sixth
Form
Ball



CHARITY

In a long and hectic autumn term significant contributions were made towards several charities. The weekly collection provided the funds to support three children's education through Action Aid (a boy in India, a girl in Peru and a boy in Nigeria). In October a selection of our first and second years, ably supported and encouraged by their fifth form mentors, took part in a frantic sponsored aerobics session to support Lepra. Eager pupils rushed to the MPH in their lunchtime and many finished the session exhausted but to be congratulated on raising a tremendous amount.

In our search for new ways to raise money, over half term sixth former Ashley Jones persuaded Ben Frew and the staff charity organisers to take part in a fire walk over 30 feet of red hot coals in support of Rock FM's Help a Local Child. It was good to see members of the School at the event, although it was unclear whether they were there to offer support or in the hope of seeing the participants burn! In any event, after thorough preparation, details of which the firewalkers refuse to reveal, all four emerged unscathed.

Following half term many of our fifth and sixth formers agreed to help with a collection for Barnardo's and the British Legion Poppy Appeal. Their time and efforts were much appreciated.

So, we came round to our annual charity concert at the end of term.

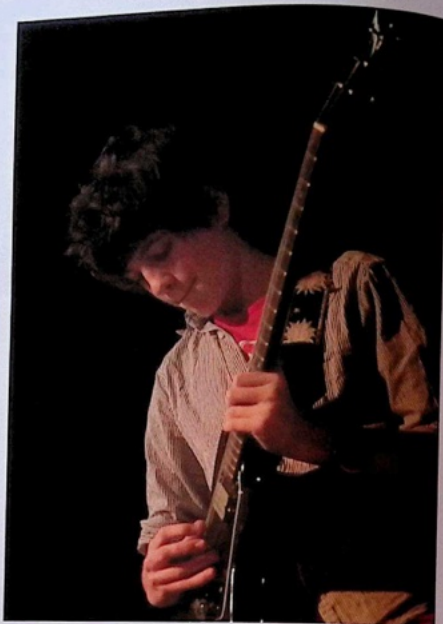
For the past two years, the Charity Committee has organised a talent show, just a few days before we break up for Christmas. It has become something to look forward to during the dark and cold days of the onset of winter. The last two shows have been amazingly successful - amazingly because of the very little time we have to organise a show for the whole school and involving so many people.

Auditions got underway only a week or so before the final. As usual, we were spoilt for choice, the talent was astounding. A shortlist was drawn up and we then only had the morning of the final to complete sound checks and rehearsals. We were lucky to have the help of our caretaker Russell and ex pupil Alex Miller who did an excellent job with the sound.

That afternoon, the MPH was buzzing with excitement as the whole school packed in, waiting for the show to start. Mr Taylor, our presenter, held the whole show together with the help of Vicky Willocks and Joe Hargreaves who went around the audience asking for their opinions on the acts.

Our opening act was a fourth form band with Oli Hulme, Theo Harvey and Carolyn Evans. They were the first of several bands. We also enjoyed performances from Joe Martin, Gus Graham and Oli Carpenter. The fifth form band included Josh Longhurst, Vincent Grumme and Elliot Bannister. We also had a first performance from our staff band, with Miss Howe singing, Mr Wheatland on drums and Mr Fairey on guitar.

We were lucky to have a variety of instrumental performances. Tom Newton's Christmas medley on the cornet went down very well with the audience and he was



not at all put off when the smoke machine was accidentally set off during his performance. Michael Lewthwaite and Ellie Schuler Smith did brilliant performances on the piano. Bradley Johnson did a guitar solo named "Glasgow Kiss".

Our girls did us proud with some lovely singing. Natalie Yates, Annabelle Mole, Chloe Nebard and Chloe Walker all sang solos. Abi, Chloe and Nicole from the third year also sang together.

We also enjoyed Carolyn Evans singing "Valerie" with George Shuttleworth Brown and Jack Ingham accompanied Nina Harrison who sang the Paolo Nuttini number "Last Request".

It was great to have some true variety in the show, with Maddie White dancing and Hazel Fox and Ellie Higham doing some amazing gymnastics.

The boys did not let us down. Grady Rawlinson and Joe Martin both sang solos, whilst we were entertained by our winners of the last two shows, Beno Fulford Brown and Nick Evans. Our final performance of the afternoon was our sixth form group Boyz 4 Men, consisting of Alex Lowe, Matt Edgar, Stan Graham and David Egelstaff. They brought the house down with their performance of "Ain't no Sunshine", followed by an exciting dance routine.

Ashley Jones organised the backstage crew of Seb Luker, Ben Frew and Chris Allen to make sure the show ran smoothly. We were delighted at how well the whole show went and how brilliantly everyone performed. We are always so impressed with the talent that we see and are never disappointed.

During the final assembly on the last day of term, the



Headmaster announced the winners. Bradley Johnson was runner up with his astounding guitar solo and our very popular winners were Boyz 4 Men. They all looked delighted as they collected their prizes.

A tremendous amount was raised from the whole day and was split between the charities Crisis and Brian House Hospice.

After Christmas, it was back down to earth for us, with normal charity collections continuing through the year and cake sales, coffee mornings and many other ways of fund raising to bring in money for a wide variety of good causes.

In June we once again welcomed the children from Chernobyl and, in addition to our sponsorship, were able to enjoy a day with them at Camelot.

It has been another very hectic year and we thank all who have continued to support with their very generous donations.

The Library contributes to the charitable work in the school through the fines and donations which are so generously given. Children in Need received £125, an amount which was boosted by our Jigsaw Sorting Day, and Book Aid International were given £150, courtesy of our Superlambanana! The Donkey Sanctuary has also attracted donations through the collection box on the library desk. It says much for the generous nature of our pupils that they are usually happy to pay the fines for their overdue books, knowing that this money benefits worthy causes.

KIRKHAM LION HEARTS

A talented team of second and third year swimmers took part in the well-established 'Lions Swimathon' on Sunday 21 March. KGS's team of eight swimmers, led by Macaulay Murgatroyd, swam an impressive 134 lengths in relay in their allocated 50 minutes, raising money for the Fylde Lions Club's chosen charities. The team was well supported by both friends and family who sponsored all eight swimmers to swim as many lengths as possible. This event, which took place at Palatine Leisure Pool, is just one small part of the year group's efforts to raise money for different charities over the school year.



FUN RUN

Last year I decided to challenge myself by running 13 miles across Newcastle with the prospect of raising money for Breast Cancer Campaign. I enjoy running, however this was definitely going to take serious training. I began by running much more frequently and slowly started to try and increase the distance from the 3 miles I had originally run to the immense 13. After a few weeks, I had become comfortable with running 6 miles and began to feel slightly less anxious about the big day. Meanwhile, I began to raise money and fellow pupils gave generously. The cake sale I organised raised £100 and went down a storm. Finally, the day had arrived and as I donned my running gear I was raring to go. I felt comfortable until I hit a wall at the 10 mile stage, however the support from spectators and fellow runners spurred me on. As the finishing line loomed ever closer, it began to dawn on me what I had achieved. Although it was one of the hardest tasks I have undertaken it was also one of the most gratifying as I raised over £600 for Breast Cancer Campaign. All round it was a fabulous day and one of the greatest experiences of my life, well worth the effort.

J. Miller



OUT IN AFRICA

Over the summer Ben Frew spent two weeks in Nakuru in Kenya working on a number of different construction projects, including the Philadelphia Orphanage and the Gabriel Learning Centre. The work included constructing classrooms in the schools and even basic housing structures in the slums of Nakuru. As expected, the work was hard, extremely demanding and exhausting. The whole experience, however, proved enjoyable and rewarding.

The money needed to participate in the project amounted to £1500 and was raised primarily through quiz nights, raffle competitions and sponsorship from local businesses. The OKA also very kindly made a contribution to the cost.



Sixth Formers with the Chernobyl Children



The winners of 'KGS has talent'



HOLOCAUST

On the 25th June, third year pupils were fortunate enough to meet Holocaust survivor Rudi Oppenheimer, who travelled up from London to KGS to give his testimony. The pupils listened intently as Rudi revealed the details of his life as a Jew under Nazi occupation during World War II.

Rudi was born in Berlin in 1931. His family were assimilated Jews, meaning that they did not really practise Jewish law. He moved to the UK briefly when he was four years old. He lived for six months in Britain with his mother and brother, although his father did not join them. It was here that his sister, Eve, was born and this fact saved his life later on. His father managed to secure a transfer to Holland while the family was in the UK and the family later joined him there. However, this did not turn out to be a safe move, as in May 1940 German troops invaded Holland. Soon Jews in Amsterdam were being rounded up and deported from the city. Rudi and his family, who had lived in Amsterdam since May 1942, were not deported immediately, as his father now worked for the Jewish Council. This situation changed in June 1943 when Rudi and his family were rounded up and sent to the transit camp Westerbork.

Rudi's father had registered Eve as a British subject in June 1942, because Eve had been born in the UK. This fact led Rudi's family to be classified as "Exchange" Jews - which meant that they might be exchanged for Germans captured by the allies and were treated a little differently from other Jews.

This status allowed Rudi and his family to remain in Westerbork until February 1944, when, after spending seven months in the camp, the Oppenheimer family was deported to Bergen-Belsen in Germany. Rudi was 12 years old.

During the winter of 1944/1945 both Rudi's parents died of poor living conditions in the camp.

On 10 April 1945 Rudi and Paul left on the last train to leave Bergen-Belsen as Allied forces were closing in. After

travelling for 14 days, they awoke on the train to find that the SS guards had gone. The Russian Army helped them get to Leipzig and from here they began their return journey to Holland.

The children's uncle and aunt lived in London. Once they had been contacted, they made arrangements for the children to come to the UK. Eve arrived in London in September 1945, followed by Rudi and Paul in November as soon as the necessary paper work had been sorted out.

The visit from Rudi Oppenheimer was part of the third year RS course. The year group has studied Judaism, anti-Semitism, prejudice, discrimination and human rights. Rudi's talk was a valuable experience for all who were there and the lessons learnt are something that will stay with the pupils for a long time to come. The day continued with workshops organised and planned by Caroline Slifkin, an educator from the Holocaust Educational Trust.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Rudi Oppenheimer and the Holocaust Educational Trust for providing the RS department with this great opportunity and also thank Caroline Slifkin for the development of the workshops. Finally, thank you to Miss Hayley Drew for her support and help in organising this valuable experience.

Miss L Taylor

THE ARTS

TWO THOUSAND AND TEN

MUSIC

As we returned to school in the winter term, rehearsals began immediately, with the Concert Band being asked to prepare themselves for a performance at the Annual Speech Day and Prizegiving Ceremony. At the ceremony, the Norwood Music Prizes were awarded to the following musicians: Junior Prize to Elizabeth Brocklehurst; Intermediate Prize to Matthew Donaldson; Senior Prize to Hannah Smith. Soprano, Melissa McCarthy, capped off a successful year when she was awarded the Richard Spencer Music Prize for singing. After hosting several coffee concerts, in which she showed off her array of musical talents – singing and playing the violin, viola and piano – Melissa also achieved a Grade A in A-Level music.

Looking back over the past year, our lower school pupils also hosted a number of coffee concerts, and the first year students also held an evening concert, "A Celebration of Talent", in the Old Hall. The second year students followed this with their own equally successful concert in February.

The Christmas Concert was as usual, a great success, with a mixture of music and readings, from a variety of students.

February's Coffee Concert arrived with a twist; it was given by members of staff. Head of Maths, Miss Howe, held her own with a number of solos, and so too did our Librarian, Mrs. Copland, who wowed audiences with her rendition of 'Walking in Memphis'. Mr. and Mrs. Barratt performed a piano duet, with a rather dainty version of 'Tea for Two'.

The Gala Concert saw the finalists of the House Music Festival perform in the Old Hall. The performers included Sam Donaldson on the E flat horn, who won the solo section of the festival, and the group winners (a vocal ensemble

consisting of Melissa McCarthy, Alice Whitehead, Hannah Smith, Matthew Gladwell and Jonathan Davies), who sang 'Panis Angelicus'.

Near the end of the summer term, a concert was held at the Freckleton Methodist Church, in which younger members of the school performed a number of solos, and both a string and a brass ensemble participated.

Many students have recently achieved good marks in the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music Examinations, on instruments ranging from the oboe to the viola.

As we begin the new year, the Music Society looks forward to the promise of new pupils and the development of both the bands and the choirs, after the loss of several sixth formers. Attention now must turn toward the Christmas Concert, in which classic carols, and more modern medleys, ensure a great night is had by all.

Jonathan Davies



MUSIC HONOURS 2009/2010

Lancashire Schools' Symphony Orchestra:	Celia Hindley	(violin)
	Sophie Midgley	(clarinet)
Lancashire Schools' Youth Concert Band:	Sophie Midgley	(clarinet)
Lancashire Youth Symphony Orchestra:	Aimee Bilsborrow	(oboe)
	Gemma Broomhead	(violin)
	Samuel Fuentes-Moreno	(trumpet)
	Jodi Gaston-Ross	(viola)
Lancashire Youth Brass Band:	Matthew Donaldson	(cornet)
	Samuel Donaldson	(E flat horn)
National Children's Brass Band:	Benjamin Anderson	(cornet)
	Elizabeth Brocklehurst	(trombone)
	Patrick Callery	(E flat bass)

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	Christy Bucklow	Anna Southworth
	Alicia Eland	Chloe Taylor
	Lucy Fielding	Robert Wallace
	Lewis Holden	Alice Whitehead
	Elsie Linley	Charlotte Whittle

Acting Medals:

Hannah Smith	Gold Medal
Alice Whitehead	Gold Medal
Kerry Emmett	Silver Medal
Lucy Fielding	Silver Medal
Jessica Hewitt-Dean	Silver Medal
Catherine Moss	Silver Medal
Chadwick Bentley	Bronze Medal
Joshua Hoyles	Bronze Medal
Jacob Lewis-Leeson	Bronze Medal
Laura Mason	Bronze Medal
Elizabeth Maxfield	Bronze Medal
Henry Redshaw	Bronze Medal
Alice Toulmin	Bronze Medal
Lydia Wright	Bronze Medal



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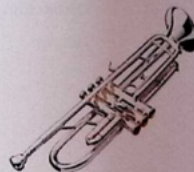
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DRAMA

Twelfth Night

A puppet show opening to a monster full house. From a 'Heat Wave' of music to a sea of colour as dancers flooded the floor to establish an energy and impetus that was to be maintained throughout this hugely entertaining and vibrant performance.

Twelfth Night, historically a time of merrymaking and the reversal of the normal order of things, centres on mistaken identity. Viola is focal to this switching of roles and Cat Moss cleverly moved between her increasing attraction to the forlorn Orsino (Jack Walker) and her near frantic efforts to distance herself from the advances of an ardent Olivia. Cat's body language and facial expressions in particular were a constant source of amusement.

If music really is 'the food of love' then we had a feast of it as the ingenious link up pieces were delivered with rhythm and panache by Chloe Walker, Melissa McCarthy and Nina Harrison, and then the dynamic input of Nick Evans. Combined with a range of dance sequences from the restrained ballet piece to the frenetic 'Twist and Shout', the pace never slackened, and when the strains of 'Stay Mr Postman' heralded a great Christmas scene the audience were roaring at the antics of the revellers and Matt Edgar's inflated Sir Andrew in particular.

Sir Toby (Andrew Best) and the revellers, Sir Andrew and the nurses, neat, confident cameos here from Lucy Fielding, Hayley Forrester and Steph Thornber, together provided a focal point of humour and they entertained the audience with riotous singing and a constant array of changing expression and gesture. However they are mischievous too. Malvolio is seen as an adversary to their festive enjoyment and their concocted letter leads Malvolio to believe that finally he has had 'greatness thrust upon' him. The impact is visually stunning as the audience see the superior aloofness swept away to be replaced by a love-sick suitor.

But his mistress's (Olivia's) eyes are firmly fixed on Cesario, and here Alice Whitehead superbly presented a passionate Olivia whose overt physicality frightened the life out of Cesario, whilst delighting the audience.

Max Baker's Malvolio held a fascinated audience whenever he appeared, testing the limits of our emotions. At first a pompous, aloof figure whose hands seemed constantly to act as semaphores to the audience, then a figure of fun as seen in the comic 'Benny Hill' routine, and then when

labeled a madman the bathos turned to pathos as he was imprisoned and ridiculed by Feste (a cheeky Oliver Turnbull) and Fetina (an impish Helen Kelsall). Max gave a brilliant performance throughout and, for all Malvolio's faults I think the audience would agree with Olivia when she acknowledges that 'he has been most notoriously abused'.

Congratulations to Ms Barrie, and assistant director Mrs Walker, on this triumphant production. They led a splendid cast and a host of people behind the scenes who all contributed to the great success of Twelfth Night. A special mention to choreographer Elizabeth Cross and musical director Graeme Barrie whose contributions added a new and stimulating dimension to the production, and to stage manager Steph de Carpentier, who was unflinching in her determination to get it right on the night.

".....Our play is done" concludes Feste "And we'll strive to please you every day"

The pleasure was all ours for three wonderful nights.

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Blue Remembered Hills

'Blue Remembered Hills' was originally a television play by Dennis Potter (1979). The GCSE Drama students produce and perform the play in the school woods, to much acclaim from an audience of parents, staff and pupils. The story revolves around a summer's afternoon in a remote country setting (in the West Country) - according to the script in 1943. A group of seven, seven year olds are playing in the forest. The play opens with Willie, eating an apple and pretending to pilot a war plane, when he encounters, falling from a tree as a parachutist, Peter. After a fight over Willie's apple - in which Peter attempts to show how powerful a bully he can be - the two eventually spot a squirrel and chase and corner it up a tree. They are joined by John and Raymond, and the group of lads attempt to force the squirrel down the tree and manage to trap and kill it.

Meanwhile, in a barn nearby Donald is playing with Angela and Audrey. As they engage in their fantasy game of Mummies and Daddies (and later, on Audrey's insistence, Doctors and Nurses) we see how vulnerable a child Donald is as he suffers some vicious teasing from the two girls.



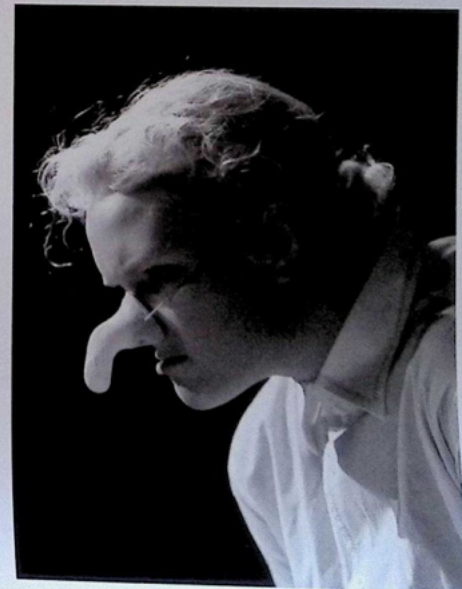
Hotel Dell'Arte

This year's A2 Theatre Studies production was aptly named Hotel dell'Arte. The group drew on the historical roots of comedy, the Commedia dell'Arte. These were highly trained troupes of actors who travelled first in Italy and then around Europe. All the stock characters were well known to their audiences, a bit like our familiarity with soap stars or celebrities. The skill of the actors was how funny they made their characters.

The A2 group all adopted two Commedia characters, one high status and one low status and put them into the comic melting pot of a wedding reception. Stephanie de Carpentier's nose is worth a mention. Her character, Pulcinella, was the starting point of Mr Punch the puppet. He was aggressive and chicken-like in his movements with a huge hooked nose; Steph really made good use of this information in her outstanding characterisation. Alice Whitehead's nose is also based in theatrical history. Alice played a Zanni or servant character. In traditional Commedia many of the characters wore masks which highlighted their

personality; with a Zanni the longer the nose, the more stupid the servant. Alice successfully adapted this tradition by distilling it into just a nose rather than a whole face mask.

The whole company was excellent and received high marks which reflected the amount of time and thought they put into this highly amusing piece. They also drew from the classic comedy of Fawly Towers and straight forward clowning. A super performance enjoyed by all.



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SOCIETIES & TRIPS

TWO THOUSAND
AND TEN

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

During the past twelve months, a large number of students from the fourth year upwards have been working hard towards completing their DOE awards. Mr Callister has organised five expeditions over the year, one to the Keswick area during a bitterly cold snap in late March, two to the South Lakes area, one in April and one in June. June was a busy month as this expedition was immediately followed by another expedition to the Yorkshire Dales. Finally, there was a fantastic Gold expedition to Snowdonia in mid August. On every expedition the participants were a credit to themselves and to the school, showing great team spirit and determination.

We are delighted to announce the following achievements awarded over the previous 12 months:

Bronze: Sherriden Wells, Rachel Naughton, Oliver Rowlands, Ben Jones, Amy Lawler, Rosie Spedding, Charlotte Lewis, Ashley Bradshaw, Elaine Chiekrie, Will Roper, Tom Charter, Laura Mason, Gemma Coleman, Matthew Donaldson, Jack Ingham, Joe Wareing, Arun Nantheesan, Jacob Lewis-Leeson, Ben Green, Patrick Parr, Kirsten Martin, Robert Malings, Sarah Quarmby, Emily Bourne, Abigail Kos, Venkata Dwampudi, Sam Donaldson, Vincent Grumme

Silver: Sam Donaldson, Jack Ingham, Sam Greensmith, Jessica Hewitt-Dean, Josh Keay, Mark Graham, Georgia Cheyne, Jonathan Davies, Lucy Fielding, Sawdah Jakda, Alex Lister, Victoria Rowe

Gold: Toby Townsend, Lucy Knowles

Our students really do put a great deal of time and effort into their skill, volunteering and physical sections of their award and it is a great honour to read the comments written by the Brownie pack leaders, sports team coaches, nursing home managers etc. praising our students' dedication to the tasks they have undertaken. Discussions with the students regarding new skills they have tried and goals they have achieved in so many areas demonstrate the true worth of this award.



The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme at KGS continues to thrive and gives our students even more opportunities to develop new skills and demonstrate their teamwork, dedication, perseverance and self reliance. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the dedicated KGS staff whose hard work and good humour allow the expeditions to take place. Mr Hancock, Mrs Copeland, Mrs Cannell (nee Knight), Mr Eccles, Mrs Parr, Miss Eagle, Mrs Lovell, Mrs Scott and Mrs John have all experienced the delights of Mr Callister's gourmet camping cuisine and all the students have greatly appreciated their efforts to allow them to complete their expeditions. Thank you.

A.Sutcliffe

BIOLOGY TRIP

The Upper Sixth Biology sets departed for a very busy three days at Malham Tarn, in Yorkshire, at the start of the winter term. The trip allowed us to use the skills and techniques we are learning in our Unit 4 Module including sampling and data analysis. Malham Tarn and the land that surrounds it are National Trust areas and Sites of Scientific Interest. To have the opportunity to study in this protected habitat was very useful.

Despite the bitterly cold weather and the 12 hour working days, the experiments were often rewarding and interesting with the chance to use lots of specialist equipment. The first day was spent kick sampling in Gordale Beck, a tributary into Malham Tarn. After a herd of highland cows and calves passed us, we spent several hours by the riverside identifying our catch of invertebrates and creatures, including the largest bull-head fish ever seen from the river, much to the delight of Heather and Gemma. Evening lectures followed where we were able to analyse our raw data collected from that afternoon, which was tiring but useful. We also set long-worth traps in the forests in the hope of catching woodland mammals for population analysis.



From water to mud, we spent our next day on the Malham bogs analysing plant succession. After our succession experiment on the Ainsdale sand dunes last June, it was interesting to study this change in different habitats. Henry Redshaw enjoyed eating the plants we identified, some of which tasted of lemon and mint, but was less impressed when told of the side effects. When we returned to the centre we revisited our mammal traps and found we were successful in catching two wood mice and two voles which we promptly named Sally, Winston, George and Jerry.

Despite the bitterly cold weather, the 12 hour working days and the long evening lectures, the field trip was deemed very interesting and successful by all. It was useful to put into practice the techniques in our course and analysing our own data was very valuable. The free cups of tea and cake were also a bonus.



SKI TRIP

The Ski Trip 2010 to Les Deux Alpes was an excellent trip. It was enjoyed by pupils from the second to the fourth year. The trip was an action packed week for all. As we ascended the mountain towards Le Provençal Hotel, you could see the excitement light up on all our faces as we anticipated what the week would bring.

On arrival at the hotel, we were greeted with a delicious meal as usual and a comfy bed for the week, not that much sleep took place that night as no one could stop thinking of what the week would bring.

Throughout the week a range of activities were undertaken by everyone, even the hotel staff joined in Team Kirkham's fun. Activities from the town challenge, to quiz night, to ice skating, to the disco at Club Avalanche and the bowling at Le Strike. This was as well as four hours of intense but rewarding skiing. We all managed to come back in one piece - well, almost everyone!

We would like to thank all the staff who organised this trip, especially Mr Whalley, the team leader.

Words cannot really describe this experience; it was an opportunity that definitely should not be missed.

Olivia Duxbury, Lydia Gascoigne & Julia Glynn



MODERN LANGUAGES TRIP

After a long coach journey, we arrived in the small, picturesque town of Kippenheim in south west Germany. We received a warm welcome from the hotel manager and his staff who gave us the first of many delicious traditional German meals before we moved into our rooms in preparation for the next day of our German adventure.

On our first full day we visited the historic French town of Strasbourg after a short journey across the border. We saw the main sights in the Alsatian capital, including its ancient cathedral, followed by a river cruise. Whilst there, we also sampled the high street and its many shops. Our day in Freiburg followed, where we toured the grand cathedral and



its bustling market where we bought unique, hand-crafted German souvenirs to take home, having used our knowledge of languages to talk to the stall owners, of course!

Sunday, many will argue, was the most exhilarating day of the whole trip, as we visited Germany's biggest theme park, Europa Park. Here some of the bravest on the trip ventured onto Silver Star, the tallest rollercoaster in Europe, which we can both say was a truly amazing experience. The other rides were not missed, with each area of the park split into themes of different European countries. We returned to enjoy our evening meal and a disco provided by the hotel.

The following day we had an interesting visit to a French castle and visited Monkey Mountain, where we were able to feed the monkeys and watch them in their natural habitat. We later went bowling where Ciaran proved to be a natural, scoring many strikes. That night we had to reluctantly pack our bags and get an early night before starting our journey home.

All in all, we can say without any reservation that everyone loved the trip. It provided many with a fantastic first experience of Germany and was a great opportunity to practise languages colloquially in both Germany and France. Many thanks to all staff involved, and not forgetting our bus drivers who were presented with gifts on our last night. A brilliant trip and a definite must-do in the future.

Lewis Holden (4X) Ciaran Wood (4G)

ART CLUB

The Art Club proved very popular last year and to meet demand was extended to cover two lunch time sessions. We now meet every Monday and Wednesday in E6 from 12.05-12.55pm.

The newly enhanced range of activities within the club offer pupils of all abilities the opportunity to try their hand and develop their artistic skills in wax-resist, printmaking, stenciling, collage, mixed media, three dimensional constructions and felt-making as well as the more traditional activities of drawing and painting.

Pupils from different year groups exchange ideas, explore and experiment with techniques, materials and tools. Artworks are undertaken individually as well as group collaborated projects. The facility is also available for students who may wish to complete class project work or extend their learning experiences within the broad spectrum of arts. Our newly appointed secretary is the very enthusiastic Annabelle Humphries.

L. Lovell

CRAFT CLUB

Craft Club meets on Wednesday lunch times in the autumn and spring terms. Pupils can participate in knitting, cross-stitch and another different activity each week. So far this term we have made balloon sculptures, friendship bracelets, pompoms and Hallowe'en masks. Lydia Bourne has also taught us how to create some lovely pieces of origami.

The club is organised and run by a parent, Mrs Sue Bourne, a very talented craftswoman, who generously supplies materials, enthusiasm and endless patience each week to encourage, teach and develop pupils' creative talent. Emily Bourne also lends her creative talent and helps to encourage fellow pupils in the art of knitting.

In the week running up to Christmas we will be undertaking lots of seasonal craft activities, including designing and making Christmas cards and crackers.

C Cottle

CROQUET CLUB

If you happened to be passing KGS at lunchtime on a sunny day, you may well have seen the Croquet Society in action on the Headmaster's Lawn. A group of sixth formers regularly played the game in a spirited and competitive atmosphere. In the run-up to the summer exams, the players commented on how it was a great stress reliever at an anxious time for them. When the exams were over, the games were less tense but equally exciting. Jenny Miller was the Society's secretary and carried on something of a family tradition – it was her elder brother, Alex, who was instrumental in re-founding the Society four years ago. Other stalwarts included Henry Redshaw and Anne Boardman. Indeed, Anne was the only player to cause the Health and Safety Gestapo any concern with her cavalier swing and lack of awareness of people around her. The Society now hibernates until the spring, when Jordan Nelson will take over at the helm. So it looks like the Society is here to stay for as long as the sun shines and the grass is green.

M.Melling

CLIMBING CLUB

Although the club will lose many valued members at the end of this year, with Rachel Naughton, Danny Chow, Helen Bailey, Anne Boardman and James Bamber leaving to travel to far and distant lands or to go to university, there has been a huge demand to take their place and so the club is flourishing. We will miss those who have left, especially the slightly hyperactive Rachel and her trifles and Annie with her interesting taste in music! Thanks must also be given to our treasurer, Helen Bailey. Her kind methods of collecting bus money, dealing with each member with a sweet tone and a smile seemed to get the job done. Her methods sometimes contrasted starkly with those of another officer of the club who will remain anonymous.

The club has ventured out to the usual climbing spots, visiting West View in Preston and the climbing wall in Black pool. In the summer term, we ventured outside to various climbing sites such as Troy and Wilton. The lure of outdoor climbing saw some younger climbers making cameo appearances. This enabled them to experience what climbing on real rock is like compared to climbing on the indoor wall at school. As ever, the club can only run as a result of the hard work and dedication of Mr Gaddes, Mrs Scott and Mr Hancock. On behalf of the club, I would like to thank them for giving up their free time in order to provide us with such climbing opportunities.

Stuart Spencer



CHESS CLUB

The Chess Club continued to meet twice weekly throughout the Autumn and Spring terms. The halcyon days of the Tom Fielding era may have passed, but his appointed successor, Alex Kearsley, is working hard to keep the flame burning. Indeed, a number of fourth and fifth year pupils have been using chess as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award as either a new skill or one they can develop. Lower down the school, Michael Lewthwaite has been the star of the show. He improved his game well and is now passing on his expertise to the new first formers. It has also been interesting to note that the refurbished Sixth Form Centre now has coffee tables inlaid with chess boards, a pleasing sign of the widespread popularity of the game across all age groups.

M. Melling

PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

This year the club has had some very interesting lunch time sessions led by Sixth Form A Level Photography students Vicky Willocks and Sebastian Luker, with Jonathan Davies taking over as the club's secretary for 2010–2011. The club mainly comprises of junior members who have shared their photography experiences and developed new skills and approaches to taking photographs.

Members have access to the artlab, where the school has a suite of Apple iMacs with Adobe Photoshop with internet access. The senior members have passed on tips and skills that have enabled younger members to broaden their approach to image taking and pursue photography with a greater understanding. The club meets on Monday lunch times 12.05 – 12.55pm and all are welcome.



GREEK CLUB

The Greek Club is going from strength to strength! One group is currently preparing for GCSE Greek in Summer 2011. They meet twice a week. Another 'beginners' group meets once a week and they hope to enter GCSE in 2012.

To enter GCSE Greek, pupils need to master the basics of the Ancient Greek language in order to be able to understand and translate a passage of Greek into English. They also read an extract from Homer's *Odyssey* in the original Greek, as written down over 2,700 years ago.

We are now using the two-part Greek to GCSE course by John Taylor. Pupils are each loaned a copy of the text book, thanks to funds from the Societies' budget.

Hon. Secretary: Lucy Fielding
Staff: Mrs S P Long

ROCKET CLUB

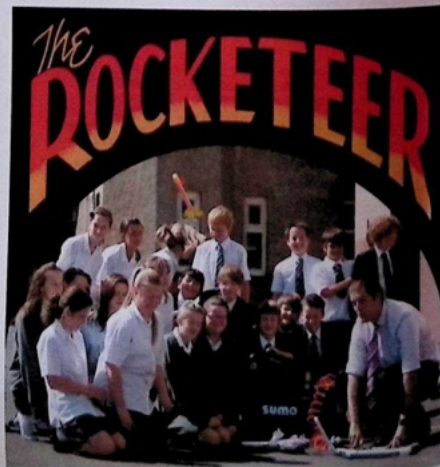
The Rocket Club got off to a flying start this year after it was launched by Mr Carter and Mr Wheatland. Pupils began by learning about the principles of a rocket's flight and the science behind the gunpowder charge that is used to launch them, including thrust curves, varying acceleration, stability, principles of movement and weathercocking. You might say that it was rocket science!

The early days saw pupils building small model rocket from kits as they learned the skills required to progress to bigger, more difficult and more impressive models. They were quickly completed and taken out to the launch field with great enthusiasm. All models made it into the sky in one piece, but not many of them came down that way!

As the term progressed so did the skill of the racketeers and soon we had a scale model of Saturn V rocket that was capable of taking photos; a two stage rocket and an impressively large 3ft long model. As the models progressed, so did the motors used to launch them and soon we were achieving heights of 150m (calculated using trigonometry). However, this was not enough and Mr Carter and Mr Wheatland wanted more gadgets, so they acquired a barometric altimeter for measuring height accurately, and a small video camera. The camera proved very impressive, as it recorded a number of flights brilliantly and gave us some excellent still photos of the view over Kirkham.

In all, a good year was had by members of the Rocket Club - they learned a good deal about rocket science (which never fails to sound impressive) and some good modelling skills that will allow them to take the hobby further in the future. We are currently aiming for orbit!

C. Wheatland



MARITIME CLUB

This past year the Maritime Society has been very successful with many new members from the first year. During our weekly meetings, we have studied various aspects of maritime life, ranging from sailing dinghies to the disaster of the Titanic. We have also looked at HMS Belfast and its role in the Second World War. Please do come and join us on Thursday lunchtimes to delve into the maritime world!

Jacob Lewis – Leeson

SCRIBBLERS

Last year was a very successful year for Scribblers as we saw an influx of members from the new first year and many returning in their second year. Our sessions often involved in-depth discussions about topics that were important to our members and we were able to base our writing on many of these.

Our annual recitals went down a storm and it was a pleasure to see the familiar faces as well as many new ones eager to share in some truly amazing work. It was a wonderful thing to see students of all ages showing true pride in their work.

We also had the opportunity to go on several author visits. These included Chris Riddle and Patrick Stewart, authors of the *Muddle Earth* series, who not only gave a valuable insight into writing but were also a comic double act who could give Harry and Paul a run for their money. We were also given the opportunity to meet Patrick Ness, author of the *Chaos Walking* trilogy, who gave many tips on writing, including a most entertaining method of not only creating but also adding depth to characters.

Creative writing is strong in Kirkham Grammar!

WARHAMMER CLUB

The Warhammer Society has continued to expand its number of models so that we will be able to enter further competitions in the future. With a little more time, we will have put the finishing touches of paint and glue to these models. There are several regional finals taking place early next year which we hope to enter but we must first make sure that the army is perfect as this gains us extra marks in combat.

YOUNG ENGINEERS

The Kirkham Grammar School Young Engineers' Club continues to be as popular as ever with over 25 new first years joining the club this September alongside the many students we still have from the older year groups. In the first half-term of the school year, the new recruits have been using the Techsoft 2D Computer Aided Design package to design their own personalised bookmark before manufacturing them on the department's laser cutter. Next term we will turn our attention to an electronics-based project, where the club members can develop their skills in circuit building and soldering.

Over the past school year six students from the first and second years represented the club at the Design & Technology Show held at the NEC in Birmingham. The students were invited to the show by the Young Engineers organisation to showcase some of the work they had been undertaking in their lunchtime club sessions. Not only were the students able to talk about and demonstrate their projects to the hundreds of visitors at the show, but they also had the opportunity to take part in a number of exciting activities during the day, including making rocket powered cars.

In March the annual Rotary BAE Systems Technology Tournament was held at the Lancashire Police Headquarters near Preston. The event attracted over 25 teams from schools across the local area and required the students to design and build an automatic beacon using basic design and technology tools and materials. Kirkham Grammar School Young Engineers' Club entered six teams into the tournament across the three age categories, with our sixth form team of Oliver Evans, Rowan Leech and Jordan Nelson emerging victorious in the advanced category of the competition.

M J Hancock



YOUNG ENTERPRISE

It has been a successful year for Young Enterprise company Innov8. A small but dedicated and determined team of eight sixth form students led by David Egelstaff as Managing Director set out to prove that it was possible to run a successful, alcohol-free event for young people of 16 years and over and still make a tidy profit. Having researched various venues in the Fylde area and auditioned numerous local bands, the team booked Lowther Pavilion in Lytham, hired three bands and named their event 'Gig in the Garden'. The team soon launched their advertising campaign, marketing their event at sports fixtures in local clubs and having representatives selling tickets on commission in eight local schools. A mention on Radio Wave and a newspaper feature in the Lytham St Annes Express raised the profile of the event and, on a rainy November evening, in excess of three hundred young people thronged into Lowther Pavilion. Innov8 ensured that the revellers were well catered for, selling refreshments, glow sticks and offering a cloakroom service which helped boost profits. The evening was a huge success and Innov8 raised almost £1400 from the event.

Following the success of 'Gig in the Garden', the Innov8 team wanted to offer an event to younger pupils. Taking their inspiration from the newly released 'Alice in Wonderland' film starring Jonny Depp, 'Kirkham in Wonderland' was created, an Easter/Wonderland themed fancy dress disco event, again with refreshments and a cloakroom to boost profits. The event proved to be hugely popular and there were many striking and imaginative fancy dress outfits on show.

Overall, Innov8 worked very hard to bring two highly successful events to school age students and were delighted to win the runners up trophy at the Fylde Area Young Enterprise competition evening and to proceed through to the next round of the competition where they gave an excellent presentation and put together a very original trade stand. Despite losing out to overall winners Longridge County High School, Innov8 have enjoyed their year and have learned much about business and event management along the way.

A Johnson

DEBATING SOCIETY

The Debating Society has had a very busy and successful year. For the first time KGS played host to the regional round of the British Mace Debate in November, 2009. This very prestigious classic debate had motions including "This House would make organ donation compulsory", "This House would make voting compulsory" and "This House would assassinate dictators".

Schools came from all over the North West to participate. We fielded two strong teams; the first was made up of Rowan Leech and Benedict Fulford-Brown who were proposing the motion, 'This House would make voting compulsory'. They both put across very strong arguments, backed these with well researched facts and they were lethal with their 'points of information'. I was glad that I was not on the opposing team.

The other KGS team, made up of Jessica Hewitt-Dean and Tiffany Connor, was called in as "Swing A" at the last minute to cover for one of the schools unable to take part. Despite the short notice, their arguments were well-structured and hard hitting.

The evening was hosted by myself, Lucy Fielding, as the chairperson and Jack Rayson was a very able timekeeper, alerting the speakers as to how long they had left to speak. The questions from the floor were very difficult and opinionated but all the speakers responded very well.

Both KGS teams won their individual debates and the overall winners were the KGS A-Team, Rowan and Benedict. The runners-up in the competition were QEGS, who provided our team with excellent opportunities for rebuttal.

The evening was a great success and KGS participated most commendably, not only during the debates but also through organising the event.

The second main event in the debating calendar was the annual house debate. This year the motions were particularly tricky and included 'This House would promote torture as an interrogation technique' and 'This House would blame the parents'!

Kirkham and Preston performed admirably in the first semi-final, and the winners were Preston. In the second semi-final Fylde and School debated 'This House would blame the parents'. Unfortunately, absence and a crowded calendar

caused problems for the final and, after two postponements, it was agreed to split the house points between Fylde and Preston.

The Debating Society hopes to thrive again this year and welcomes new members of all ages – just turn up to Room W8 on Mondays during lunch.

I call this meeting to a close.

Lucy Fielding

BOOK CLUB

'Book Talk' groups were first launched during September, 2009 by booksellers from Borders Book Shop. There was keen interest in the club, especially with the visit of author Joseph Delaney who was there to support the launch. He talked about his new book, 'The Spook's Stories: Witches' and answered questions from the audience, which included pupils, staff and the headmaster. It was very entertaining to see how Joseph Delaney came about the idea of his books and where he got the inspiration to write them from. The event also prompted a visit from BBC Radio Lancashire, who interviewed the booksellers, Mrs Copland and also some students. As Mrs Copland said, 'It was a bizarre experience to hear myself on the radio later that day.'

Our group continues to meet in the library on Monday lunchtimes with keen enthusiasm from both pupils and Mrs Copland. We aim to choose and agree on a book, read that chosen book and then discuss it a few weeks later. One book we chose was Suzanne Collins 'The Hunger Games' which

is a thoroughly entertaining novel set in future America and is about an annual spectacle in which a group of children are forced by the government to fight one another to the death on TV. I know that you are thinking it sounds very morbid, but I assure you it was one of the best books I have ever read. Even Stephen King (the author of thriller novels) and Stephanie Meyer (author of Twilight) praise this internationally acclaimed book which has been made into a trilogy with sequels 'Catching Fire' and 'Mockingjay'.

Unfortunately, shortly after finishing this book the bookshop Borders was forced to close due to the recession. This meant that Book Talk Groups no longer existed with the original creator. However, fortunately Mrs Copland, myself and Emily Bourne managed to keep the group running in the library and it is now a successful group with eight keen members. We thought we would finish the term with a book by C.S. Lewis called 'The Magician's Nephew' from the Chronicles of Narnia. This was a brilliant book to read as nobody had previously read it and it gave a real insight into the writing style between authors of C.S. Lewis' day and the present day.

We have finished the term with another traditional book called 'The Silver Sword' by Ian Serrailier which follows four children's struggle to stay alive throughout the years of Nazi occupation and their epic journey from war-torn Poland to Switzerland in search of their parents.

It has been a great opportunity to carry Book Talk Groups on as a club and we are thoroughly looking forward to what books may be on offer as our next read!

Jacob Lewis - Leeson



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LIBRARY NEWS

This last year has seen lots of events and visits – life is never dull!

Book Talk Groups

The first event occurred on 21 September with the launch of our Book Group. The best-selling local author, Joseph Delaney, supported the launch and the event was covered by Steve Becker from BBC Radio Lancashire who came to interview the organisers for his report on the Drivetime slot. Not even the staff and pupils escaped the microphone – it was a bizarre experience to hear myself on the radio later that day!

New author David Whitley

Two days later we were privileged to welcome an exciting new writing talent. David Whitley, from Chester, spoke to the pupils in the first and second years about his book "The Midnight Charter". This first book of a planned trilogy is based on the unsettling premise that everything, including emotions, can be traded. Even children are possessions until their twelfth birthday. David tempted his audience to enter the world of Agora and consider the ramifications of buying and selling emotions – can you have too much hope? An interesting philosophical question!

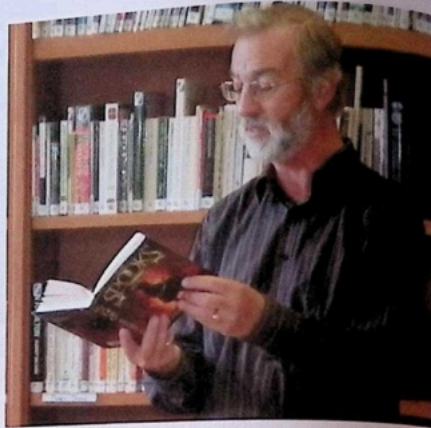
David won the Cheshire Prize for Literature at the age of 20 and graduated with a double first in English Literature from Oxford University, where he was a member of the winning Corpus Christi team in 2005's University Challenge.

Chris Lloyd

The next event was a visit to London which had been prompted by the author Christopher Lloyd during his visit to Kirkham in April, 2009. He enjoyed his time here so much that he issued a personal invitation for a party of us to attend the launch of his new book at the Royal Institution on 8 October, 2009.

Mrs Scott and I took ten pupils from the fourth, fifth and Lower sixth forms. We stayed at the Premier Inn County Hall on the Embankment, with wonderful views of the London Eye and the Thames and our central location made travel very easy.

The thrill of being in the famous Lecture Theatre was matched by hearing our school acknowledged by the author at the start of his talk. He appreciated the distance we had



travelled and was delighted to inscribe copies of his new book for us. "What on earth evolved: 100 species that changed the world" tells the story of evolution in a concise, humorous and entertaining way and Mr Lloyd used a snakes and ladders board on the night to demonstrate the winners and losers in the 'game' of evolution.

Mrs Scott organised our visit the next day to the new Darwin Centre at the Natural History Museum. This stunning building houses some amazing exhibitions and interactive resources. We all enjoyed our whistle-stop tour and agreed that the Natural History Museum was worth another visit. We arrived back after two days, tired but full of science and knowledge. A wonderful time, with even the weather in our favour!

Pupils meet award-winning author, Patrick Ness

Just a few days after our London trip, a group of our pupils visited Moor Park Business & Enterprise School to meet Patrick Ness, author of the successful series "Chaos Walking". The first book "The knife of never letting go" was shortlisted for the Carnegie Award and won both the 2008 Guardian Children's Fiction Prize and the Booktrust Teen Fiction Prize. The theme of the books is 'resistance under the most extreme pressure' and the stories are gripping and unusual. Patrick Ness gave an entertaining talk on how to weave personal events into a fictional story and the questions at the end displayed the level of interest amongst his readers



Travels with a whippet – on a narrow boat!

Later that same week we were delighted to be able to welcome Terry and Monica Darlington to the school – together with their two whippets! Mr Darlington is the author of "Narrow dog to Carcassonne" and "Narrow dog to Indian River", which chart their adventures on board their narrow boat, together with the whippet Jim, who is a very reluctant sailor. Mr Darlington's quirky and amusing writing style makes for a good read. They talked to all the pupils in the third year, while Jim and Jess lay in their baskets and snoozed!

Children in Need

The sixth form organised a Jigsaw Sorting Day so that staff and pupils could pay a small fee and help to sort the jigsaws which had become badly muddled. A total of £15 was collected and the jigsaw pieces have now been marked so that we can return stray pieces to the correct box!

And finally for this term ...

Term ended with a very successful Christmas Recital from the members of the Scribblers' Club. Festive refreshments were provided and the audience of staff and pupils enjoyed a varied programme read by the members. Mr Sampey runs the Club and it is popular with pupils across all year groups, who enjoy being able to showcase their efforts to an appreciative audience.

The early part of the Spring term, 2010 gave a respite from all the activities until the annual World Book Day in March

World Book Day

There was a good variety of stories, some of which were then borrowed by the pupils. The book to cause the most interest was "The Hunger Games" by Suzanne Collins.

Collins, a former television writer, has written of a thrilling, twisted world where the chosen victims [two from each of the twelve districts of a fractured United States] have to fight for their lives - while playing to the cameras and trying to win sponsorship deals. Themes of government control, "big brother" and personal independence are explored amidst a thrilling adventure which appeals to science fiction, survival and adventure readers.

On the recommendation of some fifth form fans I read an extract – and you could hear a pin drop in the library! The reading generated a long waiting-list for this, as well as the subsequent books in the trilogy. It has garnered many awards and sparked a 'Twilight' type following.

We traditionally use World Book Day to generate funds for Book Aid International, which sends books to young people in sub-Saharan Africa and beyond. Fundraising this year was boosted through fines, donations, the sale of donated and withdrawn books and the visit of a very special guest a Superlambanana!

Superlambanana

It took up residence for a week as part of our World Book Day celebrations and its arrival caused much amusement for the sixth form pupils who were in the library when it appeared. It was lent to KGS by T J Morris, the owners of Home Bargains and pupils and staff were encouraged to support the fundraising efforts by entering our 'Name the Lambanana' competition and paying 50p to sit on it and have a photo taken. There was a large number of visitors and almost £90 was added to the money we had already raised: the magnificent sum of £150 was sent to Book Aid International. Much laughter was heard as staff and pupils took advantage of the opportunity to sit on it and have photos taken. Our headmaster entered into the spirit of the





event and was only too happy to make a donation and have his photograph taken.

The 'competition' to choose a name resulted in a huge entry. The Headmaster's PA, Mrs Seed, made the draw and the winning name was LAMB CHOP, suggested by Tiffany Toomey in the second year. The most popular name was RINGO (we are not sure if this referred to the famous Liverpudlian or to one of our staff!) and the cleverest name was LADY BAA BAA, which was suggested by Danny Chow and Stephen Clough, two of our sixth form students.

Pupil Librarian Event

This has become an annual event, organised by the Lancashire branch of the School Library Association as a reward for all the help provided by so many pupils. Toby Davidson, Lizzy Jenkinson and Macauley Murgatroyd were able to take part because of their sterling work with the Carnegie Award shadowing scheme. Ms Claire Wilson, Librarian at St Wilfrid's High School & Technology College, Blackburn, kindly hosted the event which attracted fifty pupils from thirteen schools across Lancashire. Delegates had an opportunity to look around the excellent library and meet the other pupils. They then took part in a 'Speed Dating' event with a difference – it involved books, not people! Each pupil was given a short amount of time to sell their favourite book to their 'opposite partner', who then reciprocated. They then changed partners. A vote was taken at the end and the most popular book was "The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas" by John Boyne. A prize was awarded to the pupil who had chosen this book and did so well 'selling' it to everyone else!

After an excellent lunch, we took advantage of the

wonderful weather and participated in some hilarious team building games on the astroturf. I joined in and enjoyed the activities, which ended with a tug-of-war, in which a fair degree of cheating was spotted!

Every pupil was given a 'goody bag' containing books, stationery and other items, as well as a Certificate of Attendance.

Carnegie Award

Eight books were on this year's shortlist and our judging took place on 21st June, three days before the official result was announced. Over ice creams in the French Café, seventeen pupils debated the merits of each book and the scores were added up. The final result was a win, for the second successive year, for Patrick Ness. "The Ask and the Answer" is the second in a trilogy and his first book was voted the winner by all the shadowing groups taking part last year, our group was very disappointed when it was not chosen by the official judges. It will be interesting to see which book is chosen this year.

C. Copland

COMBINED CADET FORCE

TWO THOUSAND
AND TEN

CCF

'CCF Success in Scotland and Wales'

Our CCF contingent at Kirkham Grammar School has been not only very busy but very successful over the last year. We again had an army scholar, Henry Redshaw, who left us in the summer to continue his education at Reading University. In fact, Col Williams, our army careers advisory officer, always comments on the quality and number of our cadets who are interested in a service career. Cadet Cpl Jack Ingham is continuing this trend by applying for a scholarship, as he wants to study medicine and then join the army. He recently had an outstanding report from an assessment course and he should by now know whether he is successful.

Our summer vacations started earlier for CCF cadets this year as we departed for our central camp before we broke up – 3rd July. It was held at Barry Buddon, Scotland and was another great success. Over 50 cadets enjoyed the usual Scottish rain on Sunday's 'ex Shake Down' to revise weapon handling drills and introduce the LSW and GPMG with a view to live firing later in the week. We also had a round robin of several stands, including First Aid, Bomb Disposal and the Royal Artillery showed us the 105mm field gun, which Toby managed to break!

The second day was the ex Striking Lion - infantry training where the cadets experienced and practised infantry skills and even bivvied out and had a night ex. Then we continued with sections in the attack the next day. On Wednesday, we had another varied training day with Watermanship (having fun getting wet!) and Survival Training, which included snaring and preparing food with an interesting 'Bush Tucker

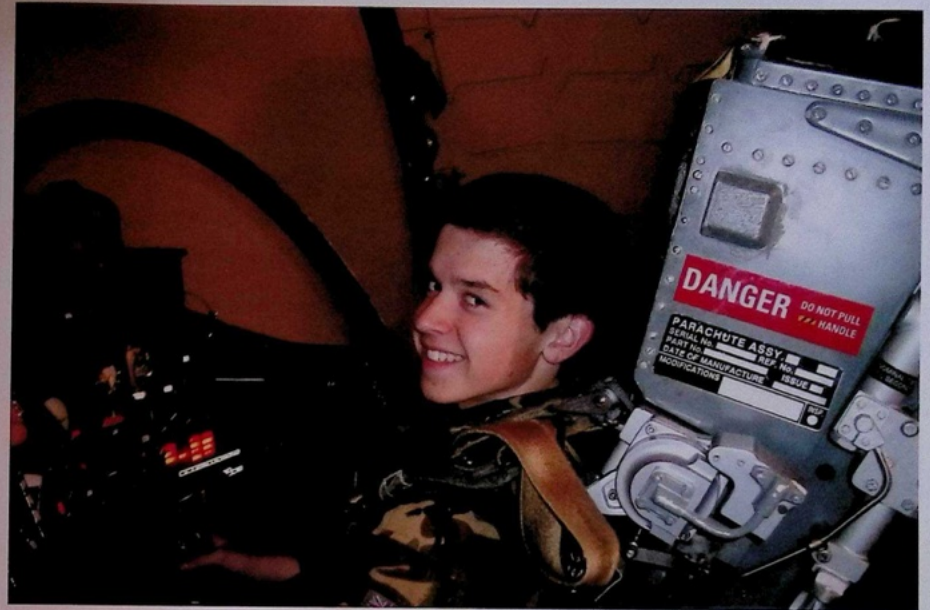


Trial!' to conclude. Skinning rabbits was a little too much, especially for any vegetarians!

The next day we enjoyed a more relaxing day on the ranges. All cadets fired the new A2 live as well as the LSM (the light support weapon) and even the GPMG (Jimpy or general purpose machine gun). Our self-run background activities were also great fun in the sun, as was the 'Range Stew' lunch. The evening navex also was enjoyed by all.

The last day's training was an inter contingent competition between the ten different schools attending. This consisted of a March & Shoot, Obstacle Course and Drill Competition. The culmination, however, was the knock out sports in the afternoon, which Kirkham CCF won, beating Durham School in the final. There's was an all male team and our team contained several girls – who were not to be beaten by boys! So, another trophy from 51(Sc)Bde – we won the drill comp two years ago. This year we were second in the drill comp and third in the First Aid and Command Tasks competition. This put us third overall behind George Herriot School (with over 70 cadets) and the Canadian Cadets, who were the best 30 in all of Canada. So well done Kirkham CCF - the best English contingent on camp!

The final evening presentation saw fourth years Ben Rhodes-Powers and Lily Long share the Anzac Trophy for most improved junior cadets. Cpls Jack Ingham and Sarah Quarumby were awarded the Waterloo Trophy for the best fifth form cadets and the Colonel's Trophy was given to Rob Malings, who will be next year's Cdt RSM. He will be ably assisted by our two CSMs Stephen Clough and Jonny Davies. The following were promoted to Colour Sgts: Jake Baxter, Vicky Greensmith and Alex Lister. All these senior cadets



worked very hard and showed great leadership potential on a very physical and demanding camp. All other acting promotions were also confirmed and the fifth formers will return in September as acting corporals in the lower sixth.

The departing SNCOs were thanked by Lt Col Scott and also invited out for the evening as a thank you for all their contribution to the contingent and for making yet another very successful annual camp. Many of them had attended every CCF camp over their four years as cadets. Unfortunately, some of the RAF SNCOs missed out as they had to depart early with Flt Lt Taylor (along with several other RAF cadets) to prepare for RAF camp at Valley in Anglesey.

Huge thanks must also be given to all the officers, staff and adult instructors who help to make these events such a success. Without their time, efforts and good humour, camp just would not happen. We hope to attract both Mr Wheatland and Ms Eagle to join the contingent as they both experienced their first camp this summer.

S/Sgt Mike Ward (a Royal Engineer regular and an Old Boy from many years ago) gave up his valuable time to help out his old school. His military knowledge and good humour was a great addition and Grace Garlington also helped us out. She too is an Old Kirkhamian and former Cdt CSM. Grace is now in the UOTC at Northumbria and her youthful enthusiasm was much appreciated – especially on the Sports Day!

I do greatly value all the help given to the CCF by all our Cadet Force Adult Volunteers. Thank you very much.

Lt Col I.M. Scott.

RAF CAMP – VALLEY, ANGLESEY

The week following the Central Camp at Barry Buddon, Sqn Ldr Callister, yet again, was Camp Commandant at RAF Valley – 'the Home of the Hawk'. Several cadets actually attended both camps so just had time to wash and change into clean, blue uniform!

RAF camp differs from the army equivalent as much more of the programme has to be organised by the commandant. In this area Sqn Ldr Callister excelled as usual. The other school attending was Albyn's from Dulwich, London and both cadets and staff got on very well.

Visits were organised to hangers to see the Hawks. These are the same aeroplanes the Red Arrows fly (only they are black!). A night ex was devised on a nearby airfield, followed by a walk up nearby Holyhead Mountain. Visits to the Search and Rescue helicopters where pilots are trained to fly choppers - 'I'm sure I've just seen Prince William!' - and also the RAF Mountain Rescue team were interspersed with weapon training and testing so all cadets could live fire later in the week.

The evenings were filled with bowling and pool as well as an inter-flight sports competition and basketball. They even devised a very interesting alternative drill competition judged by the Station Warrant Officer.

The highlight must have been (for Toby anyway) a flight in a Hawk jet. Most of the cadets had experienced the training simulator and flown (or crashed!) under the Menai Bridge but, as best cadet on camp, Toby was fortunate in being awarded the real thing. After a very thorough medical and kit fitting, 'Top Gun Toby' was ready to fly. The weather did



not look very promising but RAF jet pilots just fly through the cloud. 'Where do you live, Toby?' asked 'Shep' (the pilot). On answering 'near Blackpool', Shep said he would be there in about 10 minutes! It took over 3 hours by minibus!

Toby even took control from the back seat and did a few rolls over the Irish Sea. Shep also had time for a 'Touch and Go' at Warton aerodrome and was back in less than an hour!

It is certainly true to say that experiences like that are very rare and these sorts of opportunities seldom occur even in our cadet contingent - but I am sure Toby will remember that for a very long time.

Congratulations to all who attended both camps. I experienced a superb input from all the cadets and I hope that they all gained something from their attendance - even if it was just preparing their rooms for inspection.



CCF GENERAL REPORT

CCF throws up many different opportunities. Cadet Centres for Adventurous Training (CCAT) offer numerous AT qualifications and this year Jonny Davies, Alex Lister and Jake Wilson all enjoyed a ski trip in Bavaria which was much subsidised by the MoD.

For our own AT this year we returned to Capil Curig in Wales but we changed our activities. The usual mountain walk (or severe climb in places) was interspersed with mountain bikes, orienteering and coastering. The latter was a new activity which consisted of climbing around the Anglesey Coast in a wet suit and occasionally dropping in the Irish Sea for a swim - in April! The more adventurous even scaled the cliff heights up to about 10 metres to tombstone into the sea!

National cadet leadership courses at Frimley CTC were attended by Joe Wareing and Elliot Bannister and our RSM, Rob Malings, was also selected for the more advance course held at Nesscliffe for SNCOs and he received an excellent report.

The real coup for KGS CCF was Alice Whitehead's selection on the Cadet 150 Lesotho Expedition and her subsequent invitation to London to visit Downing Street, Whitehall (MoD) and The London Eye. She was also invited to a Buckingham Palace garden party, but it coincided with her last CCF camp, so she chose to decline!

Our sixth form cadets are continuing to gain success in the GNVQ BTEC Award in Public Services. This nationally recognised diploma is the equivalent of four GCSEs, without any exams and very little extra work. This qualification

continues to grow and grow and now takes place during General Studies lessons.

The usual Field Days and training weekends, D of E expeditions and AT continue to thrive. Our biennial Inspection at Waddecarr was another great success. The comments of the inspecting officer, Group Capt J Lawlor (Chief of Staff, Air Cadets), are worth reproducing here:

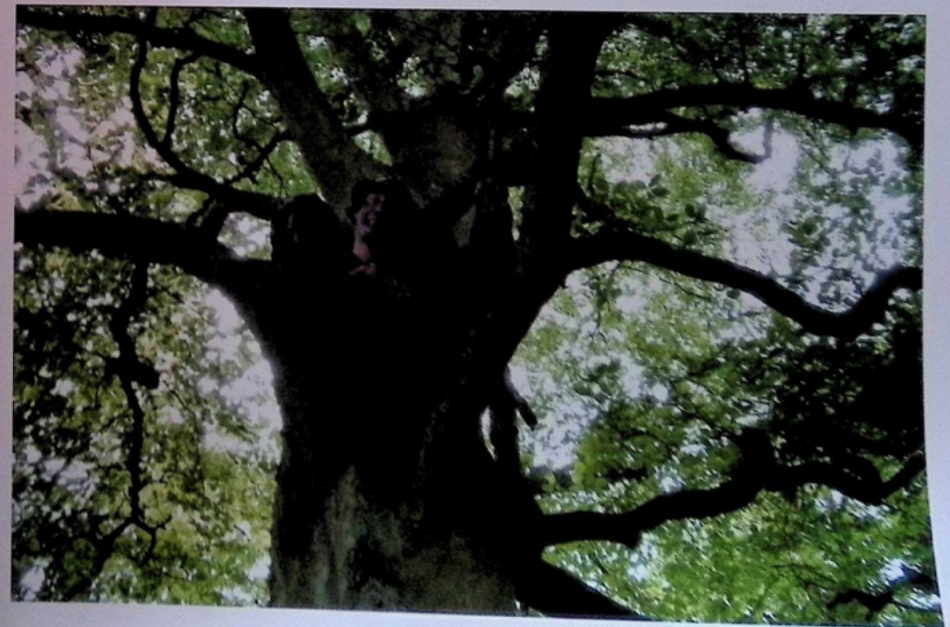
'The programme began with an inspection of a very well turned out Guard of Honour. I was briefed by two highly confident and articulate cadet SNCOs...

My overall impression was of cadets having enormous fun, expending considerable amounts of energy, undertaking a wide variety of team building, problem solving and leadership development exercises including orienteering, skill at arms, and continuing a great military tradition, archery...all the cadets I spoke to enhanced this very positive impression.

KGS CCF, under the care of a supportive headmaster and confident and highly competent Contingent Commander, is successfully meeting the CCF aims and is obviously thriving'

A final word comes from Brig Bill Aldridge, Comd 42(NW)Bde: 'A good reflection - well done'

Lt Col I.M. Scott
Contingent Commander Kirkham GS CCF



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HOUSE
REPORTS

TWO THOUSAND
AND TEN

FYLDE HOUSE

Following a productive and highly enjoyable previous year, September saw the members of Fylde House get together with much optimism and a real sense of purpose. The House Captains Matthew Edgar and Melissa McCarthy had already had ample opportunity to show their leadership qualities and it was as a relatively well-oiled machine that we organised our junior and senior quiz teams. The junior quartet of Harry Mason, Elsie Linley, James Penrose and Jess Riley easily defeated a young School side and then edged Preston out in the final. The seniors did equally well, and Benedict Fulford-Brown, Hannah Smith, Sam Newton and Chris Brown won the competition with relative ease. It will not be every year that we have such a strong set of 'quizzers' ready and able to take part in these events. With two wins out of two competitions, spirits were high.

The senior basketball competition was to bring us all down to earth slightly, and despite only losing narrowly to both School and Preston, and beating Kirkham, third place was probably a fair result considering the uncultured nature of our shooting; although I have to commend the energy and spirit of Matt Edgar, David Egelstaff, Toby Townsend and Tom Hurst. The intermediate basketball competition was a very different affair, and our genuine skill and teamwork meant that we won all three games. A fantastic effort.

We normally do well in the chess competition, but we had just lost a number of our more experienced chess players and so it was with some trepidation and a rather young looking team that we entered Mr. Melling's tournament. It was therefore very pleasing to see us gain second place and special mention must be made of Elliot Turnock and Michael

Lewthwaite, who played very decent games, and who would prove to be very reliable members of the House throughout the year. Only a very strong Preston side pipped us.

If we were not sure how well we would get on during the chess tournament, then we were pretty sure that on paper we did not have the strongest netball teams, and so this proved to be. Our junior side of Courtney Fitton, Beth Kenny, Nicola Charter, Amber Vaughan, Nicola Seechurn, Kiran Bahra, Heather Crook, Harriet Price and Anna Southworth was beaten by a very good School team, although I thought that the girls' attitude was fantastic – they never gave up. In the senior competition, we were once again beaten by a skilful School side, despite a valiant attempt by Katie Penrose, Sarah Quarmby, Lucia Chow, Annabelle Mole, Louise Walker, Jess Balmer, Cat Moss and Hannah Fountain. Once again, the attitude of the team was spot on and the girls did their best.

As we edged towards the end of the term, one of the nicest surprises of the year came in the guise of the new volleyball competition. Not knowing how the houses would match up against each other, it was a real pleasure to see that we had a team that really played for each other. Rotating the squad on a regular basis and playing by far the best volleyball on show, it was great to see the boys having a great time playing a great sport. Matt Edgar, David Egelstaff, Matt Bennett, Marcus Heaton, Tom Hurst and Jon Evans epitomised all that is good about the house system. In addition to this, they also won all three of their round-robin games, much to the pleasure of their supporters.

This year's junior hockey tournament took place as a knock-out competition in school, and the team should be congratulated on their efforts during their lunchtimes at



such a busy time of term. All girls played well and it was fitting that they reached the final, in which they drew with Kirkham House. I would like to pick out from this squad of players the efforts of first year Josie Coffey, who played very courageously and Beth Kenny, whose skill and leadership had a big impact on the two games. The term ended with the swimming gala, and following Will Lockhart's win in the first race, I thought that we were going to replicate the previous year's victory. However, this was not to be, as both Preston and School House could boast quite a lot of strength in depth. The efforts of Toby Townsend, Sam Norris, Rob and Fiona Lockhart and Hadley and Harriet Price were worthy of particular note, although, to my mind, everybody who takes part in this competition deserves praise and once again people put themselves forward and did their part for the good of the House. Without individuals' willingness to do their bit, we would, as a House, fall down. The swimming gala is one event where this is highlighted.

When reflecting on the previous year's house activities, the only real disappointment I felt was regarding the cross country events. Not that we did not win them, but that people did not do their bit. I was, therefore, somewhat 'over the moon' to see the number of people putting their names down for the races during house assembly. So it came to pass that Fylde House was well represented and as a result the six races were a success. Of particular note was Tom Newton's performance, as he completed the race in an admirable time, despite losing a trainer after five seconds of his race. The junior boys did well, with good runs from Josh Keelan and Charlie Abbott. In the junior girls' race, Heather Crook came third, and Fiona Lockhart fifth. We won both the boys' race and the girls' race at intermediate level, with a particularly strong run from Nicola Charter; and the senior

girls came second, with fine runs from Charlotte Lucas and Sarah Quarmby. I know very well that the cross country races are some of the least glamorous events, and I thank all those who took part.

We once again made the final of the house debate competition and we will miss the experience of Benedict Fulford-Brown and Hannah Smith in this area. We will definitely be in need of new debaters this year. I am sure that the House's strong debating tradition will continue. The start of the spring term also saw another Fylde House favourite, in the form of the shooting competition. Once again, we did remarkably well with a total of 117 points, 20 points ahead of the second placed house. With 44 points, Stuart Spencer was top shot in the competition; Toby Townsend was second top shot with 38 points, and Sarah Quarmby's 35 points registered as the competition's fourth highest total. A convincing win if ever I saw one.

Then along came the 'behemoth' of the music competition. This is indeed a massive undertaking. However, over the past two years we have been lucky enough to have had Melissa McCarthy take charge of a large part of this and once again, ably assisted by the many musicians that we have in the House, we passed our entries to Mr. Barratt for judging. A fine victory ensued in the House Choir 'sing off', and I will remind all our choristers that we were, indeed, 'the best'. Individually, we also did very well and the list of achievements by members of Fylde House is extremely long. Suffice it to say, we had both quantity and quality on show.

We did think that the weather was supposed to pick up at this point, but the senior hockey tournament was played in rather inclement conditions. However, this did not stop the Fylde side and 1-0 victories over both Kirkham and School,





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and a 2-0 victory over Preston made the team overall winners. What was quite remarkable about this victory was the make up of the team – there was not a single upper sixth player, and many of the girls were in the fifth year.

As the year progressed we tried hard but did not quite have the flair needed in the Maths competitions, but once again, the energy and enthusiasm of Elliot Turnock and Michael Lewthwaite deserve a mention.

In the senior cricket we lost our semi-final to School. It was a good effort to bowl School out for just over 100, and then we saw a great captain's performance from Matt Edgar to reach 49. However, a rather long batting tail meant that we could not quite reach our target. In the junior cricket we beat School in the semi-final, scoring 68 for 9. It was great to see so many younger members of the House out there, and Rob Lavelle and Rob Thomas batted strongly. We then restricted School to 56 runs after 15 overs. Rob Thomas and James Penrose got 3 wickets each, ably backed up by Rob Lavelle and Will Lockhart. The highlight of the game for the umpires had to be Adam Murtza's diving catch. In the final, Kirkham scored 129 after 15 overs, but poor fielding lost us the game, despite scoring a reasonable 115 runs, including a great 52 from Sam Norris.

We did not excel on Sports Day, but we did do well and finished a gallant third overall. A big thank you must be given to all the competitors. Some people really did show their true colours during this time and there were some exceptional performances from individuals such as Andrew Collins, Gemma Coleman, Rob Lockhart, Jack Smith, Fiona Lockhart and Heather Crook, to name but a few. We clearly did not have the strength in depth of some of the other houses but we were competitive in every event.

The house tennis competition has, in recent years, provided us with a number of points, and this year was no different. We won the senior competition with Joe Hargreaves, Ryan Vaughan, Tom Charter, Chloe Walker and Katie Penrose playing some very powerful tennis and beating pre-tournament favourites Kirkham. In the intermediate competition we came third, despite the energy and willingness of our pairings. Natasha Linton and Lucy Mellor-Bates played well as a team with Sam Hargreaves, Alix Townsend, Jack Smith and Will Lockhart playing some entertaining tennis. However, we did not quite have the all-round focus to trouble the top teams. The junior competition was very close and we lost out in the final to Preston only in a tie-break after having won 32 games each. The evening saw some great play from our pairings of Elliot Turnock and Oliver Barker, David King and Jordan Nichols and Harvey O'Connell.

One of the highlights of the entire year came when some excited faces appeared in the doorway of E4 to announce the result of the rounders competition. With some great leadership from Cat Moss and some excellent play and genuine enthusiasm from some of the senior members of the team, including Lydia Dickinson, Lizzie Jenkinson and Kiran Bahra, we won the competition, a result that would prove to be very important. Points continued to be won during the latter part of the year, and we had a very strong finish to the summer term. Our technology team came second behind Kirkham, thanks to some good team work from James Penrose, David King, Joe Parker, Becky Marrows and Luke Fuentes Moreno. Then, for the first time in a long time, we won the Work Cup – a competition that we had

started to assume would never be there for the taking. Looking at how the Work Cup points are calculated, it is clear that the Fylde House first years had a big input into this. Finally, the house drama competition came as a fitting end to the year. Some wonderful energy and skill from the first years was on show and there were some really inspired performances. Managed by Annabelle Mole, Cat Moss and Alix Townsend, the actors really committed themselves to their performances and it was rewarding to see Elliot Turnock and Nick Coleman collecting the trophy during final assembly.

As is often repeated in house assemblies, the most important thing is that members of Fylde House participate, enjoy themselves and help each other. This was certainly the case this year and we can look back on a very busy and successful year. To point out the obvious, it was also an added bonus to win the Whitby Cup. As Matt Edgar and Melissa McCarthy step down as House Captains for Cat Moss and Stephen Clough to take their places, it is once again with much optimism that Fylde House looks forward to a new year of competition.

S. Whittle

KIRKHAM HOUSE

We knew that it was going to be extremely difficult to defend the Whitby Cup this year, but we returned in September ready for the challenge.

The House competition began with both the junior and senior quizzes. Both teams performed extremely well in the semi-finals but were very unfortunate to lose both by narrow margins.

As always, the basketball competition lived up to its dynamic and highly physical image, especially in the senior competition. Our senior team battled fiercely against good opposition and, after a slow start, played some very good basketball. Few points separated each match and our team under the leadership of Ashley Jones and consisting of Matt Ellis, Stanley Graham, Sam Hall, Jack Ingham and Seb Luker was unlucky to finish in third place. Our inter team, ably led by George Brookes and Ben Swift, also performed with real grit but only managed to finish in fourth place.

This year, on paper, both our netball teams were very good indeed, so our expectations were high. Our junior team was disappointingly beaten by a determined Preston team after a half hearted performance. However, in the third/fourth playoff game the girls showed everyone what they were really capable of and won the match convincingly. Our senior team battled superbly in their semi-final match against Preston, scoring the winning goal in the last few seconds of the match. Ably led by Katie Gorman, the girls were ready to compete in the final against School House. As always, the match was heated but amid the chaos, Kirkham managed to maintain enough composure to win the final.

Our chess team has struggled a little in recent years and this year proved difficult, too, with us finishing once again in fourth place.

The annual hockey competition returned to KGS this year rather than travelling to Preston Sports Arena. Our girls played really well in the semi-final against a depleted School team to win a place in the final. The final proved to be an

extremely tough game against Fylde. After a great match, the score was still tied on the final whistle. Due to a lack of time, Kirkham and Fylde agreed to share the trophy. Special mention must be given to the third year girls who organised the team - Hannah Butler, Katy Ingham and Sarah Padley.

The final event in the first term was the Swimming Gala. The atmosphere was electric and the Kirkham team was eager to compete. Sophie Ward was spectacular and, together with Lucy Fielding, Katie Gorman, Vicky Greensmith and Rebecca Lewis, won the senior girls' section easily. The rest of the competition was fiercely contested and it remained exceptionally close throughout. Just the same as last year, the results went down to the last couple of races. Victory was ours, a magnificent achievement for Kirkham House winning the first double pointer of the year.

The dreaded cross country kicked off the spring term events. Once again, we fielded full teams without a problem and we had reserves on stand by. This demonstrates the willingness of the Kirkham House members to 'do their bit' for the House. Unfortunately, our junior and senior boys finished in fourth place. Both our inter girls' and inter boys' teams finished a creditable third place. Our senior and junior girls teams were terrific and they won their competitions. Well done to Katie Gorman and her team and to Kate Lawler who won the junior race and led her team to victory.

Due to the bad weather and a busy rugby fixture calendar, we only managed to play the intermediate boys' rugby this year. Ben Rhodes Powers was a massive help to me in organising the team, though because of injury he was unable to compete. Ben Swift and George Brookes led the team on the day and we finished in an unexpected third place.

The House Music Contest has become an event that we excel in. Once again, Kirkham had a very comfortable lead after the auditions and we had a large number of musicians in the final. Special mention must be given to Lucy Fielding, who finished in second place in the solo final, and Oliver Carpenter who was second in the highly commended section. Lucy Fielding led our choir with our entry of 'Oh Happy Day' very well indeed and we finished in second place to an excellent Fylde Choir. It was lovely to have Mrs Parr, Mrs Long and Mrs Walter in our choir too this time.

Our senior girls knew they were 'up against it' in the hockey competition, but nevertheless they battled superbly. The matches were end to end and though we only lost one match, we finished in third place. Katie Gorman and Rebecca Lewis led the team superbly and Vicky Rowe starred once again in goal.

We unfortunately finished in fourth place in the shooting competition this year. However, Rob Malings, Jack Ingham and Joe Waring put up a creditable performance.

The debating competition was soon to follow and Kirkham House has dominated this in the past. This year, we had a young team of Lucy Fielding and Rob Malings and though the decision was close, we just missed out on gaining a place in the final.

Volleyball was introduced for the first time this year. It was very well received by everyone and therefore will become an annual event. We were very unfortunate to finish in fourth place because if we had drawn the last match, we would have finished second.

The final competitions of the spring term were the Maths Challenges and both our first and second year teams did very well indeed. Our second year team consisted of Kirsten Alexander, Kieran Walsh, Siva Dwarampudi and Emily Carpenter and finished in second place by just one point - a terrific effort. Our junior team of Eliza Parr, Olivia Mulrone, Josh Teale and Andrew Sanderson went one better with a superb performance to win their competition.

The summer term was soon upon us and every year it seems to get more chaotic trying to fit everything in to such a short period of time. Sports Day was back, but in a different format, with the Senior Sports' Day running separately to the rest of the School. Our seniors relied on our faithful participants to do everything for us, Katie Gorman was outstanding and must be congratulated for winning the senior Victrix Ludorum. Rebecca Lewis, Emily Fisher, Anna Rigby and Vicky Greensmith all did a number of events. Stan Graham, Matt Ellis, Sam Hall participated well and Ashley Jones, as always, gave his all to the team. At the end of the senior competition Kirkham House sat in third position, only ten points behind Preston and six points behind School House.

The Junior Sports' Day followed later in June and once again we fielded the strongest team that we could. In the juniors Lucy Meagh, Kate Lawler, Emily Carpenter, Ben Anderson, Oliver Crankshaw, Josh Powell and Jack Bruce did a number of events and congratulations should be given to Lucy Meagh who was second in the competition for the Victrix Ludorum. In the inter competition both Katy Ingham and Rachel Williamson were superb. Katy won the Victrix Ludorum and Rachel was second. The inter boys were terrific too, with Ben Swift, George Brookes, Joe Martin and Ben Rhodes-Powers performing in numerous events. Special congratulations must be given to Ben Rhodes-Powers who won the Victor Ludorum and to Joe Martin who finished in third place. Our team did exceptionally well and finished in second place.

We did not know what to expect on the cricket field. This year for the first time that I can remember we struggled to field a senior team and, despite a magnificent innings from Ashley Jones (60), we lost in the semi-final and it was disappointing to have an incomplete team. Our very young junior team excelled and in the final Josh Powell and Aaron Davies opened the batting and got us off to a great start. Josh scored an impressive 80 not out and James Griggs also chipped in with 22 runs. In the field Oliver Crankshaw caught Sam Norris brilliantly to stop his attack and our boys won by 15 runs.

We put up creditable performances in tennis and, though our juniors lost, both our inter and senior teams finished in second place.

The rounders tournament is always very enjoyable. Hannah Butler organised our team and we performed very well indeed. The matches were extremely close and we were very unlucky to finish in third place.

The final competition was technology. After two rounds of testing, Kirkham House pulled an emphatic victory out of the bag. Congratulations to Siva Dwarampudi, Aaron Davies, Ben Morris and Alex King.

There was now only the Work Cup results remaining and everything was very close indeed. Kirkham once again did very well and finished in second place.

What another great year! We knew that we were 'up against it'. We certainly gave it our best shot. Unfortunately, it was not to be this time! As always, we will be ready for the fresh challenge next year.

I am always extremely proud of Kirkham House. The team spirit, the eagerness to participate, the desire to win and complete team unity have once again been unbelievable. I would like to thank and congratulate all the Kirkham House staff and pupils for their tremendous efforts throughout the year. Finally, I would like to thank Katie Gorman, Rebecca Lewis and Sebastian Luker for their tremendous commitment and hard work. I wish them well in the future.

I would also like to congratulate our House Captains Victoria Greensmith and Matthew Ellis and our Vice Captains Charlotte Corkhill and Stanley Graham on their selection. I am really looking forward to working with them during 2010-2011.

Mrs J. M. Glover

PRESTON HOUSE

Would it be Preston's turn to win the coveted Whitby Cup? That was the question posed to the House in the first assembly of the year; it had been six years since the last victory. The competition had been dominated by a very strong Fylde House over the last few years, but Preston had been getting closer every year.

The autumn term started quite well with second positions in the intermediate basketball and the senior quiz, but third positions in the senior volleyball and senior netball suggested we had to start winning some of the competitions. Victories in the senior basketball, thanks to the Marmions, and the chess, where the team was well led by James Callery, got us on the right track. In a fine end to the term, Preston came second in the swimming gala, a tremendous effort, especially in the relays, pushing Kirkham House all the way. In the final assembly of the term Preston House was in first position, three points in front of Fylde.

The spring term started with the cross country events and thankfully the snow over the Christmas holidays eventually melted and all the cross country races were completed. The senior boys easily won with a record 33 points, five runners finishing in the top ten including Ben Jones (1st), Kieron Marmion (2nd), Callum Bennett (3rd), and Adam Whalley (5th). The junior boys also finished in first place with notable performances from Bradley Yates and Henry Cameron.

With fourteen events in eight weeks we quickly moved into the Maths Tournament for first and second years, with Preston finishing in an excellent first position.

Ben Jones and Tom Leach finished in second position overall in the shooting competition, the highest position for many years and the intermediate boys won the rugby sevens. These events put Preston in first position overall but only by a couple of points. With no time slot for the senior sevens, and with problems arranging the junior sevens, valuable points were lost.

In the summer term, the warmer weather returned and the prospect of a busy season of summer sports, especially before the seniors left for study leave, meant that the one point separating Preston and Fylde would provide one of the closest finishes to the Whitby Cup for many years. The



seniors again started strongly, winning the cricket final against School and putting us in first position in the Athletics Trophy. It really has been a credit to the House Captains, Steph De Carpentier, Chessi Hughes, Callum Bennett and Mo Riley that the members of the House, especially the seniors, have competed so well throughout the year. So it was left to our juniors and intermediates to carry on the good work. However, Fylde started to win a few events, the drama, and the rounders being two key events. Preston fought back winning the Athletics Trophy with over one hundred points, with notable performances from Henry Cameron, who won the Victor Ludorum, and the intermediate boys' relay team. A brilliant win in the junior tennis when Dominic Youles and Oscar Graham won the match on a tie break kept us in the hunt. In a very busy final week second places in the rounders and technology events were not good enough to stop Fylde winning the Whitby Trophy.

It has been an exciting and entertaining year in the House and maybe we can use this momentum to push for a win next year.



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SCHOOL HOUSE

The first events on the Inter-house itinerary were the quiz matches. The senior team, led by Matthew Gladwell and including Jack Loxham, Jessica Hewitt-Dean and Sophie Lockyear, was matched up against Kirkham House. Unfortunately, the team got off to a slow start in the first round, the team round and Kirkham established a lead which was to prove too big a gap to pull back despite a tremendous effort in the last round. Matthew Gladwell was excellent in this last round but Kirkham still held on to win and go through to the final. The junior quiz team had to compete against Fylde House. A young team of first and second years, consisting of Jon Parkinson Swift, Andrew Anderson, Heather Cooper and Ed Johnston, was matched up against a strong squad from Fylde. The team struggled in the first two rounds but like the seniors they made a strong come back in the final round. However, by then Fylde had already established too much of a lead and triumphed.

These early results replicated the performances in 2009 when both the quiz teams were beaten in the first round. The House was therefore hoping that the next round of competitions in basketball and chess would also produce results similar to 2009 when we were very successful.

The intermediate basketball team consisted of Cohen Yim, Ryan Wilkinson, Callum Wilkinson, Kenny Chi, Brian Liu, Toby Roberts, Eric Yuen, Luke Woodward and the captain Isaac Yuen. The first match against Preston House was a close affair in the first half but some inspirational substitutions at half time resulted in School House pulling away and winning comfortably. Cohen Yim scored twelve points. The second game against Fylde was the decisive match of the tournament and despite some heroic defence against a physically bigger side the team lost. The final game against Kirkham was a much easier affair and victory meant the team came a creditable second.

In the senior basketball a large squad represented the House in a newly formatted 3 v 3 competition. The new format encouraged a more open free-flowing, passing style of game and it was unfortunate that in the first match against Preston we met a team who were very good at passing and moving. This immediately put the team's style of play under pressure and we lost 12 - 7. In the next two matches, the team was allowed to play in the fashion that suited them and they won both games which resulted in the House repeating the intermediates' performance of coming second overall.

Next followed the chess competition in which School House had had great success. This year the senior team of Alex Wright, Charles Redshaw and Jack Chan performed superbly, only losing two of their matches. Jack Chan went through the competition undefeated. Unfortunately, the junior side did not fare so well and lost nearly all their matches. The team was a young one and so, hopefully, should do well next year. Overall, the House came fourth, but well done to the seniors.

The junior netball team gained the first inter house trophy. They easily beat Fylde in the semi's and in the final they were far too strong for Kirkham, winning 13 - 8. The team was superbly led by captain Lyndsay O'Brien, who herself scored



The Kirkhamian 2010



twelve goals in the final. In the senior event, the team met Fylde in the semi-final. It was a very low scoring affair in the first half, with the team only leading 2 – 1 at half time. In the second half the side picked up the pace and romped away easy winners 10 – 2. In the final against Kirkham there was a last minute change in the team with Maxine Galley coming in to play centre. The opposition had some very good players with a Lancashire shooter as their main weapon. However, the team fought and battled well and felt to be unfortunate to lose 9 – 7.

Volleyball was included for the first time on the inter house programme. The squads were made up of senior pupils, many of whom had had the experience of playing in the school volleyball team. The first match against Fylde proved to be the decisive match of the competition. It was a skillfully fought match and in a very tense finish the opposition managed to pull away and win 15 – 13. The other two games were much easier affairs. A victory against Kirkham and triumph over Preston 15 – 12, despite a late rally from the opposition, meant that the team claimed second place in the competition.

The finale of the Christmas term, as always, was the house swimming gala. Organising the team took a number of weeks and there was a confident mood that we could do better than the last place of the previous year. The first events on the programme were the backstroke races. Results were not going well until the senior races, when Rosie Gornall gained a second place which was followed by a victory for Richard Beswick in the senior boys' race. Danny Davies gained a first place in the junior boys' breaststroke in a new record time and Todd Davies followed that up with victory in the intermediate boys' race. The butterfly races proved, like last year, to be the House's nemesis. The best position achieved was a second place by Ashley Bradshaw in the senior girls' race and, after this section, the House was doomed to finish last in the competition. However, Ashley gained another second place in the senior girls' freestyle and Matthew Gladwell held on to first place in the senior boys' race. Danny Davies then produced another outstanding swim in the junior medley, achieving another new record.

This time, though, Todd could not match his brother's success and gained only second place in the intermediate race. In the relays the quality of the other houses shone through and our only success was by the junior boys' freestyle team. Despite coming last again there could be no faulting the effort and commitment of all those involved.

The Spring term brings the joys and exertions of the cross country competitions. These were severely affected by the inclement weather and the intermediate and senior girls' races were cancelled until after half term. The junior races were the first on the programme and School House did well in both. The girls' team finished second, only one point behind the winners Kirkham. The boys' team also came in second, behind a very strong Preston side. Danny Davies gained the best position, fourth. The inter boys disappointingly came last which is not surprising because they only had four runners but the senior boys' team performed magnificently, coming in second behind another strong Preston team. The team consisted of Chris Kohler, Jack Loxham, Will Morecombe, Jordan Nelson, Craig Whalley Hunter and House Captain Henry Redshaw.

In between the cross country days was the debating competition. House Captain Henry Redshaw was involved once again and with team partner Gemma Halkett. They were very unlucky to lose to a strong Fylde team. Mr Hawkes in his summary said it was impossible to divide the two sides on their debating skills but felt Fylde were marginally better in the skill of rebuttal.

Next came the long process of sorting out the house music and, once again, Kirkham were the favourites with their mass entry of candidates. Unfortunately, School House could not match such enthusiasm and commitment but the House did get four individuals in the solo final. Aimee Bilsborrow played the oboe, Hannah Culver the piano, Sam Donaldson the E flat horn and Isabella Ritson the flute. In the preliminary auditions a number of individuals scored well and in the choir section all four houses made the final. Kat Heyes, Danni Simpson and Gemma Halkett were driving forces in bringing the house choir together. In the music

finals, Sam Donaldson did the house-proud by coming first in the solo section and Matt Gladwell was part of the group that won the ensembles section. Despite these successes, the House came last in the overall scorings, but a lot of juniors scored well in the auditions, so hopefully next year might paint a different picture.

In between all the music auditions there was the shooting competition, where the team of Ed Gill, Elliott Bannister and House Captain Henry Redshaw came third missing second place by only one point. Henry came a creditable third in the individual scores.

The inter house rugby sevens tournaments are always eagerly awaited and this year was no different. The intermediate team, led by Isaac Yuen, came second after Fylde were disqualified for fielding too many players even though they won all their games. The side of Ryan Wilkinson, Luke Woodward, Brian Liu, Callum Wilkinson, Tom Hunter, Miles Rollinson, Josh Burrows, Jonathan Chan, Henry Atherton and Isaac played well in the first game against Preston and should have won after taking a twelve point lead but they faded in the second half, allowing Preston to snatch victory in the last minute. Victory would have given them the overall trophy. Unfortunately, both the senior and junior events had to be called off because of the involvement of school teams in the Rosslyn Park Sevens.

On the last Monday before the Easter holidays, the senior girls gave a true demonstration of commitment when a number of girls were involved in cross country at lunchtime and hockey after school. In very inclement conditions, the girls' team gained third place in the cross country, with Ashley Bradshaw romping home to the individual title. In the hockey, the team was very competitive, winning one match and drawing their other two games. All games were very close but the team's fine performance meant they finished in second place.

The summer term arrived with the House in fourth place in the overall competition and the news that for the first time the major event of the term, the inter house athletics, would be split into a senior competition in May with the juniors competing after half term. This meant that the first half term was mainly focused on all the senior house competitions. The senior cricket was the first event up and School House played Fylde in the semi-finals. The team batted first and got off to a great start, scoring 17 in the first over. This high scoring rate was maintained throughout the whole innings and the team ended up with a score of 117 runs. Jamie Roper top scored with 43. This total proved far too competitive for the Fylde team, who were bowled out for 95. Will Roper returned the best bowling figures of 4 for 12. In the final, the team came up against a very strong Preston side. School House batted first and put together a good total of 104 runs in which Fraser Burnie excelled, scoring 50 not out. Preston had a very good batting line up and beat the total with eight wickets to spare.

The junior side met a strong Fylde team in their semi-final but they surprised their opponents with a superb bowling and fielding display when the opposition batted first. They restricted Fylde to only 68 runs in their allotted fifteen overs. Jack Baxter-Beard excelled with four wickets. However, Fylde

proved to have an even stronger, more potent bowling attack and School House were bowled out for 56 runs, so losing by 12 runs.

The preliminary heats of the senior athletics concluded with School in second place behind Preston by only 4 points. There were a number of outstanding performances with the girls particularly excelling. Kat Heyes won the discus, Bronte Edgar the high jump and Ashley Bradshaw the 1500m. The boys also put in some strong performances and so everyone was optimistic going into senior sports day. Ashley Bradshaw performed superbly on the track again, winning the 800m and 400m and Bronte Edgar won the long jump. Precious Nwaokomah won a unique triple in the boys' long, triple and high jump. There were a number of other excellent performances, but the Preston boys' team was extremely strong and it enabled Preston to beat School by 6 points in the overall senior competition. Precious Nwaokomah won the boys' Victor Ludorum and Bronte Edgar came second in the girls' equivalent.

The junior and intermediate competitions were held later in the term. Alex Hastie won the inter girls' 80m hurdles in a new record time. Alex also won the high jump. Lyndsey O'Brien won the inter javelin and the inter girls' relay team was involved in the most exciting race of the day, being just pipped on the line by Kirkham House. Ryan Wilkinson won the inter discus and his brother Connor won the junior high jump. Jess O'Neill performed outstandingly without winning any single event, but still gained enough points to achieve second place in the junior Victrix Ludorum. The House came fourth in the overall competition.

The senior tennis competition proved to be a very closely fought event between Fylde, Kirkham and School. The School House pairings of Jamie Roper and James Gardiner and Henry Redshaw and Ashley Bradshaw put up a very good show. Fylde eventually won overall but second place came down to a controversial match between School and Kirkham. The intermediate team performed superbly to gain overall victory. Olivia Bence and Megan Kitchen won all six of their matches convincingly, losing only one game along the way whilst Chloe Kearney and Lindsay O'Brien gave good support, drawing two of their matches. The junior side of Lucy Gardiner and Megan Bailey and Tom Gargett and Todd Roper put up a good show in a high standard competition and overall the team came third.

In the Work Cup the House came fourth overall, but the second years did win the exams section of their age group. Special mention was given to the efforts of James Proctor from the first year in the technology competition.

The last event of the term and year was the rounders competition. All the matches were evenly contested but unfortunately School House recorded no victories and so finished last overall. Vivian Cheng was outstanding with her batting and Lucy Gardiner excelled with her all-round play.

M.Marmion



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RUGBY

First XV

With only two returning first XV players from the previous outstanding season, the 2009-2010 season was always going to be difficult. However, new captain Chris Travis and vice-captain Sean Condon led from the front and were supported well by Kieran Marmion and Callum Bennett. Despite a number of upper sixth pupils being available for selection, they were forced out of the side by the energy and commitment of younger players from the lower sixth and fifth form. This was reflected when Sam Hall (fifth form) turned the opening match against a gritty Crossley Heath side into a Kirkham victory after he scored 2 tries. The following week against top rugby school Colston's Collegiate, Kirkham's young players stepped up and pushed Colston's all the way, losing only 15-26. Despite their youth, the players were developing quickly and victories followed against Caldys Grange, Wirral GS, St Ambrose and, most impressively, against a good Lancaster side (23-0). Kieran Marmion at scrum half was a leading influence in a number of these games, linking well with his brother Liam and scoring a number of tries between them. Front forwards Jon Evans and Josh Woods started to develop, as did tall lock Matthew Ellis. The back row of Chris Travis, Bobby Garlington and David Egelstaff was competitive at the breakdown and caused problems for opponents. Just before

half term Kirkham were taught a lesson by Newcastle, losing 6-22, with Newcastle showing more experience whilst Kirkham were naive in many areas. Despite losing, the young side took on board many aspects of their defeat and after half term put together a number of fine victories, including beating strong opposition in Giggleswick (16-8) and Merchant Taylors (38-23). They also pushed Sedbergh very close in losing 6-20, a game which could have gone either way. The highlights of the season were the two wins over a talented Woodhouse Grove School (46-0) and visiting top Welsh school Ysgol Glantaf (47-12) in the space of five days. Everything seemed to come together for those games and players such as Michael Simmonds, Ben Jones and Tom Hurst came through as players of potential for next season. A special mention must also be given to full back and goal kicker Callum Bennett who has contributed numerous points from the boot over the last two years.

Although it initially appeared as though it was going to be a difficult season, a young side continued to improve and gained numerous wins. With many of them coming back, it is hoped that a good season will be achieved in 2010-2011.

I would also like to thank our sponsors Wareing's of Wreath Green and also Mr J Roddam for his outstanding coaching efforts.

AE Trenhaile

Second XV

The KGS second XV opened their 2009/10 campaign with a pleasing win over Crossley Heath from Halifax. After a nervous start, with many mistakes, KGS slowly took control and gained plenty of possession. The Crossley Heath team tackled well throughout the game, but when KGS managed to create some fluency and support in attack, the game opened up. Oliver Chambers scored a hat-trick, whilst Chris Allen, Ben Jones, James Coulthard and James Gardiner all crossed the try line. Alex Lo was exceptional in the pack, as were Stanley Graham and Ben Jones in the mid-field. This was a very encouraging start, but KGS needed to tighten up aspects of their game for the sterner challenges to come.

In the second game of the season, the team travelled to Colston's, Bristol with a much depleted team. However, for the best part of this game the team held a well organised Colston's team and had their fair share of possession. KGS held their shape in defence and attempted to use possession wisely, but were frequently disrupted by further injuries as the game continued. At one point, the team fielded only 13 players. In the last ten minutes, Colston's scored four tries as the KGS team ran out of fuel. There were some notable performances despite these setbacks. Stan Graham tackled superbly in the centre and the smallest player on the pitch, Jordan Nelson, never stood back from the physicality of the game. Craig Whalley-Hunter had a promising debut in the back row and scored from a push over try in the second half. Adam Whalley worked tirelessly as he had to move from the second to the back row.

In the third game of the season, KGS defeated Caldys Grange 14-12. With a delayed kick off that disrupted preparations, KGS were appalling in the first half. Despite plenty of possession, poor handling, contact and decision making resulted in two tries being conceded. Only a Roper penalty gave KGS three points and KGS found themselves 12-3 down at half time. In the second half, KGS were much better and used possession in a much more constructive way. As the team gathered momentum, Caldys gave penalties away and KGS managed to add points to the scoreboard. Alex Lo had a fine game which was rewarded with a try that sealed the game. Caldys continued to play with much spirit but could not breach the defence of KGS and in particular that of Stan Graham in the middle of the pitch. Despite a poor performance in the first half, KGS should be pleased with their efforts in the second part of the game. For the young players this was a useful lesson in how to plan and execute a good performance throughout a game.

In a scrappy first half against Wirral GS, KGS struggled to capitalise on possession. Failure to support players who had made a break and some poor kicking left KGS without much to show on the scoreboard. Only a Beswick try gave KGS any points and they found themselves at half time down 6-5 due to two Wirral penalties.

However, in the second half KGS used possession much more wisely and the backs began to make incisive breaks, none more than Stan Graham who scored two tries. As the pack took control, Ed Gill pounced on the opportunity to score two more tries, whilst Precious Nwaokomah and Adam Galley also crossed the line as the Wirral defence became weaker. As the game went on KGS got stronger and stronger and should be satisfied with their second half efforts. A penalty and five conversions took the score to 48-6 on the final whistle.

KGS produced their best performance of the season in the victory over St Ambrose (48-0). Although it took 15 minutes to score, KGS gathered momentum and scored a total of seven tries. The backs had the ability to find gaps throughout the game and most of the tries came about through telling breaks created out wide. The forwards dominated the set pieces and turned over much of the opposition possession. The tackling and defence throughout the game was sound. A pleasing victory.

In the sixth game, against Lancaster RGS, the seconds lost 46-3. KGS never got going in this tough encounter with LRGs who dominated from the start, particularly in the forwards. KGS found themselves on the back foot and having to defend from loose play and from set piece to set piece. The tackling was poor, which resulted in holes appearing in the defensive line. Only a solitary Roper penalty put 3 points on the scoreboard. In the second half KGS came back well, but this was too little, too late. At least KGS managed to retain the ball in phases, but this was often lost in promising positions on the pitch.

In the next game, KGS lost to Newcastle RGS (26-10). Despite frequent errors, poor ball retention and an inability to put consecutive phases of play together, KGS produced a much more pleasing performance and had plenty of possession due to good set piece play, particularly in lineouts marshalled by Alex Lo, but continually failed to provide support in the contact areas. As a result, Newcastle turned the ball over on frequent occasions and kicked intelligently to put the KGS back three under constant pressure. Despite coping well with this, the resulting territorial gains made by Newcastle led to points being conceded as the KGS defence struggled to hold their line.

In the second half, despite some of the same problems as in the first half, KGS came back well and showed some real potential when in attack, particularly through the midfield grouping of Simmons, Kohler and Graham. This pressure resulted in a close range try, converted by Graham, who had previously scored a penalty in the first half. As one or two knocks began to take their toll, KGS looked fragile but showed a spirited determination to hold the Newcastle attack in the latter stages, with no better example than Giuseppe Pancione on the wing making only his second appearance for the school.

On the last day before half term, KGS second XV hosted Cowley first XV. Despite being a little short in numbers, Cowley displayed a commendable approach in terms of aggression and commitment. KGS dominated the first half in terms of possession, however it was only through lucky



breaks that they managed to convert possession into points. Cowley defended extremely well and were rewarded with a try as the KGS defence failed to tackle on a one to one basis. In the second half, Cowley once again held firm in defence and threatened KGS in open play. KGS played some decent rugby but failed to put phases of play together. As KGS made many changes the game became somewhat of a stalemate and the second half was drawn. Acting skipper Matthew Edgar scored two tries in a lively performance, as did the elusive Ed Gill. Will Morecombe continued to impress at full back and his display was rewarded with a try. Final score 33-14.

After half term, KGS travelled to Giggleswick. Once KGS opened up the scoring in the first minute, they never looked back. On a terribly wet day for rugby, KGS displayed some fine skills and ran in nine tries. KGS had a talented line up of backs, and when they were given possession by a lively pack they cut through the Giggleswick defence at will. Stan Graham crossed the line three times and Ashley Jones, making his debut for the second XV this season, ran in two as well as captaining the side. Jonathon Davies had a fine game in the loose and was rewarded with a try in the second half. As the points piled up with further tries by Allen, Morecombe and Chui, the referee called a halt to proceedings as the score reached fifty. Final score 51-0.

In the extremely tough contest against Sedbergh School, KGS fell behind early in the game to two tries as they failed to play at the tempo of the Sedbergh side. After this period, KGS held possession for periods of time, based around a successful line out, marshalled by Alex Lo, that functioned well all afternoon. However, superb individual and team defence by Sedbergh cancelled out any threats made in their half of the pitch. Sedbergh maintained pressure and scored twice more to increase the task ahead for the KGS team. Only a Stanley Graham penalty gave KGS any reward in the first half. In the second half, KGS stepped up the physicality required in games like this and played in a much more committed way. There were no better examples of this than Jandre in the back row and a roused Papangelis. Although Sedbergh moved away by scoring two more tries, KGS should be pleased with their efforts in the latter stages of the game and would count themselves unlucky not to have scored a try in this phase. Final score 34-3.

KGS travelled to Merchant Taylors for an anticipated tough fixture against an unbeaten team so far this season and were not disappointed as Merchants provided a stern test throughout the game. KGS took the lead with a breakaway try (converted by Ashley Jones) initiated by Jonathon Davies but finished off by the ever present Jandre who had another excellent game as open side. However, lapses in concentration started to count against KGS and Merchants were rewarded with a try from a turnover in possession. Merchants then added another penalty to make the score 10-7 at half time. When KGS raised the physicality in the second half, they began to take control of territory, but a lack of patience frequently led to dropped balls that took momentum away. Even when KGS scored a well deserved push over try after sustained pressure, Merchants rallied immediately with a try after mistakes were made after the kick off. Nevertheless, KGS returned to the Merchants 22 and after more pressure worked themselves into a position where Chris Kohler could cross the line for a converted try. In the final throes of the game, KGS held on to their slender 19-17 lead. Despite winning the ball against the head three times in scrums, they still contrived to fail to keep possession

and gave the ball away to a Merchants' team that fought right to the final whistle. As the game concluded, KGS would feel a sense of satisfaction of winning, albeit in a frustrating, error laden performance. Final score 19-17.

After a 51-0 win over a depleted QEGS Blackburn side, the second XV played Audenshaw High School and won 54-5. Despite the scoreline, this was a scrappy, bad tempered affair in which there is little positive to say. Audenshaw proved tenacious in defence, whilst KGS seemed determined to drop their standards and make mistakes throughout the game despite their greater amounts of possession. Despite one or two impressive breakaway tries, KGS should not be proud of this performance that slipped into an extremely poor, selfish display as the game continued. The younger players acquitted themselves well but were let down by some of the older players who failed to set the necessary examples of skill and attitude throughout the game.

In the first game of 2010, KGS played Hutton GS. The fact that neither team had played since the Christmas holiday was apparent throughout this game. Despite having most of the possession and territory, Kirkham failed to capitalise on frequent try scoring opportunities. Hutton scored two penalties in the first half to lead 6-0. However, a late try by Stan Graham pulled the score back to 6-5. Despite being camped in the Hutton 22 for most of the second half, Kirkham could only come away with a penalty (Graham) to clinch the win.

The season ended with 10 victories and 4 losses, a pleasing return for the hard work done throughout the season. It is amazing that 52 pupils have played for the second XV this season. Special mention must be made of Stanley Graham, Alex Lo and Adam Whalley who have played in all 14 games. Stanley was also the top points scorer (79) and also the leading try scorer (9). This has been a very enjoyable season and I hope that many of the younger players who have played this season go on to play for the first XV in the future.

Many thanks must go to the coaches, Mr Trenhaile and Mr Roddam, who have run the senior squad this year and in particular to Mr Wu for his help on Thursday nights with the forwards.

M. Whalley

Under 16 XV

P 15 W 8 L 7

The under 16's played some excellent rugby this year and were unfortunate not to gain the results that reflected their efforts. With four senior players playing up in the first and second teams, this was always going to be a difficult season. It was also disappointing for the team that fixtures against Ripley, Wirral GS, Bury GS, Woodhouse Grove and Birkenhead were cancelled due to various reasons throughout the season.

The team played well in a number of fixtures and achieved some excellent results against St Ambrose (28-7), St Edward's (66-5), Carr Hill (58-12) and Giggleswick (55-0). The pack dominated in these games and, led by Jack Ingham and Craig Whalley-Hunter, many tries were created through the excellent rolling mauls. The front row of Patrick Callery, Rhys Williams, Joseph Wareing and Ryan Baxter regularly out scrummaged their opponents and set excellent attacking

bases for Will Fleuriot, Jack Loxham and Joseph Walsh to attack from. The support play of the backs was superb and generally most games were won in the last twenty minutes due to the fitness levels of the pack.

Harrison Moulding, Will Roper and Nathan Loftus controlled proceedings behind the scrum and often created holes for Adam Galley, Nathan White and Precious Nwakomah to capitalise on. Precious was the top try scorer for the season and was ably supported by the back three of Josh Rowlands, Fraser Burnie and Jack Walker who in turn regularly counter attacked at any opportunity.

With injuries mounting as the season progressed, the side disappointingly lost close fixtures against RGS Newcastle and Lancaster RGS before putting a very spirited performance against an outstanding Sedbergh side.

However, the side produced some excellent performances in the various cup competitions. In the Floodlit Cup, an exciting extra-time 12-5 victory over Sandbach was followed by an unfortunate exit to a very strong Wilmslow HS side in the quarter final.

However, the Lancashire Cup was more successful and the team found themselves in a tough half of the draw. However, against Hutton GS, the side produced a scintillating display of rugby to win 42-13 in the last 16. With the return of Sam Hall and Tom Hurst the team controlled all areas of play and scored six converted tries. Jack Loxham carried the ball well up front and with Tom Hurst dictating play from fly half, Sam Hall ran in for a hat trick of tries with Precious and Jack Ingham grabbing the others. This set up a quarter against Lancaster RGS and, after losing to them earlier in the season, this was always going to be a difficult

game. However, with the pack being controlled by Harrison Moulding and Will Roper and Tom Hurst kicking sensibly, the team once again controlled each area of play and left with an 18-5 victory. In the semi final against Arnold nerves seemed to play their part in the first half and the sides turned around level without any score on the board. However, the second half exploded into life and, with the team scoring four tries, the opposition was beaten 22-3.

The final was a disappointing loss to Merchant Taylors (3-13) and clearly the team was weakened by the loss of key players and seemed very tired after a long sevens season. Will Roper kicked the only points of the game.

Many positives are to be taken from this season and all of the players developed positively which bodes well for the future. My thanks to Adam Galley for captaining the side so well, to the team for their commitment and to the parents who regularly graced the touchlines, whatever the weather.

N.S.Passenger

Under 16 Sevens

A number of players were used throughout the sevens season due to examinations and some players playing up in the senior sevens. In the early tournaments at Sedbergh and Merchant Taylors, we also found ourselves struggling with injuries, but positives were taken from the games against Rydal and Queen Ethelburga's in particular.

At Stonyhurst we were two short of having our first choice squad and, after being drawn in a tricky group, the side produced some positive performances to beat Stonyhurst B

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(33-0), Arnold (24-12) and Birkenhead (12-7). Sam Hall was exceptional in attack and was ably supported by Fraser Burnie, Precious Nwakomah and Adam Galley. Jack Ingham and Harrison Moulding were strong in defence and with Jack Walker, Joshua Rowlands, Nathan White and Ryan Vaughan creating gaps, the team went through to a challenging quarter final against Merchant Taylors.

Merchant's had arrived at the tournament after reaching the final of their tournament on Saturday and started to put pressure on from an early stage. Fraser Burnie scored an excellent try to give a 12-7 lead. However, Merchant's scored with the last play of the half and led 14-12. After a quick half time talk, the team set about securing their defence and, with pressure finally telling on Merchant's, ran out 26-14 winners. Against Oratory in the semi final the team played extremely well for the first four or five minutes but basic errors resulted in two tries being conceded. Harry Moulding and Ryan Vaughan combined superbly with Sam Hall in our own 22 and a full length of the pitch try was scored. However, time ran out and the team went out at the semi final stage.

Unfortunately, once again injuries created problems within the squad and three under 15's were called into the final squad for the National School Sevens at Rosslyn Park. A disappointing opening match, for a number of reasons, against Cowbridge (12-22) saw us having to play catch up for the remaining two matches. Better performances against Shrewsbury (31-19) and Caterham (47-7) were not rewarded with progression through to the next stage.

Adam Galley captained the side well throughout and with regular tries from Tom Hurst, Sam Hall, Precious Nwakomah and Jack Walker, it was disappointing that the team did not progress further in the last tournament. In the earlier tournaments Nathan Loftus, Josh Rowlands and Ryan Vaughan regularly took the playmaker role and set up some excellent finishes from Fraser Burnie, Nathan White, Harry Moulding and Joseph Walsh. With three under 15's gaining experience of the National School Sevens, the sevens particularly in the last two matches was of a very good standard and a positive way to complete the season.

Under 15a XV

P 18 W 13 L 5

The team did not have a lucky start to the season. In the first game an unprepared KGS lost against an organised Crossley Heath side 17-10. The team also lost a crucial player, Ben Rhodes-Power, with a shoulder injury.

However, the next few games were all very competitive, with KGS winning narrowly against three schools, Caldly Grange Grammar School, Bolton School and St. Ambrose College. The St. Ambrose game was an exciting encounter. Strong direct running from captain Matthew Beaty, and courageous defence in the last five minutes, led by Marcus Mollinga and Andrew Collins, stopped the big St. Ambrose pack from scoring and kept the score to 7-5.

The match against Lancaster later in the season was a nail biting game. The game was very physical with both sides having equal opportunities to score. Unfortunately for KGS, it was Lancaster who took the opportunities while KGS missed crucial last passes due to poor concentration. It was a similar story against Sedbergh School.

However, there were some excellent victories in the season. KGS gained an impressive score of 40-5 against Newcastle Royal Grammar School and also beat Merchant Taylors', Hutton and Audenshaw convincingly. In these games, elusive running from Ben Swift and Sam Hargreaves ensured KGS were always on top and decisive kicking from Ryan Wilkinson allowed KGS to put the pressure on when required.

KGS was also unlucky in the sevens circuit, losing narrowly in the semi-final of the Arnold School Sevens. At Llandovery College Sevens, KGS was knocked out in the quarter final by Millfield School and lost at the same stage to Portsmouth Grammar School in the Warwick Sevens.

Matthew Beaty, Ben Swift and Ben Rhodes-Power were all selected to represent their county against Cardiff schools, North Wales, Yorkshire and Cheshire.

Under 15b XV

From the first pre-season training session, the under 15B squad has been a pleasure to coach. Up to thirty boys attended the training sessions and competed for places in the team, week in, week out. They all worked hard, had a tremendous attitude and had a great season. They won half their matches with victories against much larger schools. They beat Crossley Heath 27-12, St Ambrose 27-12 and the best result of the season was a victory against Newcastle Grammar School 23-14.

All the boys deserve accolades, but I would like to thank especially the captain Oliver Hulme and Sam Fuentes-Moreno for their help in ensuring the success of the whole squad. Good luck for next season.

Dr Rollins

Under 13a XV

P 16 W 11 L 5

Once again, the season began in earnest prior to the start of the school term with a home fixture against Crossley Heath. Against some physically larger opponents the whole squad tackled with determination to nullify any potential threat, particularly from the opposition inside centre who, by the end of the match, was tired of picking himself up. The game was eventually won 22-0 with a hat-trick of tries from Josh Powell. The next three matches proved to be much tighter but all ended with victories, against Caldly Grange 17-12, Wirral G.S. 25-5 and Cowley 26-15, with Oscar Twitchett scoring in all three games. The first real test followed with the visit of Lancaster who proved to be typically tough opposition but Kirkham matched them for long periods and, even when falling behind to a late first half try, managed to claw their way back into the match with a determined run from Sam Sissons who dragged three opponents over the line whilst scoring. The remainder of the game was pulsating with neither side willing to give. Tackles were hard and a draw would have been a fair result but with three minutes to go Lancaster broke away to score a converted try to leave Kirkham heartbroken. However, the performance from the whole squad was outstanding with the boys having much to be proud of. Unfortunately, the Lancaster result must have left a hangover because the following week against RGS Newcastle a sloppy performance ensued. Kirkham conceded



three tries in the first seven minutes to fall 21-0 behind. To their credit, Kirkham fought back, but the poor start left them too much to do resulting in a 28-24 defeat. The following Wednesday the Lancashire Cup competition began with a convincing 41-0 win at home to Rossall School, Sam Sisson and Connor Wilkinson scoring two tries each. Giggleswick were easily dispatched 49-19 in our next game, with Connor Scott, Wilkinson and Twitchett all scoring a brace of tries.

Perhaps the most disappointing of the five defeats was the one at Woodhouse Grove where we never really got into a rhythm on a tiny pitch and found it difficult to break down a determined home side, losing 21-12. In the final game of the term Audenshaw H.S. were easily defeated, Wilkinson once again scoring two and Sisson, Whalley, Griggs, Twitchett and Robert Thomas one each.

At the end of term we embarked on a short tour to South Wales playing Monmouth School and Plasmawr, Cardiff. Against Monmouth, silly mistakes cost us and the Monmouth centre caused havoc with his strong running which resulted in his four tries. However, Kirkham did not lie down and managed to score four tries in all in a game where the lead changed hands several times before the team lost narrowly, 29-22. The second game, in freezing conditions, was a more open affair with several positional changes working well. Captain Wilkinson led the way with a hat-trick in a convincing 41-17 victory.

Unfortunately, at the start of the spring term very little rugby was played but we did manage to play Hutton G.S. in a 'double header' which counted as our Lancashire Cup semi-final. Another exciting game against fierce rivals was played in poor conditions, although a 17-12 win did not reflect the Kirkham dominance.

After half term, the sevens season saw Kirkham play four tournaments - at KEQMS, Packwood Haugh, Birkenhead and

the prestigious Rosslyn Park National Sevens. In all the tournaments the squad improved, particularly at Birkenhead where we reached the semi-final, defeating Stockport (who had beaten us easily at KEQMS), Birkenhead 'B' and Audenshaw, before losing 12-7 to St. Edwards, Rosslyn Park, which is always tough, saw Kirkham come away with a win, loss and a draw in blustery conditions and pleasingly saw the whole squad begin to settle into a way of playing that was good to watch. However, this was not enough to progress to the later rounds of the competition.

The day prior to our travels to London, the squad played in the Lancashire Cup final at Rochdale against Morecambe H.S. who were a physically huge outfit and who defeated Lancaster in their semi-final. We knew what to expect and it was imperative that we did not give them any space for their runners to operate. However, this was not the case, with Morecambe scoring a try in the first two minutes albeit from a stray kick. This early try stirred the Morecambe side who took the game to Kirkham who defended stoutly and never gave up. However, a 21-0 deficit at half-time meant a comeback of legendary proportions was required. This did not happen, but Morecambe scored only one second half try with Kirkham going over for one of their own through Connor Scott to leave Kirkham gallant runners up.

Finally, I would like to commend the whole squad for their effort and complete dedication to training throughout the season and to thank James Walker for his great help in turning the forwards into an extremely competitive unit. Thanks must also go to our loyal supporters, yes our parents, who backed the squad throughout. Special thanks to Mr. Broughton, who very kindly sponsored the shirts through his company DANBRO which allowed the squad to look very well turned out week after week.

JR Lyon

Under 13b XV

The 2009/10 season was one of highs and lows for the under 13 B squad. Some fine results were mixed with some disappointing ones. However, the performance was generally very pleasing, the effort always high and the improvement throughout the season impressive. The boys were very much part of a rugby squad, rather than an A and a B XV.

The early season proved to be tough and the matches against Wirral GS (a tens game), St Ambrose and Lancaster RGS ended in disappointing defeats.

However, the game against Newcastle RGS proved to be a turning point for the squad in many respects. Playing against a much larger side physically, KGS showed that they had learned to defend and were willing to make Newcastle's forwards work especially hard for the ball. Despite dominating possession and threatening the line for long periods, KGS lost by 17-0, but it was the turning point in the season. Henry Joiner emerged as a talented forward along with a powerful Scott Reilly, a mobile Jamie Baldwin, a powerful Elliot Evans and a hard working Daniel McRae. George Shuttleworth-Brown provided a quality link between backs and forwards with Jack Welch pulling the strings from 10. Oscar Graham, Jordan Nicholls, Sam Beard, Harry Welch, Owen Williams and Jake Cardwell provided good footballing skills and pace in the backs. As confidence grew following the Newcastle result, the boys began to understand what they were capable of and the performances improved considerably, not only in matches but also on the training pitch. The boys all have talent and now need to believe in the talent they possess for it to be fully effective.

After a well earned half term break, the boys resumed the season with great enthusiasm. Unfortunately, inclement weather meant many games in this period were cancelled. This was disappointing because many of these games were ones that the team would have hoped to have won. However, the fixture against Bury Grammar School's A XV went ahead as planned - and what a game it was! Kirkham retained the ball exceptionally well for long periods, with a rampaging Sam Sisson playing a key role in getting the ball over the gain line. Jack Baxter Beard showed his pace and footballing prowess by making several telling breaks and set up a couple of tries for Jake Cardwell to finish off superbly. Kirkham finished the game as winners for the first time in the season. It was a particularly special day as the boys were ecstatic that their hard work had paid off.

Some points I am particularly proud of:

- 41 boys represented the school in matches over the season. With a year group of around 50 this is pleasing.

- many of the players pushed for A team positions and played for the A team and many more are capable of doing so in the future.

- many boys joined the squad over the season. Mihir Parma, Matthew Carroll and Kieran Walsh all got themselves noticed and involved in matches. Kieran deserves special mention as one of the most enthusiastic individuals I have ever encountered.

I have found it difficult to cram so many positives in to one article and to give enough mention to so many talented young players. Last season was one of the most special I have experienced in rugby, as a player or a coach. The boys represented the school impeccably. They trained hard and were a joy to coach. I hope they will continue playing with

the same level of enthusiasm and gamesmanship. Gentlemen, thank you!!

Finally, I would like to thank Mr Lyon, Mr Trenhaile and Mr Wu for their hard work. Their guidance and experience was extremely helpful to myself and the squad throughout the season.

James Walker

Under 12 XV

The under12's started their season with an excellent win over Wirral GS, 29-0, with the backs showing off their talents and the forwards dismissing early season concerns about their ability to win sufficient ball. In the forwards, Charlie Abbott excelled and full back Tom Gargett was particularly impressive in the three-quarters. Benedict LeSaint (1), James Keelan (2) and Matthew Neill (1) scored tries, but the best try of the game was the last one when winger Ollie Crankshaw jinked his way through the Wirral defence. Todd Roper added two conversions.

The next game was a practice match against local rivals Arnold. The team was disrupted by a number of key players going home ill on the day. The first half was scoreless, with Kirkham having most of the territory but Arnold defended bravely. In the second half Arnold came more into the game but Kirkham took the lead when Josh Keelan managed to squeeze over in the corner. The second try was an excellent one with Tom Gargett setting off on a typical jinking run to be superbly supported by man of the match, James Steward who set up scrum half George Carter for the try and gain a 10 - 0 victory.

The next day the team visited St.Ambrose. Late call offs by players meant that the team had to be reorganized, with Matthew Thomas, Will Forsyth and Sam Walsh making their debuts. These disruptions meant that the team was slow to get going and St.Ambrose scored first when their winger scored an excellent individual try. This proved to be a wake up call to the Kirkham side and the forwards responded by taking control of the game. After a long period of pressure, Matthew Neill dived over. Ben Clowes scored soon after for Kirkham to take a 14-5 lead at half time. In the second half, Sam Walsh scored an excellent try in the corner and James Steward scored another for the team to gain a hard fought 26-5 win.

The under12's winning run came to an end in the next game against local rivals Lancaster RGS. This match could not have got off to a worse start, with Lancaster scoring in the first minute when a poorly directed kick went into the hands of the opposition's big full back who ran in under the posts far too easily. However, the team responded positively and, although Lancaster enjoyed most of the possession, determined tackling kept the score at 7 - 0. The second half was much more encouraging for the Kirkham side with the forwards producing some good ball for the backs to run with. From an excellent passage of play Ollie Crankshaw jinked his way over in the corner. However, five minutes from the end the Lancaster full back charged over for a second try which enabled Lancaster to win 12-5.

The following week was the long trip to Newcastle RGS, a notoriously difficult place to win at. The team started well but soon found themselves on the defensive. The game was always a close affair and with only two minutes to go it was 14-17, but Newcastle scored another try to win a close encounter, 24-14.

The first game after half term was an away fixture against

Giggleswick. The match started in pouring rain, but the under12's produced some superb rugby, scoring tries by Josh Keelan and Tom Gargett. The opposition quickly lost confidence and struggled to hold out a Kirkham side that managed to play some excellent rugby in difficult conditions. Charlie Abbott was outstanding in the forwards and his strong running resulted in three tries for himself. Tom Gargett and Ollie Crankshaw added further tries and Giggleswick scored a consolation try in the closing stages of the match to lose 42-7.

Next up were Merchant Taylors' and the team revelled in the dry conditions. Within in the first two minutes of the game they scored a sparkling try. That was the prelude to a morning of fast, entertaining rugby with the forwards winning an abundance of ball to give to a back line that looked to run the ball from all areas of the pitch. The back row was outstanding, with Charlie Abbott, James Steward and Nick Coleman appearing all over the place. Prop Tyrone Cartmell had an excellent game, scoring two tries with his forceful, driving running. All the threequarters had their moments with some elusive running and showed how dangerous they can be when given the right conditions. The style of the team's rugby drew many complimentary comments from the opposition parents. The team won 48 - 5, with try scorers Charlie Abbott (2), Tyrone Cartmell (2), James Steward, Josh Keelan (2), Matthew Neill, Todd Roper (4 cons).

The last game of the Autumn term was against Audenshaw who proved to be far too weak and the team won 68 - 0. Todd Roper scored an excellent individual try in the opening minutes and that was the start of a stream of tries from nine different players. In this easy game players were able to swap positions with forwards moving to the backs and vice versa.

The first game back after a lengthy break was against Hutton GS, traditionally one of the toughest fixtures of the season. Omens at the start of the game were not very promising, with the side losing the influential Charlie Abbott and Hutton taking the field with a physically bigger side. However, the forwards responded magnificently and proceeded to win a stream of ruck ball which did not allow their bigger opponents to establish any control within the game. Jack Campbell was the first to score sniping over from a ruck on the opposition line. Kirkham quickly returned to the Hutton twenty-two and Nick Coleman went down the 'blind side' from a scrum to score a good try. Tom Gargett added a further try just before half time when he followed up a clever kick through by James Steward. In the second half, Hutton came back into the game with a penalty try. However, any concerns of a Hutton revival were quickly squashed by an outstanding piece of play by the forwards which resulted in a score by James Steward. This 20-7 victory was an excellent result after such a long lay off.

The weather then severely affected the fixture programme. The next game was on the last day before half term and Monmouth, on their annual tour, provided stiff opposition for the under12's. Being inactive for a number of weeks and losing key players on the day proved to be too many hurdles against an opposition that are notoriously strong at this age group. The forwards were completely out-rucked in the first ten minutes and this resulted in constant pressure being exerted on the Kirkham try line. The team did well to be only 12-0 down during this period and then played themselves back into the game when an excellent break by Matthew Neal was finished by Arrin Chiekrie to make it 12-5. Monmouth quickly scored after the half time break but there then followed a period of intense pressure applied by

Kirkham on the Monmouth line. Only excellent defence kept the Kirkham team out and when Monmouth broke away to score, the result of the match was never in doubt. Monmouth scored one more try before the end to win 29-5, but the Kirkham side could come away proud of the way they competed against a very good team.

It was a couple of weeks before the team played again. The opponents this time were Manchester GS. It was a game that the under 12's should have won easily, going 12-0 ahead in the first ten minutes after playing excellent rugby. But Manchester had one big player who scored the first time he touched the ball and he proved to be a big influence in the game. The strong runs of this player created havoc in the Kirkham defence and gave the Manchester team the confidence needed to work their way back into the game. However, it was only tremendous defence by the Manchester team that kept Kirkham out at the end of the game. We lost 22-24.

The season finished with two Sunday games against two touring teams. First up were Loughborough GS. Loughborough's big set of forwards proved a big handful for the home team but when the ball was spun out to the backs it became a different game. Josh Keelan opened the scoring with a scintillating run down the wing. This was soon followed by another great individual effort by Tom Gargett. Josh added another before Arrin Chiekrie showed that he too could beat his opposite number when he sprinted down the right wing. Charlie Abbott added a fifth try before half time. The second half was a much closer affair when Loughborough's tactics meant the game developed into an intense forward battle. Deservedly they pulled two tries back through some hard forward work. However, Kirkham finished the game off with a length of the field effort from their own forwards with Oli Kitchen working hard to be the last man in the movement. The final result 36-12 to Kirkham.

The last game of the season was against another touring side, this time a team from Kent, Dartford GS. Once again, the opposition was a much bigger team and it did not help having a number of key players missing. Despite losing 15-24, this was a tremendously entertaining game to finish the season. The forwards won lots of ball through their aggressive rucking and the backs tried hard to make the most of the possession given to them, but they were stopped by some excellent tackling and covering by the opposition. Unfortunately, when Dartford got the ball, the home team's tackling was not as good as their opponents and this allowed the opposition to score tries which did not reflect the territory and possession achieved by the Kirkham forwards. Josh Keelan was, once again, in sparkling form and scored two excellent tries, evading defenders to score in the corners. The third try was scored by James Steward who gave another totally committed performance.

Overall, this was a very pleasing season and the signs are encouraging that this team could develop into a good side. Despite early season concerns over the strength of the forwards, they grew into a very efficient unit and outperformed their opponents in nearly every game. The backs possessed some very talented and exciting individuals and some of them could develop into excellent players if they listen carefully to advice and show a desire to improve. What was extremely encouraging was the improvement achieved by the B team who had a good season after a poor start. The development of these players should help future progress of the whole squad.

M.Marmion

Roberts. The remaining batsmen decided to keep up the attack, but some steady bowling and injudicious shots meant that Kirkham were bowled out for 166 with an over remaining. Hutton were always going to struggle with such a big target and this was further exacerbated by Paley and Molina restricting them to 11 off the first 4 overs. Some excellent catches and fine bowling (Paley 3 for 16) meant that at the half way stage Hutton still needed 110 to win with 6 wickets in hand. The bowling became a little wayward and, with some strong resistance from the lower order, Hutton managed a total of 128 for 7 at stumps.

On a beautiful day, spectators for the fixture against Lancaster were treated to a festival of run making. Two centuries, four hundred plus runs and a hat-trick on one afternoon were a treat for all. KGS batted first and the innings began well with Paley and Brookes putting in an opening stand of 70. Paley batted well for 23 despite suffering a foot injury but Brookes went on to forge a further partnership with Roberts to put on over 90 valuable runs. His aggressive style demoralised the bowling and, although he was dropped on a number of occasions, he went on to score an outstanding 130 not out. Partners began to disappear quickly in the last two overs where one opposition bowler gained a hat-trick. In reply to a good total of 217-7 in the allotted overs, LRGs started confidently and maintained an attacking focus throughout their innings. Although KGS took two wickets early, a strong partnership, including another century, put the home side in the driving seat and the pressure began to tell as the bowling lost accuracy. Collins and Ali were both threatening, while McCarthy was unlucky on a number of occasions. KGS were, however, unable to limit their opponents who ran out good winners in an exciting, hard hitting contest.

The game against Bury G S again provided a feast of runs. Bury won the toss and elected to bat. A good opening spell by Brookes restricted them and the first wicket fell after six overs with only 26 on the board. A second wicket followed two overs later and, at 38 for 2, Bury appeared as though they were struggling. This was a misconception as one of their batsmen made a hard hitting century in the remaining overs to make a final total of 193 for 2. Molina and Brookes made a positive start, hitting 51 off the first seven overs before Molina 29 fell to an excellent catch. Smith and Brookes (48) put on 51 in the next five overs to keep the scoring rate up, but both fell in consecutive overs. Despite a rearguard action by Beattie (45 n.o.) and Paley (22 n.o.), Kirkham still fell ten runs short, even though they plundered twenty off the last over.

There were many outstanding performances throughout the season and, considering that the same eleven never played together from one game to the next, the results were admirable. The fielding performance was of a high standard and this contributed to at least two victories.

I look forward to seeing the development of these players next year in the Senior XI.

Under 14 XI

P 11 W 5 L 5 1 Abandoned

The under 14 squad enjoyed a summer of largely uninterrupted matches due to fine early season weather which allowed some continuity and enabled us to find the

best combinations in both the batting and bowling departments. The biggest improvement throughout the season was undoubtedly in the field where, due to the excellent attendance at fielding practice, hardly any runs were leaked due to misfields and the general sharpness and anticipation were good. Several run outs and direct hits were in evidence and overall the squad looked a tidy outfit.

Dan Jones once again led the side with maturity and bowled some quick opening spells and also used his change bowlers sensibly and set some appropriate fields. The support bowlers, namely Lewis Leach, Robert Lavelle and Ben Everson backed up the captain with some accurate spells and, towards the end of the season, James Penrose bowled with pace to end up as joint leading wicket taker with 8 wickets. At times the batting was a little fragile, but during the Merchant Taylors' match, when under the cosh at 43-6, chasing 79 to win, Ryan Powell and Harry Mason saw the team through with some very sensible batting.

Unfortunately, there was a disappointing loss to Arnold in the Lancashire Cup, by 9 wickets which came the week after beating St. Mary's, Blackpool by 3 wickets, having been set 158 to win in 20 overs. Lewis Leach produced his best knock of the season with an unbeaten 75 aided by Robert Lavelle (31). Lancaster once again proved to be our nemesis, with the majority of the team giving their wickets away in our most disappointing batting display of the season, Lancaster triumphing by 10 wickets. However, the season ended with a good win over local rivals Rossall who set Kirkham a target of 122 to win. Once again, when under pressure, the lower order managed to put some partnerships together, with Ryan Powell (42) and Harry Mason guiding Kirkham to victory by 3 wickets.

Overall, three boys scored over 100 runs in total - Ben Jones (152), Robert Lavelle (112) and Ryan Powell (102), with Lavelle, when selected for the under 15 team at Stonyhurst College, scoring 50 on his debut. All the squad showed signs of improvement and the most pleasing aspect was the enthusiasm of all the squad which was maintained throughout the entire season.

Finally, I would like to thank the hardcore supporters, namely the players' parents for their attendance at every game - which was lovely to see.

JR Lyon

Under 13 XI

P 10 W 5 D 1 L 4

The under 13's made a good deal of progress over the season as a whole and secured some impressive victories against local rivals Arnold, KEQMS and Rossall. Ably led by Alex Whalley, the team grew in confidence after two heavy defeats to the powerhouses of MGS and Giggleswick. Fortunately, victory was around the corner as the team started their Lancashire Cup campaign with a seven wicket victory against KEQMS. After hanging on for a draw at Merchant Taylors, the team secured back to back wins against Cowley and Arnold, with excellent knocks by Conor Wilkinson and Josh Powell. Unfortunately, LRGs proved to be in a different class and two heavy defeats (one in the Cup and one in a friendly) put an end to the team's good run. Fortunately, the season ended on a high as Josh Powell put Rossall to the sword with a personal best of 132.

In a season uninterrupted by bad weather, the members of the team have learnt from their mistakes and put in some excellent performances. With more consistency bowling as a unit the team could have competed in all the matches played over the season. They have to build upon this next season and I wish them the best of luck.

Mr S Duncan

Under 12 XI

P 8 W 4 L 3 D 1

KGS under 12's season began with a difficult game against Manchester Grammar School. The under 12's were not ready as a team which resulted in a loss. Manchester Grammar completely outplayed us, exposing Kirkham's weak fielding. Nevertheless, Josh Eales bowled well and took three wickets for 24 runs.

However, after some intensive fielding and batting practice, the under 12's had more success in their following games, with convincing wins against Hutton, Cowley and KEQMS. They gave better performances due to much sharper fielding and excellent batting from many individuals. James Seward, the captain, was a high scorer in these games. He retired after scoring his half century in the game against Hutton and scored 69 runs against Cowley. Sachin Nantheesan was another high scorer. He scored 51 runs against KEQMS. His bowling was equally as impressive, taking three wickets against Cowley. Cameron Roche and Matthew Thomas also bowled well, taking three wickets each against Hutton.

The best win was against Lancaster RGS, in which Josh Eales took three wickets for 17 runs and Todd Roper took three wickets for just six runs. Again, James Seward's batting performance was outstanding, scoring 50 not out.

The most exciting game was against Rossall. KGS did not bat well, losing quick wickets at the top end of the batting order. However, sensible, mature batting from William Forsyth and Ben Anderson rescued the team, scoring a decent 116 runs for 9. KGS knew that they would have to perform well in the field. Sachin Nantheesan took three wickets for 12 runs and he was assisted by some sharp fielding from Jack Campbell and Oliver Crankshaw.

This has been a great season. Well done to all who took part - the under 12's have competed well and show good signs for the future.

Grenada Cricket Tour

WEEK ONE

Day 2: Time for nets

Well, I am pleased to report that the rain has stayed away and the sun has shone all day. After a healthy breakfast overlooking the sea we transferred to the National Stadium for our first full net of the tour. It was a real honour to train in this most impressive venue where a number of international sides have played since the stadium was rebuilt for the 2007 World Cup. The boys looked lively and focused and seem to be adapting well to the hot and humid conditions. During the practice two local TV stations wanted to know what we were up to and both Mr. Duncan and Mr.

Painter were interviewed for the local news. Indeed one company wanted a copy of our itinerary and said they might come and watch! After the session the coach was packed safely (although Mr. Painter left his bag behind!) and we headed back to the hotel for a rest and an afternoon on the beach.

Day 3: The tour starts with a victory

In the first fixture of our seven match programme, we registered a pleasing five-wicket win. After a long journey amidst some fascinating scenery and with interesting driving protocol, we arrived at Progress Park to play our first fixture against St Andrew's Anglican Secondary School. Although the start was delayed following some heavy overnight rain which saturated the ground, the boys were met with intense heat and humidity as play commenced.

Having lost the toss and being put in the field, we coped remarkably well and produced a pleasing bowling and fielding performance. A rather innocuous looking run-out by Adam Whalley was followed by a quick wicket from Adam Galley which then set the foundation for a series of wickets to fall at regular intervals. Whilst Adam Galley persisted at one end, Fraser Burnie worked equally hard and returned figures of 2 for 13 off 5 overs. The spin options then took over at one end, and the variety of Harrison Moulding (1 for 11) and Adam Whalley (2 for 16) allowed the fall of wickets to continue. George Brookes at the other end bowled tirelessly for his figures of 2 for 12 off his 6 overs, polishing off the St Andrew's innings for 72.

After an interesting lunch of chicken (?) and various vegetables, we set about the chase. Marcus Molina and Nathan White opened and provided a solid foundation reaching 40 without loss. Despite a flurry of wickets, perhaps due to incoming batsmen being a little complacent, we passed the total, 5 wickets down but with Marcus unbeaten with 36. A pleasing win, albeit against a weaker opposition than anticipated. We now look forward to a day off skuba-diving and then off to Carriacou for the next stage of the tour.

Day 5: Chilling in Carriacou

Well, we all made the 9am ferry, although Ben Jones' room did not pass the room check and delayed us all - fines tonight, I think!

The ferry journey to Carriacou was fantastic as we moved northwards. The scenery was simply stunning as the island of Carriacou came into view. As they say, it is a small world and we spent some time talking to a couple on holiday from Lytham. After a transfer to the hotel with the apt name "Grand View", the afternoon was spent relaxing before facing three matches in the next three days in 90 degree heat - I'm glad I just have to umpire!

Mr Whalley and Mr Duncan took some of the lads to the main harbour where Pied Piper Ben Jones and his followers went fishing with the locals. Mr Painter stayed by the pool and umpired a bizarre game of water cricket. I'm not sure this is in the MCC rulebook but never mind, the boys seemed to love it!

After dinner tonight minds need to focus on the challenges that lie ahead with 3 tough games coming up. I am sure the boys will rise to the challenge!

(For the record, the boys won two out of three games on the island before returning to Grenada)

WEEK TWO

Day 12: Kirkham Claim Series Win in National Stadium

As the tour heads towards the final furlong, KGS gave the Presentation Boys' School in Grenada a lesson in line and length. The Presentation boys elected to bat first on a hot and humid day as showers hovered overhead. A few early wickets soon gave way to consistent line and length as no fewer than seven bowlers turned their arm over. The pitch itself had very little pace and Adam Galley as skipper wisely used three slow bowlers to good effect. The middle overs of McCarthy and Wilson strangled the Presentation boys of many scoring opportunities and both finished with wickets in trying playing conditions. The innings was wrapped up by the impressive Brookes who came on at the death to claim three wickets in five miserly overs.

Chasing a modest 97 runs for victory in 35 overs on paper seems quite straightforward. The high temperature of wearing a helmet has certainly been uncomfortable for all batsmen. The Kirkham reply was soon underway and both Mollinga and Jones scored freely at the wicket. An opening partnership of 65 all but sealed victory. Mollinga's 37 emphasized the outstanding tour he has had with the bat as runs flowed in all directions. The target of 98 was reached for the loss of just three wickets to gain another resounding win on tour.

Day 14: Tourist for the day, Rhys Williams

The tourists for the day boarded the bus and set off for their tour of the island. The first stop was the Concord waterfall which is set in the hills of Grenada. Opportunities were provided to take photos of the stunning scenery and there was also the opportunity to walk in the calm water. This calm water, however, suddenly turned into rough water as Benny MC took a tumble!

The next visit for the tourists was to a spice plantation where we learned about how different spices such as cocoa, nutmeg and cinnamon are grown. If any are interested apparently the plantation is up for sale at 25 million East Caribbean Dollars if anyone has some spare cash to spend. (Mr. Harrison is checking his finances) After a visit here, we visited a nutmeg processing plant where we had the chance to see how spices are taken out of their shells and then distributed to various places around the world.

After this it was time for the typical Caribbean lunch of chicken and rice in the stunning scenery where the Caribbean Sea meets up with the Atlantic Ocean with the island of Carriacou in the background. After a brief thunderstorm, the boys moved onto see a rum distillery where we were shown how it is made. The boys were allowed to taste some of the rum that is made here ranging from 16% alcohol to 75% alcohol. There were also chances to purchase some of the products which many of the boys did, including Mr. Duncan who decided to purchase four bottles!

The tour party then moved on to their last stop where they visited the Grand Etang nature reserve. Again, photos were taken of the scenery that surrounded us. We were also greeted by two monkeys, one of which decided to jump onto Marcus Eaton's head and the other one onto Mr. Harrison's head and which also took a sweet off him during the process. The party now looks forward to their last evening on the island and then heading back to the UK tomorrow night.

Day 16: Goodbye Grenada

Well, all good things must come to an end and we are now home after our trip. Five wins out of seven is a magnificent achievement for all concerned! An exhausted tour group arrived back at KGS at 3.30pm after a long, tiring journey. I am sure all would agree that this was an amazing trip as we reflect from the much cooler British climate that greeted our arrival. I hope you have all enjoyed the blog and hope it will live long in the memory.

Feel free to read the full version of our blog online: grenadatour2010.blogspot.com

Mr S. Duncan.

BOYS' ATHLETICS

Sainsbury's Track and Field Cup. Wednesday 12th May.

Both the junior and inter boys performed well in the first round of the ESAA Cup.

In the juniors there were some excellent performances. However, one or two disappointing shows and a weaker second event for some athletes meant that KGS finished third, behind Hutton and Broughton. The team members for this event were:-

Juniors:

Josh Powell (Hurdles/Triple Jump), Matthew Carroll (Hurdles/Discus), Tom Gargett (100m/Long Jump), Charlie Abbott (200m/Shot), Connor Wilkinson (200m/Javelin), Oscar Twitchett (400m/Shot), Henry Cameron (400m/Triple), Oliver Crankshaw (800m/Relay), Josh Keelan (800m/High Jump), Bradley Yates (1500m/Relay), Jack Bruce (1500m/Discus), Scott Collins (High Jump/Relay), Alex Whalley (Javelin/Relay)

Inters:

Robert Lavelle (Hurdles/Triple), Dan Jones (Hurdles/Javelin), Joe Martin (100m/Javelin), Ben Rhodes-Powers (100m/Long Jump), Ben Swift (200m/Shot), Isaac Yuen (200m/HJ), Harry Goosens (400m/LJ), Matthew Beaty (400m/Discus) Robert Lockhart (800m/HJ), William Lockhart (800m/TJ), Sam Fuentes-Moreno (1500m/Relay), Alex Barlow (Shot/Relay), Ryan Wilkinson (Discus/Relay)

In the inters there were again some excellent performances. This team finished first, narrowly defeating Hutton and will progress to the Regional Round in June.

Results of the boys ESAA Sainsbury's Track and Field in the Regional 'A' final 15th June at Stanley Park.

The intermediate boys finished eighth out of nine schools, scoring 381 points amidst high class opposition. There were notable performances from Joe Martin (100m), Ben Rhodes-Powers (100m and Long Jump), Ben Swift (200m), Ben Everson (1500m), Rob Lockhart (HJ) and Ryan Wilkinson (Discus)

In the 'B' final on Thursday 17th at the same venue, the junior boys finished sixth out of nine, scoring 322 points, with notable performances from Jack Bruce (1500m), Henry Cameron (400m) and Charlie Abbott (Shot)

Well done to all who took part. Whilst the boys could not emulate the fantastic achievements of the girls, they should be proud of their efforts.

On a more local basis, KGS took the under 13 and under 15 teams to the Lancaster Area Athletics Competition at Salt Ayre on Tuesday, 18th May. This is traditionally a very tough competition in an area that is strong in athletics.

In the under 13 competition, KGS found the going tough, but there were some encouraging performances from Connor Wilkinson (200m), Henry Cameron (400m and Triple), Oliver Crankshaw (1500m), Wilf Rhodes (Shot) and Oscar Graham (Long Jump)

The under 15 team performed particularly well, with some excellent performances from Ben Rhodes-Powers (100m and Long Jump), Ben Swift (200m), William Dickinson (1500m), Ryan Wilkinson (Discus), and Dan Jones (Javelin). Overall the team finished an excellent second behind a formidable LRGS team. Well done to all who took part.

In another round of athletics matches at Salt Ayre in the Lancaster area, the under 12 and under 14 boys competed against five other schools.

In the under 12 competition the boys did very well, particularly on the track. They finished second behind LRGS with notable performances from

Tom Gargett (100m), Charlie Abbott (200m and Shot), Michael Thomas (200m), Roland Burt (400m), Bradley Yates (800m/1500m), Oliver Crankshaw (1500m), Josh Keelan (1500m), Nick Coleman (Discus).

In the third year competition there were notable performances from Dan Jones (Javelin and 200m), Ben Everson (800m/1500m), Theo Harvey (Shot), Alex Barlow (Shot) and Robert Lavelle (Long Jump).

The team finished a fantastic second place behind LRGS but ahead of four other schools.

In the Lancashire County Championships at Stanley Park, KGS boys produced a quartet of champions, with Bradley Yates taking the under 13 1500m title in a time of 4.45.40 which was a championship best performance; Ben Everson completed a magnificent double by winning both the under 15 1500m with a time of 4.26.30 and the 800m with a time of 2.07.70 and Adam Whalley won the Junior Men's Javelin with a throw of 45m71cm.

Later, three boys from KGS were crowned Lancashire Champions at the Lancashire Schools' Championships and two of them qualified for selection to the English Schools' Championships at Birmingham in July. Ben Everson was a clear winner in the Junior Boys 1500m race in a qualifying time of 4.20.60 and Adam Whalley who, following his success as an inter last year, took the Senior Boys' Javelin title with a throw of 41m.25cm whilst Dan Jones threw an excellent 41.82m to win the Junior Boys' Javelin. Dan went on to represent Lancashire at the English Schools' Championships in Birmingham. His performance of 43.34m was of English Schools' standard and earned him 14th place amidst very strong competition.

Mention must also be made of two boys who have achieved considerable success on the track. Bradley Yates has had a successful year. In May, he won the under 13's 800m and 1500m at the Lancashire Track and Field Championships with Championship best performances in both events. After a move to Sale Harriers in May, Bradley was invited to run the British Millers Club 600m development race. This race was at SportsCity, and Bradley won in a record time of 1:36.3. This was followed by another invitation to run in the under 15's



800m at Stretford. This enabled him to run a time of 2:14.7, which puts him fifth in the UK rankings for the event. Also in the 1500m, Bradley has been head to head for first place in the UK rankings with a boy from Scotland. In June, at SportsCity, Bradley ran 4:30.57 which puts him back on top by 3 tenths of a second. Well done to Bradley for a successful year and we hope it continues next year.

Ben Everson has also had a fantastic season. Following his fine performance in the Lancashire Schools' Championship, Ben achieved a very creditable seventh place (4.19.94) in the English Schools' Championships held in Birmingham on the 9/10 July. Well done to these boys and all the others who have competed throughout the season.

VOLLEYBALL

Once again, Kirkham entered three teams into the Preston and District Volleyball League. After four league sessions, the senior team (KGS) was in fourth position whilst the second team (Windmills) was equal eighth and the third team (Juniors) was ninth. In the Christmas tournament, KGS finished in a creditable fourth position.

After Christmas, our teams really started to develop and produced some very pleasing results. The senior team gathered momentum in the league and in achieving some fine victories eventually won the league with 24 points. A very pleasing result after a good season. Perhaps just as important, there are plenty of junior players new to the game who have made excellent progress throughout the season. This was proven in the Easter tournament where they defeated some of the more senior teams.

Well done to all concerned. This difficult game demands skill and perseverance and it is pleasing to see our youngsters develop from week to week. I hope this continues in the next season. Expectations are high!

M Whalley

SWIMMING

As swimming continues to go from strength to strength, a review of the fixtures tells of a large number of pupils taking part in a number of events with considerable success.

The team enjoyed their first victory of the season against QEGS, Blackburn. The mixed side produced some excellent performances in the pool, with the under 13 age group winning every event. All three age groups, under 13, under 15 and the under 18's worked hard to ensure they produced the results needed to defeat a predominantly male QEGS side. In this match the following pupils performed particularly well: Bradley Yates, Fiona Lockhart, Danny Davies, Hadley Price, Imogen Pierce, Ben Everson, Katy Ingham, Lucy Fielding and Robert Lockhart. The under 13 and under 15 side enjoyed overall victory, whilst the under 18's were narrowly defeated. Overall, KGS enjoyed their first gala victory of the season.

On Wednesday 18th November, due to illness and unavailability, KGS took a very young team to swim against Stonyhurst at under 14, under 16 and senior level. Despite our youth, the team swam fantastically well, especially our boys and girls from years 1, 2 and 3 who often swam against opponents who were two years older. In the senior age group, our boys and girls swam extremely well and were led by the excellent Sophie Ward. All the following were instrumental in a fine win: Fiona Lockhart, Lauren Stringer, William Lockhart, Bradley Yates, Natalie Yates, Dale Price, Hadley Price, Alex Ward, Robert Lavelle, Josh Powell, Robert Lockhart, Giuseppe Pancione, Adam Whalley, Ben Everson, Harriet Price.

KGS took four junior teams to the English Schools' Swimming Association Divisional Team Relay Championship to swim in the freestyle and medley relays. All the swimmers swam extremely well against talented teams from across the north west of England. The junior girls swam extremely well, but found themselves matched against some outstanding swimmers. They should be proud of their times of 2.15 for the medley relay and 2.34 for the freestyle relay. As this team included two first years, they could improve on this even more next year.

The boys registered times of 2.06.82 for the freestyle relay and 2.22 for the medley relay as they swam against ten other schools. This gave them final positions of fourth and second respectively. This means that they became runners up in the Divisional Championship for the medley relay, a fantastic achievement when one considers that two of the team are a year young and another is two years younger than the upper age limit. Alas, the medley relay time was not quick enough for them to qualify for the National Championships in Coventry in February.

Squads:-

Girls: Harriet Price, Beth Everson, Lauren Stringer, Fiona Lockhart, Imogen Pierce

Boys: Josh Powell, Hadley Price, Ben Everson, Danny Davies, Alex Ward, William Lockhart, Robert Lavelle, Bradley Yates

Back to school fixtures, and KGS travelled to Hutton with a large team made up of as many junior (years 1-3) squad members as possible as well as fourth year and senior teams. KGS swam very well, particularly in the individual races, but came a bit unstuck in the relays. The competition was close

at all stages, but Hutton moved away in the final two races. Well done to all who took part.

Against Bury GS, KGS won overall 203-177, winning three of the five groups.

Over 30 boys represented the school in this match, ten first year boys swam for the School, some for the first time and the second years remain unbeaten in all matches. In the girls' fixtures, KGS was not to be defeated! All of the girls worked hard in the pool which paid off as they produced some excellent results.

Although the girls struggled in some age groups against Westholme, they were able to hold their own and produce some great junior performances. Fantastic swims from Imogen Pierce, Lauren Stringer, Harriet Price, Fiona Lockhart and Sophie Ward, to name just a few, meant that the girls were able to defeat a strong Westholme side in two of the four age groups.

The pinnacle of the season came at the QEGS Quadrangular Shield. Our mixed team set to the pool with great determination. After a rocky start, KGS upped their game and began to demonstrate what they were really capable of. In a very tight competition that came down to relays, KGS snatched victory for the first time ever, walking away with the shield.

Well done to Toby Townsend in his duties as Captain. We hope that swimming will continue to flourish in school and that we have an equal amount of success in 2010/2011.

M. Whalley/L. Osborne.

CROSS COUNTRY

In the first major run of the year, KGS recorded excellent results in the Wyre and Fylde Coast Cross Country Championships held at Stanley Park, Blackpool. In the four events entered by school competitors, three were won while the other team came a very creditable fourth.

In the Year 7 girls' event, outstanding performances by Olivia Anderton (second) and Fiona Lockhart (third) were supported well by Jess O'Neill, Becky Ingham and Sophie Warden to lead their team to a comfortable victory, outscoring Arnold School by 21 points.

The Year 7 boys also ran out winners with a margin of 66 points representing an outstanding team performance. Individual honours went to Bradley Yates who won the whole race, while Oliver Crankshaw, Josh Keelan, Thomas Gargett and Aaron Chiekrie all performed admirably.

In the boys' Year 8/9 race, KGS also boasted the race winner in Ben Everson, while his team were overall winners by the close margin of eight points from Cardinal Allen. Will Lockhart and Henry Cameron also scored highly.

In the girls' Year 8/9 race, Imogen Pierce, already a world champion in her main sport, ran in an excellent fourth while Katy Ingham supported well.

It was an excellent day for the KGS athletes and emphasised the all round sporting talent.

Following on from their success in this championship, the pupils listed below were selected to represent Fylde in the Lancashire Schools' Cross Country Championships.

Boys

Josh Keelan, Thomas Gargett, Aaron Chiekrie, Oliver Crankshaw, Bradley Yates, Ben Everson, Will Lockhart

Girls

Olivia Anderton, Fiona Lockhart, Jess O'Neill, Becky Ingham, Sophie Warner, Bethany Everson, Imogen Pierce, Katy Ingham

KGS produced two Lancashire champions from this event, Bradley Yates and Ben Everson. Oliver Crankshaw came in fourth place in the year 7 race.

Year 7 KGS girls running in the Fylde team performed extremely well and the team became champions. This included Beth Everson in fourth place.

In the junior girls, Imogen Pierce came eighth and the Fylde team was second overall.

Well done to all the boys and girls who took part in these events.

Particular mention must be made of Ben Everson. Ben competed for England in the Home Countries International Schools' Cross Country event staged in Truro in April and came 18th overall. The England team won. In January, he won the Lancashire Schools' Cross Country event. That success qualified him for the Lancashire Junior Boys' team at the English Schools' Cross Country Finals staged at Heaton Park in Manchester. There were 329 competitors in his age group but Ben excelled to take fourth place in a time of 12 minutes 46 seconds over the very wet and muddy 4km course and that earned him his place in the England team.

TENNIS

The summer term 2010 at KGS proved to be a busy and competitive time for all the school's tennis players. Enjoying an undisrupted period of glorious English sunshine, the KGS girls and boys benefited from the dry, bright and calm conditions.

A concerted effort was made to revive senior fixtures, and entry into the British Schools' Tennis Association under 18 knockouts provided many in the fifth and sixth forms with the chance to play competitive fixtures.

The under 18 girls' team, captained by Kerry Emmett, dominated the local rounds. Olivia Bence, Ashley Bradshaw, Anna Rigby and Chloe Walker all performed well in the early stages. A third round match against Rivington and Blackrod School proved to be a test too far with all four of their team involved in the academy structure at Bolton Arena.

An enthusiastic boys' team also excelled in the early rounds, defeating a strong Lytham team. Ashley Jones, Stan Graham, Tom Charter and Jamie Roper combined well to win through the early stages. Unfortunately, the team failed to progress further due to an inability to agree a playing date in the third round. It seems we suffered due to the demands of heavy examination commitments of all our pupils, proving that summer sport can be forced to make way in order to achieve academic success.

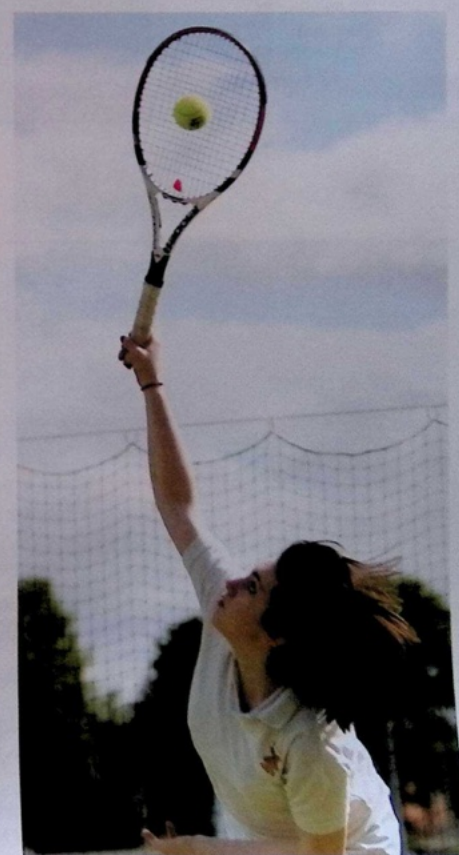
In the boys' and girls' under 13 and under 15 leagues our teams played against a wider range of local opposition due to the new league formats. Matches against KEQMS, Arnold School, QEGS Blackburn, Westholme, Lytham High School

and Broughton High School were played throughout the summer term. The under 15 girls' A team was the team of the year, winning their league comfortably and, if not for a technical ruling, would have progressed in to the regional round of the British Schools' Tennis Competition.

LTA coach David Shaw once again worked hard with squad players and beginners alike, all players showing a commitment to improvement. The Wednesday afternoon sessions were invaluable in developing the improvers' groups and it was pleasing to see a high number of talented second and third year boys make superb progress. The Friday morning squad sessions were well attended, despite some wild and windy conditions and tactical decision making skills were noticeably improved by all girls.

A busy Saturday fixture calendar was followed, which included strong opposition from schools throughout the North West. Victories against Arnold School, Cheadle Hulme and Westholme were particularly impressive, demonstrating the increased tactical and skill abilities of the players. Attendance at practices was excellent from all year groups. The standard of tennis continues to get better each year, which all bodes well for the future of the sport at KGS.

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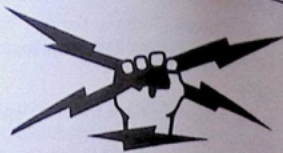
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HOCKEY

First XI

This season our team was very young, comprising of many ages across the years. We have become a very committed and dynamic team and our opponents have found us tough to beat due to our determination whilst spectators have found us exciting to watch. Not only have we been a unit on the pitch, with gutsy performances, but also off the pitch we have formed a great relationship, with respect for one another and have become good friends.

Pre-season began with intense training and friendly games against ladies' clubs to improve skills and fitness. We played 26 games through the season against other schools and ladies' teams, winning 20, drawing 4 and losing only 2 games.

One of the highlights of our season has to be our tour to Dublin in October, where we had a jam-packed three days, playing and winning games against Mount Temple School and Sutton Park School. A training session with two professional Irish coaches was set up and benefited our game immensely. The Viking Splash Boat Educational Tour of Dublin, shopping and birthday celebrations in the Lansdowne Hotel with traditional Irish Ceilidh dancing rounded off what was a superb tour.

As the Lancashire under 19 tournament was brought forward, we did not know what to expect and went out to play our best hockey and have a great time. After a slow

start against Stonyhurst, managing to beat them in the last few minutes, we quickly picked up the pace against our local rivals Queen Mary and Lancaster Grammar with convincing 3-0 wins. We then went on to play Arnold in the final. It was a closely fought match where there was not a lot between the two sides and the resulting 0-0 draw meant that we became Lancashire under 19 champions.

A few weeks later was our own under 19 Invitation Tournament, with some of the best teams from around Britain invited to play and we welcomed a new team to the programme, George Watson's College, Scotland. It was an honour for me to lead my team out on such a prestigious occasion. We played the best we had all season, drawing with Sedbergh 1-1 and George Watson's 0-0, beating Pocklington 3-0 and losing to Millfield by conceding two goals in the final two minutes. However, the highlight of our day had to be drawing to British Colleges 0-0. We kept our cool, played our game and were not fazed by our opponents. It was a pleasure to have Alix Townsend and Hannah Travis step up to the challenge and experience senior hockey at its best with their individual skill and hard work up and down the pitch. The day was a thrilling success and was enjoyed by all.

Our outstanding goalkeeper, Gemma Halkett, has kept us in the game on several occasions with her agility and vision of the ball. This was evident when a penalty stroke was saved against Millfield at our Invitation Tournament. The team was filled with confidence from Gemma's defensive leadership. In defence I had strong and motivated players working with me in Kirsten Martin, who remained composed and solid on our

left side, whilst Emily Crowther took care of our right, not only winning tackles but creating attacking play with her speed. Charlotte Dalzell was solid in the centre of defence.

A special mention must go to my vice captain, Katherine Heyes, who has supported me well this year, as we did have a young side and we knew it would be hard settling in. I would not have been able to do it without Kat's help and also Gemma's moral support keeping everyone smiling! The team was further developed by Kyle, our fitness conditioner, who certainly put us through our paces in the run up to the big tournaments.

Ashley Bradshaw has been a rock in the middle of the pitch, commanding the forwards with a true passion to succeed, Katie Penrose has shown skill to take on players on their reverse stick and Bronte Edgar's sneaky tricks around defenders to then stick the ball in the back of the goal were amazing! Ally Glover dominated the right midfield slot with her dynamic runs forcing the defence to make mistakes, Anna Rigby showed lightning pace to drive forward in attack and linked with Sarah Quarmby's calm but enthusiastic approach to the left midfield. Finally, Vicky Greensmith led from the front with her experience and strength behind the ball.

Our final match was the Vicky Peter's Memorial Match, with an outstanding performance again from the Old Girls who become stronger every year. It was a great day to play a game we all love in memory of such a dedicated performer.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish the very best of luck to Vicky Greensmith and her promising team next year.

Finally, a big thank you to Mrs Glover and Mr Sampey for all their help coaching and for their support this year. It certainly has been a successful and memorable season and it would not have happened without their devotion, time and effort. It is a very sad goodbye to Kirkham hockey for me; I wish you all the best next year!

Katie Gorman - First XI Captain

Second XI

The second XI squad once again proved a force to be reckoned with! The team was lead by Grace O'Flaherty who was determined to lead the squad forward and develop the younger players within the side. The squad produced excellent performances against Arnold School, Queen Mary, Stockport and Altrincham.

As the season progressed and players developed, the side was able to compete with many first XI sides - which is an achievement in itself.

They beat a Winstanley first XI, were narrowly beaten by King's Chester first XI and drew against Queen Mary.

The team this year was packed with upper sixth students who played with experience. They included Maxine Galley, Jennifer Miller, Francesca Hughes, Grace O'Flaherty, Katie Fisher and Rebecca Lewis.

The team will now need to rebuild and use youth to carry the team forward as they approach the next hockey season.

Under 15 XI

The under 15 hockey team enjoyed a successful season and increasingly became a well organised unit with every girl developing her skills and understanding of the game.

The opening 2-1 win against Arnold in September set them on an unbroken run of success over nine matches until Arnold reversed this result early in February. Until then the team had won eight out of nine matches, drawing only with Wakefield, and had scored 29 goals whilst conceding only 4. Arnold again was the only team to frustrate us in the Lancashire under 15 tournament when, having beaten Rossall, Lancaster, Baines and Stonyhurst, and drawn with Queen Mary (all without conceding a goal), we were to finish runners-up when Arnold edged us out 3-1.

The squad was impressively captained by Jenny Malings who was unlucky to be forced out of the latter part of the season through injury but who remained the essence of reliability both on and off the pitch. She, Alix Townsend and Hannah Travis were part of the successful under 16 squad which won through to the North of England finals. Hannah and Alix were later joined by Alex Lord who together formed a formidable mid-field and it is to their considerable credit that they, along with Jenny, are now part of the first XI squad.

A lot of hard work was put in with our defensive unit at the back and, with Amber Cardwell providing a determined last line of defence in goal, the four main defenders in front of her - Sophie Warr, Natasha Linton, Jodie Hope and Jess Balmer - developed and retained a strong defensive shape. Jodie improved her game considerably and finished the season strongly, Natasha showed great determination throughout the season, Sophie settled in well when she came into the team and made the right defence position her own, and Jess was a real bonus choosing to remain with the under 15 squad. As always, she was totally committed on the pitch and a source of strength defensively.

Up front, Rachel Williamson was always a major threat down the right wing with her pace to get behind defenders, Georgina Cameron in the centre still underestimates her own ability but is an ideal team player and totally reliable, while Lucie Mellor-Bates showed promising ability on the left and with clear focus could develop into a very capable player. Gemma Boardman, finally, really has the potential to be more involved on the pitch and she made important contributions during the season. More to come, I think.

This team matured impressively as the season progressed and they all have a lot to give in the coming season. I wish them well.

S Sampey

Under 14 XI

The under 14 squad has had a very successful season this year. They managed to defeat the majority of teams that they came up against by scoring some excellent individual and team goals.

The team was captained by Jen Malings, who lead the team



to victory against Queen Mary, Stockport, Wakefield and many more.

As the side developed both their individual skill and game play, it became obvious that they were a talented bunch. Throughout the season many players produced outstanding performances and Alix Townsend, Hannah Travis, Jen Malings, Georgina Cameron, Natasha Linton and Rachel Williamson are all particularly worthy of mention.

As the season came to a close, it was time to up our game further and take on the Dutch opposition in Valkenberg, Holland. The team produced some great performances and managed to defeat two of their three opponents whilst touring the country.

Overall, the under 14's completed a wonderful season, demonstrating great potential for the future of hockey at KGS.

Well done, girls!

Mrs Osborne

Under 13 XI

Kirkham Grammar School's under 13 hockey squad has made sound progress throughout the course of the season. Promising results from the Saturday fixtures saw that the girls were making progress as they began to get to grips with the 11-a-side game. The team recorded draws against Arnold and victories against Altrincham, Cheadle Hulme,

Wakefield, Queen's Chester and KEQM in the first half of the season.

The second half of the season was blighted by the snow. This led to a lack of continuity in training arrangements and match play, hindering the good progress that the girls had been making. Further victories were recorded against Stockport and again against KEQM when matches did take place, yet it was a frustrating end to what could have been a more productive second half of the season.

The North-West under 13 mini-hockey tournament was held at KGS and allowed the girls a chance to dominate in the 7-a-side game once again. Victories in all of their six group games saw the A team qualify for the North Hockey Finals at Chester in March. The gulf in standard at the regional event, however, was evident, as the team struggled to cope with strong and powerful opponents from Cumbria, and finished in second place. The girls were disappointed with their performance and must now try to put right the mistakes that they made.

The girls have been a successful team at KGS, yet should be aware that they need to keep moving forward in terms of both their individual skill levels and their team work if they are to continue to compete with those around them. A determination to improve levels of fitness, an ability to accept responsibility for errors and the willingness to soak up new information will all be vital as they prepare for the next season as under 14's.

The competitive nature of all the girls in the squad resulted in many determined performances and when the ball was passed from player to player using good team work the side was impressive to watch. It is challenging for such a young side to understand when to retain the ball and demonstrate individual skill and when to work together as a team, and the under 13 squad began to understand the need for a mixture of both concepts towards the end of the season.

I hope that with determination, hard work and, above all, team work the squad will make good progress in years to come.

KH Benter

Under 12 XI

The under 12 hockey squad played over ten matches last season as two teams of seven-a-side. They had success from the start in both 'A' and 'B' matches, beating strong opposition such as King's Chester, Queen's Chester, Stockport Grammar and KEQMS.

In the spring term the under 12's went from strength to strength. As a squad KGS had developed their defending skills and had improved their support structure in attack. Having been unbeaten since January, towards the end of the hockey season they competed in two tournaments.

The first was the Arnold Invitation tournament, held on March 13th, which had teams entered from as far afield as London and Scotland. The standard was extremely high. Ten teams were competing in total, divided into two groups. The winners and runners up of each group went through to the semi-finals and ultimately the final.



The results from our group stages meant we went through as winners and met the runners up of Group 1, City of London Freeman's School, in the semi-final. In the first five minutes, KGS bombarded COL with attacks on goal. Unable to score, COL came back strongly and scored in the closing seconds of the first half. The match continued with end to end hockey before Kirkham scored a well deserved equaliser. The final score was 1-1. In accordance with the tournament rules, KGS played an extra five minutes. The first team to score would be the winners and go through to the final. No goals were scored, so a further five minutes were played without goal keepers. KGS defended a short corner brilliantly. Millie Foley, the KGS captain, managed to contact the ball before COL were able to strike it. With seconds to go, KGS were awarded a penalty corner. From this KGS scored, securing their place in the final.

By the time we played the final, emotions were running high and legs were extremely tired. KGS had played an hour of hard hockey and now had to play a strong Arnold side. To their credit, KGS gave it their all. They had a couple of close chances at goal but were unable to score. The Arnold side was fast and determined and managed to score two well executed goals. KGS finished runners up.

The second tournament was the County Tournament held at Stanley Park on Monday, 22nd March. KGS entered an A and B team where two separate round robin competitions were held for each team.

In the A tournament, KGS played against Arnold, St Mary's Hall and King Edward and Queen Mary School. Despite the low number of teams entered, the standard was incredibly high. KGS were drawn against Arnold in the first game.

Arnold played really well and were fast on the ball. Unfortunately, KGS were very slow to respond and tried to play down the centre of the pitch instead of keeping their space and structure. By half time KGS were two goals down. In the second half KGS were much better. They had a couple of close chances of scoring and closed down the Arnold players much sooner. The score remained at 2-0 to Arnold. In two remaining games KGS played with flair and determination, winning the matches 5-0 and 4-0. They came through as runners up of their tournament.

In the B Tournament only Arnold and King Edward Queen Mary had teams entered. KGS played really well. Defending was strong and they set up a number of great attacking plays. The results were reflective of their performance. KGS beat Arnold 3-0 and KEQMS 4-0. KGS were crowned winners of the Lancashire County 'B' tournament. This marked a great end to what had been an exciting and successful first hockey season at KGS.

Hockey Tour to Dublin

The first and second XI hockey teams set off from KGS early on Tuesday 20 October heading to Dublin for yet another hockey tour. The journey from KGS to Holyhead and the ferry journey to Dublin were very enjoyable and the girls were ready for the Irish opposition and, of course, the fun and games that lay ahead of them.

On the first evening the girls relaxed in the hotel leisure centre then after the evening meal had a whale of a time doing a pop quiz and playing a number of fun filled party games, wink murder, leader of the band/dance and many more. The slick dance moves demonstrated by the girls were superbly replicated by the staff, in fact they were so slick the girls stood in awe!

Wednesday was a very special day, Katie Gorman's 18th birthday and Chloe Walker's 16th birthday, so after a birthday breakfast we started to get ready for the games. The weather was atrocious when the first XI played against Mount Temple School and though the start was end to end our girls soon got into their stride and started to dominate the match with a solid defensive performance. The midfield took total control and the forwards attacked with real flair. The second XI played against Manor House School and after an end to end game and a gutsy performance the match finished 0-0. We had a terrific evening at the Lansdowne Hotel, where we enjoyed a beautiful meal and a traditional





Irish Ceilidh. Our girls certainly threw themselves into the evening, singing and dancing and we even had a solo singing performance and a spectacular performance of the 'worm'.

Thursday started superbly with the Viking Splash Tour, an amphibian vehicle that took us on an educational tour of Dublin. Combined with a number of hilarious Viking 'roars', which scared the unsuspecting tourists 'to death', this certainly got us all off to a good start. After an hour's shopping, we headed off for our second matches. The second XI played against Santa Sabina School, Sutton and put up a very good team performance, solid at the back, real determination in midfield, and skill and flair up front. We won the game 3-0, a great second result. The first XI played against Sutton Park School, a very good team indeed. From the first whistle, our girls turned on the style with an outstanding performance. The girls showed real class all over the pitch making this very strong hockey school look very ordinary. We won 3-0 with certainly the best performance of the season so far. Both our teams played against premier division teams and both of our teams showed how strong the hockey is at our school. The day was rounded off with a bingo night. The highlight of the night was the extremely professional bingo calling by Mrs Walter. Never before has anyone had the opportunity to play in such a professional manner. Gala Bingo may certainly be coming in to get advice from her.

On Friday morning we had a two hour training session with two professional Irish hockey coaches. The girls worked hard, listened carefully and came away with good advice and little tips to use back at school.

The trip was terrific; the girls were out of this world, fun to be with, great company and totally committed to each other both on and off the pitch. The atmosphere on the tour was

wonderful and I was so proud of our girls. They were certainly a credit to Kirkham Grammar School.

I would like to thank Mrs Walter for helping me organise this tour and Mrs Osborne and Mr Sampey for all their hard work.

Mrs J Glover



NETBALL

Under 15

The under 15's have been a terrific team to work with, totally committed, determined and highly skilled. Kate Meagh led by example with her sheer quality on the court and her supportive manner off the court. Annabelle Mole, Hannah Travis and Kate Meagh were dynamic in attack. Georgina Cameron linked the attack and defence together in a composed, effective manner and Caroline Webster, Jessica Balmer, Jenny Malings and Bronte Edgar worked tirelessly in defence. The combined efforts of this team proved too much for the majority of the opponents that they faced.

It is unfortunate that the changes in the organisation of the netball league this year led to a disjointed and unpredictable set of matches, with many postponed, rearranged or cancelled. However, in the Blackpool and Wyre netball tournament, our girls played superbly, winning their group section easily and only narrowly losing to Cardinal Allen in the semi-final.

I would like to thank the girls for their commitment and hard work throughout what has been a rather frustrating season. I look forward to coaching them next year in what will hopefully be a well structured league.

J. Glover

Under 13

The under 13 netball teams made huge progress over the course of the season. In the early matches, against Lytham High, Carr Hill and KEQMS, results were mixed. Passing down the court was often rushed and crowded, leading to errors and shooting was not accurate. However, by mid November the under 13's had turned their game around. Spacing, speed and accuracy of passing and shooting had all improved and this was reflected in the results towards the end of the season.

In the under 13 district tournament, an A and B team represented KGS. The A tournament was run as three groups, the winners of each group going through to compete for the top three places. Our first match was against Arnold School. Nerves were high as we knew every match counted. KGS went into a storming lead by three goals to nil in the first five minutes but Arnold came back to draw. The standard of netball by both teams was excellent and the pace of play was fast. However, nerves got the better of KGS. Despite making a number of great interceptions, KGS rushed their passes and the ball was sent straight back to the opposition. The final score was 10-5 to Arnold. In the subsequent matches against Hodgson and Fleetwood, the KGS team played superbly. They notched up two great victories, 12-2 and 17-3 respectively, and displayed excellent team work and shooting. These goal statistics were excellent as the matches were only seven minutes each way. However, our loss against Arnold meant KGS came second in their group which meant they were out of the competition.

The B tournament was run as two groups, with the winners and runners up going forward to the semi-finals and final. KGS played some great netball in their group. They beat Baines B 7-1; Garstang B 8-3 and Arnold B 6-3 to go

through as winners of their group. In the semi final they came up against Lytham. This was a nail biting match that was end to end play. The score was even for much of the game but KGS managed to edge in front in the closing seconds, winning 4-3 and securing their place in the final. This was against Arnold, whom they had beaten in their group. Once again, the match was incredibly close. At full time the score was 5 all, so a further 2 minutes each way was played. Arnold managed to score a goal in this time which meant the KGS team were district runners up.

The KGS team is to be congratulated for some excellent performances, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the competition and the determination and progress they showed during the season.

Under 12

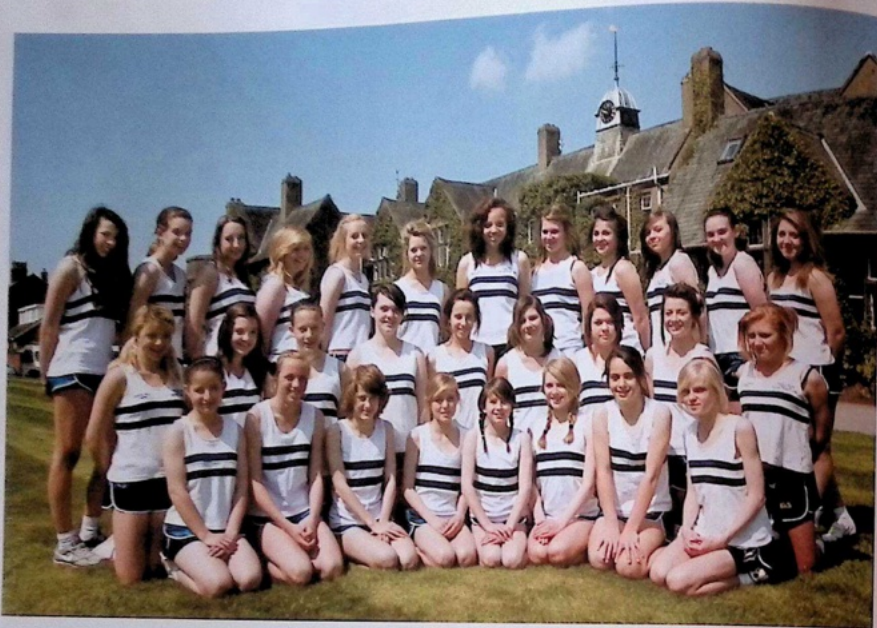
The under 12's had a fantastic 2009/10 netball season. From September to March, they played A and B matches against Lytham High School, Carr Hill, Baines, KEQMS and Arnold. Of the thirteen matches KGS played, they only lost one game. This put them in a strong position for the district tournament held at Stanley Park in which eleven teams from the Fylde and Wyre competed.

The A team tournament was organized into three groups and the winners from each group went through to compete for the top three places. KGS had a tough draw, with Lytham and KEQMS in their group. In the Lytham game, the score was close, but KGS managed to keep ahead for the entire match, winning 6-4. Against KEQMS, the first half was nail - biting. Nerves got the better of KGS and errors were made costing us a goal. Trailing by two goals at half time, with only 6 minutes of playing time left, KGS had to play their best netball. They rose to the challenge. An interception by Jess O'Neill on a KEQMS centre pass was the turning point. KGS stormed into the lead and were unstoppable! The final score was 13 - 8 to Kirkham. Against their third opponents, Millfield, they won by an incredible 16 goals to 1. As winners of their group KGS played Baines and St.Aidan's and beat them 7-1 and 12-1 respectively. The A team were crowned champions!

The B team tournament was run in two groups. The winners and runners up of each group would play in the semi final and ultimately the final. In their group, KGS played Lytham, St.Bede's and Garstang, winning all three matches convincingly, 6-1, 9-1, and 10-0. In the semi final, KGS beat Baines, paving the way for the final against Lytham, whom they had beaten earlier in the tournament. The final was very exciting. Both teams played extremely well. Possession changed from team to team continuously and shots were missed by both teams from nerves. However, KGS managed to keep the lead and won by 3 goals to 2. They were crowned champions of the B tournament!

As winners of the under 12 'A' district tournament, KGS were invited to compete in the Lancashire inter-district netball county final. Ten schools in total were competing and were split into two groups of five.

KGS started the tournament with gusto, beating Montgomery 11-2 and Longridge 10-3. Their third and fourth games were closely fought against Penwortham Girls' and Fishermore High School. The standard of play was extremely high by all teams. The speed of play was quick and



did not allow for any error. KGS defended strongly and often regained possession. They won these matches 6-5 and 5-4.

As a result of winning all their matches, Kirkham went through as winners of their group to meet Westholme in the semi-final. Tiredness was beginning to show and in the first half KGS were asking for overhead balls instead of driving to the ball. These were being intercepted by Westholme and at half-time the score was very close. In the second half, KGS played with flair and determination and pulled away to win the match 10-2.

KGS had deservedly reached the final after five tough games. However, the final against Ribblesdale proved to be KGS's hardest game. Ribblesdale were strong defensively and picked up on KGS's occasional weak passes and lack of movement. At half-time KGS trailed by 4 goals to 1. However, KGS were not prepared to let the game slip away. They played a blinding second half, marking their players tightly and passing with greater accuracy and speed. They made a number of interceptions and used these to their advantage to even up the score. When the final whistle blew, the score was 8-6 to Ribblesdale.

KGS are to be congratulated for achieving second place in the under 12 county final. They gave their all in every game and the standard of netball they managed to maintain throughout the tournament was commendable. Well done to all players!

Beth Everson (Capt), Olivia Anderton, Jess O'Neill

GIRLS' ATHLETICS

What a fantastic season!

Yet again, we had more than seventy girls training regularly both on the track and in the field three to four times a week. As always, the girls showed real grit and determination to improve their times and target personal bests.

Our girls competed in four friendly matches - against Arnold, King Edward and Queen Mary, Canon Slade and Westholme, winning fourteen out of sixteen matches. Our fourth years were true leaders, totally committed and fully supportive of the younger teams. Our third years were a real force in competition. The second years grew in strength and confidence throughout the season and our first years demonstrated what a talented athletic group they are.

As always, the girls' commitment to training, each other and the staff was unbelievable. The atmosphere throughout the ages proved to be a wonderful environment to train and compete in.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS' ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

SAINSBURY'S TRACK AND FIELD CUP

We entered both a junior and intermediate girls' team in this prestigious national competition. Each team enters twelve athletes and each athlete has to compete in both a track and a field event. Points are scored for times, heights and

distances rather than position. Therefore, the pressure is on the girls to achieve personal bests in their events to ensure a top team score.

The first round was held at Stanley Park, Blackpool on 12th May and the Kirkham girls had a successful day, with both teams winning convincingly. This meant that both teams qualified for the north 'A' finals, once again held at Stanley Park.

The north finals proved to be fiercely contested, but yet again our girls rose to the occasion. We had a large number of outstanding performances, with more than 18 personal bests throughout the event. We knew that this year could be very special and indeed it was, with both our junior and intermediate teams winning their final in real style and qualifying for the English Schools' Track and Field Cup Final at Gateshead Stadium.

This is a tremendous achievement for 'Little KGS' to qualify for the national finals for the third year running!

The English Schools' Track and Field Cup Final on 3rd July was another fantastic event - a national stadium filled with the talented athletes of the future: What a proud moment to have not only one team, but two KGS teams competing in an event for the top twelve schools in the country.

Our juniors were a little overawed by the event and this ultimately affected their performances. Our intermediate team was not fazed and finished in a very creditable sixth place, with our juniors finishing in eleventh place. Both teams did us proud. To stand and watch our girls performing centre stage in this national stadium alongside the best athletics schools in the country certainly brought tears to my eyes. It was a magnificent day for KGS.

To compete against schools with over 160 girls in a year was a real eye opener. It was only after the event that our girls realised exactly what they had achieved!

Junior Girls:

Emily Carpenter, Kate Lawler, Lucy Meagh, Lucy Gardiner, Heather Crook, Darcy Bray, Jess O'Neill, Beth Everson, Sophie Warden, Grace Reddy, Fiona Lockhart, Nicole Thompson, Olivia Anderton, Lauren Bailey.

Intermediate Girls:

Rachel Williamson, Georgina Cameron, Alix Townsend, Hannah Travis, Bronte Edgar, Katie Ingham, Nicole Wainwright, Alexandra Hastie, Nicky Charter, Lindsay O'Brien, Imogen Pierce, Hannah Butler, Beth Kenny.

FYLDE COAST ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

On Wednesday, 23rd June our girls competed in the Fylde Coast Championships at Stanley Park. As always, our girls were totally prepared at every age group with strength and depth on the track and in the field. Once again, our girls were highly motivated to perform to the best of their abilities.

The event was organised with track heats in the morning

and the finals in the afternoon. The field events took place all day and in this competition position mattered. Our aim was to get every girl in the final and then go for personal bests. Almost all girls qualified for the finals and in the field we were finishing regularly in the top three. The team spirit amongst our girls and staff was terrific as we gave each other 100% support throughout the day.

After the relays, the athletes congregated on the track and eagerly awaited the results and the presentations. How could we ever get close to last year's achievements? We produced the goods once again, though could not quite replicate the clean sweep of last year. The under 13, under 14 and under 15 teams were crowned Fylde Coast Champions. Our under 17's were absolutely 'gutted' because they had to settle for the runners up position. They were second by just two points.

What a day! In fact, what a season!!

The pride was plain for all to see, the mighty athletes of little KGS certainly did us all proud.

As always, our girls were an absolute pleasure, hard working, committed and real fun to be with. They looked the part, they behaved impeccably, they supported each other completely and they performed magnificently. Congratulations to all our athletes and thank you for your complete dedication and commitment to both training and matches.

I would also like to thank Mrs Osborne and our captains, Catherine Moss and Louise Walker, for their hard work throughout the term. I would like to thank Peter and Caroline Warden for their coaching assistance too. Finally, a massive thank you to Mr Sampey who provides the expertise. Without him these amazing results would not be possible. What a season. Congratulations once again to all our athletes.

J Glover

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Lancashire Schools Champion Intermediate Girls Triple Jump

Lancashire Schools Championships

Boys:

Benjamin Everson, Junior Boys 1500m Champion
Daniel Jones, Junior Boys Javelin Champion
Adam Whalley, Senior Boys Javelin Champion

Girls:

Emily Carpenter, Junior Girls Discus Third
Alexandra Hastie, Junior Girls High Jump Joint Runner Up
Katy Ingham, Junior Girls 200m Third
Beth Kenny, Junior Girls Discus Second
Lindsay O'Brien, Junior Girls Javelin Second
Imogen Price, Junior Girls 1500m Third
Nicole Wainwright, Junior Girls Long Jump

Biathlon:

Boys:

Benjamin Everson, U14 Northwest Championships Second
Bradley Yates, U12 Northwest Champion

Girls:

Beth Everson, U12 Northwest Championships Second
Katy Ingham, U14 Northwest Championships Third
Fiona Lockhart, U12 Northwest Champion

Cross Country:

Boys:

Ben Everson, England Cross Country Junior Boys,
Fylde and Wyre Coast Year 9/10 Champion
Bradley Yates, Fylde and Wyre Coast Year 7 Champion
Oliver Crankshaw, Fylde and Wyre Coast Third

Girls:

Olivia Anderton, Fylde and Wyre Coast Year 7
Katy Ingham, Fylde and Wyre Coast Year 9/10 Third
Imogen Pierce, Fylde and Wyre Coast Year 9/10 Champion

Golf:

Boys:

Henry Tomlinson, U18 Lancashire Champion
Toby Roberts, Lancashire U15 Northern Schools Champion
Lancashire Training Squad

Girls:

Lucy Mellor-Bates, U18 Summer Order of Merit Winner,
Lancashire Training Squad

Hockey:

Lancashire Regional Performance Centre

U18:

Katie Penrose
Anna Rigby

U17:

Ashley Bradshaw
Jourdan Kenny

U15:

Alexandra Hastie
Beth Kenny

Rugby:

Ireland AERU (U18 XV):
Lancashire RFU (18 Group) XV:
Lancashire RFU (17 Group) XV:

Kieran D Marmion
Michael Simmons
Matthew J Ellis
Jon R Evans
Chris Kohler
Michael Simmons
Sam Hall

North of England RFU (16 Group Squad):

North Wales RFU (U20 XV):
North Wales RFU (U18 XV):

Thomas Hurst
Callum Bennett
Callum Bennett
Sean Condon
Jon Evans
Liam Marmion
William Morecombe
Josh Woods

Lancashire RFU (16 Group) XV

Lancashire RFU (15 Group) XV

Lancashire RFU (14 Group) XV
England RFU
(U16 Group Development Squad) XV

Sam Hall
Thomas Hurst
Matthew Beaty
Ben Swift
Ben Rhodes-Powers
Lewis Leach

Matthew Beaty

Trampoline: Ellie Higham U14 Northwest Trampoline Champion

TEAM ACHIEVEMENTS

Athletics:

Boys: U12 Wyre and Fylde Coast Champions
U13 Wyre and Fylde Coast Championships Fourth place
U14 Wyre and Fylde Coast Championships Third Place

Girls: Sainsburys English Schools Track and Field Cup Area and Regional Winners Juniors and Intermediates
Sainsburys English Schools Track and Field Cup National Finals Juniors Eleventh Place
Sainsburys English Schools Track and Field Cup National Finals Intermediates Sixth Place
U13 Wyre and Fylde Coast Champions
U14 Wyre and Fylde Coast Champions
U15 Wyre and Fylde Coast Champions
U17 Wyre and Fylde Coast Runners Up

Biathlon:

Girls: U12 National Finalists
U14 National Finalists

Cross Country:

Boys: U12 Wyre and Fylde Coast Champions
U14/15 Wyre and Fylde Coast Champions

Girls: U12 Wyre and Fylde Coast Champions
U14/15 Wyre and Fylde Coast Champions

Hockey:

U12 A Lancashire Championships Runners Up
U12 A Arnold Invitation Tournament Runners up
U12 B Lancashire Champions
U13 Lancashire Championships Runners Up
U13 Regional Mini-Hockey Finalists
U15 Lancashire Championships Runners Up
U16 Lancashire Champions
U16 Regional Champions
U16 North Finalists Runners Up
U19 1st XI Lancashire Champions

Netball:

U12 A and B Blackpool and Wyre Tournament Winners
U13 B Blackpool and Wyre Tournament Runners Up
U15 Blackpool and Wyre Tournament Third Place

Rugby:

1st VII North of England 7's Semi-finalists
1st VII Austin Friars School 7's Plate Winners
U16 XV Lancashire Cup Runners Up
U14 XV Lancashire Cup Runners Up
U13 XV Lancashire Cup Runners Up

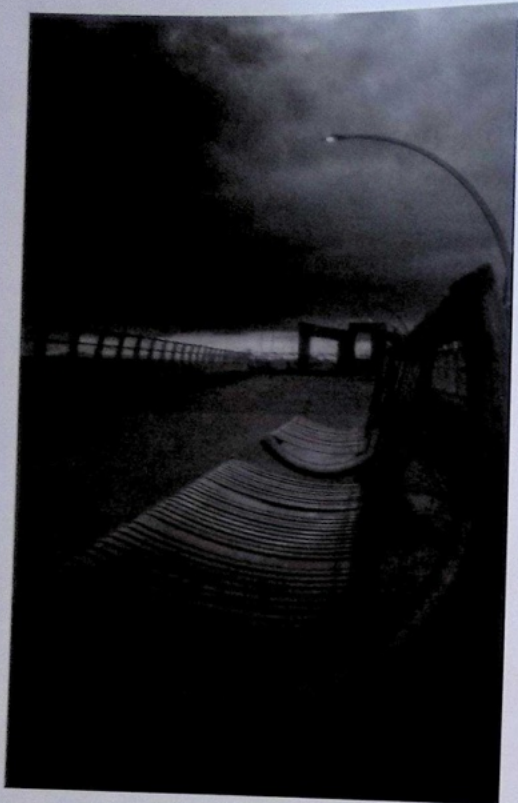
Tennis:

Girls: U15 AEGON Lancashire Champions

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My Family

My Mum she is the best,
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She has beautiful hair,
And a husband like a bear.

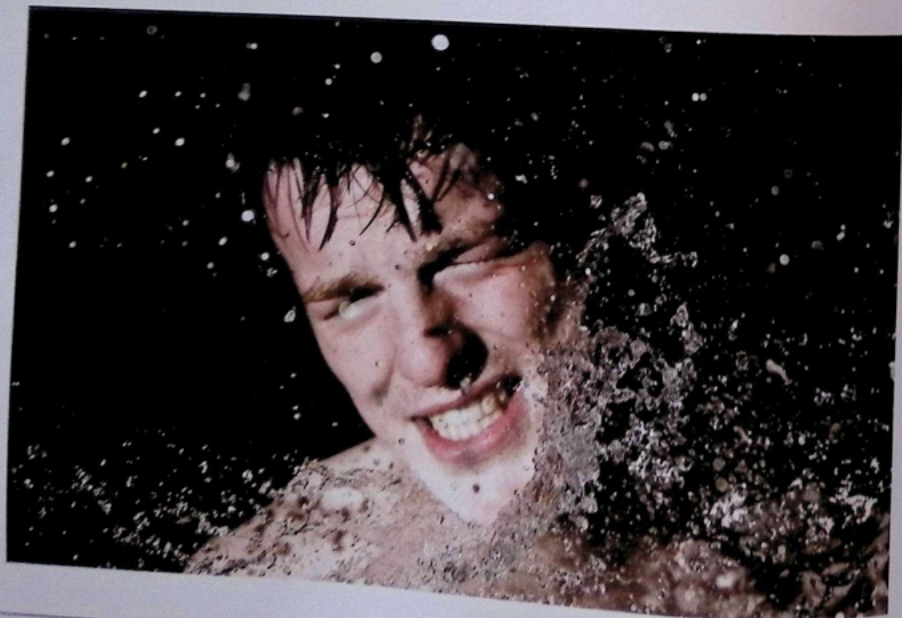
Now onto the bear,
He has loads of hair,
He locks up the bad,
And he's our Victorian Dad.

Now onto little Billy,
He's really quite silly,
He shouts and screams,
And he's never very clean.

Now onto me,
They call me Georgie,
Horses and ponies are my thing,
And I really wish that I could sing.

That's my family,
We laugh, we cry,
But we're full of love.

By Georgia Seed-Ashton



The Ballad of the Bereaved

He searches in the darkness
For answers he will never know.
He cries up at the sky
For anything that will tell him why.
He stares at endless crowds
For just a glimpse of golden hair.
He dwells in darkness all alone
With his mind left in a better time.
She is still there with her golden curls,
Her angelic smile set in stone,
Her sweet blue eyes full of peace.

Unborn, But Soon To Be Free!

What can it be?
This funny feeling inside of me.
The feeling of excitement is bouncing through my body.
I want to get out, but how?

But how odd!!
I have never seen the outside world.
Even though I do not know
what the outside World means.
Of course, I can hear my mother talking about me.

Why do I kick and punch out this little womb?
It's the only place I have ever known.
But I want to be free to run and play but I'm stuck
here day after day.

I don't know how this is done,
But I know inside my little body
it cannot be done inside here.
Though I know one day soon, I will be out.
But up till then, here I will stay.

I have all I need -
food, water and air to breathe.
So why am I always fretting and burning up inside?
And kick and punch and bang my head against
this protective home,
which has kept me alive for months and months?

Whilst my mother and friends listen
to me from outside saying,
"Feel him kick and punch my battered stomach!"
It is so annoying because
all I want to do is to be free





PRESENCE

The gate swung morosely on its hinges as if to delay the oncoming disaster. PC Davies straightened his helmet on his sombre walk to the front door. This was the one part of the job he hated. He could take the drunken abuse, the anger, the hatred. It was the silence he couldn't handle. The silence that echoes as somebody's world was destroyed.

Ignorance opened the door and allowed him in. She started rambling on about kids in the area and how glad she was the police were taking action. As she said her piece, she busied herself in the kitchen. The house was nothing out of the ordinary. He had seen ones like it many times before. It was a home built on family. The sort that would come crashing down with the slightest push.

"Mrs Smith, I'm not here about the vandals. I'm here....."

She stopped dead in her tracks. Her eyes widened with the dread of infinite worst case scenarios. He so wished he did not have to tell her one of them was true.

"I'm here about your daughter Eleanaaa..."

The words died in his mouth. His head started spinning. He could feel sickness rising in his stomach. For in the hallway stood the little girl he had seen only hours before. Lying dead by the roadside.

"What about Eleanor?" shrieked Mrs Smith at the police officer who was staring in horror at her hallway carpet.

"I...err..." he stammered, glancing back to the distraught

woman in disbelief. He tried to gesture towards the little girl but the woman merely shook her head.

She could not see her.

Davies managed to re-establish himself and beckoned the woman to take a seat. More for his own benefit than hers. He sat next to her and turned to look her in the eyes to tell her his earth-shattering news. News of how her daughter had been found dead by the roadside by a dog walker earlier that morning. And that the cause of death was trauma to the head that could have been caused by a car, but the concentration of the injuries suggested otherwise.

Murder.

"Oh," stammered Mrs Smith, turning away from the police officer, making sure he could not see her face.

"Please leave."

PC Davies rose from his seat and left the room without hesitation. The protocol was to stay in silence, waiting to inform the victim how the investigation will work. But this time was different. Her reaction seemed rehearsed, like there was no pain, so she had to create it. Like she already knew.

Eleanor was waiting for him in the hallway. Her skin was strikingly pale and her clothes were plain and dull. Worlds apart from the loud floral dress she had been wearing when she was found. Her hair was pulled off her face in a nondescript ponytail. It was as if she was dressed for the slab.

She turned her head away from him as if to look out of a



small window in the hallway. Davies craned his neck to peer through the window. Outside was a small driveway but no car. That struck him as odd. Most families like that had one if not two cars.

Whilst he puzzled over this, Eleanor turned and began to walk at funeral pace up the stairs, taking one step at a time. Davies, who already felt tangled up in this web, quickly followed her. As he climbed the stairs he whispered in his radio a request for any information about abandoned vehicles found in the area. The radio crackled up almost instantly with the news that a blue Ford Mondeo had been found about four miles west of where Eleanor's body had been found.

Once up the stairs, Eleanor led him through a closed door. The room had obviously belonged to the little girl. The walls were sky blue with perfect white clouds and with a majestic sun on the ceiling. The furniture was all pink and looked as if it belonged in a catalogue for suburban fairy tale princesses. The room itself was immaculate. Everything was in its place. It was as if no one had ever set foot in the room.

As he turned to leave the room, he saw it. Eleanor was standing, pointing behind the door, her plain expression was now pure chaos. She was filling up with emotions no child should ever have to feel. Behind the door lay a crystal rock. The kind that any little girl would be enchanted by. He leaned in for a closer look. Congealed blood covered the surface of the stone. Davies recoiled in horror, he quickly grabbed his radio to call for back up. But something caused him to flinch. Something was different in the room and the whole house.

He could smell gas.

Chad Bentley

INSIDE

All I have to do is laugh, sneeze or cough,
They all come running, but that's not enough.
I want to go run in the park,
Play with friends until it's dark.
I want to be able to do things myself,
Not always needing someone's help.
I'd like to answer you, say what I feel,
I want it so much but it will never be real.
The world's in my head but not in my frame,
It's not my fault but there's no-one to blame.
I'm really quite clever inside my head,
Painting my pictures and things to be read.
I want to experience just normal life,
Like walking to school and riding a bike.

The Market

At the end of the market as I look around,
I can see everything, I can hear every sound.
I can watch the tents as they're put away,
I can hear the sausages, they've sizzled all day.
The music is playing across the square.
And a dismal feeling is filling the air.
The market is gone and it's time to leave,
It's back again tomorrow, so please don't grieve.

My Lovely John!

You were so beautiful to me, my love.
You shine above me like a sparkling star.
You flew away into heaven above,
I miss you more now I know you've gone far.
I loved watching you play Cinderella.
When I hear Green Sleeves, I think of you lots.
They called you a bruiser, dear young feller.
My heart feels tied in thousands of knots.
I still remember holding your hand tight,
You will always be there, my true cousin.
When you left you gave me a massive fright,
My lovely John Challis you had somethin'.
My love for you will go on forever.
You will always be my special treasure.

Madelene Kearsley, 3X

A Day out at the Theatre

I opened my eyes and I remembered it was Saturday and William Shakespeare's play was on at the Globe Theatre. I threw on my clothes and stepped through my door to find a small crowd of people heading towards London. I knew many of the people who were now passing my cottage although there was a handful who had come from further afield. I joined the group of newcomers to find that they were a very lively bunch and could not wait for the day ahead.

After a pleasant walk and an introduction from everyone, we finally reached the Tower Bridge. The three theatres were all visible until they were blocked out like an eclipse by the houses standing high above the gloomy depths of the Thames. As we meandered out of the valley of shadows into the scorching heat, we met a huge crowd with a great atmosphere which filled the air.

The trumpets sounded and the Globe was slowly saturated with all sorts of people. Things were being carried out from all directions. After a great deal of talking and a few fights due to restlessness, a young boy dressed in vibrant clothes stepped onto the main stage. He took an uncertain glance around the theatre but seemed to overcome this fear in seconds. He took a deep breath and held his large playbill above his head. The audience quietened and the flag was raised. The Saturday play at the Globe Theatre had commenced.

Harvey O'Connell 3x

My Memorable Journey

My memorable journey was in Brittany, France, about four years ago. My family and I had rented a cottage in a hundred-acre wood. The house used to be a water mill, so there was a huge lake that we swam in daily. The trees grew lush and thick around the lake and house, keeping us cool and shady. Dragonflies skimmed and twirled across the surface of the lake, where I often sat in a rowing boat, reading, until it grew cooler and darker, and I moved indoors and read by lamplight, as dove coloured moths fluttered against the windows and the chirping songs of the crickets rang out through the clearing.

One day, my mother and I decided to explore the forest more. We set off from the house, past the winding bramble bushes, through the dark trees. I had my butterfly catching net gripped under one arm and plodded along with firm

resolution - I was determined to find at least one butterfly! Mum and I marched on through the trees, past the stream that ran by the mill, and deeper into the forest. There was a faint trail, but I still felt like an intrepid explorer, bravely heading off into the unknown. Mum pointed out wild berries and flowers on the way. I grew more and more excited the further along the winding trail we went.

The dark green of the trees spread all around me, with dappled patches of light shining from gaps in the branches that hung low over my head. A carpet of pale grey mushrooms was soft beneath my feet and springy ferns clustered along the path.

Then things grew lighter and I gave a delighted squeal as we stepped into the light and into a clearing in the trees. The stream trickled through the centre of the clearing, around which tangled brambles grew in matted heaps. The ground was a mossy green with lichen-covered twigs strewn across it. Birds twittered gently from the trees, and they made the only sound other than the contented gurgling of the stream.

A single white butterfly flapped across the clearing but before I could swipe at it, it flew away. We found deer tracks imprinted in the mud at the foot of a tall, stout tree and they excited me so much that I forgot butterflies existed at all!

I picked a large pink flower from a clump of wild plants and, as we left the clearing, twirled it in my hands. We trekked through the forest once more until we arrived back at the house. My legs were scratched by brambles but I did not really care. I placed the flower in a vase as a memento of our trip, but even when it wilted, I remembered my memorable journey and how special it was.

Grace Cook, 2W

Short Story

It was a wonderful summer's day, the birds were singing and you could hear the children playing happily together.

"Oribble noisy children, always getting on my nerves, I swear they do it on purpose!" scolded the grumpy old man in the rickety, run down, ramshackle old house.

"Frank, change the record! You're always on at those harmless kids. What do you think their parents will think?" replied his weary wife.

Frank stood and looked out at the street through the dirty, grimy window.

"Frank, Frank," - he hated that name - in fact he hated his full name - Frank Septimus Hunt. Who would give their child that name? Then he sighed. Why, he had a son 30 years ago. His first wife had run off with their son, Frank Septimus junior. He suddenly felt sad but he would not allow himself to think about it. In a hasty mood, the man lunged for his rotten, old, wooden walking stick and headed for the front door.

"Where you off?"

"I'm going to give those kids a taste of their own medicine. I'll teach them to annoy me!"

Frank struggled over to the peeling, rickety door, lifted the latch and hobbled outside into the lovely, warm breeze.

"Oi, you meddling kids, clear off, get back to your computer games and stop annoying me!"

Frank limped across his overgrown garden and back through the old door and disappeared into the darkness of his house.

"Why did you do that? They'll be coming round soon, you mark my words. They might even call the police. Why can't you just keep your mouth shut for once in your life?"

There was a knock on the door.

"I warned you, but did you listen? Obviously not! I bet that's the police."

The old lady pushed her gnarled and creaky body out of the old, patched-up, faded green armchair and limped over to the old door. She lifted the latch and the door opened with a bloodcurdling creak.

"Can I help you, sir?" asked the old lady.

"Is Frank Hunt in?" asked the young man.

"Yes, he's just in the back. I'll get him for you, shall I?"

"Tell them to clear off!" bellowed Frank.

"But Frank?"

"No buts! I don't care who it is, tell them to clear off!"

Frank's wife turned back to the door but the young man had disappeared. She was just about to close the door when she saw a small business card on the door mat. She picked it up and gasped; she shuffled back into the living room and handed the card to Frank, with a quivering hand. Frank's eyes were glued to the card and then he crumbled. He cried and cried as he had done at the birth of his son thirty years earlier.

From that day on, Frank made the most of his life, well what was left of it. He decided that life was too short to be a miserable old man. Perhaps it was the visit from that stranger, but who was he? The card still rests on the mantelpiece. It reads:

"Frank Septimus Hunt (Junior)"

If you have not already realised the moral of this story, then I shall tell you.

Make sure you live your life to the full; do not waste it, love those closest to you. You only live once.

Georgia Seed-Ashton

Time Travel - WW2

I started to gather my senses - but I just could not see a thing... All I could hear was the sound of muffled explosives and gunshots whilst being pushed and shoved... Then everything went blank. A sheet of pure white covered every inch of me... BANG! And there I was, crouching on the floor behind sandbags, narrowly missing heavy machine gun fire.

I noticed several other men crouching next to me, some screaming, some crying... some dying! What was happening? I carefully looked through a small hole between the sandbags and my heart almost stopped in shock. This was D-DAY. The very assault the Americans performed on Omaha Beach!

"Sergeant," shouted a wild voice. Was he talking to me? I looked down my right arm to see my rank badge. It stated, Sgt. Mason, second regiment. He was talking to me!

"Me?" I screamed over the explosives.

"Yeah, you, dammit. I'm Private Foley, second in charge, we need to move up, we're like sitting ducks down here!"

Suddenly, I heard a faint whistling sound, gradually getting louder, until we saw the cause of the whistling - a missile! The enormous missile suddenly entered hyperspeed and

pounded into the third regiment. "Ah, man!" screamed Foley and ran to find better cover. Along with Foley, Lieutenant Havers, Private McNaughton and myself all rushed to the same wall.

"Sniper, 2 o'clock!" said Havers. "We gotta take him out!" I put my back flat on the wall to be sure I was not in any line of fire.

"Just wait. We don't know who he's got an eye on, it could be us. Havers, give me that helmet on the floor!" said Foley. Havers grabbed the helmet quickly and threw it to Foley. Foley pulled his knife from his sheath and put the helmet on top of it.

"Right guys, this is the plan. I'll stage on the right side of the wall whilst you are on the left, ready to run to that bunker just ahead. I'll hold the helmet out and attract attention. As soon as it is shot, move!"

"Sounds good to me!" exclaimed McNaughton. Havers, McNaughton and I all waited in complete silence. As soon as Foley put the helmet in view, it was shot by the sniper and all four of us ran to the bunker ahead. McNaughton was a real tough guy, but he was not the best of runners. Just as he climbed into the bunker, a spray of two bullets entered his leg and he fell face first onto the vile floor of the bunker.

"AH DAMN!!!" screamed McNaughton in pain.

"Medic!" I screamed. "We need a goddamned medic, NOW!"

A small, young looking soldier came rushing over to us and I noticed the red medic cross on his backpack. He pulled out some sort of metal rod and plucked the two bullets from McNaughton's legs. McNaughton held the pain in as the medic bandaged the damage. I tightened the bandage to numb the pain, getting blood all over me at the same time.

"Ah man... I'm good to go... I think!" wheezed McNaughton.

The medic scurried off through the bunker until he was out of sight.

"There's only one way to go and that's forward. We need to clear a path up to that highland! And McNaughton, before you ask, we're not running out like maniacs!" All four of us were sitting in the bunker when a soldier jumped in next to us.

"Corporal Cooper. I'm a new regiment member. There's only one thing I know, and that's we've gotta move!"

Havers listened to this and ran out to a ruin with a small window in a somewhat spontaneous fashion. "I'll use this as an offensive sniping position. Whatever you do, just get up that hill!"

From there, McNaughton, Foley, Cooper and I split up into two groups. Foley and I ran up our route in a zigzag tactic, often bursting fire onto the gunners. Meanwhile, McNaughton and Cooper took the left flank and took out the sub-machine gunners. Suddenly, when I was running, I felt a small wire wrap around my leg. Then all I saw was a pressure activated bomb fly up in front of my face. For me, World War 2 was over.

Benedict Mason, 3W



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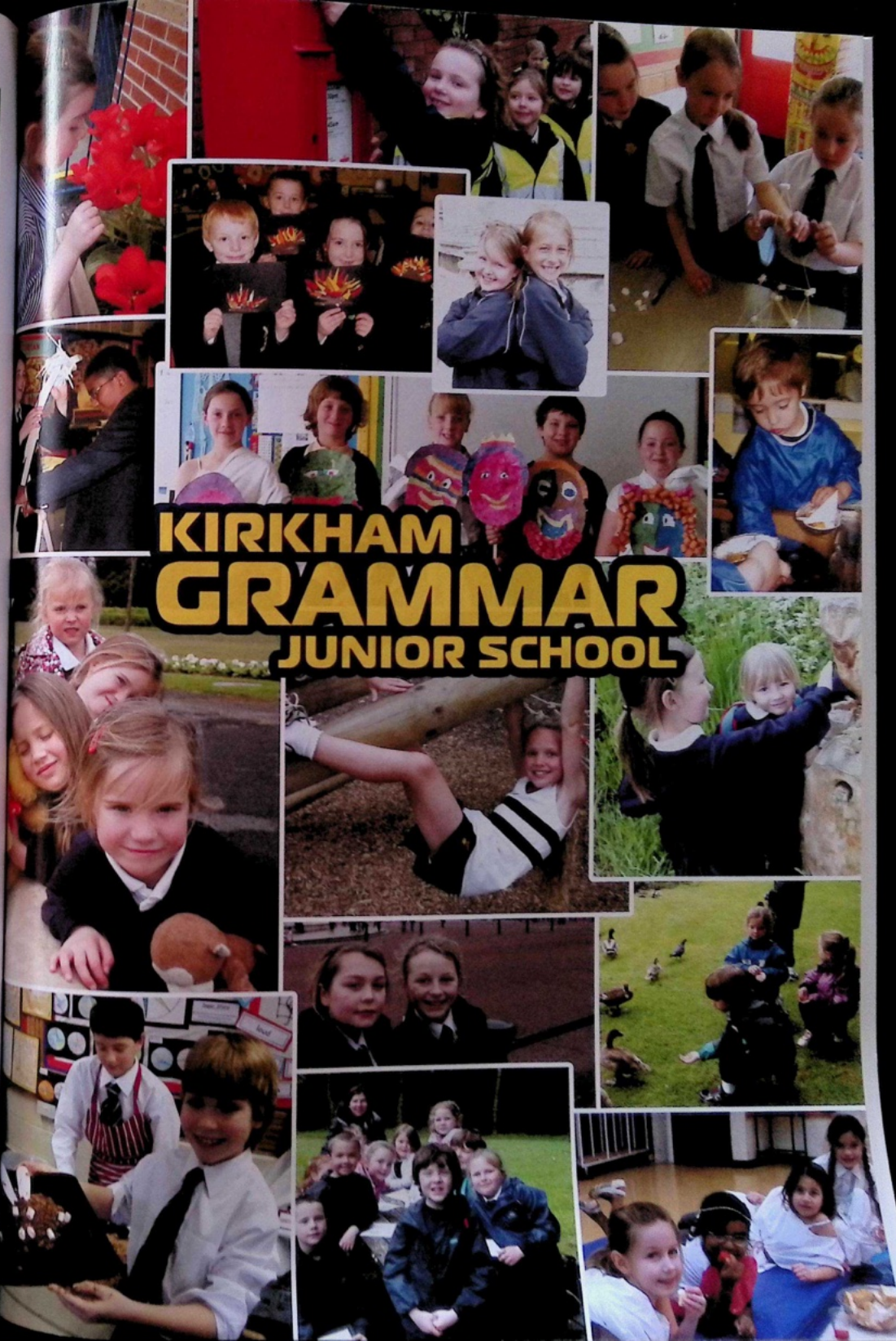
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KIRKHAM GRAMMAR JUNIOR SCHOOL

STAFF CHANGES

In September 2009 the Pre-School welcomed a new manager, Mrs Rachael McGregor. We hope she will be very happy in our school community.

Mrs Sue Wright joined the office staff as the P.A. to the Headmistress. Unfortunately, due to personal circumstances, we had to bid her a fond farewell in May, as she left to take up her new post in Lostock, Bolton. We wish her all the best for the future.

We also welcomed Will Stover, a former KGJS student, to the school to assist within the P.E. Department. He has been a valuable member of staff and will be greatly missed as he starts his university career.

Ms Jessica Richardson returned to the Pre-School in February after her maternity leave. The children have helped her settle back in and have even met baby Matilda when she came to school to visit.



Rachael McGregor



Carys Brown



Joan Aitchison



Angela Atkinson

In the Summer Term Miss Miranda Lace left the Pre-School to take up her new post at her daughter's school in Blackpool. Good luck for the future!

At the end of the year we had to say goodbye to three members of the teaching staff. Mrs Carys Brown left her role as I1Y's classroom assistant but we are sure we shall continue to see her working in school in the near future! Mrs Joan Aitchison, who taught in the Infant department, also left and we thank her for all her hard work and commitment to the school.

We were all very sorry to see the departure of Mrs Angela Atkinson after nineteen years at K.G.J.S. Angela began her career here in the first year the Junior School opened on its current site. She has seen many changes in school and a great number of children have benefited from her teaching and humorous nature. We wish Angela and her sons, William and Oliver, every happiness in the future.



U9 Rugby

SPORT

Rugby

The Under 11 season started off with a very enjoyable sevens tournament against the local club teams from Preston, Tarleton and Fylde. They were victorious in all their matches which gave them confidence for the remainder of the season.

By the end of March we had played thirteen fixtures with victories against Kirkham Grammar School under 12 B team, Rossall, Manchester Grammar School, Tarleton, Isle of Man Under 11s, St. Ambrose College, Liverpool College, The Buchan School and Preston Grasshoppers.

One of the most enjoyable afternoons was our fixture versus St Mary's Hall where every single boy in J4 was selected to play. The A team lost narrowly 10-15 and the B team lost 5-21. However, all the boys went home feeling that they had performed to the best of their ability.

In the five tournaments we entered the team recorded the following results;

AJIS 12-a-side Cup	Runners up
AJIS 7s Tournament	Runners up
Budge 7s	Semi finalists
Packwood Haugh 7s	Quarter finalists
St Mary's Crosby 7s	Winners!

The tournament that we won was on the last day of the

Spring term and was a fantastic way to finish the season.

This was without doubt the grittest and most determined group of players I have worked with since I joined Kirkham Grammar Junior School. Congratulations to you all.

I would like to mention the massive contribution made by Mr Will Stover to the Under 11 boys' rugby squad. A huge thank you from us all.

The Under 10 season also started off with a sevens tournament against the local club sides from Preston, Tarleton and Fleetwood, where we had three good wins. By the end of March the Under 10s had played four fixtures with two wins versus Merchant Taylors and Tarleton and two draws versus Preston Grasshoppers and Merchant Taylors.

The Under 9s sevens tournament versus Preston and Tarleton in early September allowed all our younger boys to show off their ability as we were able to enter A and B teams. The Under 9s are a very talented squad who could do very well in the future. By the end of the season they were unbeaten with victories over Merchant Taylors, Tarleton and Preston Grasshoppers.

Competitive fixtures at Under 8 level are very rare but we did manage two this season. The results were victories against Preston Grasshoppers and our very own Under 11 girls!

Well done to the whole 2009/2010 rugby squad.

Overall a very enjoyable rugby season with very pleasing performances from all our teams.

Well done, you have been a credit to the school!

Hockey

The girls and boys who have played hockey this year have practised hard and played very well in both matches and tournaments. This year the school has been represented by the following teams; two Under 11 girls' teams, three Under 10 girls' teams, one Under 9 girls' team and two Under 11 boys' teams. All the children who have taken part have played with enthusiasm and a desire to improve. Particular congratulations must go to the girls' Under 11 A team who are the North West Champions and qualified for the North Finals.

For the 6th year running we have won the St. Mary's Hall Tournament and for the 3rd consecutive year we are the Lancashire Tournament winners.

We also held the Kirkham Invitational Under 10 Hockey Tournament for the second time. Six of the top hockey teams in the North were invited. It was a very successful event with the A team winning the cup competition, the B team winning the plate and the C team coming runners-up in the plate competition.

Not to be outdone by the girls, the boys Under 11 A team also achieved outstanding results. They are the A.J.I.S. champions 2010, the Lancashire Tournament winners and they were runners-up at the North Finals.

Netball

Netball practices have been extremely well attended with over thirty girls regularly taking part. We have had matches throughout the Autumn and Spring terms for the Under 11 A, B and C teams and the Under 9 team have also had two fixtures. We had notable victories against King Edward and Queen Mary, Sedbergh and Highfield Priory. One of the most enjoyable aspects of netball this year has been that all the J4 girls have competed in school fixtures.



J4 Netball

Rounders

Rounders Club has been popular again this year, with over twenty girls regularly attending after school and lunchtime practices. Unfortunately the first match of the season had to be cancelled and we were unable to take part in the A.J.I.S. tournament as we were on our French trip. We have only managed to play two matches, beating Rossall by 12 rounders to 9 and Highfield Priory by 10 rounders to 7.

Tennis

Tennis Club has been enjoyed by both girls and boys this summer. All who have attended have learnt how to play and score a competitive game. We have played one competitive match against Highfield Priory school. It was a very successful event with twenty four girls and boys playing superbly to win 22 games to 2.



Tennis

Cricket

The first match of the season versus Arnold was rained off! I believe this was the last rain we had for the whole of the summer term!

During the remainder of the season we had mixed fortunes. We had two very competitive fixtures versus Queen Elizabeth Grammar School which we narrowly lost and Rossall where we were victorious. However, we were completely outplayed by a much better Merchant Taylors' side.

Indoor Athletics

Throughout the Autumn term forty pupils trained hard in their PE lessons and on Tuesday evenings in preparation for fixtures versus Preston Harriers, Lytham AC and the Lancashire Indoor Championships.

In the fixtures against Preston and Lytham both the boys and girls were victorious.

In the Lancashire Championship, which is open to both club and school teams, we enjoyed fantastic success. The boys team came 1st and the girls came 2nd. Rachel McCrae, in particular, excelled and was crowned Athlete of the Match.

Due to these fantastic performances, fourteen of our pupils were selected to represent Lancashire in the Inter Counties Athletics at Sport City, Manchester.

Cross-country

During the first six weeks of the Autumn term our cross country squad, which consisted of fifty children from J2 to J4, took part in weekly training sessions in preparation for our annual cross country fixture versus St. Teresa's School in Penwortham and the A.J.I.S. Cross Country Championships.

In the first fixture against St Teresa's the team recorded the following results;

U11 Boys	won 45 - 15
U11 Girls	won 51 - 15

Particular congratulations go to Olivia Huyton and Jamie Smith who both won their races.

This was good preparation for the forthcoming A.J.I.S. Championship which was held at Rossall School where twenty eight schools took part from throughout the North West.

All our runners performed to a very high level and recorded the following results;

U11 Boys	7th
U11 Girls	4th
U10 Boys	5th
U10 Girls	2nd

Top ten individual performances were achieved by the following pupils;

Olivia Huyton	2nd
Rachel McCrae	3rd
Lucy Keelan	4th
Poppy Morris	6th
Will Gargett	6th

These are excellent results and all of our runners were a credit to themselves and the school.

Swimming

The Under 9, Under 10 and Under 11 swimming teams took part in two fixtures and two Championships organised by A.J.I.S. All the swimmers worked hard throughout the season to perform to the best of their ability. Unfortunately in the two fixtures we were marginally defeated 124-128 by St. Mary's Hall and 111-142 by Bolton School.

In the A.J.I.S. Championships Haydn Price was placed third in the U11 Breaststroke and Sam Walmsley came first in the U10 Breaststroke and is therefore A.J.I.S. Champion 2010.

For the girls, Lauren Williamson and Olivia Huyton gained first places in the U10 girls Breaststroke and Front crawl, respectively. Two more A.J.I.S. Champions! Jamie Curran came 2nd in the U10 Butterfly and Grace Wallace was 3rd in the U10 Backstroke.

Overall this was a very enjoyable season with the highlight being the performances of the Under 10 girls who swam to a very high level throughout the season, especially at the A.J.I.S. Championships.

Athletics

During the Summer Term all the boys and girls put in a tremendous amount of effort to improve their individual performances.

The results for the season are as follows;

U11 Boys	87	Blackburn Harriers	45
	65	Cheadle Hulme	34
	84	Westholme	58
U11 Girls	73	Blackburn Harriers	59
	64	Cheadle Hulme	35
	70	Westholme	62
U10 Boys	63	Cheadle Hulme	36
	58	Highfield Priory	52
U10 Girls	71	Cheadle Hulme	28
	57	Highfield Priory	53

As can be seen from the above results the school have remained unbeaten all year, which is a fantastic achievement. Congratulations to you all.

The final competition of the term was the A.J.I.S. Athletics which was held at Stanley Park, Blackpool. Over twenty five schools took part from throughout the North West. The following performances were recorded by our athletes;

Under 11s	Andrew Collins	1st in the Hurdles, 1st in the 150m
	Will Bruce	3rd in the High Jump
	Lucy Keelan	2nd in the 600m
Under 10s	Olivia Huyton	1st in the Hurdles 3rd in the 600m
	Holly Keelan	2nd in the 150m 3rd in the Long Jump
	Kieran Wilkinson	3rd in the 150m
	Will Gargett	3rd in the 600m
	Olivia Huyton	1st in the
	Rachel McCrae	4 x 100m Relay
	Holly Keelan	
	Lauren Williamson	

The above results are a fitting finale to an outstanding season. Well done to all the competitors.



High Jump



Inter-House Sport

The Inter House sports programme has yet again played a major part in the delivery of Physical Education at K.G.J.S. Every Junior pupil participated in twelve different sports with the 13 children also taking part in the Cross-Country and Indoor Athletics. The emphasis is on participation but all matches are keenly contested with a desire to win but also to accept defeat graciously.

The first competition was Cross Country which took place in October and the final event was the J2 cricket, which took place on the penultimate day of the school year!

The winners for each sport were as follows;

Cross country	Colborne/Drapers
Basketball	Clifton
Volleyball	Clifton
Indoor Athletics	Drapers
Rugby	Clifton
Netball	Birley
Hockey	Clifton
Swimming	Birley/Clifton
Athletics	Birley
Rounders	Clifton
Cricket	Drapers
Tennis	Clifton

Therefore, the overall 2009/2010 Inter-house sports trophy results were;

1st	Clifton	386 points
2nd	Birley	365 points

3rd	Drapers	322 points
4th	Colborne	302 points

Well done Clifton, who maintain their position of Inter-House Champions. Congratulations to everyone who took part.

J4 Pentathlon

The annual school Pentathlon was held in perfect conditions on Thursday 24 June. In the boys' competition there were ten competitors and seven in the girls'.

Each athlete had to compete in the high jump, 60m sprint, shot putt, throw and three lap race.

Points were awarded to all the athletes depending on where they finished in each event.

At the end of two hours of athletics the results were as follows;

J4 Boys

1st	Will Bruce	48 points
2nd	Andrew Collins	35.5 points
3rd	Jamie Smith	34.5 points

J4 Girls

1st	Lucy Keelan	41 points
2nd	Rebecca Chatwin	40 points
3rd	Olivia Hough	38.5 points

Congratulations to all the J4 children who took part.

PRE-SCHOOL REPORT

In September we welcomed our new starters and began our learning by discussing ourselves, our families and where we live. We enjoyed an exciting 'Book Week' where we read the story 'Funny Bones', which looks at where a family of skeletons live and the adventures they get up to. This inspired us to make our own big talking book and turn our Quiet Room into a 'Funny Bones' home leading up to Halloween!

During October half term, our new outdoor area was installed. We were very fortunate to receive a grant from the local LEA which has enabled us to further enhance the outdoor learning environment and, in so doing, provide more varied learning opportunities for all the children to enjoy. We have a gazebo where the children can enjoy some quiet time reading or chatting together, further seating areas, a fabulous theatre where many shows have already been performed by the children, a shop front and some interactive tactile musical panels where the cymbals have been a big hit! There is also a wicker hut where many dens are built, a large sand pit, some clear plastic pipes to enjoy pouring water down and a custom built shed to store our new outdoor equipment.



We enjoyed our first Pre-School trip for many years when we went to the Sea Life Centre in Blackpool. Amongst many other interesting facts, we learnt that mermaids' purses do not in fact belong to mermaids, but are shark eggs! A fantastic time was had by all. Many thanks go to all our volunteers. Without your support we cannot go on these trips.

Sports Day and the end of term production of 'The Three Little Pigs' were a fitting way to end a most successful and busy year in the Pre-School. Both events were well supported and enjoyed by all the parents and friends.

I would like to end this report on a personal note by saying a huge thank you to all the children, staff and parents for making me feel so welcome this year. The year has flown by and I have enjoyed every minute of it with all the wonderful children I have had the pleasure to teach. Miss Lace and Mrs Riley have left us this summer term and I would like to thank them personally for all their hard work in the Pre-School. We welcome Mrs Hardman who returns to work in Pre-School from September. All that is left to say is to wish all the children who are leaving us to move into the Reception class all the best; have fun, carry on enjoying your learning and we will miss you all! I look forward to seeing everyone in September for another fun-filled year.

Rachael McGregor
Pre-School Manager



Bonfire Night and Diwali then started our study of celebrations, which, inspired by one of our children attending a christening, lead us onto celebrating the Pre-School christening of one of our dolls, Matilda Stephanie, with our local vicar coming in to do the service for us! We then moved on to enjoying many different Christmas celebrations, including Hennie's mummy, Mrs Thompson, coming in to talk about Christmas in Norway. This culminated in our traditional Christmas Nativity, where the children enjoyed taking on different roles and they all sang beautifully.

Inspired by the cold winter, we had an 'Arctic expedition' where we made igloos and hibernation holes. We looked at polar animals and the different pets everyone had at home and we were visited by a local vet who showed us how to look after animals with lots of care and love. We also had a visit from Rachel's mummy, Mrs Watson, who brought us lots of interesting artefacts from Africa and told us about different African animals.

It was wonderful to welcome Miss Richardson back from her maternity leave after February half term. She joined us in time to look at the 'mini focus' of stories and Nursery Rhymes. Mrs Davies, William's mummy, who is a nurse, came in to show us how to look after ourselves if we fall over, as Jack and Jill did in the Nursery Rhyme, and we bandaged our Pre-School teddy bear!



MUSIC

What a year! So much has happened and the standards just keep improving. At Open Afternoon on Sunday 11 October, eight young musicians from the fourth year played for the visitors as they looked around School. During the same afternoon the Choir entertained guests in the School Hall.

During the Autumn Term several instrumental and vocal musicians successfully entered for Associated Board Exams and obtained very pleasing grades. On Wednesday 2 December the Ensemble, led by Mr Lockett, visited Milbanke Nursing Home to entertain the residents and help spread a little Christmas cheer in the community. The Christmas Carol Concert on Tuesday 15 December proved to be a lovely evening for all who attended. It was a perfect blend of the traditional and modern, which this year included a tableau by the J1 children who helped convey the Christmas message. The Ensemble and the Choir, led by Mrs Shuttleworth, also gave accomplished performances.

The whole School community gathered together in the School hall to make a recording for our Haiti appeal. It was tremendous to see so many pupils and staff all singing together and it proved to be quite an overwhelming experience as everyone was putting their heart and soul into making a beautiful sound. The school has raised £621.70 which is superb. Thank you to all our parents for their kind donations. Congratulations to Rebecca Chatwin who produced the winning CD design pictured here. Her design has been duplicated on all the CDs.



The Spring Term witnessed a rise in popularity of the guitar which we hope will eventually lead to a Guitar Ensemble. We again thank all the visiting peripatetic teachers who give so much to support and encourage our talented young musicians.

The Arts Evening, held on Wednesday 10 March was a fantastic event. Almost all the junior children took part, contributing to a highly successful and enjoyable evening. The Choir opened the show with a stunning *Mary Poppins' Medley*, followed by a succession of soloists, both vocal and instrumental. The Saxophone Ensemble and Clarinet Ensemble, both led by Mrs Kirk, the Brass Ensemble, led by Mr Smith and Mrs French's Percussion Ensemble all played extremely well. The J1s and J2s featured in part of *'Cuckoo*, a *Spring Musical*, which included singing and some drama. The drama students, led by Miss Martin, gave excellent monologues and duologues which

entertained and amused the large audience. The evening was rounded off with the Ensemble performing *'Rule Britannia'*, which sent the flag waving audience into raptures, demanding two encores.



Everyone went home uplifted after this wonderful experience. Perhaps the cheese and wine helped a little!!

This year St. George's Day was celebrated in style at Lytham where, on Sunday 25 April, the School Choir gave two performances which entertained a packed marquee. Everyone commented on the quality of the entertainment, which included the *Mary Poppins' Medley*.

Several vocalists again attended 'A.J.I.S. Sings' held at Rishworth School near Halifax on Wednesday 5 May, accompanied by Mrs Shuttleworth, Mr Lockett and Mrs Roberts. They found the experience very stimulating. This year the Junior School have been working towards the Sing Up Gold Award, a Government led scheme promoting singing as a fun and valuable activity in the life of a school. Eleven hundred schools adopted this scheme although few have attained the coveted Gold Award. I am delighted to announce that Kirkham Grammar Junior School have now been awarded this prestigious title.

Again we celebrated several successes in Associated Board Exams in both the Spring and Summer Terms. The Junior School Music Scholar 2010 is *Freya Bennett (Flute)*. We congratulate Freya on her well deserved success. The Choir, Ensemble, Infant String Group and Music Scholar all contributed significantly to Prizegiving held on Friday 2 July.

This has been another wonderful year with such variety which has been presented to such a high standard.

Sadly, this summer saw the retirement of one of our longest serving musicians, Mr Peter Morrison. He started teaching at K.G.J.S. in January 2000 and has contributed much to the musical life of the school. Peter has accompanied several Christmas Concerts over the years and has worked regularly during his time with us, accompanying the Choir at rehearsals and concerts. He has played piano and keyboard on at least two CDs and supported the Ensemble when they visited Holland in 2002. Peter has also played tuba for the Ensemble. What a widely talented musician! You will be sadly missed.

Peter Lockett (Head of Music)



Infant Music

At the beginning of the year the Infant musicians enjoyed learning a traditional song called *'Clementine'*. Some of the children were able to experience new instruments which they had not played before, including glockenspiels and recorders. During this time the children were able to develop their skills of reading music, listening to other musical parts and playing together as a group.

During the Winter term the Infant Department started to practise the songs for their Christmas production of *'The Aliens'*. This was an amusing story about space creatures visiting Earth and learning about the true meaning of Christmas. All the children sang and acted with enthusiasm to entertain an appreciative audience in the M.P.H. at the Senior School.

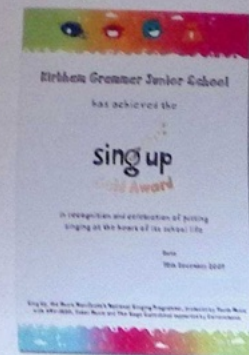


We welcomed new members to Infant Ensemble later in the year and were able to introduce more instruments to play a song with a summer theme called *'Row, Row, Row your Boat'*. The musicians were able to display their talents by performing admirably to an audience of infant classes and teachers.

Special congratulations should be given to Emily Scott who was awarded the Infant Music Prize at our end of year Prize Giving.

We would like to thank all the 13 members; Lucy Case, Tom Lees, Jack McKenzie, April Russell, Emily Scott, Lucy Treaddell and Anna Wilkinson for their hard work and commitment to Infant Ensemble and wish them every success and enjoyment in their musical pursuits in the Juniors.

Mrs. J. Knowles and Mrs. S. Kenchington



CLASS VISITS

Our youngest children in the Pre-School ventured out on their first ever educational visit this year! Their destination was the Sea Life Centre in Blackpool. All the children had a fantastic time looking at the different sea creatures with their friends and learning about life at sea. The Reception children enjoyed trips out to Lowther Gardens for a teddy bear's picnic, Silverdell Bookshop and Williamson Park in Lancaster. They also visited Tesco Superstore to help them with their Design Technology topic on cereal boxes.



11 Lowther Gardens



12 Towneley Hall



13 Beacon Fell



J1 Jorvik Viking Centre



J2 Brockholes



J3 Aquarium of the Lakes



J4 Lou Valagran

Towneley Hall was the first of two trips enjoyed by the I2 children. Here they were able to experience life in the past by studying artefacts from the Victorian era. A fun day was also had at Martin Mere where the children were able to see both familiar and unusual birds and learn about their habitats. The children in I2 were also lucky enough to have two visitors to school to enhance their studies. The classroom was transformed into a Viking village when Solveigh the Viking came to show the children different skills used in that time. Mrs Smith brought in Bobby Stripes as a puppy and then again later in the term to show how animals grow and develop.

The top infant classes had two enjoyable trips to Leighton Moss and Beacon Fell, where they learned about plant life and where a variety of animals live. As part of their Geography work the J3 children collected old spectacles and walked down to Eyedea Vision in Kirkham to deliver them to an optician who would take them to Africa. To enhance their work on 'Places of Worship' the children visited St. John the Willows Church.

It was a very early start for the J1 children who had a long coach journey to York in June for their trip to the Jorvik Viking Centre. Here they learned about life in Viking times, enjoying a ride around a Viking village and an archaeological dig.

The children of J2 and J3 travelled to the Lake District for their separate summer trips. A steam train ride and boat trip were enjoyed by both parties, while the J2 children added a visit to Brockholes and the J3s an underwater adventure at Aquarium of the Lakes.

Our oldest children had the opportunity this year to experience a mini break away from home. Many of the J4s were involved in a sports tour to the Isle of Man where they were hosted by The Buchan School. They had a fantastic time mixing both sport and entertainment in equal measures. The children who were left behind were by no means left out.



I2 Sponsored Hula Hoop

They enjoyed a super trip down to London to see the sights and watch a show.

This summer was the last time the J4 children would get the chance to visit Lou Valagran, France, and they all made the most of it! Even Mrs Roberts managed the kayak trip down the Ardeche this year without falling in! They had a great time during the day trying out the high ropes, mountain-biking and a vertical assault course to name but a few of the activities. The evenings were also fun-filled with events that included a disco and a talent show.



J2 Sponsored Dog Walk

ACTION AID

This year has been another busy one for our fund-raising efforts. Action Aid is an organisation which helps people in less-developed countries of the world. Each year group sponsors one child in a different country and the money helps provide their communities with clean water, schools and basic equipment. The school has raised £1200 throughout the year from these activities;

- I2 (Vietnam) – Sponsored Hula-Hoop
- I3 (Ghana) – Sponsored Skip
- J1 (Nigeria) – Cake Sale
- J2 (Ecuador) – Sponsored Dog Walk
- J3 (Nicaragua) – Cake Sale
- J4 (Peru) – Cake Sale

This would not be possible without family and friends supporting the children in these events. Thank you!



J3 Cake Sale



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INFANT & JUNIOR WORK

An Alliterative Poem

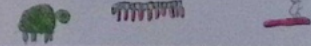
Elegant Mrs Edgar
Conversational Mrs Cooper-Smith
Wise Mrs Wignall
Handy Mrs Hardman
Bouncy Mrs Brown
Nice Mrs Knowles
Cuddly Mrs Kenchington
Amazing Mrs Aldeen
Adventurous Mrs Aitchison
Cute Miss Cooper
Kind Miss Kitt
Careful Mrs Case
Blonde Mr Butterworth
Lucky Mr Lockett
Edible Mr Edgar

Max Pendergest 13Y

At The S Zoo!

We've got spotty ones,
Silly ones,
Sloppy ones,
Sleeping ones,
and scaly ones.
We've got smelly ones
Spotty ones,
Speedy ones,
and silly ones,
And these are just a snapshot of the
Supa animals at the S Zoo!

By Luc Slater



Luc Slater 13X

The Inside Outside Man

I'm the back to front and all mixed up,
inside outside man,
with an insider-outside, under and over,
backwards and forwards Kangaroos pouch!

I wear my socks down my nose,
my pants go over my eyes,
I can never take my top off when it's back to front,
and I don't have a belly button!

My helicopter, which I call Freddy,
He's painted black and white,
Freddy is slow going forward but fast going backwards.

I live in a mouse's hole, I go to bed in the garden,
the bed is so short and I am so tall I sleep on the floor!

Yes, I am back to front and all mixed up,
I'm the inside outside man, under and over,
backwards and forwards, Kangaroos pouch!

Nye Carrel 13Y

OUR TRIP TO MARTIN MERE

I went on the bus and I sat next to Agatha. After a while we got there. It was spitting a little bit so we went in the classroom. Our guides were called Steve and Nick and they talked about Daisy the Duck. After that we went for a walk. I saw some cute small ducklings and I saw a funny one. It was called a white headed duck. It had a light blue bill. Then we went in the park with zip wires and slides and I had a great time at the park. I went on a swirly slide and I went on the zip wires a few times. After we went out of the park. Then we went inside we went in to the toilets to wash our hands. After that we went into the classroom we got a snack out of our bags while we watched a play. The play was about the swan family. Beth was the mum swan, Jasper was the dad swan, Tanisha was the cygnet, Joseph was the fox. After a while we went for a walk, we saw some flamingos and otters one got bit. They were running around in their pen. A few minutes later we went to see a swan. It was a black swan. It had a ring around his left leg. We went back into the classroom and made badges and a picture. I had a great time at Martin Mere.

Katie Smith 12

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Why is Mum so Thoroughly Glum?

Why is Mum so thoroughly glum?
I can't understand it at all,
It could be the book on the hook,
It could be the cat with her ball.

Perhaps it's the mouse in her house.
Or it's the bad food,
Or it's the gum on her tum,
Or it's the children in a bad mood.

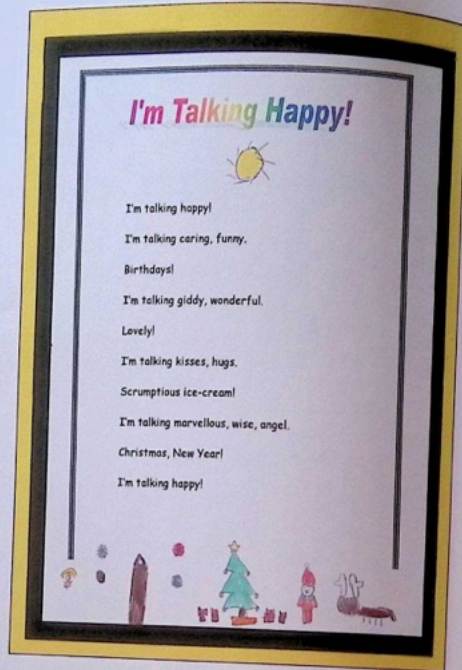
Elizabeth Broughton 13X



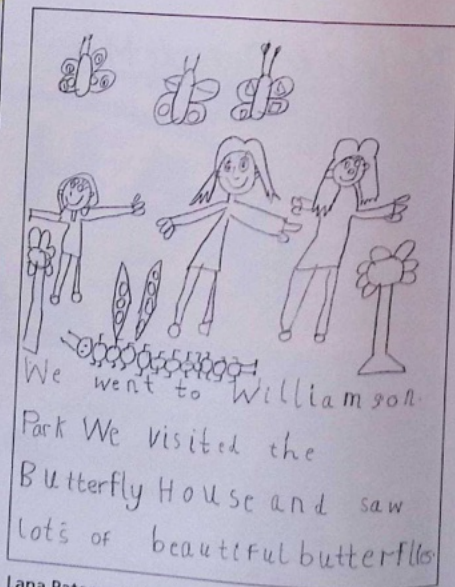
Poppy Clough 11Y



Jennifer Jones 11Y



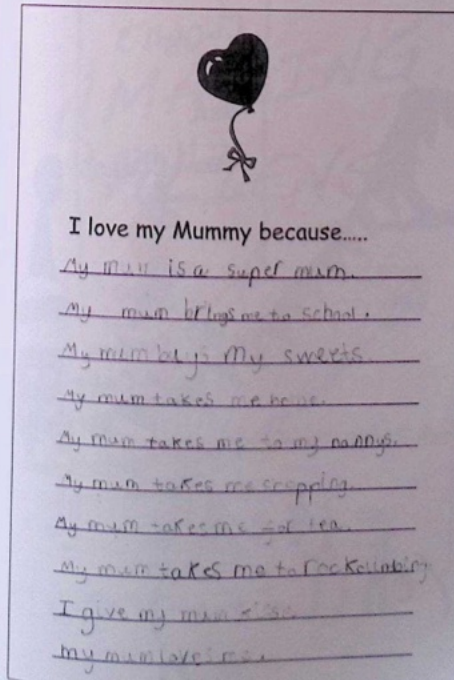
Lucy Case 13Y



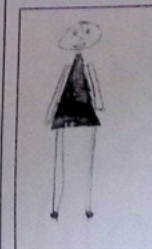
Lana Paterson 11X



J3 Greek Masks



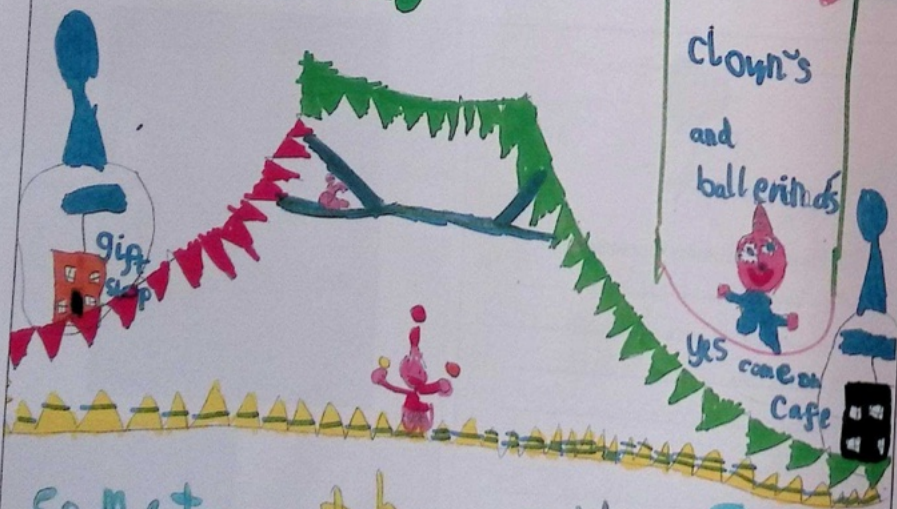
Charles McNamee 12



Max Duxberry 13X

Come to the Circus!

Preston



Come to the circus
One pound (children) free
2 o'clock only

Emotion in the Ocean



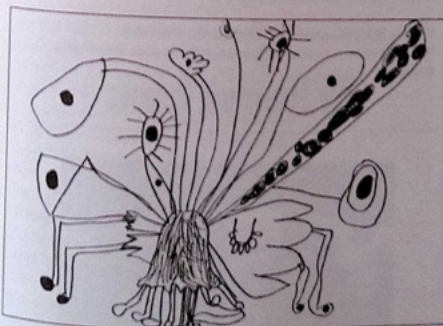
The jellyfish just loves
to jiggle
She knew that it's not
that useful.
But jiggling's very good
fun.

Laura Brown 11X

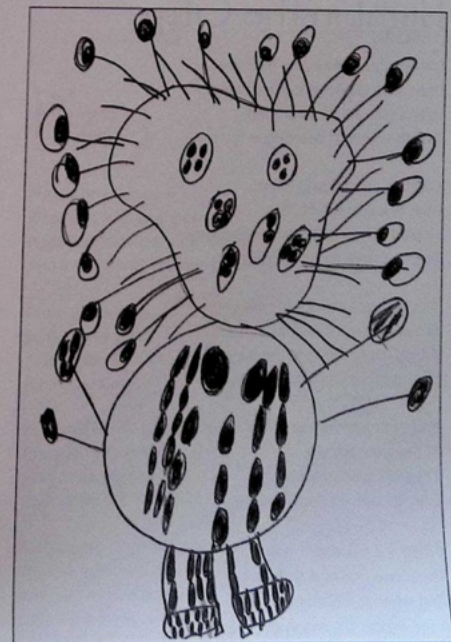


Ethan Crompton 12

AMAZING ALIENS



George Swindley 11X



Jennifer Jones 11Y

On the Beach at Night

The Sun is setting
At the end of the day
The Waves have turned orange
And night is on its way.

The sand from the beach
Is all stuck in my toes.
I have to go home now
But can't find my clothes.

It's getting really dark now
What shall I do?
The sea looks really scary
It is very dark blue.

I don't think I like the beach much
At this time of night.
The waves are crashing on the rocks
And giving me a fright!

Thomas Scott J2Y

Night in the City

Street lights shine in the darkness,
Light from windows look so bright.
Head lights are on all around,
And the moon is beaming in the sky.

Children are sleeping in bed,
Parents are watching TV
Hope that you don't have nightmares,
So don't have too much cheese!

All the shops are closed now,
But people are still in the street.
Adults are hurrying to get back,
Because they've had a late teal

You can't see the top of tall buildings,
In the great big sky.
The stars look so pretty,
Even though it's dark at night.

When the pavement is wet,
The moon makes it shimmer.
And when it is dark inside,
A fire makes the moon glimmer.

Charlotte O'Neill J2Y



Brooke Turnbull J4X

The Hyacinth

The Hyacinth's known all over India for her beauty. To be in the presence of such a magnificent bird-like creature is extraordinary and hypnotic, which relates to her amazing eyes that have the ability to change shade of green. The grumpier the Hyacinth gets, the darker the eyes become.

The Hyacinth is only a metre and a half tall but she can reach great heights with her gift of flight. Her feather-covered, iridescent, powerful, purple wings shimmer in the sunlight when she flies. She sings a beautiful song from her cerise beak when she expresses her delight when she eats her favourite foods, flowers and star fruit.

The Hyacinth's scent is sweeter than honey. Your lungs fill with fragrant flowers as you inhale. The hyacinth lives in a colossal nest made from marigold petals, in a Bohdi tree in India.

Although the fact following is disgusting, it cannot be helped. Hyacinth's urine smells so strongly of vinegar, it is fatal if you inhale it. Disgusting but an important true fact!

The Hyacinth is covered from head to her claw-like feet in peacock blue and purple feathers. Some feathers feel slightly bristly whilst other feathers feel irresistibly soft. The Hyacinth is stunning.

However, the Hyacinth knows this and doesn't try to hide it! If you are foolish enough to insult a Hyacinth, it might be the last thing you do!

Whilst interviewing the Hyacinth, she said:
"Don't treat me any differently than you would the Queen!"

By Hannah Sayers



Hannah Sayers J3X



Gemma Eastham J1X

Sam and the Pond

Young Sam was always very fond,
Of playing near a murky pond.
His mother warned him every day,
He didn't listen, sad to say!
And so he went the next morning,
Very early, he still was yawning.
As he walked up to the lake,
He passed his mother's garden rake!
Watching the fish within the water,
Which he thought he was about to slaughter.
In a jar that's where it belonged,
But then everything started to go wrong!
And then it slipped from Sam's hand,
And fell right down to the sand.
And out came the little trout,
Sam got worried and began to pout.
There he stood not able to move,
As his feet were stuck into a groove!
The more and more Sam tried to pull and tug,
The further in his feet were dug!
He cried and cried for his mother's help,
And then he started to weep and yelp!
Out she came all flustered and hot!
She pulled him out from the sticky spot!
She told him off there and then,
And young Sam never went there again!

Olivia Gornall J4X

Pizza

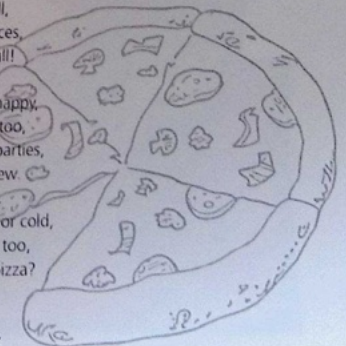
Pizza with pepperoni,
Pizza with ham and cheese,
Pizza with delicious mushrooms,
And a sprinkle of oregano please!

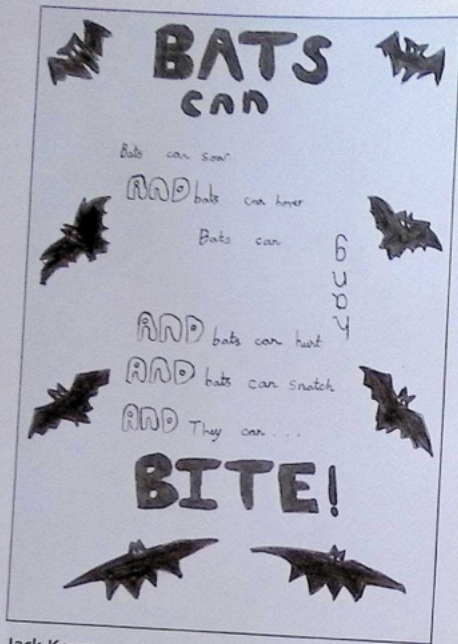
Pizza can be large,
Pizza can be small,
Pizza comes in slices,
Folded over and all!

Pizza makes you happy,
Gives you energy too,
Always served in parties,
Given to all the crew.

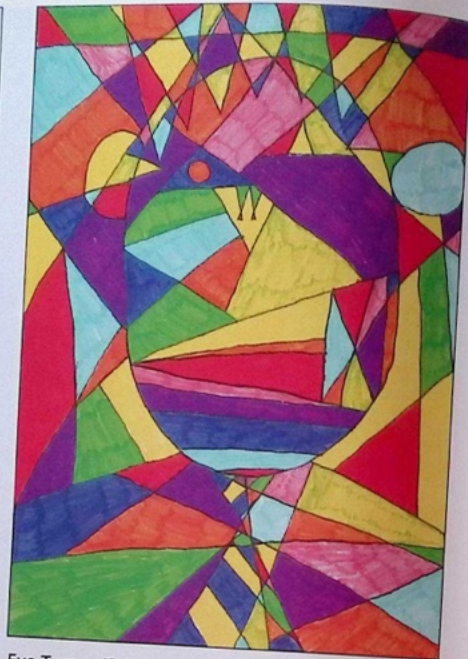
You can eat it hot or cold,
Thick or thin crust too,
Who can resist a pizza?
Only just a few!

Cara Roberts J4X





Jack Kenmare J1X



Eve Turner J2Y



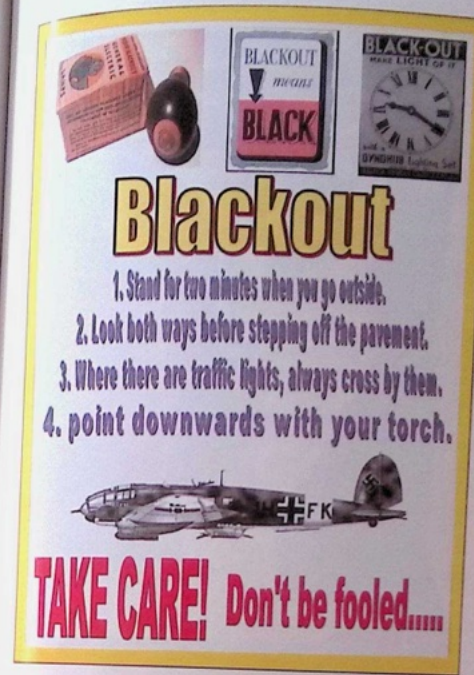
Aaron Bradshaw J3X



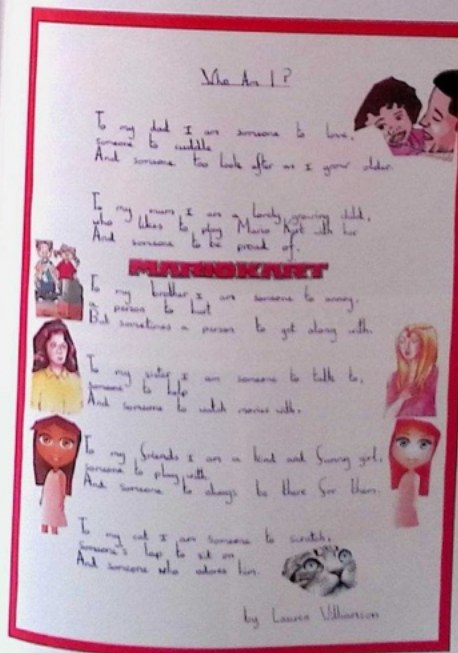
J2



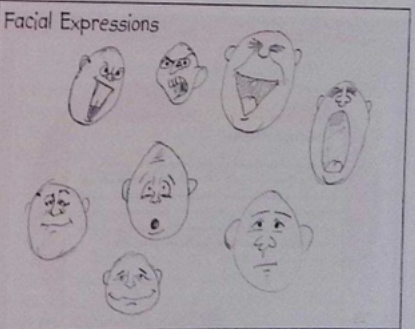
J3



James Devereux J3X



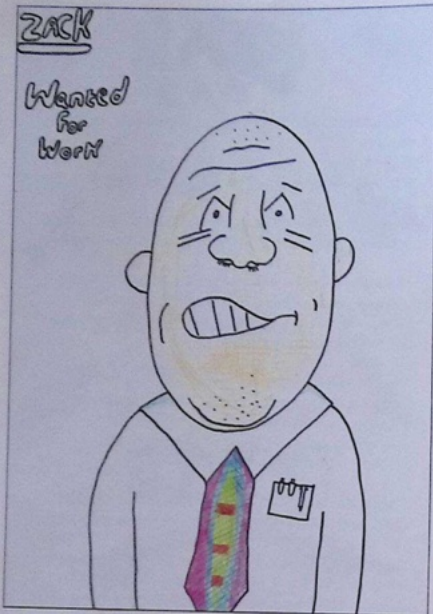
Lauren Williamson J3Y



Charlie Smith J1X



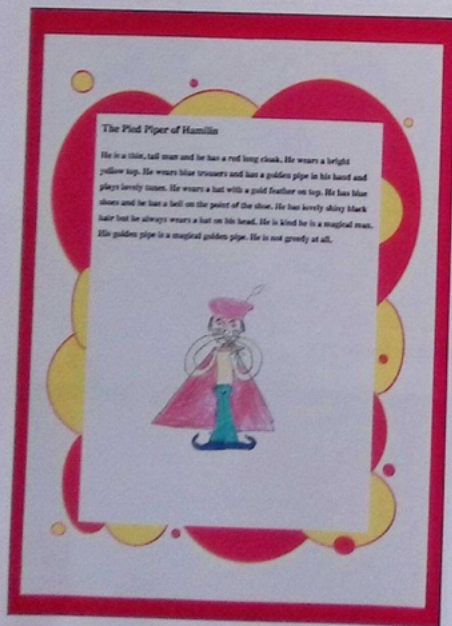
Grace Wallace J3X



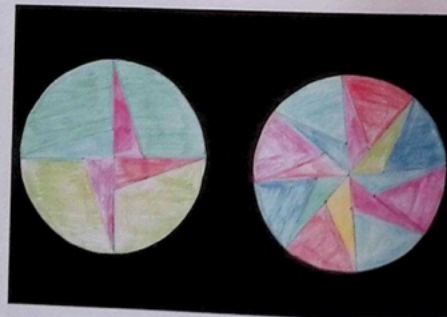
Kieran Wilkinson J3X



Chloe Denney J1Y



Hannah North J1Y



Ellie Wilson J3Y



Will Bloomfield I3X

Giggleswick. The match started in pouring rain, but the under 12's produced some superb rugby, scoring tries by Josh Keelan and Tom Gargett. The opposition quickly lost confidence and struggled to hold out a Kirkham side that managed to play some excellent rugby in difficult conditions. Charlie Abbott was outstanding in the forwards and his strong running resulted in three tries for himself. Tom Gargett and Ollie Crankshaw added further tries and Giggleswick scored a consolation try in the closing stages of the match to lose 42-7.

Next up were Merchant Taylors' and the team revelled in the dry conditions. Within in the first two minutes of the game they scored a sparkling try. That was the prelude to a morning of fast, entertaining rugby with the forwards winning an abundance of ball to give to a back line that looked to run the ball from all areas of the pitch. The back row was outstanding, with Charlie Abbott, James Steward and Nick Coleman appearing all over the place. Prop Tyrone Cartmell had an excellent game, scoring two tries with his forceful, driving running. All the threequarters had their moments with some elusive running and showed how dangerous they can be when given the right conditions. The style of the team's rugby drew many complimentary comments from the opposition parents. The team won 48-5, with try scorers Charlie Abbott (2), Tyrone Cartmell (2), James Steward, Josh Keelan (2), Matthew Nell, Todd Roper (4 cons).

The last game of the Autumn term was against Audenshaw who proved to be far too weak and the team won 68-0. Todd Roper scored an excellent individual try in the opening minutes and that was the start of a stream of tries from nine different players. In this easy game players were able to swap positions with forwards moving to the backs and vice versa.

The first game back after a lengthy break was against Hutton GS, traditionally one of the toughest fixtures of the season. Omens at the start of the game were not very promising, with the side losing the influential Charlie Abbott and Hutton taking the field with a physically bigger side. However, the forwards responded magnificently and proceeded to win a stream of ruck ball which did not allow their bigger opponents to establish any control within the game. Jack Campbell was the first to score sniping over from a ruck on the opposition line. Kirkham quickly returned to the 'blind side' from a scrum to score a good try. Tom Gargett added a further try just before half time when he followed up a clever kick through by James Steward. In the second half, Hutton came back into the game with a penalty try. However, any concerns of a Hutton revival were quickly squashed by an outstanding piece of play by the forwards which resulted in a score by James Steward. This 20-7 victory was an excellent result after such a long lay off.

The weather then severely affected the fixture programme. The next game was on the last day before half term and Monmouth, on their annual tour, provided stiff opposition for the under 12's. Being inactive for a number of weeks and losing key players on the day proved to be too many hurdles against an opposition that are notoriously strong at this age group. The forwards were completely out-rucked in the first ten minutes and this resulted in constant pressure being exerted on the Kirkham try line. The team did well to be only 12-0 down during this period and then played themselves back into the game when an excellent break by Matthew Neal was finished by Arrin Chiekrie to make it 12-5. Monmouth quickly scored after the half time break but there then followed a period of intense pressure applied by

Kirkham on the Monmouth line. Only excellent defence kept the Kirkham team out and when Monmouth broke away to score, the result of the match was never in doubt. Monmouth scored one more try before the end to win 29-5, but the Kirkham side could come away proud of the way they competed against a very good team.

It was a couple of weeks before the team played again. The opponents this time were Manchester GS. It was a game that the under 12's should have won easily, going 12-0 ahead in the first ten minutes after playing excellent rugby. But Manchester had one big player who scored the first time he touched the ball and he proved to be a big influence in the game. The strong runs of this player created havoc in the Kirkham defence and gave the Manchester team the confidence needed to work their way back into the game. However, it was only tremendous defence by the Manchester team that kept Kirkham out at the end of the game. We lost 22-24.

The season finished with two Sunday games against two touring teams. First up were Loughborough GS. Loughborough's big set of forwards proved a big handful for the home team but when the ball was spun out to the backs it became a different game. Josh Keelan opened the scoring with a scintillating run down the wing. This was soon followed by another great individual effort by Tom Gargett. Josh added another before Arrin Chiekrie showed that he too could beat his opposite number when he sprinted down the right wing. Charlie Abbott added a fifth try before half time. The second half was a much closer affair when Loughborough's tactics meant the game developed into an intense forward battle. Deservedly they pulled two tries back through some hard forward work. However, Kirkham finished the game off with a length of the field effort from their own forwards with Oli Kitchen working hard to be the last man in the movement. The final result 36-12 to Kirkham.

The last game of the season was against another touring side, this time a team from Kent, Dartford GS. Once again, the opposition was a much bigger team and it did not help having a number of key players missing. Despite losing 15-24, this was a tremendously entertaining game to finish the season. The forwards won lots of ball through their aggressive rucking and the backs tried hard to make the most of the possession given to them, but they were stopped by some excellent tackling and covering by the opposition. Unfortunately, when Dartford got the ball, the home team's tackling was not as good as their opponents and this allowed the opposition to score tries which did not reflect the territory and possession achieved by the Kirkham forwards. Josh Keelan was, once again, in sparkling form and scored two excellent tries, evading defenders to score in the corners. The third try was scored by James Steward who gave another totally committed performance.

Overall, this was a very pleasing season and the signs are encouraging that this team could develop into a good side. Despite early season concerns over the strength of the forwards, they grew into a very efficient unit and outperformed their opponents in nearly every game. The backs possessed some very talented and exciting individuals and some of them could develop into excellent players if they listen carefully to advice and show a desire to improve. What was extremely encouraging was the improvement achieved by the B team who had a good season after a poor start. The development of these players should help future progress of the whole squad.

M.Marnion

CRICKET

First XI

P 12 W 6 L 5 D 1

Squad: K.Marmion (capt), A.Galley (v-capt), L.Marmion, D.Egelstaff, N.White, M.Mollinga, B.Jones, F.Burnie, H.Moulding, B.Garlington, W.Roper, G.Brooks

Also played: R.Williams, J.Seward, A.Whalley, A.Jones, J.Roper, C.Kohler, M.Eaton

This was certainly a season of two halves and proved in the end to be a very positive one. After initially having two very good run outs in pre-season matches against King's, Chester and a very strong University of Central Lancashire (UCLAN) side, the team once again started erratically at the beginning of the term's fixtures. There were disappointing results once again against Stonyhurst, Hutton and Arnold, where generally our performance with the bat did not complement the results achieved in the field. A top score of 31 by Liam Marmion against Stonyhurst was the only score above thirty in the first three games, but with poor shot selection being our down fall, it was merely a matter of patient batting needed in order to be competitive.

Giggleswick was the most important game of the season and was targeted as a must win game in order to get the season off and running. Against a side who bowled us out cheaply the previous season and one who had just been involved in a very close game against Durham, this was always going to be a difficult task for the young side. With the loss of the toss, Kirkham were put into bat on a springy wicket and once again wickets fell regularly. Even though the top five batsmen all got into double figures, it was only Kieran Marmion (32) and Fraser Burnie (24*) who looked at ease at the wicket. A final total of 136 looked a reasonable total on the wicket when Fraser and Kieran took three quick wickets to leave Giggleswick at 16 for 3. However, the next two partnerships put Giggleswick back in control at 99 for 4 and the match looked to be slipping away. However, a superb one handed running catch by Fraser off the bowling of Will Roper seemed to raise the morale and with Bobby Garlington producing an excellent run out and Kieran taking a brilliant catch, it was left to Ben Jones to take the final catch which led to an excellent 10 run victory.

Positives continued into the Merchant Taylor's game, with Kieran and Liam Marmion and David Egelstaff performing with the bat and Will Roper again taking three wickets. This led to the last match before half term, where the team played with confidence and patience and subsequently beat KEQMS convincingly. After electing to bat, Kirkham played some superb cricket and declared their innings on 251 for 7. Kieran hit the first 50 of the season (57), which was quickly supported by Fraser (59) and Ben Jones (59*). With Kieran taking 6 wickets (6 for 26) and Adam Galley and David Egelstaff both taking two, KEQMS were bowled out for 120.

A tough fixture against Lancaster RGS after half term saw us bat sensibly but have the game taken away from us by the opposition's two spinners who quickly got through their overs and subsequently the run rate rose quickly. Marcus Mollinga batted (37) and bowled well (3 for 35), but even though the result was not as the team wanted, this proved to be the last defeat of the term with 5 remaining matches.

Cowley were beaten by 8 wickets, with Adam Galley scoring 41 and an excellent draw was achieved in the prestigious MCC match. With Fraser Burnie and George Brooks being the pick of the bowlers, both gaining two wickets each, the MCC declared after lunch on 207-7, leaving the team forty three overs to chase the target. With Adam (34) starting the innings positively, it was disappointing that wickets fell around him and only some patient batting by Nathan White (18), George Brooks (16), David Egelstaff (19) and Ben Jones (28*), led to the team staging an excellent display to earn a draw.

Rossall again proved a tough finale to the term with first the two day game and then a 30/30 match on the Sunday. In the two day game, some excellent performances were achieved by a number of players. Kieran scored two half centuries as well as taking 3 wickets in the first Rossall innings. Liam Marmion took 3 wickets in the second innings and with Ben Jones hitting 63 in the second innings, it was left for Marcus and George to steer the side home with four balls left. A victory by 5 wickets.

In the 30/30 match, the team was put in to bat and took apart the attack. With Adam and Kieran putting on 99 for the first wicket, the basis was set to score a big total. Adam contributed 46 and with Ben Jones contributing 25, it was left to Kieran to record the first century of the season, ending with 104. Rossall was set the total of 218 for victory and with some excellent bowling and fielding they were soon under pressure. James Seward made his debut from the under 12's as wicketkeeper and took an excellent catch. Adam then took 5 wickets for 14 runs to secure a comfortable 92 run victory. In the final game Kieran continued his form with the bat (53*) and Adam continued with the bat (40) and ball (4 for 29) and Bury were beaten by 9 wickets.

This was a very positive season with ninety percent of the games only featuring two upper sixth players in the team. Kieran led from the front as captain and with him scoring 533 runs (average 41.00) and taking 21 wickets (average 16.95), he regularly put the side in winning positions. Adam Galley supported him well as an opening batsman and bowler (305 runs and 13 wickets respectively) and with Marcus Mollinga developing as the season progressed, the top three often provided a stable basis for other batsmen to progress. Marcus also proved a very able bowler in taking 10 wickets with his spin. Nathan White, Liam Marmion and Ben Jones lacked the confidence early on, but all three showed glimpses of their talent. Nathan played an important innings against the MCC to save the match, whilst Liam produced two excellent innings against Stonyhurst and Merchant Taylor's, before turning to spin bowling against Rossall and taking three wickets. Ben struggled early on for consistency but then scored some excellent runs and ended up with 222 runs, which included two well worked half centuries.

Fraser Burnie, Harrison Moulding, George Brooks and David Egelstaff took on the all rounder roles, with all four being destructive with both bat and ball. Fraser and Harrison were often seen as steady batsmen, whilst George and David were used as hitters to increase run rates quickly. With 38 wickets taken between them (Egelstaff with 17), oppositions found it difficult to settle into innings.

Bobby Garlington and Will Roper proved to be crucial in the matches they played in and with both being able to bat and to bowl, they were often used to break up partnerships.

bobby also regularly caused run outs and his particular effort against Giggleswick started the crumbling of the Giggleswick innings. Rhys Williams, Marcus Eaton and Adam Whalley regularly contributed to the success of the team and, with 15 of the 19 squad members returning next year, there is hope that the season can start as it finished this year.

My final thanks to Kieran for his excellent captaincy over the last two years, to Alex Whalley for his scoring, to the ground staff and kitchen staff and finally to Mr Whalley who has spent many an hour with us in those nets.

Mr N.S.Passenger

Second XI

P 5 W 2 L 2 1 Abandoned

In the short period of time that the second XI has to play fixtures before the onset of study leave and the exam season, KGS played four matches. The players performed well in these games and many went on to figure in the first XI on the back of some good performances.

In the first game of the season against Hutton, KGS bowled and fielded well to restrict Hutton to 122 all out. The pick of the bowlers were Roper and Whalley. However, a very poor batting display left KGS some way short of the total. Only Roper (24) could muster any runs. Vaughan batted resiliently, as did Eaton and Loxham, but this was a game that should have been won.

In the second game of the season, batting first, Stonyhurst reached 156 all out. At one point they were 68 for 7, thanks to Ashley Jones who took 4 for 23. However, a late stand put on 40 runs. In reply, A. Jones and Roper batted intelligently to open the innings and took the score to 63 without loss. Despite losing a couple of wickets, KGS cruised home, with Roper reaching 90 not out, assisted by Brookes (21 no). A very convincing display.

In the third game of the season, in a rain affected match, Giggleswick batted first and totalled 141 for 8 off 25 overs. The KGS bowlers performed well in the circumstances with Hurst, Whalley, Nantheesan, Zaki and Vaughan all taking wickets. Wilson was unlucky not to take three wickets but some strong batting and some poor fielding denied him. In return KGS was going along nicely at 56 for 2 (Eaton 24 no) until the rain came and finally killed off the game.

In the fourth game, against Arnold, KGS batted first and scored 136 off 20 overs. Some good performances in the top order (Eaton 37, B. Jones 23, Edgar 31) resulted in a reasonable total. KGS second XI had a strong bowling attack, combining medium pace and various spin options. This was clear in this game as Edgar grabbed a couple of early wickets with his medium pace and then spinners Whalley and Wilson took three wickets each. Arnold fell some way short on 87 all out.

In their final match of the season against Rossall, KGS batted first and scored 97 off 20 overs. Whilst some batsmen made good starts (Eaton 17; B. Jones 15; Vaughan 17), none went on to make a big score. Some hard hitting by Whalley (12 no) gave the score some respectability, but KGS struggled to defend their total and the spinners could not get to work as they had no runs to play with. Rossall passed the total with five overs remaining.

Under 15 XI

P 7 W 3 L 2 D 1 NR 1

Despite a glorious term for cricket, only seven games were played, three games being lost due to the opponents' failure to field a team and our withdrawal from the Lancashire Cup due to player county calls.

The first game of the season against Stonyhurst got the team off to a great start. Winning the toss and opting to bat Smith (28) and Paley (36) put on an opening stand of 54 and this was followed by a hard hitting 42 from Wilkinson in a stand of 57 with Lavelle, who was allowed the opportunity to get to 51 before the declaration at 201 for 7 after 33 overs. Stonyhurst put up a spirited reply and the opening partnership was not broken until they had put on 67 in 14 overs. A determined stand of 40 brought them up to 117 with 10 overs left. There had been some poor catching earlier in the innings but this was to change with the introduction of spin and two stunning catches by Paley and Collins brought the game rapidly back to KGS. From 117 for 1, the game ended with Stonyhurst bowled out for 130. McCarthy 5-26 and Lavelle 3-29 had transformed the game.

The Giggleswick game was rained off with KGS at 27 for 1 off 2.5 overs.

The prevailing wind in Crosby was in full evidence when Kirkham chose to bat first and the openers struggled to cope and quickly lost their wickets. Paley and Wilkinson steadied the innings, but the third wicket fell at 34 from 9 overs. Sensible batting and running brought a fourth wicket stand of 69 and when Swithenbank (23) was out the scoreboard was looking much more respectable. When Paley (82) was dismissed the innings was declared at 154 for 8.

Merchant Taylor's started well and were 87 for 2 of 18 overs with the two batsmen well set. The introduction of spin and some incredible catching by Wilkinson soon changed the game. McCarthy took two wickets with his first two balls and another with his fifth delivery to bring the score to 91 for 5 with 7 overs left. He followed this up with a double wicket maiden and victory seemed assured. The last over started with two wickets required. McCarthy removed one with his third delivery, but could not get the last wicket to let Merchant's escape with a draw at 113 for 9. The fielding performance was most pleasing and it will be an impressive achievement to better McCarthy's figures of 5 overs, 2 maidens, 7 for 11.

The game versus Cowley was a 20/20 game played on an unpredictable wicket. Kirkham opted to bat first and started well and were 51 for 2 after 8 overs. The scoring rate was maintained despite losing wickets and an excellent 58 by Roberts brought a total of 149 for 6 off their 20. Cowley made a robust start with some strong hitting, however wickets fell at regular intervals until a sixth wicket stand put on 42 and with 6 overs remaining Cowley required 52 to win. Mollinga got the breakthrough and Roberts (2 for 9) and Ali (2 for 5) polished off the tail to give KGS a 46 run victory.

The Lancashire 20/20 Cup v Hutton saw Kirkham put in to bat on a lively wicket and an unpredictable outfield. Kirkham attacked the bowling from the outset and, despite losing a wicket in the second over, 19 runs were on the board. Mollinga and Smith then put together a stand of 80 in 8 overs and, with the dismissal of Smith, the team had reached 100 off just 10 overs. Mollinga was finally dismissed for 116 (6 sixes, 11 fours), having put on 40 in four overs with

Roberts. The remaining batsmen decided to keep up the attack, but some steady bowling and injudicious shots meant that Kirkham were bowled out for 166 with an over remaining. Hutton were always going to struggle with such a big target and this was further exacerbated by Paley and Molinga restricting them to 11 off the first 4 overs. Some excellent catches and fine bowling (Paley 3 for 16) meant that at the half way stage Hutton still needed 110 to win with 6 wickets in hand. The bowling became a little wayward and, with some strong resistance from the lower order, Hutton managed a total of 128 for 7 at stumps.

On a beautiful day, spectators for the fixture against Lancaster were treated to a festival of run making. Two centuries, four hundred plus runs and a hat-trick on one afternoon were a treat for all. KGS batted first and the innings began well with Paley and Brookes putting in an opening stand of 70. Paley batted well for 23 despite suffering a foot injury but Brookes went on to forge a further partnership with Roberts to put on over 90 valuable runs. His aggressive style demoralised the bowling and, although he was dropped on a number of occasions, he went on to score an outstanding 130 not out. Partners began to disappear quickly in the last two overs where one opposition bowler gained a hat-trick. In reply to a good total of 217-7 in the allotted overs, LRGS started confidently and maintained an attacking focus throughout their innings. Although KGS took two wickets early, a strong partnership, including another century, put the home side in the driving seat and the pressure began to tell as the bowling lost accuracy. Collins and Ali were both threatening, while McCarthy was unlucky on a number of occasions. KGS were, however, unable to limit their opponents who ran out good winners in an exciting, hard hitting contest.

The game against Bury G S again provided a feast of runs. Bury won the toss and elected to bat. A good opening spell by Brookes restricted them and the first wicket fell after six overs with only 26 on the board. A second wicket followed two overs later and, at 38 for 2, Bury appeared as though they were struggling. This was a misconception as one of their batsmen made a hard hitting century in the remaining overs to make a final total of 193 for 2. Molinga and Brookes made a positive start, hitting 51 off the first seven overs before Molinga 29 fell to an excellent catch. Smith and Brookes (48) put on 51 in the next five overs to keep the scoring rate up, but both fell in consecutive overs. Despite a rearguard action by Beattie (45 n.o.) and Paley (22 n.o.), Kirkham still fell ten runs short, even though they plundered twenty off the last over.

There were many outstanding performances throughout the season and, considering that the same eleven never played together from one game to the next, the results were admirable. The fielding performance was of a high standard and this contributed to at least two victories.

I look forward to seeing the development of these players next year in the Senior XI.

Under 14 XI

P 11 W 5 L 5 1 Abandoned

The under 14 squad enjoyed a summer of largely uninterrupted matches due to fine early season weather which allowed some continuity and enabled us to find the

best combinations in both the batting and bowling departments. The biggest improvement throughout the season was undoubtedly in the field where, due to the excellent attendance at fielding practice, hardly any runs were leaked due to misfields and the general sharpness and anticipation were good. Several run outs and direct hits were in evidence and overall the squad looked a tidy outfit.

Dan Jones once again led the side with maturity and bowled some quick opening spells and also used his change bowlers sensibly and set some appropriate fields. The support bowlers, namely Lewis Leach, Robert Lavelle and Ben Everson backed up the captain with some accurate spells and, towards the end of the season, James Penrose bowled with pace to end up as joint leading wicket taker with 8 wickets. At times the batting was a little fragile, but during the Merchant Taylors' match, when under the cosh at 43-6, chasing 79 to win, Ryan Powell and Harry Mason saw the team through with some very sensible batting.

Unfortunately, there was a disappointing loss to Arnold in the Lancashire Cup, by 9 wickets which came the week after beating St. Mary's, Blackpool by 3 wickets, having been set 158 to win in 20 overs. Lewis Leach produced his best knock of the season with an unbeaten 75 aided by Robert Lavelle (31). Lancaster once again proved to be our nemesis, with the majority of the team giving their wickets away in our most disappointing batting display of the season, Lancaster triumphing by 10 wickets. However, the season ended with a good win over local rivals Rossall who set Kirkham a target of 122 to win. Once again, when under pressure, the lower order managed to put some partnerships together, with Ryan Powell (42) and Harry Mason guiding Kirkham to victory by 3 wickets.

Overall, three boys scored over 100 runs in total - Ben Jones (152), Robert Lavelle (112) and Ryan Powell (102), with Lavelle, when selected for the under 15 team at Stonyhurst College, scoring 50 on his debut. All the squad showed signs of improvement and the most pleasing aspect was the enthusiasm of all the squad which was maintained throughout the entire season.

Finally, I would like to thank the hardcore supporters, namely the players' parents for their attendance at every game - which was lovely to see.

JR Lyon

Under 13 XI

P 10 W 5 D 1 L 4

The under 13's made a good deal of progress over the season as a whole and secured some impressive victories against local rivals Arnold, KEQMS and Rossall. Aply led by Alex Whalley, the team grew in confidence after two heavy defeats to the powerhouses of MGS and Giggleswick. Fortunately, victory was around the corner as the team started their Lancashire Cup campaign with a seven wicket victory against KEQMS. After hanging on for a draw at Merchant Taylor's, the team secured back to back wins against Cowley and Arnold, with excellent knocks by Conor Wilkinson and Josh Powell. Unfortunately, LRGS proved to be in a different class and two heavy defeats (one in the Cup and one in a friendly) put an end to the team's good run. Fortunately, the season ended on a high as Josh Powell put Rossall to the sword with a personal best of 132.

In a season uninterrupted by bad weather, the members of the team have learnt from their mistakes and put in some excellent performances. With more consistency bowling as a unit the team could have competed in all the matches played over the season. They have to build upon this next season and I wish them the best of luck.

Mr S Duncan

Under 12 XI

P 8 W 4 L 3 D 1

KGS under 12's season began with a difficult game against Manchester Grammar School. The under 12's were not ready as a team which resulted in a loss. Manchester Grammar completely outplayed us, exposing Kirkham's weak fielding. Nevertheless, Josh Eales bowled well and took three wickets for 24 runs.

However, after some intensive fielding and batting practice, the under 12's had more success in their following games, with convincing wins against Hutton, Cowley and KEQMS. They gave better performances due to much sharper fielding and excellent batting from many individuals. James Seward, the captain, was a high scorer in these games. He retired after scoring his half century in the game against Hutton and scored 69 runs against Cowley. Sachin Nantheesan was another high scorer. He scored 51 runs against KEQMS. His bowling was equally as impressive, taking three wickets against Cowley. Cameron Roche and Matthew Thomas also bowled well, taking three wickets each against Hutton.

The best win was against Lancaster RGS, in which Josh Eales took three wickets for 17 runs and Todd Roper took three wickets for just six runs. Again, James Seward's batting performance was outstanding, scoring 50 not out.

The most exciting game was against Rossall. KGS did not bat well, losing quick wickets at the top end of the batting order. However, sensible, mature batting from William Forsyth and Ben Anderson rescued the team, scoring a decent 116 runs for 9. KGS knew that they would have to perform well in the field. Sachin Nantheesan took three wickets for 12 runs and he was assisted by some sharp fielding from Jack Campbell and Oliver Crankshaw.

This has been a great season. Well done to all who took part - the under 12's have competed well and show good signs for the future.

Grenada Cricket Tour

WEEK ONE

Day 2: Time for nets

Well, I am pleased to report that the rain has stayed away and the sun has shone all day. After a healthy breakfast overlooking the sea we transferred to the National Stadium for our first full net of the tour. It was a real honour to train in this most impressive venue where a number of international sides have played since the stadium was rebuilt for the 2007 World Cup. The boys looked lively and focused and seem to be adapting well to the hot and humid conditions. During the practice two local TV stations wanted to know what we were up to and both Mr. Duncan and Mr.

Painter were interviewed for the local news. Indeed one company wanted a copy of our itinerary and said they might come and watch! After the session the coach was packed safely (although Mr. Painter left his bag behind!) and we headed back to the hotel for a rest and an afternoon on the beach.

Day 3: The tour starts with a victory

In the first fixture of our seven match programme, we registered a pleasing five-wicket win. After a long journey amidst some fascinating scenery and with interesting driving protocol, we arrived at Progress Park to play our first fixture against St Andrew's Anglican Secondary School. Although the start was delayed following some heavy overnight rain which saturated the ground, the boys were met with intense heat and humidity as play commenced.

Having lost the toss and being put in the field, we coped remarkably well and produced a pleasing bowling and fielding performance. A rather innocuous looking run-out by Adam Galley was followed by a quick wicket from Adam Galley which then set the foundation for a series of wickets to fall at regular intervals. Whilst Adam Galley persisted at one end, Fraser Burnie worked equally hard and returned figures of 2 for 13 off 5 overs. The spin options then took over at one end, and the variety of Harrison Moulding (1 for 11) and Adam Whalley (2 for 16) allowed the fall of wickets to continue. George Brookes at the other end bowled tirelessly for his figures of 2 for 12 off his 6 overs, polishing off the St Andrew's innings for 72.

After an interesting lunch of chicken (?) and various vegetables, we set about the chase. Marcus Molinga and Nathan White opened and provided a solid foundation reaching 40 without loss. Despite a flurry of wickets, perhaps due to incoming batsmen being a little complacent, we passed the total, 5 wickets down but with Marcus unbeaten with 36. A pleasing win, albeit against a weaker opposition than anticipated. We now look forward to a day off skuba-diving and then off to Carriacou for the next stage of the tour.

Day 5: Chilling in Carriacou

Well, we all made the 9am ferry, although Ben Jones' room did not pass the room check and delayed us all - fines tonight, I think!

The ferry journey to Carriacou was fantastic as we moved northwards. The scenery was simply stunning as the island of Carriacou came into view. As they say, it is a small world and we spent some time talking to a couple on holiday from Lytham. After a transfer to the hotel with the apt name "Grand View", the afternoon was spent relaxing before facing three matches in the next three days in 90 degree heat - I'm glad I just have to umpire!

Mr Whalley and Mr Duncan took some of the lads to the main harbour where Pied Piper Ben Jones and his followers went fishing with the locals. Mr Painter stayed by the pool and umpired a bizarre game of water cricket. I'm not sure this is in the MCC rulebook but never mind, the boys seemed to love it!

After dinner tonight minds need to focus on the challenges that lie ahead with 3 tough games coming up. I am sure the boys will rise to the challenge!

(For the record, the boys won two out of three games on the island before returning to Grenada)

WEEK TWO

Day 12: Kirkham Claim Series Win in National Stadium

As the tour heads towards the final furlong, KGS gave the Presentation Boys' School in Grenada a lesson in line and length. The Presentation boys elected to bat first on a hot and humid day as showers hovered overhead. A few early wickets soon gave way to consistent line and length as no fewer than seven bowlers turned their arm over. The pitch itself had very little pace and Adam Galley as skipper wisely used three slow bowlers to good effect. The middle overs of McCarthy and Wilson strangled the Presentation boys of many scoring opportunities and both finished with wickets in trying playing conditions. The innings was wrapped up by the impressive Brookes who came on at the death to claim three wickets in five miserly overs.

Chasing a modest 97 runs for victory in 35 overs on paper seems quite straightforward. The high temperature of wearing a helmet has certainly been uncomfortable for all batsmen. The Kirkham reply was soon underway and both Mollinga and Jones scored freely at the wicket. An opening partnership of 65 all but sealed victory. Mollinga's 37 emphasized the outstanding tour he has had with the bat as runs flowed in all directions. The target of 98 was reached for the loss of just three wickets to gain another resounding win on tour.

Day 14: Tourist for the day, Rhys Williams

The tourists for the day boarded the bus and set off for their tour of the island. The first stop was the Concord waterfall which is set in the hills of Grenada. Opportunities were provided to take photos of the stunning scenery and there was also the opportunity to walk in the calm water. This calm water, however, suddenly turned into rough water as Benny MC took a tumble!

The next visit for the tourists was to a spice plantation where we learned about how different spices such as cocoa, nutmeg and cinnamon are grown. If any are interested apparently the plantation is up for sale at 25 million East Caribbean Dollars if anyone has some spare cash to spend. (Mr. Harrison is checking his finances) After a visit here, we visited a nutmeg processing plant where we had the chance to see how spices are taken out of their shells and then distributed to various places around the world.

After this it was time for the typical Caribbean lunch of chicken and rice in the stunning scenery where the Caribbean Sea meets up with the Atlantic Ocean with the island of Carriacou in the background. After a brief thunderstorm, the boys moved onto see a rum distillery where we were shown how it is made. The boys were allowed to taste some of the rum that is made here ranging from 16% alcohol to 75% alcohol. There were also chances to purchase some of the products which many of the boys did, including Mr. Duncan who decided to purchase four bottles!

The tour party then moved on to their last stop where they visited the Grand Etang nature reserve. Again, photos were taken of the scenery that surrounded us. We were also greeted by two monkeys, one of which decided to jump onto Marcus Eaton's head and the other one onto Mr. Harrison's head and which also took a sweet off him during the process. The party now looks forward to their last evening on the island and then heading back to the UK tomorrow night.

Day 16: Goodbye Grenada

Well, all good things must come to an end and we are now home after our trip. Five wins out of seven is a magnificent achievement for all concerned! An exhausted tour group arrived back at KGS at 3.30pm after a long, tiring journey. I am sure all would agree that this was an amazing trip as we reflect from the much cooler British climate that greeted our arrival. I hope you have all enjoyed the blog and hope it will live long in the memory.

Feel free to read the full version of our blog online: grenadatour2010.blogspot.com

Mr S. Duncan.

BOYS' ATHLETICS

Sainsbury's Track and Field Cup. Wednesday 12th May.

Both the junior and inter boys performed well in the first round of the ESAA Cup.

In the juniors there were some excellent performances. However, one or two disappointing shows and a weaker second event for some athletes meant that KGS finished third, behind Hutton and Broughton. The team members for this event were:-

Juniors:

Josh Powell (Hurdles/Triple Jump), Matthew Carroll (Hurdles/Discus), Tom Gargett (100m/long Jump), Charlie Abbott (200m/Shot), Connor Wilkinson (200m/Javelin), Oscar Twitchett (400m/Shot), Henry Cameron (400m/Triple), Oliver Crankshaw (800m/Relay), Josh Keelan (800m/High Jump), Bradley Yates (1500m/Relay), Jack Bruce (1500m/Discus), Scott Collins (High Jump/Relay), Alex Whalley (Javelin/Relay)

Inters:

Robert Lavelle (Hurdles/Triple), Dan Jones (Hurdles/Javelin), Joe Martin (100m/Javelin), Ben Rhodes-Powers (100m/Long Jump), Ben Swift (200m/Shot), Isaac Yuen (200m/HJ), Harry Goosens (400m/LJ), Matthew Beaty (400m/Discus) Robert Lockhart (800m/HJ), William Lockhart (800m/TJ), Sam Fuentes-Moreno (1500m/Relay), Alex Barlow (Shot/Relay), Ryan Wilkinson (Discus/Relay)

In the inters there were again some excellent performances. This team finished first, narrowly defeating Hutton and will progress to the Regional Round in June.

Results of the boys ESAA Sainsbury's Track and Field in the Regional 'A' final 15th June at Stanley Park.

The intermediate boys finished eighth out of nine schools, scoring 381 points amidst high class opposition. There were notable performances from Joe Martin (100m), Ben Rhodes-Powers (100m and Long Jump), Ben Swift (200m), Ben Everson (1500m), Rob Lockhart (HJ) and Ryan Wilkinson (Discus)

In the 'B' final on Thursday 17th at the same venue, the junior boys finished sixth out of nine, scoring 322 points, with notable performances from Jack Bruce (1500m), Henry Cameron (400m) and Charlie Abbott (Shot)

Well done to all who took part. Whilst the boys could not emulate the fantastic achievements of the girls, they should be proud of their efforts.

On a more local basis, KGS took the under 13 and under 15 teams to the Lancaster Area Athletics Competition at Salt Ayre on Tuesday, 18th May. This is traditionally a very tough competition in an area that is strong in athletics.

In the under 13 competition, KGS found the going tough, but there were some encouraging performances from Connor Wilkinson (200m), Henry Cameron (400m and Triple), Oliver Crankshaw (1500m), Wilf Rhodes (Shot) and Oscar Graham (Long Jump)

The under 15 team performed particularly well, with some excellent performances from Ben Rhodes-Powers (100m and Long Jump), Ben Swift (200m), William Dickinson (1500m), Ryan Wilkinson (Discus), and Dan Jones (Javelin). Overall the team finished an excellent second behind a formidable LRGS team. Well done to all who took part.

In another round of athletics matches at Salt Ayre in the Lancaster area, the under 12 and under 14 boys competed against five other schools.

In the under 12 competition the boys did very well, particularly on the track. They finished second behind LRGS with notable performances from

Tom Gargett (100m), Charlie Abbott (200m and Shot), Michael Thomas (200m), Roland Burt (400m), Bradley Yates (800m/1500m), Oliver Crankshaw (1500m), Josh Keelan (1500m), Nick Coleman (Discus).

In the third year competition there were notable performances from Dan Jones (Javelin and 200m), Ben Everson (800m/1500m), Theo Harvey (Shot), Alex Barlow (Shot) and Robert Lavelle (Long Jump).

The team finished a fantastic second place behind LRGS but ahead of four other schools.

In the Lancashire County Championships at Stanley Park, KGS boys produced a quartet of champions, with Bradley Yates taking the under 13 1500m title in a time of 4.45.40 which was a championship best performance; Ben Everson completed a magnificent double by winning both the under 15 1500m with a time of 4.26.30 and the 800m with a time of 2.07.70 and Adam Whalley won the Junior Men's Javelin with a throw of 45m71cm.

Later, three boys from KGS were crowned Lancashire Champions at the Lancashire Schools' Championships and two of them qualified for selection to the English Schools' Championships at Birmingham in July. Ben Everson was a clear winner in the Junior Boys 1500m race in a qualifying time of 4.20.60 and Adam Whalley who, following his success as an inter last year, took the Senior Boys' Javelin title with a throw of 41m.25cm whilst Dan Jones threw an excellent 41.82m to win the Junior Boys' Javelin. Dan went on to represent Lancashire at the English Schools' Championships in Birmingham. His performance of 43.34m was of English Schools' standard and earned him 14th place amidst very strong competition.

Mention must also be made of two boys who have achieved considerable success on the track. Bradley Yates has had a successful year. In May, he won the under 13's 800m and 1500m at the Lancashire Track and Field Championships with Championship best performances in both events. After a move to Sale Harriers in May, Bradley was invited to run the British Millers Club 600m development race. This race was at SportsCity, and Bradley won in a record time of 1:36.3. This was followed by another invitation to run in the under 15's



800m at Stretford. This enabled him to run a time of 2:14.7, which puts him fifth in the UK rankings for the event. Also in the 1500m, Bradley has been head to head for first place in the UK rankings with a boy from Scotland. In June, at SportsCity, Bradley ran 4:30.57 which puts him back on top by 3 tenths of a second. Well done to Bradley for a successful year and we hope it continues next year.

Ben Everson has also had a fantastic season. Following his fine performance in the Lancashire Schools' Championship, Ben achieved a very creditable seventh place (4.19.94) in the English Schools' Championships held in Birmingham on the 9/10 July. Well done to these boys and all the others who have competed throughout the season.

VOLLEYBALL

Once again, Kirkham entered three teams into the Preston and District Volleyball League. After four league sessions, the senior team (KGS) was in fourth position whilst the second team (Windmills) was equal eighth and the third team (Juniors) was ninth. In the Christmas tournament, KGS finished in a creditable fourth position.

After Christmas, our teams really started to develop and produced some very pleasing results. The senior team gathered momentum in the league and in achieving some fine victories eventually won the league with 24 points. A very pleasing result after a good season. Perhaps just as important, there are plenty of junior players new to the game who have made excellent progress throughout the season. This was proven in the Easter tournament where they defeated some of the more senior teams.

Well done to all concerned. This difficult game demands skill and perseverance and it is pleasing to see our youngsters develop from week to week. I hope this continues in the new season. Expectations are high!

M Whalley

SWIMMING

As swimming continues to go from strength to strength, a review of the fixtures tells of a large number of pupils taking part in a number of events with considerable success.

The team enjoyed their first victory of the season against QEGS, Blackburn. The mixed side produced some excellent performances in the pool, with the under 13 age group winning every event. All three age groups, under 13, under 15 and the under 18's worked hard to ensure they produced the results needed to defeat a predominantly male QEGS side. In this match the following pupils performed particularly well: Bradley Yates, Fiona Lockhart, Danny Davies, Hadley Price, Imogen Pierce, Ben Everson, Katy Ingham, Lucy Fielding and Robert Lockhart. The under 13 and under 15 side enjoyed overall victory, whilst the under 18's were narrowly defeated. Overall, KGS enjoyed their first gala victory of the season.

On Wednesday 18th November, due to illness and unavailability, KGS took a very young team to swim against Stonyhurst at under 14, under 16 and senior level. Despite our youth, the team swam fantastically well, especially our boys and girls from years 1, 2 and 3 who often swam against opponents who were two years older. In the senior age group, our boys and girls swam extremely well and were led by the excellent Sophie Ward. All the following were instrumental in a fine win: Fiona Lockhart, Lauren Stringer, William Lockhart, Bradley Yates, Natalie Yates, Dale Price, Hadley Price, Alex Ward, Robert Lavelle, Josh Powell, Robert Lockhart, Giuseppe Pancione, Adam Whalley, Ben Everson, Harriet Price.

KGS took four junior teams to the English Schools' Swimming Association Divisional Team Relay Championship to swim in the freestyle and medley relays. All the swimmers swam extremely well against talented teams from across the north west of England. The junior girls swam extremely well, but found themselves matched against some outstanding swimmers. They should be proud of their times of 2.15 for the medley relay and 2.34 for the freestyle relay. As this team included two first years, they could improve on this even more next year.

The boys registered times of 2.06.82 for the freestyle relay and 2. 22 for the medley relay as they swam against ten other schools. This gave them final positions of fourth and second respectively. This means that they became runners up in the Divisional Championship for the medley relay, a fantastic achievement when one considers that two of the team are a year young and another is two years younger than the upper age limit. Alas, the medley relay time was not quick enough for them to qualify for the National Championships in Coventry in February.

Squads:-

Girls: Harriet Price, Beth Everson, Lauren Stringer, Fiona Lockhart, Imogen Pierce

Boys: Josh Powell, Hadley Price, Ben Everson, Danny Davies, Alex Ward, William Lockhart, Robert Lavelle, Bradley Yates

Back to school fixtures, and KGS travelled to Hutton with a large team made up of as many junior (years 1-3) squad members as possible as well as fourth year and senior teams. KGS swam very well, particularly in the individual races, but came a bit unstuck in the relays. The competition was close

at all stages, but Hutton moved away in the final two races. Well done to all who took part.

Against Bury GS, KGS won overall 203-177, winning three of the five groups.

Over 30 boys represented the school in this match, ten first year boys swam for the School, some for the first time and the second years remain unbeaten in all matches. In the girls' fixtures, KGS was not to be defeated! All of the girls worked hard in the pool which paid off as they produced some excellent results.

Although the girls struggled in some age groups against Westholme, they were able to hold their own and produce some great junior performances. Fantastic swims from Imogen Pierce, Lauren Stringer, Harriet Price, Fiona Lockhart and Sophie Ward, to name just a few, meant that the girls were able to defeat a strong Westholme side in two of the four age groups.

The pinnacle of the season came at the QEGS Quadrangular Shield. Our mixed team set to the pool with great determination. After a rocky start, KGS upped their game and began to demonstrate what they were really capable of. In a very tight competition that came down to relays, KGS snatched victory for the first time ever, walking away with the shield.

Well done to Toby Townsend in his duties as Captain. We hope that swimming will continue to flourish in school and that we have an equal amount of success in 2010/2011.

M. Whalley/L. Osborne.

CROSS COUNTRY

In the first major run of the year, KGS recorded excellent results in the Wyre and Fylde Coast Cross Country Championships held at Stanley Park, Blackpool. In the four events entered by school competitors, three were won while the other team came a very creditable fourth.

In the Year 7 girls' event, outstanding performances by Olivia Anderton (second) and Fiona Lockhart (third) were supported well by Jess O'Neill, Becky Ingham and Sophie Warden to lead their team to a comfortable victory, outscoring Arnold School by 21 points.

The Year 7 boys also ran out winners with a margin of 66 points representing an outstanding team performance. Individual honours went to Bradley Yates who won the whole race, while Oliver Crankshaw, Josh Keelan, Thomas Gargett and Aaron Chiekrie all performed admirably.

In the boys' Year 8/9 race, KGS also boasted the race winner in Ben Everson, while his team were overall winners by the close margin of eight points from Cardinal Allen. Will Lockhart and Henry Cameron also scored highly.

In the girls' Year 8/9 race, Imogen Pierce, already a world champion in her main sport, ran in an excellent fourth while Katy Ingham supported well.

It was an excellent day for the KGS athletes and emphasised the all round sporting talent.

Following on from their success in this championship, the pupils listed below were selected to represent Fylde in the Lancashire Schools' Cross Country Championships.

Boys

Josh Keelan, Thomas Gargett, Aaron Chiekrie, Oliver Crankshaw, Bradley Yates, Ben Everson, Will Lockhart

Girls

Olivia Anderton, Fiona Lockhart, Jess O'Neill, Becky Ingham, Sophie Warner, Bethany Everson, Imogen Pierce, Katy Ingham

KGS produced two Lancashire champions from this event, Bradley Yates and Ben Everson. Oliver Crankshaw came in fourth place in the year 7 race.

Year 7 KGS girls running in the Fylde team performed extremely well and the team became champions. This included Beth Everson in fourth place.

In the junior girls, Imogen Pierce came eighth and the Fylde team was second overall.

Well done to all the boys and girls who took part in these events.

Particular mention must be made of Ben Everson. Ben competed for England in the Home Countries International Schools' Cross Country event staged in Truro in April and came 18th overall. The England team won. In January, he won the Lancashire Schools' Cross Country event. That success qualified him for the Lancashire Junior Boys' team at the English Schools' Cross Country Finals staged at Heaton Park in Manchester. There were 329 competitors in his age group but Ben excelled to take fourth place in a time of 12 minutes 46 seconds over the very wet and muddy 4km course and that earned him his place in the England team.

TENNIS

The summer term 2010 at KGS proved to be a busy and competitive time for all the school's tennis players. Enjoying an undisrupted period of glorious English sunshine, the KGS girls and boys benefited from the dry, bright and calm conditions.

A concerted effort was made to revive senior fixtures, and entry into the British Schools' Tennis Association under 18 knockouts provided many in the fifth and sixth forms with the chance to play competitive fixtures.

The under 18 girls' team, captained by Kerry Emmett, dominated the local rounds. Olivia Bence, Ashley Bradshaw, Anna Rigby and Chloe Walker all performed well in the early stages. A third round match against Rivington and Blackrod School proved to be a test too far with all four of their team involved in the academy structure at Bolton Arena.

An enthusiastic boys' team also excelled in the early rounds, defeating a strong Lytham team. Ashley Jones, Stan Graham, Tom Charter and Jamie Roper combined well to win through the early stages. Unfortunately, the team failed to progress further due to an inability to agree a playing date in the third round. It seems we suffered due to the demands of heavy examination commitments of all our pupils, proving that summer sport can be forced to make way in order to achieve academic success.

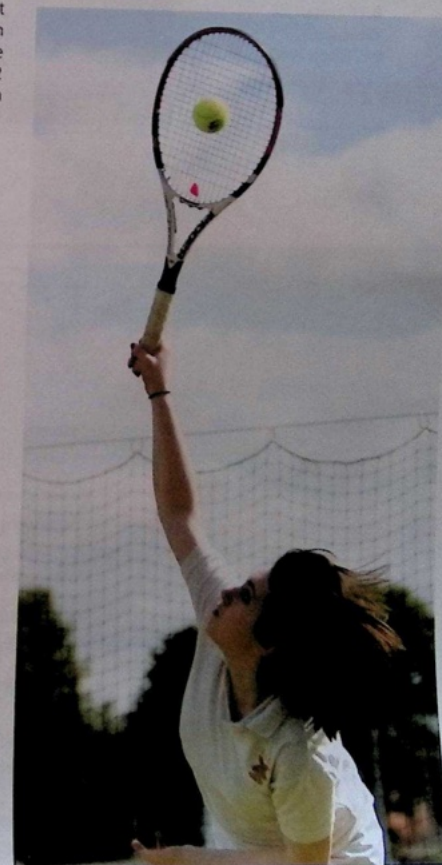
In the boys' and girls' under 13 and under 15 leagues our teams played against a wider range of local opposition due to the new league formats. Matches against KEQMS, Arnold School, QEGS Blackburn, Westholme, Lytham High School

and Broughton High School were played throughout the summer term. The under 15 girls' A team was the team of the year, winning their league comfortably and, if not for a technical ruling, would have progressed in to the regional round of the British Schools' Tennis Competition.

LTA coach David Shaw once again worked hard with squad players and beginners alike, all players showing a commitment to improvement. The Wednesday afternoon sessions were invaluable in developing the improvers' groups and it was pleasing to see a high number of talented second and third year boys make superb progress. The Friday morning squad sessions were well attended, despite some wild and windy conditions and tactical decision making skills were noticeably improved by all girls.

A busy Saturday fixture calendar was followed, which included strong opposition from schools throughout the North West. Victories against Arnold School, Cheadle Hulme and Westholme were particularly impressive, demonstrating the increased tactical and skill abilities of the players. Attendance at practices was excellent from all year groups. The standard of tennis continues to get better each year, which all bodes well for the future of the sport at KGS.

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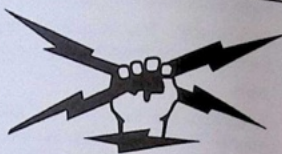
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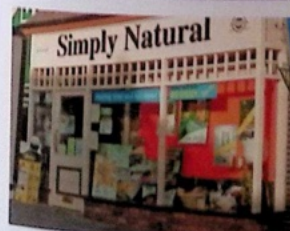
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HOCKEY

First XI

This season our team was very young, comprising of many ages across the years. We have become a very committed and dynamic team and our opponents have found us tough to beat due to our determination whilst spectators have found us exciting to watch. Not only have we been a unit on the pitch, with gutsy performances, but also off the pitch we have formed a great relationship, with respect for one another and have become good friends.

Pre-season began with intense training and friendly games against ladies' clubs to improve skills and fitness. We played 26 games through the season against other schools and ladies' teams, winning 20, drawing 4 and losing only 2 games.

One of the highlights of our season has to be our tour to Dublin in October, where we had a jam-packed three days, playing and winning games against Mount Temple School and Sutton Park School. A training session with two professional Irish coaches was set up and benefited our game immensely. The Viking Splash Boat Educational Tour of Dublin, shopping and birthday celebrations in the Lansdowne Hotel with traditional Irish Ceilidh dancing rounded off what was a superb tour.

As the Lancashire under 19 tournament was brought forward, we did not know what to expect and went out to play our best hockey and have a great time. After a slow

start against Stonyhurst, managing to beat them in the last few minutes, we quickly picked up the pace against our local rivals Queen Mary and Lancaster Grammar with convincing 3-0 wins. We then went on to play Arnold in the final. It was a closely fought match where there was not a lot between the two sides and the resulting 0-0 draw meant that we became Lancashire under 19 champions.

A few weeks later was our own under 19 Invitation Tournament, with some of the best teams from around Britain invited to play and we welcomed a new team to the programme, George Watson's College, Scotland. It was an honour for me to lead my team out on such a prestigious occasion. We played the best we had all season, drawing with Sedbergh 1-1 and George Watson's 0-0, beating Pocklington 3-0 and losing to Millfield by conceding two goals in the final two minutes. However, the highlight of our day had to be drawing to British Colleges 0-0. We kept our cool, played our game and were not fazed by our opponents. It was a pleasure to have Alix Townsend and Hannah Travis step up to the challenge and experience senior hockey at its best with their individual skill and hard work up and down the pitch. The day was a thrilling success and was enjoyed by all.

Our outstanding goalkeeper, Gemma Halkett, has kept us in the game on several occasions with her agility and vision of the ball. This was evident when a penalty stroke was saved against Millfield at our Invitation Tournament. The team was filled with confidence from Gemma's defensive leadership. In defence I had strong and motivated players working with me in Kirsten Martin, who remained composed and solid on our

left side, whilst Emily Crowther took care of our right, not only winning tackles but creating attacking play with her speed. Charlotte Dalzell was solid in the centre of defence.

A special mention must go to my vice captain, Katherine Heyes, who has supported me well this year, as we did have a young side and we knew it would be hard settling in. I would not have been able to do it without Kat's help and also Gemma's moral support keeping everyone smiling! The team was further developed by Kyle, our fitness conditioner, who certainly put us through our paces in the run up to the big tournaments.

Ashley Bradshaw has been a rock in the middle of the pitch, commanding the forwards with a true passion to succeed, Katie Penrose has shown skill to take on players on their reverse stick and Bronte Edgar's sneaky tricks around defenders to then stick the ball in the back of the goal were amazing! Ally Glover dominated the right midfield slot with her dynamic runs forcing the defence to make mistakes, Anna Rigby showed lightning pace to drive forward in attack and linked with Sarah Quarmby's calm but enthusiastic approach to the left midfield. Finally, Vicky Greensmith led from the front with her experience and strength behind the ball.

Our final match was the Vicky Peter's Memorial Match, with an outstanding performance again from the Old Girls who become stronger every year. It was a great day to play a game we all love in memory of such a dedicated performer.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish the very best of luck to Vicky Greensmith and her promising team next year.

Finally, a big thank you to Mrs Glover and Mr Sampey for all their help coaching and for their support this year. It certainly has been a successful and memorable season and it would not have happened without their devotion, time and effort. It is a very sad goodbye to Kirkham hockey for me; I wish you all the best next year!

Katie Gorman - First XI Captain

Second XI

The second XI squad once again proved a force to be reckoned with! The team was lead by Grace O'Flaherty who was determined to lead the squad forward and develop the younger players within the side. The squad produced excellent performances against Arnold School, Queen Mary, Stockport and Altrincham.

As the season progressed and players developed, the side was able to compete with many first XI sides - which is an achievement in itself.

They beat a Winstanley first XI, were narrowly beaten by King's Chester first XI and drew against Queen Mary.

The team this year was packed with upper sixth students who played with experience. They included Maxine Galley, Jennifer Miller, Francesca Hughes, Grace O'Flaherty, Katie Fisher and Rebecca Lewis.

The team will now need to rebuild and use youth to carry the team forward as they approach the next hockey season.

Under 15 XI

The under 15 hockey team enjoyed a successful season and increasingly became a well organised unit with every girl developing her skills and understanding of the game.

The opening 2-1 win against Arnold in September set them on an unbroken run of success over nine matches until Arnold reversed this result early in February. Until then the team had won eight out of nine matches, drawing only with Wakefield, and had scored 29 goals whilst conceding only 4. Arnold again was the only team to frustrate us in the Lancashire under 15 tournament when, having beaten Rossall, Lancaster, Baines and Stonyhurst, and drawn with Queen Mary (all without conceding a goal), we were to finish runners-up when Arnold edged us out 3-1.

The squad was impressively captained by Jenny Malings who was unlucky to be forced out of the latter part of the season through injury but who remained the essence of reliability both on and off the pitch. She, Alix Townsend and Hannah Travis were part of the successful under 16 squad which won through to the North of England finals. Hannah and Alix were later joined by Alex Lord who together formed a formidable mid-field and it is to their considerable credit that they, along with Jenny, are now part of the first XI squad.

A lot of hard work was put in with our defensive unit at the back and, with Amber Cardwell providing a determined last line of defence in goal, the four main defenders in front of her - Sophie Warr, Natasha Linton, Jodie Hope and Jess Balmer - developed and retained a strong defensive shape. Jodie improved her game considerably and finished the season strongly, Natasha showed great determination throughout the season, Sophie settled in well when she came into the team and made the right defence position her own, and Jess was a real bonus choosing to remain with the under 15 squad. As always, she was totally committed on the pitch and a source of strength defensively.

Up front, Rachel Williamson was always a major threat down the right wing with her pace to get behind defenders, Georgina Cameron in the centre still underestimates her own ability but is an ideal team player and totally reliable, while Lucie Mellor-Bates showed promising ability on the left and with clear focus could develop into a very capable player. Gemma Boardman, finally, really has the potential to be more involved on the pitch and she made important contributions during the season. More to come, I think.

This team matured impressively as the season progressed and they all have a lot to give in the coming season. I wish them well.

S Sampey

Under 14 XI

The under 14 squad has had a very successful season this year. They managed to defeat the majority of teams that they came up against by scoring some excellent individual and team goals.

The team was captained by Jen Malings, who lead the team



to victory against Queen Mary, Stockport, Wakefield and many more.

As the side developed both their individual skill and game play, it became obvious that they were a talented bunch. Throughout the season many players produced outstanding performances and Alix Townsend, Hannah Travis, Jen Malings, Georgina Cameron, Natasha Linton and Rachel Williamson are all particularly worthy of mention.

As the season came to a close, it was time to up our game further and take on the Dutch opposition in Valkenberg, Holland. The team produced some great performances and managed to defeat two of their three opponents whilst touring the country.

Overall, the under 14's completed a wonderful season, demonstrating great potential for the future of hockey at KGS.

Well done, girls!

Mrs Osborne

Under 13 XI

Kirkham Grammar School's under 13 hockey squad has made sound progress throughout the course of the season. Promising results from the Saturday fixtures saw that the girls were making progress as they began to get to grips with the 11-a-side game. The team recorded draws against Arnold and victories against Altrincham, Cheadle Hulme,

Wakefield, Queen's Chester and KEQM in the first half of the season.

The second half of the season was blighted by the snow. This led to a lack of continuity in training arrangements and match play, hindering the good progress that the girls had been making. Further victories were recorded against Stockport and again against KEQM when matches did take place, yet it was a frustrating end to what could have been a more productive second half of the season.

The North-West under 13 mini-hockey tournament was held at KGS and allowed the girls a chance to dominate in the 7-a-side game once again. Victories in all of their six group games saw the A team qualify for the North Hockey Finals at Chester in March. The gulf in standard at the regional event, however, was evident, as the team struggled to cope with strong and powerful opponents from Cumbria, and finished in second place. The girls were disappointed with their performance and must now try to put right the mistakes that they made.

The girls have been a successful team at KGS, yet should be aware that they need to keep moving forward in terms of both their individual skill levels and their team work if they are to continue to compete with those around them. A determination to improve levels of fitness, an ability to accept responsibility for errors and the willingness to soak up new information will all be vital as they prepare for the next season as under 14's.

The competitive nature of all the girls in the squad resulted in many determined performances and when the ball was passed from player to player using good team work the side was impressive to watch. It is challenging for such a young side to understand when to retain the ball and demonstrate individual skill and when to work together as a team, and the under 13 squad began to understand the need for a mixture of both concepts towards the end of the season.

I hope that with determination, hard work and, above all, team work the squad will make good progress in years to come.

KH Benter

Under 12 XI

The under 12 hockey squad played over ten matches last season as two teams of seven-a-side. They had success from the start in both 'A' and 'B' matches, beating strong opposition such as King's Chester, Queen's Chester, Stockport Grammar and KEQMS.

In the spring term the under 12's went from strength to strength. As a squad KGS had developed their defending skills and had improved their support structure in attack. Having been unbeaten since January, towards the end of the hockey season they competed in two tournaments.

The first was the Arnold Invitation tournament, held on March 13th, which had teams entered from as far afield as London and Scotland. The standard was extremely high. Ten teams were competing in total, divided into two groups. The winners and runners up of each group went through to the semi-finals and ultimately the final.



The results from our group stages meant we went through as winners and met the runners up of Group 1, City of London Freeman's School, in the semi-final. In the first five minutes, KGS bombarded COL with attacks on goal. Unable to score, COL came back strongly and scored in the closing seconds of the first half. The match continued with end to end hockey before Kirkham scored a well deserved equaliser. The final score was 1-1. In accordance with the tournament rules, KGS played an extra five minutes. The first team to score would be the winners and go through to the final. No goals were scored, so a further five minutes were played without goal keepers. KGS defended a short corner brilliantly. Millie Foley, the KGS captain, managed to contact the ball before COL were able to strike it. With seconds to go, KGS were awarded a penalty corner. From this KGS scored, securing their place in the final.

By the time we played the final, emotions were running high and legs were extremely tired. KGS had played an hour of hard hockey and now had to play a strong Arnold side. To their credit, KGS gave it their all. They had a couple of close chances at goal but were unable to score. The Arnold side was fast and determined and managed to score two well executed goals. KGS finished runners up.

The second tournament was the County Tournament held at Stanley Park on Monday, 22nd March. KGS entered an A and B team where two separate round robin competitions were held for each team.

In the A tournament, KGS played against Arnold, St Mary's Hall and King Edward and Queen Mary School. Despite the low number of teams entered, the standard was incredibly high. KGS were drawn against Arnold in the first game.

Arnold played really well and were fast on the ball. Unfortunately, KGS were very slow to respond and tried to play down the centre of the pitch instead of keeping their space and structure. By half time KGS were two goals down. In the second half KGS were much better. They had a couple of close chances of scoring and closed down the Arnold players much sooner. The score remained at 2-0 to Arnold. In two remaining games KGS played with flair and determination, winning the matches 5-0 and 4-0. They came through as runners up of their tournament.

In the B Tournament only Arnold and King Edward Queen Mary had teams entered. KGS played really well. Defending was strong and they set up a number of great attacking plays. The results were reflective of their performance. KGS beat Arnold 3-0 and KEQMS 4-0. KGS were crowned winners of the Lancashire County 'B' tournament. This marked a great end to what had been an exciting and successful first hockey season at KGS.

Hockey Tour to Dublin

The first and second XI hockey teams set off from KGS early on Tuesday 20 October heading to Dublin for yet another hockey tour. The journey from KGS to Holyhead and the ferry journey to Dublin were very enjoyable and the girls were ready for the Irish opposition and, of course, the fun and games that lay ahead of them.

On the first evening the girls relaxed in the hotel leisure centre then after the evening meal had a whale of a time doing a pop quiz and playing a number of fun filled party games, wink murder, leader of the band/dance and many more. The slick dance moves demonstrated by the girls were superbly replicated by the staff, in fact they were so slick the girls stood in awe!

Wednesday was a very special day, Katie Gorman's 18th birthday and Chloe Walker's 16th birthday, so after a birthday breakfast we started to get ready for the games. The weather was atrocious when the first XI played against Mount Temple School and though the start was end to end our girls soon got into their stride and started to dominate the match with a solid defensive performance. The midfield took total control and the forwards attacked with real flair. The second XI played against Manor House School and after an end to end game and a gutsy performance the match finished 0-0. We had a terrific evening at the Lansdowne Hotel, where we enjoyed a beautiful meal and a traditional





Irish Ceilidh. Our girls certainly threw themselves into the evening, singing and dancing and we even had a solo singing performance and a spectacular performance of the 'worm'.

Thursday started superbly with the Viking Splash Tour, an amphibian vehicle that took us on an educational tour of Dublin. Combined with a number of hilarious Viking 'roars', which scared the unsuspecting tourists 'to death', this certainly got us all off to a good start. After an hour's shopping, we headed off for our second matches. The second XI played against Santa Sabina School, Sutton and put up a very good team performance, solid at the back, real determination in midfield, and skill and flair up front. We won the game 3-0, a great second result. The first XI played against Sutton Park School, a very good team indeed. From the first whistle, our girls turned on the style with an outstanding performance. The girls showed real class all over the pitch making this very strong hockey school look very ordinary. We won 3-0 with certainly the best performance of the season so far. Both our teams played against premier division teams and both of our teams showed how strong the hockey is at our school. The day was rounded off with a bingo night. The highlight of the night was the extremely professional bingo calling by Mrs Walter. Never before has anyone had the opportunity to play in such a professional manner. Gala Bingo may certainly be coming in to get advice from her.

On Friday morning we had a two hour training session with two professional Irish hockey coaches. The girls worked hard, listened carefully and came away with good advice and little tips to use back at school.

The trip was terrific; the girls were out of this world, fun to be with, great company and totally committed to each other both on and off the pitch. The atmosphere on the tour was

wonderful and I was so proud of our girls. They were certainly a credit to Kirkham Grammar School.

I would like to thank Mrs Walter for helping me organise this tour and Mrs Osborne and Mr Sampey for all their hard work.

Mrs J Glover



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We are pleased to support Kirkham Grammar School.

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