



Spring 2001

THE BEST OF BRITISH!

OUR UNBEATABLE KGS 1ST XV

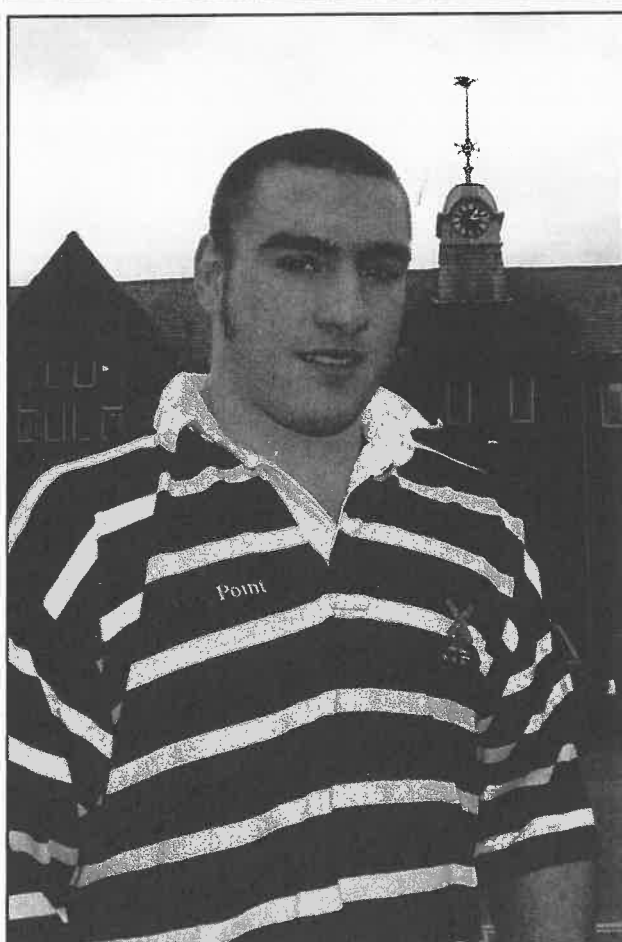


Kirkham Grammar School 1st XV, Rugby World Team of the Month for April, 2001, have broken all records over the past two seasons, during which they have remained unbeaten.

The record reads:

Played 25, Won 25, Points For 1,025, Points Against 108.
Average winning margin per match: 41 - 4!

In an outstanding season, 2000/2001, the team has produced eight county players, six regional players and six England internationals. Thus far the 'Sevens' team has been finalists in the North of England Schools Championships and winners of the Fylde RUFC 'Sevens' for the first time in the School's history. Congratulations to all our players, led by Matthew Parr (England U19 international) and their coaches, led by Mr. Brian Gornall, to whom we give special congratulations on his selection as England Schools' 18 group coach.



Kirkham Grammar School Rugby Captain, Matthew Parr, who played for England Schools 18 Group last season, has been invited to train with the England U19 team to be assessed for selection for the World Championships in Chile in April.



LANCASHIRE PLAYERS LINE-UP
Andrew Kyriacou, Chris Briers, Warren Spragg, Mark Hanson, Paul McNamee, Daniel Howells, Matthew Parr, Richard Wigglesworth, Alex Loney

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OXBRIDGE OFFERS



The School is hoping for further Oxbridge successes this year. Sian Hickson (left) has been offered a place, reading English, at Exeter College, Oxford, conditional on her attaining grades AAB at 'A' Level. If successful, she will follow in the footsteps of her Head of Sixth Form, Mr. Adrian Long, who read his degree at the same Oxford College. Vice Captain of School, Emma Johnson (right), has been offered a place at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, reading Medicine, conditional on her attaining three Grade A's at 'A' Level. We congratulate both on their outstanding achievements and wish them every success in meeting their offers.

Entrance and Scholarship Examinations

Congratulations to all who sat and passed the eleven plus entrance examinations this year, the results of which have guaranteed the school its fifth consecutive full four-form entry. The Headmaster's Scholarship, awarded to the pupil

who scores the highest overall mark, goes very deservedly to one of our own Junior School pupils, Christopher Box, whose performance was absolutely outstanding.

Combined Academic and Music Scholarship:

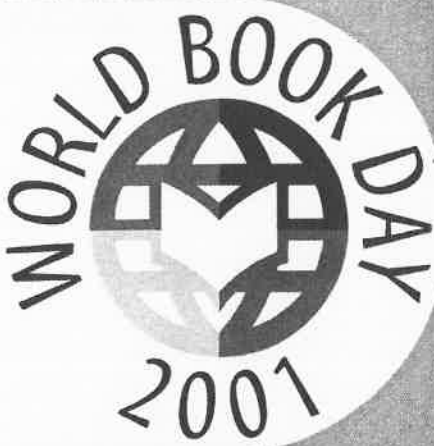
Lucinda McDade Highfield Priory

11+ Music Scholarships/Exhibitions

Alexander Bleach	Holy Family
James Edgar	KGJS
Suzanne Midgley	Stanah
Jennifer Patel	KGJS Music Scholar

Other 11+ Scholarships/Exhibitions have been awarded to:

Charlotte Baker	KGJS
Andrew Brown	Manor Beach
Matthew Davies	Freckleton
Soraya Dunn	KGJS Academic Scholar
Harry Eakins	Ingol
Clare Newberry	Anchorsholme
Thomas Newton	Sunnymede
Alexandra Wells	New Zealand



The Headmaster reading to 3y

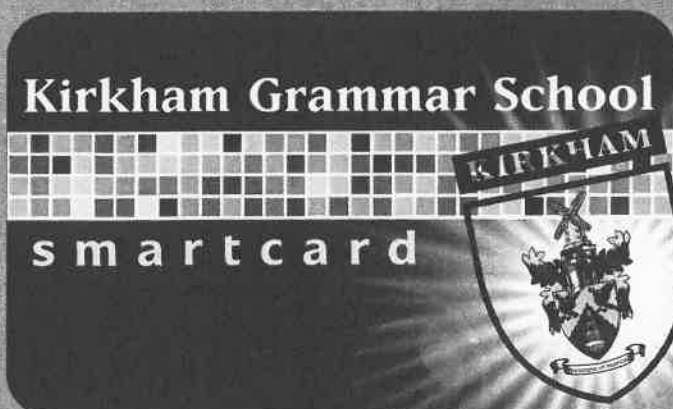


Mr Sampey reads 'Cider with Roses'

We celebrated the wide range of literature by having a "read-in". Normal library service was suspended for the day and classes of pupils came to the library to be entertained by staff, including the Headmaster, Mr Hawkes, Mrs Johnson, Mr Painter, Mr Reid, Mr Sampey, Mrs Williams and Mrs Copland. Their readings included works by Gervase Phinn, Chaucer, Jane Austen, Richmal Crompton, J. K. Rowling, Oscar Wilde, Laurie Lee and Robert Westall and Mrs Williams gave a wonderful rendition of Homer's version of the Trojan War. Those unable to visit the library did not miss out - stories were read to classes by 6th Form students and staff, who entered into the spirit of the day with enthusiasm. It was voted a big success and we hope that the experience can be repeated in the future!

A Book Fair has been arranged for 25th April - 1st May at which parents, pupils and staff can purchase books. Each purchase generates commission which is then spent on new books for the library. The Fair will be held in the Library from 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. - 5 p.m. each day. Our librarian, Mrs. Copland extends an invitation to all parents and pupils and hopes that you will be able to support this worthwhile event; it's an ideal opportunity to purchase a few birthday presents, or even a few early Christmas presents!

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT



The School intends to install a new cashless system in the Dining Hall and School Shop by introducing a 'Smartcard' (above). Parents can top-up the cards so pupils can purchase meals in the Dining Hall. We expect the system to be ready for operation when the new Dining Complex opens in April.

Kirkham Grammar School has continued its impressive building programme through 2000/2001.

The newly extended "Friends" Library will be opened officially on Saturday, 19th May, by parent, Mr. Jim Cartwright, one of the country's leading playwrights. The Library has been open for use over the past two terms and proved to be a very popular and effective resource, used by hundreds of pupils every day. It is double the size of the old library and, whilst its character has been preserved and enhanced, the stock of books, mostly new, has been greatly extended and a network of computers and CD Roms introduced.

The new dining complex, which includes a spacious modern dining hall, large servery and kitchens, and a French pavement café, is on schedule to open at the beginning of the coming summer term, under the management of Mrs. Angela Hodgkinson and her staff. Further developments are planned. Watch this space!

TECHNOLOGY



Michael Jack, MP, getting to grips with some CO2 cars

Latin@KGS

Latin enters the 21st century?/Ancient and Modern ?/Spartacus in Cyberspace?/ Gladiators in Cyberspace ?

Latin is now re-establishing itself at KGS. A doughty band of budding classicists is slowly but surely getting to grips with conjugating and declining and learning to distinguish their ablatives from their accusatives, ready to take on Virgil, Catullus, Ovid, and Pliny.

Classical Latin may be over 2,000 years old, but Latin at KGS is right up-to-date. Once or twice a week, students use the ICT Suite in the Languages Centre as part of their Latin course. ICT is used in a number of ways: an internet workbook directly linked to our course book is available and enables students to practise their skills chapter by chapter, both during lessons and outside class time either in the library or at home; grammar and translation skills are honed through imaginative use of word-processing which enables students easily to identify and colour-code words in a way that would be impossible without computers; on occasions a new grammar concept is introduced using a PowerPoint presentation on the interactive screen. The internet is also useful as a research tool as students progress to reading Latin authors and to studying background topics.

Here at KGS the most ancient of subjects uses the most modern of teaching resources.

CAREERS

The Spring Term is, in many ways, the busiest term for the Careers Department, with Third Years making their Options Choices for GCSE and Fifth Years making their provisional choice of AS subjects for the Lower Sixth.

At the same time, Lower Sixth Formers are starting to think seriously about their choice of subject and place for higher education, and Upper Sixth Formers are facing the final decision from among what is, in most cases, a good range of offers for university after A Levels.

It is therefore no surprise that careers teachers and personal tutors face a steady stream of questions about career choice at this time of the year, and we are most grateful that we enjoy the help and support of our visiting careers advisors from Careerlink (Mr Ian Fazakerly) and ISCO (Mr Chris Marley). Both have attended our advice events for Third Years and Fifth years this term, and Mr Marley delivered an excellent introduction to the higher education process to a group of Lower Sixth recently.

Mr Marley reports increased interest from parents of middle school pupils in the ISCO Careers and Higher Education Guidance Scheme, by which students in independent schools can register for a seven year guidance programme, taking them well beyond their time at school, and be entitled to a range of services, courses and publications at the time of their lives when good careers advice can be most needed yet most difficult to access' in the years immediately after leaving school. The one 'off payment', currently £n6, includes the uniquely thorough Morrisby Aptitude and Interest Test, normally taken in the Fifth Year, which produces a detailed personal report and recommendations on option choices at AS Level, A Level, degree and beyond. Parents of Fifth Years have received details of the scheme from Mr Melling recently, and next year's Fourth Year will be offered the scheme later in the year. Meanwhile, any interested parents can contact Mr Long or Mr Melling for further information.



The faculty has just received the good news that Rachel Horton in the 5th form has been accepted to go through to the next phase of the Arkwright Scholarship scheme. The first phase saw Rachel undertake a 3 hour design examination in two parts. In part one she had to design a system for removing darts from a dart board and return them to the thrower. Part two had Rachel designing a revolutionary rucksack, which was fortunate as this is the theme of her design and technology graphics project.

In April Rachel will go through an interview process and be involved in team building activities. These activities should suit Rachel well, as she will be able to draw on all her talents displayed at school.

The CO2 car activity is getting underway again now we know the rules for the design of the cars. Our pupils have a long list of strict guidelines to follow to win the competition. Designing and making the fastest car is only the icing on the cake, there is a lot of research and designing to complete to win the competition. KGS has been designated as an official make and race centre, and the regional finals are planned to be held at Kirkham sometime in the autumn term.

To launch the competition, BAE Systems invited staff from local schools to see the nature of the competition first hand. Teachers were given the chance to see the manufacture of cars via computer aided design technology, and to race cars on our 30m track. You could see adults turning into excited children as the cars sped down the track at speeds of up to 60 miles per hour.

We also hosted to a visit from Michael Jack, MP. He was given a tour of the facilities and was told about the CO2 car contest by some of our First Year pupils. He was especially impressed with the ability of our pupils to communicate their ideas both verbally and as demonstrations on the computer of their initial designs.

The technology staff are glad that the competition is underway as they have challenged the pupils to races. Mr Hill is still adamant that he will come out victorious and enjoys the competitive banter his challenge provokes with our pupils!

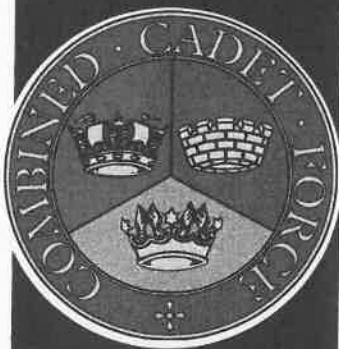
COMBINED CADET FORCE



Congratulations are in order for Flight Sergeant Helen Jacomb on being selected to represent the RAF in Canada over the summer as part of the International Cadet Exchange Scheme. This is quite an achievement in the face of enormous competition and Helen can be justifiably proud of this honour.

Despite generally poor weather a large number of junior cadets managed to complete their first flight in a RAF Glider at nearby Salmesbury airfield. Junior Corporal Norman Ralph and cadet Dominic Rhodes are also undergoing more advanced training at the base leading to the award of their gliding "wings".

Our next field day will be held at nearby Weeton barracks and plans are already being made for our annual camp which will be held at RAF Henlow near London.



Off.....on.....off - a final decision had to be made about Adventure Training Camp during Easter and on Tuesday, 6th March, the Colonel had to bow to the law and to the spirit of the law and be bested by a virus. Foot and mouth disease rules prevailed and KGS CCF lost its first Adventure Training Camp in more than 20 years. There is genuine sadness amongst cadets and staff who find this Camp possibly the most enjoyable of all the cadet camps and the C.O. is already being pressured (willingly) into giving consideration to a "mini" A.T. camp under canvas during the Summer holiday. Watch the notice boards! Field Day Training has also been curtailed but has been modified so that some can at least take place on MOD property - "behind the wire". Hopefully, things will return to normal and Summer Camp at Warcop, during the first week of the holidays, will not be affected by restrictions.



Flight Sergeant Helen Jacomb

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a balanced programme of activities carried out by young people - and organised by them too. It is the most worthwhile scheme, and one we have been working to introduce to Kirkham Grammar School.

However, although we do have a hard core of Six Formers working towards Gold, and several self-motivated younger students, notably Janyll Rawlins and Liam Hope, aiming for their Award, we remain hampered by Operating Authority problems. Still, the good news is that we now have a newly appointed (if temporary) co-ordinator for the Fylde, and I hope that by the time this report is read, we will have the necessary red tape in place to

expand our operations.

Another problem we have faced has, of course, been the foot and mouth epidemic, which has curtailed many Duke of Edinburgh's Award activities. However, our problems are very minor compared to those people affected in a much more real way, and our thoughts are with them.

Despite the above, expedition training in the CCF curriculum has continued, albeit on school premises, and expeditions have been planned for later in the year. And on another positive note, I have recently had the pleasure of assessing Katherine Palmer's gold exploration log through the Phoenix Group: most impressive and most interesting. So, the future looks bright. As they say, watch this space!

Mr. C.J.Hawkes

MUSIC

One has to admire the stamina of our young musicians during Spring Term. This year the House Festival, the Spring Concert and the Normandy Band Concert have made huge demands on their time and energies and yet, on each occasion, they have succeeded in producing performances which have thrilled their audiences.

Particular congratulations this term must go to Gareth Jones, who was awarded the Rosemary Greaves Music Prize, following his quite superb performance of Ridout's formidable Concerto for Double Bass in the House Festival.



Brassed off, not!



All the right notes, but not in the right order!

Gareth's performance was just one of the many Festival items which appeared in the Spring Concert programme, a programme which included items as diverse as variations on 'Dance with the Devil', so impressively played by percussionist Alex Dunn, to a thrilling performance of Haydn's 'Nelson Mass' with the full School Choir and soloists:

Soprano	-	Felicity Clarke
Alto	-	Felicity Long
Tenor	-	Jonathan Wilson
Bass	-	Anthony Rawlins

The Concert Band, featuring forty of the School's instrumentalists, had an exciting day working with the Kings Normandy Division Band, prior to an Evening Concert with them. The programme was very varied and featured a performance of Sibelius' 'Finlandia' and also a medley of music by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Chris Carter of the Upper Sixth played a splendid part in a trombone quartet and Captain Clegg, the Normandy Band Leader, was extremely impressed with the standard of our pupils' musicianship.

The term finished with a visit by the world famous American organist, Carlo Curley, to give the Inaugural Recital on the School's new Makin organ in the New Hall. The programme featured music by Franck, Buxtehude, Mozart and Handel and arrangements of music by the maestro, Mr. Curley, himself.



Richard Evans leads the Concert Band

BRASS BAND SUMMER MUSIC SCHOOL
Sunday 22nd July - Friday 27th July
Tel: 01772 684462

DRAMA

'That was one of the best pieces of theatre I have ever seen.' This was the enthusiastic response of one of our Sixth Formers to the senior school's production of 'The Visit' by Friedrich Durrenmatt, staged here, in the Old Hall, 14 – 17 March.

The programme warned us that the production was bizarre and grotesque: we were not going to spend a comfortable evening watching the workings out of a predictable plot, but were going to be required to think and to make our own judgements about the events which unfolded

changed shape many times during the rehearsal process, but the issues of this morality tale – power, revenge, community responsibilities and economic deprivation- were brought home very forcibly in this production.

The leading lady, Katherine Palmer, played the part of the ruthless millionairess, Claire Zacchanassian, brilliantly. Her faultlessly strident American accent conveyed cruelty and a desire for revenge which was mirrored in the visual grotesquery of a yellow fake fur coat and forties

much of the comedy of the piece was generated: who will forget Paul's ad libbing in a 'Twelfth Man' inspired South African accent as Schill's priest and spiritual mentor, or Derek's bombast as his predecessor in mayoral office. Travis Peters, playing Claire's butler, brought the house down each night with his stiffly self conscious version of 'Boom, shake, shake, shake the room' and manipulated a late addition to the cast, a mop, with great humour and dexterity.

Jodie Stevens and Laura Ford were intimidating and compelling as the predatory Schoolmistress and Special Agent Hankie vying for the favours and attentions of any man with whom they came into contact....with the exception of the two eunuchs, played squeakily and to tremendous applause by Andrew Gregson and Marcus Plowright. The 'heavies' were provided by members of the First XV: Matthew Parr (Captain of Rugby), Andrew Kyriacou and Daniel Tolley joined by Chris Carter on the last night. They grunted in great monosyllabic style, carried heavy weights about, including a sedan chair and a yellow coffin and were fun to work with, bringing all the discipline of the sports' field to the often creative chaos of a drama production.

Sian Hickson revealed her many talents as both actress, musician and impersonator, in three contrasting roles. She certainly led the cast in the last laugh on Friday night with her original song and tribute to the Director 'Tell it to Auntie Lynda'. Dayna Perfetti and Sam Bensky played Schill's disaffected 'townie' kidsand yes, Sam did break absolutely everything he laid his hands on including the loo! Carla Hall, Amanda Schofield and Janyll Rawlins provided the montage of rather disturbing characters who were sometimes trees and sometimes leaping deer or cuckoos! Lauren Ainge and Oliver Rogerson were the authoritative figures of the Bailiff and the Reporter, Oliver impressing everyone with his clear and confident performance, having stepped into the role at very short notice.

The set was a stark scaffolding rig with images back projected onto a screen. These images, photographed by Mr Hill, made Wesham seem anonymous in its litter and fog, but sometimes we would glimpse a scene we recognised: Ribby Hall, the War Memorial, the railway station and even Benson's Crisps (Snackhouse UK).

Kelda Rogerson, Katherine Llewellyn and Cheryl Bridges were indispensable backstage, as too was Laura Ford's mum, stitching or painting anything yellow.

The whole show was held together by the meticulous efficiency of stage managers Hannah Spacey and Rebecca Ridley, who made much sense out of what appeared to be chaos. This was a really innovative show with some superb individual and ensemble performances; it will be, as they say, a hard act to follow!

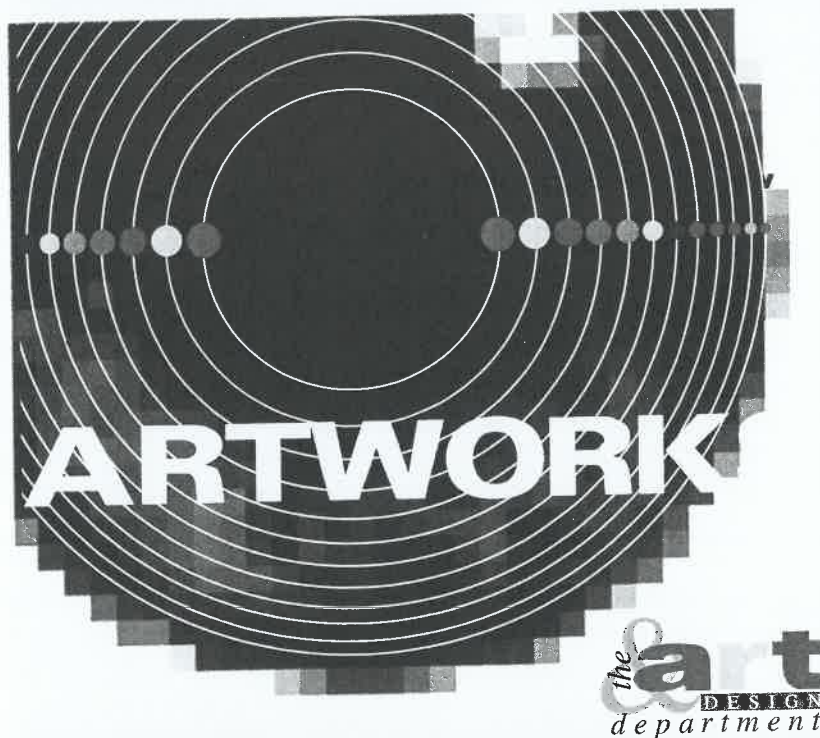


Sian Hickson faces up to Katie Severns

in front of us. Director of Drama, Mrs. Lynda Poole, had moved the setting of the play from a village in Switzerland, to the local community of Wesham, (pronounced Veshum) and cut a third of the original script, supplementing it with images, songs and other texts derived from improvisation work with the cast. Needless to say, the piece

style snake skin suit, both kindly made by Mrs Palmer. Joseph Thompson, Captain of School, was equally compelling as her erstwhile lover and the victim of her revenge, Alfred Schill, while Katie Severns, playing her pet panther, twined slinkily round the set. It was from the interaction between Jo, Paul Ashton and Derek Howarth that





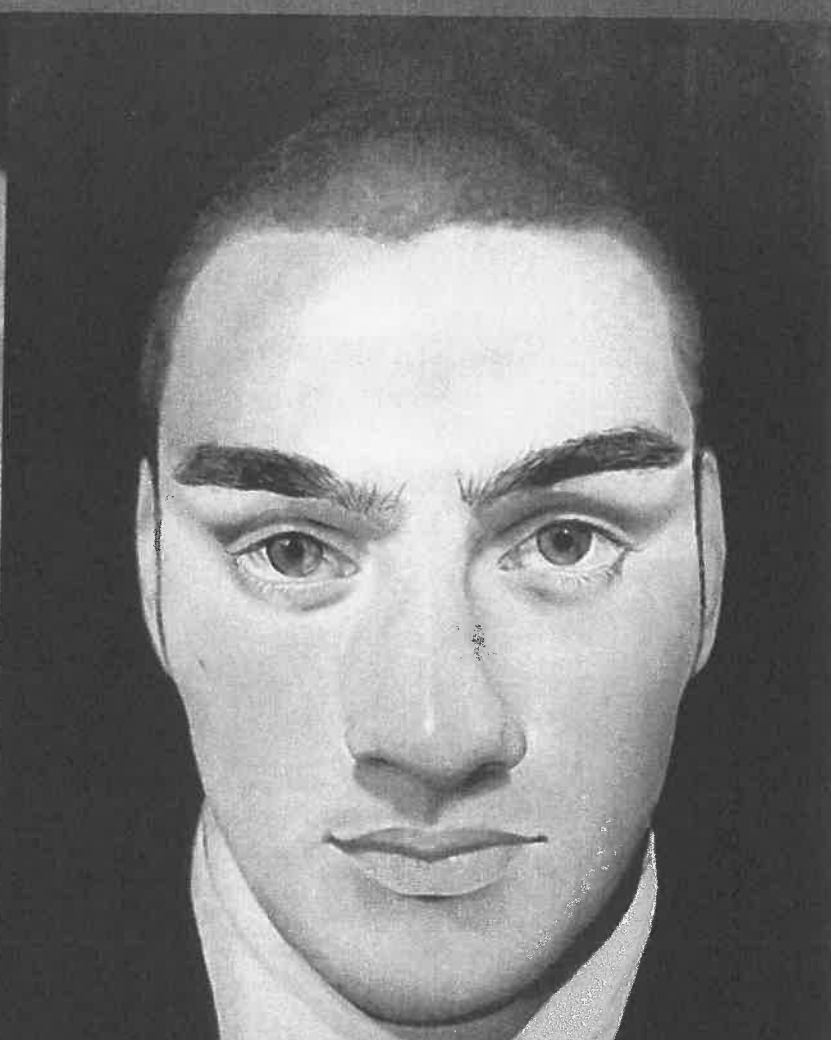
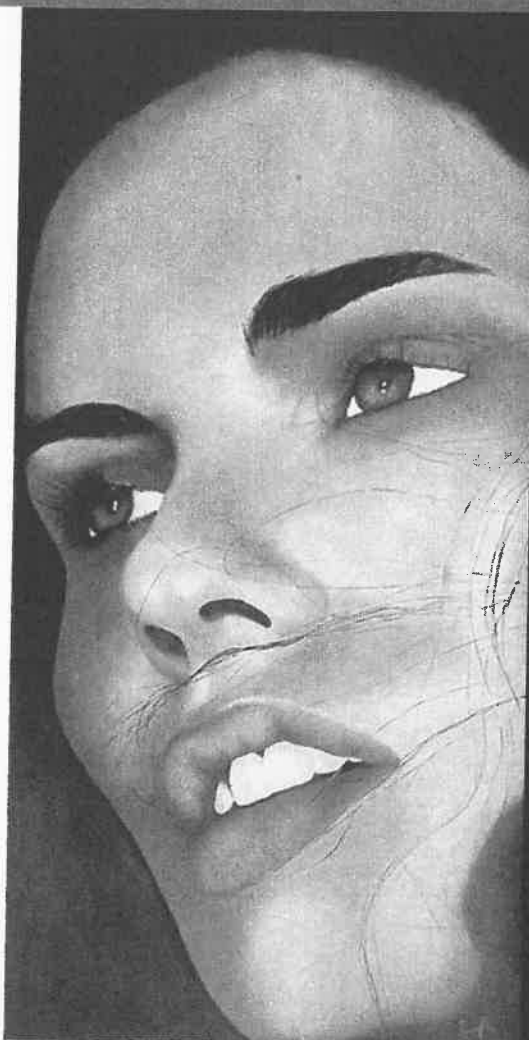
2001



FACE VALUE

The third form have created some first class imaginative collage portraits inspired by the work of Archimboldo and the Surrealists. Using images from magazines they have transformed the ordinary and everyday object into some very striking images, as can be seen from the above photo of Chloe Spencer 3X busily sticking things down. The finished pieces, like that of Lauren Sanders, Michael LeBreton and Rebecca Norman, were then further developed into paintings or mixed media images. Next term we hope to offer some of these images as T shirt designs.





'...face2face'

James Mahon completes two of his major pieces of coursework, one being that of fellow Sixth Former Matthew Parr. His and the rest of the Upper Sixth Form artists' work will be on exhibit on the 21st June.



The 5th year GCSE artists completed their 10 hour exam this term, and prepare the rest of their coursework for their exhibition which will be open for viewing on the 14th June 6:00 - 8:00 pm

the weakest link?



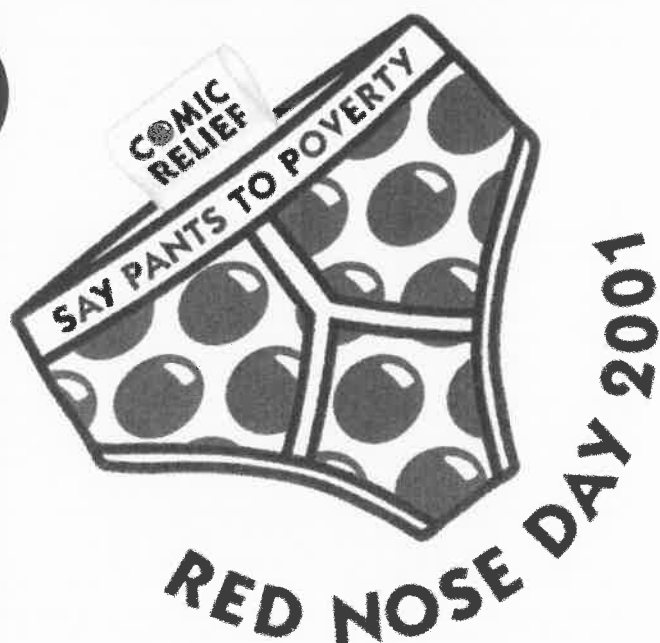
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Young ENTERPRISE

'Identity', this year's Young Enterprise Company continues to be busy trading both in and outside school producing a healthy profit for their loyal shareholders. After last year's successes the company decided to concentrate their efforts selling and marketing goods to meet the demands of both Valentine's and Mother's Days.

The Valentine's newsletter sold well enabling pupils to declare their undying love for their classmates! Demand was high and the company's shareholders were more than pleased with the service. Presents for Mothers' Day sold well and the company took the opportunity to visit BNFL Springfields to sell their range of gifts. The visit was extremely useful for the 'achievers' who took the opportunity to look around the plant and learn about the importance of health and safety at the workplace.

As we go to print, 'Identity' are busy putting together a 5th / 6th Form yearbook which should be on sale by next half term. They are also preparing their presentation and final report that form part of the Area Board competition which will take place after Easter at the Marine Hall, Fleetwood. We wish them well.



Club meetings have run very smoothly this term, due to the experience of the club members. The 'regulars' have a good understanding of how to care for each type of animal and some are especially adept at clearing up (thank-you for the sweeping Nick).

Small mammals are very good at escaping out of cages. The gerbils and Magic, a Syrian hamster, all had excursions

behind the sinks in the laboratory. We soon rounded up the gerbils but sadly, they became ill two days later and died. Magic, however, was none the worse for her adventure. Our trapping technique is very successful. We use a large glass flask, (but a bucket would work), food and bedding materials are put in and the flask is placed at an angle, with several books arranged in a series of steps under the opening. The hamster or gerbil will climb into the flask (usually at night) and cannot climb back up the smooth sides. The next morning they are usually found curled up asleep in the bottom of the flask. Magic is so heavy that when sliding down into the flask, she broke the bottom and escaped again, but we caught her the following night in a new flask.

We should soon have a batch of hamster pups as Phoebe (also a Syrian hamster) is pregnant. We have been giving her extra food, such as boiled egg and bread and milk to provide more protein for the developing pups. Syrian hamsters are solitary animals and will normally fight if placed in the same cage. However, if the female is in a fertile phase she will enter the male's cage (Joey) in order to mate.

One of our rats (Smudge) died from a lung infection this term. She had been injected with antibiotics by the Vet but was too ill to recover. The other three rats, however, are very healthy, mainly due to the expert care of Eloise Tidswell and her family.

The reptile club is meeting most Thursdays at 12.50 to 1.30pm and have become expert at handling and feeding Lexi, the Leopard Gecko and Zara, the King Snake. Although they eat less frequently than the pet mammals, reptiles need committed owners, as they need their water changing and faeces removing regularly, and should be handled frequently to give them exercise.



LondonMARATHON

Miss Fryer who is attempting to run the London Marathon on 22nd April 2001, writes:

"I am running to raise funds for a charity called Back-Up. The Back-Up Trust is a national charity for spinally injured people. These people have become paralysed through damage to their spinal cord.

Approximately 1000 people each year in the United Kingdom have a traumatic accident in which they are injured in this way. It can happen to anyone at any time and the results are devastating - in a split-second your life is turned upside down in every respect.

This is where the Back-Up Trust comes into action. When an individual is feeling low, frustrated or angry as they try to come to terms with their paralysis, they work to help them renew their motivation, their zest for life and their confidence. They show them that paralysis doesn't mean the end of an enjoyable, active life.

To achieve this Back-Up run outdoor activity courses which integrate spinally injured participants with able-bodied volunteers. These work as a catalyst that can totally change their attitude to disability. Through the challenge of the activities and through working together to overcome fears, the courses enable everyone to focus on how much is possible.

I have attended one of these courses as an able-bodied helper and found the experience uplifting and inspiring. If nothing else, it has made me take up this challenge of completing the London Marathon (hopefully in under four hours) and raising as much money for the charity as I can. If anyone would like to sponsor me, I, and the participants of the Back-Up courses, would be most grateful".

FabulousFEBRUARY

The spring half term holiday saw a party of some 40 intrepid skiers depart from KGS and head off towards the French Alps. This trip proved one of the most successful of recent times with no accidents and a wonderful time was had by all. Thanks must go to all involved at Alpine Action, Mr Scott for his organisation and all the rest of the staff.

After a tortuous coach journey which seemed to last for 24 hours with very little sleep, we arrived hungry and tired but happy to see lots of fresh snow and pistes that were blissfully free of the French, despite it being half term. The area can be busy but it is large enough to avoid the queues.

The usual first day antics ensued with beginners finding their feet and looking more like Bambi and then discovering the exhilarating feeling only gained by falling over, at what seems like 40 mph, when out of control. The intermediates wondered why they had apparently forgotten how to ski and the advanced group complained that their ski-instructor would not take them over the 20 foot cliff drop-off they saw earlier ('It would have been eeeeasy!'). Evening entertainment was varied from bum-boarding, a favourite with the younger members, to a quiz night won by the girls (cheating) or just tasting the mountain ambience in the hotel bar for the older participants.

The weather could not have been better. Blue skies and sunshine for the first four days and then a slight break with snow showers at the end of the week. All of the party, even some staff, was enjoying the great variety of skiing to be had in the Les Arcs system and even Mr Watson ventured further afield. It is for this reason we will probably return to Plan Peisey in the near future but by air to avoid the tedium of motorway travel. The success of this year's trip has been indicated by the fact that the 2002 holiday to Austria, by air, is already fully booked and Mr. Scott is having to hold a reserve list for any cancellations.

The message is clear 'if the ski bug bites - book early to avoid disappointment'.

PUBLIC SPEAKING



Jane Meloy, Joanne Dudgeon and Clare Chadwick

The teams have had another busy term. On Saturday, 20th January, the Fifth Year Girls' team, having won the local competition, participated in the North West Regional Finals of the BPW Public Speaking Competition at the University of Central Lancashire, Preston. It was a splendid competition with eleven teams. Anneka Curdling spoke on Teenage Pregnancy, the presentation was chaired by Rachael Horton and Charlotte McNeela gave the vote of thanks. The winning team, however, was from Morton Hall, Oswestry. Nevertheless, the KGS team gave an excellent performance.

On Saturday, 3rd March, the Lower Sixth team, which won the local Rotary 'Youth Speaks' Senior competition, took part in the District Finals at Lancaster and Morecambe College. Clare Chadwick was in the chair, with Joanne Dudgeon speaking about the Elgin Marbles and Jane Meloy as expresser of thanks. They performed very well. Joanne gave an excellent speech, ably supported by Clare and Jane. The competition was won by Sedbergh School. The girls came away with the satisfaction of having performed well and consolation prizes of a book token each. The judges were lavish in their praise and the team learned from the constructive criticisms.

On Friday, 16th February, a Fifth Year team with Rachael Horton in the chair, Matthew Hopton speaking and Norman Ralph as questioner, were in the Liverpool and Merseyside Branch Final of the English Speaking Union Public Speaking Competition. There were five teams in this Branch final which had been picked from a total of 22 teams in three heats.

Matthew gave an excellent speech on the subject "Every Home Should Have a Computer" and he faced some stiff questions from the girl from Belvedere School, from the adjudicators and from the audience, all of which he handled with aplomb. Rachael was confident and in control of the proceedings and Norman posed some tricky questions to the speaker from Belvedere. In fact, their performances were so good that they won the competition and are now through to the Regional Final which is to be held at the Guildhall in Chester on the 11th March. Not only did they win the trophy but Matthew also won the prize for the best speaker and Norman won the prize for the best questioner.

Congratulations to all the teams on their dedication, time and sheer hard work. Well done all!

STUDENT TEACHERS

We welcome three more student teachers from St. Martin's, Lancaster, who are undertaking their main School Experience with us. Mrs. Hall, Miss Orritt and Miss Schofield are working in the Biology, Art and Geography departments respectively as well as assisting Lower School form tutors. They will be with us until the end of June when they finish their PGCE year. We hope they enjoy their time here and benefit from the breadth of experience KGS has to offer new entrants to the teaching profession.



Miss Orritt (Art)



Miss Schofield (Geog)



Mrs. Hall (Biology)

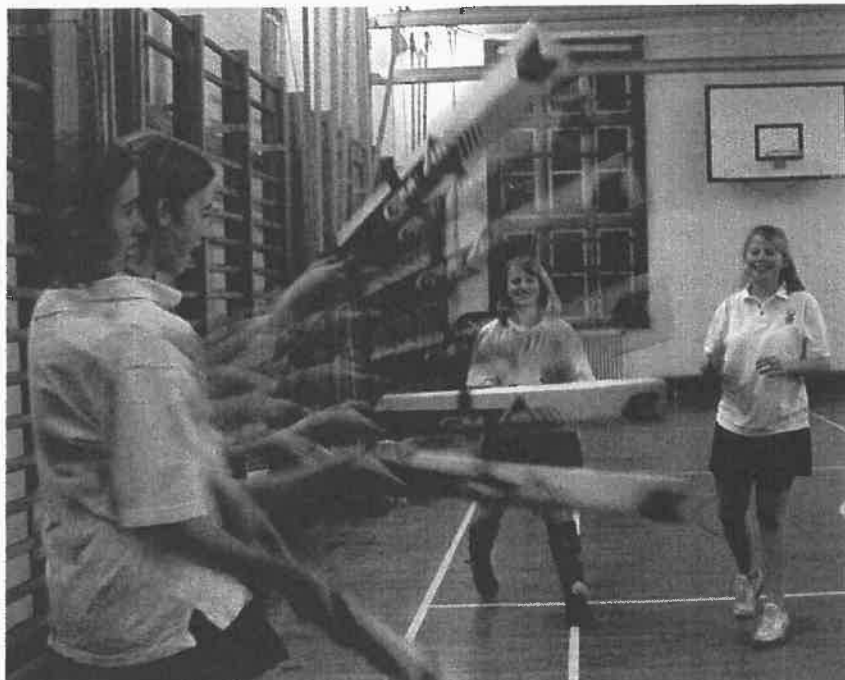
CLIMBING CLUB

The club has been very active this term, despite the dismal Autumn weather, which meant that we climbed outside only once - and even then showers moved in, to send us running for the minibus. Cliff's Barn, an indoor climbing wall in Mawdesley, and West View Leisure Centre in Preston, were the two most frequently visited venues, but on the Speech Day holiday the extensive climbing centre in Warrington was also visited. As well as this, there were two Open Day events to mark the Friends' Christmas Fair, where more than sixty attempted the school's climbing wall in less than two hours!

There has been a welcome influx of new members, both at Sixth form level and from the First Form, so that on one occasion all fourteen seats on the minibus were occupied. Mary Wilson and Katy Lew, the club's two officers, have continued to set a fine example, both "on the rock" and by their good humoured and responsible approach. Ricky Cheng has also impressed and he has succeeded in encouraging other boarders into the club. Next term we hope to hold a sponsored climb - the proceeds from which will go into the climbing wall extension fund.



girl's CRICKET



Many bats make light work

Kirkham Grammar School's U15 girls indoor cricket team came close to County's success on Saturday 20th January, 2001. The team qualified for the county final stages with a regional win over Montgomery A and B squads, and St Bedes, Lytham.

The Old Trafford indoor centre hosted the final stages. Consecutive wins over Heysham by 12 runs and King David's, Liverpool by 13 runs meant that victory in the final group game would lead to a county final appearance. The girls duly recorded an emphatic win by 35 runs. For the second time in three years they had reached the final of this exciting competition.

In that final Kirkham batted first and reach 39 all out. Hollingworth High School from Ashton, near Manchester, finished with a total of 47 - 2 from their allocation of overs, indicating just how close the two teams were on the day. This year's squad had an excellent blend of 3rd and 4th year pupils and next year's team promises to be just as strong.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ADAM PARKER

Adam was one of 40 young cricketers selected by the MCC to undertake trials at Lords and subsequently was one of only two trialists to go forward to a further trial match against Oxford University at the start of the forthcoming cricket season, for a place on the MCC young cricketers scheme.

If Adam is accepted, he will enter a scheme whereby he will be contracted to the MCC and therefore play games for them as an MCC young cricketer. He may well be offered the opportunity to play some County cricket at various times. As part of the scheme he will also benefit from assistance provided by the MCC for university/higher education.

We congratulate Adam and send him our best wishes.

Swimming

To date the School has had matches against Stonyhurst, Hutton, Arnold and look forward to entertaining Ripley St. Thomas at the end of March.

One of the most memorable moments this term was the boys' fixture against Arnold School: a highly charged and competitive fixture at the best of times. On entering the last event, the Boys' Senior Freestyle Relay, the scores were even at 100 points each. The stage was set for a pulsating finish. On the third leg, KGS swimmers were 30 metres ahead. Mark Kirkham launched himself into the water with the velocity of a surface to air missile, and completed the final leg in record time. Kirkham were the winners! Or so we thought, until the Senior Timekeeper disqualified us for an incorrect (early) takeover. The Arnold team was overjoyed, if somewhat

amazed. Nevertheless, this was an excellent match, and one that our two senior swimmers, Richard Kellett and captain Jonathan Wilson, will remember for some time to come. After all, this was their final swimming match for the school, following seven years' loyal and dedicated service to the swimming fraternity. They have given an enormous amount of time and we wish them every success for the future.

Notable achievements this year:

The Junior Swimming team has remained unbeaten throughout the season. Michael Wilson, Harry Leeming and Phillip Hingley have played significant roles in their team's success.

Mark Kirkham and Bradley Hamilton have represented the School in County and Regional Biathlon Championships and the early morning training sessions continue to flourish. All welcome!

interHouse events

I'm pleased to report that inter-house events at KGS continue to flourish. Another busy term seems to have flown by with no less than 12 events crammed into 10 weeks of school time - quite an achievement!

The New Year began with one of the most successful Music festivals in recent memory. A record number of entries (totalling more than 350) must have given Mr. Catterall and Mrs. Cassidy sleepless nights! The 2 days that are normally allocated to the auditions had to be extended and the sound of music echoed around the school for most of the week! Narrowing down the entries to 30 proved to be an almost impossible task as the standard of performance was so impressive. The finals began with no less than 3 impressive House Choir performances. Kirkham's "monstrous regiment of women" led the way with a rendition of Blur's Country House, surely the first 'Britpop' entry in the long history of the competition! School House went for the more traditional Beatles medley with Preston choosing a 4-part Rutter anthem. All the finalists acquitted themselves well with many outstanding performances. Special mention must go to Gareth Jones (School House) for winning the individual competition in his last year at KGS. School deservedly won a well-fought competition, closely followed by Preston and Kirkham in second and third place respectively. A great advert for the House system.

The Cross Country competition was held during yet another rainy spell of the winter. The going was certainly soft to say the least and I am not sure if we will ever get the mud off the House vests in time for Sports Day! All the four houses had success but School and Preston dominated the Intermediate and Senior



Mr. Duncan watches on, as Kirkham House Junior Sevens team receive some half time team tactics from James Holmes

categories respectively. Special mention must go to Robert Sissons from the first year (Fylde) for his excellent win in the Junior boys race in an impressive time of 10.26.

The semi-finals of the House Debate competition aroused a great deal of interest. Both debates were close, with Preston and Kirkham winning through to the final. Preston, much to the disbelief of School supporters and Mr. Smith, won a close contest with Charlotte McNeela and Jane Meloy in fine form. Kirkham's new youth policy bore fruit as Norman Ralph and Andrew Gregson (both 5th year pupils) defeated Fylde, the reigning champions, where they argued that breaking the law to protect animal rights is acceptable. As my deadline draws close both our

finalists are busy reading J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter to prepare themselves to debate whether we would all be better off at Hogwarts! (Have they also got into HMC I wonder?)

The term ended with the Junior, Intermediate and Senior rugby 7's for the boys and the Senior Hockey for the girls. I'm afraid that these results are not available until the next newsletter but, with resurgence from Preston House and the usual rivalry between School and Kirkham, I'm sure that Kirkham's Whitby Cup will be under threat! I'm biased of course but I'm sure the Champions will reign supreme!

Simon Duncan (House Recorder)



Following successful runs in the Blackpool Schools Trials at Stanley Park, the following were selected to run for Blackpool Schools in the Lancashire Schools Cross Country Championships: Max Eaves, Richard Newton, Oliver Boardman, Steven Gowland, David Roffey, Aja Hall and Jane Greenwood. All ran hard in tough races and acquitted themselves very well. Special congratulations must go to Richard Newton (above) who won the U14 race and therefore became Lancashire Champion. Unfortunately he was unable to go on to the next stage, the English Schools Championships, which had to be cancelled because of the foot and mouth crisis.

OLDKIRKHAMIAN'S ASSOCIATION

The usual December fixtures of OKA -v- School Hockey and Football were overshadowed by the death of Richard Wilson earlier that month. Playing the games with his memory in the forefront of their minds, the OKA's won both matches comfortably. The majority of team members went on later to celebrate their victories at the Young Kirkhamians' Reunion at Preston Grasshoppers.

The Association, however, is not all frivolity; it does support the School in many ways and the Committee are therefore pleased to record that, as from September 2001, they are able to offer a second Sixth Form Bursary, enabling a worthy candidate to continue his or her studies at KGS. Of course, this support cannot be given without fundraising and this year, the Association, in conjunction with School, is planning an action-packed, fun-filled Reunion Weekend on the 18th - 20th May. All former pupils are invited.

The Weekend will comprise Sport, Music, Drama, "Bar & Bite", Art Exhibitions, Archive material and a chance to be the first group of people to taste the sumptuous delights of a three-course dinner in the new French Café, which forms part of the new dining complex.

Finally, the current OKA President, and member of the teaching staff, Miss Anna Fryer, is intending to run the London Marathon in April. We all wish her the best of luck and, if anyone wishes to sponsor her, she would be more than grateful - profits to go to the Back-Up Trust, a charity which brings able-bodied and spinally injured people together on outdoor activity courses.

KIRKHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL NEWS

boys' RUGBY

1st XV

P. 10 W. 10 F. 440 A. 47

The first XV has completed its second unbeaten season and, although only 10 matches were played because of 3 cancellations, 62 tries were scored.

Despite possessing 3 forwards who developed to such an extent that they were involved in England squads by the end of the season, the strength of the side lay in the skill and pace of the three quarters complemented by the release of the correct type of ball at the correct time by the possession providers.

The aim of the team was to play modern rugby football with players interchanging positions when required. To achieve this, all players must possess a solid grasp of basic skills applicable to forward and three quarter play, but it means all players are constantly involved in handling and tackling and, although more demanding than several years ago, modern rugby is more enjoyable to play.

The team was very committed in training and playing and an example to all players of the way to achieve their potential. Many players achieved representative honours, as listed below, by improving greatly but all players played their part. They will hopefully receive their recognition in the Kirkhamian End of Season Report.

Top scorers were:

Daniel Howells	115 points
Richard Wigglesworth	42 points
Stuart Blackburn	40 points
Warren Spragg	40 points

RESULTS

v Manchester GS	W 24 - 7
v Sedbergh	W 22 - 11
v KE VII Lytham	W 30 - 3
v St Anslems College	W 33 - 8
v Adams GS	W 68 - 10
v Lancaster RGS	W 28 - 0
v Ellesmere College	W 57 - 3
v Birkenhead	W 66 - 0
v Cowley HS	W 66 - 5
v Arnold	W 46 - 0

NORTH OF ENGLAND 7S AT BIRKENHEAD PARK RFC

Finalists

REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS TO DATE

Lancashire U21
Andrew Perry

Lancashire 18 Group

Chris Briers, Daniel Howells, Andrew Kyriacou, Alex Loney, Matthew Parr, Paul McNamee, Warren Spragg, Richard Wigglesworth, Mark Hanson

Scottish Exiles
Paul McNamee

North of England

Chris Briers, Daniel Howells, Andrew Kyriacou, Alex Loney, Warren Spragg, Richard Wigglesworth

England U19
Matthew Parr

England U18 (Training Squads)

January XV
Chris Briers
Richard Wigglesworth

September XV
Andrew Kyriacou
Alex Loney
Warren Spragg

Old Kirkhamians Success

Ben Davies	South West U21 Squad
Jonathan Roddam	England U21 Squad
Alex Sanderson	England Squad, Sale RFC Capt.
Patrick Sanderson	Selected For England 'A' XV

Brian Gornall

U15 XV

'A' XV	P11	W4	L6	D1
'A'/'B' XV	P2	W1	L1	

Cup Competitions

Daily Mail Cup	P2	W1	L1
Lancashire Cup	P1	L1	

The U15 Squad has continued to have mixed fortunes since the Christmas holiday. A well deserved, hard fought win against Cowley was unfortunately followed by a cancellation of the Hutton fixture. The side was then defeated by Arnold, and drew against Morecambe High School (with the last kick of the game!)

The squad then turned to Sevens training and, after some good preparations, were only to be disappointed when the Bradford Storm 7's had to be cancelled due to the foot and mouth crisis.

Perhaps our most satisfying performance this season, albeit a defeat, was in the Lancashire Cup against a large and physical St. Peter and St. Paul School from Widnes. For three quarters of the match the score remained close. Kirkham certainly played the more organised rugby, but failed to finish off obvious chances. Saint Peter and Saint Paul defended well, and turned our missed opportunities into their gain, scoring three tries in the last quarter. The final score of 31-10 does not tell the story of the game.

The squad now look forward to a well earned tour to Italy during the Easter break. They can then enjoy the Summer and look forward to their introduction to Senior Rugby as U16 players next season. They must remain committed if they are able to realise their potential. They are very skilful players and, as they continue to mature physically, they will make their mark in the next three years.

M. Whalley

U14

The U14's have continued to make good progress despite the cancellation of matches due to the bad weather and the foot and mouth crisis.

They beat Arnold School convincingly in one of the best performances of the season by 28 points to 17 and Morecambe High School by 17 points to 12 in a very close fought victory.

The boys are now looking forward to a fixture against the prestigious Oundle School on March 24th.

The team has been captained magnificently by Anthony Waring and ably supported by Thomas Armer, Mohammed Ati, Michael Le Breton and Ephraim Mwenda.

Even the 'B' team beat Arnold 'B' by 45 points to 0 and remain unbeaten this season.

A.B. Rollins

U.13

The U.13 have had a hard, but moderately successful season. When they are motivated and focused on their game in hand, they can be a most entertaining team. Playing with flair and vision, and have proven to be a very difficult side to overcome. Matches against St. Peter & Paul, and Birkenhead School have proven this. The back division, led by Hodgekinson & Hoyle, have been inspirational this season. Arguably, one of the most improved players and one who has come on enormously particularly after xmas has been Harry Leeming. His speed and defensive qualities have been a major asset to the team. The King Edward VII, sevens tournament, I feel, highlights this.

The forwards have worked hard throughout the season and have learnt many new aspects about the game. Their Rucking and Line Out procedures have improved considerably. However, their overall fitness has proved there is still some way to go. At this stage, I must mention Shopland-Reid, Moore, Best and Bowden, they have given so much to the team both in commitment and performance, and I applaud their efforts. They have been true gladiators!

To conclude, the side have won many fixtures, trained hard in those long dark winter nights, and have given their whole to the Rugby fraternity at KGS. They have been a pleasure to coach, and I wish them all the very best next season. They certainly have a solid foundation to build upon next season.

R.D. Taylor.

U12

'A' XV	P7	W5	L1	D1
'B' XV	P1	L1		

The U12 Squad has continued to develop since the Christmas holidays. They have continued to train hard and are a pleasure to coach. They have lots of ability and I am sure they will continue to make rapid progress next season.

The results this term have indicated this potential. A tentative draw against Cowley High School was followed, after an unfortunate cancellation against Hutton, with victories over Arnold and Morecambe High School. (The 'B' XV lost narrowly to Arnold in a well contested match.) Most recently the 'A' XV has defeated Baines School.

The season, at the time of writing, is not yet over. The Sevens Squad is due to compete at the Wirral Grammar School 7's, and the 'A' and 'B' Squads are both due to take on King Edward VII School, Lytham and Preston Grasshoppers before Easter.

Robert Sissons has been an excellent captain all season, but credit must go to all the players who have trained hard in difficult conditions throughout the Winter.



Once again, hockey this term has been disrupted by the inclement weather. Although it has been extremely frustrating having to cancel matches and practices, the girls have risen above the difficulties encountered and performed superbly.

Our 1st XI have had another excellent season, out of 26 matches played they have won 23, drawn 1 and lost 2. Five of our 1st XI girls have represented Lancashire U18 schoolgirls, three have represented the North and the same three have been involved in the Regional Hockey Academy at Preston Sports Arena. The girls ended the season on a high note winning the Lancashire Under 19 tournament to become Lancashire Champions. (See photograph.)

The Under 15 Cup team have also been superb; they have been unbeaten all season and on the 15th March our girls won the Lancashire Under 15 tournament. The highlight of this term has been our progress in the National Cup competition. In February we defeated Altrincham G.S. 3 - 1 and in March we travelled to Gresham's School, Norfolk for the quarter final. Our girls played in true Kirkham style: keen, eager and determined to succeed. After a tough 60 minutes KGS won the match 6 - 1 and now eagerly await the draw for the semi-final. (See photograph.)

The U15 'B' team has grown in confidence throughout the season and gone from strength to strength, winning all matches this term. They are now looking forward to playing in the Lancashire tournament on the 31st March.

Our U13's have developed into a very good team indeed and they were very unlucky to lose on penalty strokes in the semi-final of the Lancashire County mini-hockey tournament.

Finally, our U12's have been outstanding! The 'A' team remain unbeaten, and in February they surprised us all when they finished as runners-up in the U13 mini-hockey County tournament. Our 'A' team now look forward to the Arnold U12 invitation tournament on Saturday, 24th March. Our 'B' team have lost only one match and have grown in strength and confidence throughout the term.

Once again, it is all very exciting and the future of hockey at Kirkham Grammar School continues to look very promising indeed!

Achievements

Lancashire U18 BAE County Champions
Lancashire U19 County Champions

Lancashire U15 County Champions
Semi-Finalists in the National U15 Club/School Cup competition. (We have our sights set on the Final.)

(U14 County tournaments to be played on March 31st.)

Lancashire U13 Mini-Hockey Runners-Up
(Arnold U12 Invitation Tournament still to be played.)

County Honours

U18 Rachel Sissons
Lorna Sissons
Jane Meloy
Ellie Cairns
Amy Twambley

U16 Lorna Sissons
Kate Sannagadu
Katie Gough

U15 Leanne Sharples
Laura Martin
Lucy Martin

North Honours

Rachel Sissons
Lorna Sissons
Hannah Spacey

Regional Hockey Academy

Rachel Sissons
Lorna Sissons
Hannah Spacey

girls' HOCKEY



U15 Squad: Abi Hookey, Francine McNeela, Katie Edgar, Rebecca Norman, Antonia Ashcroft, Claire Taylor, Leanne Soper, Lorna Sissons, Milly Hookey, Jane, Greenwood, Linzi Nicholas, Lucy Martin, Leanne Sharples and Laura Martin



U19 Lancashire Champions: Lorna Sissons, Lucy Martin, Vicky Peters, Ellie Cairns, Amy Twambley, Kate Sannagadu, Hannah Spacey, Katie Threlfall, Vicky Wilson, Jane Meloy

Friends of KGS

Although there are no major Friends' functions during the Spring Term, it is, nevertheless, a busy term for Committee Members. Preparations are well under way for the Fun Day on May 20th and, of course, the Summer Ball on June 23rd.

The Fun Day is a particularly labour intensive event. It is great fun — but hard work! We are always grateful for volunteers who are able to spare an hour or two on the Sunday afternoon. Please contact Shirley Hope — 01253 855097 — if you may be able to help us.

The Grand Summer Ball promises once again to be a glittering social highlight. We have engaged Paul Rowley to cater for the event this year. Paul's reputation for culinary excellence is earning him an enviable reputation and he has been highly recommended to us. The ticket applications will be issued early next term so please reply without delay as demand is expected to be high.

We were delighted to have achieved our target of £10,000 to be donated to the Junior School Library well ahead of schedule. The cheque was presented to Mrs. Taylor at our February Committee Meeting, making a Friends' contribution totalling £20,000 towards the exciting project. We are certain that future generations of KGS children will derive great benefit and enjoyment from the completion of this outstanding facility.

Diary notes for the Summer Term

April 24th Friends' Committee Meeting 8 p.m. Sixth Form Centre (everyone welcome!)
May 20th Fun Day
June 23rd Summer Ball

Whatever stage your child has reached in school, it's never too late or too early to become involved with "The Friends". If you wish to learn more about our activities, then please ring any evening for a chat. (As I have two daughters the line is frequently engaged but please persevere!)

Best wishes.
Dana Gledhill

Diary Dates

Senior School 102nd Annual Sports Day
1.00 p.m. — 4.00 p.m., Wednesday, 9th May.

Old Kirkhamians' Reunion Weekend
Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 18th, 19th, 20th May

Friends of KGS Family Fun Day
1.00 p.m. — 4.00 p.m., Sunday, 20th May

Friends of KGS Summer Ball
7.00 p.m., Saturday, 23rd June
This will again be held in a marquee on the front lawn of KGS. We have engaged first class caterers, who have also agreed to supply and serve the wine. This event, not to be missed, promises to be another excellent night out in true Kirkham style.

New Parents' and Pupils' Welcome Evening
7.30 p.m., Monday, 2nd July in the New Hall

Senior School Annual Prizegiving and Speech Day
7.00 p.m., Thursday, 19th September at the Guild Hall, Preston.

U12 Sevens @ Wirral Grammar School Tournament. 16th March 2001.

The U12 sevens team won the above event. In their group matches they defeated Merchant Taylor's School, St Mary's College, Calday Grange Grammar School and King's Macclesfield. They then defeated Wirral Grammar School 15-10 in the semi-final going on to be eventual winners in a closely contested final against a strong St Ambrose College side, 22-21 to become Tournament Champions.

Squad - Robert Sissons (capt), Darren Bell, Tristan Brooke, William Norris, Wilson Lau, Joshua Spink, Harrison Pickervance, Nick Ashman, Ryan Drage and Michael Williamson.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MARTHA NEWELL

Martha Newell, School Captain 1999/2000, was selected to play hockey for Cambridge University in the 'Blues' match against Oxford earlier this term. To win a coveted 'Blue' in one's first year at Oxbridge is a rare achievement these days, when so many postgraduates are drafted in to play. Martha will enjoy the fact that she won her 'Blue' in shorter time than her Headmaster!

Stop Press



ENGLAND CAPTAIN



Congratulations to Richard Wigglesworth on his selection as Captain of England 18 Group Rugby Team, and to Matthew Parr who has been selected to play for England U19 in the World Championships in Chile.