





Welcome Mrs Grant

“

I was out walking recently and found a plaque dedicated to **William Smith**, a coal miner who developed a fascination for the layers of rock he saw as he travelled in the basket down the mine shaft. He went on to be known as the ‘Father of Geology’.

I felt incredibly humbled reading this in a small Somerset village and thinking about the huge impact this 22-year-old has had on the world of Geological Science. In the same way I am feeling

humbled and privileged to be taking on a school which has been in the caring hands of **Mr and Mrs Palmer** for the last 17 years.

Mr Palmer and I have spent time together in the last few months and his passion and love of the school has shone through and I am feeling excited about taking up the reins in September and continuing to build on the Wycliffe story. ”

Helena Grant, Head of Wycliffe
Preparatory School, from September 2020



Contents

04 From the Headmaster's study

Academic

- 9 Art
- 13 Computing
- 14 Design Technology
- 16 English
- 20 History
- 22 Modern Foreign Languages
- 23 Religious Studies and Drama
- 24 Mathematics
- 26 Music
- 28 Science

Academic Cross-Curricular Projects

- 30 Pre-Prep Superheroes
- 32 Year 3 Pirates
- 33 Remembrance Sunday

Learning Beyond the Classroom

- 34 Science Week
- 35 Expedition Day
- 36 Eco Week
- 38 Forest School
- 39 Christmas Celebrations
- 40 World Book Day

Wycliffe Community

- 41 Grenfell House
- 42 Lincoln House
- 43 Scott House
- 44 Shaftsbury House
- 45 Pennwood and Windrush
- 47 Nature Photography Competition

Global Citizen

- 48 Kirby Challenge
- 49 Making a difference

Sport

53 Farewell Mr and Mrs Palmer

From the Headmaster's study

"This has been a very unusual year and when I announced my retirement and our impending departure little did I realise what our last term would bring."

The response from the children to the directed learning programme has been beyond my wildest dreams. The level of engagement and quality of work produced has been fantastic, even our overseas children who have been connecting on Microsoft Teams without fail, in some cases during the night-time, when they were having a lesson.

Some of the highlights of recent weeks have been superb Maths puzzles that Year 8 have created especially the ones by **Abigail Opaleye, Charlie Hart, Olivia Larkman and Will Franklin**, Year 3 contributed to a virtual concert, and a lovely group performance of 'Over the Rainbow', Year 4RW's lockdown poems, Year 8 planned and cooked a meal for their family during lockdown as part of the adapted directed learning DT curriculum, Year 7 History projects - many superb efforts, notably **Amelia Portlock and Sheyda Fogarty** and stunning Art work across the age groups. Many pupils also took part in the 'Beat the Teacher' challenges in the first half of term. The idea of not having a Summer concert was just unbearable, especially knowing that we had so many great musicians for which this

would have been their last big Prep Concert, and so an amazing 'virtual' concert was aired in the last week of term - so much talent in such young people.

Once again we have been supported by a range of people including the kitchen staff and ground staff, maintenance staff the ladies in the office, every one of whom contributes to creating the right environment for the children to flourish and to creating such a fabulous environment for the children to be educated and be prepared for their future lives. I would like to pay a special tribute to the wonderfully committed and dedicated group of professionals in the classroom. The service they have offered the children during the period of distant learning has been outstanding, staggering to think this was all as a result of one afternoon's training and then learning on the job. I am indebted to each one of them once again and am sad to be leaving such a superb team. Sadly, as ever at this time of the year, we have staff departures. We wish **Miss Tait** all the best as she embarks on her quest to become a qualified teacher, she will be an asset to the profession when she does.

We also say goodbye after two short years, to **Dr Owenson**, whose loyal support and hard work has especially helped me over the weeks of lockdown. Seldom have I met anyone with such boundless energy, even Tigger would struggle to keep up with her.

I would like to particularly praise **Caroline Marsh** who many of you will know from when your children were in Nursery. For

years, she has run one of the best nurseries in the county. As she embarks on her richly-deserved retirement I would like to tell her what a privilege it has been for **Julie** and I to work with such a loyal, professional and caring person who is driven by one thing and one thing only - getting it right for the children. We wish her a long and happy retirement.





The quality of Art work that the pupils' achieve never ceases to amaze me and I have awarded countless Commendations for stunning work produced across the age groups. Congratulations to **Nadine Bowerman**, **Dora Cheng**, **Miles Menon**, **Thomas Moreton** and **Iris Parker** who all gained art scholarships and also to **Tilly Coles** and **Sebastian Forrest** who were awarded DT scholarships.

Music has continued to flourish. We had several very successful lunchtime concerts in the Autumn and Spring terms, with performances

from pupils of all ages and standards. The Carol Service was once again a highlight with candles, lovely readings, a wonderful atmosphere and angelic descants, it really was one to remember!

It has been a superb year for Music exams. We had our youngest ever entrant, **Sophie Taylor** in Year 3 who gained grade 1 recorder with distinction and grade 1 violin with merit. **Eloise Bartram**, who has recently passed her grade 5 piano exam with distinction. We have had our highest exam grade for many years,

“

Individuals have continued to perform superbly in Squash, congratulations to **Harry Bloomfield** who is currently England number one in his age group.

”

Abigail Opaleye achieved grade 6 recorder with distinction.

The House Music competition was our last major event before school closed for the lockdown. It was an incredible day of music. Overall Junior Musician was awarded to **Sophie Taylor** and overall Senior Musician was awarded to **Abigail Opaleye**. The House Song competition was won by **Lincoln**, who sang 'Circle of Life' from *The Lion King*.

Sport has continued to flourish in the school over the last year. We had the usual range of matches with every child in Years 3 to 8 representing the school. In Football **Conal Navruz**, **Ollie Gledhill**, **Codie Beachus** and **Ollie Thomas** all qualified for the Independent School Football Association South West squad. Our Colts Football boys qualified for the IAPS six-a-side National finals in the Autumn Term, which is the first time, certainly in the last decade, possibly longer that they have managed that. We also had boys selected for

District Cricket squads before everything shut down: **Harry** and **Archie Larkman** at Under 11, and **Sam Gregory**, **Miles Menon**, **Thomas Moreton** and **Conal Navruz** all at under 13. Not to be outdone, **Alissa Goring**, **Olivia Larkman** and **Maya Corbin** were selected for the Gloucestershire Development Squad in Hockey. **Maya** has also represented Gloucestershire at Under 14 level.

In terms of Cross-Country, we had six pupils in Years 7 and 8 qualify for the County trials, with **Amy Bond** becoming District Champion and finishing in top 10 in the county. In the Dursley League, **Alistair Spurr** was the overall champion in the Years 3 and 4 boys' competition, with **Oliver Jewkes** runner-up in the Years 5 and 6 competition.

Individuals have continued to perform superbly in Squash, congratulations to **Harry Bloomfield** who is currently England number one in his age group. He was second in the



National Championships, won the Millfield Gold competition, came second in the Welsh European Open and has played for England. **Arthur McKay** has been selected for the Gloucestershire Squash squad, for the first time in his 'career'.

Conal Navruz was successful at the GB Trial in Bristol in a new sport to me of Futsal and was invited to train with the England Futsal team in Gloucester. He was also selected to play in the GB Futsal tournament.

We also enjoyed a very competitive inaugural Chess fixture against Pinewood.

We have had four of our children qualify for the National IAPS Swimming Finals which should have taken place in the Olympic pool in

London. Congratulations to **Amy Barrett** and **Alissa Goring**, who both qualified in fifteenth place, **Millie Gidman** who qualified in third place and **Rebecca McCoubrie** who qualified in first place, making her National Champion in my eyes.

Sebastian Forrest in Year 8, has achieved incredible success during his time in the school. Among other things, he broke a 27-year-old record in the 100 metres on Sports Day when in Year 6. He has represented Team GB on nine occasions in 12 events, winning four team gold medals in Triathlon and Laser Run. He has also come third in both the National Triathlon and Tetrathlon Championships.

At the end of this term we say goodbye to **Mr and Mrs Bloodworth**, who between them

have revolutionised the way Sport is taught across the school making the emphasis on participation, not winning. Sadly, their adventure in Dubai has fallen through due to the pandemic but I am delighted that they both now secured posts at a Prep School in Hampshire. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with them and they will be missed next year.

The pupils in Year 8 have once again embraced the Kirby Challenge the aim of which is to encourage young people to become leaders, challenge themselves physically and mentally and take pride in becoming an asset to their communities. Among the highlights this year have been **Alissa Goring**, **Oliva Larkman** and **Bella Shute** organising the Christmas

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Our pupils have once again gained great success academically. We were runners-up in the District ‘Youth Speaks – A Debate’ competition, with a team of **Miles Menon, Charlie Hart** and **Abigail Opaleye**. **Isobel Turrell** was runner-up in The Rotary Club’s Young Writer Competition (at District Level).

”

Fayre, which was a fun event for the whole school. They raised over £4,000 for charity. **Arielle Richard** and **Eloise Bartram** who sang at Southmead Hospital in Bristol, **Angus Davenport** shopped for people in need during lockdown, having created a WhatsApp help group in his village, **Seb Guest** dribbled a ball 13km to raise money for children’s education in India (Oskar Foundation) and presented an assembly on equality in Football. **Theo Dunn** climbed the height of Everest up and down his stairs and also took part in the ‘Big Bath Sleep Out’ to bring attention to homeless charities. **Toby Thompson** and **Alice Adams** organised an amazing auction of promises at the Christmas

Fayre, **Nadine Bowerman** choreographed and performed an aerial acrobatics show which she videoed and we all watched in amazement during lockdown and **Tilly Coles** has single-handedly produced the Year 8 Leavers’ Yearbook.

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Baccalaureate. Congratulations to **Harry Bloomfield, Kate Cox, Sebastian Forrest, Harry Gledhill, Charlie Hart, Stephen Mandefield** and **Abigail Opaleye** who have all been awarded academic scholarships for the Senior School.

Our pupils notched up another success in the Autumn Language Perfect Competition. There was fierce competition between schools in the Northern Hemisphere and we achieved a phenomenal third place in our category. Many of our competitors will have concentrated on just one language in order to boost their points but our pupils tried out a range of languages. We were also third for French in

England, second for German in England, first for Spanish in England and first for Indonesian in England. Individual Credit Awards went to **Sam Hart, Charlie Hart, Eloise Bartram, Miles Menon**. Bronze Awards to **Will Franklin, Sophie McKerrow, Olivia Campbell**. A silver Award to **Jack McKerrow**, Gold Award to **Charley Thomas** and Emerald Award to **Abigail Opaleye**. In addition to this, Abigail competed in the Language Perfect World Championships, which took place during the summer holidays and achieved an Elite Award, which put her in the top 0.2% of competitors in the world.

One other person leaving us at the end of term after 20 years’ dedicated service is **Mrs Brown**.

As well as organising our participation in the Language Perfect competition, she has been Head of MFL and taught countless numbers of children French, Spanish and German and has been Head of Lincoln for a number of years. She has been a hugely successful and respected Netball coach, a Sport she still plays herself. She has organised the bi-annual French trip for the past 20 years, taking up to 55 children in Years 7 and 8 on a residential trip to France for five days during the Easter holidays. For those of us who have had the privilege of working with Mrs Brown, she is one of the most loyal, professional and dedicated teachers in the profession. She will be sadly missed but we wish her a long and happy retirement.

I would like to wish all those pupils who are leaving us today, whether they are Year 8s moving on to the Senior School or pupils moving to another school all the very best in their future lives.

Congratulations to **Amelia Portlock** who will be Head Girl next term and to **Sam**

Burrell who will be Head Boy.

As we come to the end of our time at the Prep School, we would like to thank all the parents for their support and loyalty, especially over the recent weeks of lockdown. A special mention must go to **Mr Paul Etheridge**, President, and former Chair of Trustees, who appointed me to the post and who has supported us loyally ever since and for giving us 17 wonderful years that we will look back on with great fondness. We would also like to thank the fantastic team of staff we have had the privilege of working with, their loyalty, support and dedication has been beyond anything we could have hoped for and they will always have a place in our hearts.

Finally thank you to our wonderful pupils – it has been a real joy to have so many of them in school with us for the last week. We thank every single one of them for making our last year so lovely and memorable and as I have written in their reports we wish them every success and happiness in their future lives.

Goodbye and good luck.



“

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Bella Williams, Year 7



Pupils from Year 4 RW with examples of their designs inspired by Joan Miró

Wycliffe

Art Gallery



Emily Cooper, Year 4



Nikki Dunham, Year 7



Harry Vicary, Year 5,
lockdown art - pitcher plant



Portrait painting in Upper Nursery



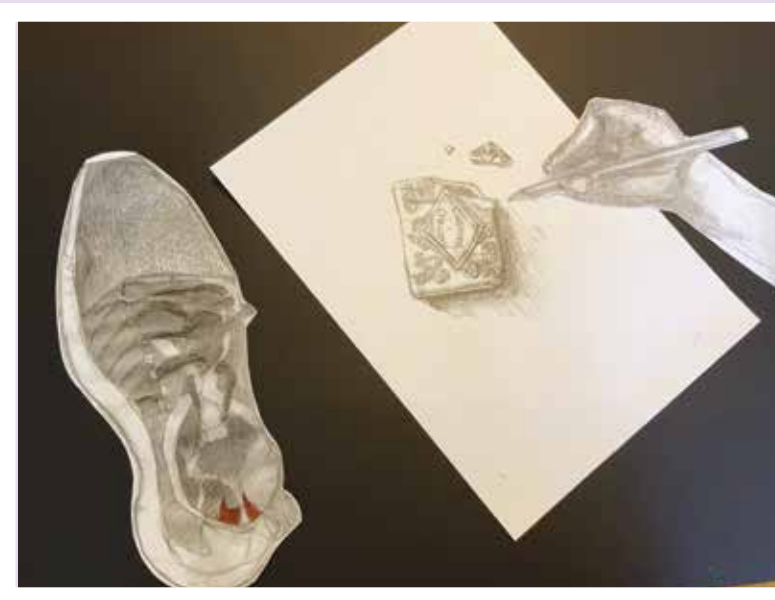
Adam Searle, Year 8



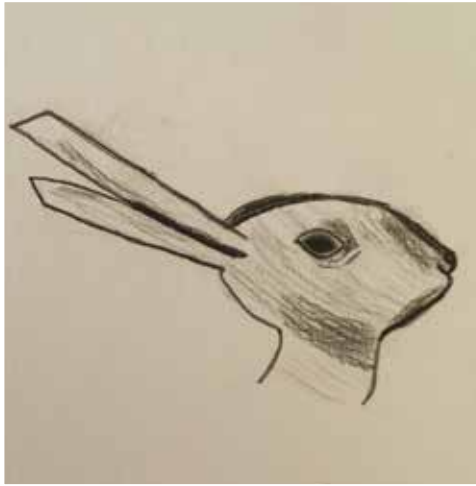
Sebastian Forrest, Year 8



Lower Nursery's Gruffalo creations



Edu Reekie Black, Year 6



Anoushka Reekie Black, Year 4, lockdown art



Thomas, Year 6



Art Gallery



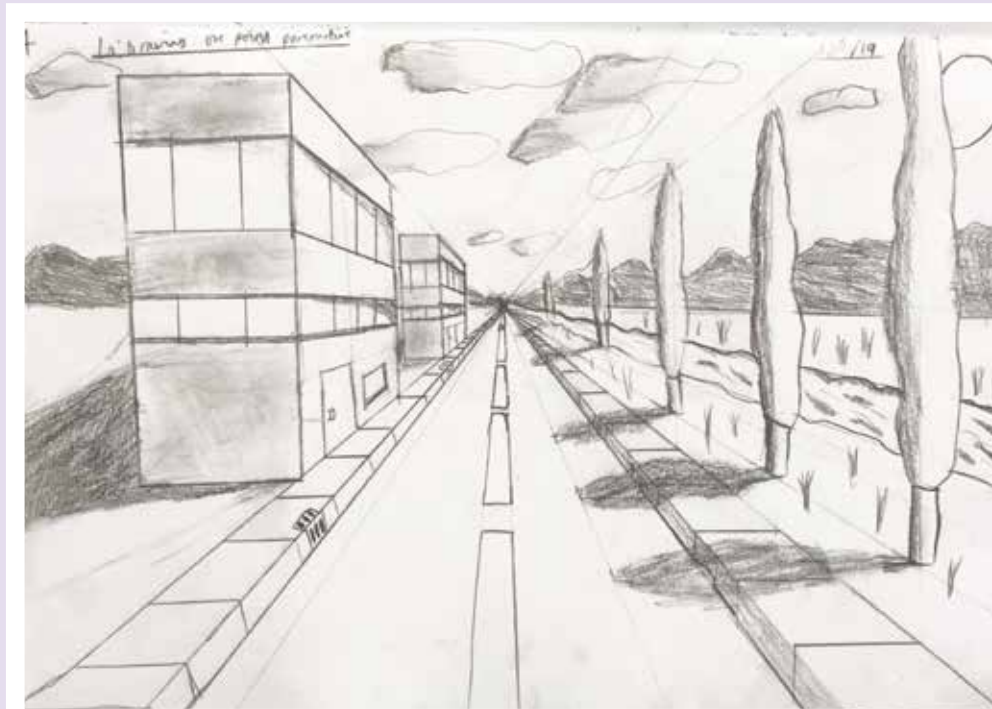
Imogen Oytaben, Year 2, autumn leaves



Year 5 - Aboriginal art



Josiah Varughese, Year 1, nature art



Micah Groves, Year 7, one point perspective



Iris Parker, Year 8, a dragon's eye



Florence Lane, Reception, fruit and veg printing



Charlie Bullock, Reception, foam printing



James Nelson, Year 1, tug boat



Lower Nursery, art in progress

Getting creative with code!

by Holly Wright, Year 8

This is one of my most proudest pieces of work. It took a while, a lot of patience and I did meet many errors and things I needed to edit.

Experimenting with some of the sizes was fun, although it was only worked up to a certain size and a certain place.

The inside of the flowers was quite tricky because you had to recode the shape of the size, the colour and the paste moved it. After what seemed

like millions of trial and errors I managed to get something like what I was aiming for. Then I built on it and persevered through and managed to get the perfect shape. It was fun, mentally challenging and I would love to show more people how to do it!

(This is Holly's code. Why not try it yourself?)

```
import turtle
import random

fred=turtle.Turtle()
fred.speed(1000)

def flower(x,y,petal_num,square_num,petal_col,center_col,square_col):
    fred.penup()
    fred.goto(x,y)
    fred.pendown()

    fred.begin_fill()
    fred.color(petal_col)

    for petal in range(petal_num):
        for arc in range(2):
            fred.circle(80,180)
            fred.left(90)
            fred.left(360/petal_num)

    fred.end_fill()

    fred.begin_fill()
    fred.color(center_col)
    fred.penup()
    fred.goto(x,y-40)
    fred.pendown()
    fred.circle(40)
    fred.end_fill()

    fred.hideturtle()

    fred.penup()
    fred.goto(x,y)
    fred.pendown()

    fred.color(square_col)
    for square in range(4):
        fred.forward(150)
        fred.right(90)

    for pattern in range(square_num):
        square()
        fred.right(360/square_num)

flower(-200,-200,5,36,"violet","yellow","blackhex")
flower(200,200,7,30,"cyan","yellow","cyan")
flower(-200,200,6,15,"red","darkred","lightpink")
flower(200,-200,8,45,"red","darkred","lightpink")
flower(0,0,4,20,"gold","magenta","coralflowerblue")
```



Join the club

As part of a diverse range of after school clubs in Pre-Prep, pupils learned the skill of coding within a new Coding Club.

Children from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 discovered how to create algorithms using Bee-Bots and the 2Go programme via the Purple Mash learning software.

They created secret superhero maps and navigated their avatars around the maps using accurate algorithms and an ability to debug when errors had been made.

It has been amazing to see how quickly pupils developed their coding skills and we are excited to see them progress further in computing lessons and after school clubs in the future.



Year 4 pupils programming Pro-Bots



Design Technology



Henry, Year 6



Flo, Year 6



Amelia Wright, Year 4



Joshua Cooper, Year 4



Pippa, Year 5



Arthur James, Year 5



Mia Scanlon, Year 5

Design Technology

Year 6 K'nex challenge

by Olivia Campbell and Charlotte Burrows

Mrs Cleere organised a K'nex Challenge for Year 6. It started off with someone from STEMworks who told us the challenge we had to face.

Our task was to build a carnival float with our own original theme. We got into partners and had one and a half hours to complete what hopefully would become a masterpiece!

First, we brain-stormed ideas and planned it out in our heads. After five minutes we settled on the idea of an eco-looking car. We slowly but surely started to build a base. As more and more pieces clicked together, we started to get a clear view of our creation.

Halfway through the building process, we took a risk and changed our theme to a rain forest as we couldn't get the look correct. This was a successful decision and with a 10-minute warning, the pressure was on!

We had just about finished building when the



timer went, we were very proud of our model. Each team explained their float. The judge chose her top three favourites, luckily, we were one of them the other two teams were **Izzy** and **Amy** and **Ben** and **Luca**. There was high pressure as we knew only one team would make it to the finals to compete against other schools. The final decision concluded we had won!

English

Reception

Children in Reception wrote stories based around 'The Blue Balloon'.

Daniel Sandison

Batman and Robin ride on the Bat Bikes. They go underground to find Killer Croc.

Iris Oytaben

My sparkly balloon had taken me to Egypt. It was fun to see pyramids and the mummies were friendly.

Mamie McBurney

There is only one unicorn left and she is my pet unicorn. She also is hidden away in the forest, far, far, away, where people can't find her.

Max Palfrey

The Big Bad Cat ran away from the volcano.

Grace Kennedy

My water horse had taken me to a sandy South African beach. It was high tide and could hear the hyenas.

Phoebe Smith

Earlier Ice Cream went on a flight to Unicorn World. It was always sunny. It was full of unicorns.

Years 1 & 2

During lockdown Year 1 and Year 2 pupils continued the good work in their remote phonics lessons. Among some of the challenges they linked their knowledge of the digraph /ir/ with their knowledge of man-made and natural resources developed in Science.

Jacob Luff, Year 2, was inspired to write about the birdsong we could hear in the garden:

“

In my garden I have been listening to the sound of the countryside. There's a cheeky robin and a very sweet bluetit. It's nice to listen to them talking. Sometimes I hear a woodpecker pecking.

”

Lumi, Year 2



Year 3

Year 3 pupils focussed their remote learning around the topic of Space during the Summer Term. In English, they created space satellites from a variety of materials found at home and wrote a set of instructions so others can have a go themselves!

How to build a satellite

1. With tape stick together two loo rolls.
2. Then cover with paper.
3. Cover two smaller boxes with tin foil.
4. Attach to it a long white tube with a skewer.
5. Eat a jam tart for a satellite dish.
6. Add decoration with organde and black pens.

Charlie Hartles, Year 3

(Top satellite: Lilly Ransley-Hayes, Year 3
Bottom satellite: Martha Woolley, Year 3)



Thomas, Year 3

Year 4

Year 4 pupils put their descriptive writing skills to work by writing letters to Prime Minister **Boris Johnson** about their experiences of lockdown.

“

I have missed not going to school and being in the classroom with my friends and teachers. It's hard doing work at home as there are lots of distractions and sometimes I find it hard to concentrate. I have found it fun seeing my friends through Teams and I love messaging.

I have learned to love nature more. I enjoyed taking photos for a school challenge. I want to carry this on after lockdown has stopped.

Max Hursthouse

”

English

“

When the lockdown was announced, I was anxiously waiting for more updates and couldn't believe it had got so deadly and terrifying in this wonderful world of ours. Unfortunately I felt a bit strange and I didn't know what was round the next corner but I am now super happy these rules were in place and I can't wait for the wonderful world and exciting England to go back to normal!

I have learnt to be much more confident and more positive about things. I hope I will be a whole different person after this. It will make me more kind and give more, not just receive! I will probably see a lot more of my friends and people walking about. I hope you won't have to do as much work after this as well!

Emily Cooper

”

“

Before lockdown we used to visit our grandparents regularly, we have missed Nana and Papa very much and are looking forward to seeing them again, hopefully soon.

Because of my school being forced to close I have been doing my schoolwork at home using the Prep Portal and using Teams to talk to my teachers. This has been quite different and challenging and I have become very frustrated at times. I am looking forward to returning to school.

I will miss helping my Mum with chores and doing some of the baking and all my daily family walks. I will also miss going to nice local spots good for bike riding and scooting. I will definitely miss going down all the fun slopes.

During lockdown I have learned how hard teachers work to make the school environment a safe place for everyone. My experience of lockdown will stay with me forever.

Charles Hogarth

”

Year 5

Year 5 have been reading *'The Explorer'* and remotely learning how to survive in the wild, which insects to eat and how it may feel.

Yesterday I had no food at all, so I had to search the forest floor for grubs. Step by step inch by inch no sign of any insects, as I looked up into the branches for any beetles. THEN I tripped over a tree root and face planted myself in mud... UGGG! I bellowed, it echoed through the forest. A couple of seconds later, I realised there were five beetles crawling up the tree so I ran to the tree and caught four of them, the fifth one had escaped. Crunch, smash all four were devoured, they absolutely stank and they tasted like grit.

Charlie Woollard: eating insects descriptive piece

Water

Like a hypnotic swirl, murky and deep, the rainforest's maze carved into a great estuary 700 feet profound.

A whirlpool, a twirl, a magnificent curl. The main body of the restful river was slim and slender. Nauseously, the odour of eroded earth lingered among the surface of the water. From a splendid distance, the gorgeous tranquil view stretched far away, merging in with the velvety colossal clouds. Covering over the ample bush of crowded trees and grimy watercourse was a brisk and breezy wind, which would tickle the tips of your cheeks whenever the blast touched you.

Ayesha Menon: descriptive creative writing

continued overleaf...

YOUNG WYCLIFFIAN 17

Year 5 (continued)



English



Senna Loftus - endangered animals
non-chronological report (foxes)

Water rushed vigorously down rocks and was as clear as a diamond. It sounded like a diver plunging into the salty, strong sea. Small fish of all colours glided inch by inch across the crystal clear water. Water was cool but warm, colossal fish darted in every direction. Whirlpools spun at turbo speed in the centre.

Emma Barrable: descriptive writing

The roaring river sped downwards. The rocky rocks slid down the river bank. The leaves drop, taking their time into the rocky river.

The misty orangey, gold stream roams through the Amazon. The calm twisty wisty stream is surrounded by mice.

George Dummer: descriptive writing

NHS

Right now there is a crisis in the whole wide world,
In a strange situation we have all been hurled.
Now we need our NHS more than ever,
They're determined, fearless, intrepid and clever.
They're real life superheroes, like Greta Thunberg,
And right now we need them to do their breath taking work.
You have to stay at home and protect your family,
However difficult it is to stop this disastrous tragedy.

Millie Gidman

Listen

The deep blue sea whispers "help me,"
STOP...
Can you hear it?
Each crash of the waves is like a tear running
down my cheek,
Recycle your plastics,
don't throw them in the bin,
Or 'Finding Nemo' will
haunt you for
your sin
Amber Macfarlane

Year 6

My (Lockdown) Bubble has...

Joke-makers,
Best-frienders,
Play-around pals,
Message-whisperers,
Hand-standers,
Hill-rollers,
Snack-eaters,
Giggle-machiners,
Headphone-hangouters,
Gossip-givers,
Bridge-benders,
Two metre-players.

Tegan MacDonald

My Brother

Xbox-player,
Fridge-raider,
Grumpy-teenager,
Late-sleeper,
Bad-smeller,
Cricket-bowler,
Dead-lifter,
Reluctant-runner,
Brother-teaser,
Competitive-player.
That's my amazing brother!

Joe Davison

Bear Kennings Poem

Honey-robber,
Fish-grabber,
Tree-itcher,
Back-scratcher,
Fierce-hunter.

Joshua Luff

The Lavender Fields
Remind me of happiness.
Voices of Wycliffe.

Sosuke Odagiri

Tonight and today,
The wild, wild wolves are howling.
The fall is coming.

Chloe Williams

Sliding and gliding,
Slipping and stopping on ice.
Going with the flow.

Grace Palmer-Gillman

Baubles and tinsel,
Hot chocolate, marshmallows!
Snow is on the way.

Sonny Ashby

Year 7

English

Everybody needs a break from the real world sometimes and Ivy Falls will fill those needs. It takes you to another world, from your first step in and your last step out, you are filled with the wonders of nature! The crystal blue water is like a basketful of dreams and the green of the trees are perfect in every way! The smell of freshly cut grass lifts you off your

feet, but that is not the best bit, oh no! When you reach the top of the climb you feel like nothing is impossible; looking down at a small, small world! This once in a lifetime opportunity is a choice you would never regret. Some memories come and go, but this would stay with you for a lifetime!

Amelia Portlock, travel writing

An Ode to My Snack Tin

My snack tin hides in its secret cupboard like a scared mouse hiding from a ferocious cat.

My snack tin is full of secrets and wonders, As I plunge my hand in like an Olympic diver,

diving into a pool at over 20mph!

I imagine all of the mysteries and wonders there are,

Down in the wonderland of my snack tin.

I wiggle my hand round like a worm,

Trying to find a reasonable size snack,

I grasp on to one and yank it out.

As I do this, I imagine what beautiful and wonderful snacks

My snack tin has provided with me today, I quickly start to lock away my snack tin, Hiding it away like a pirate burying his treasure.

It's my prized possession and I can't let anyone find it.

As I lock the cupboard, I feel grateful for what snack my snack tin has given me today, And what treasure it will give me tomorrow.

Sam Watson

Glue stick

You stick Matter together just like you stick relationships together.

You are in the middle of relationships and you are the heart; the impenetrable, tenacious substance.

When I look at you remind me of

the invisible sticking my eyes up while it seems like gravity, sleep and other forces are working against it.

But glue won't be strong enough when it runs out, dry like a desert, unable to help me out.

Keneolisa Okafor

The soldier

You are amazing

You are the best

You are the one who lets out my stress

You stand there all day

and night to keep me away from harms fight

You don't sleep you don't cry for you are a warrior

Who knows when to get up

Who knows when to rest

For you are a protector who keeps the night far and away

You are strong yet fragile too

Who knows how much I can rely on you

But nothing to fear for his army is here as they sail the floor for a shark lurking by

You may have an army but there is only one warrior in all those men and that is you.

Isaac Eyre

Year 8

Extracts from some of the lockdown diaries

Boy, three and a half weeks is a long time to be stuck in lockdown; never going out; never seeing anyone; just you and your family stuck at home for weeks on end. Gosh, it feels like such a long time – like an eternity!

At first, I thought staying at home was going to be fun – a piece a cake, who doesn't want to stay at home for a while? However, as time goes on, I'm enjoying being grounded here less and less. Even though I love them, my family can be deeply irritating at times (well, truthfully, they annoy me a great deal – but don't tell them that). Initially, the thought of being homeschooled seemed fairly appealing; staying at home, no uniform, delightful food (better than school's anyway) and, as I'm a boarder, it was welcome to sleep in my own bed with my parents nearby ... although, that was three weeks ago.

Kate Cox

My family and I have now been in quarantine for thirty days and it is more and more difficult to find things to pass the time as each day goes by. And every time I contact my friends it seems more alien to me. I would practically give anything to be in a room with my friends.

We still go on our daily walk, picking a different route on the common each time. We start walking after lunch and sometimes we go a long way.

My phone continues to keep me updated but I sometimes ignore the news because I don't enjoy reading the death toll. Some people say we are past the peak of the deaths and I would love to agree but I fear it might not be true.

Gabe Kakoz

History

Year 7

Living through the Blitz!

by Elizabeth Nelson, Year 4

When we got to Copsegrove Farm we were assigned our ID cards, then hopped into our time machines that took us back to the time of World War Two.

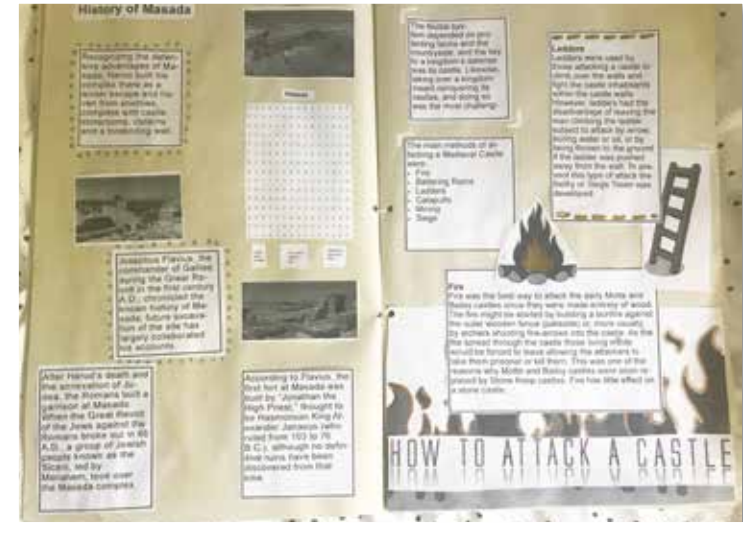
When we reached the woods we sat around base camp and went over the rules. Next we used a map to learn important grid references.

Then we had to find different answers to write down on a sheet about WW2. In WW2 certain foods were rationed, so we wrote each of our team members' names into our ration book. Then in our ration book we had the ingredients to make a



's'more'. It was scrumptious.

After we ate we went off to build our air raid shelters. Ours was amazing, it was comfortable and big. Finally we cracked some codes and baked another delicious treat.



Sofia Odiz, Year 7 - history project on Masada



Ready for battle

by Isabel Carrick, Year 7

14th October 1066, that's when the battle took place. I was marching on with a sword in hand not knowing what was before me, not knowing what was about to become of all the others with me.

We were sailing to Hastings on one of the 700 long boats. After weeks of travelling, we reached England it didn't take long for us to get to Hastings but

when we got there, we were shocked!

The men seemed to have been fighting recently because their shields were battered and broken, they were tired and scared.

The battle commenced. Everybody was terrified. Then somebody had the idea to start shooting arrows into the air, it was a great idea because one of the

arrows hit the King Godwinson in the eye! Even although their King was dead, the Saxons kept on fighting.

Eventually, they used a new strategy that deceived them all. Some of our troops acted as if they were retreating and the foolish Saxons broke ranks and charged! We ran back at them and killed them all. We won and we went onto conquer the rest of England!

Year 8



Year 8 pupils were given the challenge of creating podcasts, based on the wives of King Henry VIII. A joint Music and History project, involving the pupils researching, recording music, acting and even a little bit of dressing up!

History



Year 8 pupils visited the Commandery Museum in Worcester



William Papps, Year 4, an Egyptian board game



Pupils from Year 1 and Year 2 have been learning all about Viking longboats as part of their topic lessons. They were challenged to build their own models at home and the results are fantastic!

Stuart Monarchy

Anne died on 1st August 1714. Her only surviving son died in 1700 causing Parliament to do the 'Act of Settlement'. They did this to make sure that a Protestant succession would happen. Therefore, Anne's successor was a German protestant Prince George, Elector of Hanover. Anne died childless and a widow, however, in my opinion she had a nice life with barely any conflicts (which was more than what could be said about her ancestors)!

Anne marked the end of the Stuart period. The Stuarts could be argued to be both extremely successful and extremely chaotic. They had endless conflicts with Parliament (one of them resulting in a war) but, they were the first Kings and Queens of Great Britain so they will always go down in History as a very significant period of the British monarchy.

Abigail Opaleye, as part of her history project

Modern Foreign Languages

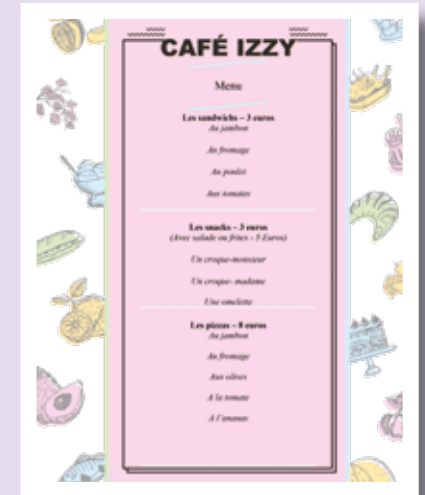


QR code provides

Year 7 learned about giving and listening to directions in French by designing a treasure hunt around the Prep School. To make it more challenging and to link it with ICT they had to use QR codes. First they had to think and write out all their directions and instructions in French. They then had to learn how to imbed those instructions into different QR codes recording their instructions orally using the tablets. Finally they were able to go out into the grounds to place the QR codes in strategic places so that everyone could go out with their tablets to read the codes, listen to the instructions and follow the clues to the end!



This language-based project is an activity completed by a Year 7 pupil as part of our Optional Learning Challenges. These are a variety of activities that children can complete once they have finished their regular school timetable.



Cafe Izzy by Isabelle Tilsley, Year 6

Happy hunting

Year 1 and 2 children went on the hunt for minibeasts in their French lesson. They had to find and name the minibeasts they discovered in the garden.



Harry, Year 2

Olivia Larkman, Year 8



Ich möchte ein Lama. Es würde Lily heißen. Es hätte grüne Augen und es wäre mittelgroß. Es wäre flauschig und treu.

Écris-moi

The Onatti Theatre Company performed *Ecris-moi* for pupils in Years 3 to 7 last week.

"I thought the play was really good. I loved the way at the start, when they were sending emails to each other, the sides of the set were painted with the flags of the country they were in. The play taught me lots of new words."

Arthur Mckay, Year 6

"I thought the production was really enjoyable and kept you listening the whole time. I personally really liked it and it helped me a lot with learning more French vocabulary."

Florrie Matthews, Year 6



Religious Studies



I believe religion will diminish in the next 50 years but will probably still be around for the next 200-300 years.

Alex Maida-Doyle, Year 8 - Science v Religion

I don't think the belief in God will ever die out but I do think its number will decrease as time goes by. I think this because the younger generation may not see what their older relatives believe in and maybe even think it's silly to believe in something that no one has seen or proven to be there.

Olivia Larkman, Year 8

I like the ideas and beliefs of Theistic scientists: that God and Science can be related. Science and religion can help each other - we can use religion to explain things we can't with science, and vice versa.

Albert Einstein was a scientist (and has become one of the world's most famous scientists), but he was a very religious Jew. He believed that "science without religion is lame. Religion without science is blind". I agree with them because God created humans and the universe so we should explore the world around and figure out how it works and how it came to be. Religion without science is blind because sometimes religion only focuses on God, but if you add science to it people can learn how to learn about and appreciate the world that God made for us.

Kate Cox, Year 8



Year 3 studied the story of the Jewish holiday Purim, so boarders made Oznei Haman. Translated it means Haman's ear, the cookies originating from the myth that the wicked Haman's ear was cut off. Jewish families make these all over the world.

Drama

The show must go on and Drama didn't stop during lockdown. In directed learning pupils were given a variety of tasks from creating monologues and dances to creating costumes and scenery. Of course, then the final stage - putting on a show.

Year 4 undertook a project about 'A memory of something they have enjoyed doing' and Year 3 pupils created puppet theatres.



Mathematics



ChrisMaths

Children in Pre-Prep and Year 3 had a morning of Mathematics with a festive theme. The ChrisMaths sessions were based around the carol 'We Three Kings'.

Lower Nursery went on a star hunt and then decorated them with a different number of objects while Upper Nursery enjoyed a treasure hunt where they had to find envelopes with different amounts of ribbon/bows and gift tags to count. Pupils in Reception drew and made stars and decorated them.

Pupils in Years 1 and 2 estimated the length of



wrapping paper needed to wrap different presents. Children in Year 3 gathered information to find the year's most popular present and make a bar chart.



Maths morning at Senior School

by Charley Thomas, Year 6

A few pupils from Years 5 and 6 arrived at the Senior School for the Maths morning.

We started by covering what we were going to focus on, which was Christmas jumpers, and more specifically, the impact they have on the environment. At first it seemed boring but it turned out to be really interesting.

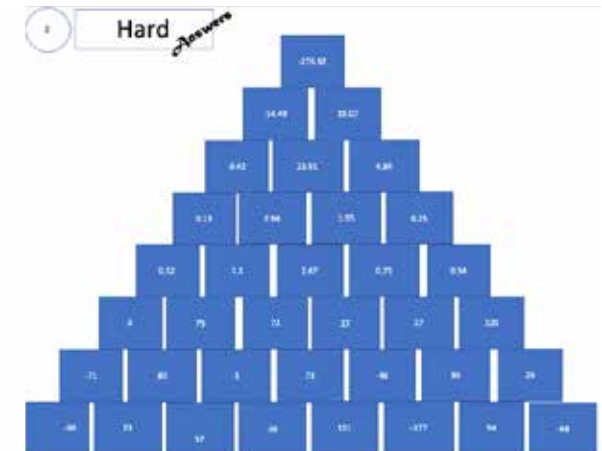
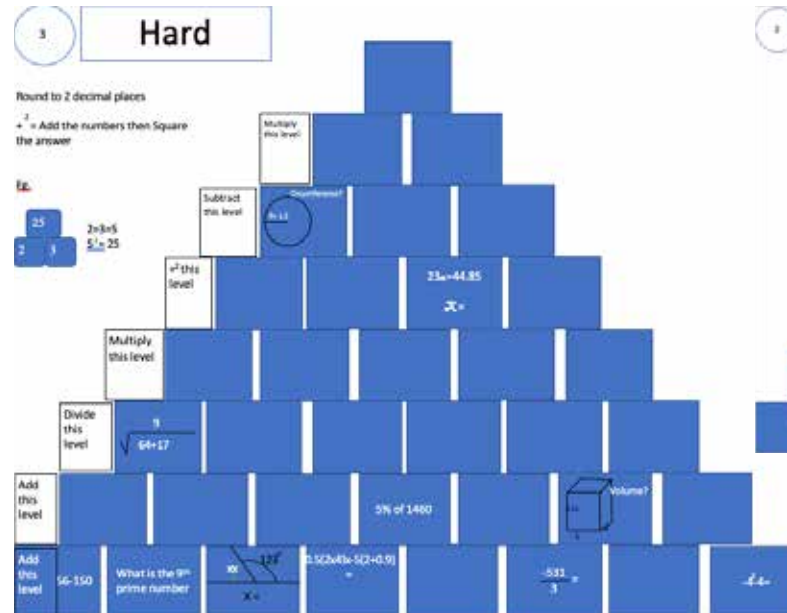
After a short break, our tummies filled with biscuits

and juice, it was time for what we came for - the Primary Maths Challenge. When the timer starts you have 40 minutes to complete 25 bewildering questions.

There was plenty of paper for workings, so we could jot down our faintest ideas of what the answer was and then try to prove it right.

All in all it was a learning trip and we all thoroughly enjoyed it, or least I did!

Mathematics



Alex Evanson-Goddard, Year 8

Answers above (cover them up and see if you can do the puzzle!)

What is my number puzzle - Charlie Hart

Key:

Easy Medium Hard Extreme

Start at 24	Add 2x8	Multiply by 2	Divide by 10	Add 9	What is my number?
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Answer:.....

Start at 0	Add 7x8	Multiply by 4	Subtract 80	Square root	Subtract 17	Subtract 5	What is my number?
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Answer:.....

Start at -3	Square it	Square it again	Divide by 10	Add 8.9	Multiply by 10	Add 6x6	Add 3 - 3 - 10	Divide by 30	What is my number?
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Answer:.....

Start at a	Subtract 10	Multiply by -2	150% of it	Multiply by -10	Divide by -15	Add 17 x 4	Add 2	What is my number?
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Charlie Hart, Year 8 (answers below)

Answers: Easy = 17 Medium = -10 Hard = -2a+90 Extreme = -2a+90



Year 4 pupils busy at work



What a year for Music!

It has been another busy and interesting year in the Music Department, with some significant achievements.

Every child from Reception to Year 8 has had specialist Music teaching each week from **Mrs Taylor**, and our wonderful team of VMTs (Virtual Music Teachers) have delivered instrumental and vocal lessons in school to over 120 pupils each week.

Our ensembles flourished with the Orchestra larger than ever, Senior Choir growing to over 50 members, and smaller ensembles catering for many of our instrumentalists.

Lunchtime Concerts

We had several successful lunchtime concerts in the Autumn and Spring terms, with performances from pupils of all ages and standards. It has been encouraging this year to have had more performances from our drummers, and also from our younger musicians. It's a great opportunity to perform with a friendly and supportive audience

guaranteed! It was also great to see pupils opting to give up their lunch breaks to come and watch the concerts.

Remembrance

Our Remembrance service has become a key event in our musical year, and this one was no exception. It was a moving service, with the Senior Choir performing 'In Flanders Fields' by **Mrs Taylor**, with **Mr Davies** on the organ.

Carol Service

We knew early on that this had to be a special Carol service, being **Mr** and **Mrs Palmer**'s last one. Senior Choir were keen to sing their best, and they absolutely delivered! **Alice Taylor** started the service with a lovely 'Once in Royal' solo, and then Senior Choir performed 'Carol of the Bells', 'Colours of Christmas', 'Away in a Manger' and 'A New Year Carol', which featured many great solos.



Abigail Opaleye sang the first verse of 'Every Star', Middle Prep Choir sang 'So many Stars' conducted by **Mrs Cooper** and they also sang the opening verse of 'Silent Night'. As always, the whole school joined together to sing 'Gaudete' with **Sophie McKerrow, Arielle Richard, Lottie Beachus** and **Olivia Deshais** singing the solo verses. With candles, lovely readings, a wonderful atmosphere and angelic descants, it really was one to remember!

House Music

The House Music competition was our last major event before school closed for the lockdown. It was an incredible day of music making, which made **Mrs Taylor** extremely proud of all the wonderful musicians we have in the Prep School. **Mrs Russell** kindly stepped in at the last minute as judge, and we got through the day without an accompanist, which had its moments – one absolutely wonderful one was when **Eloise Bartram** and **Abigail Opaleye** got up and between them sight-read the piano part for **Kate Cox's** cello solo!

There were some amazing performances throughout the day, and several incredibly difficult decisions for **Mrs Russell** due to the incredibly high quality of the performances given. The Grade 4 and 5 singing class was especially difficult, and eventually everyone was awarded joint 1st for points, but **Olivia Deshais** was awarded class winner.

Overall Junior Musician was awarded to **Sophie Taylor** and overall Senior Musician was awarded to **Abigail Opaleye**. The House Song competition was won by **Lincoln**, who sang 'Circle of Life' from *The Lion King*.

Music exams

It has been a superb year for Music exams. Not only have we had our youngest ever entrant (**Sophie Taylor**, Year 3 – grade 1 recorder with distinction and grade 1 violin with merit, both in the Autumn term), but we have had our highest exam grade for many years (**Abigail Opaleye**, Year 8 – grade 6 recorder with distinction). We've had some extremely high results too, with a large number of distinctions, but credit must go to **Ayesha Menon** (136/150 for grade 2 piano), **Martha Woolley** (137/150 for grade 1 recorder) and **Abigail Opaleye** who got an incredible 93/100 for her grade 5 theory examination!

These three have all been added to the Music Department High Achievers list. Sadly no external Music exams were possible in the Summer term, though

we did launch our own internal music assessment for those who would have otherwise taken an exam, allowing them to move on to the next grade confident that they had reached the required standard.

Virtual music making

School may have been closed, but that wasn't going to stop the Music Department from making music! Individual Music lessons moved online, and an incredible 74 pupils took up this new way of learning. They worked exceptionally well, and pupils made great progress.

We didn't not stopped performing either! Within just a few weeks of lockdown, Year 3 contributed to a virtual concert, to be shared with family and friends. Year 3 then continued their run with a lovely group performance of 'Over the Rainbow', which became an instant hit on the new @WycliffePrepMusic twitter feed!

The idea of not having a Summer concert was just unthinkable, so a 'virtual' Summer concert was devised: Everyone in the school community was given the opportunity to join our virtual orchestra for a performance of 'Jupiter', and we even managed to put together a staff choir!

The Year 8 members of Senior Choir collaborated in a performance of 'Bridge over Troubled water', and our Senior musicians put together a trio and duet, as well as recording some wonderful solos.

Make a joyful noise

Nine pupils, from Years 3 to 8, took part in a Wind and Brass Day held at Dean Close School in Cheltenham.

All of Wycliffe's wind and brass players are grade 2 or above in Music. The pupils worked in three groups to rehearse different pieces of music on a theme of 'music from the movies'.

They also learnt *Soul Bossa Nova* (Austin Powers theme) and the *Harry Potter* theme, which all 80 children performed together at the end of the day. This was an amazing opportunity for the pupils to work with a larger group of musicians, focusing on ensemble skills and teamwork.



Science

Nursery



The Lower Nursery children explored the seasons as part of their 'Understanding the World' curriculum. They learned about how and why some trees lose their leaves and some do not.



As part of their 'Reception Ready' sessions, Nursery pupils investigated how they can turn ice into water using salt.

Reception



Reception children used their senses to describe what they could see, hear, smell and feel during an autumn walk. The five senses is part of the 'All About Me' topic in the curriculum. In class they talked about different months of the year and how seasons change.

Years 1 and 2



Year 1 and 2 pupils learned all about the super scientist **Alexander Graham Bell**. As part of the lesson they created and tested their own 'phone' inventions

We The Curious

Pupils in Years 1 and Year 2 visited the We The Curious Science Museum in Bristol. In class, they have been learning all about how their bodies work as part of their 'All About Me' topic for the term so they were very excited to take part in some exciting and hands-on learning activities.

Their day started with a talk from '**Scientist Eddie**', exploring the human body and the functions of all of the major organs including the lungs, heart and the somewhat amusing role of the bladder!

Children were able to take a closer look at

Year 3



Year 3 pupils carried out a range of Science investigations including testing the strength of magnets, a friction test and measuring how far a toy car travelled on different surfaces.

their bodies using a range of cool magnifying and X-ray equipment. In the final workshop of the day, they measured the brain sizes of various mammals and animals using skulls and chickpeas.



Year 3



Year 4

Year 4 pupils researched 'sound' during the year. They carried out experiments, went on a sound walk and made musical instruments which they had to then test and evaluate.



Year 7

by **Harry Gledhill and Maya Corbin, Year 8**

During Eco Week Year 7 spent their Science lessons looking at how we can reduce plastic use in our day-to-day lives.

In one class, they discovered that China and the US produce the most single use plastic, and in doing so, also release the most carbon emissions into the atmosphere. Year 7 were also shocked to know that carbon cannot be created, as they played a dice game that took them on a journey of carbon, they soon realised that it went on forever and never ended.

At the end of the lesson, we asked them how they would improve the environment and the most frequent answer was to re-use aluminium cans in order to reduce the amount of plastic we use, and an ocean clean up.

Another Year 7 class began by learning about how the Earth came to be, followed by who discovered "thick air" and, finally, the life of Joseph Priestley and how he discovered carbon.

Years 5 and 6

by **Jack McKerrow, Year 6**

We travelled to Badminton school for the Science quiz. We had been aware of this quiz but it became a bit daunting.

When we were half way we started to do practice questions **Thomas** and **Albie** were first most of the time but I got a couple of questions before they did. When we eventually arrived we were all a bit nervous!

When we started the quiz, we got most of the five questions right and we were 3rd. Midway through the quiz we had a question on dinosaurs. This question was "which of these dinosaurs has an incredibly thick skull?" The quiz master ended telling everyone the answer after getting **Albie** and **Thomas** to pronounce them the answer was Pachycephalosaurus. We did really well and



maintained our third place.

When we got back from the Science quiz everyone asked us how we did. We told them we were third for nearly the whole quiz but came fourth in the end. Over all it was really fun and nothing went that bad I think we did really well!

Year 6 team: **Thomas Cox, Arthur McKay, Albie Spiers, Jack McKerrow.**

Year 5 team: **Harry Vicary, Mikey Redfern, Ayesha Menon, Olivia Deshais**

Year 8

Year 8 pupils learned about electricity in Science and, as part of their direct learning, created electricity quizzes.



Question 2



If I added a 3rd lamp what would be the current

A-9.0
B-0.30
C-0.40

Above: **Angus Davenport**

Left: **Harry Bloomfield**



Oliver Fry, Reception



Meet our own Superheroes

Children in Pre-Prep enjoyed a term of learning around the much loved topic of 'Superheroes'.

Working across the curriculum, they discovered more about their favourite fictional superheroes and about real-life superheroes who have changed, and continue to change, our world.

Pupils created their own comic strips in English lessons, designed their own superhero secret bases and superhero cityscapes in DT lessons and learned about the lives and works of super scientists, explorers and politicians including **Sir Isaac Newton**, **Sally Ride** and **William Wilberforce**.

Children in Year 1 and 2 invited their

parents into school to watch their very first class Assembly; an opportunity to dress up as their favourite superheroes and share with parents what they have been learning about in class.

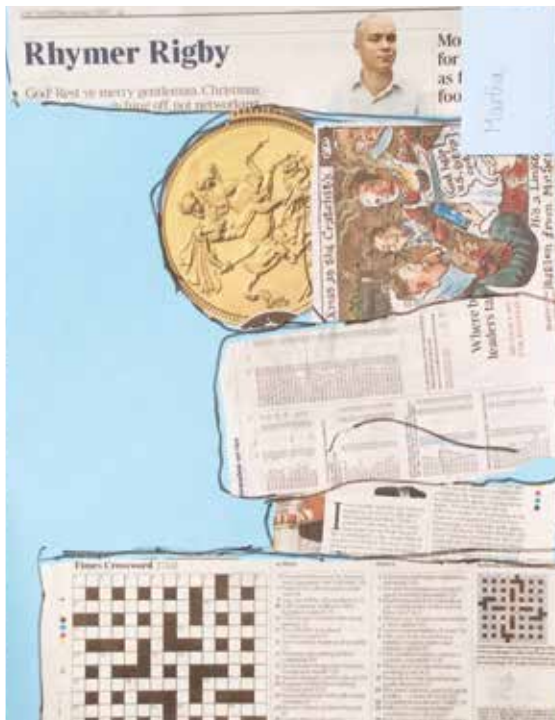
They also enjoyed a superhero-themed day where they completed activities linked to developing their super skills and super knowledge within the classroom.

Upper Nursery children visited Dinky Street as part of their topic Superheroes. The children understand that not all superheroes wear capes and many can be found all around us. They had the

opportunity to take on the roles of police officers, firefighters and doctors. They enjoyed trying on the different costumes and using the wide variety of props.

Though the real highlight of the Superheroes project was when officers from the Fire Service visited the Nursery and Pre-Prep. They learned about the special shield on the helmet, and the importance of wearing the boots and gloves.

For many the best bit was trying on the coats and helmets then climbing into the fire engine!



Martha Davies, Year 1



Reuben Hanson, Reception



Dylan Bushell, Year 2



Year 3 Pirates

Year 3 had a topic week where all the subjects they were taught were based around a particular theme. One such week the topic was Pirates!

The children made treasure maps using coordinates in Maths, then successfully guided their pirate gang around the map by writing a set of instructions.

They made pirate puppet theatres in DT, wrote messages in a bottle and made pirate fact files on Microsoft Word. In Science they learnt about a pirate's diet linking it to nutrition.



Remembrance Sunday

The annual Remembrance Service in the School Chapel featured many of the pupils whose parents serve in the Armed Forces.

Adam Searle (Year 8), **Harry Tawls** (Year 8) and **Nissi Akhator-Stephens** (Year 7), wrote and shared their reasons why we should remember those who sacrifice much. Other pupils shared prayers and readings, or read the roll of honour of WW2 OWs who gave their lives in this conflict.



Matthew Workman, Year 7

My dad is in the Army. I've moved around quite a bit and have experienced a lot of cool things along the way. Moving to Germany was really exciting for me as I couldn't wait to be part of the community and start learning the language, but part of my six-year-old brain was greatly alarmed by the prospect of having to meet new people to make new friends.

Although I wanted to keep all my friends, but, as they say you can't have your cake and eat it. Whilst we were in Germany my dad was deployed to Afghanistan for six months. I was initially worried but I mostly felt really proud and I'd like to think to myself wow he's out there saving the world, I really do have the best dad on Earth.

Nissi Akhator-Stephens, Year 7

I'm really proud of my mum and dad as they have both served in the Army and my dad still does. They were both deployed in Iraq in 2003 but this was before I was born.

During my dad's time in the Army he has had to go away for long periods of time, when it was just my mum looking after my brother and I.

I remember when my dad went to Afghanistan. I missed him dearly. Getting in touch was scarce, we had barely any phone calls and just a few letters here and there.

We would make videos to send him and send parcels with things in to make him happy, like photos of the things we were doing and his favourite sweets.

There is no better feeling than when my dad returns after a long time away.

I am extremely proud of him and the job he does.

Harry Tawls, Year 8

SACRIFICE

It's about the fighting; the dead; the war;
 My Great Great Grandad in World War One, at Gallipoli;
 My Great Great Uncle in World War Two at Dunkirk and in a bomber over Germany;
 My Grandad in Northern Ireland; a Cold War soldier;
 My Dad in Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan;
 They survived; many didn't.
 It's not just about the fighting; the dead; the war; it's also about those left behind:
 My Great Great Grandmother in England with a young son;
 My Great Great Aunt waiting for the bombers to land;
 My Grandma in Germany with a very young son;
 My Dad – age 3, forgetting who his father was;
 My Mum on her own in Scotland with me and my brother.
 They all showed **Respect** – for our Armed Forces; and the enemy;
 They all showed **Resilience** – courage in the face of fear, uncertainty and separation; not seeing young families grow up;
 They all showed **Responsibility** – to get the job done, to the best of their ability;
 They all showed **Empathy** – for the lost, the injured; all those affected by war.
 It's about sacrifice.

Adam Searle, Year 8



Sophie McKerrow, Year 8

Science Week

Children from all years had the opportunity to explore topics not always covered by the National Curriculum during the Prep School's Science Week.

Science Week enables children to explore Science beyond what is always possible in the lab or the classroom. The aim is that the exciting topics will fire their imagination and inspire them into careers in Science.

Mr Archer visited from the Senior School to wow children in Years 3 to 8 with a fire lecture. Amongst some of the demonstrations pupils looked at methanol and why it could be a fuel of the future and at magnesium burning without oxygen.



by **Amelia Portlock, Year 7**

The Prep School had an assembly based on Science as it is Science Week. **Mr Holroyde** and **Mr Bloodworth**, or should I say the Great, Great, Great grandson of **Galileo** and **Professor Van Goodheisen** had a Science battle.

Mr Holroyde accidentally double booked the two Scientists so the only way to settle it was to have a Chemistry competition.



Year 6 pupils visited We The Curious in Bristol and took part in two workshops. The first involved fossils and evolution and demonstrated this by sorting rocks and looking at how the domestic horse's evolution has been shaped by climate change.

The second was a light workshop which involved pupils solving puzzles at five light stations, groups that fared better in solving clues then got an advantage in the laser obstacle course to steal the gold bullion.



Galileo's distant grandson tried to do a dry ice experiment, but was disqualified because dry ice and warm water is not a chemical reaction and that was the theme.

The best bit of the assembly was when **Professor Van Goodheisen** forgot where his character was supposed to come from and he made it up on the spot.

It was a hilarious way of learning Science.

Wycliffe STEM Day

by **Albert (Albie) Spiers, Year 6**

STEM Day at the Senior School started with a talk by Lizzie Daly about her adventures in nature.

After that, we had a talk with someone who works on the Bloodhound SSC and he poured some 'rocket fuel' (I think it was lighter fluid) into a tube, closed it, then stuck a lighter in the back and BOOM!

We went into the Science block and welded chocolate into a box shape and someone's withstood 10kg! Then we had lunch, which was nothing to do with Science. Right after lunch, we did Computer Science, where we coded things called microbits to do certain things like pulsating heat and playing rock, paper, scissors.

We made our pressure powered cars out of K'nex and I had a blast! My car broke and just as I was to test it too. Finally, we did an activity where they had told us PE staff had gone walking in some cliffs and didn't come back. But when search parties went out, they found a camp and some bodies with slime on them.

Obviously, the whole thing was fake but I still had fun testing whether it was slime or water because it had little bug looking thing that we looked at through a microscope.



Expedition Day

Every year pupils in Years 3 to 8 set off for an Expedition Day in September. It provides children with a chance to explore and learn together and to get to know their classmates.

Year 3 went back in time to St Fagans National Museum of History. Year 4 enjoyed a trip to Woodchester Park where one of their activities was to make portraits of teachers from woodland resources. Year 5 enjoyed a trip to Copsegrove Farm. And Year 6 got on their bikes in the Forest of Dean. Year 7 went to Haresfield Beacon while Year 8 put their map reading skills to the test on the Malvern Walk.



Year 7



Year 3



Year 4



Year 3

By Charley Thomas, Year 6

Wow! Today was a great day! As I came into school, nervous and excited, I had no idea what an action-packed enthralling day I was in for.

Later, when we were about to arrive, I took a peep out of the window and I saw we were under a dense tree canopy enveloped on both sides by majestic, awe-inspiring trees as well as abundant patches of stunning, beaming flowers which seemed to wave at me as we carried on through the magnificent forest.

As we got on our bikes, we were raring to go. Only after we started did I realise that I didn't know how to change gears! In all fairness though, it wasn't the same as the bike I ride at home.

Eventually, I figured it out and it turned out I was

pushing the button to go down a gear! When I knew how to change gear, I instantly switched up into gear eight and sped off down the track.

I also have to mention the absurd amount of injuries! Miraculously, everyone finished the trail. The day we had was awesome and I hope this summed it up!



Year 6

Eco Week

Prep stages its first Eco Week

Prep pupils, teachers and staff proved they care about the environment by holding the school's first ever Eco Week.

Pupils in Years 3 to 5 built bug hotels, picked up litter, identified native species in the Wycliffe grounds and made litter art. They also enjoyed a puppet show by Ecological Defence Integrity Ltd about environmental issues.

Twenty-six pupils in Year 6-8 voluntarily gave up their lunch break to do a litter pick.

The Eco Warriors committee was set up last year with the help of **Mr Holroyde**. The aim of the committee is to make the Prep an eco-friendly environment. As part of the week's activities the children planted trees in the school grounds including a special cherry in honour of **Mr** and **Mrs Palmer**.

Green Day was an initiative set up by Year 8 pupils **Sophie McKerrow** and **Kate Cox** as part of their Kirby Challenge.



Insect hotel building

by **Bella Shute** and **Sebastian Forrest**, Year 8

As part of their exploration day, pupils in Years 3-5 took on a challenge to build two bug hotels in one day!

They were pushed to their limits in the cold weather, and some were clearly well-prepared, with gloves to wear, whilst others were not so, and wore shorts.

They worked hard to produce two amazing new bug hotels, using materials like sticks, leaves and pine cones. The pupils all showed resilience in order to help the bugs keep warm in the winter and give them some nice shelter.

Year 6 did more work with **Mr Gaunt** to extend the hotel building project on eco-Saturday.

Tree planting

by **Abigail Opaleye and Charlie Hart, Year 8**

Prep pupils planted some trees for Eco Week. They did this to try to reduce our school's carbon footprint and the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

All year groups from Lower Nursery to Year 8 had at least two Eco Warrior representatives to do the planting and they were all very excited. There was one tree per year group planted and when everyone was helping each other out, it really showed the true colours of the Wycliffe community.

After lots of hard work, the pupils presented Mr and Mrs Palmer with their own chocolate cherry tree to commemorate their time and dedication to Wycliffe Prep School.



Year 3 challenge

by **Thomas Woollard and Tilly Coles, Year 8**

Year 3 had an eco pack full of activities, and they had to complete it over the course of the week.

They were enjoying doing these and many of them had amazing designs!

They had to design an eco-car, write a poem titled eco-week, draw

a floor plan for an eco-friendly room or house, research and write facts and figures about recycling in Gloucestershire, list and draw some recyclable materials, create an eco-week poster and write a set of instructions on how to make a eco brick.

An eco-brick is a plastic bottle filled with many plastic wrappers and is used in places like Africa to build homes for the families.



Eco fables

by **Alex Maida-Doyle and Olivia Larkman, Year 8**

Year 6 created Eco Fables in English, with their own choice of subject. In **Miss Florio's** class, **Ben Cook** was creating a story called 'The Artic Fox and the Polar Bear'. The moral of the story was 'think about how your actions might affect others,' and he chose this because he felt strongly about this subject.

Mrs Palmer's class created kamishibas also known as Japanese paper stories. **Millie Downey** said 'I want a good environment to live in,' and, inspired by this idea, she wrote a kamishiba called 'The Sea and The Hair,' which is based on pollution.

The Eco Fables have now been printed into booklets, and are available to look at in the library.

Tackling plastic

by **Kate Cox and Will Franklin, Year 8**

Year 4 researched plastic pollution in our oceans, using the book: 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley', by Sarah Roberts. Stanley is a plastic bag who is mistaken for a jellyfish and eaten by numerous different sea creatures. This helped them

understand the dangers of plastic in our oceans.

By reading 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley', and a touching National Geographic report, Year 4 learned more about and how plastic pollution is affecting our planet. When they were asked what they would want to be when they were older, a few said marine biologists, after being moved by the shocking articles.





Forest School

Children from Nursery to Year 2 learn as they explore and play during Forest School sessions.

Forest School enables children to develop a relationship with the natural world as they explore and discover. It teaches them about how to look after themselves and to look after nature.

The activities support development of resilience, self-esteem and confidence and promotes children to become independent and creative learners, supports their holistic development

including physical, social, cognitive, linguist and emotional and spiritual aspects.

Nursery children made their own mud paint, went bug hunting and used a spotter sheet to identify plants.

For Superhero Day the children made a shelter using tarpaulins that was big enough for everyone and used a mallet and sticks to construct a small world

hideout for Superhero figures.

Activities have included relevant stories such as Stickman and Stanley's stick and introducing Wycliffe's Forest School owl puppet, Hooty.

Every session finishes with hot chocolate back at basecamp.

Years 3 and 4 pupils enjoy Forest School sessions at Copsegrove Farm.



We love Christmas



World Book Day

Children went above and beyond with their costumes for World Book Day.

Middle and Upper Prep pupils excelled themselves when they worked in their tutor groups to give a short presentation about a chosen book to the rest of the school.

In Middle Prep, the winners were Year 4 with their rendition of *'The Day The Crayon Quit'* and in Upper Prep, Year 8RH won with their clever presentation of **Agatha Christie's** *'Murder on the Orient Express'*.

Pupils also took part in a 'Share a Story' activity

with their tutors; a second-hand book sale, which raised £43.40 for the school's chosen charity (The James Hopkins Trust) and a book-swap.

Children from Lower Nursery to Year 2 took part in various activities in Pre-Prep and dressed up as their favourite character. There was a book hunt, drama and children made a group book. Author Clare Luther visited Pre-Prep to read and chat to children.



The whole school



Grenfell House

by Mrs Seyburn

What a truly amazing year for Grenfell. Little did we know at the start of the academic year what challenges we would encounter but I am astounded at the resilience that pupils have demonstrated.

From September to March, we continued to work extremely hard at our sporting and academic activities and Grenfell pupils were keen to demonstrate their willingness to excel in all areas of the curriculum. House Points, Excellents and successes were shared in our weekly House Assembly and we continue to be a strong family unit.

We enjoyed World Book Day – all tutorial groups worked tremendously hard on their chosen book and we had an afternoon of entertainment as pupils dressed up and acted out a section of their chosen books.

House Music Competition was exciting – Grenfell's Song choice was 'The Greatest Showman' and despite not coming first in the House Song, we were the overall winners for the competition. Well done to everyone and particularly to **Miles Menon** who selected our song and worked hard to motivate the team to attend rehearsals and join in the fun.

A thank you also to **Maya Corbin** who helped with the choreography. From the very young to Year 8

pupils, we have very talented musicians who are a delight to listen to. They should all be extremely proud of their musical achievements.

With the Palmer Cup for House Points and Excellents and the Music Trophy we were on track to achieve another successful year but March brought the news that school was to close and we were entering a new phase and challenge: LOCKDOWN.

Over the past few months, I have witnessed the greatest determination and resilience with pupils working hard and engaging in Direct Learning online. This year, it has been a pleasure teaching our pupils where they have been proactive and keen to achieve well in their academic studies. While this period has been difficult for many, pupils have gained a new skills set: amazing ICT skills.

Pupils in Grenfell have certainly demonstrated the Core Values particularly resilience and I take this opportunity of saying a big thank you to everyone and to wish the Year 8s all the best for September when they join the Senior School.



Lincoln House

by Mrs Brown

House Sport

Rugby

"The Inter-House Rugby competition was played in the Autumn Term. We knew we were a strong team from the start, but we had to prove it. Our main rivals, Grenfell, were equally as strong so we had to play our best. To beat them, we would need our team spirit and determination. We showed both, and with a last-minute try, we won!"

Harry Tawls, Rugby captain

Netball

"On paper, there was no way we should have won the Inter-House Netball this year. But this is where the Lincoln team spirit came into its own. Where

other Houses had their star players on display, they were just individuals. Lincoln netballers supported each other in every match, and through a heroic display of the school's core values, fought to the last and came away with the trophy. Congratulations!"

Imogen Wright, Netball captain

Virtual Sports Day

It was the first ever Virtual Sports Day in the history of Wycliffe Prep and Lincoln House showed what they are made of. With soaring temperatures, pupils put themselves through their paces in events ranging from agility, to chest passes and dribbling to burpees. Photos and videos came flooding in and we were overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of our pupils.

There were some amazing set-ups.

Poppy Soanes in Belgium had created posters, banners and work-stations around the garden. **Ulysse** and **Jules Hamoir** had arguably the best backdrop of all, with the Swiss Alps featuring in almost all of their videos.

Wendy Wan sent photos from Beijing, whilst **Sosuke Odagiri** showed us the view from his rooftop in Japan. Nearer to home, gardens and driveways around the county were playing host to this incredible event.

The results were announced on the last day of term and I am sure that the whole of Stonehouse must have heard the screams of excitement emanating from Mrs Brown's classroom, when we realised we had won the event. Congratulations to you all.

Lincoln Acrostic

Life
Is about
New
Conquests and remembering
Old victories, but still
Loving our mistakes,
No matter what they are.

by Scarlett Armitage, House
Vice-Captain, Summer Term



House Music

by **Eloise Bartram**,
House Music Manager

Throughout the years, Lincoln House has always excelled in Music. Mrs Brown has always believed in us. Our House Song never fails to amaze the other Houses. Mind you, if there

was an award for the "Most Jealous Competitor", we all know who that would go to! Our Music Captains, Poppy and Harry, helped me to persuade many Lincolmites to perform in the House Music solo competition. It was great fun and we hope that we made Mrs Brown proud!

You certainly did, **Eloise!** (Mrs Brown)



Scott House

by Mrs Hanson

Who would have known on a sunny September day in 2019, that we would have had the year we have had!

Being in Scott, means you have bucket loads of resilience, creativity and kindness. And being a Scottie means you support our 'team' in all we do, and everyone has demonstrated this in the diverse and challenging circumstances of this academic year.

When in school, so many Scotties have tried hard in the various different sports, challenges, productions and concerts and I could not be more proud of their achievements, which we have celebrated every week in our House Assemblies. Scott demonstrated huge and diverse talents in

the House Music Competition and despite our position, I will always remember the amazing rehearsals and the sausages, jelly and toilet roll! Special moments this year included having many of you perform in concerts, **Bade's** excellent House Assembly and the enthusiasm and smiles on your faces at the Christmas Fayre.

On top of this we have continued with exceptional effort, when many Scotties entered the new, remote competitions. These included the Easter Bonnets, Nature Photography, Memory for **Mr** and **Mrs Palmer** and finally

Wycliffe's Got Talent. It was also fantastic to receive so many stories of tasks undertaken in lockdown and pictures of what everyone got up to. I wish I had got to taste some of those cakes! We also had an amazing turn out for the Virtual Sports Day and I was so pleased we won the performance nomination.

Our three House Captains did a sterling job to lead the House and helped me every week. Here are a few quotes from them on what have been their highlights:

Sam: "Scott is a dedicated team, we have dominated Boys House Sport with our seniors coming narrowly second in Rugby and Football. Inters and Juniors also have contributed really well."

Eliza: "This year we have tried our best with Scott Girls Sport."

Rohan: "This year we have shown great resilience, despite any position we have taken. We've enjoyed the quizzes and hearing about different cultures in Assemblies."

Thank you for all the hard work Scott, fingers crossed next year we will get some more trophies for our cabinet! Watch out Lincoln, Shaftesbury and Grenfell, Scott will be back!



Shaftesbury House

by Mr Arman

What a year it has been in every way. All the pupils who have represented the House have done their part to do their best and score as many points as is possible for Shaftesbury.

We have had great success in many areas and this is a tribute to their focus and hard work as team players.

Special mention must be given to all the House Captains too, who helped in their own way by organising teams and cheering them on. To the House and Vice Captains who support me in Assemblies and in day-to-day matters to do with the House.

Because the House is named after Lord Shaftesbury, the campaigner for children's working conditions and rights, Shaftesbury want to give every pupil opportunities to improve and better themselves. This academic year we have won the overall House Cup twice and came close in the Inter House Football Cup, captain **Charlie Hart** explains, "House Football is a great competition which everybody would like to win. It is extremely competitive and

amazing when you do win... Especially if you beat your friends!".

In Netball we came first at senior level, which was a great effort. **Iris Parker** and **Arielle Richard**'s comments were, "We were extremely lucky to have all of Shaftesbury's amazing Senior Netball players available to help us win the 2020 Girls' Senior Netball. It was an amazing experience and we will never forget it. We are very proud to have been chosen to lead such an amazing team."

In the Girls' Inter House Hockey Cup, Shaftesbury came first! **Abigail Opaleye** the Captain shared, "Once again, the Shaftesbury Hockey team pulled together to bring out three spectacular wins. We had fun, worked together and worked hard. There's nothing like being able to play sport with your friends and they were definitely House matches to remember".



“

We have had great success in many areas and this is a tribute to their focus and hard work as team players.

”

It's also noteworthy that five of the six Head Boy/Girls in 2019-20 have come from Shaftesbury. They have been the role models and leaders in the school for others to follow. So a massive well done to **Abigail Opaleye, Harry Hulley, Charlie Hart, Alissa Goring** and **Olivia Larkman**. It's been a vintage Shaftesbury year!

Learning online in the Summer Term has been a revelation for teachers and pupils alike. They rose to the challenge. Special thanks to the Captains of the House.

House Captains: **Will Franklin, Olivia**

Larkman, Abigail Opaleye.

Vice Captains: **Iris Parker, Harry Gledhill, Eliza Vicary.**

Rugby Captain: **Oliver Gledhill**; Hockey Captain: **Abigail Opaleye**; Cross Country Captain: **Alissa Goring**; Football Captain: **Charlie Hart**; Netball Captains: **Arielle Richard** and **Iris Parker**; Music Captains: **Alice Taylor** and **Abigail Opaleye**; Cricket Captain: **Toby Thompson**; Athletics Captains: **Alissa Goring** and **Oliver Gledhill**; Swimming Captains: **Harry Hulley** and **Alice Taylor**.

Pennwood and Windrush



Forces' family activity nights



Windrush boarding



Mindfulness fun



Amber, a Forces' Family challenge winner



Just chilling on a Saturday night



Supper time smiles

Pennwood and Windrush



Let the pancake races begin!



Pizza chats in dorm



Laser tag before the battle



Pennwood boarding



Lots of chats around the kitchen table



Making memories and treasures



Sunday fun



Build a tent bed change night

Nature Photography Competition

This year, with the extraordinary circumstances we found ourselves in, the House competitions had to adapt and change.

So the introduction of new inter-house challenges was set up and relished by many who took part remotely.

One of these challenges was the Nature Photography Competition, and the parameter was that the participant just had to take a photograph of nature without any help! We received so many entries that Mr Stopforth had a really hard job in judging. A huge well done for

everyone who entered.

Winners

Pre-Prep: **Jacob Luff**, Year 2

Middle Prep: **Scarlett Tilsey**, Year 3

Upper Prep: **Maya Corbin**, Year 8

Special Commendations to: **Austin Webster**, Year 6, and **Jemima Tapping**, Year 6



Austin Webster, Year 6



Evie Westwater, Year 3

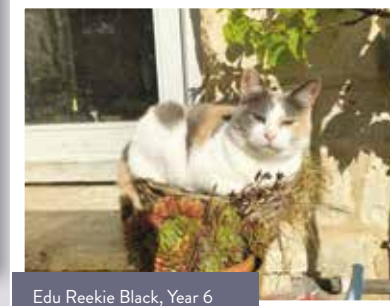


Ethan Wright Year 5



Archie Gidman, Year 2

Maya Corbin, Year 8



Edu Reekie Black, Year 6

Jacob Luff, Year 2



Jemima Tapping, Year 6



Alex Evanson-Goddard, Year 8



Hugo James, Year 4

Scarlett Tilsley, Year 3



Megan Barrett, Year 5

The Kirby Challenge

The pupils in Year 8 have once again embraced the Kirby Challenge, the aim of which is to encourage young people to become leaders, challenge themselves physically and mentally and take pride in becoming an asset to their communities.

Alissa Goring, Oliva Larkman and Bella Shute organised the Christmas Fayre and raised over £4,000 for charity. **Arielle Richard and Eloise Bartram** sang at Southmead Hospital in Bristol. **Angus Davenport** shopped for people in need during lockdown, having created a WhatsApp help group in his village.

Theo Dunn climbed the height of Everest up and down his stairs and also took part in the 'Big Bath Sleep Out' to bring attention to homeless charities. **Toby Thompson** and **Alice Adams** organised an amazing auction of promises at the Christmas Fayre. **Nadine Bowerman** choreographed and performed an aerial acrobatics show which she videoed and we all watched in amazement during lockdown. **Tilly Coles**

who has single-handedly produced the Year 8 Leavers' Yearbook. **Toby Thompson, Sam Gregory and Charlie Hart** organised non-uniform day on behalf of Pied Piper Appeal.

"I decided to complete an Inland Waterways Helmsman's course. I chose to do this because I had recently got a little boat and my family and I needed to have proper training. It was a two-day course and it was a very challenging thing to do." **Margot Elliott**

"I am running 10km. I am doing this for my Kirby Challenge because I am not a big fan of running and I also struggle to run long distance. Doing this is helping my strength and my stamina." **Amber Arthurton**

"I had planned to dribble a Football from Painswick to Wycliffe, to raise money for the Oskar Foundation (children's education in India). Being isolated at home, I was still determined to complete my challenge whilst observing lockdown restrictions and was inspired by other back garden challenges like **Captain Sir Tom Moore's** walk. So I chose to complete the distance along the track below my house.

"I decided on the morning to double the target distance and dribble a half marathon, equalling the distance from home to school. I raised over £400 for the charity."

Seb Guest



Year 8 took part in the annual Malvern Walk as part of their Kirby Challenge



“

Theo Dunn climbed the height of Everest up and down his stairs and also took part in the 'Big Bath Sleep Out' to bring attention to homeless charities.

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Making a difference

Show a little kindness

These two-year-old children, the youngest Nursery group, were awarded kindness certificates after having been seen performing at least three spontaneous examples of friendship, helpfulness or thoughtfulness to others around them.

We look for children playing cooperatively together, inviting someone to play, sharing, helping someone find or reach something, maybe holding hands with



someone who is unsure, listening to each other, generally being friendly. All of these are quite big asks for two-year-olds, as children of this age are in the self-centred part of their natural development.



Pre-Prep pupils donated their Harvest food collection to the Stroud District Food Bank. Many thanks to all pupils, parents and families for donating 50kg of food to this fantastic charity.



Pennwood's last two boarders kept busy with some positivity by creating rainbow posters.

Ac-Cent-Tchu-Ate the Positive

In December all the Year 3 pupils wrote positive messages and Christmas wishes to poorly children in Great Ormond Street Hospital.

Some of the messages included:



"There will always be a little Christmas magic everywhere you go."

Evie Westwater



"I hope you will have a brilliant time this Christmas."

Flynn Scanlon



"I wish you a Merry Christmas. May your day be a sparkly day."

Alistair Spurr



"Have a magical and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

Georgiana Turner-Wilkes



Year 3 created a special video of 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow' during lockdown to remind us to keep smiling and have hope.

Sport

Hockey

During the Autumn Term every girl from Year 3 to Year 8 had the opportunity to represent the school in Hockey. The girls worked hard focusing on improving their skills whilst displaying exceptional core values on the pitch. There were some mixed performances throughout the season, some games were very even others not quite as even yet each week the girls played with grit and determination as they worked as part of a team. The Under 13s and Under 11s, represented Wycliffe in the Regional IAPS Tournament at Millfield. The



Under 13s made it through to the quarter-finals and finished 7th out of 18 teams in the Tournament. There were more exciting performances from the Under 10 and Under 9 teams which have led to a real sense of optimism as we look forward to next year.

Netball

The Netball term included numerous matches, IAPS and local tournaments, not forgetting the Year 8 sports tour to London. There were many highlights, including fantastic interceptions and teamwork in defence, dynamic, fast paced play through centre court and excellent timing and movement in the attacking third. The Under 13s, Under 12s and Under 11s all represented Wycliffe in the Regional IAPS Tournament at Millfield. The Under 11s finished in the top eight in the plate competition, whilst the Under 13s finished second in the same competition. The young age groups learnt about resilience in their play and good sportsmanship, whilst portraying exemplary spirit and good morale throughout.

Years 1 and 2 had the chance to also play Hockey to help them develop fundamental movement skills, become increasingly competent and confident.



IAPS Netball

On 27th February the Under 11s travelled to Millfield to participate in the Regional IAPS Netball Tournament. The Tournament started well with a closely fought match against The Downs, winning 2-1. The success continued in to the second game where they played Mount Kelly, winning 12-0.

Unfortunately, the girls struggled in their final group game against Taunton and lost 7-2, however they finished 2nd in their group and went through to the plate competition where they finished in the top eight.

The Under 12s followed the next day and

participated in a round robin format, which meant they have six games to play throughout the day. They had some close games against Kings Hall (lost 6-8) and Taunton (drew 3-3) as well as a win against Dean Close 5-3. Unfortunately, they lost their other matches, yet they continued to put 100% effort into every match, working as a team and developing their skills throughout.

The Under 13s played some of their best netball of the season right when it was required. After beating Salisbury 9-5 and losing to The Downs and Abberley Hall they finished 3rd in their group, progressing through to plate competition where they placed second.

Swimming

Ten swimmers competed in the IAPS Regional Swimming Qualifier at the Dragon School in Oxford.

They took part in a range of individual events. Everyone swam well with some winning their heats and others securing personal best times.



Sport

Rugby

The message throughout the Rugby season for nearly all the Wycliffe teams was one of self-belief. Believe that as a team, together we are better than we think we are! With an impressive example set by our Under 13A team, the other age groups gradually absorbed this message and began to develop very positively throughout the season. Particular praise must go to all the boys in Year 7, who had a real challenge at the start of the season to come together as a team, and were able to make exceptional progress throughout the term, to finish the season as a competitive and well drilled unit.



and along with some impressive performances, coaches were continually impressed with the pleasant and engaged attitude of all the boys. Much improvement was made across the term, and we can be excited about our prospects looking towards next year.

Football

Our Colts A team stole the limelight from the 1st team this year, through their qualification to the IAPS National six-a-side finals in the Autumn Term. The teamwork, grit and determination shown during the qualification stage was superb to behold and justification for how our school core values really can bring out the best in individuals, enabling unexpected successes. During the Spring Term, all the boys had the opportunity to represent their school,



Sports Tour 2020

by Olivia Larkman, Year 8

On a bright early morning, Year 8 pupils were buzzing to get on the coach to London, ready for our Sports Tour.

As I stepped through the gates of Lord's Cricket Ground, I had to pinch myself. I could not believe that I was there! From this experience, I hoped to return home knowing more about Cricket than my twin brothers.

Day 2 was also as equally fabulous with a trip to the Olympic Park and Stadium. The tour was interesting and I have learned a lot more about Football and the Olympics. Consequently, something else was playing on my mind as we walked courageously over to the Orbit slide, neighbouring the stadium.

My body springs off the diving block into the Olympic swimming pool, responding to Abi who shouts 'Go!'. Length after length, I

am determined to reach the end and then something amazing awaited me. **Tom Daley** strode casually to the changing rooms. We saw a quick glimpse of our Olympic Diving Champion.

Then we had the chance to visit the Olympic warm-up athletic track where I chose the endurance session. Next, the Velodrome. Whipping around the corner of the track, I was determined to go up a level and reach the higher bit of the slope.

Suddenly, I heard a wheel against my back wheel and before I knew it, I was tumbling down. Off to A&E I went. To add to my sadness, I was not able to play in the Netball match.

Looking back, we all had amazing opportunities and I know that I will remember this trip forever.



Virtual Sports Day

Sports Day was a little different this year. There wasn't the usual battle for first place in the 100m, or the excitement of the whole school relay. This year it was all about the technology.

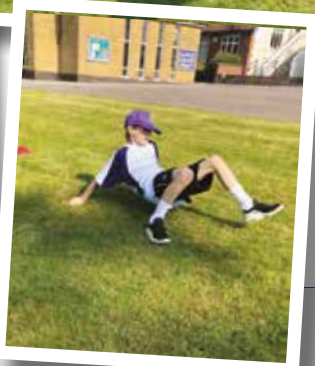
Pupils were set 12 events to participate in throughout the morning, receiving a point for their House with every score they submitted and an extra point if they submitted a photo or video.

The events were designed so they would be accessible to all, using limited space and equipment that could be adapted. We had pupils jumping over pillows, towels, boot bags and rocks whilst others threw balls and dog toys. We had pupils using shoes and cereal boxes instead of cones, it was amazing to see how inventive our pupils could be.

A total of 201 pupils took part, a fantastic result. We had pupils from Reception to Year 8 participating. They took part from home, in school and around the globe including Belgium, Switzerland, Japan, China and Cyprus.

Overall results

- 1 – Lincoln
- 2 – Shaftesbury
- 3 – Scott
- 4 – Grenfell



	Pre-Prep	Year 3 and 4	Year 5 and 6	Year 7 and 8
Chest Pass	Archie Gidman	Georgiana Turner-Wilkes	Jemima Tapping	Sofia Odiz
Alternate Hand Throw		Max Hursthouse	Oliver Jewkes	Ulysse Hamior
Speed Bounce	Archie Gidman	Max Hursthouse and Hugo James	Olivia Deshais	Harry Hursthouse
Step Up	Lewis Sandison	Oakley Jewkes	Oliver Jewkes	Ulysse Hamior
Plank	Lewis Sandison	Josh Cooper	Amy Barrett	Will Welby

Top 3 Results Per Activity

	1	2	3
Chest Pass	Jemima Tapping	Sofia Odiz	Oliver Jewkes
Alternate Hand Throw	Ulysse Hamior	Jules Hamior Sam Gregory Oliver Jewkes	Millie Gidman
Speed Bounce	Olivia Deshais	Harry Hursthouse	Olivia Deshais
Step Up	Oliver Jewkes	Ulysse Hamior	Ruby Dickenson
Plank	Amy Barrett	Jemima Tapping	Oliver Jewkes

Farewell Mr and Mrs Palmer

Seventeen years is a long time in anybody's life, but in the life of young people, particularly those of Prep School age, it's an eternity. I can honestly say that the Palmers have had an impact on thousands of young – and not so young – lives that will last.

Pupils will remember **Mr and Mrs Palmer's** Assemblies, their constant support at concerts, productions, sports events, match teas, on trips – both in the UK and in France – and their willingness to dress up for those whole-school occasions. Their sense of humour and desire to 'muck in' has been front and centre of school life and has influenced the atmosphere of the school enormously.

Parents have valued being able to reach them when they needed them, even in the holidays and at weekends, as well as feeling confident that both **Mr and Mrs Palmer** knew their child as an individual and cared about their well-being.

Their impact is not limited to the people who have been involved with the school. They also leave an impact which will live long in people's memory, and which has covered every aspect of school life. When changing the name of the school in 2004 from Wycliffe College Junior School to Wycliffe Prep School, they made very clear from the outset that academic rigour mattered and raising academic standards would be a priority for them.

They weren't willing to compromise the non-academic side of life to achieve that though, and oversaw many improvements to the fabric of the school. From the refurbishment of the Science and Art rooms and swimming pool, and the construction of an all-weather pitch, to the all-singing, all-dancing versatile teaching space, Etheridge Hall, a real statement that pulled together their aspirations for the school. Their commitment to boarding was seen in the time they spent in the Boarding Houses and their support for the refurbishments that took place there too.

As **Mr Palmer's** Deputy for 14 years, I saw at first-hand how dedicated they always were to the school and how they dove-tailed in what they did. **Mr Palmer** had a very clear role and **Mrs Palmer** filled any gaps, often

without people knowing, and often without the recognition she deserved.

They have ensured a significant degree of stability, something the school needed when they arrived in 2003, and a very visible presence which has provided reassurance and security to so many pupils, parents and colleagues.

Most significantly, they share a passion for and have dedicated their professional lives, to education, and have provided countless opportunities for young Wycliffians to develop as rounded, community-minded and considerate individuals.

They are an incredibly hard act to follow.

Ginny Jackson
Deputy Head 2004-2018



“

Their sense of humour and desire to 'muck in' has been front and centre of school life and has influenced the atmosphere of the school enormously.

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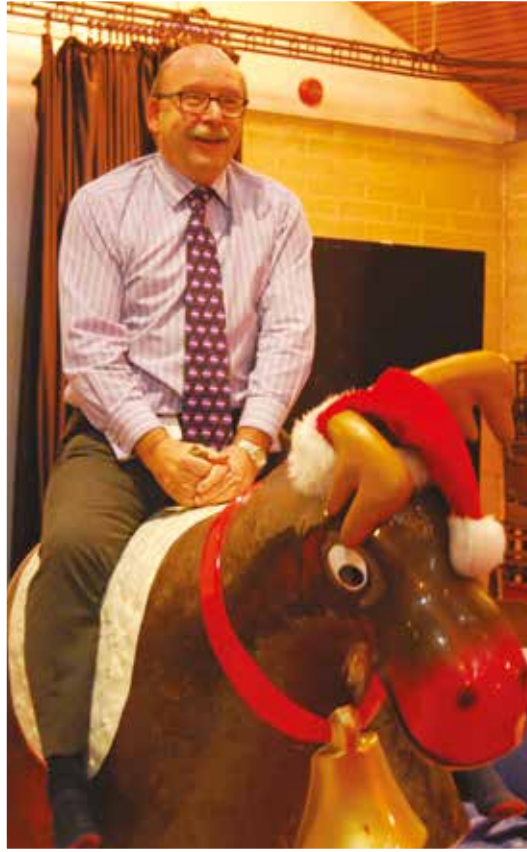
Adrian and Julie Palmer make a fantastic partnership and define the nurturing and happy ethos of the school. They have worked tirelessly to develop a real sense of belonging and community which is palpable as you walk around the school site.

Mrs Palmer is an exceptional teacher and academic. Her in-depth understanding of the learning process is second to none and she will happily spend hours developing the perfect learning opportunity for the children in her care.

Mr Palmer's sense of fun should not mask his purpose and vision, his drivers are simple, he wants every child at Wycliffe Prep School to fulfil their potential.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with them over the last couple of years – and the line ‘I will leave that to my esteemed Deputy’ will remain with me forever! Thank you and enjoy your well-earned retirement.

Dr Sarah Owenson, Deputy Head



“

Under **Mr Palmer's** headship the Nursery community became an environment which encouraged all children to grow in confidence and develop to their full potential. For the opportunities that you gave to us all, **Mr Palmer** we thank you.

”

“

I am so grateful for the support **Mr** and **Mrs Palmer** have given me during my time at Wycliffe. I have learnt so much from them both, especially different handwriting techniques and advice to support children in class. They have definitely had a great impact, an extremely positive one.

”

“

During my 14 years at the Prep School, **Mr** and **Mrs Palmer** have kept a perfect balance between setting high behavioural standards and creating a fun and relaxed atmosphere. I recall **Mr Palmer** walking the Malvern Hills with Year 8, wearing a pink tu-tu; **Mr** and **Mrs Palmer** spending many a World Book Day in fancy dress (including a full-blown

chicken suit and an orangutan costume); and **Mrs Palmer** persuading **Mr Palmer** to dress up as **William Shakespeare**. All of this has proved that while they have continually shaped Wycliffe pupils into well-mannered, respectable young people, they have also demonstrated that it is important to have fun and enjoy the lighter side of life!

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I still recall vividly the first time I met **Mr and Palmer**, at interview. **Mrs Palmer** gave me a tour of the school, where her enthusiasm for teaching and for the wellbeing of the children is still as clear now as it was then. **Mr Palmer**, when he offered me a job, shared his belief that the most important thing in a child's education is their happiness, as a happy child will reach their potential. Whilst the school has changed greatly since then, both in appearance and dynamic, the two of them have not, where they maintained their energy and enthusiasm in offering the very best for the pupils under their care.

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Mrs Palmer has worked tirelessly to help each child in Pre-Prep reach their academic potential and learn in an environment tailored to their needs. Her commitment to each pupil has been inspiring and we, as a department, will miss her contribution greatly. Whether whizzing down the Pre-Prep slide, dressing up as a Superhero or having a snow ball fight with his wife, **Mr Palmer** has always made the pupils smile and they will miss his weekly assemblies in school.

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When I joined there was certainly no fantastic, purpose-built Etheridge and I taught in the portable cabins at the back of the site. That space where I first taught now stands as the sensory garden and encapsulates the values of the Prep School, values **Mr and Mrs Palmer** have instilled into the 'core values' and Wycliffe Baccalaureate, as well as the physical make up of the school. I have been very privileged to work alongside such a dedicated team, who have supported and enabled children to grow.

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I think the biggest compliment that can be paid to **Mr Palmer** is still how friendly and polite the children are when I return to watch some sport. I always admired his confidence and his willingness to make a fool of himself - that 'onesie' he wore in front of the children - his Secret Santa' present and, of course, those ties. **Mr and Mrs Palmer** and his ties deserve a very happy retirement.

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Mr Palmer's ethos at the Prep School, of wanting a happy child, hasn't just been an ethos. He has put this at the centre of everything we do at Wycliffe, in the firm belief that a happy child is one who will succeed and flourish. In my role as Director of Pastoral Care, he has been hugely

supportive in making pastoral care a crucial aspect of the children's development. During the 17 years of his leadership, pastoral care has become even more important. **Mr and Mrs Palmer** have always been approachable and caring towards everyone in the Wycliffe community.

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