

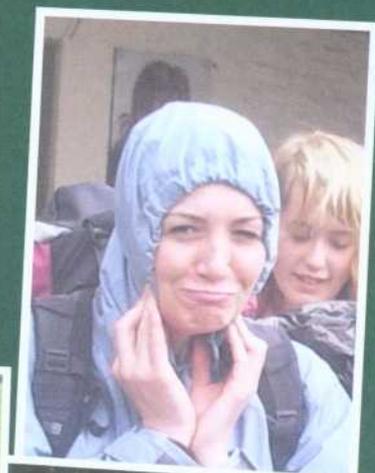


STOVER

ACHIEVING YOUR ASPIRATIONS

• **FOUR SCHOOLS.** •
ONE FAMILY

Stover School Magazine
2007 - 2008







Welcome to the 2007 - 2008 Stover Magazine

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(IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

THE EDITORIAL TEAM

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Mrs Susan Bradley

EDITORIAL

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Principal's Welcome



This edition of the school magazine is very full and reflects an extremely successful year at Stover.

The large number of contributions indicates how busy our pupils in the Nursery, Preparatory and Senior School have been.

In assembly we acknowledge and celebrate together our achievements, as individuals and as a school. These cover all areas of school life and include Academic, Sport, Music, Art, Drama and extra-curricula activities. We are also very proud of our fund-raising work and this year nearly £2,500 has been raised for charity.

Life is a journey and pupils at school are starting out on their individual journeys. During these formative years our aim is to build a strong foundation of core values which will remain with our pupils throughout their lives.

Pupils at Stover participate, seize opportunities, thrive and flourish.

I hope that you enjoy reading all these contributions from pupils and staff and that it gives you a flavour of the life and spirit, which is Stover.

I look forward to another exciting, successful and enjoyable year ahead.

MRS SUSAN BRADLEY Principal

Examination Results

Excellent Results 2008 - A-level top performers

Juliet Bowater Achieved 3 A Levels with Biology and Physics at grade A, Chemistry at grade B, and AS Level Mathematics at grade C. Juliet will read Microbiology and Pathology at Bristol University.

Christy Cheng Achieved 4 A Levels with Chemistry, Chinese and Mathematics at grade A, Biology at grade B and AS Level Physics grade B. Christy will read Biochemistry at Imperial College London.

Annabelle Dodson Achieved 3 A Levels with Biology and Geography at grade A, Chemistry at grade C and AS Level Classical Civilisation at grade B. Annabelle will read Geology at Southampton University.

Chloe Collins Achieved 3 A Levels with English Literature at grade A, French and History at grade B and AS Level Classical Civilisation at grade A and Critical Thinking.

Deborah Hosford Achieved 3 A Levels with French at grade A, German and English Literature at grade B and AS Level History at grade C. Deborah will read Modern Foreign Languages at Exeter University.

An Impressive Record

"The results at AS and A Level are a credit to our pupils who have achieved outstanding grades. Stover is a non-selective school and continues to maintain its impressive record of excellent results. Pupils have achieved high grades, enabling them to secure places at top universities and achieve their aspirations. I wish all our pupils every success in their further studies" Mrs Susan Bradley, Principal.

"I am delighted and proud of my sixth form pupils whose excellent grades reflect their hard work and the dedication of their teachers. I would like to take the opportunity to thank them for making my first year as Head of Sixth Form so enjoyable. Stover Sixth Form is thriving with record pupil numbers and we continue to achieve a 100% entry to University". Mr Tim Wightman, Head of Sixth Form.

Congratulations to our top performing pupil, Catherine Love for achieving 3 A Levels at grade A in Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics and AS Level Physics grade A. Catherine will read Forensic Science at Keele University.

Cristina Dondiuc Achieved 4 AS Levels with Biology, French and Mathematics at grade A, Psychology at grade C and A Level Russian at grade A.

Veronica Ho Achieved 4 AS Levels with Mathematics and Physics at grade A, Biology and Chemistry at grade B and A Level Chinese at grade A.

Desmond Leung Achieved 4 AS Levels with Mathematics and Physics at grade A and Chemistry at grade B and A Level Chinese at grade A.

Imogen Middleton Achieved 4 AS Levels with English Literature and History at grade A, Geography at grade B and French at grade C.



Examination Results

Excellent Results 2008 - GCSE top performers

Laura Harwood
Achieved 10 GCSEs with 8A* and 2As

Gemma Hicks
Achieved 11 GCSEs with 7A*, 3As and 1B

Charlotte Newman
Achieved 11 GCSEs with 7A*, 3As and 1B

Roseanna McNally
Achieved 9 GCSEs with 6A* and 3As

Hannah Gower
Achieved 10 GCSEs with 5A* and 5As

Charlotte Gall
Achieved 11 GCSEs with 3A*, 5As and 3Bs

Bethan Lockett
Achieved 11 GCSEs with 3A*, 4As and 4Bs

Lauren Embury
Achieved 10 GCSEs with 10As

Chloe Flain
Achieved 11 GCSEs with 1A*, 8As and 2Bs

Kelly Drummond
Achieved 10 GCSEs with 1A*, 8As and 1B

Amy Jones
Achieved 10 GCSEs with 1A*, 8As and 1B

"Another impressive year, another set of exceptional results! Our pupils are a credit to Stover as they consistently strive to achieve their aspirations. I am once again delighted with our pupils' efforts and I am very proud of all their achievements. We continue to maintain our excellent record of passes at grade C and above.

Stover Sixth Form continues to flourish, with record pupil numbers in Year 12. I wish all pupils every success in their A-Level studies". Mrs Susan Bradley, Principal.

**100% Pass rate
with 89% 5 or more
A* - C Grades!**



Valete



"Phew! Jorgy-Bar Not for Kids!" (Overheard from an awe-struck Year 9, having been made to write a full length essay on *Roses of Eyam!*) Mrs Jackie Jorgensen

Stover without Mrs J? The prospect is unthinkable. She is irreplaceable. Some teachers pass into school legend, imprinted forever in the memories of generations of students, for all the right reasons - such is Jackie Jorgensen. She is a teacher who takes a genuine interest in people, whether the smallest, most bewildered Year Six or the cleverest Year Thirteen.

I have had the pleasure of working and laughing with Jackie since September 2000 but of course her commitment to Stover School stretches back to 1979. First and foremost an English specialist, Jackie has also taught Drama, Performing Arts, and RE. For many years she was Head of the English Department, setting high standards in achievement yet also stressing the importance of personal effort, whatever their ability. She has nurtured and supported the weakest, spending hours after school and at lunchtimes to coax and cajole them along the hard path of GCSE coursework; she has enthused and inspired the brightest; she has led the reluctant to books and shown them the joys of reading. Mrs Jorgensen's promise of a mythical Mars Bar has done wonders to foster enthusiasm for English in many a pupil!

When I came to Stover, to take over from her as Head of Department, I found a warm welcome from an immensely supportive colleague who never interfered but was always ready with words of advice born out of her experience and wisdom. Jackie has stepped forward "into the breach" on so many occasions, with only the welfare of the school and the girls (and now the boys, too) at heart. Jackie is one of those teachers, rare in today's world, who will work tirelessly for the school without expecting any reward other than the pleasure of seeing a job well done. Her contribution has been wonderful: a strong, wise voice in SCR affairs; a staunch member of the Friends of Stover; a director of countless successful school productions; a boarding housemistress; a capable extra pair of hands-on Geography field trips; an indefatigable organiser of theatre trips, ski trips, horse shows... the list is endless.

Jackie's GCSE and A level teaching deserve special mention. She has helped to develop the intellectual curiosity of so many students, instilling in them the requisite skills for sophisticated essay writing and a love of literature that has culminated in so many A* and A grades. Over the years, many girls have been launched on their way to English degrees at prestigious universities.

As a House Leader, Jackie has been terrific. Who will ever forget her spirited "conducting" in House music competitions, or her vocal encouragement on Sports day? In turn, she has served Mary and Lizzie houses loyally.

It has taken Jackie a couple of years to wind down towards retirement but I cannot imagine for one moment that she will be "taking things easy"! I know that when we are incarcerated in a class room, teaching the mysteries of the apostrophe for the millionth time, Jackie will be out there surfing, or laying lobster pots, or fishing, or flying to New Zealand to visit her son Alec, or striding round some other interesting part of the world .. generally packing in all the things she loves so much. We wish you well, Jackie: Stover will not be the same without you.

Mrs J Middleton

Hannah Warman – Teaching Assistant, Learning Support

Hannah went on maternity leave at the end of the Autumn Term. Her baby, Thomas, was born at 11.00am on 30th March in Exeter weighing 8 lb 15oz. Congratulations! Mandi Roberts has joined us to take Hannah's place.

Rev Anna

Rev Anna Norman-Walker (not forgetting her dog, Teasel!) was with us for such a short time as Chaplain and RE/PSE teacher but she was much loved and appreciated. She achieved a great deal, especially in developing the new role of female chaplain. She made us think 'outside the box' in assemblies and lessons, was always smiling or laughing and was interested in the ordinary details of pupils' lives. Numbers in Christian Union and for confirmation classes increased overnight. Thank you, Rev Anna, for all you did at Stover!

Daphne Robins

August 2000 - July 2008

Daphne joined Stover as the Headmaster's PA in August 2000, she had previously been working and living in Germany and moved back to the UK with her cats and kitchen(!), to be nearer to her sister.

Daphne has worked at Stover for 8 years and was an extremely committed and professional colleague, very loyal to the school and its aims.

Daphne always enjoyed the community at Stover, social events and the lovely grounds, often enjoying a walk around the terraces at lunchtime. She was a keen skittle player and took great pleasure in taking charge of the staff skittle evening! She even showed her talents while helping out in boarding one weekend, she ran a dance class, teaching the boarders ballroom dancing and modern steps!

During her time at Stover Daphne also gained her Adult Teaching degree, basing some of her work on Stover. This was a great achievement and a lot of hard work. It was a real joy for her to teach German conversation to some of the pupils at Stover in her final years, and she was very proud of their examinations results!

Daphne left in August to take up a position nearer to her home and we wish her every success in her new role.

Salvete

Mr Giles Forsyth, BA English Literature, Sheffield, PGCE Exeter, TEFL, as Teacher of English. Mr Forsyth was previously Teacher of English and Drama at Notre Dame RC School in Plymouth and also taught these subjects at Eggbuckland Community College.

Ms Amanda Barr, BEd (Hons) HND Video Prod PGDip, as Part Time Teacher of Media Studies and ICT.

Mr Stuart Condict, Higher National Diploma (Distinction) BTEC Industrial Design, as ICT Systems Administrator. Mr Condict was recently an ICT Network Technician at Exmouth Community College and previously worked for companies such as Computershare Technology and Coates Digital as Support Engineer and Network/ Systems Manager.

Mrs Fiona Kirolos, BSc, Dip. Env & Dev, RGN, PGCE, as a Teaching Assistant. Most recently Fiona was a Teacher of Health & Social Care and Psychology and an A-Level Health and Social Care examiner

Mr Timothy Wightman has joined the Senior Management Team and takes up his appointment as Head of the Sixth Form. He will have a dual role at Stover as he had recently been appointed as Head of Art and Photography from September following Mr Dunbar's retirement. This is an exciting time for Stover as boys have now joined the Sixth Form.



Friends of Stover

FRIENDS OF STOVER 2007 – 2008

What a year! Friends of Stover (FOS) has had another very successful year. We have put on a variety of great events and raised a lot of money! The year started with a change of office holders: the new Chairman, Susie Morris, filling Darren Thompson's shoes; Secretary, Kate Reece, and Aidan Hyland, our long-standing Treasurer standing down, Chris Nail, took up the role together with help from Tracy Wood, our new Vice Treasurer.

Our first event was to present a cheque to Children's Hospice South West. At Senior School Assembly, Sophie Scott Smith presented a cheque for £843 (money raised in 2006/2007) to Mrs Judy Pride who came to talk to the School about the fabulous work CHSW does in the Region. Our nominated charity for 2007/2008 is Erme Valley Riding for the Disabled.

The Autumn term finished with the Christmas Fair and I think everyone will agree that its new date on the last day of term really added to the sense of fun. I don't think it is possible to fit any more stalls or people into Jubilee Hall but we can always try. Darren Thompson very kindly brought the Grotto back for everyone to enjoy (and we have already twisted his arm for this year) - did you know that we open it specially for the Foundation Stage at School to visit on their own so they get to see Father Christmas before all the big people arrive? Thank you very much to Hayward and Lamar for sponsoring the Grotto - this meant we did not have to charge an entrance fee and everyone received a present. We had more stalls than ever and the Sixth Form nail-varnishers and Tracy House, our face painter, worked non-stop for more than three and a half hours! One of the highlights was Anne Box's incredible raffle - who can forget Mr Barter's face when he discovered he had

won the evening bag kindly donated by Pumpkin Coach or Becky Nail, walking away with a giant pink shark and Miss Broadhurst winning the 144 piece tool kit. Thank you also to Hottot Transport and Francis Clark for their sponsorship.

No sooner had we caught our breath after the Fair than we began planning Quiz Night and what a night that was. The event was a sell-out with 22 teams entering, everyone enjoyed the fabulous food provided by Paul Milward and the Stover kitchens. The tone was set for a night of intense (but hilarious) competition. Kate Reece compiled all the questions which covered everything from Pop Music to Space. Quizmaster, Mr Griffin, was aided by Mr Haigh and Lynne Hicks doing the scoring. The overall winners were "The Ayreheads" a team made up of staff from SPS and the wooden spoons went to "The Bright Sparks" our youngest team. I think next time there will have to be a prize for the best team name - "We thought it was a Disco" (Mr and Mrs Veal's team) should have won it this year.

We held our first ever Chocolate Quiz this year - Rose Curtis created two different quizzes, a wordsearch for SPS and a more tricky quiz for the Senior School all based on chocolate bars. Mrs Bradley drew the winners at our FOS meeting and the giant Easter eggs were presented to our six winners in Assembly. Well done to Reuben Ash, Beth Holgate and Alex Mckenzie in the Junior School, and Lucy Wormald, George Jewell and Jess Goodman in the senior school. Thanks to Mole Valley Farmers for providing the eggs.

Potters Nurseries kindly offered all parents and "friends" of Stover the opportunity to buy their fabulous hanging baskets ready for the summer, from which a donation of £200 was given to FOS. Huge thanks to Sarah and Simon Bulbulian for this wonderful opportunity.

Our final event for 2008 was the glittering James Bond themed Stover Ball with over 200 people enjoying an incredible evening. This fabulous event was put on by a small group, Sarah Hole, Kate Reece, Rose Curtis and Tracy Wood, and was the first Ball that FOS has organised – hopefully the first of many! A huge thanks to them and all our Sponsors, in particular Prestige Furniture, and Warwick Corporate Events.

Overall FOS has had a fantastic year. With the help of the children, parents, teachers and staff we raised more than £8,000 in 2006/2007 and are on target to raise a similar amount by the end of this year towards Project Pavilion. We have also donated £100 for two greenhouses, complete with

staging which will be used by both the Senior School and the SPS Gardening Club.

On behalf of the whole FOS Committee, thank you very much for making all our events such a success. FOS cannot put on all these events without the continued support of both the parents and staff. However, if you have a fun fundraising idea, please don't be afraid to let us know. We are always looking for new ideas and new people to help raise as much money as possible to provide the school with those little extras, such as the Jubilee Hall tiered seating, the Junior School playground equipment and much more.

Susie Morris, FOS Chairman



House Reports

VICTORIA / COURTENAY REPORT

Wow! This year has been nothing short of fantastic for me. I have seen determination, competitiveness, help and support by the bucketful - from every member of Victoria-Courtenay House. This has made my job so much easier and rewarding, and for that I thank you all.

We have not been lacking in achievements this year, starting with our awesome victory in the House Music Competition. It was a fantastic day, with the Sixth Form working as an unbeatable team, led by the top musicians of the house, including: Mrs Middleton, Sarah Lansdell, Robyn Thompson and Phyllis Ho. Our version of "What I've Been Looking For" from High School Musical included harmony, actions, humorous acting and plenty of smiles. The younger students threw themselves into an excellent performance with tremendous gusto whilst the older ones played their part in singing up and out. The evening also included many skilful ensemble pieces by members of the House, making the event a great success.

Frustratingly, we have not managed to grasp the much sought after House Cup this year, despite a lot of hard work gaining house points and good grade totals. There are many stars of the house including Lorna Pillar, Nicole Foulkes, Jamie Coyne-Stacey and Hugh Reade, meaning that in the Spring Term, unbelievably, we only lost out by 0.3 of a house point! Keep up the good work everyone: that cup has our name on it.

The House Charity this year was the Cinnamon Trust - a national charity for the elderly and their pets. It gives practical help when any part of the animal's care, such as dog walking, becomes a struggle, and provides long term care for pets whose owners have died. We raised £147 by selling numbered squares for the chance to win iTunes vouchers. This money means the charity can continue to help ten thousand people a year with twelve thousand animals and two "home from home" sanctuaries. We have also enthusiastically supported Devon Police's initiative to help the physically disabled by collecting milk bottle tops in the hundreds. Well done to Gemma Hicks and Imogen Middleton in particular.

Sports Day was a huge success, not only because Victoria-Courtenay House was the overall winner, but the amount

of effort, skill and determination observed was inspiring. This year was also a landmark in the history of Stover as it was the first year Sixth Form boys were participating, and what a high standard they have set: William Doble and Desmond Leung both won their races of 100m and 800m respectively and the relay team with the addition of Owen Lo and the amazingly speedy Mr Forsyth ran to a triumphant victory. The girls did not allow themselves to be outshone though, with Emily Morris and Annabel Warwick coming first and second in the 100m sprint and Bethan Reade winning the 300m. Special effort was seen by Jamie Cooke and Mariama Kallon who bravely volunteered to run the long distance events, gaining us points that were vital in this close competition.

Other sporting successes include the cross-country competition with the superb achievement of William Doble beating Mr Baillie from our rival Mary House, and our achievement of coming second in the Inter-House netball competition, an improvement on previous years. Something I observed before I became House Captain was how quickly, and without complaint, people step in when others drop out and this year was no exception. Everyone gave one hundred percent in all aspects.

To finish, I would like to say thank you to Miss Evans and the whole house for making my time as House Captain so enjoyable and worthwhile. I wish Sarah Lansdell good luck for the approaching year and have no doubt that, under her leadership, you will have some great achievements and lots of fun. Catherine Love, Head of Victoria-Courtenay House

House Leader's Report.

I must add my congratulations to Catherine's. What a wonderful year for Vicky/Courtenay! I can also say that, since Catherine wrote her report, we finally won the House Points Cup after many years in the wilderness. Hurray!!! I was particularly pleased, as I am stepping down after over twenty years as House Leader, a job which has been both an honour and a pleasure. Even some members of other, rival Houses were a little perplexed at this news, their comment being, "You can't resign, Miss Evans....there'll be none left to hate!" But you other Houses had better watch out! Mrs. Richards is taking over the throne and I know that she will do a terrific job. She has always been a staunch Vicky/Courtenayan and with Mrs. Middleton continuing her support as Vice-Leader, the future is definitely purple.

House Reports



SEYMOUR HOUSE REPORT

I think, and I'm sure Ms Absalom will agree, that Elizabeth/Seymour House has had a very good past year; whether in tennis, music, hockey or netball; winning or not, we've kept up momentum and reached a halt at the end of the year with a plethora of achievements.

We were all delighted to achieve not one, not two, but three House Cups (since the Summer Term 07)! A wonderful hat-trick under our belts. This success was due to the gargantuan number of house points notched up by various members. Among these, special mentions go to Sian Wood, Alex Wilson, Tom Williams and Josephine Bradford. Well done to everyone, particularly those in the higher years, as we all know it becomes so much harder as you get that much taller. We struggled at times with a heavy load of minus house points but the effort to counteract this won us the Cup. It has been wonderful to see the friendly competition for the highest number of house points within the year groups, clearly obvious by the fact that the gaps become closer each term.

In Sport, we won the Inter-House tennis, despite a disastrous Sixth Form match, for which I apologise! (Thanks go to the younger year groups for their fantastic tennis skills - I envy you)! We also had great results for the Inter-House netball, most markedly in Years 6, 8, 9 and 11.

For the Phylis Dence Concert, our individual musicians.... well, I have run out of superlatives. Suffice it to say that many won their classes, others were close, and those that did not perhaps win were still very impressive. The concert is always pleasing for everyone and the addition of the individual musicians' pieces was a lovely touch. Our part in the main Inter-House music 'Breaking Free' from 'High School Musical' was a really spirited performance.

We've had some great assemblies, from fun to poetical, through dramatic and finishing at thought-provoking. Mr Barter introduced us all to 'My Family and Other Animals' and on Holocaust Memorial Day gave a presentation that was very moving for us all. We've also had the meaning of the Christingle from Mrs Corby - on respect for senior citizens and the importance of always trying and, above all, succeeding, which I think perfectly characterises the House. We kidnapped Kiri Chui from Mary House for a

mesmerising piano recital with our own Ada Yiu (you wanted to stay with us, admit it Kiri!).

Finally, and most significantly, we have been involved in a new charity this year. Our fundraising has been for Stupini Kids, a highly worthy cause for disadvantaged children in a poor suburb of Romania. The lives these children lead is far too sober a topic for a light-hearted school report but I would highly recommend that you all log on to their website: www.stupinikids.org, to see what a real difference even your small amounts of change can do. The money donated has been raised through a family quiz with cash prize and a 13 mile run undertaken by Mr Barter - a half marathon! I am led to believe he ran this in a specially customised bra! We also had the Devon and Cornwall Police Constabulary milk bottle top charity, originally for a wheelchair for a young boy in Torquay, now extending to a dialysis machine due to popularity and success. Well done to Jo Bradford with her 299 bottle tops!

Over the course of the past year Ms Absalom and all the staff have been wonderful. Many thanks to you all. I also have a confession; I am a little ashamed to say that Emma Bush has in fact been an organisational whizz-kid and has organised the file and behind the scenes number work far better than I could ever hope to. Thanks, Emma.

Here's hoping that the next Heads of House form a slightly more balanced partnership. And of course, I wish you both the best of luck, Livvy and Sophie. I hope you enjoy your positions of responsibility as much as I have.

To everyone in Elizabeth/Seymour House: well done and know that every single one of you has found your own way to shine, forming a memory that I will take with me to Uni. The whole Year 13 will miss you dearly and we hope you remain, as ever, the best - the Gryffindor of houses. **Jess Briggs, Head of Elizabeth/Seymour House**

PS from Ms Absalom: My grateful thanks go to Jess and Emma on their commitment to our House and their enormous support with the week to week administration and all those sums. Our fond thoughts and very best wishes go with you, too, as you embark on your new lives and the next stage of your academic careers. My first year as House Leader has flown by, and there is no doubt in my mind we have gradually grown into a cohesive, gently competitive, sensitive, thoughtful and supportive unit. Congratulations to you all on a really successful year and lots of love from Elsmore, the bear!

House Reports

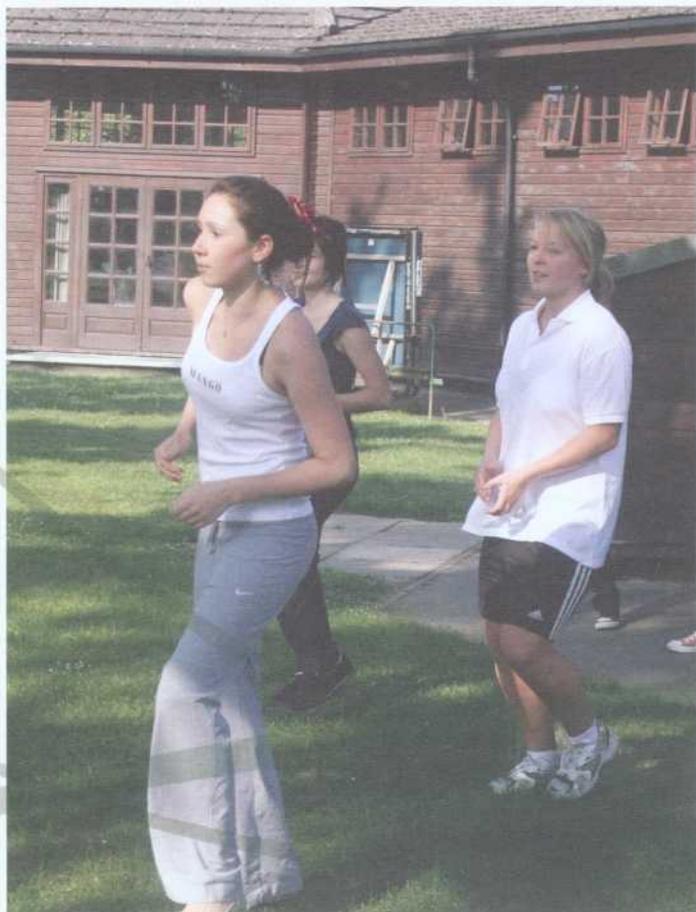
MARY / TEMPLER REPORT

Gosh! It's hard work being a House Captain and you don't fully realise it until you're the one with the shiny badge and the responsibility that goes with it. I know that this year, 2007-2008, hasn't been the most successful for Mary/Templer but I wouldn't call it an out and out disaster either. Of course, we welcomed Miss Bulford as our new Head of House and I feel privileged to have been able to work with her for a year on such an important task within the school. I will take this opportunity to wish her every success for the future as the House Leader and to thank her for making this year an amazing one for me as House Captain and also for my Deputy House Captain, Karen Yun. Karen has been a brilliant support to both me and to Miss Bulford as well as an inspiration to the whole house (cue the masterpiece that was the House file which Karen created during the summer holiday) and I wish her all the luck in the world for her chosen future.

I believe that Mary/Templer is the strongest house in terms of friendship and team spirit and that thanks to some innovative ideas from Miss Bulford, such as the "X-Factor" for House Music and the "Wake and Shake" on Tuesday morning assemblies, this camaraderie within the house has grown considerably. We might not have won all of the house events this year but we certainly had the most fun with them! Who can forget the final round of Lucy Saad's quiz in which Charlie Penny (now Stover's first Head Boy) did the most amazing impression of Vicky Pollard, which will probably go down in Stover history!

In terms of trophies, Mary/Templer did not go empty handed this year especially in sport; the Templer boys triumphed in both the House Rugby and Football and the Mary girls won the House Hockey trophy. We also had some success in the House music when Harvey Seale won the Junior Singing Class. Maybe Mary/Templer will get back on that winning streak with the House Cup by the end of the summer term; after all, it is only fair to let the other houses have a turn at winning once in a while!

All that really remains now is for me to hand over that shiny badge and all that responsibility and to wish Charlie Dorrington as the new Head of Mary/Templer House and Mary Grose as the new Deputy Head for 2008-2009, the very best of luck for the coming year; I hope that they enjoy themselves as much as Karen and I did! **Chloe Collins Mary/Templer House Captain 2007-2008**





House Leader Statement: My first year as House Leader of Mary / Templer has been an exciting and challenging time. Having already been a fully committed member of Mary/Templer the transition from team member to team leader was made all the more easier by the warm welcome of both students and staff within the house.

Our Thursday assemblies have taken on a new shape in terms of structure in which the sixth form have been tremendous role models for our younger students. Both Year 12 & 13 students have taken on the responsibility of mentors willingly and really made an effort to know each student within their year group. I truly believe this is a key factor when creating a safe and fun environment for our house members.

My aim is to develop the mentoring role for our sixth formers further next year.

We have been very fortunate in the true variation of our Tuesday assemblies which have included fantastic student and staff input. Examples from learning about different countries from our overseas students, quizzes, bingo and star wars! We even had

our own X Factor season in preparation for Phyllis Dence in which our talented wannabees auditioned to represent our house in the Phyllis Dence competition. We were graced with superb performances and then voted for our favourites in true X Factor style.

As always Mary/Templer students continue to fully participate in house events with true vigour and enthusiasm. This year we even had staff running in the senior cross country race – Thank you Mr Bailey! As a result we have achieved a number of successes which as a P.E teacher makes me smile rather proudly.

Furthermore our students have participated in three 'Wake and Shake' assemblies which were organised by staff and the sixth form team. A great way to start the morning I'm sure you will agree

Overall it has been an eventful year with both effort and commitment displayed by all of the Mary / Templer team. Watch out Vicky / Courtney, Lizzie / Seymour!!!! Come on the Blues!!! **Miss C Bulford**

Boarding

ANASTASIA

Murder Mystery Walking Trail

We went on the murder mystery trail in such wet and windy weather that my paper-work nearly blew away. It was great fun as we had to find the answer to clues in our group of four. The clues were on buildings, benches and monuments and we walked the circuit of 2.5 miles in total.

We still had enough time to do some shopping and buy a drink. The best thing about it was finding out who the murderer was. You can win a prize if you enter the correct answer on the website.





Boarding

Birmingham Clothes Show

"This is the first fashion show I have ever seen. Also, there's a big hall for shopping, which is really good! I enjoy the show and I hope we can have a similar trip again!" Gigi Cheung

"I loved the trip to the clothes show. It was a brilliant experience and an unforgettable one too." Esther Fung

Beauty and the Beast - Musical Play

"It was amazing to watch this play. I met with Beauty when we walked back to the coach. Her singing was wonderful. I am really looking forward to seeing this play again!" Jessica Fang

"I loved watching the Musical 'Beauty and the Beast'. It was so wonderful. Hopefully, I can watch some musicals next year" Helen Te

Ice Skating at the Eden Project

"We went to look around the Eden Project exploring the glass domes and the outside gardens. We then went Ice Skating! We stayed on the ice for an hour and during that time Im and I skated around. I tried to teach my friends how to skate and after some gentle persuasion I practised some tricks. This was my favourite trip of the year because it was great fun and such a laugh!" Sian Wood

Quay West and Surprise

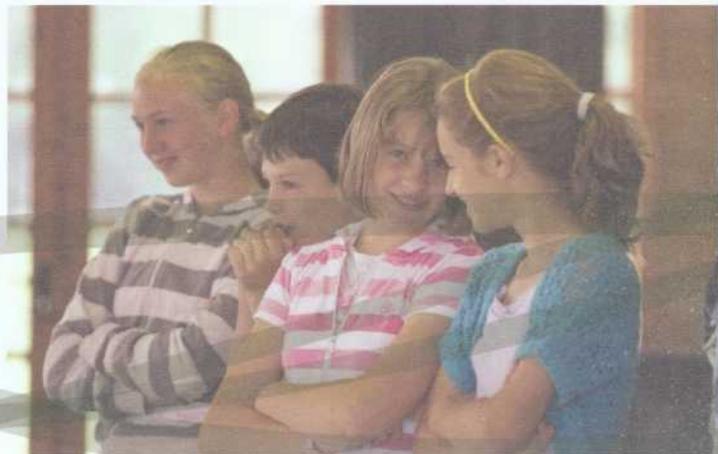
"We first had 2 hours shopping in Paignton. Then we went swimming in Quay West. After a great time swimming Mrs Veal surprised us all as we went to her house, walked onto the beach and also had fish and chips. It was so much fun!" Regina Teplova

Cadbury's World

"My Favourite place I have been to this year was Cadbury's World. I have never been there before and we learnt lots of things about chocolate." Michelle Lee

Duchy Trip

"I'm in year 5 and I had a fun trip. I went to Duchy College. It was really fun, also at the weekend we got to go swimming, I went on the slide and it was really fun too!! Ha Ha!!" Heidi Chim





Prep School

The children currently enrolled in the Nursery and Preparatory School have so many exciting opportunities ahead of them. There is no doubt that they are entering a rapidly changing world. Technology will continue to develop at ever-growing rates and, by the time our young pupils enter the work place, it will no doubt offer many different and exciting prospects. It is our job, as educators, to ensure that the children in our care are well prepared for the exciting and challenging world they will enter as young adults. As technology plays a more and more central role in all our lives, bombarding us with an incredible amount of detailed data and information, the ability to evaluate, interpret and present this to others will be essential. As a result, I firmly believe that strong inter-personal skills will remain absolutely vital for success, not only in the workplace, but also in personal relationships. The ability to communicate one's own ideas and feelings effectively, as well as value the opinions of others, is the key for building and maintaining effective relationships. There is no better time to begin to develop these essential life skills than in the primary school years.

Developing a quiet self-confidence in our pupils is one of the key aims of Stover Nursery and Preparatory School. We seek to inspire our pupils so that they are happy, confident children who look forward to coming to school each day, are keen to express their ideas and opinions and who listen, respectfully, to the views of others. Whether it is in the pupils' academic work, during performances or special assemblies, on the sports field, when working collaboratively on various projects, or through general interaction with adults and peers our young learners are frequently demonstrating their growth in this area. I trust you as members of the school community, have noticed and appreciated this too. Visitors continue to refer to the 'special atmosphere' they feel as soon as they enter the school.

Additionally, we are always actively seeking ways in which we can further enhance our provision to allow all our pupils to develop academically, socially and emotionally. Having created our new ethos statement last year, the staff then branched out to form four Working Groups to explore different aspects of learning. These areas are: problem solving across the curriculum, gifted and talented pupils, emotional intelligence and learning beyond the classroom walls. During the course of this academic year each group's findings and recommendations have begun to be incorporated into the curriculum in order to further enhance the skills referred to above. Weolfrid's Camp, our new outdoor classroom, has been a real highlight with pupils of all ages enjoying the experiences such a site allows. Included in this magazine you will find details of this important new venture.

We were absolutely delighted to receive our report on the Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception) following Ofsted's inspection in May. We gained 'outstanding' in all four areas of provision. The Inspector highlighted so many strengths. In line with our aims above, I should like to highlight one of these in particular. The Inspector wrote, 'The children are confident, happy and well settled.... They have highly developed social skills and are unfailingly polite to adults and each other. These skills are nurtured effectively as, for example, they enjoy the social occasion of taking meals with their playmates... spiritual, social, moral and cultural development are fostered.'

The home and school partnership is highly valued at Stover and we are constantly looking for ways to enhance the important relationship between parents and teachers. With this in mind, at SPS this year we added a new event to the calendar for the start of the Autumn term, 'Meet The Teacher Afternoon.' This gave parents the opportunity to formally meet their child's class teacher during the first week of term and hear about routines and expectations specific to his or her year group. Feedback from parents and teachers about this new event was highly positive and we look forward to continuing with this in future years. September also saw the introduction of a new Home and School Communication Book. Based on the Homework Diary used in previous years, but with many additional enhancements and additions, this has been popular with parents, pupils and teachers alike.

This magazine provides evidence of the broad and balanced curriculum we offer our pupils and the enthusiastic and confident way in which they tackle all that is offered. I trust you will enjoy reading about many of the wonderful events that made up the highly successful 2007-2008 academic year in the Nursery and Preparatory School.

Mrs Caroline Coyle, Assistant Principal SPS

School Council

This year saw the establishment of the first Prep School Council. The inaugural meeting was held in January and was led by Year 5's: Thomas Rooke, Head Boy, and Evelyn Vernon-Simpson, Head Girl, acting as Secretary and Chairperson respectively.

A Council Representative was chosen in each class and items for the agenda were discussed in class sessions led by the Representatives. Once a particular idea had been chosen the Representatives brought it to the School Council for further discussion.

The first meeting was dominated by playground issues and, after much discussion it was agreed that the school playground was in need of some sprucing up. A zip wire was suggested but very sensibly rejected and the Councillors finally agreed that some new goalposts and playground markings were a priority.

The Executive Committee consisting of George Scott and Evie Old, then took up the reins and researched the problem, finally presenting the Chairperson with a report for presentation to Mrs Coyle. The meeting was highly successful and within two weeks the new equipment and markings were in place.

Head Boy's Report

This year, in my role as Head Boy, it has been a pleasure to work more closely with Mrs Coyle. I have helped to show around prospective parents and pupils and there do seem to have been a lot. It was good to meet parents when I was giving out programmes at the wonderful "Uncle Crumble's Mad Machine". All the pupils enjoyed this performance immensely.

All three football teams did well this year, with the A team having some very convincing wins over our old rivals. A score of 16 – 0 sticks out in my mind, perhaps yours too. The B's and C's did well too, winning more than half of all their games.

Rugby went well this season with wins and losses being fairly evenly distributed throughout the year but, to be fair, some of the other teams often seemed to be huge as they were under 11's.

School life has improved this year. A notable addition is the School Council which has campaigned for new playground markings. Every class has a Council representative, which means that everyone gets a say.

The interactive whiteboard has been a new and useful addition to the equipment in the Prep School. People can see images and videos very clearly now. Everyone loves this new gadget.

Everyone has worked hard for house points this year with quite a few reaching the Gold Standard.

Well done everyone for working so hard. Good luck for next year.

Tom Rooke
Head Boy

Head Girl's Report

In the year of 2007 I was informed that I would be Head Girl, alongside Thomas Rooke as Head Boy. I was really excited. I had lots of jobs to do throughout the year; I read psalms, poems and readings; I had to be very

brave and read in front of lots of people in churches, cathedrals and in the Jubilee Hall.

I also had to give out programmes at school plays and lead a session called "School Council" where we hoped to make improvements for the children, which included putting markings on the playground, marking out a football pitch on the field, putting benches in the playground and restoration of the swimming pool.

Being Head Girl was really great and I hope the new Head Girl has as much fun as me. I really enjoyed the experience.

Evelyn Vernon-Simpson
Head Girl



Prep Sport Reports



Stover Prep School started the year playing some tough games of rugby and hockey. This was due to the age difference where U10 were playing against U11. However, the U10 rugby team only lost one game. The U9 rugby team played in many tournaments and improved as the term went on. The standard of play during the term was very pleasing and we are endeavouring to play an open style game.

The football and netball was much better and both boys and girls played in some very close games against some tough opposition. The children are trying very hard in games and are a credit to the school. They all play with great determination and enthusiasm.

At the time of writing we are half way through a difficult cricket and rounders term. We have also had children represent the school at cross-country and athletics.

After last year's disappointment of Sports Day being cancelled, we are preparing the children hard for this year's event.

Well done to all the children for an excellent year of sports at Stover. We are looking forward to another successful year. Mr C. Brown and Mrs E. Soper

Under 9 Football Season 2008

This season proved to be more arduous than usual at Under 9. We battled hard at Home and Away fixtures and when playing in tournaments, often against heavy wind and rain and in icy conditions. The training sessions at After School Clubs for the squad players were challenging, with many footballers possessing good levels of skill despite not having played competitive football before! A lot of work was done to train team members to play in particular positions and to help them learn positional, attacking and defensive play. We appeared to be very well prepared and, with the likes of a young rookie-keeper, Callum King, who regularly attends Argyle keeper's training days; a fiercely determined Will Lammonby; a defensive presence of an aspiring Christian College and a recently Exeter City-contracted, Austin Sample, we could take on the strong teams we would come up against.

Fresh at the start of the season, we defeated both St Michael's and Blundell's, our toughest opponents, 4-0 but found Exeter Junior School and Kelly College, who play together in an Under 9 Tavistock League, hard to defeat. St Peter's armed with two or three Exeter City Youth players also proved difficult, contrary to the last four seasons. However, we finished brightly in the league against Mount House, with excellent offensive football away from home, which saw Austin Sample at his very best, scoring four goals in a 6-4 win and rousing displays from other new players in Sebastian Ranwell-Jones, Oliver Wotton and from our free-kick specialist, Joe McFarlane!

The Exeter Tournament, which took place at the end of the season, was also a learning curve for many, particularly with the need to maintain team shape and position and to conserve energy levels so as to have enough stamina left to play the final few games. Narrowly losing to Exeter and St. Peter's, we defeated Blundell's once more, 2-1 from being 1-0 down at half-time and had a super game against Plymouth College coming away 2-0 winners. Coming Fourth was encouraging, especially as so many of our A-squad had never competed at this level for the school before. I do hope that we can improve on our performance next year and aspire to the heights of other Under 9's who have reached the final on three occasions in the last five seasons.

SPORTS AWARDS 2007 – 2008

Hockey

House Winners

1. Elizabeth
2. Mary
3. Victoria

Hockey Player of the Year: Mollie Daly

Most Improved Hockey Player of the Year: Isabelle Haigney

U9 Medal: Lucy Walliker / Freya Soper

Rugby

House Winners

1. Templer

Rugby Player of the Year: Thomas Rooke

Most Improved Rugby Player of the Year: Freddie Thompson

U9 Medal: William Lammonby

Netball

House Winners

1. Elizabeth

Netball Player of the Year: Celina Meek

Most Improved Netball Player of the Year: Charlotte Nadeau

U9 Medal: Freya Soper

Football

House Winners

1. Templer

Hayward & Lamar Footballer of the Year: Thomas Scadding

Football Player of the Year: Harrison Milstead

Most Improved Football Player of the Year: Thomas Rooke

Hayward & Lamar Footballer of the Year: Austin Sample

U9 Medal: Christian Colledge / William Lammonby

Rounders

House Winners

1. Elizabeth
2. Mary
3. Victoria

Rounder's Player of the Year: Steph Trapnell

Most Improved Rounder's Player of the Year: Abigail Joint

U9 Medal: Bethany Matthews

Cricket

House Winners

1. Courtenay

Cricketer of the Year: George Scott

Most Improved Cricketer of the Year: Tom Edgington

U9 Medal: William Lammonby

Cross Country

House Cup Winners

Boys

1. Templer
2. Courtenay
3. Seymour

Girls

1. Elizabeth
2. Mary
3. Victoria

Individual Winners Year 4

Boys / Time

1. Christian Colledge / 8.40
2. Rory Domville / 8.44
3. William Lammonby / 9.07

Girls / Time

1. Freya Soper / 9.24
2. Roberta Galvin / 10.26
3. Harriet B'hurst / 10.55

Individual Winners Year 5

Boys / Time

1. Tom Scadding / 6.33
2. Tom Cahill / 7.20
3. Tom Wotton / 7.33

Girls / Time

1. Celina Meek / 8.43
2. Steph Trapnell / 8.57
3. Amy Haeffner / 9.03

Sports Day

Girls Top Junior Athlete

Name	House	Events
Rachel Hall	Mary	150m, Relay, Long Jump

Boys Top Junior Athlete

Name	House	Events
Oliver Wotton	Templer	80m, 400m, Relay, HJ

Girls Intermediate Athlete

Name	House	Events
Freya Soper	Elizabeth	LJ, HJ, Relay, 150m, 600m

Boys Intermediate Athlete

Name	House	Events
Austin Sample	Templer	LJ, Relay, 80m

Girls Victor Ludorum

Name	House	Events
Mollie Daly	Elizabeth	
Celina Meek	Elizabeth	

Boys Victor Ludorum

Name	House	Events
Thomas Scadding	Templer	200m, 800m, Relay, CB

House Cup Winners

Boys

1. Templer
2. Courtenay
3. Seymour

Girls

1. Elizabeth
2. Mary
3. Victoria

Foale Grey Tennis Cup: Toby Bond

SPORTS DAY 2007 - 2008

After the disappointment of having to cancel Sports Day last year it was great to see it go ahead this year. It was a really successful day with all of the children taking part with such enthusiasm and team spirit. The Pre-Prep Sports Day set the tone for the rest of the day with Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 taking part in traditional races such as the Egg and Spoon Race and the Sack Race. Whether the children crossed the finish line receiving 1st, 2nd, 3rd or participation badges, they were always smiling and cheering on each other. The Prep Sports Day was a much more intense affair with a lot at stake for the children, namely, girls and boys Junior Athlete, girls and boys Intermediate Athlete and girls and boys Victor Ludorum. After much competition and

energy exerted the awards went to the following: Girls Top Junior Athlete: Rachel Hall / Boys Top Junior Athlete: Oliver Wotton / Girls Intermediate Athlete: Freya Soper / Boys Intermediate Athlete: Austin Sample / Girls Victor Ludorum: Mollie Daly, Celina Meek / Boys Victor Ludorum: Thomas Scadding

Although this singles out certain children, the effort put in by all of the rest of the Prep School should not be forgotten and everybody's results went in to the overall Sports Day winners. The winner of the 2007 – 2008 Sports Day house cup for the girls was Elizabeth and for boys was Templer. Well done to everyone!

Nursery *learning through play is fun!*

We are delighted that the opportunities that we offer our nursery children were acknowledged during the summer term O.F.S.T.E.D. inspection. Our provision was rated to be of outstanding quality in all areas. Staff were praised for their thorough knowledge of the Foundation Stage, their inspirational teaching and creative energy whilst the children's exemplary behaviour was recorded as truly remarkable. Our children are happy, stimulated and kind.

We have all benefited from the restructuring and organisation of our vibrantly re-decorated rooms with the gradual introduction of the new Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum that focuses on the needs of each individual child. The children have enjoyed making entries in their own learning journey scrapbooks and later sharing their memories and achievements with each other as well as parents.

There have been so many highlights this year, each as special as the next; wet picnics under the trees snug and warm in waterproofs donated by kind parents; a magical treasure hunt through the jungle; a dry sports day with lots of cheers; the delivery of a collection of pet food to the Animals in Distress Centre; the discoveries made in our busy garden using drainpipe structures, scaffolding planks, mud and lots of water; the joy of observing captive caterpillars and later releasing butterflies in the gardens to name but a few. We made sure that everyone knew us as we ventured around the school to say 'hello'. The kitchen was a favourite spot; after all we have all been fed so well throughout the year!

As we returned exhausted children to their parents, rarely clean or tidy, we knew we had achieved another successful day!

Mrs S Stoddart



Reception Class

Reception Class

The children's topic for the Autumn Term was "Bears and Caves". We started the term with a Teddy Bears' Picnic in the school grounds having previously made our own sandwiches! In the classroom the children enjoyed role play time in our very own classroom cave. A trip to Kents Cavern enhanced the children's learning of caves as homes and inspired them to discover more about 'Light and Dark'.

The Spring Term saw the opening up of a Vets' Surgery in the classroom. You would never have believed the variety of pets that visited the surgery! The children practised their veterinary skills on crocodiles, elephants, pandas and rabbits to name but a few! To make sure their skills were up to scratch a local vet came into the classroom to talk to the children. Not only did he bring in some of his veterinary equipment for the children to see but he brought in one of his clients who has a pet Barn Owl! The children had the rare experience of holding this beautiful creature on their arm.

The children also took part in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch. We were kindly invited by Carol Andrews and Tony Ethridge to use their garden for the required hour of watching and counting garden birds. We saw many interesting visitors including a Jay, a Nuthatch and a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker.

Having talked about caring for birds in winter and made daily visits to the new bird table opposite the classroom the children were shown how to make bird cake by Carol. Unfortunately the squirrels ate more of it than the birds!

Great excitement was had by all, including the grown-ups, when Mr Whiteley from Dartmoor Hawking brought in some of his birds of prey for the children to hold and watch in flight around Turkey Hall. The main attraction was the Biggest Owl in the World! Needless to say, with a wing span of two metres this bird of prey didn't demonstrate its beauty in flight in Turkey Hall!

'Pirates and The Sea' proved to be a very popular topic in the Summer Term. The role play corner was turned into a pirates' shipwreck where many maps were drawn and plans to bury treasure were made.

As an introduction to learning about The Sea the children visited The National Marine Aquarium in Plymouth. The children enjoyed a two hour in-depth guided tour and returned to the classroom full of information and ideas for creative activities.



Prep - Year 1

Year 1 thoroughly enjoyed dressing up for Book Fair Week. Everybody took part in book-related activities and visited the Book Fair. As you can see we had a good range of characters, from fairies to dragons, and their slayers!



Ducklings

In January our ducklings hatched after 29 days incubation. They can see and hear and stand and walk. They like to stand in their food. They have had their first swim and really enjoyed splashing in the water. By Arabella Morris



In September 2007 Year 1 visited the Miniature Pony Centre. We had a fabulous day out! Here are two children's recollections:

I fed the ducks and the ducks ran to the food and the ducks pecked my hand. I saw the donkey and I groomed the donkey and I liked the horse. By Chloe Olford



We let the goats out and we went chasing after them and we got to test a tractor. We fed the ducks and when we had lunch it rained and we went to the inside play area. By Maxwell Milward



In March 2008 Year 1 visited Powderham Castle. We had a glorious day. Two children recounted the trip as follows:

I went to see the animals and we went through the secret door and we went on the tractor and we played in the castle and I went to the top of the castle. The goats escaped. One jumped into the duck pond. And we held the chicken and on the way back I held Georgia's hand. By Amy-Beth Curtis



We went to Powderham Castle and I held Milly's hand and we went on a tractor to see some animals and we went to see the goats and we held a chicken and we saw the donkeys and we went inside and we went to see the chickens and we went to have lunch and then we went to have a cake. By Chloe Olford



In February 2008 we visited Woelfrid's Camp, enjoying the walk there on a beautiful sunny day. The children remembered the day as follows:

I held Milly's hand and we went up the hill and we had fun and we collected pretty flowers and we sat on the grass and we ran and ran up the hill. By Amy-Beth Curtis

I held Alfie's hand. There was a small hill and I charged down it. Then I jumped off and I charged down a big hill and went up and went down and went up again. Later we went to our classroom and did some writing about it. By Ben Hooper

(Pupils' developmental spelling has been corrected for this publication)

Prep - Year 2

Trip to Stover Country Park

On Wednesday 23rd April, Year 2 went to Stover Country Park. We walked from Stover to the park. First we went on a habitat walk with Laura. Frankie ran too fast and slipped over in the mud. She got covered in it. Then we had lunch. After lunch we met Alex, the Park Ranger, at the Information hut. Then he took us on a mini beast hunt and we got some equipment to help us. We got a little tub, to put the bugs that we found in, and a magnifying glass. We also had a tub with two tubes, one white one and one green one. You sucked through the green one and put the white one over the bug that you wanted. Frankie and I caught two centipedes. We did have a beetle but I accidentally let it go, but at least we got something. After that we went pond dipping. Frankie and I caught loads of tadpoles, two back swimmers and a dragonfly nymph. After that we walked back to school through the field. It was a lovely day.

Victoria Haigney



What I like about being in Year 2

I like English, Reading, Science, Swimming, Art, Chess, my friends, History, special plays, Story-time, trips and everything else. My favourite things are Mr Futrell and chess with Mrs Head. Jamie Rooke

I like my teachers especially Mr Futrell and Mrs Head. I like Jean, Spanish, my favourite friends, chess, trips and show and tell. I like everything, but my favourite is Mr Futrell. Hannah Brocklehurst

I like reading, play-times, Art and of course all of my friends. But, most of all, I like ... learning! Victoria Haigney

"Red" by Jonty Walliker

Red is the blazing sun of summer time when I go to the beach to make sandcastles and go for a swim.

I feel red when I am cross like a bull.

I think red is the heart of the rainbow.

Red is my favourite colour.

Red is the heart of me.

"My Energy" Poem by Francesca Ranwell-Jones

Diving in the pool

Scurrying like a mouse

Scampering in the playground

Kicking the ball

Tumbling down the hill

Rolling the ball

Speeding in a race

Tearing a piece of paper

Shooting a ball

Scrambling over a rock

Sprinting down the track

Flying in the sky.

"The Magic Box" by Isobel Yeoman

I will put in my box the sound of music.

I will put in my box the smell of roses.

I will put in my box the sight of the leaves swaying in the breeze and the taste of sweets.

My box is made of gold and the padlock is silver.



Prep - Year 3

"Darcy Dolphin" by Toby Goodman

Darcy the dolphin dived dangerously deep,
Into the dark dappled sea.
Darcy disco dances to delight the other dolphins.
He dips and dodges dazzling waves,
Dashing through the water,
Dizzy Darcy comes up for air.

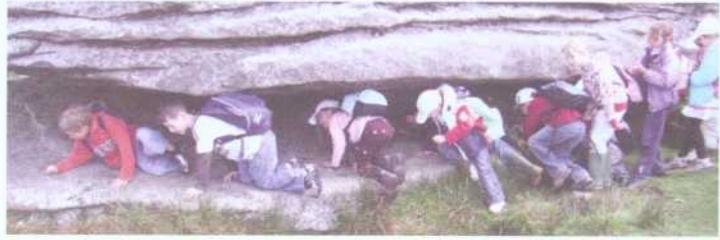
A Trip to Bath By Alexia Morris

At school we are learning about the Romans, so on Friday 29th Feb we all had to be at school early to get on a coach, and off we went on our school trip to Bath.

We arrived in Bath and walked to the Roman Baths. There we had a lesson about Romans and Baths. We then dressed up as Romans, which was very funny. After that we looked at real Romans' things.

After lunch we walked around the building and looked at the baths and many more Roman things like coins, strigels and lots of mosaics and pillars, used for heating.

Then we all got back together again. We then all went to the shop and I bought little model gladiators. Then we got on the coach and went home. I loved the whole of my trip to Bath! Thank you to everyone who helped.



Covered in Mud on Dartmoor By Francesca Smart

On Monday 19th May, Year 3 went to Dartmoor for the day. First, we got onto the mini-buses and went to Dartmoor. When we got there, some people went to the loo, then we were off up on Dartmoor.

The first tor we got to was called North Hessary Tor and we had a snack there and then we went on again.

Next, do you know what happened? Olivia and I both fell in a very muddy puddle and I will tell you how it happened. First, I stepped into a puddle. I started sinking, so I grabbed onto Olivia and pushed her down and got her all muddy. I was very muddy too. So, we walked to lunch like mud monsters.

We had lunch at a tor called King's Tor. After lunch, we walked along to lots of old settlements and along a very, very old railway that used to run all the way to Plymouth.

Then we went to the museum and looked at all the things that they had found on Dartmoor. Next, we went to the minibus and went back to school. I thought it was a great day!



Prep - Year 4

Plymouth Argyle Football in the Community Programme

At the start of the Football Season, Stover Preparatory School Sports Department arranged for Year 3/4 Boys and the players from the Stover Under 9 football squad to attend a special Argyle afternoon at Home Park. It was not surprising that when first announced to the boys, the news was greeted with euphoria! Armed with packed lunch, shin-pads, boots and kit, the boys' looked like an enormous team of their own dressed in Stover track-suits! On arriving we were greeted by the Football Community Development Officers who showed us through to the Board Room. The boys commented that it was very posh! Everyone was handed Argyle pens, headed paper, magazines and pamphlets and settled down to watch the DVD about the history of the club and training programmes. This was all followed up by a quiz and photographs with the Division 2 League winners trophies. All the boys absolutely loved holding up the trophies and being pictured with Pilgrim Pete - the Argyle club mascot.

Moving on, we toured the ground, the player's dressing room and dining area, and even managed to sit in the upper tier of the stadium. The boys were encouraged to immerse themselves in the atmosphere by one of the Community Officers and chant 'Green Army!' from the roof-tops! Seeing the first team players eating lunch with Paul Sturrock, the team coach, was not what the boys probably had in mind, but our itinerary did not seem to match up with the players training and playing schedule that day, so we ventured out onto the training fields for some skills coaching and small team play games.

The visit to the Home Park souvenir shop was obviously a must after the training session, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed thumbing through merchandise and buying a mug, pen, shirt or cap or two. Not to mention Mr Brown who took a fancy to the Home Park apple ice-cream tubs!

We had a rewarding, fun and yet tiring visit to Home Park with many boys leaving the ground hoping to aspire to the heights of playing for Argyle. If some individuals continue to impress in the future when playing for Stover Preparatory School, we might see some of our boys playing for the Green and Whites some day!



Habitats

With the warm weather in September and Stover Park still an abundance of greenery and foliage, it was an ideal time to teach Habitats as our first unit of work in Science, in Year 4. Dressed in tracksuits, boots and raincoats we marched for a good half an hour, after which time we were met by the Park Warden. After explaining his role as Warden and also the history of Stover Park, the children were able to explore areas of woodland in small groups and report back on their findings. Gnats, woodlice, bugs and beetles, spiders and slugs were, without surprise, the usual creepy crawlies under scrutiny but we did spot a newt, a frog and some rats feeding on acorns, much to the amusement of the children.

The boys and girls answered quiz-style questions on the differences between trees and the different plant and wildlife they would expect to find in a deciduous woodland, heath and pond. Turning over rocks, stones, prying under rotten bark, thumbing through moss and peering under ivy and fallen leaves proved to be a rich source of fun, accompanied by many enthusiastic screams of delight. Mini-beasts of all descriptions were gazed at and discussed and the children were required to think carefully about classifying groups of living things and using their scientific investigation skills to predict where some of these bugs might choose to live. The Ranger enjoyed telling the children about light and shade, tree canopies and how particular animals preferred contrasting environments as places to inhabit, for shelter, hiding and for hunting.

The children were surprised at what they discovered in the small retreats of trees and under foot, and thoroughly enjoyed using their magnifying glasses and collection vessels.

On returning to the classroom we were amazed at our collection of different types of wood, leaves and soil types and we used science information books, the internet and prior knowledge to identify species of trees from the shapes of their leaves. We also began to discuss further the mini-beasts we had managed to catch and decided which ones were predators and which ones were prey.

The following week all of Year 4 ventured outside once more as 'habitat investigators' and collected information on two contrasting habitats around the school grounds, namely Meadow and Woodland. The children were as enthusiastic as ever at discovering new worlds with a detective's eye and then reporting and recording their findings back in class.

We all thoroughly enjoyed this first unit of Science and felt fortunate that we were able to gain as much as we did from our planned activities and from being surrounded by such beautiful grounds.



Bristol Zoo

After the half-term holiday in October, Year 4 planned an exciting trip to Bristol Zoo. This was an ideal opportunity to bring our Habitats Science topic to a close, whilst further reinforcing the different world landscapes and terrains such as tropical rain-forest, desert, grasslands, polar, mountain, woodland, lake and river which host wild animals.

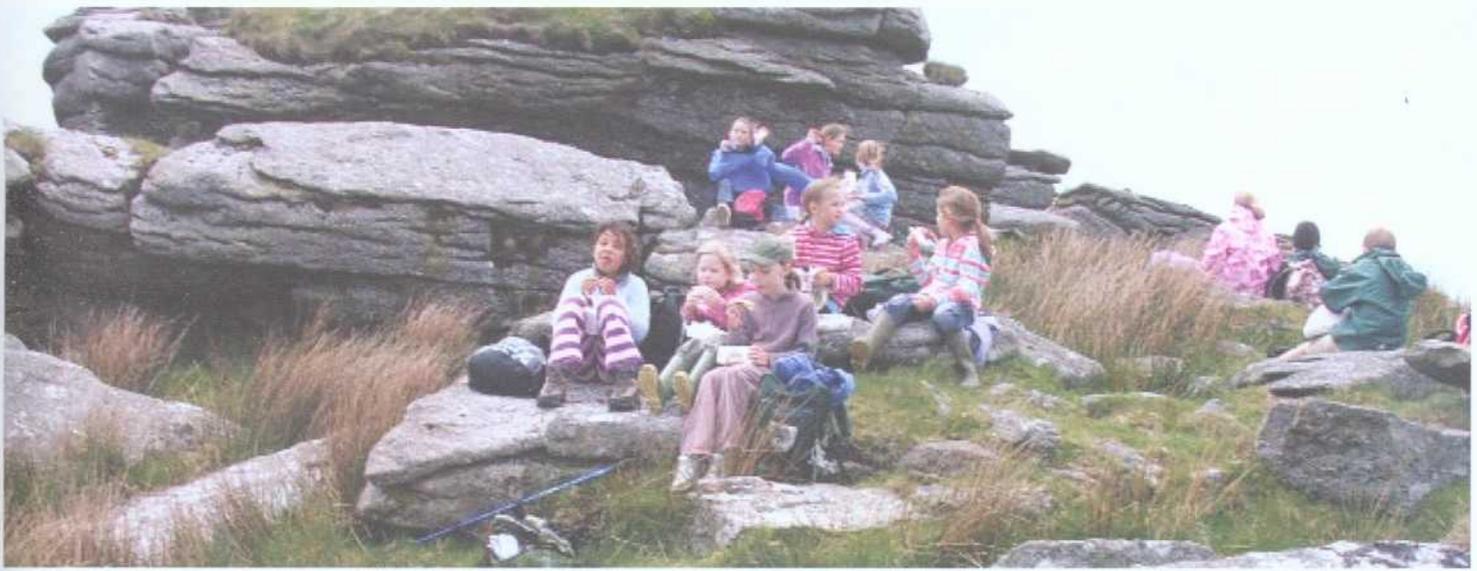
The children were also studying Kenya as their Geography topic and had already discussed town and country life, mountain ranges, valleys, rivers and lakes and wild animals found in safari wildlife parks. The children had to complete questions in an information pack whilst at the zoo, specifically relating to animals of the Serengeti and also had to choose a wild animal that they were specifically interested in, and design an information poster with it on returning to school. Pupils also completed sketches and collected important information about their animal.

The African Safari tent proved to be the highlight of our visit to Bristol Zoo. All the children and teachers entered into a world of roaring lions, laughing hyenas and whistling insects. We were surrounded! In the centre of the dusty Serengeti plain lay an array of artefacts: tusks, horns, skulls, leg bones, shells, teeth, hooves and scales, all of which belonged to African mammals, insects and reptiles. The children were amazed at these real life objects which they could handle and begin to guess to whom they once belonged. There were also opportunities to touch meal worms and observe the fluorescent blue glow, under ultra-violet light, of the black scorpions – which, fortunately, were behind glass!

With the tour behind us, the children relished seeing some of their African wild animal friends in fluffy and plastic form in the Zoo Gift Shop and thoroughly enjoyed browsing through the toys, leaflets and information books. I am sure there are still happy reminders of their fantastic day out back at home in the form of cuddly toys, key rings, books and stationery. The children were certainly keen to return to Bristol Zoo some day!

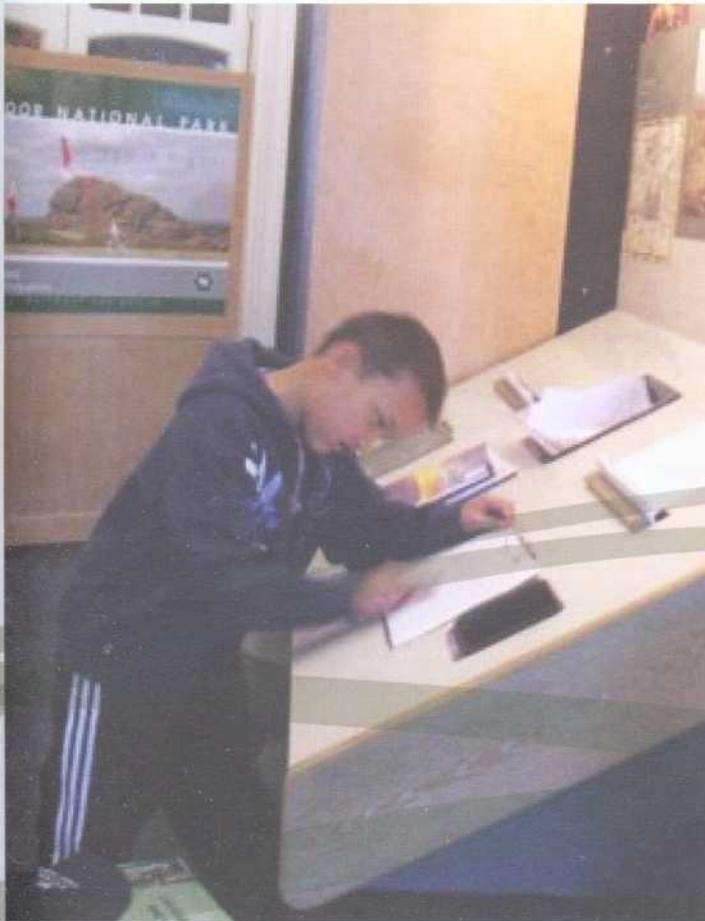


Chess is the best game, in the history of board games. At Chess Club special famous chess players come round, or just the chess teachers. You can also play in the school chess championships where you can win mascots and prizes. "I would like some inter-school chess tournaments where different schools compete", says Finlay from Year 4 boys, "I would love a chess library", says Will Lammonby from Year 4 boys.



Dartmoor Day

Whilst in the High Moorland Visitor Centre, the children were given an activity sheet packed with questions for them to read information on the Moor and find the answers. The idea was to have fun, look and discover!



Our Mesolithic Tribe from SPS - "scary"

The year 4 girls and boys went on a trip to Dartmoor on Tuesday 20th May.

We all had to walk 7 miles. We had lunch on a pile of big rocks and stones. We went to the Visitor Centre. While we were there we watched a DVD about wildlife. Then we started the walk. Along the way we saw a sheep trap, ponies, sawdust and we had to climb up a big hill. Eventually we arrived at the rocks at the top of the hill. After lunch we had to climb a gigantic hill, a lot higher than the one before. Then we walked back to the mini-buses.

By Bethany Matthews



Prep - Year 5

Golf club

Golf is a fun game to play especially when you get to play with your friends, and at Stover we have coaches from the local Golf Club. Recently we had a golf course built for the children at Stover so that we could have the Club on Monday. By William Sames

Softball club

Softball club is a game like baseball - just with a softer ball. You have two teams: one the fielding side and the other batting. To score you have to get around the 'diamond' pitch until you get to the home plate. You can be got out by either someone catching the ball when you are in bat, or, if you get five strikes. You could also be out by getting tagged by the ball. The objective of the game is to get more points than the other team.

I love softball. By Thomas Hall

Album Club

Album Club is a very good club to join. It allows you to keep memories of places or people, however far off they are, that you love. They can be looked at fondly and kindly over the years by you, the makers of the album, the members of your family, your friends and the photographer who took the photos. By William Sames and Michael Katz

Winter Feast

Pass the plate of snow,
Serve a slice of ice,
Garnish with some frost,
And it will taste nice.
Red from the fire,
Yellow from the flames,
Orange from the sparks,
Blue from the sky.
Green from the holly,
Indigo from the horizon,
Violet from the flowers,
And wash it down with a snow flake.

Sip the wine of morning,
Try a spoon of fun.

Freddie Thompson

I Heard

We found the quietness of the wood relaxing.
Then you said nothing. We closed our eyes
and smelt the damp autumn wood. We
touched the soil and leaves.

I heard a helicopter chucking,
I heard the wind whistling,
I heard a cow moo-ing.

I saw the windy sky twirling around,
I saw the ground shaking as I thumped it,
I saw the grass blowing about.

I felt good,
I felt grass between my fingers,
I felt the wind brush my face.

I loved that day. Tom Wotton

Weolfrid's Camp

The idea of an outdoor forest school has evolved steadily, since it was first suggested last year. Throughout October and November the Year 5's donned their wellies and headed down over the terraces to the old river bed at the edge of Stover Woods. They were armed to the teeth with spades, bow saws, loppers and buckets to clear an area for a rustic hut. After several weeks of hard work the superstructure was finished and the tarpaulins were tied on - perfect. Later that month the winter storms set in and one sad morning we found the shattered remains sprawled across the site... back to square one!

Later in the year we started on the re-building programme. The summer term offered plenty of opportunity to study the wildlife in the outdoor classroom.

All of Year 5 helped make it. We made the whole camp from the trees around the area and wove a fence to keep out the wind and to protect the hut. Lots of classes have already been there doing Science and Geography, and everyone has liked it.

By Year 5 Boys

I Heard

I heard swifts swooping,
Over silent trees,
I saw poplar planes from my eyes,
I felt the broken bark,
Between my fingers
I smelt glorious grass gripping,
Onto my green hand

I heard whizzing cars catching fifth gear,
I saw hilarious helicopters whirling through the air
I felt leaves trickling through my fingers,
I smelt wood sap from a willow tree,
I heard rustling fat feet fidgeting,
Through the grass,
I saw plants flowering in the fightful wind,
I felt hard rock beneath me,
And odours of sizzling chips.

Tom Cahill



Prep School Play

Uncle Crumble's Mad Machine

On Friday 2nd May Years 3, 4 and 5 performed Uncle Crumble's Mad Machine. It was about four selfish children who went into the past and the future and discovered that the machine with wires coming out of it was a time machine!

The four children went into the time machine. The first scene was based in the 1960's and they met two hippies. The second scene was in Rome. The children met Caesar and Cleo and the strongman. Acrobats and belly dancers performed. The children nearly got eaten by lions!

Thirdly, the children went into the future where they met Tinface, a robot teacher. Jenny poured water over him and he went rusty. This enabled them to escape.

In the fourth scene they managed to get back home. No one thought they had been away and when they tried to explain what had happened, no one believed them.

Uncle Crumble's Mad Machine was a really good performance. I really enjoyed being part of it.

By Holly Parmenter, Year 5



Duchy Trip



For months we have been anticipating this very exciting journey to Duchy College in Cornwall.

It was the day of the trip to Duchy, where we were told which groups the class would be divided into. There were 6 groups, group A, B, C, D, E and G, not F, because of the slightly smaller numbers of people going. Three classes were going to attend the Duchy trip, Mr Perkins' class (mine), Mrs Jamin's class and Mrs Pallister's class. These classes were all from yr5.

We arrived at Duchy where we immediately started setting up our tents (just in case it might rain) there were many different models of tents, from one man to eight man.

Soon we started our activities. Some groups went to archery, some to canoeing and some rock climbing/abseiling.

The archery was very exhilarating with fast and powerful arrows. Only one person, amazingly, hit a bull's-eye on the first shot they did, they were totally un experienced and had no practice beforehand, this person was Sydney Raynor.

The kayaking/canoeing and making a raft was great fun. The first activity you do out of the two is canoeing where you are divided into groups of three. We sailed around our canoes playing lots of games like who could collect the most ducks. Then the instructor gave us a very wet challenge, to shout our favourite thing under a waterfall called, the waterfall of truth, I personally shouted Warhammer 40,000. Then we moved on to the kayaking which was my favourite activity of those long three days. The kayaking was just in a small one man boat instead of a three man. In the kayaks we just generally messed around having fun, the most interesting bit was having to take a tour, in your kayak, around the lake. Finally the last activity of the water sports was making a raft, the rafts were made out of wooden poles and barrels. The boys raft looked scruffy but stayed afloat, but the girls on the other hand looked pretty but sank.

On the first night when all the activities of the day were over we had a campfire where people told lame and funny jokes. People also acted very funny performances like Ceecil the Caterpillar which was performed by Tom Cahill and T.C. Hall. This play was based on a caterpillar called Ceecil (T.C.) and an old farmer (Tom Cahill). Ceecil gets bigger and bigger then at the end he's sick. The campfire progressed, all the groups roasting marshmallows unfortunately all of my marshmallows caught on fire, but they still tasted nice but they were very hot.

The last day we did orienteering where we had to find markers placed all round the Duchy property. Some people did all of the activity, but most of the groups didn't find all the markers they just found a few.

The last activity was rock climbing. There were four types of wall, an easy wall, a hard wall, the abseiling wall and the death wall which was very hard. We had to wear harnesses and helmets in case of falling shoes, that's what the instructors said anyway. By Tom Cahill

One of the activities was rock climbing and this was the first activity that I took part in. We harnessed up and put our helmets on. Our group went off and set up and all was going well until I set off upward to the top. My hands were losing grip of the holds; the instructors gave me great advice and helped me by making me laugh. Then we went onto the next group where the climbing wall was tilted and the same happened again. We then played Gladiator where you had to climb up the wall as fast as you could whilst someone was chasing you. Then you had to ring a bell before they caught your tail. I was really happy and that was my favourite activity of the day. I would recommend all Stover pupils to go to Duchy.

Another one of the activities was kayaking - it was brilliant! We got into our kayaks and paddled away. After a long time we reached the face of a waterfall and all made a circle (well, nearly all of us) where we had to crawl around the front of the boats without falling in. Me first, and then everyone else followed. We then paddled over to the edge of the lake and turned a canoe upside down, taking it in turns to run and jump off the boat and did all the funny things that kids do. After a while, Kate, one the instructors, said, "if you do 3 flips, I will do a flip and belly flop", so we did. "SPLASH" in she went and everyone laughed for ages. And then we went and left our boats at the side of the lake. By Tom Edgington

“ Rock climbing

The rock climbing was my favourite activity out of the lot. It was the last day and my group and another group had come with us so I went with most of my friends. First the three instructors told us how to put our helmets on and our harnesses which was difficult to put on but we got there in the end. Then we had to get into groups of five people and next we went to our separate groups and started to climb up the walls. After we had taken a break for ten minutes then we went on a different wall and then after five minutes we went on what we wanted. Some of us went on the wall of death as they call it and we had a couple of races.

Abseiling

We also did abseiling which was very good and I think every one enjoyed it, well most of us did. You have a chance to relax and have a look out at the view or just sit down and bobble around in your harness or jump on and off the wall. The view of when you're looking out to the country side is beautiful. And when you are just sitting down it is relaxing and gives you a minute to think. By Jack Herbert ”





"Archery is a complicated activity and is hard to get the hang of but if you do get the hang of it is a very fun game.

When we shot the arrows we had to wear a protection band around our arm so the string doesn't spring back and hit us on the arm (Maria said she did that and it stings like mad).

We played a game and we had to hit the bull's eye to get a really nice holiday, stay there for a long time and relax. I thoroughly enjoyed the whole day."

"My favourite bit about Duchy was the kayaking which was the best because it was fast and I fell out twice but that was very funny but someone else fell in."

"Rock climbing was the best activity by far and was a definite 10/10 for me."

Canoeing

Canoeing was my favourite activity and here's a brief account of how it went. Once we had been sorted into our boat, and knew how to get the boat moving, we set off. The people in my boat were Tom Wotton and Tom Scadding. First we played the game called "Captain coming", we had to do silly things in a boat, such as standing up and flapping like a seagull!

In the second game we played a game where we had to pick up balls and rubber ducks. My team picked up 180 points in total. Then Tom S. sat on the rim of the boat, suddenly another boat hit mine, "SPLASH!" he fell out backwards. Then we followed the teacher under the waterfall! After that we held the canoes together and we had to run across them. Then we headed home, overall I think it's a great thing to do.

Archery

Archery is a hard sport but once you get the hang of it is really fun. First we were told how to hold and shoot with the bow; you also have to put a strap on your arm to stop it twinging your arm. You have to shoot at a target, it is white on the rim, then black, blue, red and yellow was bull's eye. We had some practice shots, after that we played a game. It was called the holiday game; white/Iceland, black/Germany, blue/Ibiza, red/Ghana and yellow/anywhere. Then there were targets for how to get there, there were lots of other things to do and overall, it was really fun. By Harrison Milstead. "

Rock Climbing

My favourite activity on the whole trip was rock climbing. Groups A, B and E went to the big four-sided climbing wall. First we had to go into pairs to play a game where you have to climb around the sides of the wall acting like different animals. Then we played a game called Gladiators. In Gladiators you or your opponent has to have a piece of rope hanging from the belt. The person with the rope has to try and get to the top of the climbing wall and try and ring the bell. The opponent has to try and grab the rope off the other person's belt before he rings the bell. Overall it was really, really good; anyone could do it. I recommend it to everyone because climbing was really good fun.

Canoeing

Canoeing was very exciting and was my second favourite activity on the whole trip. We went down to the lake which was half an hour away, so we had to go on a bus to get there. When we got there we got changed into wetsuits then got a talk on safety, then we went on to the water and did lots of games and activities. Then at the end of the session we got to go under the Waterfall of Doom. It was very, very fun and exhilarating. I would recommend it for children or adults who want to have lots of fun! By George Scott "

Phyllis Dence

The Phyllis Dence Performing Arts Festival - Friday 14th March

Every year the school holds a festival of Music and Performing Arts in memory of Miss Phyllis Dence, Headmistress of Stover from 1935 to 1968. Miss Dence was a talented musician and helped develop the strong tradition of music at the school.

The day started with rehearsals for the House Singing Competition, and was followed by a series of workshops exploring different practical aspects of creative performance work. This year the workshops included:

- Percussion and African style drumming
- Hiphop and Jive dance
- Improvised drama and song-writing
- Technical Theatre (lighting and back projection)

There was also choral singing coaching and piano ensemble classes.

The final concert in the evening was a culmination of all the work done throughout the day. The winners from the previous days' House Music Competition performed, and all the group activities gave a short presentation of what they had achieved during the workshops.

The House Music competition was won this year by Victoria/Courtenay House. A performance was given of a movement

from Mozart's Piano Concerto no.21 by our guest for the day, Nadia Lasserson, who adjudicated the competitions. London based teacher and member of the international ensemble Piano 40, Nadia presented the prizes and was a tremendous encouragement to many of the music students at the school. We were very pleased she was able to join us.

House Music Competition Results

The following were successful in the House Music Competition held as part of the Phyllis Dence Performing Arts Festival:

Class 1 (Year 6-9 instrumental): Nicole Foulkes ('cello)

Class 2 (Year 6-9 singing): Harvey Seale

Class 3 (Year 10-13 instrumental): Esther Fung (piano)

Class 4 (Year 10-13 singing): Phyllis Ho

Class 5 (mixed ensembles): Elizabeth / Seymour ensemble



Ten Tors 2008



It has always been one of my goals in life to complete Ten Tors 35, 45, 55 and then around last November I received a letter from my Scout Group asking if I wanted to take part in the Ten Tors Expedition, and I was thrilled to take them up on their offer.

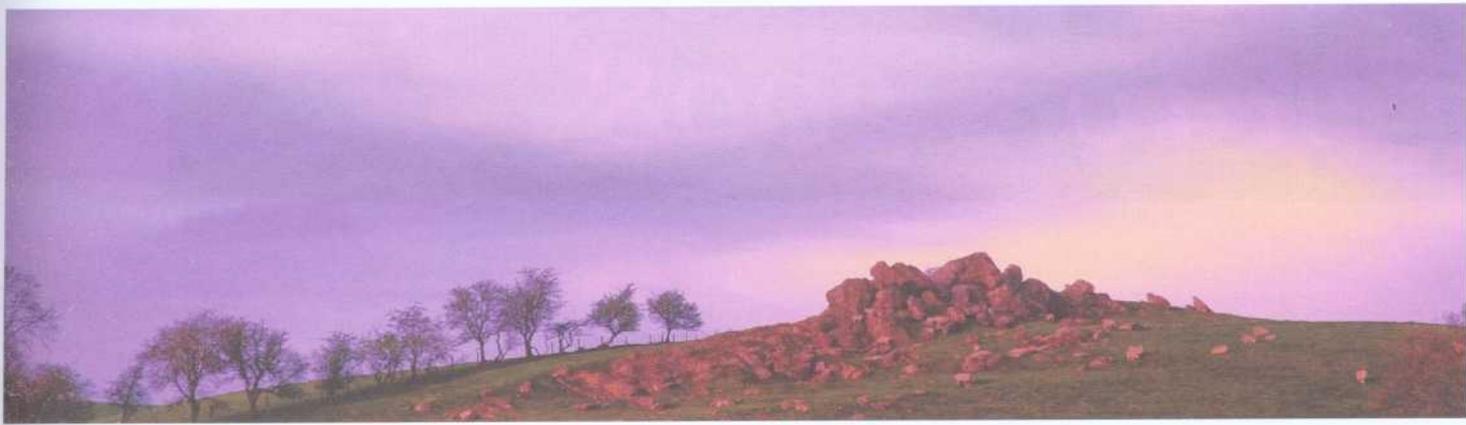
I trained from December every other weekend ... in rain, hail, wind, and even snow (but never sun!) At this time the Stover team were also training in much the same weather conditions. I made so many friends on those weekends and we now share jokes that will never wear out. I was training with people from all over Teignbridge but in April it became apparent that, due to a lack of team places, I would not be able to take part in the Ten Tors with the Scout Group team. I was really upset, although I was determined to complete the training despite the news. Then someone mentioned to me about the Stover team so I decided to go and see Mrs Head who thought it would be a good idea for me to join them on the next/finding training, which I did.

It was a fun weekend. I was nervous about it because I was going to be walking with people I had never even talked to, and who were all over two years older than me. It started well and the day continued as many Ten Tors walks do, from tor to tor. On Saturday night we had a bit of fun as a team... some people scaring the life out of us, some people had nightmares about tigers, and some people even forgot to pack their dinner.

We made good progress through Sunday, even managing to get lost in the mist, but that was not a major problem for Hannah, our navigator, who quickly had us back on track.

That evening I was asked to be the official team reserve - I was pleased, but not ecstatic. Then about five days later Mr Brown found me in the lunch hall and told me that, due to an unfortunate situation, I had made the team. I could have hugged him (although didn't!) .. it was one of my happiest moments....

The event drew closer... I became more and more anxious. I had only completed the mileage once and was worried I would not be able to keep up with the rest of the team. The Thursday before the event another person dropped out, and Vicki saved the team. The team, which was made up of Hannah, Vicki, Will, Charlie, Luke and me left on the Friday after receiving our shirts in assembly. When we arrived at the camp site it was already full of participants. We



headed to Scrutineering and passed with full marks - apparently the first Stover team to do so.

Camp was fun that day! We saw people walking around with t-shirts that said 'Sat Nav 45' and 'Terminator'. There was another team of boys dressed in tutus and wearing bunny ears, and one tent with a paddling pool in. We just had Mr Brown in ours - enough said!

Suddenly, Saturday morning had arrived and we found ourselves at the starting line. The cannon blasted off at 7:00am on the dot: we were off! In a day and a half we would hopefully be back at camp.

Our first tor was Chat Tor, 12k away but it wasn't long before we were there. Hannah was navigating us so we weren't going to get lost! Not much longer and we were at Lynch Tor and the photographer was taking our pictures - all smiling happily - the experience had barely begun. Next we reached Middle Staple Tor at which point trousers were replaced with shorts and the jumpers became T-shirts and the sun cream was going on ... by now it was getting hot! We then headed for Black Tor, stopping to pick up water and on to South Hessary Tor through Princetown, then Great Mis Tor, our 6th Tor at 5.31km. We had to have a quick walk to Beardown Tor so we were there before the crash time - we made it with minutes to spare. Then onto Lower White where we camped, although we stopped for about twenty minutes by a river to pick up water and got chatting to another team while some of us had forty winks. Finally, we made it to camp - we had been walking for thirteen hours ... by which time we had reached our eighth Tor and had a good chance of beating the school record.

The next morning we were up at 5:00am ready to leave camp by 6:00am and were the second team to check out of our Tor. We set off again on and up to Sittaford Tor and, finally, onto Watern Tor, which was to be our last Tor. All we had to do now was get to Anthony Stile.... By now it was really very hot and I was suffering with sunburn from Saturday. Some of the others were suffering with blisters on their feet from the first day.

We finally reached Anthony Stile and the atmosphere was amazing. We walked through the funnel and the clapping - we couldn't believe we had done it - Ten Tors 2008. We had beaten the school record, by 1 hour 20 minutes. Mr Brown had said to us "6 out 6 in". We had done just that... we hadn't even rushed... much! As well as our personal achievements we achieved 5th position out of 15 teams on our route (H) and 30th

out of 198 - that's all the teams taking part in 35 miles! What an achievement.

Ten Tors was an amazing experience for me and everyone else taking part. I have made so many friends. I have also learnt lots of things about myself and my team mates, but I will stick to the rules: what is said on Tor stays on Tor and, before you ask, BRING ON NEXT YEAR and we will have a crack at 45 miles. Lottie Simmons, Year 9

TEN TORS 2008: Three firsts for Stover:

Fastest ever time, beating the previous record by 1 hour and 17 minutes, first boys taking on the challenge for Stover and first ever team to reach their eighth tor on the first day.

The team: Hannah Gower (team leader)
Vicky Stark
Charlotte Simmons
Charlie Penny
Will Doble
Luke Sansom

The tors: Chat, Lynch, Great Staple, Black, South Hessary, Great Mis, Beardown, Lower White, Sittaford, Watern.

What a difference from conditions last year when the weather was so wet that the event was cancelled on the Sunday morning. This year the team set off in warm sunshine with a cooling breeze and rapidly clearing visibility. By the Sunday afternoon it was so hot that some teams on the longer routes were being taken off by helicopter suffering from heat exhaustion and dehydration.

Our team did a magnificent job, exceeding our expectations and keeping well ahead of their own schedule all the way round. They came in at 12.01pm and were the 30th team in out of the 198 competing. Special mentions go to Charlotte Simmons who stepped in 2 weeks before the event and Vicky Stark who joined the team the day before!

Mr C Brown and Mrs A Head

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

This year has been especially busy, with over fifty pupils participating at various levels of the award. Our highlight of the year was the successful completion of the Gold Award by Chloe Collins, our first at Stover for some time. Chloe, accompanied by her Mum, had a wonderful day in London and received her Certificate from HRH Prince Philip at St. James' Palace. We must congratulate Chloe on her wonderful achievement.

Additionally, many students received Silver and Bronze Awards at Forde House in Newton Abbot, in December. Several girls are currently working towards their Silver and Bronze Awards having completed expeditions in the Teign Valley in October and Dartmoor in April. Twenty-seven Year 9 boys and girls undertook their Bronze practice walk at the end of June in, what can only be described as, torrential conditions. Skirting the edge of Dartmoor, the group had a successful camp at Stover prior to hiking sections of the Templar Way and the Teign Valley with completion at Chudleigh. Well done to all those who completed this difficult walk.

In addition to the expedition, the Award involves the development of skills and physical activities. Perhaps the most important section of the Award is the voluntary community service, with boys and girls giving up many hours of their spare time in activities ranging from animal care, helping in charity shops, childcare and working in old folks' homes.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have helped run the award this year.

Mr P Barter

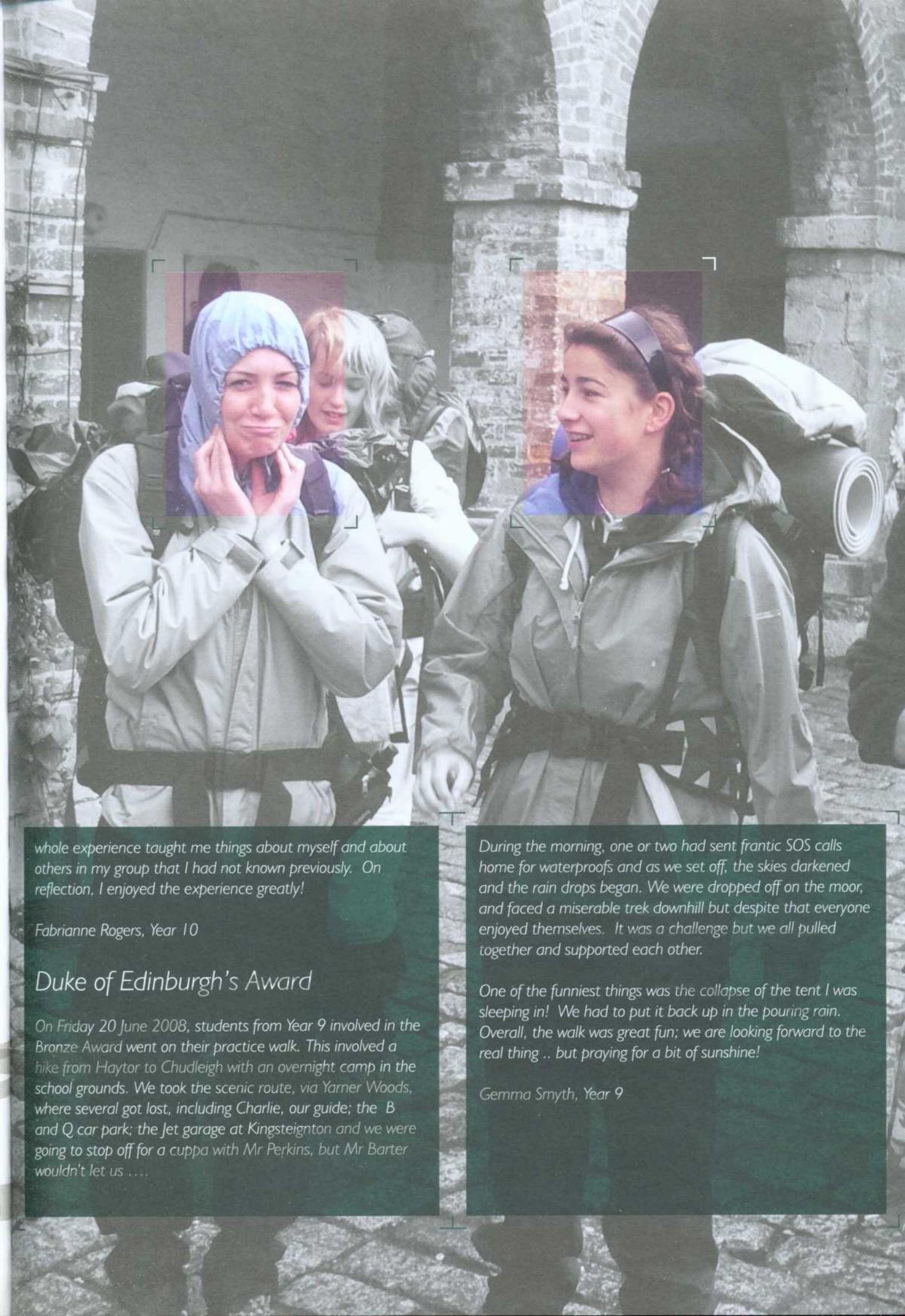
Our Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award Assessment – April 2008

I began the expedition, excited, but partly apprehensive at the prospect of the task ahead. The weather was horribly rainy and I was filled with dread but the thought of achieving the goal at the end kept me going.

As we started the walk my rucksack didn't feel too bad, but this was soon to change. The route of the walk was pleasant to begin with and we were all in high spirits. As the walk progressed we got to a part in the route, just before Chagford where the route was mainly up hill, it was at this point that my rucksack really began to strain my back. However, we pushed through. It was really tough and unfortunately a group member dropped out; we were all deflated that she had quit, but we were determined to continue as a team. Once we got to Chagford we were all able to sit down out of the rain and go to the toilet, relief swept through me as I could finally see the end of the day was near. However, we all struggled on the final leg of Saturday; the hill before Higher Weddicot Farm was very steep and it took us some time to reach the top. Once we were there we were all drained, but aware we needed to get the tent up as soon as possible, so after a quick hot chocolate we put the tent up and began dinner. Our thanks go to Mrs Rogers from Higher Weddicott Farm for allowing us to camp there. As we cooked our meal we reflected on the day's events; we had found the farm with no problems and we had all helped navigate the route. Once the tent was up we ate our much needed food and settled into our tents, most of us falling asleep with no problem at all.

When I woke up my whole body ached but we needed to get going as soon as possible. We ate breakfast and packed our bags, and then we set off after the other group. The weather was much kinder to us on Sunday and it turned out to be a very pleasant day; this kept our spirits up. We found our way to each point easily and walking along the river was very nice and peaceful. We were all in much better moods, we had had time to rest our sore bodies and were excited at the prospect of the finish. We didn't stop for long during our breaks; instead we took short, more frequent stops. The steep valley side that we had to walk up, near Fingle Bridge, was very challenging and was, for me, the hardest part of the walk. When we reached the top we were all so relieved.

As we walked through field after field we finally reached the end, Mortonhampstead car park! We all dropped our rucksacks and congratulated one another on our achievement. My feet were sore and my whole body ached but I was proud we had finished,



whole experience taught me things about myself and about others in my group that I had not known previously. On reflection, I enjoyed the experience greatly!

Fabrianne Rogers, Year 10

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

On Friday 20 June 2008, students from Year 9 involved in the Bronze Award went on their practice walk. This involved a hike from Haytor to Chudleigh with an overnight camp in the school grounds. We took the scenic route, via Yarner Woods, where several got lost, including Charlie, our guide; the B and Q car park; the Jet garage at Kingsteignton and we were going to stop off for a cuppa with Mr Perkins, but Mr Barter wouldn't let us

During the morning, one or two had sent frantic SOS calls home for waterproofs and as we set off, the skies darkened and the rain drops began. We were dropped off on the moor, and faced a miserable trek downhill but despite that everyone enjoyed themselves. It was a challenge but we all pulled together and supported each other.

One of the funniest things was the collapse of the tent I was sleeping in! We had to put it back up in the pouring rain. Overall, the walk was great fun; we are looking forward to the real thing .. but praying for a bit of sunshine!

Gemma Smyth, Year 9

'ACE' Trip

Access to the Curriculum in English Trip for Chinese New Year 2008 Extracts by students

On Sunday for our "ACE" trip, we went to Plymouth to join in with the Chinese New Year celebrations. The show started by the water fountain with people carrying different coloured banners; then "Mammon" came out and gave children some sweets which wish them luck. (Kitty Ho)

It was a sunny day as we watched the traditional "Dragon Dance" being performed. This dance is important, as a long time ago, there was a folk legend about a monster which lived in the mountain behind the village. Each New Year, it would come down and eat people. Everyone was scared, until they found out that the monster was afraid of noise and red things. (Gigi Cheung, Jessica Fang)

That is why there were some Chinese drums and instruments, red envelopes and flags and firecrackers. I really liked it. Some people were touching the dragon, hoping for good luck. It was fabulous. The show made me feel like I was in Hong Kong (Jamie Ng)

The Dragon Dance was brilliant. The men in the dragon costume needed to be skilful otherwise they would fall down. It really impressed me a lot seeing it in Britain and it was so special I could not calm down for a long period of time. (Jass Wu)

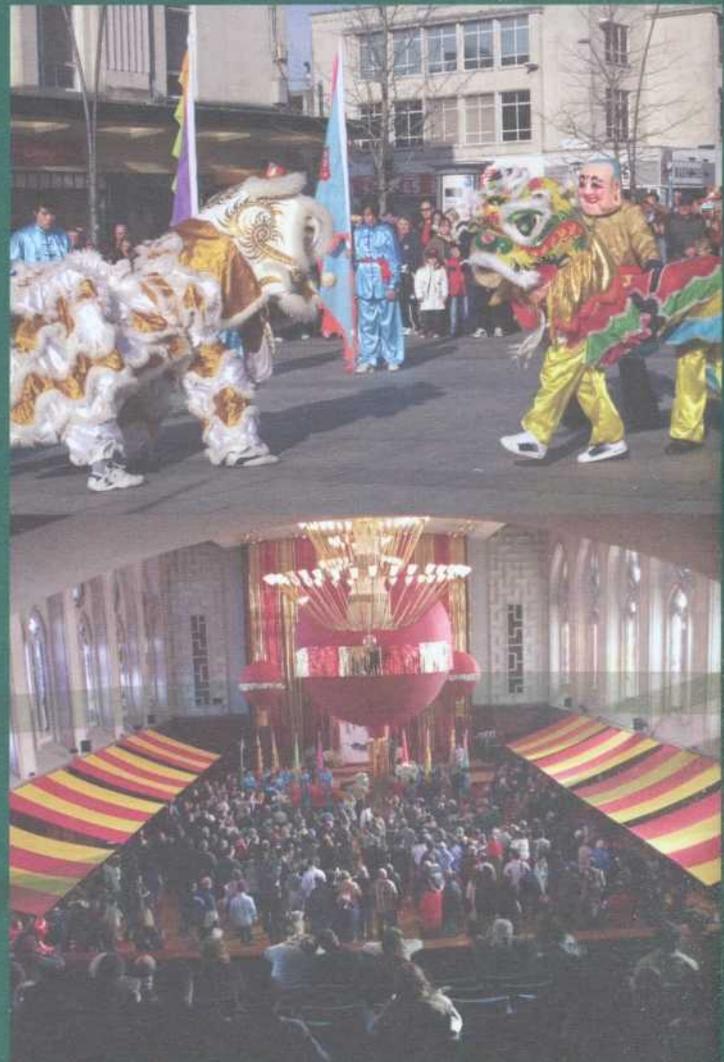
After the show, dragons lead people to the entrance of "The Guildhall". Firecrackers went off with more dancing. We could go to the Chinese market inside. (Chanel Yan, Kitty Ho)

Afterwards, we went to a Chinese restaurant for a nice meal. We were like a big family, sitting together celebrating. The food made me feel like I was at home. It was so good.

Everything just tasted the same as in Hong Kong. (Kristy Lee)

This was the first time I watched dragons running and dancing in the UK. It was pretty cool! I hope everyone received the message from the show – Happy New Year and wish you Good Luck! (Esther Fung, Michelle Lee)

I am very proud of our country's culture and happy to see lots of English people enjoying it too. Although this year I had Chinese New Year in England, it will be recorded in my life forever. (Jessica Fang)





Activities

COMMANDO CHALLENGE DAY

Army Command Tasks: Year 9 boys and girls took part in 'Command Tasks' organised by the Army Careers office in Exeter.

Soldiers from the Rifles Infantry Regiment who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan set a number of team-building exercises for the children. They built and raced buggies, crossed crocodile infested swamps and broke codes to reach secret nuclear installations. All emerged unscathed and, without exception, had a worthwhile and enjoyable day.

Mr P Barter



In School Activities:

Drama Workshops
International Cookery
Animation
Art Activities
Humanities Explorations
World Cup Football Competition
Art & Poetry
Revolting Rhymes & Recipes
Bronze Crest Awards
PDA Army Exercises
First Aid Course

Out of School Activities:

Barcelona
Surfing
Quay West
Paintballing
Crealy Adventure Park
Golf Range
Shopping and Cinema Trip
Occombe Farm
Woodlands Leisure Park

Year 10 enjoyed an action packed day at the Rock Centre in Chudleigh. Most students spent the morning caving. Within minutes the instructors had us squeezing through the tightest and muddiest of tunnels, which was great fun. Thankfully, nobody got stuck! In the afternoon most people were brave, or mad, enough to tackle the terrifyingly high tree top adventure course. This involved moving from tree top to tree top using wires and tiny wobbly bridges. Everyone did really well and we found out at the end that two of our pupils, Ellie Hendy and Milly Simpson, were the first ever to make it round the entire course in a single day.



ENTERPRISE DAY 2008

Debating Society

During the Autumn Term, Mr Haigh set up a club called Debating Society. Among the people that signed up were girls from Year 11 and boys from Year 6. We would choose a subject each week and debate about it. Among the debates were: "The legal age for driving should be raised" and "Laptops should be allowed in every lesson of the curriculum".

For each debate, we had two teams of two people – one team For the debate and one Against it. We also had the audience voting on the team they believed put forward the best debate.

We really enjoyed this club and found it very interesting. We thank Mr Haigh very much for setting up the club. We are looking forward to seeing any new members next term.

Kieran Wilson & Harry Camp, Year 6



Schools' One Day Event

In September, Stover's team attended the One Day Event organised by Blundell's School, Tiverton.

The girls rose to the occasion and performed magnificently. Well executed dressage tests were followed by double clear rounds in the show jumping and cross country elements for Charlotte Gall, Ginny Faulkner and Harriet Foale, all 15. The final member of the team was 11 year old Beatrice Foale who went clear in the show jumping and had to deal with a sticky moment on the cross country course.

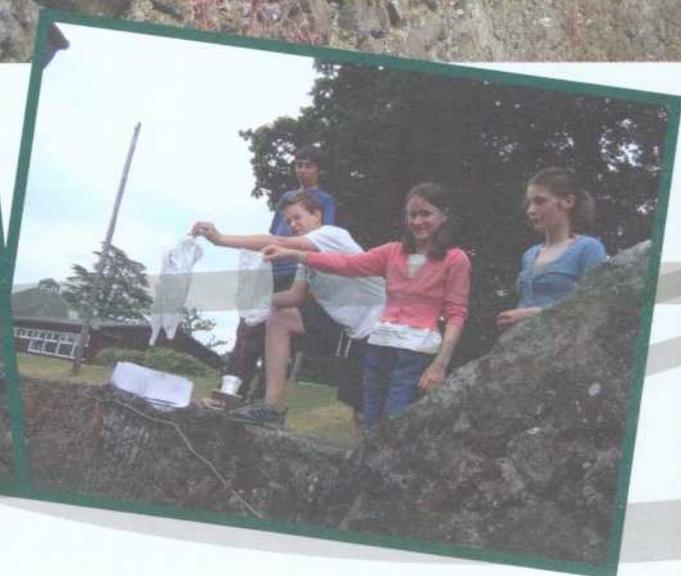
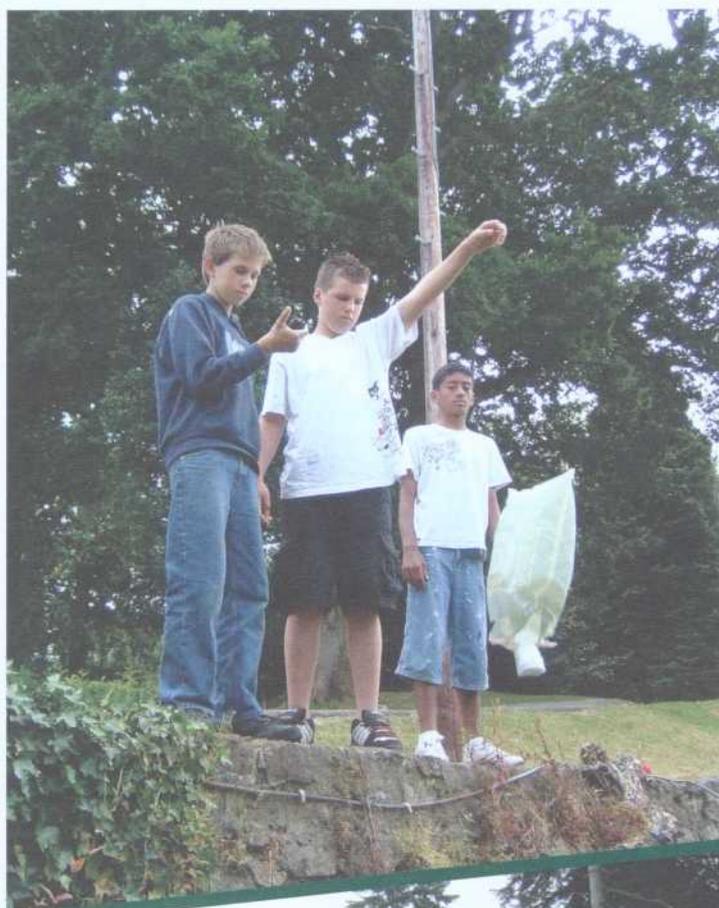
Charlotte won her section, Harriet was second and Beatrice eighth, which meant that the team carried off the trophy for overall winning school on the day.

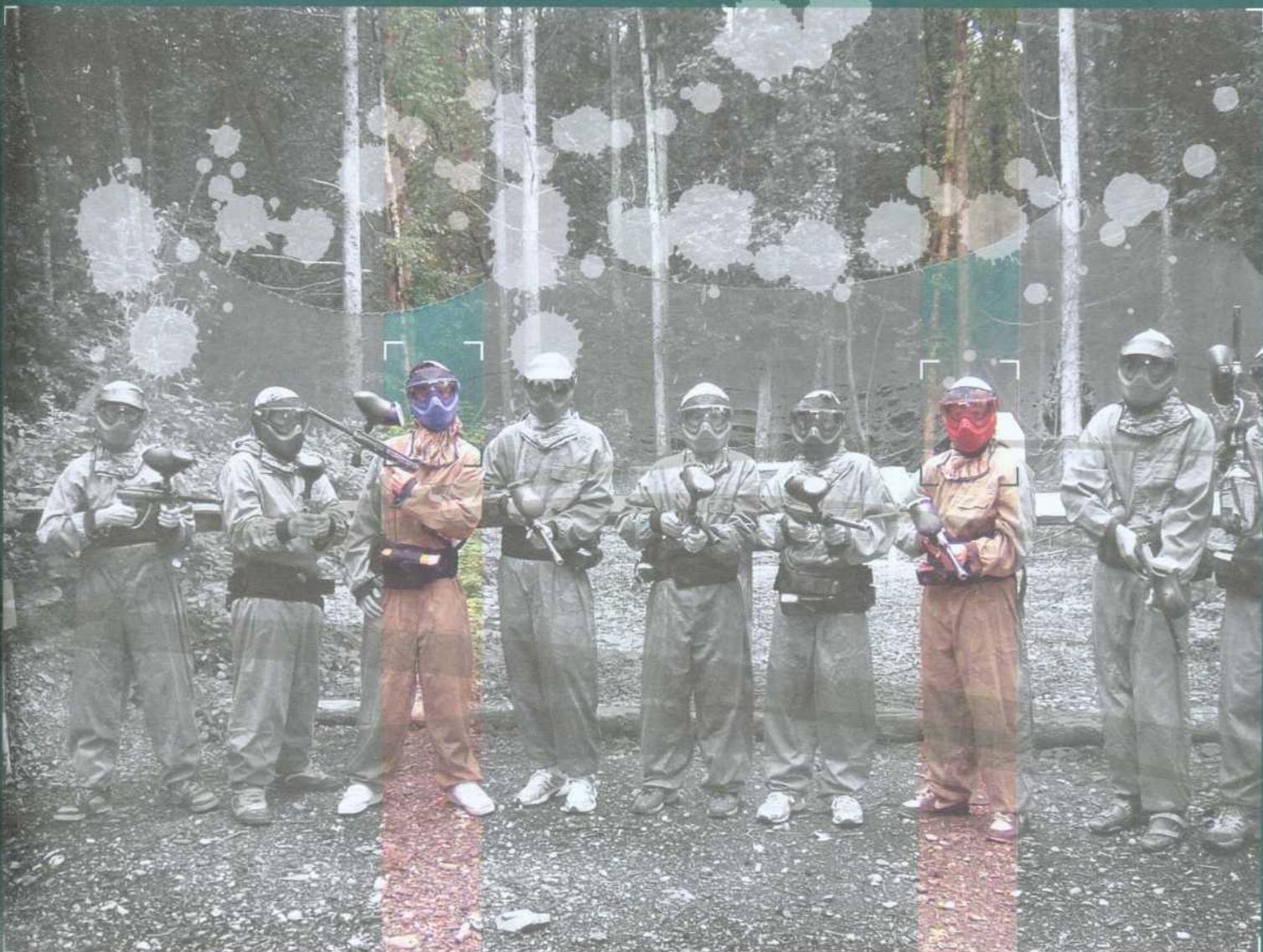
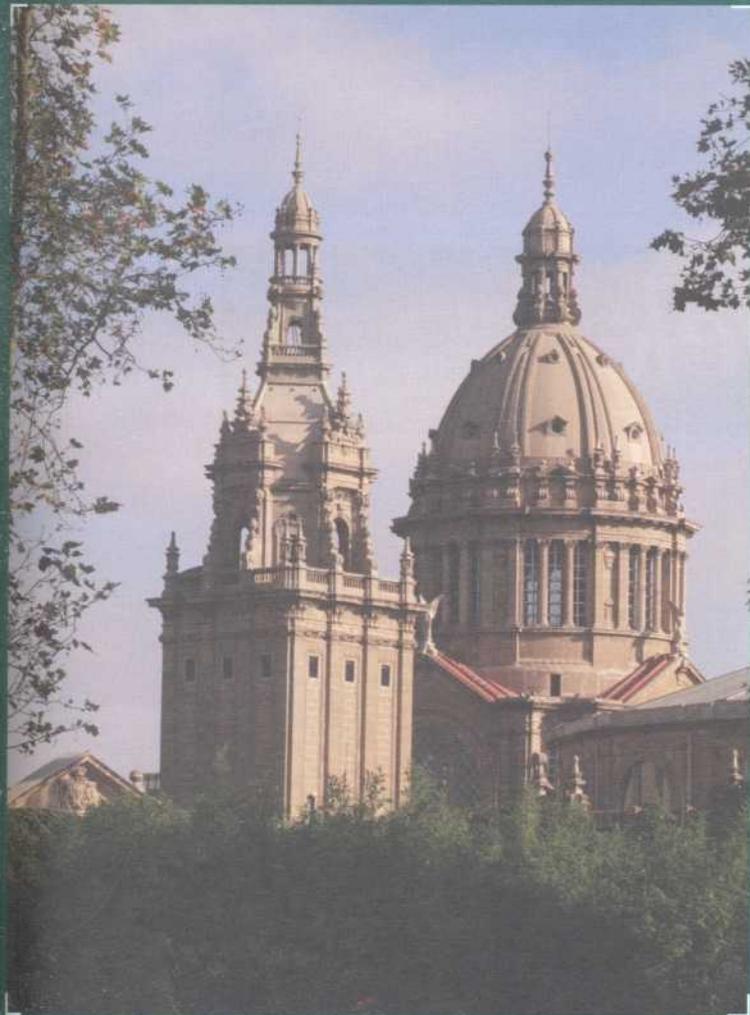
E verybody's welcome.
V aried programme.
E xciting activities.
R ich rewards – sometimes sweets!!!
Y ou should try it.
B oring – NOT!
O utside speakers and leaders.
D ifferent games each week.
Y don't u come along?

C aring and challenging Christian message.
L ots of fun!
U nbelievable.
B ring a friend along.

Timmy Simpson, Year 6

Activities Week





Senior Sport

Autumn 2007

The prestigious Tennis Cup went to Seymour/Elizabeth House, with Templer/Mary House in second place and Courtenay/Victoria House in third place

Our Under 18 Boys Tennis team have played several matches against other schools. The team consisted of Joshua Heath, Luke Sansom, William Doble, Alan Lin and Sky Lin.

I am pleased to announce that we have had our first basketball fixtures for the sixth form boys this term and they recorded their first victory against Cuthbert Mayne School. We hope to have some more training for the boys this term and Mr Griffin is dusting off his rule book to prepare his team!

Jamie Coyne-Stacey was once again selected for the South West Schools Rugby Academy.

15 pupils represented the school at the South West Schools Trampoline Competition. In the U15 section Catherine Gower came 6th, Megan Higginson 8th, Alex Case 9th, the team came 3rd overall and the U13 team came 4th. Stover had the most entrants in the competition and all pupils performed well, for some it was their first competition.

At the end of term we played our house matches in both hockey and rugby and the rugby cup went to Templer House with Courtenay House in second place and Seymour House in third place. The hockey cup was presented to Mary House with Victoria House in second place and Elizabeth house in third place.

Rugby

Once more, the season started in sub-tropical weather conditions. However, the boys seemed undeterred by the concrete like ground and got stuck into training. This year, of course, we were able to field teams in three age groups although many would play across two age ranges. Our Under 14 boys developed well over the season, playing an open and attractive style of rugby.

Players like Jamie Coyne-Stacey (who captained the team), Josh Robinson and Alec Reade had the ability to break the line of defence and they were then ably supported by the likes of Tom Lamer, Jakir Ali, Hugh Reade, James Avery and Alex Carter from full back. Of course, the ball needed to be secured first and this area saw the team's greatest improvement. Rucking is such an important facet of the game and I think it had let us down in previous years. This season saw a genuine improvement which enabled us to have a greater amount of the ball. The forwards managed the lion's share of rucking and mauling and the likes of Harry Brooks, Sam Wright, Rory Johnson and Harvey Seale all contributed. Both Finn Johnson and Johny Chung deserve a mention for providing such worthy back up. However, it was our desire to play open, running rugby that attributed to two significant wins over Tower House and a narrow defeat to Trinity.

The under 13's and the under 12's all made progress and their handling skills improved significantly. From Year 7, Tom Markham, Elliot Sample and Ben Tanner all played well and Tom Williams, Oliver Reddaway,

William Cole, Sam Goodman, Lewis Jeffery, Callum Meek, Simon Robinson, Henry Scott and Alex Snell made up the bulk of the under 13 team. Well done to all those concerned.

As always, a big thank you to Paul Stevens and Dave Biddiscombe for preparing such excellent rugby pitches. **Mr S Griffin**



Hockey

Once again we tried hard on the hockey field but find it difficult to compete against schools that have the use of astro-turf facilities. We have always played in fine spirit and tried hard to improve our skills against many of the teams we have competed against. The younger age groups have had more success with some memorable wins and draws against some tough schools. However, we have also had some girls selected for the county hockey squads this year. Harriet Sansom and Harriet Rogers were selected for the U14 squad and Vicky Stark was asked to train with the U17 squad and made it into the final team. We also fared well at the area tournament getting into the final and being narrowly beaten in two age groups.

We had successes in the U14 Devon Hockey trials with both Harriet Sansom and Harriet Rogers being selected for the county team and Carys Flain in her first term as goalkeeper, just missed out on selection at the third trial. Harriet Sansom was also selected for the U15 Devon Hockey team, a year young, which is a great achievement. Victoria Stark has been asked to train with the U17 Devon Hockey squad. A number of girls are continuing to play for Dart Hockey Club and this has helped to improve their skills, with much needed experience on the astro surface.

	Player of the season	Most Improved player
Rugby		
U11	Dominic Lamar	James Bushby
U12	Thomas Markham	Benjamin Tanner
U13	Alec Reade	William Cole
U14	Jamie Coyne-Stacey	Joshua Robinson
Hockey		
U11	Emily Morris	Gabriela Bridger
U12	Annabel Warwick	Beatrice Foale
U13	Amy Large	Sunneva Coyne-Stacey
U14	Harriet Rogers & Harriet Sansom	Megan Higginson & Imogen Holmes
U18	Sophie Scott-Smith	

The girls have also played football this term with some friendly fixtures against local schools and they have been able to put their new skills into action. They received some coaching from Frank Prince at Torquay United and I think those of you that have seen the girls play will agree this was a very worthwhile training programme. Year 6 boys were also able to benefit from this experienced coaching in their PE lessons and Mr Snell, a parent, has also offered the boys valuable coaching alongside Mr Veal this term. We thank him for his support and enthusiasm.

Football

The girls have turned out in high numbers for football training showing true enthusiasm for the game. The commitment and drive to train in all kinds of weather paid off. Throughout the season during matches it was very apparent their skills had truly progressed to another level. The Boys and Girls enjoyed a fantastic opportunity to be coached by 'Torquay United in the Community' instructors for a period of six weeks in which the coaches praised their fantastic attitude and willingness to learn.

Netball

We have fared better in the netball this season and have had some good victories against strong schools. We enjoyed our trip to Wellington, a new fixture this year, and ended up with a draw and a victory. The senior team this year was mainly made up of year 11's and they played many sixth form teams. They secured some good victories and learnt some valuable tactics from teams such as West Buckland. Unfortunately, due to the Easter break we were unable to play in the area tournaments this term. However, a number of girls attended the west Devon satellite trials and three year 7's were selected. Congratulations to Holly Sames Annabel Warwick and Corrina Crusham. Megan Higginson is currently playing for East Devon Juniors and Lauren Embury was voted player of the season in the Teignbridge league this year. Furthermore, Hannah Williams has been playing Netball at a very high standard in the Plymouth and District leagues.

In netball we have entered the Area competitions and just missed selection for the National Schools Competition. Megan Higginson has been selected to represent the school in the U14 Devon Satellite Academy for East Devon. Megan has also received additional coaching for hurdles in a selected sports camp.

Cross Country

Our teams competed in some tough conditions but the training that Miss Bulford has done with pupils in the early morning has certainly helped. The most committed younger members have been the Morris sisters who have trained hard and competed well in all the competitions we entered. Milly in Year 6 came in the top three in most events. She also had some notable successes at Blundell's and St Petroc's. Our teams also ran well in particularly tough conditions at St Michael's School. Elliot Sample ran superbly for the boys and Alex Snell gave a particularly courageous performance at Blundell's.

In the Inter-House competition, Victoria/Courtenay were the clear victors, but Mary/Templer put up a strong performance and even had two members of staff running to support their teams. It was great to be able to involve the 6th Form boys in the competition too! William Doble came home the strong winner of the Boy's race. I'm sure Victoria Stark and Laura Harwood were pleased to beat Mr Baillie and Luke Sansom to beat Miss Bulford. Miss Bulford commented that she now knew why it was called the torture field!

We also held our annual Inter-Schools Cross Country Event, attended by over 12 preparatory schools, which was a great success and we were very lucky with the weather. The Sixth Form Sports Leaders were also very important in the running of this event. It was a very well supported and enjoyable day.



	Player of the season	Most Improved player
Netball		
U11	Bethan Reade	Harriet Dorrington
U12	Holly Sames	Corrina Crusham
U13	Holly Allen & Ella Ettridge	Charlotte Holyoak
U14	Megan Higginson	Elizabeth Rogers
U15	Hannah Williams	Robyn Warwick
U16	Lauren Embury	Amy Jones
Football		
U11	Callum Reade	Laurence Young
U12	Elliot Sample	Benjamin Tanner
U13	Alec Reade	William Cole
U14	James Avery	Alex Carter

Senior Sport

Summer 2008

We have played fixtures at all age ranges in Cricket, Rounders and Athletics. The girls have played some very competitive games of rounders at the lower end of the school and the boys have had mixed fortunes in their cricket matches.

Our main success once again has been athletics. At the Kelly Trophy Athletics competition our U12 Girls were placed 3rd; our Open Girls were placed 2nd and overall, Stover was placed 4th. Winners at this event are selected to represent the area in the National Preparatory School Athletics Finals at Alexander Stadium in Birmingham.

Emily Morris, Gabriella Bridger, Bethan Reade, Celina Meek, Mollie Daly, Lauren Kurzman and Alec Reade were selected to represent the Kelly Area at the National Preparatory School Athletics Finals, held in Birmingham. Almost all pupils achieved personal bests at the event and they should be proud of a truly great achievement.

In the House matches, both Rounders and Cricket were played with great spirit and mass participation. The winners were Mary in the Rounders and Courtenay in the Cricket.

Devon Girls Athletics Event

Stover was placed 2nd overall out of 12 schools. Megan Higginson broke a long standing event record in the high jump clearing 1m 60cm. Again a number of girls were placed in the top three for their event and we performed particularly well in the field events. The strength and experience of our senior girls was again evident at the Area Athletic Trials where the following were selected to represent the Devon area, Megan Higginson, Lydia Martin, Hannah Williams and Harriet Rogers. Megan Higginson narrowly missed selection for the next round. We have also attended events at Kings and Blundell's before half term and boys and girls recorded a number of successes.

Tennis

We have played a number of tennis fixtures this term in the Nestle League. The U15 girls and boys played well against some tough opposition and the U13 boys and girls also achieved a few wins under their belts. Tennis is a new sport for some of our boys, but they managed to hold their own and improved their game play significantly.

We are very excited about our new Tennis initiative at Stover which is starting in September and hope that this will enable us to raise the tennis profile at Stover.

We entered the Nestle league again this term and have had some mixed fortunes in the Year 8 and 10 leagues. The girls played excellent games against Exmouth and St Margaret's with some great wins and tight matches. Sian Wood, Rosie Tucker, Sophie Nadeau and Susana Mareque were new additions to the team and played some good games. The Year 8 team, which consisted mainly of Year 7 girls, also played well and learnt some valuable tactics about games play and positioning.

Cricket

We have had a varied season, the new cricket nets have enabled our boys to improve their bowling and all boys are making good progress and showed great potential for next season. Notable achievements this year were U14 Captain Harry Brooks scoring 39 runs against Teignmouth C.C. and Alex Snell taking 5 wickets and 30 runs against Exeter Cathedral School.



	Player of the season	Most Improved player
Cricket		
U11	Callum Reade	Kieran Wilson
U12	Tom Markham	Ben Tanner
U13	Alex Snell	Sam Goodman
U14	Harry Brooks	Alex Wilson
Rounders		
U11	Harriet Dorrington	Pandora Vernon-Simpson
U12	Holly Sames	Charlotte Killick
U13	Holly Allen	Katie Mudge
U14	Rosie Tucker	Elizabeth Rogers
Athletics		
Junior	Emily Morris	Elliott Sample
Intermediate	Megan Higginson	Hugh Reade

Athlete of the Season

Junior Emily Morris

Inter Megan Higginson

Elliott Sample

Hugh Reade

Sports Day

Sports day was a great success with many athletes showing their skills and abilities in a range of events on a perfect day. Grateful thanks to the Staff and the Sixth Form Sports Leaders who helped during the afternoon. School records were achieved by:

Boys Year 6 - 7

James Bushby, LJ; Laurence Young, HJ; Thomas Markham, Discus;

Girls Year 6 - 7

Holly Sames, Hurdles; Bethan Reade, 300m; Gabriella Bridger, 1500m;

Boys Year 8 - 9

Joshua Robinson, 100m; Hugh Reade, 200m; Thomas Larner, 800m; Oliver Reddaway, 1500m; Joshua Robinson, LJ; Johnny Chung, HJ; William Cole, Shot; Hugh Reade, Discus; Callum Meek, Javelin.

Girls Year 8 - 9

Megan Higginson, Hurdles; Megan Higginson, LJ; Alice Blower, Shot.

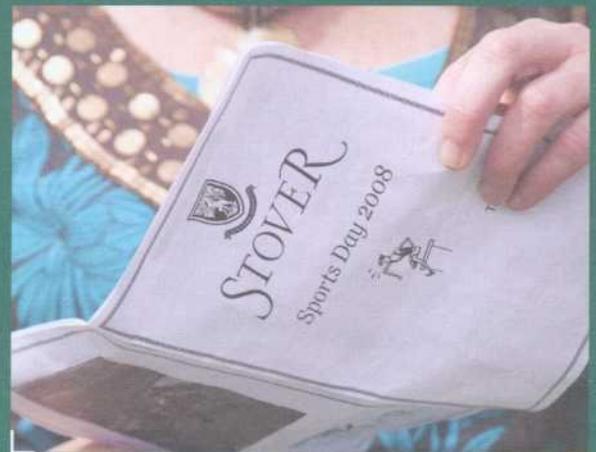
Year 10 - 13

William Doble, 100m; Desmond Leung, 800m; William Doble, Long Jump; Luke Sansom, Shot. House Relay: Boys Years 8 & 9 Courtenay.

Event	Years 6 / 7	Years 6 / 7	Years 8 / 9	Years 8 / 9	Years 10 / 13	Years 10 / 13
Hurdles	Holly Sames		Megan Higginson			
100m	Emily Morris	Thomas Markham	Elizabeth Rogers	Joshua Robinson	Lucy Loughton	William Doble
200m	Annabelle Warwick	James Bushby	Elizabeth Rogers	Hugh Reade	Sarah Baker	
300m	Bethan Reade		Holly Allen		Abigail Wills	
800m	Holly Sames	James Bushby	Jessica Goodman	Thomas Larner	Laura Harwood	Desmond Leung
1500m	Gabriella Bridger	Elliot Sample	Imogen Holmes	Oliver Reddaway		
Long Jump	Annabelle Warwick	James Bushby	Megan Higginson	Joshua Robinson	Lucy Loughton	William Doble
High Jump	Holly Sames	Laurence Young	Megan Higginson	Johnny Chung	Hannah Williams	
Shot	Chloe Davies	Laurence Young	Alice Blower	William Cole	Lydia Martin	Luke Sansom
Discus	Melissa Rogers	Thomas Markham	Charlotte Stead	Hugh Reade	Lydia Martin	
Javelin	Bethan Reade	Elliot Sample	Harriet Sansom	Callum Meek	Lauren Embury	
Relays Yr6	Victoria	Seymour				
Relays Yr7	Victoria	Templar				
Relays Yr8			Mary	Courtenay		
Relays Yr9			Mary	Seymour		
Relays Yr10					Elizabeth	
Relays Yr11						
Relays Yr12					Victoria	Courtenay

Girls Winners: Mary 2nd: Elizabeth 3rd: Victoria
Boys Winners: Courtenay 2nd: Templar 3rd: Seymour

Overall House winner: Victoria/Courtenay
2nd: Mary/Templar
3rd: Elizabeth/Seymour



Golf at Stover



This year has seen Paul Stephens and David Biddiscombe, our wonderful groundsmen starting work on our new 3 hole short golf course, Stover School's Golf Academy encourages all our pupils to try their hand at golf. Equipment is supplied and our short course with putting green, target golf and a bunker area, enables all our pupils the perfect opportunity to improve their skills and knowledge of the game. Stover School is a member of the Independent Schools Golf Association. The course will be ready for the Autumn term for after-school clubs and lessons.

We also have had the help and support of Mrs Sally Watkins, who is the non-playing Ladies England Captain and also a parent.

As part of Stover's public benefit initiative we are forging links with both Stover Golf Club and Hele Park Golf Centre, with Golf pros from both clubs offering their expertise to Stover in the form of after school clubs, holiday clubs and lessons.

Luke Sansom and Rory Johnson, alongside our Golf coach Sally Watkins, travelled to The Shire in London to compete in the Independent Schools Golf Association competition in the autumn term. The Shire is a very challenging course designed by Seve Ballesteros and the Stover team came 8th out of 16 teams, playing against teams from Millfield, Lorretts



and Bedford. Sally Watkins was victorious in the teachers competition.

During the Easter holidays we held a charity golf day for parents, pupils, staff and friends at Hele Park Golf Centre. The day was a huge success and raised £200 for Breast Cancer Awareness.

Winners of the 9 Hole Competition were Stover pupil Jamie Roberts playing with his mum Wendy Roberts. We also fielded a group of younger Preparatory School pupils who had never played on a golf course before, they had a fantastic time especially the meal in the clubhouse after their round! They all received Gemini Radio Goodie Bags.

We had a large field for the 18 Hole Charity Classic, winners were Shaun Craven and Simon Griffin, 2nd Stover pupil Jamie Rooke and his father Graham Rooke, 3rd Duncan Heath and John Hosea, 4th Stover's Rory Johnson and his father Marcus Johnson. 1st Ladies team, Stover pupil Harriet Sansom and Stover parent Sam Rogers. Longest Drive winner was Nathan Brown and Nearest the Pin was past pupil David Ruth.

Grateful thanks go to Wendy Stanbury and her staff at Hele Park Golf Centre for all their help, Teign Valley Golf Club, The Salcombe Trading Company, Hele Park Golf Centre, Lemon Valley Studio, Austin's of Newton Abbot, Newton Abbot Races Ltd, Associated Drilling, Wottons Farm Dairy, Gemini Radio and Abbey Printers who all kindly donated prizes.

Harriet Rogers and Harriet Sansom travelled to Sunningdale Ladies to play in the Inter-school Girls Challenge Bowl. Both girls played well and enjoyed the day, but were playing

against girls from Millfield, Epsom and Wycombe Abbey School.

As part of the golf development at Stover Mrs Watkins together with Stuart Disney from Hele Park Golf Centre, have been running golf after school clubs in the prep and senior school. These clubs have been very well supported and the children have really enjoyed the opportunity to learn to play golf. These clubs will continue next year.

This year we also took part in the Chudleigh & Bovey Tracey Rotary Club Charity Golf Day at Stover Golf Course. We sent a team of three boys, Luke Sansom, Rory Johnson and Oliver Williamson. On a perfect day and a fantastic playing course, the Stover boys came 3rd in the team event and Luke came 2nd in the individual event.

Tom Lerner, Jamie Roberts, Sophie Murch and young Tom Rooke all travelled to Millfield for their U13 Preparatory School Golf Day.

Our senior golf team; Luke Sansom, Rory Johnson and Oliver Williamson travelled to The Shire in London to play in the Independent Schools Golf Association Trophy competition and Rory's father joined them, playing in the teacher/parent competition.

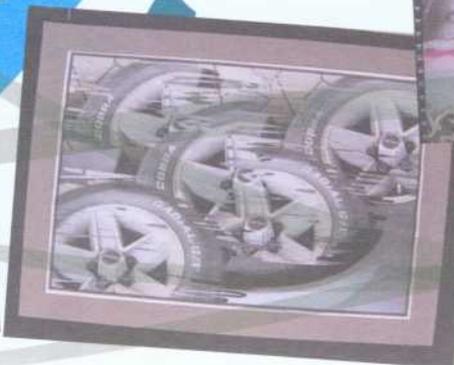
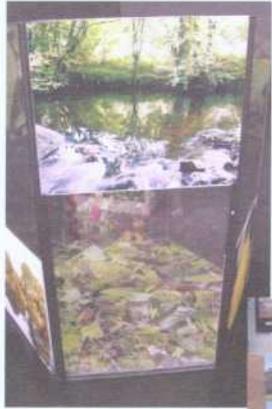
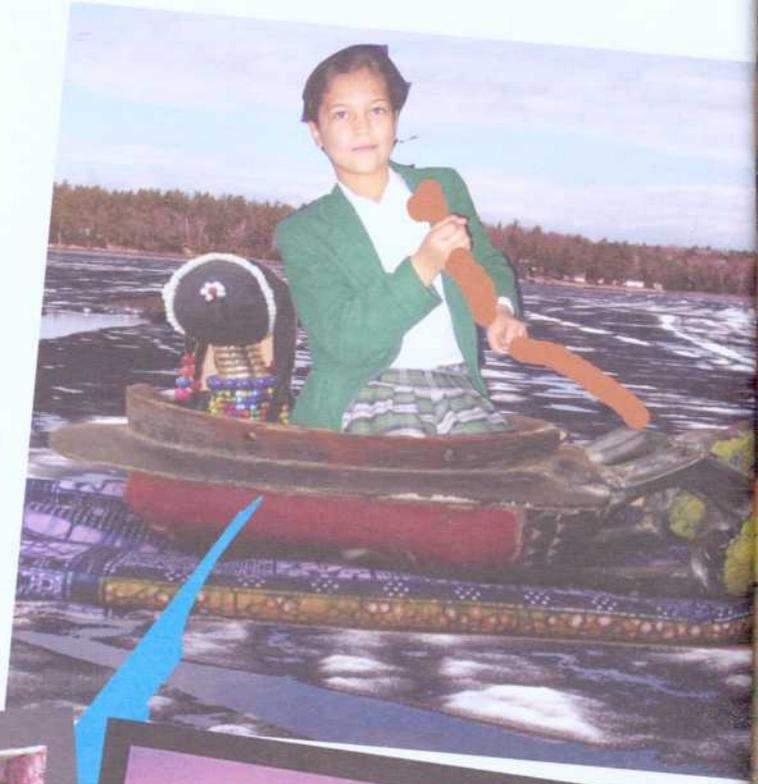
Mr Johnson commented "The performances of all 3 boys was commendable - the boys were impeccably behaved and portrayed the best traditions of the school (courtesy, good manners and sportsmanship) throughout proceedings. All were, as expected, a credit to the school". The boys came in the Top 10 out of 35 schools, a great achievement!

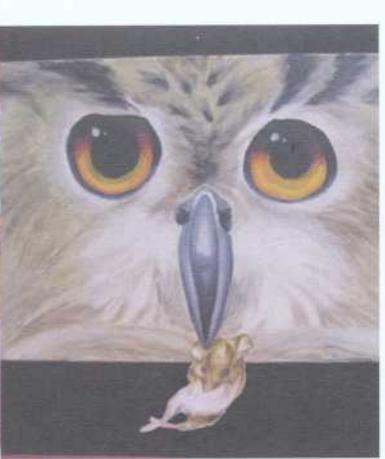
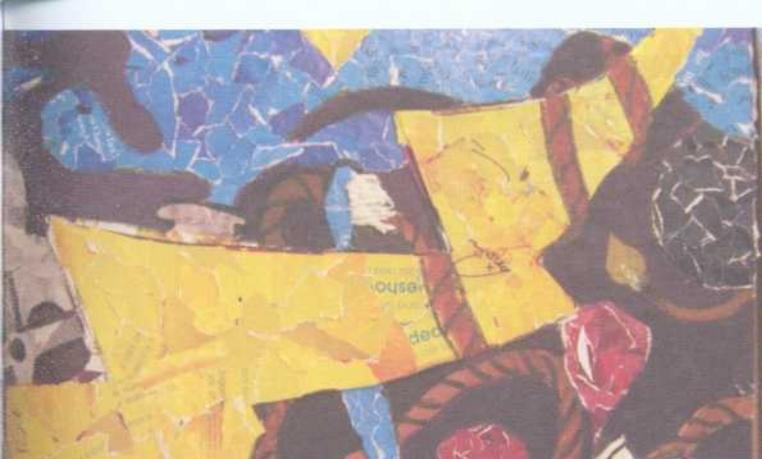


Art & Photography

Stover Art and Photography department has enjoyed another successful year.

GCSE and A Level students thoroughly enjoyed their educational visit to the London Tate Galleries early in the year and younger students (from Years 3-6) had the opportunity to get involved with Talented and Gifted Workshops. In June, the Department put on an exhibition of students' work from years 1-13, some of which are shown here. The standard of the work on show was excellent and the wide range of media and techniques used throughout the school made for a wonderful variety. **Mr T Wightman**





Charity Events



FAIR TRADE AT STOVER 2008

We always support Fair Trade Fortnight and this year we have been especially busy.

Mrs Helen Barrett from Traidcraft took a Fair Trade assembly about the parents in one school being prepared to pay a little more for organic, fairly traded school shirts which the students had themselves researched in India.

Year 6 sold £350 worth of CHOCOLATE in a week!

Francesca Anderson and Alice Blower took an assembly on Human Rights

We have recently started a FAIR TRADE TUCKSHOP on two days a week at break manned by some year 9 girls – Henrietta Pritchard-Barrett, Chloe Fairbrother, Francesca Anderson and Sophie Nadeau. Trade is brisk, especially for cookies.





Christian Aid Event 10th May 2008

Christian Aid held a sponsored walk at Newton Abbot Racecourse on Saturday 10th May. Those who took part, walking eight laps of mile and a quarter circuits, did so in glorious sunshine. The track had an ice-cream van and a burger stand too; I suspect this was so that energy levels remained high.

Christian Aid helps people throughout the world who are at risk of hunger and disease. With Stover School's involvement in the Christian Aid walk we have helped raise over two million pounds. People in Burma now have blankets and shelter and people in Africa have clean drinking water. Money is always short, so please keep giving donations to Christian Aid. Christian Aid sends thanks to all the people who took part in the walk, and a special thank you to Mrs Wimsett for organising it, and Mr Barter who managed to run the ten mile walk by lunchtime! By Jess Doyle 6CS

Christian Aid Walk 2008

The sun was gleaming down, exaggerated by the array of yellow outfits worn by the walkers this year. Especially Mr Barter, who decided to wear a fluorescent yellow running t-shirt and looked like a professional.

This was our fourth time of walking ten miles for Christian

Aid, but by the third lap we were beginning to tire. Passing other people on the track you could here a mixture of different songs playing from people's phones (ours was obviously the coolest). You had to be careful not to stand in the blobs of fallen ice-cream, slowly melting on the hard tarmac ground.

Every now and again there was a quick streak of fluorescent yellow zig-zagging in and out of the "slower walkers" (this was Mr Barter running the ten miles!!!) We tried to catch up with the 'lightning streak' but it was impossible. The half way point around the track was marked by an elderly gentleman with a very tall multi-coloured squares hat and some bunting.

At lunchtime, we quickly returned to our picnic stops for a well-earned rest, ready to return for our final three laps. After a large amount of water, ice-cream and bananas were consumed, the walk began again. This day is always very enjoyable - it's always a chance to get out in the sun with friends and family, and generally have a good time. There's a real a sense of achievement when you have finished the walk, knowing that as well as having had fun, much money has been raised for many, more needy, people. By Amy Weekes and Alex Michael, Year 11

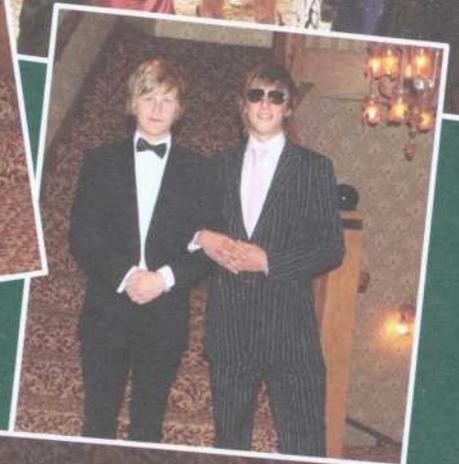
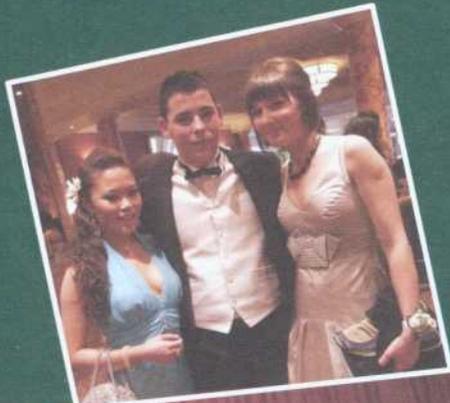
Year 11 Prom





"Prom Night"

Sixth Form 07-08



"Sixth Form Ball 2008"



During Activities week, the sixth form enjoyed a trip to the cinema in Exeter. They also spent a morning learning and playing golf at the driving range in Bovey Tracey.

All pupils took part in an all day first aid course in Chamber Hall. Many of our sixth formers were involved in obtaining their "Community Sports Leaders" Awards last year and during activities week they organised a football tournament for over sixty of our younger pupils.

Our Leavers Ball was particularly well attended this year and thanks go to Juliet Bowater and Sophie Scott Smith for organising the event at The Grand Hotel, Torquay. The venue lived up to its name and a splendid time was had by all! Other enjoyable evenings were spent at our "themed nights" in the sixth form centre. We followed up our Chinese New Year Celebrations in February with a good "old fashioned Curry night" in April. Many of our year 12s also enjoyed a "Driving Taster Course" at Westpoint, courtesy of Peppers driving school, Newton Abbot. This year, all sixth formers took part in a weekly community hour. The

main objective of these sessions has been to develop personal and social education not necessarily covered in their curriculum. Students have:

Had guest lectures including: Advanced Study Skills (Keynote)* Personal Finance (Gerry Bacon), Following your Dreams (Colin Javens), Oxbridge Admissions (Dr Ute Stock) the role of the UN in Sierra Leone (Major Arthur Norman Walker), Women in Business (Charlotte Lambeth) and Opportunities with the "Year in Industry" project (Fiona Venn).

Organised an Outreach Christmas party for Bidwell Brook primary school. This involved splitting into teams to organise invitations and transport, food and drink, Santa and his grotto and party games.

Took part in our own "Ready Steady Cook" event, including preparing a budget two course menu.

Prepared and delivered presentations on a range of important current issues.

Helped plan fund raising events for spinal research, breast cancer and Gemini FM charities

Careers interviews and mock university interviews were also arranged as were a number of activities and events to support students with their UCAS applications. These included a Higher Education Evening, Personal Statement Writing Workshop and individual careers meetings with the Head of Sixth Form and Tutors.



In the Sixth Form we introduced the Community Sports Leader course, a nationally recognised qualification. Stover is the first private school to deliver the course. The students have organised and assisted in events from cross country, senior/prep school sports day, uni hock and rounders competitions. Moreover, as part of their ten hours' work in the community, the students have delivered after-school activities in the Prep School as well as a Christmas party for Bidwell Brook School. The experience and knowledge they have gained has been invaluable and complements their UCAS applications to University.

Music

At the end of another musically very busy year, I am very pleased and impressed at how Stover pupils involved in the musical life of the school have shown such commitment and enthusiasm over the year. As well as the music taught in the curriculum, the extra curricular music is becoming a very significant part of school life and over 200 individual music lessons are being given each week.

Nearly half the pupils in the Senior school are involved in music activities ranging from choir, orchestra, jazz band and smaller ensembles, and the reputation of our musicians is growing in this part of Devon through our concert performances and competition successes. We have record numbers of pupils taking Associated Board examinations and Stover pupils have taken part in the three local music competitions at Paignton, Exeter and Plymouth.

Following the success of the choir trip to Paris last year, the School Choir has grown in numbers peaking at 85 members for the carol service and the Cantabile Choir is fast developing a reputation as one of the best school choirs in Devon, winning awards in local competitive festivals. The variety of activities during the week has expanded to include a percussion Samba band, some smaller string and wind ensembles, and our peripatetic music staff are able to offer classes in Aural training and Music Theory helping with exam preparation. Each of our music scholars receives individual coaching in musicianship skills. Our accompanist, Mr Hurst, has been able to offer more time to work with singers and instrumentalists, and we have increased the range of computer software for use in aural training and to develop recording and sequencing skills. New purchases over the year have included a new upright piano for the Preparatory School Music Room supplied by Blüthners of London, and electronic drum kit to allow practice through headphones, and new recording equipment.

Little of this would have been possible without the help and dedication of our team of 16 peripatetic music staff who give tremendous support week by week and assist with concerts and outside events.

Musically the year began with a lunchtime Informal concert in Chamber Hall on Friday October 12th. The programme included solos from Lydia Butler, Nicole Foulkes, Amy Ward, Anastasia Korotkova, Anna Newman, Chloe Fairbrother, Charlotte Simmons, Henrietta Pritchard-Barrett, Ada Yiu and Kiri Chui (piano duet), Emily Simpson, and the Stover band Rubber Bullet comprising Florence Beasley, Anna Newman and Holly Allen.

In the Autumn Term we were involved with concerts for a number of local charities. We gave a recital at the local branch of the Arthritis Care in Newton Abbot on November 14th. With the help of some members of the Harcombe Singers and friends, we staged a very special concert at Teigngrace Church for St Cecilia's Day on November 22nd. This concert included a number of soloists from

Stover, the String Sinfonietta, the Flute Group and a small choir formed from senior singing students. The finale of the programme was a performance of three anthems by the little known, local 18th century composer William Holmes. The manuscript for these pieces has only recently been discovered and this was the first time the music has been heard in nearly 200 years. The concert raised over £200 towards restoration work at the church. We hosted the annual Cancer Research Concert and Dinner at school on December 4th. The concert included performances by the Jazz Band and the Cantabile Choir and raised £1,100 to support Cancer Research funds.

In addition to performance and concert work, Stover pupils have enjoyed success in competitive and examination work. At the Plymouth Competitive Music Festival, 6th form pupils Ada Yiu and Kiri Chui were awarded a cup for their performance in the Piano Duet class and Phyllis Ho won the Piano Solo-Recital class. Phyllis was also successful in winning a cup in the Girls Solo Song (15-17 years) and Holly Allen won the class for Girls Solo Song (11-14 years). In the school choir classes, the Cantabile Choir was awarded the Winnacott Shield for their outstanding performance in the Senior School Choir class. In addition, the choir achieved the highest mark in the school choir classes, were awarded the Travers-Stubbs Trophy, and received many very complimentary comments on their performance.

Some pupils from Stover took part in the Exeter Festival for Performing Arts and Ada Yiu, Kiri Chui and Phyllis Ho were successful in the piano classes. Amelia Young and Emily Simpson took part in the String Duo Class playing a movement from the Vivaldi double concerto.

We held another Informal Concert in the Chamber Hall on Thursday January 31st. Soloists included Katherine Allen, Millie Laing-Tate, Gabriela Bridger, Catherine Gower, Theodora Young, Claire Kirkman, Georgina Allen, Amy Ward, Laura Harwood, Emily Simpson and Amelia Young.

Instrumental pupils from Stover had a fantastic experience on February 14th and 15th working with members of top London ensemble The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. Along with pupils from other local schools, the sessions on February 14th held at Stover involved looking at a variety of styles in small groups. The orchestra is the country's leading exponent of authentic period music performance and the advice and coaching focussed on performance practice from a range of different periods and styles. The culmination of the event was a concert held in the Great Hall at Dartington College on February 15th to a number of local primary school children. The project was co-ordinated by Dartington Plus, the educational outreach department of the Dartington Trust and we are very pleased to be establishing links with the College.

Music pupils from Stover took part in a concert at Harberton Church



near Totnes on March 6th. Mr Lea opened the concert with an organ solo requested by members of the church, the remainder of the programme consisted of a mix of solos and small ensembles from Stover pupils. The String Group, Flute Group, Chamber Septet, Jazz Band and Cantabile Choir performed pieces new to their repertoire. Solo items were performed by Georgina Allen (voice), Hugh Reade (saxophone), Catherine Gower (voice), Nicole Foulkes ('cello), Laura Harwood (voice) and Phyllis Ho (voice). Amelia Young and Emily Simpson performed two movements from the Violin Concerto by Vivaldi, and Alexandra Doble gave the first performance of her composition for saxophone and piano which she has recently completed as part of her GCSE coursework. The vote of thanks was given by Rev Caroline Luff, and £292 was raised in the retiring collection to support church restoration work.

Stover made 52 entries in the Torbay Competitive Music Festival held in Paignton in May. We were represented in singing, piano, chamber ensemble, solo string and wind classes and awards were won by Jessica Fang, Esther Fung, Clara Finnigan, Imogen Holmes and Georgina Allen. Phyllis Ho and Camilla Laing-Tate won the vocal duet prize for their performance of 'Laudamus Te' by Vivaldi Katherine Allen won the solo flute class and was invited to play in the Gala Concert at the Palace Theatre in Paignton at the festival's conclusion. The Cantabile Choir retained the Harris Osborne cup for choral singing for a second year and were asked to perform at the Gala Concert.

We gave a concert as part of the Dawlish Music festival on June 26th. This was held at the United Reform Church in Dawlish and was well attended. The programme was a varied mix of solos and groups and we were pleased to be asked to take part in one of the longest running festivals in this part of Devon.

Choral Singing at Stover has far surpassed my expectations this year and I must pay tribute to Mrs Farleigh's commitment and enthusiasm in the way she gets such a fantastic sound from the group. This year our two events in school were the performance at Speech Day and the Summer concert in June. Our 'away' events were the Carol Service held this year at St Andrew's Church in Plymouth, and taking part in the Torbay Competitive festival in Paignton. At Speech Day, we performed two contrasting pieces 'The Londonderry Air' and 'Ave Verum' by Mozart. We then started on the programme for the Christmas Carol Service. In addition to the congregational carols, the choir sang arrangements of the 'Sussex Carol' and 'Child in a Manger Born'. The service was a fantastic occasion with the church full with over 700 in the congregation.

The Spring and Summer terms were spent preparing for the Concert on May 22nd which was held in the Jubilee Hall. This year we performed the 'Songs of Sanctuary' by Karl Jenkins which included the famous

'Adiemus' chorus. We were joined by a professional string ensemble, and a large percussion section led by Mrs Michelle Farley and Mr Hurst on the piano for a very moving performance of this exciting work. The different movements were taken by alternating groups of singers and soloists, the choir quickly took to the modern style of the music and the performance was well received by the large audience. The choir had competed a few weeks earlier in the Torbay Competitive Music Festival and sang the first movement as one of their competition pieces.

Stover School has a choir it can really be proud of and, judging by the smiles on the faces during the Summer Term concert, the pupils enjoy taking part and should be congratulated on the lovely atmosphere that exists both in rehearsals and concerts.

Following their formation last year, the Cantabile Chamber Choir has quickly earned a reputation for real excellence in choral singing. Their numerous performances over the year have included singing at: The Mayor of Newton Abbot's Civic Service and Gala Concert, three weddings at local churches, a conference for Secondary Music teachers at Buckfast, performances for prize winners at both the Plymouth and Torbay Competitive festivals. In addition they have sung at all the major school events and charity concerts over the year and had mention in a number of local newspapers. Their commitment and hard work continually amazes me and their response to Mrs Farleigh's skilful direction is tremendous. I would also like to add our thanks to the parents and friends who help with transport and support our concerts.

The Orchestra has used this year to develop ensemble skills and has come on a long way in its intonation, timing and sight-reading. Over the year the repertoire has increased to include the 'Minuet and Trio' from Haydn's symphony no. 104, the 'St. Anthony Chorale' by Haydn, 'Pavanne' by Faure, 'Nimrod' by Elgar and three movements from 'Pictures at an Exhibition' by Mussorsrgsky. The ensemble has played at three events: Speech Day, the Carol Service and the Summer Term concert, and we thank Mrs Hayek and the other music staff for their expert coaching and help.

The Jazz Band has continued to increase its repertoire, increasing in size, and gaining a very good reputation with its audiences. Working hard over the Autumn term, they gave a superb concert for the Cancer Research charity dinner in December in the Jubilee Hall supported by the Cantabile Choir. They played at the Harberton concert and at the Dawlish Festival concert in June. With more pupils learning the saxophone and brass instruments, we are getting a really strong sound and we are grateful to our Jazz specialist Mr Holland who gives very valuable advice and coaching.

Music *continued*

Over the year a number of smaller chamber ensembles have been formed giving instrumentalists a chance to play in small groups and to help with developing skills in ensemble playing. The flute group has met weekly, coached by Mr Leaford. Mrs Hayek's string ensemble has worked hard, and played very well at the Teigngrace Church concert in November. Mrs Wills has coached a string trio and some of our more advanced players have worked on a section of the Septet by Saint Saens. This was performed at the Harberton concert and the group won the Ensemble class at the Torbay Competitive Festival. Emily Simpson and Amelia Young have worked on the Double Violin Concerto by Vivaldi, and have been joined by Nicole Foulkes on 'cello working at movements from a Trio Sonata by Handel. In the Preparatory School Mrs O'Donovan has formed a band who played very well in their Carol Concert, and Mrs Cordon has continued with her recorder group.

None of the achievements would be possible without the support of our Music staff and the hard work and dedication of pupils. We have a large number of musically very able pupils at the school who are keen to rise to the challenges and opportunities. Both in and out of school we have achieved so much and I would also like to thank the parents and supporters who have come to the events and been such an encouragement.

"I think I should have no other mortal wants, if I could always have plenty of music. It seems to infuse strength into my limbs and ideas into my brain. Life seems to go on without effort, when I am filled with music."
George Eliot

European Piano Teacher's Association.

This year's E.P.T.A. programme has included a varied mix of recitals, master classes and pupil concerts.

The events, held on Saturday afternoons, are open to all local piano teachers and students, and we are pleased that a number of Stover Peripatetic Staff take part and that Stover pupils have been able to attend and play in the concerts.

For the first time, we have held a Devon round of the E.P.T.A. National Piano Competition and were very pleased to welcome Nadia Lasserson to adjudicate following her visit to Stover on the Phyllis Dence Day in March. Nadia's mother Carola Grindea was the founder of E.P.T.A. and we were privileged that Nadia was able to be here.

In the Autumn Term, we had a lecture-recital from the composer Brian Chapple who gave a talk about his work. He played a number of his own pieces and demonstrated some of his pieces composed with piano teaching in mind. On November 24th John Railton gave an illustrated lecture on the life and piano music of the Norwegian composer Grieg who died 100 years ago this year. Pupils and teachers brought along

pieces and performed different examples of his work.

In the Spring Term we were fortunate to have a master class given by Vanessa Latache. Vanessa is Head of Keyboard at the Royal College of Music, London and the pupils who took part gained a lot of valuable insight from her comments. Stephen Baron of the London music teaching school 'Colourstrings' gave a talk on March 1st illustrating his methods from his 'Piano Explorer' books. The Summer pupils' concert was held on June 14th when a number of Stover piano pupils took part. The year concluded with a cream tea and adult pupils' concert in Bovey Tracey on July 5th.

Thanks go to Mrs Anne Brown and her committee for organising the events and it is encouraging that we are able to welcome these leading musical professionals to Stover during the year.

A King's Ransom: Year 6 project with New Devon Opera

Following last year's production of 'Noye's Fludde' with New Devon Opera, this year we chose the contemporary children's opera 'A King's Ransom' by Patrick Hawes to perform with pupils from Year 6. The performance took place on March 13th in the Jubilee Hall. Most of the work to prepare the performance took place in lesson time, and the pupils worked very hard learning lines and songs and putting the whole musical drama together. We were joined by Mr John Greenfield from N.D.O. who directed the dramatic action and Mr Lea directed the Music. Mrs Waring assisted Mr Greenfield in drama coaching and helped organise the costumes and props.

Cast:

John	-	Jack Jarvis
Martha	-	Georgina Allen
Mavis	-	Clara Finnigan
Sergeant	-	Timothy Simpson
Bag Enderby	-	Annabel Kennedy
Mr. Master Mason	-	Matthew Holyoak

Villagers and Children:

Shannon Bower
Abi Bulbulian
Gabriela Bridger
Jasmine Colley
Nicole Colledge
Mariama Kallon
Anna Hargreaves
Bethany Milward
Emily Morris
Alice Saunders

Bethan Reade
Hollie Davis
Harriet Dorrington
Pandora Vernon-Simpson
Kieran Wilson

Soldiers:

James Bushby
Jamie Cook
Oliver Gale
George Jewell
Matthew Langworthy
Dominic Lamar
Callum Reade
James Snell
Laurence Young
Harry Camp
Rex Southwick

Bagmen:

Emily Channon

Jessica Doyle
Odette Gardiner
Kit Greenslade
Darren Katz

Masons:

Ben Bigg
Andrew Burton
Sam Holmes
Oliver Hyland
Shai-Man Lee

The story centres around an old oak tree in the middle



of a small village set in Sherwood Forest. King Richard has been taken ransom and the villagers need to raise the money to set him free. A group of Stonemasons are building the new Town Hall and fell the oak tree to use in the construction of the roof. The villagers, initially horrified at the loss of their tree, are surprised to find a big chest of treasure buried beneath the roots which the Bagmen are able to take to use as a ransom and free the King.

The play was a real success for the Year 6 group and the soloists worked on their roles with a lot of energy. The expressive nature of the music helped set the scene and gave the pupils a taste of putting on an opera production. They worked hard to develop skills in acting, voice production, singing and dance, and the final production was very slick and full of character. Congratulations must go to the six soloists who worked very hard to develop their characters and really portrayed the meaning behind the story.



Senior Play

"Much Ado About Nothing" - November 2007

Enough silliness last year. Enough of "He's behind you!" and Dracula fighting it out with Robin Hood. Time to apply our minds most seriously to some proper dramatic stuff! You know, the sort of thing they do so well up in Stratford-upon-Avon, or in London at The National. Why not Stover? All the world's a stage. And shh! It's great doing Shakespeare as a school production because there are no royalty fees to pay and no copyright restrictions.

We chose *Much Ado About Nothing*, a play which is best described as a comedy with dark overtones. Year 12 were going to be doing it for AS level; some of Year 10 had studied it for GCSE coursework and Peta Absalom and I were both fond of the Kenneth Branagh film. I pruned the script ruthlessly, never altering Shakespeare's language but abridging it to create a shorter, seamless play more accessible to modern ears.

Ms Absalom and I set our minds to thinking about what would make an effective setting. We realised that it might be rather difficult to recreate sun-drenched Tuscany in the Jubilee Hall in November; after all, there are no distant hills for Denzil Washington to come thundering over on his white steed, with Keanu Reeves not far behind.... The men have returned from the wars – but which wars? We decided on a sort of post - Great War feel; the idea of the girls as flappers seemed to suit the comic spirit of the play and the boys could pose in smart uniforms. The "baddies" could also have a touch of early 1920s gangsters and the policeman could be based on the Keystone Cops. We could use many authentic jazz dance tunes as incidental music. The pieces of the jigsaw fitted well. With the help of some arty sixth formers, lovely Art Deco designs from 1920s *Vogue* magazines were sketched on the "flats" then Peta and I spent many an hour blending colours and painting - Peta with great panache and an eye for design and colour; me with fearful daubing.

We were looking forward to trying to coerce a few boys to join in, so in early September we weighed up the new sixth form lads with a keen eye! Eventually, Will Doble found himself cast as Benedick – at last, a leading man at Stover who really was a man! Will looked slightly disconcerted when he realised what it all involved but with his characteristically good-natured personality agreed, "I'll give it a go, Miss." Two new boys in Year 9 (Hugh Reade and Harvey Seale) also came forward with great confidence from their past appearances at St Peter's Prep School and seemed pleased to be cast as Conrade and Borachio – two soldier drinking companions. There was plenty of competition for roles amongst the girls and we enjoyed all the auditions. Mind you, I wouldn't like to be a professional casting director. How do you tell someone she just doesn't look right? Or she looks wonderful as that character but we can't hear a word she says? Great diplomacy is called for to ensure that just about everyone feels valued.

The enthusiasm of a group of Year Six girls for all the major parts knew no bounds, although we managed to persuade them that being wedding guests, a washing line and garden statuary was just as exciting as having a main part and actually much more fun than learning huge chunks of Shakespeare.....pew!) Don't worry, girls, your time will come! Several older girls cheerfully agreed to take on male parts, knowing from past productions that this works successfully. Indeed, once in their officer uniforms and smart leather boots, with a bit of designer stubble, our two Year 11s, Olivia Hurst (Claudio) and Lucy Theobald (Don Pedro) made splendid young men. Equally, Claire Kirkman and Ellie Hendy from Year 10 were more than happy to transform themselves into Leonato and Antonio though I think Claire was relieved to wear a smart suit as opposed to Ellie's eccentric plus fours! Lydia Martin, also in Year 10, has real skill in comedic acting so seemed a natural choice for the incomprehensible Dogberry, and who else but the incomparable Lucy Saad in Year 11, to bring all her natural, creative mime skills to the role of Verges? This is a particularly hard part, as Verges has few lines but creates so much comedy. Lucy lights up on stage and we knew we could trust her to bring some individual touches to the role.

Amelia Young, another student new to Stover in Year 10 (from Australia) impressed us with her gentle stillness and clarity of voice – she made a beautiful and convincing Hero. Fabrianne Rogers, also Year 10, was game to play the flirtatious Margaret, though how she put up with Borachio's eager attentions remains a mystery! Jess Briggs from Year 13 had a sudden burst of confidence and came to play Ursula. Now, who to play Beatrice? Step forward last year's Tracey de Chav: Imogen Middleton from Year 12. We knew she had what it takes: Beatrice is a rather more refined version of Tracey – a feisty lady who speaks her mind and sorts the men out! However, when she stood alongside Will Doble, much mirth ensued; the top of Imogen's head reached somewhere in the middle of Will's chest.

With butterflies in their stomachs, hearts in their mouths and lines whirling round their heads, our trusty cast braved their first night. Will proved that he could do much more than "give it a go"; in performance he really enjoyed himself, creating a Benedick who could confide in the audience and turn himself round from a confirmed bachelor to hopeful husband with immense good humour. Imogen also rose to the occasion, proving that she could portray one of Shakespeare's best-loved heroines with poise, wit and maturity. Her line "Kill Claudio" was delivered with deadly intent. One or two people made very personal journeys of self-discovery, overcoming dyslexia, nerves and self-doubt. The audience particularly enjoyed Hugh and Harvey's scenes as well as the goofy bumbling of Dogberry, Verges and the Watch. The atmospheric scene of Hero's "funeral" worked especially, with a combination of candlelight and Holly Allen's evocative singing and Year Six really did have fun posing as statues in the garden and a washing line in the "eavesdropping" scenes.

My thanks to Tony Etheridge for all his carpentry skills; Steve Lea at the piano; Jonathan Haigh and Alex Wilson on lighting; Hannah Gower on sound; Laura Harwood for the beautifully designed poster and Richard Truscott for publicity/programme. **Mrs J Middleton**

Languages

Deutsch:

Year 8 Boys and Girls were given a short assignment to describe their homes. Lewis Jeffrey has described his abode. I wonder if he really does help in the garden!

Ich heisse Lewis und ich bin zwölf Jahre alt. Ich wohne in der Nähe von Totnes. Ich wohne in einem Haus und das finde ich sehr gut!

Mein Zimmer ist toll. In meinem Zimmer habe ich ein Bett (natürlich), einen Tisch, einen Stuhl, eine Kommode, eine Stereoanlage, einen Fernseher und einen Computer. Ich mache meine Hausaufgaben am Computer.

In meinem Zimmer mache ich vieles. Ich schlafe (natürlich), ich mache meine Hausaufgaben und ich spiele Klavier. Das finde ich super!

Zu Hause helfe ich nicht oft. Ich mache mein Bett und ich arbeite im Garten – das ist OK.

Here are some German jokes!

Frage: Was ist schwarz-weiss und hat acht Räder?(wheels)
Antwort: Ein Zebra auf Rollschuhen.

Frage: Was ist eine Raupe? (caterpillar)
Antwort: Ein Wurm in einem Pullover.

Kellner! (waiter) Es ist eine Fliege in meiner Suppe! (Fly)
Kellner: Sie kann doch schwimmen!

Kellner! Es ist eine Spinne in meiner Suppe! (Spider)
Kellner: Tatsächlich! (really!) Das kostet zwei euro extra.

Français:

Year 10 Girls were asked to make up some typical teenage problems. Here are a couple...imaginary of course!

J'ai un problème avec des boutons et je n'ai pas d'argent de poche pour acheter des produits de beauté. Ma mère est très traditionnelle. Mes parents pensent que je devrais trouver un emploi, mais je n'ai pas le temps parce que j'aide à la maison.

Les boutons sont grands et rouges...s'il vous plaît, aidez-moi! Qu'est-ce que je peux faire? Merci!
Louisa. (L Butler)

ou bien.....

J'ai un problème avec mon poids. Je veux perdre du poids et je n'ai pas de confiance. Je suis trop grosse et je ne mange pas bien. Qu'est ce que je peux faire?

Solution : Tu pourrais manger plus de légumes et de fruits et tu dois boire de l'eau. Mange sainement. Tu dois faire du sport comme le hockey ou le jogging. Tu dois manger moins de bonbons et de chocolat. (Anon)

Year 11 Girls were asked to describe a person whom they admire and Hannah Gower unusually chose a lady scientist.

Mon Héroïne >>

Mon héroïne est une femme qui s'appelle Lise Meitner. Elle était indépendante, intelligente et logique. Elle était scientifique et elle avait beaucoup d'initiative. Elle est née le dix-sept novembre 1878 et elle est morte le vingt-sept octobre 1968. Elle avait sept frères et elle habitait à Vienne en Autriche.

Elle était la deuxième femme à gagner un diplôme de docteur de physique à l'université à Vienne. En plus, elle était la première personne à réaliser que l'atome pourrait être fendu. Je l'admire parce qu'elle a refusé de travailler sur un expérience sur la bombe atomique.



Spanish:

Jess Goodman, in Year 8, wrote about herself and her daily life

iHola! Me llamo Jessica. Tengo 13 años. Mi cumpleaños es el 17 de septiembre.
Vivo en Chudleigh, en Devon. Soy de Inglaterra. Soy inglesa.

Hablo el inglés, el francés, el alemán y el español. Mi favorito idioma es el español.

Tengo dos hermanos. Se llaman Sam y Tobias. Sam tiene 12 años y Tobias tiene 7 años. Mi madre se llama Sharon y mi padre se llama Andrew. Tengo doce caballos, dos gatos, dos conejos y un perro. Mi favorito caballo se llama Chicco. Chicco es castaña dorada. Es grande y muy elegante y bonito. Chicco vive en su establo.

Tengo ojos marrones claros y el pelo moreno. Mi pelo es largo y liso. No tengo pecas. Soy blanca y mediana.

Mi instituto se llama Stover. Las clases empiezan a las nueve menos veinte y terminan a las cuatro. Tenemos recreo a las diez y veinte pero las clases comienzan otra vez a las once menos veinte.

Me gusta mucho mi instituto. Los profesores son simpáticos y las chicas son bondadosas. Me gustan mucho la informática y las ciencias. Me gustan las matemáticas, el francés, el alemán y la música. Me encantan la educación física y el español. No me gusta nada la geografía. Odio la religión y la historia.

Pienso que la educación física es útil, relajante y divertida.

Después de las clases los miércoles, practico el atletismo hasta las cinco y cinco. Atletismo es útil y divertido.

Desayuno a las siete durante la semana. Desayuno tostadas con mantequilla y chocolate. Bebo chocolate batido.

Almuerzo a la uno y cinco durante la semana. Como pescado con patatas fritas y ensalada de fruta el viernes.

La cena es a las seis. Ceno espaguetis y ensalada o una pizza y agua mineral.



Business Studies

It was work...all about marketing...honest!

Year 12 Business Studies students enjoyed a trip to Drake's Circus shopping centre. It was a question of combining business with pleasure as they scoured the shops studying the topic of marketing in practice.

Students were in and out of the well known high street leaders, Republic, Next, Primark, H&M, Zara...etc. noting just how these household names go about getting the customers through the door working in just about the most competitive market there is.

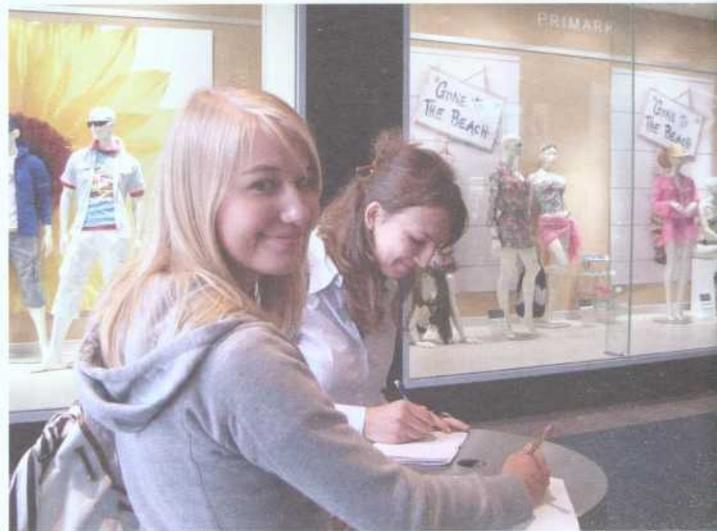
Marketing formed an important part of their AS Business Studies and so with their AS exams recently behind them the students welcomed a day "out of the office."

The students will be starting their Advanced Level Business Studies in September, which begins with re-visiting marketing in greater depth; so the chance to see how the professionals do it was taken up with enthusiasm.

It is one thing to read the theory...another to see how the professionals put theory into practice. The students agreed that it was fascinating comparing the shops and identifying the ways shops market to their consumers, spotting the "tricks of the trade," the ways we are all tempted to buy.

After collecting plenty of material, talking to shop managers and staff, students learned a lot about how the present day high street works. They returned to Stover armed with pages of notes and promotional materials ready to prepare presentations, using Power Point, text and pictures, to show what they had discovered. Some very professional presentations resulted, which were a credit to the students' efforts and showed the trip had been well worthwhile.

...Plus, of course, a few items they bought while they were there.... It would have been a shame to waste the trip just on work wouldn't it? **Mr S Pillinger**



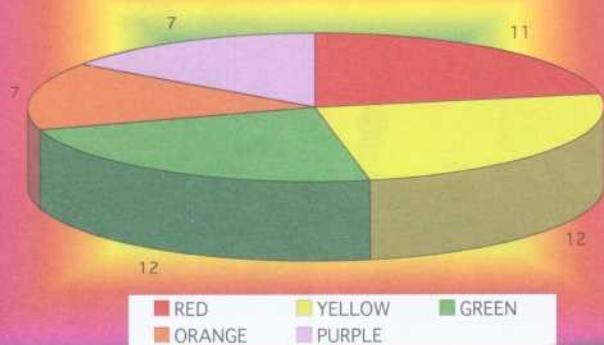
ICT (Information & Communication Technology)

In Year 6 ICT pupils count the number of each colour in a small packet of sweets. They use the data to create graphs and charts and to predict how many of each colour there might be in a family sized packet. This helps them to understand spreadsheet modelling and how data is used to predict further outcomes. The photograph shows the pupils carefully counting the sweets and putting them into groups by colour.

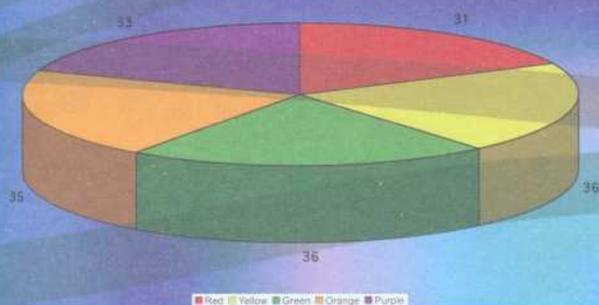
Year 7 went under-cover using photographs of themselves and manipulating them using Microsoft Paint to disguise their faces. They spent a long time painstakingly altering their images, pixel by pixel.

Pupils, parents and staff were all invited to join the School's Fantasy Football League at the beginning of last season. It was a close run competition throughout and one that everyone who took part really enjoyed. The winners all received medals and the overall winner a magnificent trophy to keep. The overall losing member of staff received a booby prize but will be encouraged to take part again next year!

Average number of each colour of skittles in 6 x 55g packets



Average number of skittles in 3x 195g packets



English

At GCSE, students are required to submit a piece of "original writing" as part of their coursework. This can be anything, but the best writing often stems from real experience, when a young person actually has something important to say. Here are two examples of powerful writing from this year's Year 11: Hannah Gower was moved by her trip to the battlefields of Flanders and by the poetry she had looked at in Year 9; perhaps this is something to show older people who maintain that young people do not care about the sacrifices past generations made. Virginia Faulkner recalls carefree, summer days of sunshine, ponies, friends and imagination. She captures the essence of childhood – a time to which so many of us wish we could return.

Something I've Always Had
by Hannah Gower

Have you ever listened to a poppy field, in some foreign corner of some foreign land? When the wind calms and the birds are silent? I have, I've listened, staring at a white bone tower, scarred with names of those I never knew. If it was one, two, three or four, I doubt the poppies would stand so tall; but it isn't one, or four, a hundred or even a thousand....

Hundreds of thousands.

It's warm. I touch it, curious to know if it feels like bone – the white tower which stands so tall; I run my fingers over the inscriptions as if feeling their mark upon the world. Yet the air is not warm. I'm clothed in jumpers and no stone can emit heat but there is warmth. Even the coldness of death has bowed and departed, leaving the dead to sleep in peace.

There are rows of white here. Hundreds upon hundreds. Roses tinted with patriotic blood blooming in the spaces. After a few names they blend together: one soldier, another soldier, another soldier. Yet each step reveals to me a new name, another new grave, another hero fallen. Sixteen years

of age. I read this one. A year older and it could have been me .. if I had been a boy soldier fighting for a cause I was too young to understand. Too young to die .. sixteen years old ... but as my eyes scan over the others I wonder when exactly you are old enough to pass on the torch. Sons, brothers, grandfathers, uncles, nephews, cousins, husbands, fathers. What if the call for war was sounded and my father never returned? Some fathers have – not generations ago but now; new soldiers, for new graves. Fighting for something I've always had.

I listen. I cannot hear what they must have heard – that barrage that went on until the last moment. The voices, theirs and their enemy's. The Huns in the trenches. The shells flying over. Bloomin' scary! You 'ear 'em far off then they're right over yer, moanin'. I'm stooping down in thick, blood-spattered mud. Liquid oozes. There will be a big push. I'm a part of it. No-one survives these. Those who do cry screams that would wake the dead. Well, not the dead; they're still sleeping. After they finish screaming they weep; when the weeping stops some get up and carry on. Some can't. A gunshot is the only cure for them. Occasionally I hear whispers, screeches .. must be all this bloomin' buzzin' in me right ear. Nearly stone deaf I am but I can still 'ear it; it's so loud I don't realise it's stopped – the barrage. No more shellin' but I can 'ear whistlin'; shrill whistlin' horns blarin' and tootin'; men yellin' and shoutin'. A rush of hands to the guns. A scramble of feet, shaking the trench foot out of them in vain. Up the ladder, hands a-flurry.

They're fumbling upwards and onwards towards the enemy lines. The butchers, the bakers, the farmers' sons. No soldiers here, they've already gone, faded memories from the first year of war. No general here either: he's back at home, on leave, with his wife, carving the Sunday beef. Not here, sinking in the mud, choking on the gas, dying on the fields. He sits there, in his Sunday best, as he tucks into his Sunday roast ... our boys haven't seen a slice for two years. He begins to cough – he's swallowed a mouthful too big.



As he chokes his family flutter round, bleating orders, trying to help. His eyes are weeping at the smell of the mustardBut he swallows and calm is restored. He won't know that what he has always had is being fought for; today – is being died for. The bombardment will fail; the barbed wire is still there; the Germans have deeper trenches. Their machine guns rattle, mowing down our boys who drop like dominoes. One by one by one by one. And here they lie before me. That sixteen year old boy at my fifteen year old feet.

How can I ever tell them how thankful I am, or show what their actions mean to me? How can I, when they can no longer hear, no longer see. But the poppies know. Worn blazoned on our chests. They know our thoughts are ones of thanks. For they stand, silently saluting to a ghost army that has not walked this land in nearly a century. Their heads bow low, honouring the lost sound at our feet. We may leave this holy ground, but they stay – the guardians of the dead. Their existence is from the turmoil that was once here. Without that war they would not have bloomed; would have remained dormant seeds. They owe their lives to these soldiers, unknown to us as we are to them, whose lives were laid down – for something I've always had.

I Shot the Sheriff
by Ginny Faulkner

I squinted through my dust-ruined eyes and blinked back the soothing liquid that flowed from them. I kept my speed to a minimum, to avoid causing tell-tale dust-clouds, cautiously digging my steed in the ribs with my spurred heels to urge him forward. My gun in my hand, I was poised for combat ahead, warily glancing behind and above me. I passed TIC's (Third in Command's) grey mustang and knew The Sheriff was the last one left: the most skilled gunwoman, riding the finest horse - and the most dangerous and experienced assassin.

I heard her before I saw her. The thud of hooves trembled the baked earth behind me. Yet I knew even she would never shoot a woman in the back so jabbed my horse and galloped towards the open plains. Out from under the trees I stopped, changed direction in one swift movement and aimed my gun back towards the opening of the track. Out of a cloud of dust she thundered towards me, no saddle or bridle interfering with her white steed's flowing speed; mane and tail flying out behind her, her short brown plaits escaping from under her western hat and rebounding childishly from her bare, tanned shoulders. Gun in hand, she galloped straight at me.

My instincts took over. I pulled my trigger. The next second she was flying through the air, thudding to the ground ... and my sister's lifeless body rolled down the hill.

I lassoed the riderless white beast and sped back up the track, leading my prize! Gathering the reins of TIC's grey mustang on my way past, I headed back towards Camp. The Sheriff's den was mine!

"Bang!" I heard the familiar tones of TIC screeching from somewhere in the trees above me. and that was it. I was dead too and by law I had to throw myself from my horse at top speed, narrowly avoiding the galloping legs of horses either side of me.

The battle-fatigued cowgirls lay side by side in the midday sun, accompanied by our noble, faithful ponies and under the watchful eye of some big, boring grown-up. After working out the logistics of the new-den-ownership-rankings (I don't know why but somehow, the eldest, Storm, despite losing the battle, managed to retain her claim to Sheriff-hood and Vicki, the quietest, was still designated the pile of sticks known as the building site) plans were made for the evening meal. As usual, it was to be Cowboy Pie: a wonderful concoction of semi-campfire-cooked sausages, baked beans and potatoes, mashed together into a lukewarm, cementy

English *continued*

gloop. Apart from our comparatively quiet banter, a soft munching was the only sound, now that our screams of joy and giggles had subsided.

Before long, the heat irritated us as we were not dressed as most little girls in these weather conditions would be. We all sported characteristically fashionable, worn and battered jeans. Hand-me-downs held up with baler twine were considered correct dress. The two youngest of us were clad in swamping, checked shirts belonging to our fathers, with the whole arms rolled up so the "sleeves" dangled just below our wrists. Perhaps not the most practical attire for riding and den-building (and certainly not camp-fire making!) but we thought it looked good.

The Sheriff was the most suitably dressed for the weather, wearing only a waistcoat made by her grandmother, a little too small for her now but it was the acknowledged outfit for whoever was the Sheriff (and this, of course, was always Storm!).

The stillness lasted less than two minutes; we soon thought of a better way to refresh our tired selves. Vaulting onto our unsaddled ponies, we pelted down the steep slope and leapt the post and rail fence, no fear in our style, just excitement.. and not really much style.....

We galloped them straight into the lake, where they cooled their patient and aching limbs and we slid off their backs into the chilled oasis, splashing and frolicking, forgetting all our small cares in the world.

I can now identify with that "boring grown-up" watching over the happy children and imagine that view from the top of the hill: three little bouncing sets of brunette plaits, twinkling as the diamond droplets try to hide themselves in their twisted locks, illuminated by glorious summer sunlight. Two blindingly white ponies roll and splash with the warriors at play in the water. To one side, an equally glossy, conker-coloured pony refuses to enter the water and munches contentedly, steadily and purposefully at the sugar-snap, emerald grass. Turning my gaze up to the distant hills I am struck by the sharp contrast between the almost unnatural green of the

nourishing vegetation and the pure heaven blue of the sky. My memories are as fresh and clear as that perfect summer day.

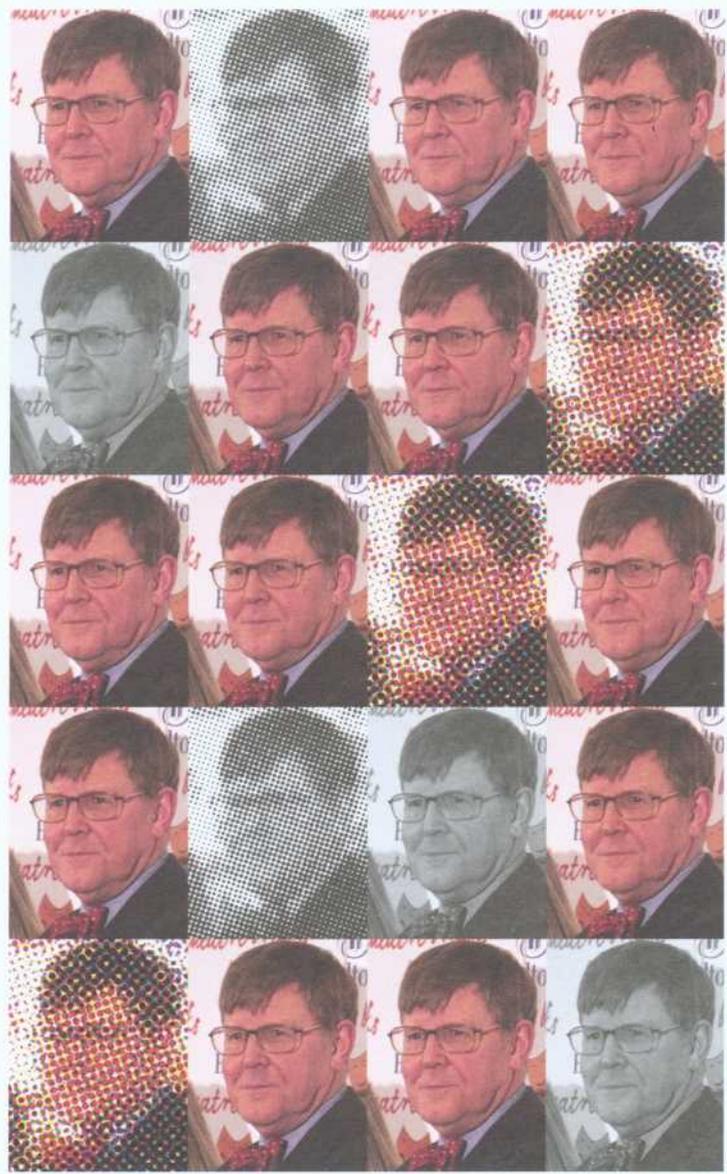
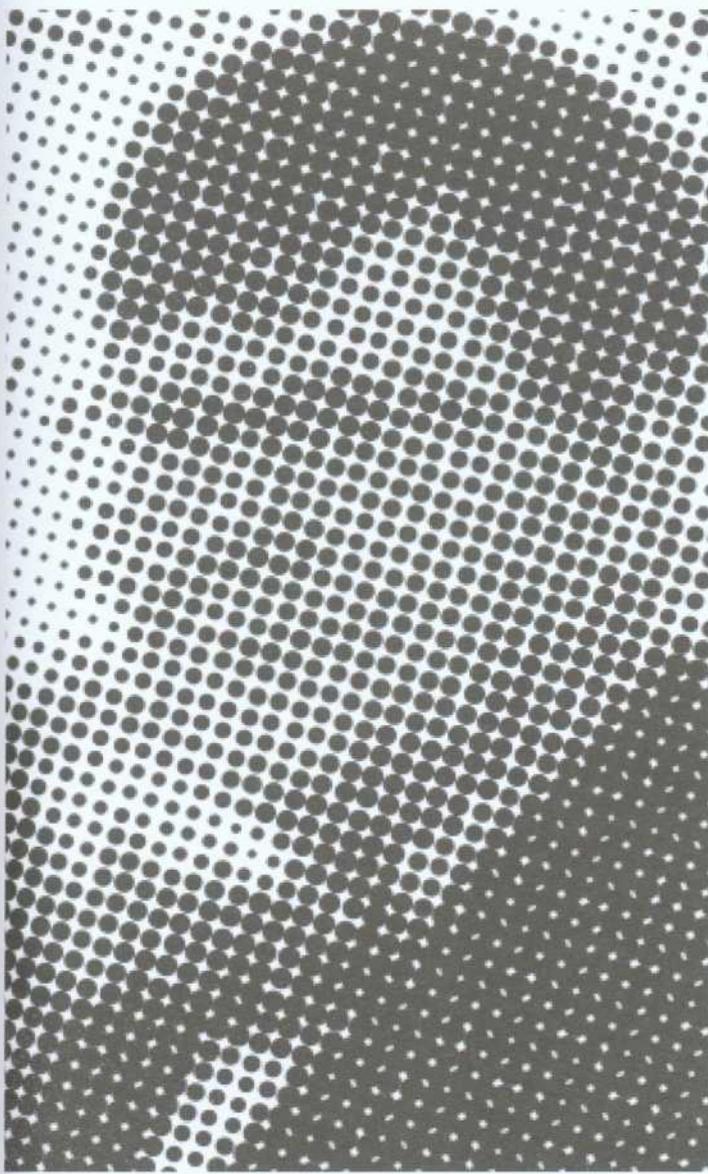
A Term of Theatre Trips

It's lovely having the Theatre Royal at Plymouth within an evening's easy journey from school. This enables us to offer our students the opportunity to attend civilised evening performances rather than the "scrum-downs" of school matinees. In the Autumn of 2007 we were lucky to have three wonderful productions: Alan Bennett's *The History Boys* and two very different versions of Shakespeare – the sensual, acclaimed Indian production of *a Midsummer Night's Dream* and then, in *The Drum*, an intimate *Much Ado About Nothing*.

The History Boys was tremendous: witty, acerbic and thought-provoking. We were forced to examine the question of what is real education and how do you deliver it? How should young adults be inspired to learn? What makes a good teacher? Mind you, the students from Years 10 - 13 were equally entertained by the reactions and facial expressions of the staff as we chortled, guffawed and rocked at all the "in jokes" about the state of education and universities!

Taking our younger students to a *Midsummer Night's Dream* was wonderful. This is a play we look at in KS3 so many were familiar with the characters and the plot – a good job too, as the cast used about ten different Indian languages! The fabulous theatricality in terms of vibrant colour, dance, music and physical magic was breathtaking. I think we will all remember the ingenious web that entrapped the four lovers like an extraordinary version of French skipping elastic and of course the way the exquisite Titania hung from her bower in a twist of vermilion ribbon, like an exotic butterfly. Mind you, this is perhaps not the place to remark upon Bottom's prize possession ... suffice to say there were some wide-eyed Year 7s.

Much Ado came at very opportune moment, just a week



before our own school production, so we took most of the cast and the Year 12 English set to see this version set in the 1990s war-torn Balkans. Nina Jovic, our Croatian sixth former, assured us that the music really was authentic. The production affirmed how Shakespeare can be interpreted in a million different ways, although our cast was rather startled by how often their cast burst into song and dance routines at random moments and even more taken aback to see how some of their individual roles were presented: "Mrs Middleton, why was Ursula a transvestite?" asked

Jess, somewhat mystified. "I thought she was a lady in waiting.."
"Well, Margaret seemed to be a mop," mused Fabi.
"Think yourself lucky," retorted Hugh, "Conrade was a stick!"
"Where did Verges' legs go?" enquired a puzzled Lucy.
"Why did Beatrice growl and have a odd taste in older men?" demanded Imogen.

Such is the delight of theatre.

Mrs J Middleton



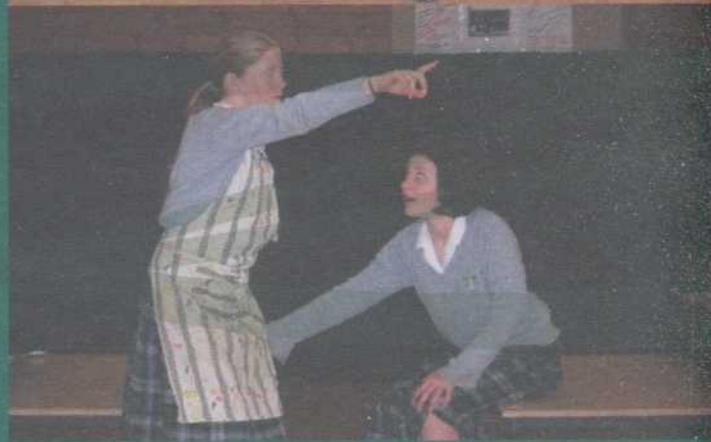
Drama

Centre Stage at Stover

Centre Stage is all about focussing on the preparation of performance skills which help pupils to develop their confidence and self-esteem. Most pupils choose to prepare for the LAMDA examinations which can include Acting or Verse and Prose. Some pupils prefer to use the lessons for the process of acting rather than working towards an exam.

Congratulations to all LAMDA pupils who have completely excelled in the LAMDA examinations this year! We had many distinctions and lots of very happy faces!

A round of applause also to the LAMDA pupils who worked on 'Beachcombers' - an adaptation and devised piece based on 'Eclipse' by Simon Armitage, about a girl who goes missing on a beach in Cornwall. This was a highly emotional and ambitious piece which worked very well indeed! It was a huge effort, and many helped with the whole production including making posters, bringing in costumes, creating sound effects and working out the lighting cues! Let's hope we can live up to this standard again next year!





Our Drama Workshop with the actors from ICON Theatre

By Sunneva Coyne-Stacey, Year 8

To warm up we started with a game of zip zap boing. This was good fun but it took me quite a while to get used to it! Next we all sat down on the floor, closed our eyes and chose either A or B. If you chose A you were a cat and I chose B, so I had to be a monkey! I had to start off by being 100% monkey, walking around the space, weaving in and out of people and making monkey noises. Then gradually we got less and less like a monkey and more human e.g. 70% monkey, 30% human. Then we got into a big circle and two people had to get up and act out a brief scene between two animals which was quite funny.

Next we were put into groups of five. I was in a group with Clare O'Connor, Will, Tom and Lizzy. We had to make three freeze-frames (getting into a position that acts out a story, but stand still, like a photograph). The story was that I, an 18 year old girl, had to marry Will, a 50 year old man, against my wishes, and Tom was my dad and Lizzy and Clare were the people that got me ready and stopped me running away at the altar. In the first freeze-frame it showed me meeting the person I was marrying. In the second freeze-frame it showed us both getting ready for the wedding in a splitscreen. In the third freeze-frame it showed Lizzy holding me at the altar stopping me from running away.

Then we had a break and when we came back we watched the actors perform 'Gradgrind' in a similar style of how we did 'Peter Pan' (each person playing more than one character).

My favourite character was Mr Bounderby because he made me laugh. He had a very bad temper and when he got really angry he punched the armchair which was slightly scary but also really funny! Another thing he did was spit an awful lot. I don't know whether this was part of his character or not, but it made a great effect! My least favourite character was Cecilia or 'Cissy'. This was because I found her accent a bit annoying. The woman playing her did a good job but I just found the accent annoying!

There were some amazing but simple effects used in the play. They had two screens on wheels and at the end they moved one across and a character was in a freeze-frame. They did this for each character and I think it was very effective for showing their emotions. Another effect they did was use puppetry. At the start the children were acted out by puppets but when the girl 'Louisa' had grown up and felt like the men were controlling her life they did a choreographed movement making it look like she was a puppet and the men were controlling her.

Another scene that was very memorable for me was the scene showing Tom Gradgrind gambling with two people. It was very simple but effective because they used no props, only more choreographed suggestive movements.

Sunny and the rest of Year 8 have been well and truly introduced to some excellent physical theatre techniques – some of which Sunny describes here. Pupils will be able to practise and develop their own physical theatre skills in the summer term drama project based on slapstick comedy and silent movies.

Geography



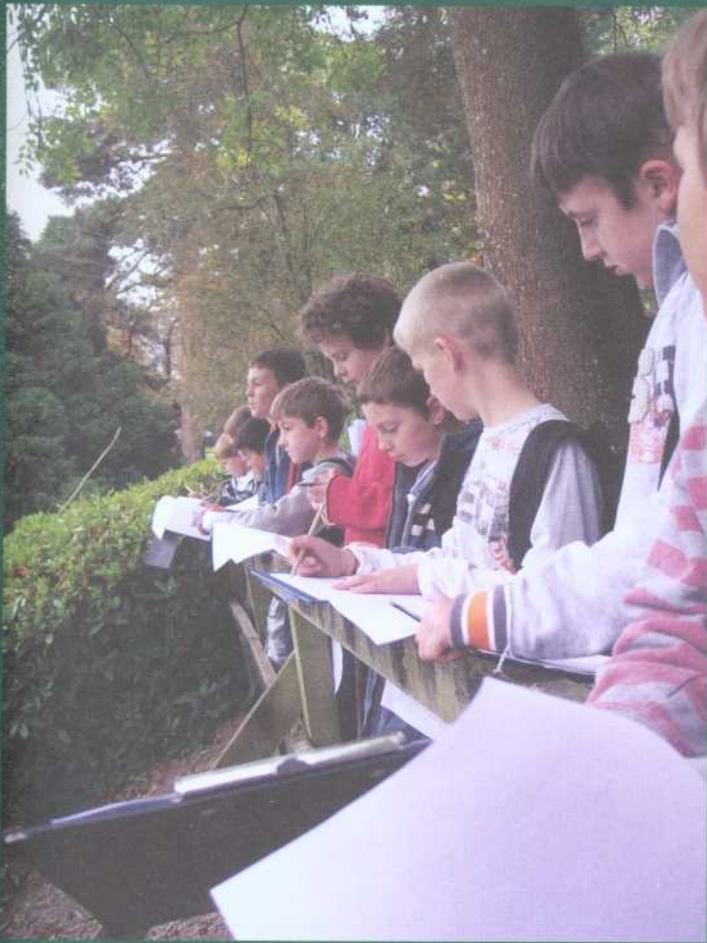
Once again the Geography Department have been very busy with field trips to a wide variety of locations. Year 6 made the usual visit to the River Bovey at Parke Estate near Bovey Tracey in September. Year 7 have had three trips – one each term: Stover Country Park in October, Chagford in late January/early February and Haytor in May. Year 8 visited a farm in June and Year 9 had a trip to Dawlish Warren just before the end of the summer term. The Year 12 group has supported their rivers, coasts, urban and rural studies with visits to the River Bovey, Dawlish Warren, Dartmoor and Plymouth. Our major trip was, once again, the Year 10 three day field course to South Wales. Thank you to all the staff who accompanied our trips!

In March we welcomed the Royal Geographical Society for their annual lecture. This year the topic was "The future of low carbon economy in Devon and the South West". Mark Hodgson, the guest speaker proved to be very knowledgeable and entertaining and it was interesting and perhaps reassuring to hear how our region is already preparing for the impact of climate change. The date for the next lecture is 10th March and the topic will be "Crinolines down the Amazon".

Year 7 Geography trip to Chagford
On Friday 1st February we all went on a school trip to Chagford. Chagford is one of four stannery towns in the area where miners went to get their tin weighed and assayed. It is situated on the eastern edge of Dartmoor and is sited on the south side of the valley of the River Teign. It was built there to avoid flooding and the bad weather higher up on Dartmoor.

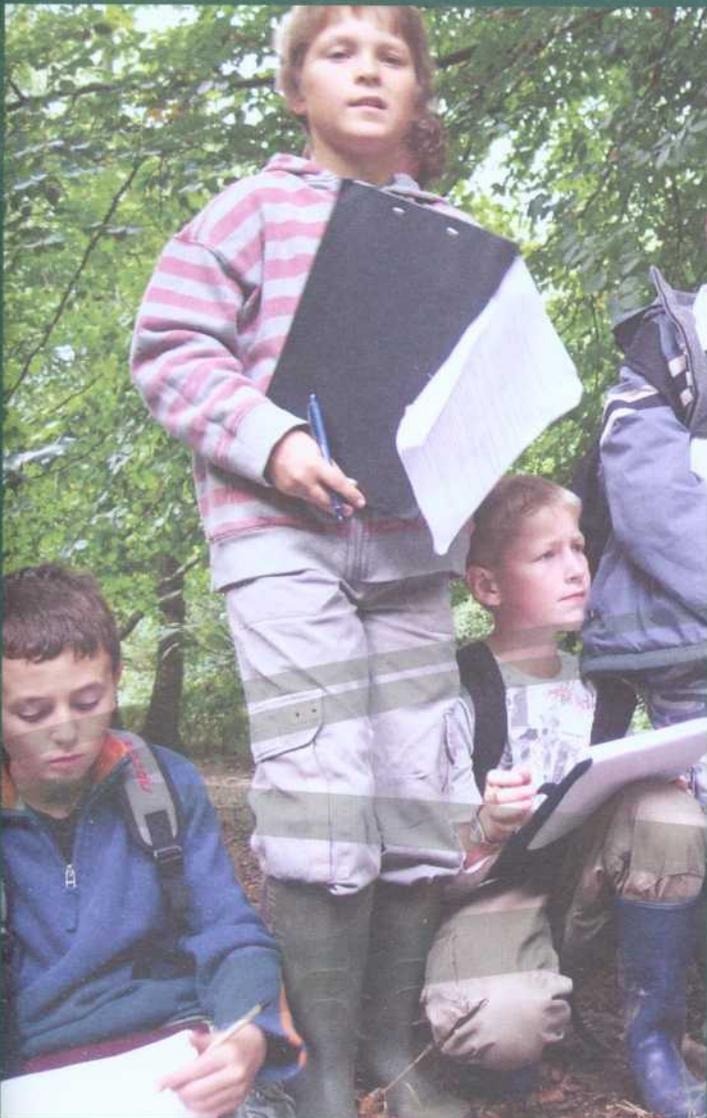
Firstly, we had to identify all the buildings and their uses in Chagford which was quite confusing if you weren't careful. We then had to list all the services that Chagford had. Once we had done that we asked members of the public whether they thought Chagford was a town or a village. Opinion was divided and lots of people said that it felt like a village but was known as a stannery town. When we got back to Stover, we found out that according to population size, Chagford was a village because at the last census its population was 1563 and a large village should have a population between 1000 and 2999. However, according to the services that Chagford has it should be known as a town. So it is undecided whether it is a town or not. We all had a good day out, although it was very cold!!

Year 7 Girls



YEAR 6 TRIP TO THE RIVER BOVEY

In September, the Year 6 Boys and Girls were taken to the River Bovey which is in the Parke Estate near Bovey Tracey. We went down a stony track to a view point which overlooked the River Bovey valley. We had a clipboard with some sheets to draw pictures and answer questions about the River Bovey. We drew a simple picture of the River Bovey valley with Bovey Tracey on the other side of the valley. We were then told that the river was a tributary of the River Teign and that most rivers have three stages: the upper course, which is usually the steepest part, the middle course, which is a bit flatter and the lower course which is basically flat.



We carried on walking down to the bottom of the valley on a smaller path which led us to a bridge with a leat running underneath it. We learned that it was man-made to use for milling with water-wheels. Lots of people thought that the leat was the river! We carried on down the path to the bank of the river. It was quite shallow because of the lack of rain coming off Dartmoor at the end of the summer. We walked on to a bend in the river called a meander. We learned that the fastest flow of the river was on the outside of the bend because water is thrown to the outside. This effect erodes the bank and causes the trees to fall down over time. It also causes a deeper channel. On the inside part of the meander a slip-off slope is made gradually. The slow moving water drops its load: silt, rocks... It makes a beach of sand after a period of time. Our teacher, Mrs Head dropped some cauliflower into the deepest part of the channel on the outside and we watched it float fast downstream.

We carried on walking to a weir. A weir is where the river is controlled so that water can be diverted into a leat. It is made from concrete. It was just before a meander. On this meander boulders and planks of wood had been used to reinforce the bank. We walked through the woods back to the minibus. We got back at about eleven o'clock so we hadn't missed too many lessons. The next day back at school we did a piece of work about our trip using the sketches we had drawn and notes we had taken. It was a fun trip!

By Matthew Langworthy

Geography *continued*

YEAR 10 FIELDTRIP TO SOUTH WALES 2008

By 8.30am on Wednesday, 30th April the twenty-eight members of the GCSE Geography sets were seated on the Abbots Coach ready for departure to South Wales via Bristol. Despite our worst fears of rain, our journey started in sunshine and our good fortune continued over the next three days. We always seemed to be blessed with a patch of blue sky over our heads!

Our arrival at Cribbs Causeway was on schedule and we had plenty of time to conduct a detailed survey of shops and facilities at the Mall before our talk by Peter Margetts (Centre Manager). It is always fascinating to learn how shopping centres are run and find out the ways in which customers are encouraged to spend money.

Then it was back on the coach for a scenic drive into the centre of Bristol to visit Harbourside which has recently been regenerated. We ate our packed lunches seated on picnic tables in a lovely location just along the waterside from SS Great Britain. After lunch, armed with cameras and clipboards we walked along Harbourside past new housing developments, old cranes and warehouses and across Pero's Bridge to the Millennium Square with its fountains and the At Bristol attraction. Like many other cities, Bristol has made the most of its waterfront area and we could see construction work continuing on office blocks, flats and an Industrial Museum.

We managed to navigate our way on the coach around the Central Business District to the start of our transect northwards along the A38. We could clearly see the features of Bristol's inner city, inner suburbs and finally Bradley Stoke and Aztec West in the outer suburbs. Once on the motorway we were quickly on our way across the Severn Bridge to South Wales.

Our welcome at Ty'r Morwydd environmental studies centre was as friendly as ever and we managed to get our bags in

from the coach before it began to rain heavily. After settling in to our rooms and having supper we had our first evening lesson to prepare us for collecting data on river quality the following day. However there was still time afterwards to relax and unwind before lights out at 11pm.

After breakfast on Thursday we packed all the fieldwork equipment into the coach and set off to find our river - the Afon Ebbw Fawr. This year we had a longer walk to our first site as one of the reservoirs was being repaired for use and there was a lot of construction work at the dam. On reaching our site, Steve, the centre teacher got groups organised and work began. River velocity was measured with a flow meter, pH and temperature was measured, bottles were filled with river water for nitrate and phosphate testing back in the centre and invertebrates were collected in nets. Everyone quickly became expert at identifying the different species. With the rain holding off and the sun reappearing we finished work and had our packed lunches before walking back to the coach. Sites 2 and 3 were then visited further downstream. This year pollution levels were particularly high as the Ebbw Vale Steelworks site through which the river flows is being comprehensively redeveloped and a lot of sediment was being washed into the water.

On Friday we set off for Blaenavon, a former mining and ironworks town. Our surveys and observations proved yet again that despite a lot of money being spent and many regeneration initiatives - the town retains a forlorn atmosphere. Finally it was time for our trip down Big Pit to see conditions of work underground, before our final coach journey back to school.

Well done, Year 10! You worked hard and collected some excellent data. The Abergavenny centre staff and our coach driver made a point of complimenting you on your positive approach and excellent behaviour. It was a pleasure to take you.

Mrs E Creates



Year 9 Field Trip to Dawlish Warren

In June, Year 9 went on a Geography fieldwork trip to Dawlish Warren. We learnt about coastal processes and headland features and how the land is being protected from the sea. We saw damage done by visitors to Dawlish Warren and how the area is managed to limit the impact of recreation. The trip was good fun and we learnt a lot of useful knowledge to do with the coast.

Gemma Smyth 9HCS

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Year 8 Farm Visits – June 2008

This year visits were arranged to two farms. Year 8 Boys group travelled to Aishe Barton Farm, which is just outside Silverton near Exeter. The farmer, Mr Baker, runs his farm as a 'Linking Environment and Agriculture' farm. As part of this scheme he is keen to use environmentally sensitive farming methods wherever possible and to educate school groups about the importance of maintaining habitats for wildlife and plants. It was a beautiful sunny morning as we walked around the farm and saw orchids, hedgehog hotels and wild flower meadows, as well as fields of wheat and sheep bred so that they will not need shearing.

The Year 8 Girls' groups went to Culver Combe Farm in Chudleigh Knighton later on that week. Our host, Mrs Rooth, made us most welcome with currant buns provided at the end of the farm tour. The added attractions this year were the baby calves and the donkeys (which had been brought in to control the weeds, but seemed to prefer eating grass!). The farm tour was once again excellent and the girls learned about issues such as squirrel damage to trees, and saw swallows and house martins flying to and from their nests. Mrs Rooth explained the importance of the Countryside Stewardship Scheme for the environment.

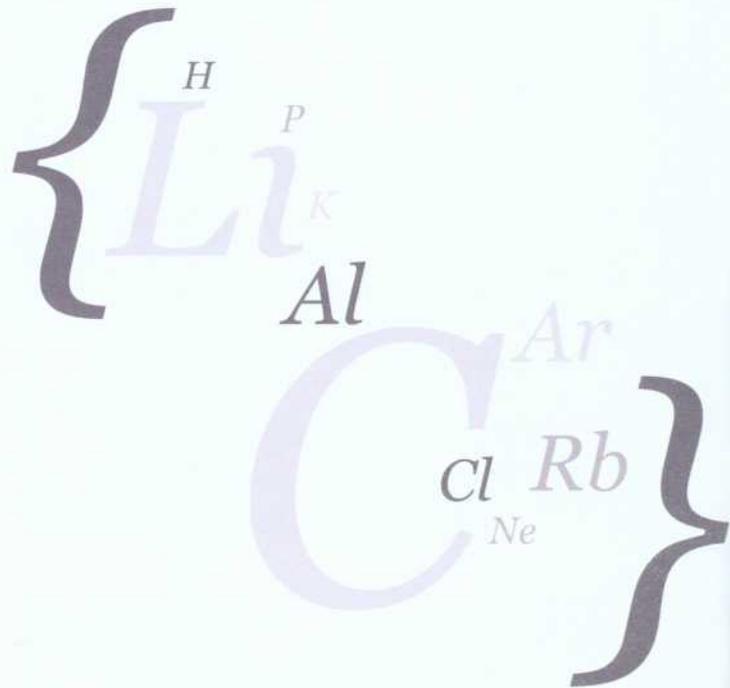
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Science

This year has been a busy year in the Science Department. We have been making the most of our excellent laboratory and ICT facilities and gathering more ideas and resources to help us make the best use of them. However, as a Department we continue to use practical work to bring the subjects alive and to demonstrate and explain the principles involved.

Outside of lessons, the Science Department has continued to offer a variety of activities. In the Spring term Dr Allway ran a Science Club for Years 6 and 7 where we murdered jelly babies, made slime, grew crystals and investigated balloon rockets. Also in the Spring term, continuing into the summer term, Mrs Richards offered Bronze Crest Awards to Year 9 and 10 pupils where they planned and carried out an investigation and then wrote a report explaining their findings. One Year 11 pupil completed a Silver Crest Award and two of the Sixth Form are working towards their Gold Crest Awards. The Gold Crest Award requires the girls to carry out a project overseen by an external supervisor. They need to spend about 100 hours on the project and must write a report explaining what they found during their research.



During Activities week this year, Year 8 pupils spent a day carrying out an investigation which, when written up, will also allow them to earn a Bronze Crest Award.

This year Hannah Gower, Bethan Lockett, Charlotte Newman and Gemma Hicks in Year 11 completed their Greenhouse Project. They raised money to buy and set up two greenhouses for use by the Science Department and the remainder of the School. The Science Department are very grateful to Hannah, Bethan, Charlotte and Gemma for their ideas and efforts and we look forward to making use of this facility next year.

DEFINITION: sci•ence | 'siens |
noun

the intellectual and practical activity encompassing the systematic study of the structure and behavior of the physical and natural world through observation and experiment : the world of science and technology.

- a particular area of this : *veterinary science* | *the agricultural sciences.*
- a systematically organised body of knowledge on a particular subject : *the science of criminology.*
- archaic knowledge of any kind.

ORIGIN Middle English (denoting knowledge): from Old French, from Latin **scientia**, from **scire** 'know'.



Home Economics

The Home Economics Department had a busy year! Early in September budding young chefs joined the Young Chef competition, a national competition hosted regionally by Rotary. A dozen Year 10 and Year 11 pupils worked for several weeks after school honing their skills at making a meal for two people costing less than £3.50 per head! Competition was stiff with Laura Harwood, Roseanna McNally and Chloe Flain ultimately having success in the school round in October. In November Laura, accompanied by her nervous teacher, headed to South Devon College for the second round. Laura was asked to repeat the winning main course and add a dessert to it with a budget of £5. It was a wet and wild day when we headed to the large catering kitchen with seriously scary catering ranges and enormous equipment. Two hours later Laura emerged having cooked herself into the runners up place! All this meant a further trip to the District, South West round of the competition in January when Laura made a super three course meal based on locally produced west country produce, including Brixham crab, local duck and apple tart with crème anglais. The cost of this meal for two people was £14. Laura worked very hard and came third, which was brilliant, particularly as she was trailblazing for Stover!

Just before the end of term the annual celebration cake competition for Year 9 got underway. There were sixty-four cakes in the competition and prizes were awarded for the top three in each of the four Year classes. Pupils worked very hard to produce well finished cakes with interesting designs. The cakes were displayed for all to see in the entrance hall and were whisked home to be eaten having been judged by Mrs Tole, our local cake decorating expert. The overall winner was Hugh Reade who made a cake which was hexagonal with a nativity scene!

Pupils learnt how to make a sauce and an au gratin topping when they embarked on their pasta bake meals. The project included making packaging for the meals using the digital photographs of their bakes.

The Year 6 pupils have designed their own T shirts and printed them using a variety of fabric pens and wax crayons to create interesting patterns. Here are some of them modeling their designs!

Mrs A Butler





Laura Harwood

Pippa Dowie



Gigi Cheung

Mariana Da Costa Coutinho



Georgina Brunning

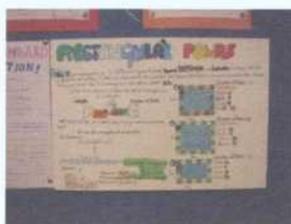


Pippa Dowie

Katherine Peet



Mathematics



All able mathematicians are given the opportunity to compete in the Mathematics Challenges set by the UKMT based at the University of Leeds and the results are shown below. Teams were also entered for the UKMT Team Challenge and the Devon Mathematics Team Challenge.

Some pupils from years 7, 8 and 9 rose to a new challenge for Stover Mathematicians. They were preparing for the UKMT Team Mathematical Challenge during their free time, learning to work as a team to solve various problems.

The team to go to the competition had to consist of four students with a maximum of two students from Year 9 and the rest from Year 8 or 7. It proved very hard to decide who should be in the final team as everyone who attended our meetings on Monday lunchtime had unique skills to offer.

We reduced the number to five girls three weeks before the competition. Lorna Pillar, Sian Wood, Sophie Nadeau, Hannah Reddaway and Alicia Johnson then carried on gelling together and practising the four events that were part of the actual competition. It was lovely to see all their enthusiasm, outstanding mathematical ability and enjoyment during these sessions. We could only take four girls and, as they were all equally good, we had to draw lots. Sadly Lorna lost and could not come with us to Plymouth.

The team was very successful; even the organisers of the event acknowledged them as very talented newcomers. I am sure the girls were surprised at how well they did in the nerve-wrecking Head to Head round. The girls were challenged to find the next number in a sequence, standing in a semicircle mixed alternately with another team. They could not communicate with one another and had to work out the pattern on the spot.

Message from all the Mathematics teachers at Stover
Well done to all of you who took part in any of the competitions this year! We are looking forward to seeing your brainpower develop even further next year!

The Team Maths Challenge

Sophie Nadeau and Sian Wood from Year 9 and Oliver Reddaway and Jessica Goodman from Year 8, were picked to represent the school in the Team Maths Challenge held in Plymouth. When we arrived at the Guildhall, we were allocated a table and were given some warming up questions to complete.

In the first event we were given a certain amount of time to complete 10 questions as a group. This may sound easy but the questions were very hard and on lots of the things we didn't know. We scored 4/10 which was good considering that the highest was 6/10 and Mrs Corby even said

that the questions were hard. The next event was the Cross Number where we broke up into pairs (Sophie and Jessica and Sian and Oliver) and moved our tables apart so that a teacher sat in the middle of us so we couldn't talk to the other pair. We were given a Cross Number in pairs and had to work the answers out but we were only given the questions across and the other pair the questions down. Some of the questions needed answers from questions that the other pair had to work out. If we had an answer we would tell the teacher and if it was right the teacher would tell the other pair the answer and we would get a mark, but if it was wrong they would tell us the right answer and we would not get the mark. We did quite well on the Cross Number but we didn't have enough time to finish.

After lunch we played Head to Head which is when you go against other teams and have to find out what a certain number is in a sequence. This sounds easy but when you have to find out what the 100th number or the 0.25 number is, it's not so easy and you have to work out the equation as well. You stand alternately with the other school and you have to try to work it out by yourself in your head. If you get it wrong or you don't know it moves on to the next person and if no one gets it right then the teacher writes down the answer.

Finally, we had our favourite round the Relay! Again we got into pairs (Sian and Jessica and Sophie and Oliver) and were split up across the room from the other pair. One pair was A and the other was B. One person from team A ran up to get the questions and came back to work it out with their partner. Once they had worked it out the runner took it to the teacher to see if it was right. They were then given the B team's questions to take to them. If they were wrong they had one more go then they took the B team's questions. We were given a point for every correct answer and there were 30 questions which had a certain time limit. This was our favourite round because we got to run. Overall we came 13th out of 20 schools and we all took a lot away from it. By Sian Wood

United Kingdom Mathematics Trust Mathematics Challenges

There are three challenges every year. Those who do well are awarded Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards. There is a certificate for the Best in School and those who do extremely well are offered the chance to compete in an Olympiad. In the Autumn Term we had the Senior Challenge when nearly 30 sixth formers took the written challenge.

In the Spring Term it was the Intermediate Challenge when mathematicians from Years 9 to 11 took part. In the Summer Term Years 7 and 8 competed for the Junior Mathematics Challenge.

Certificate Winners:

Senior Best in School
Intermediate Best in School
Junior Best in School

Veronica Ho
Hannah Reddaway
Oliver Reddaway

GOLD AWARDS: Veronica Ho, Oliver Reddaway

SILVER AWARDS: Sarah Lui, Desmond Leung, Gemma Hicks, Hannah Reddaway, Alicia Johnson, Emily Simpson, Sian Wood, Jo-Yee Lee, Alison Wood.

BRONZE AWARDS: Sky Lin, Alan Lin, Roseanna McNally, Bethan Lockett, Stephany Yuen, Hannah Gower, Felicity Guest, Eleanor Hendy, Charlotte Fitch, Claire Kirkman, Kristy Lee, Lorna Pillar, Kate Lai, Nicole Foulkes, Alec Reade, Charlotte Holyoak, Jo Bradford, Lauren Kurzman, Aniqah Ahmed, Lewis Jeffery, Sunneva Coyne-Stacey.

JUNIOR OLYMPIAD: Oliver Reddaway did so well in the Junior Challenge that he was invited to participate in the Junior Olympiad where he answered some very challenging questions. Well done!

The UKMT Team Mathematical Challenge

In April, Sian Wood, Sophie Nadeau, Alicia Johnson and Hannah Reddaway attended the annual UKMT (United Kingdom Mathematics Trust) Team Challenge competition at the College of St Mark and St John, Plymouth.

The first round was the Group Challenge which we found quite easy. The second round was the Head to Head; in this you lined up and had to try and spot number patterns and say the next number in the sequence. After lunch we had the penultimate challenge: this was the Cross Number. It works like a crossword but you use digits instead of letters. The final challenge was the Relay Competition, in which our team was split up into pairs and we 'walked briskly' (in other words we ran) to tell the teacher our answers.

Our team came 7th out of 19 schools, which we are proud of because, although we did not come first, we did not come last!

Year 6 Maths Competition

Year 6 have done lots of hard work in their Maths lessons this year but we ended the year with a competition to see who could make a fun-filled Mathematical game. Most girls made board games and even made the dice and the counters but one group made a game with cards which was very fast to play. They all thought of interesting names for their games, like Matherama, and produced posters to market them. The construction of the games was of a very high quality and in the last lesson of term the class enjoyed playing each others games and eating the chocolate given as prizes. Overall Mrs Elce was very impressed with their quiet determination to succeed and their organisation skills.

- Winners:
- Overall winners: Kate Massey / Melissa Rogers
 - Prize for the most imaginative game: Ellie Wilson / Holly Sames
 - Prize for the most well constructed game: Chloe Davies
 - Prize for the game with the best Maths: Charlotte Killick / Amy Trapnell

Let Mathematics take you further – one day conference for Year 12 in Plymouth

I returned from the conference with so many impressions and a lot of excitement. We had a chance to meet people who had succeeded in their careers after studying maths at University. It is really amazing how many different routes you can take in life with a degree in mathematics or statistics; there are thousands of combinations from chartered accountancy to biostatistics, from engineering to weather forecasting, from computing to code breaking and so on. The national statistics show that employees who can do maths earn 10% more!

The conference started with an impressive talk from graduates of mathematics and statistics discussing how the subjects helped them in their careers. Then we chose two disciplines from about a dozen interesting workshops to get hands-on experience of using mathematics.

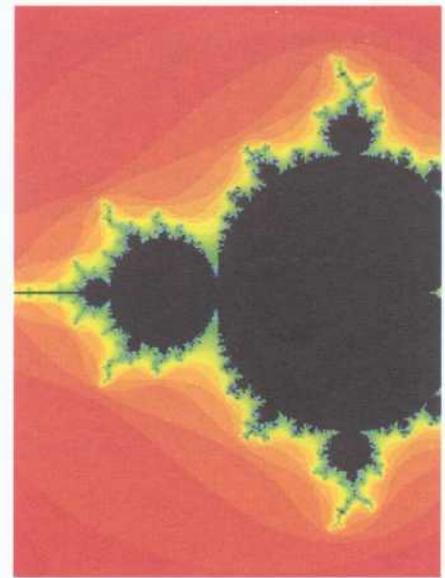
I picked engineering and mathematics of secrecy. We talked about how major projects frequently run into problems of cost over-run and delays and the nature of risk involved. We tried to sort out the Olympic Stadium budget! The second workshop explained the basic concepts of encryption and the system that is used in internet security and by banks. We exercised code breaking skills... you never know we may be able to break the Bank of England code and become millionaires overnight! The conference concluded with a short lecture about complex numbers. Although I had learnt about these unreal numbers in further maths lessons I never knew what they were used for. We investigated further their nature and then used them to explore the Mandelbrot set. I was intrigued by the beautiful image that was emerging on the screen after iteration of a quadratic function using only complex values satisfying a certain condition. Luckily for us, the computer did all the work!

I really found a lot of new things about my favourite subject and appreciated the variety of application it offers. It was nice to meet students from other schools with the same interest. By Cristina Donduc.

My marvellous day in the University of Plymouth - by Des
"IBDJ HTJEPNCL NU KWCCF ECD JZINVNCL, HWW WUJKWQ VB VMJ YBTQD."

This seems nonsense in meaning, doesn't it? But actually, that's how I felt joining the maths workshop in the University of Plymouth on 30th June. On this fabulous day, I did some amazing work about the use of maths. For instance, we had a chance to apply a complicated formula for forecasting weather for the following three days. We agreed it would rain on Thursday; and it did! We realised the usefulness of having a good knowledge of maths for careers like marketing a new medicine, weather prediction and engineering. However, the most interesting workshop must have been the code breaking one. We had a go at encrypting and decrypting messages. The Caesar shifts idea I used below was very interesting. Honestly, I could not quite see the point of maths at times but after the day in Plymouth the chance that I would do mathematics in the future has increased!

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



RE, PSE, Chaplaincy

Confirmation Service

29th June 2008 St Michael's Church, Ilsington

After days of cloud and drizzle, the evening of Sunday 29th June brought warm summer sunshine as the School Chaplain and Mrs Bradley accompanied Hugh Reade (Yr 9), Harvey Seale (Yr 9) and Lizzie Box (Yr 10) as they joined 23 other adults and young people for their service of Confirmation at St. Michael's Church, Ilsington, led by the Rt. Rev. John Ford, Bishop of Plymouth.

Confirmation is a time when a person chooses to make the promises to follow the Christian faith, which were made for them at their baptism, their own life rule.

In his address, Bishop John drew on the European Football Cup Final which was about to be played on the same evening, amusing everyone by saying that if they had any hope of winning, Germany needed to build a rock solid defence! (In the event, they lost to Spain.) He then went on to encourage the candidates to build a rock solid faith, which would see them safely through their own lives and encourage others to find a direction for theirs.

After the service, refreshments were served in the Village Hall and Hugh, Harvey and Lizzie were presented with inscribed copies of the Lion Handbook to the Bible, along with their Confirmation Certificates, to mark such a special occasion in their lives. Mrs Fiona Wimsett, School Chaplain

Yr 7 RE Visit to Cullompton and Willand

On Friday 8th February 2008 all Year 7 pupils went on an RE visit to the churches of Cullompton and Willand, to try and see what a variety of church buildings and furnishings could tell them about the different ways Christians worship God.

Rev. Anna Norman-Walker, the previous School Chaplain was our Host and Guide for the day, along with Teasel, the Jack Russell terrier. The children were delighted to see them both, and to learn how well parish ministry is suiting Rev. Anna. (It was difficult not to eat the box of chocolates we had brought as a 'thank you' to give her at the end, and we were very grateful to Willand for preserving its tiny Post Office and Village Shop so that we could buy chocolate bars after lunch and a busy morning's walking!).

Local worshippers and ministers met us in each of the very different churches we visited. Annabel found it fascinating how different the buildings were, from the very ornate parish church of St. Andrew's, Cullompton, to the very simple design of the Hebron Brethren Meeting Place. It was great fun watching Holly being 'fully immersed' in the Baptist Church baptistry, and several children got up to see what it must feel like preaching a sermon from a pulpit, reading a lesson and presiding over communion.

Rev. Anna's little village church in Willand caught our imagination. It had a play area for small children, regular pet services, and a very quiet and peaceful graveyard to walk round.

All in all, we had a lovely day and brought home lots of memories and material for our project on Christian worship. The bus journey was fun, and an overriding memory for the girls is that a day out with the boys was not as bad as they feared! **Mrs F Wimsett**

The Chaplaincy at Stover

There has always been a very close connection between the Church of England and Stover. The school is in the parish of Highweek and Teigngrace. One of the original founders, Joan Key, married the local vicar of Highweek and for many years the more recent vicar of Highweek, Rev. Chris Knott,

was our school chaplain. I remember when first at Stover, several confirmation services at Teigngrace where the church was totally full and the candidates for confirmation filled two pews.

In September 2006 the Governors appointed a female chaplain and RE/PSE teacher. This was an exciting development for Stover – we had not had our own personal chaplain before. Rev. Anna, as she was fondly called, duly arrived and although she was only with us for 18 months, made a huge impression on everyone. She combined her role at Stover with part-time vicar in Willand. Here are a few comments about her which speak for themselves:

'She was very understanding and you could talk to her easily as if she was a friend.'

'We really miss her and her dog, Teasel, supervising us as we worked.'

'She made Christian Union fun and exciting.'

'She helped me understand more what was going on in the lessons and she was always smiling.'

We sadly said 'goodbye' to Rev. Anna at the end of the Autumn term 2007. However, in the wings waiting was Mrs Fiona Wimsett who has ably stepped in to her shoes. We were very pleased to welcome Mrs Wimsett, who is a lay reader in the Church of England and married to the vicar of Chudleigh. On Monday February 25th the whole school watched, with interest, as the Bishop of Plymouth, the Rt Rev. John Ford, in his full regalia, licensed Fiona officially as our Chaplain. **Mrs V Elce**

Lesson with a Difference!

Year 6 filed into the room ready for their RE lesson. The tables were arranged a little differently for this particular lesson and so were the class; two thirds were randomly selected to sit at one big table while the other third were instructed to sit at the smaller table. They were told that the lesson going to be a little unusual because a treat had been provided.

What Happened Next?

(The following report is a compilation of comments from various members of Year 6 who wrote about the lesson for prep).

We were split into two groups. The group on the smaller table were given yummy things to eat like marshmallows, jaffa cakes and chocolate fingers. We watched cheerfully. This wasn't like an RE lesson. The group on the big table were given cream crackers. The group on the lucky table dived in like vultures. They grabbed and stashed their nice food in piles. They scoffed and snatched. Arms surrounded their plate as if they had jewels on them. Laughing excitedly, some taunted the big table. Someone asked if they could share with the others but were told that it was not possible. They went on munching happily and didn't ask again.

Our group with the cream crackers passed them round politely and made sure everyone had one. They nibbled their crackers quietly.

The Outcome?

We talked about the situation. It had obviously been a test. Some of the lucky table said they felt guilty. Some of the cracker table felt hurt that their friends hadn't tried to help them. We realised that it was like rich and poor countries. There were more people in the poor countries but they had much less. All they had done wrong was to be born in the unlucky place. It wasn't fair. We talked about the way Fair Trade works to help people in poor countries get a fair price for all their hard work. It was long term help which was better than just giving money that might get gobbled up by the selfish or the strongest.

Reactions

It was horrid! I felt fat and greedy. It was pot-luck whether we were fortunate or not. Although we didn't get the nicest food, I enjoyed the lesson. It really made me see how things are. I don't think the world is such a fair place. It made me realise how lucky I am. I liked the lesson but DON'T EVER do that again, please!

Just because a country is poor doesn't mean that they should get a poor price for what they produce. If richer countries don't buy the Fair Trade goods, the poorer countries will not be able to buy essential things to support themselves and they will have to borrow money from richer countries and then they will always be in debt.

Visit to a Graveyard

As part of the Religious Studies GCSE Short Course we were studying Death and the Afterlife. I thought it might be interesting to visit some graves and look at the epitaphs – perhaps they have changed over the years, reflecting our changing beliefs and attitudes to death? I'm not sure that the Year 10 students shared my enthusiasm for this visit, especially the Cantonese contingent who told me (once they were there!) that it was bad luck to visit a graveyard at Chinese New Year. **Mrs V Elce**

In February all Year 10 RS students visited Highweek graveyard. At first we thought 'what could possibly be interesting about this trip?' We soon changed our minds however because the epitaphs were so interesting. It was quite a moving experience, especially when we read 'Thomas Gibbons, 10 minutes old, always in our thoughts.'

We came back from the trip with a different perspective and more thoughts on people's beliefs on the afterlife. Lydia Butler and Freya Thompson, Year 10

History

*Our trip to Grimspound
Year 6 boys and girls went to
Grimspound on Dartmoor for a
combined History and Geography trip.
When we arrived on Dartmoor, we met
up with the Dartmoor National Park
guides. We headed up a hill in search of
interesting things. Stopping by a marsh,
we found green moss on top called
Sphagnum moss.*

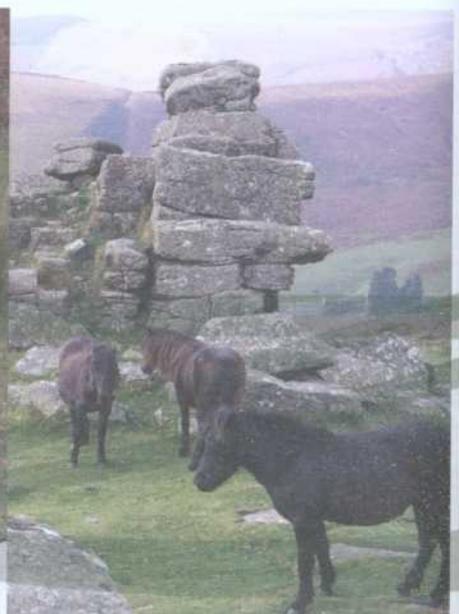
*We were told that this could be used as a medicine and
was used by the Vikings to soak up blood from cuts. We
then carried on our journey towards Grimspound. Soon we
found the ruins of a stone hut. There was only the stone
circle of it left. The Guide told us all about it. He showed
us that the door was facing the south. He also showed us
some very interesting diagrams of the house and what it
would have looked like a long time ago. The Guide asked us
where we would have been if we were here millions of years
ago. He told us we would have been under water. The Guide
explained that old Kings or great people were buried under
these mounds.*

*Finally, we arrived at Grimspound. During the Bronze Age,
Grimspound was a thriving village where people lived in stone
huts with thatched roofs. The thatch disappeared a long
time ago, but the circular remains of the stone huts can still
be seen. We each drew a picture of what we thought the
huts might have looked like when people were living in them.*

*After lunch at Grimspound, we crossed some moorland
and found the source of the East Bovey River; this was in
a small v-shape bowl/basin. There were reeds and moss
around us. Water seeped to the surface and soon became
a little stream. As we walked down the valley we learnt
about erosion in the river and were able to see examples of
this. Our teacher showed us that the river cliff was eroded.
This was because the water was going fast around a bend,
eroding the cliff. The water on the other side was moving
slowly and therefore it dropped everything it had been
carrying. This caused a 'slip off slope'.*

*We headed off and were soon back at the coach park. It is
always interesting seeing real examples of some of the things
we have learnt about in class; it makes the information more
interesting and easier to remember.*

Timmy Simpson, Year 6





A Day at Grimspound -

On a nice bright sunny day in October, Year 6 went to Grimspound, a Bronze Age settlement on Dartmoor. We spent the day with a guide who explained the history of Grimspound showing us the hut circles and talking to us about life in the Bronze Age. Having been given lots of information and done lots of walking we were ready for lunch. We sat and picnicked in the village. As the settlement was on the top of a hill there were some fantastic views which we were able to sketch. During the day we also saw lots of Dartmoor wildlife, particularly ponies and we visited the source of the River Bovey.
Annabel Kennedy



« **Motte and Bailey Castles.**

Year 7 have been studying 'Medieval England' this year. They learnt that to control rebellious Saxons, the Normans built Motte and Bailey Castles. Much fun was had building such castles fashioned from papier-mâché, wood, cakes and chocolate. Mr Barter ate several 'castle cakes'; he has been running daily to lose the weight he put on!

⤴ **The Vikings are coming!**

Year Six boys made Viking longships as part of their topic on Invaders. They then practised making fearsome expressions in preparation for a raid.



⤴ **Torrington 1646**

In May, Year 8 visited Torrington 1646 as part of their history studies. This was history as never seen before, as we travelled back to 1646 and met the characters who populated Torrington, North Devon's forgotten site of the last major battle of the English Civil War. Pupils saw how people lived, loved, laughed and lied their way through the English Civil War. They learnt about life in the 17th Century and had opportunities to try on the armour and clothing of this period. There were weapons displays, story telling and re-creations of the work of the Barber Surgeon including his treatments for ailments of the body.

Mr Barter
Head of History



Hayward & Lamar



Stover School would like to thank Hayward and Lamar Ltd for their generous contribution to Stover Sport.

The boys Under 9, Under 11 and Under 14 football squads have been privileged to wear their new black and green football kits at home and away matches. Support from Hayward and Lamar Ltd has certainly boosted the confidence levels and inspired all the players to do well.

Not only has the profile of football benefited from the commitment from Hayward Lamar but they have also agreed to donate a trophy for the "Player of the Year" for the Under 9 and Under 11 "A" Football teams.

This year for the first time, Hayward and Lamar Ltd also sponsored football training for Year 5 and 6 Boys by Torquay



United, Football in the Community for 5 weeks. We believe that making links with a professional football club will not only increase pupils' levels of confidence, motivation and self-esteem but will also raise the profile of football at Stover School said Mr Appleby.

Mrs Susan Bradley, Principal, Mrs Caroline Coyle, Assistant Principal Stover Preparatory School, Mr C Brown and Mr D Veal, would like to express their heartfelt appreciation and thanks to Hayward and Lamar Ltd for their continuing support and investment.

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Drum kit
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Assistant Housemistress
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Gap Student

School Doctor
School Nurse
Assistant Nurse, Assistant Housemistress

Head of Learning Support
Speech and Drama and Learning Support
Special Needs Teacher
Teaching Assistant
Learning Support Assistant
Teaching Assistant
Learning Support Assistant

Staff Support & Stationery Shop
Science Technician

Catering Manager

Groundsman
Maintenance + Security
Resident Security and Maintenance
Head Groundsman
Maintenance

* Post Graduate Teaching Certificate or Diploma of Education







·FOUR **SCHOOLS**·

ONE FAMILY

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