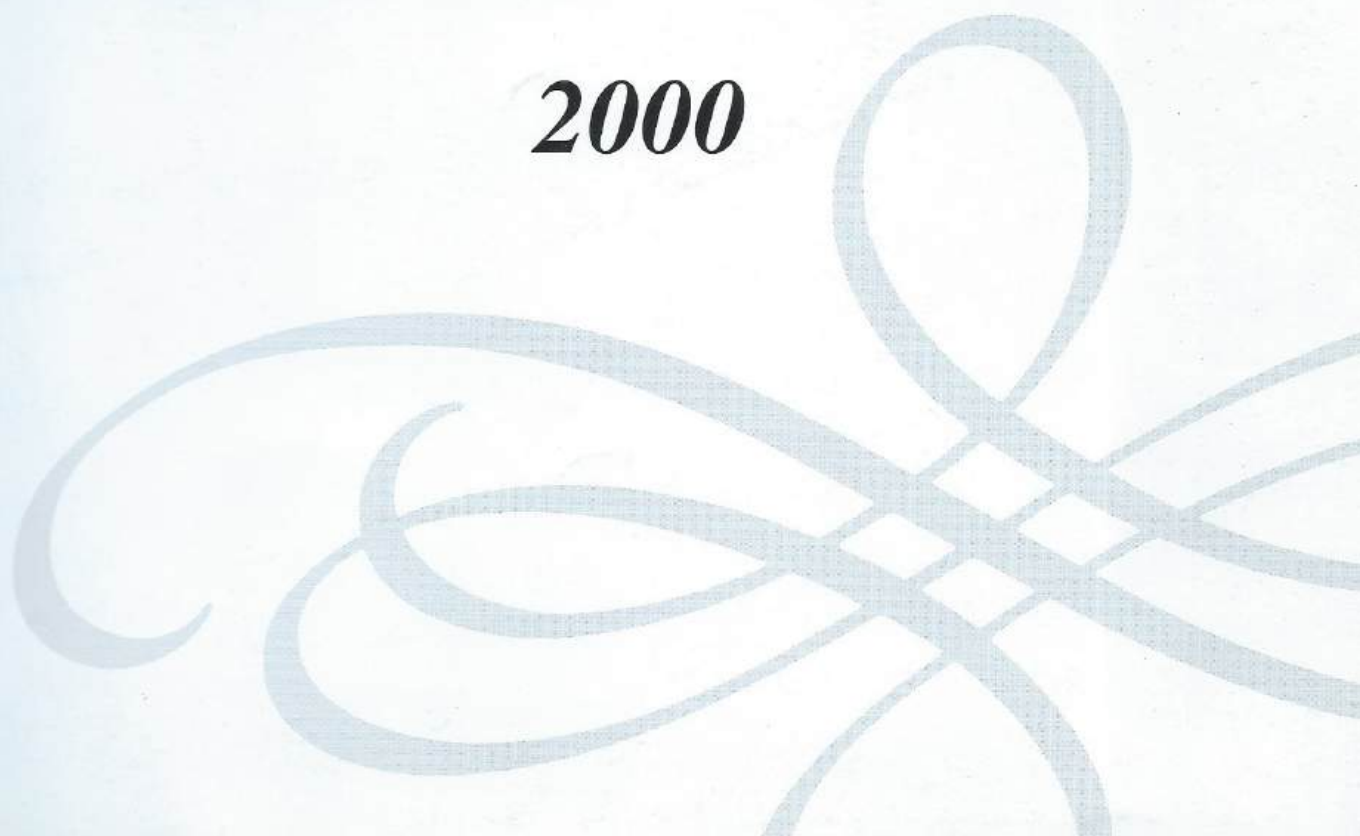




The Hulmeian

THE MAGAZINE OF WILLIAM HULME'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

2000





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"O yonge, fresshe folkes, he or she!"

CHAUCER, TROILUS AND CRISEYDE.

*"I think of those prizes that were ours for the taking
and wonder when the choices got made."*

LIZ LOCHHEAD, 'THE CHOOSING.'

NOTES & NEWS

This year we said good bye to Mr. Turner, Dr. Clark, Miss Boothroyd, Miss Collier, Mr McKenzie and Mr Roberts from the main school and Mrs. Garstang from the Preparatory Department. Miss Sara Dawes also left from the school office. We wish them well as they move into different phases of their lives.

In September 2000 we welcome to the teaching staff Mr. D.M. Cailey (Art and Design), Mr. G.J. Muckalt (P.E. and Games), Miss. F.T. Doyle (R.E), Miss. H. Edwards (Geography) and Mr. J.M. Lucas (Economics and Business Studies) as well as M. S. Launay (French Assistant) and Frau C.I. Kirsch (German Assistant). Mrs. M. Lomas moves from the Oaklands site to the main Preparatory Department.

The school also welcomes Mr. S. Patriarca as Headmaster with effect from September 1st.

This September also sees several internal promotions and appointments:

Mr. Simkin takes up the post of Head of Science, Mr. Veevers is appointed Head of Sixth Form, Dr. Lambert is made teacher in charge of German. Miss Raw takes up the post of Careers Advisor. In the House system Miss. Smith is appointed House Mistress of Gaskell, Dr. Martin becomes Deputy of Dalton and Srta. S. Reyero-Cascallana becomes Deputy of Heywood.

Speech Day took place at the Bridgewater Hall on Thursday 16th September 1999 and the speaker was Sir. Joseph Gilbert, Old Hulmeian and Founders' Day was on 7th March. The Reverend Canon Paul Denby, Residentiary Canon of Manchester Cathedral gave the address.

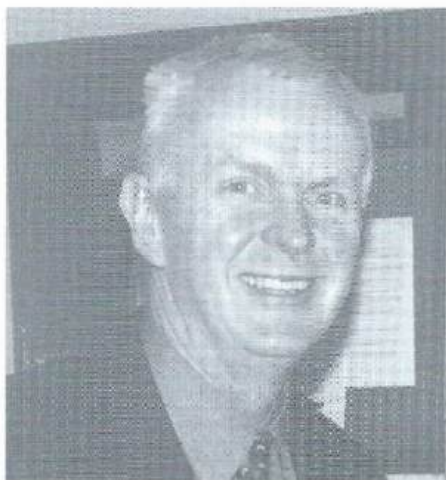
Congratulations go to Miss. Collier on her marriage to Mr. S. Hickinson and to Mr. and Mrs. Wise on the birth of their first child.

For the school year 1999/2000 joint Heads of School were Kati Greenall and Asmar Chaudhry. School prefects were: K. Ali, J.P. Atherton, E.H. Barker, C. Bell, J.P. Byrom, E. Cruickshank, A.C. Edwards, L-M. Edwards, L.A. Goodwin, W.O. Kent, G.K. Laird, G.J. Laycock, R.A. Lee, E.L. Metcalfe, M.J. Mkumbwa, J.R. Murphy, D.M. Naylor, A.O. Pearce, J.S. Porter, V. M. Raynes, N. Shah, N.J. Sharwin, T.J. Turnberg, P.B. Trivedi, K.A. Ullah, J.A. Veitch, C.K. White, N.R. Whitehead, J. Wu.



OBITUARIES

DR. DAVID G. BARNES



It is with great regret that we have to report the untimely death of Dr. David Barnes. Dr. Barnes started his teaching career at W.H.G.S. in 1974, replacing his elder brother as an assistant physics master. The head of physics at the time, John Furniss, had recruited Dr. Barnes at a chance meeting in the public bar of the "Green Dragon" at Hardraw, during a school visit to our outdoor centre in the village. An interview with the redoubtable headmaster, Jim Bird, led to an instant appointment that lasted for over a quarter of a century.

Dr. Barnes came into teaching from nuclear research at Manchester University and always prided himself on being a "gifted amateur" with no formal teaching qualifications as such. Great commonsense, coupled with an unfailing sense of humour, made him a natural schoolmaster. He was a very fine physicist with a genuine enthusiasm for his subject and an excellent communicator. His robust discipline and sense of fair play made him highly respected by his pupils and he was equally proficient dealing with the Oxbridge scholar or the less gifted. In 1980 he took over as Head of Department in the golden age when "O" and "A" level were genuine intellectual challenges and he eventually became Head of Science in 1991. His last major task was to update the science curriculum in the Preparatory Department and to introduce General Science in the Lower School. As always, he led from the front, relishing new challenges and showing the way.

Dr. Barnes was actively involved in the extra-curricular life of the school throughout his time at William Hulme's. He was a member of numerous rock-climbing trips to Derbyshire, Wales and the Lake District as well as leading walking parties in Glencoe, Torridon, Sutherland and Skye. His personal achievements included climbing the Central Buttress of Scafell, twenty-four hour traverses of the Cuillin ridge and the Welsh three-thousanders and completing all the Munros. He succeeded Tony Haynes as Warden of Hardraw and spent many hardworking, but happy hours there.

Sport played a major part in his life. He was a keen marathon runner, and a useful member of the staff cricket

team, but rugby was his passion. He coached school teams for many years and was in charge of the Second XV at the time of his death. In the past few years he had taken up refereeing club rugby and he swiftly progressed up the ranks, also finding time to act as fixtures secretary and run courses for new referees.

Dr. Barnes' boundless energy, humour and enthusiasm were an inspiration to all who came into contact with him and he is sadly missed as a colleague and friend. Our sympathies are with his wife and family.

*"They told me, Heraclitus,
They told me you were dead
They brought me bitter news to hear and bitter tears to shed.
I wept when I remembered,
How often you and I
Had tired the Sun with talking and sent him down the sky."*

M.R.B., M.I.B.

Ravi Gokal

It is with great sorrow that I have to record the death of Ravi Gokal.

Ravi was severely injured in a keenly contested rugby match here at School, was taken to Manchester Royal Infirmary where he died on 16th October 1999.

Ravi was a very likeable and personable young man who was very popular with his peer group. This was exemplified by the feelings of his friends when the School gathered to mourn him. These friends, from all faiths, drew strength from each other at that service of remembrance.

Ravi was a talented all rounder; he was academically strong and expected to achieve excellent GCSE results. He was a very keen sportsman who represented School in rugby, cricket and lacrosse; he was an enthusiast who never missed training.

He will be missed by us all. We send our sympathies to his father and his sister.

M Loveland

Bryan J. Purvis

When Mr Purvis joined the School in September 1997 his enthusiasm and vigorous ideas soon inspired the Staff and pupils. He began to move the School forward to address the issues of unity and of its promotion in the outside world.

He steered the planned move of the Preparatory Department from the Amberleigh site and then from the Oaklands site to their new classrooms in the Old Hall Block and presided over their arrival in March 1999.

William Hulme's Grammar School was then truly educating children from the age of 4 to 18.

In 1998 the School was inspected by HMC and Mr Purvis formulated his plans to address those issues raised by the inspectors; many of these changes are now in place.

His time with this School was, however, relatively short. Ill-health restricted the time he was able to devote to this School and resulted in his resignation as Head Master in December 1999.

M Loveland

Mr. G J. Turner



Geoff Turner joined William Hulme's Grammar School in 1975 as Second in the Modern Languages Department and Senior German teacher. Throughout his time with us he has been an inspiring and scholarly teacher of German and French and has run the German Department with tireless dedication; in 1995 he was designated Head of German.

He was educated at King Edward's School, Birmingham and won an Open Scholarship to Christ's College, Cambridge, from where he graduated in 1963, having studied German and French. He gained his Certificate of Education in 1964 and began his teaching career at Handsworth Grammar School, Birmingham, where he was soon promoted to Head of German, before

moving to William Hulme's Grammar School. Geoff Turner has done much to promote the study of German at this School and has led a department which has consistently over many years produced strong results, whilst adapting to the many changes inherent in education, nowadays. He has organised and led many educational trips – to Germany and to France but he will be remembered in particular for the pioneering work he did for 20 years in the running of the exchange with our partner school in Werl. Many pupils owe him a debt for the friendship and cultural awareness they gained from their experiences with their German partners, and especially those who went on Work Experience placements in Werl or who formed enduring friendships with their partners. The need to break down all forms of prejudice has been one of Geoff Turner's great preoccupations during his teaching career both in his work as a German and French teacher and also as an RE teacher. Latterly Geoff has also been involved in the running of the Jewish and Moslem assemblies.

Geoff will be remembered with keen affection by the trainee student teachers who were privileged to work alongside him. Geoff was very keen to pass on to the next generation of Modern Languages teachers the skills which he had learned and he did so with constant good humour, wit and cheerfulness. Throughout the whole of his teaching career he has held high the banner of 'Excellence in Teaching' and has inspired countless generations of Hulmeians through his infectious enthusiasm for German and French, in particular his passion for German and French literature. Pupils will remember Geoff's natural gift for conveying complex ideas and concepts through analogies which they understood. Geoff's promotion of all things German also extended beyond the classroom into his work as Committee Member of the Manchester Branch of the Association for Language Learning and as co-organiser of the Salford Sixth Form Days. His Sixth Form German literature notes are widely admired and have been made available countrywide through the ALL.

Geoff Turner has been interested in and involved in all aspects of the cultural life of the School. He was Junior School Librarian from 1986 to 1990 and Master in charge of the Junior School Chess competition from 1985 to 1994. As Editor of the School Magazine, "The Hulmeian" he spent countless hours in the summer holidays as well as in term time chasing up copy and proof-reading the final scripts. However, I believe his greatest pleasure came from his involvement in School Drama. He ran the Drama Club from 1976 to 1980, playing the part of Dr. Barnado in "Carrots". Following on from his eminently successful production of "Mother Courage" by Bertold Brecht in 1984, he was the producer of the Junior School play in 1989 – "The Silver Sword". From 1992 to his retirement he was the Co-ordinator of the House Play Festival: he always had a good word to say to the budding actors and actresses in his care. Geoff helped to organise School Assembly readings and the readings at his beloved St. Anne's Christmas Concerts. He was also an active member of the School Choir and School Choral Society.

Geoff Turner has been an excellent teacher and Head of Department, he has cared deeply about the pupils he has taught in his inimitable, exuberant, larger than life

way and he has supported the School and its activities in many different ways. I am grateful to Geoff for the support he has given to me as Head of Modern Languages and for his well-considered advice. He will be missed by all and we wish him every happiness in his well-deserved retirement.

*J. G. Hofton
Head of Modern Languages*

Dr. John A. Clark



In January 2000, Dr. Clark retired. John joined the Chemistry Department at William Hulme's in 1970 and, for the last twenty years, was Head of Chemistry. John took over the department in the year that I joined it and I will forever be grateful for the guidance (and tolerance) that he gave to me as a novice. During the twenty years in charge of the department, John has had to oversee many changes – O-level to GCSE, co-education, changes in set sizes, numerous refurbishments and alterations to the laboratory layouts to accommodate changing requirements, modular A-levels, etc.

He was always one step ahead, planning in great detail in order to ensure that the department was ready for whatever change might be around the corner. This foresight was a major contribution to the success that the department enjoyed, and continues to enjoy, in terms of both the popularity of the subject and examination results.

John's contribution to the School was not just limited to the chemistry department. He was an active member of the School's climbing club, taking part in several memorable trips to North Wales. Although he was not a lacrosse player, John organised the School's Second team for a number of years, using the analytical skills honed in the laboratory to advise and encourage from the sidelines. In recent years, John has been an active member of the School's concert band – a role that we hope will continue. Last, but not least, John has sent his two sons to the School. Michael went on to read Classics at Oxford.

We thank John for his long years of service to the School and wish him and his family well in the future.

A. Simkin

Alison Boothroyd



Alison joined us at a difficult time for the Art Department, following the untimely death of Margaret Cruttenden, but began immediately to impart her personality to the role, bringing with it calm authority and superb efficiency.

Her teaching style, and rapport with the students, ensured that the quality of their work went from strength to strength, most notably in ceramics, her area of specialism. As well as organising Workshop Days, when visiting artists demonstrated their craft, then worked with students to create their own artefacts, Alison forged links with the Portico Gallery via a successful exhibition of 5th and 6th Form work with five other local schools.

Lunchtime Art Club activities were varied and of benefit to many; scenery items for the recent production of 'Cabaret', for example, were produced by students under her guidance. Her pastoral work as a year seven form tutor will have influenced many at a crucial stage in their school careers.

Alison leaves us to take up a post as Head of Department at Chetham's School. We wish her well in this new post; we will miss her enthusiasm, dedication and pure professionalism.

G L Bennett

Françoise Collier



Miss Collier joined the staff at William Hulme's Grammar School in September 1996 as a Newly Qualified Teacher of Business Studies and Economics after some time in industry. She has contributed greatly to the life of the department over the four years, introducing the Young Enterprise Scheme, and steering our Young Enterprise Business to the regional 'Presentation Award' in 1999. Students always enjoyed Miss Collier's relaxed but stimulating teaching, and she brought invaluable 'real world' experience to her lessons. In other areas of the school she also made her mark, both as a member of the CCF and in her position as Head of Careers. The school's careers service flourished under her guidance and finding the right path in life for WHGS students is now certainly much easier.

Always an ambitious individual, it was unlikely that Miss Collier would become a 'permanent fixture' of the William Hulme's Common Room, and she departs to 'see more of the world' by relocating to Qatar with her family. She will be sorely missed by the School and the department, not least for the raucous conversations we had in the corridor between rooms L and P.

Naturally, I wish her all the very best of luck in her future.

Mr P. R. Hewston

Alasdair MacKenzie.

Alasdair joined the Physical Education Department in September 1997, after graduating from The Roehampton Institute, and gaining his P.G.C.E. from Bath University.

Alasdair proved to be a very enthusiastic teacher involving himself in many extra-curricular activities especially Rugby, where he coached the 1st XV and was instrumental in the organisation of a senior squad tour to Canada last season.

During 1999 - 2000 he reintroduced Basketball as an inter-school activity, and produced successful teams at Under 12,13,14 and 15.



Alasdair leaves to take up an appointment at Audenshaw High School and I am sure that he will make a valuable contribution in his new post. We wish him well for the future.

C.H. Seddon

Miss Kathleen Garstang

Kate graduated from Manchester University with a degree in History in 1968 and taught in two Manchester schools before joining the staff of Oaklands in 1993 and subsequently the Preparatory Department of William Hulme's Grammar School in 1999.

She was actively involved in sport in Manchester schools and for many years a committee member of Manchester and Greater Manchester Schools Netball Association.

Kate has made a valuable contribution to School sport at both Oaklands and William Hulme's. Using her skill and interest in Netball, she has coached teams taking part in inter-school matches.

She helped to develop the Oaklands cross country team.

Cheerfully giving her Saturday mornings throughout the coldest and wettest months of the year, she encouraged children to take part in the monthly meetings of Manchester Harriers.

She has always been willing to share her knowledge and love of history, helping to develop the history curriculum and encouraging her colleagues.

As both Year 5 Form teacher and as Housemistress of Royce at Oaklands, she has always shown genuine affection and concern for children in her care. She has skilfully maintained firm discipline whilst encouraging them in their efforts.

E. P. Cole

Adrian Roberts



Adrian arrived in September 1999 after completing his PGCE at Exeter University. Although he was here for only one year, he has packed in an amazing amount of activity in the Geography Department and on the games field.

Adrian brought with him a passion for sports particularly Hockey and Football and he was a patient and effective coach of the girls 2nd XI Hockey and the boys Year 7 Football team.

Within the Geography Department Adrian insisted on the highest standards. He planned his lessons carefully and pupils appreciated his approaches to learning.

He also brought to the classroom his experiences of an eight months back packing trip around the world and inter-railing in Europe and Morocco. This summer he is travelling to Tanzania for a month before taking up his new post as teacher of Geography and History at Oakbank School, Keighley.

During the course of this challenging year, Adrian has always been willing, enthusiastic and dedicated and we are very sorry to lose this talented young man. We do, of course, wish Adrian all the very best for the future and thank him for his considerable contribution this year.

J H Hardy
Head of Geography Department

Jim McIntyre

Being of a certain age, I was brought up on a diet of Westerns at my local cinema. No matter how desperate the situation you knew the 7th Cavalry would ride over the horizon to save the day. Jim McIntyre is the Chemistry Department's equivalent of the 7th Cavalry. His first rescue mission was way back in the spring of '82 when he joined us for one term as a stand-in for Ian Lewis who left us suddenly. Having fulfilled his duty, he continued with his well-earned retirement until the summer when he came out of retirement for the second time to work part time "for only a year". That year stretched to about 8 years (no one is absolutely sure, including Jim!).



The chemistry frontier settled, Jim tried retirement again only to be called back to cover for prolonged absence due to illness. The history becomes lazy as Jim left, returned, left and returned again – would the Wild West wing that is the Chemistry Department never become settled?

Finally, realising that he was in danger of becoming one of the longest serving members of staff, Jim decided to call it a day (even John Wayne had to hang up his spurs sometime). I cannot thank him enough on behalf of the department, the School or the students who have been privileged to be influenced by this most affable of teachers. Nothing was too much trouble, no situation so dire that a sense of humour couldn't improve and no notice was too short to stop him galloping to the rescue of us all. As Jim rides into the sunset, I still wonder if there will be another sequel?

A Greenall
Head of Chemistry

Miss Sara Dawes

Sara joined the School Office in February 1996 and quickly assumed the role of Registrar. She had been temping for some months before she joined the School which put her in good stead for the many and varied tasks she undertook in the Office.

Sara will always be remembered for her direct approach, no-nonsense attitude and her overwhelming enthusiasm for anything to do with I.T. She was also a member of the School Orchestra and played in many concerts. In fact she was invited on the Band trip to Holland, which she enjoyed a great deal. Sara even took part in the Prefects' Charities Show back in 1998, which just proved how versatile she was!

Sara could put her hand to almost anything and was always a good listener for Staff and pupils alike, but like all good things which come to an end, she left us in January 2000 to relocate to London. We all still miss her dreadfully and wish her all the success that she deserves for the future.

B McNicholas
Head Master's Secretary

DESTINATIONS OF UPPER SIXTH LEAVERS 1999

Name	University, etc.	Course
S. Ahmad	U. of Manchester	Medicine
A. Ahmed	Xavarian	Resits
T. Ahsan	U. of Leicester	Medicine
O. Ajaz	Abbey College	Resits
T. Akhlaq	Manchester M.U.	Comp. & Elect. Eng.
W. Anees	U. of Central Lancashire	Law
J. Arnold	U. of Birmingham	History (Med. & Mod.)
A. Arshad	Abbey College	Resits
S. Arshad	U. of Bradford	Optometry
S. Ash	Liverpool, John Moores U.	Pharmacy
J. Balderstone	U. of Leeds	English/Spanish
D. Bohne	U. of Central England in B.	Sociology with Law
T. Butt	Manchester M.U.	Biomedical Science
M. Chan	U. of St. Andrews	Medicine
A. Chaudhry	UMIST	Electronic & Elect. Eng.
A. Chauhan		Resits
K. Chesworth	Nottingham Trent U.	Psychology/Sports Science
E. Chui	U. of Nottingham	Mech. Des., Mat. & Man.
L. Clemetson	U. of Northampton	Spanish/Drama
D. Coghill	Royal N. Coll. Of Music	Music
E. Cohen	Manchester M.U.	Business
A. Dearden	U. of Liverpool	Pharmacology/Chemistry
P. Edisbury	Leeds Met. U.	Civil Eng. (HND)
G. Edwards	Liverpool, John Moores U.	Physical Geography

L. Endlar	Liverpool, John Moores U.	Psychology/Crim. Justice
Z. Farooq	U. of Manchester	Computer Science
M. Fearnley		BTEC (Drama)
R. Fisher	U. of Durham	Earth Sciences
H. Gokal	U. of Manchester	Modern European Studies
A. Greatorex	U. of Loughborough	Economics
B. Green	U. of Durham	History
Z. Haq		Resits
A. Hawcroft	U. of Leeds	Pharmacology
K. Hayden	Manchester M.U.	Psychology
I. Hussain		Resits
R. Hussain	U. of Manchester	Accountancy
S. Iqbal	U. of Manchester	Pharmacy
A. Jackson	U. of Manchester	Medicine (2000 entry)
S. Jackson	U. of Northumbria	Sociology/Economics
A. Jamil	St. Bartholomew's Hosp. Med. Sch.	Medicine
R. Jenkins	Falmouth Coll. Of Arts	Broadcasting Studies
S. Johnston	U. of Manchester	Accounting & Finance
A. Kapoor		Resits
S. Kershaw		Year off (Israel ?)
S. Khafagy	Liverpool, John Moores U.	English (Primary 7-11)
A. Khokar		Resits
R. Kumar	Manchester M.U.	Business Studies
D. Langer	Manchester M.U.	BTEC (Art & Design)
C. Lindley	U. of Warwick	Biological Sciences
V. Luthra	U. of Manchester	Medicine

R. MacKay	Liverpool, John Moores U.	Urban Estate Man.
N. Matthews	Liverpool, John Moores U.	Product Design Eng.
N. McLeod	U. of Sunderland	Tourism
J. Mills	U. of Lancaster	Mathematics
M. Mirza	U. of Manchester	Law
U. Mohammed	U. of Manchester/ Manchester M.U.	Architecture
C. Narnor	Leeds M.U.	Professional Lang. Stud.
S. Nathan	U. of Leeds	Medicinal Chemistry
R. Nixon		Medicine (2000 Applic.)
S. Noor	U. of Manchester	Dentistry
E. Nwator	U. of Manchester	European Studies
C. Pepall	U. of Greenwich	Tourism Man./German
K. Rahman	U. of Manchester	Software Eng./Ind. Exp.
Z. Rana	Liverpool, John Moores U.	Pharmacy
C. Ranawickrema		Resits
Z. Razaq	Reapplying	Dentistry
S. Riaz	U. of Manchester	Dentistry
G. Rosenthal	U. of Central England in Birmingham	Soc. & Phil. (2000 entry)
A. Roy	U. of Leicester	Medicine
R. Roy		
N. Sadeghi	U. of Central England in B.	BTEC (Design for Media)
S. Saeed	U. of Liverpool	Law
A. Sagar	Queen Mary & Westfield, London	History
S. Sagar	U. of Central England in B.	Law with Psychology
F. Samee	U. of Manchester	Computer Science

G. Sathi	U. of Central Lancashire	Combined Honours
S. Seedat		Reapplying (Medicine)
J. Shaw	U. of Durham	Modern Languages
S. Sheikh	Manchester M.U.	Biomedical Science
A. Silver	S. Trafford College	Art (Foundation Course)
L. Simon	U. of Birmingham	History (Med. & Mod.)
C. Smith	U. of Greenwich	Business Studies
L. Standring		Resits
R. Watson	U. of Birmingham	Chemical Eng.
F. Youssef	U. of St. Andrews	Medicine



PRIZE LIST 2000

Year 7

Art: R. Jairath
Classical Studies: J.A. Benson & S.A. Thomas
Design: A.D. Miles
English: R.D. Trinick
French: R.D. Trinick
Geography: R.D. Trinick
History: R.D. Trinick
Mathematics: R.D. Trinick
Music: J.A. Benson
Religious Studies: R.D. Trinick
Science: J.A. Benson
William Taylor Memorial Prize: E.E. Kane

Year 8

Art: J. T-M. Leung
Classical Studies: R. Ghanta
Design: M.M. Tabib
English: N. Choudhury
French: J. T-M. Leung
Geography: N. Choudhury
German: N. Choudhury & T. Shah
History: A.O. Olaitan
Mathematics: J. T-M. Leung
Music: K.J. Hall
Religious Studies: J. T-M. Leung
Science: A.O. Olaitan
Spanish: J. T-M. Leung

Year 9

Art: U. Chaudhry
Biology: K.A. Ahmad
Chemistry: M. Pang
Design: K.A. Ahmad
English: G. Seedat
French: K.A. Ahmad
Geography: G. Seedat
German: L.C. Hanford
Greek: L.C. Hanford & E. Okpe
History: T.E. Jones
Latin: E. Okpe
Mathematics: M. Mufti
Music: M. Pang
Physics: K.A. Ahmad
Religious Studies: K.A. Ahmad
Spanish: K.A. Ahmad

Year 10

Art: P. Keenlyside
Biology: M. Jameel & C.E. Booker
Chemistry: Z. Habib & P. Keenlyside
Design: O. Solati
English: P. Keenlyside
French: P. Pereira
Geography: P. Nowroozi
Geology: P.S. Whitehead
German: Z. Habib
Greek: M.S. Anjum
History: P. Keenlyside
Latin: C.E. Booker
Mathematics: C.E. Booker & P.W. Royle
Music: A.R.J. Clark
Physics: I. Hussain & N. Travis
Religious Studies: P. Keenlyside
Spanish: I. Rahim

Year 11

Art: B.A. Vara
Biology: J.M. McConville
Caiger French: G. Singh
Chemistry: M. Al-Himdani
Design: C.F. Kasler
Geology: R.R. Kay
German: A.O. Race
Hewlett Geography: G. Singh
History: G. Singh
Latin: J.M. McConville
Mathematics: C.T-O. Leung
Music: R.M. Goodwin
Parents' English: G. Singh
Physics: C.T-O. Leung
Religious Studies: S.L. Barber
Spanish: M. Al-Himdani

Lower Sixth

Art: D.T. Wood
Business Studies: M. Royle
Chemistry: F.C. Ridley
Classical Studies: D.L. Pitman
Design: R.J. Thompson
Economics: S.L. John
Forrest English Literature: A.U. Opara & S.L. John
Forrest English Combined Studies: L.P. Davidson
Further Mathematics: A.P. Green
Geography: A.G. McLeod
Geology: R.J. Booker
Hawley French: A.U. Opara
K. Arran Mathematics: M. Ahmed
Music: W.J. Shaw
Physics: A.P. Green
Politics: H. Asadi
Pontiero Spanish: J. Smith
S.K. Appleton Biology: F.C. Ridley
Sydney Goodman History: A.U. Opara
Religious Studies: L.P. Davidson

Upper Sixth

Allman Further Mathematics: N.R. Whitehead
Classical Studies: C.P. Kay
Dehn History: L.A. Goodwin
Design: N.J. Sharwin
Dorrington Latin: M.J. Mkumbwa
Eastwood Geology: A.A. Choudry
Hewlett Geography: N.G. Barratt
Knoop English Language: E.L. Metcalfe
Knoop English Literature: L.A. Goodwin
Knoop English Combined Studies: J.F.R. Cohen
Lymer Mathematics: Y.E. Issa
Margaret Cruttenden Art: C.K. White
Music: J.S. Porter & C.N. Duckworth
O.H.A. Biology: N.Y. Hanif
Palmer Chemistry: N.R. Whitehead
Palmer Physics: N.R. Whitehead
Pankhurst Spanish: M.J. Mkumbwa
Rodgers Business Studies: J.S. Porter
Religious Studies: M.L. Freeman
Simon Smith Economics: T.J. Turnberg
Vlies French: M.J. Mkumbwa
Vlies German: V.M. Lane

Special Prizes

Anderson English Essay Prize: C.N. Duckworth
 Aspinall Religious Knowledge Prize: A.L. Chaudhry
 Caswell Prize: N.R. Whitehead
 C.H. Jones Prize: K. Greenall
 Colin Midwood Prize: CSM K. Greenall
 D.M. Williams Memorial Prize for Music: K. Greenall
 E.B. Jackson Prize: L.A. Goodwin
 Eric Barnes Memorial Prize and Trophy: D.M. Naylor
 Geoffrey Cocker Memorial Prize: M.G. Brighthouse
 Gozzard Prize for Craft: M.G. Brighthouse
 Graham Johnson Memorial Prize: C.N. Duckworth
 Halpin History Essay Prize: E. Cruickshank
 Hillyard Cup and Prize: C. Bell
 J.A. Barber Prize: G.J. Laycock

J.N. Hopwood Reading Prize (Senior): L.M. Edwards
 J.N. Hopwood Reading Prize (Junior): S.A. Thomas
 History Prize (Lower & Middle): T.Y. Khan
 Prize for Original Verse (Lower & Middle): M. Yates
 Powell Prize for Reading in Assembly: E.L. Metcalfe
 Sir Joseph Gilbert Prize: Flt Sgt R.A. Lee
 The Watkins Prize (Heads of School):
 A.L. Chaudhry & K. Greenall
 The Woollam Scholarship: G.J. Laycock
 The Yates Prize: A.L. Chaudhry
 The Wolstenholme Memorial Prize for Art & Design:
 L.A. Goodwin
 The Library Awards:
 N.Y. Hanif, V.M. Lane, R.A. Lee, A.O. Pearce & F.J. Todd



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GOING FOR GOLD

The Physics Olympiad and Physics Challenge Competitions are national events to identify the very best physicists of school age in the United Kingdom.

In the senior Olympiad, Neil Whitehead and Adam Race were each awarded a Bronze Medal, Class 1. Kessr Ali received a Commendation Certificate. The test paper was devilish this year making the achievements of the three candidates particularly impressive.



In the Junior Challenge, Colin Leung won a Gold Medal, Daniel Goodkin a Silver Medal and James McConville and Mohammed Al-Himdani Bronze Medals. Susan Barber and Christopher Hanford received Commendation Certificates.

Congratulations to all, and in particular to Colin, our "top gun".

*Dr D M Martin
Dr M I Barker*

HARRIS HOUSE, HARDRAW

This year has seen a greater variety of usage of our outdoor centre in Wensleydale.

While Year 7 and Year 8 classes enjoy three day residential stays in the Dales which gives them the chance to visit farms, castles, caves and take part in caving, rock climbing and abseiling, many smaller groups use the facilities at weekends particularly during the warmer months. Activities include, Duke of Edinburgh and Cycle Camp Training weekends, Biology Club, Geography, Geology and History fieldcourses while hillwalking and fellrunning attract many.

The contrast between the calm pastoral landscape of Wensleydale and the Urban activity of Manchester gives us all education without effort. Each group finds different ways to use the centre and the area.

The accommodation is always being improved and new uses this year were for astronomical observations and painting/sketching.

The centre is available for outside groups for educational use and many use the centre every year.

*J H Hardy
Warden of Harris House*

DONNER LIBRARY

Massive changes took place in the Donner Library during the summer holiday. The place was almost gutted in an attempt to make the library more conducive to silent work and give us more space. It is a far better layout which lends itself to silent study; supervision is still normally required but there are periods when pupils seem to appreciate the opportunity to work in silence without interruption. As well as a whole new look for the library, we have three P.C.'s and two printers which are in constant use by pupils for schoolwork.

This term we have had a trial run of a finger touch recognition system, which recognises a pupil at the touch of a finger tip once they have been entered onto the library computer. So good-bye to library cards and excuses such as "someone used my card/number/name", as from September this will be a thing of the past.

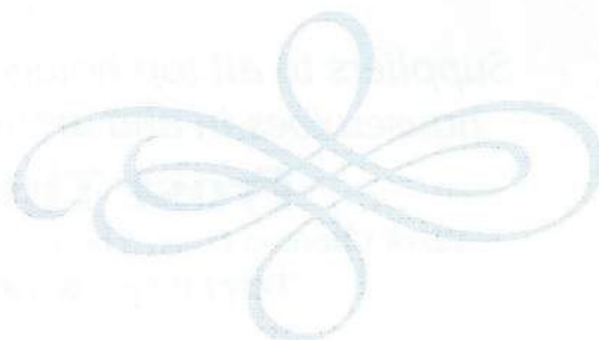
My summer of 1999 was spent not only moving thousands of books around the refurbished library, but also cataloguing all the prep department library books. Three days a week I run the prep department library during their lunch period, a very enjoyable task.

A big thank you to last year's prefects Vicky Lane, Nafisa Hanif, Peju Pearce, Faye Todd and Richard Lee, they were hard working and very reliable, my very best wishes to them for the future.

This years prefects are Sunita Boodhoo, Sebastian Bowe, Ryan Horsley-Frost, Natasha Juma, James Meers and Natalie Sheldon.

The library is open between 8.00am and 3.45pm.

*M Evans
Librarian*



TRIPS ABROAD

YEAR 8 TRIP TO FRANCE – OCTOBER 1999



On Friday 22nd October 1999, in the quiet chill before dawn, 36 pupils and 4 staff met at the gates of William Hulme's Grammar School. Before we even set off, near disaster struck – the coach was late! However, on its arrival and during our subsequent journey south along the motorways of England, the quiet quickly evaporated as all participants were excited at the prospect of exchanging damp, dismal days of a Manchester Autumn for the delights of French seaside resorts in the low season. We arrived in Folkestone in the capable hands of our driver, John - and just missed our booked Eurotunnel crossing. The next train, however, took us to Calais and we eventually arrived at Hotel Les Sables d'Or in time for 'le diner'. Afterwards, there was just time for a quiz and then to bed at 10.30pm.

The following morning, we breakfasted on 'des baguettes et des croissants' and then set off to the bakery to see how our breakfast was made. The bakery was small and powered by water wheel. We made our own bread which we then sampled: hmmm – délicieux. We lunched in Montreuil and followed the Town Trail round this typical French town. On our return 'a l'hotel,' we walked down to the beach where it rained and rained.....Back in time for evening meal, quiz and bed whilst the Sixth Formers enjoyed an excursion 'au restaurant'. Unfortunately, it was still raining and they too got soaked.

Next day we drove to the small fishing town of Etaples to go shopping but decided against buying 'les souvenirs' on the fish market. We also visited Berck – Plage to shop again, after which we returned to our hotel and beach, dinner, quiz and bed zzzz.

Our last full day 'en France' was spent first in the sizeable seaside resort of Le Touquet. We were hoping to visit the swimming pool Aqualud, but unfortunately it was closed to the public due to a private function. So – more shopping and on to 'la plage'. We then went to the Marine Museum at Etaples, which contained model ships, a real ship and a video which we couldn't understand because it was in French. Was that why we all travelled to France – to learn some French?

The following day, having packed our bags and breakfasted, we were on the road to Les Chocobats de Beussant. We learnt how they made different chocolates and were amazed by the huge chocolate chicken and also its price tag! On to Calais 'pour le déjeuner', back through Eurotunnel and then the journey home, with two stops on the motorway (including one for burgers and chips) and we were back at the School gates within ten minutes of the estimated arrival time.

Verdict:- FANTASTIQUE!!! With thanks to Mr Crane, Mrs Ballantyne, Dr Lambert and Mr McKenzie for all their hard work and patience and our coach driver, John.

Alison Hardy 8ACC

VISIT TO SPAIN, EASTER 2000

The following two accounts were written giving the different perspectives of pupils from Year 8 and the Sixth-Form on the same trip.

Alison Hardy (8ACC) writes:

It was a quick journey to Manchester Airport and Nadia started her shopping. By 6.05 pm we were ready for take-off. Two hours later we arrived in Malaga and made our way to the hotel. We stayed in the seaside resort of Benalmadena Costa, a few kilometres from Malaga, Andalusia. Our hotel was named after the Spanish artist El Greco and it was in the complex called Hotel Complejo Los Pintores. In the evening we explored the local beach.

The next morning we were woken at the crack of dawn ready for an early coach ride to Cordoba. When we arrived at Cordoba, we went to the Mosque which had Christian chapels around the inside edge and it has one of the largest churches in the world (now a cathedral) in the centre of it. The city dates back to the Roman times and has one of the longest rivers in Spain running through it: the Guadalquivir. The visit to Cordoba ended with a visit to the shops and Nadia did some more shopping. Later that evening some people went to McDonalds for a familiar taste of home.

We set off for Granada city in the Sierra Nevada the next day but discovered you had to book tickets for the Alhambra palace well in advance, so instead we did a tour of the mountains ending up in Nerja for an hour. We then headed back to the hotel for a swim and a game of pool before watching some *flamenco* dancing and then going to bed.

The day after we got up at 8.30 for a change, had breakfast and stayed in the hotel for our free day. That day it rained and rained and rained, so we had time for a long darts competition. Eventually the sun came out and we walked to the *puerto marítimo*. That night we all jumped on a bus and went to a superb disco.

We eventually went to Granada on the Saturday. The Alhambra and the Alcazaba were built in the 13th and 14th centuries by the Moorish kings. After we went back to the hotel we were able to see some live music; you could do some dancing so Steven and Umar joined in.

There was another wet day on Sunday and we did a long tour in the coach of Ronda, Puerto Banús, Marbella and Mijas.

On our last full day in Spain we went to Malaga for the day to shop at the Corte Inglés, a big department store. We went up to the top of the big hill in Malaga and had a great view of the city and the bullring. Then it was back to the hotel for a meal and afterwards we had another disco in our hotel which was meant to be for us only but there were thousands of people there who weren't from our school.

Our very last day in Spain and we got up at 9.30, had breakfast, went on a walk round Benalmadena and had a quiz. By 8 pm we were ready to depart. We took off at 10.30 pm and arrived in Manchester at 12.30 am.

Brilliant — I'd like to thank Mr Bull and Señorita Reyero for their hard work and patience.

The second piece came from Ryan Lustgarten and James Smith:

We met at Terminal 2 at 3 pm on a picturesque Tuesday afternoon. The two-hour flight went quickly and luxuriously as we were on board an English 'Virgin' plane. Upon arriving in Malaga we felt the gusts of hot air as the doors opened. We then had to get a coach to our final destination, our hotel in a town called Benalmadena. The hotel was a grand three-star complex called *El Complejo Los Pintores*. It was divided into three separate blocks, each named after a Spanish painter, with its own swimming-pool and, more importantly, bar.

The following day, Wednesday, we woke up appreciatively, to rays of sunshine streaming through the curtains, or, realistically, to the sound of Mr Bull knocking seemingly through the door, but actually on it. We then proceeded to have breakfast at an unearthly hour of eight o'clock in the morning. Our first visit was to the ancient mosque in Cordoba, in which there was a Catholic church, which was fascinating due to the dramatic differences between the two religions. We then repeated the three-hour journey that we had done that morning to return to the hotel for late-afternoon/early evening. After dinner — which was an 'interesting' insight into Spanish homelife, consisting mostly of chicken and chips — we then left the youngsters to it as we decided to take our own little excursion into Spanish culture, the bars. [Permission already given by parents — ed.]

On the next day, due to a failure in ticket availability, we decided to go to Nerja instead of Granada. We walked around the pleasant village which was in old style with cobbled streets.

On the Friday we separated ourselves off from the rest as we had some coursework surveys to do. However, this was not as easy as it seems due to heavy rainfall and also, due to the bad sense of direction of the girls, we got lost. The highlight of the day was the insight into American influence in Spain, also known as Burger King.

Now the day had come to visit the magnificence of the Alhambra palace, which was situated in Granada. The dazzling garden and stunning architecture overwhelmed us. The most amazing revelation was the amount of work that would have to be put into maintaining its beauty. Afterwards, seeing it was a Saturday night we lived it large.

On Sunday we ventured to Marbella. There was a variety of splendid shops but due to it being Sunday they were all closed. We then went on to Ronda and we ate

churros in a small café. We didn't seem too keen on it at first but the moment we ate them we couldn't stop. Another delightful view was the gorge, but spells of rain spoiled the day.

On Monday we were left to our own devices and so we went to Puerto Banús, which brought back old memories, and looked around Marbella. Also, food at the hotel was gradually getting better as we ate pasta, meatballs and of course more chips.

Surprisingly on the day we were leaving the weather was outstanding and that day we just relaxed at the hotel. We had no desire to leave because we had had such a wonderful time and met so many nice people. We would love to return to Benalmadena as it was a holiday experience we didn't expect because of the time of year and the place, so there is no reason why it shouldn't be recommended to many.



TIME SED CUI VIDE

"DO WE HAVE TO SIT OUTSIDE, SIR?"

Hebridean Cycle Camp 2000

This year's trip for the 8 pupils and 4 staff was a lesson in how to cope in searing temperatures with little chance of finding shade; there are few trees on the Outer Hebrides and the reflection of sun off white sand and a sea of Mediterranean hue burnt tender skin rapidly.



Shock Waves

Most days we went to a beach, they were beautiful and seemingly endless, with crystal clear water which was so refreshing for swimming, even the staff went in! *Alison.*

Cycling creates the feeling of coolness because of the breeze created but the sun beat down relentlessly on bared skin, many of us finished our supply of sun cream and looked for alternative relief from the heat; playing in the sea, being buried in the sand or returning to our primitive instincts and dwelling in caves were all ideas tried. The old tents that were useful as cooking shelters at the first campsite became shade providers at the second.



Camp Fire Capers

The maximum amount of clothes we were supposed to take was two sets but in my opinion, if you don't want to smell you should fit in more than that. This year the weather was hot but sometimes quite windy. It's hard to predict what kind of clothes you need to take as the weather changes dramatically. *Alice.*

"Luxury" clothing smuggled into panniers included flip flops, extra trainers, a scarf, a baseball cap and 8 tops. Other luxuries carried included Earl Grey tea bags - Miss Tandon, a chair - Mr Dunn, the kitchen sink - Mrs Hardy, a penknife - Tim; the remaining luxuries must surely enter the totally frivolous category, gold lip gloss, a mirror and a fluffy dalmatian.

Our first campsite was at Machair Robach on North Uist and was in a sheltered dune area, 25 metres from the sea. The beach gave up its store of broken fish boxes and sea-smoothed planks for seats, cupboard and table amongst the tents. Our second campsite was at Horgabost on Harris and overlooked the beach so we had a good view but it was windy at times. The group was split equally on which campsite they preferred, some were swayed by the use of a real toilet and washbasin, if slightly smelly, at Horgabost, others preferred the complete privacy of Machair Robach. *Elisabeth.*



Running Repairs

There were only a few problems with the bikes. My rear wheel buckled and several people had loose bolts. We cycled anything from about 4 miles to 10 miles in a day. The ride on the last day was made harder by the strong wind in the opposite direction. *Martin.*

The hill down into Tarbert which one would normally freewheel down with regular application of brakes in order to safely tackle the bends, we had to pedal hard down, in the lowest gear, in order to make any progress because the force of the wind against us was so great.

Most of the daytime on the trip was spent exploring the islands on bicycle and finding places of local historical interest such as a monument to Giant Macaskill, the tallest man in the British Isles at 7ft 9ins, born on Berneray, and Macleod's Stone on Harris. We also had to go on relatively long rides for practical purposes, such as the 7 miles to the nearest shop. *Susan.*

Foodshops act as focal points on trips such as this, a good supply of fresh bread, milk, eggs and fruit provide welcome variety in the menu planned round what is not too heavy or bulky to carry and can be cooked on a meths fuelled Trangia stove using 2 billies, a frying pan and kettle.

The food we ate was mostly dried to which you added water. Cooking with a Trangia stove is good fun although can be tricky. Over all the food was good. Tim.

The bread purchasing has to be timed to fit in with the delivery van which in turn coincides with the movement of ferries between islands. Miss Tandon managed to buy the last 4 loaves in the shop at Sollas, but at 14.15 cars appeared from all directions as the locals arrived to catch the bread delivery van. On bicycles it is not an option to go on to the next shop, 20 miles away, in order to buy, in retrospect, inessential items (staff - wine, Miss Tandon - sunglasses, "There's nowhere will have sunglasses although I am looking at them in the catalogue just now", Andrew - Clearasil). Mr Dunn and Mr Hardy became excited on spotting a cafe with the promise of freshly brewed coffee and homemade drop scones with the opening times clearly displayed on the door, "Och no, we only start business tomorrow," smiled the proprietor as she unwrapped the newly delivered mugs and plates. Members of the group variously sited vegetables, fruit, red



The Boys Cook Mr. Hardy Breakfast

wine and junk food as the things they missed the most, others missed those things we take so much for granted: a bath, a pillow, hot water on tap, T.V. and C.Ds., whilst others missed family and family pets. Mr Hardy missed the Corncrake; this elusive bird hides in the long grasses on the Machair, is often heard but rarely seen and is a summer resident only in the Hebrides and the North West of Scotland and Ireland after migrating from Africa.

The wildlife was absolutely fantastic. I caught a glimpse of two dolphins and a porpoise. I heard seals singing and we were on the lookout for a corncrake which is a very rare bird. Andrew.

Because of the wonderful weather most of our trips ended upon one of the many beaches on the islands, where we could swim, play football or just relax. Susan.

We played volleyball on the sunny beach. We also played softball and rounders. We played football on the primary school football pitch and on the beach which was good. I really enjoyed it. Tom.

"Pilot crashes in on island castaways." The Scotsman. From Horgabost we had a good view across to Taransay being able to see the Nissen huts, the windmill, the occasional sighting of castaways, the microlight flying overhead before crash landing out of sight and the arrival of the helicopter to rescue the unwelcome intruder. We felt our experience was similar to that of the BBC castaways; we had to learn to get on with each other whilst living at close quarters, to work as a team and help each other, we had to survive on perfectly adequate but simple food, we had to collect our water and work efficiently whilst cooking and tent pitching and to travel safely as medical help would be available but not as easy to reach as at home. We have gained in confidence in all sorts of ways and been enriched by our experience.

Susan Barber, Martin Sharpe, Alison Hardy, Thomas Hague, Andrew Steele, Timothy Thomas. Alice Delemare and Elizabeth Hardy (Cheadle Hulme School). Mr Hardy, Miss Tandon, Mr Dunn, Mrs Hardy.

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GEOGRAPHY FIELD VISITS

There have been a great variety of day visits and residential field courses this year. Many of these take place in the Lower Sixth year.

On the Lower Sixth residential visit using Harris House, Hardraw in October, Bill Shaw gained the award for greatest perseverance. Not only did his father chase us up the motorway to bring his walking boots but amongst the spectacular but slippery slopes of Hawes Water in the Lake District his knee dislocated in and out without any great effect and he kept up well on the following day investigating the Kaimes, eskers moraines and drumlins at the top of Wensleydale.

Later on in the term a ferocious wind on the Little Orme of Llandudno made us realise the awesome power of the storm waves. Twenty four geographers led by Omar Hussain bending over at forty five degrees was a fine achievement for the day. The following day at Southport the sand dunes were comparatively calm and sedate!

On our annual visit to Salford Quays and Hulme we were able to appreciate the recent changes in the regeneration of Manchester and later contrast the moorland river catchment of the River Goyt. Best plunging dive into the river was awarded to Alick Hyde.

The Upper Sixth completed the fine soils trail at Delamere Forest which gives a splendid opportunity to compare soils to drainage in a small area. Graeme Laycock's casual assessment of the peat soil took place from at least 20m in the saturated bog!

Year Eight visited Stockley Farm to study Dairy farming as an economic activity but every year it is interesting to see how the farm is diversifying more into visits and education. The deep pungent smell of the silage is always the low point.

Year Ten took part in a field visit to collect data for their GCSE enquiry. The visit to the Cheadle Hulme and Handforth Dean area is, contrary to popular belief, not a trip to the shops but a busy visit to sixteen locations to record land use at present and the quality of the environment. Many pupils have recorded outstanding coursework marks for their enquiry.

Many thanks to all the teachers in the Geography Department and those from other departments who help to provide backing for the fieldwork.

James Veitch & Elli Metcalfe UJHH

GEOLOGY FIELD COURSE IN THE ALPS

The Geology and Geography trip to the French Alps this Easter will never be forgotten by any of the geographers from Years 9, 10 and Lower Sixth who went on the trip.

The trip began well as we arrived at school on the 30th April with high hopes for the following week, yet 18 hours of back, leg and neck cramp on the coach soon drowned our spirits. Yet it was in this 18th hour when the rowdy conversation revived as we opened our sleepy eyes to see the spectacular mountains (Alps) covered in pines, sculptured rock faces and rushing streams which we would become familiar with over the next 6 days.

We arrived at our hotel in Notre Dame de Bellecombe on 1st May at 12.00am bursting with energy, despite having no sleep for the past night. The reason for this was probably the freedom, peacefulness and beauty which surrounded us. We realised how relaxed and exciting this holiday would be, even if we did have work to do.

After the first day which was spent getting to know the local village, we visited the Lac de Conflans on the second day where we studied the features of an area affected by glaciers. Wednesday was spent in the nearby town of Annecy, a picturesque and historical town, where we looked at the various economical and environmental impacts of tourism upon the town. The final two days before we went we spent studying the magnificent glaciers. One of which was the Mer du Glace, which we were able to walk inside of – being one of the most amazing experiences many of us have had – walking through a moving block of ice.

After summarising what we had learned in groups after dinner, evenings were spent in a relaxed mood within the hotel and playing activities within the village with the different age groups and teachers blending together to make a happy atmosphere. An example of this would be the party which was organised by the hotel and travel agent which, by the end of the night, resembled a real club due to the tremendous dancing.

Thanks for the unforgettable trip go to Mr Veevers, Miss Raw, Mrs Evans (the teachers), James Brocklehurst 'Friendly John' (the ex pupil), Miles (the travel agent), the hotel staff and the two coach drivers.

Next year's Field Course is to the Swiss Alps, the Eiger and top of the Jung Frauojoch.

*Darren Daly
Daniel Gall*

THE WERL EXCHANGE IN RETROSPECT

In June 1981 Mrs Wright, our recently retired German-teaching colleague of twenty years' standing, spotted an advertisement in the magazine "Treffpunkt", written for teachers of German. Herr Hellmann, Head of English at the Marien-Gymnasium in Werl, Nordrhein-Westfalen, wanted a partner school for an annual exchange. We at once replied, and have had nineteen consecutive and very happy exchanges with this lovely small town in the country, near the Sauerland hills, the lively Ruhr valley and the Möhnesee, scene of the tragic "Dam Busters" raid of 1943 but now more happily given over to water sports, lakeside cafés and skating in winter.

As well as the huge advantage of living in host families and being able to hear and speak German most of the time, there has been the opportunity to get to know a German grammar school at first hand (7.40a.m. start, no uniforms, much less Sixth Form specialisation, teacher assessed "A" Levels, no school lunches or afternoon school, etc. etc.), and to go on many excursions - Cologne (Köln), Münster, Düsseldorf, Detmold, Kassel - and "fun" trips - ice-skating in Unna, the water-drome in Bochum, etc. Before we went mixed, we joined forces with Loreto Sixth Form College in Chichester Road, accompanied by their teacher, Miss Cockroft. In its heyday, thirty-seven pupils took part, and even as its numbers dwindled in more recent years, those who have been on the trip have thoroughly enjoyed it.

I have been privileged to accompany the party to Werl thirteen times, Mrs. Wright ten times, Mr. Gracey five times, Mr. Hofton, Mrs. Ballantyne and Dr. Lambert all two or three times, and Mr. Fisher on one occasion. Eleven current colleagues from the Marien-Gymnasium have also been regular participants, and it is a cause of great personal sadness to me that it has now gone into abeyance for lack of pupil support. It is however very pleasing to hear that Dr. Lambert is organising a trip to the Rhineland next year - this promises to be very exciting, and the continued contacts with Germany will be carried on in excellent hands. Viel Glück!

G.J. Turner

THE WERL EXCHANGE (1999/2000)

The Germany Exchange very nearly did not take place in the 1999/2000 school session, for, although there was, as ever, great interest on the part of students at our partner school in Werl, our own pupils proved somewhat more difficult to motivate, a pattern which is regrettably being repeated across schools in Britain at present. Nonetheless seven of our pupils did take part and drew great benefit from the experience.

On Saturday, 25th September, their German partners, with accompanying English teacher Herr Falke, arrived and were greeted at Manchester Airport. After a weekend spent with the host families, the German pupils attended school and, "shadowing" their partners, were familiarized with the school day at William Hulme's. During the

course of the week they deepened their knowledge of British culture further, enjoying various excursions, including trips locally to Styal Quarry Bank Mill and to (where else?!) the Trafford Centre, as well as outings further afield, this time with their English partners, to Liverpool and Alton Towers. On Monday, 4th October, after another weekend spent with their host families, it was time to say *auf Wiedersehen* and for us to look forward to the return visit.

Arriving in Werl on Friday, 18th February, under the supervision of Mr. Hofton and Dr. Lambert, our pupils quickly renewed their acquaintances with German partners and settled in with the host families over the weekend. On Monday our group was welcomed at the Marien-Gymnasium, our partner school, by its headmaster, Herr Drepper, and taken on a walking tour around the town to see the local landmarks. The rest of that day and Tuesday were spent in school with partners, getting to know the particularities of the German system, while Wednesday saw a trip to historic Münster, with a guided tour and, most importantly for some, the first opportunity to shop! Another day in school on Thursday was followed on Friday by a trip to Köln (Cologne) - a city known for its impressive cathedral - and this was, as ever, greatly enjoyed by all, despite the freezing winter temperatures.

It was with some sadness that we said our goodbyes on the final Sunday, a sadness now deepened by the fact that this would seem to have been the last exchange of this kind with the Marien-Gymnasium. We hope to maintain the good relationship which has been built up between the two schools over the past two decades, particularly by Mr. Turner, and shall seek to encourage pupils wherever possible to take advantage of this valuable link with Germany.

C.S. Lambert



OXFORD UNIVERSITY VISIT - 4TH- 5TH JULY 2000

Accompanied by Dr. Martin, six members of the Lower Sixth made full use of a visit to Christ Church College Open Day to gather information about the labyrinthine pathways of an Oxford application.

The size of the rooms allocated to us, if not the quality of the furnishing, caused some amazement although the comment from Puya "What no private bathroom?" was an indication of the high expectations of young people nowadays. Vast quantities of food, both in and outside college, were consumed; the most notable gastronomic feat being the demolition of lasagne and chips, followed ten minutes later by a baked potato and chilli, washed down by a pint or two of some internationally famous beverage. Great performance, Alex!

The first afternoon saw some of the naturally more serious-minded Science students (plus Robert!) visiting the Science Open Day whilst our more effete Arts types (Alex, Andy and Danny) took in the architectural delights of various Colleges and soaked up the stimulating ambience of this notable place of learning.

After hitting the town following (yes, another!) meal in College a good, untroubled night's sleep was had by all, although whether or not the dreaming included the spires rather than the young lady sat opposite us at dinner is open to debate.

The second day found us hard at work trying to keep up with the organisational demands of the Open Day. Even Tank had dispensed with his "uniform" of the night before and I was impressed with the serious minded way that the students approached the day. Much information was gathered, vague ideas and thoughts about the future developed into more positive courses of action and the message that an Oxford application involves more than simply filling in a form driven home.

Needless to say good things come to an end and within ten minutes of taking our seats on the return train the only member of the party not "dead to the world" was yours truly. Thanks, lads, for a great trip and for doing your School proud. Good Luck to You All!

Dr. D. M. Martin

OTHELLO THEATRE VISIT 9 MARCH 2000

Trips to the Barbican with Lower VI form English groups have become quite common in recent years and it vies with Stratford as a favoured venue. Indeed, this R.S.C. Production of Othello had been seen by last year's Lower VI in Stratford.

It is generally agreed by critics - and Laurie-May Edwards, who was on both trips concurs - that this production had significantly improved by the time of its transfer to London. Too easily overawed in Stratford, Ray Fearon had grown impressively in the title role to provide

some electrifying interplay with Richard McCabe's formidable Iago. For many weeks this was rated the best play in London by 'The Independent'.

Lucidly conceived and directed by Michael Attenborough, an able cast provided a memorable occasion - Cassio's undoing by the 'devil drunkenness' was found especially convincing by a number of students rather suspiciously expert in the nuances of intoxication!

'A' level examiners increasingly stress the need for students to visualize the way scenes might be performed and their impact on the audience. It is important, therefore, that the theatrical pleasures - for all their willed suspension of disbelief in Virgin Trains - should continue to be part of the A level English experience. My thanks to Mrs Swindlehurst and Miss Milligan for their help in ensuring the customary smooth ride.

Alistair E. Watson

YEAR 6 GO TO HARDRAW.....

"On the first day of our visit to Hardraw Mrs. Cole sorted out who went into which mini-bus and when we got in she switched on the radio and we started singing. It was a good hour or two to the farm and that's where our adventures began! We were all introduced to a farmer and he was very nice. He let us feed the sheep and they licked our hands. After we fed the sheep, we went over to the horse where we all had a go sitting on it. Whilst I was sat on it, it started moving....."

".....One of the cows was pregnant and was expected to have the calf that day. The farmer told us all about the cows and then we all followed him like a flock of sheep being led by a shepherd to the hay barn.....next was another barn with chicks and kittens in it. I was the first to spot the kittens and the farmer got them all out but one so the mother would not get scared. Everybody had a go at holding the cute kittens, after which we went to see my personal favourite the pigs!....."

".....From the farm we headed to and eventually arrived at where we were to stay. As we saw Harris house we all said how lovely it looked and what a good time we were going to have. We went inside and listened to all the rules and where we were going to sleep during our short stay. We went to our rooms, unpacked and set our beds out. We then went down stairs and laid the table for our evening meal.....On the first night it was my room's turn to wash up after which we had an enjoyable game of rounders. Feeling rather tired, we all went to bed hoping for a good night's sleep but it ended up being somewhat disturbed....."

".....Around three o'clock in the morning we were still awake. Mwape's snoring kept us awake till half four. Hayley and I were the first ones awake, we quietly nipped down to the toilets where I had a shower. We got changed and were down in the hall at 8:15 for breakfast....."

".....Having eaten breakfast, we got ourselves equipped for the day's walking and adventure activities. We visited Bolton Castle which was very interesting and educational....."

".....Sir gave us a sheet with questions and we had to go around the castle and answer questions and then we had to return to the main room. There we had our lunch and we went to the gift shop if we wanted to buy things. After that we went to the waterfalls for the walk and it was a beautiful sight. As we were walking to the other side of the waterfall, I fell over BANG! It hurt and Prathyusha came and helped me. All the other children went down the rocks to get a closer look at the waterfalls....."

".....After we finished dinner we went to the sheep dog trials. The first part of the trials was when a female dog called Lucy chased the sheep into the pen. The way the farmer controlled the dog was extraordinary. He would whistle, shout and clap. The second part of the trials was where the dog had to chase geese back into the box. This was hilarious....."



".....We awoke on the Friday at 7:45am and having got dressed and packed our bags we then went down for breakfast. Soon it was time for our return journey. After visiting Hawes, we arrived back at home at 4:15. I must confess I did have a long sleep that night but what a great time we had and what wonderful memories of the trip!"

Contributions from:

*Matthæw Snape
Mwape Walker
Dominic Andrew
Gul Ali
Masooma Naqvi*



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THE LEAVERS' BALL 2000

Following the success of the first Leavers' Ball last year, the event was repeated along similar lines. The New Hall provided the venue for a sumptuous buffet that was followed by varied entertainment – a disco, Mr. Bennett's group and former pupil and singing star, Gemma Bookbinder. The ball was attended by nearly all of the Upper Sixth Leavers, a fair number of

I would like to thank the Ball Committee (comprising of Mrs. White, Mr. Gage, Georgina Laird, Chris White and the Bursar) who worked hard to make the evening a success. Thanks are also due to the Bursar's staff for work done before, during and after the event.

A. Simkin



Lower Sixth pupils, staff, Old Hulmeians, parents and friends. A measure of the success of the evening was the great difficulty that we had in persuading people to leave, long after the bar was shut and the music had ended! Two innovations this year were a barbecue for those who wanted to eat late and a "King and Queen of the Ball" – Will Kent and Alyia Chandia being the chosen ones but, as judge for the "Queen", I had a very difficult decision to make.



THE COMENIUS PROJECT

Comenius was a Czech writer on education. He inspired the European Union to name a group of educational projects after him. The main aim of these projects is to encourage the people of Europe to get to know each other better. The first stage of the educational projects is a preliminary visit by teachers to discuss their particular project. This was how I enjoyed a long-weekend visit to Tivoli, a small town in Italy just outside Rome, during the Easter holidays.

At Rome airport two teachers from Germany, two from France and myself were met by teachers from the Italian school. We were taken to our hotel, which was just down the road from the villa of the Roman emperor Hadrian. Villa is not quite the right word. Hadrian thought big. At his villa he tried to recreate the private version of the greatest marvels of the empire of his own day. The villa is the size of a small town.

Tivoli is older than Rome itself. It lies on the top of a hill in a hilly region. Here, at the Italian school, the teachers hammered out the details of the project: the composition of a questionnaire about the region in which each school lay, which pupils would fill in. The results would then be gathered and analysed through the Internet.

At the same time we learned about Italy and its education system and were able to visit Rome, just a few miles down the road. The central government in Rome is less popular than government from London is here. One Italian said that, at elections, he would cross out the names of all the politicians on the ballot-paper and write in either Oliver Cromwell or Mrs Thatcher. He wanted politicians with some iron in their souls who could get things done. And the other secondary school in Tivoli still insists that all its pupils study both Latina and Greek.

The Sunday we spent in Rome, visiting Hadrian's tomb, the Castel Sant'Angelo, from where we could hear the pope giving his blessing at St Peter's. We wandered round the forum and looked at Trajan's column, with its cartoon strip on his invasion of Romania.

On the Monday we had lunch on the roof of the flat of one of the Italian teachers. Surrounded by bonzai trees and under an awning, which kept off the sun's blazing rays, we enjoyed Italian food while at the same time admiring the rugged hills which surrounded the hilltop on which Tivoli itself was sited.

The Italians were very keen to learn English and, although we do not teach Italian at William Hulme's, a visit to Rome would certainly benefit students of Latin.

The Comenius project proper begins next year. After the results of the questionnaire have been collated and compared, a meeting of students from the different countries is a possibility. Ultimately students from Manchester may be able to meet their counterparts from France, Italy and Germany, perhaps at the second-home of the European parliament, in Strassburg. There is, after all, something to be said for the European Union.

M.H. Gracey

BURSAR'S CORNER

It appears that my piece for the last Hulmeian mustn't have been too bad as the Editor has asked me to do a repeat show this year.

The Support Staff have had a very busy year and though some of this hard work has been the battle against more than our fair share of local petty vandalism, I believe the staff have also produced some worthwhile improvements around the site.

John Conroy, the new Head Groundsman, has worked hard to improve the grounds and the sports field, and most agree that he is very effective member of our team.

Vic Buckley and the maintenance staff have again had a major project to work on with the opening of the new Day Nursery for children down to just 6 months old. The Day Nursery, located at the Oaklands site on Wilbraham Road, had to be licensed by Manchester City Council and their standards are very demanding – Certainly I never thought I would become involved in pram storage and nappy disposal! But the end result is a Nursery we can all be proud of.

The Caterers have had a particularly busy year, with more ad hoc functions than ever before and have had to cope with an influx of 170 prep dept children. Will Axon and his team provide excellent quality meals at a sensible price – we are very lucky to be so well served.

There has been a larger than normal turn over in support staff this year; Alan Scott retired in February as the CDT Technician, Alan was replaced by Keith Leach who is an experienced engineer. He is already proving to be a real asset to CDT. Derek Conlen, one of the long-suffering Porters, has taken early retirement after a serious illness last Autumn. Though he is much improved he has decided he would like to spend more time with his family. Rita Maloney one of our very cheerful ladies in the kitchen left for a long-planned retirement in Ireland. Aline Mobey left the Office staff where she provided special support to the Prep Department, Sara Dawes left the Office to move to London to join her boyfriend in London. New staff who have started during the year include Vicky Capper who has joined as the Accounts Clerk, Keena Jeffers has joined the Office Staff, Ron Aston is working temporarily as a Porter. Of course, we also have a brand-new set of staff down at the Day Nursery who are doing a splendid job looking after 25 very small children. The staff, too numerous to mention by name are ably led by Jackie Samuels who not only manages the Day Nursery but was the key project manager for the entire enterprise.

The Support Staff as a whole have again done a fantastic job this year. I am very conscious that they work long and hard, getting on quietly with what needs to be done without even being asked. I also think that they often do this without too many thanks from staff (or from me). They deserve our support!

P.D.G. Milloy
Bursar

CHARITY ACTIVITIES 1999 - 2000

William Hulme's Grammar School has a well-earned reputation for supporting Charity activities. Throughout the last academic year, pupils, staff and parents were remarkably generous in giving up their time and money in helping people less fortunate than themselves.

The Prefects Charity raised £7,800 for the "A and E" unit at Manchester's Royal Infirmary. Miss Jane Barlow raised £650 for the Brain and Spinal Injury Charity by doing a sponsored swim.



The Heads of School present a cheque for £7,800 raised for Manchester Royal Infirmary in memory of Ravi Gokal.

The English Department raised £360 for the Sargent Cancer Care and Roald Dahl Foundation by doing a sponsored Readathon.

The Music Department raised £330 also for the Sargent Cancer Care charity by holding a Jazz Band Concert.

The Preparatory Department raised £230 for Oxfam by holding a Bring and Buy sale of toys.

The Combined Cadet Force raised £200 for the King's Challenge by doing a sponsored canoe expedition from Manchester to Blackpool.

Miss Tandon, as PHSE Co-ordinator, was responsible for organising a Childline appeal which raised £130 and a further £120 for Help the Aged, by organising a sponsored aerobics session with Year 9 pupils.

The School also raised £50 for the annual sale of Puppies and donated £50 to the Royal School for the Blind. The Sixth-Form Committee sent more than £1,000 to an Ugandan student, Isooba Paul Johnson to help finance his studies.

The Lower School was very successful in packing a "Disaster Box" on behalf of the Rotary Club, for overseas emergencies. The surplus material was donated to the Wood Street Mission for the homeless in Manchester. The CCF also sent cadets to help as collectors for the Rotary Club in Manchester.

Overall, a fantastic £10,000 was raised by the School for various local Charities. This is truly a remarkable achievement and is one of the great strengths of our School.

Well Done Everyone!

M. P. Jones
P. R. Director

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PREFECTS' CHARITY APPEAL 1999-2000

Our appeal this year was directed towards raising money for the Accident and Emergency Unit at Manchester Royal Infirmary. This was in dedication to Ravi Gokal, following his tragic death earlier this year. Our aim was to buy life saving equipment for head trauma victims, including a machine designed to inject drugs into unconscious patients in order to make them more comfortable. To buy this machine alone required us to raise £2,500. Although devastated by the tragic loss of Ravi, the appeal created a sense of purpose, bringing the School closer together as a whole. We wanted to involve as many people as possible in our fund raising events, including our new arrivals in the Prep. Department, in order to run more events, and raise more money than ever before.



The School Conga to raise money for the Prefect's Charity Appeal.

As our opening week was a particularly cold one, we thought what better way to kick off the appeal than with the annual degrading of the Prefects, with 'Soak-a-Prefect'. This proved to be one of our most popular attractions, a chance for pupils and staff to pay their tributes to the hard working and dedicated Prefects. Although it was the Prefects being drenched in ice-cold water, we still felt sorry for our many spectators, stood outside in the cold winds, so we even provided them with refreshments (at a reasonable fee of course!). Jennie and Talia had a fully stocked mobile tuck shop, made Blue Peter style out of an old Poppy Appeal box, very inventive! Through their hard efforts, working every lunch and break with their happy helpers, they managed to raise over £750 in profits. We must then thank Mr. McKenzie for helping the entire student body loose those extra few pounds gained through Jennie's efforts!!

Our next major event was the 'Bouncy Castle Boxing Ring'. With gigantic, one size fits all, foam filled boxing gloves, we introduced the ultimate fitness test. Year 7's tried to take on our resident boxer Jonathon Murphy, only to be bounced straight out of the ring. This also proved to be a popular attraction at the Year 7 and 8 Christmas Disco. Organised by Georgina, Caroline, Emma and Mr. Greenall a spectacular evening was produced. Lined with balloons, the hall was miraculously transformed into a fantastic disco, accompanied with disco lighting and an authentic bubble machine. Our very own DJ Rupert Wakefield provided the

entertainment, including music and games, to which we discovered some very interesting dancers. 6th Form girls lined the stage with dance routines to classics such as 'Tragedy' and Spice Girls songs - worth the ticket money in itself!! A very special thanks to the staff who helped on the night, especially to my dad, who also managed to play Cupid to half the revelers present.

The Giant Balloon Race attracted much interest when we released more than 800 balloons from our own fields. A blanket of yellow and blue balloons covered the sky in the hopes of reaching some far off destination. We had a balloon sent back to us from France and we are still in negotiation for collecting the air miles!

With the Prep Department keen to be involved, they too contributed to our fund raising events. With a sponsored swim and the filling of Smartie Tubes with loose change (after they'd eaten the Smarties of course), they managed to raise over £500. They were also keen to participate in the balloon race and the 'Guess the Name of the Bunny'. Many thanks for their help and Mrs. Wilson for her co-operation.

With the absence of the sponsored walk, we needed to find something that could be just as big a fundraiser, involving the entire school. Naturally, what better way to do so than with a 'Sponsored Conga Line'!! With the unfortunate circumstances of bad weather conditions and added pressure from skeptics of forming an 800-person long conga line to dance around the field, things were looking grim. However, the weather picked up, as did our spirits as we were determined to make this work! With a carefully constructed plan and route, again with



The Prep department pupils collect their coins for the appeal.

special thanks to my dad for pulling that together, we were able to dance the entire school from Prep children through to staff, around the field, to the conga music playing from the pavilion. Even Mr. Loveland was caught by the conga bug and managed to sneak in a little dance towards the end (where is the camera when you need it?). This event attracted huge media attention and proved to be a great success.

Our final event of the appeal, was the 6th Form Fashion Show. Having become an annual event, it is one of the most terrifying things 6th Formers encounter at school. However, with much dedication and high spirits, Neel and Parveen created a superb production. With a wider range of clothes and music than ever before and spectacular dance routines, the evening was very well received and raised a substantial amount of money.

After 18 fund raising events including a 'Slave Auction', 'Pool Tournament', 'Karaoke and Quiz Night', 'The Rag Mag' and much more, we felt that we had done the very best that we could and raised as much as we could. This was until we were contacted by a very generous benefactor who offered us a total of £1,500 in recognition of our efforts. This now put the grand total for the 1999-2000 Charity Appeal to £7,800!!

The Prefects would like to thank all the parents who kindly sent in donations and all those who took part for making such a great effort. Also the staff who got involved, especially Mr. Greenall and Mr. Loveland who made tremendous efforts and gave us lots of help along the way. We also appreciate the efforts made by the office ladies and the porters who made our lives much easier. Our special thanks goes out to the student body; without your efforts and donations, we could never have raised such a huge sum of money.

Kati Greenall

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES 1999 – 2000

Lectures at University

As part of the new-style A/S Level in Politics, teachers and students attended the following lectures at either Manchester or Salford Universities, organised by the Politics Association:-

The Peace Process in Northern Ireland – Jonathan Tonge (Salford)

Devolution in the United Kingdom – Prof. James Mitchell (Sheffield)

Patterns of Voting Behaviour – Prof. David Denver (Lancaster)

Prime Minister and Cabinet – Graham Thomas (London)

Performing Welfare in the United Kingdom – Prof. Mich Moran (Manchester)

The Revolution in Whitehall – Dr. Robert Pyper (Glasgow)

The Party System – Prof. Patrick Seyd (Sheffield)

The Independent M.P. – Martin Bell (M.P. for Tatton)



Mr. M. P. Jones and David Blunkett M.P. in the Old Hall.

New Labour: An Analysis – Steven Fielding (Salford)

The Conservative Party: A Critique – Philip Cowley (Hull)

The Media and Politics – Dominic Wring (Loughborough)

All the lectures proved to be a fascinating insight into the world of politics and were excellent sources of the latest information.

In October 1999, the school played host to the prestigious BBC radio programme:- "Any Questions?" This was broadcast live on Radio 4 from the New Hall. A 'studio' audience of over three hundred attended, from a mixture of schools, Local Education Authorities, Political Parties and members of the public.

The panel of guests was made up of the Secretary of State for Education and Employment – DAVID BLUNKETT, Shadow Chancellor FRANCIS MAUDE, the Daily Telegraph's political columnist ALICE THOMSON and the director of the charity Humanity KEVIN CAREY.

Pupils, parents, staff and invited guests were able to submit questions to the panel, which were then selected by the BBC production team. Questions were posed by the Head of History Peter Callaghan, the Head of Careers Francoise Collier, the Head of Chemistry Tony Greenall, Politics student Daniel Scoriah, parent Kathy Rushforth and Old Hulmeian Alan Blight.

The audience contributed to a lively discussion programme on topics such as the North/South division, ethics in foreign policy and the value of our school motto in today's society.

The whole evening was a great success, indeed the BBC were extremely complimentary about the School's facilities, welcoming hospitality and organisation. As we were the first School "Up North" to be used by the BBC outside of London, they have no hesitation in using us as a venue again. I am indebted to the Bursar and his staff for all their help, but I am very grateful indeed to all members of the Lower Sixth Politics group without whom, we would not have been able to stage-manage such a brilliant event. Well done everyone!

Mr. M.P. Jones

PUBLIC RELATIONS 1999 - 2000

Public Relations involves the triple lock of pupil recruitment, raising the public profile of the School and developing more of a corporate image for William Hulme's. All schools today have "P. R. people" committed to promoting their institutions. 1999 - 2000 proved a very eventful year and I am indebted to my colleagues, the pupils and their parents for all the support they have given me throughout the year.

We organised several open events for entry into the new Day Nursery, the Preparatory Department and the Grammar School. The Open Morning in November was particularly well-attended and it was great to see the whole School put on a really great show. Many prospective parents and pupils were very impressed. We ran seven Prospective Parents Meetings, organised three "see-the-School-at-work" tours and held another Scholarship Exam. The latter went very well indeed and all the children thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We had two weeks of intensive interviewing of all our prospective pupils; we visited all our potential Year 7s schools and we held three Introductory Evenings for their parents.

A very busy and typical year and I am very grateful to Morris Loveland for all his advice, support and time in making these events such a success. It is very pleasing to report that the Day Nursery and Pre-Preparatory Department are full; the numbers of children in the Preparatory Department is very healthy and we achieved our recruitment targets for the Main School and Sixth Form.

In terms of raising the School's public profile, we were very successful. The year started off well with Richard Nixon and Suzanne Ash opening up their A-level results LIVE on the Mike Toolan show at Key 103! We also began to advertise our Open Days on the radio; the Prefects were thrilled to be given 10 free tickets for the Boyzone Concert in Manchester by Mike Toolan and a number of events were regularly referred to at Key 103, especially the Prefects' Charity activities. 'Billboard', our mid-term newsletter has proven to be an excellent means to promote the school and next year should be in full colour. Throughout the year nearly eighty photo opportunities were organised, most of which were accompanied by a press release and these were regularly reported in the local press. These involved the numerous stage-managed events such as Speech Day, "Any Questions" and the Leavers' Ball. Many events recognised pupils of achievements such as the Personal Safety Campaign winners with the G. M. P., Robert Thompson's Arkwright Scholarship Award, Rowena Roy's publication of her English Coursework by the National Eczema Society and the Physics Olympiad and Maths Champions. Lastly one-off events such as charity cheque presentations, the whole-school Conga and celebrity visits to the School such as Old Hulmeian Ashley Ward - were also reported in the press. It is a great privilege to report on all these fantastic activities at our School and I find it increasingly satisfying that so many of them were reported in the press.

The corporate image and presentation of the School was significantly enhanced throughout the year. The Bursar and all of his Staff have been absolutely brilliant in erecting displays, landscaping the campus, establishing the shop and in maintaining the fabric and decor of all the buildings. We were all impressed with the new aerial photographs that were recently developed, which showed the school premises in all their glory. Our Press adverts, prospectus and flyers have taken on a more corporate approach this year. We have also extended our advertising contacts to Manchester United, Manchester City, the main libraries in South Trafford, the Didsbury Medical Health Centre and sought the increase in the number of outlets for our publications, such as the Trafford Centre and Independent Schools network.

As usual a very busy year but a very enjoyable one. None of these achievements could have happened had it not been for a very dedicated group of colleagues, a brilliant pupil population and a very supportive parent body. One of the great strengths of our School is the teamwork and this will take us confidently into the 21st Century.

M. P. Jones
P. R. Director

SENIOR DEBATING

This year the School hosted the opening round of the Prudential Mace Debating Competition and our team of Chloe Duckworth and Vicky Lane gave an exceptionally assured performance progressing, with Manchester Grammar School, to the next round. The debates were chaired with great efficiency and charm by Peju Pearce and various members of the debating committee worked hard to ensure that the evening was enjoyed by all. Our thanks go to the three judges, Dr Anne Eardley, Malcolm Hicks and Miss Lucy Derby for their detailed and fair-minded appraisals. Chloe and Vicky shone too in the next round at MGS but Altrincham Boys Grammar were the victors there.

In School, the year started strongly in the Michaelmas term with excellent debates on the ethics of law-breaking, the censoring of the internet and the legalisation of drugs. Victoria Bramwell, Leanne Davidson, Nicola Endlar, Omar Sheikh, Natalie Ofoche and Homera Ahmed were all impressive and Sam Hughes especially so in his dissection of the moral issues surrounding internet access.

After a promising beginning - and despite the excellent advertising efforts of Wendy Choy and Maria Ahmed - the season rather ran out of steam. It is felt that we need both to avoid clashes with sports training and to return from the broad-based committee to two vigorous secretaries to ensure that momentum is maintained in 2000/01.

Never has it been more apparent that the arts of fluent persuasion and rational argument need to be cultivated to negotiate successfully in the modern world and the Debating Society is the place to hone those skills - and have some fun too!

Alistair E. Watson

JUNIOR DEBATING SOCIETY

The junior debating society continues to meet regularly with many lively debates. There has been a steady turn out of both year 7 and 8's and a wide variety of motions discussed on issues from fox hunting to the addictive nature of Pokemon.

HOUSE DEBATING COMPETITION

This took place in December and was watched by the LVI who were an intelligent and receptive audience. There was a very high standard of debate with Daniel Scorah, Victoria Bramwell, Sunita Boodhoo, Nicola Endlar and Natalie Ofoche all being commended for their speeches. The winning house was Gaskell who opposed the motion that this house would legalise all recreational drugs. Other issues debated were the restriction of the use of private cars and whether people are more important than animals. Mr Gorman and Mr Hewston both kindly agreed to judge the competition and their efforts were much appreciated.

S.R.Tandon

DRAMA

'RATZ' REVIEW

There should have been a warning for the 'Ratz' audience outside the New Hall: 'Be afraid. Be very afraid'. For this was no cosy, Walt Disney-style children's play about misunderstood rats and the caring, sharing love for children of an old hippy musician who has overdosed on Tolkien and mistakenly trusts a lot of breadheads in the Town Hall. Instead, what you got was a vision of the future where there is a huge underclass of the unemployed and homeless, the 'Squeegee Merchants' of Jack Straw's dystopian nightmare, the ratz, who take on the forces of greed, oppression and exploitation. Do you recognise your local council here, or even, your national government? 'Bambi' it wasn't.

The play opened with the ominous thud of Massive Attack's bass kicking in and your gut feelings told you that this was going to be no ordinary Junior School production as mysterious figures in black moved menacingly around the hall-the ratz. Throughout the evening when the ratz: Elizabeth Boyle, Lisa Mbaya, Laura Hanford, James Murphy, Anna Sutton and Lindsay Rushforth appeared, the tension mounted and a chill came over the hall as they seemed to fill the huge space with their threatening presence. The town councillors: Ghazala Seedat, Farah Khan, Ramandeep Kaur, Nina Kojidi, Sukaynah Ghafori and Matthew Whitehead were the obvious counterparts to the ratz and they played their roles to the manner born, with Matthew, especially, capturing the right mixture of mock deference to the people (when it suited him) and a New Labour-style tone of high moral outrage when his anorexic integrity was impugned. The council was very ably lead by the Mayoress, Ellie Dodd, whom I could definitely see one day leading the Continuity W.I. as she effortlessly handled/manipulated some arch-questioning from the Town Crier, confidently played by Mariam Al-Bayati.

The two key roles were the Stranger-the person you're not supposed to take sweets from (the Pied Piper of yore)-and Jan, the lost child, the orphan, the locus of our century's guilt and failure to love our children. Ehi Opke as the Stranger, dressed in a shimmering high-necked cloak which enhanced her natural grace of movement, purveyed a mixture of mystery, glamour and untouchability as she effortlessly captivated the 'children' by offering them something beyond the mundane materialism of the parents' world. Whilst Jason Wilson as Jan-Browning's lame child-was utterly convincing as the outsider who has thought too much on his own and not played enough with others. His voice and body language managed powerfully at times to convey the loneliness of a life without love providing a very uncomfortable experience for the audience.



"Rat Attack: Prep School watch the conflict unfold".

But, above all, this simply and clearly staged production was a true ensemble piece, not the proverbial star-vehicle so beloved by modern commercial theatre and the whole cast deserve our thanks for their commitment, sensitivity and acting skills. I went to the New Hall prepared to be enchanted and charmed. I did not expect to be challenged and chastened. Good theatre can do that and 'Ratz' was good theatre. We owe a lot to Jenny Milligan and Fiona Pow.

T.P. Heavisides

"CABARET"

"What good is sitting alone in your room?"

Come hear the music play

Life is a Cabaret, old chum

Come to the Cabaret."

Excellent advice from Sally Bowles to anyone in danger of missing the School's sparkling, vibrant and utterly professional production last April of this famous Broadway musical by Kander and Ebb, produced and directed by Mr Wise, Mr Greenall and Miss Day.

Set in permissive and colourful atmosphere of Berlin at the beginning of the 1930's with the hideous spectre of Nazism lurking ominously in the background, this re-working of material from Christopher Isherwood's Berlin novel brings out the full horror of the impending cataclysm, beside which the difficulties of surviving in a free society are seen as an infinitely lesser evil. The action alternates between the Kit Kat Klub (the "Cabaret" of the title), where Sally Bowles sings solo à la Marlene Dietrich and Frl Schneider's lodging-house where Clifford Bradshaw arrives as a young, inexperienced novelist.



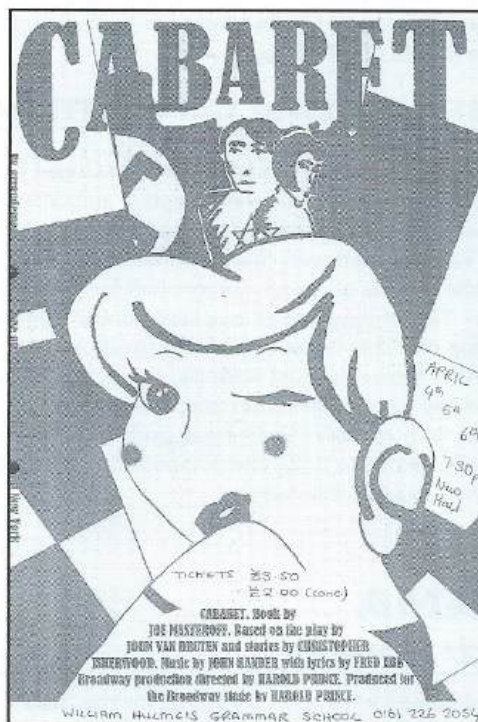
Daniel Goodkin as the 'MC' and the Kit Kat Klub Dancers.

Daniel Goodkin in the role of Clifford developed from the genial but gullible American, easily conned by the Hitler supporter Ernst Ludwig into undertaking smuggling in aid of what are in reality Nazi funds, and unwilling to believe the full extent of brown-shirt brutality until he himself has been viciously attacked, into the bitterly disillusioned older and wiser man who says a rueful "Goodbye to Berlin" at the end.

Daniel brought out well the growing toughness which gives him the courage to attack the racist thugs. This gradually developing self-awareness runs in parallel to his love for Sally. They are a hopelessly ill-matched couple, and he is ironically drawn to those very child-like aspects of her personality which he is himself about to outgrow.

Daniel's solo song "Why should I wake up?" expressed perfectly his wilful refusal to face the facts. He prefers to think of his relationship with her as "perfectly marvellous", as in their heady duet when they first fall in love. He will not grasp that she cannot leave for America

with him – she will be emotionally unable to cope with the transplant. Tragically, Herr Schultz will presumably pay far more dearly for ignoring the same well meant advice from Clifford.



Elli Metcalfe, one of our most seasoned and professional actresses, expressed perfectly the many facets of Sally Bowles' complex personality – bewitching and appealing yet vulnerable, vivacious yet broodingly sensitive, magnetic, ambitious, sincere, flighty and old beyond her years. She really loves and trusts Cliff, only to find him unable (or unwilling) to stick by her in the way she really wants; he is just like all the other men she has known after all.

Her two solo songs express the two contrasting aspects of her feelings – the glittering jauntiness of her flamboyant "Don't tell Mama" when she first dominates the stage of the Kit Kat Klub, revelling in her conscious revolt against her mother's traditional bourgeois values, and the heartbreaking tear behind the laugh of the famous "Cabaret" song towards the end. She has to assert the "fun" values of the Kit Kat Klub as the ultimate meaning of life at the very moment when her relationship with Cliff is doomed forever. Elli sang this last number in a darkly subdued yet riveting timbre – we felt she must burst into tears at any moment. We could sense the deep hurt in Elli's eyes, the hallmark of great acting – one was reminded of the legendary Marlene herself.

Victoria Bramwell was Fräulein Schneider, Cliff's and Sally's landlady. As Fräulein Schroeder, she is the main link character between Isherwood's two main Berlin novels, "Mr Norris Changes Trains" and "Goodbye to Berlin", and she plays a pivotal role in the action. She is the middle-aged realist who has struggled to survive and succeeded, through the horrors of World War One and the Great Inflation of 1923 – Isherwood tells us that before 1914 she had been quite well-to-do, but has now fallen on

hard times. Her lodging house is the crucible in which the two ill-fated romances – Clifford/Sally and Herr Schultz/herself – ignite and burn only to be tragically extinguished.



Elli Metcalfe as "Sally Bowles".

World-weary though she is, she hopes against hope that she can find happiness with Herr Schultz, but she puts her own survival first when the Nazis step up their anti-Semitic campaign of terror. Vicky portrayed the role with a tired, thick, vaguely central European accent which suited it perfectly; her first solo song "So What?" already pre-figured the despair of her final "What would you do?" – she chooses the loneliness and guilt of "the only world I know" as the clock of freedom runs down.

Frl. Schneider's other tenant involved in the main action is Fräulein Kost, the bubbly yet hard-headed tart whose so called "nephews" comically drift at intervals across the set!!! The engagingly effervescent Alexis Dickson sparkled her way through the evening conveying brilliantly the shrewd calculating cunning behind her fun-loving exterior.



Daniel Goodkin as "Clifford Bradshaw".

Frl Kost is a manipulative fellow-traveller suggesting to the Hitler supporter Ernst Ludwig, at the engagement party at the end of Act 1, that they sing the thinly disguised Nazi propaganda song "Tomorrow belongs to me" as a foil to Herr Schultz's delightful Yiddish-based number "Meeskite" ("Herr Ludwig, this is for you"). Alexis interpreted the first verse with just the right blend of mock innocence and cheap "hammed up" fervour to produce the desired effect – her instruction "Everyone!" triggered the predictable mindless effect of all on stage, except of course Herr Schultz and Clifford, joining in. (Kander's music here shows brilliantly the frightening danger of the devil having the best tunes; the party guests are beguiled by the lilting melody in soothing 3/4 time, and can thus sing without compunction the overtly Nazi words of verse 2).

Graeme Laycock rose to the challenge of portraying the most evil protagonist of all, the Nazi Ernst Ludwig,



Graeme Laycock as "Ernst Ludwig".

who tries to take over Clifford by sorting out his accommodation with Fräulein Schneider and offering himself as a pupil for English lessons. (Isherwood himself taught English in Berlin to make ends meet.) Graeme exuded single-minded ruthlessness masked by a quietly understood terseness of manner and evasive assignments. Graeme dominated the scene even from upstage in Ernst's racist reaction to the "Meeskite" song, and emphasised throughout the suave, persuasiveness and dogmatic inflexibility demanded by the role. He always seemed to be frowning and/or scowling, perhaps to show Ernst's defence-mechanism against a trace of humanity trying to get out. Of the seven major protagonists, he alone had no solo singing, though of course he joined in "Tomorrow belongs to me" with appropriate gusto. This too was significant – there is no place for individual expression in Fascism.

Darren Daly as Herr Schultz was delightful, warm hearted (and "heart on sleeve"!), well intentioned, and head over heels in love with Frl Schneider! His readiness always to see the best in everyone and to look on the cheerful side, inadiates his crucial "Meeskite" song, but



Alexis Dickson as "Fraulein Kost".

tragically proves his undoing when he fails to heed both the warning of the anti-Semitic brick through his window and Clifford's pleas that he leave while there is yet time. It was moving to see two young players (Darren and Victoria) empathise so well with the tenderness of a middle-aged couple – they both showed touching sensitivity in the "pineapple" scene, especially in their lovely duet "It couldn't please me more". He has developed into a great character-actor; a memorable performance all round.

Daniel Scolah as the Kit Kat Klub's "Emcee" (M.C. – Master of Ceremonies) had to be and was larger than life, loud-mouthed, theatrical and caricaturesque. He pranced gleefully like a huge sinister spider, button-holing his audience – both in the Cabaret and in the New Hall – with such exaggerated bonhomie as to make us feel uncomfortable. He emerges clearly as a thoroughly unpleasant character, rejoicing in his wealth by contrast with the penury of his relations in his song "Sitting



Daren Daly as "Herr Schultz".

Pretty" shrugging his shoulders in mock helplessness when Frl Kost's guests all join in "Tomorrow belongs to me" whilst actively adding his own brutal kick when the Nazi thugs attack Clifford and indulging in very "kinky" practices with the "Two Ladies," saucily performed by Leanne Davidson and Nicola Endlar, and of course Daniel; it was a highlight, complete with strobe lighting and exuberant antics with a bedsheet. (This is one of the few features of the musical performed identically in the 1972 film "Cabaret" starring Liza Minelli, which otherwise follows John Van Druten's 1951 play "I am a Camera", its title taken from the second paragraph of Isherwood's "Goodbye to Berlin".)

Other more cameo roles were also memorable. Chloë Duckworth, in her elegant pastel-green evening dress and complete with cigarette holder, played a more sophisticated, high-class tart than Frl Kost – her abrupt change of mood as she slammed down her phone, after



Vicky Bramwell as "Fraulein Schneider" shows Clifford Bradshaw (Daniel Goodkin) her Boarding House.

her invitation "Would you like to buy a girl a drink?" had fallen on deaf ears, was hilarious. Omar Raja whose wandering hands earn him a resounding slap in the face from his dancing partner, and Daniel Gall as the ever-efficient Max gliding unobtrusively amid the tables, were also real troupers. Owen Edwards played the officious customs officer at the beginning and end of the show, thus providing a threatening beaurocratic tone in keeping with the lengthening shadow of the swastika.

Particular praise is due to the six Kit Kat Klub girls with their many energetic and ebullient singing and dancing numbers which went far beyond mere backing. These routines must have required hours of training for Natalie Sheldon, Anna Rogers, Gemma Carolan, Beth Coffey, Kristie Tierney and Amy Diaczuk. Their choreographer, Caroline from the Russell Leite Theatre School, brought out the very best in her highly responsive charges; they were a joy to watch and to hear. They were joined in much of the Kit Kat Klub action by its other members – Shelley Turnberg, Kate Maddock, Leela Dé, Carolyn Hegg, Elaine Pang, Jenna French, Rebecca Goodwin and Julia Atherton. It was a tribute to them and to the producers that the simultaneous "busy-ness" on set was so well sustained – everybody was doing something all the time! The same goes for the waiters at the Kit Kat Klub, played by Roy Chohan, Joshua Duckworth, Andrew Smith, Jamie Meers, Omar Raja and two stalwart friends

of the School who very kindly volunteered to supplement the "in-house" team, Messrs Graham Brown (our own Mrs Brown's husband) and Will Smith. As well as contributing crucially to the action, they also sang, as a straight "Barbers Shop" group, the first rendition of "Tomorrow belongs to me", reinforcing the growing continuity between pre - Nazi Berlin and Hitler's imminent take-over, and prefiguring Fräulein Kost's later treatment of it just before the interval. The very dispassionate beauty of their harmonious singing made its hideous implications for later the more frightening, pointing as it did the contrast between music and words.

Hats off especially to the fifteen piece band of teachers and students who, as well as accompanying the songs, played their way through sequences of (inaptly named) incidentals, entr'actes, reprises, scene endings and openings, dances etc etc. You name it, they did it! This stream of lovely melody underpinned the action, enhanced the continuity, and made it easier for the audience to remember Kander's stunning score. Their names are recorded at the end of this review. Mr Goodwin as their MD was of course the uniting force here, earning him a special mention from the emcee in the opening minutes of the show!!

As always the back room boys/girls/ladies and gents played an indispensable role in bringing the show to life. Their names too are also listed at the end of this review. Particularly impressive was the set, with the tables and chairs of the Kit Kat Klub deployed on the apron and front of the stage and the decaying grandeur of the Schneider lodging house filling the upstage area.

In the opinion of the present writer, this production was simply the best the School has put on in the last twenty-five years. It was flawless, more than a match for many professional performances. More importantly, it was hugely entertaining and its timeless message, rightly, disturbing.

G.J. Turner

Cabaret Musicians

MD
Phil Goodwin

The Band
Dave Alexander
Andy Wilson
Geoff Grant
John Hofton
Ed Barnwell
Chas Coghill
Dan Coghill
Kati Greenall
Jenni Porter
Sara Sadeghi
Mark Brighthouse
Robi Dé
Bill Shaw
Cath Day

Costumes
Brenda Beardwood
Janet Rogers
Barbara Greenall
Sue Watson

Props
Jenny Milligan

Cabaret Crew

Lights & Sound
Mike Barker
Rupert Wakefield
Patrick Clerc
Seena Elhami
Tom Jones

Stage
Nigel Veevers
Alex Hogarth
James Smith
Daniel Wood
Andrea Reah
Sam Hughes
Keith

Artwork
Alison Boothroyd
Graham Bennett

Make-Up
Jane Keable
Rani Tandon

Refreshments
Françoise Collier
Alison Raw

Appleford Lodge Nursing Home



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WILLIAM HULME'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

HOUSE PLAY COMPETITION 1999/2000

The switch from March to November and the introduction of a 30-minute time limit for each play were major changes to this year's competition. Both were successful in aiding the casts to produce manageable pieces at a less busy time of year in terms of school drama. The result was a consistently high standard of production and performance.

Another wholly welcome change that was not prescribed was the much more equal balance of gender in this year's event. In fact thirty-four boys took part this year and thirty-five girls; backstage roles were similarly shared; a situation which promises well for the future of WHGS drama.

As always the dedication of the organiser, Mr Turner, the Housemasters, the make-up team, the Lighting and Sound technicians, especially Patrick Clerc and Rupert Wakefield and an army of backstage workers, including Alex Hogarth, Andrew Reah, James Smith and Daniel Wood, deserves acknowledgement and admiration. All these people are indispensable to the success of the occasion.

Congratulations to those who gave splendid performances in cameo roles:

Minesh Parekh
Julian Chapman
Paul Stonehouse
Ben Kaufman
Daniel Scoriah

The runners-up for best male actor were:

Chris Ogden-Smith
and Darren Daly
The winner was Daniel Goodkin

The runners-up for best female performance were:

Natalie Ofoche
and Alexis Dickson
The winner was Peju Pearce

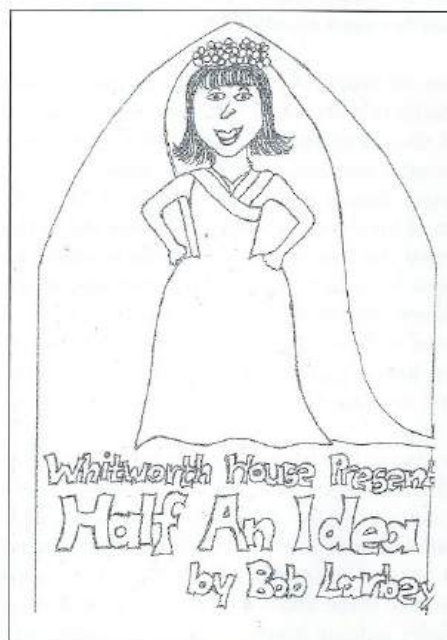
PLAYS

1st	Whitworth
2nd	Byrom
3rd =	Fraser
	Heywood



WHITWORTH

In Peju Pearce and Miriam Mkumbwa, Whitworth had producers who have many years' involvement in the House Play Competition. This experience stood them and their cast in good stead and was put to excellent use in their fine direction of "Half an Idea", a comedy by Bob Larbey. It was the strength in breadth of the cast, direction and staging which made this play a worthy winner.



Akintunde Adams, the writer, and Maria Ahmed, Stage Manager, opened proceedings and established the 'play within the play' framework. They convincingly established the comic atmosphere. Maria Mufti made a promising debut as Pauline, the supportive wife of the temperamental playwright. The curtain opened on a well-structured set, and Mr and Mrs Charlton, supporting the "jilted" bride's mother. Matthew Booth was consistently impressive and Wendy Tang gave a lovely performance, contrasting well with Peju Pearce who was an assured, commanding presence. She was quite simply hilarious as the hysterical mother of the bride. Peju showed an instinctive sense of timing and was a delight to watch. The part of Catherine was played superbly by Miriam Mkumbwa, wearing a very stylish bridesmaid's dress. The housekeeper maintained the high quality of this production, performed with flair by Jemma Cohen. Her synchronised gestures with Matthew Booth were slick, and very funny. The audience awareness of all involved was a striking feature of this production. Laughter was encouraged and not talked through, always a danger when casts perform only once to a live audience.

The fun continued with the arrival of Sukaynah Ghafari, Kazhal Berahnegard and the bride herself, Helen Fisher. Again the movements on stage enriched the witty script and everyone seemed well cast. Mohammed-Al-Hindani made a splendidly pompous Mr. Moore and the excellent contrasts of characters were well maintained.

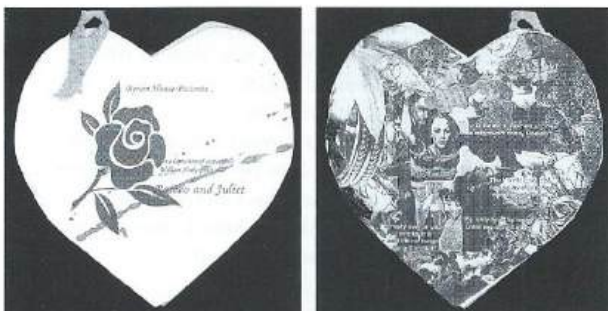
When the entertainers booked for the cancelled wedding turned up demanding payment, the comedy of

manners turned quickly to riotous farce. The Spangle Sisters were aptly clad and ably embodied in Holly Kent, Kate Howie and Ben Kaufman, the second accomplished drag artist of the evening. Great fun was had by all – including the audience.

Matters came to a climax when Prya Niroomand and Catherine Tang, the groom's parents, made their appearance. Their working class status was well established by costume, accent and fine performances. From first to last Whitworth's cast worked together to make a difficult play look easy. Their reward was the resounding laughter of their audience and this year's House Play first prize. Well done to all concerned.

BYROM

Byrom certainly dared to be different in this year's House Play Competition. The originality and care which were apparent in their heart-shaped, bloodstained programmes, were features of the entire production. Produced by Waqar Ahmad and directed by Chloe Duckworth, the latter's adaptation of "Romeo and Juliet" was courageous, unpredictable and fun! The cast's obvious enjoyment was reflected in the audience's response to their performance.



The use of music was a striking feature of this production and reflected its variety and use of contrast. We heard grand opera, light opera, classical extracts and pop – all contributing an appropriate mood to the action! Much thought and extensive musical knowledge clearly went into the choices. The Shakespearean text was interspersed with scenes involving mime, dance, tableaux, slapstick and pantomime-style action. All were enacted with vigour and vitality.

After a stylish introduction, the piece began with a dumb-show involving Romeo (Darren Daly), Mercutio (Stanley Tso) and Benvolio (Jason Wilson). The energy, confidence and slickness of their performance set the tone for all that followed. Stanley Tso's delivery of the Queen Mab speech was, as it should be, magical.

Scene Two saw the introduction of camp comedy in the form of Daniel Scoral's Nurse. The audience loved the clowning and Daniel played to the gallery with a vengeance. He was superb in his exchanges with Lady Capulet (Amy Diaczuk) and Juliet (Julia Atherton). Amy was quiet but controlled. Julia grew in confidence and stature as the performance unfolded.

All the cast was wearing superb costumes. The play

was colourful and visually compelling. The masked ball was more like a scene from "Cinderella" than "Come Dancing", with hilarious use of properties such as wands and drinks trays. The organised chaos was brilliantly realised and the freeze at the end was a theatrical tour de force.

Chloe was not afraid to move from farce to poignancy in a matter of moments; the resultant contrast made this fascinating to watch. Darren Daly was moving in his delivery of Romeo's plight. Capulet (Joshua Duckworth) and Tybalt (Daniel Gall) were excellent. Both actors were strong, fluent and impressive. Throughout, the staging was clever, especially that of the balcony scene. The final scene between Romeo and Juliet was very well done and we were left with gentleness and sadness, after much boisterous comedy.

The dancers, Chloe herself and Miriam Al-Bayati; the servant, James Kerr, and the M/C Waqar Ahmad who concluded proceedings, all contributed to what was clearly a team effort performed by an extremely talented cast.

DALTON

Dalton House began the proceedings on the first night with Natasha Juma's version of "All that Glitters", a play with a clear message about the fickleness of fame and the shallowness of the media.

The play effectively staged and very well cast by the producers, Helia Asadi and Natasha Juma. From the first, lines were delivered with confidence and clarity. Iram Choudary as Laverna sustained her American accent well and as the parents of the spoilt star, Sophie, Natalie Sheldon and Simon Khoshneviszadeh, were fluent, audible and natural. Ellie Dodd was strong throughout as the unfortunate Mary Beth, living in her sister's shadow.



The humour in this piece relied heavily on the actors capturing the relevant tone. Occasionally sarcasm, gloating triumph, or simple dismay, were rendered a little flat, and thus the full characterisation was lost. There was no missed opportunity on the part of Natalie Ofoche in the leading role. She was pouting petulance personified, and looked every inch the pampered child star. The scene where Sophie lay on the sofa being cosseted by mother was excellent. Farrah Chandia was very impressive, especially in her assured Scots accent, in

the role of the no-nonsense Mrs McMurry. The melodrama surrounding Sophie's health was richly exploited, mother's hysteria contrasting well with Mrs McMurry's common sense.

Julian Chapman played Roberts, Sophie's personal assistant. He was cleverly understated in a way which suited the part and timed his entrances, exits and movements with skill. The famous journalist, Laverna Carr, was very effectively delivered by Iram Choudary who was aided by a competent, if rather quietly spoken, Katherine Veitch, as Penny.

Natalie brought her performance of Sophie to a suitably dramatic climax. When thwarted, and indeed superseded by her sister (whose mime to "Annie" was a real threat), the ensuing tantrums were highly comic.

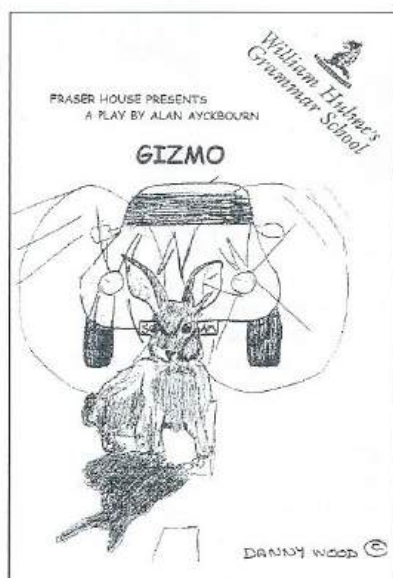
And Mr Baldwyn, Minesh Parekh made the most of his cameo role at the end of the play. Body language, gesture and timing were all used to good effect.

The warm response of the audience was a tribute to this neat adaptation and the assurance of the cast. There was much to applaud. In other years this performance would certainly have been placed.

FRASER

Alan Ayckbourn is a popular writer with the House Play Producers, but "Gizmo" proved a most unusual, challenging and highly effective choice. Jaya Jairath, Victoria Bramwell and Alexis Dickson did a splendid job in directing a well-rehearsed cast and the result was a polished production.

The opening was brisk and efficient with Victoria Bramwell and Salma Ahmed, setting the scene and introducing the central figure in the drama, Ben Mason, played by Chris Ogden-Smith. Ben, "over ninety per cent paralysed" was pushed onto the stage in a wheelchair by David Best. Gurpreet Singh in the latter role had tremendous stage presence. He commanded attention and delivered his lines with panache and authority.



The "Gizmo" of the title was a microprocessor which when activated by the wearer, controlled the movements of the quadriplegic. This central idea of the play required split second timing, painstaking rehearsal and skilful direction. All these were realised. Chris and Gurpreet engaged in synchronised movements which would not have disgraced Olympic swimmers. Their amazing dance routine to "Tragedy" was a masterstroke! Steps and Spice Girls need fear no threat though.

Throughout the play Chris Ogden-Smith was in command of his role and brought sensitivity to his performance. He was always helped by a very strong supporting cast. Ted, the second person to control the "Gizmo", was played with deadpan humour by Kessr Ali who grows in assurance with each House Play Competition. He was delightfully funny in this role, and timed his lines to perfection.

The "occasional passers-by" in the park scene were, again, well directed and effective. When Ted was attacked Sally Suliman, Mayo Adorinola, Tom Jones and Adam Vittoz, made convincing thugs. The staging of this scene was critical, and presented enormous problems to the producers. They and the cast proved equal to the task and the effect of the assault on Ted/Kessr was precisely mirrored by Ben/Chris.

The villain, Manny Rice, and his sidekick, Rudi, were convincingly played by Paul Stonehouse and James Wood. The casting hero was excellent, as was that of Alexis Dickson in the role of pretend gangster's moll, Cevril Turner. All these actors showed the essential comic skill of good timing. Paul was an impressive embodiment of menace and Alexis did a nice line in sarcasm. Telling use was made of simple properties, like Cevril's nail file and the comic strip signboards. All the knock-about humour was impeccably controlled and practised.

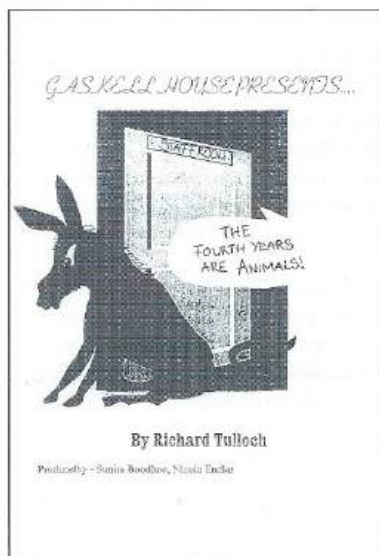
In the part of Lando, James Meer in Salma Ahmed's second role as Perkins, the high standard of this production was maintained. Martin Sharp, Naveed Choudary, Bejan Analoui, Youssr Issa and Hana Afzal made the most of their brief appearances and contributed to a most enjoyable, original performance.

GASKELL

The curtain opened on a scene that has become Gaskell's trademark in recent years: a group of pupils wearing their uniforms in a manner which instantly spelt 'disaffected youth'. The group of pupils, included Bill (Ateeq Farooq), Steve (Chris Brown) and Tracey (Nekka Opara). They were lead by Theresa (Shelley Turnberg) and Kelly (Prya Boodhoo). All were convincing and well rehearsed. Prya and Shelly delivered their lines with conviction and were consistently impressive. All five proved more than equal to the task of baiting the hapless Arthur, extremely well acted by Omar Raja.

The adults in the cast were equally well cast. Nicola Endlar was wholly convincing and polished as Marie Forbes and Owen Edwards did a fine job in playing the conventional schoolmaster, Les Willis. Adanna Opara looked the part and did justice to the role of Sylvia

Harrison, the Headmistress. Outstanding amongst a strong cast was Daniel Goodkin who played the lead, new teacher Allan Howman. Daniel brought subtlety to his demanding role. He was able to show a commanding authority when needed and a wide range of emotions: frustration, anger, good humour, despair and sensitivity.



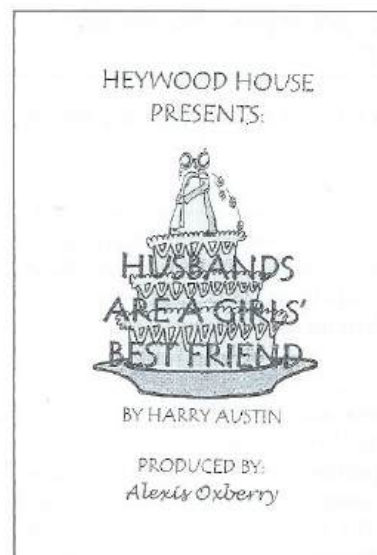
Sunita Boodhoo and Nicola Endlar showed considerable skill as producers. Their cast were strongly motivated and the movements on stage were well thought out. The script suggested music at various points and I think this would have helped with atmosphere and scene changes. The properties were imaginative and effective, especially for the Egyptian history lesson and the museum scene.

Producers and cast, despite their obvious talent, had a rather uphill battle with this script which was weak at times. Not all of the audience were comfortable with its occasional vulgarity and, at times, it relied on clichés too readily. Its humour-lacked subtlety but the strength of the performances, especially those of Kelly, Teresa, Omar and Allan, promise well for Gaskell in future competitions.

HEYWOOD

Heywood's directors, Alexis Oxberry, and her assistant Vanessa Bacchas, chose a Victorian comedy by Harry Austin, which was skilfully updated for this production.

The play opens with Edward Barker as Lord Rampant, summoning his butler, Branston. The latter was played by Omar Sheikh who had the audience in the palm of his hand throughout the performance. Omar cultivated a hunch-backed stance and a distinctive walk which brought instant recognition and was highly entertaining. Early references to the House of Lords in the script afforded opportunities for topical wit in the week of its historic semi-abolition which sadly were not taken. However, much of the potential of the stylish script was realised. Edward Barker clearly relished the part of Lord Rampant and the role of his wife Clarissa (aka Fiona, her alter-ego), was enjoyed by Leanne Davidson. The pair would have been at home in a piece by Oscar Wilde; their ham acting was just what the lines required.



Stephen Pearce was well cast and gave good performance as the hapless Mr Cullet and the humour built suitably as the confusion caused by his arrival increased. Excellent use of physical humour was apparent when Fiona attempted to seduce Rampart, and Omar, the butler, timed his entry brilliantly at this point, as he did his subsequent very funny lines.

The dual between the two men was memorably directed and performed. The 'Avengers' style, complete with use of umbrella, showed imagination and ingenuity. This was decidedly the climax, and high point, of the production, the remaining scenes were rather anti-climatic. David Njegovan showed promise as the policeman but nervousness perhaps led him to rush the lines. Nonetheless, he carried off the play's final lines, and it's heroine, with aplomb.

This was a simple yet witty play, to which the Heywood cast brought talent and commitment. The audience was thoroughly entertained by their production and the producers showed flair in their staging.

Miss M. Green
Withington Girls' School



VERTIGO AT THE CONTACT THEATRE

(DRAMA AT WHGS REACHES NEW HEIGHTS)

Vertigo is a drama piece devised by six WHGS pupils. They performed the piece in front of an uncompromising audience made up of pupils and teachers from 10 other secondary schools in one of Manchester's major theatre venues, the ultra-modern, recently renovated Contact Theatre.

The audience was hushed. Darkness descended in the auditorium and *Vertigo* began. Voices filled the space persuading a petrified, pressurised Joe to climb higher. Taunts, jibes, chants, and threats surrounded the audience and the uncomfortable but all too familiar sound of bullying bellowed.



The writers and performers of "Vertigo".

The group (Mariam Al-Bayati 9B, Ellie Dodd 9D, Jason Wilson 9B, Arun Hackett SSRT, Matthew Kay 7AB, Ayo Ahmed 7AB) worked hard to dramatise the truth about bullying and the bully's quest to create its own victim. Instead of concentrating on their own individual characters the group worked together on situations and events. This meant that they often had to change role (even from bully to victim as the scene dictated).

The effect is innovative and shocking: unseen voices of authority; flashbacks; chanting; reality in the classroom and the playground; subdued realisation in the graveyard; thought tracking. All these techniques combined to create a truly dramatic and memorable performance.

The piece was designed to shock. There were no easy resolutions or happy endings. It was simply the journey of a bully from seemingly innocent beginnings to tragic end.

The chance to perform on stage at a major venue in Manchester as well as deliver an unnerving message about bullying is what the afternoon was all about. We would like to thank Greater Manchester Police for organising the event and making such an opportunity possible. The group would also like to thank both Rani Tandon and Jackie Kay for their presence and support.

I can only begin to imagine what future performances will hold at WHGS now that drama is firmly on the

curriculum for year 7 and 9 and Theatre Studies has been introduced at A Level. Combine that with plans for new staging and lighting in the Upper Hall and drama at WHGS is set to reach new heights.

Act on...

Jenny Milligan

MUSIC - GENERAL OVERVIEW

Well yet again another year seems to have flown past and as ever the Music Department has been extremely busy providing music in various forms for fourteen public performances as well as a major musical production of 'Cabaret'. Most of these events are reviewed separately.

As the year ends it is a good opportunity to take stock and look back to see if there has been some progression in what we are trying to achieve as well as planning for the future and thank both visiting and full-time staff for their continued help and support.

Whilst all the instrumental groups and choir have made valuable contributions to each of our concerts, I would like to make special mention of the Jazz Band. This ensemble has grown over the years from just two or three saxophones, four trumpets and drums into an impressive full size group with an increasingly demanding repertoire. The success of the Jazz Band and the number of pupils taking clarinet and saxophone lessons is entirely attributable to our reed teacher Andrew Wilson and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all of his hard work.

We have been very fortunate over the years to have a very talented array of instrumental teachers and the work that they do behind the scenes is a very major part of the department and I value their efforts very highly. Unfortunately, the number of pupils taking instrumental lessons has still not increased to the level I would like and this is a concern for the future. Schools by their nature have a transitory population but it is nonetheless frustrating to see quality players leaving to go into higher education and pupils lower down the school not taking opportunities to learn an instrument. I realise that taking instrumental lessons can appear to be expensive but we do have schemes in place to try and ease the financial burden and I do urge parents to consider some of these options.

Equally, I would like to increase the opportunities for those who do not have formal instrumental lessons to perform in groups so that they can experience the great enjoyment that comes from making music with others. It might be that this takes the form of a non-traditional ensemble and I will be looking into the possibility of forming a "world-music" group next year.

Of course concerts and extra-curricular music making are only part of what we do in the Music Department. Classroom teaching is vitally important not only for the GCSE and A Level pupils but in the Lower School particularly. Increasingly, children are coming into the School with little or no musical background and hopefully, we can provide enough opportunities for all pupils to enjoy and improve their skills in the subject.

P. W. Goodwin

A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

For many people, this concert is the highlight of the year with its mix of light-hearted music, readings and traditional carols, and this year was no different.

The Concert Band began the evening with a catchy selection of well-known tunes entitled "Xmas Crackers" and followed this with the Johnny Matthis hit "When a child is born".

The Brass Ensemble, led by Mrs Quayle, played a very skilful arrangement of some popular carols in "Carol Fantasy" and then proceeded to perform Rossini's "William Tell" Overture - somewhat shortened - difficult with a full orchestra, fiendish for a quintet!

The Choir and Choral Society combined to give us two items from Steve Pogson's pop cantata "Persephone" along with two items from "West Side Story", "Gee Officer Krupke" and "One Hand, One Heart" - the first of which allows the male members of the choir to display a stunning(?) array of head-gear and convincing(?) New York accents! They also sang two beautiful carols arranged by John Rutter, "Quelle est cette odeur agréable" and Angel's Carol.

The Recorder Ensemble directed by Colin Martin went all-posh this year and gave us "A Christmas Pastoral" by Corelli - a very commendable performance of thirty minutes rehearsal!

All of these items were interspersed with congregational carols and some excellent readings given by Chloe Duckworth, Matthew Whitehead, Peju Pearce, Faye Todd and a very humorous account by Laurie-May Edwards of "Don't Start" by Pam Ayres.

My thanks to everyone involved for making this a very successful evening and in particular to Geoff Turner, not only for his contribution to the choir, but also for the generous amount of time he gives in preparing the readers for all of our Christmas performances.

P. W. Goodwin

CHRISTMAS 1999 - EXTERNAL PERFORMANCES

Following its central role in the very successful Manchester Evening News Concert of Carols and Festive Music in 1998, Mr Goodwin's Concert Band and Miss Day's Choir and Choral Society were again the performers in the same Christmas Concert for 1999, held in Manchester Cathedral on Friday 3rd December. The band gave us, amongst other numbers, "Christmas Crackers", "When a child is born", "Stop the Cavalry" and "Winter Wonderland" and the Choir sang Harold Darke's setting of "In the bleak mid-winter", which has now rightly superseded the Holst version with most choirs, as well as David Willcocks' sprightly setting of the Sussex Carol, a brace of Rutter arrangements - "Queen Pastores" plus the less familiar but exciting "Angel's Carol" with its breathless "gossipy" opening, and again

Miss Day's favourite "Quelle est cette odeur agréable?" starring Mr Hofton's delightful baritone solo in verse 4. The Dean of Manchester Cathedral, the Rt. Rev Ken Riley, wittily announced this with the memorable comment: "The title means 'What's this nice smell?', which is why it is better sung in French!" The concert was if anything even more enchanting than in 1998, and there was a collection in aid of that most worthy of causes, Christies against Cancer.

The more secular "Christmas Celebration" on Monday 13th December in the New Hall was as rumbustious and exhilarating as ever. The Band repeated and extended its Manchester Evening News evening repertoire, supplemented by sequences from Helen Quayle's Brass Ensemble, Andrew Wilson's Jazz Band and Colin Martin's Recorder Group. The Readings included Peju Pearce with Louis MacNiece's "Prayer before Birth", which contains the present writer's favourite line in all poetry: "Let not the man that is beast, or who thinks he is God, come near me." Amen to that. In addition to its carols, the Choir/Choral Society transported us to down-town New York for excerpts from "West Side Story", complete with ill-fitting baseball caps for the broken voices, and also sang two swinging light-hearted numbers by Pogson.

Finally, as always, the Choir gave its annual lunchtime carols, interspersed with readings at St Ann's Church in the centre of town on the last day of term, again with the same items as in the Cathedral. For choir and congregation alike, this is always a beautiful way of closing the Michaelmas Term, ensuring that it ends, to misquote T.S. Eliot, not with a whimper but a bang!

G. J. Turner



The School Choir and Concert band perform at the Manchester Evening News Concert of Carols & Festive Music.

SPRING CONCERT

The annual Spring Concert took place in the New Hall on March 27th, just one week before the production of 'Cabaret' – a very hectic couple of weeks for all concerned! Actually, I was a little concerned that the audience would be somewhat reduced because of the closeness of the musical but in the end, we had to put extra chairs out as many parents attended their very first school concert.

The Concert Band started proceedings with two rousing items, "Theme from the A Team" and the title music from the film "Going Home", followed by the tranquil "Amazing Grace" complete with off-stage cornet solo. We then had some impressive solos from Jennie Porter, Alison Hardy and Johanna Leung, who drew prolonged applause from the audience with a fine performance of the 2nd movement of Beethoven's Pathétique Piano Sonata.

The Choir then repeated the item they had performed at Manchester Cathedral for Founders Day, Mozart's magnificent "Ave Verum Corpus", before the Concert Band ended the first half with "Themes from James Bond", featuring music from several of these ever popular films. The Jazz Band opened the second half with seven contrasting items featuring several soloists all demonstrating their improvisatory skills, something I can assure you that is not easy-especially in front of a large audience.

Then came the items that I suspect many people were waiting for – all Year 7 pupils performing Andrew Lloyd-Webber's "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" – for many of the Pupils, this was their very first musical performance – and for quite a few, probably their last! – but at least they have had the pleasure and experience of appearing in public and for the most part getting a real thrill from the opportunity. The performance was excellent with many of the pupils displaying a great enthusiasm and commitment to the music and I would hope that everyone involved, including parents, found it a very positive event.

By now, the atmosphere was quite informal and as the Concert Band finished the concert with music from "Grease" and Queen's "We are the Champions", many people had an irresistible urge to join in. A most enjoyable evening!

Finally, although there is a separate review, I would like to make special mention of the production of "Cabaret". This was an extremely difficult choice of musical for various reasons. Technically, the music was very difficult and required quite a large band – that we could provide the musicians from our own staff and pupils (plus one parent!) was very satisfying. The subject matter was also difficult, indeed some people even questioned whether it should be performed in School at all – quite why I cannot understand – just because something is difficult and uncomfortable should not be a reason for not attempting it. In the end, "Cabaret" was a great success and everyone involved should feel justifiably proud of their achievement. Of course, success does not come by chance, it comes by hard work and the effort put

in by pupils and staff alike was exceptional, but they will have something to remember for a very long time!

I have always wanted to promote the School as a quality concert venue, not only for pupils but also for celebrity soloists and groups. This will continue next year and I hope to see many people there supporting these events.

P. W. Goodwin

SUMMER CONCERT – LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS

The Summer Concert was upon us very quickly this year, 27th June 2000, the earliest I think this has ever been, which meant we had very limited rehearsal time to get everything together.

The format of the evening was the same as the last few years with concert items in the first half, then the Choral Society with a finely rehearsed(!) number and finally everyone joining in the streamer throwing at the end.

As this is the final concert for many of our pupils, the first half is usually made up of request items and solos from some of the leavers. The Concert Band got the evening under way with one of their favourite items "Gonna Fly Now" and followed this with the 50's classic "You'll Never Walk Alone."

We then had a Saxophone trio consisting of Jennie Porter on Soprano Sax, Chloe Duckworth on Alto and Kati Greenall on Tenor. They gave us a very accomplished performance of Gershwin's "The Man I Love" and "I Got The Rhythm" and Kati also played a very difficult solo entitled "Buffoonery". The girls have been real stalwarts of the Music Department for all of their school lives as well as making major contributions to Drama, Sport, House Activities and just about everything else that has gone on in the School. They, and many others involved in School groups, prove that it is more than possible to combine academic study with extra-curricular activities.

However, back to the concert, and Ashley Wood – no mean saxophone player – showed us his ability on the piano with a haunting performance of Stanley Myer's "Cavatina", better known as the theme from the film "The Deer Hunter".

We then had two items from a budding Jazz Ensemble made up of Year 11 pupils plus Miss Day on piano. Daniel Goodkin (Soprano Sax), Robi Dè (Alto Sax), Rebecca Goodwin (Cornet), Mark Brighthouse (Bass) and James Wood (Drums) had originally got together for a GCSE practical examination to perform the popular "Sing, Sing, Sing" by Louis Prima. Finding that they rather enjoyed themselves, they added Dave Brubeck's classic "Take Five" to their repertoire and they certainly gave us a lively and committed performance of both pieces. I have high hopes for this group in the future.

The first half was brought to a close by the Jazz Band under the direction of Andrew Wilson. Over the years, he

has transformed a small struggling group into a very accomplished ensemble and it is a real thrill to see and hear such enthusiastic playing. Sadly for the School, many of the band's star players were giving their final (official) performance but not before they had chance to shine in their requested items. "Born to be Wild", "Summertime", "Louie Louie" and "Woodchoppers Ball" brought the first half to a rousing end.

The second half began with the School's Choral Society. This group of pupils, parents and friends of the School meet one evening a week in the Summer term for a very informal rehearsal towards this performance. Over the past few years, they have performed pieces such as Vivaldi "Gloria", "Requiem" by John Rutter, Benjamin Britten's "St. Nicholas" and Bernstein's "West Side Story". This year, we had chosen music from "Les Miserables" by Schonberg.

This has become a fantastically successful musical and once you hear the music, you know why. The Choral Society were in great form and with convincing solos from Alison Hardy and Caroline Grant, along with the superbly over the top "Master of the House" Graham Brown, drew prolonged applause from the large audience.

Finally, it was time for all the performers and audience to join together in items such as Dambusters March, Jerusalem and a selection of tunes including "Lili Marlene", "White Cliffs of Dover" and "We'll Meet Again". Henry Wood's "Sea Songs" gave us the famous "Hornpipe" complete with party poppers, streamers and much frenzied clapping, plus Andrew Wilson's new legendary clarinet cadenza, and Caroline Grant leading all in "Rule Britannia". Edward Elgar's "Pomp and Circumstance No 1" sent everyone home in buoyant mood.

I always feel a little sad at this concert however as I say goodbye to a generation of pupils who joined us just a few years ago as shy, young children and who now leave us as confident, young men and women. Their commitment has been exemplary and I also feel a sense of panic as I wonder who will take their places next term. Then I see some good budding players whose turn has now come and the large number of ex-pupils who come back regularly to support us and think that perhaps we will manage to put on a concert or two next year after all!

LOWER SCHOOL MUSIC WORKSHOP

One of the most important roles that the Music Department has to undertake is to provide opportunities for pupils to learn an instrument. Increasingly, many pupils are joining us with no musical background from their primary schools, and with no previous experience of playing an instrument. To this end, the Lower School Workshop is both a very important educational event and a lot of fun for everyone involved.

All pupils in Year 7 come along to the department where they are split into small groups. They then spend the morning visiting our instrumental staff who give short demonstrations and then the pupils can try out the instruments themselves.

Although it is a fairly chaotic (and very noisy) morning, for many it is their first "hands on" encounter with a particular instrument and generally creates lots of interest.

This last year saw a very good crop of new players and I hope that all will go on and make a significant contribution to our extra-curricular activities.

One other point though that is worth remembering - it is never too late to start learning an instrument and you do not have to have lessons in school to be able to play in any group!

P. W. Goodwin

HOUSE MUSIC 2000

RESULTS

1 GASKELL	84%
2 BYROM	78%
3 FRASER	70%
4 HEYWOOD	66%
5 = DALTON	63%
5 = WHITWORTH	63%

SPECIAL COMMENDATIONS

INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES

Jeffrey Wu	Ellie Dodd
Roxanne Scott	Kati Greenall
Leela Dè	Graeme Laycock
Rebecca Goodwin	

ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCES

<u>Orphan Boy Choir</u>	<u>Rockette Group</u>
Sara Sadeghi	Ozy Solati
Mariam Al-Bayati	Tom Hamlyn
Julia Atherton	Carolyn Hegg
Laura Dodson	Duncan Laing
Chloe Duckworth	James Barrington
Mark Brighthouse	
Darren Daly	
Josh Duckworth	
James Kerr	
Waquar Ahmad	
Danielle Moylan	

Cast of GREASE

Paul Stonehouse	Laura-Jane Bulwich
Antony Green	Jenna French
James Meers	Jaya Jairath
Brett Ramsumair	Vikky Bramwell
James Smith	Jennie Porter
Alex Johnstone	Yoursr Issa

HOUSE MUSIC 2000

The annual House Music Competition took place last term and overall was very successful. There was the usual panic a couple of weeks (or days!) before as House organisers tried to find suitable material for reluctant performers and pupils who have not graced the Music Department for several years became semi-permanent fixtures.

Unfortunately, I was otherwise engaged on the actual day of the competition so my assistant, Cath Day, ran the event very efficiently - so she tells me - and both she and our adjudicator, Mr Mark Ashmore, were impressed by many of the items performed.

Looking at the programmes, it was encouraging to see greater thought given to the overall content and the increasing number of group items, something that successive adjudicators have commented on, and competitors attempting to use more of the facilities available to them.

On a personal note, it is very frustrating to see and hear pupils performing to a high level in this competition but who refuse to take part in any of the school ensembles - what a waste of talent!

However, my congratulations to everyone that took part and let us hope that this event continues to flourish.

P. W. Goodwin

'JOSEPH AND HIS TECHNICOLOURED DREAM COAT.'

On the 27th of March 2000 it was William Hulme's Spring Concert and amongst lots of other performances, we, year 7, had our own contribution: we were going to sing from the Andrew Lloyd Webber musical 'Joseph and His Technicoloured Dream Coat.'

After weeks of practice, the night was here and we all assembled in the Music Department and were registered.

We were all nervous but excited at the same time. Eventually we had to go upstairs to take our seats in the New Hall. We waited what seemed like ages while all the other performances went on. Then suddenly it was our turn. The music started and off we went, we sang our way through the whole piece and finally on the last piece as it ended we all sighed with relief as we were taking our seats and heard the applause from the audience.

When we got back into the Music Department we were so happy that it was over and all that practice had paid off. I think everybody enjoyed themselves and liked the songs very much.

Anna Sutton 7ELM.

A JAZZ SPECTACULAR WITH THE JAZZ BAND - FEB 8TH 2000

Pupils and teachers of the William Hulme's Grammar School Jazz Band combined their talents, enthusiasm and dedication to give a concert in which there was not only a dazzling display of instrumental proficiency but which also created an atmosphere that was relaxed and warm. After 3 months of planning by the Music Department, Mark Birdhouse (11B) and his parents, the concert materialised and both band and audience worked together in raising almost £400 for the charity 'Sargent Cancer Care for Children'.

From a huge musical menu the Band served an appetising selection of Jazz standards such as 'My Funny Valentine' and 'It Don't Mean A Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing', a mouth-watering collection of Rock 'n' Roll favourites like 'Shake Rattle and Roll', 'Born To Be Wild' and 'Hound Dog' rounded off with a dessert of big band Classics such as 'Pennsylvania 65000' and 'In the Mood'. To complement the big band sound, the 'Nice Jazz Quartet' made a return guest appearance made up of myself on saxophone, Ed Barnwell on piano, Dave Alexander on drums and Mark Brighthouse on the bass. Recreating the relaxed atmosphere of a jazz club, we performed a variety of jazz standards with guest individuals from the Jazz Band who joined the quartet to make up a small jazz combo.

Rebecca Goodwin (11G) gave a truly captivating flugel horn solo in 'Misty' which was followed by Mr. Dunn, Mr. Grant and Daniel Goodkin (11G) weaving their fingers around the haunting 'bluesy' changes in 'Summertime'. The second half saw the Quartet joined by Robi Dé (11W) and Ashley Wood (8GLB) delivering a moving rendition of 'Autumn Leaves' which almost carried on into winter! and was followed by Kati Greenall (U6) displaying some fine finger work in 'Bernie's Tune'. All the solos, which were improvised on the spot, showed intrepidity combined with confidence and were all of a high standard. The solos gained extra flavour from the outstanding contribution from the piano, bass and drums which is so important playing this type of music. There was a second incentive for the Band to play well that evening: a competition to find the best, all-round player which was being voted for throughout the concert by the audience and raising money with every vote.

The prize was to pick anyone from the Band to improvise a solo in the last tune, a prize well worth winning. After the agonising tension and over 300 votes, pushing Rebecca Goodwin into second place, because he had a flashy tie, it was Ashley Wood who won the coveted prize. Much to the relief of Jonathan Murphy (U6), who had pre-prepared a solo just in case, Ashley chose Chloe Duckworth (U6) to solo in a rousing rendition of 'Woodehoppers Ball' which she did flawlessly. Once again, the evening was evidence of how music brings people together, not just the people in the Band, but also the people running the bar, working the lighting, taking tickets, arranging the concert hall and the audience who were all proud to be part of an event that was extremely enjoyable and where you felt a real sense of achievement in addition to raising a lot of money for a very worthy charity.

Andrew Wilson



COMBINED CADET FORCE

ARMY SECTION

Senior Cadet RSM Kati Greenall



Bridge construction complete: Cultybraggan Camp July 2000

(photo: D. M. Fisher)

With effect from 17 July 1999 the following promotions were made:

to RSM	CSM	Richard Fisher
to CSM	C/Sgt	Gurpartab Sathi
to C/Sgt	Sgt	Kati Greenall
to Sgt	Cpls	Alex Hogarth, William Shaw, Paul Stonehouse and Daniel Wood
to Cpl	L/Cpls	Mark Brighthouse, Jonathan Case, Camille Kasler, Chris Ogden-Smith, Richard Wall and James Wood
to L/Cpl	Cdts	Daniel Goodkin, Joe Gavagan, Kate Howie, Alexis Race and Bhavini Vara

ADVENTUROUS TRAINING CAMP, SNOWDONIA APRIL 2000



(photo: D. M. Fisher)

A good first leg of this year's Expedition followed by a perfect evening on the shores of Llyn Gwynant lulled us into a false sense of security, for the rain began to fall

after we were all tucked snugly up in our sleeping bags, the wind started to blow across the lake, and when we awoke in the morning tents were flooded, kit was wet and several cadets were extremely disillusioned with Wales. Well, it happens (annually, unfortunately). A quick O-Group of the officers led to the inescapable conclusion that to force these cadets, a third of them recruits, to don walking gear and trudge off up into the low cloud and persistent rain would be foolhardy if we wanted the rest of the Camp to be a success and the cadets to return in future years. Someone remembered spotting a large bright café in Beddgelert the previous day, and maybe that would be a good place to regroup and rethink. Leadership by consensus comes into its own in such circumstances.

With the grateful cadets warmly ensconced and tucking into a big breakfast that someone else had cooked, it was decided that to redeem the day we needed to get back to the drying rooms of Capel Curig, let the party shower and change, and then reduce that leg of the

Exped to an afternoon walk. This we duly did and the river walk to Betws proved just right for the conditions. Unfortunately the Deputy Brigade Commander, Colonel Thompson, had come to Wales to visit us with Major Oak from the Brigade cadet cell, but by the time they reached our flooded campsite we had reached Capel Curig.



Katherine Veitch and Paveen Trivedi, Minesh Vara and Laura Hanford
(photos: D. M. Fisher)

The following day we were all in a positive frame of mind and ready to tackle the final day. The main party took on Cnicht, one of Snowdonia's nicest mountain walks, while the small senior group climbed north-east out of Nant Gwynant to reach the wonderfully snowy summit of Moel Siabod via Carnedd y Cribau, then down to Plas y Brenin and Capel Curig.

The last two and a half days of Camp saw the cadets engaged in a circuit of activities chosen from rock-

climbing and abseiling, canoeing, mountain-biking, dry-slope skiing and orienteering, and for a few hardy souls, a wild walk up into the Carneddau mountains which had to be curtailed when it became impossible to remain standing in the high winds.

Year 9 pupils came to Camp for the first time this year: Edward Fisher, Laura Hanford, Tom Jones, Martin Sharpe, Mishal Trivedi, Minesh Vara and Katherine Veitch coped extraordinarily well, adapting to the unusual living conditions and strenuous physical activities and fitting in with senior cadets at the Camp and out on training. It would have been nice to take them up Snowdon itself, but conditions prevented this. Nevertheless they undertook some serious mountain walking, experienced the vicissitudes of outward-bound activities, and came up smiling. They should be very pleased with their achievements.

Former cadets Richard Fisher and Chris Lindley spent a few days towards the end of Camp helping out and joining in with the cadets' training; Miss Milligan came too and we were grateful for her help and company; and Mrs Brown and Helen came to see how we were all getting on but like Colonel Thompson found only an abandoned campsite and had to track us down back at Capel Curig.

With effect from 21 April 2000 the following promotions were made:

to CSM C/Sgt Kati Greenall

to C/Sgt Sgt James Meers

to Sgt Cpl David Purvis

and with effect from 02 May 2000:

to C/Sgt Sgts Laura Alexander-Williams and Paul Stonehouse

NORTH WEST CADET SKILL-AT-ARMS MEETING

The North West Cadet SAAM took place at Altcar, near Formby, in May. Our team came 14th overall out of 35 competing teams, and our best shot was Sergeant James Wood (11F) who came 25th out of 140 firers and who therefore receives the School's Shooting Trophy. Erratic individual results brought down our team scores, but we did manage twelfth in the Montgomery shoot. The other members of the team were Colour Sergeants James Meers and Paul Stonehouse, and Corporal Daniel Goodkin.

FIELD DAYS

Lent Term Field Day takes the form of a Self-Reliance Exercise for the Senior Platoon whose GCSE preparation is in full swing but who need to complete this element of their Army Proficiency Certificate syllabus before they can temporarily call it a day with the Corps. With stomachs full of the finest fish and chips Settle has to offer, the Senior Platoon arrived at Harris House in time for a long evening's route-card preparation. The following

day three parties walked the circular route without mishap, putting their skills to practical use. Only a small group of SNCOs set an example in fortitude by deciding to take a "short-cut" which added a picturesque mile or two to their day. No names, no pack-drill, as somebody once said - somewhat enigmatically.

The Senior Platoon received their promotions and APC certificates from the OC at a Passing-Out Parade at the end of term.

	A.P.C. RESULT	PROMOTIONS
John Bracchi	PASS	
Michael Choudhury		
Peter Sunderland		
Nasir Moosa	PASS	TO LANCE - CORPORAL
Rachel Ng		
Alpesh Pankhania		
Robi Dè	MERIT	
Mehul Kotecha		
William Tamkin		
Bhavini Vara		
Kate Howie	MERIT	TO FULL CORPORAL
Alexis Race		
Kathryn Tang		
Rick Wall		
Joe Gavagan	DISTINCTION	
Daniel Goodkin		
Holly Kent		
Matthew Booth	DISTINCTION	TO SERGEANT
Mark Brighthouse		
Jonathon Case		
Camille Kasler		
Chris Ogden-Smith		
James Wood		

The Recruit Platoon, as they were still known, took themselves off to University Barracks for their Field Day. There they took part in Command Tasks and climbing and abseiling on the indoor wall. They also had the opportunity to develop their marksmanship skills on the miniature range.

Midsummer Field Day was again held overnight at Weeton Camp, and was only slightly affected by the rain and wind that set in at about 5 am on the Thursday. After the designing and putting up of bashas, most of which kept at least part of each cadet dry, Wednesday night's training began. A programme of Escape and Evasion for the Recruits and Ambush Drills/Demonstration for the rest was carried out with enthusiasm and the final Ambush certainly pleased the watching Recruits.

With such a difficult and demoralising start to the following morning (which included an absence of hot breakfast) cadets were slow to dry out and warm up, but they soon got involved in training and by mid-morning were all working away happily. The weapon handling (ie safety) skills of both Junior and Senior Platoons impressed Staff Sergeant Brown, 26 Cadet Training Team's new Instructor, who ran the 30m Range. The standard of shooting too, though inevitably variable, was good on the whole.

Recruits' Drill and Weapons Training got off to a promising start and the willingness to learn and co-operate was noticeable. In the afternoon it was in fact a team of recruits who surprised everyone by winning the timed Assault Course Competition. Recruits also took part in an Observation Exercise which taxed their eyesight and their imagination. Disappointment at the unavailability of the Small Arms Trainer, to which everyone had been looking forward, was therefore forgotten as cadets got on with other activities.

On balance then, this was a successful, tiring, but enjoyable Field Day. A great deal of experience had been crammed into the twenty-four hours and the performance of the cadets under the circumstances was terrific.

Capt. M. P. Jones

CHARITIES

In September a team of WHGS cadets joined others in the King's Challenge, spending a very long weekend canoeing and cycling the ninety miles from Castlefield to Weeton Camp near Blackpool. Sponsorship was rather slow in coming at first, but as a result of the efforts of Cadets Akintunde Adams, James Meers, Daniel Goodkin and Mark Brighthouse (not forgetting James Wood whose illness prevented his taking part) we were able to make a donation of £200 to Macmillan Cancer Relief.

Having made a very tiny contribution to the Lower School's aid pack organised by the Rotary Club we were asked to provide cadets to assist the Club with their collections and so one Saturday morning in April Jonathan Case and Mark Brighthouse took Sainsbury's by storm and did their bit for a very worthwhile charity.

Donations were made during the year to the Save the Children Fund, the Stroke Association, and the Army Benevolent Fund.

The Corps was delighted to be able to sponsor Jon Case for his trip to Ecuador where he will be spending time engaged in various aspects of aid work as well as having a little time to sightsee. Captain Matthews will also be in Ecuador in July as one of the accompanying adults.

CENTRAL CAMP, CULTYBRAGGAN JULY 2000

Summer Camp in Perthshire is always a memorable experience. At the end of eight hectic days our cadets had undergone and enjoyed an unusually condensed programme of activities and many new and challenging experiences:

Day	Date	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Day 1	Sat 08 July	Depart WHGS	Arrive Cultybraggan	Beating the Retreat Ceremony (pipes and drums)
Day 2	Sun 09 July	Fieldcraft		
Day 3	Mon 10 July	Glenogle Trail		March & Shoot
Day 4	Tues 11 July	Adventurous Training		Assault Course
Day 5	Weds 12 July	Watermanship	Survival Training	(overnight ex)
Day 6	Thurs 13 July	Return to Camp	Royal Signals/ Royal Engineers	Clay pigeon shooting
Day 7	Fri 14 July	Range Day		Drill Training
Day 8	Sat 15 July	Depart Cultybraggan for WHGS		Sleep



James Meers, Nick Travis and Seena Elhami help Carolyn Hegg onto dry ground, Glenogle Trail (photo: D. M. Fisher)

Rain and sodden undergrowth made the gruelling Fieldcraft package of Stalking, Ambush Drills, Section Battle Drills and CQB a baptism of fire for the younger cadets, but they stayed cheerful and survived. The wide range of initiative exercises, command tasks and challenges which constitute the Glenogle Trail on the following day were an unusual and welcome change. That evening's March and Shoot Competition took place in perfect conditions and our A Team ran and shot well, coming in halfway up the field of 36 teams (over a fortnight) beating for example all of Oundle's four teams. The B Team fared less well but certainly did not disgrace themselves in either phase.



March and Shoot : Team A (photo: D. M. Fisher)

For Adventurous Training the distance between Loch Earn where canoeing took place and the indoor climbing wall complex precluded the usual midday changeover, so cadets had to choose one activity for the entire day. This had advantages in terms of progress made and level of competence reached, and both groups got excellent value from both packages. The canoeing instruction was probably the best we have seen, and was certainly a great deal of fun for the cadets. Even Edwin Etadafe, for whom a suitable canoe could not be found, had a great day speeding around Loch Earn in the safety boat and being fed fish and chips by the Royal Engineers who were training nearby. The climbers spent the hour before the climbing centre opened abseiling off crags at nearby

Crieff, and they too enjoyed a high standard of very enjoyable instruction from the Army instructors. That evening two teams of WHGS cadets entered the Assault Course Competition which, like the March and Shoot had been running for two weeks. They finished 11th and 16th, with times of 2m45 and 2m58 in a field of 29 whose times went from the winners' 2m10 to 5m23, so again our cadets performed well.



Adam Vittoz confidently demonstrates the abseil (photo: D. M. Fisher)

Watermanship the following morning consisted of assembling two large rafts by lashing planks to barrels and then paddling them round a course on the loch in a race. The better team won. After a period of chaotic changing and kit preparation back in the billets the boys and girls eventually turned up for the Survival briefing in the Camp's extraordinary state-of-the-art NBC bunker. The afternoon was then spent visiting stands illustrating water gathering, food preparation, fires and shelter construction, after which cadets built their own bashas, spurred on by the knowledge that this was going to be all they had to keep the Perthshire weather and wildlife at bay until morning. Apart from the sloping ground the area lent itself to building shelters since there were a great many fallen trees under the canopy, and the cadets made good use of them. Their efforts were extremely impressive, so effective in fact that several senior cadets found they just couldn't stop sleeping when morning came.

A morning off to clean and dry kit and then it was time to move to the Royal Engineers who told the cadets a little about their role in the Army and then described and demonstrated building an extremely complicated temporary bridge. The last time we took part in a bridge-building exercise at Cultybraggan it was run as a competition which we won. Our smart tartan trophy is proudly displayed with others in the Corps Stores. New legislation now precludes any competitive element in this type of activity for cadets at least. The honour of driving the first vehicle onto the successfully constructed bridge fell to our senior cadet on Camp, C/Sgt Ed Barker, and the resulting photo shows our tired cadets sporting their WHGS Cultybraggan 2000 tee-shirts. In the evening several cadets tried their hand at clay-pigeon shooting and found the twelve-bore shotgun required very

distinctive handling and technique. Few were able to hit more than one or two clays and Recruit Adam Vittoz proved the best shot and won a valuable "Be The Best" baseball cap.



Recruit Russell Jolley and C/Sgt Laura Alexander-Williams find their way round Clansman (photo: D. M. Fisher)

The Signals instruction was snappy and entertaining, and once the cadets had got the hang of the unfamiliar Clansman radios they were soon off around the Camp transmitting back the mysterious messages they came across, or practising erecting aerials against the clock.

Range Day began with an early breakfast before the long coach journey to the coast beyond Dundee. Excellent organisation meant that, despite the large numbers of cadets to process ours were able to have a decent session on both their own GP rifles and on the much-criticised LSW (machine gun), making the long tiring day well worthwhile. However, as if they had not done enough we then arranged Drill Instruction for the entire Contingent on the parade square after their evening meal. The Drill Sergeant Major enjoyed seeing the enthusiastic progress of our cadets so much that he extended the period from an hour to an hour and a half (no extra charge). Cadets don't know how lucky they are. For the remainder of the evening the cadets packed, tidied and cleaned their billets and attended the Camp Debrief at which the following end-of-year promotions were announced:

With immediate effect

to RSM	C/Sgt	Kati Greenall
to CSM	C/Sgts	Edward Barker and James Meers
to Sgt	Cpls	Daniel Goodkin, Will Tamkin and Richard Wall
to L/Cpl	Cdts	Matthew Ahern, Rebecca Chaudhry, Mark Glover, Carolyn Hegg, Pairo Nowroozi, Syeeda Siddiqui, Nick Travis and Ceegay Verley

With effect from 01 September 2000

to L/Cpl Cdts Danielle Ashley, James Barrington, Saleem Khokhar, Khalid Mir, Nneka Opara, Ozadeh Solati and Imran Rahim

on satisfactory completion of Fieldcraft Test

to L/Cpl Cdts Akintunde Adams, Nick Patchen and Elaine Tang

Best Recruits on Camp were Nicole Plummer, Edward Fisher and Minesh Vara.

This then had been an extremely successful Camp with great progress being made in all sorts of ways. Some recruits had found real difficulty in organising themselves, their billet, their uniform and equipment and this led to missed training deadlines on a couple of occasions. The situation improved as the week wore on and the Officers were extremely grateful for the excellent lead given by the older cadets, especially our outstanding group from the Senior (Year 11) Platoon, and for their efforts to help, encourage and sometimes coerce the recalcitrant few. As is always the case, our pupils are a great credit to us and to their families when they are away on Corps Camps. If they weren't I cannot imagine that the Camps would take place.

We were assisted at Cultybraggan by Officer Cadet Alex Xidacis OH, now with Birmingham University OTC, whose willingness to participate fully and do all that was asked of him made him an invaluable asset to us. An extended visit from Mr Loveland was greatly appreciated by all of us too.

Miss Milligan came to assess her future rôle as a Corps officer and participated with enthusiasm in almost all the training activities. Captain Grange spent yet another week of his life getting to grips with WHGS's new breed of cadet on Camp. I'm sure our cadets agree that these Camps would be lesser affairs without him, and to him and all the other adults mentioned, our heartfelt thanks.



And finally... the one they thought we didn't dare publish: cadets waiting for more water torture on the Glenogle trail

(photo: D. M. Fisher)

NORTH WEST CHALLENGE 2000, WARCOP, CUMBRIA

The scheduling of North West Challenge at the end of Central Camp again meant a premature departure from Central Camp in Scotland for the Team and their manager, Captain Simkin. Conditions were reasonably good for the weekend and our experienced group was confident after excellent performances in all previous years. We decided not to enter the Junior event but included in the Senior Team Lance Corporal Nick Travis so as to give him an opportunity to try the Challenge in experienced company. His misgivings were soon (?) dispelled when he realised that he was just as capable of walking a mere forty miles in two days as the next cadet. Difficulty with route-finding, or possibly complacency, led to a rather slower time than anticipated, yet the seven-strong team all finished together on Sunday afternoon and achieved the ultimate purpose of NWC. A Certificate, medal and badge (to be worn on the uniform) were awarded to each successful cadet.

TEAM MANAGER'S REPORT

The North West Challenge is a challenging 48 hour navigational expedition in the Cross Fell area of Eastern Cumbria. The corps entered a senior team, consisting of seven cadets. Teams from CCFs and ACFs throughout the North West assembled on Friday evening and the teams were then self sufficient until the end of the challenge on Sunday afternoon. On the Friday evening each team was subject to meticulous scrutiny to ensure that they were prepared for what lay ahead. Tents, clothing, food, water, cooking equipment, maps, compasses, survival bags, whistles, first aid kits were all inspected before the team was allowed to take part.

Reveille was at 0500 hours on Saturday morning and after breaking camp, cooking and eating breakfast, teams set off at around 0600 hours. For the senior teams, an arduous route of around 25 miles lay ahead. This route involved navigating from one checkpoint to another over very hilly terrain. The only assistance given to the teams was a supply of water at the checkpoints. All the rest of the equipment had to be carried and hence each individual was carrying a sizeable rucksack. As team manager, I had an easier, but stressful wait at the start point, where progress of all the teams was monitored. A map was regularly updated to show when teams had reached the various checkpoints and it was about 1900 hours before the WHGS 'pin' reached the overnight camp site and I could relax.

On Sunday morning, while I could have a lie in at the base camp, the teams were again making an early start, despite the inevitable blisters, aches and pains from the exertions of the previous day. The return route was slightly shorter than the outward journey had been – approximately 15 miles. Along with the other team managers, I had another anxious wait. The first team back (it was not a race) arrived before noon, having set off at 0500 hours! The WHGS 'pin' seemed to have got stuck – were the cadets lost or was there an injury? Eventually, the 'pin' did make progress as other teams arrived back. The cut-off time was 1600 hours and hence,

when the time passed 1500 hours, I began to think that all the effort might have been in vain. However, with 45 minutes to spare, the team came into view, weary, but in good spirits. After completing the challenge successfully, team members were presented with individual certificates, medals and badges and thoroughly deserved they were!

To try to put the 'challenge' into perspective, it is worth comparing it with a marathon. The distance travelled on Saturday was just short of marathon distance, but over much hillier terrain than any normal marathon. Also, whereas marathon runners usually travel light (apart from the silly costumes), 'challengers' carry heavy rucksacks. Add to this the fact that a marathon route is clearly marked and competitors are cheered almost every yard of the way – in the 'challenge' teams must find their own route and have just sheep as interested observers! Then, once the marathon is over, competitors can soothe their aches and pains by soaking in the bath, followed by a good night's sleep in a comfortable bed. In the 'challenge', teams have to erect tents, cook their own food and hope to get some sleep before finding the motivation to do it all again the following day.

The WHGS team was led by CSM J. A. R. Meers and the remaining team members were C Sgt P. M. Stonehouse, Sgt I. P. Gage, Sgt MG Brighthouse, Sgt C. Ogden-Smith, Sgt D. L. Goodkin and L Cpl N. Travis. On the way home, a proud team manager stopped at the services to buy the team members some well earned food and it took several minutes before individuals could summon up the energy to stagger into the services. Other ACF teams had also stopped at the same services and members of the public must have wondered what was going on with all these seemingly fit young men and women hobbling around like geriatrics.

Capt. A. Simkin



*WHGS North West Challenge Team approaching the Finishing Post.
(photo: A. Simkin)*

Apart from the several ACF teams participating there were only three School Contingents who entered this year out of the nineteen CCFs in the North West, so there is clearly much scope for expanding this first-class exercise. Those units such as our own which do enter year after year would certainly welcome a broader representation from our sister Contingents, even though NWC is non-competitive, strictly speaking. The cadets who do take part profit immensely, and thanks are again due to the team at 42 Brigade who go to such lengths to set up the event each year.

- The King's Cup Competition was reduced this year to a single-day event in which our cadets made a strong showing. The next King's Cup is to be held in September 2000 at Wareop, Cumbria;
- Senior Cadets took part in a School Assembly early in November to mark Remembrance Day. Pupils heard about the origins of the poppy as the symbol of Remembrance and the work of the Royal British Legion today. C/Sgts Kati Greenall and Chris White and Cpl Vicky Bramwell then recited three of the most moving poems from the First World War, including Sassoon's "The Glory of Women";
- The Colin Midwood Prize for the Best CCF (Army Section) Cadet has been awarded jointly to Regimental Sergeant Major Kati Greenall and Colour Sergeant Chris White.
- CSM James Meers has been awarded a place on the APTC's Cadet PT Instructor Course in Andover in July, where he will qualify to take PT Training with cadets (under supervision);
- The Corps has received a grant to enable us to buy canoes and carry out basic canoe training in the School swimming pool;
- Over forty pupils from Year 9 have joined the Corps this year;
- CSM Gary Wood has been assisted in running the Army Section Stores this year by Laura Alexander-Williams, James Meers, Helen Fisher and Paul Stonehouse;
- We have contributed suggestions for the revised CCF Training Syllabus and await the outcome with interest;
- Lieutenant Colonel Simon Bell, Commanding Officer of our recently amalgamated parent Regiment, The King's and Cheshires, is to inspect the Contingent on the occasion of the Biennial review on Friday 6 October between 10.30am and 1pm. Parents and Old Hulmeians are more than welcome;
- CSM Rob Murphy leaves the Training Team this year, much to our regret. He has been an excellent instructor and organiser, a helpful and efficient contact with the Army on behalf of the Contingent, and nothing has been too much trouble for him where cadets are concerned. He will be missed, but fortunately his replacement as OC 26 CTT is another Kingsman and so this important link with our Regiment continues unbroken;
- Second Lieutenant Françoise Collier leaves School this year and has therefore resigned from the Corps. In her brief time as an Officer she made her mark wherever she went and was always keen to try everything the Corps had to offer. At the end of her first year she commanded the Contingent on Central

Camp in Scotland and did so extremely effectively. Our very best wishes go with her as she moves abroad with her family;

- We are delighted to welcome Miss Milligan to our ranks. Having already come on two Camps she attends the preliminary qualifying course for CCF Officers in August and will then receive her commission.
- Finally I should like to extend my thanks to all our Officers, Army and RAF, who have given so much to the Contingent this year, and also to those Senior Cadet NCOs, Preen Trivedi, Chris White, Neel Shah, Caroline Bell, Natalie Ofoche, Ed Barker, Laurie-May Edwards, Graeme Laycock, Jeffrey Wu, David Purvis, Iain Gage, Neil Whitehead, Kessr Ali, Daniel Choudhury, Andrew Pickford, James Kerr, Robert Greenhalgh, and especially Jennie Porter, Richard Lee and Kati Greenall who have helped make CCF life rich and rewarding for their fellow cadets and for their Officers.

Lieutenant Colonel D M Fisher



RSM Kati Greenall with the OC Photo: M. P. Jones



WILLIAM HULME'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL COMBINED CADET FORCE

Affiliation to the King's Regiment



From l-r the WHGS CCF cap-badge; an early KING'S cap-badge; and the present badge, worn by all. (photo: D. M. Fisher)

Founded in 1914 as the Military Training Corps, WHGS CCF wore the School's own distinctive silver lion's head cap-badge for many years. This was based on the coat of arms of the founder, William Hulme, and has recently been revived as a lapel badge for senior School Prefects. In October 1935 the War Office granted the Corps the status of Officer Training Corps, one of seven contingents out of 194 applicants, and it was then that the attachment to the 8th Manchester Regiment at Ashton-under-Lyne began. The famous fleur-de-lys of the Manchesters was not adopted as the Contingent's cap-badge, however, until the late 1940s; perhaps it was thought prudent to exhaust the existing stock of School badges. The link with first the Manchesters and then the King's became progressively stronger over the years, as the Volunteer and Regular Battalions alike have offered support and training opportunities of all sorts. The annual King's Cup Competition brings all King's badged cadets together, and frequent Open Days and regimental meetings ensure that cadet officers are kept in touch with the Regiment. Several COs have reviewed the Corps, the most recent being Lt Col David Tasker in 1996, and an excellent bond has been further enhanced by the first class support provided by successive King's officers and SNCOs commanding 26 Cadet Training Team in Manchester.

Summer Camp in 1978 was hosted by 1 King's at Roman Barracks, Colchester, an excellent experience for the cadets - until virtually the entire Regiment was called away to police the Middle East talks at Leeds Castle. In 1981 and 1982 groups of cadets were invited to the Regiment in Osnabrück where their host Company Commanders were Captains Mike Parish and John Turley respectively. Berlin in 1989 was a highlight of the Contingent's affiliation to 1 King's. Twenty boys and girls were given a memorable week which included advanced

training, a fascinating tour of the East, visits to the Wall, the Checkpoint Charlie Museum, and the British Military Cemetery. Cadets' handling of the APC left something to be desired, however; a scattered pile of bricks that until the visit had been a perfectly serviceable porch bore embarrassing testimony to this. At Ruhleben Fighting City a small, thin cadet, struggling to hoist himself into a building via a high window ledge with a heavy SA80 in one hand, had a quick look left and right then pushed the weapon over the ledge and waited for the clatter from within. Right behind him, watching with some amusement, stood Second Lieutenant Chris Tatham (Old Hulmeian), Major Clive Hodges, and the cadet's Contingent Commander/father! The Regiment must have decided that WHGS cadets could do no further damage, because the Contingent has spent its last four Field Days training at the Regiment's barracks at Weeton Camp. (1998-2000)

In September 1999 a team of WHGS cadets took part in the Regiment's major charity initiative, the King's Challenge, canoeing and biking the ninety miles from Castlefield in Manchester to Weeton where they and other King's cadets were met and congratulated by the Commanding Officer, Lt Col R W Barnes MBE and the RSM, WO1 Rawsthorne.

William Hulme's CCF cadets are well aware of the illustrious history of "their" Regiment, are always made to feel part of the regimental family, and now wear the splendid new cap-badge with considerable pride. In October 2000 the Contingent is to be inspected by Lieutenant Colonel Simon Bell, Commanding Officer of The King's and Cheshire Regiment, on the occasion of the Biennial Review. And so this unique and invaluable relationship continues into the new millennium.

*D M Fisher
Lieutenant Colonel
Contingent Commander*



RAF SECTION:

The Section has enjoyed an active year with the usual round of Field Days, Easter and Summer camps and special courses and activities for individual cadets. Sgt Graeme Laycock, for example, not only gained the distinction of a Flying Scholarship, through which he qualified as a pilot, but also successfully completed the gruelling RAF Leadership Course, which he writes about below. In addition both Junior Corporal Daniel Pitman and Cadet Colin Leung did their Basic Glider Training, which involved the solo piloting of the glider.

The new intake from Year 9 enjoyed their first experience of flying in a two-seater Bulldog trainer aircraft, in which the cadet sits beside the pilot. Cadet Ehi Okpe writes :

Flying! Wow !

I was so excited the night before Field Day. This year we went to RAF Woodvale near Liverpool. I arrived at school at 7 am.

We got to the base around 9.30 am. By this time it was raining very hard and I thought we might not be able to fly. I kept my hopes up though.



RAF Woodvale.

Cadet Ehi Okpe kitted out for her first bulldog flight.

We were sent into a room, where we were to spend the day. The new cadets got to fly first. Slowly but surely my turn got closer. At last I was sent to another room to get kitted out. The helmet weighed a ton and so too did the parachute. I waddled out to the waiting-room. By this time it was very sunny and quite warm.

"Would you like to come outside to the plane?" a voice said.

I followed the aircraftman to the plane. I was very shaky and scared. I turned back. My friends Laura and Mariam waved at me. This helped me a lot. I boarded the plane. The aircraftman strapped me in. The pilot began to speak to me :

"Hello, what's your name?"

"Ehi."

We taxied down the runway so that the pilot could turn the plane in the right direction.

"Ready?", he asked.

"Yep," I replied.

He taught me how to take off and we did the take-off together. I couldn't believe it. We were in the air. I looked around. The cars in Southport looked so small. I turned. I saw Blackpool tower and the pier at Southport.

The pilot taught me how to turn the plane around at a fixed point, to move it forward and to control the throttle. It was great. I couldn't wait to tell the others.

In the end I was lucky enough to fly three times in all. The last flight was indescribable. The pilot was very experienced and asked me what I wanted to do. I wasn't sure and so picked aerobatics. They were brilliant. We did loop-the-loops in level flight and sideways. The g-forces on my stomach were so great that I sank into my seat. After that we saw the sights. We saw Liverpool golf-course, Anfield and the famous Blackpool tower.

Altogether, flying was great and I really enjoyed it. I really can't wait to fly again next time. It's the experience of a lifetime.



Easter Camp - RAF Northolt.

The Raft Race at Hillingdon Outdoor Activities Centre.

Cadet Laura Ilanford also enjoyed her first flight. She writes :

When we first arrived at RAF Woodvale, near Southport, I was incredibly excited. I had been looking forward to this Field Day for a long time. I wasn't sure what to expect as I had never been on a Field Day or in a small plane like the Bulldog before.

We had to march to the building where we were to prepare for our flight. One of the staff cadets there, Rick, showed us the safety video and demonstrated how to work the parachute.

I was one of the first to go up as I was a new recruit. I was given a coverall to change into and then went to have my helmet fitted. All the helpers there were very friendly.

It was really exciting when I walked out to the waiting room because I could see the runway and all the planes. Mariam and Ehi were also there and couldn't stop giggling because they were so excited.

The staff cadet, Rick, took me out to the Bulldog that I was going to be flying in, and strapped me in. The pilot, Tony, then showed me all the controls. We started off down the taxi-way, and just before the take-off we stopped to check that everything was working properly. Then we set off down the runway. It was hard to tell when we actually left the ground because the take-off was so smooth. It was a wonderful feeling to be up in the air. I got to control the Bulldog as we flew over the sea and part of Liverpool. We were in the air for 25 minutes but it didn't seem that long at all!

After a smooth landing, we had lunch and were taught drill by some sixth-formers.

Paul mentioned that when he went up, he was able to fly over Anfield and Goodison Park. He said that he'd looked for the aircraft carrier that was due to arrive but that it wasn't there yet.

When I went up for the second time, the pilot asked me what I would like to do. So I asked him if we could go where Paul went. I controlled the Bulldog as we flew over Anfield (Liverpool's football ground), Goodison Park (Everton's ground) and Aintree (where the Grand National is held). We flew over Liverpool Bay and were lucky enough to see the aircraft carrier with all the Harrier jets on it! (It was on Granada Tonight that evening!)

Unfortunately it was time to land, and then I had to leave early for a tennis match. I was disappointed to leave as I had had such an enjoyable day.

The highpoint of the cadet's year is the camp, a week spent on an RAF base. Cadet Heather Seddon enjoyed her time at Easter-camp at RAF Northolt:

During the Easter holidays several RAF cadets spent the week at RAF Northolt near London. Here we experienced the thrill of flying in the new trainer aircraft, the Tutor, and, although we had to get up at 6 am, it was well worth it. On several occasions we were also able to go shopping in London.

We visited Hillingdon Outdoor Activities Centre where we went canoeing, built rafts and had a raft race. Among other fun things, we also attempted the Spider's Web exercise, which involves wriggling through a complex network of ropes without, if possible, touching them.

During the evenings we went to the cinema or had free time. Once we went ice-skating but we had a hard job getting Mr Addison on the ice. Eventually we had to leave him on the side singing Lady in Red to himself.



Easter Camp - RAF Northolt. JCpl Heather Seddon in her Canoe at Hillingdon Outdoor Activities Centre.

It was a great week and we met lots of nice people. I hope it's just as good in the summer.

There were two camps in the summer, one at Linton-on-Ouse near York and the second at RAF Honington, near Bury St Edmunds in Suffolk, where the cadets discovered what it was like living in a nuclear bunker. Cadet Ehi Okpe attended the camp at Linton-on-Ouse:

I was going to camp. Friday night was spent packing and making sure I had my ROS book. In the end I went to bed at 11.30 pm and woke up at 6.30 on the Saturday. I was really excited.

As we drove to York, I worried that camp would be horrible and that I would not enjoy it at all. When we arrived, we unloaded the minibus. My suitcases were really heavy. I managed to drag them into the building in which we were staying and up to the room I was allocated. When I arrived, I was stunned. I had a room to myself. It had two wardrobes, a desk, a sink and a bedside lamp.



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On Saturday we settled in. The best was still to come. We were not the only school here; we were joined by three other schools and assigned to flights drawn from all four schools. And on Sunday, which turned out to be the most enjoyable day, we went for a 12-mile walk. By the end of it I was very tired but I felt that I had got to know the people in my flight very well.



*Summer Camp - RAF Linton-on-Ouse.
Moving Cadets and Equipment over a wall in complete silence.*

During the week we took part in a variety of activities. On Tuesday we visited the control tower and did a tour of the base, which I did not find particularly interesting, but we went bowling on Tuesday evening, which was most enjoyable, and I was able to fly again on the Wednesday.

That night we had the night exercise, when we went on to the airfield and hid from the teachers, who were sent to find us. We also had to find a number of items. Dave, who was the leader of our group, did a disappearing act, which so annoyed our group that we went back to base without him. He apologised when he did get back and was forgiven. I got to bed at 1 am.

On Thursday we went into York, where I bought loads of sweets for my brothers and sisters. That night was the drill competition. We practised really hard and in the end my flight, A Flight, won. All the hard work had paid off.

On Friday we went shooting. It was my first time and I wasn't very good but I tried my best.

We soon had to say goodbye to Giggleswick School. They were really funny and I had grown to like them a lot. On Saturday we were ready to go and I decided to give my little soft toy to a guy called Jamie so he would remember me. I really enjoyed the camp and can't wait to meet my new friend again.

Life as a cadet is fun, although it does involve getting up early and doing drill. More is demanded of senior cadets. Sgt Graeme Laycock experienced the Leadership Course at RAF Stafford:

When we arrived at Stafford, it didn't take a genius to work out that the owners of the mountains of camping equipment and suitcases were also going on the notorious RAF leadership course. A short trip by

RAF transport and we were ready to start. And they were ready for us. There was no hint of easing your way into the course and getting settled in. You were not told any information but you had to write notes from posters before having a short interview on the information. If you got a question wrong or didn't know the answer, you were sent out and had to find the answer before joining the back of the queue to go back in again. After the initial shock of the interview, you were handed two white tabs to replace your badges of rank so that all cadets on the course would be of the same rank. These tabs started off cream so they had to be washed in time for tea, which didn't leave much time to unpack and get changed. After tea there was a brief period of drill, the standard of which was surprisingly high for the first session of a course. After this there was a short class on map and compass work before the first room-and-personal inspection at 10 pm.

We had to rise at 6 am next morning, Sunday (!), ready for physical training at half past. This consisted of the basic fitness test of 1½ miles in 11 minutes for males and 12 minutes for females. While this was by no means Olympic standard, it required a lot of effort and determination at a time in the morning when most people were still asleep. Thankfully it was then breakfast after which there were leadership exercises and theory classes. Drill followed and it was still not 10 o'clock. We then had 15 minutes to prepare for Exercise Singleton, a flight navigation exercise over a 20-mile course in a time of 5 hours. Now 20 miles in a day isn't too strenuous but after already being up four hours too long and having just 5 hours to complete the course, everyone was glad of a chance to sit down afterwards for half an hour for tea. Before bed there was more leadership theory through which everyone struggled to stay awake before another room-and-personal inspection at 10 pm.

The next couple of days were made up of waking at 5.30 am, PT at 6 o'clock, followed by a day of leadership theory and group command tasks with inspection at 10 pm and lights out at 11 pm.

By Tuesday morning everyone was tired and it was nearly time to move to the camp-site where the leadership tasks were more difficult, the activities more physical and failure often meant a swim in so-called water.

It was only a walk of a mile or so to the site and it took a couple of hours to set up our own tents, which we shared with our room-mates, and the officers' tents. Of course the tents had to be in neat lines and very many tents had to be put up more than once.

That evening we were all in combats and ready to start the Night Exercise, three hours of running around in the dark. The task was to build a wheel-barrow from parts dotted around the base. While the task was a completion exercise and not a race, Flight A, the flight I was in, and Flight D found that we had both completed our barrows and we met about ¾ mile from the camp site, and so it turned into a race to push the barrow containing heavy boxes and carrying a water can. Pushing the barrow had to be taken in turns because of its weight and the fact that we were running while an

attempt by the other teams to run slowly in front of the barrow was swiftly dealt with. The race was eventually a draw but that evening's events set up the next three days as a battle of words between the cadets and the officers from the two flights, which each contained 12 cadets, a quarter of the course.

Thursday morning and a lie-in after the late activities of the night before, which lasted until about 12 30 am. So we all struggled out of our beds at the amazingly late time of 7 am, ready to cook our breakfast out of our daily ration-packs. There is a menu for each day so that you know what the sludge is that you are eating, but there is little point as it all tastes the same no matter what it is called. In the morning the final round of leadership exercises took place before the hardest part of the course, Exercise Top Dog. It started with an easy 1½ hours orienteering through bracken, nettles and woods over an area of about 10 square miles, collecting points for each marker reached. Flight A won this section by 60 points, with a top score of 215 points. Considering that some markers only gave 5 points, this was an excellent total. Five minutes after this, we were on to a 1½ mile log run over a decidedly hilly course. While the log wasn't particularly heavy, four people were needed at any one time to carry it and injuries had taken their toll on members of each flight. So often it wasn't the log that was holding the team back.

Most teams came in at about 13 minutes, an excellent effort. A Flight finished second to C Flight in this event (they had finished 4th in the orienteering). After two minutes' rest, a 15 mile walk or rather run followed. The time limit was 2½ hours but if you wanted to win you had to be faster than that. On the first section A Flight made a small navigational error, with the result that they were 20 minutes down at the first checkpoint but by the second that was down to 10 minutes and by the third point we had passed another group. By the finish we had only come in third but in a time of 2 hours 4 minutes while C Flight had completed the course in 2 hours and D Flight in 2 hours and 1 minute. Adding up the positions gave A and C Flights 6 points but C Flight were pronounced the victors as they had won two events.

All this left the prize for best flight in the balance with A, C and D Flights all equally confident.

After waking up at 6.30 at camp and eating breakfast, it was time to break camp and get back to the barrack block and change back into RAF uniforms ready for drill before the first ready-cooked meal in 2½ days. There was then a general review of the course in the afternoon and then a barbecue and social event in the evening which many people left early to pack and get some much-needed sleep. On Saturday morning everyone was cruelly woken 15 minutes early at 6.15 by the NCOs in order to make sure that the billets were clean and ready for the next course.

The graduation parade was at 9 am, when we were all given our badges and it was announced that A Flight was the best flight and a member of A Flight was the best cadet.

All in all the course was very informative and has given me many good ideas which I can pass on to the

School RAF section. The course is fairly physically demanding but what makes it difficult is the lack of sleep.

I would like to thank Flt Lt Keable and the rest of the CCF for use of kit and help in organisation and would encourage all other RAF cadets to consider applying for the course next year.

Thanks as ever are due to Flt Lt Keable for her organisational efforts to get the best for every member of the Section.

Flt Lt M.H. Gracey

TUCANO FLIGHT

RAF Linton-on-Ouse, Summer Camp 2000, 45 mins in a Jet Propelled Training Aircraft

When I was told that I was to fly in a Tucano, I thought that it would be just as straightforward as flying in the Bulldog – the training used to fly cadets. However I didn't realise that I had to go through a medical test and be kitted out with breathing apparatus and full flying suit. The other subtle differences to flying in a Tucano rather than a Bulldog were: being connected to an ejector seat rather than the conventional 'Bulldog' parachute, and sitting in the back of the plane rather than next to the pilot.

While in the briefing room, I was told that if the worse came to the worse and we had to eject, then I would have to pull the ejector seat handle and close my eyes, although luckily this didn't happen! When we became airborne, reality finally hit that I was in a RAF jet plane, an experience that will not be forgotten.

To begin with, the pilot surveyed the surrounding weather systems and had to report back to the Met. Office. However it took me by surprise when the pilot showed me how to fly the plane in a loop-the-loop and also a roll. It was even more surprising when I was given the controls and told to have a go, but I wasn't going to argue with him!

Surprisingly I managed to complete the manoeuvres without a hitch, reaching 3.2g and - 0.1g. Reporting back to the Air Traffic Control myself was also a novelty, although I didn't understand the jargon which had to be used such as 'scorpion'.

Also on the agenda was a period of low flying at 280kts at just 500ft (approx. 330mph or mach 0.5). This is in comparison with a conventional civilian aircraft, which cruises at 3500ft.

At the other extreme, flying at 11000ft was also breathtaking – (literally), as there isn't enough oxygen to breathe.

The main mission was to chart and survey the cloud system present in the sky, and also to take a look at the amount of turbulence at 1000ft, so there wasn't much time for acrobatics. But I'm not complaining. The whole 45 minutes was amazing and hopefully an experience which will be repeated in the University Air Squadron.

Richard Lee, Flight Sergeant

BEARS, BALD EAGLES, GOLD PANNING AND BLACKPOOL !!!

(or – UK Cadet Exchange to Whitehorse, Canada 1999)

Every Summer Term, year 9 pupils join the CCF – possibly tempted by the thought of learning new skills e.g. flying, weapon handling, first aid etc. For some cadets other opportunities may arise e.g. the Army Section's visit to Germany 2 years ago. Every Summer, parties of cadets from all over the UK are selected to go to Canada and last year I was an Escort Officer on the Whitehorse trip.

There's a land where the mountains are nameless ...

This is the first line of a poem describing Whitehorse, or more specifically, the Yukon Territory (North-West Canada). The poem describes the area very well – miles and miles of mountains, blue glacier-fed lakes and rivers, millions of trees, the world's smallest desert and Alaska just a few hours drive away.

Our party of 12 cadets and 2 Officers were on the CLIA course – learning leadership skills and then using them in the great outdoors.

Culture Shock ...

The cadets could not get over the size of the steaks they had on the first night. Our next 'Canadian' experience was a rodeo – one of our cadets did not know what a rodeo was!

We were given a talk on the Inuits (Eskimos). Several of the Canadian cadets were Inuits and had flown in from Arctic Bay and other icy places. They had the biggest culture shock of all, for many of them had never seen trees or insects until they arrived in Whitehorse!

As we were in Bear country, I had to learn how to handle a 'predator control weapon' (shotgun). All I can say is never trust a Scouser with a shotgun, as my fellow officer hit the wrong end of the bear when we practised on the range!

'It's not as cold as Blackpool!'

After an initial settling in period of talks and practicals on camp, we left for 3 days watermanship training and the PANIC Test! This involved leaping into a glacier-fed river (very, very cold!) and waiting to be rescued (without panicking). I was lucky enough (!) to be sent twice on this training with different platoons and on the second occasion we were given the luxury of tents to sleep in as it had snowed the night before. So, as we leapt bravely into the icy water and spluttered to the surface, 1 British female shouted 'It's not as cold as swimming in the sea at Blackpool!'

In Search of Pilots

Next up – the 4 day Patrol Exercise. This involved the cadets taking it in turns to navigate across country in search of a downed aircraft and its crew. We waded through wet, muddy forests, navigated across a lake in an assault boat (women are definitely the best drivers!), climbed Mt. McIntyre, hacked our way through an

impenetrable forest and then on the last day found our way blocked by a landslide. There was nothing for it but to abseil forwards down a cliff (SAS style), carrying our big rucksacks and attached to the rope only by a small piece of rope we'd tied into a harness ourselves – great fun!!

We're going on a bearhunt ...

And so to the Canoe Ex. Having learnt how to steer Canadian canoes, the cadets now had to paddle for 4 days down the Takini River. A wonderful experience – bald eagles watching us from treetops and the silence broken only by the dipping of the paddles. I had to paddle for the first 2 days, which included a small stretch of rapids. The poor cadets were not considered capable of shooting the rapids, so had to get out and carry the heavy canoes over a rather large hill! The Mastercorporal (MCpl) and I took one look at the hill and decided (being lazy adults) that the rapids were the better option. We'd just gone past the point of no return when MCpl Luomola thought to ask if I'd paddled through rapids before. When I answered no, he replied that on the only previous occasion he'd tried it, he'd ended up paddling through backwards ...!

The evenings were spent patrolling and I took a patrol out on a bearhunt – our mission was to check the area out for signs of bears as we were the first platoon to camp there (an invented mission and I was not expecting to see any). Rather alarmingly, we arrived at our first checkpoint to find a large paw print and a pile of bones a few metres away ...! Checkpoint 3 revealed more paw prints where the bears had crossed the river. Luckily one of the Inuit cadets used his tracking skills to reassure us that the paw prints were cold ...!

There's gold in those hills ...

The Yukon Territory and Whitehorse are famous for the Gold Rush. The rest of our time was spent training in camp or out on visits. Of those, the most interesting was the McBride Museum which displayed the history of the Yukon Gold Rush. The cadets tried their hand at panning for gold and Cdt Smith discovered the largest gold nugget found by a visitor that year.

Civilisation Beckons ...

We ended our stay with a week in Vancouver, where we swayed across the Capilano Suspension bridge, took the skyride up Grouse Mountain to see Vancouver at night, visited Victoria Island and shopped 'til we dropped (well, the girls did!).

Memories are made of this ...

During our time there we saw the Northern Lights, experienced 22 hours of constant daylight, saw a bear and several bald eagles, heard wolves howling at night and met a great group of people. The cadets left their permanent mark on Canada when they helped with the clearing of the new Trans Canada Trail – a walk across Canada.

The only way to sum up a trip such as that is to say that it was an experience of a lifetime. To any of our CCF cadets, I would say that if ever you get the chance to go on a trip like that – take it !!

Capt Matthew

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HOUSE NOTES

BYROM HOUSE

H heads of House	Julia Atherton* Caroline Bell*
Deputy Heads	Joseph Holland Oliver Roe
House Prefects	Thomas Chung Chloe Duckworth Christopher Kay James Kerr Lex Seymour Daniel Wild

*denotes School Prefect

I start this review of the year for Byrom with some difficulty as it is hard to be positive when all is overshadowed by the loss of Ravi Gokal. Ravi was a key figure in Byrom, his influence for good was felt by everyone and his contributions, particularly on the sports field, set a shining example for others to follow. I, Mr Swales, the members of 11B and all in Byrom House miss him very much and our thoughts and love go to Dr Gokal, Hema and all his family.

New Arrivals

We welcome new members of the House to the fold, particularly Muzafar Hussain who joins us in the lower Sixth and all of 9B who are listed below. I look forward, as always, to good things from each and everyone.

Ribhu Agrawal	Nabeel Khan
Mariam Al-Bayati	Hussain Nurbhai
Faieq Ali	Qasam Perrez
Anisah Awan	Nicole Plummer
Atif Awan	Gajanan Samant
Paul Birch	Anthony Tuboku-
Laura Dodson	Metzger
Edwin Etadafe	Simone Walters
Vicky Hufton	Jason Wilson
Usman Jameel	Ryan Wilson
	Jasim Yousafi

House Play

"Romeo and Juliet" by William Shakespeare.
Adapted by Chloe Duckworth.
Produced by Waqar Ahmad.
Directed by Chloe Duckworth.

This was an ambitious project but, through much hard work, was extremely successful. It was the most stylish and accomplished play the House has staged for some time. The main driving force was Chloe Duckworth, whose vision of what was possible and how to perform pushed the cast to previously unimagined heights. It was truly wonderful to watch the development of each character and the individual scenes. The whole play came together superbly. Chloe's use of all aspects of performance arts, visual design and direction of actors showed she has talent. She was supported in her work by a fantastic group of actors and stage crew. Each worked so hard on their characters that it made the overall performance of a very high quality. Congratulations and

much respect are due to: Darren Daly (Romeo), Juila Atherton (Juliet), Daniel Scorch (Nurse), Stanley Tso (Mercutio), Josh Duckworth (Capulet), Daniel Gall (Tybalt), Amy Diaznk (Lady Capulet), Jason Wilson (Benvolio), James Kerr (the servant), dancers Marcus Webber and Marian Al-Bayari, M.C. Waqar Almad, the stage crew consisting of Sam John, Homera Ahmed, Mark Brighthouse and props from Elaine Tang and Umaira Azeem.



Romeo and Juliet - Cast and Crew.

Photo - Mr. P. Dunn.

For the full adjudication, read the drama section of this magazine.

Rugby

This year has seen only limited success, the highlight was the Senior League team who worked extremely well as a team and put together a number of very impressive victories to win the League outright. Both Junior and Senior K.O. teams went out in their first games. Our cause was not helped by a number of injuries to the squad players. In the Ray Cox 7's we finished bottom with only 1 point despite lots of valiant effort from all three teams. We hope for better luck next year.

Hockey

The junior girls won their way through to the semi final to play Gaskell but, despite an excellent game, lost 1-0. Gaskell went on to win the final, so this was an extremely close competition. In the 3rd and 4th play off we suffered tiredness from our first effort and Heywood beat us 2-0. There were good performances from everybody but particularly Simone Walters, Anisah Ashraf and Nicole Plummer.

In the Senior competition we played excellently to win our group beating Dalton and drawing with Gaskell. Our good form continued in the semi where we defeated Fraser 2-0. However we rather ran out of steam in the final and ironically went down 2-0 to Dalton who we had beaten in the first round. As always Caroline Bell lead by example but was unavailable for the final. The other girls therefore can be extremely pleased with their performance and a big well done and thank you goes out to all.

Road Run

There was a new format to this year's Road Run which made it a whole year group effort with everybody counting in the overall result in years 9, 10 and 11 and six runners, 4 boys 2 girls, in the sixth form. For us, this

was a story of differing fortunes in Seniors and Juniors. The Sixth form team and the year 11 squad were quite superb and finished top in both cases. Shane Coley won the year 11 race by a long way and he was supported excellently by the rest of 11B to record a very impressive winning score. The sixth form all finished close together with half the team in the top 12 places, and despite being given a last place score of 36 for not having a second girl, the team won overall.

The Year 10 team were let down badly by 3 members, who did not have a House top so were all placed last in 79th. It would be unthinkable for 3 of United's or City's players to go out on the field to play a match in a different coloured shirt, so why is it any different here. **Correct kit is important.** The team could not recover from this blow even though the rest of 10B made every effort.

The Year 9 race saw Nicole Plummer put in a fantastic run to finish 9th overall, being our first runner home and also the first girl. Very well done! Gajanan Samant came in just behind in 10th place and Simone Walters in 19th, all giving everything. Although many of the rest of 9B finished quite low down, I could see by the way they were running and the looks on their faces that they were making no less effort than the 3 named above. Running is tough and all who gave it a go deserve praise. Well done. The overall result of the competition was Whitworth 1st, Fraser 2nd and Byrom 3rd.

Music

Our House musicians put together a varied programme but as always it was not the individual musical pieces that proved difficult but performing to an audience.

Samantha John introduced and linked each item. The programme opened with Julia Atherton playing the "Star Wars" theme followed by Susan Barber on piano who played a piece called "Get out of here", both are super musicians. Chloe Duckworth, saxophone, and Mark Brighthouse, double bass, joined forces to play Bach's 4th Sonata and despite the false start kept going, then relaxed and were good. Darren Daly gave us "Angels" by Robbie Williams and did a great job as it is always difficult to play a very well known number. This was also the case with the singing duet of Laura Dodson and Mariam Al-Bayati who sang Martine McCutchen's "Perfect Moment", once they relaxed and started to enjoy it they improved enormously. The final solo piece was "Phantasie Stucke" played by Sara Sadeghi on clarinet and as always she gave a super performance and finished with a bow to the audience, a point highlighted by the adjudicator. Our presentation was rounded off with a singing number from "The Little Orphan Boy Choir" who gave us "I'd Do Anything" from the musical "Oliver". There were rather a lot of very feminine looking boys and the whole thing was led by Chloe at the front, who really got everybody going. It was a splendid fun way to finish off. It was a pity that some had to read the words off crib sheets.

Confidence is the key: stand tall, look at the audience, smile and at the end step out and take a long slow bow. All too often nerves and the fear of failure and

embarrassment take over and the musicians come on, try to hide behind the music stand and rush off at the end. I say something like this each year but it remains true, playing an instrument or singing is a fantastic skill to have, enjoy it, show you enjoy it and no matter how bad you think you are, you are far far better than those who do not have the skill.

Overall 2nd in the competition was a great effort and well done to everybody.

Football

In our second full term of football things have moved forward and the standard has improved considerably. This year we had matches against other schools so there was a football squad in operation to gather and prepare the best team. This did not affect the junior house situation much as no league games are played just a Knockout competition. Sadly we went out in the 1st round and overall seem to be short of a real quality player who could run the show.

In the seniors, the existence of a school squad had more of an effect as it split the league in two. For the first five matches we had every player available and scouts, in the shape of Messrs Simkin and Sharp, watched and selected. The remainder of the games were played minus the school squad members. As it happens we had a large number of players selected for the squad but strangely it did not result in a weak team, quite the opposite. We won all our games in the latter half and, in fact, we went undefeated and ran out excellent winners of the league title. Key players and also squad members were Chris Kay, Joe Holland, Kofi Djang and Shane Coley, and they were supported by a large number of others who all did themselves and the team proud. Well done to everybody who played.

Netball

Sadly netball was not played as an inter-school sport this year but it did feature strongly in the House programme. Results and final positions in the Junior tournament were unpredictable with some high scores being recorded. Dalton were eventual winners of the competition however we had beaten them in the early round 11-2. The game for 3rd and 4th places was very close, with the lead swapping with each possession of the ball. We finally went down 7 to 8 against Fraser, but it was an excellent showing from our girls seen below in the photo.



Junior Girls Netball.

Photo - Mr. P. Dunn.

In the Senior event there was a similar story of close games and some high scores. Again Dalton were overall winners and we finished in joint 3rd with Whitworth who we drew against in the play off. Well done to all who took part and made both competitions exciting to watch.

Swimming

Not traditionally, or over the last few years anyway, a sport which Byrom has excelled at and this year was no exception. The difference between those who swim for recreational fun and competition club swimmers is a large one and the other houses seem to have the swimmers. Anyway we put up the best team we could gather and everybody gave 100% effort. There were some good swims from Year 9 and Paul Birch, Hussain Nurbhai, Vicky Hufton and Laura Dodson all qualified as did the medley and freestyle teams. In Year 10 our only qualifier was Matthew Parkhouse and the freestyle relay squad. In the finals we just did not have enough swimmers to make an impression on the overall result but everybody did well in their individual races.

Rounders

The Junior rounders finished in a tie between Dalton and Whitworth and we were a close 4th to Heywood. Many of the games were very close with teams only being separated by $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1 rounders. It made for an exciting competition. In the Senior group matches, we won both our group matches in good style and looked in great shape for the finals. However, the 'A' level and GCSE exams intervened and sadly the finals could not be played, but I feel we would have been sure winners.

Cricket

Seniors had an excellent competition beating Gaskell in the 2nd round and Fraser in the final. We bowled out Gaskell for 73, with Alex Rennie being our main strike force. Muzafar Hussain starred in the batting, scoring 51 in a total of 74. In the final we batted first and there were good scores from Moshin Hussain, Muzafar Hussain, Rupinder Sagar and Hadi Al Bayati, top scorer, to take the total to 101 off the 20 overs. There were early breakthroughs when both Fraser openers fell to catches by Rupinder and Omar Hussain bowled well to keep the score down. Fraser failed by 11 runs.

We were not as strong in the Juniors and although we put up a good fight we went out in our first game.

Debating

Our team of Daniel Scora and Omar Hussain had a difficult task set as they had to justify and win support for congestion charging of people who use cars in cities. Both our speakers put forward a very logical argument based on good environmental and social grounds, however, no matter how right and sensible this type of policy, it is never going to be popular when it comes to having to pay. Our motion was, therefore, defeated. Well done nonetheless to Daniel and Omar as they prepared and delivered a good and lively debate. I would also like to take this opportunity to highlight the performance of Chloe Duckworth and Vicky Lane who represented the school with great flair and eloquence in the Observer

Mace debating competition. Chloe is an Upper Sixth Byrom girl who has shown much talent and enthusiasm in plays, debating and performance. Miss Tandon and Mr. Watson feel that together with Vicky, she has been one of the best ever WHGS debating teams. High praise indeed but well deserved.

Athletics

This is a particular favourite event of mine as it brings together so many boys and girls in the House and each person's individual performance has an influence and counts in the final result.

In the Senior event Shane Coley was our most successful individual with a win in the 200 metres and a second in High Jump. I feel sure that Shane would have had a good chance in the 100 metres also had he chosen to compete. In the event there was an excellent race between Phil Robinson, of Gaskell and Andrew McIntyre of Heywood, with Andrew winning in one of the most impressive performances of the day. The only other win for Byrom was in the 4 x 100m relay where Joe Holland, Shane Coley, Marcus Webber and Kufi Djang were just unstoppable. There were many notable performances with the highlight in the girls events coming from Caroline Bell with a second in the Triple Jump and a 4th in the 100 metres. Caroline has been a huge contributor in the area of girls' sports, as well as others, and she is going to be sadly missed. Joe Holland another leading light on the sports field over the years, was 2nd in the Javelin and 3rd in the High Jump. Marcus Webber and Hadi Al-Bayati were 3rd in the Long Jump and Discus respectively. Also 3rd were the boys in the 4 x 400m relay, Rupinder Sagar, Daniel Gall, Darren Daly and Chris Kay. Rupinder and Chris also both ran well in their individual races of 1500 metres and 400 metres to finish 4th. Oliver Roe was 5th in the Shot Putt and Ryan Lustgarten was 6th in the Javelin, all adding valuable points.

In the Junior section success was rather limited and we finished with the lowest number of points, however there were a large number of excellent individual performances. Most notable was Edwin Etadefe's double victory in the Year 9 Shot and Discus. A super set of throws was recorded by Ed and he staved off Zac McKenzie of Dalton in both events. Well done! Paul Birch supported Edwin and gave the team excellent points by coming 3rd in the Shot also. Our only other win of the afternoon was Nicole Plummer's great run in the Year 9 girls 200 metres. Most successful in Year 10 was Eser Nihat with two 2nd places in the 400 metres and the High Jump, well done Eser. Other 2nd places were won by Matthew Parkhouse Year 10 200 metres and Gajanan Samant in the Year 9 800 metres. We had a number of 3rd placings, particularly in the relays where 3 teams all finished 3rd. Asim Ahmed, Year 10 boys High Jump, Asim Butt, Year 10 boys Long Jump, Rehman Mohammed, Year 10 boys 400 metres and Mariam Al-Bayti, Year 9 girls Shot were the other excellent group of 3rd places. Mariam also finished 4th in the Javelin. There were many great efforts which all gained valuable points for the team. Amy Diaczuk scored points in all 3 of her events, Anisah Ashraf, Anthony Tuboku-Metzger, Jon Chung, Vicky Hufton, Simone Walters, Maria Khan,

Nick Travis and Jasim Yousafi all contributed well to the team effort, and though we finished 6th on the day and 5th in the overall result it was 2 days of excellent sport which was both testing and enjoyable. Several people did themselves great credit by the way they participated.



Year Nine 4 x 400 Relay Team..

Photo - Mr. D. Myers.

Colours

House, club and school colours are a way of recognising a high level of contribution and commitment in one or a number of areas and activities. The key words are **commitment** and **contribution**, you don't have to be a star but you do have to give 100% positive effort to be the best you can. Having to be pushed and persuaded to do or take part is not a positive commitment. Similarly if you are a star at something just turning up, sometimes late, doing your bit, ignoring everybody else and then leaving is not a positive contribution even if your bit is very good. If you are good at something it is your duty to encourage others and help them to improve. Therefore the awarding of Colours is not just for doing things but it is the way and manner in which you participate in any one or more of the events and activities. House Colours have been awarded throughout the year to the students listed below.

- 9B Paul Birch, Mariam Al-Bayati, Nicole Plummer, Simone Walters.
- 10B Asim Ahmed, Jon Chung, Amy Diaczuk, Rehman Mohammed, Eser Nihat, Matthew Parkhouse, Nick Travis.
- 11B Naima Ahmed, Usman Ali, Susan Barber, Mark Brighthouse, Shane Coley, Kofi Djang, Joshua Duckworth, Sara Sadeghi, Sharan Suthar, Marcus Webber.
- Lower Sixth Waqar Ahmed, Homera Ahmed, Hadi Al-Bayati, Darren Daly, Daniel Gall, Muzafar Hussain, Omar Hussain, Samantha John, Ryan Lustgarten, Alexander Rennie, Rupinder Sagar, Daniel Scora, Stanley Tso, John Watson.

Finally, I would like to express many thanks to Miss Helen Kelly, Mr Graeme Addison and Mr Brad Swales for their help and excellent work over the year. Also Caroline Bell, Julia Atherton, Joe Holland and Oliver Roe,

who proved to be a very good head team. I wish them, and all the other students leaving this year, the very best of luck for the future.

N.P. Dunn, Housemaster.



DALTON

House Officials 1999/2000 :

House Deputies	Ms S R Tandon, Mr A J McKenzie
Heads of House	James Veitch, Georgina Laird
Deputy Heads of House	Anthony Edwards, Vicky Raynes
School Prefects	James Veitch, Georgina Laird, Anthony Edwards, Vicky Raynes, Jonathan Murphy

Michaelmas Term

The following appointments were made :

Rugby Captains	
Senior Knockout	James Veitch
Senior League	Anthony Edwards
Junior Knockout	Stefan Knight
Hockey Captains	
Senior	Georgina Laird
Junior	Ceegay Verley
Play Producers	Natasha Juma Helia Asadi
Debating Team	Natalie Ofoche Aliya Chandia

At the beginning of the Term, we were pleased to welcome Mr McKenzie into the House, and as Form Master of 10D. We also gained 17 pupils into Year 9 and two into the Sixth Form. As an innovation, the Form Masters of Year 9 were the House Masters, and, as a consequence, 9D were readily integrated into the House setup.

During Senior Games, a House Rugby competition took place on a League basis. All boys participated, and we were able to field a full team every week. We were not strong, but had an excellent team spirit throughout the side, ably led by Anthony Edwards. Our strengths were in the backs, where Warren Dawkins and Julian Chapman showed their experience. Anthony Edwards and Stephen Peck linked together well at halfback, and Stephen's kicking was also put to good use. We were light in the forwards, and did not have a settled formation, and consequently gained insufficient of the ball to pose too many threats. However, all worked hard and enjoyed the participation.

When the School players joined for the Senior Knockout and Ray Cox 7's competitions, they failed to gel together with the League players, and were not as successful as they should have been. We lost in the first

round of the Knockout. In the 7's competition, our first team convincingly won the first match, but carelessly lost the second. Our second team should have been strong enough to do well, but only won one of their matches, and the third team also won one match. Dalton finished in 4th position with 6 points.

In the Junior Knockout competition, we had the strong Stefan Knight as captain and the talented Zac McKenzie from Year 9. In the first round, we faced a useful Heywood side, and after early mistakes, our tackles counted and all of the team started to support each other. Our forwards won most of the ball, and our backs showed good handling. Stefan started to dominate the match, before he gave way to allow others a game. He eventually scored five tries in a 55 – 14 win. Our second match was against Byrom, when Dalton dominated play and it was most pleasing to see all play their part in the win. In the Final, against a strong Gaskell side, we did not start well, with the backs seldom receiving the ball cleanly. However, the tackling was very good and the first time the backs supported each other we gained the lead, but, by half time, were down 10 – 17. Play went to both ends, before we found ourselves down 20 – 24 with five minutes to play. The game then turned on a try-saving tackle by Zac, and a breakaway by Stefan, to record a win by 25 – 24. Besides the 'stars', Zac and Stefan, other excellent players included Owais Khan, Sohaib Tanvir, Haider Kiani (Year 10) and Martin Lindo, Khairie Gedal, Badou Yarbo (Year 9). We were determined to win, and did so.

The Girls' hockey tournaments took place during the Term, with the Seniors facing Gaskell and Byrom. In both matches, we had most of the play, but missed chances. Helia Asadi led the defence well, Natalie Ofoche and Georgina Laird worked hard in midfield, and Katrina Francis looked a threat in attack. Against Gaskell, Katrina followed up her own shot to score the crucial goal, but we tired against Byrom and lost 0 – 1. We still gained a place in the semi final, where we played well against Heywood. One goal was enough to give us a place in the Final, where Byrom were again our opponents. This time, we showed positive determination in midfield, played to our own strengths and did not let the opposition dominate. Georgina, Helia and Katrina were again in top form, well supported by Vicky in goals. Clinical finishing led to a competition win by 2 – 0. In the Junior tournament, we had little strength, and, although all worked hard, the School players had too much to do and we had a draw and a loss in the first stages of the competition. In the play off for 5th place, we worked hard and managed to defeat Fraser. Ceegay Verley and Katherine Veitch were to be congratulated.

The House Play took place in November, when Natasha Juma wrote and produced "All That Glitters", assisted by Helia Asadi. The story was of a girl actress (Natalie Ofoche) with an attitude problem! She was adored by her mother (Natalie Sheldon) but despised by her father (Simon Khoshneviszadeh) and sister (Ellie Dodd). An interview with a journalist (Iram Choudary) brought unexpected consequences. Support actors Farrah Chandia, Julian Chapman, Katherine Veitch and Minesh Parekh all played their part on maintaining the high standard set in recent years. Unfortunately we were unable to retain the trophy.

Lent Term

The following appointments were made :

Football Captains	
Senior League	Anthony Edwards, Rameez Haider
Junior Knockout	Owais Khan
Netball Captains	
Senior	Vicky Raynes, Laura Berrisford
Junior	Ceegay Verley
Swimming Captain	Anthony Edwards
Music Organiser	Suffian Burki

Our Senior Football team started enthusiastically in the League competition, and we realised the talent we had in Stephen Peck and Eoin Murphy in midfield, Rameez Haider and Anthony Edwards in attack and Andrew Pickford in goals. In our first round of matches, we had comfortable wins over Whitworth, Gaskell and Heywood, and draws in the other two matches. We looked as though we could challenge for the League until our team was decimated by the loss of players to the School squad. We were comprehensively beaten by Byrom, then carelessly lost to Whitworth. A victory in the final match was insufficient for us, but we finished in a creditable second place.

In the Junior Knockout competition, our first round opponents were Gaskell, whom we had beaten in the rugby final. We were ill prepared, and failed to play as a team. Players failed to realise that they will not progress if they try to do too much individually. We lost convincingly, with only Zac in goals playing well.

The Senior Girls entered the Netball competition with confidence, as they had won convincingly last year. Whitworth and Gaskell were our first round opponents. Quick passing was our strength in midfield, with Helia, Vicky and Katrina dominant. In attack, Laura and Natalie Sheldon had many chances, and Georgina and Natalie Ofoche had little to do in defence. Both matches were won, 5 – 0 and 7 – 1. Our semi final opponents were Byrom, and we again dominated the midfield to win 5 – 0. We were to meet Heywood in the Final, where both teams missed chances to score early on. Defensively, we had much more to do, but still managed to take the lead, before conceding only our second goal in the tournament. The win 6 – 1 eventually turned out to be comfortable. The Juniors had practice sessions before their first matches, and they went on the court full of confidence. The few School players we had were well supported by the others, and against Gaskell, Ceegay and Siana Irshad were in form in attack, although we did not always look convincing in defence. We were very pleased with the 10 – 4 win. We then met Byrom, and changed team positions. Katherine Veitch and Ashley Gilbody cut out passes in midfield, passed quickly to Ceegay and Kristina Stus in attack, and we scored regularly to win 11 – 4. We faced a tough Fraser team in the semi final, but our work rate paid off, and all were tired after the close 11 – 8 victory. The Final, against Whitworth, was an excellent

game, in which our midfield of Katherine, Ashley and Laura Hanford made several crucial interceptions. We let a 7 – 4 lead slip to 7 – 8, before leading 9 – 8. A last minute score brought the match to 9 – 9, and a win for Dalton on goals scored over the two rounds. Although the Seniors had expected to do well, the Juniors did not have high aspirations, and it was an excellent team spirit that won the competition.

We had insufficient quality swimmers to pose any threat in the Swimming Competition, although James Veitch, Anthony Edwards, Alec Hyde, Zac McKenzie and Katherine Veitch all reached Finals.

Suffian Burki produced our Music entry, although, with few musicians, it was difficult to put together a strong programme. More practice from the few entrants would have improved the performance.

Midsummer Term

The following appointments were made :

Cricket Captains	
Senior Knockout	Rameez Haider
Junior Knockout	Haider Kiani
Rounders Captains	
Senior	Laura Berrisford
Junior	Ceegay Verley
Athletics Organisers	
Senior	James Veitch, Anthony Edwards
Junior	Daniel Endlar

A very short Term brought the Senior competitions early. In the Senior cricket, we struggled to find experienced players, but put together a good performance against Gaskell. The bowling of Minesh Parekh and Rameez Haider, coupled with very good fielding and catching, helped us dismiss the opponents for 71. That score should have been within our capabilities, but the loss of Rameez showed up our deficiencies and only Jonathan Murphy batted well before we were dismissed for 57. The Juniors put up an excellent performance against Whitworth when Haider Kiani and Jagjit Sandher batted confidently in our innings of 100. Haider and Owais Khan opened the bowling and looked threatening with their pace. Jagjit also bowled tidily, before Sohail Anjum's spin took three wickets in an innings that produced just 20 runs. We should have been able to face Gaskell with confidence, but poor manner on the pitch and an excellent individual batting performance against us, stopped us reaching the Final.

The Senior girls looked to add the Rounders trophy to our victories. Against Gaskell, all girls scored at least one rounder, and only once was a hit missed. We won by 16 1/2 to 3 1/2. Against Fraser, our fielding let us down, and we lost by half a rounder. Unfortunately, bad weather prevented the Finals being played. The Juniors relied upon an excellent fielding trio of Kristina Stus (bowling), Ashley Gilbody (wicketkeeper) and Ceegay Verley (first base) working together, and the batting of Ashley and Katherine Veitch. A close win by 4 1/2 to 3 1/2 was followed

by a loss, but we had reached the second round. Our ground fielding improved against Heywood, and we had a comfortable win, thanks to Katherine's scoring. Whitworth, were our Final opponents, and Katherine was out first ball. Nobody else could hit the ball hard enough, and our one rounder was supplemented by one from no-balls, for a score of only 2!! Our fielding had to be as good as their's. Two early rounders and they were level. "Let's work together" was called, our 'trio' got three out in three balls. Our pressure told on the opposition, they made mistakes, and the final score was 2 – 2. An outstanding team performance and effort to tie for the trophy. This had been an excellent year for all the girls.

Sports Day was split, with the Seniors early. After that session, Dalton were second. Our best performances were:

- 1st places : Justin Ofoche (400m)
Alec Hyde (800m)
Gemma Carolan (High Jump)
Laura Berrisford (Shot)
- 2nd places : Vicky Raynes (100m)
Georgina Laird (High Jump)
Justin Ofoche (Long Jump)
Anthony Edwards (Triple Jump)
Jonathan Murphy (Shot),
Boys' and Girls' Relays (4 x 100m)
- 3rd places : Anthony Edwards (100m)
Katrina Francis (100m)
James Veitch (1500m, Shot)

Our Juniors performed well in a close competition, with good performances from :

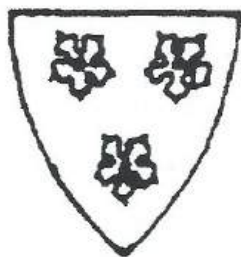
- 1st places : Khairie Gedal (100m)
Ashley Gilbody (Javelin),
Year 9 Boys' Relay (4 x 100m)
- 2nd places : Zac McKenzie (400m, Shot, Discus)
Khairie Gedal (200m)
Stefan Knight (100m, Shot)
Badou Yarbo (High Jump),
Siana Irshad (Javelin),
Mehreen Jameel (High Jump),
Ceejay Verley (Long Jump),
Year 10 Boys' Relay (4 x 100m)
- 3rd places : Usman Akhtar (200m)
Martin Lindo (100m)
Stefan Knight (Javelin)
Siana Irshad (Shot)
Kristina Stus (High Jump)
Jagjit Sandher (Javelin, Discus)

Overall, Dalton finished in second place.

The Term finished with us saying goodbye to an Upper Sixth Year group who had given exceptional service to the House, especially the girls who had regularly won many trophies. The next year groups have much to follow. We were also please to have Helia Asadi appointed as next year's Head of School.

M. D. Wood





FRASER HOUSE

Heads of House:	Louise Goodwin * Christopher White*
House Prefects:	Kessr Ali*, Jonathan Byrom*, Yousr Issa, Richard Lee*, Daniel Naylor*, Imran Patel, Jennifer Porter* and Balal Rana.

*denotes School Prefect

Captain of School Rugby: Daniel Naylor



Fraser 1999

(photo: D M Fisher)

The House welcomed the following into 9F from the Lower School: Alex Adams, Hana Afzal, Salma Ahmed (sister of Fayaz), Bejan Analoui, Tamara Brown, Naveed Chaudhry, Shamil Hudda, Tom Jones, Adam Kedzior, Duwayne Knight, Joshua McConville (brother of James), Ghazala Seedat (sister of Salma), Martin Sharpe, Kizzy Smith (cousin of Marsha Beagul), Sally Suliman, Adam Vittoz and Omar Zubairu. Philip Pereira (10F), and James Smith and Mudassar Mirza (Lower Sixth) also came into Fraser from other schools. But at the same time we were all very sorry to say farewell to two Fraser girls from the 5th Form, Elisha Bailey and Hannah Naylor, who had both been so active in the House and made such an impact over their three years.

Our retiring Head of House, Gurpartab Sathi was married during the Summer holiday, and we send our warmest wishes to him and his wife for a very happy life together. Gurpartab invited his House Master and Mr Hlofton to his wedding feast, and this was a memorable experience.

A further piece of good news to take us optimistically into the new year came when we learned from Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge that Kamron Khan (1990 – 1996) had taken a First in the Natural Sciences Tripos and would be spending the next stage of his medical studies at Addenbrookes Hospital. Kamron earned his second half Blue for lacrosse this year too.

MICHAELMAS TERM

Quite apart from familiarising 9F with the ways (and demands) of their new House, there was an extremely busy term of activities and events to get under way. The House Play rehearsal schedule began almost immediately, since the Drama Festival had been moved from the Lent Term to rationalise the year's drama programme. The Road Race was imminent, Middle School Council loomed, and debaters had to be prepared for the inter-House Debates towards the end of term. House Lunch Duty was now to be done on a more rational basis, each House providing supervision on one day of the cycle, which would make it easier for House Prefects to organise their free time and to remember their duty. And running throughout the entire term, of course, were several competitions in the two major sports, Hockey and Rugby.

An Alan Ayckbourn comedy, *Gizmo*, was chosen as the House Play this year. The production team of Vicky Bramwell, Jaya Jairath and Alexis Dickson has built up a good deal of experience since their first tentative steps on stage, and this was evident in their courageous choice of play as well as in their skilful handling of a large and sometimes unwieldy group of actors. The eponymous *Gizmo* is not a character at all but the last word in micro-processors, designed to bring back movement to victims of severe paralysis like Ben, the central character played by Chris Ogden-Smith. Ben responds to every move made by *Gizmo*'s wearer (Gurpreet Singh) and to achieve the fine line between sensitive humour and crass poor taste was no mean feat. The full report of Miss Green, our faithful Adjudicator, appears elsewhere in the *Hulmeian*, so almost all that needs to be recorded here are the excellent performances of our cast and supporters, nearly thirty of them, and the final placings: Fraser were joint third after some years in an uncomfortable theatrical wilderness, Paul Stonehouse was commended for his cameo role as a benevolent gangster, and both Chris and Alexis were Runners-up as Best Actor.

Almost all: Mr G J Turner retires from William Hulme's this summer after twenty-five years of extraordinary vitality and dedication, and the School's drama as much as anything else (except his German teaching, I can hear him prompt!) has benefited enormously from his loyalty, compassion, experience and expertise. In the several years that Mr Turner has been organising and overseeing House Drama the measures he has introduced as well as his own singular qualities and energy have transformed the Competition, enabling and inspiring hundreds of boys and girls to enjoy the unique experience of being part of a serious, challenging theatrical event. We owe him a great debt.

(Apart from the Producers and those actors mentioned, the following took part in the production: on

stage were Kessr Ali, James Meers, James Wood, Moyo Adunola, Sally Suliman, Salma Ahmed, Tom Jones, Adam Vittoz, Martin Sharpe, Naveed Chaudhry, Bejan Analoui and Hana Afzal; backstage were Jenny Porter, Richard Lee, Louise Goodwin, Balal Rana, James Smith, Tom Sutton, and Duwayne Knight. The programme was designed by Daniel Wood.)

Changes to the **Road Run** saw the involvement of even more members of the House in this challenging event. This year every pupil in Years 9, 10 and 11 took part, with their average score providing the total for each House. Six V1th Formers took part as before and their points were added to arrive at the final results. Two versions of these final figures were produced, according to the first of which Fraser came out on top. Sadly a mathematician was allowed access to the results sheet and calculated that Whitworth had in fact registered one more point than we had. However our results were extremely good in a competition which is a real measure of a House's ability and, more importantly, its commitment, teamwork and staying power: our Year 9 group won their event, we were second in the V1th and Year 10, and Year 11 came fourth, with Camille Kasler the fastest girl. Other good runs came from Tamara Brown, Naveed Chaudhry, Omar Zubairu, Sally Suliman, Adam Kedzior, Tom Jones, Philip Pereira, Andrew Smith, Tim Bannister, Edwin Leung and Seena Mehta.

Hockey got under way with the **Senior Competition**. Although we lacked the School's senior stars we had an able team who were keen to do well and determined to enjoy themselves in the process. Both first round games were goalless draws, with good attacking play, several shots going wide, and excellent defence. This nevertheless put the girls in contention for a high place. Only able to muster eight players for the semi-finals, however, we dropped disappointingly to fourth, but not without a fight in the last two matches, which were lost 0-2 to Byrom and 0-1 to Heywood. Louise Goodwin, Camille Kasler, Jenna French and Jenny Porter all played their hearts out.

The **Junior XI** played better hockey in fact, but were beaten in both matches, taking them out of contention for the semi-finals. The quality of the games was high, with influential contributions from Danielle Ashley, Syeeda Siddiqui (Capt), Sally Suliman, Kizzy Smith and Tamara Brown. This was a strong team, able to score goals and win matches, but sadly not this year, and after losing their "final" (1-1 v Dalton but lost on short corners) the girls had only a rare wooden spoon to console them.

With a large group of senior boys training with the School Squad it looked as if the league **Rugby XV** would have a thin time of it. Indeed, we did lose the first match to Byrom 25-37, and this looked like the shape of things to come. Gaskell were next, and again we were beaten (26-28), just failing to equalise with the final conversion of the game. The performance of the forwards would not have shamed a School side, however. They rolled forward remorselessly, recycling the ball time and again to retain possession, a rare sight these days in league rugby. James Meers, Sam Higgins, Kessr Ali, Daniel Wood and Richard Lee in particular were awesome. After a further defeat we took on Dalton and ran riot, trouncing them by sixty-one

points to twelve, our forwards again doing most of the damage, leaving little for Imran Patel or James Smith to do on the wings. In the absence of the captain Rick Lee, Dan Wood did a very good job, well supported by the strong performances of James Meers, Sam, Rajiv Kay, James Wood, Balal Rana and Alex Johnstone whose place kicking was faultless, if a trifle nonchalant. Yasir Eldin was drafted in to the side for this game (or did he volunteer?) and played well, creating one of the many tries by skilfully feeding the ball out of a ruck. Why had this team lost all its previous matches? asked Dalton's stunned House Master. Answer came there none. But the last senior game against Byrom was won fairly comfortably despite the unavailability of nine regular players who were either fasting, injured or absent for some other reason. This group included the four Upper Sixth-formers who therefore missed playing their last ever game for their House. Their places were ably filled, fortunately, by fifth-formers Richard Colebrook, Colin Leung, Yasir Eldin, Aamir Ashraff and James McConville, all of whom played more than well enough to compensate for their comparative lack of experience.

The **Senior Knockout XV** were hopeful of repeating the previous year's victory, and they certainly had enough experienced players to justify their confidence. Bad luck dogged us again, as on so many previous occasions, and Dan Naylor, Jon Byrom and Alex Johnstone were unable to play. Gaskell proved extremely strong first round opponents and led throughout, bringing out the best in our hard-pressed defence. A very protracted conversion by Chris Harwood failed to see Gaskell through to the final whistle and Fraser squeezed in an eleventh hour try. Gaskell only succumbed at the very last minute with a third successful conversion by Paul Stonehouse, giving us the tightest of victories, 21-20. The semi-final against Byrom was a sober affair, preceded by two minutes' silence for Ravi Gokal, who would have been on the field playing for his House against us had it not been for the tragic fatal accident a few weeks earlier. The subsequent match was played in the best of spirits by both sides, and Fraser ran out winners by 30-7.

Once again the House was not able to enjoy the singular rugby talents of Daniel Naylor who was unavailable to represent us in the **Ray Cox Sevens** tournament. His absence and that of Brett Ramsuamir weakened all three teams, yet Two and Three both managed to reach their respective finals and ended runners-up. The First VII at full strength should have been unassailable, but despite a genuine effort from them all, Dalton beat them easily and Gaskell after a battle. Nevertheless the other two teams had done enough to secure second place for the House in this excellent and unpredictable competition.

The **Knockout Final** loomed, and without the School's two strongest players, our Captain Chris White and Dan Naylor, we were not confident of containing Whitworth's extremely strong young side. Chris felt, quite justifiably, that he was needed, in spite of having a tough Cheshire match that evening, so on he came in time to turn the game in our favour and enable Anthony Green to score the try he had been looking and working for. Paul Stonehouse's impeccable conversion into a nasty gusting wind gave us the small but important buffer we needed,

and a boost to the team's confidence too. Whitworth ran in a try too but failed to convert, and thereafter most of the second period saw Fraser camped in the Whitworth twenty-two, but through tactical and handling errors throwing away chance after chance to consolidate their lead, so that the final finished on 7-5, reminding those involved of the significance of conversions and penalties. Difficult and invidious though it is to single out players worthy of it, people always do: so, apart from Chris, Anthony and Paul, these stood out: Jon Byrom, Daniel Wood, James Meers, Sam Higgins, Alex Johnstone, Brett Ramsumair and James Wood. James Smith also played courageously on the left wing even after being quite unnecessarily trampled on during a tackle. This was another commendable performance from a senior group of House players whose team play and commitment have been exemplary.

The House Football shield (for Senior Knockout Rugby, of course) has become something of a fixture above Fraser's "pillar" in the New Hall, having remained there for four of the last five years (and in the fifth, 1997, only being lost by a last-minute try in the Final against Byrom). Chris, Dan, Jon, Rick Lee and Kessr Ali have become quite blasé about playing in winning rugby teams during their five years in Fraser. The odds are against our retaining the Shield for a further year, of course, but time will tell.

The Junior XV looked promising this year, but our opponents Gaskell had a definite physical advantage and our year nine and ten boys had to work very hard to contain them, especially in the backs. Tim Bannister and Stephen Lancashire were outstanding here, not letting anyone past them and supporting the forwards' play all the time. Of the younger players, Shamil Hudda, Alex Adams, Duwayne Knight, Adam Vittoz and Martin Sharpe did well and made their contribution but needed more confidence (and perhaps more encouragement from the older boys). This will come as their physical presence increases in the months ahead. Fraser's Captain, Umair Khalil, saw much of the ball, was always involved in plays, and charged through time after time, but could not reach the line without more support and was too often reluctant to trust his team-mates and release the ball. At half-time the score stood at 19-19, but in the end Gaskell's superiority took them ahead by two or three tries and we were left to ponder on our chances in the new millennium.

James Smith and Vicky Bramwell were our volunteer speakers in the **Inter-House Debating Competition** in December. They narrowly won their particular debate, with positive and welcome support from Daniel Wood and Alexis Dickson on the floor, but were not placed overall, although Vicky was one of the few speakers to be commended by the Adjudicators (to whom thanks are due). Thus a busy term in the House calendar drew to a close.

- School Netball Colours were awarded as follows: Junior to Camille Kasler and Full to Louise Goodwin;
- A lengthy list of House Colours was read out and the strips were presented at the final House Assembly of the year;

- Ghazala Seedat and Salma Ahmed took part in the Lower School Drama Club production of *Rats*;
- Vicky Bramwell, James Meers and Daniel Wood were selected to act as surrogate School Prefects during the period of Trial GCE Exams in the New Year;
- A very good job was made of their Year 10 Middle School Assembly in December by Imran Hussain, Andrew Smith and Stephen Lancashire;
- Heads of House Chris and Louise helped their House Master distribute the customary drinks and tit-bits at the House Christmas Dinner, after which a presentation was made on behalf of all six Houses to show our appreciation of the work and good humour of the Dining Hall Staff;
- The House was delighted to learn of the birth of their first son to Mr and Mrs Wise.

LENT TERM



Fraser's Senior Girls take a break

(photo: D M Fisher)

The football season began almost immediately, with House Music rehearsals, Swimming Heats and Netball Competitions to plan for in the first few weeks.

Mr Wise took charge of the House musicians, and Miss Raw the two Netball Squads so that they even managed a practice or two this year. The **Junior Netball** team had a superb win against Heywood in the first round (14-0) then promptly crashed 3-10 to Whitworth moments later. However in at least one of these matches Shabna Hamman and Chloe Schofield played well in defence and Kizzy Smith and Tamara Brown in attack, and that enabled the team to qualify for the semi-finals. These were close matches for our girls, who narrowly lost 8-11 to Dalton then went on to beat Byrom by a single goal. Third place was more than satisfactory and the team certainly felt that they had earned it after four exhausting matches.

Unfortunately our **Senior Netball** team, weakened by absence, was no real match for their first two opponents, although this should not discourage Jenna French, Camille Kasler, Jenny Porter and Laura-Jane Bulwich who did play well. The wooden spoon final, another one, was lost (or won, depending on your point of view) 0-9 to Gaskell. There is usually little to be said about such a result, yet this game was a surprisingly spirited affair,

with Jenna, Jenny, Louise and Marsha Beagul all playing well, and it was a considerable pleasure to witness the good-natured teamwork and encouragement amongst the girls even as they were being trounced. Why didn't we score, with so many good attacks in the early stages? Quite simply, the girls could not shoot to save their lives on this occasion, and so let a triumphant Gaskell run away with it. Our loyal, dependable Upper Sixth girls proved themselves yet again in this competition.

A reminder was given to footballers that they needed shinpads and full **House Football** kit to be permitted to play, that bad language and behaviour which emulated that of so many professional players would not be tolerated by our referees (or House Masters), and that they were going to be taking part in serious competitions the Senior of which we won in last year's inaugural season. A useful initial session taken by coaches from Stockport County FC was followed by a week with no Upper Sixth-formers, so the first match in the **Senior League** proper took place three weeks into the term, with Imran Patel captaining the side. Fraser won their first two games 2-1 (Whitworth) and 9-4 (Heywood), then drew the next two. Most, though not all of our goals came from Dan Naylor, but Imran Patel, Brett Ramsumair, Alex Johnstone, Anthony Green, Chris Ogden-Smith and Rajiv Kay always gave their best with Balal Rana a resolute full-back and Paul Stonehouse tremendous in goal. Those senior players who couldn't get a place in the House XI were able to play in a joint friendly rather than have to opt for a second choice of activity, a great improvement. Things began to disintegrate rather towards the end of the season, and the removal of the School Squad (as in rugby) inevitably had a deleterious effect on the league. Nevertheless two more matches were won and two lost, leaving the House in joint second place after Byrom.

Andrew Smith took charge of organising the impressive **Junior Football XI** and led them to a 2-1 defeat of Byrom in their first match. This was a considerable improvement on the previous season where, in their first House football match for sixty years the Fraser Juniors were thrashed 0-10. Things were certainly looking up; perhaps it was the more modest and realistic predictions the team were making this year about their chances in the competition. The general consensus where the final was concerned, however, was that Gaskell had it in the bag, and was there in fact any point in the Fraser boys turning out at all? Goals from Umair Khalil, Farakh Ahmed and Stephen Lancashire put the playground pundits in their place, though, as Gaskell's two goals left them in second place after a very close match. The 9F contingent again made their mark on the victory with Naveed Chaudhry and Shamil Hudda playing solidly as full-backs.

Jaya Jairath and Vicky Bramwell got Fraser's **House Music** off to an excellent start with their clear, professional introduction. That and the beautifully produced programme, a collaboration with Daniel Wood, ensured that the Adjudicator would look favourably on the artistes even before they performed. Sean Cordwell's *Baby* by R. Williams was nice but his voice inaudible from the back of the New Hall; Tamara Brown sustained a good tone with her saxophone in *Laura's Lament* (Lyons); Andrew Smith played his own piano composition

with confidence; Jennie Porter accompanied Alexis Dickson's *As If We Never Said Goodbye* (Lloyd-Webber) very skilfully; Edwin Leung's cello piece was competent, if not too confident; Seena Mehta and Sally Suliman played a lovely flute duet, clearly well-rehearsed; and Laura-Jane Bulwich sang solo again, this time courageously choosing Willy Nelson's moody country standard *Crazy*, which she delivered with confidence and maturity. Our group piece this year was *Summer Nights* (from *Grease*, of course), and this zippy performance was among the few items singled out for commendation. Vicky, Jaya, Jennie and Laura-Jane were joined by Jenna French, Anthony Green, Youssr Issa, Alex Johnstone, James Meers, Brett Ramsumair, James Smith and Paul Stonehouse as Danny.

There is always a lengthy and usually traumatic build-up to the House Music Competition involving a great deal of hard work and organisation, especially on the part of the organisers themselves. They deserve every credit for their achievement, and a high placing on the day is merely the icing on the cake. Third for Fraser this year was a fair reflection of the quality of the various pieces.

Retaining a trophy for a second or even a third year is not uncommon given the structure of the Houses, but it is always a pleasure, and an indication too that members of that House are making good use of their talents. So in 2000 Fraser held on to the School **Swimming Cup** after a shaky start. A group of swimmers decided that they could not participate this year, leaving others to shoulder the responsibility. This is happily an extremely unusual phenomenon which invariably brings out the best in others who step in and give that little extra to their House to compensate. This applied especially to our formidable senior boys and girls who really rallied round this year. Neither 9F Relay team managed to finish (which cost us the Relay Cup), but in a poor year for relay teams third place in the Senior Medley and wins for the Senior and 10F Squadrons were enough for overall second. Results in the Individual events were:

First places

Senior	Daniel Wood (Freestyle and Butterfly) James Wood (Individual Medley and Breaststroke)
Year 10	Tim Bannister (Freestyle)
Year 9	Adam Vittoz (Butterfly and Individual Medley)
Second	
Year 10	Andrew Smith (Individual Medley) Tim Bannister (Breaststroke)
Year 9	Tom Jones (Backstroke)
Third	
Senior	Chris White (Breaststroke)
Year 10	Imran Hussain (Butterfly) Andrew Smith (Backstroke)
Fourth	
Year 10	Imran Hussain (Backstroke)

James and Daniel Wood shared the Senior Individual Trophy and Adam Vittoz won the Year 9 equivalent. The one disappointment in all these excellent results is the absence of our girl swimmers, but they did play a part in the relays, of course.

- School Colours were awarded to the following: for Rugby, Tim Bannister, Sean Cordwell, Umair Khalil and Stephen Lancashire (Junior); for Drama, Jenna French and Andrew Smith (Junior) and Vicky Bramwell, Alexis Dickson, James Meers and Daniel Wood (Club); and Full Colours went to Jonathan Byrom, Chris White and Daniel Naylor for Rugby, Louise Goodwin for Hockey, and to Jenny Porter for Music;
- House Colours were awarded to all our Swimming finalists, to members of the successful Junior Football XI, and to the hard-working musicians;
- In the elections for the new VIth Form Committee the following were appointed from Fraser: Alex Johnstone, Anthony Green, James Meers and Daniel Wood.

MIDSUMMER TERM

Daniel Naylor was appointed Captain of School Cricket.

In a term dominated by examinations, and with most of the major House events behind us it can be quite difficult rising to the occasion again when Sports Day, Cricket and Rounders loom. The **Junior Rounders** girls were a little unlucky to lose their initial matches by tiny margins (5-6 and 5-6½), but were probably having to rely too heavily on our few talented and experienced players. Fielding was not tight enough and batting rather limp. With one final opportunity to win a match and avoid the distinction of coming last again, they met Gaskell in the Finals and, in a lacklustre game scraped home 2½-2, much to their delight!

The Year 10/Sixth Form team fared better in the **Senior Rounders** competition, beating Whitworth 7-5 and then controlling Dalton, who'd scored 17 rounders against Whitworth. Fraser finally won by a mere half rounder. Excellent organisation and teamwork again brought out the best in all these girls and marked them out from other groups. Alexis's ice cream and pink lemonade picnic epitomised this superb attitude! In the two games Vicky played well until succumbing to the heat, Laura-Jane made a good contribution, Louise was as reliable as ever, Rachael Moore proved to have a very canny eye for the ball, and Alexis less so, almost breaking her fingers with one attempted catch. But Marsha, Jennie, Camille and Jenna were excellent all round. Sadly, after a couple of false starts, a day was decided on for the Finals (in which we had the best of chances) when virtually no girls were available, being committed either to exams, work experience, School visits or holidays. Jenna French and Jenny Porter came in to play for Fraser and were joined by Alexis and her ice-cream, but other Houses were in a similar predicament and so for the first time the Senior Rounders competition fizzled out.

Heywood were all out for 114 in the first **Senior Cricket Knockout**, after some extremely good bowling from Rajiv Kay, James Smith and Brett Ramsumair and a high standard of fielding, Dan Naylor then got our innings off to a solid start with able support from Alex Johnstone and a first-class, mature stand from Rajiv. Three leg-byes from James Meers clinched a good victory in a very good match for the loss of five wickets.

The second stage was played during public exams so that only Lower Sixth Formers were available to play. Fraser's seven took on Whitworth's nine, and Brett and James again bowled effectively, with good work from Alex behind the stumps. Brett and Anthony Green opened the batting and against some good bowling, notably by Daniel Mather, scored all the runs needed during the course of an excellent partnership. Brett batted steadily and stylishly, while Anthony used his good sense and good eye for the ball to pick out the poor deliveries and dispatch them to the boundary while playing the better ones with respect. Both batsmen understood exactly what was needed in this unusual game and delivered it for their team.



Fraser Junior XI, Winners of the Junior Knockout 2000

(photo: D M Fisher)

The **Junior Knockout XI** seemed to have a strong chance of repeating last summer's success, after declaring at 138-2 against Gaskell and advancing through to the second round, although The House Captain, Umair Khalil was disappointed to be out when sensibly playing a defensive stroke on 99!

They then proceeded to bowl Byrom out for 50 on the front square, Rajesh Kumar taking five wickets, the promising Naveed Chaudhry from Year 9 four, and Umair keeping one for himself. After a slow start to our innings the Junior XI joined the seniors in a rare House double in the finals.

Finals day proved to be a lovely afternoon's cricket with a tremendously competitive atmosphere prevailing among Heywood's and Fraser's junior teams, and a nicely sardonic flavour over at the senior Fraser-Byrom match. There is no doubt, though, that the absence of our familiar pavilion diminished the occasion slightly.

The Seniors fell just short of the 101 they required, failing to hit out when they wanted only seventeen runs from the three remaining overs and a batsman still in

hand. Yet this was a good close game with plenty of excitement. The Juniors in the meantime had dropped Heywood's principal threat, Asim Butt, and so made their task a little harder, but sharp fielding and generally good, if sometimes wayward bowling kept their total down to manageable proportions, below 100. Then Andrew Smith and Umair took charge of matters and batted strongly through to a fitting outcome after such a good campaign. Umair took the lion's share of the work but received extremely good support from Andrew which included a lovely six. Our remaining batsmen just had to be patient again and sit out the innings, but they shared equally in the satisfaction of a series of matches well played. Alex Adams, Shamil Hudda and Naveed Chaudhry made a great contribution this year and with Bejan Analoui, Adam Kedzior, Adam Vittoz and others waiting in the wings they will form the basis of another good side next summer, I am sure.

The **Inter-House Athletic Sports** were again divided into the Senior events which took place before the start of public examinations and Sports Day itself involving the Lower School and the Junior Division (Years 9 and 10) of the Houses. The highlight of Fraser's Senior performance was Chris White's retention of the Cardwell Cup as individual Best Athlete after winning the Discus and High Jump and coming Runner-Up in the 400 metres. The remaining results could only gain us fourth place, however, leaving an insuperable task for the juniors. Sean Cordwell was the outstanding athlete of the day, winning his three events, the 200m, Long Jump and Triple Jump and earning the Individual Trophy, the China Cup. From Year 10 Danielle Ashley, Tim Bannister, Shabna Hannan, Imran Hussain, Umair Khalil, Stephen Lancashire, Seena Mehta, Philip Pereira, Chloe Schofield, Syeeda Siddiqui and Andrew Smith all contributed points, and from Year 9 Hana Afzal, Bejan Analoui, Tamara Brown, Naveed Chaudhry, Shamil Hudda, Tom Jones, Adam Kedzior, Ghazala Seedat, Martin Sharpe, Kizzy Smith, Sally Suliman and Adam Vittoz. A first (Year 10 Boys), second, third, fourth and fifth places in the relays weren't enough to bring these results up beyond third place, and when the two totals were combined Fraser were fourth as in 1999. But more importantly a big majority of members of the House had been involved in the event and had benefited accordingly.

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- Fourteen members of the six Houses from Year 9 to the Upper VIth conveyed a range of very individual opinions of the House system to the School during one Monday's Assembly. Fraser's cohort was Alexis Dickson, Tamara Brown, Adam Vittoz, Tom Jones, Duwayne Knight and Sally Suliman;
 - School Colours were awarded to Rajiv Kay and Umair Khalil, Chris Ogden-Smith and Andrew Smith (Cricket, Junior);
 - School Prefects for 2000-2001 include Victoria Bramwell, Jaya Jairath, James Meers and Daniel Wood from Fraser;
 - Four Lower Sixth Formers who have been constantly involved in their House for four years, Anthony Green, Jaya Jairath, Vicky Bramwell and James Meers met

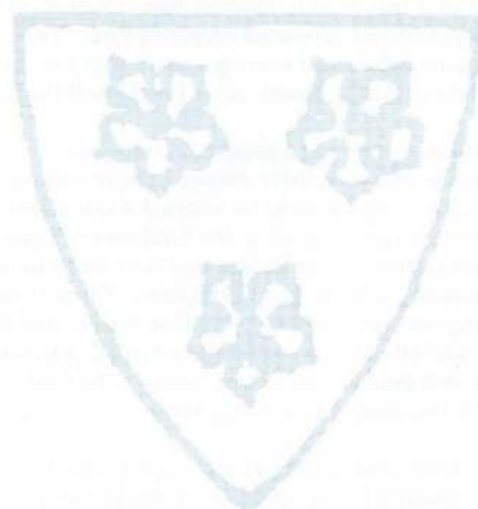
Fraser's new intake from the Lower School in May to give them an idea of what to expect and an idea of what is expected from them when they join the House in September;

- Sally Suliman joins her family in Kent this summer after only a year in Fraser, but a year during which she has accomplished a great deal. We will miss her lovely personality very much and wish her well at her new school.

In the course of reviewing such a full and successful year for the House it becomes quite obvious how dependent the School is on the goodwill of so many pupils, especially seniors, in ensuring that extra-curricular life here remains varied, vibrant and rewarding for all. Prefects, whether they be School or House, are given a particular responsibility here, and seldom let us down.

Fraser's Heads of House Louise and Chris have led this year as much by their own selfless and exemplary involvement in the activities of their House as by organising and cajoling others. They have certainly discovered how difficult it can be to engage the interest and wholehearted participation of their peers, but when they have succeeded, as invariably they have, they will have experienced the real sense of satisfaction that this brings. The skills they and our other House Prefects have developed and exercised this year are truly skills for life. The rest of the House owes them a considerable debt of gratitude, whether they realise it or not. I shall miss them all.

D. M. Fisher



GASKELL HOUSE

My last Housemaster's report, frightening to think that 10 years have gone by and people who were in Gaskell House when I started are now well into various careers. I enjoy teaching and it is a great privilege to work with young people. People change rapidly when they are young and watching someone's development from 13 years old to 18 years old is fascinating. There have been some problems along the way but the memories are of people doing their very best to be successful – in plays, debates, music, netball, rounders, cricket, running and lacrosse – a wide range of activities. I hope they all develop a positive view on life and are prepared to participate in a wide range of activities with a smile on their face.

This year's activities started with defeat by Fraser in the last few minutes of an exciting rugby match. Phil Robinson's strong team made a mighty effort and were a little unfortunate to go down to a try late in the game. The senior hockey team had a strong team on paper but they did not live up to expectations on the grass. However with Sunita a spectator in goal Laura, Laurie and Becky made certain of 5th place by defeating Whitworth 1 goal to 0. The House League Rugby team played well with one notable 105 – 0 defeat of Heywood. However, numerous injuries and promotions to the squad left us weak at the end of the season. The rugby sevens gained an overall second position after a great all round effort. The Junior boys put in a huge effort in the Junior rugby final only to be beaten 25 – 24 in the last minute of the game. Matthew N'Jie, Abraham Petrillo, Eugene Murtagh and Chris Booker all produced excellent whole hearted performances but to no avail.

However the Junior girls went one better by winning the Inter-House hockey competition by defeating Whitworth in a closely fought final. The road run is always a notable event as it usually ends in some sort of controversy; leading to a marked increase in the blood pressure of certain individuals. Alarming a lot of pupils only manage to run anywhere once a year, however Minesh Vara, Chris Brown, Thembi Watt, Chris Weems and Nneka Opara all produced excellent runs. The overall results following a scoring system that I do not understand resulted in fourth place for Gaskell House.

The House swimming competition once again highlights the lack of activity among some of our pupils. This year pupils appeared to be worried about getting wet and did not contribute at all to the final event. Once again Ryan Garner, Chris Weems and Scot Griffiths set an excellent example in the individual rules. Chris Porter, Rob Thompson, Mark Brown, Abraham Petrillo and Ryan Williams who all did very well to help Gaskell win only one relay and gain second in two others. The final position in the competition being 3rd.

Remarkably during the last few years Gaskell has also become a cultural house – it must be the influence of deputies Gorman, Worthington and Lambert! Sunita and Nicola produced such a clear well researched argument against the legalisation of some drugs that they won their debate and the whole debating competition. With the help of Sam Hughes they produced an excellent speech and fielded the questions with their usual aplomb!

Nicola and Sunita also produced the play and had their patience tested to the limits. They had a strong cast from a wide range of age groups. The experienced U6th actresses retired to Hollywood to allow the young up and coming stars to shine. Ateeq, Chris Brown, Nneka, Shelley and Prya were all impressive at winding up Arthur, played extremely well by Omar Raja. Nicola, Owen, Adanna were all totally convincing with Headmistress Adanna having no problems in asserting her authority on us all. Daniel Goodkin had a very demanding role as a new teacher but he not only managed to learn all the words but also acted out the role with great sensitivity. Nicola and Sunita survived the experience of producing the play and managed to keep their cool throughout. I was delighted by the whole production and expected to win easily. However that was not to be though the comments criticise the choice of play rather than the cast. I look forward to next years production that has already been written by Daniel Goodkin. Once again thanks to the lighting crew, the adjudicator and most of all to Mr Turner who once again gave up all his spare time to orchestrate the whole event.

Third in the drama competition, first in the debating competition – could we win the music competition for the third year on the trot? Once again my musical talent was to be put to the test, so I left it all to Kati Greenall. Listening to the performances makes me realise what a wide range of opportunities the pupils have at this school. Their confidence, skill and sense of humour produced an excellent half hour's entertainment. Kati, Laurie, Rebecca Goodwin, Daniel Goodkin, Anna Rogers and Andrew McLeod all performed superbly with Kati and Rebecca gaining eight out of ten from a harsh adjudicator. The programme itself was superbly produced and even contained a competition. Remarkably for the third year on the run Gaskell won the House music competition. Well done Kati and the gang – it is up to Rebecca and Daniel to carry on the great cultural tradition.

The House football competition got off to a good start with an 8-3 victory over Heywood. However, from having plenty of players at the start of the season the numbers dropped off with substitutes not prepared to stand around and the better players being taken for the school squad. Fourth position overall was disappointing, better team spirit would have improved the position.

The netball teams were even worse. I cannot remember ever coming last but unfortunately the middle school netball team did just that. The seniors only marginally improved on that thanks to Rebecca Goodwin scoring 9 goals in the play off for 5th and 6th places. We had a good senior team led well by Rebekah Lawson but suffered due to unavailable players in the first round. The junior rounders final failed to take place though we had qualified for the semi finals. Senior and junior cricket was equally disappointing. The Juniors considered catching a bus home more important than a game of cricket and the seniors threw away the semi final with some poor cricket. Byrom stuck to the task and were deserved winners of the competition because they played as a team.

So to the Grand Finale – Sports Day !

Senior sports day is in early May before study leave begins. I am delighted to say everyone was keen to succeed and there was a great deal of mutual support. Robert Thompson set the ball rolling with first place in the 1500 metres after a brave run from the front, Robert Booker also gained a point. Anna Rogers, Rob Booker and Geoffrey Kinsella all gained points in the 800 metres. Bhavini Vara and Michael Platt gained second in the 200 metres, Phil Johnson gained points in the 400 metres. Laurie May Edwards beat the school record to win the 100 metres and Phil Robinson and Scott Griffiths were second and fourth in the 100 metres for the boys. In the field events Omer won the shot putt with Kati Greenall second in the girls' event. However the great strength was that we picked up points in all events, Phil Robinson, Kati and Laurie in the high jump; Dan Goodkin, Adana, Mark Brown, Omer in the Javelin and discus. Becky Lawson gained 3rd in the triple jump and Scott gained a valuable point with a late effort in the boys' triple jump. The boys gained fifth and third in the relay and the girls once again beat their own record in the 4 x 100 metres relay. That was something they had been aiming to do all afternoon and will be remembered for a long time. The relay win gained 17 of the 124 points that gave us victory on Senior Sports Day. To gain the Sports Day Shield however, the aggregate score of senior and junior sports day are taken. Fortunately the Juniors rose to the occasion and produced an excellent all round effort with only two year nines unable to take part.

They gained thirteen first places and some success in virtually all events. Chris Brown was the male athlete of the day with wins in the 1500 metres, 800 metres and long jump. Matthew N'Jie defied injury to win the 100 metres and lead the 4 x 100 metres relay team to victory. Nneka Opara won the 100 metres and very nearly caught Whitworth to win the relay. Thembi-Watt won the 1500 metres impressively and then followed up to win the long jump. Umer seemed to walk over the high jump to win it and also produced an amazing turn of speed in the 200 metres and in the relay. Minesh, Cesaire, Dzikoh, Prya, Nkosi, Khalid, Chris Booker all gained first and second places; Ali Anwar, Greg, Tina, Abraham, Hannah, Nina, Timur, Arfan, Nick and Mhawash all gained points in the finals. The greater effort had to be that of Shelley who completed the 1500 despite her better judgement and gained 5 valuable points. She produced a similar effort in the swimming and shows a great attitude that it is better to compete than just watch. The relay races produced two fourths and a second and first for the year 10 girls and boys – an excellent effort by all concerned.

I was delighted by the determination shown by everyone and was very proud to have retired on a victorious note with the Athletes shield.

Congratulations to Kati Greenall on her year as Head Girl and good luck to Robert Thompson in his role as Head Boy. Rob Booker, Sunita Boodhoo and Nicola Endlar will be Heads of House; Scott Griffiths, Sam Hughes; Andrew McLeod and Ajay Sethi: will be House Prefects with more to be appointed later.

Many people have helped me a great deal during my time as Housemaster. Mrs Worthington, Mr Gorman and recently Dr Lambert have been staunch allies and will continue to look after the pupils best interests. I wish Miss Smith an enjoyable time as our first House Mistress and thank you all for making my life so interesting though I look forward to coming across you in the future. Remember nothing ventured, nothing gained – always be prepared to have a go and keep a smile on your face!

H.N. Veevers.



HEYWOOD HOUSE

Michaelmas Term

Appointments

Heads of House: Emma Cruickshank
& Neel Shah

Deputy Heads
of House: Graeme Laycock
& Danielle Baker

Asmar Chaudhry had been appointed Head Boy on the last day of the Summer Term and Emma Cruickshank, Neel Shah, Graeme Laycock, Edward Barker and Neil Whitehead were confirmed as School Prefects. These six Upper Sixth formers were made House Prefects along with Vanessa Cohen, Andrew Machin and Nafisa Hanif.

The first House assembly saw the appointments of captains/organisers for the various activities. These were: Seniors:- rugby-Luke Coffey; hockey-Vanessa Cohen; league rugby-Neil Whitehead: Juniors:- hockey-Carolyn Hegg; rugby-Leon Jackson: debating-Edward Barker, House Play Producer-Alexis Oxberry and road race Neel Shah and Beth Coffey. The other major change, which was greeted with great delight, was the news that lunches were now going to be by Years rather than by Houses. The Lower Sixth were also delegated the responsibility of supervising Day 5 lunches, under the leadership of Leanne Davidson. Other changes to events saw the House Play move to November and the House Music and swimming to the Lent term.

The rugby knockouts were both over very quickly. The juniors played Dalton in a one-sided match. Heywood could not cope with the speed and power of Stefan Knight and lost 55-14. The seniors, like last year, were drawn against a very strong Whitworth. They had too many squad players and a particularly strong pack. Although Heywood were never likely to win we fought hard and Andrew McIntyre and Matt Dewsnap scored good consolation tries in the second half. The most pleasing aspect of both these matches was that despite the opposition being far stronger both teams did their best and never gave up.

It was decided not to hold a junior sevens competition this year. In the senior sevens, Heywood due to injuries, illnesses and absences had insufficient players for a third team and therefore had to forfeit these games. The 1st team beat Byrom 12-0 with a great display but, unfortunately, Andrew McIntyre suffered an injury which kept him out of the second match against Whitworth, which we narrowly lost 12-5. The 2nd team lost both pool matches heavily and as a result the House finished fifth.

Over the term the House league in rugby saw Heywood struggle to raise a full team on several occasions due to the small number of lads available for selection. Neil Whitehead as captain led by example and was ably supported by Andrew Machin, Graeme Laycock, Asmar Chaudhry, Daniel Booth, Seb Bowe, John Bracchi and Stephen Pearce but suffered many heavy defeats, although the team always tried its best when they did play and did beat Dalton 27-5 with a sound team performance. The House has no strength in depth in the boys' sports at present and any long-term injuries affect Heywood particularly badly.

In the hockey knockouts the juniors lost 1-0 to a very strong Gaskell side and then beat Fraser 2-1 to progress to a semi-final against Whitworth. Unfortunately they drew this game 0-0 and lost on penalty corners, although the girls played extremely well. In the third/fourth play-off Heywood beat Byrom 2-0 to finish third. Colours were awarded to the whole team and to Ehi Okpe, Martellique Yates, Korinna Steele, Marie Pang, Umara Chaudhry and Farrah Majid for the first time.

The seniors in the pool matches, having drawn 0-0 with Fraser then outplayed Whitworth and won 1-0, with a goal from Leanne Davidson. In the semi-final we played most of the game in Dalton's half but were unable to score and eventually lost 1-0. A comfortable 1-0 win against Fraser gave Heywood third place. As Dalton then went on to win the final it gives us hope for the future, particularly as Heywood will have the first eleven captain next year in Beth Coffey.

For the House play we chose a comedy, called "Husbands Are A Girl's Best Friend" by Harry Austin. Experienced actors Leanne Davidson and Edward Barker took the main parts and Stephen Pearce, David Njegovan and Omar Sheikh, all acting on stage for the first time, ably supported them. Omar, playing an old and very infirm butler, was singled out for a very notable performance by the adjudicator, Miss Green. She was particularly impressed by his timing and felt he had the audience in the palm of his hand whenever on stage. The play was placed third but the real achievement was the work put in by director Alexis Oxberry, the cast and her assistants Vanessa Bacchas, Andrea Reah, Aysha Rangrez and Selene Pang, especially as I was unable to help them due to an attack of shingles and enforced absence. All the students involved demonstrated the real strength of the House system, where four different year groups worked together as a team and Alexis from year 11 was directing one Upper Sixth Former and two Lower Sixth Formers. Mr Turner deserves special mention for his tireless contribution to the success of the event and for taking responsibility for Heywood's Sunday rehearsal at very short notice.

The debating saw Seb Bowe and Omar Sheikh opposing Byrom with the motion, 'This House Believes We Should Restrict The Use Of Private Cars'. Both spoke very well, were praised by the adjudicators and were placed second.

The road race took on a different format this year with each year group running in their games lesson and in years 9 10 and 11 all pupils had to run. This worked well with years 9 and 10 but only 55 pupils ran in year 11 due to injuries, absences or other excuses and I feel this year group set a very bad example by their lack of commitment and poor attitude. Heywood were placed fifth with year 9 - 3rd, year 10 - 5th, year 11 - 6th and the seniors 4th. Successes were; year 9 - Sheraz Ahmed 9th, Martellique Yates 11th, Kassam Mukadam 17th, Marie Pang 22nd, Umar Saleem 26th, Ghulam Haydar 37th and Imran Gill 39th; year 10 - Omar Nour 6th, Azim Butt 9th, Paul Keenlyside 17th, Leon Jackson 20th, Ozy Solati 24th, Naser Khan 33rd, David Njegovan 37th and Amnah Ahmed 40th. Beth Coffey came fifteenth in the senior race and was our fastest girl competitor on the day.

Colours were awarded to all runners in years 9 and 10 who finished in the top 40 and Sheraz, Kassam, Umar, Ghulam and Imran were new awards.

On the social side, it was planned to take the Upper Sixth House Prefects to Blackpool, for an evening on the Pleasure Beach, in the half-term holiday, as reward for their commitment to the House over the years. As three of them were away it resulted in us going on the Monday evening of the first day back. What is usually a very good trip was partly spoiled by the atrocious weather, which meant it closed at 9 p.m. but more by the attitude of the staff, who were decidedly unhelpful and could not close up fast enough. As a result Miss Smith led a charge from ride to ride so as many of the attractions as possible were visited. In future we will have to go during holidays.

The period of the mock exams was moved to the start of the Lent term so Leanne Davidson and Matt Dewsnap were asked to be acting Heads of House and Beth Coffey, Seb Bowe and Leanne were elected to the Lower Sixth duty rota in the last week of term.

Lent Term

The term began with the appointments of Leanne, Matt, Seb, Beth, Wendy Choy, Aamar Gill, Sam McClements, Anne Gazeilly, Duncan Laing, Ben Mannheim, Andrea Reah, John Sharp-Little, Omar Sheikh and Jenny Street as House Prefects. In the first House assembly the captains/organisers were selected. These were: seniors: - netball-Beth Coffey; league soccer-Andrew Machin; juniors:- netball-Ozadeh Solati; soccer knockout-Azim Butt. Swimming-Neel Shah, House music-Graeme Laycock.

In the House music Heywood were represented by Graeme Laycock, Duncan Laing, James Barrington, Carolyn Hegg, Ozadeh Solati and Tom Hamlyn and played a selection based on an English theme. Graeme and the ensemble received commendations, the House was placed fourth and Duncan, new to the Lower Sixth Form this year, was awarded colours for the first time.

Having come a very close second in the individual swimming competition last year it was hoped that we would again perform well. In the relays, Heywood despite swimming well, were narrowly edged out of both senior relays and when one competitor forgot his kit it prevented the year 10 squadron team joining the medley team in qualifying. The year 9's were successful in the squadron making only two relay teams in the finals. A first in the year 10 medley and third in the year 9 squadron gave us fourth place. In the individuals at senior level only Jenny Street and Andrew McIntyre qualified. Jenny came second in backstroke and third in butterfly. Andrew, unfortunately, was unavailable for the finals. In year 10 Paul Keenlyside won the best individual competitor award by winning the butterfly and individual medley, James Barrington won the breast stroke and came second in the freestyle and Ozy Solati was second in backstroke and third in breaststroke. The House Masters had been warned that there were few swimmers in the year as a whole and Heywood struggled to put out a team. However, Kassam Mukadam won the backstroke and breaststroke to win the best individual competitor

award. A final position of second was very pleasing and colours were awarded to all finalists and relay swimmers including Haseeb Naziri as a new award.

The junior soccer knockout, like last year, saw Heywood drawn against Gaskell. In an extremely one-sided match Heywood lost 9-0, although Azim Butt in midfield and Kassam Mukadam in defence played extremely well. The seniors certainly enjoyed their matches in the senior league but had no one with any goalkeeping ability and consequently lost all their matches. However, Andrew Machin went on to captain the first 11 in its inaugural season.

The junior netball unfortunately saw Heywood drawn in the same pool as the two strongest sides and we lost both matches, 10-2 to Whitworth and 14-0 to Fraser, despite playing some good netball. A result of 4-2 against Gaskell gave us fifth place. The senior netball proved to be more rewarding. The girls reached the semi-finals by beating Fraser 10-1 and drawing 3-3 with Byrom. A good performance saw us beat Whitworth 6-3 but we were no match for Dalton and lost the final 5-1.

Summer Term

At the first House assembly Leanne Davidson and Matt Dewsnap were appointed Heads of House and Seb Bowe and Beth Coffey deputies. Leanne and Matt were also congratulated on their appointments as School prefects. This was a change to the established procedure but it had been felt for some time that Prefects should be released from their duties earlier in the year so that they can concentrate on their studies. The team captains were also decided and the following appointments were made: Seniors:- athletics- Leanne Davidson and Matt Dewsnap; rounders-Andrea Reah; cricket-Andrew Machin and Aamar Gill; Juniors:- athletics-year 10; Leon Jackson and Ozy Solati; year 9; Martellique Yates and Faisal Majid; rounders-Amnah Ahmed ; cricket-Azim Butt.

In the first round of the senior cricket knockout, we faced Fraser. Heywood scored freely and reached 114 all out with Andrew Machin top scoring with 34. In reply, Fraser achieved 116-5 without too much difficulty. What was a very good game played with a lot of skill and enjoyment was spoiled somewhat because Heywood had only seven players after 4pm and no Andrew McIntyre due to a shoulder injury.

After a bye in the first round of the junior knockout, we played Dalton. In winning the toss our captain, Azim Butt, elected to bat and subsequently batted Heywood to victory by scoring 135 not out from a total of 162-0. At 28-5, and overs and batsmen running out, Dalton gave up. In the final against Fraser Azim, in trying to push the score along, played all around a straight delivery and lost his middle stump on 38. Umar Saleem 11, Leon Jackson 9, Sheraz Ahmed 11 and Imran Sheikh 12 all chipped in valuable runs to make a total of 97-7. Fraser comfortably reached 98 without loss. The pleasing aspect of the match was the spirit in which it was played. Both teams did well fielding and batting and for Heywood Muzafer Ali, Imran Gill, Faisal Majid and Imran Sheikh received colours for the first time when I awarded colours to the whole team for their excellent efforts.

The pool matches for the junior rounders saw us beat Fraser 6-5 and Byrom 5¹/₂-5 with some excellent rounders from Martellique Yates, Korinna Steele, Ozy Solati and Ehi Okpe. Unfortunately, in the semi-final, against Dalton, Ozy was unavailable due to music and we played with only 7 players, losing 9-5. The girls comfortably took third place with a 4¹/₂-2 victory over Byrom but felt they could have done better in the semi-final. Colours were awarded to all the team and were all reawards.

The seniors drew 4-4 with Gaskell and lost 4¹/₂-6 to Byrom. Largely down to sloppy fielding, and went out by ¹/₂ a rounder. The fifth/sixth play-off, against Whitworth, never took place because the first date fell against A level and G.C.S.E. exams and the second date clashed with trips from school and work experience. It meant that a couple of Houses playing in the semi-finals were unable to field a team and finding further time to fit it in was impossible.

The final sporting event of the year was the junior athletics. The senior competition had taken place before half term and Heywood was last with a total of 61 points with Gaskell in the lead with 124¹/₂. Successes on the day consisted, amongst others: Beth Coffey first in 200m and 800m and second in long-jump; Andrew McIntyre first in 100m; Jenny Street third in 800m, fifth in shot and sixth in triple-jump; Christie Okpe fourth in high-jump, fifth in 100m and sixth in 200m; Vanessa Cohen third in shot; Ben Mannheim fourth in 200m; Aamar Gill fifth in triple-jump; Duncan Laing sixth in 400m and Matt Dewsnap sixth in 100m. Beth won the best senior girl athlete trophy so it remained in the House after Carla Narnor had won it in the three previous competitions. In the junior competition we were fairly successful. In year 10 Leon Jackson won the shot, was second in long-jump and third in 100m; Paul Keenlyside won the 400m and was fourth in both 800m and triple-jump; Carolyn Hegg first in shot and third in javelin; Ozy Solati won the 800m and was third in the 100m; Greg Booth fourth in high-jump; Annah Ahmed third in the 200m; James Barrington fifth in 400m and Zainab Hussain sixth in long-jump. In year 9 Ehi Okpe first in long jump and third in the 800m; Martellique Yates second in 100m and high jump and third in 200m; Umara Chaudhry second in javelin and sixth in triple jump; Umar Saleem second in triple-jump and sixth in high-jump and Marie Pang second in 1500m. Heywood finished fifth in the junior competition but sixth overall. All competitors who scored points or ran in relays were awarded colours and I was delighted by the fact that all the awards were reawards, including the year 9s. It is a mark of the contribution made to House activities when all the year 9 pupils manage to achieve colours by the end of their first year in the House and something they can be very proud of.

Just prior to half term I met the new intake and I told them what life in Heywood is like and what to expect. These pupils were not only assigned to me as House Master, they were also to be in my form.

In the Whit holiday the House Prefects went to Pizza-Hut for lunch, followed by ten-pin bowling, as a sort of leaving do. Despite some of the upper sixth being unable to make it, we had a very enjoyable afternoon. The

highlight was seeing Head of House Neel Shah resorting to using the kiddies bowling ramp, in an attempt to hit the pins, as he was having little success even with the gutter buffers out! He blamed his previously broken wrist but we were not convinced!

At the end of term it was announced that Miss Smith, my deputy for the last eight years, was taking over Gaskell House as House Mistress. In the last House assembly I thanked her for all her hard work and support of the House and wished her well in the future. Miss Reyero-Cascallana was appointed to replace her and will work alongside Mr Gracey.

On the final day of the year the House Masters presented Mr Turner with a cheque to mark his retirement as a thank-you for the immense amount of work he has done, each year, on behalf of the Houses, to ensure things run smoothly with the House Plays. He regularly gave up vast amounts of his time to supervise rehearsals, always ensured each House had the same amount of practice time on the stage, liaised with the sound and lighting crew and arranged for an adjudicator. It is my belief that the strength of the House Play competition is largely down to his enthusiasm and commitment. We wish him well in his retirement.

L Sharp

WHITWORTH HOUSE

Michaelmas Term

Heads of House:	William Kent*, Adepeju Pearce* and Miriam Mkumbwa*
Deputy Heads of House:	Jeffrey Wu*
House Prefects:	Jemma Cohen, Marsha Freeman, Iain Gage, Robert Greenhalgh, Gary Meakin, Michael Robson, Pareen Trivedi*

*denotes School Prefect

We welcomed into the House Muhanad Ahmed who joined the Sixth Form and also all the members of 9W who are listed below:

Khaliq Ahmad	Maria Mufti
Usmaan Ashraf	Mohiuddin Salam
Kazhal Berahnegard	Nardene Scott
Sonia Chohan	Mobeen Shahbaz
Seena Elhami	Farhan Siddique
Edward Fisher	Wendy Tang
Sukaynah Ghafori-Kanno	Mishal Trivedi
Claire Hartshorn	Lloyd Wall
Sagar Modha	Daniel Wright

As the result of a new initiative, House Masters were appointed as Form Tutors of Year Nine and this meant that I got to know everyone in 9W very quickly and vice versa.

This year the decision was taken to move the House Play Competition from March to November. This meant that there were fewer pressures on exam candidates and there was more time available for preparation. Miriam Mkumbwa and Peju Pearce acted as co-producers of 'Half an Idea' by Bob Larbey about a marriage farce. They had a large cast of seventeen and managed to involve a wide cross-section of members of the House. Rehearsals were very promising and on the night everything came together in an excellent performance which was slick and hilariously funny in places. After an agonising wait over the weekend Whitworth were awarded First place overall. In addition, Peju Pearce was nominated as Best Actress and Ben Kaufman was commended for his drag role as one of the Spangle Sisters.

I was absolutely delighted for everyone involved and it was a just reward for all their time and effort. In particular it was a fitting end to the careers of Peju Pearce, Miriam Mkumbwa and Jemma Cohen who have all been great supporters of both School and House Drama. A full review is given elsewhere.

Following on from last year Whitworth once again had a strong representation in the Senior rugby squads and consequently the Senior League team was a good mix of all the year groups. Robert Greenhalgh was an excellent captain and his strong quick running was a feature of the

team. He scored many tries including four against Heywood. Fraser and Heywood were both beaten before we played Byrom. In the first half the players lacked commitment and Byrom led 26-0 at half-time. Then they tired and we finally began to run at them. Daniel Mather grabbed a hat-trick of tries closing the gap to 21-26 and then time ran out. This proved to be the crucial game and we finished second overall behind Byrom. Daniel Mather, Nick Barratt and Alex Muir all gave full support to the team.

In the Senior Knockout, Heywood and then Dalton were comprehensively beaten to set up a repeat final against Fraser. Unfortunately, our tactics on the day were suspect and after dominating the first-half we only led 5-0 with a try from Roy Chohan. In the second-half conditions deteriorated, Fraser took their one chance and with a converted try held on to win 7-5. This was a game we could have won but hopefully all the players, particularly the regulars will have learnt from it. In the absence of an injured Will Kent, John Fletcher was an excellent Captain and Nasir Moosa, Roy Chohan and Puya Niroomand were outstanding in the pack.

The Junior Knockout team had very few school players and were well beaten by Dalton. However, they played with a tremendous spirit and never gave up. Ben Kaufman as Captain was a good organiser and led by example on the day. Thanks must go to Miss Matthews for her advice and coaching during practices.

The effort in the Raymond Cox Sevens was superb and Whitworth were convincing winners after the tie last year. We were able to field three full squads which were all, very capable. The First Seven beat Byrom in a superb game and then Heywood, but unfortunately did not play the final against Gaskell because of lack of time. The Second Seven were dominant in their section and easily beat Fraser in the final. The spirit and determination on the day were typified by the Third Seven. They played as a team and scored some excellent tries. In the final against Fraser they were leading by 10pts-7 when an opponent broke clear and seemed certain to score. Alex Hogarth got back to impede him but it was Yasir Khair who showed great determination to chase him down and push him into touch thus ensuring victory. Both Yasir Khair and Muhanad Ahmed were awarded Rugby colours.

In the Junior Hockey, the girls played some excellent hockey and scored several goals on their way to the final against Gaskell. They then dominated the final but just could not score a goal! The final result was 0-0, but Gaskell were the winners because they had managed one short corner. This was a disappointing finish but should not detract from an outstanding effort. Kate Maddock, the Captain, Kristie Tierney and Leela De were the backbone of the team and were tireless competitors. Colours were awarded to the whole squad.

The Seniors competed well but had no luck in the early games and eventually finished sixth. However, their efforts deserved more reward and thanks must go to Peju Pearce the Captain.

The format of the Road Run was changed this year to involve all pupils from Years 9, 10, and 11. This made it

very difficult to predict the overall outcome. However, once again the effort and commitment from all members of the House was first class and meant that Whitworth obtained a fourth successive victory. Mobeen Shabaz worked hard to come home first in the Year 9 race, and Akintunde Adams and Peter Royle were joint second in the Year 10s. Robert Greenhalgh also finished second in the Seniors and Kristie Tierney was the first girl home in the Year 10 race. Colours were awarded to all those who finished in the top twenty.

Alex Hogarth and William Shaw were our representatives in the Debating and had to oppose the motion, 'Humans are more important than animals'. They both spoke well even though it was a difficult motion to oppose.

Lent Term

The term began promisingly when William Shaw and Alex Hogarth were both promoted to Sergeant in the C.C.F. and Kate Howie became a Lance Corporal.

The House Music was organised by Helen Fisher with assistance from Jeffrey Wu. On the day our vocal numbers were badly affected by the absence of Kristie Tierney and the sore-throat of Kazhal Berahnegard. However, the rest of the musicians pulled together and produced an enjoyable performance. Certificates of Commendation were awarded to Roxanne Scott, Leela Dé and Jeffrey Wu. Overall they were placed fifth.

Having won the Senior League Football last year hopes were high for another successful effort. Unfortunately the team failed to clinch several close games through very poor finishing. Three matches were actually lost by one goal and all could have been won. Will Kent was the Captain and was ably supported by Rashed Ahmed, Muhanad Ahmed and Alpesh Pankhania.

In the Junior Knockout first round we played a strong Byrom team, but did well and there was no score at half-time. But once Byrom scored at the start of the second-half the players lost cohesiveness and went down 1-5. Peter Royle was an effective Captain and Akintunde Adams was a dangerous attacker.

In the pool games the Senior Netball team lost to a strong Dalton and then beat Gaskell. They then had a confident Heywood severely rattled at 3-3 before eventually losing 3-5. They then drew 1-1 with Byrom to finish joint-third overall. Peju Pearce scored the goals and Pareen Trivedi, Kathryn Tang and Miriam Mkumbwa all worked hard to give her the chances.

The Junior Netball team were in fine form and stormed through to the final against Dalton. At the beginning of the final they were caught cold by a lively Dalton and were down 3-0. They then rallied and the remainder of the game was very exciting. At the end honours were even at 8 all, but unfortunately Dalton were awarded first place on the basis of scoring more goals in the semi-final. This should not detract from a magnificent effort and Colours were given to all the squad. Kristie Tierney was a tireless leader, with strong backing from Leela Dé, Kate Maddock and Sonia Chohan.

An unexpected victory in the Relay Competition was the highlight of the Swimming Finals. Nine swimmers turned up just to swim in the relays and their efforts were fully rewarded. The Year 9 Medley squad were our only winners, but were backed up by second places from the Senior Medley and Year 9 Squadron, plus third place from the Senior Squadron.

Individual winners were Daniel Mather-Senior Backstroke and Edward Fisher-Year 9 Freestyle, with second places from Mather-Medley, Matthew Royle-Senior Breast-stroke and Mark Glover-Year 10 Butterfly. Overall we placed fourth.

Several Whitworth pupils were also heavily involved in the School production of Cabaret which was a resounding success.

Midsummer Term

In the Junior Cricket we lost in the first round to Dalton but there is a lot of talent in Year 9 which augurs well for next year. Kunal Patel had a difficult job as Captain, but ensured that everyone played their part.

The Senior Cricket was played during the GCSE examinations which meant that all of Year 11 were not available. This severely weakened the team but the Lower Sixth rallied round and made Fraser work for their victory. Daniel Mather was an excellent leader on the day both as a bowler and batsman.

After a successful but frustrating year the Junior girls finished off with first place in the Rounders. Once again they played Dalton in a nail-biting final and yes, it was another draw, 2-2. However this time the two teams were declared as joint winners which was a richly deserved success. On this occasion Leela Dé was Captain and she led an excellent team.



The Junior Girls after winning the Rounders.

The Seniors tried hard but lacked the big hitters and lost both their pool games. The finals were not played because of unavailability of players after the exams.

Senior Sports day was once again a successful occasion and we did well to finish a close third. Holly Kent was in fine form winning both the Long and Triple Jumps. Not to be outdone Will Kent won the boys Long Jump and Robi Dé did likewise in the Triple Jump. The boys 4x400 relay squad then stormed home to register an impressive victory.



The Senior Boys 4 x 400 metres relay team.

The Juniors put in some fine performances on their Sports day to claim first place which meant that Whitworth were a close second overall to Gaskell. First places were achieved by the following;

Year 9 Mobeen Shahbaz - Boys Triple Jump
 Claire Hartshorn - Girls High Jump
 Boys 4x400 Relay

Year 10 Akintunde Adams -
 Boys 800 and 1500 metres
 Kate Maddock - Girls High Jump
 Kristie Tierney - Girls 1500,
 Javelin, Long Jump
 Girls 4 x 100 Relay

Akintunde Adams ran extremely well to complete a difficult 800 / 1500 double and also finished second in the Javelin.

Kristie Tierney was in outstanding form and set a new School record in the Javelin. Not content she then demonstrated her versatility by winning both the 1500 metres and Long Jump. Finally she helped the 4x100 Relay team to first place. For her efforts she was awarded the Trophy for Best Girl Athlete.



The Year 10 Girls 4 x 100 metres relay team with Kristie Tierney (second from left).

In the Middle School Talent Show Kazhal Berahnegard was given an award for the best solo performance, and Kate Maddock, Leela Dé and Kristie Tierney were all in the winning act.

At the end of term John Fletcher, Puya Niroomand, Rashed Ahmed, Helen Fisher and Maria Ahmed were appointed School Prefects. John Fletcher was also appointed Head of House with Puya Niroomand as his Deputy. Helen Fisher was also appointed Head of House. All of them contribute greatly to both School and House activities and the honours are well deserved.

I would like to express my thanks to Will Kent, Jeffrey Wu, Peju Pearce and Miriam Mkumbwa and all the other House Prefects for all they have done over the years. Finally, many thanks to Miss Barlow, Mr Seddon, Miss Matthews, and Dr Keable for all the support they give both to the House and to myself. I can assure them that it is greatly appreciated.

D. A. Myers

SPORT

1ST XI HOCKEY

Played 13, Won 8, Drew 3, Lost 2,
Goals for 36, Goals Against 11

V O.H.A.	W 6 - 1
V Withington	L 0 - 1
V Cheadle Hulme	D 0 - 0
V Sale Grammar School	W 8 - 0
V Newcastle-under-Lyme	W 3 - 0
V Cheadle Hulme	L 2 - 4
V Tarporley High School	D 1 - 1
V St Bede's College	W 3 - 2
V Heathfield High School	W 5 - 0
V Withington	W 2 - 0
V The Kings School, Macclesfield	D 2 - 2
V Stockport Grammar School	W 3 - 0
V Newcastle-under-Lyme	W 1 - 2

Top Goal Scorers - Caroline Bell 10, Leanne Davidson 9, Beth Coffey 7

The 1st XI have had a tremendous season, having been led by example both on and off the pitch by Captain Caroline Bell.

The commitment and enthusiasm towards training sessions and matches has been superb. Very rarely has there been a training session where there wasn't a full attendance. Players were consistently fighting for places



1st XI Hockey Team.

– which is lovely to see – but made the job of selecting a team more and more difficult as the season went on.

Skills have improved during the season but more noticeable was how much teamwork improved. During the last couple of months the girls have really gelled together and produced some excellent hockey. The most notable individual improvement was by Katrina Francis. Katrina was moved up to the 1st XI squad in about November, and through regular training and improved stick work secured her place during the last few weeks of the season.

The team: In defence we have had Kati Greenall in goal – who often moans about diving around in practice but fortunately was prepared to do it in matches which led to many a goal being saved. Thanks also to Sunita Boodhoo, who has improved tremendously in goal over the last couple of seasons and stepped in on a couple of occasions.

Georgina Laird dictated the play from the back with “who’s on the end of it?” frequently being heard by the whole of Manchester. Supporting her was Samantha John, Helia Asadi and Adanna Opara who all played their part in keeping the ball out of the defending 25 yds.

Natalie Ofoche, Anna Rogers, Louise Goodwin and Katrina Francis played Right and Left defence between them. They worked and covered for each other well and were a great support to the midfield players. Laurie Edwards played Centre Midfield superbly throughout the season. Her fitness and speed were excellent, ensuring she was never far away from the ball whether it be in the attacking or the defending circle. I congratulate her on winning the ‘Player of the Season’ award – an award she truly deserved.

Right Midfield was played by Elli Metcalfe who formed a great partnership with Right Wing Beth Coffey. Both girls played some lovely hockey down the right and created many chances which were converted into goals.



1st XI Hockey Team trying to organise themselves for a photograph!

Left Midfield was played by Rebekah Lawson. Rebekah was always quick to work back and help defend as well as creating chances in the attacking circle.

Also on the left was Vanessa Cohen and Leanne Davidson. Both girls have proved to be goal hungry and have scored many by being on the post and converting Right Wing Crosses.

Centre Forward (top goal scorer – just!) was played by Caroline Bell. Her effort and commitment on the pitch has been excellent. She is always prepared to work back showing great defending skills as well as attacking. Her organisational skills off the pitch have been excellent as has her ability to organise and encourage the team on a match day. She has been a tremendous Captain and I thank her for all the help she has given me throughout the season.

Two games particularly stand out for me. Firstly the game against the King's School; Macclesfield. Having seen the opposition – who all looked bigger and stronger than our team – warm up, it was clear to see that they were lethal in front of goal – we had to keep them out of the circle! We managed to do this for about three quarters of the game and actually look a 2 – 0 lead. However, they eventually reached our circle and the game ended with a 2 – 2 draw. A very hard and competitive game, ending with a fair result.

Secondly, was our final game against Newcastle. We always have a close game when we play Newcastle but the girls really went into this match with great determination to end their season with a win. I have never seen a school team put so much effort into a match, work rate and team work were excellent. The game was evenly matched with shots on goal at both ends. With 10 minutes to go a Beth Coffey cross gave Caroline Bell the winning goal. A fitting tribute that the Captain should score in her final school match. I'm sure the parents and staff who travelled down to Newcastle to watch will agree that it was a victory well deserved.

I have had great enjoyment coaching the 1st X1 this season, my job was made easier by the commitment and enthusiasm that the girls have shown. I would like to thank the girls for all their help and support – they will be a tough act to follow next year. I wish the Upper Sixth good luck for next year and hope they continue to play hockey at University.

Finally, my thanks to the parents who have supported and encouraged week in week out (year in year out!) no matter what the weather. Your support has been greatly appreciated by both myself and the players.

*J. Barlow
1st X1 Coach*

2ND XI GIRLS HOCKEY

Overall it was a pretty successful year for the 2nd XI Hockey team. The record for the year was a good one winning two, drawing three and losing two. Obviously it would have been nice to play more games but I was extremely pleased with the dedication and togetherness of the squad.

It was my first year as a Hockey coach and I thoroughly enjoyed it. What I enjoyed most was the fact that the team never gave up and carried on to the end, even in the last game against Newcastle away when we were three goals down.

Particular shouts must go to Camille Kasler for her goals and tremendous leadership, to Lucy Berger for her dynamism at the back, to Holly Kent for her tireless work down the centre of the pitch and to Bhavini Vara for her meandering runs.

Very well done to all the squad, keep it up next season and above all 'Keep Smiling!'

A Roberts

UNDER 15 HOCKEY

The U15's had a very enjoyable season this year with a high standard of play, despite a few low scores. Each

player has been very dedicated and put in as much effort as possible.

Most of the time we worked together as a team and although we did not get many goals we also stopped many from going in. We had a few defeats but good team spirit made us play better the next time, we never gave up in any match. We would like to thank Miss Raw for being a brilliant coach and I would like to thank all the girls who have played for us this year.

Kate Maddock (Captain)

As Kate mentioned, it has been a very enjoyable season. From my point of view the season has been easy as all the girls have regularly turned out with enthusiasm. Kate has been a fantastic captain, keeping the backs and halves in order with great support from Ceegay, as vice captain, on the forward line.

I awarded Leela the player of the year award because of her outstanding improvement this year. Certainly she will be a contender for the first team next year with her high level of skill and fitness.

The girls have worked very well as a team this year and although we have not won many matches it must be remembered that we are playing against all girl schools who often have five times as many girls to choose from for their teams. We do remarkably well and it makes it even better when we do win.

I would like to thank some of the parents for their continued support and would like to encourage more support from within the School. The matches are really fascinating to watch and I know the girls would really appreciate it.

So, to another season, if my next team are half as dedicated and appreciative of help as these my job will be easier.

Alison Rawe

U14 HOCKEY

Played 12, Won 10, Drew 2, Lost 0,
Goals for 44, Goals Against 4

V St Monica's	W 4 – 0
V Withington	W 2 – 0
V Cheadle Hulme	W 3 – 0
V Sale Grammar School	W 3 – 0
V Newcastle	W 4 – 1
V Sale Grammar School	W 7 – 0
V St. Bede's	W 2 – 0
V Tarporley High School	W 5 – 0
V Withington	W 4 – 0
V Stockport Grammar School	D 2 – 2
V Alderley Edge	D 1 – 1
V Newcastle	W 5 – 0

Top Goal Scorers

Nicola Plummer 14, Prya Boodhoo 12,
Katherine Veitch 7.

After last season we knew we had to work hard to maintain the high standard we had previously reached. However we managed to better ourselves and reached the end of the season without losing a match. We have had a fantastic season considering we had a new goalkeeper and several injuries. We played to our full potential every match, and went out confidently to every game – even against opposition we have lost to in the past.



U14 Hockey Team.

Our forward line, as usual, played every match confidently and with enthusiasm. Katherine Veitch, Ashley Gilbody, Martellique Yates, Nicole Plummer, Nardene Scott and Prya Boodhoo all worked hard every match, causing all sorts of problems for the oppositions defence. They attacked strongly from the half way line pushing up into the circle to score. They grasped new tactics which often left the opposition standing. They were all goal hungry and would often be seen queuing up to have a shot on goal from any loose ball in the circle. These six players gave their all 100% of the time to ensure only the best results came of the game.

Thembi Watt and Ehi Okpe did a tremendous job of linking the defence and the forwards together. They were always there to pick up any loose ball and feed it back into our attacking half. They were a great support to both the forwards and the defence. They were often seen running from one end of the pitch to the other – even when they were tired – yet they always managed to be in the right place at the right time.

The defence had a fairly quiet season. Tamara Brown, Korinna Steele and Simone Walters had little to do in several of the matches – on some occasions a whole game went by without any of them touching the ball as it was always in our attacking half. However, they were always ready for any quick break by the opposition and distributed it back to the attack as quickly as possible.

Kizzy Smith joined the squad this year and has improved tremendously as the season has gone on. Kizzy played up front following Nardene's injury and soon found herself scoring some goals - yet another player desperate to find the back of net.

Hopefully we will continue to improve next season. This was a fantastic season this year, we all thoroughly enjoyed it and are very proud of our achievements. We would like to thank Miss Barlow for all the time and effort she has given us. Thank you!

Tamara Brown (9F)

Congratulations to Ashley on her 'Player of the Season' award. A very difficult decision this year. However, Ashley held the team together in the middle, she was never far from the ball – whether in attack or defence – and could be seen scoring goals at one end defending them at the other.

I would like to congratulate the whole team following a tremendous season. They have been a pleasure to work with as they are so committed, enthusiastic and keen to learn and improve. I have thoroughly enjoyed the season and now look forward to coaching them again next year.

*J. Barlow
U14 Coach*

UNDER 13 HOCKEY

(Captains: Lavinia McDonald-Jones (Michealmus) and Holly Goodrick (Lent))

The team took a little while to settle down after the departure of last year's captain and the influx of two new players, Emma Endlar and Charlotte Platt. However the new squad soon began to gel. Lavinia showed that she was an able replacement as captain, and Charlotte and Emma quickly proved their worth. Attendance at practices soon a hundred per cent and some effective sessions were held, although better timekeeping would have allowed us those extra minutes we needed at lunchtime. Before Christmas there was little consistency in the Team's performances and often goals from Holly and Courtney were all that kept us in the game. Several cancellations disrupted this part of the season as well and caused a lack of continuity in both performance and development. We are sorry to lose Jessica Brown from the team when she left School at Christmas.

In the New Year the girls seemed to lose confidence and become needlessly distracted, sometimes by umpiring decisions, sometimes even by an opponent who they decided was playing unfairly. In some games our passing and attacking play collapsed completely and we found ourselves facing onslaught after onslaught from the opposing forwards. Withington caught us at our weakest (and our worst), without a goalkeeper and with a very negative attitude, with the inevitable result. Cheadle Hulme only beat us with two breakaway goals which the entire team stood and watched. Against Alderley Edge concentration was anywhere but on the game, so that we failed time and again to clear the ball cleanly out of defence and complained far too much. I trust these less than memorable experiences will have taught the players some valuable lessons.

On a brighter note, the game against Sale at Brooklands saw the Under 13s at their best: this was a tireless team effort with especially good contributions from Holly, Lavinia, Lauretta, Rachel and Christina, and Emma's strongest game of the season. The girls absorbed a lot of pressure at the back, carried the ball well, showed due respect for the opposition and the umpires, and encouraged and supported each other well. On those occasions in other matches when they did attack the team looked effective and purposeful and it was only inexperience or luck that prevented a goal. The National

Mini-Hockey Tournament at Altrincham provided valuable experience and in two of the five games we more than matched the opposition.

Much credit should go to goalkeeper Vicky Knight for resolutely turning out to play week after week in her least favourite position. She and the two regular full-backs Christina and Rheanna were always kept busy and it is indicative of how hard they worked that we only really collapsed once, when we had no keeper's kit and two untried backs. A number of Under 12 players, Lizzie, Georgia, Lisa, Alice and Sarah earned the gratitude of the team for helping out when our numbers were depleted, common in a squad of ten!

This season three of the most determined, effective and positive players were Lavinia, Christina and Charlotte, but the player who was the most skilful, consistent and dependable, who never missed a practice, and who always took the sport seriously yet seemed to have the most fun, was Lauretta Lauder, and she was duly elected Under 13 Player-of-the-Year.

Results

V St. Monica's School	Drew	1-1
V Wright Robinson HS	Won	3-0
V Cheadle Hulme School	Lost	0-2
V Sale GS	Drew	2-2
V Newcastle-under-Lyme School	Drew	1-1
V Cheadle Hulme School	Lost	0-2
V Sale GS	Drew	1-1
Mini-Hockey Tournament Drew 2 matches, Lost 3		
V Withington Girls' School	Lost	0-8
V Alderley Edge School	Lost	0-3

The Under 13s were Holly Goodrick, Lavinia McDonald-Jones, Jessica Brown, Emma Endlar, Vicky Knight, Lauretta Lauder, Rachel N'Jie, Rheanna Pereira, Charlotte Platt, Christina Sullivan and Courtney Thomas.

D M Fisher

UNDER 12 HOCKEY

V Cheadle Hulme School (A)	Lost	0-1
V Sale Grammar School (H)	Lost	0-6
V Stockport Grammar School (A)	Lost	0-4
V Alderley Edge (H)	Won	3-1
V Newcastle-Under-Lyme School	Lost	0-2

It was with a certain 'baptism of fire' that we set out on our endeavours to conquer the hockey fraternity. As you read our results you will understand that we still have a long way to go!

It certainly was an experience taking on the U12 hockey squad this season after 12 years of coaching the netball teams for W.H.G.S. My first task was to convince the girls that I could coach hockey to a standard that Miss

Barlow would be happy with, not an easy one – believe me. (Back in the Dark Ages I did play at U18 level for my county! Read carefully NOT country!) and to explain that it would take time to develop a squad and to work on the basic skills necessary, and for them to get used to hearing, "No you can't go straight into a game!"

My second task which proved even more difficult was to get the players into 'their positions' on the field and make them stay there. Typically, I think of any sport, to begin with, the tendency of the girls was to follow the ball mercilessly and at times they took the ball off each other with tremendous gusto and flair.

Against Cheadle Hulme where they were looked after by Miss. Raw, the report back was that they all worked very hard but bunched dreadfully enabling Cheadle Hulme to take advantage of the situation and sneak a very sedate goal through a muddle of feet.

You can imagine my horror against Sale Grammar School where we were outplayed by girls who had obviously been practising on astro-turf and really were extremely skilful, not only in having the necessary skills to hit and stop the ball, but also to see spaces and have knowledge that they would have players in the right places in order to feed them the ball. I would have thought that this sort of 'thrashing' would have been a terrible blow for morale, but was impressed by the fact that our girls turned up punctually for their practices and were really switched on and determined to improve.

Our next fixture against Stockport Grammar followed after February half term and in the first half Stockport scored 4 goals! I'm sure that you can imagine what the team talk was like after that half! I was so proud that it did have an effect in the second half and although we couldn't manage to score, neither could Stockport.

More practices later and another match, this time against Alderley Edge, a school in size much more comparable to ours. Expectations were high and there really was a feeling that we had a chance to win this one. Imagine my delight when we actually scored a goal! My only regret is that as an umpire of 'your own team' it would seem unprofessional to whoop and jump for joy. Sorry, but on this occasion I was very unprofessional – forgive me Alderley Edge. Jodie Gray was our first scorer, yes there was still more to come! She collected the ball midfield and just ran and ran, not really looking where she was going, but hit the circle line and as encouraged in practices 'whopped it one.' Heartened by the fact that it was possible to succeed, both Chizormam Opara and Emma Kane took the initiative and we were victorious by 3 goals to 1. Alderley could have scored more, but Georgia Selby our goalie and the two backs at that time Anna Sutton and Sarah Gall worked hard to stop them.

Two days later we travelled to Newcastle-Under-Lyme, and were greeted by typical British weather, torrential rain and freezing cold, icy winds. Our performance was very 'lack lustre' and we must have given away over 50 short corners to Newcastle in our circle. The inevitable happened and they scored twice through one particularly talented centre forward, who will be an extremely talented hockey player in the future.

I've really enjoyed this season and thank warmly our U12 superstars who didn't always win, but did show determination and tremendous courage:

Georgia Selby, Sarah Gall, Hannah Dodson, Chizor Opara, Lindsay Rushforth, Anna Sutton, Emma Kane, Alice Murphy, Lizzie Boyle, Lisa Mbaya, Jodie Gray, Kamielle Jordan, Sumaiyah Ghani and Nasrin Abid.

Mrs. T. Pollard

NETBALL

TEAM	PLAYED	WON	DRAW	LOST
Year 7 – U12	2	0	0	2
Year 8 – U13	6	2	1	3
Year 9 – U14	5	0	0	5
Year 10 – U15	5	2	0	3
Senior A – U18	4	0	0	4
Senior B – U18	2	0	0	2

Our first outing this season to St Monica's was a dismal start, both in terms of weather and results. There was a closely fought contest during the U13 game, but we were definitely outclassed by St Monica's shooting. The U13's, however, shone in their match against Manchester High where we played a tight defensive game and scored at every opportunity resulting in a 12-5 victory. The U14's lost 12-18 which was a real shame as we managed to score the same number of goals as Manchester High in the second half. A tremendous battle was fought at senior level and annoyingly a lack of concentration and one 'giddy' minute lost us the match 6-7.

Through hard work and real team commitment our U15's had their first victory in a long time against a weakened St Bede's team, which was really wonderful to witness. This was followed a few matches later by an unbelievable performance against Alderley Edge where we romped to a tremendous 15-7 victory. Ceegay Verley was inspirational which empowered Ozadeh Solati to sink goals one after another. Defensively Nneka Opara and Maria Khan were solid and Kristie Tierney, Kate Maddock, Amy Diaczuk and Leela Dè formed a powerful mid court alliance.

Our worst outing has to have been against Newcastle-under-Lyme who have awesome netball teams. They are used to playing as close knit teams and are really impressive to watch. This fixture was probably the worst one in my eleven years at WHGS for player availability. Every team had players with genuine reasons for being unavailable resulting in weakened teams playing. Martellique Yates badly injured her hand in the first quarter but bravely continued, the netball post was knocked over and narrowly missed Kristina Stus. Three key players were missing at U15 level so the team was made up of U14's. At the senior end of the spectrum our captain, Caroline Bell was injured, Adanna Opara (one of our excellent defensive players) was really unwell and during the game, on an extreme slippery surface, Georgina Laird fell awkwardly and for a worrying time I felt sure she had broken her arm, fortunately I was wrong.

There was some light relief as the Senior B team at half time were drawn 5 goals all. However, in the third quarter we completely lost concentration where Newcastle stole the advantage finally winning 14 goals to 6. The journey was felt to have been worth it by all concerned, however, as the hot dogs and doughnuts were wheeled out for refreshments.

I have never failed to acknowledge the time and commitment shown by all our netball squads and the time with which both they and you, as parents, have given up so freely to run to and from fixtures and to support us in our endeavours to conquer the opposition. However, after a lot of careful thought and consideration, it is with much regret that we have decided not to play any more inter-school netball fixtures and concentrate wholly on hockey as our main inter-school sport.

This decision will affect netball only at inter-school level as our pupils will still be taught to play netball as part of our Games curriculum, complete at both inter-form and inter-house level and have the opportunity to play socially during lunchtimes and after school.

Miss Smith and myself would like to express heartfelt thanks to the following girls for their loyalty over the years to Netball and hope to see them at our social netball practices starting in September:

U12 - Shamma Aslam, Sarah Gall, Hannah Dodson, Adela Sulliman, Ramandeep Kaur, Georgia Selby and Angel Cheung.

U13 - Jessica Brown, Christina Sullivan, Charlotte Platt, Lavinia McDonald-Jones, Lauretta Lauder, Holly Goodrick, Courtney Thomas, Rheanna Pereira, Rachel N'Jie and Emma Endlar.

U14 - Simone Walters, Sonia Chohan, Laura Dodson, Ashley Gilbody, Martellique Yates, Katherine Veitch, Kristina Stus, Prya Boodhoo, Nicole Plummer, Ehi Okpe and Anisa Ashraf.

U15 - Maria Khan, Nneka Opara, Ceegay Verley, Kristie Tierney, Kate Maddock, Leela Dè, Ozadeh Solati, Shelley Turnberg and Amy Diaczuk.

2nd VII - Camille Kasler, Rachel Ablott, Christie Okpe, Rebecca Goodwin, Natalie Sheldon, Peju Pearce, Louise Goodwin, Laurie Edwards and Samantha John.

1st VII - Caroline Bell (Captain), Natalie Ofoche, Andrea Reah, Georgina Laird, Rebekah Lawson, Adanna Opara, Beth Coffey, Kati Greenall, and Katrina Francis.

Mrs. T. Pollard.

Miss. J.F. Smith.

TENNIS REPORT

Unfortunately this year's tennis season was shorter than ever, due to Easter being so late and the weather being so poor. However, the first team managed to play three matches, winning two and drawing one and the U14's played two, drawing one and losing one. The Lower School had a slow start to the season but did eventually show some interest so hopefully we will see them playing matches next year.

The following girls have represented the school at tennis: Caroline Bell, Julia Atherton, Georgina Laird, Louise Goodwin, Laura Berrisford, Beth Coffey, Helia Asadi, Tamara Brown, Laura Hanford, Katherine Veitch, Ehi Okpe, Thembi Watt, Prya Boodhoo, Vicki Knight and Rheanna Periera.

The girls tournament was well supported with Katherine Veitch and Laura Hanford being the eventual winners, so well done to them.

The highlight of the season was our trip down to Wimbledon. Although it was a very long and tiring day it was well worth the effort and enjoyed by everyone who went.

J Barlowe

WIMBLEDON

On Tuesday 27th June, Miss Barlow took a group of us down to Wimbledon. We had a very early start as we had to be at school for 6.00am.

We eventually arrived at 2.00pm, where Vicky and Rheanna headed off to Centre Court to watch Lindsay Davenport while the rest of us went to Court 2 to see Kuerten against Woodruff, a close and exciting match with Kuerten winning 6-4, 6-7, 7-5, 7-6.

Next it was our turn on Centre Court where we saw Martinez beat Kremer 6-3, 7-6. It was a great experience being on Centre Court, there was a great atmosphere and we enjoyed it thoroughly. We stayed for a hour then passed our tickets to George and Rebekah and headed back to Court 2 to see the end of Mary Pierce's match, she comfortably beat Nicoli Pratt 6-1, 6-3. Next up was Monica Seles, she had a tough match which included a lot of grunting but she came out the eventual winner.

We stayed on the same Court to watch Goran Ivanisevic sadly lose to Clement 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4. Laura's cries of "come on Goran" and "Yes Goran" unfortunately didn't work so we then went to cheer ourselves up with a double chocolate ice cream. There was a stall with souvenirs, which we both managed to splash out on and buy something to remember the day with and to keep our mums happy!

Back on the Courts, the Sixth Formers enjoyed watching their heart-throb Safin beat Blanco 7-6, 6-3, 6-4. Unfortunately, he got knocked out later on in the tournament, but there's always next year!

We were both determined to get some autographs so we stood outside the players locker room for a while; but apart from John McEnroe walking past us and refusing his autograph, we had no such luck.

Katherine and Vicky were really lucky later on as two ladies handed them their Centre Court tickets, they raced over to find Andre Agassi was playing Bent and the seats were 3 rows from the front. It was unbelievable to be so close to the court and to the players.

After a brilliant day we made our way back to the mini-bus at about 8.30pm, all of us extremely tired. The journey home was very quiet as most slept, we finally arrived back at school at 1.15am, totally exhausted but it was definitely worth it.

We would like to thank Miss Barlow for organising everything, everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. A thank you also to the weather which stayed fine and sunny all day. We hope we get the chance to go next year, which will give us something to look forward to.

Katherine Veitch & Laura Hanford 9D

BASKETBALL

Basketball is Britain's fastest growing sport. The boys at School are exposed to it on a daily basis with broadcasting of the NBA (National Basketball Association) on television as well as the more recent success of the Manchester Giants.

I was not surprised then that large numbers of boys (and some girls) attended weekly practises as well as playing basketball in the sports hall at break. At this point I decided to organise school fixtures.

The season started with a weekend away in Southend-on-Sea for the year 7 and 8 pupils where a colleague of mine organised two matches, two coaching sessions and three other matches to watch. The weekend was a great experience for all the players who had improved noticeably during the weekend as well as making some new friends.

The following week the season was up and running with matches for Year 7, 8, 10 and 11's. It took some time for the boys to develop game experience but after three games each all teams had won at least once.

The Year 7's best performance came against Priestnall High School where Peter Zabolotny was instrumental scoring 28 points in our 48 - 20 win. The Year 7's season finished with 4 wins and 6 losses.

The photograph below shows the team from left to right - Scott Thomas, Peter Zabolotny, Edward Walsh, Jacky Chen, Jack Haslam, Ashley McDonald, William Appleton, Ben Deghan, Richard Trinick.



Year 7 Basketball.



Year 8 Basketball.

The Year 8 team has the greatest potential in the School but unfortunately a rocket behind them would not increase their speed. There are some wonderfully natural athletes in the team including Michael Walker, Jonathon Butterworth and Malik Tabib but to compete at the highest level they must exert themselves more. The Year 8's played 9 matches winning 5 and losing 4. From back left to front right the team was as follows: - Atem Eyong, Michael Walker, Keka Atanga, Hinesh Chohan, David Porter, Tayo Moses, Michael Wray, Malik Tabib, Umar Iqbal, Ada Okpe, Kyle Hall. (Jonathon Butterworth not pictured).

The Year 10's and 11's played a number of their matches together. Many players had played a great deal of basketball before and therefore they found their feet very quickly. Stefan Knight, Omar Hylton and Philip Pereira performed well as guards all year. Stefan is a highly talented sportsman who found the demands of basketball easy to master. He must however develop a more positive attitude when the team is struggling as other players look towards him for leadership.

Karl John and Chris Booker played with distinction at Centre organising the team with authority. Our forwards; Andrew Smith, Peter Royle, Joe Gavagan and Matthew Parkhouse worked well throughout the season but were continually upstaged by Justin Ofoche who played magnificently during every match. Akintunde Adams and Nick Travis improved steadily this year. Leon Jackson has so much to offer and is by far the most natural basketball player in the squad.

The Year 10's and 11's played 14 matches, they won 9. The most impressive victory came against Manchester Grammar School where we recovered from a half time deficit to win 48-43.

I expect basketball to thrive at William Hulme's, A large amount of money has been spent refurbishing the sports hall to improve the facilities. We have some very talented players who must continue to practice and play as a team. I wish them every success.

The Year 10 team is shown below from back left to front right (Justin Ofoche not pictured): - Leon Jackson, Andrew Smith, Matthew Parkhouse, Peter Royle, Stefan Knight, Philip Pereira, Chris Booker, Nick Travis, Akintunde Adams, Omar Hylton.

A. J. Mackenzie



Year 10 Basketball.

CANADA 1999 RUGBY TOUR

Results - Played 4, Won 4

V Belleville Bulldogs	W 61 - 15
V Ottawa Scottish	W 19 - 10
V Balmy Beach	W 17 - 6
V Ajax Wanderers	W 10 - 5

On July 9th 1999, a group of 26 players and staff from the school flew from Manchester Airport to Toronto's Pearson International Airport.

During our tour we played four matches. The first against Belleville proved to be fairly comfortable however they became more challenging with a last gasp try from captain Richard Nixon ensuring we would return unbeaten. The players showed tremendous spirit during all the matches and should be proud of their fantastic achievement.



White Water Rafting on the Ottawa.

We also had many social occasions including a night at Ontario's largest music festival, a day rafting on the Ontario River, a visit to the sky dome to watch the Toronto Blue Jay's play baseball and a day at Wild Water Kingdom in Toronto.



The teams pose for a photograph after our first victory against Ottawa Scottish.

The whole tour was a fantastic experience for both the players and staff. It is a holiday I will never forget and I know the players feel the same way.

The touring party consisted of the following:

Mr. A. Mackenzie, Mr. A. Austen, Mr. C. Gorman, Mr. F. Titterton, Nick Sharwin, Matthew Dewsnap, Chris Howarth, William Kent, Ben Green, Chris White, Neil Matthews, Daniel Naylor, Philip Robinson, Paul Edisbury, Anthony Green, Daniel Gall, John Fletcher, Ben Veitch, Chris Harwood, Chris Lindley, Jon Byrom, Richard Nixon, Iain Gage, Jon Murphy, Luke Coffey, Scott Griffiths.

A. J. Mackenzie

1ST XV RUGBY

Results:

Played 17 Won 13 Drawn 1 Lost 3
Points For 541 Points Against 92

V Cheadle Hulme School	W 54 – 0
V Sale Grammar School	W 41 – 5
V St. Bede's College	W 33 – 0
V Manchester Grammar School	L 27 – 7
V Bury Grammar School	W 59 – 5
V Widnes 6th Form College	D 17 – 17
V Bolton School	W 35 – 0
V Sandbach School	W 65 – 0
V Stockport Grammar School	L 15 – 0
V Altrincham Grammar School	W 25 – 10
V King Edward and Queen Mary's, Lytham	W 28 – 5
V Lymm High School	L 10 – 3
V Wilmslow High School	W 58 – 0
V Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Blackburn	W 10 – 0
V St. Joseph's College, Stoke-on-Trent	W 46 – 5
V St. Edward's College, Liverpool	W 28 – 14
V Newcastle-under-Lyme Grammar School	W 32 – 16

This has been an excellent season for the 1st XV. For a team to win over 75% of their matches is an outstanding achievement.

A number of talented Year 11 pupils joined an already highly competitive squad for summer training. I was delighted with the early signs as almost every position in the 1st XV was up for grabs. After three training sessions and a trial match the 1st XV took the field against Cheadle Hulme School. We played some of the best rugby I had seen from a William Hulme's team during the first 20 minutes with our new fly half Michael Platt instrumental in every attacking move. Chris White, captaining the side in Daniel Naylor's absence, dominated the lineout allowing our athletic back row of Nazir Moosa, Joe Holland and William Kent to run riot. A number of fine breaks in mid-field from Chris Harwood set up a hat-trick of tries for Philip Robinson and a brace for Andrew McIntyre on his debut.

Two good victories against Sale and St. Bede's ensured we arrived at Manchester Grammar School with confidence high. We played with wonderful spirit during the first half and turned round leading 7 – 6. However during the second half a number of players made some basic mistakes and we never recovered. I believe we were as good as Manchester Grammar but unfortunately we were punished for our lack of concentration at vital moments. Many skills we had performed during a half paced practice session were not good enough during an

intense game. This confirms my theory that you must practice at game pace or you will be exposed during matches. The team was not always prepared to do this.

The season continued well with good wins against Bury, Bolton, Altrincham, Wilmslow and QEGS, Blackburn. Our proudest moments were in defeat against Stockport, where we finally showed courage and pride in a hard fought match, and during a fine win against Lytham where Anthony Green took control of our forwards and demanded a big game. At this point I decided to make Anthony captain for the 2000 season. He deserves this honour and I wish him every success in the future.

We remained unbeaten after Christmas and entered the Rosslyn Park Sevens in high spirits. We have not played much sevens and this was evident as we were knocked out of the tournament during the group stages.

I would like to thank all the players (listed below) who have trained regularly and committed themselves to one of our most successful seasons ever. A number of staff have advised and aided me during my three years as 1st XV coach and to them I am grateful.



Members of the Senior Rugby Squad gather for the end of year photograph.

The players should be proud of the way they responded to the sad losses of Ravi Gokal and David Barnes. Both men enjoyed rugby enormously. They will be sadly missed by the School and myself. I will take many fond memories of the School with me, especially those of Ravi playing and David refereeing, a credit to the School and the game of rugby.

A. J. Mackenzie



2ND XV RUGBY

Results

Played 11 Won 6 Lost 5

V Cheadle Hulme School	W 35 – 19
V St. Bede's College	W 10 – 8
V Manchester Grammar School	L 24 – 27
V Bolton School	L 22 – 20
V Sandbach School	W 17 – 12
V Stockport Grammar School	L 25 – 18
V Lymm High School	W 12 – 7
V Wilmslow High School	W 35 – 10
V Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Blackburn	W 17 – 16
V St. Edward's College, Liverpool	L 20 – 18
V Newcastle-under-Lyme Grammar School	L 30 – 10

I have always enjoyed coaching the 2nd XV but found them a particular pleasure this year. They displayed wonderful enthusiasm throughout the year and improved enormously.

I would like to thank all the squad members who attended training regularly. A special mention should go to Mr. Booker who gave up his time continually throughout the season.

Congratulations to Robert Booker for his captaincy and Alpesh Pankhania on his Most Improved Player Award.

Finally without the assistance of David Barnes during the last 7 seasons we would not have had a 2nd XV. His involvement allowed many boys to play the game he loved.

The following players represented the School at senior level:

Kofi Djang, Bilal Hussain, Robert Serrant, Ravi, Gokal, Marcus Webber, Simon Khoshneviszadeh, Justin Ofoche, Chris Ogden-Smith, Luke Coffey, Jon Murphy, William Kent, Nick Sharwin, Joe Holland, Andrew Pickford, Matthew Dewsnap, James Meers, Robert Thompson, Anthony Green, Brett Ramsumair, Rashed Ahmed, Hadi Al-Bayati, Puya Niroomand, Paul Stonehouse, James Ucer, Robert Booker, John Fletcher, Alick Hyde, Daniel Gall, Scott Griffiths, Warren Dawkins, Jon Byrom, Daniel Naylor, Chris White, James Veitch, Philip Robinson, David Purvis, Iain Gage, Chris Harwood, Daniel Goodkin, Michael Platt, Omar Raja, Andrew McIntyre, John Bracchi, Matthew Booth, Roy Chohan, Robi Dé, Nasir Moosa, Alpesh Pankhania, Shoyab Patel.

A. J. Mackenzie

UNDER 15 RUGBY

Played 14 Won 11 Lost 3

Points For 366 Against 228

V Cheadle Hulme	Won 41 – 27
V Sale G.S.	Won 34 – 19
V St.Bede's	Won 41 – 37
V Bury G.S.	Won 55 – 0
V Audenshaw High School	Won 31 – 25
V Sandbach School	Won 37 – 19
V Stockport G.S.	Won 37 – 25
V Altrincham G.S.	Won 85 – 12
V Wilmslow High School	Lost 25 – 44
V Q.E.G.S. Blackburn	Won 6 – 0
V Barlow High School	Won 37 – 7
V St. Joseph's College	Won 32 – 30
V St. Edward's College	Lost 12 – 52
V Newcastle	Lost 0 – 21

At the start of the season, we had 23 players in the squad. Within a few weeks we had 14. Two of the original squad were injured and later returned to play in the last six fixtures. The remaining seven boys chose, for one reason or another, not to represent the School. This was disappointing for many reasons; not least that they were prepared to let their friends play the fixtures with only fourteen players on the field. Some would say that this is a sign of the times. If so what a dreadful attitude to take through life.

On a much more positive note, the remaining boys were talented and reasonably keen to play (if not always to train). Shortly after the start of the season the squad was strengthened by the inclusion of Justin Ofoche who was too young to play 2nd XV rugby. However because of illness or injury, we still could not field a full fifteen players on a regular basis. This fact also affected training and as a result the quality of our team play did not improve as much as I had hoped it would over the season.

Individually however many players did improve. Stefan Knight got better, both as a player and as captain but probably (hopefully) learnt most from the team defeats late in the season. Abraham Petrillo, Ali Anwar, Pairo Nowroozi and later John Chung (from the back row) formed a dependable front row combination. Umer Ibrahim and the always reluctant Matthew Parkhouse packed down in the engine room and with more time and training would have developed more of the required skills for this position. Various combinations were tried in the back row, but Nick Travis and Umair Khalil kept producing consistently good performances but in the senior teams will have to work together more as a unit with Tim Bannister, our regular scrum half. Tim's game developed nicely throughout the season but he is a little too quiet. Next season he must dominate the pack and

encourage delivery of the ball when he requires it. Chris Booker, fly half, enjoyed reasonable success and got the three quarter line moving well. This was important since most of the attacking strengths of the team revolved around Stefan and Justin (at centre and full back). Stephen Lancashire complemented Stefan at centre and also showed improvement during the season. At senior level he will need to pay particular attention to his defensive alignment and tackling – key attributes in any centre. Sean Cordwell and Akintunde Adams played on the wing. Although neither of them is particularly big, both played well within the overall team effort.

An initial run of eight victories made for an impressive start to the season. The team played particularly well against St. Bedes, Audenshaw and Stockport. Our first defeat was at Wilmslow when having started the game with fourteen players we found ourselves well in the lead. However two key players had to come off with injuries and Wilmslow ran in their tries in the last fifteen minutes. Some players found this defeat hard to come to terms with. Losing is an important part of playing sport. The ability to lose with grace and to afford the opposition respect is a difficult, but important, aspect of competitive sport.

In the last two games of the season, we were well beaten by two organised sides. We paid the price for our low squad numbers and lack of team development. Both St. Edwards and Newcastle played a physical game both in attack and defence and we had insufficient ideas to contain them. However for most of the season our small squad performed creditably scoring 336 points and conceding only 228. I personally gained a great deal of satisfaction from being involved with the team but feel a sense of frustration that individuals and the squad did not develop as much as I had originally hoped.

My thanks go to all the players and to the small but dedicated band of parents for all the time, effort and hard work that went into the season.

The player of the season was Stefan Knight; the most improved player was Umer Ibrahim.

The following boys regularly represented the School:
A. Adams, A. Anwar, T. Bannister, C. Booker, J. Chung, S. Cordwell, U. Ibrahim, U. Khalil, S. Knight, S. Lancashire, P. Nowroozi, J. Ofoche, M. Parkhouse, A. Petrillo, S. Tanvir.

N.Travis.



U14 RUGBY

Played 16 Won 7 Lost 9
Points For 372 Points against 343

V Cheadle Hulme. (h)	Lost 14 - 27
V Sale Grammar. (h)	Won 24 - 0
V St. Bede's. (a)	Won 48 - 0
V Ashton on Mersey. (h)	Won 38 - 19
V Bury Grammar. (h)	Lost 41 - 10
V Audenshaw High. (h)	Won 48 - 0
V Bolton School. (a)	Lost 12 - 22
V Sandbach School. (h)	Lost 19 - 31
V Stockport Grammar. (a)	Lost 5 - 45
V Altrincham Grammar. (h)	Lost 15 - 22
V Wilmslow High. (a)	Lost 15 - 25
V QEGS Blackburn. (a)	Won 36 - 10
V Barlow High. (h)	Won 52 - 3
V St. Joseph's. (a)	Lost 5 - 29
V St. Edward's. (h)	Lost 0 - 45
V Newcastle under Lyme. (a)	Lost 0 - 55

The following boys played for the U14 team:

B.D. Analoui, D.E. Asgill, P.J. Birch, T.J. Egeli, S. Elhami, E.O. Etadafe, K. Gedal, S. Hudda, N.C.A. Inniss, D.D. Knight, M. Lindo, Z.I. McKenzie, S. Modha, K.E. Mukadam, E.J. Murtagh, Q. Pervez, J.S. Sandher, M.R. Sharpe, C.J. Stephens, M. Trivedi, A.R.M. Vittoz, R. Wilson, D.M. Wright, B. Yarbo.

The squad has produced an extreme variety of performances this season as is reflected in the results.

In our opening fixture against Cheadle Hulme we showed strength and power in the forwards, winning more than our fair share of possession. However we lacked the necessary guile and imagination in the back line and were eventually overpowered by a strong opposition. This performance had given us plenty of positives and it had been a pleasing team effort.

Throughout the season there were several performances which highlighted the potential apparent in the team. Against St.Bede's we won much possession in the forwards and our back line ran straight and hard utilising their superior possession well. In the game against Ashton on Mersey we competed well in a very even game and eventually pulled through with several scores late in the game. Against Bury we showed pace and strength in the backs and controlled power in the forwards resulting in a comfortable win.

However in some games, notably against Sandbach and Altrincham, we had much of the play and the opportunities to win the game but we let ourselves down with silly lapses in concentration losing the games. It was also apparent that in several games we had decided to

allow the opposition ten points before we started to play. With more focus and application at the start of games we could have gained wins instead of some of the tighter defeats this season. Also we were often too reliant upon certain individuals as our attacking options and must learn to attack and support as a team.

Despite this there are many positive points to take from this season. We have a strong and powerful pack with Paul Birch, Timor Egeli, Eugene Murtagh (our top scorer - a strong and aggressive runner) and a much improved Edwin Etadafe to the fore. We also have some talented players in our back line with some elusive and strong runners including Cesaire Stephens, Dzikoh Asgill, Martin Lindo and Zac McKenzie.

Paul Birch captained the team well with enthusiasm and our player of the season was Cesaire Stephens who developed in his role as stand off, showing increasing confidence and is a player of much potential.

Most pleasing of all this season was the enthusiasm for their rugby and the enjoyment gained from playing displayed by a number of the squad. If this was matched in training by a number of others then this squad could progress well to develop its potential.

M.T.R. Jones.

U 13 RUGBY

Played 15 Won 2 Lost 13

Judging solely by the results, this looks to have been a disappointing season for the U13s. However, the results do not reflect the effort, commitment and enthusiasm shown by a group of 16 lads.

Being a member of the squad involved training 2 or 3 times a week and playing on every Saturday from September until March. In September the U13s had a large squad of 25 boys, but sadly several of these soon showed they lacked commitment and repeatedly let their team down.

The rest of the squad improved their skills during the season. There were several good performances e.g. against Bolton where they eventually lost 27-12 in a hard-fought game. The effort put in that day, especially in defence, was fantastic. The 2 victories were against QEGS Blackburn and Barlow High and were well-deserved.

The team lost many of their matches simply through a lack of physical size. Their opponents also often had players who played for clubs and were, therefore, more experienced.

A few individuals deserve a mention. Player of the Season, Jonathon Butterworth, was consistently outstanding. Most improved player, Luke Morgan, although one of the smaller players put in some memorable tackles. With so much of the season spent in defence (!), the following players stand out for their willingness to tackle - David, Azizul, Kyle, Iain and Martin K. The 2 props, Patrick and Chris, finally got the hang of it towards the end of the season!

And so to next year.... When they grow (!), if they show the same determination and if the whole squad attends practices, they will certainly improve and win more games.

The Squad -

Umar, Jonathon Bowe, Mark, Jonathon Bu., Martin B., Hinesh, Chris, Kyle, Iain, Azizul, Aaron, Martin K., Patrick, Luke, Ada, Simon, David, Asad, Adam, Matthew and Martin W.

YEAR 7 RUGBY 1999 - 2000

V Ashton on Mersey High School (H)	L 12 - 15
V Audenshaw High School (A)	D 12 - 12
V Cheadle Hulme (H)	L 0 - 50
V Bolton School (H)	L 5 - 8
V Sandbach School (A)	L 12 - 42
V Stockport Grammar School (H)	D 5 - 5
V Altrincham Grammar School (H)	L 0 - 17
V Wilmslow High School (H)	L 0 - 33
V QEGS Blackburn (H)	W 43 - 5
V Barlow High School (A)	W 40 - 0
V Newcastle under Lyme School (H)	L 0 - 27

I would like to think that this rugby squad would enter Year 8 with renewed hope, enthusiasm and commitment. Results have not been particularly successful this year, but most squad members have learned and benefited a great deal from participating in School rugby. Some boys, however, let both themselves and their fellow squad players down very badly.

This is the Sixth consecutive Year 7 rugby squad in which I have been personally involved. As in previous years, many good things emerged. The boys were generally enthusiastic, committed and willing to listen to advice and learn from their mistakes.

A number of promising forwards exist within the squad; William Appleton is combative and athletic; Jacky Chen, strong, direct and brave; Jack Haslam, versatile and skilful; James Tyler, a thoughtful, competent forward and, in Richard Trinick, the squad has a captain and scrum-half who is intelligent, perceptive and courageous.

The backs showed equal promise; Luke Teather's athleticism and running skills were invaluable; Peter Zabolotny is quick and brave; Ashley McDonald tackled well and used the ball intelligently; Ainsley Anderson's searing pace and strength were a constant threat and Thomas Hague proved himself to be a reliable performer and a decent footballer.

Why then, given that there was a real talent in the squad, were results largely disappointing? Certain boys need to take a long, hard look at themselves. On a number of occasions the team was short of players on

match days. It was a year of family outings, mysterious weekend illnesses, lost boots, shorts, tops, gum-shields and hair bands. A catalogue of disasters seemed to befall certain individuals – especially on Saturday mornings. When the going gets tough, too many boys got out. Too many acted as individuals, not as members of a team squad. For some, what the School could do for them was far more important than what they could do for the School. They should remember that being chosen to represent their school is an honour – not a burden. Commitment and perseverance are crucial ingredients of a successful team. Too many boys lacked these qualities.

Ending on a positive note, most of the boys will reflect with some satisfaction on the season. Both Mr Hewston and I would like to thank them and a significant number of their parents, who turned up on wet, windy Manchester mornings. Their continued support was very much valued and appreciated.

The squad consisted of:

Ahmed, A. Anderson, W. Appleton, J. Chen, T. Hague, J. Haslam, M. Hussain, M. Kay, M. Keilich, A. McDonald, B. McGivern, A. Miles, J. O'Donnell, G. Qureshi, R. Saunders, M. Smith, A. Steele, L. Teather, S. Thomas, R. Trinick, J. Tyler, E. Walsh, J. White and P. Zabolotny.

*Mr M C Gorman
Mr P R Hewston*

RUGBY HONOURS

Many congratulations to the following players who were selected to represent their chosen county for the 1999/2000 season.

- Daniel Naylor – Cheshire Under 18's and Under 20's (Captain) *Pictured*
- Chris White – Cheshire Under 18's *Pictured*
- Michael Platt – Cheshire Under 16's *Pictured*
- Stefan Knight – Manchester Schools and Lancashire Under 15's
- Umair Khalil – Cheshire Under 15's
- Justin Ofoche – Cheshire Under 15's



Daniel Naylor, Chris White, Michael Platt.

Well done to the following players who have been selected to train with the Sale 'Sharks' Youth Academy: Zac McKenzie, Cesaire Stephens, Paul Birch, Eugene Murtagh, Martin Lindo and Jonathon Butterworth.

Luke Coffey has been training with the Salford City 'Reds' Rugby league Academy – a fine achievement!

A. J. Mackenzie

RUGBY PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

- 1st XV – Daniel Naylor (Tim Edwards Memorial Trophy)
- 2nd XV – Roy Chohan
- Under 15's – Stefan Knight
- Under 14's – Eugene Murtagh
- Under 13's – Jonathan Butterworth
- Under 12's – Richard Trinick

A. J. Mackenzie



Daniel Naylor pictured with the Tim Edwards Memorial Trophy.

FIRST 11 SOCCER 1999-2000

The first season of soccer at William Hulme's was planned to run for six weeks through all of March and a couple of weeks in April. However, as most schools had regular block fixtures already in their calendars, arranging fixtures became the biggest problem.

From watching the seniors play House League up to the February half term, it was relatively easy to select a squad. What Mr Simkin and I did realise very quickly was we had two outstanding goalkeepers, in Phil Robinson and John Fletcher, a surplus of talent in midfield, several quality attackers but very few defenders. Apart from Joe Holland we had no other centre half for the first team. In an attempt to get round this problem I decided to play a back three with captain Andrew Machin playing a deep defensive role with Shane Coley and Stephen Peck as wing-backs. Shane and Stephen had no problem playing this formation but the defence could not cope so we reverted to the traditional back four.

Our first match was arranged for us by Miss Barlow. Her brother's school, Heathfield High in Congleton, had for some years sent a hockey team over to play on their Wednesday afternoon games session so it was suggested they bring a football team with them. This proved an excellent idea and gave the first team the run out they needed. It was obvious from the kick off our practices and training together had paid off as we were far better organised. Two early goals from Dan Naylor and Chris Kay, from scrambles in their penalty area, gave us the upper hand. This was followed by the best goal of the match when Andrew Machin bent a free kick, over the wall, from the edge of their box, with the ball going in off the underside of the crossbar. Dan Naylor then added a second to give us a half time lead of 4-0. In the second half we changed the team round to try further players and Alex Johnstone scored a very good solo goal. A late consolation goal, when our defence went to sleep, made the final score 5-1 but the score was immaterial as the team had played so well prior to starting their proper fixtures.

On the following Saturday we played Altrincham Grammar and had problems before we started as Joe Holland was unavailable. My pre-match team talk was quite simple, we had to keep the ball, defend as a team, prevent them from scoring and not do anything stupid for twenty minutes so we had a chance to assess the capabilities of the opposition. This obviously fell on deaf ears because within 35 seconds of the kick off they played a through ball between our centre backs for their centre forward to run onto and slide the ball in off the post. After 19 minutes things got even worse as the defence in failing to clear the ball near our penalty area gave them the ball for a very soft goal. As I was refereeing Mr Simkin on the touchline decided on drastic action and substituted our centre half, moved Rob Booker across from right back and put Matt Dewsnap in Rob's position. This seemed to give us the extra pace we needed and gave the midfield the chance to play more freely without fear of having to track back every time we lost possession. We started having some success down the left flank where Steve Peck was making space for himself and was getting early crosses in for Dan Naylor. Also, Chris Kay and Andrew

Machin gradually took control of the midfield and, just before half time, when Dan beat their keeper to the ball he was hauled down for a penalty which Chris promptly dispatched. The second half saw us put Asmar Chaudhry on in defence and move Alex Johnstone, who had been playing in defence, up front to his natural position to partner Dan. With two tall and fast strikers this really gave us the upperhand and made them look very vulnerable to through balls and crosses. When Steve Peck smashed a curling shot in from just outside the penalty area it was no more than the team deserved. A final score of 2-2 was very pleasing after such a poor start and many good things came out from this match.

At North Cestrian a week later we were without Phil Robinson in goal, Chris Kay in midfield and Dan Naylor in attack but it gave Alex Johnstone the chance to lead the attack and John Fletcher was an equally good keeper. Unfortunately in jumping to take the ball at a corner, after only fifteen minutes of the match, John caught his studs in the turf and tore a cruciate knee ligament. Nazir Mooza who had come in on the morning of the match to play left back now found himself in goal! They took the lead soon after and we struggled to contain them to half time. The interval gave us the chance to discuss and change tactics and the second half saw us compete much better. We restricted them to one shot in the second half and the goal they scored from it was unstoppable. Their left winger with his back to goal flicked the ball over his and our right backs head, spun and ran after it before lobbing the ball, over the advancing Nazir, from the corner of the penalty area. Shane Coley soon pulled a goal back for us when he ran through to beat their offside trap and slid the ball past their keeper but try as we might we could not score again. The most pleasing aspect of the match was Andrew McLeod, who had come along as a reserve striker, filled in at right back after John's injury and had an excellent game, so much so that it was decided to leave him there and to play Matt Dewsnap at left back in future games. Also, Seb Bowe who came into midfield had a tremendous match and obviously could not be omitted for the next match against Manchester Grammar.

The match the whole team eagerly awaited arrived on a Wednesday evening at MGS. I decided to play five in midfield with Shane and Steve given the freedom to push on down the flanks, Chris Kay a free role and Andrew Machin and Seb holding roles in central midfield. After the disastrous start against Altrincham, I was determined to keep things tight and the first twenty minutes were very cagey. However, we soon found we could match them in every department and were unfortunate not to be awarded at least one penalty when first Chris and then Shane were felled in their area. Dan Naylor felt at half time that he was fighting a losing battle on his own up front but we decided to leave the team as it was yet try to be more adventurous without really changing our formation. With fifteen minutes to go we had earned numerous corners and free kicks in dangerous positions, only to no avail, when Dan turned their centre half, beat the keeper with a fierce shot only to see it bounce off the face of the crossbar. Alex Johnstone immediately went on up front in place of Steve with a change to 4-4-2 and despite Dan and Alex causing a lot of problems we could not score. A final score of 0-0 was acceptable but having

completely dominated the second half we really felt we should have scored. Nevertheless we had played a very good side with our strongest team and looked the better team on the day.

Our last match was on a lovely warm spring Saturday morning at Cheadle Hulme. Shane was unavailable due to Saturday detention but this helped ease selection problems and we reverted to 4-4-2 with Seb moving to right midfield and Alex joining Dan up front. They were a very organised side and took an early lead. Phil Robinson pulled off a tremendous save by diving full length to tip the ball round the angle. However, the ball was not cleared properly from the ensuing corner and the ball was smashed in through a crowd of players. Alex soon levelled the score, by linking well with Steve and Dan, before sliding the ball past the advancing keeper. The first half was very open and both keepers were called on several times. We took the lead early in the second half when Andrew Machin fired in a fierce shot which the keeper parried into his own net. They then equalised for the second half to take a similar pattern to the first. With only a few minutes left, and both teams looking tired, they moved their right winger into a more central role and brought on a substitute to play down their right flank. This proved our undoing because instead of switching our markers around our fullback continued to stay with the man he had marked all match. The new player was left with time and space to put in a deep cross to the far post for the centre forward to score with a fine header. The lads felt very deflated having played so well only to lose in the last minutes but it is all part of the learning process.

Over the five matches the team only ever lost by the odd goal and when at full strength and fitness were a very good side. Hopefully, John Fletcher will make a full and speedy recovery to join what should be a very capable first team next year when they will play for a whole term. They can certainly be proud of their achievements this year.

L. Sharp

UNDER 13 FOOTBALL

Played 3	Lost 3	Goals For 4	Against 17
V North Cestrian G.S.			Lost 0 – 5
V Manchester G.S.			Lost 1 – 6
V Cheadle Hulme			Lost 3 – 6

For the first time in many years, the School organised inter-School football fixtures during the Lent term. Twenty-two boys joined the squad and all played a part in the three fixtures.

Although we did not win a game, many positive points emerged. Attendance at training was excellent; all the boys were keen to develop both individually and as a team. Initially most of our time was spent in the development of individual skills. Later, the squad worked on defensive alignment and midfield play. Noticeable improvement was evident in all areas. Possibly our biggest handicap was lack of fitness – football demands that a player is able to run for the duration of the game; some

players found this difficult and must work hard to improve this aspect next year.

The pattern in all three games was similar; we struggled to gain a fair share of possession and had to defend for long periods of the game. Inevitably the opposition scored goals but they were not “easy” goals, and they were made to work for their victory. In attack we made good use of limited possession and our scoring ability did improve as the term progressed.

Within the overall team effort I would like to mention three players. Jonathan Bowe, the captain, who patrolled midfield with authority, and Malik Tabib and Obi Anyalawechi who kept running in attack creating problems for the opposing defence. However, as in all team games, it is the commitment and enthusiasm of the whole team that determines success – not measured by the number of games won, but in terms of progress and enjoyment. Although we did not win a single game, as a team we developed and showed improvement during the term. The squad can look forward to next year with confidence.

I would like to thank all the players for their efforts throughout the term and in particular Mr. Jason Beckford (Manchester City F.C.) and Mr. Alan Clinton (Stockport County F.C.) for their help and expertise during the term.

The following boys represented the School;

Z. Ali, O. Anyalawechi, K. Atanga, J. Bowe, M. Brown, H. Chauhan, N. Choudhury, C. Farrel, K. Hall, I. Hollister, A. Kelembek, M. Knight, P. Knowles, L. Morgan, A. Okpe, S. Patterson, D. Porter, G. Sandher, M. Tabib, A. Wahid-Khan, M. Whitehead, A. Ullah.

YEAR SEVEN FOOTBALL TEAM REPORT

Quite a number of Year 7 boys were looking forward to the season and we all hoped that we would do well. This year's football season was very short due to the fact that it was our first competitive season and the long rugby season. We played a total of three matches, (a bit on the excessive side, don't you think?) drew one and lost two.

Our first game was against North Cestrian Grammar School. Although W.H.G.S. had a few chances early on they pressed forward and were only repulsed by some good defending, especially by Ainsley Anderson and some superb goal-keeping, including a penalty save, by William Appleton. The second half saw us push forward more with some brilliant midfield work by Scott Thomas (captain) and Gershom Leech, but we didn't quite manage to score. Both teams were evenly matched and the final score of 0-0 was a fair result for our first game.

The next game we played we were eager to win as Manchester Grammar are our big rivals. The match started well with a beautiful pass from the midfield from which Ayo Ahmed scored neatly. Unfortunately they made continued attacks and eventually we conceded a corner, from which they scored. Following half-time their striker took a long-range shot which just dipped in. W.H.G.S. fought back well, but they managed to score

another goal with time running out. W.H.G.S. continued to attack and Jack Haslam scored a well deserved goal with a well placed shot. The final score was 3-2 to them, not quite the result we felt we should have left with.

Our third and final game was against Cheadle Hulme. The game started off badly with Cheadle scoring three quick goals. W.H.G.S. tried to attack, but their defence held, although Matthew Smith nearly scored on a few occasions. However they continued to score more goals, but we didn't give up and kept trying. The second half started well with W.H.G.S. playing much better football, but in the end, with several first-choice players missing, we were beaten 13-0 by the better team.

Next season we hope to play more matches and also continue to improve, as we all enjoyed this season (short as it was) and are already looking forward to next season. Finally, I would just like to say thank-you to our faithful supporters and Mr. Gorman and Mr. Roberts for their support, time and effort, guiding us through the season.

Richard Trinick 7DGB

CRICKET

This was an 'Annus Horibilis' for school cricket. A difficult season was made worse when, one Saturday evening in May, the School pavilion and its contents went up in smoke. Unfortunately, much of the commitment we expect from pupils appears to have gone in the same direction. On almost every Saturday this year, players from one or another team failed to turn up for matches, letting staff and their team-mates down. A radical change in attitude is necessary if those staff involved are to continue to consider the running of a school team a 'job worth doing'. So it is up to the players themselves. This winter (for practice) and next summer, full attendance and dedication are expected and demanded.

With the above comments in mind I must thank my colleagues Mr Simkin, Mr Bull, Mr Crane, Mr Seddon and Mr Booker for their tireless pursuit of players and their commitment to this time-consuming activity.

Mr P. R. Hexston

1ST XI CRICKET

Results:

Played 9 Won 0 Lost 7 Drawn 2

6 May 2000 v Queen Elizabeth
Grammar School, Wakefield

QEGS	175 - 5 (35 overs)
WHGS	71 - 4 (35 overs)
	Lost by 104 Runs

13 May 2000 v St. Bede's College

St. Bede's	168 all out (A. McLeod 3 - 18)
WHGS	103 all out (D. Naylor 50)
	Lost by 65 Runs

10 June 2000 v Birkenhead School

WHGS	45 all out
Birkenhead	46 - 1
	Lost by 9 Wickets

17 June 2000 v King Edward VIII School, Lytham

WHGS	112 all out (S. McClements 47)
K.E.S. Lytham	113 - 3
	Lost by 7 Wickets

27 June 2000 v MCC

MCC	173 - 9 Dec (K. Ullah 4 - 46)
WHGS	67 all out
	Lost by 106 runs

28 June 2000 v Manchester Grammar School

MGS	180 - 6 Dec
WHGS	89 - 9
	Match Drawn

3 July 2000 v The Hulme Grammar School, Oldham

Hulme Oldham	148 - 6 (35 overs)
WHGS	41 - 2
	Match Abandoned - Rain

5 July 2000 v Wilmslow High School

WHGS	88 - 7 (25 overs)
Wilmslow	89 - 9
	Lost by 1 Wicket

7 July 2000 v Sedbergh School

Sedbergh	174 - 7 Dec
WHGS	112 all out
	Lost by 62 runs

The above statistics adequately illustrate that this was another extremely difficult and disappointing season for the First XI. The season was always going to be a testing one due to a late Easter, and our number of matches was cut yet further by a dreadful, wet summer. This year any frustration at the weather was, however, tempered by the knowledge that we may be saving ourselves another beating.

It was our batting that let us down on most occasions. I was disappointed, and very irritated, that the First XI Captain Daniel Naylor, was only available for one match. The lures of Agua Napua were obviously sufficiently tempting to override any responsibilities or commitments at home. Without him, our batting was extremely brittle, and we never really looked likely to establish a competitive score with the bat.

Some players certainly improved as batsmen over the course of the season though and, as it has become traditional to say in this article, the future does look rosier. Aamir Gill looks solid in defence and plays straight, but struggles to score runs quickly. He must stay patient and trust his skill. As his physique develops, he will get runs. Robert Booker, who captained the side admirably and with good spirit, runs well between the wickets and has a good brain for the game. He is currently a little weak when driven onto the back foot, a common fault amongst even the very best players. Other players made good scores at times, with Sam McClements grounding out a hard-earned 47 against K.E.S Lytham,

and Rajiv Kay showing how great a talent he is with a lovely 35 at Sedbergh.

In the bowling department, the cupboard is far better stocked. Daniel Mather, Aamir Gill, Rajiv Kay and Kasim Ullah all bowled well on occasions, and as a team we did not concede 200 in the entire season – a fair achievement. We do, however, desperately need slow bowlers, and any younger pupil with cricket ambition should practice this skill during the winter. A little variety would bolster encouragingly pacy, accurate and youthful bowling side.

There were signs, in the closing games of the season, that some progress was being made. I was naturally delighted to avoid defeat at Manchester Grammar, and we also performed creditably at Sedbergh against strong opposition. I hope that the players are learning all the time about the game, and becoming more aware of its complexities and nuances. It is certainly the case that WHGS can become competitive again at this level, but commitment and dedication are absolutely essential if we are to achieve this goal!

The following represented the 1st XI this season:

R. Booker (Capt.), H. Al-Bayati, C. Booker, A. Butt, R. Dè, A. Gill, A. Hussain, M. Hussain, M. M. Hussain, R. Kay, U. Khalil, D. Laing, D. Mather, S. McClements, A. McCleod, D. Naylor, C. Ogden-Smith, O. Raja, B. Ramsumair, M. Robson, A. Smith and K. Ullah.

Mr P. R. Hewston

SECOND XI CRICKET

Only four matches were played in a very short summer term. The side was ably led by Hadi Al-Bayati who scored 49 not out in the first game against Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Wakefield, which was drawn. Heavy defeats were against King Edward's, Lytham and Manchester Grammar followed. The final match against Merchant Taylors', Crosby was an exciting game in which we finally succumbed by 7 runs. My thanks go to Hadi for his organisation and to all who represented the school.

M.R.B.

UNDER 15s CRICKET

Results:

Played 5 Won 2 Lost 2 Drawn 1

6 May 2000 v Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Wakefield

QEGS	175 – 5 (35 overs)
WHGS	71 – 4 (35 overs)
	Lost by 104 Runs

V QEGS, Wakefield (away)

WHGS	146 (Kiani 34)
	QEGS 147-4
	Lost by 6 wickets

V St. Bede's College (home)

WHGS	188-8 (Butt A. 76, Khalil 61)
St. Bede's	39 (Ahmed 3-5, Booker 3-10)
	Won by 149 runs

V Birkenhead School (away)

WHGS	93 (Booker 35, Smith 25)
Birkenhead	95-5 (Mohammed 2-16)
	Lost by 5 wickets

V King Edward VII, Lytham (home)

Lytham	156-4
WHGS	130-5 (Butt A. 60, Khalil 31)
	Match drawn

V Manchester GS (home)

WHGS	198-6 (Butt A. 137 n.o.)
Manchester GS	91 (Butt A. 4-13)
	Won by 107 runs

The following players represented the School:

U. Khalil (captain), A. Ahmed, U. Akhtar, S. Anjum, A. Aslam, C. Booker, A. Butt, U. Butt, F. Haque, O. Khan, H. Kiani, R. Kumar, K. Mir, R-A. Mohammed, I. Rahim and A. Smith.

The playing record suggests, quite rightly that this was a season of mixed fortunes. Only five games were played – partly due to the weather but, in a short term, we must ensure that there are more fixtures. The two defeats both came away from home in similar fashion. In both of these games the School batted first, made an encouraging start and then fell away with collapses that could only be matched by the England team. Although our bowlers then made some inroads into the opposition innings, the targets set were not big enough to defend realistically. Another common factor in these two games was the absence of A. Butt, our leading run scorer. His presence in the team often gave others confidence which seemed to be lacking when he was not there.

The drawn match was against Lytham, in which Lytham batted a long time to set a challenging target. While A. Butt and Khalil were together, the target was quite possible but, when both were out, the remaining batsmen did not have the range of scoring shots and had to settle for a good draw. The two comprehensive wins came in similar fashion: the School batted first and set formidable totals and then bowled the opposition out relatively cheaply. While St. Bede's may not be the strongest of oppositions, Manchester GS certainly are and hence it was this final win that gave me most satisfaction. It also included the performance of the season from A. Butt who scored a magnificent undefeated 137 before taking 4 wickets just for good measure.

With only five matches played, I do not think that the team developed as much as I would have liked and this only emphasises the need for any serious cricketers to sign on for a good local club so that they can get much more cricketing experience when the School season is over. I would like to thank all the players for making this an enjoyable, if short, season and particular thanks go to Khalil for his captaincy. He led the team well on and off the pitch and will have learned much from this experience. Thanks also go to Mr. Hewston for his organisation of the cricket, the ground staff for preparation of the pitches and to the ladies for the excellent teas.

UNDER 14 CRICKET

V QEGS Wakefield	
QEGS	161 for 4 decl
School	61
	Lost by 100 runs

V St Bede's College 25 overs match	
St Bede's	100 for 9
School	91 for 9
	Lost by 9 runs

V Birkenhead School 35 overs match	
Birkenhead	168 for 6
School	27
	Lost by 141 runs

V King Edward VII School, Lytham	
Lytham	182 for 6 declared (Adams 3 for 30)
School	60
	Lost by 122 runs

V Manchester Grammar School	
School	90 for 9 declared (Adams 50 not out)
MGS	93 for 3
	Lost by 7 wickets

V Merchant Taylor's School, Crosby	
School	61
Crosby	62 for 3
	Lost by 7 wickets

Comments

The weakness of the William Hulme's batting was revealed in the first match in which the bowlers held QEGS quite well on a very good batting wicket. Just a few overs were costly and all the bowlers produced some good deliveries; five catches were dropped, however, and QEGS took full advantage.

A close overs match against St Bede's could have gone either way, but we could not bat fast enough.

Birkenhead was a very good side which, after we won the toss, was struggling at 60 for 6 and then 80 for 8. They batted well low down the order and our bowling became loose. Our batsmen made their bowlers look even better than they were, however, as they played with too much bottom hand or lost concentration and played across the line at straight balls.

In the last three matches Lytham, Manchester Grammar and Crosby were too strong for us and their batsmen took full advantage of the plentiful supply of long-hops and full tosses that our bowlers delivered to them. There were good performances from the captain Chris Brown and Alex Adams, the latter with both bat and ball but there was insufficient support from the others.

Promise was shown by a few lesser players such as Naveed Chaudhry and Kassam Makadam but, despite impressive enthusiasm from a large number of pupils in this year group, there is room for new players with talent and the desire to work hard to succeed.

Thanks to Mr Booker for umpiring against St Bede's, Mr Gorman against Crosby, Mr De Silva for coaching during the winter and Mr Conroy for his pitch preparation.

P.M. Bull

UNDER 13 CRICKET

Results:

Played 4 Lost 4

Because of the very short term and rain affected games, only four fixtures were played.

It was obvious from the start that we were going to be short of cricketers as opposed to boys who enjoy playing cricket. In effect this resulted in the team either scoring too few runs to win the game or setting a decent target for the opposition, or being unable to bowl sufficiently well to contain or dismiss the opposition.

It was certainly the case that the teams we played against were made up of a large number of club cricketers. In effect this lengthened the playing season for the boys and exposed them to extra coaching. In the long term this can only lead to an improvement in their ability.

Against Q.E.G.S. Wakefield, (all the Wakefield team played club cricket and looked very competent) we struggled to keep their score down. Their opening five batsmen played straight to every ball, giving very few chances. Scoring 161 from 30 overs was an impossible target in our first fixture and we struggled to score 33 runs.

From this game I tried to set realistic targets for improvement, and in the short time available many of the team did improve their game. It was important that we score a decent number of runs and we did manage to increase our totals. It was important that our bowlers pitched the ball on a good line and length, and certainly Zunair Ali showed improvement.

In the final fixture against a very strong Manchester Grammar XI it was our fielding which let us down. Chasing their total of 187, we managed a creditable 87 which may appear quite disappointing but which would have been an impossible score at the start of the season. Z. Ali was our season top scorer hitting 38 in this fixture.

Despite a poor season in terms of results, the Under 13 squad has been a good bunch of boys. Simon Patterson captained the team and kept wicket and, together with input from Asad Ullah, maintained a cheerful attitude on the field.

Many players show the potential to improve and go on to represent the School 1st. XI. However, this will not be achieved without the desire to improve and in reality this means making the effort to join a club and play during the long Summer holiday.

The following boys represented the School:

M. Ali, Z. Ali, Z. Anjum, J. Bowe, N. Chaudhry, H. Chauhan, S. Faiz, I. Hollister, W. Hussain, F. Khan, M. Khan, I. Mahmood, S. Patterson, D. Porter, G. Sandher, A. Ullah, A. Wahid.

U12 CRICKET

Results:

Played 5 Won 1 Lost 2 Drawn 2

In yet another rain-affected season, it was ultimately disappointing to be able to play only five fixtures. This, together with the exceptionally late start to the Summer Term, has proved frustrating for a team which has a fine nucleus and plenty of potential both individual and as a team. Clearly, the seven-wicket victory against St. Bede's was a highlight of the season, where we bowled, fielded and batted well, but on other occasions indifferent fielding (v King Edward's, Lytham) and lack of application in our batting (Q.E.G.S., Wakefield) were our downfall. Honourable draws in our other two games (v M.G.S. and Merchant Taylor's, Crosby), however, revealed encouraging signs for the future and showed that the team are slowly starting to put into practice what has been discussed during the year, namely concentration and application.

All of the players managed to make a useful contribution, but William Appleton, as captain, opening bowler and opening bat, stood out as a fine all-round player who, if he can temper his occasional impatience with the bat, has the makings of a first-rate cricketer. On the bowling side, he was ably supported 'seam up' by Tom Hague and Humair Ali, whilst the spin of Richard Trinick caused problems for most of the opposition. In addition, Robert Saunders proved an effective occasional bowler, getting wickets basically by bowling straight (!) Behind the stumps, both Zaheer Akhtar and Saad Khan tried hard, with varying degrees of success, with Zaheer claiming the position as his own in the latter part of the season. Wicket-keeper is a uniquely specialist position, and hopefully, they will both gain more confidence with age and more match practice.

As a team, they have shown enthusiasm and willingness to learn, right from the Winter net practices back in January, and turnout for practices has been generally very good - keep it up! On and off the field, their behaviour has been exemplary and they have been a credit to the School. Cricket is one of the last bastions of sporting etiquette and it is essential we maintain high standards. As captain, William Appleton was an excellent ambassador in this respect and in addition he led by example in his cricket.

I am sure the team have a great future and I wish them well. My thanks also to the parents who were able to come and support us in spite of very mixed weather conditions!

The following represented the School:

W. Appleton (c), S. Khan, Z. Akhtar, R. Trinick, T. Hague, H. Ali, R. Saunders, H. Akhtar, M. Smith, L. Teather, E. Walsh, I. Arshaid, J. Chen, M. Akram.

C. Crane

GREATER MANCHESTER SCHOOLS ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

During the second half of the Mid-Summer term a large number of Year 7, 8 and 9 boys practised regularly for the championships.

On Tuesday 4th July the schools boys' team arrived at Wythenshawe Park Athletics Track, this was the first athletics event the school had competed in for many years.

In the Under 13's age group the following won medals:

Ainsley Anderson (100 Metres - Silver)

Ayodeji Ahmed (Hurdles - Silver)

Ainsley Anderson,
Ayodeji Ahmed,
Matthew Kay,
Ada Okpe,
Peter Zabolotny (4 x 100 Metres Relay - Silver)

In the Under 15's age group the following won medals:

Khairie Gedal (100 Metres - Gold)

Cesaire Stephens (High Jump - Bronze)

Cesaire Stephens,
Khairie Gedal,
Martin Lindo,
Dzikoh Asgill (4 x 100 Metres Relay - Silver)

The School scored well in many other events. We finished fourth overall out of fourteen teams, a very commendable result.

I would like to thank all the athletes, Miss Matthews, Miss Raw, Mr Roberts, Mr Myers, Mr Jones and Mr Seddon for their help.

The beauty of athletics is that all pupils can find an event where they may achieve some success. The boys at William Hulme's warmed greatly to it. I do hope it continues to thrive in the future as I believe we have pupils with enormous potential.

A. J. Mackenzie

PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT SPORTS TEAMS

Over this year there have been a variety of sports teams competing against other schools. These have been chosen mostly from Years 5 and 6.

Football:

The Prep football team has had a successful season and was unbeaten in its four matches, recording three wins and a draw.

Our first fixture was against St. Phillips when we recorded two wins, our A team winning 1 - 0 and our B team recording a 2 - 1 victory. We then played Forset Park Prep drawing 0 - 0. In the return fixture we proved too strong for them and won 5 - 0 (with Alastair Bolton scoring four goals).

I was impressed by the attitude shown by all the players who played in these matches, they were a credit to themselves and the School with their sporting behaviour. Special mentions must go to Alastair Bolton, Jonathan Pearson, Johnathan Williams, Matthew Snape and Andre Proverbs for their performances and especially to Dominic Andrew who captained the team in a sensible and mature manner.

We also played one match at Year 3 and 4 level against Southfields Prep. This ended in a 2 - 1 victory and bodes well as there is a wealth of talent at this level.

Netball:

The netball team was also successful in its two fixtures. Both of these were against Forest Park Prep and both were won comfortably. Again all the girls who represented the School did so with great dignity and were a credit to the School. Masooma Naqvi, Gul Ali, Mwape Walker, Yusra Haq, Roya Jooyandeh and Hayley Parr were among those who performed so well.

Cricket:

We only managed one fixture this year, against St. Bede's prep. This resulted in a narrow defeat for our team (by six runs). The game was played in a sporting manner and a competitive spirit and was enjoyed by all players and spectators alike. We were ably captained by Hassan Shahid who enjoyed good support from Asif Mughal, Kashif Khan, Adrian Frost, Zeshan Ahmed and Asim Anwar.

Athletics:

A group of Year 5 and 6 pupils represented the School in the North West Independent Schools Championships at Robins Park in Wigan. All who attended must be congratulated for their efforts, as they all gave their best, and their superb attitude.

Some of the group deserve special mentions as they were placed in the finals of their events, they were: Jonathan Pearson (1st place Boys U12 200m, 2nd place Boys U12 Long Jump, 3rd place Boys U12 400m), Spencer Chapman (1st place Boys U11 100m, 1st place Boys U11 Long Jump), Roya Jooyandeh (2nd place Girls U12 200m), Stuart Storry (2nd place Boys U11 100m) and our U11 relay squad (Spencer Chapman, Stuart Storry, Jordache Taylor and Alistair Lewis) who finished third in their race.

Our two winners then progressed into the national finals in Leicester and both performed exceedingly well being placed in their events. Jonathan was third in the U12 200m and Spencer gained second place in the U11 80m and third in the U11 Long Jump. These are two extremely talented athletes and I hope they continue to progress and enjoy their athletics.

I would like to thank all the pupils who have represented the prep at their chosen sport this year but especially the Year 6 pupils who now progress onto the next stage of their education. I wish them all well and hope they continue to do themselves credit in their attitude and enjoy their sport.

M.T.R. Jones.



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Notes

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