



90 Upper School children helped to deliver a triumphant performance of **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** at the end of the penultimate week of term. The girls and boys aged between 9 and 13 delivered two wonderful evening performances to over 300 parents and friends. The musical was an adaptation of Roald Dahl's story of five lucky

children winning a trip around Willy Wonka's chocolate factory. Charlie Bucket, played by Elliot Coulling, sees his rather unpleasant co prize winners, Veruca Salt (Isabel O'Sullivan), Violet Beauregarde (Bolade Ladipo), Mike Teavee (Marcus Daghlain) and Augustus Gloop (Lanre Ladipo), come to well deserved early departures from the trip; one of

these involved the Ninja squirrels, led by Kolade Ladipo, taking full control of Veruca Salt and placing her firmly down the garbage chute! The manic Willy Wonka, superbly acted by Jasper Exley, who will be sorely missed next year, entertained the audience with his wacky ideas, manic characterisation, and fabulous solo. This followed on from his entertaining and endearing portrayal of Scarecrow in last year's production of **The Wizard of Oz**, showing just what our Year 7 and 8 boys can achieve. The addition of a 5 metre long purple boat, designed and built by the children with Mr Moss in D&T club, helped the stage set to look spectacular. In addition, Mr Woodbridge's background scenery, also completed with the help of pupils in lessons, set the perfect scene for the chocolate factory. This was further brought home to the audience as they enjoyed a '4D experience' courtesy of Scentair, with the release of a double chocolate chip scent throughout the theatre making a few stom-

achs growl. The oldies, led by the knowledgeable Grandpa Joe (Tom Stewart) and the spirited Grandpa George (Owen Caine), acted so well and helped by their incredible make-up, were very convincing characters. Each and every member of the cast, from Oompa-Loompas to Crowd, Grandparents to News Readers, have made the play the success it is and should ALL be commended for their efforts. Julie Leach, this year's director and producer commented "In a tricky term for our Year 6 girls and Year 8 boys which includes senior school entrance tests, interviews and scholarships, Common Entrance trials and NFER testing, and with the French trip pushing the play into the penultimate week of term, the children have been very busy rehearsing for this play indeed! I was delighted with how well they did on the night. No play is put together by one person though and I would like to thank EVERYONE who helped to make it the success it was." **more pictures on page 12**

Congratulations to James, Shri, Matthew and Hamish for winning the prestigious Haileybury Science Challenge. Westbrook Hay achieved overall first place through teamwork, good scientific method, and massive enthusiasm! 68 pupils from 17 Prep schools took part in the annual challenge. The Antarctic expedition theme this year posed 3 different challenges where pupils had to solve the sort of scientific problems that a team of explorers might encounter. The physics challenge saw pupils having to design and build a model sledge using friction against gravity on a ramp. The next task set in the chemistry labs involved the selection of the most energy efficient fuel to transport on their expedition to reduce the overall weight on the sledge. Finally they had to test different fruits for vitamin C and starch content to plan balanced meals for their journey. The challenge was heightened in that the theory and practical lab skills needed to complete these tasks are not normally taught until GCSE level. Well done boys we are very proud of you!

Haileybury Science Challenge





NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

In February Mr Hill, Mrs Harris and Issy took Year 6 to the Natural History Museum to visit the 'Dynamic Earth' and 'Cocoon' exhibitions. The children learned about volcanoes and then experienced a terrifying earthquake simulation before visiting the dinosaurs. The 'Cocoon' exhibition studies the role of scientists throughout history and within the workplace and community. The Natural History Museum is a dynamic scientific research institution where children are encouraged to interact with exhibits and e-mail their findings home.

Year 4 enjoyed a lovely sunny morning at Boxmoor Trust. Each group was given a map and went in search of poems scattered around the woods. The children enjoyed discussing each poem, solving the clues on their worksheets and writing some of their own poetry. They were then given the chance to explore the woods using all of their senses, which included listening really carefully and using mirrors to view the world in a different way! The most exciting part of the morning was being blindfolded and leading each other carefully through the woods! One group nearly ended up in a very muddy puddle! A really educational morning and lots of fun was had by all.

POETRY IN NATURE



YEAR 4 AT THE SIKH TEMPLE

Our recent visit to a Sikh Gurdwara enabled the children in Year 4 to see first hand how Sikhs worship and live. We had a tour of the gurdwara given by a Sikh named Gurdeep. He showed us around the langar kitchen and we were even allowed to sample the delicious food. Here are some testimonials from Year 4 about our trip. Joshua Tambwe 'I liked the part where Gurdeep passed round the five Ks' Jacob Winter-Brown 'The food was really nice, especially for a vegetarian'

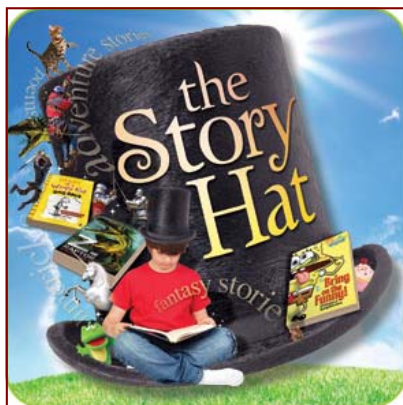
Year 3 visited the Verulamium Museum in St Albans and they explored the many interactive exhibits that dealt with the era of Roman Britain including Boudicca's battles, Roman religion and artefact handling where we not only handled items that were 2,000 years old but some pupils were able to dress up in Roman costumes. A very enjoyable day!

VERULAMIUM





World Book Day was celebrated at Westbrook Hay this year with great enthusiasm. Each child received a World Book Day voucher, many of which were spent at a very successful book fair with £700 earned in commission for the school and class libraries. The theme for the book fair was "The Story Hat" and we extended this to be the theme for World Book Day itself, asking everyone to come in wearing a hat representing a book character or even depicting an entire book! The response as always was phenomenal from pupils and staff alike. The most popular character on the day was "The Cat in the Hat" with some children in danger of toppling over wearing hats as tall as themselves. Many other characters were also



WORLD BOOK DAY



represented, the Mad Hatter, Willy Wonka and various witches and wizards to name but a few. The highlights however were definitely the hats encompassing an entire book, with "The Gigantic Turnip", "James and the Giant Peach", "The Jungle Book" and "Stick Man" and many others gracing the stage, and now on display in the library where they still draw admiring glances. Thank you to everyone for joining in and making such a fantastic effort to celebrate World Book Day.

TECHNOLOGY CHALLENGE

On Thursday 27th January our Year 8 were represented by three teams at the annual technology tournament which aims to encourage and support young engineers through teamwork. The challenge posed for the children was to safely remove a canister of radioactive waste from a distance of 1 metre within 50 seconds. All three teams successfully created a working device. The day was greatly enjoyed by all who were able to attend with some very exciting creations.



Discovering the Rosetta Stone

Our Ancient Egyptian History topic was brought to life when St Albans museum came into school to show us some amazing artefacts. The workshop began with group activities involving different aspects of Egyptian life. We dressed up as Pharaohs, played Egyptian musical instruments and learnt how to write our names in hieroglyphs! We also saw

models of mummies and even had a go at bandaging ourselves up in linen. In the final, and most exciting part of the workshop, we were given the chance to look at some real Ancient Egyptian artefacts that had actually been dug up from the Valley of the Kings! There were shabti dolls, jewellery, and some amulets that had been found amongst the bandages of a real mummy!



This term was always going to be a challenge especially as the 2nd team squad was everyone who was available from Year 7 & 8! Highlight was without doubt the sizeable victory over Edge Grove with Tom Stewart gaining a hat-trick of tries. This saw him establish himself as a core member of the 1st team. We also mustered a brave draw against the giants of Lockers Park! At our best we played with great courage and rucked bigger teams off the ball. With almost all of the team being Year 7 I am sure the experience this year will be the foundation of 1st team rugby for 2012!

2nd XV RUGBY



UNDER 9 RUGBY

Under 8s Tag Rugby

The U8s rugby has improved significantly over the term and all the boys should be extremely proud of their progress. Wins away at Haresfoot and at home against Lockers Park produced some fantastic performances with the likes of Alfred Woolf and

Oliver Strowger, at full back, proving to be strong assets. With the dynamic running and try scoring of Luca Murphy, Oliver Turner and Max Dewick, we became a very tough team to beat. I cannot overestimate how much improvement the whole squad has made over the term. Their knowledge and understanding of the tag rugby rules,

The U9 As have enjoyed a very good term. As well as producing an excellent performance at the Edge Grove Festival they have also scored some excellent victories over Heath Mount and Edge Grove and have performed excellently in a trilogy of matches against Lockers. The B side has improved hugely over the term. Their knowledge and understanding of the game has developed no end and this is particularly evident in Freddie Redfern and Jamie Rowley's rise to the A side and Max Young's aggressive running in the second half of term. Toby Ogelman, in the forwards, has also shown a great appetite for the physical side of the game. They enjoyed success in a number of games, most notably in the encounter with Heath Mount where Jerry St Hillaire's strength and direct running saw us outscore them 25-15. Well done to the whole squad! I look forward to seeing these players develop in the Colts next year!

how best to play the game and their improvement in skill technique has been clear for us all to see. Max Terzza, in particular, excelled here at the recent U8 festival. Well done boys for another fantastic term! I now look forward to you all impressing me with your cricket ability over the summer term. Daniel Pope

Saturday 12th February saw the girls U10 team take part in a netball tournament at Berkhamsted. It was a Round Robin tournament with 6 schools taking part in this age group. The girls won their first two matches but then lost their next against High March School who have proven to be strong opponents in the past. They then had a drawn game and the final match was again a tough one against Berkhamsted, which Berkhamsted won 7-3. The girls put together some fine performances throughout the morning and only just lost out on the bronze medal placing which was a close call and had to be decided on goal difference when a two goal deficit left us in 4th place overall. Well done to the team of girls for giving up their Saturday morning to play, two of whom had not wanted to let the side down even though they were not feeling fully fit.

The U10 team was: Caroline Kelly, Alex Caine, Sorcha Bates, Hannah Gunn, Charlie Bugar, Niamh Stears, Ellie Hunt and Mary Enweremadu.



GIRLS' SPORT



The girls' hockey teams - U8, U9A, U9B, U10A, U10B and U11s have risen to many challenges throughout the season but as individual players have also increased their knowledge of this game.

They have played with determination in all their matches (it has been a full and varied calendar this term) and throughout the age groups there have been closely fought battles resulting in some winning scores, so well done to all of the girls for the commitment they have shown this term.



Nine very excited girls took part in the U9 girls' Festival of Sport at Kingshott School on Saturday 5th March. This day was all about the girls enjoying a selection of sports which included football, netball and hockey. Eight teams took part and throughout the morning the girls played ten matches. We had some exciting games throughout the day and many thanks to all the parents who came to support their children and to help with the quick changes of kit for each match. There were no winners at the end, as the aim of the festival was to have 'fun'. Each girl received a certificate of participation. Georgia Hurley and Alice Ripper were nominated as Westbrook Hay's joint 'Players of the Tournament'.

The squad was: Molly Custance, Georgia Hurley, Alice Ripper, Paige Atkinson, Lara Mills, Rebecca Wagstaff, Angela Enweremadu, Crystal Jugoo and Ellie Thomas.



This was a somewhat disappointing season, although there was only one match in which we were outplayed and even then we were drawing at half time. In virtually every game we were physically much smaller than the opposition. Throughout the season we tried to play expansive rugby with our wingers, Ed Khan and Billie Busari, being the main try scorers along with scrum half Will Alexander, but all too often it was our size disadvantage that ultimately

COLTS A RUGBY

cost us the game. We also played in two 7s competitions reaching the final over at Heath Mount and winning our final match in the play offs at Beechwood. In that final game at Beechwood we probably played our best rugby of the season when we supported the man with the ball and linked together to score some excellent tries.

lent tries.

Full Back: Thomas Holes, Right Wing: Billie Busari, Outside Centre: Luke Woodmansee, Inside Centre: Jack Wadmore, Outside Half: Ben Yeo (captain), Scrum Half: Will Alexander, Front Row: Oreofe Akinseye, Alex Wilkinson, Kolade Ladipo, 2nd Row Matt Smith (pack leader) and Hamish Michie. Also played Joshua Kerr, James Holden and Richard Platt.



Until the final game of the season the Colts B team looked as if they would set records. Playing a fast moving, running game, and offloading in the tackle to keep the ball alive they racked up a lot of points, beating

Heath Mount, Manor Lodge and Lockers Park. The trouble came when Heath Mount, in the return fixture, did the same to us. It was still a very good season with a high standard of rugby shown by all the boys. It was impressive how

well players did from the subs bench and also how well they adapted to different positions. Several boys went on to play for the Colts A team which emphasises the strength of the whole age group, a good sign for next season.

COLTS RUGBY

The Colts C team enjoyed a strange but exciting term! After starting the term with a great win away at Lockers Park the team experienced a couple of defeats. However, they didn't let these defeats knock their confidence or spoil the rest of the term; instead they really grouped together and worked tirelessly. This increased effort resulted in an enjoyable end to the term, including some fantastic results. At first the boys seemed unsure about making contact, and therefore tended to shy away from making important tackles. However, as the term progressed, we

also progressed both as individuals and as a team. Edward Bryant, Hassan Khan, Shri Lekkala and William Upson's willingness to go into contact was great to see. Not quite as much as Angus Coles though who was always the first to make a tackle, and despite his size he became the most fearless player in the team, making some fantastic last ditch tackles to ensure we didn't experience anymore heavy defeats. We were also lucky to have the dynamic running and try scoring of James Young, Luca Cecere, and Reuben Redfern. Overall, the boys showed great effort and commitment throughout the term and they should therefore be extremely proud of their progress. Richard Platt was promoted to the B team early in the term, and with Edward Bryant and James Young also experiencing some matches with the Bs. There is no reason why individuals can't progress even more next year. Well done to the whole team, I now expect the same effort, hard work and progress with your cricket over the summer term! Daniel Pope

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This is the only 7s we do in the season so it is a welcome opportunity for us to get a chance to play a running game and throw the ball around a bit. With our pace it was of little surprise that we were able to both score and defend well. In our first match against a 'Barbarians' team we ended up as comfortable winners. Against Kingshott we met some stern resistance in the second half but our solid half time lead was enough to ensure another win. In the final game against Heath Mount we enjoyed another victory. All in all it was a very pleasant afternoon out with three wins out of three.

The following were in the 7s squad:

Frazer Ellis-Jenkinson (captain), Elliot Coulling, Charlie Dennes, Jasper Exley, Storm Fachaux-Davies, Lanre Ladipo, George Lewarne, Kim Moessli, Sam Phillips, Reece Pitaman-Willcock and Scott Wilson.

Played: 6 Won: 4 Lost: 2

The 1st XV have enjoyed a very successful season. Against Edge Grove we played some of our best open, attacking rugby of the year and won by four tries to two. The following week saw us taking on a hitherto unbeaten Beech-



1st XV RUGBY

wood Park team. The opposition had totally underestimated WBH's unrelenting courage and determination. After several periods of continuous pressure by Beechwood Park in the second half we had won by two tries to one! If there was hallmark of the team's performances this year it would be the unquestioned courage shown by all from the very first whistle to the final. Against Heath Mount

our forwards were totally dominant, driving through the middle; the opposition were starved of any decent ball. In the end we went over the try line nine times with Heath Mount scoring on just the two occasions. In the return match against Heath Mount it provided a wonderful opportunity for some of the 2nd XV to experience rugby at a higher level. This also ensured that the match was more evenly

contested and the final score line was 36 – 22 in our favour. On the two occasions we lost we were simply outplayed up front against forwards of much bigger size and strength. However, in both matches our bravery ensured that the contests were competitive and not one-sided. Throughout the season the core of the team never gave less than their best and their example to the others ensured that they, too, played to the best of their ability. A special mention must go to captain, Frazer Ellis-Jenkinson, who scored in every single match (including the Heath Mount 7s tournament); an excellent achievement and one that has not been rivalled in many, many years at WBH. Jasper Exley, Lanre Ladipo and Scott Wilson took it in turns to lead the forwards – always leading from the front! Very well done to all!

The regular 1st XV: Frazer Ellis-Jenkinson (captain), Marcus Alter, Elliot Coulling, Marcus Daghlain, Charlie Dennes, Jasper Exley, Storm Fachaux-Davies, Lanre Ladipo, George Lewarne, Kim Moessli, Sam Phillips, Reece Pitaman-Willcock, Tom Stewart, Matthew Tse and Scott Wilson.





Every five years we are the host nation for this annual gathering of runners from Edge Grove, Heath Mount, Kingshott, Lockers Park and ourselves. Given it is now less than 500 days to the Olympics it was important that we put on an efficient show in case the IOC were making observations! Indeed, we had an excellent afternoon once we had got over the U9s taking a wrong turn in the first race in the initial 50 metres! The U9s race was comfortably won by the Kingshott team but Harvey Graham was our local hero coming 2nd as an individual. For the U11s we ran two races at the same time. The girls struggled against a Kingshott team which recorded a perfect score but the boys fared much better with both Luke Woodmansee and Joe Rabey coming home in the top 10. Overall the boys finished 3rd. Finally, the U13s set off on the 3000m course and initially Seun Koya set the pace with Jasper Exley closely behind. Both managed to remain in the top three and Frazer Ellis-Jenkinson and Reece Pitaman-Willcock also recorded top 10 finishes but we were hanging on for the rest of the team to finish. Adam Ripper, George Lewarne, Kim Moessl and Marcus Daghljan all emerged from the bushes to give us an overall win by the narrowest margins. It was the first time the U13s had won the event since 1984. Well done to all the runners, it was a tough old course.

INTER-SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY VICTORY





As always, Year 1 enjoyed Shrove Tuesday by making gourmet pancakes with a choice of delicious toppings. They learnt how to measure out the flour and mix the batter, but the highlight was of course successfully tossing the pancakes without dropping them on the floor.



Robins and Swallows created a bug hotel in the Nursery garden. They are enjoying investigating what types of bugs are visiting, and how many bugs of each type they can find.

Year 1 spent a very enjoyable and informative session in the science lab. experimenting to see which materials are the strongest. They were aided by Year 8, who showed the children how to use the equipment and inspired them with their enthusiasm.

LOWER SCHOOL EVENTS



Reception were lucky to have Mrs Lyons, one of our parents, come in to talk to them about Chinese New Year. We learnt a lot about the traditions and the stories behind the celebrations. We decorated our classrooms with red and gold as they are considered to be lucky colours. We had a "wishing tree" and we wrote our wishes down and put them in red and gold envelopes before hanging them up. Hopefully, they will come true. We now have a Chinese restaurant in our classroom; complete with noodles and chopsticks!!



Reception and Year 1 were lucky enough to receive some expert tennis coaching by the coaches from Berkhamsted Prestige Tennis Academy. The coaches are keen to encourage our youngsters to start the game when they are young. Some of the children showed real promise and we are sure there will be an 'Andy Murray' in the making.



Thank you very much to all those who contributed towards our second hand sale for The PACE Centre. The committee worked hard to set up all the stalls with the wonderful items that were donated and those who came to the sale purchased generously. Chef's delicious flap-jacks also sold out very quickly! We raised an amazing £464 which brings our total for the year to over £1189. We are well on our way to our £2000 target!

SECOND-HAND SALE IN AID OF "PACE"



Jamie makes a splash for COMIC RELIEF

Jamie Irwin, 5St, swam 200 lengths (5km) last Wednesday for comic relief and raised a whopping £1070! Jamie, who trains three times a week at Amersham swimming club, decided that he wanted to complete a challenge to raise money for Comic Relief and organised the whole event himself.



Great fun was had by all during this terms' boarding trips. The girls opted for ice skating and Ten Pin Bowling followed by 'Ringos' at the Snowdome where they whizzed down the slope on inflatable rubber rings. The boys' favourite of Go-karting at Rogue Racing in Aylesbury was also followed by Ringos. With Miss Whitehead supervising, Issy and Vallance joined in the activities, having as much fun as the children.

SPRING TERM BOARDING TRIPS



beach party

details to follow

Westbrook Hay
Association



**SAVE
THE DATE**
**SATURDAY
9TH
JULY**



Contributions to the newsletter should be sent to:
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