

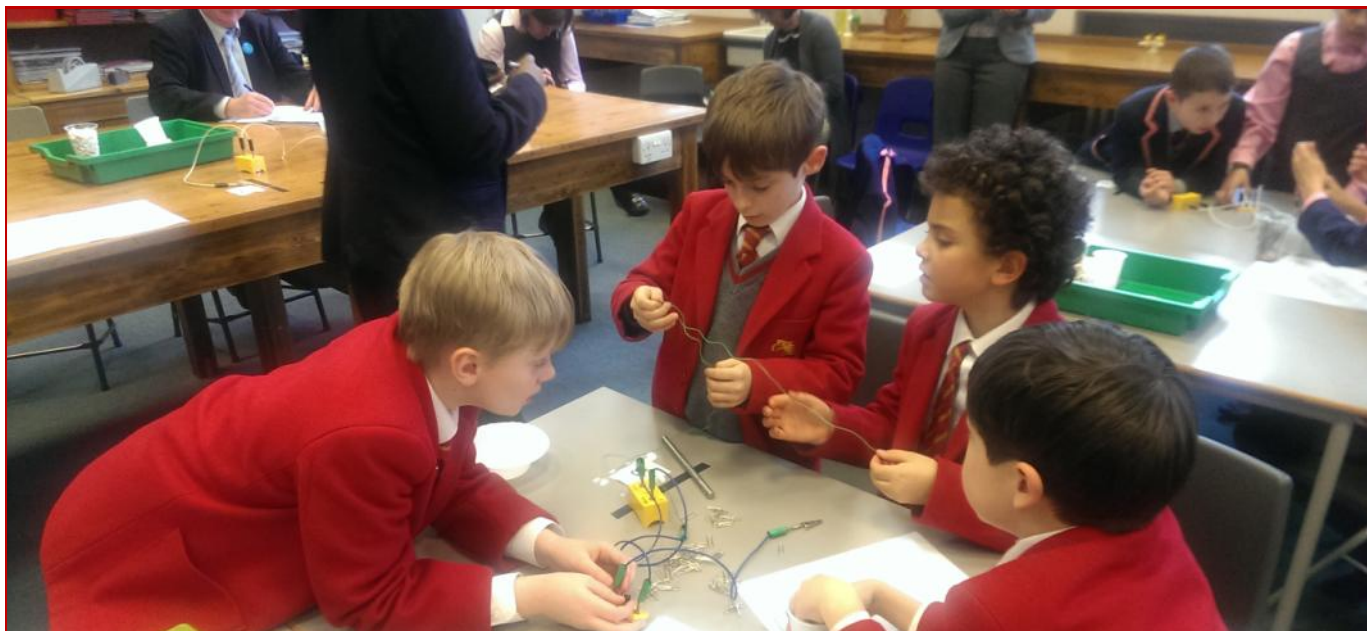


WHEN THE TOAD CAME HOME

This year's production saw Mr Woodward return us to the riverbank after an interval of some nine years. Toad, this time round, was in the capable hands of Joshua Kerr, who right from his opening 'poop, poop!' was in dominant form. Attempting to rein in Toad's enthusiasm for everything mechanical, William Upson's laconic Badger found valiant support in Zoe Jones' studious Mole and Tom Wright's dapper Rat. As we know, their efforts are all for naught and even after Judge Dominic Hampstead sentences the recalcitrant to be detained, Toad makes good his escape disguised as a washerwoman with assistance from Phoebe (Anna Powell) and her aunt (Molly Scotchbrook). Much mayhem ensues in the Wild Wood



with ferrets, weasels and stoats to the fore, ably led by Joshua Tambwe, Billie Busari and Toby Daghlain. A comic addition was seamlessly provided by a Alfred the horse steered, from the front end by George Stockbridge and powered by Billy Boot. His sister Tottie, the barge woman, gathered all the rabbits and squirrels to give chase with the officers of the law, but Toad by then was more interested in trying to repossess Toad Hall, which had been occupied by the Wild Wooders. No production is complete without a huge team to support the Director and Mr Woodward was indeed fortunate to be able to call upon staff, parents and the 'marvellous mums' to ensure that this year's performance was a triumph.



HAILEYBURY SCIENCE CHALLENGE

Four Year 5 boys, Jaiden, Matthew, Dominic and Jamie took part in the annual Haileybury Science Challenge. They were required to carry out a Chemistry, Physics and Biology experiment. They collaborated well as a team, and almost came first in the Chemistry experiment. Forty two schools took part in this illustrious competition.

Year 4 were lucky enough to be visited by staff from St Albans Museum. They had the chance to try on Egyptian clothes, examine the games Egyptian children used to play with and see lots of artefacts they have learnt about in History this term. They even got to touch some actual Egyptian objects that were more than 2000 years old!

ANCIENT EGYPT MADE REAL



We've had a great term of boarding. Our younger boys chose action-packed activities at the X-C where they crawled through the caves before tackling the high ropes. They then visited Rogue Racing where they showed some pretty impressive driving skills, not to mention a huge appetite for pizza! Our girls opted for making cookies, hokey pokey, truffles and pizza, enjoyed picnic style in the common room watching a film with enough left over for a treat at break time the next day. They then opted for ten pin bowling at Hollywood Bowl in Watford - a new addition to our list of activities. Our older boys saw Robocop at the cinema, enjoyed hot dogs and popcorn and also had a great evening of bowling with lots of friendly rivalry between the teams. Next term's activities will include another visit to the X-C and Rogue Racing for our younger boys, more bowling for the girls and hopefully the cinema and cooking, and for the older boys, a special trip to the Black Forest for Segway.



BOARDING IS FUN

ORIENTEERING FESTIVAL



An enjoyable afternoon was had by all, when Two Waters Primary School visited for the Under 11 Orienteering Festival. The afternoon started with lots of warm-up activities, which included symbol recognition and map work, before the main event. The children were in pairs, a child from Westbrook Hay with a child from Two Waters, so that the afternoon was given a sense of cooperation and friendship. It also meant a level playing field! The children competed to find 35 controls in a "Score Event", that is they did not need to find them in order but could choose which controls they visited and when. There was a time limit of 40 minutes. All children did very well, with two pairs managing to find all 35 controls within the allotted time.

DANCE WORKSHOP

We had another very successful year with the Dance Workshop run by Stuart Bishop from the Pineapple Dance Studios. This year we had a record number of boys who enjoyed the break dancing. Boys and girls mixed and mingled to give an outstanding performance during the routine at the end of the workshop. Everyone enjoyed themselves and had lots of fun. Be ready for next year's workshop!



YEAR 6 VISIT SYNAGOGUE



On Thursday 13th February Year 6 were taken by Mrs Doyle and Mr Woodward to the St Albans Masorti Synagogue, as part of their Religious Studies. This trip enabled the children to gain a better understanding of the importance of the Synagogue to those of the Jewish faith, together with what can be seen inside. We were greeted and shown around by Rabbi Rafael, who discussed his role as

the leader of that local Jewish community and what happened during the services he conducted. He showed the children the beautifully designed menorah – the seven-branched candlestick – symbol of Judaism; the bimah (reading desk) and the ner tamid (the everlasting light) that symbolises God's eternal presence. The Rabbi then took out one of the scrolls from the Ark, which repre-

sents the original Ark of the Covenant that contained the Ten Commandments, showing the children the hand-written Hebrew script of the Torah (Jewish Law) – the first five books of the Tenach (Old Testament) contained on each scroll. He also explained how each scroll cost around £30,000 and was treated with great respect; wrapped in mantles, read with a silver pointer (yad) to avoid damage, and buried when no longer legible. The children clearly had a most enjoyable and memorable time. Rabbi Rafael was an excellent teacher and host, and the hands-on experience really brought to life the children's classroom learning. A big 'thank you' to Mrs Levy who made the visit possible for us and to all at the Synagogue for a wonderful morning.



The School Council has been working on bringing a bike track to Westbrook Hay for the school to use. The School Council, with the help of Mr Lloyd and Mr Stedman, have spent a lot of time clearing a natural bike track in the dark woods. Last summer Mr Stedman, Mr Lloyd and other staff and parents took part in a bike challenge to Paris. With

SCHOOL COUNCIL BIKE TRACK

some of the money they have raised, and some money the council have raised from the summer and Christmas fairs, we have bought some fabulous bikes for all children to use on the bike track. The School Council are very proud of what they have achieved and are looking forward to the whole school enjoying the track.



WESTBROOK HAY AT THE O2



Around 40 children from our Senior Choir took the coach trip on Wednesday down to the O2 Arena. Despite the rain the children were in high spirits! Even during the 2 hour afternoon rehearsal, the children were still very attentive, as they were introduced to different visiting artists. The dance company Urban Strides kept

the children high in energy, with their unison punchy movements and vocals. Our Year 7s particularly liked their rendition of 'The Fresh Prince of Belair'. David Lawrence conducted the whole day (both rehearsal & performance) a bit different from his normal routine of conducting sym-

phony orchestras. By the time we found ourselves with the performance ready to start and parents filing in, our children were totally exuberant and high in excitement. The first song 'Blue Sky' was sang so enthusiastically by 7,500 children, Mr Woodward would have been proud. Some quieter more peaceful moments were when the Teachers' Choir sung on stage the 'Lord's Prayer, African Sanctus'. The 'Pop' medley of course was ear-bursting and the children thought it was 'awesome'. Other big favourites were 'Living on a Prayer' and 'Lean on Me'. The adults really enjoyed the British Folk Songs medley. And sliced between all these great 34 songs the children performed, were semi-famous artists performing, such as Stacy Solomon. Although it was a long evening and some didn't get back before 11.30pm, our heads were still ringing with memories of exhilarated children jumping up and down. Thank you Mr Agboke & Mrs Brown who supported the voiceless Mr Wagstaff. Thank you also to Chef for providing us with hot meals in the music room before we left and a lovely packed tea while we were there.



Seven Westbrook Hay pianists took part in the second Pangbourne College Piano Festival, and thoroughly enjoyed a rare opportunity to play on brand new Steinway grand pianos in the fabulous setting of the new Music School and the Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel. The children were among 110 young pianists, many of whom had never performed at a festival before, playing for an audience consisting of parents and grandparents as well as experienced adjudicators and examiners. The following competed in the Intermediate Classes (grades 4-6): William Upson played 'Sonata in C' by W A Mozart, Ben Fuller played 'To A Wilde Rose' by Edward Macdowell and Eve Wise played 'Don't Shoot the Pianist' by Oriol. In the Novice Classes (grades 1-3) Freddie Stoner-Redfern, Molly Scotchbrook, Rebecca Pratt and Max Bustamante-Macaire played pieces by Kirchner, Sarah Watts, Attwood and M Schmitz respectively. After the concert, each child was given a 'mini-



PANGBOURNE PIANO FESTIVAL

piano lesson' with adjudicators, Mrs Pamela Chilvers and Dr Sally Cathcart PhD and were given new insights into how to improve their performance,

as well as encouragement in their love of music making. Our thanks to Pangbourne College for a wonderful opportunity.



PRIZES WON AT WATFORD FESTIVAL

Howard, Sam Yadav, Elise Ivory & Imogen Strowger). Zoe Jones won bronze medal in the category 'Novice – Age 12 & under'. Everybody performed so well, but the competition was tough. By the end of the vocal weekend WBH took home 4 medals and one cup. Joshua Tambwe won the Bronze medal for the category (class) called 'Boys' Treble Solo'. Sam Yadav won the 'Show Song' cup in a class of 27 competitors all competing in a category called 'Songs from Musical Theatre Age 9 & under'. He also won the bronze medal in the category 'Girls & Boys Solo – Age 10 & under'. All in all, it was a great weekend of listening to other singing talent in the district and performing to the best of our ability. Thank you to all the parents who gave up some precious sun-bathing moments to escort their children to their competitions. Alumni WBH pupil from last year Rebecca Wagstaff won the Show Cup for 'Songs from Music

The Watford Festival was established over 60 years ago and has grown from strength to strength to become one of the largest and most respected in the UK. It aims to encourage musical children of all ages by providing an opportunity to perform before an adjudicator and an audience. The festival involves at least 2,000 participants. This year Westbrook Hay booked 26 entries involving brass, wind, strings, vocal and

two choir entries. Katie Munn won a silver medal for the class 'Any Woodwind Instrument - Age 9 & under' playing the flute. For many of the WBH children it was their first time to compete in such a festival. The weekend of 15th, 16th March was the singing part of the Watford Festival competition in which 9 of our singers were entered (Joshua Tambwe, Anna Powell, Sophie Gasser, Zoe Jones, Paizlei Kerr, Tegan



TAKING CARE OF PETS

During our topic of 'Pets' the children enjoyed taking Toby the dog for a walk on his lead. All children had a turn to hold his lead (with Mr Ross).



PROTECTING DINOSAUR EGGS

Reception went to the woods for "Forest School" yesterday and decided to make their own dinosaur land. They made a nest with dinosaur eggs and all the other dinosaurs were protecting the nest.



In January, and as a brilliant start to the 'people who help us topic', Reception dressed up as who they wanted to be when they were older. All the children came dressed as people who help us such as fire-fighters, policemen, scientists and vets and we discussed the jobs they wanted to do and how that would help us. We walked around school and met all the people who help us at school. Throughout our topic we had several visitors, policemen,



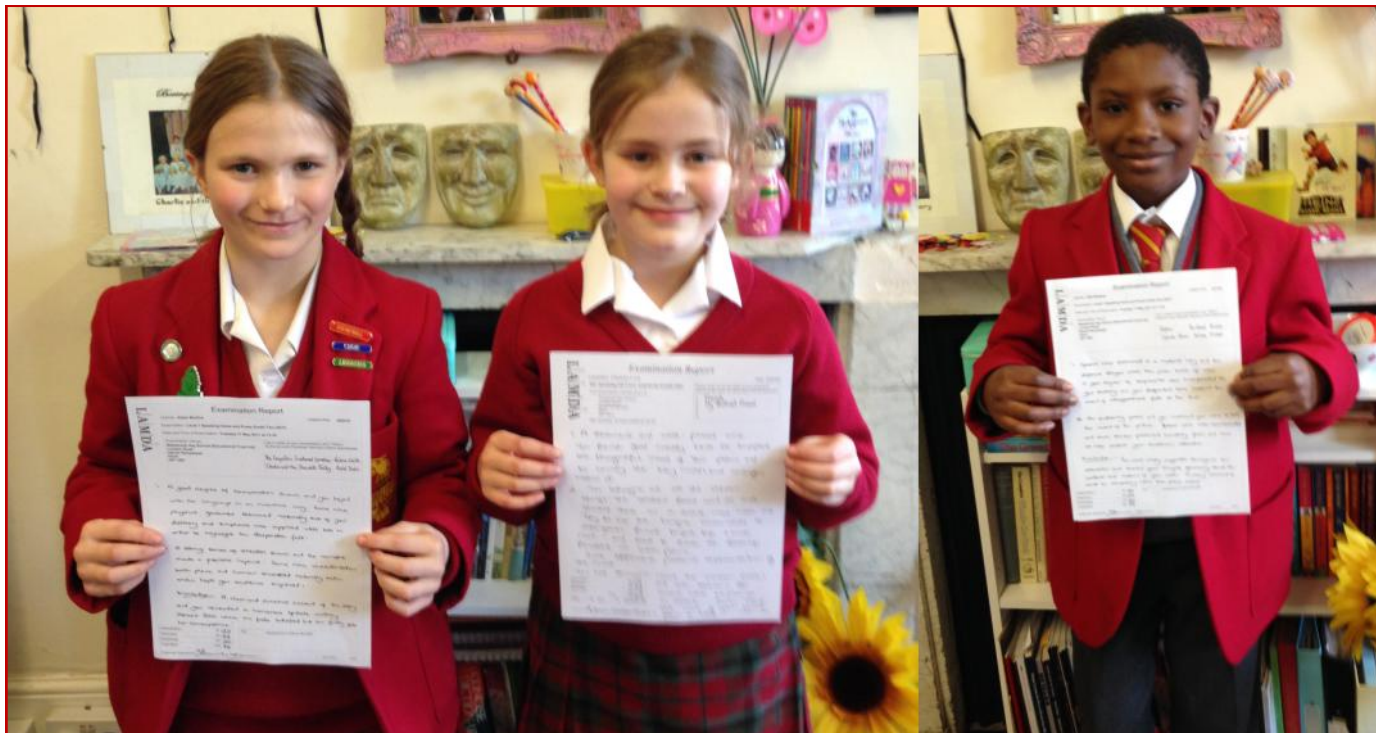
PEOPLE WHO HELP US

firefighters, vets, nurses and Mr Young came to talk about how he cares for Cara, his dog. We learnt lots about all kinds of different people that help us.

ADVENTURES IN THE WILD WEST

The children had an exciting visit from Abbie at PERFORM. They went on a cowboy and cowgirl adventure across the land. All the children had an enjoyable experience. We are looking forward to our next adventure.





LAMDA SUCCESS

In December 2013 Seren Saunders Year 4 and Elizabeth Laphorne Year 5 took their exams in London at LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art). Seren took Grade 2 Verse and Prose and gained a Distinction, no mean feat for an 8 year old. Elizabeth

took her first LAMDA exam in Solo Acting Grade 1 and also gained a Distinction. In January 2014 David Kukoyi, Year 5, took his Grade 1 Solo Acting exam and also gained a Distinction for his first Acting exam. All three children did exceptionally well especially as they took their exams in a strange environment. Also gaining a Distinction Grade 5 Solo Acting was Charlie Bugar, who

was Head Girl in 2012 and won a Drama Scholarship to Berkhamsted. Well done to all these children for gaining the highest marks. In May, 100 children have been entered for various different LAMDA exams, (Verse and Prose, Solo Acting/Duologues and Public Speaking), Introductory to Grade 6, over a 3 day period with an external LAMDA examiner here in school. I wish them all the very best of luck!



BUGSY MALONE

We are very proud of three of our Year 4 children who have recently starred in performances of Bugsy Malone at the Chesham Elgiva Theatre, by Rare Productions Youth Theatre Group. Sam Yadav played a role in Dandy Dan's Gang, with Seren Saunders and Harry

Lines busy in many scenes dancing, acting and chorus. The children had a very exciting time - attending 10 weeks of rehearsals in preparation for show-time! This experience has been super and hopefully beneficial for the children's LAMDA at Westbrook Hay. Thank you to Mr & Mrs Woodward for their support and also watching the show from the front row! Seren is also appearing in "Grease".

CHALLENGING TECH

Westbrook Hay was one of 10 schools taking part in the annual Design and Technology tournament run by the Hemel Hempstead Rotary Society. The task this year was to build a device to pick up a radioactive tennis ball from 1.5 metres away and move it to another location, placing it down so that it did not roll away in 30 seconds. Our three year 8 teams showed a good degree of team work and problem solving skills. An enjoyable day was had by all.





TRAINING AT ALLIANZ PARK

The Under 9s capped what had been an excellent term's rugby by winning the Edge Grove rugby festival in the final week of the term, the same tournament that we won 12 months earlier. In the seven games we played, we won 5 and drew 2 conceding only one try all day and we even won the relay which kicked off the proceedings! Victories over Lochinver and Beechwood were key to us retaining the title. Our defensive play was first class with some big tackles hit from our brave side, while our running with ball gained us numerous yards and was very positive. Ibrahim Busari received special mention in the presentations for his dynamic running and all-action game. Joshua Odegbami was excellent, as he has been all term, with his aggressive all-round play hitting tackles and rucks and making driving runs with the ball. Alec Jones captained the team well and worked well in the centre with Elliot Scott, who covered every blade of grass. The B side were keen to show it was not all about the As and put in some super performances. Victories over Edge Grove, Manor Lodge and Lockers emphasised this. Key players and try scorers were Zac Wallis, Finn Bullen and Cameron Magson before his promotion to the As. Well done to all the boys on what has been another super term!

This term all of the Year 4 boys went on an exciting trip to Allianz Park, home of Saracens Rugby Club. The boys were lucky enough to have a coaching session on the pitch where the Saracens team play followed by a tour of the stadium. The children enjoyed a number of fun contact warm-up activities followed by some passing and tackling drills and finishing with a number of small sided matches. The boys thoroughly enjoyed the trip and have really taken to the contact side of the game this term. After the coaching session the boys were taken around the Allianz Park Stadium, including a visit to their indoor running track where the world's fastest man Usain Bolt has trained.

UNDER 9 RUGBY



COLTS B RUGBY

The Colts B team has had a super season. On a regular basis they have been good enough to train with the A team demonstrating how useful a team they were. Almost half of the 18 players to represent the B team have played for the A team at some stage in the season. Using 18 players did not disturb the continuity of the team with the pack remaining constant throughout the season under the leadership of Ethan Stockbridge. Despite the monsoon type weather we have experienced since the New Year we have been fortunate to play seven matches thanks to a couple of "double header" fixtures. In truth we have only lost to one genuine B team and as the results suggest were very comfortable winners in most matches. The enthusiasm and commitment of the players has been excellent but this is often the case with a winning team and we have also had terrific support from the touchline.



The Colts C have enjoyed a very good term and in another year a number of the boys would have been in the Colts B side. Our team was home to some aggressive runners with the ball in hand (Jackson Stewart, Callum Angel, Jaiden Brathwaite and Ben Templeton stealing the limelight here) but our play as a team has really improved over the course of the term, notably with our

COLTS C RUGBY

rucking and game intelligence, and this has been particularly evident in Ethan Morrissey's play. Joshua Grimsdale would be my shout for most improved player. Our record for the term: Played 6; Won 4; Lost 2. Well done boys!



UNDER 8 RUGBY PLAYERS SHOW HUGE IMPROVEMENT

The Under 8 rugby team have had a superb term. Unfortunately the weather hasn't always been on our side which has resulted in many of our fixtures being cancelled. However in the games and festivals which we have been able to play, all of the boys have performed magnificently and have become

two very hard teams to beat. The Under 8 A team have won convincingly in a number of their fixtures, helped by the pace of Henry Maidoh, Harry Tannett, Tommy Maidment, James Ripley and co. The boys passing, catching and understanding of the game has really improved over the course of the term. The same can very much be

said for the Under 8 B team who have grown in confidence over the term and won the majority of their fixtures, with Daniel Katsande, Harry Bell and Pierce Philbin putting in some standout performances. Well done boys on a very good term; I hope you're all now looking forward to our cricket after Easter!



Rugby started for the 1st XV on the 4th December with a training game over at Lockers Park. This proves to be a good starting point for both teams, assessing their strengths and weaknesses. By the time we played Lockers Park six weeks later we had vastly improved and won 25-0. With the end of January and most of February being affected by the weather and waterlogged pitches we only managed one game, against Sherrardswood in atrocious conditions. Fortunately for us we were victorious in this fixture 55-34. On the 26th February we travelled to Kingshott, and finally the weather had subsided and the conditions were perfect for rugby. This was by far our greatest performance of the rugby term and we ran out 54-5 winners. The Friday

of that week we travelled to Heath Mount for their annual 7s festival. Unfortunately the weather wasn't ideal for 7s with freezing conditions and horizontal rain lasting all day!! In our group were Kingshott, King's College and Edge Grove. We won two of the three group games beating Kingshott and Edge Grove and narrowly losing to King's College. This then put us into a third/fourth play off against Sherrardswood and we came out 24-10 winners, putting us third out of eight teams. Considering we hadn't done any 7s all rugby term, I was delighted with the boys' performance. Well done boys. Finally the weather had started to improve and we had a run of three games. On the 5th March we travelled to Lockers Park for the return fixture. Due to last minute illness and injuries we

just managed to get fifteen boys on the pitch. Unfortunately Lockers Park ran out winners that day but the likes of George Stockbridge, Jamie Rowley and Tom Wright who stepped up to the 1st XV that day should be immensely proud. Our next fixture was against Edge Grove on the 12th March. With perfect playing conditions I was expecting a good performance, and the boys certainly delivered with a fantastic 62-28 win. Our last fixture was away at Orley Farm. Unfortunately due to last minute illness again we could only manage to take thirteen players, with a few boys coming up from the second team. The boys put in a good performance but we lost 41-19. Throughout the rugby term the boys have shown great attitude and enthusiasm in every games lesson,



OUTSTANDING SEASON FOR 1ST TEAM RUGBY

which shows they want to learn and to improve. Their determination and work rate in every game shone through and it showed by some of our fantastic results. Everyone played their part in the 1st XV this term. The front row of Toby Russell, Josh Kerr and Dominic Hampstead worked extremely hard in every set piece, ruck and maul. In the second row we had Billy Boot and Edward Bryant who supported the front row well. The back row of Jacob Winter-Brown, Alex Wilkinson and Dan Morrissey

were outstanding; they showed great work rate and tackled everything that moved. Linking the forwards to the backs was Josh Yeo who was always very vocal and lively. Our fly half was James Holden who controlled the back line very well; at inside centre we had our 1st XV captain Thomas Holes. Thomas always led by his performances on the pitch and was outstanding in every game. Joining Thomas in the centre was Harvey Graham who linked up well. Our back three consisted of Scott Rolfe, Billie

Busari and David Burnell with Josh Tambwe interchanging. A special mention has to go to George Stockbridge, Jamie Rowley and Thomas Wright who all stepped up from the second team and gave 100% in every match they were involved in. Finally, the 1st XV should be very proud of an outstanding term of rugby, having played six, winning four and only losing two. Well done boys!

Tom Mowbray



It really is very difficult to establish any continuity in a rugby season where so many things are going on, not least the weather! We missed a number of practices and a number of matches and the team was further disrupted as the 1st XV called on reinforcements! Nevertheless, I had a nucleus of a dozen players who trained hard, enjoyed their rugby and wanted to do their best for the team. Our first two matches were both against Lockers Park and they just had too much strength in depth for us. However, when we put our minds to it, we were able to compete in most areas. We then played Edge Grove and this time the boot was on the other foot; we

were too strong for them. The final game, against Orley Farm, had the potential to be our most competitive, but sadly the 1sts had 5 players missing and this impacted seriously on our team. We tried hard but our tackling let us down in the game; I felt our full contingent would have won. Full marks to all those who bravely and boldly wore the colours of the 2nd X11 – many of you came out with a good deal of credit and a number of the Year 7s will go on to the 1st XV next year. The following played for the 2nd X11: George Stockbridge (capt), Teddy Grigg, William Jones, William Garnett, William Upson, Ben Fuller, Tom Wright, Freddie Stoner Redfern, Jerry

St Hilaire, Max Robertson, Samad Ibrahim, Alex Martindale, Stuart Finn, Jack Dugard, Angus Coles, Alistair Bond, Saahd Khan and Jack Terzza.

2ND TEAM RUGBY



COLTS A RUGBY



Heath Mount Under 11 7s tournament

Played: 4 Won: 3 Lost: 1

In our pool we lost just the one match against Kingshott but enjoyed two comfortable wins against Sherrardswood (34 – 0) and Edge Grove (19 – 7); this placed us second in our group. Following this we went on to beat King's Cambridge (24 – 12). Overall we came 3rd of 8 teams. **The following played:** Max Bustamante-Macaire, Harrison Hobbs, David Kukoyi, James Mason, Harry McHugh, Josh Rembalski, Harvey Stangoe, Oliver Strowger, Charlie Woodmansee and Alfred Woolf.

Played: 6 Won: 2 Lost: 3 Drawn: 1

Right from the outset it was clear that despite what we lacked in physical presence we more than amply made up for in terms of sheer courage and competitiveness. I don't think any neutral would question the team's bravery in the tackle and contact areas. And, many commented on the team's superior technical ability in our matches. Unfortunately we came across some very powerfully built opponents that gradually wore us down in the matches we lost. It is truly heartening to see that so many Year 5s have represented the team and this augurs particularly well for 2015. **The following represented the Colts A:** Harvey Stangoe (captain), Josh Rembalski (vice-captain), Max Bustamante-Macaire, Max Dewick, Toby Dewick, Finn Graham, Harrison Hobbs, David Kukoyi, Jonah Levy, James Mason, Harry McHugh, Ben Oldham, Harry Oldham, Oliver Strowger, Charlie Woodmansee, Alfred Woolf and James Woolf.

Beechwood Park Under 11 7s tournament

Played: 6 Won: 3 Lost: 2 Drawn: 1

There were five teams in each pool. We won two of our matches: York House (10 – 5) and Aldwickbury (20 – 5). This resulted in us going into the Plate Competition. A comfortable win against Beechwood Park in the semi-final ensured that we went through into the Plate Final where we met York House for the second time in the afternoon. At the end of play in the final both teams were locked at 5 – 5 and the result would be determined by a 'sudden death' play off. After several minutes of end to end rugby both teams remained tied; it was at this point it was decided that a draw (and joint ownership of the cup) was the right decision for both teams. **The following played:** Max Bustamante-Macaire, David Kukoyi, James Mason, Harry McHugh, Ben Oldham, Josh Rembalski, Harvey Stangoe, Oliver Strowger, Charlie Woodmansee and Alfred Woolf.



BASKETBALL

Basketball has really taken off at Westbrook Hay! Huge progress has been made in the last year. Having started from scratch just over 12 months ago and lost all our matches by a considerable margin, we have become competitive and won 3 matches and lost the other 2 by the smallest of margins. We have practised twice a week and a strong nucleus of Year 8 boys has been augmented by some very keen Year 7s who will go on to provide the backbone of the team for next year. We have worked hard on both close range and long range shooting and tried to "groove" the lay up shot to ensure maximum success. We have also thought more about movement and sharp accurate passing and positions in defence. Mr Lloyd and I have been thrilled with both the enthusiasm and the consequent progress that the boys have made. To be able to compete on a level basketball court with teams who have entered national competitions, and, indeed, run them close enough to give them a scare is brilliant! Well done to all the boys. The following have played in the team: Tom Wright (captain), Billie Busari, Tom Holes, Joe Rabey, Josh Kerr, Alex Wilkinson, James Holden, Billy Boot, David Burnell, Jacob Winter-Brown, Jerry St Hilaire, Scott Rolfe and Toby Russell.

SWIMMING

The Under 10 Boys' and Girls' swimming squads went to Aldwickbury for the IAPS Regional Heat. This event is a qualifier for the National Finals next term where the top 16 swimmers in each category will race off. Each event is a time trial so a battle against the clock. Our swimmers did themselves proud, clocking some impressive times. Charlie Woodmansee came closest to reaching the finals. His breast stroke time placed him 0.7 secs and 8 places off the top 16. We'll get there next year! SQUAD: Tegan Howard, Rebecca Pratt, Pippi Stangoe & Victoria Kelly; Charlie Woodmansee, Marley Maidment, Toby Dewick and Alec Jones.



CROSS COUNTRY

The Busari brothers stole the show at the recent Quadrangular Cross-Country Tournament at Edge Grove. Ibrahim won the Under 9 event while Billie was victorious in the Under 13 race. Billie sat behind the leader until the last half-mile and then pulled clear while Ibrahim took it out from the front and without too much pressure. They weren't the only ones to shine in what were extremely horrible conditions and all the athletes deserve great praise for running in the hail, wind and rain. Grace Botha and Victoria Kelly, both running in the U11 category even though they are in Year 4, put in an excellent display. Grace was our first girl home and capped what has been a superb term from her. Victoria wasn't far behind with Molly Scotchbrook sandwiched in-between. In the boys' races Henry Stoner-Redfern came 4th, Alex Wilkinson 5th, Charlie Woodmansee 6th and Max Delyfer 7th in their age sections. Huge congratulations to all the athletes!



The prospect of a busy term of fixtures/competitions was unfortunately marred by the heavy rains which caused several matches to be cancelled. It has seen though, the start of a new sport of pop lacrosse for the U11 girls this term.



GIRLS' SPORT

As you can see the girls' teams have tasted success at times and I would like to thank them for their support of each other throughout. To the parents who have so kindly given their time to help with transport, I also thank you. We now look forward to a sunny, warm summer term of rounders!

UNDER 11 POP LACROSSE

A new game for the girls that has offered them exciting challenges. A game that can change greatly depending on whether it is played indoors or out and the girls had the opportunity for a taster of both. Quick, fast, limited space indoors for passing and small goals meant the girls had to quickly adapt in their first match at Abbot's Hill and scoring was quite difficult. The second match outside on grass at Berkhamsted allowed greater scope and although playing 7-a-side, opportunities were created for passes and shots were converted into goals. Our two teams of mixed ages meant that we finished with some winning scores, a drawn game and some lost games but great enjoyment was had by all. Well done girls!

UNDER 9 NETBALL

The U9A & B teams started the term off well with wins against St.Hilda's and Edge Grove. The Year 3 girls that have been part of the U9B team have improved greatly and it has been good to see how enthusiastic all the girls have been, with further wins during the term highlighting the progress they have made. Towards the end of the term the U8A netball team played in a friendly tournament at Chesham Prep and won their section. Overall this has been a positive term of matches for these younger school teams.



UNDER 11 NETBALL

The U11 teams have had to dig deep to find that extra commitment within their teams and sometimes juggle positions in order to match our opponents ability. All credit to the U10 team who have mostly played against older opposition and, although more matches have been lost than won, they have stayed positive throughout and represented the school diligently.



UNDER 8 NETBALL

The U8A netball team played in a friendly tournament at Chesham Prep and won their section. On a sunny afternoon they won both matches in their group against Chesham Prep B and St. Hilda's which were close and exciting. Congratulations to Charlotte Green (Captain), Maya Delyfer, Isabella Hemmingway, Imogen Strowger, Julia Mason, Elise Ivory and Taofeeqah Ibrahim. They were presented with their winning certificates.



Picture the scene a lovely summer's afternoon and the School is all out at games playing rounders, cricket or even at the swimming pool and Mr Makower is bowling to a 10 year old on the Colts pitch when suddenly the ball is launched hand-somely over the fir trees and into the inner garden! Stunned silence hit the ground as 20 cricketers watched in awe. Alex Hales had made his statement and has continued to come out with the big hits ever since. After scoring stacks of runs for Westbrook Hay, Alex moved on to Chesham High and in the cricket world moved through the age groups of Buckinghamshire County Cricket Club being offered a contract by Nottinghamshire. He



FORMER PUPIL SETS ENGLAND RECORD

had been noted on the radar by setting a world record by scoring 55 off an over at the age of 16 at Lord's! Alex quickly made a name for himself with Notts and rapidly made it into the England T20 squad. Even before his recent fantastic innings against Sri Lanka Alex had three of the highest scores ever made by an England player in T20. So perhaps the significant moment in this incredible story is right at the beginning when Mr Makower was launched over the trees!

Sixty parents, teachers and support staff attended the WHA Quiz Night. Chef did us proud with a fantastic chilli supper. The Headmaster worked hard on the bar and when we consider we were 40 people down on our last Quiz Night the bar was incredibly busy, selling out of red wine in the first 15 minutes! If it wasn't for Claire Steadman's emergency dash to Waitrose we could have a much drier evening! Mr Hill runs our Quiz Night and as many of you know he retires at the end of the year, so this was his last. He did us proud! As ever, he included a round that leaves us wondering if he had a mis-spent youth - this year was no exception and we had fun on the "Prisons" round! Worriyngly, this

FUND RAISING SUCCESSSES

was the highest scoring round for the Nursery & Year One table. Overall winners were the table hosted by Sarah Whitehead and included newbie Janet Thackham - well done ladies! Zoe Philbin's table won the newly introduced "Dave Hill" Cup for best team name - "We are just here for the drink" - and the Wooden Spoon? Well that was won by my Reception table - will try harder next time! The Association raised almost £600 on the night, so a big thank you to all who came along. Sarah Markwort

Thank you so much for all your generous donations of books for our "Book Swap Café". A heartfelt thank you also to the WBA for donating the food and drink for the event and to the wonderful team of Mums who helped us to run the "Café" with delicious hot chocolate, fruit shoots, tea, coffee, cakes and doughnuts. The day raised the amazing total of £771.25 for Children in Need. We hope everyone is enjoying the book they chose in the swap!

£112 was raised at the Christmas Fayre, Poppy Appeal £356, Pudsey £779, Dacorum Opportunity Class £284 and Toad of Toad Hall £234 making a total this year of £1,765 for our chosen charities

EASTER EGG HUNT

Over 200 children, parents, teachers and support staff joined us for a fun afternoon at the WHA Easter Egg Hunt. We were blessed with great weather and in stark contrast to last year when we were forced to cancel the event due to snow! The good weather always shows off the school and its grounds in the most amazing way and it was lovely to see so many families having what seemed a very relaxing and enjoyable time. We had the most amazing

spread of cakes this year; a massive thank you to those who gave up their time to make them. Few cakes are ever left after an event but those that are, are donated to the staff rooms so they are never wasted. Thank you to those teachers and support staff from Lower School who gave up their afternoon to help and to those parents who spent hours serving teas and cakes and helped us clear up. The Association raised £950, so a big thank you to all who came along and supported the event. The money raised from this event will be going towards our 'Forest School'.



Contributions to the newsletter should be sent to:

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