

Autumn Term 2015

Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies

The children from Middle School all performed brilliantly when they visited Sherwood Forest for their Christmas Production of "Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies"; a tale of tights, fights and footlights!

When the dastardly Sheriff of Nottingham (Alfie) and his gormless guards threaten the villagers, feisty Maid Marion (Maddie) hires a band of freedom fighters for protection. However when Robin (Ben) and his Merry Men arrive, she soon discovers they are not quite what she ordered! Nevertheless, she manages to persuade these hapless heroes to help defeat the Sheriff, overthrow evil King John (Zorane) and rescue Maid Marion – all without laddering their tights!

It was a riotous romp through the medieval mayhem of merry England!



Aitchisons Photographic Competition

Thank you for all your entries for the Aitchisons photographic competition. Budding photographers were invited to choose an historical building or place of interest and take photographs, gather information and present to the very best of their abilities.

The school received an impressive number of entries and with outstanding submissions from La Sagrada Familia and Big Ben to the Grand Canyon and Beinn Resipole in Scotland; the judges had a huge task ahead of them! Winners were picked from each part of the school.

The winner in the Upper School category with her photography and commentary of The Chateau Royal was Jessica (age 10); winner in the Middle School category with a beautiful display of photographs of The Fisherman's Cottage in Clovelly, North Devon, was Grace (age 9); and



winning the Lower School category was Lucas (age 5), with his stunning photograph, artwork and fact finding of Bellapais Abbey in Cyprus.

Prizes included a GoPro camera, a digital camera and a family day out at Legoland, Windsor.

Stewart Woodward commented, "We are pleased to have run the competition again this year to give our pupils the opportunity to use and develop their photographic skills, and improve their knowledge of some of the amazing buildings across the UK and abroad during the summer period.

We are delighted with the standard of entries received – the children have clearly worked very hard and put considerable thought and creativity into these projects.

Entries have shown high levels of imagination and innovation, with some children providing additional collages, sketches, models and drawings. Once again we are most grateful to Aitchisons for running the competition with us."

Runner up prizes included gift cards for the Lego Store, the Disney Store and the Snow Centre in Hemel Hempstead, and were awarded to Oscar (age 10), Rushil (age 6) and Naiya (age 5). The children were awarded their prizes during school assembly. Callum also took a particularly outstanding shot of the Menai Bridge to Anglesey, but narrowly missed out on a prize.



Lower School

Animal Antics

On Wednesday 14th October, 1H was invited to join Mrs. Harris in the Science Lab to find out about all kinds of different animals. We are very lucky that Mrs. Harris has such a wide collection of animals for the children to study and care for. The children in 1H were very excited to be able to hold, touch and observe them all at such close quarters. The children learnt a lot about the different characteristics of animal families and were fascinated by some of the more unusual species, like the pair of water dragons. We had a great time and would like to thank Mrs. Harris for making the afternoon such fun.



To infinity... and beyond!

On Wednesday 4th November Reception came to school dressed as astronauts, aliens or something related to space. The children began the day by sharing their knowledge about their costumes before creating pizza planets using pepperoni, cheese, mushrooms, pepper and sweetcorn.

We had a fabulous afternoon with Mrs Harris, learning about the different features of the planets in our Solar System before going to the field to create our own scaled version. Thank you Mrs Harris!



Lower School

Gruffalo Science Workshop

On Wednesday 7th October Reception visited the Science Lab for a special workshop with Mrs Harris. The children used all their scientific thinking to identify the different features of the Gruffalo and then went on a Gruffalo Hunt around the Science Lab to make sure he wasn't hiding there! Instead of finding the Gruffalo, the children met



the guinea pigs, hamsters, tortoise, water dragons, African land snail and the chameleon! The children had a wonderful time! Thank you very much Mrs Harris for organising the session for us.



Don't you know? There's no such thing as a Gruffalo!

On Monday 28th September Reception went on a trip to Wendover Woods to go on a Gruffalo Hunt. The day began by making sandwiches choosing their favourite fillings; as intrepid explorers the children needed energy for their adventure! Upon arrival at the woods the children stopped for a well-deserved snack and read the story of The Gruffalo to remind themselves of the reason for our hunt. Once the children began to

explore they found some very helpful friends in Owl (hiding in his treetop house), Snake (hiding in his log pile house) and Fox (hiding in his underground house) who gave them directions to help them find the Gruffalo! The children all had a fantastic day and were very happy to find the Gruffalo lurking in the woods! They were even more delighted when they realised that he wasn't nearly as scary as they thought!



Lower School

Nativity Assembly



The term ended with the Lower School children holding their Nativity Assembly in the new Performing Arts Centre.

Finer Diner

We, the teachers in Lower School, are encouraging children to have good table manners; to eat with a knife and fork, to not have their elbows on the table, to eat with their mouths closed, and to remember their 'pleases' and 'thank yous'. To reward children for having fine manners a special table will appear once a month for those 'finer diners' to sit at. The children were very excited about the first appearance of this table today, especially those chosen to sit at it for lunch! The idea was introduced through our SEAL assemblies this term.



Middle School

Rocks and Soils

On Thursday 24th September, Year 3 enjoyed a fantastic trip to Boxmoor Trust. We learnt all about different soils and took part in an investigation, looking at how quickly water drains in chalky, sandy and clay soil. In the woods we also learnt about the different components that make up soil, and made our own examples. The trip really helped us learning about 'Rocks and Soils' this term. We also repeated the investigation in the classroom using scientific equipment.



Hindu Temple

Despite the rainy weather, Year 4 enjoyed their annual visit to Bhaktivedanta Manor, the Hare Krishna Temple donated by George Harrison. The trip included a cart-ride pulled by oxen, a tour of the magnificent grounds, face painting and dressing up as warriors or princesses. The children also learned about the various forms of Hindu worship, their beliefs and practices, and daily life at the manor.

As usual, one of the highlights was lunch; a tasty paneer curry, which everybody loved!



Middle School

Romans

Year 3 had a super time at the Verulamium Museum on Friday 9th October. When we arrived, the children were split into their classes

and took part in a variety of activities to assist with their learning about the Romans. All the children attended an interesting workshop looking at a variety of Roman artefacts. Some children even had the chance to dress up as Roman citizens. The children also walked around the museum, completing a worksheet on Roman

life. We ended the trip in the museum shop, where the children treated themselves to some gifts to remember their trip.



Upper School

A Christmas Carol

The story of the miserable skin-flint Scrooge, as he is forced to take a journey through his past, present and future, until laughter and goodness replace the ice in his heart, is well known and much loved.

Our trip to the beautiful and intimate Stables Theatre in Wavendon brought aspects of this magical Christmas tale to life in more ways than we had anticipated.

Unfortunately, the M1 was at its miserable worst, having been closed due to an accident. The school buses and eager passengers had to endure a long, cross-country detour to arrive some 30 minutes after the scheduled start, and there was considerable concern that we would miss the majority of the performance. One grovel-



ling phone call and not so! On arrival, the wonderful Stables staff were on hand and waiting. They guided us to reserved parking spaces close to the entrance, and then told us that the performance had been delayed especially for us, whilst helping us to our seats; real generosity of spirit from the Stables management and from the equally wonderful Box Clever Theatre Company.

Translated from Victorian times into a modern setting, this production was involving and engaging – all the more so for the Westbrook Hay pupils who were invited up on to the stage. They participated fully in the performance, interacting directly with the supremely talented cast of three. Laughter and goodness, most definitely.



Everest

INTO film Festival – “Everest” 3D

The Year 8 boys experienced the highs and lows of an expedition to Everest in 3D, courtesy of the INTO film education charity which runs a series of events annually across the country.

Based on disastrous real-life events dating back to May 1996, the film follows climbers from two expeditions as they start their final ascent toward the summit of Mount Everest, the highest point on Earth. With little warning, a violent storm strikes the mountain, engulfing the adventurers



in one of the fiercest blizzards ever encountered by man. Challenged by the harshest conditions imaginable, the teams struggle against blistering winds and freezing temperatures in an epic battle for survival.

Notwithstanding the warmth and comfort of the cinema seats in Garston, the atmosphere of the storm-ravaged top of the world came across strongly, leaving an equally strong impression on those present.

Upper School

Belles In The Bush

The weather was kind and the girls fantastic on another wonderful school outing to the woods. There was a little trepidation as we left Westbrook Hay, but this soon disappeared as the girls got into the swing of "surviving" in camp.



There was a whole host of activities including swimming, knife skills, shelter building and, my personal favourite, fire building. The food was particularly scrummy this year, with the highlight being the pan-nassed salmon (Mme Souliè quickly learning the skill, and completing the second salmon in record time). All in all a great trip and one I will look forward to taking again next year.



Back In Time

Year 5 visited The Chiltern Open Air Museum as part of their study on the Victorians. The children enjoyed having a first-hand experience of what it was like for people in the Victorian era.

During the trip, the pupils had the opportunity to see things like a privy (an outside toilet), a cherry picker ladder, used for picking cherries, and a shepherd's hut.



The children had a great time visiting and exploring different areas. Each pupil was given a simple worksheet to complete with questions about the different buildings and their uses.

The pupils were fascinated with the farm; they were able to see the rudimentary tools used by the farmers compared to the advanced machinery used today.

There were several different buildings in the farmyard that the children explored. The *Rossway Granary* was used for storing grain, here they learnt the importance of keeping the grain dry. The pupils visited the Cattle Byre, where the cows were milked and butter was churned and shaped.

It was great to see the

children observing what it was like to live in a Victorian home as they enjoyed exploring the *High Wycombe Toll House* which was built in 1826. They were amazed that two adults and three children could reside in such a small house with a privy situated outside.

The shepherd's hut was used during lambing season by shepherds who would live in the hut. Inside was a mattress, stove, tools and a lantern. The children were amazed at the simplicity of such living quarters.

The children enjoyed learning more about the Victorian era in such an interactive and dynamic way!



Upper School

Religious Studies Come Alive

As part of their Religious Studies curriculum, Year 6 has been learning about Buddhism this term. On Wednesday 25th November the children were delighted to welcome one of our mothers, Mrs Mackay-James, who is a practising Buddhist to come in and speak to them. She told them

about her lifestyle as a Buddhist and introduced them to various Buddhist symbols. The children were absorbed and asked lots of really good questions, and through her answers and explanations Mrs Mackay-James imparted the warmth and peace which is at the centre of this fascinating reli-

gion. Many thanks indeed to Mrs Mackay-James for her wonderful talk, and for giving up her time to help secure the children's understanding.



News From The Science Lab

Hamster Olympics

Sadly, over the summer, Twilight the school hamster died peacefully in his sleep. Jasmine and the Kendal family very kindly buried him in their garden. Twilight will be missed by many pupils, past and present. In September Mrs Harris took Jasmine, Finn and Callum down to Pets at Home where they bought the new hamster pair, Snowflake and Caramel. The children also spotted a sad little hamster, who's owners had developed a fur allergy, waiting for adoption. The children immediately requested we bring him back to Westbrook too, and so Bubbles joined the pets community in the science lab.



Pictured here are Jasmine, Siobhan, Charlotte and Daisy are putting the hamsters through their paces in the 'Hamster Olympics'.

STEM project

Year 8 were very kindly invited to West Herts College where they undertook lateral thinking and engineering tasks as part of the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) project. Pictured below are Harry, Max and Ethan who were the winners of the construction competition, photographed here with their winning design for a tower able to withstand shaking and support weight.



Art

Stanley Spencer Gallery

The children in Year 8 visited the Stanley Spencer gallery in Cookham where they learnt about the life and works of the artist, Spencer. There was a guided tour of the gallery where the children asked inquisitive questions. The guide then took the children on a tour of Cookham, showing the children where Spencer had lived and the many places that inspired his work. A great day was had by all.



Music

House Music Competition

What an amazing first WBH House Music Competition in the new Performing Arts Centre! Director of Music, Mr Wagstaff, welcomed a full auditorium of parents and children. Our concert saxophonist Elliot started the concert with a very Spanish feel. James, in Year 8, performed a very rhythmic *Indian Pony Race*, with Taofeeqah and Maya singing a 'poppy' duet. Dominic masterfully commanded the violin in *Scherzo*. Orlando on the cello broadened our repertoire to include 17th century Telemann. Benjamin wooed us with some laid back jazz on the electric guitar. Alexandra sang *Over the Rainbow*

with great emotion and Cameron blasted us with some scintillating drumming. Sam rocked the house singing Rainbow's, *Since You've Been Gone*. Imogen and Ella gave us that wonderful Abba feeling with their duet, *Thank You for the Music*. Victoria kept the afternoon classy singing the operatic *Panis Angelicus*. Elise reached those sweet top notes in *I Could Have Danced All Night*. Grace and Edie brought some fun to the afternoon with an excellent performance of the 'Cup Song' with a cup and table. Eve took us to celestial heights playing her harp. The Year 7 boys band Max B, Max D and Marley ended the concert

so well singing and rapping *See You Again* with Max B accompanying on the piano. Mr Young gave some wonderful feedback to the children and couldn't bring himself to honour only one child per trophy, as the standard was so high this year. The Junior Cup was awarded to Sam, Elise, Imogen and Ella all from Year 6. The Senior Cup was awarded to Dominic from Year 7 as well as Eve and Victoria from Year 6. After the individual performances everyone from all houses joined in performing their Abba house song, looking very 70s, with Wellington winning the House Song competition. Congratulations to Marlborough, the overall winners of the afternoon.



Music

Royal Albert Hall

On the 29th of November all of the Chamber Choir headed off on the coach to the Royal Albert Hall in London. We all went to sing Handel's Messiah. The Royal Albert Hall is a very big building located near the centre of London.

It wasn't a long journey to get there. It felt as if we were in the hall in under five minutes! We got off the coach and lined up for the inspection queue. Before we knew it we were being led through the winding corridors to dressing room ten (our dressing room). We had a glass of water and then were led to the rehearsals

in the hall. The sound coming from over forty choirs was outstanding. There was even a choir who had travelled over from Italy just to sing in this amazing opportunity. The rehearsals only lasted an hour so we had time to eat our lunch and even take a selfie with Mr Wagstaff in front of the building. Daisy and Fenella got lost with Mrs Milnes!

Soon we were called in to sing in front of all of the proud parents and the orchestra, who were going to play the music that we would sing along to. The time had come. We all headed up the steep Harry Potter like stairs to our

seats. They were high up and they were overlooking the stage where the orchestra sat. The conductor, Susi Digby, was on her feet doing an amazing job of directing everyone. I would be quite tired if I was doing that all evening!

The orchestra began to play the opening piece. We were clutching our sheets with excitement and anxiety just waiting for our part. When the time came we sang our hearts out. I think the song which sounded the most powerful was the *Halleluiah Chorus*, when even the parents were singing along. Just thinking about it the hall must have seated around about five thousand people! There were also some opera singers who did a few solos in-between our songs.

When it was all over we were all relieved and happy that we had performed in front of the biggest audience in my life. It was scary and exiting all at the same time.

With over 1000 children taking part, it was certainly a five star experience and I would definitely go there again next year!!! And that was my amazing experience at the Albert Hall.

Imogen (5So)



Music

St John's Carol Service

Westbrook Hay Carol Service at St John's this year seemed to be more successful than ever, according to comments back from a number of parents. Reverend Mike Macey once again kindly led our service. The climax of the night was perhaps the Chamber Choir singing the *Hallelujah Chorus* helped out by Mr Tong singing the bass part. Of course there were other highlights, including Year 1, 2 and 3 soloists singing *Away in a Manger*, the youngest of which was

Naiya. Until now, unknown singer Freddie, opened the evening by singing solo the first verse of *Once in Royal David's City*. Our Head Girl, Victoria, opened *See Amid the Winter's Snow* with a beautiful solo, as did Eve with *Silent Night*. Of course our Head Chorister, Sam featured in a couple of songs including a high reaching solo in a moving contemporary Christmas song called *Mary Did You Know?* The whole church was packed out with parents and family. What with the excellent standard of readers, prepared by Mr Woodward, this year's musical celebration of Jesus' birth was better than ever. Thank you Reverend Mike and all at St. John's, Boxmoor.



The photographs inside St. John's Church were taken during the Christmas Concert on the 9th of December held for the local congregation. Several of our parents supported this event and it was a privilege to once again be able to perform in this wonderful church.

Christmas Cheer

Twenty-four of Westbrook Hay's singers squeezed into Robin Hood Care Home and brightened up a dark winter night. It was a celebration of Christmas cheer for all involved.



Dance

Dance Display

This year the dance department had the opportunity to perform their annual Dance Display in the Performing Arts Centre, the new amazing and spacious auditorium. The ballet school performed to music from *Coppelia*, where children from ages 3-11 took part. The Lower School performed to music from *Aladdin* and the Middle and Upper School performed to music from *Saturday Night Fever*. The children danced with lots of enthusiasm and energy to all the performed pieces. An amazing display of costumes with their rich colours made the show interesting and appealing.



Wales Trip

Year 7 had a fantastic trip to Wales and despite all the usual jokes Wales was blessed with sunshine. Mr Ndau was in his element talking about many aspects of geography including National Parks, river development, glaciers, coastal erosion and different energy sources. Mr Agboke, with his historian's hat on, enthused about the Victorian slate mine and Harlech Castle, while Mr Makower enjoyed the sand dunes and manhunt on the beach!



Five days zoomed by far too quickly but hopefully everyone involved will have fantastic memories which will last a lifetime.



News From The Library

Scholastic Book Fair



The Book Fair was once again a huge success. We are so very grateful as a school for all the support in the way of book sales that were made over the three days. Last year you helped the school raise £1,375.35 in commission and we were all so impressed and grateful for your generosity. We never thought that we could top that this year, but we did!! We now hold the record for the most money raised by a school hosting a Scholastic Book Fair! You have helped the school to earn a staggering £2,539.05 in commission!!! Thank you all so much for your generous support. We have already used some of that money to buy much needed classroom library books and English set readers for Upper School. I have also bought new books for the Library. The Junior Librarians and teachers have been able to request books for class libraries and the school Library, and I am able to get all these books for free from the Scholastic website! It all helps children to get excited about books and reading.

Book Club

This year we started off with 5 new faces! (And of course all the familiar ones). The discussion soon turned to the two holiday reads – both substantial volumes – 'The Poisonwood Bible' by Barbara Kingsolver and 'Kolyma Heights' by Lionel Davidson. Not everyone had read both books as they didn't appeal to everyone, or they didn't have time, but enough of us had read something to constitute a good discussion. And that is what is so great about Book Club as you can pick and choose what you want to read and no-one is going to 'tell you off' for not

reading the book! It also puts new books under your nose to help you not get 'stuck in a genre'. We have also read, 'We are all completely beside ourselves' by Karen Joy Fowler, which was a story with a twist and prompted much discussion and, 'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mister Hyde' by Robert Louis Stevenson. This was a great book for book club as, although it was short, it lent itself to plenty of discussion! Our holiday read is 'The Little Paris Bookshop' by Nina George. Why not read it and join us next term? Our meeting dates are on the Intranet.

Librarians

Six new junior librarians have been appointed after a term's training. Well done to these children! They join a team of 27 existing junior librarians who, each week, help me run the Library.



Around The School

Design and Technology

Merchant Taylors' School hosted an inspirational DT competition tasking the children to build an air propelled model car. The competition was inspired by the work of team Bloodhound SSC, who were talking to the pupils about their project to beat the land speed record with their supersonic car. They are also promoting the subjects of Design & Technology and Science and inspiring the next generation of engineers.

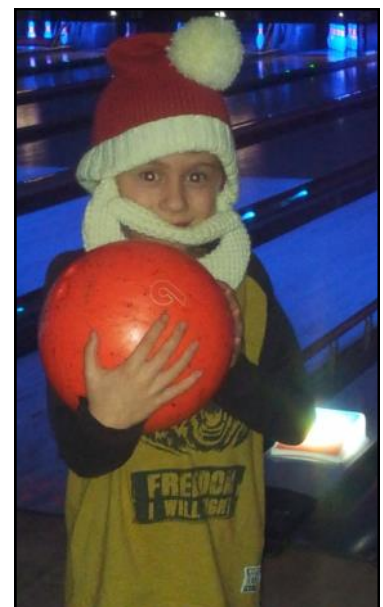
Two Westbrook Hay teams, consisting of six 12 year old boys from Year 8, took part, competing against St John's, St Martin's and Merchant Taylors' Prep. Harry, Max and Sasha, team 'Westbrook Hay Boys', won the competition and Ethan, Callum and James came second. The team name 'Westbrook Hay Boys' will be printed on the fin of the Bloodhound Supersonic Car.



Boarding

We've had some great fun at Hollywood Bowl this term with all year groups taking part. The best bowlers, I have to say, were Year 6 boys who outshone the rest with their ability to consistently get the ball down the middle of the lane rather than bouncing off the barriers. Riley

remains our champion GAP, right down to the little dance he performs before every bowl. Our Year 5 girls and boys had their first taste of staying at school overnight. Next term we have new GAP students and trips to Rogue Racing for all.



Harvest



On the afternoon of Friday 9th October, Lower School held their Harvest Assembly. We were all very excited to be the first to perform in the newly finished Performing Arts Centre and keen to put on a good show. The children had worked hard to learn lots of songs and they performed really well on the day to a large crowd of parents and relations, who, in the tiered seating, were all able to have an excellent view of their children.



This term saw our first major Even-song taking place in our wonderful new Performing Arts Centre. Huge thanks must go to our kind parents for once again providing us with such a wonderful amount of Harvest produce, and giving us probably our best Harvest display ever! Chef Julie provided the centre piece – the Harvest Loaf, which was displayed on the altar inside the auditorium, while the main display greeted everyone as they entered the foyer. The staff at the Hemel Hempstead branch of the Salvation Army, to whom the donated produce is given, were as grateful as ever. The money that parents donated at the end of the Service was passed on to our chosen charity this year, **The Hospice of St Francis**, to help them continue to give superb support to those in their care in Berkhamsted, and to **The Dacorum Opportunity Class**, part



of the Dacorum Fellowship for the Handicapped. This voluntarily run class provides much needed educational support for many handicapped children in our Hemel community, and they are always very grateful for the help we provide. Thank you, everyone, for your wonderful generosity.

Charities

Go Purple!

Thank you all for enabling the day to go smoothly - with special thanks to our chef Julie and her team for making the delicious biscuits and to the Charities Committee for icing them! We have raised a total of £628.32 for the Hospice of St Francis.

Mrs Wood, along with the Charity Committee iced biscuits and at break time handed out purple drinks and the biscuits in exchange for a dona-



tion to the Hospice of St Francis. The children were also encouraged to wear purple to school. There were some original and creative outfits, with George and Adam definitely getting the most thumbs up!



Charities

CLIC Sargent

We were delighted to welcome Catherine Cadman from CLIC Sargent to our assembly on Thursday 17th September. She was able to thank the pupils for the fantastic fundraising last year, with over £5,000 raised through various events and donations. She also explained the work that CLIC Sargent do, supporting children with cancer, and how our funds were being used.



Refugee Donations

Thank you to everyone for your donations. We took a full mini-bus over to St Albans and could hardly shut the garage door by the time we had off loaded. Many thanks to Paul, from the maintenance team, for your help. The next stage is for the volunteers supporting the charity to sort the goods (thank you for labelling your bags as this will really help the process) and then to find vehicles and volunteers to take the donations out to those who need them.

Hospice Thanks

Sarah Adger from the Hospice of St Francis came to thank the school for all the fund raising we have been doing this term and to talk to us about the work they do at the Hospice.

We have raised over £1000 through our 'Go Purple' day, our stalls at the Christmas Fair and donations following the Harvest Festival and the Middle School Production.

Thank you so much for your continuing support.

The Charities Committee



Sport

Football

IAPS U13 Regional Soccer Sixes at Foremarke Hall School

The U13s travelled to Derby, of all places, for the regional event and were in a confident mood. This confidence was well placed as we topped the group in style, conceding no goals and top scoring in the tournament. There was some fine inter-play between Harry, Max B and Max D with Josh outstanding in defence alongside the calm and collected Callum. Lewis had a fairly quiet day in goal, but when he was required, he produced the goods. The team benefitted from

his good distribution too. Freddie was causing a lot of problems for opposing defences, with Toby making a great impact from the bench with his pace and finishing. The semi-final saw us take on Wellingborough and a 2-0 win took us through to the final and guaranteed us a place in the National Finals in November. We took on the hosts,

Foremarke, in the final and looked the better side. We hit the woodwork a number of times, but just couldn't get that goal. This meant penalties were required and unfortunately we lost 7-6. However, the boys were outstanding all day.



Sport

First Team

The 1st Team enjoyed another excellent term. Last year's team was considered the best on the circuit and perhaps the best we have ever had, but this term's side was better still. With ability, pace and power all around the park, the side have been too much for every opponent, aside from a strong Aldwickbury who pipped us 1-0 in the National Cup and are now in the semi-finals.

Other highlights include reaching the

National 6-A-Side Finals, the fifth national final our football teams have qualified for in the past three years. We narrowly missed out on qualification to the semi-finals by one goal and were the only team to score and beat the winners, Shrewsbury House, in a game which saw Max score a hat-trick. Indeed, one of his goals, a 20 yard curler in to the top corner, had me running down the touchline in celebration like a young Jose Mourinho!

We again won every friendly game on the circuit, extending our unbeaten run to over three years. Victories included a 6-0 win at Aldwickbury, 5-0 at Lochinver, 1-0 at home v Chigwell and 7-1

at Lockers. More pleasing than the results was the consistent way we performed at such a high level. Our game revolved around high tempo, pass and move, football starting with our goalkeepers Lewis and Harrison all the way through to Freddie, our striker and every player should be proud of their contribution. We have been led excellently by our captain Harry and vice-captain Josh. Special mention should also go to Max for the developments he has made in his game. All in all, I have enjoyed the wonderful journey these boys have taken us on over the past few months. Thank you!

Stuart Stedman



Sport

Second Team

The 2nd IX have had quite a mixed season with some good wins, some exciting draws and some disappointing defeats.

The 9-a-side format means that you play with 3 at the back a midfield 4 and a lone striker. When on form, we passed the ball cleanly and held our shape well. On the days that we were not as good, the shape was the first thing to go.

I think I can say that we were well served in goal, first with Harry and

then Orlando. Both were brave and made some fine saves, although kicking out could be like a game of Russian roulette! The defence was made up of a combination of Laurie, Ben, Jackson, James and, on one occasion, a guest appearance from Charlie. All were determined and generally were in the right place at the right time! Wide midfielders were Dillon, Adam and James and all used the extra space available well. Centre midfield was Henry and a variety of partners including Harrison on one occasion. When the centre midfield clicked, the team played really well. When they didn't get back to support the defence, we were in trouble. Adam and Lomax both took on the

strikers position, Lomax eventually making it his own and playing well as the season went on. Harrison also had a game there, scoring a hat trick. Last mention to Laurie who had the unenviable task of captaining this crew and certainly did his best!

On a good day we were outstanding and I particularly enjoyed our final match against Lochinver House, when we played an end-to-end match with spirit and skill. If we had played as well as that throughout and had been more consistent, we would have had an excellent season. Many of these players return next season- I am already looking forward to it!

Richard Summerfield



Sport

Third and Fourth Team

The third team had a successful season winning the majority of their games. Leading from the front, Sasha was our secret weapon, scoring on average over two goals a game. However, the core to the team was a fantastic defence built around Max.

The fourth team did not win many games, but probably had some of the most thrilling; losing on numerous occasions to the odd goal.



It was great to see the enthusiasm they played with and they were very well led by Ethan, until his deserved promotion to the 3rd team.

Most pleasing of all was watching us play our football with a smile on our face... Westbrook Hay's sport for all policy was clearly seen by all the loyal supporters.

Peter Makower



Orange Team



Sport

Colts A Team

The Colts A have had a very impressive term of football. The boys started the term with convincing wins against Edge Grove, Lockers Park and Kingshott in September. Captained by

the magnificent Ibrahim, the boys played some excellent football, which was a joy to watch. Ibrahim also finished the term with both top goal scorer and most assists. We certainly

weren't a one man team though. Raffi, who hadn't played as a keeper before, was excellent in goal, and improved greatly over the term. Elliot didn't give any opposing centre forwards an easy game and Josh performed excellently both at the back and on the right hand side of midfield. Finn, Archie and Reece completed our attacking force and gave opposing defenders a great deal of work to do. The boys unfortunately went out in the semi-finals of the ISFA Hertfordshire tournament after bossing their way through the group stages, suffering a 1-0 defeat to Lochinver. The boys continued their good form on Wednesday afternoons and only suffered two other defeats, again to Lochinver and a shock defeat to Lockers Park in the last game of the term. A special mention as well to Josh, Will and Finnlee who helped the team in our tournament and school matches. The boys should be very proud of their achievements and the way in which they played. With four of the seven boys in year 5, I look forward to seeing them develop even more next year. Well done boys, now for the rugby!



Colts B Team

The Colts B have had a great term of football. Finnlee was on fire up front scoring a number of important goals. With Alec in goal and Zac and Henry in defence we were a very tough team to beat. Harry, Will, Finn and Cameron made up a very attacking midfield that created a number of chances for Finnlee. The boys most definitely won more than they lost, and worked extremely hard in all games lessons. Well done boys!



Dan Pope



Sport

Silver A Team

The Colts Silver As football team displayed some brilliant performances throughout the season. One of the main highlights was managing to beat Lockers Park School in the home and away fixtures. Ben was very impressive in a defensive partnership with Tommy in the centre of defence. Orlando, Harry and James worked extremely hard in the midfield for the benefit of the team. In attack we had a lethal finisher in Oscar. Oliver and Joss were extremely versatile, both playing in goal or any outfield position required of them. Well done boys!

Johnny James



Silver B Team

The Colts Silver Bs football team developed extremely well as the season progressed. By the end of the season they knew exactly what each player in the team was required to do. In training they worked really hard to improve their skills. This translated into much improved results on the pitch. Well done boys on some great performances throughout the season.

Johnny James



Sport

Purple A Team

The Purple As had a splendid season of exciting football. They opened the season with a well-deserved 6-1 win against Edge Grove, followed by a 7-1 routing of their nearest rivals Lockers Park before beating Kingshott 4-0.

However, as their confidence was soaring, they were forced to eat humble pie as Aldwickbury tore up the form book and humbled us 4-2, therefore sending our unbeaten run into flames.

The boys came back fighting to draw 5-5 at Lochniver in a match best described as a match of two halves, before beating Heath Mount and Lockers Park 3-1 and 2-1 respectively to end their season on a high note.

Goals Scored: 29 Goals Conceded: 13 Goal difference: +16

Captain: Kian Top Goal Scorer: Tommy.

Team: Kian, Tommy, Harry, Gabriel, Pierce, Callum, Oliver, Alex

Sav Nda



Purple B Team

The Purple Bs equally acquitted themselves against some very good teams. They started the term with a big 5-0 win against Edge Grove followed by another 6-0 win against Lockers Park. However, they met their match against Aldwickbury before drawing Heath Mount, and ended their season with a well-deserved 1-0 win against Lockers Park.

It was lovely to see how the boys developed throughout the season and they were a real pleasure to watch.

Great credit also goes to our lovely parents who supported us throughout the term and gave our boys a great boost.



Team: Charles, Alex, Oliver, Teddy, Jamie, Callum, Harry (Captain)

Sav Nda

Sport

U9 Football Teams

The Under 9 A and B squad have thoroughly enjoyed their football this term. Playing a mix of between 4 and 7 a-side, their technique, decision-making, passing and composure on the ball have all improved.

The success of the teams has been down to great team work and work-rate. A number of players represented the As with Hugo, Sam, Ben and Lucas being the cornerstones of the side. Joel and

Thomas chipped in with some goals and worked hard on the wings while Connor gained promotion to the side late in the term and also popped up with a goal. We have been blessed with some very good goalkeepers; Neel proved to be a rock behind the defence, while in the Bs, Thomas and Freddie were outstanding between the posts. The Bs contained more Year 3 players than Year 4, but proved to be a difficult side to beat. Finlay, Oliver and Silas were other key players a year

younger than team mates and opponents. Silas would often produce a spectacular goal, while Finlay and Oliver showed off their fine dribbling skills. Ronan and Thomas were the driving forces of the Bs, with Thomas also gaining promotion to the As during the season, while Theo was the danger man near the opposition's goal.

All in all, it has been a very enjoyable season with the boys, who have all developed well. On to the rugby!



The Under 9 C, D, E and F teams have shown great progress over the term. All of the boys have had a chance to play in matches against other schools over the term and we have certainly won more games than we have lost. We have worked a lot on our passing and moving this term, looking to keep possession of the ball and play as a team. We have also looked at the different positions within a team and the roles and responsibilities of each position. The boys have worked very hard and have grasped the game well. All of the boys have behaved well and played some excellent football, setting a great example for Westbrook Hay.

Dan Pope

Sport

U11 Netball

The U11 team started their season off with a big tournament at Berkhamsted led by their captain Evie. They played extremely well, just narrowly missing out on a place in the top three. As the term progressed the team went from strength to strength, winning game after game with only one loss since the tournament. Every member of the team played a key role and should be extremely pleased with themselves for their efforts this term.



U10 Netball

The U10 netball team also started their season with a big netball tournament. They fought hard with some wins and losses. They continued this throughout the term with some excellent matches that were very level. Notable performances this term for excellent play in their positions go to: Imogen as goal attack, Fenella as centre and goal defence and Maya as centre. Both the A and B team should be very pleased with their efforts and performance this term.



Sport

U9 Netball

The U9 netball team should be commended on their efforts this term. They have had mixed results but remained enthusiastic throughout. Both teams have worked very hard on their defending play which has been reflected in their recent performances. The girls should be proud of the progress they have made this term. Notable performances this term came from Lillie for her excellent goal shooting and Adun for top goal keeping.



U8 Netball

The U8 netball teams have shown a huge improvement over the term, and should be very pleased with themselves. They started the term with little to no knowledge of the game, and ended it in full court competitive matches against girls a year older than them. Their initial game showing their inexperience; their most recent game showed tremendous improvements in their passing and defending skills. Notable performances throughout the term came from Angel, Verity and Garla who have all excelled in their matches this year.



Westbrook Hay Association

Curry Night

Another sell out night for the first WHA event of the school year. Chef prepared a delicious curry and the left overs were auctioned off at the end of the night. The event raised over £550.



Fireworks

Despite torrential rain during the day, the evening was dry and we were treated to another incredible display from Richard & David. This was the first event using the new online tick-eting system and we sold 426 tickets online with another 100 on the door. The WHA raised almost £1,000 from the evening.



Westbrook Hay Association

Christmas Fair

Our first Christmas in the new Performing Arts Centre and a great time was had by all. Parent donations exceeded expectations and allowed the WHA to put on an incredible fair for the children. With a visit from Santa, reindeer, sweet jar making and the most Headmaster's Hampers we have ever sold, it will be a hard act to follow next year.



Other News



Christmas Lunch

A huge thank you must go to the ladies on the WHA for decorating the dining room with Christmas decorations and to Chef and the servery team for putting on a fabulous Christmas lunch for all the children.



WHA dates for your diary

WHA committee meeting	Tuesday 19th January - 19:30
Class Rep meeting	Tuesday 26th January
Parents' coffee morning	Wednesday 3rd February - 8:30
Parents' book club	Wednesday 3rd February - 9:30
Quiz Night	Saturday 6th February
WHA committee meeting	Tuesday 1st March - 19:30
Parents' coffee morning	Wednesday 2nd March - 8:30
Parents' book club	Wednesday 2nd March - 9:30
Easter Egg Hunt	Saturday 19th March - 14:00

