

This year has seen us celebrate 50 years since the school moved from Gadebridge Park to Westbrook Hay. We had a special service to commemorate this, with former pupils, some of whom were actually in the school when it moved, returning to share their memories with us. While much has changed, both in terms of the world in general and at Westbrook Hay in particular, one thing was clear from the reminiscences we heard, life was fun at school. Looking at the list of achievements of our pupils this year, it is good to be able to report that as well as scholarship success and a very strong showing in the entrance

## 50 YEARS AND COUNTING

tests for a wide variety of schools, our girls and boys have packed an enormous amount into this year and have had a great deal of fun in the process. Our sports teams have been highly competitive, our music and drama continue to improve and the standard of art work displayed about the school is testament to the talents of our artists. The Lower School is a hive of activity, both inside and

outside the classroom and there are more children than ever in the Middle School, ensuring that we have the very best provision in Upper School, when we divide into three classes. This has therefore been a very good year and it is pleasing to see that the excellent profile and reputation of the school continues to develop. Here's to the next 50 and I look forward to reading all about the celebrations when the time comes, no doubt in fully interactive 3D media, possibly from the lunar nursing home for retired headmasters, unless that has been moved to somewhere warmer !



## NELSON ARE SPORTS DAY WINNERS



## FESTIVAL RUNNERS-UP

Rain drops were accumulating on the windscreen as the mini bus negotiated the roundabout at the end of the A41 and there was a worrying thought that the competition would be played indoors but the rain stopped as we approached Aldenham and all was well if a little cold. Our first match was against St Martins and we bowled pretty well to restrict them to 66 off their allotment of 10 overs. In reply David Burnell and Scott Rolfe set off with purpose and we were always "ahead of the game". The wickets of both openers slowed the run rate but we crossed the line with one ball to spare for an 8 wicket win. So far so good and it was time for lunch! In the second game we played the hosts and did not make an impressive start to our innings but sensible batting by James Holden ensured a reasonable score of 72. Aldenham were never going to get very close once Scott Rolfe had taken 3

wickets in the first over. Jude-Clark Re-gamey, Holden, Joe Rabey, Harvey Graham and Tom Holes all chipped in with wickets as we won with a bit to spare. The early morning rain had now well and truly departed leaving blue skies and sunshine and with two wins out of two suddenly things were getting a bit serious. Against Edge Grove we batted first and posted 104 for the first wicket with Burnell scoring 56 and Rolfe cutting and driving his way to 38 not out. 125 was always a total too great for Edge Grove and we won by an impressive 77 run margin with Tom Wright and Tom Holes both taking 2 wickets. So the final game pitched the two unbeaten teams against each other and we chose to bat first against St John's. Unfortunately we lost early wickets and never really got to grips with the task of setting a challenging total and St John's passed our 54 with three overs and 8



wickets in hand. It was a super day as the team certainly achieved more than was anticipated on arrival. A proud team received their runners up medals on the pavilion steps and David Burnell was awarded the Batsman of the Tournament trophy. The only problem was the tournament had over run and it was going to be a struggle to get back to Westbrook Hay for the scheduled pick-up!





## RECEPTION FLY TO WESTBROOK ISLAND

On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June Reception set off on an exciting journey to an unknown destination. The children had all packed and had their holiday clothes on ready for the adventure. We started the day with checking-in and making sure we all had the correct luggage. Everyone had great fun comparing swimming costumes and pyjamas. The children all made their very own passport in preparation for our afternoon flight. After lunch everyone was very excited, as we were able to board the plane. Mrs Gibbs was in charge of passport control and made sure that everybody had a stamp in their passport. Mrs Jewell was in charge of checking luggage and making sure it was the correct weight. Mrs Parr did a fantastic job of Air Stewardess and managed to give every passenger a drink and snack. Mrs Webb and Miss Gilden were wonderful pilots and flew us all to 'Westbrook Island' safely. We had great fun, but wished we really had gone on holiday!



## SWALLOWS AT TRING MUSEUM

Swallows enjoyed their first school trip to Tring Museum this term. They thoroughly enjoyed looking at all the animals and exploring the jungle environment with a talk from a member of staff from the museum.

On their visit to Whipsnade Zoo, Reception were very lucky to be able to listen to a story around an African water hole. They learnt about all the animals that would use the water hole and what dangers each animal had. The children had the opportunity to stroke a baby elephant, be up close to some sunbathing cheetahs and wave at some very fat hippos. We all had such a fantastic day and all needed a nap when we got home!

## I WANNA BE LIKE YOU ..OOH



Reception enjoyed dressing up as mini beasts for their WOW day. We had lots of fun dancing for the Ugly Bug Ball, making our own bugs and looking for bugs in the outside environment. Reception then paraded around the Lower School to show off their beautiful costumes.

## THE UGLY BUG BALL







As part of their geography work on "looking after our environment" Year 2 went to an island in Apsley to visit the birthplace of an industry. The children had a tour of Frogmore Mill and were able to see the machinery in action making paper from recycled

materials. They each made their own piece of paper with tiny pieces of shredded bank notes in it and had a go at weaving with paper. Year 2 returned from a very enjoyable trip ready to reduce, reuse and recycle at school and at home.

## YEAR 2 PUT THROUGH THE MILL..

Year 1 visited the Box Moor Trust during the summer term. They attended a workshop on materials. We began by going on a walk through the woods and collecting different materials, which were then sorted by their different characteristics. Later we learnt about how wool is spun into thread and made into clothes. We used clay to create our own

## ..WHILE YEAR 1 LEARN ABOUT MATERIALS

mini bricks and finished the session by telling the story of the three little pigs.



## AROUND THE WORLD WITH PHILEAS FOGG



Lower school had an exciting visit from 'Perform Drama' during the summer term. The theme of the workshop was 'Around the World'. This was a wonderful experience for the children as it inspired the imagination as well as being educational. Each class had a half hour session in the school hall and were led by one of the drama teachers in character as 'Phileas Fogg'. The children went on an exciting adventure, visiting a cross-section of countries to help Phileas on his mission across the continents to unite the globe.

Year 4 enjoyed a tremendous day at Hampton Court Palace; even the weather was kind to us! The children were given the chance to explore the Palace, including Henry VIII's apartments, the chapel, the kitchens and The Great Hall. They even met Jane Seymour and saw Henry VIII himself walking through the main courtyard. The children learned a lot of new facts about Henry VIII and Tudors in

## HAMPTON COURT



## "YOU IS GETTING NOSIER THAN A PARKER"

Armed with lots of facts about Roald Dahl's life and having enjoyed some of his children's stories in class, Year 2 visited the Roald Dahl Gallery at Aylesbury Museum. They had the opportunity to explore James' giant peach, Matilda's library and Fantastic Mr Fox's den. They left with a dream gently blown into their ears by the BFG.

the workshop, 'Marrying Henry'. They particularly enjoyed dressing up in beautiful Tudor costumes and acting out famous historical events linked with Henry VIII's life. Of course, the children's part of the day was trying to find their way out of the famous maze!







# CAMPFIRE COOKING

Fires alight and food at the ready it wasn't long before the baked potatoes, sausages and baked beans were being cooked on the red hot embers. The fireside revelry and bonhomie was by now in full swing and

pupils awaited the meal of the day! All agreed that the food was delicious, even those that didn't 'normally' enjoy what was on offer. With stomachs full it was time for 'commando', a game of stealth

through the undergrowth of the 'Dark Woods'. For all the evening went far too quickly. A great time was had by all the girls and boys who took part.



This year, for a change to our usual venue, Year 5 went to Phasels Wood for a day of activities. The primary challenge in the morning was for the pupils to work together as a team to work out how best to solve challenges. The activities started with 'mine' where pupils had to remove a number of pegs. This was followed by 'swamp' where the team had to cross from point A to point B without touching the ground. Shelter building also proved popular too. In the afternoon pupils had to test their resolve on the low ropes obstacle course and for some, the ultimate challenge – abseiling. All descended down the wall safely. Judging by the number of pupils that said, 'thank you Sir/Mrs Brown for a great day', it was clear that all pupils had thoroughly enjoyed the experience of a day away from the classroom.

## CHALLENGES FOR YEAR 5



## NOW YOU SEE THEM...



## NOW YOU DON'T!



## AT SURVIVAL EVENING

Another year has passed and so we donned our camouflage colours and headed out to play what has to be one of the school's favourite games, "Predator". Mrs Thomson's shoes were almost filled by Mr Stedman, who proved to be a dab hand with the stage make-up, and so after concealing our identities and with the smell of the BBQ (our thanks to Mr Young for cooking) we headed out into the wilds. We played games of 40-40 manhunt in the inner garden before heading out onto the Boxmoor meadow for the main event. As you can see from the pictures the children were excellent at hiding and the games proved difficult. After much fun we headed in, had supper with the Year 3 & 4 golfers before finishing the evening with the classic "duck, duck, goose".

On the evening of Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June Mrs Hauser, Mrs Harris, Mr Summerfield, our GAPS – Chrissie, Ally and Eliza and Mr Woodward went with members of Year 5 to 8 on a nature ramble. This annual event involves taking a picnic and walking up through our grounds to Little Hay Golf Course and following the 10<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> fairways to the far end of the course. Here we stopped to have the picnic, then turned right through the woods around the back of the course and out onto Upper Bourne End Lane. From there we turn right and follow the lane all the way to the bottom, turning right again and climbing up through Hanging Wood and out again onto the golf course by the 7<sup>th</sup> tee, along the 6<sup>th</sup> fairway and back into the school grounds, and home. The ramble is approximately two miles through some wonderful nature that includes approx. 30 varieties of trees, over 50 different species of wild flowers, together with the chance to see many different insects, birds and animals. If the children are really quiet, they may be lucky enough to spot rabbits, squirrels and foxes and even the possibility of an early evening badger, muntjac deer, wood mouse or field vole. Using

their field books to help with identification, and the expertise of Mrs Hauser and Mrs Harris, the children recorded the wildlife as we walked, taking photos and learning much about the natural phenomena that is on our doorstep, and why conservation is so important. This time the children were able to record up to 90 different species. Charlotte Payne, Zoe Jones, Alice Ripper and Sophie Gasser spotted the most for the girls and Daniel Morrissey, Ethan Stockbridge, Toby Ogelman and Reuben Stoner-Redfern recorded most for the boys, and all agreed the ramble was a great way to spend a lovely summer's evening. Thank you to all who attended for making it such an enjoyable occasion.

## NATURE RAMBLE



The ever popular go-karting was the first choice for our Year 7 and 8 boys. Quasar was also a popular

## BOARDERS ON THE ROPES



alternative for the girls when no suitable films were available for our proposed cinema trip. The highlight, and choice of all, has to be the X-C high ropes and caving! Suspended 12m high and thought to have been used by the Ancient Greeks to train soldiers, the ropes test agility, balance and core stability to the limit. After a brief rest and fortifying slush puppy, our teams moved onto caving which presented a different, though no easier challenge of crawling through 150m of intricately twisting and turning passages. McDonalds and yes, the ever present pizza, were enjoyed by one and all along with ice creams, doughnuts and strawberries. Boarding choices for next year have been sent out and I look forward to a new group of Year 5 boys and girls joining our boarding community. A fond farewell and good luck to those Year 6 girls and Year 8 boys who have hopefully had lots of fun 'living' in school over the last year.





## EN FRANCE

Their week in Normandy gave our Year 5 children a very good opportunity to improve their French since, at the Château de la Baudonnière, all the staff spoke only French. During the week though, the children also took part in many challenging and exciting activities from “escrime” to “parcours de santé”. For most of them it was the first time they had stayed abroad without their parents and it was good to see them trying their French and enjoying taking part in activities together. Our visit to the goat farm was one of the highlights of the trip but the children enjoyed all the activities.

## IN SEARCH OF BIRD-LIFE

Every year a group of children from Years 5 – 7 get together for this walk along the Grand Union Canal and Tring Reservoirs. This year we exceeded all expectations seeing 18 different species of birds. Opportunities for photographing (or just enjoying) the birdlife, the peace of a quiet May evening, life on the canal and the setting sun were numerous. The trip was also as much about socialising and relaxing after a day at school.



## SIX EIGHTS EQUAL ADVENTURE



While the forecasters were predicting doom and gloom the weather gods were on our side and apart from the odd downpour Year 8 had a dry and enjoyable time on the PGL trip. Probably the highlight was the raft building where Chrissie's attempts at keeping her raft afloat finished with a wet ending! Richard Platt kept us all amused on the giant swing, Ed Khan failed to impress the other schools with his ‘silky’ footballing skills, Reuben Stoner-Redfern impressed in the sleeping bag race and Ben Yeo overcame his fear of rollercoasters! We returned at the end of the week fatigued, smelly but with tremendous memories. *Aidan Mullins Year 8*



Our team of 19 swimmers from Year 5 and 6, including Pippi Stangoe and Evie Lyons from Year 3 competed in a gala against St Albans High School U11s. For a number of girls this was their first gala and there were certainly a few nerves flying around prior to entering the water but this was tempered with plenty of excitement! Sophie King settled those early nerves with a win in the first race - the A Backstroke. Victories then came quickly with Molly Custance in the A Breaststroke and Lauren Bennett in the A Freestyle. The relays proved to be great fun for the girls with a number swimming different strokes to those they swam in their individual race. Overall, the A team narrowly lost out to St Albans by 2 points with the B side coming in 2<sup>nd</sup>, 12 points behind. Well done to all the swimmers!



## SUCCESSES FOR WESTBROOK



Later in the term the full school team swam against Edge Grove School in the annual gala. There were some excellent and exciting individual and relay performances. This tremendous team effort brought us closer, overall, to winning than for many years. Many of our swimmers such as William Jones (right) and his brother Alexander have also been setting a very high standard at their clubs this term.



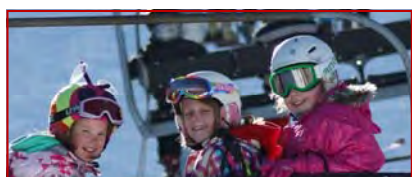
On a warm sunny evening on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June a team of 6 boys went over to Aldwickbury School to play in an U9 tennis match. Charlie Woodmansee, Elliot Scott, Harrison Hobbs, James Woolf, Toby Dewick and Lomax Tannett played a round robin

## UNDER 9 TENNIS

doubles tournament scoring their own matches to best of 3 games. There were some excellent serves and some well fought rallies and although Aldwickbury were the stronger team it was a good experience that both teams thoroughly enjoyed.



After the success of our recent ski trip, our ski team debuted this term. First, two U12 boys' team went to the dry slope at Welwyn and competed at the Eastern Region Schools Championships. Each of the boys improved



on their first run with Daniel Morrissey recording our quickest time closely followed by James Holden. Ethan Morrissey finished in the top 20 in the U10 section, an age-group

## ON THE SLOPES



which he will again be able to compete in next year. At the Snowdome, Hemel Hempstead, we competed in the Prep School Championships. In a similar format to the competition at Welwyn, we again fielded two teams (U13 and U11 boys) although the position of the gates meant this was a technically harder course. Both teams finished midway in the rankings with the Yeo brothers, Ben and Josh, leading the way in the standings. This was a very pleasing start for our teams and we look forward to doing more next year.





Colin the chameleon was rescued by Westbrook Hay last year. He had been kept in a cage without human contact as his owners were afraid of him. They called him B.K. for Bad Karma. When Colin came to live at Westbrook Hay he was a cross and anti-social chameleon attacking any-

one who went near him. Toby Ogleman patiently tamed Colin by stroking first his tail and then his leg over many weeks. Now Colin enjoys coming out of his cage and on sunny afternoons will go outside with the tortoise.

A massive thank you to Robert, who looks after the grounds at Westbrook Hay. Just over a year ago the old Victorian pond was cleared and re-filled. Children throughout the school have benefited from this fabulous outdoor resource. In IT, the children have used the underwater camera to study the creatures. In Science they studied the habitat of a newt. It is amazing how much wildlife has appeared in the school pond in such a short period of time. Children from Swallows to Year 8 enjoy pond dipping



## SCIENCE IN THE FIELD...



## ..AND IN THE LABORATORY

Finally the sun shines and allows for the sort of outdoor lessons that children really remember. Discovery of bugs and beetles safely and without destruction of their habitat, while, Year 5 had great fun testing our school breakfast for different nutrients as part of their study of healthy lifestyles.





## A LAW UNTO THEMSELVES

Not, we hope, in preparation for a future life of crime, Year 8 are visited each year by a local Magistrate upon their return from PGL. This year was no exception and on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June Mr. Nicholas Crispin came to school to show the children what goes on in the Magistrate's Courts. Being a small class this year, Year 8 were joined by Year 6 girls and Mr Crispin 'held court' in the Assembly Hall and showed the children the difference between youth courts (who deal with children between 10 and 18 years old) and normal courts, for adults of 19 years and over. The youth courts are a little more 'friendly' and conversations take place between the Magistrates and the children who are 'up before them'. Those children's parents can also be present. Our children were able to role play, acting as different

members of the court or as victims or perpetrators of crime, while Mr. Crispin explained their roles, especially those of the Magistrate's. During one scene, Aidan Mullins played an assaulted victim, Lara Mills was the prosecuting lawyer, Ben Yeo the suspect and Edward Khan the defence lawyer, while Kolade Ladipo, Paige Atkinson and Alice Ripper represented the Board of Magistrates. Luckily for Aidan (and unluckily for Ben) the 'court', after hearing from 'witnesses' and both the defence and prosecuting counsels, found in the victim's favour! Everyone enjoyed the occasion and learnt a great deal which will stand them in good stead. We're very grateful to Mr Crispin for giving up his time to visit us again, and Ben can thank his lucky stars we're not still living in the Medieval realms!

On Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April Year 6 were taken on an inspiring visit around the lovely Church of St John's (where we hold our Christmas Carol Services) by Mrs Carol Lewis, a parishioner and friend of Rev James Reveley, who has now moved to Peterborough. This church, dedicated to St John the Evangelist, is a lovely example of a fairly modern C of E church. The children were made to feel very welcome by Mrs Lewis, who explained the church's history and all the wonderful things that can be found in it, and what they mean and represent. The children learnt about St John and how aspects of his life are captured in the church's beautiful stained-glass windows, and they enjoyed the cool, tranquil atmosphere as they explored the various parts of the building – the nave, chancel, font, altar, side-chapel, pulpit etc and took notes on everything, including the tabernacle, lectern and new organ, to follow up with a mini-project on their return to school. Our thanks to Mrs Lewis for a lovely and absorbing morning and for bringing St John's to life for the children.

## St JOHN'S CHURCH INSPIRES YEAR 6 CLASSWORK



## EXPLORING THE RAINFOREST

On Monday 10th June, Year 3 enjoyed a fantastic trip at the Living Rainforests in Newbury. The children saw a variety of plants and animals, which helped towards building interest and enthusiasm for their projects. These last few weeks, the children have worked really hard towards their rainforest projects and produced some excellent work. Well done Year 3!







This term WBH children have performed in two concerts; the London concert in the Armourers Hall was in the first half term and then one last Friday 21st June in our Assembly Hall. Both concerts started with the WBH orchestra leading the National Anthem; they sounded more together than ever before! Kolade & Bolade Ladipo gave an extraordinary performance of the 'Cup Song' using only their voices and a plastic cup for accompaniment! Dominic Hampstead played an amazing version of the recent Bond theme tune – 'Skyfall'. Rebecca Wagstaff brought a few tears to the eyes singing a stunning performance of 'Pie Jesu'. A boys' band made up of Ben Fuller, Jacob Winter-Brown & Joshua Tambwe sang Pompeii which all the children in the audience swayed along to. The senior school choir gave a wonderful

performance of Rutter's 'For the beauty of the earth' before the Year 6 leavers filled the stage with an emotional and powerful rendition of Gary Barlow's Jubilee song 'Sing'. It was a very successful and enjoyable concert and huge congratulations go

out to all those who performed on the night! Music continues to grow from strength to strength here at Westbrook Hay, with over 30 students being entered for ABRSM Grade 1- 4 exams at the end of this term.

## CHORAL AND INSTRUMENTAL HIGHLIGHTS



## DANCE HEADLINES!



This term the dance department have been very busy getting the children ready for their ballet, modern and jazz exams. For the first time we have had a boy, Max Terzza, taking part in the street dance exam. He has made history at Westbrook Hay and he also achieved distinction. Well done to all of you who took part and worked very hard throughout the term. The Jazz exam results with the British Theatre Dance Association (BTDA) were amazing. Well done to all of you. Fingers crossed for the ISTD Ballet exams results...watch this space.







There are parallels to be drawn between the 1st XI and Derbyshire this season. Like the county side we have a group of really good guys fighting above their weight. Again like the county side we have had our good periods in a game but have not been able to sustain any pressure on the opposition and let things slip away. We too are a young team with more than half the team being members of Year 7. We reached the ¼ finals of the Herts U13 Cup, finished equal first at Lockers Park in an 8-a-side tournament and ended up runners up in the Aldenham Festival but in the "meat and drink" of ordinary matches against other schools we have failed to win a game. Much credit must go to the boys because in a couple of the early games we were simply blown away by the opposition but gradually improvements have been made with much greater consistency with both bat and ball. Ben Yeo has batted at number 4 and looks to be the most accomplished batsman without making the



## 1st XI CRICKET

runs his skill suggests. Joshua Kerr, Jamie Turner and Reuben Stoner-Redfern have also made useful rather than match winning contributions with the bat. Again consistency was the key word with the bowlers. One or two had looked to be very useful in the winter nets but unable to reproduce out in the middle. Tom Wright, aka Windmill, has been the mainstay of the bowlers with good support from the accurate spin bowling of James Holden and the ever

improving Tom Holes. When things are not going your way sometimes it is difficult to maintain the fielding but this was not the case with this team. All through the season we have caught some excellent catches and been secure with the ground fielding along with the tidy wicket keeping of Alex Wilkinson. We look forward to 2014 when we shall look a much more solid outfit.



## UNDER 9 CRICKET

The Under 9 A and B squad has had another super term and really been the school to beat on the circuit. Whilst re-

sults aren't everything, 2 defeats in approximately 32 A team matches this academic year shows the quality we have. Unbeaten this term, the A side have been a joy to work with. The B side have been equally as dismissive of opposing sides. Only one defeat against St Joseph's A side, they have played some excellent cricket and in other years a number would have been in the A side. Wins have perhaps come too easily this term and I expect them to be challenged more next year as Year 5 pupils! I also expect a number of the squad to be



pushing for County and District places next year. Well done on a super year!

This year was all about learning the 'ins and outs' of the game in the few matches and the practice sessions. Some, mainly those in the Colts D last year, had not experienced too much cricket with a hard ball and how to use the required equipment. Above all, the enthusiasm and desire to learn the game rose above all else and results became inconsequential. In matches all pupils got the chance to bowl and bat and experience the competitiveness whilst enjoying themselves at the same time.



## 2ND TEAM CRICKET

The following represented the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI: George Stockbridge (captain), Alastair Bond, Billy Boot, Edward Bryant, Angus Coles, Jack Dugard, Lewis Fielder, Dominic Hampstead, Aidan Mullins, Richard Platt, Jude-Clark Regamey, as well as William Upson, Rory Hall, Billie Busari and Toby Camplin who were not available for the photograph.





**COLTS A**

The Colts A had a fantastic season. They were led by the exceptionally talented David Burnell who averaged over a hundred and cost the school a fortune in lost balls! I cannot recall anyone of his age hitting the ball harder or further. Scott Rolfe was his deputy and averaged 50 as well as bowling excellent off spin. Harvey Graham was our other leading batsman averaging over 50 with the bat. The wickets were shared around but Jamie Rowley, Ben Fuller and Freddie Stoner-Redfern stood out. A special mention to Tom Lane who proved himself a very good wicket keeper with a remarkable 6 stumpings and numerous catches.

The Colts B have completed a very successful season, winning 4 matches and losing only 2. Having prepared well, we took on St Joseph's and were lucky to have Daniel Morrissey playing before his deserved elevation to the As. He scored 53 and we were able to win the match. This brought home to the boys the standards we had to aspire to and our next match, a defeat to Lochinver, emphasised the importance of straight bowling

and tight fielding. We then beat Edge Grove, home and away, beat Duncombe and finished with an honourable defeat at home to a strong Beechwood team. It was a very encouraging season and all the players improved considerably. It was exciting to win so many of our matches and we were clearly the better team on those occasions. I am sure that all of the boys can go on to greater things next season!



**COLTS B**



**COLTS C**

The Colts C grew from strength to strength as the term went on. Straight away a few players stood out: Stuart Finn's bowling was of a good line and length, and Oliver Turner's batting was aggressive which saw him move up to the Bs. In the field, Henry

Sheasby's energy and enthusiasm lifted everyone around him and, again, this led Henry to be promoted to the Bs. Another mention has to go to Dillon Hobbs who kept wicket very well.

## COLTS CRICKET

The Colts D squad has made great progress this term performing excellently when it came to a match day too. We batted very well throughout the term but struggled at times with our bowling. I have been very impressed with the team's attitude and enthusiasm to learn and develop, their skills. Highlights would have to be our convincing win

against Edge Grove earlier in the term and our recent victory against Duncombe. Oliver Smith proved to be a valuable run scorer for us ably supported by Teddy Grigg. Joe Innes's bowling has been very consistent and he has taken some valuable wickets. Well done boys!



**COLTS D**





Rounders is always a popular sport amongst the girls. It has many components and can get very technical. The thought of striking a ball with a thin stick is not always easy. The **U8 team** have played with great spirit. Learning all the skills in lessons, taking this onto the next stage of playing in matches and travelling to other schools is always exciting and the team have enjoyed this term. The **U9s** have had some close matches. Two rounders adrift against Manor Lodge and the same against Swanbourne House, with the girls taking the second innings 6 rounders to 4. They did also have a win against Chesham Prep – and dare I say ‘by only a ½ rounder’ but that is how important taking opportuni-



ties to score can be – so well done to the team.

The **U11 and U10 teams** have had a tougher time, but win or lose they are unperturbed and look forward week on week to their next matches.

Thanks go to four U9 girls – Tegan Howard, Emily Green, Elizabeth Laphorne and Sophie Smith who have played up in the U10 team and also to three U10 girls – Grace Hunt, Charlotte Payne and Molly Scotchbrook who helped to swell the numbers in the U11B team. The girls consistently work hard in games lessons, and

## ROUNDERS

they relish being selected to play for their school and they also do their utmost to go all out to try and get that elusive win! No matter what the outcome though – taking part in school sport, whatever that may be, is a very rewarding and fulfilling experience.





On Tuesday June 11<sup>th</sup> we had 8 qualifiers for the National Schools' Aquathlon Final. Three girls – Alice Ripper, Isabel Johnston and Crystal Jugoo all in Year 6 along with five boys, Tom Wright Year 7, Joshua Yeo & Harvey Graham Year 6, Charlie Woodmansee and Toby Dewick Year 4. Unfortunately, Joshua was unable to take up his place in the final due to an injury. The sun shone at the start and Haileybury was a superb venue to hold this event where they swim a certain number of lengths, move into a transition area to put on running clothes and then set off round the cross country courses still wet from the swim and with the clock ticking from when they entered the pool until they crossed the finish line. With several qualifying rounds having taken place last year and this, it has become a very popular event with

## AQUATHLON



schools. 348 competitors from 26 schools across the country were entered into this finals day. The top ten competitors in each of the cate-

gories would be presented with medals and watching most of the competitors it was clear to see that there were some very strong participants. All of our pupils did extremely well and we waited with baited breath during each of the age category results to see if we had come in the top ten. When it was down to the Year 4s we were all really pleased to hear Charlie Woodmansee's name called to say he had finished in 7<sup>th</sup> place and we cheered him as he went up to receive his medal. Well done to all who took part – this is an event that requires real commitment determination and strength of character to keep yourself motivated to push hard as it is just you against the clock with no indication of how you are doing. I think all of the above should feel very pleased and proud of their efforts at having taken part in a National Final.

Despite stormy clouds Westbrook Hay, Lockers Park and Edge Grove competed for the annual Inter Prep School Golf tournament. Teams of six strode to the tee at Royal Westbrook Hay Golf Club and managed to dodge the storms. In a closely fought competition Westbrook Hay narrowly missed out to the winners, Lockers Park. However, Jude-Clark having tied with a player from Edge Grove, won a very tense playoff with a fantastic chip and putt from 70 yards in front of a considerable crowd. We had more pupils participating in the parent pupil golf than at any time in the past. Plenty of fine golf was

played but probably the Headmaster's Barbecue was the highlight! In the senior section Nigel and Stuart Finn saw off the challenge of the Burnells. In the Year 4 match a very diplomatic tie was recorded between the Oldham twins and in the Year 3 competition the taking part was far more important than the result, which was clouded in mathematical uncertainty in any event!

## MORE INVOLVED IN GOLF



## ATHLETICS

Beyond regular PE lessons and Sports Day the athletics season has revolved around the Quadrangular match at Jarman Park and our entry in the East of England Area Athletics at Bedford. Our U13 team at Jarman Park managed to keep in touch with the other schools and picked up several individual wins. Alex Wilkinson won three of the events he was in, Ben Yeo and James Holden won hurdles races and in the throws there were wins for Billy Boot in the shot and Jamie Turner in the javelin. Team: Billie Busari, Kolade Ladipo, Jamie Turner, Ed Khan, Tom Wright, Tom Holes, Joe Rabey, Richard Platt, Billy Boot, Joshua Kerr, Reuben Stoner-Redfern, Alex Wilkinson, James Holden. For the second

year running the U11s triumphed bringing the shield home by quite a wide margin. They were a pretty strong all round team and it was especially pleasing because we had 4 girls in our 16 strong team. Tom Lane won 3 events while 7 others won 2 of their events. Indeed it was almost a case of every time you looked towards the track a WBH vest was leading the way home. Team: Harvey Graham, Scott Rolfe, Daniel Morrissey, Tom Lane, David Burnell, Samad Ibrahim, Joshua Yeo, Jamie Rowley, Ewan Michie, Alex Martindale, Georgia Hurley, Lara Mills, Jacob Winter-Brown, Lauren Bennett, Alice Ripper, Ben Fuller.





80 former pupils ranging from 11 to 50, met for the school's annual reunion at Westbrook Hay. An old friend was missing, the cedar tree, but it was pleasing to hear the positive comments about the wood sculpture and seats placed around the school. It was fantastic to hear the fond memories of pupils who were recalling staff and

peers from long ago. It is also fascinating to catch up with the successes pupils have had including a number who had gained entrance to Oxbridge.

## FORMER PUPILS WELCOMED BACK



Following a fantastic sports and fun day, over 250 people moved onto the beautifully kept playing fields to spend the night under canvas. This really was a fun evening with a magnificent hog roast and a disco. On the main stage the children danced all evening, and the parents enjoyed a rare summer's evening together until the early hours.... Many thanks to all who helped with the preparation to delivery - Chef, Eamon, Mandy, Allison and all the WBH parents who helped make this a successful and memorable night.

## SPORTS DAY, FUNDAY THEN CAMP-OUT



## NEW WAY TO PAY

The eagle-eyed amongst you may have noticed a new page on the Parents section of the school website – Payments. When possible, our preferred method of receiving funds for payment of school fees or trips etc is by bank transfer. Our bank details are on your fee invoices or can be obtained from the Bursar's office. However this meth-

od is not always possible and therefore the school accepts both cheques and cash when necessary. In order to make paying the school as convenient as possible we are now able to accept payments by debit (or exceptionally) credit card, through the website page above. We are using a trusted supplier and the payment method is secure. No card details are retained by the system. I say credit cards by exception because our provider charges us for their use

and therefore we will need to pass these charges on to you. Currently the charge will be 2% of the value of the transaction. The page is therefore primarily for the use of debit cards, for which we will make no charge. Please follow the simple instructions to make your payment. Please note that the webpage can only be used for payments to school, not the school uniform shop or the WHA.





## PEDALLING TO PARIS

A group of Westbrook Hay staff and parents have taken up the challenge to cycle from Westbrook Hay to Paris in 4 days. The aim is to leave school at 4am on Wednesday July 17th cycle through the centre of London down to Newhaven, across on the ferry and then winding up the Avenue Verte to Paris. A total of around 250 (ish) miles. The team is a mixed bag of the super-fit, the very enthusi-

astic and some who are trying very hard! Although not originally a fund-raising event, any money raised will go towards sporting equipment for the school. If you would like to sponsor the team, your donation can be made directly into the school account. The team managed to raise over £600 at Fun Day alone with their exercise bike challenge.

Huge congratulations to Luke O'Nien (left), who was a pupil at Westbrook Hay from 2004 - 2008, for signing a professional contract with Watford Football Club. Luke has worked exceptionally hard for this and we wish him all the best on his journey in the professional ranks. Luke was nominated nationally for the "goal of the season award" in 2013.

Josh Ryan (right) was in Year 6 at Westbrook Hay in 2006 and excelled at several sports including rugby and football. During his time here and then after he left, he concentrated on his main passion, squash. Having worked his way up the age-group ranks in recent years, Josh's squash reached a new peak this year when he was part of the Hertfordshire under 19 team that won the national squash championships.

## FORMER PUPILS' SUCCESS




  
 Saturday 14th September  
 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Come and join our...  
**Teddy Bears' Picnic**  
 Children's Entertainer  
 Bear Hunt  
 For children under 5  
 Picnic Tea

To reserve your place telephone 01442 256143  
 or visit [www.westbrookhay.co.uk/teddybear](http://www.westbrookhay.co.uk/teddybear)


  
 If you go down to the woods today...

THE READING AGENCY  
 AND LIBRARIES PRESENT  
**CREEPY HOUSE**  
 SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2013

"Creepy House" ([www.creepy-house.org.uk](http://www.creepy-house.org.uk)) is the national Summer Reading Challenge for 2013, coordinated by the Reading Agency and aimed at children aged 4-11 years. We will ask the children who complete the challenge to bring their medals and certificates into school at the start of next term so we can celebrate their success with them. The challenge starts on the 13th July and

runs until the 7th September. To take part, register at your local public library and receive your free membership pack. It's well worth registering with the Creepy House website too as there will be games, competitions and activities for your child to enjoy, including a story writing competition and a "Book sorter" programme to help you choose books. Good luck with the challenge, and enjoy!

Contributions to the newsletter should be sent to:

**Kate Woodmansee, Westbrook Hay Prep School**

**E-mail: [kate\\_woodmansee@westbrookhay.co.uk](mailto:kate_woodmansee@westbrookhay.co.uk)**