# **Commonwealth Day**

The second Monday of March each year is Commonwealth Day and at Westminster Abbey, an observance is held in the presence of the Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, So this year, on the 12th March, four girls - Katy Feek, Jessica Gordon Hall, Malama Georgias and I, set off just before assembly with Mr Hatherly for our day out in London. It was a really lovely day and surprisingly hot walking around London. We didn't have to be seated till 2.30 so we went and had a homemade picnic by the Thames in the sunshine, before walking back through the thousands of tourists all peering through the fences trying to see what was going on. The Abbey was huge and not really how I imagined it, especially as they had the choir stalls slap bang in the middle of the main seating area so you couldn't see the other end, though we were fortunate enough to be able to see all the dances and musicians from where we were. It was also pretty cool to be inside because I had been invited rather than simply a tourist. The service itself wasn't either boring or as long as I thought it would be. A number of dignitaries made speeches to do with the theme, "Respecting difference, promoting understanding", including Shilpa Shetty. The best bits of the service was the very beginning when a member from each Commonwealth country walked down the aisle in two long lines carrying a huge flag and wearing their country's traditional dress. They led the procession, which finished with the Queen, after which everyone stood up and sang the National Anthem - quite a moment - the atmosphere was amazing. When she walked past us, we moved to the end of our row of seats and were within reaching distance of her! After the service, we had a major



photo-taking session, before leaving the Abbey to an enormous crowd of photographers, tourists and onlookers. We went for a lovely Starbucks before doing some shopping in House of Fraser, followed by a huge meal at J.D.Wetherspoon. We arrived back in Brighton just before 9pm, feeling pretty tired after a long but brilliant day. We would like to thank the school for giving us this

opportunity and experience and also Mr Hatherly for making the day so memorable.

#### **Claire Stokes**

Year 10

# Poetry please

#### Autumn Poem

Isabel Gunsel, Year 7

The smell of apples, wind fallen, Rotting sweetly on the ground. Apples of the orchard, Shining in the morning sun. Pears, ripe, orange, red. Shiny, oily conkers, Rolled in my fingers, Sweetly scented. The smell of the earth, Wood smoke and autumn frosts, The dying days, the leaves Gorgeous in their golds, reds and browns. I kick them around. They whirl and twirl, Then slowly fall to the ground. The smell of the orchard, beech wood. Mushroom caps nudging their way Through the leaf fall. Exploding into unlikely shapes On branch and bough. The pink and brown agarics, The poison sap within them. Leaf, mould, crisp, smoke. Season of mist, wood and fruit. Apple crumble and log fires, Blankets and Wellington boots, Country walks and big, wet dogs.

### A Poem of Autumn

Flossy Leak, Year 7

The swish of the wind twisting and turning, The frost in the air, Fire works crashing and flashing in the dark sky.

Conkers falling, Leaves fluttering, Trees so bare.

The whistling of the wind, Acorns being collected by squirrels, In the October sun.

Conkers falling, Leaves fluttering, Trees so bare.

The leaves of many shades, Like copper coins old and new, They dance slowly to the ground.



Holly and Poppy in the nursery class, printing autumn leaves

### Autumn's Arrival

Charlotte Roberts, Year 7

Leaves drifted from the withered trees, Like a golden sun sailing to rest. You could smell the dampness In the Earth and also in the trees. The sound of a bonfire echoed in the distance, Crackling and wood splitting.

Conkers filled the floor, Like a chestnut red carpet. Then the final leaves fell and Left the trees bare.

#### Leaf Blankets

Elaheh Mobini, Year 7

Leaves are falling, soft as snowflakes of fire, Red and yellow, gold and brown, The breeze laughs gaily in the treetops, Shaking all their colour down, down, down.

Leaves are covering the gardens,
As my blanket covers me.
When the freezing cold winter comes, the flowers
Will be as warm as can be.

### Autumn Days

Olivia Herriott, Year 7

It is the start of autumn, When the leaves fall from the trees. The shade of colour everywhere, Dancing in the wind.

The days are getting shorter,
The nights are getting dark,
The rain sheds its tears more often,
And off the sunshine goes,
The swallow and the lark.

The conkers falling on the ground, Like small tumbling hedgehogs. Watching the bonfire sizzle and crackle, Making the night so special.



Windy Week in the nursery.

### K is for...

Alice Kerrigan, Year 7

There was a bundle of knowledge Brainy, craney, almost rainy, Without its brain it was almost like a drain

It was not able to think.



### Little elephant

Chelsey Blakey, Year 2

Elephants are beautiful And grey. They have little feet and big feet Their tummies are shaky and Strong.

### Pony

Bryony Doick, Year 2

A pony is extremely soft.
Its very loud clip-clopping.
Sometimes they look really glorious,
With a ponytail in their hair.
Their eyes are unbelievably bright
And shiny.
Have you seen a pony fall over? It's really funny.
Their colours are sometimes
White, black and, last but not least, brown.

### **Tigers**

Lizzie Stubbs, Year 2

Tigers are really fast runners. They have terribly sharp teeth. They are very good at punching. They are orange and stripy.

#### About the Sea

Erin Tanyar, Year 3

A
peachy
pinky
mystical
magical
land,
Starlit
shining
eyes,
Black
shadows,
Dark
green

sea dragons.

### Daphne Flowers

Erin Tanyar, Harriet Clifton-Sprigg, Felicity Giles, Josephine Alexander and Nicholas Bandar, Year 3

Soft
Pink and white
Honey-scented
Tiny fairy posies
They remind me
Of a summer's day

### The Daphne Flower Poem

Amelia Balthazor, Charlotte Dale, Pia Wilmott, Georgia Burgess and Pauline Schou, Year 3

Pink and white Tiny trumpets, Fragile and frilly Little lilies,

Soft and delicate Party dresses for fairies.

In the freezing Winds of winter They smell sweet As a garden in summer.

### Inside the tomb

Chiara Powell, Year 5

I can feel the dark, damp breeze coming through the centre of the hole. I feel like I am an intruder, awakening the spirit. Suddenly there is the glow of magnificent, Glistening gold, Like a spark flying out of the fire. I can see a beautiful, animal couch, Sparkling with gold. Then two cows, with intricate blue Hexagons, with horns, So high up they could reach the stars. I feel I am being watched by two Frozen statues, with piercing eyes. This is the best time of my life, In Tutankhamen's tomb, but, I had better make myself scarce.



Rebecca Brambilla, Year 8. Digital Photograph

Orchid Study

#### The Chase

Carina Schou, Year 6

The deadly lion prowls the savannah searching for his prey. His presence frightens many animals, but he is searching for a zebra.

The golden lion sprint across the dry grass and pounces on the quiet zebra.

He drags the meat into the shade of a tree,

Guarding the meat night and day.

A few years later, the lion is very old

And no longer leader of the pride.

The other lions go to fetch titbits of meat.

This lion can no longer prowl through the savannah and catch zebras.

He is dying.

### N is for...

Olivia Herriott, Year 7

There was once a world of nature, Long long ago, Which was invaded by vegetarian lady- birds. Who fed on beans and rice!



### On an African Safari I see ...

Georgia Petrou, Year 6

On an African safari I see ...
Sleek zebras dashing quickly
Fast cheetahs sprinting proudly
Loud hyenas laughing happily
Rough rhinos charging angrily
Graceful gazelles trotting elegantly
Towering giraffes eating the leaves on the trees gracefully
Hefty elephants plodding loudly
Deadly lions prowling ferociously
Spotty leopards running rapidly
Enormous snakes slithering slowly

### An African Orphan

Sophie Ebeling, Year 8

I lie still each night and day,
Praying a Samaritan will pass my way
The sun shines down on the imaginary lake,
I want to play but all over I ache.
There is no water, no rain.
I look up to the window pane,
Nothing there, not even a drip
Can I taste on my lip,
My bones are string, my skin like foil
I can't move, cannot speak, just curled like a coil,
For this is my life.
Why not just hand me the knife?

#### Socks

Kate Shove, Year 6

Spotty ones, Stripy ones, Colours of a rainbow ones. Small ones BIG ONES,

Insy, winsy, baby ones, Itchy ones, Silky ones, I don't really care ones My granny in her 80's ones, And boring knee high school ones!



Karen Ma, Year 13

St Marks Chapel, Mixed Media

and a farst runner It.

has a sussy toil and bay
fox has a an Ottomge book.

It has a nose in the shape
of a triangore and pointy
ears. Eoxes eat tablits

and mice. Lani

Lani Owen, Year I

# Quite some talent

Ceramic Pieces created by Phoebe Maskey and Adriana Lopez Diaz, Year 10.





# The RE trip to the Synagogue in Hove

Rebecca Brambilla, Year 8

On Wednesday 21st March, Year 8 went to the synagogue in Hove as part of the RE programme. We were all very excited as we are studying Judaism and for the first time we could see directly the main place of worship of this religion.

As we arrived at the synagogue, the Rabbi welcomed us and invited everyone to come inside. We walked into a large room, full of rows of benches, in the

middle of which was a platform: the "Bimah", where every Saturday the Torah is read during the celebration of Shabbat. We sat on the benches and the Rabbi started telling us about the Jewish traditions on the Shabbat, the birth ceremony ("Birt-Milah"), the ceremonies of the coming of age ("Bar-Mitzvah" for a boy and "Bat-Hayil" for a girl), marriage and some other important festivities.

As we continued the tour, he

showed us some Jewish symbols, such as the Star of David on the windows and the "Ner Tamid", the Everlasting Light that burns in every synagogue showing that God is always there. We could also see the balcony where the women sit during every service in Orthodox synagogues.

The highpoint of the visit was when the Rabbi took out from the Ark one of the Torah scrolls and called us in small

groups to have a look at the holy scripture while he was reading a portion of it.

When we had finished, we asked him some questions about how he became a Rabbi and what duties he has in the lewish community.

I really enjoyed this trip, even if it only lasted one hour as I could see with my own eyes all the things I have been studying this year. It gave me a better understanding of the Jewish faith and worship.

### The Savannah

Astrid Harbour Year 6

A giraffe stands tall, Feeding from the fruitless trees, Upon the jade leaves An elephant stomps, Towards the sparkling waters Of Lake Turkana. A small monkey squeals, In the emerald branches, Calling friends to play. A swift cheetah runs, Faster than the eye can see, Towards unseen prey. Brown velvet gazelles Springing nimbly in the grass,

Leading small infants. With these animals becomes the savannah ...



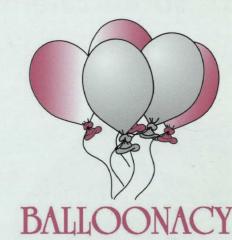
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Every year, our PE department organises a skiing vacation for our girls. The week is full of fun and frolics and is topped off with some of the most spectacular views you will ever see. In the evenings, much merriment takes place aprèsski with staff and pupils coming together with group activities, songs and competitions. This year, a visit to an ice rink saw plenty of slapstick moments and afterwards, everyone was ready for a good night's rest.

If you would like to take part in this year's Ski Trip, contact Miss Whittaker and she will be happy to give you an itinerary and further details.

# A postcard from sunny Saalbach, Austria

We got on the coach, as excited as can be,
Off to Austria to learn how to

ski.

We got on the plane, ready to fly.

All the SMH-ers soaring through the sky.

We got off the plane the young and the old,

Zero degrees - blimey it was

We arrived at the hotel greeted by food,

This put a lot of us in a good

In the morning Miss Whittaker dragged us out of bed,

"Good morning campers," she always said.

Ski gear on and raring to go, We trekked to the bus stop through lots of snow.

When we arrived we put on our skis,

The advanced and intermediate with such ease.

The beginners, however, were

not so great,

There was a cry, "Help! I'm crashing into a gate!"

Mr Hargreaves had a bit of a struggle,

He needed Mrs Hargreaves to give him a huggle.

We got back to the hotel, aches and all.

We played bingo and had a ball.

The next evening it was quiz night,

Luckily it didn't end in a fight! In Spar that night,

To Mrs Hargreaves' delight, She made an Austrian man chum.

Well actually he whipped her on the bum!

The next evening we went for an ice-skate.

Miss Whittaker whizzed around thinking she was great.

We met some Germans, each a teen,

We're not sure why but things got mean!



On the last day, we all had a laugh,

Everyone dressed up – even the staff.

There were Santas, a pirate, even the men from 118.

Who was to win? - That was for the teachers to debate Two pigs with their tails and four cowboys with their guns These were the people who eventually won.

That night was karaoke,

Miss Whittaker singing Abba - a strange sight to see! In the morning at the airport

we were all sad, Laughing about all the great times we had. Back on the plane, not so keen to go, Off home to England. Goodbye snow!

Kate McCarthy and Amy Chapman, Year 9

# The play's the thing

This year's production of Lionel Bart's *Oliver!* was a worthwhile and well-executed production with a real and lasting benefit Mike Wells, Play Director

Lionel Bart's musical adaptation of Dickens' "Oliver Twist" is one of the most popular musicals and however many times it is interpreted has a freshness and immediacy that justifies its reputation as a classic. Many young people have enjoyed taking part over the years and it is self-recommending as a school production.

Our large cast, from Year 5 to Year 13, relished the opportunities for singing, acting and dancing and gave their all in a memorable series of performances. This year there was a Dress Rehearsal attended by visiting schools, a Preview and three performances. All were well supported and well received.

We were lucky to have had access to a very atmospheric set, constructed by a local set designer, and to have had the services of some very talented people. Our choreographers, Adrienne Wenstone and Amanda Lethbridge, have considerable experience of getting the best from young dancers and insisting on good standards. Our musical director, Tony Jay, and the fine musicians in the orchestra brought their rich experience of working in musicals to bear on our production. Our cast worked hard and sacrificed their Sundays to provide committed and enthusiastic performances. Principal parts were taken

exceptionally well and the teamwork by all concerned really paid off. This did not prevent individuals from excelling but there was a real sense of working together and younger members of the cast got strong support from our more experienced players.

The commitment by St Mary's Hall to large-scale productions has been strong for many years. The School values its performers and sees stage work as a vital part of its educational aims. The confidence of the younger performers in "Oliver!" was clear to see, but most of all they had given up their valuable spare time, had patience and determination and had worked selflessly to give others pleasure. In a culture which increasingly seeks to measure importance in purely materialistic terms it is more than ever necessary that we nurture artistic and interpersonal values. The satisfaction gained from contributing to a worthwhile, well-executed production will have been of lasting and real benefit. I was extremely proud of all who took part both on the stage and backstage. The vitality and enthusiasm of our lighting and stage management teams were inspiring. I thank those who took part, helped, or supported and who enabled this remarkable production to take place.



Rachael Smith as Bill Sykes in this year's production of Lionel Bart's Oliver!



Alice Kerrigan as Oliver asks for more from Rosalind Caldwell as Mr Bumble, while the rest of the workhouse community look on in amazement.



# The Tempest

Claire MacNeill, Year 12

In March, teachers and English and Drama Sixth Form students saw a Royal Shakespeare Company production of "The Tempest" at the Novello Theatre, London. The production starred 'Star Trek's' Patrick Stewart as the wizard Prospero, but this was not its only appeal! We found the set original and exciting when the curtain rose, audience members found the stage transformed into an icy

Arctic waste, complete with falling snow. The large cast introduced us to a variety of characters, including a Mancunian cook and a drunken butler. We expected a good production from the RSC, and

we weren't disappointed. It was everything that
Shakespeare would have wanted it to be; at times, hilarious, and at others, brilliant and powerful.

# Trip to the Theatre

Olivia Herriott, Year 7

On Monday, 5th March 2007, my class went to see "The Tempest" at the Theatre Royal.

In the morning my class were getting excited and chatting non-stop. We had an early lunch at 1:00, and everyone was looking forward to going. When it was time my class jumped on the minibus and set off to the theatre. It was

enormous, with many other schools excitedly trying to squeeze through the tiny door. We all got a ticket and a seat number and rushed to sit in it. All you could hear were whispers, filling the whole building, while other children were tensely waiting for it to start. All of a sudden the lights dimmed and the curtains rose, and the theatre went quiet. An

introductory speech echoed throughout, and then the characters started to appear. As the performance went on there were lots of laughs and songs. There was an interval and we were allowed to buy sweets and go and see our friends who had come too! Everyone was thinking with curiosity about what would happen next. After the interval the

theatre went quiet once again and the performance picked up from where it left off. Sadly, the show ended and there were many claps and cheers while the actors took their bows. As we left everyone was talking about how excellent the show was. We all jumped back in the minibus and drove back to the School where our parents were waiting for us.

# A Night At The Globe

Alice Kerrigan, Year 7

The performance began at two o'clock on the dot.

I was really excited, mainly because I was going to see my favourite play of all,

Shakespeare's "The Tempest", and I was very lucky because I had earned enough money to afford to sit in the galleries with the special comforts such as a cushion. I felt privileged.

The flag was flying and it was sunny at The Globe. I could feel tension in the air as the fashionable young men sat on the stage to show off their hats to the groundlings on the ground. The theatre started to fill up and the musicians joined me in the galleries. The atmosphere was full of apprehension. This meant people were curious as to what they were going to see. Then, suddenly, Act One began and Prospero and Miranda took to the stage, but the actors were fairly quiet as I was higher up and

the young men who were sat on the stage drowned out the sound. My favourite scene was the one when Miranda and Ferdinand first set eyes on each other. I love a good romance. Also I enjoyed Caliban's, the vulgar creature's entrance through the trap-door, as I wasn't expecting it. As the play progressed the story of "The Tempest" started to unfold, the comedy, romance and the meaningful speeches of Prospero. Ariel, the small active spirit who took care of Prospero's tasks lightened up the stage with her energetic presence, especially while performing her spells. Unfortunately it then started to rain and the groundlings in the belly of the theatre were soaked. Fortunately for me I was able to keep my Sunday-best clothes dry.

After this most wonderful day I felt happy within myself and thought that the play was amazing.



Puppets in the style of Paul Klee, created by Year 9 pupils.

# Looking out for Billy Elliott

Abigail Williams, Rebecca Ridge, Emma James and Olivia Antoniades, Year 13

This year our annual sixth form trip to London, was to see "Billy Elliott" at the Victoria Palace Theatre. It was probably one of the most inspiring West End performances that we have seen. This was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone, moving some to tears.

The trip began by us nearly missing our train, and running through the North Laines in order to catch it, leaving us feeling extremely exasperated and out of breath! On arriving in London everyone went for a meal, before the night's performance.

This show is about a young boy, growing up in a mining community in the North East of England, during the early 1980s when the Conservative Government, under the determined Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, decided to take on the powerful miners' union, and won. What happened in that period radically changed the UK political climate.

"Billy Elliot - The Musical" is the

"Billy Elliot - The Musical" is the tale of a motherless boy whose father wants him to take up boxing and gives him 50p a week for the lessons. Instead.

the boy discovers a love for ballet that leads him from secret lessons to a potential place at the Royal Ballet School. The show itself has had many excellent reviews, as it is a piece of 'feel good' theatre with a strong political message. Scenes ranged from a giant effigy of Margaret Thatcher, along with dozens of smaller Margaret Thatchers, to a moving piece of choreographed ballet.

It was, overall, an extremely successful trip, with many wanting to go back to watch the performance again!



Pictured left: Olivia Antoniades, Rebecca Ridge, Abigail Williams and Emma James, Year 13

### **House Drama Festival 2007**

Mike Wells, Head of Extra Curricular Drama

One of the fascinating elements of this competition is the directors' choice of plays. This year there were some striking and unusual pieces chosen and also pieces by playwrights not really in fashion. Thus we had a stimulating programme, which reflected the interests and concerns of the directors and which gave the performers good opportunities to act in plays of an unusual nature. "The Girl Who Fell Through a



Hole in Her Jumper", which in fact won the competition for Adelaide, was a delightfully inconsequential and fantastic piece. To enter a strange world, Noll found a hole in



her jumper and fell through it. Why not? There she met a mixture of talking insects, a melancholy mirror, some furniture and a mad lord. Her guide just appeared and was called Crumbs in Pockets. With elements of pantomime and surreal fantasy, this was a well-chosen piece for the cast and highly enjoyable for all but the most literal minded! There was strong element of fantasy in Bristol's "Arthur" with some unusual firemen and policewomen and a highly eccentric maiden aunt. Lily Vernon Hunt won Best Actor Award for her energetic portrayal of this character. It gave opportunities for team-work, which were well taken and the result was an energetic

Babington's "When is a Door Not a Door" was less of a fantasy and more of a slice of

life showing the connections between workmen, factory girls, managers and a stroppy tea lady. John Arden wrote it in the 1950s, but sadly references to Suez were all too easy to replace with references to Iraq and the class differences, which the play pointed to, are still with us today. John Arden is not the well-known theatrical name he once was, but this well-made and effective piece shows us what we are missing. The staging was particularly well done. Joe Orton's 'The Erpingham Camp' is an early piece but has many of the familiar Orton themes - the ridiculing of authority and the disintegration of normal life when under pressure. Its main characters anticipate "Fawlty Towers" - an uptight manager of a holiday camp faced with a mad, Irish entertainer (not



Spanish, but related to Manuel) and long-suffering guests. Orton got here a long time before John Cleese. This was a full on and effective production, which caught the farce elements well.

Well done to Emma James and Rachael Smith for their prize-winning production.

Well done to Lily for her "Best Actor" Award. Well done to those commended: Eva Howells, Rosalind



Caldwell, Alice Kerrigan, Harriet Butterworth, Claudia Gasson and Claire MacNeill, and a huge thank you to everyone who took part and gave us a highly enjoyable festival to lift our spirits and celebrate the unique teamwork of Drama!

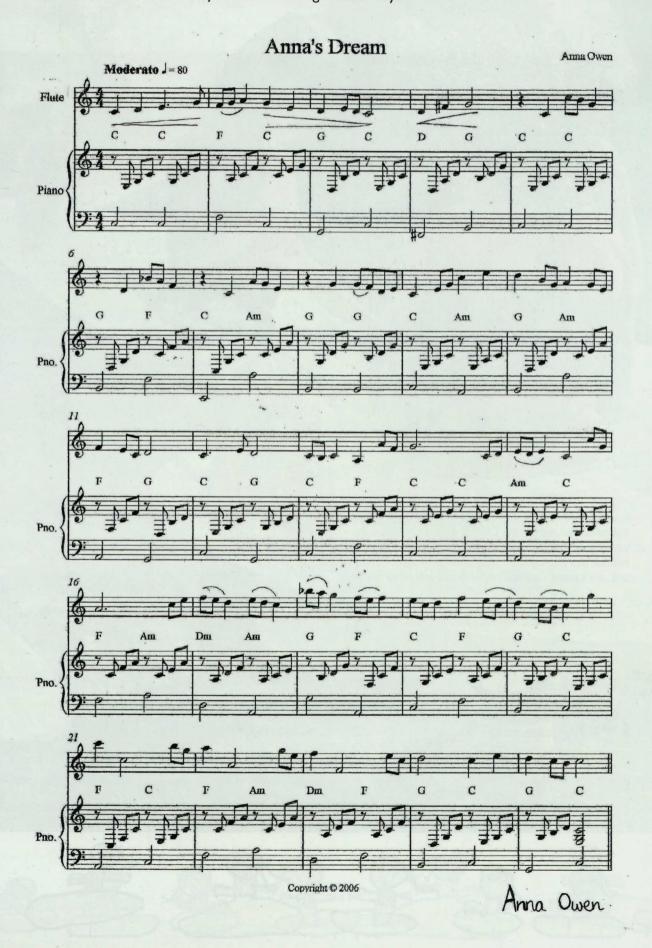
These still pictures are from each of this year's house plays.

### A brief interlude

We asked Anna Owen, one of our music students in Year 11, to write an article for this magazine. She offered us a piece of music instead.

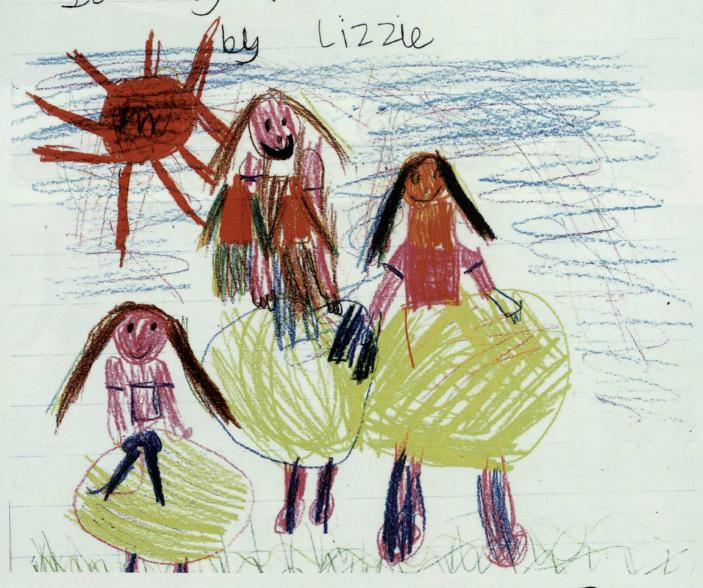
How apt.

Anna Owen has also written a hymn that we sang in assembly.





Our School Parade
we had Sun when we
Started it. we got to blow
bubbles. we ended at the
Seafront. And we had a
Richic in the Steld I was
Slanding next to Hermione.





















we walked a very long was.

wore a Yellow unbretted and a

skirt and a top and wellingtons

and tights.

It was very fun and good. I saw lots of other schools. I was very tired.

by Gracie













### **Artists and abstraction**







Early in 2007, a selected group of our GCSE and A Level Art students were offered a wonderful invitation to work with an Artist in Residence, over four consecutive sessions. This was an excellent opportunity for our students and they were able to consolidate their growing thoughts on Art and Design.

Belinda Stephenson is a West Sussex based artist and educator whose pieces are created mainly through paint and printmaking. Working chiefly from life, Belinda's work explores the tactile qualities of surface texture, decoration, colour and composition and she creates delicate and sensitive semi-abstract images that have depth and sincerity.

As well as producing a series of practical outcomes for portfolios and journals, our students were given the opportunity to discuss the nature of the creative process with Belinda as an artist-practitioner.

Belinda developed ideas with the students and encouraged them to explore a range of paint and layering techniques that could promote tactile and physical qualities upon the surfaces of their own paintings.

Students used acrylic paint on board and developed largescaled outcomes following research on the great masters, studies from observation and mood-based enquiry.

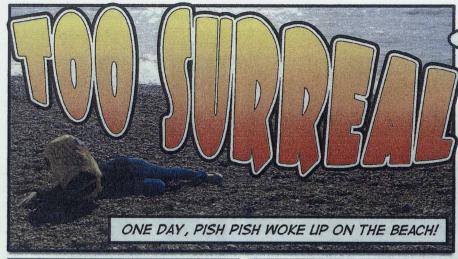
These research studies were realised as abstract pieces, many of which will be on display at this year's End of Year Art Show and the Awards Ceremony Day.

We hope that you are able to visit the students' exhibition and see their achievements for yourself.





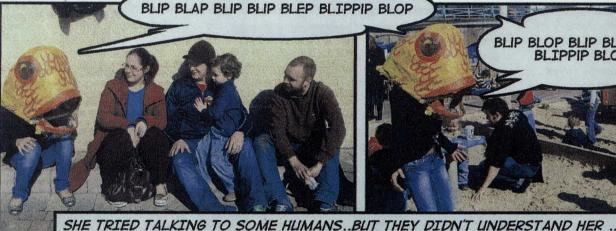
Pictured: Belinda Stephenson and groups of art students. Top far left: an abstract piece by the artist. Bottom right: Untitled, by Gloria Wong



















SHE DECIDED TO ORDER SOME CHIPS, BUT ALL THE CHEF WANTED TO DO WAS TO BATTER HER.

STORY WRITTEN & PHOTOGRAPHED BY FREYA TANNER AND EVA HOWELLS























Mrs Woodford, Mr Peebles, Mrs Bonner, Mr Sefton Mrs Riley-Stewart, Mr Lawrence, Mrs Davies, Miss Balogun, Mrs Garside, Miss Jensen, Mr Keir, Mrs Latter, Mr Scandian, Mr Smith (Barry), Mrs Stubbs, Mrs Meek, Miss Corris, Mrs Ridge









# Order of the day

At St Mary's Hall every day, our kitchen staff prepare, cook and serve our pupils with a fresh and healthy range of meals. The girls prove their enjoyment by queuing for second helpings most lunchtimes and so our cooks have put together recipes for two of their most popular dishes.

Fusion food is a key part of contemporary lifestyle. This first recipe for Thai-style fish cakes with dipping sauce is an exotic starter and has been created by our Head of Catering, Fleur Willard (pictured right). It is bursting with flavour and will keep your brain cells active for the rest of the day.

The dish will easily serve four people and is ready in 25 minutes. The cost of the dish is a very reasonable £1.30 per serving.

We hope you enjoy trying these recipes out at home.



### Thai-style fish cakes with dipping sauce

#### **Ingredients**

Juice and grated zest of I lime 2tbsp Thai fish sauce 2tbsp sweet chili sauce 2tbsp light soy sauce A bunch of spring onions 500g haddock or halibut fillets, skinned, cut in cubes 50g dessicated coconut I tsp chopped lemongrass in oil Icm piece root ginger, peeled and grated 3tbsp chopped fresh coriander I large red chili, deseeded and

finely chopped 3tbsp plain flour 4tbsp sunflower oil

#### Method

Mix the lime juice with the Thai fish sauce, sweet chili sauce and soy sauce. Set aside. Finely chop 3 spring onions. Shred the rest and set aside. Pulse blend the fish in a processor with the coconut until it is the texture of mince – or chop by hand.

Put the fish in a bowl and mix with the lime zest, chopped spring onions, lemongrass, ginger, coriander and chili. Season and, with damp hands, shape into 16 small, flat cakes. Put the flour on a plate and lightly coat the fish cakes on each side. Heat 2 tablespoons of oil in a frying pan until very hot, fit as many fish cakes as you can in a single layer and fry for 1 minute on each side. Remove and keep warm while

you cook the rest, adding more oil when necessary.

PER SERVING Calories 350 Carbs 8g Fat 22g Saturated fat 8g



### Chris & Bren's Best Ever Sponge Mix



#### Ingredients

7oz margarine or butter 7 oz self-raising flour 7 oz caster sugar 4 eggs

#### Method

In a large mixing bowl, beat together the sugar with the butter or margarine until the mixture is pale and creamy. Mix in the eggs then sift the flour



into the bowl and stir until smooth and light. You can do this in a food processor if you have one.

Spoon the mixture into a greased baking tin and either bake for 35 minutes in medium to low oven (160C - gas mark 4) or steam over a simmering pan for two and a half hours.

Chrissie Meads and Brenda Sullivan work as kitchen assistants at St Mary's Hall and are very keen on choosing the healthy option at lunchtimes. At the same time, they admit that they are fans of good, oldfashioned puddings and cakes, if

Turn the sponge out onto a cake rack and either allow the sponge to cool or eat immediately, with lashings of cream, custard or (for a less guilty pleasure) crème fraiche.

Simple additions can be made to this basic recipe:

Chocolate Sponge Add 2tsps drinking chocolate their time-honoured sponges when eaten with custard sauce. Using an adaptable and traditional recipe, here are some variations on a humble sponge cake that you can try at home.

eaten in moderation. We say:

good for them Our girls love

Chocolate Chip Sponge Add a handful of chocolate chips

Lemon Sponge Add 2 tsps lemon curd

Fruit Sponge Add a handful of raisins or cherries

# Carry on camping

In the summer of 2006, Year 8 set off to Blacklands Farm for an action packed camping adventure. On arrival, everybody pitched their tents (some with more ease than others) and got their things settled.Throughout the weekend, we were given chores to do, such as cleaning the toilets or washing the dishes. We were then sent off to do some Canoeing. Everybody had a fun afternoon and only a couple of people came out dry.

That evening, Mrs Meek paid us a visit and we went on a "leisurely" two hour stroll.We then had a much needed good night's sleep.

The next day the year was split into two groups. Each of the groups took part in orienteering, which involved many pairs getting lost, but luckily all were found! Everybody attempted an obstacle course, which was great fun for all. Both groups

came together to take part in abseiling, which was a fear to be faced for many. In the end though, everybody got through it and enjoyed it very much. Both groups did some rock climbing which was also a challenge, but everybody had fun trying to get to the top. At the end of the day most people went swimming, some for the enjoyment of it, some because it was the only way to get a free shower.

> chicken supreme, which was delicious, and we had flan for pudding. In the middle of eating Mrs Meek came in and joined our supper.

The last day, we only did two After those two hours activities; one was having to

walking, everyone's legs were find things and answer some hurting very much (especially mine). So we all ran to the middle and took a seat to have a good rest. While we were walking Miss Gale had already made us some lovely wouldn't break when the hot chocolate 'Yum! mini bus, but none of our ideas worked. Finally, the

In the evening the Sixth Form joined in and took us for a nice

The next day everybody was sad to be leaving, as we gathered

our belongings and took down our tents. At the end there was an

awards ceremony where we remembered all the funny things that

poked at by the teachers. Sick and twisted? Maybe. Fun? Yes.

By Kate McCarthy and Amy Chapman, Year 8

had happened that weekend.

blindfolded walk. Basically this involved us tripping over and being

By Yoyo Yik, Year 8

for doing abseiling.

for the camp trip. I got 3

turning most circles in

prizes: the loudest screaming;

kayaking and the bravery prize

We went to Year 8 camp on Thursday morning 15/6, till Saturday afternoon 17/6. Everyone was waiting outside the dining room to get ready, and we were excited about it. It only took us one and a half hours to get there. As soon we arrived, we helped the teachers to unload the bus,

and put the food in the shed.

After we had unloaded the bus, everyone found a place to put their tent up. I was due to share a tent with Katty, Eva, Holly and Yzzy, but as we didn't have our own, we borrowed one from the campsite. The colour of the tent was green and we thought it was going to be horrible and smelly but it wasn't, it was nice and clean. We had to put a

ground sheet on because the in the water. At night, we had tent didn't have one. After everyone put their tents up, they visited their friends' tents, but no one visited our tent because they thought it was horrible and smelly.

Later that day after kayaking, we went swimming, and later we started to play volleyball

For the entire trip we had two groups A and B, so A had to clean the toilets and collect wood and B had the easiest



job to wash the dishes up. After finishing our chores, we had to go for a walk, and everyone was moaning because we had to walk for two hours and I was the first person to moan. Briony and Amy were the leaders for the walk, but they were the' Wrong Direction Leaders'.

questions. In the second the teachers gave us one egg, three pieces of paper, string and sellotape. We had to think of some ideas, so that the egg teachers threw it from the

teachers gave out some prizes

# Year 8 discuss the anniversary of slave trade abolition



Slaves were captured in Africa and taken on a long journey on a boat to the Americas. From there they would be sold. They worked in fields, made storage containers or other craft items or worked for their masters in their homes. If the slaves were very lucky they might be able to buy their freedom, but some had their savings stolen so they couldn't. Others tried to run away but there were those who were paid, like bounty hunters, to catch runaways. Abolition was a good thing as it stopped the suffering and unjust treatment of the black people. It also kept African families together and stopped them being captured. In today's world there is still unfair slavery. In Eastern Europe, men, women and children are illegally brought to the UK to work. They are transported in the backs of lorries. This slavery is still happening but it needs to stop. However, most slavery in other parts of the world has stopped.

#### **Vicky Cowlett**

In America, Africans were sold as slaves to white people and were made to work on the plantations. If they did not obey their owners they would be punished in a cruel way e.g. whipping or having chains put on their hands and feet etc. This was inhumane so people tried their best to persuade other people to put an end to it. Many people helped abolish slavery but two of the most famous people were Olaudah Egiano and William Wilberforce. Olaudah Egiano was a slave who bought his own freedom and then wrote

an autobiography about his time as a slave. This was a good thing because people would know, from a slave's point of view, what it was like to be one and because of this it made people realise the cruel treatment they suffered.

#### Josie Stephens

It has been exactly 200 years since the abolition of the slave trade. There were many abolitionists - black and white, men and women. Some of them are very famous today and are remembered for their role in freeing the slaves and in stopping the trade. I think the slave trade was abolished because it was no longer as profitable. The Abolitionists had convinced some people that it was wrong. Sailors did not want to sail the boats because it was such a long distance. Slaves ran away so it was costing the "masters" more money to either pay people to find them or buy new slaves.

#### **Evie Pattenden**

The West India lobby of plantation owners and their supporters in the British Parliament fought for abolition. Although this was ultimately unsuccessful the plantation owners received 20 million pounds for compensation for the loss of their slaves. The exslaves received no money. Despite the abolition of slave trading by Britain and other countries from 1807 onwards, illegal trading continued for a further 60 years. Much of this illegal trade was to the sugar plantations of Cuba and Brazil.

#### **Sophie Ebeling**

Quakers played a huge part in the abolition of the slave trade. They regarded all humans as equal before God and addressed everyone as "thou" and refused to refer to peoples' ranks and titles. They upset people by not showing respect by "doffing the hat". This made it difficult for Quakers to make friends with neighbours, as they were unwilling to follow the traditional custom of taking off their hats when they entered a house. They fought for the rights of black and white slaves alike and eventually presented the first anti-slavery petition to Parliament and also played a role in the Anti-Slavery Society. Quakers also established the Peace Society that campaigned for an end to war and were active in famine relief organizations.

#### Vita Bowman

I believe the slave trade was abolished for many reasons. Ordinary people were shown the punishments used against slaves. For example, the abolitionists would demonstrate the whip. Also the slave trade started to become less profitable. It is ironic that the 'unprofitability' of slavery suddenly made mankind realise that slavery was morally wrong.

#### **Chloe Shipley**

Abolition was a good thing because it stopped all the slaves being separated from their

families. It also stopped the slaves from suffering. Most of the slaves were whipped, beaten and treated in an inhumane way, so because of this the abolitionists wanted to put a stop to this illtreatment.

#### **Cecily Irwin**

There are still more than 27 million children, women and men who are slaves right now. In India they call the children "carpet slaves", as they are kidnapped from their village (some as young as five years old) and between

200,000 and 300,000 children are held captive in locked rooms and forced to weave on looms. The children live in damp pits near the loom; water is often unavailable and the food consists of a few bread balls, onions and salt. They work for ten to fourteen hours a day. Also in Pakistan they have shackled labourers. They are shackled in leg irons; there are still roughly 50,000 of them. In the Dominican Republic there are cane cutters; they collect slaves when the harvest is busy. Some of them volunteer but if there are not enough people to volunteer the Dominican Republic Army get involved and they are forced to work at gunpoint and beaten if they try to escape, so really they are being treated like slaves. I think slavery is disgusting and should not be tolerated in any form in any part of the world. The ones I have just mentioned are only a few; there are many more in the world. Slavery should be banned for good, everywhere.

#### Chelsea Tindell



Chloe Sachikonye, Year 13. Land of My Fathers, a textiles piece that considers the British Empire and the impact of the slave trade.

# Auschwitz victim retells her horror



Susan Pollock speaking to a group of Year 9 History pupils about her life inside the Auschwitz and Belsen concentration camps.

On Wednesday 7th March, Susan Pollack visited SMH to talk to Year 9 about her experiences during the Second World War:

Susan was born in Felsogrod, a small town not far from Budapest, and was 13 years old in 1944 when the German army entered Hungary. She remembers how the 26 Jewish families in her town met at her parents' house to discuss what to do as the Nazis approached. As a result of this meeting in his house, Susan's father was taken

away by the Gestapo. It was against the law for more than 3 lews to meet. A non-Jewish neighbour took a food basket to the SS headquarters where he was being held, but Susan never saw her father again. Later Susan, her mother and her older brother were told to leave their home, taking only what they could carry. Susan took her sewing machine, hoping to be able to use it to earn some money to support her family. After a week in a transit camp, the family was transported to

Auschwitz, where her mother was gassed on arrival.
Susan and her brother, Laszlo, survived the selection process but were separated in the camp. Laszlo was a
Sonderkommando — emptying the gas chambers for the Nazis and moving victims' bodies to the crematoria. Although he survived the war, his experiences in the camp left Laszlo deeply psychologically traumatised.
Susan was forced to endure

Susan was forced to endure slave labour in Auschwitz and, as the war drew to an end, with the Soviet army approaching from the east, the Nazis forced the inmates of the camp to march westward. Susan managed to survive the death march, although many others did not.

Susan ended up in Bergen Belsen, where she was liberated on 15th April 1945 by the British army. She met her husband, also a survivor, in Canada. They live in London and have 3 children and 6 grandchildren.

#### **Zoe Yacoub** Head of History

Susan told us she was one of the many who walked the 'death march' from Auschwitz to Belsen in the terrible weather and with hardly any clothes. Her description of what happened to her during the war was horrific. Her will and strength to live must have been so great.

#### **Emily Pearce**

This visit gave me a different point of view on how it must have felt in the Holocaust. At first I thought it was just frightening. But it was more than just frightening. They must have felt dehumanised, lonely, unwanted, scared and much more.

#### Angela Needham

I've learned a lesson from her: how lucky we are to have clothes to wear, food to eat and our parents.

#### Yoyo Yik

This was a fantastic opportunity to be able to listen to a Holocaust survivor... Susan helped me understand, in a lot more depth, how it affected people.

Jessica Kerrigan

# Students meet award winning author

On Friday 19th January, Year 9 English pupils, led by the indomitable Mrs Hargreaves, set off on an epic adventure, filled with literary genius. At 7pm on a stormy night the girls boarded their minibus, not knowing what was in store...

Upon arriving at Roedean School the group were given prime positions and were on the edge of their seats, eager for a roller-coaster evening of books, speeches and, most importantly, prizes. Six books had been read throughout the term and the novel gaining the highest number of votes, by the 30 schools

involved, was to be awarded the prize.

The selected authors spoke about their work and read from their novels, though Anthony Horowitz's message was sent in from far-flung America. Finally came the voting - Michelle Paver won the coveted prize with 'Wolf Brother'. We all trooped off to buy books and have them autographed by the authors present. The literary evening was an enjoyable end to months of happy reading.

Esme Sarfas, Kate McCarthy and Sophie Ballard, Year 9



Michelle Paver at the Southern Schools' Book Awards ceremony