



It has been hugely rewarding to see our students show their initiative and organisation skills during Founder's Week. Our youngsters demonstrated impressive talents and generosity. The fund-raising events are our way of showing appreciation for the school's foundation in 1666, whilst supporting our sponsorship of twenty poor girls' education at PMM School in Uganda. Sir Thomas would surely have been immensely proud of his legacy, never more so than in the selfless efforts of all who have been involved in organising and supporting the charitable events.

FOUNDER'S WEEK

I never cease to be amazed by the energy and creativity of our students. Thanks to staff who helped and took part, but essentially the fund-raising events were the result of students' ideas and organisation in seeing them through to fruition.



The School's contributions were **No Homework Day** (which raised £245), **MP3 Day** (£20) and a **Free Dress Day** (£690).

The most popular event was **Sumo Wrestling** (£295) organised by U6C (who also paid the £50 hire fee), followed by **Bucking Sheep** (£146) organised by Tom Williams (U6H), who also raised sponsorship to pay the hire fee (thanks to Laminated Wood of Stroud for their help in this). Well done to **Peters Moore and Stanley** and **Alex Roberts** who provided the commentary, encouragement and mockery in equal measure for both spectacles. **Matt Seaborn** (U6C) thinks his sponsored haircut raised around £300, money is still being collected. 8R's **Staff in Their Eyes** (£65), 8T's **Cake Sale** (£19), **Teachers' Quiz** (£4), 8B's **Fairtrade sale** (£57), **Jack Panton's pie** (£24), **Miss Thomas Rich beauty contest** (£47), 8S **Beat the Goalie** (£43), 10T's **Guess the Eggs** (£10) and **Treasure Hunt** (£45), **Joe Noel** and **Matthew Broadhead's Busking** (£28), 8S' **Cake Sale** (£47), **American Football** (£16), 9S' **Dodgeball competition** (£35) and **X-Box games** (£18), 7R's **PS2 games** (£56), **Kingston Myles' Oreos sale** (£48), 11R's **Guess the Teacher** (£18), **Y7 rugby tournament** (£25), **Evan Whitbourn's Crazy Hair Day** (£27) – all helped amass a total of over £2,000.

At £1 per day for each girl to be educated at PMM this has gone a long way to securing our twenty girls' schooling for another year. Very well done to all who contributed.

NewsREEL

Gifted and Talented

The National Association of Gifted and Talented Youth is now called the Learner Academy of Young Gifted and Talented. It aims to provide stimulating material and events for children who show particular academic gifts in one or more subjects or outstanding talent in areas such as sport, music, drama or art. Students who wish to enrol may go to the website at www.ygt.dcsf.gov.uk and complete their registration details.

We have been told that students are eligible if they have been "identified as Gifted and Talented" and "are on their school's G & T register". The Government has defined such students as the top 10% of each school's population. However, we believe that all our students should qualify, not just a dozen or so per Year, thus we are passing on this information to all parents.

We try to ensure that our curriculum meets the needs of Gifted and Talented youngsters e.g. students may take up to eleven GCSEs, separate sciences are taught, there is a choice of three modern languages to GCSE, early entry is possible in Maths GCSE and for all in Religious Studies. Geology GCSE is offered in Year Nine, Latin is available in Year Eight – and we encourage all students to take advantage of our extra-curricular programme which includes sports, music and drama. However if any parent wishes their son or daughter to become a member of the Learner Academy of Young Gifted and Talented they will be able to access additional events for the most able at regional and national levels.

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TABLE TENNIS

We have had four School teams in the Gloucester Table Tennis Association league this season. The 'A' team comprised adults, for the first time they were joined in Division Four by a team of pupils, our 'B' team, who acquitted themselves remarkably well and competed on equal terms against strong teams of experienced adults, finishing a creditable sixth. Well done to

captain **Mike Brook** and his team. Our 'C' team, led by **Rob Murtagh**, finished fourth in Division Five and the 'D' team, captained by **Ellot King**, seventh.

The Gloucester league organises a strongly contested Handicap Cup competition each year. Every team in the league starts in Round One. Our School teams

performed strongly and all made good progress through the rounds. In the quarter finals the school teams were drawn against each other, the 'B' team knocked out the 'A' team and the 'C' team defeated the 'D'. The 'B' team proceeded to win their semi-final and then played with extraordinary maturity and considerable skill to win the final, their opponents (who are the Division Two champions) were never in the hunt. Many congratulations to **Mike Brook**, **Dominic James** and **Ed Watson** (and **James Ruffell**, **Sam Poole** and **Will Lee** who played in earlier rounds).



Senior Boys' Hockey

Hockey fixtures are scarce at Tommie's but the fixtures that did go ahead are testament to the boys' tenacity and steadfastness. The team's composition varied with each game, with players called away to lesser sports at a moment's notice.

Results were: P5; W1; D2; L2

The boys' desire and drive may be best summed up through the reports of two games: Newent and Wycliffe College. The former game saw Tommies sink to a 3-0 deficit at half-time. The second half was however a completely different affair: close team play and a willingness to pass the ball culminated in a second half hat trick for Tim Goad. Such willingness to work together produced an unexpected result.

The team's defence was thoroughly tested in the game against Wycliffe College. Two goals behind with two minutes of the first half to play, Tommies rallied and equalised before the break with goals from Goad and Bhaiyat. These were the only attacking chances had in a game dominated by Wycliffe: in the second half Tommies successfully defended seventeen penalty-corners, soaking up pressure and clearing their lines for almost the entire second period. Wycliffe's reaction to the draw demonstrated the begrudging respect for their visitors.

The season has, on the whole, gone well for the side. Although we wish our leaving players well, Tommies is now looking to build on this year's results.

R C Parker

NewsREEL

BIG PIT TRIP

After a drive of an hour and a half, we arrived at 'Big Pit' in South Wales. This is no longer a working coal mine, but instead has been converted into an educational tourist attraction. On arrival, we headed underground into the coal mine via a shaft which took us ninety metres below the valley floor (we were informed that this shaft was a shallow one compared to the typical three hundred metre shafts in former coalmines). A very funny Welsh ex-miner called Pete was now our tour guide. He gave us a very fun and informative trip around the main highlights of the mine.

We learnt numerous things about the conditions in the mine. It was essential to wear the correct head gear and equipment for safety reasons. We had to close doors behind us so that there was always enough oxygen flowing through the mine. Water that ran down the passages of the tunnels did contain iron so we were advised not to drink it! Our guide taught us about the highs and lows of being a coal miner. Much of the time, miners would be working in tight spaces in the coal seams on their back trying to get to the valuable coal ("Black Gold"), this led to aches and pains all around the body, but the miners were proud to work hard as part of a team and take home a regular wage. Underground, we were introduced to the machines that helped them to dig out the coal. Spades, drills, pickaxes and the conveyer belt all helped in retrieving the valuable rocks.

We learnt the history of the mines and how dependant the workers and our industry used to be on coal and how it fuelled the British Empire for years. Mining offered jobs for many of the unemployed and very soon large communities had set up above the coal seams. An explosion in Big Pit took place in 1913, when a single spark ignited methane gas. The echoes boomed for miles around and hundreds were killed. Our guide was pleased to assure us that the chances of that happening now were extremely slim.

I'd like to thank Big Pit for having us and the teachers who took us down the mines, taught us about the Industries of South Wales and got us home in time for tea!

Ben McAleer 10S



Ski Trip to Les Menuires, France.

From the 17th to the 24th February 2008 Forty-two pupils and five staff went snowboarding and skiing on the pistes of Les Menuires resort.

NewsREEL

First XI fixture v Cleeve School

STRS 1 v. 3

Cleeve School Friendly, 05/03/08

Another disappointing result for Rich's resulting from a poor performance from the whole team. It was a game of two halves, as Rich's pressed well in the first half and deserved to score. The **Joe Noel** came closest to scoring, heading onto the post from a corner. **Niall Drury** was substituted at half time after a lacklustre display; and the gamble paid off early in the second half. After a stunning debut last week, Rob Payne came crashing back down to earth with a mediocre performance, however it was his shot that was parried by the goalkeeper to **Sam Horder** who drove the ball home. Rich's then decided to sit back, and conceded three sloppy goals after poor defensive work by the team as a whole. Man of the match goes to youngster Johnny Taylor, who battled well throughout.



First XI fixture v Bournside

Bournside 1st XI 1 - 4 STRS

Friendly, 12/02/08

Rich's put in an excellent, flowing performance against a very strong Bournside team. Early on Bournside piled on the pressure and missed a penalty when James Payne bundled over an opponent in the area. However, Tommies quickly got into their stride and scored just before half time when Ben Troughton scored from a scramble in the box. Rich's looked a lot stronger in the second half and scored quickly through a Joe Gylte thunderbolt from over twenty-five yards. Minutes later, Ben Fabbro, after missing several excellent chances early on, scored a simple header after excellent work from Matt Poole down the left hand side. With Tommies comfortably ahead, they relaxed and Bournside would have scored if it wasn't for a string of fine saves from goalkeeper Francis Ruck. Late on, Ben Troughton scored after a good ball in by Sam Horder, and Bournside grabbed a solitary, consolation goal.

S Pritchard U6

First XI fixture v RGS Worcester

STRS 3 v 5

RGS Worcester 27/02/08 Friendly

A disappointing result from Rich's after playing well for large periods of the match against a well organised Worcester side. Rich's started slowly and went one down after a free-kick managed to sneak in, but as the first half grew on, Rich's started to move up through the gears and quickly equalised through a fantastic individual effort from Joe Noel. After a rousing half time team talk, Rich's started slowly again and were soon 2-1 down after a cross managed to slip through the hands of goalkeeper Francis Ruck. However, once again, Rich's fought back. An inspired managerial decision to bring Rob Payne on at half time soon paid dividends as he got on the end of a free-kick and lobbed the ball over the goalkeeper with fantastic composure. Another free-kick for Worcester resulted in them taking a 3-2 lead, but Rich's replied well again with Matt Poole thundering a low drive into the bottom corner. Rich's pressed on, but a silly free-kick given away by **Joe Gylte** led to Worcester's fourth goal. Late in the game, Rich's had many chances, including a free-kick blazed tremendously over by **Ben Fabbro**. Worcester wrapped up the win after some poor defending, however man of the match for Rich's goes to Rob Payne, for a fantastic goal and excellent work rate in the second half.

Sam Pritchard U6

NewsREEL



Under Pressure!

As the end of term approaches, the examination students find themselves under increasing pressure to get their course work completed. Many of the projects are well under way but will require careful finishing if they are to achieve the marks their efforts deserve. We would like to thank all those students [and parents] who have shown great commitment and determination to produce the quality work for which the school has a justly proud reputation. We look forward to these students receiving the grades their efforts deserve

Toyota Challenge 2008

Two teams, one each from the Year Seven and Year Eight Technology Clubs have made their entries into the regional finals of their respective challenges. We look forward to hearing if they have successfully reached the final, which will be held in Exeter on 23rd April

Arkwright Sponsorship

Congratulations to **Matthew Peffers**, **Liam Newborough** and **Adam White** who have successfully passed the first "Exam" stage of their applications for Arkwright Scholarships. They have now been invited for interview in early April. Good Luck

Tesco Computers for Schools 2008



The seventeenth year of the Tesco computers for schools scheme for 2008 is now well under way. We have started off very well with nearly 300 vouchers collected in the first two weeks. A collection box is placed in reception or you can pass your vouchers directly to Mr Hancock or Mrs James where they will be gratefully received.



Programmable Buggy

S Hancock/S James

NewsREEL

Upper Sixth Othello Lectures

On the 25th of February, Mr Parker took a group of Upper Sixth English students to London to hear lectures on *Othello*. Although road works and a security scare on the tube meant we missed the first talk, the following three proved very interesting, examining the first scene in detail as well as looking at race and gender issues in the play.

The lecturers from Warwick, Oxford and London gave informative and entertaining talks, taking us from Jacobean to modern interpretations of *Othello*. Showing us some of the more humorous and misguided versions of the play, all of the speakers injected life into subjects sometimes seen as slightly stuffy. After each talk, there was an opportunity for questions and many of the STRS students made full use of this, finding out about different aspects of *Othello*.

During the lunch break, we had plenty of time to go shopping in Camden Market and explore Regent's Park before sitting back down to hear a talk about the presentation of race in the play. As well as being a fun day out, all of the lectures gave us viewpoints on *Othello* that will prove useful in the A-level course. Our thanks go to Mr Parker for organising the trip and Mrs Roberts for accompanying us.



D of E Orienteering

On Saturday March 15th over thirty boys braved the elements in Cinderford to take part in the annual sponsored orienteering event. In groups of three to five they spent two hours trying to find as many orienteering stations as possible to gain points. The winning group scored two hundred and ten points and should be congratulated. Half of the money raised goes towards the Founder's Week appeal while the other half goes towards purchasing equipment for the unit.

New Reward System Funding 7T Campaigns

I and some of my friends of 7T have been campaigning for the 'Mystickers' reward system for both Years Seven and Eight. The system is accessible via the Internet by pupils earning stickers which will release codes which are then entered on to the Website where points can be gained and added to the individual's profile. The aim is to acquire as many points as possible which can be exchanged for prizes such as Nintendo Wii's or Play Station 3's. This should create motivation to achieve higher grades.

However we have encountered a problem as the system requires funding. We are therefore inviting parent's of the school who are in business to sponsor this worthwhile campaign. It is hoped that as many of us can benefit as possible, so if you feel you can help us in our endeavours we would appreciate you making contact with Mr Lockey at STRS for details of how you can help.

Harrison Hunter 7T

Year Ten Geography Competition

On Wednesday 6th February a group of Year Ten Geographers took part in a 'Global Issues' competition at Shire Hall in Gloucester. Other schools taking part during the afternoon session were Archway, Dene Magna and Balcarra.

The topic researched by the five boys was 'Food Miles versus Fair Trade'. **Leo Kirby**, **Alex Mainwaring** and **Dale Lewis** talked confidently about Food Miles. They also undertook some primary data collection by visiting the farmers market and Tescos in Stroud to compare the distances food had travelled before being sold to the customers.

Ben Caswell-Midwinter and **Matthew Wright** researched the topic of Fair Trade and were able to tell their audience lots of facts and figures about this organisation.

After a fantastic performance we came a close second to a presentation by four boys from Dene Magna School on 'The environmental impact of the 2012 Olympics'. This event is run every year and is open to teams from Years Ten and Eleven so there is always next year.....! Well done to the boys who took part and put a lot of time into their presentation.

Mrs Brown

NewsREEL

Year Eight Study Skills Day

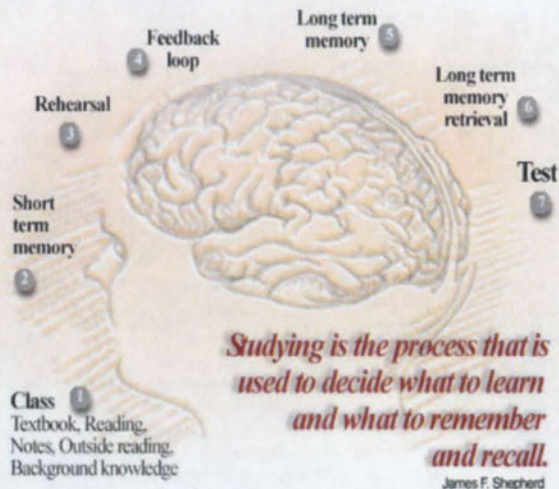
On Tuesday the 12th of February we with other Year Eight pupils took part in a study day in the hall and the gym. On this day students participated in a day of study skills and other techniques that would help them with the revision they need and also how to communicate with others around them in an appropriate manner. The students learnt memory techniques that would help them remember the smaller and sometimes the very important ideas very well. This was put into practice by having the teachers (Evie and Tamzin) teach us six different Spanish words, these were Jato, Monton, Trago, Carino, Vantanos and Patas. These word were Ecuadorian slang words which meant things like home, mates, a lot, drinks, darling and go; can you guess which ones they are? E.G. Vantanos is go (van=go)/ Carino is Darling (Care is at the start of Carino). We also were taught the bones in the human arm using mnemonics.

After lunch we went back to our study skills to learn about communication with the others around us. We got into pairs and sat back to back with one person having a piece of paper with a drawing on it, whilst the other had to draw what the person with the paper had, this was done by the person with the drawing describing what it looked like and how big it was, but as you may have thought some people just showed the piece of paper to the partner.

Overall it was a very good experience and the teacher was very kind to the class, the techniques we learnt will come in handy to us in the future.

J Swanston and S Collins BB

The How to Study Model



Chess

The STRS Chess team is beginning to put together some better results in recent weeks, with two wins and a draw in our last three matches. This has improved our league position and we now lie fourth in division three of the North Gloucestershire (Adult) Chess League.

Our most significant recent result, however, was in the semi-final of the North Gloucestershire Handicap Knockout Cup. This competition gives teams a handicap based on last season's results, and hence successful teams are generally those that have improved the most over the last twelve months. Rich's were drawn against Edwardians (St Edwards School, Cheltenham), last year's winners of this cup. In a hard fought match played on a flooded Thursday evening Rich's team performed superbly to win by 4.5 pts to 1.5, including splendid individual wins from **Ed Burgess**, **Tom Richards** (both in year eight) and **Sam Loveridge** (L6).

The team looks forward with confidence to the final with the real possibility that we might win a trophy! Chess club runs every lunchtime in Q7, all playing standards are welcome.

I A Robson

NewsREEL

END OF TERM

NewsREEL obviously goes to press before our final assembly of term. We are hoping to welcome John Finnigan as our guest to present awards. Thank you to Cheltenham Town FC for their support, and to John who is their team's Captain. Amongst the Colours being presented are those for soccer, cross country and netball plus, for the first time, hockey, table tennis, drama and music. The extension of Colours is in recognition of the considerable contributions made by a large number of students across a wide range of disciplines. The award of Colours is at the discretion of the teacher in charge of that area of school life, the principle is that the recipient should have shown diligence and reliability, have represented the School over an extended period, showing skill and a real development of talent.

'Staff in their Eyes'

An enthusiastic audience gathered in the hall on Tuesday lunchtime 25th March to watch this fundraising event in which thirteen different acts performed impressions of members of staff. As teachers we are obviously aware that pupils sometimes like to imitate us when we are not around, so this event allowed an unusual opportunity for a legitimate expression of the impressionist's art.

It was always going to be a risky undertaking, and certain ideas had to be "vetted" in order to keep everything within reasonable bounds! In the end, a great deal of relatively innocent enjoyment was had by both the audience and some of the imitated members of staff who were brave enough to come and watch. Well done to BR for organising the event, which raised £65.

Special thanks go to my colleagues who were happy to be sent up.

A P Hearn

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Netball Season – 2007/2008

Ribston Hall School 7 – 5 (L)
 St Peters 12 – 10 (W)
 U18s County Tournament –
 played against Pates (L), Cheltenham College
 (L), Dean Close (L), Balcarras (L), Newent (D)
 and Tewkesbury (W).
 Gloucester College 20 – 7 (W)
 Bournside School 25 – 14 (W)
 Tewkesbury School 20 – 15 (W)
 Rednock School 25 – 24 (L)
 Tewkesbury School 17 – 15 (W)
 Gloucester College 18 – 17 (W)

Summary: Played 14, Won 7, Lost 6, Drew 1.

A pleasing season overall, especially when we have been triumphant against local schools and colleges who have far greater numbers of girls in their sixth forms! The girls should be proud of their commitment and strong teamwork. A big thank you must go to my netball captain, **Melissa Tallon**, who helped me to organise fixtures and always led by example during our games. I was very fortunate to have a captain who is consistently playing netball at county level outside school. I will also miss the other Upper Sixth girls who leave us this year: **Natalie Williams, Helen Wrangham, Gemma Hendzel, Tharani Yogeswara** and **Sephron Mansell**. They have been reliable and keen netball players throughout their time at STRS. I hope these talents are not wasted and that they continue to enjoy and play netball at university level. I look forward to next season as there is much potential in the squad with our present Lower Sixth players. **Leah Jones** and **Heather Langston** have scored most of the goals this year and we will be able to start next season with a strong GS and GA duo in the circle. **Mikaila Osiadacz, Emma Green, Charlie Strinati, Sophie Gunning** and **Ruth Morley** have always been willing to play different positions and half matches to fit in with the five established team players in the year above. They have all improved significantly and made my job much easier by having such a large and versatile squad to choose from each week.

Mrs M Brown



Gloucester Schools' Swimming Gala

The school entered a full boys team and a senior girls team in this year's gala.

The senior girls had three girls who compete regularly and five who were competing for the first time. There were individual victories for **Michelle Mason** and **Ceris Westlake** whilst the rest of the squad competed well to earn second place in both the medley and the freestyle relays in which all eight swimmers were involved. All the squad should be pleased with their efforts.

Sir Thomas Rich's gained ninth place with 36pts.

The boys had a very successful day winning nineteen of their thirty-two races and with seven second place results. Due to this the boys were once again, for the third year in succession, winners of the Boy's Trophy. This was a very pleasing result with all age groups contributing to the overall result. The individual winners were:

Front Crawl x 1 length:	G Schreuder, L Moore, L White
Back Stroke x 1	J Griffiths, J Hinds
Breast Stroke x 1	S Haskins, A Gouha
Butterfly x 1	N Thompson, T Burlinson
Front Crawl x 2	O Samways
Back Stroke x 2	S Howarth, C Turner
Breast Stroke x 2	D Graaf, R Payne
Butterfly x 2	T Grime, J Broady

Sir Thomas Rich's gained first place with 154 pts.

Well done to all who took part.

I J Gallagher

NewsREEL

The English Schools' Swimming Association 50th Annual Team Championships.

Junior Team: Medley 14th, Freestyle 11th
Senior Team: Medley 12th, Freestyle 13th
On Saturday 2nd February two swimming teams made the long journey to the Ponds Forge International Sports Centre in Sheffield. This fantastic facility is the home of English Swimming and it was a superb experience for the boys to compete in the same pool as the National team.

Just qualifying for the Finals is extremely difficult. It means that you are one of the top twenty teams nationwide. This is an incredible achievement and all the students involved can be very proud of their involvement.

The Junior Squad included **Tom Grime**, **Dan Fatica** and **Scott Howarth** from Year Nine, and **Dan Graaf** from Year Eight. The Seniors consisted of U6th **Kif Turner** and **Rob Payne**, with 6th **Mike Fatica** and **James Broady**.

The boys all swam well to finish mid-placed in their heats. Although they missed out on Finals races the big screen in the arena indicated that several achieved personal bests in recording some impressive times. An excellent day, and again congratulations to the teams for putting Rich's swimming on the National map. Well done to all!

R Sims

Year 7 Rugby

On Friday 30th November the year seven team entered the Churchdown School ten-a-side tournament.

To qualify for the semi-final the school needed to win their league. In a series of tough matches the school battled through to win all matches. v. Beaufort won 14 - 0 v. Rednock won 14 - 0 v. Bishops College won 28 - 0 v. Newent won 10-7 v. Tewkesbury won 7 - 0.

In the semi-final v Churchdown School neither team could break the other's defence and after four minutes of extra time the score was 0-0. Rather than the toss of a coin the outcome was decided by a penalty shoot out which the school won by 2 - 0.

This put the school into the final against a strong St Peter's team who dominated position and possession from the outset. Unable to break the stranglehold the school lost by 19 - 0.

First XI fixture v Pates School Pates Grammar School 1 v. 5 STRS 12/03/08, Friendly

Rich's won a highly charged affair against a strong Pates side in atrocious conditions. Rich's started slowly against the strong winds, but eventually got into their stride and scored through Joe Noel after good work down the right by Johnny Taylor. The game continued at a high pace with Matt Poole getting cautioned after a horrendous challenge on Pate's pacey forward. The referee continued his European style refereeing by cautioning two more players, including captain Sam Pritchard for a minor offence.

Half-time came and went, but the referee wasn't finished yet. After booking **James Payne**, who had only been on the field a matter of minutes, he awarded a controversial penalty to Pates after **Francis Ruck** 'fouled' a Pates player. He could do nothing about the penalty and the sides were now level at 1-1. However, Rich's picked up the pace and the inspirational Niall Drury played a free-kick right onto the goalie, who fumbled the ball, and **Joe Noel** scored. Moments later, Drury did exactly the same, but this time **Ben Troughton** scored. Troughton, who last week prioritised Hockey over Football, battled well throughout. After this third goal, the inspirational leader, Sam Pritchard came off with a slight niggly, and the team looked to be suffering. However, **Joe Noel** scored arguably the goal of the season after lofting the ball over a defender's head before volleying home a left footed volley to score the perfect hat-trick. Once again, there was some controversy surrounding the final goal after the ball seemed to be over the line before **Joe Noel** bundled it in. However, due to his tremendous work effort and lack of goals this year, the team sympathised with Noel and awarded him with the four goals. Rich's defended excellently with the ever-present **Joe Gyle** a rock at central defence, and **Ben Fabbro** playing solidly as ever, with **Rob Payne** seeming to struggle with the step up to the first team. Man of the match goes to the opposition's linesman, who, despite being only twelve, made some excellent decisions.

S Pritchard U6

NewsREEL



Classical Civilisation Trip to Caerleon

On Thursday 7th February the Lower Sixth Classical Civilisation class went to the Caerleon museum in Wales. From the experience we gathered much more than the knowledge of Roman fortresses but also regained fundamental aspects of our youth. We took great delight in sitting in a reconstructed barrack room, being taught by a man in a dress and playing dress-up. However, this came at a certain price as not only did the teachers come armed with camera but we also found that certain chain mail armour did not come in a suitable size for Umer Musaji – he was too big. Finally, deciding that we should leave the dressing up to the professionals or the children, we did manage some work, only to secretly wish that we had played dress-up more without looking like total idiots!

Emma Halford



Year Eleven recently went on a trip to the Imperial War Museum in London to visit the Holocaust exhibition. To begin with, we had a talk with a Jewish person who had lived during the time of the holocaust and survived to tell the tale of their persecutions. It gave a fascinating insight into life at the time, but it was also sad to hear about the harsh regime and the mistreatment that came with the Nazis. After this, we were free to look around the museum and reflect in our own time, aided by the audio tour to which we listened through headsets. There were numerous displays with information, photos and videos. It made me realise the sheer horrors of what happened and it really brought to life what we had been learning in lessons.

Daniel Wignall 11R

SPRING CONCERT – Weds 26th March

Congratulations to all who took part in one of the most varied and enjoyable concerts yet. It was good as always to see exciting musical talent from the Upper Sixth down to Year Seven pupils.

Advanced Notice

Please note that the next concert will be on April 30th in St John's church, Northgate St Gloucester. The school choir will present a mixed concert of solo items plus the Vivaldi 'Gloria', Handel's 'Zadok the Priest' and Parry's 'I was Glad'. Please support this event if you are able.

J W Thompson

NewsREEL

Mr Sims gives a review of the season for the first XV

Played 13. Won 10. Lost 3. Points for: 376. Against: 84.

A fantastic season for the Firsts. The process began on the immensely enjoyable and successful tour of Australia. This allowed the team to bond on and off the field, and gave massive impetus to the whole season. Indeed the tour gave such a head start that in the first four fixtures the team scored almost 200 points, while conceding only twelve. Team spirit was excellent throughout and all squad members made a full and valued contribution.

As ever, the platform was provided up front. The forwards excelled at providing high quality first phase possession, with all tight five players adept at winning their own and opposition ball. The back row were a revelation, securing turnover after turnover and providing a cutting edge in attack.

We were privileged to have experience, balance and control in the inside backs. Decision making and execution was first class, with classy distribution and a fast flat game. This gave the ammunition to the back three who scored most of the teams many tries. Pace, power and superb footwork meant that the team scored an average of just under thirty points a game, whilst conceding only 6. A commendable effort.

Although all squad members are to be congratulated, special mention must go to full back Chris Surman who was selected for the County XV and narrowly missed out on Divisional recognition.

Finally my thanks and appreciation go to Captain Matt Lodge for his dynamic play and inspiring leadership throughout the season.

Year 9 Football

The Year 9 Football team has had a mixed season. The campaign started with a very impressive 2-0 win against RGS Worcester at home. This was an excellent performance, particularly because RGS won the fixture heavily last year. The next game was against Cheltenham Bournside School and at half time it was 1-1. Unfortunately Bournside played the better football in the second half and went on to win 5-1. Rich's lost their next game narrowly, 3-2 against Newent. However, the team managed to fight hard to gain a valuable 1-1 draw against Pate's in their final game of the season. Well done to all the boys involved in the squad for training regularly and playing with excellent team spirit and determination.

RGS Worcester (h)	W	2-0
Bournside (a)	L	5-1
Newent (a)	L	3-2
Pates (a)	D	1-1

Senior Basketball

The senior basketball has worked really hard this year and the standard of their play has improved dramatically. They have trained regularly throughout the year in order to improve their skills. Unfortunately their season has been interrupted by some cancelled fixtures but when they have competed, they have played some excellent basketball. Well done to **Adam Leeming** and the rest of the squad.

Bournside (a)	L	41-26
Tewkesbury (a)	W	58-24
Bishops Cleeve (a)	-	

R G Williams



Basketball Fixture v. Bournside

Although Tommies fought hard in their first competitive match of this year, the stronger team was apparent by the fourth quarter. Bournside's organisation and fast breaks gave their team the 15pt edge, but man of the match for STRS should go to **Oliver Ellis** for some well timed blocks and team play.

NewsREEL

HOUSE QUIZZES 4 & 7/03/08

The Senior Quiz was closely contested by four fully represented teams. After ten rounds of questions including rounds on History, Science, Entertainment, two picture rounds, a music round and a video round, the final result was a victory for Westgate. The winning team of **K. Turner, N. Brookbank and T. Wing** scored forty out of fifty narrowly beating Southgate on thirty-eight. Third place went to Eastgate on thirty-five while Northgate received the wooden spoon on thirty-two.

The Junior Quiz was won convincingly by a Northgate team of **Obai Affii, Isaac Leaver and Tom Grime** with thirty-nine and a half points from Southgate on thirty-three, Eastgate on thirty-two and a half and Westgate on thirty-one. This gave Southgate the overall win with two second places, Northgate came second with a first place and a fourth place. Westgate also had a first place and a fourth place but scored seventy-one points in total to Northgate's seventy-one and a half and so come third overall. Last place goes to Eastgate who came third in both competitions.

D Dempsey

FOUNDER'S WEEK - 8B Fairtrade Sale

Wednesday 12th March members of 8B participated in a Fairtrade chocolate sale in aid of Founders Week. We managed to raise money for Founders Week whilst we also helped support Fairtrade. This means that the farmers who are extremely poor get a fair deal for their produce. Fair trade is a world wide charity and is supported by many people. Our class were inspired by a play which raised awareness about Fairtrade.

Here are some thoughts from some of the people who participated in the sale. *Hadley Gilbert* said "The sale was fun and really paid off as we collected lots of money to go to undeveloped countries".

"Although there wasn't space for me at the stall I think I have a good understanding of its reason. When products are bought from major supermarkets such as Tesco and Asda, third world farms are often paid much less than what we buy the product for. However, when we use Fairtrade products farmers are paid fair amounts in relation to how much we pay", said **Rishi Moulana**.

Jack Collis said "I was helping on the Fairtrade stall. All the money we raised was also helping poor people on minimum wages to get a better deal. By doing this the farmers can lead a healthier and easier life and help them provide for their own families. They have to work long hard hours and deserve more; that is why every penny we got counts. I hope that the money raised goes somewhere towards making Fairtrade a brighter prospect".

"Our Fairtrade sale raised an excellent total of £72.16! This is due to a number of things. Firstly, everyone pulled together to work on the stall, nobody was reluctant to volunteer, in fact everyone was keen to work. There was a good vibe; the produce was selling fast, despite the high prices. Loads of people bought something and many bought more than one item", said **Laurie Cook**. We would all like to say a big thank you to **Miss Currie** who organised the whole event and made everything possible. **Felix Yates** also played a big part in the sale because he made all of the posters that you probably saw around the school. He said "Fairtrade is a brilliant idea, it helps poor people, and it also tastes great".



Thank you also to anybody who bought anything from the stall and we hope that it encourages more people to buy Fairtrade produce in the future because it is a very worthy cause.

NewsREEL

Founder's Week - 11R - Guess the Teacher Competition



We gathered photos from willing members of staff of them aged between two and six years old. We displayed them in the corridor outside V10 and invited all the tutor groups to guess the members of staff and pay fifty pence to enter the competition. We gave five pounds to the student who guessed most of the teachers correctly and managed to raise £18.00 in total for PMM school in Uganda.

PGL ICT Trip - 9-12 May 2008

The ICT department has run ICT trips to PGL Adventure in Shropshire since 2002, moving to Marchants Hill in Surrey in 2005. This year we will be travelling to PGL in Osmington Bay, Dorset for the first time. If you are in Year Eight you should have received a letter about this trip from your form teacher. Places are limited and expected to fill up fast so if you wish to come on the trip make sure that you return your letter and deposit before the end of half term.

What to bring

All essential activity equipment is provided but pupils will need personal clothing, footwear and washing kit. Brand new and expensive gear should be left at home. Pupils should as far as possible bring old clothing that can get ruined (it probably will!).

In addition to a reasonably tidy set of casual clothes for travelling and evenings the following is suggested as a guide:

Sleeping bag, Pillow, Washing kit, Towel, Pyjamas, Changes of underwear, 2 old rugby shirts/sweatshirts, 2 pairs of old trousers/ tracksuit bottoms (not jeans), 1 pair of Shorts (you never know), 3 T-shirts, Socks 2 pairs of trainers, Several strong plastic bags for wet/dirty clothing, Hat/sun cream (again, you never know).

Please ensure that all belongings are clearly named (including "STRS"). Lost property is often a problem given the combination of dormitory accommodation, dirty clothes and drying rooms. A good idea is to give pupils a list of the clothes they have with them to check when they pack.

Aerosol cans such as deodorants are not allowed at PGL due to problems with them setting off fire alarms.

Other types of deodorant (such as roll-on) are acceptable.

D Dempsey/D A Lewis

Founders Week - 8S Events

Penalty Shootout

Thursday 13/03/08

In Sports Hall - 20p for 1 shot.
50p for shots. £44 was raised.

Cake Sale

Friday 14/03/08

Under Dutch Barn - various prices.
£46 was raised.
Total raised was £90

Lots of excellent effort
from the form,
delighting Mrs Spilsbury!



NewsREEL



11th February, 2008

"¡Buen viaje!"

We were pleased to welcome once more to the school the Onatti Theatre company to perform their latest Spanish play, "¡Buen viaje!". Their lively and humorous performance fulfilled our expectations. Pupils became engrossed in the play, enjoying the high quality drama which cleverly incorporated GCSE topics.

Cristina and some of her friends have decided to go on their first holiday together. But they can't decide where they want to go or what they want to do. Cristina decides to take the initiative and research the possibilities. For many holiday ideas there is no better place than your local travel agent, so Cristina heads straight there. Cristina is about to discover that this is no ordinary travel agency.



NewsREEL

FRENCH PLAY AT BARNWOOD PARK

On Tuesday 18th March forty Year Ten boys made the short trip by coach to Barnwood Park to see the Onatti Theatre Company's production "Les Garçons!" The play was written specifically for a school audience and was skilfully performed by two young French actors. The boys in question were Bruno, a one year old baby for whom the teenage Nathalie is babysitting, and Tristan her boyfriend who is hoping to patch things up with Nathalie and to spend some quality time with her. A calamitous evening of nappy changing and temper tantrums ensues. The play was performed exclusively in French and the audience of pupils from STRS, Barnwood Park and Brockworth Enterprise School followed the words and actions attentively. The clever use of props and the good acting ensured that the plot was understood and the many comic moments in the play appreciated by pupils and hardened French teachers alike!

A J Gregory



NewsREEL



L6 Aachen Exchange, 19-27th January

Our long-awaited return visit to Aachen got off to a rather ill-fated start. Having departed at 5:30am on a Saturday morning, our flight, due to the BA disaster three days previously, was delayed by three hours. German public transport could be relied on, however, and we all arrived very excited, if a little nervous. During the week the seven of us undertook work experience - all in various Primary schools except one in a Kindergarten and one in an architect's office. We all enjoyed a thoroughly enriching stay, not only for the invaluable experience of constantly speaking and listening to the language, but also the busy social schedule. Every evening we were well-entertained, either by our welcoming host families or as a large group. As the exchange school, "das Pius Gymnasium", was holding a European Communications project alongside our visit, the fourteen of us joined in with a couple of their events, including a tour of the Town Hall and Cathedral, together with all the Germans and their respective exchange partners from Leipzig and Liberec (Czech).

All participants had a fantastic time in Germany, and would wholly recommend it. Just a shame that it flew past so quickly! We will also endeavour to keep in contact with our partners and would love to go back again in the future. We were all very grateful to Mrs Testoni-Ranken, Mr. Brown and his wife for making the trip possible.

E Thompson



NewsREEL

PLEASE PIN TO YOUR NOTICE BOARD

CAR BOOT SALE



Car Boot Sales at Sir Thomas Rich's School
have proved to be a resounding success.

There's something for everyone!

FORTHCOMING CAR BOOT SALES

Saturday

Open to buyers from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

26th April 2008

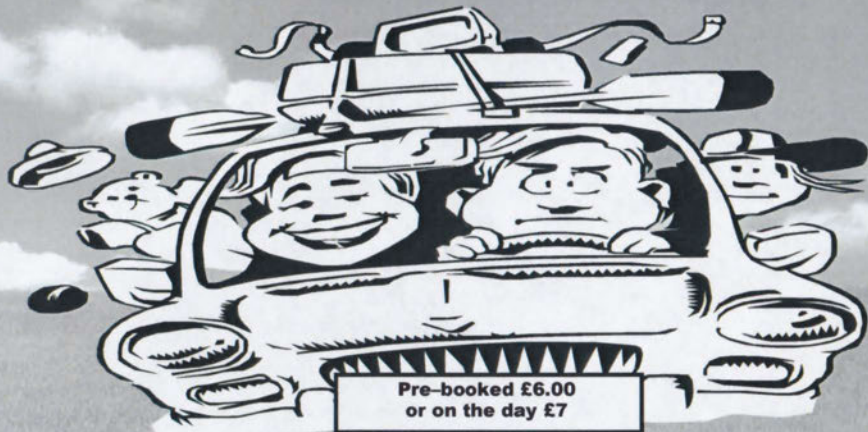
17th May 2008

21st June 2008

12th July 2008

Held on the school's Tennis Courts (Sellers can set up from 12 noon).

BOOKINGS: contact Julie on 01452 713177



NewsREEL

Mon 21 Apr

Mon 21 – Fri 25 Apr
Sat 26 April (1-3pm)
Mon 28 Apr

Mon 5 May

Tue 6 – Fri 9 May
Mon 12 May – Fri 6 Jun
Wed 14 May – Tues 24 Jun
Sat 17 May (1-3pm)
Tue 20 May (7:00pm)

Mon 26 – Fri 30 May

Mon 9 – Weds 25 Jun
Tue 17 Jun (1-3pm)
Mon 23 – Thu 26 Jun
Fri 27 Jun
Sat 28 Jun
Sat 21 Jun (1-3pm)
Mon 30 Jun – Fri 4 Jul
Thu 3 Jul
Sat 12 July (1-3pm)
Fri 18 Jul

Tues 2 & Weds 3 Sep

Thur 4 Sep – Fri 24 Oct

27 – 31 Oct
Sat 18 Oct

Mon 3 Nov – Fri 19 Dec

22 Dec – 2 Jan

Mon 5 Jan – Fri 13 Feb

16 – 20 Feb

Mon 23 Feb – Fri 3 Apr

6 – 17 April

Mon 20 Apr – Fri 22 May

25 – 29 May

Mon 1 Jun – Fri 17 Jul

SUMMER TERM 2008

Term starts, 8:40 am

Trial A2 exams (U6th)
Car Boot Sale on Tennis Courts
Nearly New uniform, 6:30-7:30 pm

May Day bank holiday

SATs (Y9)
AS exams (L6th)
GCSE exams
Car Boot Sale on Tennis Courts
PA Meeting in Staff Room

Half Term holidays

A2 exams (U6th)
PA Meeting in Staff Room
End of Year exams (Years 7, 8, 9)
INSET Day (no school for pupils)
Nearly New uniform, 10:00-12:00 am
Car Boot Sale on Tennis Courts
6th Form Induction Week
Sports Evening, 6:30 pm
Car Boot Sale on Tennis Courts
Term ends, 12:45 pm

SCHOOL YEAR 2008/09

INSET Days (no school for pupils)

Term 1

Half-term holidays
PA Bi-annual Autumn Ball

Term 2

Christmas holidays

Term 3

Half-term holidays

Term 4

Easter holidays

Term 5

Half-term holidays

Term 6

APRIL 2008

PANewsREEL

SIR THOMAS RICH'S



Please would you spare a few minutes to read this NewsREEL. It contains the latest news regarding our fundraising efforts and we would very much appreciate your continued support.



Sutton Seeds

Thank you very much to all who have ordered seeds and plants from the catalogue. 20% of the order value is paid to the PA, by Sutton Seeds, and will go towards this year's Fundraising Projects, namely the Bicycle Shelters and the refurbishment of the 6th Form Commons Rooms. We will let you know how much commission we earned in the next NewsREEL.

Autumn Ball

If you haven't already put the date in your diary (**Saturday 18th October**) please do so now. We are looking for a volunteer to sell the Ball tickets. Please consider whether you could take on this role. It would entail receiving e.mail/phone requests for tickets, collecting payments and sending them on to the Treasurer and issuing tickets. Postage





**If you enjoy playing the Lottery, why not join our 100 Club?
At least you know your money is going to a good cause!**

It costs £3 per month to participate and you can pay either monthly, or annually, by Standing Order or cheque.

Standing Orders are easier for us to administer, and it enables our members to carry out one process while receiving regular payments.

Each month, one lucky person will receive a cheque for £50.

**Forms are available from
[debbie.ireland@oakmeade.co.uk]
or telephone 01452 619255**

Thank you.

Gifting Scheme

Thank you to all who are members of our Gifting Scheme.

This is our main source of income and the money raised contributes greatly to the annual Fundraising Projects.

**If you have been meaning to sign up for this,
but haven't managed to get around to it yet,
please e.mail Bursar@strs.org.uk**

Alternatively, if you prefer to make occasional donations, please make your cheque payable to STRS PA and send it to:

The Bursar, STRS, Oakleaze, Gloucester, GL1 0LF.

Thank you.

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