

The Richian

Magazine July 2015



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FROM THE HEADMASTER

The role of a school magazine seems to me as being three-fold. First, and perhaps more important to those who come after us, it is a historical record. Indeed, it has happened many times to me that, looking through an old Richian to settle a small detail of School history, I have found myself being diverted by the various articles or reviews in that edition. For a few minutes, I am an observer of School life in a bygone era or even a participant in, for example, the reorganisation of School routines following the move to the present site in 1964.

Secondly, it is a vehicle for original writing whether through a carefully crafted review or some poetry or prose in a 'creative section'. This role of the magazine is important, even if some of the material is ephemeral, for education in its nobler moments must stimulate creativity and eschew the utilitarian. Indeed, we misrepresent the educational process if we present any discipline in a way that de-emphasises the role that imaginative and critical thinking has to play, even at an early stage.

Thirdly and most importantly, the best school magazines remind their readers of the very essence of the schools themselves – something the Richian seems to do very well. In reading the articles here we are reminded of what we do and who we are. In his excellent poem 'Abersoch' the poet R.S. Thomas writes of the feeling of being somewhere when the drama of the raging storm is taking place elsewhere; in the distance the skies are dark and the lightening is flashing, without us being part of that excitement:

'Why do I remember these few things,
That were rumours of life, not life itself,
That was being lived fiercely, where the storm raged?

The best education, in whatever subject sees us learning where life is being 'lived fiercely'.

With all my best wishes

Matthew Hogan

HEADMASTER



TOMMY'S MINIONS RAISING MONEY FOR UGANDA IN FOUNDERS WEEK



LAKIE SIDIE 2015

AN AWESOME TIME

In March the whole of Y7 went to Lakeside and we had an awesome time. The trip was educational and everybody had lots of fun too.

After a long trip there (a few hours from STRS) we arrived at four o'clock. We had dinner, got to our lodges or chalets and participated in an evening activity. We also met our activity group leader, Pete, who introduced himself to us and the site.

Everybody stayed in a lodge or chalet. My group and I stayed in the larger of the two lodges. Once we had all settled in to our accommodation and had a good night's sleep, it was on with the whole range of thrilling activities! The activities were: abseiling, climbing, canoeing and group canoeing, raft building bush crafting, king swing, orienteering, zip wire and mountain climbing. All of the water activities were extremely cold no matter what the weather but other than that, all of the other activities were great; they tested our courage and intelligence!

On the Wednesday, it was our group's turn to climb up Mt. Wetherlam. It was completely fascinating. First, the views were outstanding in a whole variety of ways. Foggy skies, ice capped mountains, lush green valleys and a few strangely still, tranquil lakes in the pocket of the hillsides. Our group's teamwork also benefited greatly.

It was also a great improvement for our group's teamwork. We had slippery slopes to conquer. We pulled each other up and gave advice for more efficient movement or where to place your hands and feet. To top all of those positives off, the amazing instructor(nicknamed Pock) was very experienced in walking and didn't go too fast for my group's tiny legs!

The only downside to the walk was the weather. Luckily, my group walked on a nice day, however other groups had to overcome harsh rain and even hail!

Overall, I would give this trip 4.5 out of 5. The trip was a real eye opener. I learnt so much while still having lots of fun! The trip was one of the positives for Year 7!

Guy Mitchell





Göttingen



Exchange

In the weeks leading up to the exchange, we were rather anxious, hoping that we would get along well with our exchange partners. We knew that their English was going to be better than our German (because they have been learning it for longer) but we were unsure how they would be at holding an everyday conversation. As it turned out we were in for an interesting week... My exchange partner was called Daniel and it is fair to say that we got on well. His English was very impressive and he understood much of what we were saying despite not understanding all the slang. They went on various trips to Gloucester, Bristol and London where they met some famous premier league footballers. In the evenings and at the weekend we played some football with some of the other lads and our exchanges beat us easily. At the weekend, we went bowling and then to the 'Barn Dance' which turned out to be a rather eventful evening but fun none the less. I am looking forward to going to Germany and hopefully going on trips that are as good as the ones they went on here. It should be good fun.

Martin Burley

My week spent with my German Exchange partner was highly enjoyable and beneficial. I was anxious to say the least but within moments of meeting my partner, I was put at ease. We developed a great friendship, and I hope it will last long into the future. The week was filled with fun and excitement, even the atrocious weather on our team building day couldn't ruin it. Our exchange partners had brilliant fun on their days out to Bristol, Gloucester and London. The evenings were a great opportunity to bond and we had a great time when we went out on the weekend. I was particularly surprised by how much I enjoyed myself at the Barn Dance, it was a lovely social event. My partner settled in well and spoke fantastically, I hope the quality of my German at least comes close to that of his English. I am extremely excited about going to Germany and seeing my exchange partner again, I can't wait.

Jack Horrobin

Although nerves were high before the exchanges arrived, once we started speaking and had got home, I realised we had nothing to worry about. After tea, we talked about his journey and what he was looking forward to seeing in England over a few games of FIFA, all of which I lost! The next morning turned out to be a lie in for him, 6:45 was much better than 6:00! Jetlir was very interested in seeing all of the expensive cars Britain had to offer, including an Aston Martin, a Rolls Royce, limousines and Lotus! Driving on the wrong side of the road seemed a rather ridiculous idea to him though.

The trip to London was a particular highlight for him as he managed to meet some of the Southampton football team! At the weekend, we met up in town with another exchange for the afternoon before heading off to the annual exchange student barn dance, which proved to be good fun. On Sunday we went out into the Cotswolds before going to Bentham with five other exchange students for an England v Germany match, we lost 19-15! The trip was a very enjoyable experience and I cannot wait to return to Göttingen in June!

Adam Schonbeck

I was happy to finally meet my exchange partner and realise that we had a lot in common. On Tuesday, after they had been to Bristol we took him to a family friend's birthday party where he surprised everyone with his fluent English. On Wednesday, they went on a tour of Gloucester and after school we went in a group of about ten other boys to the bowling alley. Although I scored the lowest out of everyone it was still nice to meet other people's exchange partners. Something that surprised me was how well I got on with everyone else's. We are still in contact over social media regularly despite them leaving more than a week ago. On Thursday the Germans went to London for the entire day and got back late, Philip seemed tired after traipsing around the capital city. On Friday, we had a joint trip. It was interesting, and very wet. On Saturday a huge group of us went to laser tag and then burger king, it was nice to see how easily everyone got on in a group. The exchange was great fun and I would definitely recommend it to anyone as it allows you to make friends with a whole variety of people.

Leo Mychalysin

The name of my exchange partner was Tom Dammer. On Saturday, we did several things before the barn dance. We went and had our second football match in Bredon and then went on to do some bowling with some other exchange students. Then we went to the barn dance, which was a lot of fun with everyone up and dancing around but it was very tiring as well. Sunday was a good day as we went on a trip to RAF Cosford and saw some old planes and cold war technology. We walked around for a few hours before tucking into some lunch of sausage rolls and then returned home. It was a very enjoyable week and I cannot wait for June.

Sam Huck



It is safe to say the Göttingen exchange of March 2015 was a great success. My exchange partner, Moritz Reparon, was a perfect match. Within no time of his arrival we were into an intense game of FIFA 15. When we weren't playing FIFA we were playing real football in the park with other members of the exchange. Before the exchange began, I thought it would be very difficult to talk to my guest. As it turns out, he can hold a conversation better than me in my own language! Many debates about the hated Bayern Munich or the classic question of who is better: Ronaldo or Messi, took place. Luckily for the Germans, they managed to meet two famous premier league footballers (playing for Southampton FC) in their day trip to London. I was extremely jealous after hearing this as I have been to London many times and never met a famous footballer! On the Saturday, we took Moritz to Birmingham to watch West Bromich Albion v Stoke City (Premier league football). Perhaps Moritz was a lucky charm as West Brom won 1-0, a rare occurrence for the lower table team. A 5 a side game was played on Sunday between five Tommy's students and our exchanges. Unfortunately but not unexpectedly, the Germans won. The score in the end was 19-15 although the two sides were level at half time. Sadly, the time came to wave the exchanges goodbye on Monday and wait till June to go to Germany. We are all incredibly excited to go and hope to avenge the loss with a rematch!

Tom Watts

Although an odd experience at first, what with a strange German boy coming to live with us for a week, the Göttingen Exchange proved to be a fun and informative week. After my partner went on numerous trips to Gloucester, London and Bristol during the day, we would go out together with other friends and exchange partners to do things in the evenings. During his stay, my partner told me a lot about how many things are different in Germany compared to here, especially about school life. I can't wait to see them for myself when we go over to stay with them in June!

James Gautrey

For me, the recent visit by the German exchange students from Otto-Hahn Gymnasium in Göttingen was a fantastic experience. I was quite nervous about meeting my exchange partner, but a welcoming meal on Monday was the first of many great times! My partner, Leonard, was very funny and we got on very well. We did many exciting things, like go-karting and play football, and although the weather on Friday was damp (extremely!) Our spirits were not. I can't wait now to visit my partner in Germany in June this year!

George Abrutat

The Otto-Hahn grammar school building is similar to our school building, but there is practically no litter. The school has its own bakery and the students are all welcoming and interested to see foreign students in their school.

Leo Mychalysin



Tuesday 16th to Tuesday 23rd June saw the second leg of a long running and very successful exchange with the Otto-Hahn Gymnasium in Göttingen. 22 of our boys and 19 girls from the High School travelled to Germany to stay with their exchange partners and their families. Our pupils received a very warm welcome from the entire school, temporarily becoming members of their host families and bravely tasting a range of German food. Our official programme included:

- a reception with the Mayor of Göttingen, followed by a town trail;
- an exciting joint trip to the Harz mountains, including having a go at summer sledging;
- A visit to the German capital, Berlin

In their own time, our pupils and their exchange partners went to the cinema, shopping, bowling and swimming in Göttingen's fantastic spa pool 'Eiswiese'. Although everybody returned very tired, this was a truly successful trip. Here are some of the thoughts the pupils had on the exchange:

The weekend in Germany was very enjoyable as I met new people and spent some quality time with my exchange family. I had a huge delicious lunch and was stuffed afterwards.

Henry McCloskey

On Saturday I had a brilliant time. We went to the swimming pool with other people on the exchange twice and it was great fun. In the evening we went to a really old castle called the 'Plesse'. We had dinner there and it was nice, although the portions were too big!

Praseed Grover

Sausages from Germany are famous for a good reason and provide ample motivation for me to return to Germany!

Aaron James

My weekend started with a delicious lunch of Schnitzel with rice and mushrooms. Then I went to watch my exchange partner's football match. It was much more physical than in England with a lot more skill and commitment.

Adam Schonbeck

On Saturday we woke up at ten in the morning, a welcome change from the usual 6:20! After breakfast we travelled to a swimming complex, called 'Eiswiese' with several other exchange students. The swimming pool was huge and included a diving board, 2 hot tubs, 3 indoor and one outdoor pool. In the evening I had a barbecue at Hannah's house, a friend of my exchange partners. When we had all finished we sat around and roasted marshmallows. It was a great night and in my opinion the best day!

Tom Watts

I had a brilliant weekend! On Sunday we went to 'Autostadt' in Wolfsburg, right next to where the Volkswagen factory is. We went up a car tower full of cars and had a good view over Wolfsburg. In one of their buildings they had a selection of their latest cars and we had the opportunity to sit in an Audi R8, a Porsche 911 and lots of other nice, expensive cars.

Martin Burley

On Thursday we had a very eventful day in Berlin. We took the high-speed ICE train to the city and were greeted by Frau Testoni-Ranken's mum. At the 'Reichstag' we met our very knowledgeable tour guide Kevin, from Manchester, who took us on a 3 hours walking tour around Berlin. We saw a lot of interesting sites and learnt so much about Berlin's history.

Jack Horrobin

Without a doubt, Berlin is one of the most historically interesting places I have ever visited. The rate at which the city develops and creates new history is fascinating to learn about. And there are so many shops too! Berlin ist sehr gut!

George Abrutat

One of the excursions took us to the Harz mountains. The beautiful scenery spanned for miles and we enjoyed great views from the top of the mountains. We were given a 'Grillwurst' and a drink, but my favourite part was the summer sledge. The 40km/h downhill high speed descent was absolutely amazing and even the rain didn't stop us going on it several times.

Toby Matthews



AACHEN GERMAN WORK EXPERIENCE





In February half term we went to Aachen, Germany to complete a work experience programme. We met early on a breezy Saturday morning at the services and boarded the bus. We were really excited to meet our fantastic group leaders who welcomed us on board. As the bus picked up students from across England, we met new people and the 15 hour journey went very quickly. We soon passed through France and Belgium and at about 19:00, we rolled into a bustling Aachen. On finding our hotel, we enjoyed a delicious meal and began getting to know the others on the trip.

We woke early the next morning with the freedom to explore Aachen and we found our work placements. Working in restaurants, catering firms, pharmacies, art galleries and even the German version of the Samaritans, we quickly realised the size of the town and instantly knew that our week was going to be unforgettable. After discussing our placements, we went on a group trip to the bowling alley, which offered the perfect opportunity to make friends and relax. Afterwards - eager to get stuck in, we headed to a restaurant to practice our German and sample the local food.

The dates of our trip fell conveniently into the heart of Carnival in Aachen and Monday it reached its peak with street processions, loud music, and mesmerising dance performances. I didn't want to leave but my boss said he needed me, and as we drove from Aachen to Göttingen, we stopped by in Dortmund, Leverkusen and Schalke. We chatted in German about football.

As the week progressed, people settled into their placements and by the middle of the week we were all really enjoying our work. Gradually we began to gain confidence and were given increasing responsibility. Tom at the pharmacy was able to work in a very hands on role with the medicines while Jools was asked to open the shop at the art gallery. We all had such different placements and it made for a unique experience. "I loved my placement with the charity and being able to do something I had never done before - the balance between work and free time was awesome!" Ollie

This work experience was absolutely unforgettable and we all had an unbelievable week. We all wanted to stay on for a second week as it was so good - both for the work experience and for the people on the trip. We learned lots of German and felt much more confident with our speaking following this trip. We would all strongly recommend this trip to anybody thinking of doing it! Es war das Beste!

George Moran

We all benefitted from being given responsibility and independence. The variety of work was great and meant that we were put into situations we probably wouldn't have anticipated. Emily worked at a tapas restaurant and said how much she enjoyed being able to chat with customers and her colleagues. "It was great being able to do work experience here and I loved being able to practise my German every day!"

Thomas Petticrew

Aside from the work itself, the week was a great experience. Everything we did was new and a challenge even taking the bus to work or ordering food became interesting as the locals were so keen to help with our German and chat with us.

"I loved being immersed into the culture of Aachen and seeing Germany. Everybody was so friendly and I loved being able to practise my German!"

Julian Richardson

The trip was made even better by the freedom in the evenings to explore and socialize with the other students on the trip. It was great to meet these new, like minded people and although we were all English, we did try our best to speak German wherever possible! This relaxation in the evening was important as the days were exhausting and we all made friends on this trip that we would like to see again in the future. "I loved the freedom we were given by the group leaders to make new friends and explore the city. This helped us relax after a hard day's work in our German placements!"

Emily Lang



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

This year seventy-nine students in Year 10 have enrolled on the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Scheme. At the time of writing nine students have already completed all three of their other activities and a further twenty have completed two. We hope they will all have completed the three activities before they undertake their Assessed Expeditions in late June and early July. This year we tried a new camping venue at Far Peak Camping just South-west of Northleach for our Practice Expedition. Although the walking was not so pretty for the staff, without the villages of Upper and Lower Slaughter, the campsite proved much more satisfactory. Facilities were more generous and there was no stroppy campsite manager demanding "That bus driver needs to move his bus out of the way!" (Mr Morgan moonlighting again).

At half term we took nine of the twelve Gold candidates on a navigation practice in the Brecon Beacons. They yomped up a 650m climb over 5 km in just under two hours confirming that fitness levels at least were at a high level. I wish I could say the same for the rather older supervisors who took two days to recover.

They will undertake their Practice Expedition in the last week of July in Exmoor and their Assessed Expedition in early September in the Brecon Beacons. We just hope for a repeat of the fantastic Indian summer weather our Gold & Silver groups experienced last September.

A number of students from that last year's cohort are nearing completion of their awards. We are looking forward to that call from The Palace.

S James





On Thursday 4th June 106 students in Year 8 travelled to Thorpe Park to combine a fun day out with some serious application of learning; trying to understand the science and technology behind the theme park rides. Our students were, as ever, exemplary in their behaviour and their courtesy earned the praise of the coach drivers. Just a few student entries are detailed below:

"Our group went on most rides and we loved Colossus. We thought it was one of the best rides there... had never been on a serious rollercoaster before and even I loved it...I had never been to a serious theme park before apart from Drayton Manor long ago and I loved Thorpe Park. I loved the whole layout of the park and the endless possibilities of what we could do there..."

"The trip's academic side was to learn about the rides mechanisms. We had a booklet to complete...the rides excelled the mechanisms but everyone completed the booklet... We were able to go off in our groups, minimum of 3 per group, so no one was left on their own... We went on a water ride just to cool off, this wasn't a fast ride but it was still fun. I seemed to get the most wet..."

"...It wasn't all fun for the students as we had to complete a booklet about the rides and how they work...We decided to go big and went on the Colossus ride...This was my favourite ride of the day, and only a 35 minute wait!...A ride called 'X' was really good as it was a roller coaster in the dark. It wasn't the fastest but certainly worth the wait".

"Thorpe Park was a very good experience For me because I have only been to a small number of theme parks and I think that Thorpe Park was probably the best...The only bad thing was that there were some huge queues for some of the rides...I also enjoyed the water ride...We managed to take a group selfie whilst riding it without losing any phones..."

"We had heard that Colossus was fast, thrilling and amazing...The roller coaster was insane... The best part of it was the 10 loops in a row. I held on very tightly because of this. We went on a few small rides because there were no queues. We thought that they would not be that good because there was no wait, but they turned out to be surprisingly thrilling."

"The idea behind the trip was to learn about the mechanics behind the roller coasters but, as you can imagine, the mechanics faded as the excitement and thrill of the rides set in. The teachers handed out the booklets that we needed to fill in after the fun day was behind us".

Thanks to Kieran Footitt, Michael Baron, Robert Booth, Huey Grainger, Louis Holland and Tom Morgan for their contributions.

S James



JAZZ BAND PERFORM AT CHELTENHAM JAZZ FESTIVAL



Fresh from his debut at Ronnie Scots before Easter, Charlie Ros led the Jazz Band in a polished performance at 'Jazz it Up', part of the Cheltenham Jazz Festival on May 3. Spurred on by the dry weather and support from families, friends and teachers, the band performed 'Night in Tunisia', 'It Don't Mean a Thing, 'Aint Misbehavin' and 'Caravan' thing'. Charlie then led the senior 'Jazz Combo' in an exhilarating rendition of 'Chameleon.'

P Jones

CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS FOR G15

On Thursday 11th June students from the G15, a partnership of Secondary Schools in Gloucester including Milestone School and Gloucestershire College, gathered at Gloucester Cathedral to put on their summer showcase 'The G15 Celebration of Success.' This is an event where each organisation is invited to put forward an item for the programme which could include singing, dancing, playing or a combination of all three.

Gabriel Fryer-Eccles, Maxim Gaidakov, Vinodh Hansraj and Harvey Youngsmith, four of our talented students from Y10 represented STRS with a performance of 'Riptide' by Vance Joy. The boys gave an assured performance; with excellent vocals provided by Harvey and Vinodh alongside a wonderful accompaniment by Maxim on the piano and Gabriel on the acoustic guitar and cajón (drum).

The evening was a fantastic opportunity to hear the amazing musical talent inherent in all of the Gloucester schools. It is a testament to the dedication of students and teachers involved in music education.

Further links to the story and pictures:

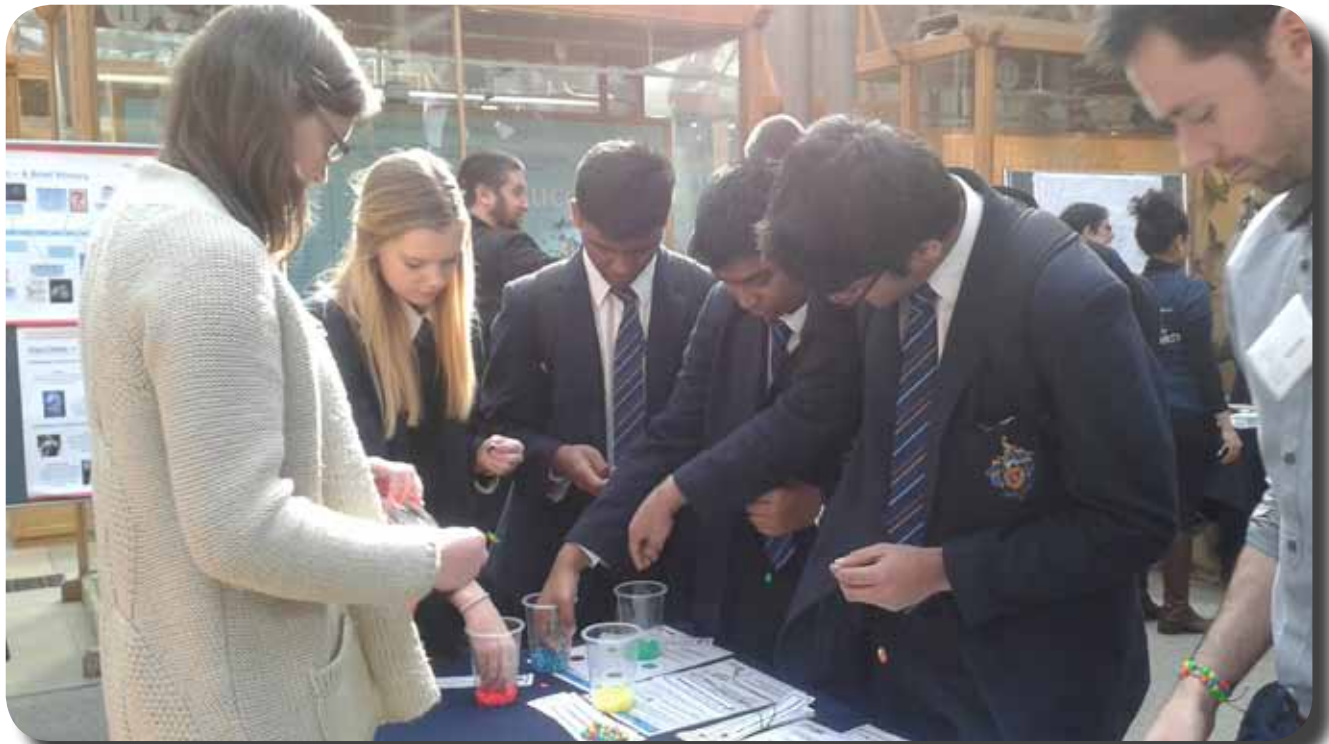
<http://www.gloucestercitizen.co.uk/G15-students-celebrate-success-Gloucester/story-26717679-detail/story.html>

<http://www.gloucestercitizen.co.uk/pictures/Pictures-G15-Celebration-Success-Gloucester/pictures-26685405-detail/pictures.html>

http://www.makemusicgloucestershire.org.uk/News__Events/G15_Celebration_of_Success.aspx

H Clune

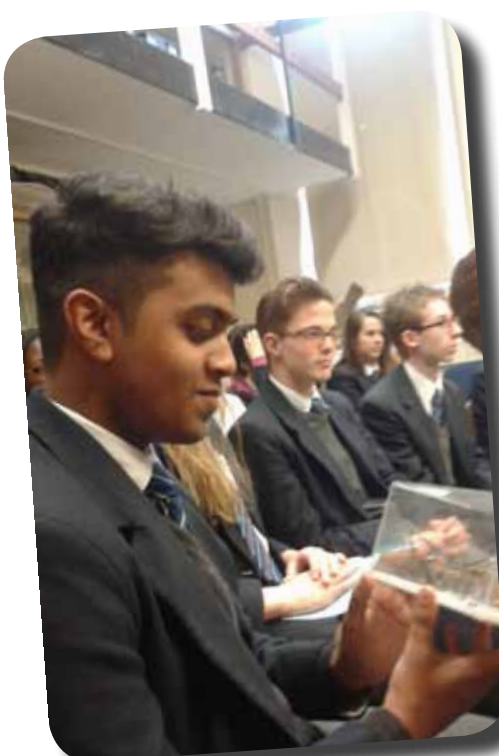




AS BIOLOGY TRIP TO THE OXFORD NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

The trip to the Oxford Natural History Museum was to show specific examples of evolution to help visualise the theory studied at school. The most fascinating part was the talk from a scientist at the museum, who let us all hold various specimens including live hissing cockroaches and she explained how they were adapted to their environment (there were a few girly screams from the boys when someone dropped one!). We also had the opportunity to make DNA bracelets, exploring the similarities and differences in genetic makeup of different animals. We then had the rare opportunity to go down to the museum's basement where they had a huge room full of preserved specimens. There were lots of different parts of animals where the scientist was able to show us up close their different adaptations and how they have changed through evolution to become better suited to their environment. There was also a special exhibition at the museum where various organisations came to showcase their findings on many different diseases and advances with vaccinations. This all linked to the health and disease AS module Y12 are currently studying.

H Brooker



Iceland



Iceland

During half term, 30 intrepid explorers from Years 8 and 9 travelled to Iceland to experience the geography and geology of south-western Iceland. Our itinerary was packed full of impressive and varied landscapes, from huge waterfalls to volcanic craters, to bubbling geothermal pools and expansive glaciers. Our huge 4 wheel drive monster coach drove us through rivers and along dirt roads, which at times for those at the back was more like a roller coaster than a road trip. Highlights of the trip included seeing a Minke whale up close whilst whale watching, walking behind the curtain of water that is Sejdalsfoss, climbing to the top of a hill with the view of the incredible Thorsmork valley and following our canine guide onto the glacier in full ice climbing gear. A thoroughly fantastic trip!

J Bale



ECLIPSE 2015



KARTING NEWS

Our School recently attended the BSKC (British schools karting championship) and managed to make it through to the regional finals.

It started with 8 teams of 3 drivers each. We had one practice session at JDR karting in Gloucester to organise the teams based on lap times, and then went back to do our proper races and find out which teams would go through to the regional final. In the race, you gained points depending on what position you finished. 20 points for first place, 19 points for second etc. There was a close call, but the 3 best teams were teams C, B and E, with 113, 111 and 102 points.

Only the top two teams would go through. The second placed team dropped out due to their Duke of Edinburgh's Award commitments and team E in third were delighted to take their place. We now had 6 drivers going through to race against 19 other teams of 3 from other schools in the regional finals at Thruxton kart centre.

The races were tense, with multiple crashes, spins and daring overtakes. However, we finished 10th and 17th overall out of 25 teams, our best race result coming from Toby Hogg's second place despite the amazing effort from team C. We all left the track feeling a little disappointed but we all had a great time and gained some valuable experience, maybe next time...

There will be another BSKC event next year, so why not join in?

Jake Butler

Congratulations to Zak Taylor of 7S who won on only his second race of the season competing in the Risslington-Tyro Karting championship. Zak is looking forward to racing for STRS next season in the BSKC in addition to his racing outside school.

D Gowler



Toby Hogg defends second place



Zak Taylor

Leavers



20
15



Team of 16

BUSINESS:

Gift company specialising in selling hand-made, shabby chic, up-cycled candles



Our Objectives

- ◆ Profitability
- ◆ Shareholder value
- ◆ Product quality

Our Journey

Challenge 1:

Initial ideas ran into technical issues so we regrouped with a new concept.

Glow Box did not succeed in the way that our market research predicted.

Overcame by:

Developing a new product that sold in high numbers.

What we learnt:

Better market research helped to make a better decision on products



Challenge 2:

Managing conflicts within the group due to a large team.

Overcame by:

Agreeing etiquette in board meetings to respect all members. Using google drive to ease communication and ensure team members up to date.

What we learnt:

To be patient with others, and respect different opinions.



Our Highs!

- ◆ Creating a desirable product.
- ◆ Creating a product with high profit margins.
- ◆ Selling in high numbers at our first sales event.
- ◆ Selling our product in two retail environments.
- ◆ Developing a good production process.
- ◆ Building other revenue sources.
- ◆ Receiving a commendation for our sales pitch.
- ◆ Developing a strong brand and corporate image.



HYDRATION

How it all started?

We are a team of 9 boys and 1 girl from Sir Thomas Rich's School, Gloucester and using the capital from three fundraising events at the school allowed us to invest in our children's water bottle; Create₂O.



Executive Summary

Our product is a water bottle that comes with its own water filter system and three coloured pens to personalise the outside of the bottle. We chose this product to help promote the importance of maintaining hydration in children, whilst also allowing personal creativity.

Product Development

Our Hydration team started off with three product ideas.

1. **A sports bottle**, where we would customise water bottles for specific teams e.g. the school logo on the rugby teams bottle with their names on.
 2. **An animal bottle**, which would have characters going down the bottle with different facial expressions so as you drank more the animal would have a happier expression to encourage children to drink more.
 3. **A drawing bottle**, in which children can design their own water bottle to make them more interested in their drink and would then drink more.
- Overall we chose the drawing bottle!

Create, Motivate, Hydrate

After deciding on a product and company name, the next task at hand was to decipher an effective slogan to help in the sale of our product. We were looking for something punchy and memorable. In the end, we agreed on the slogan 'Create, Motivate, Hydrate'. It emphasised the three main features of our product: for a child to create their own bottle; to motivate the child to drink more water; and to keep them hydrated as a result.

Issues with stock from China

Our stock was ordered wholesale from China. Naturally, this came with a few problems down the line. The first of these issues was the damaged stock we received in one of our first orders. Eleven of the bottles we had ordered had been dented. We contacted the wholesaler with a complaint and asked for replacements. After three attempts and multiple apologies from the company, we still have not received any notification of replacements.



A LEVEL ART WORK





I had always been scared of the man across the road.

Despite living in different tower blocks, our buildings had been constructed close to each other. Underneath us, many metres below, monstrous sounds used to emanate from the concrete playground inhabited by feral children day and night.

It wasn't that I wanted to see him - his flat was the only thing I could see when I looked out of my window. It seemed that every time I looked through the window of my five storey flat, I'd catch him staring out as well. I was so close I could see all the details on his face: the blood-shot eyes and the ragged, dirty clothes. Every morning I would see him. His thick brown hair became more gruesome every single day. He seemed to have no purpose. He was so lonely. So quiet. I don't know why I was scared of him - in many ways he and I should have had much in common. It was just something about him, like he was a ghost come back to Earth to haunt me.

It was an unfortunate experience for me, then, when I spotted the body in his flat.

I didn't really have any friends or family. The only time I would go out was to see my doctor because of the blanks in my head. It is a disrupting thing, to have flashes of your life taken out. I wish I had forgotten the day I came home and saw the body. I almost fainted at the sight of the once living human that was propped upright on the sickly green sofa with a belt tightly wound round its neck, clearly dead. And there was the killer looking out of the window, as if guarding the flat like a warden guards a prisoner. It was as if he expected the corpse to get up and try to escape. I ran instantly into my bed, clutching onto the mattress, hoping that he hadn't seen me. I lay there and I must have blacked out again because when I came to and went through to look again, the body was gone.

I was horrified. I didn't know what to do. As I sat in my room, being especially careful not to be in front of the window, I considered my options: should I phone the police, keep it to myself or deal with it myself? The obvious solution was to phone the police. The man didn't look strong enough to resist arrest. But what if I failed? What if the police arrived at the flat to find that there was no evidence of a murder? I'm the only person who could see through that man's window. He would know for sure that I had called the police and then I would be next.

I decided not to rush myself; I needed to think rationally and safely

My worry increased when the news started to report a missing person; someone who had been missing for three days. Unfortunately for me, I knew exactly where he was. Every day I would sneak a glance over the building and my neighbour was always there. I thought that at any moment I would hear the banging of a door and a police officer

arresting the disgusting beast that lived opposite me. But no, nothing had happened. He was going to get away with it. It was my cowardice that meant justice could not be served, my guilt. Every day I woke up feeling like I was carrying the world on my shoulders. I forgot my appearance I hadn't seen myself for so long. I hadn't left my room, half out of fear and half out of disgrace. I was getting so thin my trousers wouldn't stay up.

Then I saw the next one.

This time I actually saw it. The murder. Time slowed down as I watched the man fall back onto the sofa after the knife had been shoved into his chest. I saw the murderer, standing tall, with the same horrified expression as myself. He was clearly insane. I blacked out, overwhelmed by the horror. When I came to, I saw him still there, though the body had gone. I phoned the police without hesitation, not caring if the animal saw me. I was taking a huge risk but the guilt was too much. The next few minutes went by in a few seconds. I stared out at the man, whom I had now ruined.

And then he looked at me, for the first time. Right into the backs of my eyes and into my mind.

Terror like never before replaced the air in my lungs. Only then did I realise how much I must look like this man, having stayed in my flat for almost a week without taking care of myself. I ran and sat in the corner of my room, waiting, hoping that the police would arrive first before he did.

A few minutes later, there was a knock

"Who is it?" I called.

"Police. We received a call."

At this point, still suspicious, I stood up and opened the door a fragment. It was the police officer. He was obviously taken back by my appearance. I was clearly in quite a bad state.

I explained what had happened. He asked questions. I answered them.

"Can you show me where you've seen this man?"

I directed him to the window. I pointed to the flat and showed him where the killer was.

"I'm sorry, I don't quite understand," he said

I looked at him, confused.

"Look outside the window, there's the flat!"

"I'm sorry sir, but that isn't a window, that's a mirror."

Callum May

NIGHT TRAIN

Slowly the young, breathless girl reached inside her pocket and just as painstakingly slowly she brought out a crumpled grey ticket for Platform 5, Alderpool Station, Lesser York. Impatiently the conductor ripped the ticket from her hand causing the girl, in a red dress with sunflowers patterned along it, to stumble and trip. Landing in a puddle from the continuously dripping rain, she stayed down, sob like whimpers emerging from her mouth as she looked over her dress. "I'm sorry little girl. Little girl you're only five where's your Mummy?"

At the mention of her mother the girl stopped sobbing and an altogether different sound escaped her now cracking lips. "Patience is a virtue. Too bad you won't have time to learn it." She screeched like a condescending old woman. As she picked herself up the guard stumbled away only able to stutter mindless babble and notice that now the old woman wore a beige skirt and battered purple raincoat. Her nose hung crooked and grey hairs blew across her face even though there was no wind. As the old woman now stumbled over to the train carriage cradled by this unearthly wind, a high-visibility jacket floated around meaninglessly on this deadly gust. A high-visibility jacket like a conductor wears at a train station.

A strong hand helped the old woman into the carriage onto a scrappy seat under a pale flickering light. The only light. The train jolted to a start and chugged away from the dilapidated, deserted, Platform 5. The train's wheels rumbled over the tracks and were only interrupted by an occasional screech. The sound bored into the passenger's minds, gnawing at their thoughts, infiltrating their subconscious.

Writing

As the lights gave one last flicker of resistance they shut off, only to be resurrected a moment later.

This absence of light gave no fright to the pale men sitting or standing at the dark windows. They looked over to the old woman to check on her. They only saw the image of a coffin and its wooden door slowly, squeakily opening. They held back screams of terror as they watched the old woman smiling, her eyes open, cold and staring. The light flickered again. The coffin was gone only to be replaced by a pile of letters dated 1917 sent from Platform 5, Alderpool Station, Lesser York. They read.....

Dear Friends.

I arrived yesterday here to find the characters in the town quite horrible, most of the population count is in the local penitentiary. I am just writing to say I will be back on the night train from Alderpool.

Yours lovingly,
Mary A. Jones,
1917.

The lights flickered again. A five year old girl stood there alone, no pale men remained apart from one whose name tag read Michael Jones and as he let out a yelp, he vanished and only the little girl remained. Wearing only a red dress with a sunflower pattern along it, a name tag flew and landed next to the carriage nameplate, one read Mary A. Jones Carriage 1842-1917 the other Mary A. Jones dress bought 1847.

Nate Parker 75

Image by

AEGON TENNIS 2105 GLOUCESTERSHIRE LEAGUE

U15

In their opening match v Bournside School, the school struggled against a good and experienced team and, despite some close and well fought matches, lost by 5 – 1.

S.Price	lost	4 – 6
C.Holland	won	7 – 5
T.Lappy	lost	0 – 6
C.Dagnall	lost	3 – 6
Price & Holland	lost	4 – 6
Lappy & Dagnall	lost	3 – 6

V St. Peters 'B'

A young team of three Yr 9s and a Yr 8 beat St Peter's 'B' team 4 – 2 away from home. After overcoming early nerves the team played well and deserved their victory.

S.Price	won	6 – 0
C.Holland	won	6 – 2
A. Yates	won	6 – 4
H.Englefield	lost	1 – 6
Price & Holland	won	6 – 0
Yates & Englefield	lost	2 – 6

The team finished their brief League season with an away match to Balcarras. Throughout the match there were very competitive games, but the school managed to come out on top, 4 – 2.

S.Price	won	6 – 1
C.Holland	won	6 – 3
H.Englefield	lost	3 – 6
J.Hocking	won	6 – 3
Price & Holland	won	6 – 3
Englefield & Hocking	lost	4 – 6

This victory gave the team a respectable 2nd place in this half of the league, and it offers much promise for next year. Well done to all those who played for the team.

U13

The U13s opened their season with a home fixture against Crypt School and were too strong for the opposition, winning by 5 – 1.

A.Yates	lost	0 – 6
T.Gordon	won	6 – 0
A.Machowski	won	6 – 2
W.Baldeon	won	6 – 0
Yates & Gordon	won	6 – 2
Machowski & Baldeon	won	6 – 1

V Katherine Lady Berkeley School

The team's second fixture was away to KLB who had a strong team and despite some close doubles matches proved to be too strong for the school.

A.Yates	lost	0 – 6
T.Gordon	lost	2 – 6
A.Machowski	lost	0 – 6
C.Smerdon	lost	2 – 6
Yates & Gordon	lost	4 – 6
Machowski & Smerdon	lost	4 – 6

V Cleeve School

Two very evenly matched teams played some entertaining tennis and two late comebacks by Andzej Machowski in the singles, and Cameron Smerdon and Luke Field in the doubles enabled the school to win narrowly by 4 – 2.

A.Yates	lost	4 – 6
A.Machowski	won	7 – 5
C.Smerdon	won	6 – 2
L.field	won	6 – 4
Yates & Machowski	lost	4 – 6
Smerdon & Field	won	7 – 5

In their final game of the league season, the school played away at St Edwards School on a carpeted low- bounce surface. The team competed well but the slightly stronger St Edwards team managed to come out on top 4 – 2.

A.Yates	lost	3 – 6
H.Petitt	lost	0 – 6
A.Machowski	lost	3 – 6
C.Smerdon	won	6 – 0
Yates & Petitt	lost	0 – 6
Machowski & Smerdon	won	6 – 2

This has been a difficult season for the U13s but they can be pleased with their effort and commitment. They have played some good opposition and they have played well in difficult circumstances and they have been positive throughout. Well done to all those who played for the team this year.

I J Gallagher

TENNIS FRIENDLY FIXTURES 2015

Alongside the main Gloucestershire League for the U13s and U15s there have been several friendly fixtures. These fixtures have involved boys from Yrs 8 – 10 and they have played against opposition of the same age, older and in cases younger than themselves. The friendly fixtures offer students the opportunity to play either doubles or singles matches and so gain experience of competitive tennis against up to three opponents in one evening.

The following boys have been involved in fixtures against Balcarras, Bournside, St. Edwards, Katherine Lady Berkeley, Tewkesbury and Cleeve Schools:

Yr 8 – C.Smerdon, L.Field, D.Gun, A.McAdam, H.Pettit, W.Baldeon, J.Waller

Yr 9 – J.Hocking, H.Englefield, L.Pardoe, O.Neuve Butler, H.Abrutat, H.Parkinson

Yr 10 – T.Lappy, C.Dagnall, T.Andre, K.Duncan

I J Gallagher

NETBALL



Top Left: Laura Callard, Leslian Thomas, Chante Headman, Lucy Hepburn, Misbah Al Hassan

Bottom Left: Matilda Tierney, Jess Crossman, Jess Stocks, Michaela Lane

A Team	Won 9	Lost 4
B Team	Won 6	Lost 2

We have again this year managed to increase the number of girls participating in Netball. This has meant that on a couple of occasions we have managed to have an A, B and C team fixture taking place. There has been excellent commitment from all of the girls this season. We would particularly like to say a huge thank-you to both Lucy Hepburn and Jess Crossman for helping us to arrange the teams this year. It has proved difficult to select teams each week as we have had so many committed players to choose from. We have seen huge improvements from Jess Stocks this year who has shown fantastic versatility and, through hard work, stepped up to represent the A team.

We have solid foundations on which to build next season, with many of the Year 12 girls continuing to play Netball in Year 13. Michaela Lane and Jess Stocks are an excellent shooting duo and I am pleased they are not leaving us quite yet. We carry through a strong defence with Chante and Leslian in the circle and Misbah at Wing Defence. We also have many strong centre court players with excellent speed and agility.

All of the girls who have been involved in the School fixtures should be proud of their achievement this season. They have achieved some fantastic wins against well-established Schools such as Ribston, St Edward's and King's and had some close games against tough oppositions such as Balcarras, Hereford Cathedral and Cleeve. In addition to the School fixtures, some of the girls have been involved in the Gloucestershire Netball fun league every Monday night. This has again provided the girls with a fantastic opportunity to play a more competitive level of netball, which has enhanced each of their playing abilities. The team were the overall division 4 winners and Jess Crossman won the league's Player of the Season which is a fantastic achievement.

M Brown & V Nash



SIR THOMAS RICH'S CRICKET 2015

I would like to thank all the staff that have helped with School cricket so far this year. I am enormously grateful for all your hard work with nets, fielding sessions and umpiring games on Saturdays. I am sure all the boys appreciate all the time and effort you spend for their benefit. I would also like to thank the parents from the School's PA for all their help with some fantastic cricket teas.

Thank you all very much!

R G Williams

1ST XI

Played 7 WON 6 LOST 1 Cancelled 4 yet to play 3

V Pate's Grammar School 15/04/15 (25 overs) Won by 55 runs.

In the 1st XI's first game of the season they travelled to Pate's. Rich's batted first but made a terrible start, Toby Hiram went lbw without scoring. Henry Day, Jack Harris and Haroon Shahzad all struggled without reaching double figures. Only Jack Tyrer and Jacob Hughes reached the twenties with 23 and 26 respectively. Peter Carter added 15 more runs and Joel Price finished 24 not out to leave Rich's 132 for 7 after 25 overs. In reply, Peter Carter took 4 for 10, Day took 3 for 12 and Shahzad 2 for 9 as Pate's were bowled out for 77 after 20 overs.

V King Edward VI School, Stratford 22/04/15 (25 overs) Won by 88 runs.

Against the Stratford Grammar School Rich's made an excellent start. Opening batsmen Jack Tyrer and Toby Hiram scored 44 and 69 respectively. Captain Henry Day added to the score with 68 runs of his own. It was a shame that Harris, Price and Shahzad could not add to the total but Rich's still recorded a very respectable 199 for 6 from 25 overs. With a score of 200 to get Stratford started too slowly to make the game a real contest. Carter, Shahzad and Sam Rideout all took a wicket each and KES finished 11 for 3 after 25 overs.

V Rendcomb College 29/04/15 (20 overs) Won by 9 wickets

In a very one-sided game, Rendcomb were bowled out for 57 runs. In an outstanding performance Sam Rideout took 5 for 15 runs and Day, Carter and

Shahzad took a wicket each. In reply Cox fell early for 6, however Price and Hughes easily over-took Rendcomb's score with 18 and 22 not out respectively to record a 9 wicket victory.

V QEHS Bristol 02/05/15 (30 overs) Won by 10 runs.

The 1st XI travelled to Bristol on Bank Holiday weekend in May with optimism after the first few games of the season. With the bat, Rich's lost Price early for 2. However Day scored 71 and Harris chipped in with 25. Unfortunately Toby Hiram's knees were still troubling him and he was forced to retire for only 3. Matthew Cox finished on an unbeaten 27 and Hughes not out 11. Rich's finished the 30 overs with 158 for 4, which felt like a reachable target. QEHS batted well in reply but 4 wickets from Sam Rideout for 24, helped Rich's restrict QEHS to 148 for 9, 10 runs short. Shahzad and Harris taking a wicket each also.

V Hereford Cathedral 06/05/15 – Cancelled rain

V St Edward's Cheltenham 09/05/15 – Cancelled

V Wycliffe College 14/05/15 - Cancelled rain

V King's Gloucester 06/06/15 (40 overs) Lost by 3 wickets

In a difficult fixture in the middle of A2 examinations, a depleted 1st XI unfortunately lost to King's. Tyrer, Rideout and Cox all got starts but none of them went on to a big score all of them falling in the 30's. Peter Carter went for 17 and after Kieran Tompkins was caught for 10 the rest of the team failed to mount any real challenge. Rich's finished 179 for 10 after 39 overs. Alex Roper and Peter Carter took two wickets each, while Rideout, Tyrer and Aaron Alancheril took one each to make a game of the King's run chase but ultimately they reached Rich's total with 11 balls to spare and 3 wickets in hand.

V Crypt Grammar School 17/06/15 (25 overs) Won by 9 wickets

Crypt batted well to start with their opening Year 10 batsman scoring 60 runs. However, Rich's restricted their score to 132 for 6 after 25 overs with wickets from Rideout (2), Tyrer, Cox and Carter. Rich's

batted brilliantly in response, Rideout fell for 22 but Tyrer scored an unbeaten 54 and Price not out on 43 as Rich's won by 9 wickets. The first 1st XI win against Crypt for 8 years.

V Dean Close 22&23/06/15 (2 day game, max 45 each in 1st innings) Won by 10 wickets

In the two day game v Dean Close, Rich's bowled extremely well in the first innings. The bowling figures were Harris 9 overs 2 for 17, Day 9 overs 2 for 26, Shahzad 11 overs 2 for 43, Rideout 4 overs 2 for 36, with Hughes and Alancheril taking a wicket each. It was a maximum of 45 overs in the first innings but Dean Close were bowled out for 168 after just 43. In response, Tyrer scored a brilliant 97 not out and if the limited overs had not have been applied to the first innings he would have certainly reached his century. Rideout scored 61, Cox 35 and Day not out 23, as Rich's recorded 225 for 2 after 45 overs. On the second day Dean Close started their second innings 57 runs behind and had to bat out the day for the draw. However, in the first 10 overs of the day Rideout took 3 wickets which dented Dean Close's hopes of taking something from the game. His final statistics were 3 for 61 from 12 overs. Shahzad took 3 wickets for 15 from 9.1 overs, Tyrer took 3 wickets for 22 from 4 and Carter took a wicket as Dean Close finished on 143 for 10 after 36 overs. Rich's then had 54 overs to get 84 runs. Joel Price and Kieran Tompkins batted brilliantly, with Price scoring 64 not out and Tompkins 14 not out as Rich's won the two day game by 10 wickets.

V Gloucestershire Gypsies 30/06/15 (declaration – yet to play)

V Bristol Grammar School 03/07/15 (25 overs) – Cancelled

V RGS Worcester 07/07/15 (50 overs) – yet to play

V Tommies Staff XI 08/07/15 (20 overs) – yet to play

1st XI Batting Statistics so far

	Total Runs	Highest Score	Batting Average
1.Jack Tyrer	252	97*	84
2.Henry Day	171	71	57
3.Joel Price	151	64*	75.5
4.Sam Rideout	119	61	39.6
5.Matthew Cox	107	35	35.6

1st XI Bowling Statistics

	Total Wickets	Economy	Bowling Average
1.Sam Rideout	18	5.11	12.5
2.Haroon Shahzad	11	2.65	10.4
3.Peter Carter	11	4.66	17.36
4.Henry Day	6	2.97	14.3
5.Jack Tyrer	5	4.7	16

N O Neil & R G Williams

We also played Dean Close earlier in the year and gained a good victory with Guy Floyd batting well. On the last game of the season, we came up against a very strong Beaufort School A team, which was a big test where the boys just came up short and Beaufort got the win.

O Deacon

U13

U13 A Team P10 W 8 L 2

The U13s have proven to have a wealth of talent in the squad this year both in batting and in fielding during their fixtures. The team have beaten some strong sides, recent wins include Cokethorpe, Chipping Camden and RGS Worcester. Saxon Campbell has led the side well both on and off the field he has regularly scored half centuries and taken 4 wickets. Other players who have stood out have been Sam McCormack who has grown into one of the best bowlers in the side taking wickets with his aggressive style in nearly every fixture. Zac Castledine, Mathew Luxton, Timothy Nibblet and Luke Carr have also shown great skills during games, this is just to name a few. A number of boys also moved up from the B team to play which have bolstered the side. Noted performances have been displayed by Jo Dobbs, James Whitmore and Alex Button. The year group as a whole has shown that they can hold their own against any side; the few losses experienced have all been close affairs. Narrow defeats came against Dean Close in a friendly, Portsmouth Grammars school in the national cup competition and Crypt school by just 4 runs in the Kings School Six Aside tournament.

C G Powell

U13 B Team P 4 W 3 L 1.

Although the U13B haven't had a huge amount of fixtures many of the boys in the squad have represented the A team this year showing how much depth there is in the squad. In the specific B matches however, the squad have proven how strong U13 cricket is with excellent wins over Dean Close, Cokethorpe and Beaufort. Ewan Avery and James Whitmore have been solid opening batsman with excellent bowling figures turned out by many boys over the season.

With one tough game left against Pates Grammar School, so far it has been a promising season for the U13B's.

G S Angell

U12

U12A Team P 8 W 2 L 6

The u12s have struggled this season, they lost to KES Stratford, QEH, Deer Park, St Edward's, RGS Worcester and Dean Close. They did record good wins though v King's Gloucester and Cokethorpe.

Under 12 B – P 4 W 3 L 1

The u12 B team defeated KES Stratford, Cokethorpe and Dean Close but lost narrowly to QEH Bristol.

R G Williams

JUNIOR CRICKET

U15

U15 A team – P 9 W 6 L 3

Some excellent wins this season, but defeat to Bournside in the County Cup was a disappointment. Excellent wins v King's Gloucester and Dean Close prove how talented the side can be when they are in the correct mind-set.

U15 B team – P 3 W 2 L 1

A really committed and skilful group of cricketers, with a few of them going up in to the As for several matches. Unfortunate not to win against Beaufort, and suffered a great win against Dean Close. The boys will have a successful season next year if they continue to work together.

D Thomlinson

U14

U14A P15 W9 L6

The u14s beat Dean Close, QEH, St Edward's and Cokethorpe. They won 2 out of 3 games in Jersey beating the Jersey Island XI and De la Salle. They unfortunately lost to KES Stratford, Victoria College, RGS Worcester, King's Gloucester, Cheltenham College and suffered a disappointing loss to Chipping Camden in the County Cup.

U14B P: 3 W: 2 L: 1 D: 0

Very short season for the u 14B of 3 games gaining 2 good wins 1 one which was against Cheltenham College where as a team we batted really well with a good score from Dan Walker.

JERSEY CRICKET TOUR MAY 2015

Two teams of boys from Years 8 and 9 returned from a successful three day tour of Jersey on May 22nd. The Mornington Hotel laid on its usual excellent breakfasts and dinners-a successful army always marches on its stomach, and suitably fed, the teams achieved some excellent results. The highlight was a 135 run win by our Year 8 team against Victoria College on their lovely ground (pictured). Saxon Campbell led the way with a marvellous undefeated century. Both teams achieved two victories and all games were completed despite the unpromising weather forecasts. The boys practised hard on the mornings before the games and on the final morning the Y8s defeated the Y9s in a 20 over game. We did manage to fit in some time on the island's lovely beaches to complete an excellent few days

N Pitel





SIR THOMAS RICH'S GLOUCESTER



OPEN DAY & EVENING 29th September 2015

For further information visit the School's website www.strschool.co.uk
or contact us on 01452 338400 or email info@strs.org.uk

There is no need to register for open day events - just turn up!
Our next Open Day and Evening will be on 29th September 2015
- details will be published on our website.

During Open Days, you are welcome to come and visit the school to capture parts of life at Sir Thomas Rich's School. They offer an opportunity to meet some of our academic staff and students and see something of our daily school life. Visitors have the option of arriving in the morning or afternoon without prior notice to have a guided tour of the school with one of our students. If you wish to experience some of the traditions of Sir Thomas Rich's, you can attend morning assembly starting at 8:40am, followed by a guided tour.

We suggest you allow about 45-60 minutes for your visit. Therefore, please arrive between 8:40am and 12:15pm, or between 2:10pm and 2:30pm. The evening will be from 6 pm.

During Open Evenings, you are welcome to come and visit from 6.00pm. The Headmaster will give a talk in the School Hall, which will be repeated later in the evening. Guided tours are available, and our academic staff and students will be on hand to answer your questions.

If you are unable to attend one of our Open Events, please contact us and we will be happy to arrange an alternative time for a visit.

If you have any questions about Sir Thomas Rich's, please contact the school at Oakleaze, Gloucester, GL2 0LF, telephone (01452) 338400, or email info@strs.org.uk.

S Bains



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GLOUCESTER

70
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