



The Richian

Magazine January 2017



Contents

2	From the Headmaster	22 - 23	Uganda
3	Whole School Photo	24	Duke of Edinburgh
4 - 5	Leavers and New Staff	25	Sicily - Geography & Languages Trip
6 - 7	Speech Night	26	Bristol Art Trip
8	Young Enterprise	27	Amsterdam 2016
9	Year 12 Biology Trip to Oxford	28 - 29	USA Ski Trip
9	RAF Motivational Leadership Course	30 - 31	350th Anniversary
9	Careers Fair	32 - 33	Mallards Pike
10 - 11	Lakeside	34	Cambridge English Essay Competition
12	French Exchange	35	Design and Technology
13	German Work Experience	36	EU Debate
14	Links with Primary Schools	37	How could the President Trump affect us?
14	Foreign Language Play	38 - 39	Poetry Workshop
15	GCSE Science Live	40 - 53	Sport News
15	Skills Show	53 - 54	Sports Evening
16 - 17	'To sleep perchance, to dream'	56 - 57	Netball Tour
18 - 19	Jazz Night	58	Richian Alumni Association
20 - 21	70 years	59	Upcoming Events

FROM THE HEADMASTER

A Headmaster, like many other leaders, is only a temporary custodian of something far greater than any individual. As a cultural geographer, I hope to understand the value of the past as a route to making sense of the present, and perhaps even to see a little into the future. This has been easy to do at School over the last year as we have celebrated our 350th Anniversary. Highlights for me were the Seventy Years of Rugby celebration in March and the moving Service of Thanksgiving at Gloucester Cathedral in May. Both events reminded me of the importance of remembering our heritage by preserving and extending the rich traditions from which former pupils have benefited, and also the sense of duty and respect that current students have for the School.

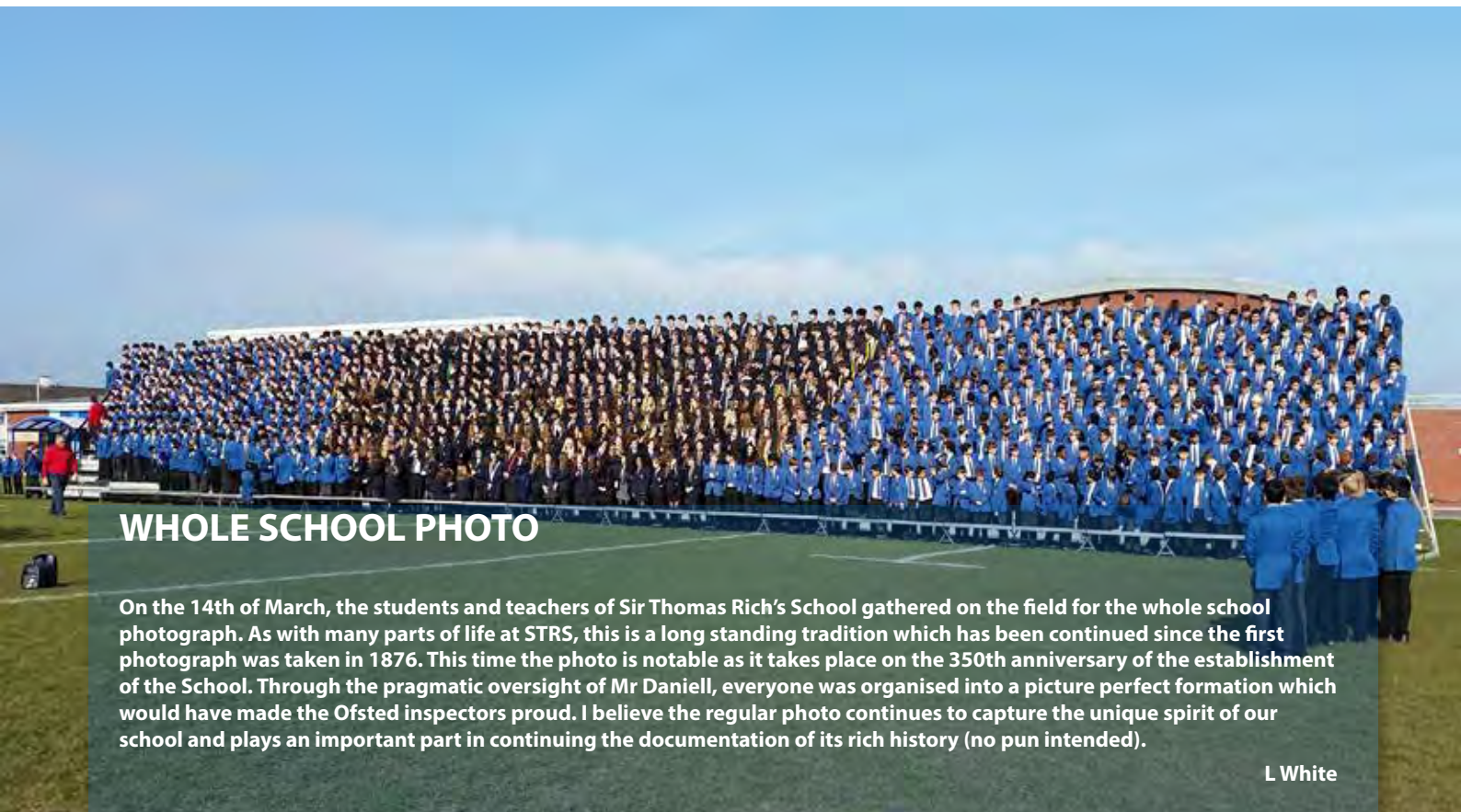
At the Cathedral Service, it was interesting to hear Alan Pilbeam's reflection on the history of the School being characterised as having great spirit and resilience. Equipping pupils with emotional resilience, so that they can deal better with stress, failure and success is a key contemporary aim in education. In our 350th year, as we celebrate our past and continue to offer pupils high standards of education, we shall continue our commitment to help our pupils cope with all that life throws at them.

As I write this, final rehearsals are underway for the end of year Carol services and yesterday I saw a splendid performance of the School production "You Can't Take it With You". On Saturday, I will have the pleasure of watching two rugby matches, one at home and one away. The last two weeks of term will be busier than ever, but I wouldn't have it any other way. I hope you enjoy reading the latest edition of The Richian which is by no means a comprehensive account of our activities but nevertheless, gives a good flavour of life in the School over the last year.

With all my best wishes

Matthew Hagan





WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTO

On the 14th of March, the students and teachers of Sir Thomas Rich's School gathered on the field for the whole school photograph. As with many parts of life at STRS, this is a long standing tradition which has been continued since the first photograph was taken in 1876. This time the photo is notable as it takes place on the 350th anniversary of the establishment of the School. Through the pragmatic oversight of Mr Daniell, everyone was organised into a picture perfect formation which would have made the Ofsted inspectors proud. I believe the regular photo continues to capture the unique spirit of our school and plays an important part in continuing the documentation of its rich history (no pun intended).

L White

LEAVERS

STEVE HANCOCK

After 16 years at Sir Thomas Rich's School we said goodbye to Steve Hancock Head of Design and Technology.

We are going to miss his invaluable knowledge and his involvement to improving school life at Tommy's.

Having started off his career as an Engineering Apprentice in the Merchant Navy, he never thought a part time job some years later would lead him to spend most of his career as a teacher. He admits that he never thought about a career in teaching when growing up in his council estate in Port Talbot in Wales. He wanted a future away from the mining town and to widen his horizons travelling the world. But when that came to end and after some part time jobs he decided to go to university. Being the first person in his family to achieve this was also a very proud moment for him and for his parents.

Upon graduating, he went onto to his first teaching job in Bristol. His first teaching post left fond memories of the pupils and staff and also confirmed that he had chosen the right career.

As well as being a teacher, Steve never kept out of the engineering industry on a personal level. Being Chair of the Parkside Housing Association saw him involved in building 22 houses within his community.

After spending 14 years in Tewkesbury School, Steve joined Sir Thomas Rich's School and has spent the last 16 years imparting his extensive engineering knowledge to pupils and staff.

We will miss Steve and his quiet, unassuming and formidable presence within the School and wish him all the best on his next adventure in retirement in sunny Italy.

SARAH JAMES

Sarah James formally retired in July 2016, although she has kindly agreed to return to the School part time to continue to run the School's Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

Sarah initially studied Architecture at Cardiff University, and worked as an Architect from 1984 until 1992, primarily in the South Wales region. In 1993 Sarah went to Caerleon Teacher Training College gaining a degree in education.

It was at Tewkesbury School in 1999, that I first met Sarah and it very quickly became clear to me that Sarah was a gifted and talented teacher. Several years later, as head of department here, I was looking for a replacement for Alan Peffers, when I saw Sarah's name on the list of applicants, I urged Ian Kellie, the Headmaster at the time to invite her for an interview. On the day, Kellie immediately saw the same qualities and abilities which I had witnessed at Tewkesbury, and the rest they say is history. Sarah started at the School on 1 September 2005 and she soon established herself as a diligent, thoughtful, astute and assiduous teacher. She became the first Head of Year 10 in September 2008.

She also became Head of PSHE and Citizenship in September 2009 and has been running DoFE for many years and has represented the staff on the School's Board of Directors.

Sarah has always been totally professional, full of enthusiasm and energy. She has been a leader, a supporter, a driving force and a defender of so many school activities. Sarah will be sadly missed by the students and staff and we wish her all the very best in her retirement.

S Hancock

BETHAN SADLER

Bethan Sadler joined the English Department in September 2015, having just completed her PGCE at Cambridge University after a previous career in Law. We were delighted to welcome her. With a First Class degree in English from Cardiff, we expected Bethan to bring intellectual rigour and a passion for Literature to the team, but we also discovered that she was enormous fun and a really generous colleague. While still officially an NQT, Bethan always impressed with her creative approach to teaching, coupled with an insistence on the highest standards for her pupils of behaviour and work ethic. Her pupils quickly came to respect her and to thoroughly enjoy her lessons. Bethan is undoubtedly a most gifted teacher so we were very sorry to say goodbye in July 2016, when she left to accompany her partner on a work placement in Canada. We have since learnt that they are now engaged to be married, so we wish them every happiness in their new lives together.

C Saunders

HELEN WARNER

I first met Helen when I covered her maternity leave at Newent School in 2006 after which we then worked together, sharing the role of Music teacher as a job share. Helen then came to work part-time at Sir Thomas Rich's School when I became Head of Music in 2011.

Helen was responsible for teaching KS3, GCSE and A level Music. She has supported A level students with their performance coursework and has accompanied several A level recitals. She conducted the Orchestra and was the Musical Director for our recent adaptation of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream".

Helen has been instrumental in organising concerts in the local community as well as chamber concerts in School. She has also taken the lead for our contributions to the G15 Celebration of Success since 2012. Helen has accompanied several students in their instrumental examinations. She is an excellent musician, playing both the piano and flute to a very high level.

After a successful start to her career, Helen is now ready to move to running her own department.

P Jones

NEW STAFF

CHRIS BREAM

Mr Bream is the new Head of Design at Sir Thomas Rich's School. He studied at Loughborough University, before teaching at Cleeve for 13 years.

He has a passion for making things, especially using traditional woodwork methods. However, he also thoroughly enjoys using the Department's machinery, such as the 3D printer, or the laser cutter. His aspiration towards being a design teacher mainly came from his parents, both of whom had experience in teaching Design & Technology.

Mr Bream had experienced a large transition from Cleeve school to STRS. He mentions how the atmosphere was very different at Cleeve, and how the School was extremely busy. However, he is currently enjoying life teaching at STRS, mentioning the welcoming nature of the School, and is very keen and motivated to teach.

J Garrett

NAOMI FAIR

Naomi trained as a Design and Technology teacher in Nottingham around 15 years ago. She joined STRS in September having taught at Cleeve School for nine years. She has also worked at Tewkesbury School and Hagley RC High. Naomi's main subject interests are electronics, systems and control, and programming. She is looking forward to sharing her enthusiasm for D&T with the students in all years.

C Bream

HELEN THACKAWAY

We were delighted to welcome back Helen Thackway to the English Department in September 2016. Helen is no stranger to school, having previously covered a maternity leave, and she has very quickly found her feet this year. She teaches across Key Stages 3 and 4, and has special responsibilities for running the Bluecoat Book Award and competitions in the Department. We know from previous experience that Helen is a very conscientious and collaborative colleague, who brings much wisdom and expertise to the Department. We look forward to working with her

C Saunders

BEN CAPALDI

Benjamin Capaldi is new to Sir Thomas Rich's School, and is a cover teacher. He also assists with extra curricular activities. He has just graduated from Bedfordshire University with a degree in sport and physical education. In the future, he would like to become a fully trained PE teacher, and he feels that working at Sir Thomas Rich's School is the perfect place to increase his experience.

M Sawant





YOUNG ENTERPRISE

Firstly, we brainstormed ideas each meeting and eliminated ideas which wouldn't be successful. These included heat stickers which showed what appliances within the household were hot, and a recipe book including recipes for students or those on a budget. We narrowed down our idea to three options: healthy juices, a baking box and a reflective hoodie designed for cyclists.

Finally, we decided to do a baking box for children. This was based on the recent press around The Great British Bake Off. We observed that many people of all ages around the country were very interested in watching the Bake Off, and there was lots of merchandise available. However, the merchandise was not targeted to a younger audience. Our target market was aimed at children aged 4 years and older. Through market research we knew that we needed a main character to represent our product. This is where we came up with Globi Bear. Globi Bear sits on a globe, hence the name, and we use this image to bring together the educational themes that are present within the box.

We opted to use cardboard boxes as a sustainable alternative for our packaging as 93% of corrugated cardboard is supplied by SFI a programme dedicated to sustainable forestry. We really wanted to make our product stand out being bright and colourful so we created a sleeve to put around the boxes to improve our packaging.

We felt our product would have the best sales in small gift shops, local cook shops and book stores. We composed a list of sellers to contact about the possibility of selling our product. Selling at markets would also be attainable for our handmade product and so our sales team did some research on the price of stalls. After ruling out some markets due to the high cost, we planned to set up a stall at the Bath Road Market, Cheltenham. We also approached several primary schools with our product, as this was our main age target market.

Ethical enterprising is an important part of any business, whether the company has just started out, or if they are a large multinational. The effect of our product on both the environment and on the health of our clients was a priority.



The tuck shop that we ran was an asset to our team, as it generated profit which could be reinvested into the company. However, we only ran it once a week, so that we stayed within the guidelines of our School's healthy eating policy.

During the development of our product, we did the majority of our communication either face to face or electronically, through email and social media. This reduced the amount of paper we had to print. It also worked more effectively as it was easy for all members

of the group to be able to easily contribute by commenting on ideas and pictures posted on the page. Also, we used social media for advertising, which cuts down on paper for flyers.

In the future we would like to find an alternative material to make the recipe cards and the cookie cutters. As our business grows, we would like to make the entire product recyclable, use local materials in order to develop, reducing our company's carbon foot print.

One strength of our business is that the decisions we have made have been supported by both primary and secondary market research through the use of online research and surveys completed by our target market. This has enabled us to ensure that all the decisions that we have made have been more successful with the public due to the product being a reflection of their needs and wants. This should hopefully lead to increased sales.

One weakness of our product is that the packaging we used was not ideally suited to the contents inside due to it being too big. This led to us having to bulk the box out with shredded paper due to the excess space available. We felt this compromised the aesthetics of the inside of the box. However, to do this as ethically as we could we used recycled shredded paper rather than wasting unused paper which would increase our unit costs as well as carbon footprint.

Globi Bears



YEAR12 BIOLOGY TRIP TO OXFORD UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

On the 20th of April 2016, Year 12 biology students embarked on an expedition to the Oxford University Museum of Natural History. The purpose of the trip was to demonstrate to students the process of evolution through looking at the animals that once roamed the planet millions of years ago. Much to our surprise, we discovered a living fossil roaming the halls of the museum in the form of Sir David Attenborough. Despite his unexpected appearance, he still managed to greet some of our students and was enthusiastic to meet our upcoming biologists.

Living organisms were also used in a hands-on demonstration to display that evolution is an ongoing process. By handling hissing cockroaches the differences in size of the species showed that the species was separating into a larger species and smaller species. This is because the smaller version of the cockroaches were able to damage the antenna of the larger ones. However, larger ones were able to fight off the competition. Due to the two extremes, the disadvantage of not being large enough to win a fight or not being small enough to damage the antennae of their opponents. This showed us that natural selection was in action as medium sized cockroaches are unable to compete for mates in the wild thus causing a fork in the species to appear.

As well as studying ancient organisms, students took an opportunity to visit the adjacent Pitt Rivers Museum. The visit to this anthropology museum was more for the sake of leisure than anything else; nonetheless it was an interesting experience offering an insight into all cultures worldwide through a variety of exhibits. AK-47s to fertility dolls were all on show; no part of world culture was left unnoticed.

By Paul Lipscombe



RAF MOTIVATIONAL LEADERSHIP COURSE

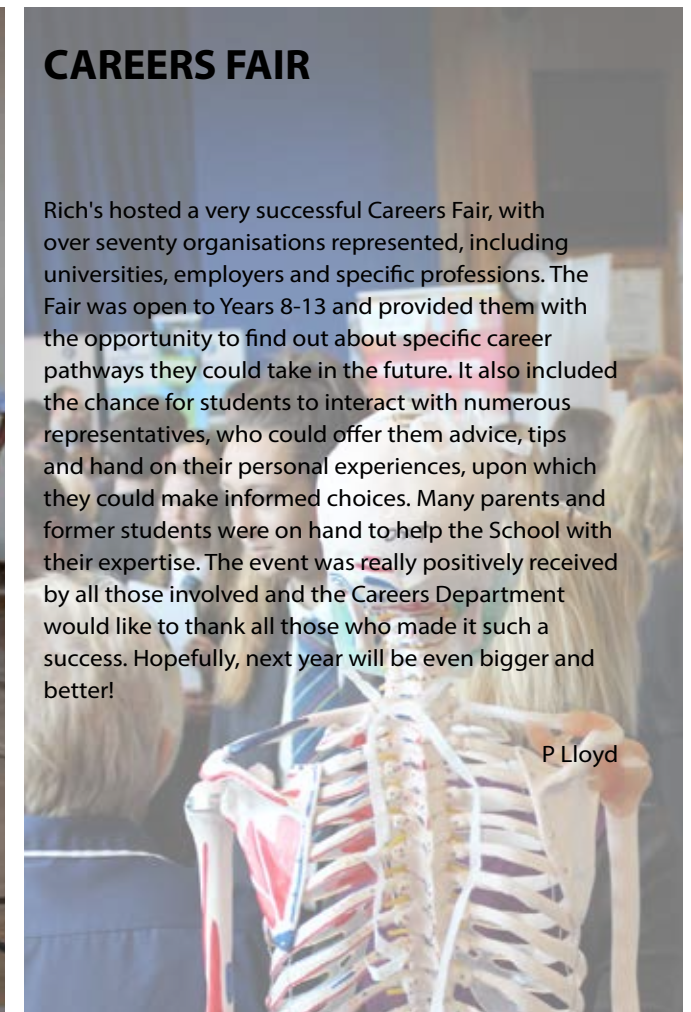
All the Students in Year 10 were allocated a session with the RAF Outreach Support Team, in which they undertook training involving practical and theoretical activities. The session was designed to promote core generic skills in preparation for the world of work. Our students had to undertake various practical challenges, developing their team building, problem solving and leadership skills. The tasks also encouraged competition, the ability to implement theoretical ideas into practice and draw upon the diverse range of talents that our students possess. It was hoped that all the students in Year 10 realised that academic excellence is essential, but key to success in the workplace is how this knowledge is applied effectively in the practical working environment.

P Lloyd

CAREERS FAIR

Rich's hosted a very successful Careers Fair, with over seventy organisations represented, including universities, employers and specific professions. The Fair was open to Years 8-13 and provided them with the opportunity to find out about specific career pathways they could take in the future. It also included the chance for students to interact with numerous representatives, who could offer them advice, tips and hand on their personal experiences, upon which they could make informed choices. Many parents and former students were on hand to help the School with their expertise. The event was really positively received by all those involved and the Careers Department would like to thank all those who made it such a success. Hopefully, next year will be even bigger and better!

P Lloyd





LAKESIDE





FRENCH EXCHANGE

Students from Year 10, 12 and 13 have this year enjoyed a very successful exchange with the Lycée Jules Supervielle in Oloron Sainte-Marie in the Pyrenees. Landing in Lourdes in mid-November we could only marvel at the stunning scenery bathed in brilliant sunshine under a blue sky. During the visit pupils experienced life in a French family, a few days in school and visited places of local interest - the Cave de Jurançon which produces exquisite French wine, the Fort du Portalet, an austere fort built into the rocks in the Aspe valley and, of course, the Lindt chocolate factory in Oloron itself was a must. During the visit friendships were formed and the return visit in March was anticipated with much excitement. Although we could not quite match the warm temperatures we experienced in France the weather did not let us down and the French pupils were able to enjoy a number of excursions including Bath and Stratford. The warm welcome to the group by the Right Worshipful, the Mayor of Gloucester, was a particular highlight and pupils very much enjoyed donning the civic regalia. The French Exchange offered pupils a unique educational experience and this would not have been possible without the support of our parents. We are truly indebted to them for their hospitality, their care of the exchange pupils and the efforts they made to ensure the pupils had a memorable and enjoyable stay.

Here are some of the comments from the pupils:

"I found the French Exchange really enjoyable. My favourite parts were the days out, when we visited famous places. I also enjoyed a football training session with my pen friend, Alex. It was a very good way of getting to know other French students. During the visit I was able to expand my knowledge of French and improve my speaking skills. I am now much more confident in speaking French."

"When I went to France for the French Exchange I didn't think it would improve my French as much as it did. My family was really friendly and I hope to see them again".

J Hewett



GERMAN WORK EXPERIENCE IN KOBLENZ

Work experience in Germany is offered to Year 12 students and represents an exciting and challenging opportunity for them to live and work in Germany. The work experience is organised by "Halsbury Travel" who have considerable experience in arranging placements and support the students during their stay. This year pupils travelled to Koblenz, an ancient city in central Germany, situated at the confluence of the Rhine and the Moselle.

J Hewett

"As soon as I heard about this opportunity, I knew it was something that I could only say yes to - it was just too great an opportunity to miss out on. It was definitely everything I was hoping for and more. For one thing, there was the independence that the programme allowed for, where we had to organise our route to our workplace, and the freedom of the evenings and looking after ourselves. I also really enjoyed and benefitted from the experience of spending a week in Germany listening to and speaking German the whole time for true immersion in the language and culture, which improved the accuracy of my listening and spontaneity of my speaking enormously. My personal placement was in a modern art museum, which was located in a really beautiful area at the Deutsches Eck, or German Corner, where the Rivers Rhine and Moselle meet. The experience was unrivalled to anything I could do in England, since it was a hugely accurate representation of what it would be like to actually work in Germany - a very real possibility for me. I did a lot of translating, often 4 to 6 hours a day, which gave me an insight into this career. The placement also provided various other engaging, highly concentrated work opportunities, including making a video about the museum for their website. Overall, I returned to England feeling incredibly satisfied and glad I had done this, as well as proud for taking on something that initially, I knew would be a challenge. A very fulfilling and unbelievably valuable experience."

Alex Pearce 12H

"In February half term, we went on a work experience trip to Koblenz in Germany. We were there for a week, and it helped all of us become more confident speaking German, but also improved our listening skills and vocabulary. I worked in a hotel, and at first was quite nervous going in, introducing myself and starting to work with colleagues and customers, but I actually understood much more German than I had been expecting, and spoke more and more as the week went on. The trip was also a good way to bond with the people in my class, and to become more independent."

Ieuan Fishlock 12L

"I really enjoyed my time in Germany, I feel a lot more confident speaking the language after returning. I worked for a week in a Kindergarten and I loved it. There was always something to do, whether playing with children or helping prepare the food. Everyone at my work place was so friendly and always keen to help me improve my language and communication skills. Finding my way around Germany by myself was in itself a big step. Although being in another country on your own was at first intimidating the independence was a great opportunity to prepare for the future and gave me time to experience the culture for myself, whether shopping, visiting German restaurants or sightseeing."

Sophie Rawlins 12H

"My week of work experience in Koblenz was a fantastic experience. It gave me a chance to practise speaking German in a real work environment, and I came back with a lot more confidence in speaking."

For my placement, I was working in a music shop, where I was repairing instruments and serving customers. Speaking German was sometimes challenging, but I was surprised how well I was able to cope."

I also enjoyed the increased level of independence on this trip in comparison to other trips I have been on with school, and I would definitely recommend it to anyone studying AS German next year."

Louis Horrell 12T



LINKS WITH PRIMARY SCHOOLS

The Modern Language department has been involved in a successful project led by the University of Gloucestershire which aims to improve the transition in MFL between primary and secondary schools. The department has been fortunate to work with very committed schools, Elmbridge Junior School, Hillview Primary School and Harewood Primary School. Under the direction of former STRS teacher, Mrs S. Khokher, primary teachers were able to improve their subject knowledge, explore resources and learn new and creative ways of teaching French. We are indebted to Mrs Khokher for establishing such friendly relationships with the schools and for her inspirational training.

In the Summer term it has been possible to further cement our links with Elmbridge Junior School through the work of our Year 9 language ambassadors. They have been visiting Elmbridge and helping Year 3 and 4 children with their French. Their visits have been very much appreciated by the pupils and staff and the ambassadors themselves have learned important new skills.

J Hewett



FOREIGN LANGUAGE PLAYS

This year the Language Department once again organised Modern Foreign Language plays for pupils in Years 7 to 10. It was a marvellous opportunity for our learners to be immersed in the foreign language and enjoy first class entertainment. The level of language used in the play, although challenging, was easy to follow due to the quality of the actors, selective use of language and carefully constructed dialogue and scenarios.

Onatti Productions must be congratulated on producing funny and interactive plays which appeal to the pupils. The response from the pupils was overwhelmingly positive.

"I enjoyed the play very much. I really liked how they involved the audience which was great fun."

"I thoroughly enjoyed the productions and I hope to see more soon."

"I enjoyed the play a lot. It was entertaining, especially when they brought the pupils into the scene. Furthermore the story was good and the French understandable."

J Hewett



GCSE SCIENCE LIVE!

Just before they left for study leave, some members of last year's Year 11 visited GCSE Science Live! (The exclamation mark is part of the name if you were wondering), a one day event based at Birmingham's Symphony Hall.

The event was structured with a number of talks from speakers in Symphony Hall. One talk was delivered each on subjects related to Biology, Chemistry and Physics, with a final talk delivered by the head GCSE examiner giving our students a useful insight into how the exams are marked.

R Birch



SKILLS SHOW 2016

On the 18th November, members of Year 12 and 13 visited the Skills Show at the NEC in Birmingham. The Skills Show is a large event which takes up no less than six halls in the NEC, and features companies from a number of industries, who provided careers advice, as well as details of their own apprenticeship schemes available for the Show. These were arranged into five areas:

- Hospitality and Lifestyle – including the beauty therapy; fitness; cooking; floristry; hairdressing; public services and forensics sectors.
- Construction and Infrastructure – including the bricklaying; carpentry; plastering; landscape gardening; plumbing; roofing; environmental science and architecture sectors.
- Engineering and Technology – including the architecture; mechanics; robotics; metalwork; manufacturing; aeronautical and rail sectors.
- IT and Enterprise – including the enterprise; accounting; network security; software; web; IT; law and telecommunications sectors.
- Media and Creative – including games design; music; jewellery making; journalism; graphic design; film & TV; radio and fashion sectors.

Alongside these companies, there were a number of national finals in competitions within many of the above sectors, which provided an interesting look into many industries for the students, enabling them to see what the industry would really be like. A number of talks were held, including one by the 2015 apprentice winner Joseph Valente, which, unsurprisingly, a number of students decided to attend!

Overall, there was a general consensus between students that the trip had been valuable, providing useful information for future careers, and helped them to aim their studies to what they want to do in the future.

R Birch





“to sleep, perchance to dream”

(A musical adaptation of A Midsummer's Night Dream)







On 11th December 2015, Sir Thomas Rich's School celebrated its fifth Jazz Night. However, the feel was different this time, because the night occurred earlier in the School calendar than on previous occasions, when it took place in February. This gave the evening a more Christmassy feel, with over half of the pieces played being Christmas themed, which worked very well and was balanced by the more traditional jazz pieces. Consequently, the school production was moved back later in the School calendar to February as a result of the clash.

The evening lasted for a duration of roughly two hours and featured a whole array of musical talent, including a performance by Charlie Hawkins and Charlie Ros which Mr Morgan particularly liked, along with many other items. Mr Morgan told me that he "likes to see the Jazz Band perform as they give him an enormous sense of pride in the School" and that "the performance was one that we can definitely be proud of". However, the Brass Band was merely a small part of the night's events, yet they did perform the final two items of the night, being "Auld Lang Syne" and "We wish you a Merry Christmas" which Mr Morgan said was "fantastic to conduct, due to there being a whole array of instruments".

The feedback from the parents regarding the evening was wholly positive, especially parents who are new to the School who perhaps hadn't quite anticipated the laid back atmosphere of the evening. After all, it is the atmosphere which epitomises the entire ethos of music at STRS – Mr Morgan described it as "the idea that we are all in it together and there to cheer each other on; to appreciate each-others talents". Mr Morgan also owned up to the fact that the evenings don't always go to plan and the jokes aren't always the best, but this adds to the whole atmosphere of the evening, with Mr Morgan saying it is "a little like Bruce Forsyth when he presented Strictly Come Dancing".

Mr Morgan has said that the Jazz night will continue to run in the future, but when it takes place in the calendar is still open to decision, with the option of a Summer jazz night as well.



Reflection

During my interview with Mr Morgan, I also managed to ask him a few questions about how music is important to him, along with what direction the School may move music in the future. Music is a huge part of Mr Morgan's life; when he was at school he was in the brass group, first and second orchestra, chamber choir and choir. However, he was "more enthusiastic than able", but he rightly argues that there is more to being involved in music than being good at it. Any experience in participating in music at school is good; you meet new people and develop a stronger relationship with friends and teachers. This is why when Mr Morgan joined Tommy's for the first time in 2007, he founded the brass group and it is still going strong nine years later. Performance is an important and exciting part of learning, in Mr Morgan's books, with strong elements of comradeship and pride involved and it is exceedingly important that this is not omitted from education, as many schools seem to be moving towards exam factory status.

Regarding music as a whole at STRS, the musicians are "no stronger or no weaker this year than in previous years". However, students do progress in their talents immensely in their time at Tommy's, therefore, it is such a shame to see them leave after seven years of contributions. To improve music at the School, Mr Morgan suggests having more groups in the music department (the more the better) and to bring out those who play their instruments in secret and therefore do not obtain the opportunity to showcase their talents. However, music at Tommy's has flourished in recent years and will continue to do so, with Mr Morgan's proudest musical event at STRS occurring at the 50th Anniversary Cathedral service in 2014, where the "choir sung beautifully and the brass band were impeccable". It was most certainly a proud day to be a Richian, and there will undoubtedly be many more of these days to come.

Leo Ashby





70 YEARS OF RUGBY CELEBRATION

On Saturday 19th March 2016 in conjunction with the 350th celebrations of the School's founding, we celebrated the 70th year Sir Thomas Rich's first starting playing rugby. In the morning, House rugby matches and an Old Boys tournament was organised. There were representatives from years as far back as 1984, with the eventual winners being the 2013-14 team. The tournament was initially a contact one but due to a few sore bodies after the first few games, it was soon altered to touch rugby rules! It was great to see so many alumni back supporting the School and so many parents of present and past pupils attending showing their connection with this great School.

In the afternoon the u16s took on Gloucestershire u16s. In a fantastic game, which swayed back and forth Rich's u16s defeated the County 24-17 with tries from Daniel Akiat, Matthew Webster, Henry McCloskey and Kai Hall. The 1st XV then took on Gloucestershire u18s. However, early into proceedings, a nasty injury to Rich's full back Jack Tyrer caused the game to be moved to a different pitch but the boys regrouped to record a famous win 18-12 with tries from Rhys Moore and Peter Carter, Carter also added two penalties and a conversion. Jack was fine afterwards but a fractured knee cap unfortunately ruled him out of the cricket season!

In the evening, there was a black tie dinner and disco and it was great to see over 350 old boys, some who left as far back as the 1950s, parents and pupils at the event. Here's to another 70 years of rugby at Rich's.





There are very few experiences that can truly be described as life changing; however for the nineteen members of the school community who were privileged enough to visit Uganda this Summer, this wouldn't be an exaggeration. From the moment that our plane touched down in Entebbe, any preconceptions that we had signed up for a jolly Summer holiday were immediately dispelled. The first man we saw with a rifle shocked us all; by the end of the trip it was a sight we were well used to, and sometimes grateful for.

STRS has a strong link with PMM Girls' School in Jinja, Uganda, sponsoring 20 of the poorest students, reflecting the founding ethos of Tommies itself. It is a link we are constantly reminded of during the lower years at School, but something we perhaps don't fully appreciate, until the chance of visiting is offered to sixth formers.

Our visit began with nearly 40 hours of travel to the hotel that would be our base for the first week. The first thing we noticed upon entering our rooms was the mosquito nets strung above our beds, offering a stark reminder that the antimalarial tablets we were taking were serving a very real purpose.

The first week of our trip was spent at PMM School, where an intense programme had been laid on for us, with a combination of teaching, sports and classroom painting. We had also prepared a performance of Romeo and Juliet to commemorate the four-hundredth anniversary of Shakespeare's death, which was performed during the Wednesday afternoon music, dance and drama session. In a novel twist on the original plot, the residents of Verona had unfortunately been hit by a severe case of 'Uganda Belly', leading to some very sharp exits from the stage. Despite this, the afternoon was really great fun, and helped to strengthen the already close relationship we had made with the students. Our time in Jinja was rounded off with a dinner prepared in our honour by the School. We ate alongside teachers and sponsored girls, some of whom had been generous enough to open up their homes for us to visit earlier in the week, offering us food and handmade paper jewellery; an experience we all found extremely humbling.

Such emotions were also very much felt during our two visits to a project in Jinja called GI ASCO (Get Involved in African Street Children's Organisation). Run by Gerald and his wife, it helps young boys who do not have a safe home to live in. It was amazing to see how excited the boys were to welcome us into their home. We shared life experiences and ambitions, played football and had our first taste of posho and beans, a typical and rather challenging local meal, which we were to eat many more times before we left Uganda. I was surprised at the positivity of these young people who have so little and who were so grateful for us even taking the time to stop by. It helped us all to put our 'first-world' problems into perspective, something that many of us found genuinely and deeply moving.

The second week of the trip was spent visiting two national parks and a rhino sanctuary, all of which emphasised the ongoing need for robust conservation work in Africa. It also provided the opportunity for us to see the amazing wildlife close up in its natural habitat. We were lucky enough to see elephants, giraffes, buffalo, hyenas, as well as what our guide described as one of the best lion sightings he had ever experienced.

Heading home at the end of a challenging, tiring but ultimately exhilarating and mind-broadening two weeks, we barely noticed the armed guards at the airport. While we were all glad to have a warm shower and to sleep in our own beds, the comfortable life we are so used to will be something we never take for granted again.

J Jollans

DUKE OF EDINBURGH - GOLD AND SILVER



In the Autumn of 2016 from Thursday 22nd to Monday 27th of September the STRS Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Expeditions took place. On the trip there were three gold groups, one with five boys, one with four girls and two boys and one with four boys as well as a Silver Group with four boys and three girls. We went to school on the Thursday and at the end of the day we drove to Cadarn for the night before we set out early on the Friday morning.

Overall the trip was an amazing experience; the beauty of the Brecon Beacons is something to admire and is unparalleled this side of the Scottish border. The walking was, obviously, very exhausting, with at least eight hours out each day and an average distance of 20km per day making for a nice total of 80km over the whole trip. The weather was surprisingly nice on Friday and Saturday, followed by some fairly typical Welsh weather to top it off on Sunday and Monday with pretty much constant heavy rain and fog for both days.

The best bits of the trip were, in my opinion, the fantastic views from top of the mountains. On Friday on top of Mynydd Troed the views into the surrounding valleys were fantastic, despite the wind, with its steeply sloping sides and flattened top, the views from the edge gave us a 300m drop on all sides down.

Secondly were the views from along the Dragons Back with us climbing 350m to a plateau curving round for 13km. The views from here were very interesting, with us following the path, we passed multiple valleys, each with their own individual characteristics as well as some incredibly interesting rock and land formations for our geological aim.

From this experience I believe I have received some invaluable skills; the abilities to work as a team and to lead are the most prominent two. In order to manage four days in the rain and cramped, wet and cold tents; myself and my group had to rub together very well defeating each obstacle to the best of our abilities together. In order to lead we each questioned the direction and routing of the person taking lead in order to make sure that we were headed the correct way and we took it in turns to navigate and map through the mountains. Without our individual leadership and map reading skills we would have had a considerably higher chance of getting lost over the weekend. We have also learnt persistence and camping skills with us having to persevere through all sorts of weather and pitch tents and cook, not always particularly appetising meals for tea and breakfast, every day of the trip.

Tim Hubbard



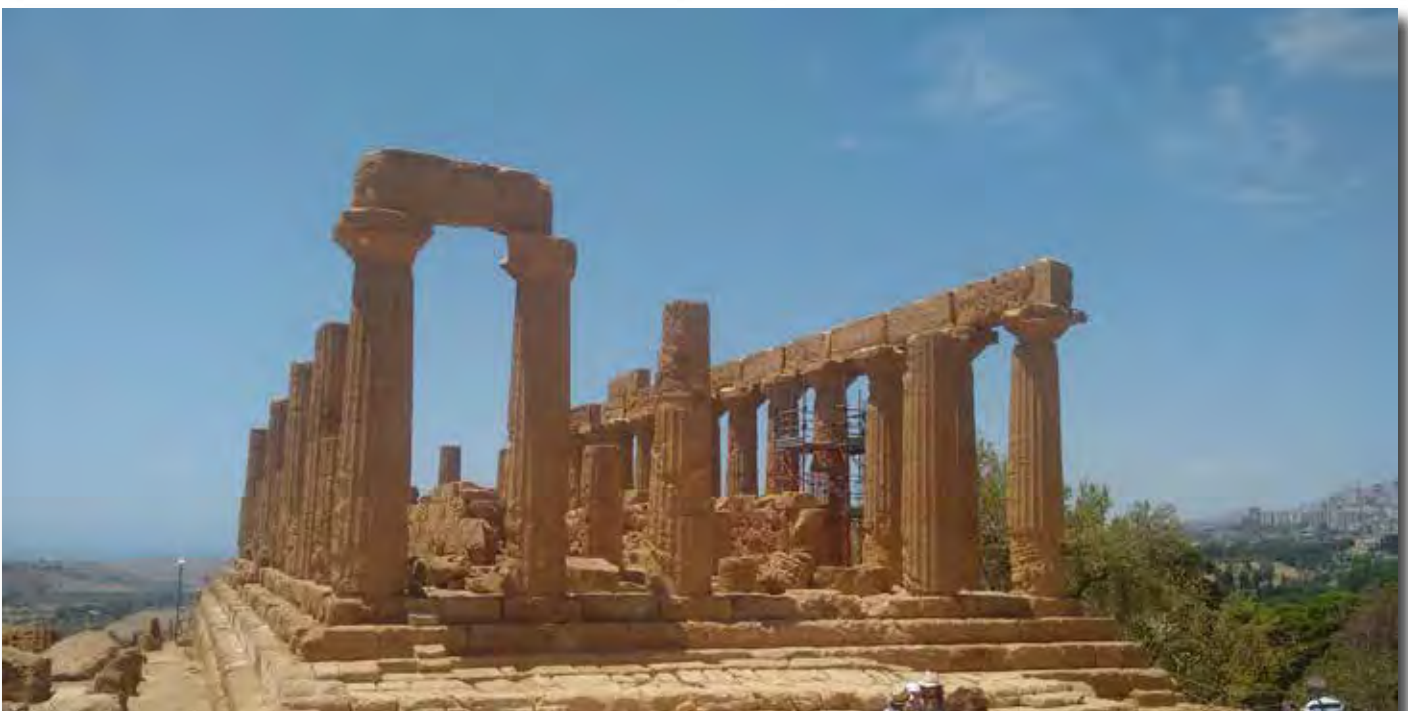
GEOGRAPHY AND LANGUAGES TRIP TO SICILY

At 2:00am in the morning on 21st July 2016 a number of pupils from Year 9 to Year 12 accompanied Mr Powell and our Headmaster, Mr Morgan, to Sicily. Whilst some (including me) were worried that the very early starts would continue for the rest of the trip, many were also looking forward to escaping the rain and misery of the great British summer for the sunnier skies of South Italy.

Visits included those to the Valley of the Temples, free time in local town shopping areas and near to the top of Mount Etna, providing activities to suit a wide range of interests throughout the trip.

Students found the trip great overall, with many saying that it was a worthwhile experience. From the small things, such as the fun of trying to get through the language barrier, to the large amount of freedom on the trip, I know it was worthwhile for me and will provide long lasting memories, despite the early start!

Ryan Birch





BRISTOL ART TRIP

On Wednesday 28th September the Year 12 and 13 art students set off on the Bristol art residential. On arrival at the docks we visited the M-Shed and discovered the history of Bristol and its docking trade. We then had an afternoon session at the Bristol School of Art, in which we took part in a practical workshop and had a tour of the Art School and the courses on offer. In the evening we made a visit to Watershed Arthouse cinema.

The next day we explored the Cathedral for drawing inspiration and later went on a street art tour where we were shown examples of graffiti from Banksy, STIK, Inky and other influential graffiti artists. The serene and ancient Cathedral was starkly juxtaposed with the popular and colourful street art graffiti culture in Bristol. Later that day we visited Bristol Museum and Gallery and the Clifton Suspension Bridge; the inspiring architectural piece influenced our work and correlated with the previous wire drawing at the Art School.

On the Friday we attended an exhibition by Daphne Wright at the Arnolfini Gallery. The modern sculpture contrasted with the traditional painting we had seen earlier at other art galleries. Overall the art trip offered a wide range of inspiration for everyone's individual artistic style. I really enjoyed the experience and it has influenced my coursework.

Our residential trip to Bristol this September provided an excellent start to the A2 year of art. It benefitted my own work through the wide array of locations and other areas we visited over the duration of the trip. As with last year in St. Ives, we were given freedom to explore a range of locations to gather inspiration for our project work, taking in information from as many sources as possible.

Despite the trip only covering three full days, each day was packed with visits and exercises that would allow us to develop our artistic understanding of the area. We visited galleries such as the Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, showcasing classical and renaissance works, and the Arnolfini, currently showcasing a much more modern artist in Daphne Wright; which I believe highlights the contrast of subject matter we experienced. Personally, the M Shed founded a lot of inspiration for the concepts I am working with, however the Street Art Tour was just as inviting and provided just as much inspiration.

The trip was also a period to enjoy with my peers, from visiting the Arthouse Cinema, to discussing how our artwork may continue and develop. It was also beneficial I believe to help the Year 12s with the beginnings of their A-level course, in structuring their first project and deciding on which springboard to pursue.

C Delhanty

B Williams



AMSTERDAM 2016

It was early in the morning on Saturday 17th September when 12 Sir Thomas Rich's students, along with Mrs Thomas and Mr O'Neil, set out on their voyage to Amsterdam, flying from Birmingham later on in the morning. We would only be staying two nights in Amsterdam however, since on the third day we would be travelling to The Hague for the final two days of the trip.

Sitting in the minibus on the way to the airport, many of us had mixed emotions about the trip. First of all, we were planning on visiting two art museums, something that many of us hadn't done before. What would they be like? Also, one visit required us to show our passports on entry, leaving some to worry about how tight the security would be.

The first night was filled with a boat ride around the canals of Amsterdam. During the remainder of our stay within the city, we visited the Rijksmuseum (one of the Art Museums) and the Anne Frank House and Museum. We also took part in a walking tour around Amsterdam, with a particularly enthusiastic tour guide helping to make the tour more interesting for the group.

On the way to The Hague, we stopped off at the Ajax football stadium on the outskirts of Amsterdam. For many this was the highlight of the trip, especially for football fans, as on our tour around the stadium the group were able to visit the Ajax changing rooms as well as the press conference room.

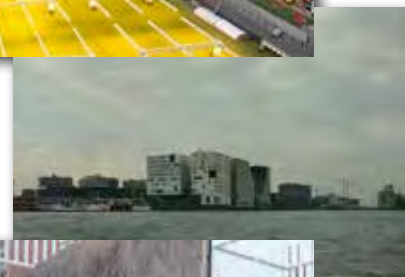
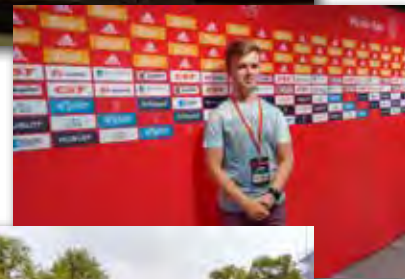
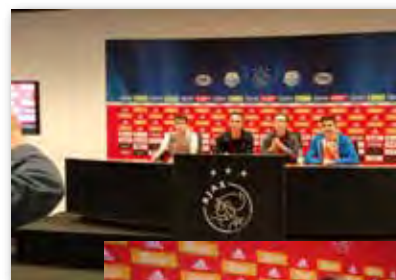
Whilst in The Hague, we were lucky enough to watch the Prinsjesdag celebrations. This is essentially the annual opening of the Dutch Parliament, where celebrations similar to our Trooping the Colour take place, with military processions as well as the Dutch King being paraded on his way to the Parliament Buildings.

Other activities in The Hague included a visit to the Mauritshuis Museum, our second art museum of the trip, and the Peace Palace. The Peace Palace is composed of two international courts; the International Court of Justice and the Permanent Court of Arbitration, which are essentially places where countries can visit to sort out disputes with other countries. Whilst we were unable to get inside these courts (since they were in session), we could visit the library attached to the Palace, which holds a record of many thousands of books on international law and justice. On the final day of the trip, we took part in a peace conference as part of the International Day of Peace celebrations. A number of different people from all over the world and various different backgrounds attended, including one person who worked for the United Nations. The afternoon worked with a number of different talks taking place throughout the day, with someone leading these talks and then a small debate ensuing.

All of those who had attended the conference were given the opportunity to head up their own talks, with three Rich's students volunteering to lead two talks on two very different subjects of their choosing. These subjects led to some interesting debates, putting a different view on peace and just showing what a complicated issue it is.

Returning home late on Wednesday night, our first fears had not been realised, since all of the group had found the visits interesting. As a result, we all believed that it had been a worthwhile trip.

Ryan Birch

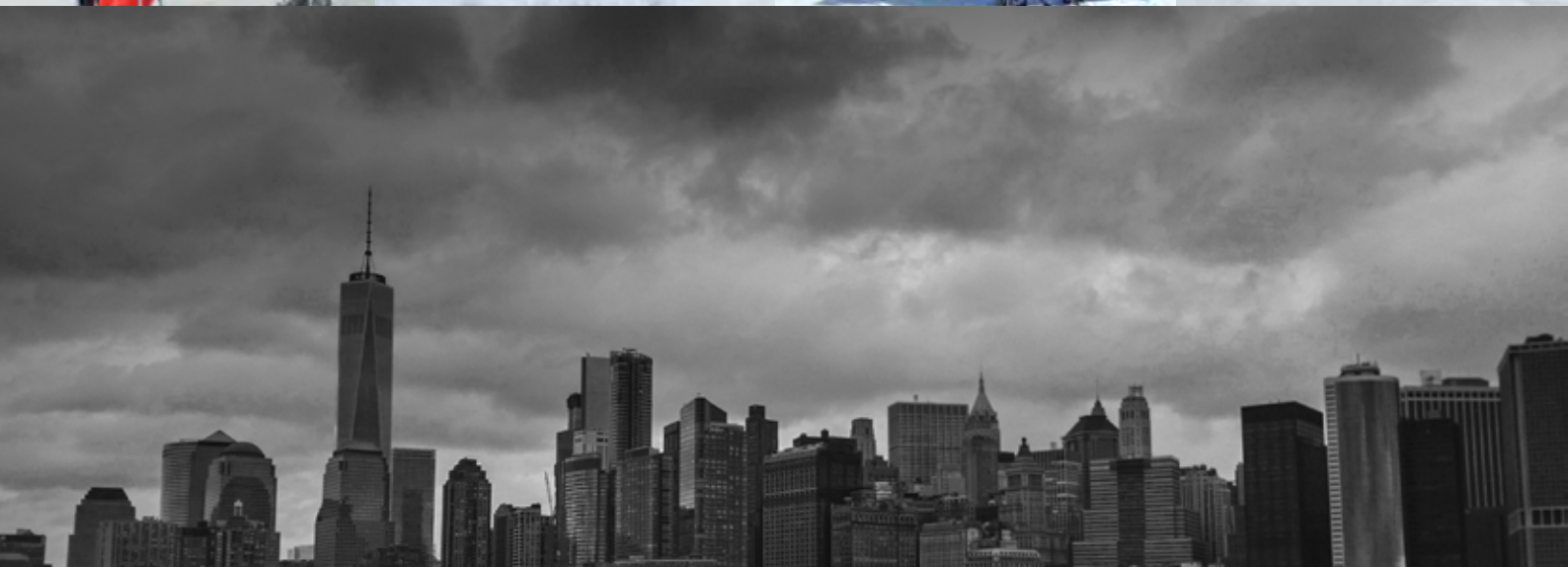




USA SKI TRIP 2016

This year saw the first STRS ski trip to visit America. After a long flight over the Atlantic Ocean, and another bus ride we arrived in Vermont. The first four days of the trip saw the pupils and staff up and down the mountains, with some experienced skiers, some beginners and some expert snowboarding from Mr Birchall and Mr Davies. After an exceptional four days skiing, some tears from instructors, and more chicken tenders than has been consumed before, it was time to set off to the Big Apple. Activities included heading to the top of the Rockafella, a walk over Brooklyn Bridge, visiting Ground Zero, a trip to Liberty Island, and a stroll around Wall Street. All in all, a very well organised, and well enjoyed trip by all.

G Angell







350TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

On 26th of May, we asked the School's Headmaster, Mr Morgan for some words on the Cathedral Service, the importance of celebrating events like these, and how he sees the school developing in the future.

Firstly, we asked how the School has changed over Mr Morgan's tenure as Headmaster. He first emphasised the major improvements in facilities over recent years – new areas such as the 6th form centre and food tech block have allowed for the increase in students, as well as giving more space to students, especially with the new LRC vastly improving the amount of space afforded for quiet private study time. He also mentioned how the School's overall appearance has been updated, with new boilers, roofs and changing rooms (not to mention the famous IKEA-approved cladding). And of course, the School's transition into an Academy in 2010, and the subsequent increase in pupils, especially in the 6th form deserves mention. Mr Morgan praised the general improvement in uniform and appearance of pupils.

However, Mr Morgan retained that, despite the School's appearance changing significantly during his time as Headmaster, the School's reputation as a centre of excellence has been a constant, as well as the upholding of the School's four stated aims:

- High standards of work
- High standards of behaviour
- High standards of extra-curricular achievement and range of activities
- High standards of support and guidance for pupils

Notably, the fourth of these was added by Mr Morgan himself, as he felt a need to reinforce the community or social aspect of the "Tommies' experience". He has described the School as "like a family" and emphasised to us the importance of healthy student-teacher relationships in achieving excellence.

We asked Mr Morgan what it was like on a personal level as Headmaster of such a long-standing institution, and how he saw himself as a leader. He mentioned the School's up-and-down past – citing a past inspection report along the lines of "all students worse on exit" – and explained that he sees the School as being "in as good a shape now as ever". Mr Morgan referred to Mr Stocks' tenure in the 60s for which saw the school move to its current location as pivotal in the School's history.

Also we asked about the anniversary service on the 26th of May, and its significance. Mr Morgan told us that the venue – Gloucester Cathedral – had major symbolic power. As well as giving thanks to God for the School and the work of Sir Thomas Rich those 350 years' ago, and public celebration of our heritage, he described the service as a time to reflect on, and to give thanks for, the past events in the School's history. He pointed out that, even to non-Christians, the Cathedral had some significance as a place of grandeur and ceremony, with its own history and heritage.

As for the events of the service, comparisons were made with 2014's service celebrating 50 years since moving to the present site, the recent 70 years celebrations of STRS rugby – namely the singing of the Tommies Psalm, and the affirmation vows, in which a Bishop asked Mr Morgan to continue his work for the School.

We finally asked for some words on how he saw the School progressing in the future, which prompted a passionate rhetoric centred on how Mr Morgan saw his focus as continuing to improve in ways similar to those explained earlier, while maintaining the current ethos – not valuing one subject or discipline over another. He mentioned some of the qualities he values in the current students, and wants to retain in future – such as public-spiritedness, confidence, and an interest in learning as a whole. Summarily he said that he wanted students to "love learning something". He maintained the importance of events like the upcoming Cathedral service, as well as the need to remain relevant while staying committed to "what's important".

As an extension to the above question, we asked what Mr Morgan thought about the current political situation, with schools seeing a general decrease in funding. Some concerns were expressed about schools being asked to do "more with less" and the possibility of the School reaching a "breaking point". He was passionate that schools cannot be reduced to just exam results and league tables, and that the most important thing is more intangible – Mr Morgan sees the school as about "young people developing interests, friends, and knowledge – like an adventure".

Finley Lewis

ANNIVERSARY



Mallards Pike

MALLARDS PIKE

In my first term of starting at Sir Thomas Rich's school, all students were invited to take part in an activities day at Mallards Pike in the Forest of Dean, as a method of getting all students, new and old, to get to know each other. In my opinion, the day was a resounding success!

Sitting on the coach, my friends and I chatted about the activities that awaited us at Mallards Pike – especially the anxiety we experienced at the thought of falling into the lake during the raft building activity! I had been looking forward to this day since receiving the letter about the trip and as the coach approached Mallards Pike, I was eager to start the day.

Firstly, each tutor group that attended the day was divided into smaller groups which we spent the rest of the day in. To begin with, we played games that helped us to feel less uncomfortable around each other. Despite the fact that they were initially very embarrassing, they undoubtedly made the rest of the day less awkward! One of the games we played involved a web made of rope, raised above the ground, which each member of our team had to fit through. Being one of the shorter members of our team, I had to be lifted up and through the gap in the web. This ended with me falling onto the ground.

The second activity we took part in was orienteering. This was by far the most difficult activity of the day, meaning that cooperation was necessary in order for our team to be successful. We explored Mallards Pike together, searching for a specific tree with a red mark on it, in a forest of trees which looked identical.

The final activity (and my favourite activity!) was the raft building. I had heard that many people had fallen into the lake earlier that day, and I was extremely worried that I would become one of those unlucky people. My worries were well-founded – as soon as I stepped on to the raft I fell straight in! Despite the fact that our raft was slowly breaking apart, our team made it to the end – to everyone's surprise.

At the end of the day, we piled onto the coach, and I sat with people who had not known my name earlier that day, laughing and joking about our somewhat embarrassing experiences.

It was a truly spectacular day, and I don't believe that there is a better way of getting to know new people.

Maggie Sawant



CAMBRIDGE ENGLISH ESSAY COMPETITION

During February 2016, Lawrence White and I embarked on an impossible odyssey. We were tasked with competing in the Corpus Christi Cambridge Essay Writing Competition, and (from a variety of equally difficult questions) we chose to discuss politics in a novel of our choice. Lawrence chose the novel 'Brave New World' (1931), the dystopian novel by Aldous Huxley, whilst I wrote about 'Hard Times' (1854) by Charles Dickens; the social protest novel which has an undoubtedly ironic title given the circumstances. Ultimately, we are still waiting for a response, although with each passing minute the likelihood of victory is disappearing. While we may not win, this was undoubtedly an experience we'll never forget. The essay was undeniably of the utmost difficulty, but in the face of adversity, we persevered and have gained a useful tool in inflating our personal statements (as well as our egos).

Sam Jones

Sam:

The treatment of workers and the class struggle is presented as a central theme of the novel by Dickens. The union representative at Bounderby's factory, Slackbridge, refers to workers as, 'the slaves of an iron-handed and grinding despotism.' The metaphor of workers being 'slaves' suggests that they are being ruled over like animals with no authority over themselves, by the wealthy and upper classes. This is supported by the fact that workers are referred to as 'hands' throughout the novel, implying that they are similar to finely tuned automation, as it suggests they are used primarily for manual labour, rather than thinking. Slackbridge intends to invoke revolt against the upper classes from the workers, as he implies that the upper classes are tyrannical in their absolute power over the working classes through the use of the words 'iron-handed' and 'despotism.' This is Dickens' interpretation of Chartism which was a working class movement for political reform – primarily to gain the vote for working class men. This movement was supported by the novel 'Sybil' (1845), by Benjamin Disraeli, which features a factory in which workers are treated well by their employers, that is described as 'infinitely beneficial.' However, while Dickens does sympathise with the plight of workers, he is critical of Chartism itself, through the exiling of Stephen Blackpool, who refuses to support the union. In response, Slackbridge says, 'Judas Iscariot existed and Castlereagh existed and this man exists!' before casting Blackpool out. The fact that Blackpool is compared to a man who betrayed the son of God, and a politician who was known for harsh domestic policies, is indicative of the extremism of the unions. Dickens is critical of unions placing their own importance over workers' problems at the time, and solutions to the conflict with the wealthy. The playwright George Bernard Shaw is critical of Dickens' view of the unions, describing Slackbridge as, 'a mere figment of middle-class imagination,' as he seems to be unrealistically aggressive. However, I would argue that the unions of the time were aggressive, given that violence between them and the government was not rare. An example would be the Preston Strike of 1842, in which four men died, whilst Elizabeth Gaskell's 'North and South' (1855), also shows the dangers of conflict between workers and the wealthy.

Through Blackpool, Dickens offers a solution to this conflict by writing, 'agreeing fur to mak one side unnat'rally awlus and for ever right, and toother side unnat'rally awlus and for ever wrong, will never, never do't,' but he is exiled by Bounderby also. In this regard, Dickens appears to be suggesting that both the wealthy and the unions are to blame for the class struggle, and that they are both unwilling to diplomatically solve their issues.

Lawrence:

I believe that the Totalitarian regime in 'Brave New World' is effective as it prevents the coexistence of any ideas which threaten it. During John and Mustapha Mond's discussion towards the end of the novel, John claims the right to 'be unhappy' and to 'be free.' Mond then allows John to continue living in society even though he could promote subversive ideas. The end result of this is John's suicide. Although tragic for the reader, I believe John's suicide to be the ultimate symbol of why this government form is effective. He is driven to suicide by the constant interference of society in his attempts to live peacefully. These interferences are not directly caused by the government, but are caused by intolerance of the people to accept his idea of solitude. Their inquisitiveness manifests itself into an attack on John's ideals to the point where he can't survive such intolerance any longer. Therefore, I believe Mond allowed John to 'claim' these ideas as he knew that the people would seek out and destroy them on their own. The government's control over the people is so great that the populace and government have the same view on society. As a consequence, the government is effective as it has been able to achieve such a level of absolute control over the populace that they are nothing more than an extension of the government itself. I would further argue that the effectiveness of this government form is the one of the reasons 'Brave New World' is relevant in 21st century politics. Already in our modern society, we can see evidence of attempts to gain total control over populations through psychological efforts. This can probably be seen most prominently with the CCP (Chinese Communist Party) in China and the use of widespread internet censorship to encourage the populace to accept the 'socially beneficial view.' Huxley's novel provides a warning as to how difficult it could be to regain our humanity and individuality if we allow such oppressive systems of government to become widespread. We should never become so focussed on global stability that we cast aside human emotions as an irrelevance. These are the parts of ourselves which make us desire liberty. Huxley shows that without these, we are no different to infinitely obedient machines and there becomes no limit to government power. I believe my view is summed up well by Bernard who says: "I'd rather be myself... Myself and nasty. Not somebody else, however jolly."

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Over the last several weeks, the boys on the resistant materials course have been spending a large amount of time in the workshops, busily constructing their final products for their GCSE controlled assessment work. The standard of practical work has been extremely high this year, with all students producing professional quality products. The type of items being made has been varied; from bee habitats, gaming chairs, seats, storage boxes, to model railway cabinets. All students are incredibly proud of their practical achievements and have displayed an excellent array of skills in resistant materials.

Elsewhere in D&T, new projects have been devised for Key Stage 3 students in the area of resistant materials. In Year 7, students will now get to design and make an acoustic mobile phone speaker, using natural woods. In Year 8, students will develop their ergonomic design skills making the 'Really Useful Tool', and in Year 9 their design skills are put to the test working with the theme of 'Steam Punk' to create a bespoke clock. All the new projects continue to develop the practical skills of working in woods, metals and plastics, as well as incorporating modern CAD CAM into the design and manufacture of the items.



C Bream

RIBI TECHNOLOGY TOURNAMENT 2016

On 2nd July 2016, no less than nine members of last year's Year 10 took part in the RIBI technology tournament held at Gloucestershire College's Oxstalls Campus.

During the tournament, the students worked in teams of three to produce a model of a bridge. One half of this bridge needed to lift or rotate to allow boats to pass through it. The other half remained fixed in one position, however, both parts of the bridge had to be strong enough to allow the passage of a car over the top, adding to the challenge for the students.

All three of the teams produced models which performed well at the task they were designed for. One team impressed the judges with their bridge to gain 3rd prize in the tournament.

This was a significant achievement, especially when considering the tough competition they faced from eight other schools from across the county.

C Bream

EU DEBATE

'Out' Campaign Demolished At Sir Thomas Rich's EU Debate

On 28th April, more than one hundred pupils and staff attended the much anticipated Sir Thomas Rich's EU Debate. Tensions were running high as both teams clashed over the issue that has dominated Britain over the last few months. Each team consisted of three members. For the 'in' team: Lawrence White, Will McMahon and the President of the Debating Society, Sam Jones. However, the 'out' team consisted of Ed Adamson (formerly Miliband), Joe Grey and Will Barradell-Black, whilst Mrs Saunders moderated the debate. After the opening statements for each team were given by sassy Sam and enthusiastic Ed, the arguments were put to the floor, and battle ensued. Highlights included heckling from known radical right-winger Elliott Richards-Good, Joe Grey believing that leaving the EU would stop boats crossing the English Channel, and clashes over the role of deregulation and corporate power in the EU.

But of course, the most memorable moment was Ed Adamson's declaration that 'Britain should get its own currency.' This might explain the audience vote at the end of the debate, with the 'in' campaign winning approximately 90% of the vote. Despite his crushing defeat, the debate was still competitive according to Ed, although he also said 'I will never debate again.' However, the debate was largely based in fact, and both sides maintained their dignity, with Lawrence saying, 'we believe we have expanded the knowledge of the audience.' Another debate is due to be held in July, with any ideas regarding topics for subsequent debates to be directed at any existing member of the Debating Society.

Sam Jones

From the response of the underdogs

Undeniably beaten but unquestionably skilled, the 'leave' EU team fought hard and fair for the 40 minute debate. With accurate use of statistics and an unrivalled ability to motivate the audience, Ed Adamson, Joe Grey and Will Barradell-Black soldiered on through a number of complicated questions. Sadly, the fear of the unknown and individualism outweighed the facts for the audience. On 23rd June, the leave campaign will win for exactly the same reason that the Greeks beat the Persians at Marathon; because they are fighting for an outdated, absolutist ideology and we are fighting for freedom.

Ed Adamson

On 23rd of June, the British people voted to leave the European Union – by a narrow margin. The nation was - and still is – very much divided, between the 'Brexiters' and the 'remainers'. Personally, I am part of the 'remain' camp, and am adamant that Britain should remain a member of the EU. I am deeply saddened by the country's decision and feel that the younger generation will lose a number of opportunities.

Upon leaving the EU, there is the possibility that it will be more difficult to live and work in EU member countries. As a Spanish student, this particularly badly affects me, as I would like to live in Spain, to experience the culture and deepen my knowledge of the language.

Additionally, leaving the EU may have a detrimental effect upon the environment. In the past, the EU has had many successes in developing world-leading legislation on a range of environmental issues, which have helped to tackle water and air pollution and protect endangered species. In addition, the EU has enforced strict regulations on the use of genetically modified crops and chemicals which may be potentially dangerous. As I am very interested in a career in environmental protection, the fact that it may be more difficult to pass legislation which helps to protect the environment, for example, to combat climate change, worries me deeply.

The 'free movement of people' and the resulting migration to the UK from EU countries was a major factor which influenced many people's decision to leave the EU. As a geography student, I feel that the benefits of migration outweigh the negatives, both in economic terms and social terms, because I value cultural diversity and a multicultural society.

What I find most frustrating about this decision is that, as the world seems to be becoming more interconnected and the people in the world seem to be more equal, Britain has decided to move against this global change and shut itself off from the rest of the world. My overriding concern is that other western countries may follow this pattern, at a time when unity is needed the most.

Maggie Sawant

HOW COULD THE PRESIDENT TRUMP AFFECT US?

Early November saw the US presidential election, with the usual build up on the news to get all of us excited (or some may say completely bored) in the lead up to the event. I would be surprised if no one didn't know the result by now, but how would Donald Trump as the next US president affect the UK? It is clear that the president will have some effect on the UK, since the US is a large ally of the UK, but it is not yet clear how large an impact it will have.

One major area where Trump could have an impact is the Economy of our country. Past records have shown that the US economy has a large impact on our own. One example of this was the 2008/9 financial crisis, when a large slump in the US economy was part of the reason for the economic downturn in the UK soon after.

Trump has expressed wishes to reduce the tax rates for those on the highest incomes, and increase regulation on trade with China. The increase in regulation of Chinese trade could lead to increased prices also under Trump's policies, with less demand for Chinese products meaning that Chinese firms increase prices in other countries to remain profitable. This could therefore mean that our money may not go as far in the future.

However, there are suggestions that Trump could be good for the US economy. One area of particular note is the US coal mining industry, which in recent decades has been declining, much like it did in the UK in the 1960's and 1970's. However, there are still vast coal reserves within the country. Trump has expressed his wish to try and help this industry to try and return it to health. This could therefore increase the availability of coal into the market, which could be of benefit to the UK, since an increase in supply would therefore increase availability and help to de inflate prices.

It has also been noted that Trump's reluctance to global warming could see the USA pull out of the Paris Agreement, which gives a structured plan on how to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions, and was only signed last year. This is worrying for the world over, since the USA is one of the world's largest greenhouse gas emitters, and is, of course, a major global power.

Therefore, the work that has been done to try and reduce the threat of global warming could very easily be undone. This could cause further climate change within the UK within the future, and halt the work that is current work that is being done to reduce our environmental impact as a result.

Terrorism is a major issue at present, with the so called 'Islamic State' currently (at time of writing) in fierce fighting against opposition forces in Iraq and Syria. Trump has used what some may consider as isolationist attitudes, stating that the country should focus more on protecting its own border rather than other countries. This is potentially significant, since it would mean that the help delivered to local forces opposing so called 'Islamic State' may not be available within the future, allowing them to regroup rebuild, and possibly become an even bigger threat to the UK.

Trump has so far used twitter as his main form of communication, a method that has received mixed reactions from leaders around the world. In recent weeks, trump has used Twitter to express his views about allegations of election fixing against Russia. In these tweets, he expressed support for Russia, trying to dismiss the allegations, going against the official American intelligence in the Process. Some may like this method of communication, since it allows the president to speak his mind. However, there is also the risk that president Trump could say something that would have more serious impacts on relations between Russia and the USA. However, it remains to be seen as to what will be done to try and control this risk.

These are just a few potential impacts Trumps' new presidency. However, the word potential is important in that last sentence. A lot can happen in 4 years, so you never know what might occur. We have already seen Trump go back on some of his statements, so who knows what he might do next? Only Trump knows what he wants to do, since we haven't yet developed the technology to read minds! As a result, only time will tell whether the election of Trump has a positive or negative effect on the USA, the UK and the world.

R Birch



POETRY WORKSHOP

On Tuesday 12th July, we were privileged to be visited by the professional poet, Claire Williamson. She was recommended to us by the Poetry Society as a contemporary published poet who also had extensive experience leading workshops in a range of different settings, from schools to prisons and hospitals. She led three really lively and varied workshops for our most able writers in Years 7 and 8 and for our A Level Literature students in Year 12, taking pupils through a series of games and activities which ultimately enabled them to write some excellent poetry of their own. Claire encouraged younger pupils to warm up with rhythm and synchronisation games, and then encouraged them to explore imagery by drawing pictures to accompany a reading of one of her own poems, 'Grandad: Stoke-on-Trent'. She had told us all to 'put away the logical parts of our brains' so we were able to conjure pictures in our heads and release the power of our imaginations. We travelled to imaginary lands and wrote pantoums, before working on poetry of our own choice.

C Saunders



Humans

I am light
But also darkness
I cause joy
But also grief
I am with you
But also not with you
I am everything
But also nothing
I hide in the shadows
Waiting to pounce
I am in the daylight
Welcoming you
I am in the sky
Saying hi
And on the ground
Giving it a pound

Darkness

I hide in the shadows
Waiting to pounce
I cause grief
I know who you are
You cannot stop me
For I am darkness

Light

I show in the light
Welcoming you I cause joy
And help you
If you are good
Come help me
For I am light

You are human
Darkness is with you
Light is with you
For you are human

Danny Winsor 8T

My poem

I am animal
I am plant
I am air
I am dirt
I am blood
I am tears
I am light
I am darkness
I am life
I am death
I am man

Monty Williams 8T

Am I?

Am I a train?
Am I a stain?
Am I a box?
Am I a fox?
Am I a door?
Am I a floor?
Am I a chair?
Am I a flare?
Am I a locker?
Am I a mocker?
Am I a poster?
Am I a boaster?
Or am I just a poet?
If so, I really didn't know it

Adam Maher 8S

Self-consciousness

"Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?"
No.
Compare me to the warning light,
As depression is awakened in my head.

"Thou art more lovely and more temperate."

I am fat,
I am skinny,
I am dumb,
I am slow,
I am angry,
I am not,
I am judged,
I am me.

"Fresh winds do shake the darling buds of May,"
The dark trees growing crunchy leaves tower over me,
The leaves fall on me,
I saw the devil.

I waited at the bed for God I cleansed my sins with pages of the holy book,
But still I ask,
Am I good enough for you?

Why

Why are we here,
Why did he leave me,
Why are people dying,
Why are we exploring,
Why did I love her,
Why did I sin,
Why do we pray,
Why did I learn.
These questions can all be answered with a little devotion.

Shiv Patel 8T

The love story between toothpaste and a cereal bowl

Bowl: I want to set you free
TP: And cure me from my sanity
Bowl: And then we shall live together forever and ever!!
TP: And shall we ever be separated?
Bowl: Never!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
TP: There is just one minor problem...
Bowl: What makes you so bothersome?
TP: It is just I fear I will miss
Bowl: And then I will have no one to kiss?
Lid of tube: Why didn't you just ask me to go down?
TP: Oh man, I'm such a clown!!!!
Bowl: Just do it and don't have a doubt!
TP: Ok I am jumping!
Bowl: Yes! Everything is going to plan! I am finally going to get myself a loving man!
(Toothpaste squeezes out)
Bowl: I got you, I got you, I got you
(Toothpaste hits the floor)
I got...I don't got you! Why did this have to happen to me? Just when everything was going to plan, when I had myself a man, when a relationship had began... It just has to happen to me doesn't it? There is nothing left of him... but a puddle on the floor

Sam Fulford 8S

Homelessness

I am the trash that sits outside,
I am the guy you walk straight by,
I am the person, who sits motionless,
The person who sits and hopes

I have nothing but change,
Small in every way,
The bitterness in my life,
Is shown in plain sight

I have nothing at all,
No brother sister mother and more,
The only thinks that I have,
Are the clothes on my back

The hunger eats its way out,
It bubbles, bursts and spouts,
It comes and washes over me,
Never again will I feel pain, No not me.

Toby Watine 8T

Ghost

Inhale, exhale
Inhale, exhale
I lie there still,
Silent, unseen.
I am a ghost,
I am a shadow
Unseen and untouched.
I feel the cold hard mental
Between my fingers.
Nearly the end.
The end appears in my crosshairs.
I wrap my finger around the cold hard metal,
And squeeze.
I am walking,
Walking closer to the end.
I am walking the
Cobblestone Street beneath me.
Keep moving, blend in.
Am I being followed?
Don't look behind.
I look behind.
I am being followed.
I am running
The cobblestone Street beneath me.
Then...
I take the leap of faith

Fin Mitchel 8S

Little Sister

Do you have a little sister?
The type that whines and whines non-stop?
Or maybe the type obsessed with hair,
That winds you up 'till you think you'll pop?
Do you have a little sister?
Who loves flowers and butterflies?
Who is always right gets up to no good,
And gets away with lies?
Do you have a little sister?
Who always makes fun of you?
Who shows off in front of your friends,
And embarrasses you in public too?
I have a little sister,
The type I love a lot,
Because she is my little sister,
Whether I like it or not.

Jacob Wornham-Jones

The Beast of the Burning Cave

Hot steam rises steadily through the dark damp cave.
Deafening silence echoes around as it whispers in my ear.
Jewels clatter down through darkness to the princess I must save.

Yet as I climb through these caverns, I see no beast lying here.
The cold stone floor scolds my feet as I scurry the endless slopes.
The cavern walls scream silently as I tumble to my nearing doom.
My flame flickers out as I slowly slip with my many hopes.
I feel the floor rise and see a brilliant light shining through the gloom.
An emerald search-light full of everlasting evil focuses in on my face.
The darkness suddenly slips back as the monster's flame burns bright.
I let out a final yet futile scream and fumble for my magical mace.
The beast has awoken bringing my doom through the light.

Samuel Kane 8T

A Change of Colour in the Sky

An evening is a change of colour in the sky,
The signal of change; a blank canvas,
A representation that the painting is nearly finished,
A new one will start so soon.

The sun is going to sleep now;
It'll see you on the other side.
Now all these colours fill the sky:
Purple
Red
Orange
And turquoise,
As if the world is paper
And someone is scribbling all over it.

An evening is a change of colour in the sky.
Shades of the sky cool our emotions;
Our minds are at rest now,
Now the evening is passing on.

Jamie Edgell 8S



SIR THOMAS RICH'S RFC 2015

Sir Thomas Rich's School RFC have played a total of 224 games this season

1st XV

P 23 W16 L6 D1 PTS FOR 722 AGAINST 242

After the difficult tour to South Africa, the 1st XV record was played 4, won 2 after victories against Lagunya Township and Somerset College, Stellenbosch but defeats to Paarl Boys High and Dr E G Jansen.

The pre-season in August continued with a fixture v Seaford College Sussex, with a few boys still away on holiday, Rich's started brightly with tries from Henry Peach and Sam Brown but unfortunately they could not hold on, Seaford scored, to draw the game 21-21.

After the 1st XV's next opponents, Bridgend College from Wales failed to fulfil the fixture, the 1st XV travelled to Bath, to play Kingswood School. Last year Kingswood won a very close contest but this year Rich's over powered their opposition and ran out 67-0. Harvey Ryder, Fred Morrish, Ben Vallender and Louis Earle-Davis all scored a brace of tries and Pete Carter and Gabriel Chelotti scored one each.

The 1st XV then played QEH Bristol at home. Rich's haven't lost to QEH for many years and started quickly as Ryder scored a first half hat-trick of tries. Pete Carter, Joe Kiely and Matt Evans also scored tries as Rich's won 40-9. In Rich's next game v Hereford Cathedral, a weakened 1st XV played a good team that Cathedral have recruited recently. Rich's dominated the game but too many missed kicks and a lapse in concentration in the final five minutes allowed Cathedral to score a try that eventually won the game 13-8.

In the 1st XV's next fixture, they completely steam rolled RGS Worcester again. In a superb performance, Rich's ripped through RGS's defence at ease and recorded a 43-14 victory. Jacob Hughes scored three tries, Ryder, Carter, Vallender and Rob Webster all scored as well.

For the first time in the School's history the 1st XV played Clifton College on a full block fixture. In a very close hard fought game, a few mistakes such as a kick charged down and lapse in concentration on a kick chase allowed Clifton to build a lead. There were moments in the game when Rich's played some superb rugby," Ryder scored a great try from a driving line out and Earle-Davis

finished off an excellent few phases of play but Clifton won the game 25-13.

The next game of the season was one of the toughest so far as Rich's welcomed Monmouth School to Oakleaze. The 1st XV were desperate to record an historic win over Monmouth. Three seasons ago only a spectacular performance from Ollie Young rescued a 33-33 draw in Wales, with a Ross Preedy penalty in the final minute. Since then Monmouth had won the other two fixtures by very small margins. However, this year's game could not have had a better start for Rich's, as from the outset the 1st XV dominated the contact area. Ryder scored three tries, Chelotti, Webster, Earle-Davis and Evans all scored as Rich's recorded a 45-0 victory, the first ever 1st XV win against the prestigious Welsh school!

After a bye in the first round, the second round of the Natwest Cup saw Rich's take on Chosen Hill School. In a completely one-sided encounter the 1st XV scored ten tries to make the final score was 62-0. The try scorers were Ryder with another hat-trick, Evans (2), Roper, Kiely, Webster, Fred Watson and Jack Tyrer.

In the last game before half term, Rich's travelled to the 2012 u18 Daily Mail Cup Finalists Old Swinford Hospital. The 1st XV had little trouble recording a nine try 55-7 victory against OSH with tries from Harvey Ryder (3), Kiely (2), Greenleaf (2), Rhys Moore and Sam Brown.

After half term the 1st XV played Pate's Grammar School. Rich's hadn't lost to Pate's since the 2011 but last year the game was abandoned 0-0 in dreadful conditions. In a closely fought contest in poor conditions again, Rich's battled hard to record a 17-9 victory. Rob McLaughlin and Jacob Hughes scored the tries.

The next game was the Third Round Natwest Cup tie with Stowe School in Buckingham. After the 23-17 win for Rich's in 2013, Rich's were defeated last year by the prestigious school. In a very hostile environment with the Stowe crowd attempting to intimidate Rich's, the worst start possible happened. The Stowe, Scotland u18 outside half put a kick through for their England u18 centre. The 1st XV had the kick covered but Tyrer and Watson both slipped which allowed Stowe to capitalise, scoring a very fortuitous try. Stowe then dominated most of the first half, kicking

a penalty to make the score 10-0. Then five minutes before half time Ryder intercepted a pass, ran 50m but was hauled down 10 metres short of the Stowe line. Rich's were awarded a penalty in front of the post that would have made the game 10-3 but chose to tap and go spurning the opportunity. In the second half, Stowe kicked a penalty but Rich's began to dominate territory and possession. Rob Webster scored a try from a driving line out and Chelotti powered over from close range, however Carter missed both conversions and Rich's unfortunately lost 13-10.

Three days later saw Rich's entertain RGS High Wycombe at home for the first time. The game was played in difficult conditions and was level at 6-6 after 15 minutes. Then from a few superbly well organised series of plays, Captain Roper scored a superb try and Rich's led 11-6 at half time. The second half was equally as close, RGS kicked a penalty to make it 11-9. However Rich's defended superbly and thought they had won the game. Then in the last play of the match RGS was awarded a penalty close to the Rich's try line, the RGS scrum half tapped and went but the referee deemed the Rich's defence to have infringed and ran under the posts awarding RGS a penalty try, which allowed RGS to win the game 11-16.

After RGS High Wycombe, the 1st XV were due to travel to Blackpool to play the very impressive Kirkham Grammar School, but unfortunately that was cancelled due to the weather. They did go on to record wins against Loughborough Grammar School, Beechen Cliff and a 73-0 demolition of The Crypt Grammar School. However after Christmas, the 1st XV travelled to Millfield to record what was to be the best result of the season. Rich's were dominant in the contact area from the start of the game, Louis Earle-Davis, Harvey Ryder, Joe Kiely and Sam Brown all crossed for scores and Peter Carter kicked 2 conversions and 3 penalties as Rich's won 33-12! The first victory in a XV a side fixture v Millfield in the School's history.

After the Millfield game, matches v Solihull, BGS and Warwick were cancelled due to the weather, but we did manage to travel

to Cardiff to record a 33-5 victory against Whitchurch HS with McLaughlin, Hughes, Hogg and Ryder with the tries. St Peter's Gloucester had performed well in the other half of the Natwest Cup, reaching the last 16 and wanted a fixture. The game was arranged and right from the start, Rich's dominated the play, going through phase after phase in attack and dominating the collisions in defence. Rich's won the game 48-7 with tries from Carter (2), Hughes (2), Webster, Earle-Davis and Ryder. In the final game of the season v Gloucestershire's U18's on the 70 years Rugby Celebrations Rich's won 18-12. This was a great way to finish the season and it was testament to their hard work and commitment. It has been a season that I have thoroughly enjoyed!

They have worked incredibly hard, lifting weights before school three days a week, pushing themselves in conditioning sessions and spending hours scrutinising performances in video analysis sessions. It is important to remember that the School's fixture list is incredibly strong and predominately narrow defeats to the number one and number eighth ranked Schools in South Africa, to the currently unbeaten Clifton College, to the St Joseph's Festival runners up RGS and a team full of schoolboy internationals from Stowe are no disgrace. The boys have done the School proud, they have done the jersey proud and the 1st XV of 2015-16 will be remembered for a long time to come!

Harvey Ryder scored 24 tries, which not only breaks the one-season try scoring record but also breaks Lee Hathaway's overall 1st XV try record with 36 in total. Peter Carter scored 206 points and is 3rd on the overall 1st XV points scoring records, behind Preedy and Oliver Young.

1st VII

1st VII Captain has led the 7s team well this year. In The Marches 7s, in which 32 schools from around the country entered, they defeated King's Worcester, Blundells and OSH in their group. In the quarter final of the Cup competition they defeated KES Bath but unfortunately lost to the eventual winners, Harrow School.

In the Wycliffe 7s, they defeated Prior Park, Marling, KES Bath and Wycliffe to win the group. They then demolished Dean Close 33-7 in the final to become Wycliffe u18 7s 2016 Champions.

The 1st VII also retained their title at the Gloucestershire u18 7s and won the tournament for the fourth time in five years.

R G Williams



1st XV Rugby 2015-16

L.R. Nicosia, K.B. Richards, T.S. Green, G.W. Edwards, P.A.R.I. Jones, H.C. Peach

R.V. McLaughlin, B.T. Vallender, J.R. Hogg, R. Moore, L.M. Earle-Davis, W.M.J. Barradell-Black, J.E.

Kiely, S.L. Brown, J. Tyrer, D.R. Parry, B.C. Phillips

M.I. Evans, F.D.A. Morrish, R.H. Webster, J.L. Hughes, H.P. Ryder, A.D.J. Roper (Captain), P.J.G. Carter (Vice-Captain), C. Gresty, G.L.J. Chelotti, W.R. Allenby, F.W. Watson





1ST
XV
2016
2017



2ND XV RUGBY 2015-16

Back Row: K.J. Mistry, D.R. Parry, P.C. Avery, D. Lakenbrink,

Middle Row: E.J. Richards-Good, T.E. Sargent, J.E.M. Greenleaf, E.H. James, W.M.J. Barradell-Black, W.S. McMahon, C.M. Anderson, H.G. Cook, R. Moore,

Front Row: K.B. Richards, T.S. Green, L.R. Nicosia, P.A.R.I. Jones, G.W. Edwards (Captain), H.C. Peach, R.E. Chappell, B. Pulami, L.T.G. Brennan



U16 RUGBY 2015-16

Back Row: W.B. Fritchie, H.T. Jenkins, L.S. Goscomb, B.J.O. Dale,

Middle Row: R.B. Willis, L.D. Griffin, T.H.M. Goldsby, N.F. Colonna, C.P. Moir, B.D.J. Sherborne, C.G. Johnstone

Front Row: T.E. Rees, T.A. Matthews, O.E. Thomas, D.P. Akiat, H.P.M. McCloskey (Captain), M.G. Webster, K.J. Hall, J.J. Treharne, A.D.R. Jones



U15 Rugby 2015-16

Back Row: B. M. Keane, G. A. Floyd, C. Hatcher, J. J. Bishop, J. P. Goulding, C. M. Beech, M. M. Wilson, D. R. Underwood-Morrell,
W. R. Sanderson, A. R. Hunter, J. Hocking, O. P. Edginton, R. O. Gordon.

Middle Row: M. S. Pettit, C. I. Holman-Marshall, M. Pandor, L. B. Pardoe, B. A. Daniels, J. A. Emmerson, C. T. Holland, J. G.
Norman, C. H. Wilkinson, S. J. Price, L. J. Richards, H. L. Morrison.

Front Row: H. A. Englefield, F. W. Elsey, T. H. Stephens, D. L. Cohen, O. L. Neveu-Butler, Z. Rafai, M. W. Lampitt, B. S. Gleeson, D.
M. Walker, W. L. Moseley, F. W. Jackson, J. A. Falkiner, H. J. Gray-Steele, H. Abrutat, J. H. Bexley.



U14 2015-2016

O. P. Mangan, L. E. Carr, E. T. S. Jameson, W. O. James, M. A. Baron, R. G. Booth, A. T. Sankoorikal, Z. A. Castledine, A. P. Button, A. T. Derby.
B. S. Woodward, T. J. Niblett, J. C. Willis, M. J. Scott, D. Gunn, J. A. Paulus, C. Smerdon, M. H. Amer, C. F. Holmes, S. R. S. Campbell, A. D. G. Wayman, T. L. Beer,
M. J. Luxton, S. Grint, E. K. Y. Yip, T. J. Woodward, T. A. Gordon, C. J. Murray, S. D. De Burgh-Thomas, J. A. D. Waller, L. J. Field, B. E. Major, J. J. Nuttall,
S. A. McCormack, J. A. R. Bagnall, R. W. Christie, S. A. Singha, M. T. Keyte, F. J. Moir, L. P. Fox, K. B. Cordery, J. W. Maiden, J. J. Taylor, C. R. S. Wilson



U13 2015-2016

W.I.Roberts, B.J.B.Lindgren, T.R.O'Callaghan, H.W.Branfield, D.A.Simmons, A.Owusu, M.C.Macdonald, G.A.Shields, R.S.Edakkara, D.S.G.Tilly, C.T.Davidson, L.Bond,
F.J.H.Snow, J.C.Robb, J.W.R.Dods, B.A.Openshaw, A.J.Cook
L.T.Hopwood, J.D.Crouch, F.J.Peak, C.E.Nicholson, T.J.Dabenett-Widdows, B.M.J.West, G.F.Palmer, S.O.Moxon, S.C.De-Villiers Kuun, H.N.W.Darrell, A.J.Johnston,
R.G.Nixon, S.A.Moore, R.D.Hicks, M.O.Chukwuemeka, B.R.Cosgrove, J.W.Carrington, M.H.Marshall, D.D.Jones, L.P.Dean
W.A.Morgan, L.J.Hawthorne, H.R.Balkwill, D.G.Woodham, E.G.Hulls, T.O.Morris, J.R.M.Parmar, H.R.Elliot, G.A.B.Knight, D.J.Turner-Pearson, T.D.Ellis-Jones,
J.A.I.Stanley, T.J.Tunkhume, G.P.W.Mitchell, O.H.Morris, S.J.Freeguard, S.C.Cripps, J.W.Fletcher
A.C.Okeke, B.M.Birch, J.M.Taylor, N.R.Parkor



U12 2015-2016

Back Row: E. J. Rooke, H. E. Downie, T. L. Champion, B. J. McLoughlin, F. J. Donnelly, B. J. Cartwright, A. P. J. Gray - Steele, A. H. Maher, T. J. Sharrock, L. A. Moir,
A. D. J. Saunders, L. W. Woodward, A. A. Fageihi, J. Wornham - Jones, A. W. Schad.
Standing: S. K. N. Sodzi, J. L. Underwood, P. P. Zawadzki, A. A. Arslan, C. E. N. Borley, W. P. Henry, M. J. M. Williams, W. T. Bond, M. Kean, O. L. Wilson, S. W. J. Austin,
F. A. Rayner, T. A. Chandler, M. O. Kelly, E. D. C. Chukwuemeka, L. J. Smith, E. N. E. Pawley, R. W. M. Fuller, D. W. Winsor, J. D. Shrimpton.
Seated: M. G. Pearson, A. D. Watson, M. J. Sanderson, K. Przybylski, L. J. Glover, J. Karadia, F. T. Gwillim, W. E. S. Brown (Captain), O. H. Ranken, O. T. James, H. W.
Brooks, S. T. T. Overton, W. J. Silva, G. L. Bennett, H. S. R. Waller.
Floor: J. K. Horrobin, T. S. Watine, E. F. Jupp, B. P. C. Hordern, S. M. Vinod, S. T. A. Fulford, D. C. George, M. S. K. Davey, S. J. Smith, C. J. W. Evans, A. G. Walters,
J. I. Eagle - Davies, F. Goymer - Brown.

2nd XV-

P17 W12 L 5 PTS FOR 482 PTS AGA 218

An excellent season for the Seconds with notable victories against Clifton College, Monmouth and Millfield. Success has been based on simple rugby from a strong and well drilled pack, a sound defence and strong running from the backs. Weakened sides lost against Hereford Cathedral School and Tewkesbury firsts, and two late tries gave RGS High Wycombe a 10-5 victory. The only disappointment was the loss of fixtures to the weather in January and February.

M Swann

U16 A

P 18 W 9 L 9 PTS FOR 359 PTS AGA 272

The Under 16s have had a mixed season this year. They started with strong victories against RGS Worcester, Clifton College and RGS High Wycombe, to name a few. From mid - November they lost six games on the spin to end the term facing a tough second half to the season. During the Christmas break the players worked hard to refocus on their strengths as a team and beat Northampton School for Boys for the first time in five years. They also went on to beat Bishop of Hereford Bluecoat School and played superbly well in a narrow defeat to Millfield. Congratulations to captain Henry McCloskey, Ben Sherborne, Craig Johnstone and Olly Thomas on being selected for the Gloucester Academy.

U16 B

P4 W2 L2

Lots of boys in Year 11 continued to play and performed well in the games they played. Well done. It is hoped that many of them will continue to play into the Sixth Form.

N O'Neil & O J Deacon

U15 A

P25 W12 D1 L 12 PTS FOR 498 PTS AGA 592

As we go to print the u15s defeated Bishop Vesey's Grammar School 23-19 in the semi-final of the Natwest Vase at Allianz Park. They are due to play Dr Challoner's Grammar School in the Natwest Vase Final at Twickenham on Wednesday 16th March 2016! This is the School's second appearance at Twickenham in the Natwest Vase after being runners up back in 2012.

The U15s have had a roller coaster season. After a promising start, injuries took their toll and the team suffered some heavy defeats. The key thing about the defeats is that they seem to have galvanised the squad and brought them even closer. The squad trains 4/5 times per week working on different aspects of their game. The attendance at the sessions has been excellent with every player continually wanting to improve.

The team have benefitted from having several senior players who drive the squad forward and also excellent leadership from their Captain, Benjamin Gleeson. Since beating local school, Chosen Hill, in round 2, the team have thrown all their efforts into becoming more efficient and more tactically astute players. The squad have, and continue to be, a pleasure to spend time with and coach. Regardless of any future results, I am immensely proud of not just their achievements to date, but also their approach to rugby; humble when we win, gracious in defeat. The players would like to thank everyone for all the support they receive. We wish them well at Twickenham!

R M Davies

U15 B

P11 W4 L7.

The season started promisingly with two impressive wins against Kingswood and QEH. Subsequently the squad started to struggle, attributable to various reasons (injuries, exchange trips and promotion to the 'A' team). After suffering a streak of hard fought defeats, some of which winnable. The squad found form to win two of their final three matches, the highlight being a last gasp full-length try from Ben Daniels to bring the score level, thus leaving captain Chris Hatcher to slot the game winning kick on the final whistle.

R B Burrows

U14 A

P19 W 6 L13 PTS FOR 182 PTS AGA 370

The U14 A team have had a varied season, with some excellent wins over Castle School 31 - 0, and Monmouth 10 - 0. Some close defeats has meant the win/loss record does not do the team justice, and with some excellent talent in the year group, as the boys grow they will soon be turning the losses into wins.

U14 B

P13 W9 L4

This season has been very promising for the u14B team rugby side, with many of the boys stepping up and playing A team rugby throughout the season it shows the depth of players in the year group. With a win ratio of 69% the boys won 9 of their 13 matches, with standout victories over King's Worcester, and Loughborough Grammar School. There were often changes in the squad but constant solid performances from the likes of Jameson, and Fox kept the team going. There were some less impressive performances against Crypt and Beechen Cliff, however hard work in training, and a lot of defensive effort meant that the final game of the season, a victory over The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School 47-5, finished off a generally positive season.

U13A

P22 W 18 L4 For 929 Ag 157

With 3 games to play it's been an outstanding season so far for the u13As. The forwards have produced plenty of possession which the creative and strong running backs have utilised very well indeed. They have been good to watch, scoring a number of excellent tries from all parts of the pitch. They have also been impressive defensively as their average score-line of 42-7 suggests.

Their best wins came against Kingswood [63-5], RGS Worcester [76-12], Cheltenham College Prep 1st XV [31-5] and QEH Bristol [42-5] who were all expecting to have good seasons. Arguably though, the best performance was in the narrow defeat to Warwick [17-15] whom we have never really got even close to in the past. It was a superb contest, with the very useful Warwick side racing into an early 17-0 lead. However, the 13s made a great comeback in the second half and scored 3 well-executed, unanswered tries to get within 2 points of the talented team from the Midlands.

It has been a great squad effort this season, but special mention must go to our powerful No 8 Mitchel Chukwuemeka who has scored a phenomenal 41 tries this season. Interestingly though, because of the depth of quality within the side it has not been a

'one-man' team and the other players have learnt to play off him. There is no doubt about it, if this group of players continue to develop over the coming years, and I see no reason why they shouldn't, the future of Rugby here at Rich's is very bright.

Finally, a big thank you to Mr Bogle for his support with coaching and for refereeing a number of matches, and the many parents who have given the side great support throughout the season both home and away.

C D A Carter

U13 B

P17 W11 L6

The u13 B team have performed well this season, with numerous players playing for the A team on occasions. They have recorded excellent victories against Cheltenham College, Monmouth, King's Worcester, Crypt, Kingswood, OSH and Pate's. However they lost closely fought games against Warwick, RGS High Wycombe, Loughborough, QEH and Beechen Cliff.

U13 C

P5 W2 L3

The u13 C team has suffered from schools being unable to raise sides. They lost narrowly against QEH at the start of the season but then recorded wins against Cheltenham College and Beaufort. Unfortunately they struggled in later games against RGS High Wycombe and Warwick. A number of boys have represented the B team this season. Well done.

G F Bogle

U12 A

P20 W12 L8 PTS FOR 300 PTS AGA 321

The u12 A team have suffered from new laws related to age group rugby. Not many boys have played rugby before joining the School, so it has been a steep learning curve. After early defeats to RGS Worcester and Bromsgrove, they recorded excellent victories against Magdalen College, Monmouth, New Hall, Crypt, St Peter's and Ivybridge. However, defeats to RGS High Wycombe, Loughborough, Beechen Cliff, Northampton School for Boys, Solihull and Pate's show they have a lot to work on. Finlay Gwillim and William Silva have been stand out performers but a number of boys have showed good promise.

U12 B

P18 W9 D2 L7

The B team have shown good improvement this year, the side has constantly been changed to give boys a chance. They recorded excellent wins against Bromsgrove, Ivybridge, Loughborough, Crypt, OSH and St Peter's. They need to work on rucking and defensive organisation but a number of boys have pushed their way into the A team.

U12 C

P11 W7 L4

The C team started well, winning their first four games against Bromsgrove, RGS Worcester, Magdalen College and Ivybridge. They then lost games to RGS High Wycombe, Warwick and Bournside but recovered to defeat St Peter's, OSH and Pate's. Mr Morgan has been incredibly proud of their progress and many of the boys have played for the u12 B team.

U12 D

P1 W0 L1

The D team lost their one fixture to Warwick but it was good to include a number of boys, who otherwise would have been unable to play. If they continue to train hard I am sure a number of these boys will force their way into some of the other teams in the future.

R G Williams

SIR THOMAS RICH'S RFC 2016-17

So far this season Sir Thomas Rich's School RFC have played a total of 161 games. The results so far

1st XV

P 14 W11 L2 D1 PTS FOR 387 AGAINST 274

The new season 2016-17 started with a preseason fixture again v Seaford College Sussex, with a few boys still away on holiday, Rich's started brightly with tries from Robbie McLaughlin, Kai Hall and Gabriel Chelotti. Rich's led 19-0 but in what was to turn out to be a common occurrence this season, defensive lapses allowed Seaford back into the game. Seaford not only levelled the score but took the lead with 10 minutes to go. Rich's fought back with courage and resilience, which would also be common place this season, they worked their way into the Seaford 22, only for 1st XV captain Conor Gresty to crash over from a driving lineout. The score was now 24-26 to Seaford but with the last kick of the game, Matt Evans stepped up and coolly slotted the difficult conversion to draw 26-26, in a game that Rich's really should have won.

After the 1st XV's next opponents, Bridgend College from Wales again failed to fulfil the fixture, the 1st XV travelled to Bristol to play QEH. Rich's haven't lost to QEH for many years and started quickly with tries from Matt Evans, Henry Peach, Oliver Thomas, Henry McCloskey and Conor Gresty. In the second half, Rich's lost a bit of shape to their attack but eventually scored another two tries from replacement hooker Louis Brennan. The score finished QEH 7- 45 Sir Thomas Rich's.

On the Monday after the Saturday fixture v QEH, Rich's hosted Colegio Cardenal Newman from Buenos Aires, Argentina. Newman are one of the top ranked Argentinian schools, who boast rugby alumni such as Felipe Contepomi and Marcus Ayerza, the latter of which drove down from Leicester to watch the game. The Argentinian team were strong and although Rich's had opportunities, the Newman ability to off load in contact, combined with lapses in defence from Rich's allowed Newman to win the game 5-29, with Rich's only try coming from captain Gresty.

Rich's next game was the first Daily Mail Trophy game of the season v Northampton School for Boys, Rich's played some excellent rugby in attack but defensive errors were again common place. McLaughlin scored two tries and Luca Nicosia scored one but with only minutes remaining the score stood at 23 all. Kai Hall had kicked two penalties and a conversion at this point but he had also missed two conversions and a penalty attempt. After some good play in the Northampton half, Rich's were again awarded a penalty, which Hall stepped up and converted so that Rich's won the game 26-23. In the 1st XV's next fixture they defeated RGS Worcester again.

In a stuttering performance that was heavily affected by a downpour in the second half, Rich's secured the 10-26 win with tries from Tom Green, Jasper Greenleaf and Louis Earle-Davis. For the first time in the School's history the 1st XV played The King's School, Worcester on a full block fixture. In a very close hard fought game, a few mistakes such a missed tackle in midfield from a King's first phase attack allowed King's into the lead. However, again Rich's fought back with tries from Will Allenby, Matt Webster, Kieran Richards and Dan Akiat to win the game 24-18.

The next game of the season was always going to be one of the toughest so far as Rich's travelled to Wales to play Monmouth School. After last year's result where Rich's ripped through the Monmouth team to win 45-0, Monmouth were always going to be out for revenge. Rich's started brightly again with tries from Akiat and Brennan and it looked like it could be a similar score line to last year. However, yet again defensive errors allowed Monmouth back into the game and after 30 minutes, Monmouth led 13-12. The game then swung in Rich's favour as Monmouth attacked, a loose pass was pounced upon by Oliver Thomas who pinned his ears back and sprinted 50 metres to score. The game ebbed and flowed in the second half but two Evans penalties edged Rich's further in front and although Monmouth scored with the last play of the game, Rich's recorded an historic first ever 1st XV away win at Monmouth, 23-22.

After a walkover in the first round due to Cirencester College withdrawing, the second round of the Natwest Cup saw Rich's travel to St Peter's High School. Although the 1st XV had defeated their rivals from across the city in their last four meetings dating back to 2012, culminating in a 48-0 demolition of St Peter's last season, Rich's had not won at St Peter's since 1993. They started strongly again and stormed to a 15-0 lead, with tries from Gresty and Allenby. However, poor defence allowed St Peter's back into the game and early in the second half they took the lead 17-15. Immediately Rich's hit back with an excellent score from Kai Hall but a defensive lapse in the back field allowed St Peter's to score again to re-take the lead 24-20. However, Rich's didn't panic and with the same resilience and pride they had shown all season, they played some excellent rugby which was rewarded with two kickable penalties, which Evans duly converted to make the score 24-26. However, there was one final twist, after the referee had called last play, instead of kicking the ball off the field, Rich's opted to drive on for one more phase which allowed Peter's to be awarded a penalty on the half way line. With the last play of the game, the Peter's kicker pulled the penalty attempt wide and Rich's won away at St Peter's for the first time since 1993 and progressed into the Third Round of the Natwest Cup.

In the last game before half term, Rich's played the 2012 u18 Daily Mail Cup Finalists Old Swinford Hospital. The 1st XV won comfortably 53-0, in a game that was stopped early into the second half. The try scorers were Louis Earle-Davis (2), Oliver Thomas (2), McLaughlin, Greenleaf, Hall and Will Barradell-Black. The next game was after half term in the Third Round of the Natwest Cup v RGS High Wycombe at home. In the 2012-13 season, Rich's lost to RGS in the cup by the narrow margin of 10-3. In the 2014-15, Rich's led at half time but eventually lost 29-18. Then last season, at home Rich's led 11-9, when the referee awarded RGS a penalty try with the last play of the game, resulting in them winning the game 11-16. On this occasion

Rich's were brilliant at times in the first half, particularly after conceding an early try from a driving lineout. In the second half, Full back Ben Vallender scored a well taken try although he suffered a nasty injury in the process of scoring and after Evans kicked his fourth penalty, Rich's led 19-13. However, Rich's problems defensively struck once again and in the last ten minutes two missed tackles on the wing allowed RGS to score two tries to take the lead 19-23. The referee then informed all players that there was 45 seconds remaining. Rich's kicked off and at the first breakdown, captain Gresty won an incredible turnover, which allowed Rich's to launch one final assault on the RGS line. After two penalties in front of the posts and with the clock into the red, Rich's drove forward, only for number 8, Gabriel Chelotti to power over the line. Rich's won the game 24-23, they had defeated RGS High Wycombe for the first time in the School's history and reached Round 4 (the last 16) of the Natwest Cup.

Rich's next game came against the very highly ranked Kirkham Grammar School from Preston, Lancashire at Oakleaze. Kirkham have lost only once in the last two seasons, winning against Sedburgh and Barnard Castle and their only defeat coming narrowly against Blackrock College, Dublin. The current 1st XV boasted 10 Sale Sharks Academy players, so they were always going to be a tough test. Rich's could not replicate the intensity they showed against High Wycombe and went 3-24 down early on. From there on, Rich's dominated territory and possession but were unable to cross the Kirkham line. In the second half, Rich's again camped themselves in the KGS half but one loose kick and some poor play from the back three resulted in another Kirkham score. 3-31 or possibly 10-31 due to the amount of possession Rich's had would have been a fair reflection of the game. However. Yet again poor defence allowed Kirkham to score two more tries from the last two plays of the game to make the final result 3-45. This was an incredibly disappointing result and performance but it was a result that was eventually going to occur due to the defensive lapses that have occurred all season.

Rich's bounced back to defeat Exeter School 29-15 in the last 16 of the Natwest Cup with tries from Earle-Davis (2), Conor Gresty and Gabriel Chelotti. As a result they have reached the Quarter Final of the Natwest Cup for only the second time in the School's history, the first being in the 2011-12, where Rich's lost 17-18 to St Joseph's Ipswich. After the win against Exeter, Rich's then defeated Pate's Grammar School for the fourth consecutive time, with a 47-8 victory. The try scorers in this game were Oliver Thomas (2), Will Allenby, Matt Evans, Robbie McLaughlin, Henry McCloskey and Louis Earle-Davis. Then the 1st XV defeated Loughborough Grammar School with two McLaughlin tries and one each for Matt Webster and Gresty.

It has been an incredibly good season for the 1st XV so far, currently ranked 16th in the Daily Mail Trophy and in the Natwest Cup Quarter Final. However, defensively they have been more fragile than they perhaps should have been. To highlight this, last year's 1st XV conceded 242 points in 23 matches, so far this year the 1st XV have conceded 274 points after just 14 games. In fairness they have been working incredibly hard on their defensive organisation, their alignment, line speed and defensive strategy. Hopefully this hard work will pay off, starting with their last Daily Mail Trophy game of the season v Clifton College and their Natwest Cup Quarter Final against defending champions Bromsgrove School.

2nd XV

P9 W6 L3 PTS FOR 296 PTS AGAINST 108

In Mike Swann's last season in charge of the 2s, they have recorded some incredible wins. This is testament to the hard work of the boys but also the countless hours Mike puts in alongside his work and responsibilities in the Mathematics Department. The pack have been very strong and as a result a number of boys have made the step up to play for the 1st XV. The games they have won have been quite convincing, defeating Beaufort 1st XV 72-0, QEH 50-0, RGS Worcester 58-8, King's Worcester 17-5, Monmouth 21-5 and Old Swinford Hospital 31-5. Their three defeats have come against some very good sides. Against Ivybridge Community School u17s, who ran out in full Exeter Chiefs kit as the school is an AASE Academy with the Chiefs, Rich's played some magnificent rugby but unfortunately lost 19-33. Against RGS High Wycombe, Rich's should have achieved the same result as the 1st XV. They were by far the better side first half but after centre Tom Farmer went off injured, Rich's seemed to lose their way and eventually lost in a poor game, dominated by the referee's whistle 16-13. Against Kirkham Grammar School, the 2nds were brave and competed well, particularly up front but two late tries again flattered Kirkham slightly as Rich's lost 15-36. The 2nds then defeated Pate's comfortably but lost in a very poor performance 11-12 to Loughborough Grammar School. The 3rd XV recorded an excellent win away at Monmouth 14-27 and also defeated Pate's 7-0 but lost to two 1st XV's, Hereford Cathedral 3-33 and Rendcomb College 6-29. I am sure all the boys in the 2nds and 3rds will do Mr Swann proud in their remaining games and continue to make his last season in charge a memorable one.

U16

P10 W7 L3 PTS FOR 258 PTS AGAINST 131

The u16s have carried on where they left off last year after reaching Twickenham in the Natwest u15 Vase Final. They have committed and dedicated themselves to their strength and conditioning sessions and as a result they are one of the strongest and most conditioned u16 teams in the country. They have beaten teams this year that they had previously lost to lower years, their desire, commitment and organisation is a real credit to coaches Nick O'Neil and Oliver Deacon. They defeated Bishop Wordsworth, Salisbury 39-24, QEH 54-5, Colegio Cardenal Newman Buenos Aires 19-5, RGS Worcester 43-24, King's Worcester 8-3, Old Swinford Hospital 20-0 and Cheltenham Bournside 47-0. Their only defeats so far have come against Northampton SFB's 7-10, Monmouth 26-21, RGS High Wycombe 34-0 and Loughborough 15-12. The B team has won two and lost three of their five matches so far.

JUNIOR RUGBY ROUND UP

The u15s have made staggering progress this year after a difficult season last year as u14s. They have won 6 of their 10 games and although they lost 12-10 to Chosen Hill in the Natwest Cup, they are making good progress in the Plate competition. The u14s are steam rolling teams, they have won 8 of their 10 games, with their only defeats coming at the hands of the excellent Ysgol Gyfun Glantaf and King's School, Worcester.

They remain one of the favourites for the EDF Energy u154 Gloucestershire Cup, so hopefully a return to Kingsholm awaits. The u13s have also made excellent progress, after losing their first four games, they have responded to win 6 out of 13 games so far. The u12s have made an excellent start to their rugby career at Rich's. They look to be yet another strong Rich's year group. They have won 7 of their 10 games, drawing 2 and their only narrow defeat has come against RGS High Wycombe away.

R G Williams

Sir Thomas Rich's RFC Statistics 2016-17

Age Level	P	W	D	L	PF	PA	PD
1ST XV	14	11	1	2	387	274	113
2ND XV	11	7	0	4	347	120	227
3RD XV	5	2	0	3	43	76	-33
U16A	11	7	0	4	270	146	124
U16B	5	2	0	3	83	105	-22
U15A	12	8	0	4	218	148	70
U15B	7	6	0	1	185	80	105
U14A	11	9	0	2	409	123	286
U14B	14	6	0	8	284	301	-17
U14C	2	2	0	0	50	41	9
U13A	15	7	0	8	395	440	-45
U13B	15	7	1	7	345	410	-65
U13C	6	3	0	3	165	175	-10
U13D	1	0	0	1	10	40	-30
U12A	12	9	2	1	445	110	335
U12B	10	3	1	6	130	265	-135
U12C	8	2	0	6	150	240	-90
U12D	2	0	0	2	20	75	-55
U12E	1	0	0	1	10	65	-55
Totals:	161	91	5	65	3946	3234	712

2015-16 SPORTS ROUND UP

GLOUCESTER DISTRICT & CROSS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Junior & Intermediate Team qualified for the GSAA Regional Round in Warrington for the tenth year running. Unfortunately just missed out on the National Finals. Well done boys.

R Williams

BASKETBALL

In the 1st Vs first game this season they lost in a competitive game to Bromsgrove School 69-30. Will McMahon and the rest of the team competed well, particularly after being behind early in the first quarter. Their next game is against Chosen Hill on 18th January 2017. The u15 game v Bromsgrove was postponed until the Spring Term, along with the other basketball matches.

Age	P	W	D	L	PF	PA
1st V	5	0	0	5	103	286
U16	2	0	0	2	32	52
U14	3	2	0	1	46	48
U13	4	3	0	1	54	26
Totals:	14	5	0	9	235	412

1st V

Opponent	Result
Chosen Hill School	Lost : 32 - 70
Marling School	Lost : 6 - 53
Wycliffe College	Lost : 18 - 73
The Crypt School	Lost : 23 - 40
Pate's Grammar School	Lost : 24 - 50

HOCKEY 2015/16

Age	P	W	D	L	PF	PA
1st XI	6	2	1	3	18	22
U14	3	1	1	1	8	4
Totals:	9	3	2	4	26	26

1ST XI HOCKEY

Opponent	Result
The King's School, Gloucester	Lost : 1-3
Dean Close	3rd XI Draw : 0-0
Malvern College	Postponed
Rendcomb College	Postponed
Pate's Grammar School	Won : 7-3
Katharine Lady Berkeley's School	Lost : 3-5
Bromsgrove School 2nd XI	Cancelled
The King's School, Gloucester	Lost : 1-10
Hereford Cathedral School	Won : 6-1
Gloucestershire Championship	Fourth

Association Football 2015/16

Age Level	P	W	D	L	PF	PA
U18	9	1	2	6	12	23
U15	4	1	0	3	5	11
U14	4	3	0	1	11	
Totals:	17	5	2	10	28	40

U18

Opponent	Result
Ribston Hall	Draw : 2-2
Beaufort Co-operative Academy	Lost : 2-3
Cokethorpe School	Draw : 1-1
Marling School	Cancelled : 0-0
The King's School, Worcester	Lost : 1-8
Old Swinford Hospital	Lost : 0-1
The Crypt School	Lost : 2-3
RGS Worcester	Lost : 0-2
Pate's Grammar School	Cancelled : 0-0
Pate's Grammar School Boys-U18B	Won : 4-1
Hereford Cathedral School	Cancelled : 0-0
The Crypt School	Lost : 0-2

R G Williams

2016-17 SPORTS ROUND UP

CROSS COUNTRY

In the ESAA Championships the Junior and Intermediate Boys performed well but unfortunately did not reach the next round held in Warrington. In the Gloucester District Championships the Senior Boys, Senior Girls, Intermediate Boys and Junior Boys all won and are District Cross Country Champions for 2016-17. The Minor Boys finished second in this event. All boys are now ready to perform in the Spring Relays next term.

SWIMMING

Sir Thomas Rich's won the Gloucester District Boy's Swimming Championships for the eleventh consecutive year at the gala last week. The Senior girls team also performed well in the event. In the ESSA Regional Round held at Millfield School all teams performed well, with the Junior Boys finishing 11th in the Medley Relay, the Intermediate Boys finishing 12th in the Freestyle Relay, the Senior Boys finishing 15th in the Medley Relay and the Senior Girls coming 24th also in the Medley Relay.

TABLE TENNIS

The Intermediate Boys team won the Gloucester District Championships and will now compete in the Gloucestershire Competition against the Cheltenham, Stroud and Forest of Dean winners. The Junior Boys finished second in the Gloucester District Championships.

BADMINTON

The Intermediate Boys team also won the Gloucester District Championships and will now compete in the Gloucestershire Competition against the Cheltenham, Stroud and Forest of Dean winners. The Junior Boys also finished second in the Gloucester District Championships.

R G Williams

CRICKET 2016

1st XI P13 W9 L3 D1 AB3

The 1st XI under the captaincy of Sam Rideout have had to cope with the unavailability of Jack Tyrer and Toby Hiram due to injury. However, they have had a great season so far. They defeated Pate's by 83 runs in the first game, with Joel Price and Rideout scoring 40 and 39 respectively. Peter Carter also took a hat-trick as Pate's only reached 69, chasing 152.

Joel Price scored 58 in the next game v Rendcomb College as Rich's comfortably won the game by 9 wickets. Rideout and Miz Ali took 3 wickets each.

Against QEH, Rich's made a great start with the bat, Price reached a century, the first time at 1st XI for a long time, he scored 103 not out. Rideout also made 69 and although a mini collapse followed, 207 was the score set. Ollie Pearce and Haroon Shahzad then dominated with the ball. Pearce took 5 wickets for 15 runs and Shahzad 4 for 5 runs as QEH were demolished for 20 runs.

On a difficult batting surface at Marling, Rich's were in trouble at 47 for 7 but Hughes, Carter and Spoor batting down the order scored 25, 39, 18 respectively to post a score of 132. Carter took 4 wickets as Marling were bowled out for 45. Rich's first ever 1st XI game v Bristol Grammar School resulted in a 9 run victory. Price again scored a century with 112 not out, Cox also posted 62 not out as Rich's reached 205 for 1 after 35 overs. In reply BGS made a solid attempt after the rain delay but finished just short. Shahzad took 3 wickets for 27 from 7 overs.

In the next two games Rich's struggled with the bat. The top score against Wycliffe was 18, as Rich's finished 98 for 8 in a 25 over contest. However, Carter took 3 wickets and Shahzad 2, and along with some tight fielding, Wycliffe finished 94 for 6 after their 25 overs, so Rich's won by 4 runs.

In Rich's toughest game of the year, again a batting collapse in a 50 over contest v RGS Worcester cost them dearly. Price top scored on 25, as Rich's were bowled out for 133 after 33 overs. However, in the field they showed tremendous spirit and at the 15 over mark, RGS were 79 for 7. Unfortunately no more wickets fell and RGS recorded a 3 wicket victory and Rich's first defeat.

Against Monmouth 1st XI on a pitch that had unfortunately suffered from overnight rain even though it had been covered, Monmouth batted well. Their opening batsman scored a century but Rich's fought back to limit Monmouth to under 200 in their 40 overs. In reply Price and the top order had made an excellent start and after 21 overs, Rich's were 123 for 3 and cruising to victory. However, a batting collapse triggered by the loss of Price 1 run away from his 50 left Rich's short by 63 runs. Against Hereford Cathedral, Shahzad was in terrific form with the ball and was unlucky not to take more than 2 wickets. However, he did not have as much support from the other bowlers as usual and Cathedral went past 200 runs.

However, before their 50 overs were up the rain set in, flooding the square and leaving the match drawn.

Rich's were due to play Dean Close in a two-day game but the weather left the first day a wash out and a 20/20 game was all that could be squeezed in. Rich's raced to 150 in their 20 overs on a very good batting track. Matthew Cox was the top scorer with 67 runs. In reply Dean Close ended up 14 runs short with Shahzad taking 3 wickets and Seth Price taking two on his debut.

Unfortunately the Gloucester Grammar School battle with Crypt was lost to the weather but the game against King's Gloucester did go ahead. Price again led from the front scoring 113, his third century of the season! King's batted well in reply, Rideout took 3 wickets but it was close at the end with Rich's eventually winning by 9 runs.

Rich's played The MCC for the first time this season. It was an historic occasion and credit must be given to Mr Carter whose efforts to install the new grass square a few years ago and up keep it have enabled the School to play this very prestigious fixture. The MCC batted first declaring on 226 for 6 after 45 overs. At tea with Price and last year's Player of the Season Jack Tyrer back from injury at the crease, Rich's were 55 for 0 after 10 overs. However, again a batting collapse left Rich's on 170 for 9 and desperately batting out for the draw. However, with just 5 overs of the game remaining, Spoor unfortunately top-edged a sweep shot and Rich's lost by 51 runs. Special thank you must go to Mr Pitel for umpiring, the kitchen staff for preparing a lovely lunch and Mrs Lynn and Ms Herron for helping with refreshments.

The game against the Gloucestershire Gipsies was unfortunately lost to the weather. In the last game of the season v the Headmaster's XI, the 1st XI scored 148 from their 20 overs and won the game by 26 runs, even though Mr Robson scored a 50 and Mr O'Neil batted confidently before being dismissed for 22.

The top batting and bowling figures for the season over 150 runs and will therefore be published in Wisden were: Joel Price 534 runs, a staggering achievement with three centuries, Matthew Cox 287 runs and Sam Rideout 195 runs. Haroon Shahzad took 22 wickets, Oliver Pearce and Peter Carter 13 and Sam Rideout took 10 wickets.

Sam Rideout led the team superbly well as captain and special mention must go to Saxon Campbell in Year 9 and Seth Price in Year 10 for making their debuts for the 1st XI this season.
2nd XI & U17

The 2nd XI played one game v Pate's which they unfortunately lost narrowly by 5 runs.

JAMES CHANTLER

An u17 Development team took on Bristol Grammar School, with a team which consisted of which Year 9 players Saxon Campbell and Tim Niblett, Year 10 players Seth Price, Oliver Gordon, Guy Floyd and Connor Holland. In a very close game, BGS won by a very narrow margin of 6 runs.

Full Results of Senior and Junior Cricket Teams 2016

Age	P	W	D	L
1st XI	12	9	0	3
2ND XI	1	0	0	1
U17A	1	0	0	1
U15A	7	3	0	4
U15B	2	1	0	1
U14A	19	12	0	7
U14B	5	4	1	0
U13A	13	8	0	5
U13B	7	6	0	1
U12A	10	5	0	5
U12B	9	5	0	4
U12C	1	0	0	1
Totals:	87	53	1	33

James Chantler has been very successful in triathlons throughout the season. James placed first in his age category (15-16) at the triathlon in Llanelli and Liverpool, and second place in Glasgow. James is able to manage his schoolwork alongside 20 to 24 hours a week of training on a set rota.

Swimming - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday evening, Thursday, and Sunday

Cycling - Monday,

Wednesday during a double period of games, Saturday and Sunday

Running Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday

Chantler expressed how he felt extremely ecstatic and relieved having finished in such a superb place, especially out of approximately sixty or seventy competitors, depending on the race. Next to achieving the above, he still manages to excel in studying Maths, Chemistry, Physics and Business. After year thirteen, he aspires to study a course which offers him the chance to study Engineering.



A Woolridge



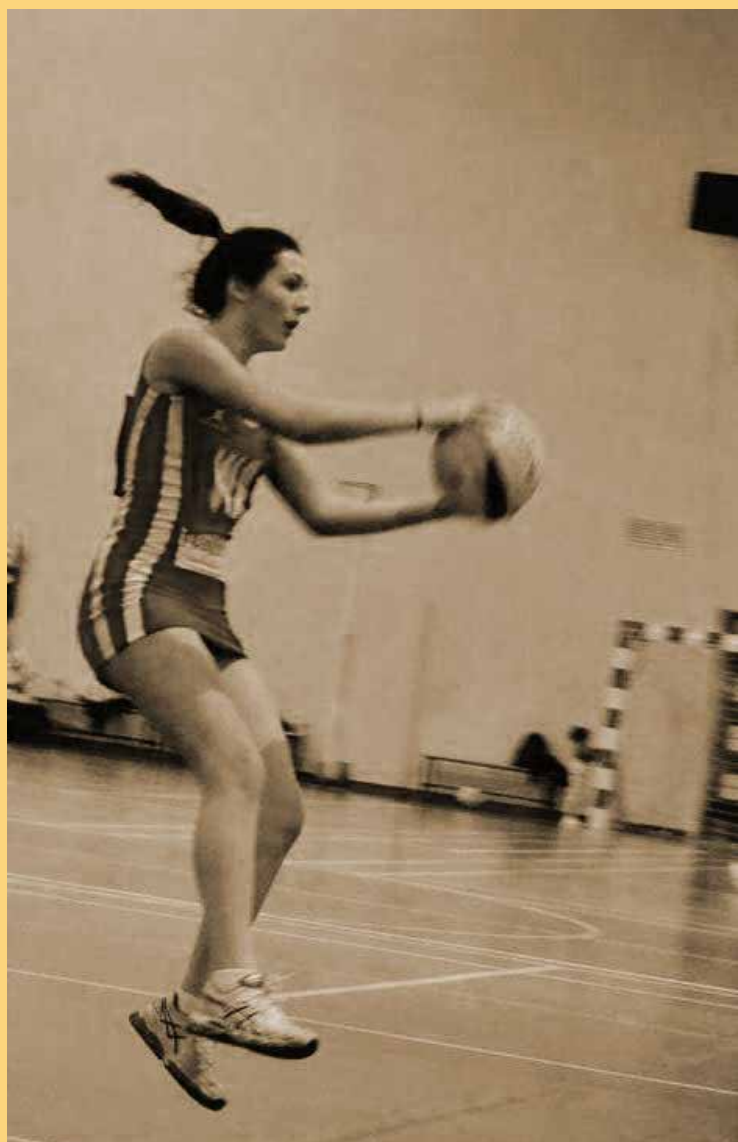


Sports



Evening

Netball Tour





During February half-term, we took 25 girls to Malta for our first ever netball tour. This was a huge achievement and

an unforgettable experience for all those involved. We have seen an increase in the number of girls joining us in the Sixth Form and, as a result, netball has gone from strength to strength. We spent five days on the island and played five fixtures. The sport is not on the school curriculum in Malta, so we were up against some very tough club opposition. The girls rose to the challenge and played some very competitive fixtures.

We also had some super trips during our time away. The girls and staff enjoyed a sunny day exploring the capital city of Valetta. I think only the Headmaster made it to the 'Cultural Experience and Museum of Malta' that day, the girls opting to shop and drink coffee during their free time instead! Another highlight was the jeep safari around Gozo. I had no idea how spectacular the coastline was and how much fun it would be to go 'off-road' and discover the beautiful beaches.

Even though we lost the game, our biggest success was against the U17s Maltese national team. The game was extremely exciting to watch and the final score was 27 – 22. The A team played the best netball I have seen them play all season and they will have some wonderful memories. The tour has been invaluable; it has improved the girls' game immeasurably and we hope that the Year 13s who will leave us this summer will continue to play at university and beyond.

Here are some of the highlights the girls have written about the tour...

"My best memory from tour was playing the Maltese national side. It was a really competitive game and we definitely upped our game and played really well." Michaela Lane 13C

"My favourite part of Malta was the jeep safari. The views were amazing and the weather was brilliant. It was perfect for sunbathing and everyone was relaxed. We also enjoyed sitting by the roof top pool at our hotel in Qawra." Bryony Schofield 12G

"I really enjoyed playing the national side, the game was really competitive and we learnt a lot." Tilda Tierney 13S

It was such a good experience playing different teams at a very high standard. I really enjoyed the jeep safari and meeting some family friends in Malta for lunch! Tilda Strateimer 12T

I really enjoyed exploring Valetta and seeing the various sights of Malta and Gozo. It was also good fun swimming at the hotel and everyone playing netball together." Laura Callard 13C

The best part of tour was the game against the U17 national team. It was really fun and was a great match. All our friends were cheering us on from the side. Charis Champness 12H

The trip would not have been as successful without the help of some very generous local sponsors. We are extremely grateful for their support. As the photos show, we were able to buy new kit for the girls through generous sponsorship from Kanes Foods, Seiko Optical, Haygrove Ltd. and Bovis Homes. We were also able to buy new balls and bibs with help from Renishaw. We have now raised enough funds to improve our two outdoor courts and have the lines re-painted in time for next season. Our tour fleeces, training tops and bags were paid for by numerous fundraising activities led by the girls: weekly cake sales, bacon roll sales to the racegoers in Cheltenham, bag packing at Morrisons and a raffle to win some merchandise kindly donated by Superdry. Thank you again to our sponsors for their wonderful support and thank you to the girls for the time and effort they made to ensure that the tour was such a success. We hope to be able to run such a venture every two years so that many more girls will be able to benefit from this experience.

M Brown



We should like to think of your time at Sir Thomas Rich's School as the beginning of a life time relationship. Our new Richian Alumni Association aims to foster a sense of belonging among our former students and develop in them a lasting commitment to the School's success. We are determined to engage with Old Richians as never before and draw them in to an extended family of young people, staff, parents and governors. Great schools grow and develop as a function of these relationships and draw on a wealth of experience of their communities for the benefit of their pupils. We want Rich's to be an outward looking, dynamic centre of excellence that prepares young people to lead in a complex and challenging world. Our alumni have a vital role to play in this. We hope you will help us by supporting the School in all it does.

As a School we want to be in touch with as many Richians as possible. To receive a termly e-bulletin along with invitations to School and alumni events please see our website www.strs.org.uk/alumni



Alternatively, if you would like to be a little more involved, receive The Richian, the School's full colour magazine, along with invitations and tickets to School and alumni events, then for an annual contribution of £16.66 – one can of course make a larger contribution – alumni and friends can become members of the 1666 club.

Your donations will help support the School's annual Development Fund for the benefit of pupils and the community.

Sir Thomas Rich's School Development Fund 2016/17

Sir Thomas Rich's School Development Fund aims to raise £56,000 to support pupils' learning in 2016/17. I hope the needs highlighted, along with your own knowledge and experience, will inspire you to give generously. We promise to use your donation wisely to keep the School at the forefront of education and give our pupils the best possible opportunities.

- Supporting and Developing STEM Subjects - £12,000
- Music - £3,000
- Sport - £15,000
- Modern Foreign Languages - £10,000
- Books and the Learning Resources Centre - £12,000
- Expressive Arts - £4,000
- School Minibus Fund - £30,000

If you would like to speak with someone about making a gift or about supporting the School with your time or experience, please contact Vicki Lynn on 01452 338400 or alumni@strs.org.uk.

STR SPORTS CENTRE ARE RUNNING
FITNESS CLASSES FOR PARENTS, STUDENTS,
AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY



DANCE FITNESS

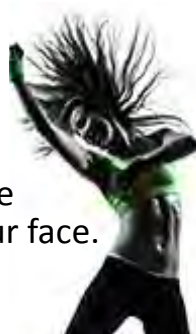
WEDNESDAY - 6:00-6:45PM - SPORTS HALL

This class is a combination of dance and aerobics.

It's great fun and set to a variety of music from high energy dance/classic old school/golden oldies/pop/latin music etc.

It is a high calorie burner and you will be guaranteed to leave with a smile on your face.

(£4 PER SESSION)



EASTER ACTIVITY CAMPS

Coming soon!

**Please contact
George Angell
(Commercial Lead)
for details**

**gsa@strs.org.uk
01452 338439**

Upcoming Events

Spring Concert

Friday 31st March 2017
7:30 - 9:30pm in the Hall

Open Days

Wednesday 3rd & Thursday 4th May 2017

School Production

Friday 19th May 2017
7:30 - 10:00pm in the Hall

Chamber Concert

Thursday 25th May 2017
7:00 - 8:30pm in the Drama Studio

Summer Concert

Friday 7th July 2017
7:30 - 9:30pm in the Hall



Oakleaze
Longlevens
Gloucester
GL2 0LF
01452 338400
www.strschool.co.uk