

SQUIRREL

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BLUE COAT SCHOOL

2010 / 11





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LIVERPOOL BLUE COAT SCHOOL



SQUIRREL

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10/11

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The Lost Art of Handwriting

Welcome to this latest edition of The Squirrel, celebrating the achievements in the School in the last year.

Before you came to read this piece today, I wonder how many emails and texts you have received and sent. Technological advancements have made our world seem a much smaller place. Messaging across the globe takes mere seconds, and video conferencing saves companies time and money. We enjoy the immediacy of that communication, and anticipate responses. However, do we ever consider the impact on the dying art of handwriting and, dare I say it, conversation? We regularly text people we see most days, and sometimes people checking their mobile phones hinders conversation and could impact on relationships.

As a teenager, I had ten penfriends in various countries. I loved writing letters and receiving them: all handwritten of course. I believe there is something special about a handwritten message. Do you not have texts or emails which you save because they are a memento of something or someone? If you had a handwritten note it could stay with you forever. Handwriting is almost an extension of the 'self': something quite personal. It involves the senses, touch and sight, whereas a computer/mobile creates a distancing. They are your words, but produced mechanically in a uniform way.

I have been privileged to have seen the original manuscripts of famous composers at the British Library in London; letters written by Keats at

the Keats Memorial House, Rome, and poetry by W B Yeats at the Dublin Writers' Museum. One cannot help but marvel at the thought that these famous people physically produced these writings, and imagine them with a pen or pencil in hand, pensive at their desks. These 'originals' are legacies.

This magazine, which celebrates the achievements of the students at The Blue Coat School, and the staff who have inspired them, includes entries which were originally handwritten. Some published writers still prefer to handwrite first drafts of work, because that allows them to revisit their original ideas, should they want to revert to them.

So, when you next post a card to someone, consider including a handwritten note, perhaps just to say how much you appreciate them, or even just a bit of news. They may well keep it as a memento of you. As I sign off this typewritten script (originally handwritten), I wish you happiness and success in all you do in the forthcoming year. If you are not mentioned within these pages, perhaps you could (hand)write a piece to remedy that next year!

I am very grateful to the Editorial Team for their hard work in producing this magazine, to all staff and students who have made contributions, to Mr Caulkin for photography, and to Mr L Lander of Crown Printing for his assistance.

Mrs BD G Ludlow

Editor



Harriet Burns - Year 12



Lee Smith - Year 11

Headteacher's Report 2010

I wish to begin by extending a very warm welcome to the Right Worshipful Lord Mayor, Councillor Hazel Williams, our Speaker, Mr Martin Keighley, Distinguished Guests, Staff, Governors, Parents, Students and Friends.

We are here tonight as the different members of The Blue Coat School community to celebrate the achievements of the students in the academic year 2009-10. It is most pleasing to see how many of our former students are here tonight and although they have moved on to universities, colleges and workplaces all over the country and beyond, I know that this celebration tonight is very important to them both as an acknowledgement of their success and a reunion with their peers and teachers, so it is wonderful to see so many of you here this evening.

Although the Headteacher's speech is a report on the year, I have to say there has been so much happening that I cannot include all the events, activities and successes but I do hope to give a synopsis of the quality, range and balance of the opportunities and achievements of Blue Coat students. Boy do they have busy lives!!!!

At the start of the academic year, the partnership with Parklands High School was officially recognised by the Department for Education. It showed in practice with joint events in Enterprise, Maths, English and Science, using both school locations and events to make this partnership a vibrant and effective one. Blue Coat staff, governors and trustees have active roles in supporting this school as it moves forward, particularly working with the new Headteacher, whom we welcome here this evening.

The school's specialism in Science and Maths continues to have a tremendous impact within the school through competitions, Maths and Science presentations and lectures including the annual Rathbones Christmas lecture, links with partner primary schools and a new development of the STEM careers Fair in October. Student successes included: for Maths winning the regional round of the UK Maths Junior Team Challenge and competing in the National final in London and in Science: 2 Year 9 students, Eleanor Roberts and Catriona Miller winning the North West heat of the Big Bang competition; they will go on to compete in the National final next March. The highlight, however, was the visit of a Royal Navy helicopter. It had returned recently from Afghanistan, and landed on the yard giving an opportunity for many students and staff to explore and talk to the pilot and the crew.

We were very pleased in the summer term to be re-designated as a Specialist school for another 3 years.

We do like to provide opportunities for Blue Coat students to display their many talents and abilities and this year's school production was just one of these. Olivia Sung then in Year 10 wrote, part produced and acted in *Now Playing the 80's Musical*. The quality of the production was amazing and most professional. Lead parts were taken by students from years 8 through to Year 13. It truly was a whole school production.

The Tod family has long been associated with The Blue Coat School, but it is through the Tod travel scholarships for Sixth formers that current students will be aware of the family's philanthropy. The Tod family's generosity allows and encourages young people to enrich their education through travel to enhance their learning. Some

of the places that have been visited have been CERN in Switzerland, Stockholm for the Nobel prize museum and Spain for work experience. Many students used this support this year as part of their fund raising for the Camp Kenya experience, which took place in July, where 28 students and 3 staff spent 4 weeks in various sites across Kenya, supporting educational projects through teaching, helping build schools and participating in eco projects. This was a very real life-enhancing experience for all those involved.

August brings Results Days. This year, A level day saw the announcement of the first A* grade together with a lot of press interest of how it was going to benefit the independent schools. Yet Blue Coat students, when the bar is raised, they respond and upgrade their own performance.

Nearly 19% of all grades were at A*. 81% of all grades were at A*/A and B, matching last year's best ever performance. 9 students who had offers at Oxford and Cambridge, some of those offers included obtaining A* grades, were successful with 6 going to Cambridge and 3 to Oxford. It was clear, however, that the University places were under great pressure and Blue Coat students responded well to that challenge as you can see from tonight's programme.

Before I move on to GCSE, I would like to thank the subject teachers, especially Heads of Department who have had to respond to the change in the A level specification, yet another change at GCSE for Year 10 students and continue to deliver at a very high standard indeed. These successes are very much their successes as well.

GCSE results continue to be very good. For the fourth consecutive year 100% of Year 11 students achieved 5 A* -C grades, including English and Maths. At Blue Coat the students take it to another level. For the first time, all students achieved GCSEs in both English subjects, Maths, Information Technology and 2 Science subjects. As last year, 77% of all grades were at A/A*. They certainly have a firm foundation on which to build.

AS results were very good as were the outcomes for Year 10 who took GCSE modules in many subjects as part of the new specifications as well as 100 of them achieving a GCSE in Information Technology; many at A* and A grades. The signs for future attainment are very good and Blue Coat students continue to succeed academically and aspire to achieve the highest grades.

The school was very pleased to see in the Sunday Times performance table of 500 best state secondary schools, published in November and compiled from combined A level and GCSE performance, that we had retained our position at 32nd, which is a tremendous achievement and provides great kudos for The Blue Coat School community and for the City of Liverpool.

Blue Coat students are so much more than a set of exam results. They participate in so many events, support charities, play sport to a high standard and as you will hear later perform some wonderful music.

In September 2009, we welcomed a new Director of Music and I think he would agree, Blue Coat students respond well to challenges. The highlight of the musical programme for the year was the Spring concert and the performance of Vivaldi's Gloria. As well as the standard, what was so uplifting was the involvement of parents, friends and professional musicians coming together with the students

to give a stupendous rendition of this particular work in Shirley Hall.

One of the major projects for last year was the provision of a new Sound and lighting system for Shirley Hall to enhance productions and concerts. This was primarily bought by the fundraising of the Parents Association. I would like to take this opportunity to thank this wonderful, dedicated and loyal group of people who work very hard to support all the activities of the School and they continue to be welcoming and reassuring to new parents.

Sport is a very important aspect of life at Blue Coat and as you will see from the programme, the successes are in a variety of sports.

Highlights included the Under 14 Boys team winning the Liverpool City title in Basketball, but what made this achievement particularly noteworthy is that it is 100th City schools title; a feat not achieved by another Liverpool school.

Badminton had a very successful season, both boys and girls winning City titles and the Key Stage 4 boys' team representing Merseyside and the North West region in a national competition at Center Parks. The same weekend saw Under 13 and Under 14 teams finishing 5th and 6th in National Basketball finals.

A real area of growth is The Duke of Edinburgh award. At the Liverpool City presentation, 15 students were awarded Silver and 33 awarded Bronze, a remarkable achievement, but there are also many more students who are keen to participate in this Award.

Many students achieve Leaders awards in Sport and in Maths; an important qualification for committed young people.

My thanks to all the staff that facilitate, coach and support all the sporting and leadership opportunities and competitions that are available for the students.

You will be pleased to know that Blue Coat students are also supporting key institutions in helping advise on the economy. Target 2.0 is a national competition run by the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England in conjunction with The Times newspaper. As a national competition, it has local heats, regional rounds and a national final at The Bank of England in March. The Blue Coat team of James Liu, Lee Atkins, Tom Bowman and Jack Bedford, coached by Mr Jamieson reached the national final for the first time and performed admirably in this very prestigious competition. The team finished 4th in the competition won by Dulwich College, receiving a cheque for £1000 for the school and laptop computers for the team members, presented by Mervyn King, the Governor of The Bank of England. Later in the year, a Year 11 student, Tom McKenna also won an economics national competition run by the Daily Mail. We will be in safe hands in the future.

It is the department of Business Studies and Economics that saw the only retirement of the year, Mr Edwards, who had served the school for 30 years. We wish him well in his retirement.

Another area where Blue Coat students excel is in Creative writing, having prose and poems published in many anthologies and competitions. The extraordinary standard is very much reflected in the Squirrel magazine. This high quality production is something that the editorial team should be particularly proud of as they are providing a tangible lasting memory and record of the talents and achievements of Blue Coat students. As well as the creative writing and the reports, the art work is exceptional. If the School had to be represented by one artefact alone, then this is certainly an outstanding candidate.

Following their annual exhibition of exam work, the Art students

went on a trip to the galleries of Paris in July. Other excursions abroad included the annual ski trip for 51 students, who went to the Italian Alps in February. The annual trip to Salou and Barcelona was enjoyed by 67 Key Stage 3 students. The Spanish exchange with the school in San Sebastian continues to be popular for the older students and the new French exchange for younger students with a school in Bordeaux was successful.

Four students took part in the Gifted and Talented Summer schools at Durham University and Olivia Thompson joined fellow classicists at Eton College during the summer holiday.

Finally in a new curriculum development, a pilot group of 20 Year 13 students completed the new Extended Project Qualification with many awarded A and A* grades. This allowed 19 of them to be awarded the AQA Baccalaureate, often with Distinction and Merits. One student, Sarah Gannon has been awarded the Silver Medal for the highest overall performance in this qualification, which she will receive at the AQA awards in London later this week, representing The Blue Coat School.

So the year ended as successfully as it had started and Blue Coat students continue to perform at the highest level wherever they are. They are able to approach a new academic year, a new stage, whether at school, university or work, confident in their knowledge of very good qualifications and with high self esteem, knowing that they are able to explore new opportunities and meet new challenges supported as they are by the enthusiastic and experienced school staff and Governors, and very encouraging parents.

So it is a privilege for me to deliver the annual report at this wonderful occasion in this iconic building.

Thank you



Emma Casey - Year 11



Dr. Declan Lawell (Latin & Greek)

What's this? A new Latin teacher? Believe it or not, it's true: Blue Coat's quota of classicists (and doctors, too) has now officially risen to two. Dr. Declan Lawell (pronounced 'Lor-ell' without the 'r' sound) is understandably excited to be the first new Latin teacher in 35 years. He hails from

Belfast, apparently less than a mile away from Mr. McBride, and has proved that it is actually possible to 'undersell' someone by mistakenly saying that they have three degrees. He completed a BA in Classics at Queen's University, his *alma mater*, followed by a degree in Theology in Rome (!), a Master's in Philosophy at Queen's, and finally a Ph.D. in Philosophy and Mediaeval Latin before returning as a lecturer in Philosophy.

After several years at university he decided to look for a job teaching in a secondary school, and the Blue Coat School's excellent reputation and appreciation of Latin jumped out. He finds that the pupils really do value Latin and are 'intellectually curious'. Apart from using his expertise to inspire people to study Latin further, one of the major changes that his arrival will make is the transition into the 'Classics' department. Year 8s are now learning 'Caecilius est in horto' on the Tabula Callida (a.k.a. the Smartboard), beginners' Greek classes are a roaring success and even international translation competitions have been greeted with great enthusiasm by the sixth form. There may even be excursions to Rome if we have our way!

Outside of work, Dr. Lawell is particularly interested in palaeography, and is preparing a book on Thomas Gallus, a mediaeval French monk whose commentaries have never before been edited, making him the world expert! He also enjoys hurling (an Irish sport with sticks'), Latin polyphony and Italian opera: he speaks fluent Italian, and 'has a good visual knowledge of French but has to guess it when it's spoken' – or so he said, in perfect French. His favourite classical authors are Tacitus & Horace (Roman) and Plato & Euripides (Greek).

Dr. Lawell's presence in the infamous 'Watto's Grotto' has been heartily welcomed by students – no mean feat, certainly. He has the same dedicated approach to Latin that we are used to, and it looks like he is more than up to the task of instituting 'continuity with a difference' in the BCS Latin department. We Latin students – 'Watsonii' and newbies alike – are delighted to have him and wish him every success.

Ms Esther Papworth (History)

Students will soon be seeing a new perspective on History with the arrival of Ms Esther Papworth. She was born on an RAF base in Germany, where her father was in the army and her mother taught in American schools, but then moved home to Glasgow, where she also



went to university. After completing a degree in History, she began by teaching in the highlands of Scotland for six years, before going on to spend five years in the police and four years working with the parents of young offenders. We've certainly not seen that before!

Ms Papworth is highly impressed with the enquiring nature of the students – although it does keep her on her toes. She likes the fact that the school has its own

history, and says it has a lovely atmosphere. She aims to continue Blue Coat's History success while adding a little Glaswegian spice to the department and some Caledonian flavour to the approach to British history. (Bonus to anyone who gets that.)

In her spare time Ms Papworth mostly enjoys playing with her little boy, who is almost two. She also likes cooking and yoga – although the latter involves a lot of falling over. She 'absolutely does not' have any nicknames that are fit for students' ears, but she seems quirky enough without one. Despite being an ex-policewoman, Ms Papworth is not at all scary; she is extremely approachable and a welcome addition to the History department.

Mr Steven Smith (Chemistry)

Mr Steven Smith is a true northerner and proud! He supports his home football team of Preston North End FC, which is featured on one of his school ties. In his spare time, he plays the bass guitar and the guitar, and he and his wife enjoy looking after their 'children': a 5-year-old Bull



Mastiff and a cat. Mr Smith would like to add a different perspective to the excellent Science department, as someone who has come from the very different environment of chemical industry – including encouraging students to take advantage of the industry nearby.

After graduating with a degree in Chemistry from Sheffield University, he worked for 'British Steel', now called 'Corus', for six years. While working at Corus, he completed a Masters in Metals Technology and Management before leaving to become a teacher. He taught at Egglecliffe School in Stockton-on-Tees for four years, but then decided to move back to the north-west.

Mr Smith initially investigated the teaching post at Blue Coat because he was intrigued by our reputation – his colleagues in Egglecliffe had even heard of us – but the school was sold to him in five minutes during a telephone conversation with the infamous Mr Row. He admires the positive relationship between the pupils and the teachers, and the impression that everyone is working together to achieve success.

Mr Smith's most memorable experience of teaching is when a student passed an exam using his analogy of arrows on a target to explain accuracy and precision: he would like to leave such an impression on his students at Blue Coat, and ensure that they all leave the lesson knowing something new. He advises pupils to take advantage of all opportunities and we are sure that his students will relish this opportunity to experience an outside perspective on Chemistry.

Mrs Helen Middleman

Mrs Helen Middleman is a former pupil of De La Salle, a graduate of Warwick University in Maths and Physics and a fully qualified and practiced actuary, with 12 years' experience in employee benefits with a leading global consultancy firm, Mercer.

Returning to work after a break to start a family - she is the proud mother of a 6- and an 8-year-old - Helen became involved in toddlers' groups and Sunday school and was employed as a staff governor of her children's nursery.

Helen applied for her current position at Blue Coat because of the school's excellent reputation, coupled with its fortuitous proximity to



her home. She enjoys the professional camaraderie, and says that the 'fabulous' pupils 'make her day'.

Helen cheerfully describes her role in the office as 'a juggling act', encompassing franking the mail and handling the many phone calls made to Blue Coat each day, from parents, prospective visitors and legions of salesmen, along with dealing with the sick (and sick bags!) and injured, and the general safeguarding of the students. However, Helen has also received requests for splinter removal and on-the-spot fixing of skirts (!).

Helen's spare time is shared with her family and has been known to include attending the gym thrice weekly, playing the piano, singing and helping out in church, and - a true blue - making the most of her season ticket to Everton.

Mr Philip Williams (Business Studies & Economics)

Mr Williams is Liverpool born and bred - he graduated in Economics from Liverpool John Moores University and supports Liverpool Football Club. He comes to Blue Coat with a background in business - for ten years he was a recruitment manager in a Liverpool business, this following two years working in Manchester and some time spent in South Bedford (South-East England) after a promotion. He wishes to bring his passion and enthusiasm for the job to the Blue Coat classroom, as well as an insight into the corporate world and countless amusing anecdotes.

After so many years in business, Mr Williams decided to fulfil his long-term ambition of becoming a teacher, inspired in part by a hands-on role in educating his three young children - two girls aged 6 and 4, and a boy aged 3. Most of his time is spent escorting them to their various hobbies, such as salsa, and of course, football. Mr Williams' impressions of Blue Coat so far are very good: the students have high ability and motivation, respect the rules and tradition but have personalities too. That's an understatement! He understands how A-Level can make economics look scary at first, and is ready to help any students who wish to go into business - he has too many stories to choose from.

Mr Williams says that in becoming a teacher he has 'been struck by the commitment and ability of fellow staff members, who put their corporate colleagues very much in the shade!' He decided to teach at Blue Coat because he 'worked for the best business so wanted to work for the best school'. We, of course, want to have the best teachers - we're sure we do. Mr Williams' expertise is more than welcome in the Business Studies department and we wish him all the best for the future.



Mrs M Rigby

Born and bred in Warrington, Mrs Rigby attended Notre Dame High School before gaining her qualifications at the Notre Dame teacher training college, which is now part of the Liverpool Hope University. She enjoyed playing the piano as a child, which, consequently led to her first contact with Blue Coat since she took her music exams at the Blue Coat Art Centre.

As a learning mentor she works closely with students, helping them with any problems they come across with in school. When asked about her first impression of the students here she says that she is very impressed with their enthusiasm for learning and thinks that they are lovely.

In her spare time she enjoys reading, helping out at her local church and is also a governor at her local primary school.



Mrs Debra Shaw

Mrs Shaw is the latest addition to the Blue Coat administration team. Mrs Shaw has overseen an extensive review and update of school policies and plays an integral part in the smooth running of the school.

This is her first job at the school, having spent many years working at Lancashire County Council and remarks that there is a marked contrast between the two jobs. She tells me that her impressions of Blue Coat are very positive and describes all aspects of it as 'outstanding'.

Although work and travelling have eroded much of her spare time, Mrs Shaw is a keen cyclist and badminton player whilst also having an interest in motor racing.



Mr Paul Fennell

Mr Fennell is the latest addition to the very able and talented group of Site Staff. Before coming to the Blue Coat School, he worked as a maintenance officer in a school for students with medical and physical disabilities. He was the only maintenance officer in the school, so he



was kept extremely busy (and that could explain why you may catch him talking to himself! - Ed.) He's pleased to be part of the dedicated team of Site Staff. Out of work, he enjoys fishing, music and playing the guitar badly (so won't be expecting an invitation from Mr Emery to perform in a School concert any time soon). We welcome him and are grateful for the work he has done so far.

Ms Karol Strain

Karol Strain joined The Blue Coat School in September 2005 as part of a trio of new IT (Irish Teachers), as one pupil was overheard when referring to the IT office. So communication within the Department now had a Celtic feel with the topic of conversation often centering around topics such as Ryanair flights to and from Liverpool. So it was relatively easy for Karol to settle into life at the school and in particular into the IT Department.

Highlights of Karol's first year included one Tuesday after school detention session when the IT Department had seemingly managed to put every single Y11 pupil who was underachieving together in one room! Oh the halcyon days of an all boys Y11. However Karol soon managed to establish herself, managing her classes with formidable efficiency ensuring that all of her charges made excellent progress.

Karol was also a very hardworking and enthusiastic form tutor. Particularly impressive was Karol's organisation of her form who were only Year 7 to raise several hundred pounds for Charity with a Cultural Food Sale. Karol also repeated this success the following year, a very impressive feat of organisation. Karol was very popular with her form and I am sure she will be missed by many of them.

As Karol settled into the Blue Coat she managed to develop many friendships with staff at the school forged on social occasions and school trips such as the Barcelona trip. Even Mr Caulkin, who once foolishly attempted a Blonde joke at a PA barbeque, became a close confidant and Friday lunchtime partner.

Also during her time at The Blue Coat, Karol successfully completed a Master Degree in Education so it was no surprise when she managed to obtain a promotion to Head of Department at the Queen's Park High School in Chester.

I would like to take to this opportunity to thank Karol for all her hard work during her time at the Blue Coat and wish her every success in the future.

Mr Keating

An ode to Karol Strain

*The head of I.T.
Is the next step for you.
But you're not gone.
Here in spirit in room SO1.*

*We liked your Irish snowballs.
And your funny Irish jokes.
When we heard you were leaving.
We hoped it was a hoax.*

*We will miss you in our lessons.
Now we're left with Mr Sands.
Never again will we hear you say.
'Oh aye, that's grand.'*

By Charlotte Owens and Kyran Crute

Mr David Atherton

Mr. David Atherton was a welcome addition to the science department during the academic year 2009-2010. As it was his first year teaching, Mr. Atherton could be found working hard in the science office planning lessons and marking books in the early morning hours. Working alongside Mr. Fee, Mr. Atherton was a year 7 form tutor and was beloved by his form. Well-known affectionately as 'Daef' by his students, he supported them in both their academic studies and pastorally.

Mr. Atherton was enthusiastic about being involved in various school activities, and his enthusiasm was infectious. He was a hit with students, contributing to many extra-curricular activities, including the science crest awards and PGL, although with the amount of pie he ate I'm told he was not such a hit with the PGL catering staff. It has to be said, Mr. Atherton was a man of many talents, some of which he displayed during the school show where he starred as the 'voice' in Thriller.

One of Mr. Atherton's greatest achievements was helping his staff relay team on sports day to victory. Always cheerful, Mr. Atherton took a lead role in the staff Christmas song performed during the lower school Christmas assembly. Mr. Atherton will be remembered at The Blue Coat School for his jolly laugh and his positive impact on his students.

Miss Hodson

Mr Peter Edwards

When asked to write this, I initially thought that it would be extremely difficult to do justice to a colleague who has been at the School for over thirty years. However, when I gave it a little more thought, I realized that I have actually known Pete for fifteen years myself now, over half my lifetime!

My first 'encounter' of Pete was when I opted for Business Studies GCSE when I was 14 and a student at the School. Even though Pete had been teaching at The Blue Coat School since 1980, being a Lower School student, I had not noticed Pete at all during my early years. Now this is probably the case for most teachers who generally teach option subjects or it could have course been due to Pete's diminutive height and that I just had missed him!

After completing the GCSE course, I then went onto study Economics at A level, which must go down as a compliment to Pete and his undoubted knowledge of business and economic theory. Indeed, on returning to Blue Coat as a teacher in 2004, one thing that I have always been impressed with is Pete's impressive subject knowledge.

Pete was a key part of the Department's ongoing success in recent years and in response to the growing student numbers, we appointed Andrea Rimmer three years ago and this must have been an interesting time for Pete as for the first time in 25 years, Pete had a woman to contend with in the Department. At first, I think that Andrea's style and sense of humour were a bit of a shock to Pete's more laid back approach, but they soon developed a very effective working relationship.

Pete generally kept a low profile within School, but he has been responsible in the past for work experience and charity speakers and I know that Pete took great pride in the work that was undertaken in these two areas.

Outside of Blue Coat, Pete has been heavily involved with external marking and coursework moderation – indeed in the summer of 2010 he marked some 600 external scripts. Along with this great appetite for

marking work, Pete's other main pastime (other than his beloved Everton FC of course) is caravanning and he owns a caravan at Longridge Caravan Park, near Preston. Pete intends to spend much of his retirement up at Longridge and I know that it is a place in which Pete can relax and forget about the more stressful parts of day to day life. Indeed, with all of the money that Pete must have earned marking those scripts, I am sure that in a few years, he will be able to buy the whole caravan site!

To finish, Pete has given so much to the School over an incredibly long period of time and all at Blue Coat will miss Pete and wish him well in his retirement.

Mr S Jamieson

Ms Kate Morris

Kate was the Learning Mentor at the Blue Coat School between March 2004 and October 2010.

Originally employed to nurture the school's Gifted and Talented programme, Kate's position soon grew to encompass aiding pupils at the school who had a number of different needs. Kate's help, encouragement and motivation was literally life-changing for some students. Always willing to listen and never afraid of a challenge, she was dedicated to her work with the pupils and did her utmost to alleviate the problems with which they presented her.

In 2008 Kate secured a place on the Northern School of Childhood and Adolescent Psychotherapy's Observational programme. She studied for 2 years at Alder Hey and towards the end of her course was encouraged to apply for the much coveted position of Trainee Child Psychotherapist. Kate was accepted on the course and is now in her first year of a four year training programme which will eventually lead to a Ph.D. and fully qualified status as a Child Psychotherapist. I cannot think of anyone better suited to the role, she will be an asset to the NHS and we wish her all the very best.

Sam

Teacher News

We have a few birth announcements: Congratulations to Mrs O'Rourke, Mrs Hornby, Mrs McDonnell and Mrs McGain on the birth of their children (Millie-May, Joshua, Eloise and Darcy Willow). We offer the teachers, their husbands and families our best wishes; also to Leanne Hamill (office) and her baby Jack.

Congratulations to Mr Pearson on his recent marriage. We wish him and his wife much happiness together.

Mr Dunkin and Mr Mercer experimented with terminal velocity when they went sky-diving. They jumped from the plane at 15,000 feet to raise funds for the Kenya Trip.

Mrs Ludlow volunteered to be a World Book Day giver. She handed out 48 copies of Toni Morrison's *Beloved* at the parish church, Neston on 5th March. She also volunteered to be a teacher judge on the BBC Radio 2 Chris Evans '500 word' story competition.

Welcome back to Miss Millar, who has been studying in Belfast for a Masters Degree for a year.



Richard Pan - Year 11



Alex Plent - Year 12

Student Achievements

GCSE RESULTS 2010

	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	Total
Art	12	10	5							27
Biology	33	40	14	3						90
BS	27	19	1	1						48
Chemistry	46	27	15	2						90
D&T	9	5	1							15
English Language	24	54	40	4						122
English Literature	4	56	48	14						122
French	16	27	12	8	2					65
Geography	23	15	8	4						50
History	22	34	19	3						78
Information Technology	55	65	2							122
Latin	15	6	2							23
Mathematics	50	64	8							122
Music	7	1	2							10
Physics	38	31	17	4						90
Religious Studies	1	2	2							5
Science	14	13	5							32
Additional Science	10	12	9	1						32
Spanish	31	42	17	6	3					99
PE	7	10	3							20
	444	533	230	50	5					1262

A Level RESULTS 2010

	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	Total
Art	3	1	1	1				6
Biology	4	18	19	14	8	4		67
Chemistry	8	26	22	7	3	4	1	71
Computing		5		1	1			7
D&T		1	4	1				6
Economics	22	20	9	1				52
English Language & Literature	2	5	5	4	1			17
English Literature	5	8	5					18
French	1	6	3	1	1			12
Geography	5	12	7					24
History	14	15	4	6				39
Information Technology	1	2	3	4	2			12
Latin		3						3
Mathematics	13	27	14	8	2	1		65
Further Maths	6	3	5					14
Music		2	2			1		5
PE		2	3	2				7
Psychology	4	8	13	8	1			34
Physics	8	7	10	4	2	1	1	33
Politics	2	15	5	1				23
Religious Studies	1	1	3					5
Spanish	3	13	4	4	2	1		27
General Studies	11	34	50	38	21	8	5	167
	113	234	191	105	44	20	7	714

Entry into Higher Education 2010

Student	University	Subject
Faisal Al-Brumy	Manchester	Law
Michael Anderson-Jones	Manchester	Medicine (5 years)
Nathaniel Andrews	Leeds	History
Hannah Armstrong	Leeds	Criminal Justice & Criminology
Lauren Atherton	Cambridge	Chemical Engineering (via Natural Sciences)
Lee Atkins	Liverpool	History
Christopher Baldwin	Liverpool	Geography
Daniel Bartling	Glasgow	Economics
Sophie Batterton	King's College London	Medicine
Eleanor Beggs	Leeds	Geological Sciences
Andrew Benfield	Liverpool	Artificial Intelligence
Amy Bennett	Cambridge	Natural Sciences
Michael Blackmore	Liverpool John Moores	Business and Economics
Zoe Bond	Newcastle	Combined Honours
Thomas Bowman	Cambridge	Economics
Paul Brannigan	Liverpool	Philosophy and Politics
Liam Brown	London South Bank	Digital Film and Video
Thomas Browne	University College London	Hispanic Studies
Jonathan Buchanan	Leeds	History
John Burke	Edge Hill	Environmental Science
Jonathan Byrne	Bath Spa	Professional Musicianship
Matthew Caine	Durham	Music
Matthew Carney	Liverpool John Moores	Business and Economics
Simon Chandler	Liverpool	Modern European Languages
Dale Charnock	Liverpool	Medical Chemistry with Pharmacology
Karthikeyan Chellappan	Imperial	Mechanical Engineering
Leo Chen	Sheffield	Dentistry
Sarah Clutton	Liverpool	Earth Sciences
April Cockburn	Liverpool	Ocean Sciences
Kate Coenen-Rowe	Sussex	English
Cole Cohen	Glasgow	Physics
Daniel Corns	Liverpool	Economics
Matthew Costello	York	English / History
Joel Crawley	Warwick	History
Philip Crawley	Sheffield	Hispanic Studies & Economics
Thomas Crawley	Leeds	Economics
Rebecca Croft	Liverpool	Aerospace Engineering with Pilot Studies
Paula Crosby	Liverpool	Psychology
Daniel Daly	Paris	French Studies
Lloyd Denvir-Parry	East Anglia	American Studies (4 years)
Dominic Downes	Nottingham	Philosophy
Neil Duffy	Leeds	History
Charlotte Dunne	Liverpool	Combined Honours
Emma Durham	Liverpool	Chemistry with Research in Industry
Krystyn Durkin	Liverpool	Law (LLB Honours)
George Edem	De Montfort	Pharmacy (4 years)
Jonathan Edosomwan	Leicester	Economics
Rosalind Elsmore	Imperial College London	Biology
Jack England	London School of Economics	Geography with Economics
Hani Essa	Manchester	Medicine (5 years)
Darren Eves	Loughborough	Mathematics
Samuel Fiske	Leeds	Economics
Richard Fong	Central Lancashire	Computer Games Development
Sarah Gannon	Oxford	Medicine
Stephanie Gibbons	Sheffield	Modern Languages

Student Achievements

Ryan Gowns	Leeds	History and Roman Civilisation
Bronica Gumbhir	Manchester	Optometry
Alexander Hacillo	Oxford	History
Gannah Hadi	Liverpool John Moores	Pharmacy
Timothy Haggis	Sheffield	Business Management
Emma Hawkens	York	Biochemistry
Amelia Hayden	Liverpool	History
Emma Healiss	Cambridge	Law
Emma Henigan	Liverpool	Law (LLB Honours)
Lee Henry	Nottingham	Politics
Michael Higham	Oxford	Chemistry
Melissa Huang	Leeds	Chemical Engineering
Hollie Hughes	Liverpool John Moores	Primary Education
Daniel Idama	Liverpool	Medicine
Daniel Inwood	Liverpool John Moores	Pharmacy
David Jeffery	Sheffield	International Relations and Politics
Amy Jenkins	Liverpool John Moores	Working with children and young people
Katherine Jolliffe	Liverpool	Nursing
Harley Jones	Cambridge	Music
Michael Jones	Sheffield	Economics
Victoria Jones	Sheffield	Biochemistry (3 years)
Karolina Kalosza	Liverpool	French and Hispanic Studies
Arshad Kamal	Imperial College London	Mathematics
Shalini Kanapathywasam	Manchester	Economics
Ellis Kay	Liverpool	Physics (4 years)
Jack Kenny	Leeds	Law (3 years)
Emma King	Liverpool	Chemical Sciences
Kiron Koshy	University College London	Medicine (6 years)
Sharon Koshy	Newcastle	Medicine
Elliott Kwong	Kent	Economics
Laurette Lau	Liverpool	Law (LLB Honours)
James Liu	Cambridge	Economics
Matthew Lo	Keele	Pharmacy
Christopher Loftus	Leeds	Medicine
Rebecca Loveridge	Leeds	Economics and Politics
Diane Lyon	Liverpool	Medicine
Lauren MacLaren	Liverpool	Geography (Science)
Zoe Maher	Sparsholt College, Hampshire	Equine Studies
Melody Mak	London Metropolitan	Sports Therapy
George Mansfield	Liverpool Hope	Accounting
Rosie March	Northumbria	Fashion Communication
James May	Salford	Prosthetics and Orthotics
Benedict McKenna	Manchester	Politics and Modern History
Rebecca McWaters	Liverpool John Moores	Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice
Chloe Mercer	Liverpool	Psychology
Ben Miller	Durham	Mechanical Engineering
Craig Milligan	Liverpool John Moores	English and Creative Writing
David Mintz	Sheffield	International History and International Politics
Gary Molyneux-Chan	Huddersfield	Chemistry with Chemical Engineering
Elizabeth Morrison-Wells	Leicester	Physics
Katrina Murphy	Nottingham	Medicine
Rachael Murphy	Liverpool	Business Studies
Harriet Murray	Salford	Law
Mark Namazi	Sheffield	Economics
Daniel Oliver	Leeds	Economics
Suzanne Philipps	Birmingham	Psychology
Matthew Pollard	Liverpool	Archaeology of Ancient Civilisations
Zara Poulter	York	History
Robert Power	Liverpool John Moores	Pharmacy

Student Achievements

Joe Preston
 Marcus Quinn
 Sarah Rabet
 Dale Rae
 Mushome Rahman
 Ben Rand
 River Rea

Tony Ren
 Elizabeth Renshaw
 Christopher Rigby
 Holly Riley
 Jake Rosenthal
 James Rushton
 Mark Ryan
 Rebecca Smith
 Thomas Smith
 Patrick Spicer-Ward
 Liam Swainbank
 Michael Tancred
 Michael Tapp
 Alex Taylor
 Jordan Taylor-Jones
 Gabrielle Thompson
 Michael Threlfall
 Lisa Tighe
 Conal Traverse
 Victor Truong
 Charlotte Van Netten
 Emma Wakefield
 Simon Walker
 Janine Walters
 Alex Waterfield
 Ami Weir
 Ashley Williams
 Charles Williams
 Garry Wilson
 Michael Wilson
 Siobhan Wilson
 Kieran Woods
 Alexander Yoh
 Aneeza Yusuf

Nottingham Trent
 Durham
 Liverpool
 Liverpool John Moores
 Liverpool
 University College London
 Manchester Metropolitan

London School of Economics
 Durham
 York
 Liverpool
 Nottingham Trent
 Leeds
 Liverpool
 Manchester
 Sheffield
 Leeds
 Birmingham
 Liverpool
 Liverpool
 Brunel
 Aberdeen
 Hull York Medical School
 Manchester
 Manchester
 Central Lancashire
 King's College London
 Liverpool
 Durham
 Coventry
 Liverpool John Moores
 Liverpool John Moores
 Lancaster
 Newcastle
 Leeds
 King's College London
 Liverpool John Moores
 Sheffield
 Liverpool
 Leeds Metropolitan
 De Montfort

Chemistry
 Economics
 Life Sciences applicable to Medicine
 Pharmacy
 Life Sciences applicable to Medicine
 Russian Studies (4 years)
 Advertising Management and
 Brand Management
 Mathematics and Economics
 Modern Languages
 Management
 Physics
 Psychology
 Architectural Engineering
 Biochemistry
 European Studies and a Modern Language
 History and Politics
 International Development
 Medicine (5 years)
 Economics
 Psychology
 Sport Science (Coaching)
 English
 Medicine
 Physics
 European Studies and a Modern Language
 Pharmacy
 Pharmacy (Master of) (4 years)
 Combined Honours
 Modern Languages
 Mathematics
 Criminology
 Accounting and Finance
 Conservation Biology
 Psychology
 Medical Biochemistry
 Dentistry (5 years)
 English and Media and Cultural Studies
 Law with Spanish
 Economics and Mathematics
 International Business
 Pharmacy (4 years)

PRIZE LIST 2009 – 2010 FORM PRIZES

Year 7

Blaise Best-Barton
Charlotte Barbarinsa
Victoria Moorcroft
Ryan Gaffney
Giancarlo Canetti
Faizah Hamid
Kelly-Ann Stewart
Jonathan Chan

Year 8

Prudence Leung
Jack Seasman
Katie Chen
Jacky Hou
Jessica Hyde
Imogen Cooper
Rishi Banerjee
Bethan Price

Year 9

Kaylyn Chan
Paul Jones
Freya Balchin
Alice Blanchard
Christopher Devaney
Nina Desforges
Grace Crichton
Andrew Whitfield

Year 10

Callum Taylor
Molly Howarth-Maddison
Emma Raynor
Alistair Rutherford
Dileep Karthikappallil
Rebecca Borthwick
Samuel Batterton
Olivia Sung

THE MARGARET BRYCE SMITH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

Year 11

Hollie Ackers
Sara Edwards
Georgina Hunt
Elham Mahmoody
Carlos Ravena-Walker
Laura Wilson

Bethany Currie
Kathryn Glacken
Rebecca Jones
Eleanor Marsh
Lara Rimmer
Janet Wong

Louise Davis
Louise Goodwin
Amy Lewin
Brogan Moss
Syafiq Rosidi
Zhixuan Zhai

Steven Doran
Daniel How
Jack Luscombe
Marina Ransome
Kathryn Sayer
Sarah Zhao

ACADEMIC PRIZES

Year 12

Juman Al-Machoor
Ali Amin Nejad
Fiona Bennett
Eleanora Bianchi
Jennifer Buchanan
Lewis Coenen-Rowe
Benjamin Crook
Ellie Darby
Joshua Dixon
Becca Hughes

Jesvin John
Mark Johnson
Philip Kelly
Christopher Kerr
David Lang
Hannah Liu
Liam Loftus
Louis Maddox
Christopher McLoughlin
Ruqayyah Moynihan

Silviu Paraoan
Edward Parr
Shaun Rahman
Alix Roper
Jonathan Rowlands
Caroline Storey
Maxwell Thomas-McGenity
Helen Thompson
Lucy Thompson
Olivia Thompson

THE MARGARET BRYCE SMITH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

Year 13

Nada Aly
Jack Bedford
Karthikeyan Chellapan
Sarah Gannon
Harley Jones
James Liu
Michael Threlfall

Lauren Atherton
Amy Bennett
Kate Coenen-Rowe
Alexander Hacillo
Arshad Kamal
Qasim Masood

Lee Atkins
Paul Brannigan
Joel Crawley
Emma Healiss
Kiron Koshy
Marcus Quinn

Sophie Batterton
Robert Brennan
Krystyn Durkin
Michael Higham
Sharon Koshy
Tony Ren

NUFFIELD BURSARY PRIZES

Sponsored by Rathbones Investment Management

Philip Kelly
Hua Yong Li
Michael Nelson

William Qi
Ben Twigg
Heather Wark

SPECIAL PRIZES

The Robin S G Makin Prize:	(Chess)	Stephen Chung
Hilda Watson Prize:	(Physics)	Michael Threlfall
Old Blues' Association Modern Language Prize		Daniel Daly, Elizabeth Renshaw
D Urquart Prize:	(Library)	Andrew Benfield
R L Powell Memorial Prize:	(English)	Robert Brennan
W Gregory Prize:	(Stage Management)	Laura Caveney
L H Leith Memorial Prize:	(Sport)	Eleanor Beggs, Jack Bedford, Elliott Kwong, Alex Yoh, Charlotte Dickinson
F J Worthington Memorial Prize:	(Maths)	James Liu
Fletcher Memorial Prize:	(Junior Maths)	Ian Vidamour
J H Worthington Memorial Prize:	(Lesson Reading)	Zoe Bond
R C Burns Memorial Prize:	(Service to the School)	Duncan Cowan
Brakell Prize:	(Dramatics)	Kelsey Walsh
Luke Hoyle Prize:	(Technology)	Chloe Mercer, Rosie March, Matthew Costello
Hickman Memorial Prize:	(Junior Technology)	Kathryn Sayer
Blue Coat Arts Centre Prize:	(Arts & Music)	Alice McRoe, Sarah Hodgkiss, Kate Coenen-Rowe, Lewis Coenen-Rowe
The Birch Baton:	(Orchestra)	Siobhan Wilson
The Music Chalice:	(Academic)	Matthew Caine
The Smallman Prize:	(Contribution to Musical Life of the School)	Harley Jones
Cowkeepers' Association:	(Magazine)	Zoe Bond, Mathew Costello, David Jeffery, Shaun Rigby, Olivia Thompson, Laurette Lau
The Law Prize:		Amelia Hayden, Emma Healiss
Sutherland Prize:	(Economics)	Tom Bowman
H P Arnold-Craft Prize:	(History)	Alexander Hacillo, Lee Atkins
Gwyn Watcyn Prize:	(Politics)	Ellen Tranter
Overseas Containers Ltd Prize:	(Geography)	Omer Amirzadah
F A Unwin Prize:	(Chemistry)	Michael Higham
J L Davies Prize:	(Physical Education)	Emma Wakefield
Senior Biology Prize:		Amy Bennett
Psychology Prize:		Joel Crawley, Emma Hawkens
Computing Prize:		Arshad Kamal
John Caulfield Prize:	(Sixth Form contribution)	Faisal Al-Brumy
ICT Prize:		Laurette Lau
Peter Arnold-Craft Prize:	(Creative Writing)	Sarah Hamilton, Nina Desforges, Rachael Chung
AQA Baccalaureate Prize		Sarah Gannon
Friends of the Blue Coat School Prize:	(Exceptional Attendance)	Daniel Corns, Garry Wilson,
Lady President's Prize:	(Head Girl)	Sophie Batterton
Chairman's Prize:	(Head Boy)	Kiron Koshy

DUKE OF EDINBURGH BRONZE AND SILVER AWARDS

Bronze Award

Michael Ashton, Melissa Atheton, Jake Cockburn, Katie Conry, Bethany Currie, Ashley Davies, Sara Edwards, Alshymaa Essa, Vanessa Ferguson, Emma Findlay, Rachel Hayes, Michael Head, Charlotte Holmes, Robert Hughes, Georgina Hunt, Theodore Jackson, Roseanna Lane, Amy Lewis, Daniel Little, Elham Mahmoody, Alison McNulty, Brogan Moss, Ashley O'Meara, Joshua Owens, Elizabeth Peacock, Marina Ransome, James Rhodes, Lara Rimmer, Ben Stoker, Carlos Ravena-Walker, Callum Watling, Janet Wong, Sarah Zhao

Silver Award

Omer Amirzadah, Dale Charnock, Philip Crawley, Rebecca Croft, Bronica Ghumbir, Christopher Loftus, Qasim Masood, Tony Ren, Elizabeth Renshaw, Kit Runnels-Moss, Leslie Tang, Gabrielle Thompson, Emma Wakefield, Elizabeth Whitehouse, Kieran Woods

MATHEMATICS LEADERS AWARDS

James Draper
Luke Jones
Edward Lynch
Mark Morrow
Benjamin Neo
Anthony Reid
Lewis Speare

Molly Howarth-Maddison
Dileep Karthikappallil
David Mansley
Liam McRoe
Emma Raynor
James Rooney

SENIOR MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE – GOLD CERTIFICATE WINNERS

Jack Davies
Hua Yong Li
Edward Parr
Victor Truong

Harley Jones
James Liu
Tony Ren

SCHOOL COLOUR AWARDS

RE-AWARDS

- Association Football:** Elliott Kwong, Gary Molyneux-Chan, Alex Yoh, Alex Edwards, James Platt
- Basketball:** Daniel Robert, Luke Williams, Jack Bedford, Jonathan Edosomwan
- Cricket:** Andrew Beggs, James Rhodes, Theodore Jackson
- Hockey:** Eleanor Beggs, Charlotte Dickinson, Sarah Hodgkiss, Sharon Koshy, Melody Mak, Rebecca McWaters, Elizabeth Whitehouse, Siobhan Wilson, Charlotte Holmes, Ashley O'Meara, Jessica Dickinson
- Netball:** Eleanor Beggs, Charlotte Dickinson, Sharon Koshy, Bronica Ghumbir, Zoe Pulford, Gabrielle Thompson

AWARDS

- Association Football:** Peter Robinson, Matthew Gunson
- Basketball:** Andrew Beggs, James Rhodes, Nelson Idama, Peter Robinson
- Cricket:** Daniel Oliver, Edward Parr, Peter Robinson, Joseph Hunt, Samuel Batterton, Matthew Shore, George Mansfield, James Liu
- Hockey:** Alexandra Mallon, Ellie Darby, Rachel Moss, Tiffany Deans-Green
- Netball:** Zoe Gunderson, Charlotte Holmes

DISTINCTIONS

- Association Football:** Liverpool City U14 Team Captain Gavin Spruin
Liverpool City U13 Team Usen Jones

Athletics: The following were City Champions:

Year 7 Shotput	Stephen Chan
Year 8 Triple Jump	Joseph Boyland
Year 8 Discus	Jonathan Chu

- Badminton:** U16 Team National Finalists – 5th place
Peter Athans represented Lancashire U17

- Cricket:** U14 Team Liverpool Champions
Daniel Harvey and James Edwards represented U14 Liverpool City Teams

- Basketball:**
- | | |
|----------|---------------------------|
| U12 Team | Liverpool Runners-up |
| U13 Team | Liverpool Runners-up |
| U14 Team | Liverpool Champions |
| U15 Team | Liverpool Runners-up |
| U16 Team | Liverpool Runners up |
| U19 Team | Liverpool Joint Champions |

Hockey: The following represented Lancashire South 2009-2010

- U12: Hannah Blanchard, Sophie Lovell-Kennedy
 U13: Elena Lindsey, Grace Zdesenko, Rebecca Flynn, Jessica Hyde, Hannah Shore
 U14: Erin Lee, Abbie Wood, Timah Julienne-Tabit, Hayley Rabet
 U15: Emma Kelly
 U16: Remi Wood, Sorcha Twomey-Harris
 U17: Carys Cunningham, Ellie Darby

PHYSICS OLYMPIAD 2010

- Bronze:** Karthikeyan Chellappan, Nada Aly, Cole Cohen, Michael Higham, Harley Jones, Qasim Masood
Commendation: Rebecca Croft, Melissa Huang, Arshad Kamal, Ellis Kay, Marcus Quinn

SUCCESS IN MUSIC EXAMINATIONS

GRADE 1

Isabella Wignall	Drums	Michael Hughes	Electric /Classical Guitar
Kate Harris	Flute	Liam Dunne	Guitar
Oliver Bradley	Great Highland Bagpipe	Amy Perrin	Piano
Elliot Edwards	Piano	Rachael Kelly	Piano
Tallulah Jackman	Violin		

GRADE 2

Jennie Morris	Flute	Sandani Gunawardena	Flute
Isabella Wignall	Flute	Rachael Brown	Flute
Jack Wang	Guitar	Andrew Carr	Guitar
Oliver Bradley	Great Highland Bagpipe	Anna Batterton	Violin
Rebecca Flynn	Piano	Adam Gilbert	Piano
Lucy McEwan	Piano	Isabel Coleman	Piano
Annie Loh	Violin	Nathan Crute	Violin

GRADE 3

Stephen Chung	Clarinet	Nathalie Congues	Clarinet
Matthew Wong	Clarinet	Aiden Walters-Williams	Drum
Jack Wang	Flute	Nikhil Jain	French Horn
Rebecca Houghton	Piano	Alexander Fleet	Piano
Sam Jones	Piano	Sorcha Keenan	Piano
Teresa Truong	Piano	Luke Kershaw	Trumpet
Samuel Elcock	Tuba	Chenyang Zhang	Violin
Ella Idama	Violin		

GRADE 4

Andrew Eves	Clarinet	Chloe Swart	Clarinet
Abigail Larkin	Clarinet	Ellen Moore	Flute
Eve Singleton	Flute	Ben Thompson	Flute
Sarah Davies	Flute	Ben Swart	Guitar
Lidong Xiao	Guitar	Lara Rimmer	Piano
Lidong Xiao	Piano	Elliott Kyriakides	Piano
Hannah Shore	Piano	Imogen Cooper	Piano
Matthew Cooper	Piano	Ben Thompson	Piano
Eleanor Roberts	Piano	Chloe Zheng	Piano
Matthew Shore	Piano	Joseph Chung	Viola
Kaylyn Chan	Violin	David Eves	Violin
Sam Jones	Violin		

Student Achievements

GRADE 5

Catriona Miller	Cornet & Piano	Mark Platt	Guitar
Olivia Denvir-Parry	Flute	Lottie Backstrom	Flute
Shaun Rigby	Percussion	Sorcha Keenan	Flute
Luke Moorcroft	Piano	Eleanora Bianchi	Piano
Stephen Cheung	Piano	Niloofar Sharifi	Piano
Katherine Neo	Piano	Hoi-Lam Ng	Piano
Jessica Hyde	Piano	Yungqi Li	Piano
Joey Fong	Theory	Nicole Jackson	Theory
Jack Wang	Theory	Yungqi Li	Theory
Rachael Chung	Violin	Matthew Cheung	Violin and Theory
Grace Zdesenko	Violin		

GRADE 6

Yasamin Marshall	Clarinet	Rebecca Borthwick	Drama
Richard Brearton	Guitar	Yasamin Marshall	Piano
Jasper Johns	Piano	Janet Wong	Piano
Rachael Chung	Piano	Samantha Dolan	Piano
Daisy Richmond	Piano	Michael Zhang	Piano

GRADE 7

Alero Ejuoneatse	Euphonium	Sarah Zhao	Flute
Eleanor Roberts	Flute	Jack Luscombe	Piano
Roy Chu	Piano		

GRADE 8

Jack Luscombe	Cello	Samantha Dolan	Flute
Alasdair Chatterton	Percussion	Shaun Rigby	Percussion
Peter Athans	Piano	Holly Ellis	Piano
Olivia Brown	Saxophone		

LIVERPOOL PHILHARMONIC YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Peter Athans, Alistair Chatterton, Kyran Crute, Adam Gilbert, Jack Luscombe, Shaun Rigby, Kathryn Sayer

LIVERPOOL YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Peter Athans, Matthew Cheung, Adam Gilbert, Jack Luscombe, Kathryn Sayer, Katherine Sung

LIVERPOOL YOUTH BRASS ENSEMBLE

Peter Athans, Alero Ejuoneatse, Adam Gilbert

LIVERPOOL PHILHARMONIC YOUTH CHOIR

Francesca Fradley, Jessica Hyde, Fiona Miller, Olivia Sung

LIVERPOOL ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL CHOIR

Catriona Miller

METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL CHOIR

Ben Thompson

HALLE YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Louise Goodwin

NATIONAL YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Louise Goodwin

FORMBY BAND

Peter Athans

Specialism Community Links

Once again last year saw members of The Blue Coat School involved in a number of projects and activities which not only promoted Science and Mathematics but also helped consolidate the links between the school and the local community. Perhaps the biggest commitment by the school is the provision of Science and Mathematics teachers to support the learning of these subjects within four local primary schools. All four schools have been keen to acknowledge the positive contribution made by our staff and students to the learning of both Mathematics and Science by their students. The very successful Mathematics clubs run by our Sixth Form have now been extended to include three of the four primary schools

The primary schools have once again enjoyed a number of visits to the Blue Coat School and have taken part in a variety of events. These have included a number of Fun Maths Road shows. These events are partially bespoke so that the Maths puzzles match the ages of the students.



SUSPECT- Mr Pearson gives a convincing performance

Another event that is invariably oversubscribed is the Forensic days. These involved students from year 9 and a significant number of staff. Some brave souls are prepared to demonstrate their acting skills by being cross-examined as “suspects”. There were four Forensic days last year including one set aside for our friends and colleagues from Parklands.

Careers Fair

The careers fair, which took place in the autumn term, had a large STEM (Science Technology Engineering & Mathematics) component. There were representatives from many sectors of the Economy including Research, Finance, Pharmaceutical and Aerospace. We now have been very successful at ensuring that our students are well informed when making a decision as to which career to pursue. This was further support by opportunities for students to attend an external STEM Fair held at the town hall where many Blue Chip companies explained the routes into engineering and the diverse careers that this could lead to.

Sixth form Physicists got a taste for life as a theoretical and experimental Physicist when Professor Jones (an “Old Blue”) gave a lecture on his work and experiences at the Large Hadron Collider. The focus of his lecture was on Antimatter. The students were left with a strong sense of the excitement of taking part in pushing forward the boundaries of human understanding. We look forward to Professor Jones' next visit when he will discuss the fundamental forces of nature!

Parents' Association

It's been another very busy year for the Parents' Association! We have continued to raise funds for the School in a variety of ways and we would not be able to do this without the help of the staff and students, especially the sixth formers who are always very willing to help.

It is with the sixth formers in mind that we have recently set up a fund for a prize at the Annual Prizegiving which we hope will continue for many years.

Our fund raising for special projects has, as always, been mainly supported by Barclays Bank who generously donate funds. Over the last twelve months, we have continued to hold themed discos, another Casino Night, the annual Quiz Night and Summer and Christmas Fairs. After Mrs Silcock managed to secure a visit by a Royal Navy helicopter, we were delighted to welcome the Royal Marines and their challenging climbing wall at last year's Summer Fair – it was the star attraction!

At the Christmas Fair, we tried to add something a little different and on the Sunday morning a synthetic ice rink arrived all the way from Yorkshire! It seemed that all the pavements in Liverpool resembled an ice rink at that time and indeed it took a long time to set up and to take down, but some of the younger children really enjoyed it. The Ipad raffle prize also had the Reception staff extremely busy, selling raffle tickets on our behalf, and it was nice that the South African Team helped in order to raise funds for their trip this coming summer. These larger events require so much time and commitment that I must thank each and every parent and friend who has gone home with very tired legs at the end of a very long weekend!

I am delighted to be able to confirm that we have completed our £12,000 donation to the School, towards the sound and light system which has been put to very good use at events, but also at School productions. Over the last twelve months, we have also donated funds to the Sport, DT and English departments, the Cheerleading team and the Law Society. As ever, if you are a Blue Coat pupil reading this and can think of how we can help you with a special project, please send in a suggestion or request to the PA and we will endeavour to help you achieve your aim.

Best wishes

Lyndsay Lynch

Chair of The Blue Coat Parents' Association

English Link with Parklands High School

Links between The Blue Coat School and Parklands High School have been further developed this year, with a series of joint events. In October, the famous Liverpool poet Levi Tafari visited the school, and he led a large group of students from six schools in writing poetry about what 'home' meant to them. Levi was charismatic and the students produced many poems, some in collaborations with students from different schools. These were then collated into anthology, and the students and their parents attended a presentation event at Parklands CLC in March, where we celebrated their achievements.

In January, an English teacher from Parklands, Mrs Hilton, visited our English Department to observe some 6th form lessons, bringing 6 year 11 students along to take part. There are plans for some team teaching to occur.

February saw two trips for year eight students from both schools to the Empire Theatre. The first was a drama workshop and a back stage tour. The second was a Shakespeare for Kids production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, on which the drama workshop was also based. Mrs Ellis (from Parklands) and Mrs Ludlow accompanied both groups and were pleased to see the students enjoying themselves together.

On 11th March, there was a Poetry Anthology Celebration event at Parklands CLC, which all students involved in the poetry workshop attended, with their teachers and parents, and Levi Tafari performed some of his own poems. Each student was presented with an anthology of the poems written on the day of the workshop, and there was a slide show of photographs taken. It was wonderful to hear the students perform their poems, encouraged by Levi's inspiration.

In May, some students from Parklands High School and Blue Coat are due to take part in *Winged Words*, performing some drama or poetry which they have worked on in the activities occurring this year.

For English GCSE, both schools are going to be using the new syllabus for the WJEC and it has been productive to share ideas and approaches to teaching and learning.

This has been an exciting year of events, joining the two schools with a common purpose: making teaching and learning meaningful and enjoyable for students. I am grateful to all staff involved for their cooperation and participation.

Mrs B D G Ludlow

Levi Tafari visits The Blue Coat School

Levi Tafari was born and educated in Liverpool. Currently he is the author of three poetry collections: *Duboetry*, *Liverpool Experience* and *Rhyme Don't Pay*. His newest collection, *From the Page to the Stage*, is anticipated. Levi's plays have been performed in many places, including the Unity Theatre and The Playhouse in Liverpool, not forgetting to mention the Blackheath Theatre in Stafford. He is constantly working on many projects that help to enlighten all who

observe his creative writing workshops, which are established in schools, colleges, universities, youth centres, libraries and prisons.

On 15th October, some of us were incredibly fortunate to be able to meet such an inspirational man. We joined up with many other schools, including Dovedale and Parklands, to see Levi and to listen to him perform many of his poems. Levi uses complicated metaphors, similes and personification to express the feelings and meanings behind his poems, and also gets the reader/audience to think about it. Levi was very inspiring and creative, encouraging everyone to write poetry; we got to write one poem each, working in groups to think of what the word 'home' means to us. We had to reflect on this and try and find meaning and words which are not commonly associated with the word 'home'. Some of us were asked to read our poems out.



The day was very enjoyable, especially because pupils from different schools had a chance to socialise with other schools and make friends.

It was a great experience, and helped widen our horizons in English Literature and poetry. Poetry is a topic in English which students can find boring or difficult, whereas Levi made it fun, exciting and enjoyable! It is also an interesting pastime in which children can express their feelings freely.

We would like to thank Mrs Ludlow for arranging it. Also, we would like to thank Levi Tafari for coming in and inspiring us.

Fatima Shah 8 Bingham, Yasmin Winder 8 Bingham and Rupam Jagota 8 Blundell.





Levi Tafari's visit - samples of the poetry produced:

Home Sweet Home

*Home sweet home, full of cherished memories.
I live in a home with my family.
Home sweet home, full of dreams and fantasies,
In the heart of a wonderful community.
Home sweet home, you'll never walk alone.
Liverpool is my comfortable house.
Home is protection for my family,
It's where I long to be.
Together we will stand all together.
Liverpool is my essence, it's what I thrive upon.
Musical, magical, and full of fun and laughter.
Home sweet Liverpool is a great place to visit
With your friends and family.
The ice beneath my skates,
The sun above my head,
Chilling out with all my mates,
Home sweet home, I do love this.*

*Fatima Shah, Sean Pineen, Rupam Jagota, Yasmin Winder –
8Bi & 8B1 in collaboration with Kara O'Shaughnessy &
Ellie Blackhall of St Christopher's Catholic Primary School*

Home

*Home is where the heart is,
The gentle hum of people,
The smell of warmth,
The feel of love.*

*Home is where the heart is,
Music playing,
Flowers blooming,
People relaxing.*

*Home is where the heart is,
Children start to dream,
Adults start to chill,
Home sweet home.*

Yasmin Winder 8Bi

Winged Words

Winged Words is said to get better every year. There is a general agreement amongst staff, participants and audiences that Blue Coat's esteemed verse speaking competition improves, from one year to the next. The 2010 renewal of Winged Words was no exception and that tradition continued.

Each year group from year seven to year thirteen was represented and the wonderfully diverse selection of poetry helped ensure that the talents of Blue Coat pupils were well showcased to the community. As ever, Winged Words is a marvellous advert for the school as future year seven parents see it as a good opportunity to see more of what the Blue Coat has to offer. The Blue Coat students never disappoint and there was not a single weak link throughout all thirty six acts. The methodical organisation and skilful management of Miss Tyers enabled everything to go off like clockwork: a tribute must be paid to Mrs Davies for all the hard work and effort she poured into making this great event possible.

A glowing tribute must also be paid to each of the thirty six acts that made the evening what it was. Each performance was superb in every way, shape and form and ensured that the galleries got considerable value for their money. To distinguish one as better from another would be simply impossible and Miss Tyers testified how difficult this was when judging which acts should receive prizes. However, Harley Jones (then year 13), who opened the show with 'Beowulf' and was to prove a very hard act to follow, received a prize to recognise a very impressive effort. Prizes also went to Sarah Davies and Freya Balchin (now year 10), whose delivery of 'Fatal Beatings' by Rowan Atkinson was described by Miss Tyers as 'mesmerising'.

Already Miss Tyers is talking about possible improvements that could be implemented in time for Winged Words 2011, and with the cooperation of a richly talented crop of students it is hard to envisage it not being a resounding success. Winged Words remains a landmark date in the Blue Coat calendar and this year's episode has only cemented its position.

Winged Words 2010, the best edition so far. Well, at least until next year.

Tom McKenna

Poetry of Place Awards



Imogen Cooper, Mrs Ludlow, John Wu

The Mystery on The Mystery

*Sitting on a bench in my local park,
I watch people passing by,
I try to decipher what they are thinking,
What they are doing, and why.*

*Most of them are rather boring,
Some bring things to do,
But they are all too busy with their everyday lives,
To stop and look at the view.*

*After all, there are some quite nice places,
And the wind blowing through the trees,
But what is the point in all that beauty,
When it's stuff that nobody sees?*

*Imogen Cooper
Age 13*

The Liverpool Blue Coat School

*The Blue Coat School is near many places,
With people who have familiar faces.
The shop which is just down the road,
Where people go into fun mode.*

*People running down the road to catch their bus,
It's no surprise that there's a big fuss.
People slowly walking the other way,
We see each other for the last time that day.*

*Next to us lies the old and lonely graveyard,
People visit with some flowers or a card.
It lies next to an old birch,
Which faces towards the old church.*

*After school some people go to the park,
Some stay until it goes dark.
We call it the Mystery,
And what's done is history.*

John Wu, Year 9

The Mystery

*The Mystery,
An open park,
Sparkling icicles
In the dark.
Frost-covered greenery,
Branches stark,
Sleeping animals,
Hibernating.*

*The Mystery,
An open park,
Sprouting daffodils
In the dark.
Waving willows,
Flowering bark,
Birds singing
Every morning.*

*The Mystery,
An open park,
Warm air rising
In the dark.
Clear blue sky,
Singing larks,
Gaudy blossoms
In full bloom.*

*The Mystery,
An open park,
An orange carpet
In the dark.
Once-beautiful trees
Almost stripped stark,
Bounding squirrels
Still searching.*

Rachael Chung, 8BL

Mendips (251 Menlove Avenue) John Lennon's Childhood Home

To the mother whose son was killed in
Afghanistan.

She wrote in the visitors book, John Lennon was
his hero.

To Bob Dylan who turned up incognito
in a hoody and sunglasses not long ago.

To a child who played catch in his garden with his
dog, Sally.

To a young boy who lost his mother twice,
Once through divorce and then in a traffic
accident.

To a youth who played 'Cowboys and Indians'
With his friends from Quarry Bank School.

To a teenager who was in trouble
Suspended from school for climbing on top of a
bus.

To an adolescent who broke his Aunt Mimi's sink
And blamed the student lodgers.

To a musician who revolutionised what music was
With his three friends, Paul, Ringo and George.

To a human who fought for peace throughout the
world.

To a man who lost his life

To a stranger he'd kindly taken time to sign his
autograph.

I can see into his bedroom window from my
house;

The room in which he wrote songs,
'Please, Please, Me' and 'Love Me Do'.

I can see into his garden;

The garden where he played with Sally.

I can look into his imagination;

I imagine what he imagined and my mind goes
wild.

Mendips, standing strong,

Sixty visitors each day, from near and far ashore.

Though his house is but a house

Compared to what came through its door;

The irreplaceable John Winston Lennon

To his spirit. To peace and no more war.

Eleanor Roberts – Year 9

The Blue Coat School

The Blue Coat School has changed so much,
Since I first passed this way.

Some twenty years have come and gone,
As I've worked day by day.

The time has passed, the years have too,
Students have been and gone.

The staff - have been more permanent,
Watson, and Beggs, to name but two.

The students wear their "Gear" with pride,
They change it all the time,

With ties askew and shirts hung out,
They form a motley crew.

To their lessons they do come,

Eager, and sometimes prompt.

Keen to learn with pens and books,
iPods and mobile phones!!

In lessons they do questions pose,

Intent to learn it all,

Can I go to....?

Can I drink?

May I use my phone?

The buildings too,

Have come and gone,

Mobile classrooms, - labs - too few!

And flats where once the boarders slept,
Provide, for Mr P. - a home!

A major change of course

Were girls, in sixth form only first,

But now they're seen throughout the School

Improving all we do!

Head teachers- there have been a few,

While I have been in situ ,

Speller, Silcock, Tittershill,

And Bell to name a few,

But Arnold-Craft did start it all,

He brought School to the fore,

Of him, Students and even Staff-

Spent their days in awe.

I have enjoyed the Blue Coat School,

It's served me to a "T"

The staff are great, the students too,

Even the SLT!!!

The Blue Coat School -

How has it changed?

For "better or for worse",

You can make your mind up now....

As I end this little verse!

Anon 2010

Peter Arnold Craft Writing Competition

Spring (KS3 Winner)

The sunlight, creeping through
The window panes so their
Slender fingers can prise
Your eyelids apart. Cool
Breezes past your
Face, bringing smells of Spring,
Spring being the gentle
Process of new life in
The world everywhere.
Spring being the tiny
Cheep of a newborn chick
Spring being the thrill of
Watching a seedling sprout
Out of long-deceased earth
Mother Nature's tears fall
Daily on blades of grass
She has blessed with life. She
Ceases weeping as I
Stroll past, although her tears
Continue to sparkle
In the beautiful dawn,
The awakening of Spring.

Rachael Chung 8BL

The Forest's Voice (KS5 Winner)

'Twas long years ago that to this glen,
Came long-eared Elves akin to men,
Who in this spot placed a spread of seeds,
'Twas they who tended to their needs,
And so in their care, the forest grew,
Tall and bright, strong and new.

The forest grew, its life in bloom,
Creatures thrived in canopy gloom,
Hunters crept across the ground,
Treading careful, avoiding sound,
In the forest's care, the Elves did grow,
Tall and strong and proud to show.

The drums of war sound far off,
Hunters draw bows, wizards don cloth,
"Heathens!", the humans call those who cared,
'Tis unlikely any Elf will be spared,
And so, 'neath forest's watchful eyes,
Its Elven fathers met their demise.

So much death in one place,
With sword and shield, magic and mace,
The veil twixt planes was broken,
And spirits cross as humans provoked,
Now down below on the forest floor,
Corpses rise, at peace no more.

The spirits climb in to the trees,
A deathly silence in a gentle breeze,
Then trees rise up, filled with rage,
Spirits trapped in a tree-bark cage,
Upon men they march, seeking their ends,
Seeking revenge for their Elven friends.

As evening falls, the warring stops,
Flame filled air crackles and pops,
Hatred has claimed far too many lives,
As far as I see, I am all that survives,
Of a great, vast forest, there is now only me,
And I weep as despair claims this old, oak tree.

Sarah Hamilton.

Spring (KS4 Winner)

Once winter has ended, and the ice and snow has melted, spring is revealed. Flowers, the colours of the rainbow, all in bloom. Blossom trees, a lovely pink; their scent travels in the gentle breeze. I walk past a green, green field, lit by the sun. Birdsong fills my ears, as the birds soar above me. The sun shines bright, warming as the surroundings. Up above, I watch the cotton wool clouds float slowly. Young animals, lambs, calves and foals roam the fields. The grass is speckled with daisies and dandelions. Bees buzz around flowers. Time travels like a snail.

I sit back and bask in the sun, watching, as spring passes by. The sound of children's laughter is in the distance, as they find delight in creating daisy chains. Spring is relaxed, happy, bright, young and beautiful.

Nina Desforges

The Afghani Strife

Act I

(John Smith, an immigration officer – with increasingly fascist tendencies born of his employment – is standing in a Euro change, in Dover tasked with looking out for people trying to enter the country illegally).

John Smith: They wonder how they come in packs, and feed on land abroad, Thou seas afar, the distant lands, disease-infested hordes, Something is not right, I seem, and the Sun no longer shines, Thy winter ends and spring hath here, the envious sky arise, Their desperate promises and open lies fill the new-born life, For all to reach their destiny, the wounds, the wards and strife.

(A large train with a combination of passengers and cargo arrives at the Euro change; a group of people suddenly alight from one of the carriages laden with cargo and run at pace in different directions. One of the fleeing group is Hakeem, a young Afghani male seeking asylum).

Hakeem: Flee! Like lightening! Flee! Scatter, do not be seen and do not make a shout, even a whisper, This country can be the start of your spouting life, travel afar, Hide in thy sewers, whatever, whatever, don't get caught!

John Smith: Stop! Stop at once! You at no point belong here, My land though peaceful before you bring your filth and disease, No longer rush, you will be stopped or found in short time.

(Stage lights shine on the officer as he trips and falls awkwardly to the floor. Pained from the fall and unable to move he blows his whistle and shouts for help).

(Stage lights also shine on Hakeem, who has now stopped running and tentatively approaches the officer)

John Smith: Why do you enter our country, determined to prove a villain? Dive, thoughts, down to my soul, you escape but will never halt, Unless to my shadow in the sun, to fright our souls or less, Bandits, enemies, despicable terrorists that never cared to look, Whatever, whatever, here to take not give, make conflict not peace.

Hakeem: In my land, I have no delight to pass away the time, Cursed the heart that had the heart to do it, to kill my children in my once beautiful but now grief stricken country, I flee to your land to leave war and join your peace, to ne'er stay in the place of my family's slaughterers, I have no intent to cause harm and I curse upon the idle hatred of these days, I am thought as something I am not but I can grieve in my land no more. I seek only opportunity here, a better life.

Act II

(Amongst the sound of train movement in and out of the busy change and the commotion ensuing from the chase, a female voice approaches calling out to the fallen officer. Hakeem hears her and starts to panic. Mary, a female officer enters the stage calling John. The concerned tone does little to disguise a strong southern accent. John turns from Hakeem to the approaching Mary).

John Smith: *(In a melancholy voice)* Mary, lies, no more, truth, love, it's the minority, the liars, most hopeful and seeking, looking for opportunity, life, a better one at that, Oh Mary, cursed the blood that let the blood from hence, How this peace-making man has child no more shall be, and be it lawful that I invoke their ghost, How the murderers of his family, shall see!

Mary (Woman Officer): John, John, what here happened upon you? How you speak makes little sense. Are you in shock, you are indeed hurt but not just of the mind?

(John turns back towards Hakeem but he is gone...)

John: He was right there, Hakeem. He told of his grief, the merciless conflict. He's fled his homeland, oh how he fled, his son murdered by an evil regime, Now they're here to make opportunity for themselves, Who can blame? How can it be? Where has he now fled? Why, oh why? The open lies have patiently opened their tender, and in the sewers he may now lay.

Mary: Chatting away to ya' self like you do, Like you're talking to someone, someone in your own little world, not of ours! We'd best get you some help here, your foot's twisted and trapped, put this jacket upon you and I'll radio through for an ambulance.

John: Trapped... Hath me not known this long time, The fate of others in faraway lands, must I now reflect on my bitterest thoughts? My ignorance of men trapped in a land of hatred among their own. Please forgive me.

Luke Sullivan



Alex Plent - Year 12

Death is the Dominant Force

War is such a needless fight,
Death is like a demon's bite
The killer's humanity is in the shade,
Life is like an angel's aid

The guns used are monster's paws,
And the bullets are the monster's claws.
A scream from a friend is Satan's jeers,
But one from a foe is music to my ears.

Fear is like a serpent's hiss,
And relief is like a saintly kiss.
Drowned at sea is one little life,
Be careful because death is ready to ...
STRIKE

Tom Fletcher

Christmas Eve!

Christmas Eve is finally here,
Children stay awake to see the reindeer.
Down the chimney Santa comes,
'Jingle Bells, the song he hums.

Presents wrapped so neatly,
Go under the big, green Christmas Tree.
Suddenly the clock strikes midnight,
Father Christmas gets a fright.

James' mum comes down the stairs,
Santa jumps up without any cares.
"Santa is that really you?"
James comes down he's puzzled too.

Up the chimney Santa flees,
"Stay here Santa, do stay please!"
The reindeer clatter on the roof,
Santa was here, but now there's no proof.

"This has been quite a strange night,
But I'm going back to bed, alright?"
"Yes," replied James to his mum,
"This Christmas Eve sure has been fun!"

Emmeline Poole

Autumn

Autumn is one of his special four creations
The tranquil autumn weather sweeps the nations

Sun filled days have been sabotaged by the brisk
autumn air
The trees have lost their leaves and are now nearly
bare

Scattered all along the wet pavement and road
Red and golden crunchy leaves at the load

The windfall from the orchard is gathered on the
ground
The chilly autumn air makes people house bound

This is the time of year when animals hibernate
The warm summer sun does no longer stay out late

The nights are now drawing in quite fast
As this year's autumn will soon be a thing of the past

Rebecca Nielsen 7SH

Our Wonderful World

Autumn leaves, sailing by,
Birds soaring the azure sky.
Brown and orange where white will soon be,
When Jack Frost comes, ice we will see.

Winter snow stuck to the ground,
The crunchy blanket below is the only sound.
Deep, dark colours are coming now and are SEEN!
Berries RED and holly GREEN.

Spring however is a different story,
Flowers basking in their shining glory,
People are sad when spring is over,
Everywhere you look; a three leaf clover.

Summer is not so different,
No one around, dares to be ignorant,
The sun shining, beating down,
People on fields instead of town.

Olivia Meadows 7SH

I'm the big autumn tree but it's only me

*My cold clammy branches of the taut tree,
How lonely I must be,
I will stay tall,
My leaves will fall,
I am left on my own,
As bare as can be,
I'm the big autumn tree,
But it's only me.*

*The sun is a ghostly galleon,
Tossed upon the cloudy seas,
It warms me up and all my fellow trees,
The silk inside a chestnut shell,
And the smells I love so well,
O' autumn bring me glee.
I'm the big autumn tree but it's only me.*

Paul Abraham

Winter

*Fir trees covered up in snow,
A jolly figure yells ho,ho,ho,
The lights in the village twinkling bright,
The children sleep soundly in their beds tonight,
They dream of the presents slapped down on
their knee,
Michael wishes for a chimpanzee,
In the morning the kiddies wake,
With their stomping and shouting, the house
gently shakes,
Wrapping paper flies through the air,
'O' what a picture with their messy hair,
On this festive day that comes once a year,
Let's all give Christmas a special cheer!*

Olivia Meadows 7 Shirley

Winter Poem

*The snow is reminiscent of a soul
Falling from Heaven, gliding from the sky.
The warmth of the sun neutralises the cold,
Invigorating all our senses except the eye.
Our sight catches the attention of the
movement
Shadows of tension and happiness,
Receiving and throwing cold snowflakes.*

Alice Haughan and Elena Saavedra



Florence Binks Yr 11

Poetry Live

Poetry Live – A chance for the year elevens to hear the dreaded anthology poems read out in their native form by the poets themselves. Present were Carol Ann Duffy, Gillian Clark, Simon Armitage, John Agard and many others. A quick Q&A session with some of the poets filled in any gaps in people's understanding of the poems, but the message was clear: interpret them however you like, so long as you can back your opinion up with quotes. The favourite for many was undoubtedly John Agard, whose fast-paced and energetic manner struck popular with the audience, who left with his words ringing in their ears. Hopefully, the examiner and poet's advice (particularly John Agard's words of wisdom to live and breathe poetry just for the fun of it) will prove useful in the GCSEs.

Ryta Kamarova Year 11

Camp Kenya 2010

In the early hours of Friday 16th July 2010 twenty-eight Blue Coat students and three teachers, Miss Lunney, Mr Dunkin and Mr Clayton, set off to spend four weeks in another country, on another continent, immersing ourselves in a very different way of living.

Two years earlier Kenya had been a dream for most of us, one that we worked towards but didn't fully comprehend. Our students spent the intervening years fundraising and planning; raising money through car washes, cake sales, bag packing and even sponsored sky dives in their efforts to fund the expedition.

Arriving in Kenya was a culture shock for us all. For the next four weeks we would be living in tents and moving around Kenya, staying by the beach, in forests and in the middle of Kenya's bush land.

Our students dived into the project work, head first. We visited local schools, talking to the pupils and teaching them. I think we learned just as much from them as they did from us! Despite having so little materially, compared to us, the children were all so happy and friendly. They welcomed us by singing their school song, and in response Oliver Kennedy led us in a rendition of 'Chelsea Dagger', quite a surreal moment!



Everyone really enjoyed working with the communities we stayed near and when we moved to the forest Kaya Muhaka we were able to work with the people there to build mud houses and put up fencing around the local medical centre. We moved a tree nursery, built shelters, collected water from the village well and built stone walls, becoming human cement mixers along the way.

We took part in a sports day between 4 different schools and while half of our group competed, flying the Blue Coat flag proudly, the other half enjoyed spending time with the children who were fascinated by us.

Living by the village, we got to meet the people we were helping and see the impact of our work on their lives. Putting the fence up around the medical centre, for example, meant that the borders of the centre's land were clearly marked and put a stop to businesses claiming the land for themselves.



We spent a few days working solely on building a house for a local woman and her family: *"Starting with a few trees and buried coconuts and turning it into a fully standing structure with mud-ball filled walls was an achievement. Meeting the woman we were building it for really made me feel as though I was making a difference."* – Paula Crosby.

Living in the forest, surrounded by huge trees and seeing the constellations in the night sky, away from any light pollution, was a great experience. The natural beauty of Kenya's forest, coasts and savannahs is simply breathtaking.

Moving to Tsavo, and living in the Kenyan bush land, with nothing else for miles around was an incredible experience. The hard physical work of digging the foundations for a Rangers Station in hard clay earth, cutting long grass using machetes to clear an air strip, and making clay bricks from scratch, was balanced by the fun and laughter we shared, with our very own fashion show – creating animal costumes from the various items the students had brought with them; the quiz in



which Louis reigned supreme in the press-up section; and most incredibly, watching a herd of elephants walk calmly past our camp, only metres from us, as we were eating lunch. We went on Safari, we visited a Masai village and joined in their dancing, and earlier in the trip we had been scuba diving.

In short we crammed so much into our four weeks in Kenya and still we didn't want to leave. We had fantastic experiences, made great friendships and took away with us memories we will keep for the rest of our lives. We worked hard at the conservation and community project work we did; we survived illness, lack of running water, the Kenyan rules of driving (staying on your own side of the road is optional really), a relaxed approach to organisation as we changed camps, and the occasional bout of homesickness, and in the end none of those things really mattered.

The work we did, the experiences we had and the people we shared these experiences with made this trip incredible. Thanks to everyone who went for all their hard work, their eagerness to get involved, and the laughter that made the hard times bearable and the good times great.

"taking small piece of grass land and turning it into a structure which somebody could call their home was such a worthwhile thing to do" – Liam Loftus

"Knowing that a few hours of my time given could potentially change lives was an extraordinary and rewarding experience." – Louis Marshall

"The most memorable thing was the children; how each of them react to you just being present is overwhelming." – Paula Crosby

"It was the greatest experience of my life." – Shaun Rigby

Miss Lunney

Kenya 2010



Year 7 Social Evening



Grease was the word as Mr Caulkin, the PA and the Senior Prefect Squad teamed up again this year to present the new intake of Year 7s with a themed Social Evening. The latest additions were met by none other than T-Birds and Pink Ladies for a greased lightnin' start to Blue Coat.

At 6.30 we gathered in the Shirley Hall to organise games, refreshments and music, notably, masterminding a hand jive longevity contest, and dancing nostalgically to (just) the first two lines of each verse of Greased Lightnin'. The T-Birds – Liam, Max, Shaun, Chris K, Sam R, Heather, Helen and Chris Mac – perfected their hair gel while the 'Pink Ladies' – Helena (in a spotty dress), Juman (spotty dress), Sam D (as a waitress) and me (in a poodle skirt) – laughed and compared the swishes of our skirts.

At 7pm we collected Year 7 from their parents, who were to be supplied with wine by the PA. Back in the Shirley Hall, the children got to know each other, having fun with 'Musical Chairs' and 'Pass the Parcel'. How time flies - I can still remember doing this when I started Blue Coat!

After a quick juice break there were team games. For example, members of the team had to collect some letters from a Prefect in a

relay race and rearrange them to spell 'Echo Arena'. Secondly, there was a similar race that involved each member running up to the Prefect, blowing up a balloon, and then sitting on it until it popped. This part soon became an exercise in hilarity, waiting for the Prefect to blow up the balloon. I myself have never been able to blow up balloons, but I managed it... only to find myself unable to tie the knots. I was consoled, however, when Mr Shipgood came to my aid, only to find he couldn't do it either!

At the end of a happy evening, the Year 7s were sufficiently acquainted with each other and tired out for the night. They went home with their parents as we played with – ahem, tidied up – the remaining balloons. We hope that they had a great time, because I know we certainly did!

Sadly, I've failed in my intention to include very many of the songs from the Grease soundtrack in this article. However, There Are Worse Things I Could Do! Thanks to everyone involved, especially the PA for organising the refreshments, and Mr Caulkin for presiding over the event – and also my fellow Senior Prefects, with a very special thank you to Chris Mac for coming to our aid.

Olivia Thompson

Rap Land

*Once upon a time in rap land,
Where words are wicked and cool.*

*Beats and sounds and words,
Are all we learn at school.*

*Cool came in,
Awesome went out.*

*Our teachers try,
But fail to shout.*

*How d'ya spell this,
How d'ya say that?*

*If ya try hard enough,
Ya might get the rapper hat.*

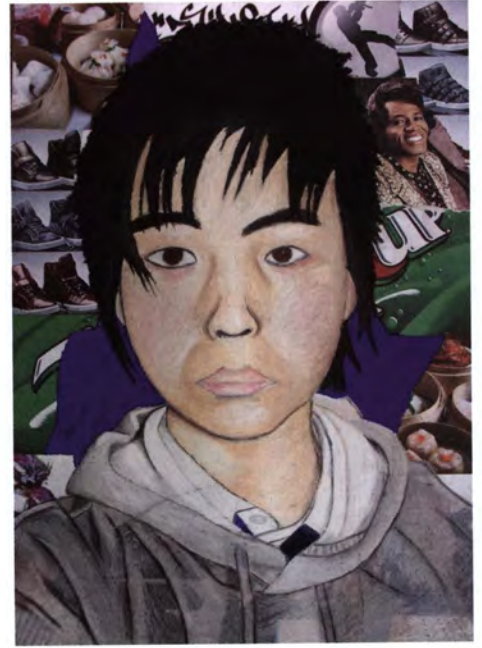
*It's nearly the end,
So please be my friend.*

*Come and clap,
Coz this is the boom box rappers rap.*

Emma Murphy



Callum Stewart Yr 13



Chris Luu Yr 11



Carmen Zhang Yr 11



Joseph Hunt Yr 11



Candy Sinclair Ford Yr 11



Rebecca Borthwick Yr 11



Daisy Zhai Yr 12



Daisy Zhai Yr 12



Eric Diep Yr 11



Liam McRoe Yr 11



Kylie Guan Yr 11



Sorcha Twomey-Harris Yr 11

Student Achievements

7 marathons in 7 days

On Friday 13 August I set out to run 7 marathons in 7 days from Liverpool to Hull totalling a distance of 182 miles. The route took me along the Transpennine trail passing through towns such as Altrincham, Hattersley, Penistone, Howden, Snaith and Goole. With support from my mum and dad who were both cycling alongside me, I was able to complete each marathon between 7 and 9 hours



I took on this endeavour to raise much needed funds for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust as a friend of mine is affected by this condition. My inspiration came from comedian Eddie Izzard, after he ran 43 marathons in 51 days.

As soon as my exams were finished in June, I began 2 months of intensive training in preparation for this challenge. This consisted of running around 50 miles a week and having sessions with a personal trainer. However due to recurring knee problems, I faced a lot of pain and many difficulties after the second marathon. Through all the aches and pains I knew that every mile I completed would mean



more money to the Cystic Fibrosis Trust and this gave me the motivation and encouragement I needed to finish the challenge

Gaining sponsorship from friends and family allowed me to raise a total of £4507. This money will fund research into treating and curing Cystic Fibrosis. It will also help provide support, advice and appropriate clinical care to the 8,500 babies, children and adults with Cystic Fibrosis in the UK.

I feel this challenge was of great benefit to me as it showed me the importance of determination. It also allowed me to make a difference to peoples lives affected by Cystic Fibrosis. I hope in the future I will be able to complete similar challenges and encourage other people to exceed their expectations just as I have.

Nikhil Aggarwal



British Physics Olympiad 2011

The Physics Challenge is the Yr 11 Olympiad and this year our students managed to achieve one Silver Award, from Jack Hackett, 11B1, with about half of the remaining forty candidates securing a Bronze Award.

In the Yr 12 AS Competition three of our students took a Silver Award, the recipients being Jacob Cinnamon, Alex Monaghan and Jonathan Woodward. There were twenty three successful students who achieved the Bronze Award and the remainder received a Participation Award.

Congratulations to all our competitors who struggled through numerous lunch time and after school training workshops to tackle these demanding one hour papers.

Fifteen Yr 13 Physics students who showed promise in the one hour Paper 1 were entered for the three hour Paper 2 of the Olympiad in mid November. It is a challenging and stretching paper requiring intellectual physical contortions to apply classical and quantum physics to unusual situations and come up with the correct answers! However, our students battled on to the end and the results were received by the school in early January. We were delighted that Hua Yong Li secured a Gold Award, special congratulations, and Michael Nelson a Bronze I Award. Well done indeed to these students. The rest of the group were awarded Commendation Awards, which is still a great achievement in this difficult but prestigious national competition.

Mr K G Caulkin.

Holly & Lucy - Kenya Trip 2010

After an inspiring presentation from "World Wide Volunteering" (WWV), we decided to contact the organisation for more information on volunteering abroad. We were given the contact details for Children's Garden Home and School, Nairobi, Kenya and after completing application forms we were accepted to join the orphanage for 19 days during July 2010.



After the initial excitement for the trip, we soon realised that we were faced with the difficult task of raising approximately £1000 each. Thankfully, we were successful in receiving a bursary of £100 each from WWV. This, along with sponsorships for a "3-legged hike" up Moel Famau, car boot sales and even opening up our houses as cafés helped us to reach a total of £700 each. Fortunately, the school offered the chance to apply for the Sir Alan Tod Travel Scholarship, which raised a further £150 each. We are

continually thankful for the support of the school; both pupils and staff got involved in cake sales and donations, allowing us to complete the fundraising and embark on our adventure!

After three flights, two days and one lost suitcase, we arrived in Kenya. Our expectations of the level of poverty suddenly became very real as we drove through the slums of Kibera and Kawangware. We were so taken aback by the reality of the situation and were brought to tears at the sights before us. Entering the gates of Children's Garden for the first time was an overwhelming experience that we will never forget. Being instantly surrounded by 300 smiling children really humbled us and reinforced our reasons for being there.



Our program for the 19 days was flexible, but in order to make the most of our time, we chose to follow this daily routine;

- 5:30 Wake up the children – get them washed and dressed
- 8:00–3:0 Teaching in the Nursery Class
- 3:00–6:0 Organise extra curricular activities
- 6:00–8:00 Devotions (Christian worship)
- 8:00–10:00 Free time with the children
- 10:00 Help children get ready for bed

The first time we saw the children's "bedroom" we could not believe our eyes - a room containing two sets of bunk beds was home to 30 girls. They shared the few blankets that they had and remained in the same stained clothes for weeks. Teaching at the school was a challenging but rewarding experience as we were in charge of 40 children aged 3-5 who could not speak English.

Holly Ellis and Lucy Nugent



Student quotes:

'The writer uses slag language.'

'The other name for the Yeti is the abdominal snowman.'

'He had a neck full of rosemary beads'

West Side Story

When the editorial roles for the Squirrel were distributed, I liked the idea of attending the school show as theatre critic, sitting at the front in a seat marked 'critic'. I liked the idea even more when I found out I could claim my ticket price to Squirrel expenses. The plan was to go along, accept a few routine bribes from the production team asking for a positive review, sleep for the running time of two hours and slate Tom Kinley and Jake Cockburn for whatever they did or didn't do. Things didn't, however, go to plan...

I was genuinely enthralled from the first scene to the close of the curtain. This was a highly professional, well planned and faultlessly executed performance. The intricacy of detail and methodical preparations were evident, as would be expected under the stewardship of the lethal combination of Miss Horton, Miss Hodson, Mr Emery and former Blue Coat alumnus James Lacey. By all accounts this production was a resounding success. One source even went as far as to say that this was the best renewal of the school



James Lacey has made a habit of returning to his ex-school to be actively involved in the play. It is true that without his choreography and expert guidance, this production would not have been possible. James, along with Miss Horton, produced the event, whilst Miss Hodson showed her skill in directing the production. A huge tribute must be paid to these three individuals.



A tribute must also be paid to Mr Emery who oversaw an impeccable display of music. Blue Coat has a superb music department with a thriving base of talent. West Side Story was another opportunity to showcase these talents and there was always going to be scope with such an excellent musical score, written by the much acclaimed Leonard Bernstein. The musical team are so often the unsung heroes of a musical production, which doesn't really make much sense but is unfortunately often the case. One cellist even remarked that the musicians 'aren't supposed to be noticed'. The tireless contribution of this talented bunch helped make the play the excellent event it was.

The same can be said of the unit of dancers, who performed with stunning synchrony and precision. The dancing really brought something extra to the production and was first class throughout. Dancing is particularly integral to West Side Story and helps each scene to unfold. In the play, dancing even takes the place of dialogue in some scenes, including love scenes between the two young lovers, Tony and Maria, played by Stuart Campbell and Ashley Davies respectively. The fight scenes between rival gangs, Jets and Sharks, are the focus of a lot of dancing and the dance in many ways helps to elaborate the story.

production to date. I don't think that assessment would be too far wrong. Although I have only attended a small number of school plays in my time, I do have an idea of what the typical school play is like. Not only did the performance dwarf my expectations, it shattered the caricatured image of the traditional school play. This was not just a school play: it was something much more. It was youth theatre at its finest. In terms of entertainment value, you would be hard pressed to better it.



Photography by Mr K Caulkin

West Side Story (cont.)

The school play really shows how diverse the talents of this school are from music to dancing, from acting to stage management.

The acting and the singing were quite simply phenomenal. Almost down to every note and every line it was perfect. Or very near perfect. The lead roles of Tony (Stuart Campbell) and Maria (Ashley Davies) were performed with skilful ease and the singing from the two was powerful and immense. Some of the songs in particular 'Maria' and 'Tonight' were performed so well, no critic or review journalist could find the words do them justice. The remarkable power of Stuart Campbell's voice and the strength of emotion and feeling shown by both Stuart and Ashley constituted a wonderful performance on so many levels. Becca Wardle was terrific in playing Anita and has all the attributes of a well-rounded actress. Both her acting and singing were fantastic and she would give both Stuart and Ashley a run for their money for star of the show. The impressive performances did not end there, however, and mentions must go to Chris Jackson, Tom Kinley and Jake Cockburn who all put in very good showings. There is much more that could be written about individual performances and, although clichéd, I would like to mention every member of the cast. Lamentably that is not possible, but rest assured having looked for cracks and having searched for weak links I did not find any and was, along with most of the auditorium on each of the four nights thoroughly impressed by all involved.

Sunday rehearsals and after school rehearsals, learning lines and practising music, the artistic stage and costume design. The hard work and commitment that poured into this event was huge and it paid off. It was hard not to leave the play marvelling at the talents of the school.

As a screenplay this romantic musical update of Romeo and Juliet won 10 Oscars. I think Blue Coat's version deserves something similar.

Tom McKenna



Taseen Rahman Yr 11

Hamlet

In preparation for our A2 studies, 16 Year 12 students caught the train down to New Brighton to watch what is widely regarded as the Bard's greatest play: Hamlet. A thoroughly enjoyable performance was given from the amateur theatre group and we all left with a greater appreciation of the origin of many of the most clichéd phrases in the English language. Particular credit is due to the lead who mastered the delicate balance of madness and sanity in the tragic Prince of Denmark's unbalanced mind.

Bethany Currie

Oedipus

Many have claimed the tale of Oedipus is the ultimate tragedy, but when fate has determined Oedipus to murder his father and marry his mother, how could it be received as anything but tragic?

The cast's performance was both entertaining and entralling; they maintained comical elements and successfully kept the audience gripped by every word and expression as we saw Oedipus' star-crossed life unravel before his very eyes.

Vanessa Ferguson

Changing Seasons

*Autumn is here,
Summer is gone.
Late flowers are blooming,
Beneath the maturing sun.*

*The leaves are all falling,
The trees becoming bare.
Brown, red, gold, yellow, orange,
Most colours are there.*

*Fruits full of ripeness,
Crunching leaves underfoot.
Halloween drawing nearer,
Pumpkins being cut.*

*The clocks go back tonight,
An extra hour to relax.
Soon it will be bonfire night,
Enough fireworks to fill 2 sacks.*

*Autumn is ending,
Winter is starting.
Soon it will be Christmas,
With all the fun partying.*

Emmeline Poole

Jaguar Land Rover – Partnership for Learning Enterprise Challenge

Six year 10 students took part and were successful at winning first place in the competition. They were:

Hayley Rabet 10GR / Hania Aniq 10BI / Annie Mosley 10GR / Andrew Whitfield 10GR / Anita Pun 10SH / Paul Jones 10BLT

The competition had an engineering theme and the students spent the morning looking at various aspects of structures including their strengths etc. During the afternoon the teams were required to design and make a product using an unusual piece of equipment which made 'rods' from rolled up newspapers.

They were required to produce a finance report, logo and company slogan and a PowerPoint presentation to sell their product for mass production. The six students worked very well as a team and produced an inspiring free-standing floor lamp design accompanying materials as required in the task criteria, as well as using specific measurements.

The group was presented with an engraved glass trophy and a place each on the Jaguar Land Rover 'Off Road' Experience. Well done team – Blue Coat School was well presented.

"Stick your head out the window and shout 'we've won, let us pass! ..and they'll think 'ohhh. Those uneducated kids these days!'" joked Mrs Tabern. Thinking back now, in the morning we all had no idea whatsoever of what a fun day ahead we would have. Before setting off to the factory it was quite nerve-racking as nearly everything was a last minute decision and some members of the team hadn't arrived yet. Above all – we hadn't a clue whereabouts the Factory was and hadn't had time to Google-Map it.

All was running smoothly; we had, after all, got on to the big white school mini-bus. Until... we reached a junction that led to different ways and although we could see Jaguar's famous logo, there was no way in! The road was constructed like PC World near Speke Retail, except that the small passage to turn into was just ahead and we only had to find the 'Spikey Sculpture' Drew described. As we turned into the grand car park, a funny sign lay ahead. It had 2 arrows pointing in opposite directions; both labelled 'Visitors Car Park'. Hoping for the best, the caretaker drove left and stopped outside a beautifully designed building with a sign saying 'Liverpool Compact'.



The morning went quite well; we participated in activities as a 'warm up' and for us to understand the concept of 'teamwork'. A building project proceeded after the short talk and our mission was from a scenario given: Liverpool was hit by an earthquake; we 6

were the only survivors. The materials we could gather were 3 newspapers, scissors and a roll of sellotape. The mini-project was to construct a free standing tent that could hold 2 people at once and have a roof for shelter.

To make things a little easier, another activity beforehand was to make a platform using k-nex that held a minimum of 2kg worth of bricks. ...Ours collapsed after 4kg. But we still passed! The secret: Triangles.

In the afternoon, our big mission was to build a floor lamp with reasonable requirements such as the height has to be over 1.5m in height and freestanding. With tips and feedback from previous tasks, we first proceeded to compose a basic prototype for our floor lamp. Although there were restrictions on budget, size, equipment and aesthetics, the finished product turned out quite well!



Again, as reminded from the tasks we undertook beforehand on time restriction, we did actually require a little more time. Nevertheless, we were all quite proud of the floor lamp. Improvements upon it would be (if we had a little more time) to attach another circle band to the inner part to stop the petals from flaring outwards.

Our final task of the day was to evaluate and conclude our design through a presentation. After 10 minutes of discussion between the 'judges' the results were presented. I remember the moment just before he read out the winning team – each of us took in deep breaths and ran over the sentence '...and the winner is St. Edwards' – due to 'preparing for the worst in all situations' and that they performed exceptionally well in all the tasks. As he declared the winner is Blue Coat, a wave of excitement and relief passed through us, St. Edwards were just too close behind.

The reward we received was a glass trophy declaring 'Winners of 2010 Engineering Challenge' and a Jaguar Landrover Off Road Experience demonstration drive for 6 and each of us acquired a certificate for this memorable day.

Philosophy Trip

On 19th November, the A2 Philosophy class attended a day of lectures on aesthetics called 'TOUCHED: Philosophy Meets Art', an event put on as part of the Liverpool Biennial. The lectures we received varied in content; one focused on the idea that the self is a 'work of art-in-progress', whilst another explored the question of whether art is something that is wilfully irrational. We were quite surprised to find that these lectures were nowhere near as pretentious as expected, and through use of humour and audience participation they were actually quite engaging. The free coffee and sandwiches just topped the day off!

Christopher McLoughlin

History Trip - Auschwitz

In November we had the opportunity to visit the concentration camp of Auschwitz – Birkenau in Poland which was the sight of some of the most horrifying atrocities in human history. The trip was organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust, with the aim of educating young people about the reality of genocide and the destruction that intolerance can cause. Both of us found the trip extremely sobering and it proved harrowing to be in a place that had witnessed such intense suffering. The most disturbing element was the realisation that humans can be so cruel to one another. The Polish guide who accompanied us gave us an array of stories and poems written by survivors and victims. Although these were very painful to hear, they allowed us to understand the personal impact of the Holocaust. This tied in well with the theme of Holocaust Memorial Day this year which was 'Untold Stories'. Behind the massive statistics it is important to remember the sacrifice of each individual.

When we first returned from Auschwitz we were anxious never to return to such a dreadful place. Yet now we have had time to reflect upon what we have seen, we are more appreciative of the experience, and what it has taught us. We attended seminars both before and after the visit which gave us the chance to process and discuss our thoughts. Alongside other sixth formers from across the North West we were able to share our haunting memories of Auschwitz and affirm the vital pledge to never forget such a merciless persecution. However perhaps more importantly, we talked about the legacy which the Holocaust has left upon our society today; all agreeing that it is our duty to fight the prejudice and discrimination that still plagues the world today. In countries like Rwanda genocide is a destructive force, whilst at home in the UK communities are ripped apart by racism and bullying. In their disillusioned quest for Aryan supremacy the Nazis systematically murdered 6 million Jewish people among other undesirables who failed to fit into their narrow ideology. The biggest lesson to be learnt from the Holocaust is that only by remembering the past can we strive for a better future.

Kathryn Smith and Niall O'Brien

A Memorable Trip to PGL!

At the beginning of the new school year the Year Sevens went on a fun-filled, action-packed adventure holiday. The aim of the trip was to create bonds and friendships between the forms. The trip was held just as we had got used to things and had settled in. It was a trip to remember! It was filled with excitement and laughter.

The trip started off with a coach journey filled with noisy, buzzing

excited Year Sevens (that explains the whole journey). Laughter and chatting filled the coach. There was not one person on the coach who wasn't smiling – even the teachers were! Finally, the journey ended, finding ourselves next to a big building and a view of the high ropes course – my favourite.

Our group's first activities that afternoon were archery and high ropes. I was so excited! Once we took our first step, it was like walking normally. Ok, we did have a few moments where we had to get our instructor to help – don't deny it Rebecca! Well, there were a few screams, after all we were a group of girls!

After the afternoon packed with activities it was time for tea. We had an evening activity planned after a trip to our rooms. I was sharing a room with six other girls: Natalie Green, Emmeline Poole, Emma Murphy, Rachael Brown, Ellis Lannigan, Rebecca Nielson and me (Daisy Richmond). The room had four bunk beds with lots of space in. There was a wardrobe that we didn't use, because we would have had an argument over how much space we all needed. We filled the draw underneath my bed with sweets of all kinds. It was a girl's heaven!

The evening activity was hilarious. It was like watching a comedy show. There were lots of drama/sports games. I have never laughed so much! After the activities, it was time to go to bed. Yeah right! We were on holiday! We stayed up chatting, gossiping and, most of all, stuffing ourselves with sweets. We were all really tired after such a long journey but were too excited to go to sleep. We stayed up a bit chatting, all on the floor snuggled in our duvets...eating.

We woke up to yet another busy day ahead of us. On the last night there, there was a disco in the main hall. It was amazing! We danced the night away! There was a rush to get ready and look perfect for the disco in the girls' block; however in the boys' it was obviously more laid back, as they all wore jeans. Typical!

It was a great start to our first year at The Blue Coat School. It is a trip I will never forget, as my friends and I share great memories of the trip! It's a school trip that will be hard to beat. On behalf of the Year Sevens who attended the trip, I thank all the teachers that planned and helped with it.

Daisy Richmond, 7 Shirley

4-Dynamic! Trip to Manchester Museum of Science & Industry

On 15th December 2010, the year 8 students visited the Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester. This trip was organised by the DT department and the race was on to get a place.

We started the day by exploring the Underground Manchester Gallery. This exhibit included a "trip" to the Victorian sewers and then it was revealed that we would also be experiencing a 4-D film – think 3-D but wetter!

Next we visited "Experiment", the hands-on and creative gallery where you did...Experiments! I particularly enjoyed the "Are you strong enough to lift a mini?" and the "Percussion pipes" activities. Next stop...lunch!

All forms then met up in the Air and Space hall canteen to share experiences before we rode the Simulator. After a few technical difficulties, the ride was up and running and those brave enough experienced flight.

We also visited galleries about power and textiles before ending the day in the gift shop. A fantastic day out for year eight with an added 4-D surprise.

Chloe Wilson, 8 Blundell

Camelot

This year our School trip was to Camelot. Some people said it would be boring or rubbish but those of us who saw sense went on the trip. After a long(ish) coach trip we finally arrived.

I was in a small group of fellow *Blundells* and one *Shirley*, Luke. The first thing we did was ride on the Dragon Flyer. It went faster than we expected and after two minutes we were back on the ground. We then went on the Pirate Galleon.

We had a quick look through the smaller rides (like the ferris wheel which we didn't go on, of course) and then we had lunch. We then went on the 'Knightmare' (although the queue was more of a nightmare than the ride).

After that was over, we all went on the Whirlwind. Feeling a little dizzy, Aravind and I went on Excalibur 2, but cowardly Daniel and Joe decided not to. Excalibur was probably the best ride that we went on. Daniel and Joe went on the Log Flume so Aravind, Luke and I decided to complete our trip by going on the best ride in the park..... The Caterpillar.

Cameron Walker

Ainsdale Beach: Enrichment Trip

I went on a biology trip to Ainsdale beach. We aimed to measure species diversity using punnet squares and it was a lot harder than expected. Being honest all the plants looked the same to me....*_*

The weather was surprisingly nice that day. Not a drop of rain!! The best part was probably playing in the sand and running into the sea with Fran Bird, and of course, taking photos to capture the 'kodak moments'.

However, the worst part would probably be when Nick Gall took his shoes off at the back of the coach. Feet are just disgusting. Worst of all, Rehab took pictures of his feet, which wasn't exactly a pleasant view.

Maggie Huang L6C

Religious Studies trip to Anglican Cathedral

On 23rd of June all four year seven forms visited the Anglican Cathedral. It was a very enjoyable visit and we all learnt something new.

The journey to the Cathedral was organised extremely well. There was no time wasted on getting there and we quickly entered the Cathedral where we met our guides. The guides were very helpful. They gave us lots of information and useful facts about the Cathedral.

We were taken to many parts of the Cathedral where we learnt what the items/rooms were for, how they were built etc. After learning about the Cathedral we were given a quiz to see what we had learnt. We were given half an hour to revisit the places we had been in the Cathedral and answer the questions. It was very interesting and well worth the visit.

We had our lunch in the Cathedral. We took our lunch with us and sat with the other pupils. After having lunch we headed back to School, having enjoyed the visit to the Anglican Cathedral.

Eloise Healey 7GR

Antony and Cleopatra

October 2010 saw a large group of sixth form English students take their seats in the Playhouse to watch the theatre's production of Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*. The play forms part of the year 13's studies, and also allowed the AS students, who are studying concepts of tragedy, to see some in action. If a positive effect on our education wasn't going to tempt anybody, Sex and the City's Samantha Jones certainly was. Admittedly, as many of us had been tempted simply by the thought of seeing Kim Cattrall in the flesh as Cleopatra, the sudden realisation on the night that we would have to sit through almost three hours of Shakespeare was rather daunting.

However, Shakespeare was never going to give us anything other than dramatic and entertaining acting, and there were all the tense scenes of a tragedy combined with a few rather witty one liners. The story of the ill fated Roman general and his Egyptian queen was impressively told amidst dim lanterns and a mostly bare stage, but with the addition of an overhead walkway, which leant itself perfectly to all the dramatic clashes and escapes. A graceful but commanding Cleopatra and a distraught, paranoid Antony torn between his lover and his desire for victory were just two of the convincing performances given by all the cast, creating a memorable and compelling production. Light relief came in the form of Antony's wife, Octavia, who was played by a tall blonde man! While many of the girls may have spent far too long concentrating on Cleopatra's stunning outfits rather than the plot or language, the general consensus afterwards was one of pleasant surprise and thorough enjoyment. We left accompanied with a renewed interest in all things Shakespearian – it was a mere week and half before we all trekked to New Brighton to see *Hamlet!*

Eleanor Marsh L6D

'Tis Pity She's a Whore

Year 12 English Literature students had toiled through only their first two weeks of work when their Herculean labours were rewarded with the tantalising offer of a trip to the theatre. 30 students were able to enjoy Slung Low's, (a West Yorkshire based theatre company) entertaining performance of Ford's *'Tis Pity She's A Whore*, a scandalous tragedy about the incestuous love between educated Giovanni and his beautiful but vulnerable sister, Annabella. Interestingly, in this particular adaptation all the sub plots were removed - an unwelcome change for our students as the eradication of the play's most amusing characters made for a much more melancholic exit from the Liverpool Everyman following a denouement so bloody that surely even Tarantino would have felt a bit queasy watching it.

The 17th century revenge tragedy was given something of a makeover and although the dialogue was the original, the 20th century costumes and set highlighted the evolution of society from the barbaric, corrupt Parma of 1633 to the barbaric and corrupt society that we live in today. The staging over three different levels offered an interesting view of the character's thoughts and feelings when they were not directly involved in a particular scene.

So having roused the latent feminists within the female viewers, the production was praised by all who attended and certainly gave the Year 12s some fascinating food for thought.

Bethany Currie

An Insight into Law

University of Manchester, 18th November 2010

I am certain that this trip to the University of Manchester was a priceless experience which both informed us of life in Law (and Criminology) as well as university life in general.

The day started with a small introduction and briefing, which included how the day was set out. They also informed us about how we can get into Law, including what A Levels to take and the sort of degrees you can take attached to Law (such as Law with Politics or Law with Criminology).

After that, we went on to our first workshop: "Homicide Who Done It?" As we walked into the room, we saw a typical crime scene and, under the expertise of a Chief Police Officer, went about looking at how every part of the crime scene drew a picture of the actual crime and who was responsible for what. We inquired questions like "whose blood is on the knife?" and "whose footprint is that?" We then, after hearing some more evidence from an interview with all the prime suspects, charged a man for murder. But then, we had a debate (as you would in court) on whether to charge the man for murder or reduce the charge to manslaughter. The experience of "Homicide Who Done It" showed how important every piece of evidence found at a crime scene is as well as the processes that take place to charge and bring people to justice.

Later on in the day, we had a tour of the campus where we saw the new modern library, the very informal Student Union and the Law Department. The utter size of just one section of the campus showed just how big universities are and the atmosphere that you feel around the university makes you excited for school life in future years time.

Before our day ended, we had another workshop which was a talk on punishments that take place when someone is convicted of a certain offence. This gave us the opportunity to practise note-taking as well as experience a lecture and how it is structured.

Every single part of the day was very helpful as well as fun and exciting. I preferred, out of everything, including the lunch and the freebees, "Homicide Who Done It" and the tour around the campus because "Homicide Who Done It" gave us a really, really accurate insight into whether studying Law or Criminology would suit us the most and the interesting aspects of them. You hear a lot from both people you know who are at university and the media about what life is like within the university, but you can't really get a full glimpse unless you actually stand in one and experience the atmosphere around it. The tour really provided that and has made me begin to really look forward to university, not just because of the fact that I can study a subject of my interest, but also enjoy the night life and the social life that comes with it. An amazing experience.

Colin Lim, 10 B1

EXPO in Shanghai

In October 2009 I was delighted to learn that, along with Adam Gaffney, I had been selected to represent The Blue Coat School at EXPO in Shanghai. EXPO is a massive, worldwide trade fair with countries and cities represented all hoping to drum up business. As well as the UK represented as a country, Liverpool had been successful in their bid to be the city representing Britain. It was the initiative of the Liverpool City Council to staff their pavilion in part with child delegates, two from every state school in the city going out to Shanghai in five groups over the period of the EXPO.

The work itself was quite fun although slightly repetitive. As ambassadors for Liverpool we had to speak to the many visitors about our city. We also had a chance to see the EXPO and were able to get ahead of queues, some of which had four hour waits. The cost of entry was approx \$32. This is the equivalent of a month's wages to an average Chinese worker. This remains something I shall remember, how relatively rich we are in Europe and how hard it is to manage a living for many in China. People there are avid to learn about the West, having been shut away from its perceived luxuries behind an iron curtain for so many years. But entry to EXPO is a luxury with a massive price tag many are willing to pay. I was also struck by how many people had had surgery to their eyes, all part of wanting to look more Western

Several images stand out. The traffic is something else. Five lanes in each direction and then motorised bikes tearing up the pavement. Although I suffered a bit with the heat and loved the air con, I didn't see the sun for the whole time I was away because of the smog.

Shanghai has serious pollution issues. I also found the food something of a challenge and have to be honest and admit that when I had the choice, I bought pizza. Those who know me will not be surprised to hear that what I really loved was the shopping. The haggling was a cultural novelty that I quickly adapted to when faced with such a range of fake designer goods.

Overall, it was an amazing experience and I will always remember Shanghai with fondness.

Bianca Casaus



Velvet Young Yr 11

PRIZE QUIZ

First set of correct answers to Mr Newton, Librarian, wins a prize.

- 1) Which video game character was created in the year 2000XX?
- 2) Who was the first one million pound transfer in British football?
- 3) Which countries have taken part in the World Series?
- 4) What is the name of Dr Who's home planet?
- 5) Name the female lead from the Rocky Horror Picture Show?
- 6) Who won the 1st X-Factor?
- 7) Who won the 4th Big Brother?
- 8) Who was the 3rd head teacher of The Blue Coat School?
- 9) Who is the patron saint of Liverpool?
- 10) Who invented platonic conversations?
- 11) What was the 1st UK number one single of the 1980's?
- 12) Who were the original three members of the Sugababes?
- 13) Name a building utensil that is also a bird.
- 14) What is "Happy New Year" in Chinese?
- 15) Who is the patron saint of librarians?
- 16) In West Side Story, who is Bernardo's best friend?
- 17) What does HTML stand for?
- 18) Which type of bowling does Mr Newton participate in at national level? A) Crown green or b) ten-pin?
- 19) In Sky's Dream Team, who played the chairman of Harchester United, Tony Boyle?
- 20) What was the name of the hugely bearded Victorian batsman extraordinaire known as The Champion?

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

There are currently 40 year 12 students embarking on their Silver Duke of Edinburgh's award:

Nick Turner	Tim Rhodes
Jonny Kelly	Beth Currie
Katie Conry	Abbey Lunt
Alex Mallon	Aiden Riley
Peter Robinson	Rebecca Wardle
Tom Kinley	Gwen Parry
Alice Haughn	Jamie Walsh
Chris Jackson	Lowri Philips
Georgina Hunt	Pirishya Jeyanayagam
James Rhodes	Jonathan Riley
Marina Ransome	Joey Fong
Emma Findlay	Jack Doherty
Yasaman Murkhalaf	Alex Zhong
Rebecca Tsang	Ryan Woods
Elham Mahmoody	Melissa Atherton
Rachel Hayes	Jake Cockburn
Josh Owens	Luke Moorcroft
Steven Doran	Matthew Gunson
Rim Aly	Rabeel Chaudhry
Sara Edwards	Andrew Beggs

These students will soon be busy working in teams planning, preparing and practising towards completing their final 3 day 2 night walking and camping assessment expedition in North Wales. Here is hoping for good weather for them!

They are also required to participate regularly in their own chosen individual areas of interest in the form of volunteering, skill and physical activities over the course of the year.

In addition, there will be a group of Year 10 students embarking on their bronze award later in the year.

Model United Nations General Assembly (MUNGA)

The visit to the town hall for the Model United Nations General Assembly is becoming an annual tradition for Blue Coat AS level politics students. A twelve strong unit set out, six to represent France and six to represent Iran.

The day was split into three parts. After a welcoming from the Lord Mayor, Councillor Hazel Williams, the morning was devoted to a plenary debate regarding the progress made in the 2000 Millennium Development Goals. Each country was then split into three groups of represent their country on the topics of global warming, nuclear non-proliferation and freedom of speech and expression. This provided all involved with an opportunity to comment both in an open discussion on the topic that they had been assigned and a statement outlining their country's stance on the matter and the progress that they had made. The day concluded with the chairman of the event calling all delegates into an emergency session to discuss Iran's nuclear weapons programme. Here, each country was able to highlight their position on an issue regarding Iran. This aspect was impromptu and there was no opportunity to rehearse which made those of us representing Iran think fast and carefully about our country's position.

Blue Coat was lucky in the sense that we had been given two very interesting countries to represent, both powerful and active on the world stage. France had made good progress in most areas so rarely came under attack from other delegates. Any comment made by France was closely listened to and treated with great respect. Iran, in contrast were often subject to fierce criticism, most of which was unjustified. However, characteristically, the Blue Coat students representing Iran were able to provide a strong and robust rebuttal to the many challenges that came their way.

Tom McKenna L6B

Art Trip to Paris 2010

Arriving at Lime Street Station at 8 am was a lot easier than dragging ourselves out of bed for school as we were all so excited about boarding the train for Paris. As we waited in anticipation for the train to arrive we practised our French, which came in very handy later on. Our hotel was situated fairly close to the centre of Paris but we still had to get the dreaded Metro everywhere. It was a lovely hotel and everyone enjoyed the Nutella and croissants for breakfast. We even ended up smuggling some packets of Nutella into our rooms for a midnight feast, unbeknown to the teachers! All of the galleries we visited were full of beautiful artwork and we all thoroughly enjoyed walking around the magnificent buildings, especially the famous Louvre. However several people were disappointed by the modest size of the Mona Lisa!

I have to admit one of the best parts of the trip was the shopping! Even though it was an art trip, Mrs Watson and Miss Vipond made sure we found the time to visit Galleries Lafayette – it was marvellous, and that's just talking about the domed ceiling, let alone the clothes, bags and shoes! We also went up the Eiffel Tower. Most of us went to the top but a few chickened out! One night we ate in Pizza Hut – true Brits!. Whilst here a man came round selling roses. However, when some girls bought them he refused to give the change. That was where our French came in handy!

The weather was glorious and the trip was a great success. Thank you from all of us to the Art department.

Rebecca Borthwick

Random General Knowledge Quiz

1. In 'A Tale of Two Cities' written by Charles Dickens, which are the two cities that the novel is set in?
2. Crocodiles have no sweat glands so they use their mouths to release heat. True or false?
3. In the fourth Harry Potter book, Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire, what is the name of the magical plant that Harry uses to breathe underwater?
4. Was coca cola originally green?
5. Which three cities is Liverpool twinned with?
6. Which is the only vowel on a standard keyboard, which is not on the top row?
7. The first Olympic Games were held in Athens. In which city was the second Olympic Games held in?
8. In Greek mythology Pan was the god of the woods, fields and fertility. He was half man and half what?
9. Who was the winner of the first series of 'The X Factor'?
10. What instrument does Homer Simpson replace Lisa Simpson's saxophone with after it is stolen?

[ANSWERS ON PAGE 64]

The Blue Coat School Book Club

This year has seen the formation and flourishing of the Blue Coat's Book Club. Formed by a small and yet dedicated group of year 12 students with a passion for literature, over the course of the year we have studied authors ranging from Fyodor Dostoyevsky to George Orwell, Haruki Murakami to Vladimir Nabokov. We have also read and extensively discussed two novels: J.D. Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye* and Nabokov's *Lolita*. Book Club is held every Tuesday in W06 (Mrs Walker's room) and we are always ready to welcome new members, although unfortunately at this time only sixth form students may join. Ask *Matthew Davies, Lara Rimmer or John Anderson* for more information.

Classics Club

Ever wanted to meet some of the most illustrious characters from the ancient world? Well, now you can! Each Tuesday in the infamous Latin room, we classicists meet for informal presentations on exciting and diverse areas of Classics, particularly relating to ancient history and mythology, as well as investigating literature and culture in preparation for university.

Our presentations range from the traditional 'Greek heroes' to exotic themes keeping with the cross-curricular trend in school, such as the technical details of the eruption of Vesuvius. This year we have also lobbied for a trip and managed to advocate our way into the English Department's excursion to see *Oedipus* in February.

Classics Club has the great distinction of having one of the smallest and yet one of the most dedicated memberships. Now that we finally have our own society, we hope to keep it around ad infinitum and recruit many more students to the study of one of the most versatile university courses! Come along and investigate – Julius Caesar and Helen of Troy are just waiting to introduce themselves ...

Olivia Thompson

Creative Writing Club

Creative writing is similar to a train with many stops. Each station is a unique world to explore. Varying from stories to poems, you are sure to have a wonderful time on this fun-filled ride. We sculpt ideas into masterpieces with the help of the brilliant Mrs. Ludlow.

Ellis Lannigan, Emma Murphy, Olivia Meadows and Rachael Brown.

History Society

History has been my passion ever since year 7, to the point that I joined my old school's history society. When I came to sixth form, I was delighted when I heard Blue Coat's attitude to clubs and societies so you can imagine my surprise when I learned that Blue Coat had no thriving History Society. So, I made one. Now the Blue Coat History Society has been running every Friday from 4 to 5 PM in C21 for about two months and has a handful of devoted members. But I want it to expand, to become a large – well – society of year 10 to 13 history devotees who want to learn about any historical event or period that interests them whilst enjoying free biscuits. *So, if you are interested, contact Marie-Claire Emecheta or Emma Keenan in forms L6D and L6H respectively for more details.*

Debating Society

The Sixth Form Debating Society meets to deliberate one contentious issue per week, causing heated discussion in a friendly and open-minded environment. One of Blue Coat's most popular clubs, the society is organised in the template of a formal debate. Four students are briefed prior to the debate as to what they will be arguing for, and on the day they present speeches, (two for, two against the motion) before the floor is opened for questions. We have a firm policy that spectators vote for who they thought argued better as opposed to who supported the side that they believe in. That way, we can ensure that no-one is biased, and people are more willing to open their minds to cases they wouldn't necessarily support. In this way, members are able to improve their skills of persuasion in a detached and rational way. Debating Society helps students to develop proficiency in public speaking, communication and cultivating a coherent and convincing argument. Helpful and relevant to any university course, the club has debated many diverse issues, from alternative medicine to the relevance of religion in society. Come along and enjoy!

Max Thomas McGenity and Fran Murphy

The Library

This year the library has continued to be a hub of academia within the school. The library collection has expanded considerably this year, with many additions to all areas of the curriculum. Staff and pupil consultation has meant that the library continues to purchase pertinent stock that is utilised for both the educational and recreational needs of the school. The library is working in partnership with instigators of best practice to ensure that the pupils of the school receive the best possible service from their facility.

Initiatives this academic year that have achieved increased library usage include medical interview workshops for Yr 13 students (now expanded to prospective dental and veterinary students), after school homework club, Yr 12 University Challenge competition, Yr 7 and Yr 8 Haunted Liverpool Club, the library assistant training scheme and seasonal promotions for Halloween and Christmas. The library continues its association with the Booked Up scheme which provides a free fiction book for each of our new Yr 7 pupils.

The library will continue to work closely with staff and pupils to improve the standards of facilities and service for the next academic year.

D. Newton, School Librarian

[Thank you to Mr Newton for the donation of prizes for the front cover design and the Prize Quiz - Editor]

Badminton Club

Badminton club is held in the Sports Hall on Monday mornings at 8.00 am. This club is held by Mr Dunkin and Mr Caulkin. Each of these excel at Badminton and are eager to help newcomers. Unfortunately there are not many students attending this club.

This club is in need of new students to come and learn a new skill. There might be a new champion of Badminton.

Usman Qureshi 8GR

News Desk Club

This year a new club has arrived... The news desk club! If the word "news" doesn't appeal to you, then maybe you should find out what lies behind the word. Run by Mrs Walker and Ms Tyers on Tuesday lunchtimes, News Club is about more than writing articles.

In the months building up to the 24th of March, we learned the tricks of the trade by watching BBC training DVDs, holding debates and reading the news. For those who wanted to write the news, each week we would find out the latest news and summarise it, in preparation for the big day, March 24th. For those who were more into the technical side, there were opportunities to present, film and edit the action, finally broadcasting on the BBC and schools website.

On the day we had three hours to gather, write and prioritize our stories and, when the clock struck two, Lights, Camera, ACTION!



Law Society

This year the Law Society is being run by Fran Murphy in U6J and Rebecca Foy in U6A. It meets every Thursday after school for one hour to discuss topics related to the field of Law, for example, the LNAT, Law at University and whether the death penalty is appropriate for certain crimes. In April there will be the Law Society annual dinner held at Blue Coat. This event will be held for those who are interested in the Law from years 12 and 13 to have the opportunity to talk to those already in the legal profession.

Rebecca Foy and Fran Murphy

SNAG Report

The School's Nutritional Action Group (or SNAG for short) is a government initiative that has been in place at The Blue Coat for 4 years now. SNAG meets with the catering staff once a term to discuss how the students view the food and service provided in the canteen.

SNAG currently consists of 3 Sixth Formers and 2 students from each year in Years 7-11. The meetings provide us with an opportunity to feedback our thoughts on the food in the canteen, as well as sampling new things, such as the new 'Chicken Joes' and 'Hoi-Sin Duck Sandwiches'. We also instigate the much-loved Theme Days (in which all of Jamie Oliver's hard work to make school meals healthy gets thrown out of the window as apparently the occasional treat is allowed).

I would like to thank all of the members of SNAG for their commitment and hard-work over the last year. It really has helped both the canteen and the school as a whole.

The future looks bright for SNAG. With the prospect of Hot Apple Pies being introduced, there has never been a better time to come and eat in the school canteen.

Shaun Rigby, U6B

Seasons

*Flowers are blooming
Children are screaming
It is fun
To play in the sun
All day long*

*Leaves are twirling
Animals migrating
You can't complain
About the rain
All day long*

*Snow is falling
Wind is blowing
It's cold outside
So mothers stay in
All day long*

*Birds are returning
Newborn are hatching
Owls are hooting
Roosters are rooting
All day long*

Nidhi Raj

Pens

*Pens can draw
Pens can write
Across the page they take their flight
Scribbling, doodling, dotting too
You get them in colours like red, black and blue.
Writing letters, poems or a story,
Romance or horror, perhaps a bit gory.
You don't need a 'phone to text your best bud
My Nan says write letters (if only I could)
Our lives would be nothing without our
faithful friend
Pens will help us through to the end.*



Olivia Meadows

MUSIC REPORT 2010

The year 2010 saw the dawn of a new era in The Blue Coat School Music Society. Our Director of Music, Mr Emery, has settled nicely into his new job. However, his high ambitions for the Music Society proved vital in panning out the year ahead.

On the 20th March, a small selection of students provided musical entertainment for the Parents' Association Italian Job Casino Night. The Rat Pack style band performed many classics by the likes of Sinatra, Martin and Bubl , much to the appreciation of the audience. Ex-Blue Coat student Paul Hughes returned to sing, but due to some technical difficulties, he wasn't able to perform his set. However, Ms Horton rescued the evening by providing piano accompaniment for him while he sang "Ain't That a Kick in the Head".

This year's Spring Concert was very different in comparison to previous years; the standard of playing and singing was outstanding. The Concert Band started this off with a powerful performance of Copland's 'Fanfare for the Common Man', a great piece to show-off the strong brass and percussion sections the school has. There was also a host of solo and small ensemble performances by students ranging from year 7 to 13, including Amy Bennett, Year 13, on cello, Harley Jones, Year 13, singing and Sarah Zhao, Year 11, on piano. The highlight of the night came in the second half: Vivaldi's 'Gloria'. The School Choir, Choral Society (consisting of parents' and other supporters of the school) and the Blue Coat Sinfonia (consisting of students and freelance musicians) provided a stunning rendition of this challenging work. The Blue Coat Music Society was also honoured to welcome Professor Ian Tracey, RLPC Chorusmaster, as accompanist on Harpsichord for this performance.



If the music calendar wasn't frenzied enough, Mr Emery introduced the school to a series of lunchtime recitals in the School Chapel. There were performances by GCSE and A-level students, and by musicians from the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic. Professor Ian Tracey opened the lunchtime series with a recital on organ and Jonathan Aasgaard, RLPO Principal Cello; accompanied by Ian Buckley, RLPO Pianist, providing some stunning virtuosity for students and the public to enjoy (and a free CD for Matthew Caine, Year 13, for his tremendous page-turning skills).

The annual Founders' Day Service wasn't as hectic as previous years (luckily). The Strings performed Jenkins' 'Palladio' and the School Choir sang 'Our Father' from 'African Sanctus'. Once again, the Music Society provided another set of flawless performances.

The Summer Recital on July 14th was meant to be a laid back, no

hassle concert...how we were wrong! With such a wealth of talent at the school, it seemed a shame to not let everyone play or sing. With 11 items from soloists, duets or trios, the concert was a bit longer than anticipated. The School Orchestra rocked the audience overboard during their performance of Badelt's 'Pirates of the Caribbean Suite'. Everyone's favourite pianist Matthew Caine performed Chopin's 'Waltz in C# minor', and then returned to sing Bayer-Sagar's 'Prayer' with Olivia Sung (Year 10).

So far, 2010 had been a triumph for the Music Society. Mr Emery had survived his first year and talks of a tour in 2011 were beginning to spread around the school. Could the new academic year be as successful?

Christmas seemed to be with us so quickly. The Carol Service stuck to tradition presenting a combination of old and new pieces, including Rutter's 'Candlelight Carol', Bruckner's 'Locus Iste' and Adam's 'Holy Night'. Even old students returned to sing in the Choir.

The formal part of the evening ended and the audience rushed into the Shirley Hall to get the best seats to watch the Concert of Festive Music, consisting of the Concert Band, Jazz Band and School Orchestra. The concert opened with a jolly welcome by the Concert Band with 3 vocalists (Kelsey Walsh, Year 9, Georgia Mason, Year 9, and Stuart Campbell, Year 12) performing a Higgins arrangement of festive tunes called 'Christmas on Broadway'. The newly formed Blue Coat Barbershop Quintet performed an arrangement of 'White Christmas' by our very own Callum Spiers, Year 13. The Orchestra concluded the concert with a piece called 'Jingle Bells Forever', which combined the styles of Sousa and Pierpont to provide a festive march. The piece even contained hints of the Hallelujah Chorus.

So Christmas brought an end to the Music Society's frantic year...if only that was true! Both the Orchestra and the Choir had one final formal concert to undertake; Prizegiving. The Orchestra performed Suppe's 'Poet and Peasant Overture' and the Choir sang 'Heavens are Telling' from Haydn's 'Creation', accompanied by Peter Athans and Eleanor Marsh on trumpet and Shaun Rigby on timpani (I wasn't going to go through an entire report without mentioning myself at least once)!

The last day of the winter term saw the Jazz Band and Concert Band continue with the Christmas festivities in the Festive Assemblies. As well as the annual trouncing of '12 Days of Christmas' and the various antics to start a Mexican Wave, we were treated to the Staff Band's rendition of McCartney's 'Wonderful Xmas Time'.

I would like to use this opportunity to thank all of the teachers who have mentored and supported the Music Society over the past 12 months. A big thank you needs to go to Mr Emery and Ms Horton for their dedication and leadership. A thank you must also go to Mr Miller for continuing to accompany the School Choir with utter grace and style, and all of the peripatetic teachers who conduct the instrumental lessons week in, week out.

2010 has seen the Music Society pull off a performance of Vivaldi's 'Gloria' and still have energy left to play in a series of lunchtime concerts. Could this year be beaten? As 2011 beckons, the Music Society grows from strength to strength. Preparations have begun for our next major work; Carl Orff's 'Carmina Burana' and the summer tour to Italy show that the future is bright.

Shaun Rigby, U6B

Mathematics Specialism

Once again the Mathematics Department has seen a very busy year go by. Our students have taken part in a full programme of enrichment activities, giving them the opportunity to extend and apply their skills through clubs, trips and competitions.

UKMT Mathematics Challenges

Over the past twelve months approximately 500 students have sat the Junior, Intermediate or Senior Mathematics Challenges. These challenges encourage the students to think 'outside the box', working on bringing their knowledge and skills to bear on challenging problems. Students have performed well in these challenges and maintain the high standards set in previous years.

In the 2010 Junior Challenge, Year 7 and 8 students achieved 32 Gold, 40 Silver and 37 Bronze certificates. Additionally, Joshua Banister was 'Best in School' and he qualified for the Junior mathematical Olympiad, along with Patrick Hanlon and Luke Kershaw.

In the 2010 Senior Challenge, Year 11, 12 and 13 students achieved 6 Gold, 20 Silver and 38 Bronze certificates. The Gold Certificate winners were Maxwell Thomas-McGenity, Hua Yong Li, Jack Davies, Lewis Coenen-Rowe, Jonathon Woodward and Daniel Murphy. Maxwell Thomas-McGenity and Hua Yong Li also qualified for Round 1 of the British Mathematical Olympiad.

In the 2011 Intermediate Challenge Year 9, 10 and 11 students achieved 14 Gold, 55 Silver and 51 Bronze certificates. Particular congratulations go to Joshua Banister who was 'Best in School' and has also qualified for the IMOK Olympiad. Further congratulations go to Roy Chu and Luke Kershaw who also qualified for the IMOK Olympiad and to Jason Yu, David Murphy, Lilly Zhong, Ian Vidamour, Jack Campbell, John Wu and Jacky Hou who all qualified for the European Kangaroo.



UKMT Team Maths Challenge

In 2010 The Blue Coat School was represented in the regional final of this event by Roy Chu, Hoi-Lam Ng, Ian Vidamour and Joshua Banister. The team won the regional competition and progressed to the national final:

Last year we attended the Team Maths competition. First we went to St. Edwards College for the regional finals. The competition consisted of four rounds: solving ten puzzles, a crossnumber, a mini-relay round, and a relay run involving maths questions. The

competition took approximately four hours. In the end, we won by a significant margin and progressed to the national finals. The whole experience was very educational and it was fun to go to the finals in London, especially on a school day! It was an incredible experience and it really improved our maths skills!

Hoi-Lam Ng and Roy Chu

UKMT and Further Maths Network Senior Team Maths Challenge

This competition follows a similar format to the Team Maths Challenge for Years 8 and 9 but for Years 12 and 13, and although the final event is a relay it occurs at a more sedate pace!

In November 2010, Blue Coat was represented by Matthew Benton, Hua Yong Li, Jonathon Kelly and Gwen Parry. The team performed well and after a valiant effort finished in a creditable joint third place.

Maths Inspiration Lectures

Last Spring the majority of Year 12 Maths students attended the annual Maths Inspiration Lectures at the Liverpool Playhouse Theatre. The lectures covered many aspects of Mathematics, including how to build an Olympic stadium, the Maths behind playing the guitar and an in-depth look at juggling. It was a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon and gave an insight into why students may want to study Maths at university.

Shaun Rigby

Coding Workshop – Year 7

In September experts in code breaking came in to school to run a workshop for Year 7 students. In the workshop we were shown a lot of new and in some cases quite exotic ciphers. I had never realised how many different types of cipher there were or how interesting they are. Before the workshop I had no idea how difficult they can be to solve. We looked at a simple Caesar shift, the basics of frequency analysis, flag ciphers and we were told the story of the Dancing Men cipher, as well as how to crack them all.

This was a wonderful experience that I thoroughly enjoyed. Some of the ciphers we were taught were also very useful later on in the term when I took part in the National Cipher Challenge.

I hope the workshop runs again next year as I don't want the new Year 7 students to miss out on a fantastic and fun experience. It was brilliant!

Adam Moorcroft

Cipher Challenge

After attending the Coding Workshop in September, I was very keen to join the Cipher Challenge Club which ran throughout the Autumn term. In the club we competed in a national competition to crack codes in an effort to find a priceless diamond and save the world! Each week we were given two challenges to decipher and when we had worked out the solutions they gave us clues for future weeks. Even the first challenge was extremely hard, but towards the end we got the hang of it. It was just a shame it had to end. I thoroughly enjoyed the National Cipher Challenge and I'd love to do it again next year.

Natalie Green

Quarry Bank Mill Trip – Year 7

This year, on the Year 7 Technology trip to Quarry Bank Mill, students were encouraged to look out for any links between Technology and Mathematics and noted down any mathematical references they spotted. In the following maths lessons they reported back on facts such as the sizes of water wheels, costs of materials and pay that people received for various jobs, comparing the currency from centuries ago with the money we use today. They were particularly fascinated by the lives of the children who worked at the mill, noting the poor conditions they lived and worked in and the small amount of pay they received.

Maths Leaders Award

After a successful first year, the Maths Leaders Award ran again throughout 2009-10. Thirteen Year 10 students completed the course, developing their leadership and teamwork skills through the medium of mathematics.

The students involved gave up their own time to attend after-school and lunchtime sessions in which they learned how to deliver activities and lessons to other students. They created resources and 'taught' lessons to their peers, developing their skills as leaders and instructors.

A year of hard work culminated in a final assessment. The students worked in groups to prepare and deliver a Fun Maths Roadshow event to local primary school pupils. The Fun Maths Roadshow consists of mathematical activities and puzzles that take only a short amount of time to complete/attempt. Our Maths Leaders ran seven sessions for our partner primary schools. The Year 10 students met the primary pupils, introduced themselves, got the pupils to do a warm-up activity and then explained and ran the Fun Maths Roadshow, ably assisted by Year 7 students who manned the individual activities. The feedback from these events was excellent and the Year 10 students all completed the Maths Leaders Award.

Target 2.0 Economics Competition 2010/11

This year the school team for the annual Target 2.0 competition, organised and judged by members of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee, consisted of Juman Al-Machhoor, Frances Muscatelli, Edward Parr and Silviu Paraoan. For the purpose of the competition we had to imitate the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) process, assessing the UK and global economic conditions to determine the most appropriate monetary policy to achieve the Government's 2.0% inflation target. After working hard to plan and construct our argument we had to present our views to a panel of judges and we were then faced with a series of questions in each round.

Our team won the regional North West heat in November after arguing the case for setting interest rates at 0.5% and advocating a quantitative easing programme of £200 billion. Although the upward pressures on inflation had increased somewhat in the three months leading up to the North UK Final on the 1st March, we argued that it was not significant enough to warrant a tightening of policy. Consequently, we presented the same decision as previously, but



unfortunately we did not make it through to the National Final in London. Despite this, our progress thus far placed us high up in the national rankings with approximately 300 schools having taken part in the competition. Overall, the competition helped us to gain a great deal of skills, widened our economic knowledge and was a highly enjoyable experience. Thanks to Mr. Jamieson and Mr. Williams for giving up their own time to assist us with both presentations.

Silviu Paraoan

JUST FOR FUN

Can you figure out these proverbs and sayings from the acronyms?

Eg. EDHID is Every dog has its day.

1. APWABHT
2. ECHASL
3. CBAH
4. TNSWF
5. OOSOOM
6. TEBCTW
7. SWRD
8. LSDL

Answers on page 61

Science Specialism

Events out of School

In the summer term of 2010 a number of events went on, both in and out of school. Within school a group of Year 8 students completed their science projects as part of the Bronze CREST award. They showcased each project at the North West Big Bang Competition, where their work was greatly received by all of the judges. One project



in particular caught their eye however and was awarded first prize. The project, conducted by Eleanor Roberts and Catriona Miller, was looking at the effects of cocoa content on the melting point of chocolate. Catriona and Eleanor are now preparing themselves to represent the North West at the National Big Bang Competition in London this year. During this three day science fair they will showcase their project and have enlisted the help of various scientists in this field, including that of television's Willie Harcourt-Cooze to help them.



Success also struck another student in Year 8 when he was selected to participate in the finals of the "Why I want to be a Scientist" competition. James Doughty submitted a short essay on this title and was selected from hundreds of other entries to present his essay at the Catalyst Museum. During the evening event he entertained the audience and judges with tales of his experiences in the field of science. Whilst he did not come first, the quality of his work was noted by several judges and he proved himself to be an excellent representative for the Blue Coat School.



A number of school trips also occurred during the summer term, including a trip to Jodrell Bank Observatory where students studied the use of radio waves in the study of our solar system and beyond.

The Sixth Form made a number of visits to Liverpool University to take part in numerous lab-based workshops as well as a trip to Manchester to participate in a genetics workshop at the Nowgen Centre. Each opportunity has helped our sixth form to decide what they would like to study at university and hopefully increased their chances of achieving these goals.

The 2010 autumn term started off with a group of Year 12 students visiting Alder Hey Hospital to participate in a Pathology workshop. The event was aimed at those interested in entering into a medical based career. During their visit students honed their diagnostic skills to determine the cause of death in several scenarios by observing microscope samples and viewing case notes. The highlight of the visit though was the virtual autopsy that was conducted by hospital staff.

In December 8Sh visited Liverpool University to attend a Chemistry Christmas show. The show included a number of whiz bang experiments conducted on stage which wowed the entire audience. The rest of Year 8 were treated to an equally exciting show at the Catalyst Museum in February hosted by Dr Bunhead from the TV show Brainiac. The students expected large explosions and were by no means disappointed. Whilst at the museum students also took advantage of the exhibits on display and participated in a workshop in how to make soap.

The World museum in Liverpool was visited by students from Year 10 in November 2010. The students had the opportunity to explore the many exhibits and galleries in the museum, in-between attending various workshops. The workshops gave students the opportunity to observe and handle real samples whilst discussing the topics of classification and human evolution. They were also treated to a show in the museum observatory, which explored the various bodies found within our solar system.



Year 12 visited Chester Zoo in February to participate in workshops on classification and the role of genetics in this field. Whilst the weather was not very favourable students enjoyed the opportunity to view the animals, in particular the new elephant calf that had recently been born.

Events in School

Within school we hosted the annual Rathbones Christmas Lecture in December which invited members of Years 11, 12 and 13. This years show was entitled "Music to your ears" and gave students an insight into the many hidden aspects of the world of sound and music. Our speaker did an excellent job and gave a very entertaining account of what sound is and how we can manipulate it. The highlight of the show was definitely the world's largest whoopee cushion which several students fell victim to!

Year 12 students have also been busy this year with Café Scientifique. This interactive lecture allows students to invite expert lecturers into school to discuss controversial topics. In December the topic was that of illegal drugs and the effects they can have on their users. This term the topic will be on the growing influence of genetics on our lives and will allow students to discuss topics such as designer babies, GM crops and genetic disease.

This year has also seen the introduction of the Silver CREST award to the school. Following the success of the Bronze award, Year 9 students have been designing even more elaborate experiments to

(Science Specialism cont...)

explore their particular area of scientific interest. Whilst projects are still in the early design stages, students have shown great promise and will be looking at various areas of interest ranging from computer game addiction to the actual effects of "brain foods" on performance within school.

In a bid to further improve the environmental credentials of the school, we have embarked on the Eco Schools project. The aim of this initiative is to identify areas within the running of the school that are not as environmentally friendly as they could be. Once identified targets are set and students work to achieve them. The autumn term saw the establishment of the action team which is composed of teachers and students from across all year groups. Whilst the environmental review we conducted of the school was good we were able to identify areas that we can improve on and are currently writing our action plan. Initial drafts have identified recycling and energy/resource usage as potential areas of improvement. We will now spend the rest of the school year addressing these issues.

Teacher Quotes

"I will examine you to death."

"He only has a small organ, but it's amazing what he can get out of it."

"Maths is war."

"That means I'm a man, by the way."

"You need to be turned on every lesson."

"I hate it when that happens: you're in the middle of teaching a class and bam! - you've got AIDS."

"I'm here because fascism needs to be taught."

"Liverpool FC - that's fascism."

O' Rourkeisms:

'Ultimately....'

'My attitude is....'

'What I will tell you is....'

'I'll turn round and say to them...'

'Yous.'

SPANISH EXCHANGE – SAN SEBASTIAN

The week prior to February half term 2010 a group of 24 Year 11 and sixth form students made the annual visit to San Sebastian in northern Spain on the return leg of the Spanish exchange. The Spanish students had spent a week staying with our Blue Coat students prior to this in December.



During the week students spent a day shadowing their hosts around lessons including a lesson on the strange Basque language, a tour of San Sebastian..and that hill!! I can still hear Rachel moaning...We also visited Bilbao and the impressive Guggenheim museum, Gernika and the World Peace Museum, and the Oma forest (well some of us did....some gave up half way!!)

All students had very positive things to say both about their experiences and the benefit it had to their language...despite the Arctic conditions it was a memorable trip...not least for being the last time a certain Mr G Wilson would grace us with his unforgettable presence...he will certainly be missed by all.

Thanks also to Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Coltart for accompanying the trip.



Mr O'Brien...thanks for the report Saz n Rachel!!

Sports Day

GIRLS

	<u>4th Place</u>
Nina Tasker	Yr 7
Jessica Hyde	Yr 8
Abbie Wood & Alana Borkwood	Yr 9
	Yr 10

	<u>3rd Place</u>
Eloise Healey	Yr 7
Rebecca Flynn	Yr 8
Sophie Rooney	Yr 9
-	Yr 10

	<u>Runner Up</u>
Mia Gill	Yr 7
Eleanor Lyndsay	Yr 8
Erin Lee	Yr 9
Molly Howarth-Maddison	Yr 10

	<u>Champions</u>
Lucy Flanagan	Yr 7
Hattie Power	Yr 8
Annie Moseley	Yr 9
Katy Blackmore &	Yr 10
Florence Binks &	
Sorcha Twomey-Harris	

BOYS

Alastair Clark
-
Thomas Taylor
Dileep & Jason Yu

Jacob Barrett-Baxendale
Darnel Ryan
Daniel Harvey
Ben Thompson

Nathan Wyman
David Murphy
Conall Jager
James Russell

Liam Corrs
Luke Sullivan & Joseph Boyward
Gavin Spruin
Callum Hancock

Sports Day Form Positions

GIRLS

Bingham	66 pts
Blundell	102 pts
Shirley	122 pts
Graham	135 pts

Bingham	93 pts
Shirley	95 pts
Blundell	110 pts
Graham	133 pts

Blundell	92 pts
Shirley	97 pts
Bingham	106 pts
Graham	115 pts

Blundell	15 pts
Shirley	46 pts
Graham	86 pts
Bingham	147 pts

Year 7

4th Place
3rd Place
2nd Place
1st

Year 8

4th Place
3rd Place
2nd Place
1st

Year 9

4th Place
3rd Place
2nd Place
1st

Year 10

4th Place
3rd Place
2nd Place
1st

BOYS

Bingham	114.5 pts
Blundell	119.5 pts
Graham	120 pts
Shirley	126 pts

Shirley	115 pts
Graham	126 pts
Bingham	127 pts
Blundell	141 pts

Shirley	79 pts
Bingham	91 pts
Graham	103 pts
Blundell	140 pts

Shirley	76 pts
Blundell	94 pts
Bingham	97 pts
Graham	134 pts

Cross Country Charity Race

GIRLS

Tallulah Jackman
Hattie Power
Lucy Preston

4th Place

Yr 7
Yr 8
Yr 9

3rd Place

Hannah Blanchard
Eden Widdows
Timah Julienne

Yr 7
Yr 8
Yr 9

Runner Up

Chloe Swart
Elena Lindsey
Jenny Morris

Yr 7
Yr 8
Yr 9

Winner

Elouise Heaney
Georgia Staunton
Erin Lee

Yr 7
Yr 8
Yr 9

BOYS

Dominic Burke
Sashquat Singh
Daniel Harvey

Sam Miley
David Murphy
Conall Jager

Nathan Wyman
Adam Carus-McDonald
Andrew Callaway

Bruce Binks
Luke Sullivan
Tom Taylor

GOLF

J L Davies

Eloise Healey

Winner

P McDonough

Sham Jagota

Winner

P McDonough

David Murphy

Winner



BASKETBALL

Blue Coat make history by winning 100 LIVERPOOL CUPS

Blue Coat became the first Liverpool school to win 100 Basketball Cups:
the U14 team beat Calderstones to win the Cup last autumn.



U13 Team 1977
1st Cup



U14 Team 2010
100th Cup

★ The school has won 7 National Titles

★ 20 boys have played for England

★ 15 exchange trips to Walkill Valley High School New Jersey USA

U19 Basketball Team



During a season stifled by contempt for coursework and anxiety over exams it is more than rational to assume that basketball may not have been of primary importance for all of the players, though this is not to insinuate that each and every player did not give one hundred and percent at all times. The culmination of our season was a loss in The Liverpool Cup Final, which we perpetually achieve, to a capable opponent in the form of south Liverpool's Childwall School. Additionally, the obstacle of height, ever looming over the team, finally caught up with us, as we were sent crashing out of the National Basketball competition in the group stages (made further disappointing by our previous success in the competition - being able to reach the final eight twice previously). All in all it was a season mainly based on gaining experience.

Senior Basketball Captain N. Idama

U17 Basketball

Progressing on the team has reached the last 8 stage of the National Competition with the last round to be played later this month and the final to be played in May.

U16 Basketball Team

The team has improved and developed throughout the winter, playing eight games in the National Competition, losing again to Helsby High School the current National Champions. In the Liverpool Cup the team has reached the semi-final stage with the game to be played before Easter. The following players represented the team:-

Dileep Karthikappallil, Joe Moorcroft-Moran, Alistair Rutherford, Adam Gaffney, Sam Batterton, Callum Hancock, James Russell, Lee Smith, Matthew Shore, William Truong.

U14 Basketball Team

David Murphy (captain), Jonathan Chu (capt), Luke Sullivan, Callum Smith, Jack Seaman, Darnel Ryan, Jack Kaufman-Harding, Jacky Hou, Nathan Wyman, Liam Dunne, Blaise Best-Barton

At the time of writing we are due to play SMA in the last 16 of the nationals and Calderstones in the semi-final of the Liverpool cup.

U13 Basketball Team

Nathan Wyman (capt), Liam Dunne, Ryan Gaffney, Alistair Clark, Blaise Best-Barton, Ali El Rhabili, Stephen Chen, Adam Moorcroft, Max Thelen, Dominic Burke, Sam Russell, Jonathan Lam, Daniel Harper

We lost to Wright Robinson in the last 16 of the nationals.

The boys have reached the Finals of the Liverpool cup beating SFX and Shorefields.

U13 Cricket Team

The year 8 cricket team enjoyed another successful season having reached the final of the Liverpool Cup the year before. The team made good progress in the Lancashire Cup, beating Archbishop Beck and North Liverpool Academy before being unfortunately beaten by St. Mary's College by the virtue of losing more wickets (with the scores tied!). As usual, a healthy friendly programme ran alongside the Cup competitions and it was in some of the friendly games that the boys played their best cricket with the notable scalps of Wirral Grammar School and Rainford worth mentioning. There was also another 'tied' game against Birkenhead School. The only disappointment of the season came in the semi final of the Liverpool Cup with defeat against Cardinal Heenan, a side that we had comfortably beaten the year before. A few 'dodgy' umpiring decisions (not by me I must add!) did not help in this match but nonetheless the boys played some poor shots as they failed to chase down a modest total.

Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed coaching the team and it is pleasing to see how keen the players are to turn up to net practice and play in the matches with a smile on their faces. In the bowling department, Alex Sawyers and Syed Abidi make a pacey and effective opening partnership with Adam Carus McDonald providing steady backup. The batting over the past two years has let us down at times but I am confident that as the boys grow and develop, their strength and timing will improve and the runs will flow. Rishi Banerjee (Captain), Alex Kitchen and Alex Sawyers scored the most runs in the 2010 campaign and should be congratulated. Thank-you though to all the boys that played during the season and I look forward to another successful 2011 season!

Squad: R Banerjee (captain), A Sawyers, A Kitchen, D Lees, O Lewin, S Abidi, A Carus McDonald, D Murphy, I Vidamour, J Kauffman Harding, S Singh, N Wyman (year 7), T Fletcher (year 7)

Mr. S Jamieson

U14 Cricket Team

The team had a successful season winning the Liverpool Cup defeating SFX by nine wickets in the Final at Sefton Cricket Club. The side also had a run in the Lancashire Knockout losing to a strong Manchester Grammar School.



U12 Cricket Team

The team has many good Cricketers in the side. The bowling is much stronger than the batting. If the fielding can be improved, then next summer will be a successful one.

U15 Cricket Team

Matthew Hodgkinson (Capt.), Matthew Shore, William Truong, Mark Smyth, Liam McRoe, Sam Batterton, Matthew Boyes, James Edwards, Daniel Harper, Sean Leddy, Calum Taylor, Rober Fiske, Joseph Hunt. Played 10, Won 7, Lost 3.

First XI Cricket Report

Due to exams the cricket season was very short last year but we managed to play 5 games, unfortunately we lost every game against strong opposition. There were some great individual performances during the games; such as Theo Jackson's fantastic 54* against St Mary's in the Lancashire Cup backed up superbly by Peter Robinson's quick fire 10 off 2 balls. Andrew Beggs also hit 40 against a top bowling side, Birkenhead Grammar School that brought us close to victory. There have also been great bowling performances from George Mansfield, Andrew Beggs, Joe Hunt and Sam Batterton who were well supported in the field by Jimmy Lui and by Dan Oliver and Jake Cockburn behind the stumps.

We also played a 50 over against an Australian touring team from St. Laurence College. They had been touring the UK for 2 weeks and we were one of their last games. We got beaten and the captain James Rhodes had to go off after 5 overs with dislocated fingers after taking a catch off Joe Hunt's bowling. James Edwards our star batsmen in that game with a solid 35.

It was a great season and thanks to all the boys that played.

James Rhodes, Captain

Badminton

The highlight of the year was the KS4 Boys team playing in the National Finals at Center Parcs, Nottingham, on Sunday 25th April. We came second in our group and in the play offs managed to secure fifth place nationally, a tremendous achievement. The standard of badminton was extremely high and it was great for all the players to meet a number of players there from the England National Team for some coaching sessions during the long break for lunch. Our team of Peter Athans and Joey Fong, Yr 11, and William Truong and Eric Diep, Yr 10, gave everything to the matches, were very tired at the end but had enjoyed a rewarding experience of top class badminton competition.

Last November our KS3 and KS4 Boys' Teams won the South and Central Liverpool Schools league, then played in the county round of the Center Parcs National Competition but were not successful to go forward to the North West Regional Round. Congratulations to our KS3 Team of Shashwat Singh, Lidong Xiao, Jonathan Chu and Joe Boyland, and our KS4 Team of William Truong, Eric Diep, Mani Chellappan and Richard Pan, who all played well but just missed moving on to the next round.

K G Caulkin.

1st XI Football

Good cup runs in previous years, filled us with high expectations for the current first XI, however a think squad, coupled with injuries led to a disappointing campaign.

The addition of new players such as Aiden Drew and three players joining the side from lower years added to what seemed a solid first team. A solid defence of Matty Gunson and Craig Morrow building from the back with two forward minded full back providing Paul Konchesky style runs. Sean Furlong and Peter Robinson added flair and this was spearheaded by the ever-present James Platt bullying and intimidating defences.

The side began with the annual old boys pre-season friendly in which the current side ran out 6-4 winners. The win filled us with hope for what could have potentially been a successful season, yet with all this potential the team prematurely went out in both National and Merseyside competitions, losing dramatically in extra time in both competitions.

Throughout the season, one of the most notable performances was a 3-1 win against St Margarets in which new boy Aiden Riley bagged a brace. Although the season has overall been a slight disappointment the side have always played with passion and been fully committed to the cause and with a bit of luck going our way we could have been looking at a much more successful season.



After seven years of football Mr Barends, Mr Ainsworth deserve a big thank you for giving up their Saturday mornings to coach us in the lower years and also a huge thank you to Mr Silver Fox Rees for organising the side and especially for his inspiring team talks and tactical prowess. Good luck to all future teams and also to the boys who are looking forward to playing university level football in the coming years.

A. Edwards (Capt), L. Smith, C. Morrow, M. Gunson, J. Kelly, A. Drew, P. Robinson, S. Furlong, J. Platt, A. Riley, N. Gall, M. Smyth



U16 Football Team

Jeffrey Chu, Sam Batterton, Robert Fiske, Anthony Carney, Joe Moorcroft-Moran, Ben Thompson, Callum Taylor, Adam Gaffney, Lee Smith (captain), Mark Smyth, Matthew Shore, Callum Hancock, Chris Jackson, Joseph Hunt, Jamie Mackreth, Mark Sung, James Russell, Matthew Hodgkinson.

After 5 years together the boys saw their chances of success disappear with defeat in the Merseyside cup to All Saints and narrowly to SMA in the Liverpool cup. I wish the boys all the best for the future.

Once again a big thank you to Winstone landscaping for providing the team with kits.

P Phelan

U14 Football

After the trials and tribulations of last season it would have been understandable if Pearson's charges had entered the new campaign with a certain degree of trepidation about the challenges that lay ahead, but the strength of character exhibited by the Year 9 football team this year has been nothing short of first class. They have stood toe to toe with their more accomplished opponents and after an early humbling against Cardinal Heenan, they have gone on to record some notable scalps. An epic contest against St Margarets saw sharpshooter Tomas Bath at his merciless best with two smart finishes, whilst Luke Sullivan's undeniable class has again shone throughout. The return of our captain, Callum Smith, from an early season injury provided us with a welcome fillip, whilst the introduction of Patrick Hanlon and Alex Sawyers has brought a greater blend of guile and muscularity to the side. Both full backs have progressed nicely and Stelianos Michael's no nonsense defending is a fine compliment to the elegance and touch of Dominic Lees on the opposite flank. Pocket dynamo Adam Carus-McDonald remains a regular fixture on his wing and has been a willing outlet with his tireless running. Custodian Ian Vidamour has continued to answer his critics with a string of excellent performances in goal, whilst Jack Seasman remains our 'Mr Dependable' at the heart of our defence. Chandler, Small, Taft, Murphy and Mackenzie can also be pleased with their contributions over the course of the season. Ultimately, after a year of mixed results there are undoubtedly more successful managers in the league, but with a set of lads as willing, hard-working and as good natured as these, it is safe to say that there are none prouder.

U13 Football

Squad: Michael Harrison, Alasdair Clark, Ryan Gaffney, Max Thelen, Tom Fletcher, Sam Miley, Liam Dunne, Blaise Best-Barton, Nathan Wyman, Michael Harkness, Usen Jones (captain), Liam Cors, Dominic Burke

The Year 8 football team have maintained and built on the strong start that they made in Year 7. Since September they have been involved in many very good games with the highlights being convincing victories against De La Salle, Calderstones and a very entertaining recent 3-3 draw with Archbishop Beck. The team has is developing well and is showing a lot of potential for the coming years, playing with ability and flair. Goals have come easily the team is improving in all areas. At the time of writing the team is still involved in the Liverpool Cup and is making good progress. The boys have again been a pleasure to work with, showing a lot of commitment as well as ability.

U12 Football

League fixtures Played 10, Won 5. Lost 5

LIVERPOOL SOUTH 5 -A- SIDE WINNERS

Merseyside 5-A-SIDE finals Third



Cameron Chaliner (captain), Adam Moorcroft, Jake Odger, Joseph Day-Evans, Ben Keegan, Thomas Mullan, Joseph Ormesher, Matthew Cooper, Matthew Harrison, Andrew Nolan, Benjamin Whitfield, Benjamin Hicks, Daniel Teh, Alexander Tucker, Samuel Murray.

The boys are to be congratulated upon their hard work and commitment throughout the year. In the league we achieved a 50per cent win ratio which is outstanding considering the number of boys the other schools have to pick from.

Notable performances were beating Alsop 6-1, All Saints 5-0 and the narrow defeat to SFX 3-1 IN A GAME WE LED 1-0 WITH ONLY 10 PLAYERS. Unfortunately we lost in the Liverpool cup to Broadgreen on penalties after drawing 3-3. In the National cup we lost 5-2 to Calderstones.

A big thank you to all the parents who have supported us throughout the season.

A special thank you to John Thomson and Mark Little who worked with the boys since September.

P Phelan

SKIING TRIP

February 2011



A party of 55 Blue Coat Staff and students enjoyed a week of skiing in the Italian Alps at the resort of Mera, staying at the excellent Sport Hotel Camparient. The School has visited this resort every year since 1990.

The party experienced every weather condition, from fog to sunshine, with two days of snow. By the end of the week the students had improved greatly. The GCSE students had extra theory lessons and the enthusiastic instructors helped our students with conversation Italian.



Netball

Last year's 2009/2010 league result positions:

Year 7: 3rd

Year 8: 7th

Year 9: 4th

Year 10: 4th

Year 11: 4th

Seniors: 4th

This season 2010/2011 we have been entered into the Premiership League and have had mixed results to date. The Year 8 A and B squads are showing particular strengths with some impressive wins and great commitment to training and improving, whilst the year 7 squad is going from strength to strength.

Hockey

This year the link with 'Liverpool Cricket (and Sports) Club's hockey section has blossomed. The girls attended the training with youngsters from St Julie's, Liverpool College and Archbishop Blanch who have formed the third ladies team and play in the Lancashire Women's League, Division 2.

There was also success within the new hockey development structure. Girls from year eight, ten and eleven decided to attend the "Open Coaching Scheme" run on a Friday after school and Saturday morning. This gave them the opportunity to improve their skills. Last year Erin Lee made the North West of England squad, as did James

Rhodes, although unfortunately due to time constraints he could not take up the place.

There were two touring teams, one from the Isle of Man and the other from Cheltenham. We were delighted to have the opportunity to play and entertain both schools.

Cheerleading Competition

On Saturday, Blue Coats cheerleaders entered the nationals after being given the money from the PA and Mrs Silcock. For weeks we practised long and hard for this competition and finally it was the day.

The competition was in Manchester so it took quite a long time to get there. It was really big inside, there was a warm up area with practice space, stunt space and the line place where you enter the stage. The judges had their own special feature that they concentrated on and marked, they were on two rows.

When it was our turn the crowd was really loud and all the lights were on us. I was really nervous but luckily I didn't fall. We didn't stay until the end but we found out we came fifth. On the way back the Year 11's stole our minibus so we had to wait 30 minutes for another. When we got back we were all tired.

Beth Holmes 7GR

Liverpool City Athletics Finals 2010

City Champions:

Stephen Chen	Year 7 Shot putt
Jonathan Chu	Year 8 Discus
Joseph Boyland	Year 8 Triple Jump

Notable Performances:

Year 7

Nathan Wyman	2nd 800m
Samuel Miley	3rd Triple Jump
Alastair Clark	3rd High Jump
Relay Team	3rd

Year 8

Luke Sullivan	3rd 800m
Jacob Moss	4th Long Jump
Alastair McCaulay	4th Shot putt
Relay Team	3rd

Year 9

Gavin Spruin	3rd 100m
Tom Taylor	3rd 200m
Gavin Spruin	3rd 400m
Tom Taylor	3rd Triple Jump
Jonathan Ashcroft	2nd Discus

Year 10

Callum Hancock	2nd 100m, 3rd 200m
Jason Yu	2nd Long Jump, 3rd Hurdles
Ben Thompson	3rd 1500m, 5th Shot putt
James Russell	3rd High Jump
William Truong	3rd Discus, 4th Javelin
Jamie Mackreth	4th 100m
James Draper	4th Triple Jump
Joe Hunt	7th Javelin
Relay Team	2nd

Economics and Politics on Tour to London.



The Easter holidays saw twenty nine students and three staff heading to London to visit key institutions that are involved in Economics and Politics. The aim of the visit was to enable students to see for themselves these institutions and to get a real sense of their importance. The first day saw everyone visiting the Bank of England and getting the opportunity to see how it plays a really important role in keeping the economy stable to enable businesses to plan ahead and invest with confidence.

Having spent the evening at the West End show 'We will Rock You', everyone was up bright and early for a trip to the Westminster Parliament. Being able to stand at the Despatch boxes where David Cameron and Ed Miliband face each other in the House of Commons and visit the House of Lords too was a really impressive experience. "I was surprised how small the debating chambers actually are – you are really close", said one student. The tour's visit to the UK Supreme Court included sitting in on two cases of national importance, giving students to see the Law Lords – and the barristers facing them – in action. Thanks to Mr Jamieson and Mrs Rimmer for giving up their holiday time to accompany the students

Mr Cox

Kings Speech Trip

On the 9th March Mrs Ludlow organized a trip to see The Kings Speech at the Royal Philharmonic hall in the city centre. The film was shown on the only working art deco Walturdaw screen in the world, which rose from the floor.

The Hall was completely full of people of all ages and classes, and there was a lively atmosphere. The film was preceded by an organist in a kilt, who continued to play as the screen rose from the stage and then addressed the audience and introduced the film.

Being in the Philharmonic Hall rather than a cinema gave the film a much different feel, and it was much more enjoyable. The atmosphere was friendlier and there was a much greater sense that the audience was emotionally involved with the highs and lows of the film, partly due to the amount of people, and partly due to the film.

The film itself was brilliant, with wonderful acting and a gripping plot. Overall it was a fantastic experience, providing something both entertaining and different, and at only £4.50 well worth the money!

Theo Jackson

A Lifetime in Spring...

The winter

The winter

With his cold wind and dark days

Amidst the freeze comes a glimmer of hope,

In the form of small, glowing balls of light,

Until you first see one, you can merely imagine

What that joy feels like,

What it is like to see the birth of Spring.

The Spring

The Spring

With her kind breeze and gentle sunny glow,

From the barren wasteland comes a sign of life

In the form of sweeping greenery weaving around

The silhouettes of the trees.

Until you see the pink petals flowing,

Pouring off the branches, you can merely imagine

What that joy feels like,

What it is like to see the midst of Spring.

The Summer

The Summer

With its hot days and long, bright nights,

Amongst the pleasure the clouds fade away

And the sun is finally noticed,

The blossoms replaced by green leaves.

And until you set eyes upon the scene

You can merely imagine,

What that joy feels like,

What it is like to see the end of Spring.

Candy Sinclair-Ford 11Gr



THE

Liverpool Blue Coat Brotherly Society

Registered Charity No. 1072458

Motto: "And may all its proceedings be characterised by brotherly love."

The Blue Coat Brotherly Society (sometimes known as the "Old Blues' Association") was founded in 1838, with the principal objective of assisting, advising and promoting the well-being of the boys who attended the school. Members of the Society would "look after" Blue Coat boys for at least two years after they left the School, visiting them at home or work, and providing financial assistance where necessary and appropriate. This was of great benefit to the boys, and the care thus shown had a tremendous influence on their lives and careers.

Nowadays there is not much need for this kind of assistance, so the Society has turned its attention to projects that would benefit the School as a whole. Membership is open to all ex-pupils and teachers.

The main item on the agenda for 2011 is the informal reunion event on Friday 17th June. If you are an "Old Blue", this is for you! Full details are on our website.

We also have a range of memorabilia on sale, and have published four superb books by former pupils (and teachers) of the School.

All students who are about to leave the Blue Coat School are invited to contact us and be added to our database – you will then be kept up to date with events and news.

Please take a look at our website:
www.bluecoatbrotherlyociety.co.uk

E-mail: admin@bluecoatbrotherlyociety.co.uk

Post: PO Box 269, Dewsbury, WF12 0BW

Tel/fax: 0844 504 7703

If you are an "Old Blue", you can contact us for a free copy of our latest Newsletter.

Thank you to the Blue Coat Brotherly Society for its generous donation to the Squirrel magazine - Editor

Craig Gundersen

On my departure from Blue Coat, I joined the University of Birmingham to study History, with my main passion remaining in the sports world, notably athletics. Exceeding in long distance running more opportunities emerged, making me where I am today.

As I am now undertaking a masters degree on an athletics scholarship in Indiana, America it will be no surprise that my fondest memories of Blue Coat relate to sport. In my first year I discovered a passion for distance running after joining Mr Row's cross country club, this would open up many doors for me over

the next ten years. Being part of a very strong football team is also a great memory, although the game that stands out most is unfortunately a defeat on penalties to Archbishop Beck in one of the later rounds of the Liverpool Schools Cup. The school's strong tradition in sport meant that all the teams that I was part of were very competitive and I can not underestimate the impact that participating in sport at Blue Coat has had on the whole of my life since then. As I am coming to the end of my education I am now looking forward to a career involving sport, and this was made possible due to my participation in sport during my time at Blue Coat.

Mary Tu

I was a 6th form student at Blue Coat in 2000 – 2002. Can't believe it was over 8 years ago! Time seems to have flown by! What I enjoyed most about Blue Coat was the Chemistry lessons with Mr Cowan. I remember the firework displays on Bon Fire Night, and the stink bombs!

After leaving Blue Coat I went to the University of Liverpool to study Business Economics and also took a part time job at a supermarket. I enjoyed my time at uni, I made many friends from across the globe. I graduated in 2005 and went on to become a data analyst in the petroleum industry. During my time there, I became more focused on what I wanted to do as a career and decided to go to night school and do a course on Sage.

Also after finishing uni, I used this time to do more travel. I've managed to travel to several countries in Europe and Asia. The last time I was in Hong Kong I actually bumped into another ex-Blue Coat student from my year! What a small world we live in!

I am now a Finance Officer for a training provider. I have started studying towards CIMA which is a professional accountancy qualification. I am hoping to be qualified in a couple of years.

Since leaving Blue Coat I have been back a few times as I still have ties to the school (I'm engaged to the Network Manager) and can't believe how much it has changed! The South wing was still part of the school, not apartments! The new part of the building where the reception is, used to be the sixth form common room, and the canteen and library have moved round. Whiteboards were the new thing, never mind smart boards!! Also the internet hadn't really taken off yet!! To the students at the school I probably sound much older than I am, but to the parents and staff they would probably agree how technology has advanced so much in recent years!

To finish off, I believe Blue Coat helped me achieve what I have done so far; it always helps in interviews when they hear you have been to Blue Coat. The best advice I can give is to be focused on what you want and work hard at it!

John Roberts

Writing this in early 2011, I can scarcely believe that it is nearly ten years since I left the Blue Coat. I was a pupil at the School between 1994 and 2001 and it always seems funny to think that so many of the classrooms where I had my lessons in those days are now people's apartments!

Condensing my memories of the School into just a few lines is really difficult as there were always so many activities going on over and above lessons. In the lower school, the years revolved around inter-school Geography quizzes organised by the then Geography teacher Mrs Jones and the annual trip to the Liverpool Music Festival with Miss Hough's Brass Band, though woe betide those of us who didn't live up to her exacting standards from time to time! I also have really happy memories of the end of year Golf Days organised by Mr Rees at a variety of local clubs as an alternative to the Alton Towers Trip. We always had a fantastic time, although it was clear from my scores even in those days that I was unlikely to be making an

alternative career out of golf in the near future!

The highlight of my time at the School was undoubtedly the Sixth Form and it was a huge privilege to have been the Head Boy in 2000-2001. The most enjoyable part of my A-Levels was without question our Geography field trip to Blencathra with Mr Schofield and Mr Frost. The sheer enthusiasm of Mr Schofield, the then Head of Geography, who quite literally appeared ready to bound over the full range of the Lake District fells each morning, will live long in the memory!

I thoroughly enjoyed my seven years at the School and would like to thank all the staff who taught me, and in particular Messrs Schofield, Lamb and Frost to whom I owe huge gratitude for doing so much to encourage my interest in Geography.

After leaving the School, I did a Geography Degree at the University of Durham between 2001 and 2004. My advice to anybody thinking of studying in Durham would simply be to visit the city. It's a really beautiful place and after a few minutes there, you'll find it hard not to fall in love with it! Durham provides an amazing student experience – although the city is small, the collegiate system makes for a homely atmosphere and there is so much going on that it's difficult not to find something to get involved in.

After graduating, (*with a First Class Degree -Ed*), I converted to law, studying at the College of Law in Chester. I currently work as a Town and Country Planning Solicitor in a large law firm based in Liverpool. However, I am currently considering retraining as a Geography Teacher as I would like once again to work with the subject that so interested me as both a pupil and then a student.

My advice to those applying to, or about to go off to, university now would be the following:

1. Take the time to research both the courses on offer and the universities themselves. If you are going to spend at least three or four years of your life in a place, it's really important to be happy there.
2. Make the most of all the opportunities around you. University provides an almost once in a lifetime opportunity as you will be with so many new faces, have such a diverse range of people around you and have such a variety of extra-curricular activities on offer. Of course, working hard and getting a good degree is really important, but so is meeting people and getting involved in things.
3. Don't be afraid to change direction if something is not working out for you. It's far better to live your dreams than to look back at something you have not enjoyed with regret!

ANSWERS to proverbs and sayings (page 49)

1. A poor worker always blames his tools
2. Every cloud has a silver lining
3. Charity begins at home
4. There's no smoke without fire
5. Out of sight out of mind
6. The early bird catches the worm
7. Still waters run deep
8. Let sleeping dogs lie

The Front Line

France
November 1916

My family,

Dreadful, truly dreadful. Everything is bleak, cold. My only hope is that you are well. I often imagine what you are feeling, but the gunfire and shouts drown out any recollection or memory that could keep me from going insane. You are the light at the end of the tunnel. You keep me going. Your letters keep me from the edge of despair, the cliff that many of my comrades have already fallen from.

I guess I should really ask the usual questions: How are you? Do you miss me? But, for some reason I cannot bring myself to be as jolly and friendly as I used to be. Maybe it is the screams of agony enveloping me in a mist of anguish; it could just be that I have changed.

This war is bringing out a worse side in me, a dismal, hurt one. When people said how bad the wars were, I never knew it would be as terrible as this.

The smell, so foul it makes us retch and gag, covers us. We breathe in this vile concoction, of poison and air, as long as we are here. It has been the death of many here. It infects our lungs, our minds. Even the hearts of the very strong waver, as they wake up to it yet again.

There is no colour where we are; it is all the grey of the air and the brown of the mud. Our senses are lost, ears deafened, fingers too numb to feel. Every sound, which surprised us at first, such as the persistent gunfire and the thuds of lifeless bodies falling to the ground, becomes meaningless. Screams of agony, shouts of anger; we have grown to ignore them. These conditions can break a man, as they already have.

I keep imagining how I'd react if it was me. My name called, my cries of agony, my worthless life thrown away after another round of shots.

I think of how you would feel, with me gone without even a goodbye. Would my letters be treasured? Or would they be put in a drawer and forgotten about? You see, it's hard to stay positive here, stay on the bright side.

Please make it stop

Your loving husband and father,

Albert Walking

(by Maeve McCrossan, 8Gr, in Mrs Ludlow's English class)

Stars

*Standing under the moonlit sky
Peering up at the stars so high
That look down upon the world below
Hoping, wishing, that the sins would go.
Away from this planet
Away from the moon
Away from Jupiter
Away from Neptune
Away from Mars, Saturn*

*Pluto and beyond
Hidden from Earth
To where they belong.
The stars should wish
That treason and decay
Could be replaced
By hope, peace and love any day.
Above me like jewels
They twinkle and shine
Glistening like the Sun
In the fountain in summertime.
On the horizon, I see movement
Perhaps a shooting star
My wishes may come true someday
Be it near, or be it far.*

Rachael Chung

Our Wonderful World

*As the sand was sinking quickly
The sun was setting beautifully
The sailors in the sun looked a bit sweaty
As the toppers raced from the great big jetty.
A huge gust of wind came from the North
But they still headed sea forth
As they were letting their sails out
They stopped hacking and turned about.*

Natalie Green

Liverpool Culture

*Culture is a wonderful thing
Together we play, dance or sing.
All the different places to go
Liverpool is great, you'll get to know.
All the different languages
Helping each other with challenges
All the schools around Liverpool
Their togetherness is so cool.
Liverpool's a great football team.
Them winning the league is my dream.
One after another in the net;
I'm so confident I placed a bet!*

Hannah Shore

Did You Know That.....?

The meaning of some well-known expressions...

Hat Trick

Originally it was a cricketing expression, referring to the rare occasion when a bowler takes three wickets with three successive balls. The reference to hats is thought to be that bowlers who achieved this feat in the 19th Century were given a new hat, and to pass it round to receive donations.

Junk

Junk, meaning rubbish or trash was originally a nautical term. It has been a word for worthless objects since the 17th Century, but originally was the name for a type of rope made from woven rushes ('juncus' means 'reed' in Latin). Reed rope, or 'junk rope' as it was known, was renowned for being poor quality compared with hemp rope.

And some words.....

First, **PHOBIAS....**

Euphobia <i>is the fear</i> of good news;	erythrophobiaof blushing;
Erethophobiaof pins;	panphobia/pantophobiaof everything
Phasmophobiaof ghosts;	scotophobiaof darkness
Graphophobiaof writing;	siderophobiaof stars.

Second, **COLLECTIVE NOUNS.....**

A safe of ducks; a tribe of goats; a turmoil of porpoises; a wedge of swans; a scurry of squirrels; a zeal of zebras; a skein of gees; an obstinacy of buffalo; a bouquet of pheasants; a kindle of kittens; a murder of crows, and a leap of leopards.

And lastly, some **OLOGIES....**

Acarology – <i>the study</i> of mites;	hippology of horses;	hymnology ..of hymns;
paroemiologyof proverbs;	conchologymolluscs and their shells;	
hagiologysaints' legends;	pseudology lying.	

Famous Last Words

For those of you in Year 7, this will be your first ever Squirrel, but for some of us, it completes our collection as we head off to pastures new.

When we started at Blue Coat, all those years ago, the then headmaster asked us who amongst us had 'read Harry Potter, from cover to cover, in three days or less.' He was met by a universal raising of hands. It was the answer he expected. '**ALL of you,**' he boomed, '**because YOU are the CREAM of THIS CITY. You are HERE, in this city's BEST SCHOOL, BECAUSE you READ. NEVER forget that.**'

Our thanks as ever, to our editor Mrs Ludlow, to everyone who contributed their work, and to YOU, for reading.



Tom McKenna
 Sophie Tsang
 Shaun Rigby (Music)
 Jonathan Rowlands (Theology)
 Olivia Thompson (Literae Humaniores)
 Miriam Whitfield (History)

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION GIFTS TO THE SCHOOL 1969 – 2010

The Parents' Association has donated approximately £310,000 to the school via fundraising during the above period. In December 2009, the Parents' Association made a donation of £12,000 to the Shirley Hall Sound and Light Project. Contributions have been:-

ICT	£32,000
School Sport	£29,700
Mini Buses	£25,000
Academic Departments	£26,075
IT Cabling (new school)	£20,000
School Magazine	£16,000
Drama and Music	£15,500
Law Society	£235
School Calendars & Diaries	£14,480
Sound & Lighting	£12,000
Tri-centenary	£20,000


Answers to General Knowledge Quiz

(page 44)


1. London and Paris
2. True - They often sleep with their mouth open to cool down.
3. Gillyweed
4. No, Coca Cola has always been the same brown colour that it is today. Rumours about it originally being green are false (green bottles were once used to bottle the drink, which might be the reason for these rumours).
5. Cologne, Dublin and Shanghai
6. "A"
7. Paris
8. Goat
9. Steve Brookstein
10. Jug

BOOKS ABOUT THE BLUE COAT SCHOOL

A series of four paperback books by past pupils and staff, published by the Brotherly Society.



**A
BLUE COAT
BOY
IN THE
1920s**




By
DANNY ROSS


A TRICENTENARY BOOK
published by the
LIVERPOOL BLUE COAT
BROTHERLY SOCIETY

Danny Ross arrived at the school in 1924, when it was The Blue Coat Hospital, a charitable boarding school for boys and girls. This book was first published in 1996. Danny passed away in 2004 at the age of 90.

Hugh Stephenson arrived during the war when the school was evacuated to Beaumaris. He describes the school's evolution into a bi-lateral boys' school, with boarders and day-boys.




**RECOLLECTIONS
OF TWO
BLUE COAT BOYS
1944-1955**




By
**HUGH
STEPHENSON**

A TRICENTENARY BOOK
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Frank Irwin was here in the 1950s and has collected a wealth of stories from many pupils and a couple of teachers - by far the most comprehensive book in the collection.




**MEMORIES
FROM THE
MID-20th
CENTURY**




Compiled and edited by
FRANK IRWIN

A TRICENTENARY BOOK
published by the
LIVERPOOL BLUE COAT
BROTHERLY SOCIETY

Tony Salmon was a day-boy in the 1970s and is now Hon. Secretary to the Brotherly Society. He was not exactly the best pupil in the school's history! His English teacher **Alan Gleave** (who was here from 1975 to 2005) co-writes.



**RETURN
TO THE
BLUE COAT**



By
**TONY SALMON
and
ALAN GLEAVE**

A TRICENTENARY BOOK
published by the
LIVERPOOL BLUE COAT
BROTHERLY SOCIETY

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"RECOLLECTIONS OF TWO BLUE COAT BOYS" by Hugh Stephenson, ISBN 978-0-9557484-3-1... (£6.99)

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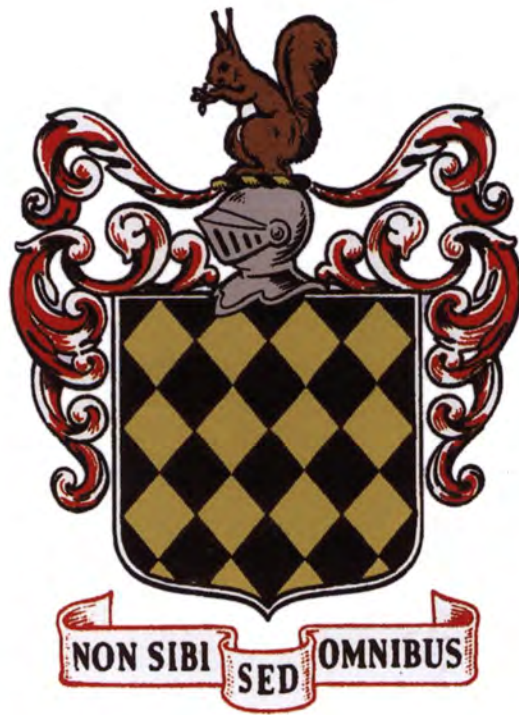
These books are **available from the School** Foundation office (Clock Tower entrance) during office hours on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

They can be ordered **by post** (cheques payable to "Liverpool Blue Coat Brotherly Society") from PO Box 269, Dewsbury, West Yorkshire, WF12 0WB.

They can be ordered individually or as a set **on-line from the Brotherly Society website** using any major debit or credit card. A charge of £1.50 per book (or £5.00 per set) will be applied for post & packing.

www.bluecoatbrotherlyociety.co.uk

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SQUIRREL 2010/11