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DIARY

SUMMER 2022











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Blundell's Community

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t has been a tremendous term, and how we have revelled in having a full programme right until the last memorable day that included Speech Day and the Leaver's Ball. It has been a lot of fun, somewhat chaotic, definitely emotional, but it reminds us why we love Blundell's and why we are so fortunate to be part of this place.

Considering that in 2020 we didn't have a Summer Term and that in 2021 we had a Speech Day for pupils only and the Leaver's Ball was replaced by a BBO for the 50 Upper Sixth not struck down by Covid, it was poignant that we could have a full marquee for Speech Day and for the Leaver's Ball that evening.

The last 24 hours of the term might give you an insight into how we experienced things at school:

Thursday

14:00 Senior Swimming Gala – glimpses of sunshine between torrential rain.

16:00 'Dress Rehearsal' for Speech Day – a slick show doesn't happen without careful preparation!

18:00 Individual meetings in my study with the Senior Monitors for 2022/23

19:00 House BBQ's – a few showers but ending in beautiful sunshine for a final gathering on Big Field.

Friday

A gentle start with a late breakfast and time allocated for 'house tidying'

11:30 Leaver's Chapel Service

12:30 Governor's Lunch at Blundell House / Introduction to Westlake for Year 12s and their parents

14:30 Speech Day in the marquee

16:20 Vigorous downpour sees the catering team scampering to rescue the cream teas!

16:25 Speech Day done (1 hour and 55 minutes)

16:30 Cream teas served to the masses in lovely sunshine!

19:00 Leavers' Ball

23:55 The music stops, the party is over. The end of another year!

In these pages of another fantastic edition of The Diary, you get a flavour of the incredible diversity of things that happen here at school. It has been a busy term, and there are so many things to celebrate and be proud of. I hope you enjoy reading about it all, and for those of you who were there, I hope you savour the happy memories.

See you in September!

Mr Bart Wielenga Head

Academic

Maths

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Junior Maths Challenge Well done to our pupils that took part in the Junior Mathematics Challenge. The results are in and we're thrilled to have come away with 4 Gold, 7 Silver and 16 Bronze certificates!

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Biology trip to Lundy Island

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Year 12 had a fantastic day on Lundy Island on Tuesday 24th May. Although the ferry crossing to the island was a little choppy, we were treated to some amazing shows by common dolphins as they leapt from the waves, with one even performing a spin. We then met our ranger, who took us up to the plateau making frequent stops to talk about the flora and fauna as well as pointing out the Lundy cabbage which is found nowhere else on Earth. After leaving the small settlement heading Northwest, we saw seeker deer, which were introduced by a former owner of the island for hunting, goats that were introduced for food by sailors in the 1600s and sheep, cattle and horses that are managed to provide several habitats for native species. We saw the remains of a Heinkel bomber which crashed on the island during WW2 before reaching the exposed West coast of the island and the large sea bird colonies, which included a sighting of puffin whilst we ate our lunches. With the wildlife sightings, glorious weather and the treat of an ice-cream from the island shop, a great time was had by all.

ENERG

Dr Ratcliffe

Phoenix Society

Pupils have had a great day seeing dinosaurs and an exhibit about the impact of humans on biodiversity and how we can reduce our impact at the Natural History Museum, along with the capsule Tim Peak returned to earth in and the original model of DNA created by Crick and Watson at the Science Museum.

- Dr Ratcliffe

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Modern Foreign Languages

Broaden our mind, become a global citizen, learn a language!

The Modern Foreign Language department has finished the year with a great celebration to show case the learning that has taken place over the two years in French, Spanish and German. Students have produced lovely posters and posed in the French/Spanish photobooths.

For Spanish, it took the form of an interview and in French, students spoke about a memorable and happy holiday/ a disastrous one (nobody talked about the latter!) or explained what they normally do at the weekend and what they did last weekend.

Parents were sent a video of their daughter or son to share the progress made in the language they are learning. Cards have been sent to congratulate students who excelled. The MFL staff hope that students enjoyed their exciting and fantastic language journey and we are all looking forward to continuing the adventure with you!



Biochemistry Competition

Thank you to Millfield Senior School, Plymouth College and Tiverton High School who came to Blundell's today for our inaugural Biochemistry competition. Teams had to produce and use a calibration curve to work out unknown glucose concentrations in fake urine samples to correctly diagnose whether patients had diabetes. They then took part in a quiz, before watching a demonstration lecture that contained plenty of loud bangs, surprising colour changes and 'elephants' toothpaste' that fizzed up to an amazing volume, even



spilling to the floor! All teams had a great time, with one of the Blundell's teams winning the quiz to come a close second behind Plymouth College, who were the overall winners.

- Dr Ratcliffe

Speed Awareness Day

Four dedicated Year 12 students at Blundell's school have worked tirelessly over the last few months to organise a Speed Awareness day for students along Blundell's Road today. With a variety of activities for the students at both the Prep and Senior school, locals were pleasantly encouraged to see



groups of young people taking a particular interest in the safety of their fellow pupils in regard to the road. With help of the Police Special Constable Lucy and Officers Lindsay and Will, the students were able to talk about the risks involved with speeding and designing posters to display in school and out.

Some lucky students were able to use the Speed Monitors after guessing the speeds of cars they saw on the road. With interesting results, the students intend to continue to raise awareness of speeding along Blundell's Road and continue this activity in future years. Eventually, the students hope to get a reactive sign to help remind drivers of the 20mph limit and 30mph limit on the road through each of the schools. A thought-provoking day for all. Special thanks to Devon and Cornwall Police and the help that they have provided for the day.

- Miss Johnson

White Blazer

A big congratulations to Lydia for receiving her white blazer. As well as playing first team netball and hockey, she has also been one of the strongest female tennis players that the school has seen for many years.

Full colours are awarded to a pupil for excellence in an area of school. When a pupil has achieved this three times, they are awarded the white blazer. It is a huge honour for her to receive this in recognition of her hard work here at Blundell's.

Special Edition - Handmade Hedgehog House!



Battlefields Trip





At 0600 on Friday 27 May, the last day of the Half Term, 41 pupils from Year 9 mustered to board a

coach heading to Belgium and France for the Battlefields Tour. After a couple years' disruption, staff and pupils were both equally keen to re-establish this once annual fixture. Mr Moore, Head of History, was attending his last trip as the lead staff member before handing over the reins to Mr Hayward, who was attending his first Tour, having joined the school in Sep 2019. The trip is designed to build on the previous term's lessons on World War One and give as many as possible from the year the opportunity to experience the battlefields and memorials of Ypres and the Somme; providing a tangible understanding of the terrain and scale of the losses. On arrival in Belgium the trip started proper with the

Service of Remembrance at the Menin Gate (Ypres), grounding the trip on a reflective and contemplative note. The fact that the Service of Remembrance has been held at the Gate every day since 1918 (less the German occupation in WW2) woke-



up many of the pupils to the colossal impact that the war had on the whole of Europe. Visits to the British cemeteries at Tyne Cot and Essex Farm, as well as the German cemetery at Langemark on the Saturday reinforced the scale of the losses on both sides and allowed a few of the pupils to look up family members. Matilda Stone was able to visit the grave of her great-great grandfather at Tyne Cot Cemetery a link that she was unaware of before the trip. A move from Ypres to the Somme completed the day and put the group in position for a busy Sunday, with trips to the Canadian Frontline / trenches at Beaumont Hamel, the Lochnagar Crater, and monuments at Thiepval and ever impressive Newfoundland Park. After these poignant and emotional visits, the group alighted the coach for the long journey home. Parents kindly stayed up late on Sunday night to collect their tired charges at 0115 on Monday morning. The four staff on the trip would like to extend their thanks to the parents who delivered/collected the pupils to the school at some extremely early hours as well as all the pupils, who behaved amazingly all weekend, were wonderful company, and exhibited the absolute best of

Blundell's in their engagement with the tour-guide and coach drivers.

- Mr Savage

Our amazing Year 8 DT students have

made sustainable hedgehog houses to sell for charity! Hedgehogs are now on the red list of British mammals, which means they are at risk and endangered due to the demise of their habitats. To stop this from happening we need to protect the habitats that the hedgehog needs to thrive and increase the awareness of the importance of connecting those habitats.

To help, please consider buying a hedgehog house, not only will you help our favourite British mammal, but you will also be raising money for the Red Cross/Ukrainian Refugee Crisis charity.

Each hedgehog house is handmade with an internal bed section for comfort and security against outside predators, it has a waterproof roof and is sturdy and long lasting. Position your hedgehog house in a quiet and protected corner of your garden, somewhere dry and where it will not be disturbed, and we are sure your garden hedgehogs will soon find it and be very happy indeed in their new home!

The hedgehog houses are £35 each - for orders and enquiries please email: cef@blundells.org or pop into the DT department if you would like to hand select your hedgehogs lovely new home!

Ms Francis

Islands project

The Year 8s embarked on the three day Islands Project this week. They were split off into three islands of different characteristics and set up their island nation. Each day brought about consequences both positive and negative on the decisions they made. The pupils were challenged with difficult issues and came together to find solutions and make decisions as a team. They were incredible, engaging with every aspect and very quickly became passionate about the island they created. On the final day pupils were told how their project related to the real world around them and they took time to reflect on what they had learnt. It wouldn't have worked without the hard work and dedication of the staff who also enjoyed watching the pupils passion towards it all. A truly amazing project to be a part of.

Junior Physics Challenge

14 students recently took part in the Junior Physics Challenge. It provides an opportunity for students to engage in a physics challenge at a national level. There were 10,800 participating students from 200 schools. Congratulations to Nico, Toby and Edward on achieving Gold, and our 11 others on their Bronze.

- Mrs Webster

Year 7 Trip to Beam House

The weekend of 10th-12th June saw Year 7 descend upon beautiful Beam House in North Devon for their residential PGL trip. Activities such as climbing, hiking, shelter and fire building, rifle shooting, were tackled with great enthusiasm by all, and most seemed to particularly enjoy the zipwire activity - and the vending machine. Even a fractured wrist couldn't stop the fun: Bertie impressively climbed the zipwire ladder one-handed. The beautiful weather and lack of Wi-Fi meant that we all spent a lot of time outside enjoying each other's company and making new friends. The teachers – Mr Rochfort, Mrs Webster, Mrs Whitfield, Miss Atkins and Miss Gore-Lloyd – were impressed by the helpful and have-a-go attitude of the Year 7s and the Beam House staff commented on how wellmannered they were in the dining room. It was a brilliant way to finish Year 7!









EXETER

SETSquared

Our seven, Year 11 employability day prize winners (Guy, Alex, Georgia, Chester, Rocky, Jack and Daisy) thoroughly enjoyed their visit to the SETsquared Deck at the Innovation Centre, on the University of Exeter campus, learning more about how students are supported to grow and develop their business start-ups. Listening to inspiration talks by Jeni Reeve, founder of ButterBike and Salah Gobara, co-founder of Vizopay the students learnt a great deal about how you can go about starting a business. All three speakers were welcoming and really open to all our questions that we had. I learnt a lot about the basics behind a business and how it can unexpectedly be an impulsive decision that becomes a successful business. It was a very interesting afternoon and helped me think about the possibilities of my future. Thank you Set Squared! for the advice'.- Mrs Bucknell



Last week Year 7 went to the Bristol Hippodrome to watch a performance of Mamma Mia. The outstanding cast bring the story of a mother, a daughter and three possible dads on a Greek island idyll to life with infectious energy, stunning singing and dancing talent, and a good dose of humour! It is impossible not to sing along and smile throughout, and the Year 7s had great fun joining in with ABBA's timeless hits.

Miss Atkins





History

Pupils in Years 9, 10 and 12 enjoyed a day at the Chalke Valley History Festival this term. They got a lot from the living history and lectures available to them - a particular favourite was the talk on Shackleton by Joanna Grochowicz and the very relevant lecture on the policy of appeasement by Tim Bouverie. A very useful and engaging day out, enjoyed by all, particularly the blazing sunshine!

Shakespeare in the Garden

Our superstar Year 7s wowed us in the last week of term! The rain might have led us indoors, but great fun was had by all! Well done to all who took part in Shakespeare in the 'Garden'.

UCAS Week

Friday marked the end of another successful UCAS Week for our Year 12, organised by our Careers Department and Sixth Form Team. A huge thank you to: our 28 OB's for holding 30 different subject pathway conversations, to University of Bath for presenting



'making applications to competitive universities', Dr Katherine Lloyd Clark from University of Exeter, for her inspiring talk 'Exciting careers you never knew existed' and Royal Holloway, Newcastle and Cardiff universities for their insights into studying specific subjects, and where they can lead to. Thanks must also go to our Year 12 teachers and tutors for supporting the sessions, enabling the students to explore and learn more about their future options and make a start on their applications.

- Mrs Bucknell

Arts Festival

The much anticipated and first ever Blundell's Festival, took place on 25th June. Under increasingly changeable skies, Big Field hosted a huge variety of events from Henna Tatooing to Coconut Shy, Roundabout Swing music drifted across the Zorb Football pitch to the Caricaturist sheltering from lively gusts. Having escaped from the Escape Room, students and their families were treated to a delicious array of our own kitchen's Street food, complemented by ever popular Crepes and ice cream. A quick look at the Pavillion Camera Obscura, a selfie on the giant deckchair, many students took part in the Graffiti Art workshops and then onto the Surf Simulator. The new Bandamonium Festival competition saw a variety of talented musical students performing live to a delighted crowd. Connor of Year 7 (drummer) was the first winner to take away the coveted trophy. The afternoon rounded off with an outstanding 8-piece London band, Seven, who had the audience dancing and singing from start to finish for over two hours. Hungry and happy from a busy day of fun, all were treated to a hog roast to round off an excellent day for the entire Blundell's community. Something we are sure will become a firm future date in everyone's calendar.

Congratulations

to Connor (School House) who won Saturday's 'Bandemonium' competition. A whole host of pupils entertained everyone in the marquee at the Arts Festival, but Connor was picked out by the judges from the band Seven as the overall winner for his drumming on Dani California by Red Hot Chili Peppers. And he's only in Year 7!

Creative Arts

Design & Technology

The buzz is well and truly back in the D&T department this year with outstanding GCSE and A-level projects. The current Year 13 pupils have produced jaw-dropping work both in size and complexity. Jamie manufactured a cattle crush that allows caesarean sections to be performed. Oscar's plastics washer aims to reduce quantities of plastic being sent to landfill and Ryal's dining table ingeniously allows for easy transport and storage in small metropolitan apartments. The diverse range of GCSE projects spanned from desks to Bluetooth speakers, tack boxes and shooting cages. As a department, we are incredibly proud of all that our exam groups have achieved and we look forward to the next academic year to see what the current Year 10 and 12s can produce.



Fine Art

On the 18th May our Year 12, A Level Fine Artists presented

their projects to each other for a peer review. An excellent opportunity to

demonstrate their highly personal and meaningful artwork to an audience for positive and critical feedback. - **Mr Yule**





Spike Island Trip

5th May 2022, our Year 12 Art Blundellians, Eva, Sienna, Lizzie, Flo, Grace and Maya along with Mr Yule, Miss Carrier and Miss Hogetts, in order to gather evidence for the Arts Gold Award, took a trip to a contemporary Art exhibition at Bristol's Spike Island. Contrary to the brutal name of the gallery, the excursion was rather agreeable. Cannonballs of lard and bone were flung across the gallery space by a monumental trebuchet (a big medieval catapult); across the wall played Nosferasta by Adam Khalil and Bayley Sweitzer with Oba, a documentary, about a Rastafarian vampire which flitted between unscripted vignettes to overacted historical drama; Candice Lin's Flesh Lumps, made of fibreglass, resin and encaustic wax, resembled the carcasses of skinned mammals and were strewn around the space purring. The artwork was remarkably evocative and a sharp reminder of humans striving for creativity in challenging times.









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Art Celebration Exhibition

On Thursday 12th May we welcomed families for the Art Celebration Exhibition at Blundell's Art School. Presented were final pieces by every GCSE and A Level artist and photographer. The exhibition was reported to be "the busiest seen for many years!". The students' work on show demonstrated a highly diverse and exhilarating collection; the final outcomes ranged from a monumental fabric installation and a life-sized, figurative sculpture to a contemporary, Futurist, virtual exhibition on a VR headset!





Year 7

Some of our Year 7 artists were inspired to make gigantic Louise Bourgeois inspired Papier Mache Spider sculptures in their Art lesson this week - they loved getting stuck in with their creations!



Year 10 Summer in the Garden

On the evening of Friday 20th May, Year 10 musicians put on a fantastic outdoor concert in the Head's Garden. Amidst the beautiful setting and strong summers breeze, there were over 30 pupils involved in a mixture of solo and ensemble performances, within a whole range of musical styles. It was brilliant to see traditional performances such as music by Handel played by the Year 10 string ensemble, alongside pupil led bands, performing music by Green Day and The Pixies. There were performances on slightly more unusual instruments too, such as Mandy Chong's beautiful harp playing and Jua Suh's 'Under the Sea' played on marimba. To finish the concert, the 25 Year

10 GCSE musicians joined together to perform an arrangement of Pachelbel's Canon they had been learning in class. It was brilliant to see so many pupils put themselves forward to perform, some for the first time at Blundell's and this year group are certainly one to watch as they progress into the upper years of the senior school. We were very grateful both to the Head for the use of his garden,

and Mr Olive and catering for their help with the BBQ and seating.

Dr Leaman

Year 9 Music Scholars - London Chamber Orchestra, Final Concert, London.

Music

On Thursday of this week, the Year 9 Music Scholars took part in a concert with the London Chamber Orchestra in

the world-famous St John Smith's Square in Westminster, London. They played alongside the orchestra and were conducted by the amazing Christopher Warren-Green. Every year our Year 9s get the chance to work as mentors with children with challenging learning needs from a Barnardo's School in Wokingham. They teach these children how to play a musical instrument; something they have never had the chance to do before. This is a challenging experience for our students as they are mentoring those of a similar age who often have impacted communication or struggle with social interaction. To lead them through the experience to the point where they are able to play onstage with a professional orchestra is hugely impressive and our pupils showed utter dedication and incredible patience this year. Both the Wokingham school and the orchestra, as well as the venue staff, commented how polite, helpful and superbly committed our students were and it was a real treat to see them perform in such a prestigious venue and occasion.

Huge congratulations on an amazing night of music and outreach work to:

Toby, Delilah, Jasper, Reuben, Lana and Will.



School House Music Festival

The School House pupils had a brilliant time finishing half term with the SH Music Festival. Pupils had been working on house songs for a couple of weeks, which resulted in some fantastic performances of well-known ABBA songs, including some extremely creative costumes, dancing, and staging. The winning house for the house shouts was Mayfield House, with their animated performance of Dancing Queen. The musicians for each house had a chance to perform ensemble pieces, which included James Bond, Mission Impossible, Indiana Jones and Pirates of the Caribbean and despite the short time they spent putting these together, they were very impressive. We were also fortunate to hear a small group of soloists perform, who had been picked from the soloist heats earlier in the day. In total, 65 students performed a solo in the heats, and it was wonderful to see the team spirit and moral among students, who were performing to earn points for their houses. The students who performed in the final round were Anoushka (flute), Connor (drums), Ella (piano), Daisy (french horn), and Lucia (voice). It was a hard task to name the winner of the soloist round, but the judges decided that this should be given to Handre, who gave a brilliant performance on the violin. The SH Music

Festival showcased the amount of musical talent there is in School House, and this year Gornhay House was named as the overall winner of the Music Festival.

Music in the Community - Margaret Allan Care Home

We were delighted to visit Margaret Allan Care Home for the third time this year, with pupils giving a variety of performances. Last time we visited, the residents had expressed a love of musical theatre and so the pupils came prepared with a number of old classics, including songs from 'The Sound of Music' and 'Cats', which were particularly well received. To conclude the pupils performed a rousing rendition of 'You're the One That I Want', which had a number of the residents singing along. It has been brilliant to see the pupils' enthusiasm and support for visiting members of our local community and having such a positive impact.

String Concert

On Thursday 12th May the chapel resounded with the glorious sound of violins, violas, cellos, double basses, classical guitars and harp. We formed various different groupings: Senior Strings, Prep Strings, Senior Cellos, Prep Cello Trio, Guitar Ensemble, staff string trio and solo harp. The music ranged from folk to film to Purcell and much more, culminating in a fun polka for 32 string players. We were pleased to welcome two guest violinists from Exeter Cathedral School for this finale. Our string players had all worked hard in the preceding weeks, and we are proud of the way in which they performed with great energy and panache. Special thanks to our Year 13 string players who leave us after many years of contributing so much to the String Department – Freya, Eva, Izzy and Cosima. Special mention must also go to Mandy who played her harp interlude so beautifully.





Alt-J Concert, Bristol – Year 12 Music Technology Students

The Music Technology pupils had an amazing experience when they travelled to Bristol to hear Alt-J in concert at the O2 academy. The band was on fine form, playing songs from their new album as well as their back catalogue, including many numbers from their Mercury Music Prize-winning album 'An Awesome Wave', which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. The all-standing venue was bouncing with energy, and the pupils were able to get really close to the band and be completely immersed in the sound and light spectacle. We returned very late to school, but with huge enthusiasm for what the pupils described as "the best gig ever."

Year 13 Leavers Concert

In the week before the Year 13 cohort left for study leave, the musicians travelled down to Bickleigh Castle to perform a leaving concert to family, friends and members of the public. This year group is an exceptionally musical one, with many extraordinarily fine musicians. We were treated to solos, duets and group choral items of poignancy, skill and emotion. we also enjoyed a delicious supper at Bickleigh Mill and the whole evening was a wonderful way to say goodbye and thank you to such a hard-working and diligent cohort and all the wonderful music-making they have undertaken in their time with us at Blundell's. Thank you again to Freya, Cosi, Promise, Hebe, Lottie, Kabir, Emily, Lottie, Jess and Eva, as well as to Eve, Finn, Gabriel and Eloise who were unable to make the occasion.

As You Like It

This summer term, a group of Year 9 and Year 10 pupils put on a production of Shakespeare's As You Like It. This production has been directed by Mrs Milne and otherwise, entirely run by students and they have all put such hard work into it, which showed in the fantastic final result. The play had a modern spin, with half of the play taking place in front of Ondaatje, as viewers watched with a French themed picnic, this is the first time we have held a play in this location, and it worked extremely well. The rest of the play took place in the drama hall, with this being the location for the Forest of Arden, creating an intimate setting, that played host to a breath-taking tree. Fantastic performances were given on stage by lead and supporting cast alike, with countless hours of hard work going into rehearsals. The behind the scenes was run entirely by students as well, with the technical crew putting in an extraordinary amount of hard work and creativity into the production. Feedback has been fantastic, and we're so

pleased the cast and crew are receiving the praise and congratulations they deserve.

Comments from parents:

I just wanted to congratulate you on last nights production! It was fabulous and so professional, and the kids have obviously worked incredibly hard. I thought it worked so well outside and in, and it's the first production that I've seen in the round since Scrooge which was years ago. Well done to you and the whole team!

We just wanted to say a big thank you - last nights performance was brilliant, we all really enjoyed it! It was so much fun to make us, the audience, feel involved in the play with the picnic setting the scene and the atmosphere created by the performers around us. I can only imagine how much hard work, time & effort has gone into all the planning, organising & rehearsals, it is greatly appreciated. (Must also mention the picnic baskets, they were delicious, so clever!) Jasper is really enjoying being part of the play & it is amazing to see all the incredible acting from so many pupils, they are brilliant.

Wow - the play was absolutely fantastic! Mimi & I loved every minute of it, it was brilliant and without exception all of the kids played their characters so convincingly. We loved Act one outside with the picnics - a stroke of genius! The set in Ondaatje was brilliant and the whole atmosphere of the performance was fantastic.

Well done you Rach, it is a triumph! Hope the next couple of nights go well & you're not too exhausted.

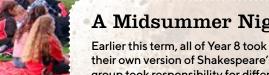




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A Midsummer Night's Dream, in the Garden

Earlier this term, all of Year 8 took to the gardens of Blundell's House to perform their own version of Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream. The whole year group took responsibility for different scenes with every student having at least one role to play. Although the weather threatened to dampen our spirits, in the end the rain held off for the performance and the students did an excellent job of entertaining their audience of parents and peers. - Mrs Winsley

Blood Brothers

Earlier this term, Some of our Year 9 and 10 pupils enjoyed a performance of Blood Brothers down in Truro at the Hall for Cornwall - they thoroughly enjoyed the excellent performance! WILL SOLD COLOWNALL

- Mrs Winsley

Speech & Drama

Earlier this term, Ondaatje Hall saw a wonderful evening of entertainment as the Speech & Drama students performed their examination pieces. It was a lovely evening which showcased the talents of our students in Years 8-13. There were a range of performances, from poetry and prose to Shakespeare and Farce. A fantastic evening was a had by all.

- Mrs Milne

Sports Tennis

The school has had a very successful Tennis season this term. The sun has shone, and the players have been out in force. The boys have seen record numbers of players out on the courts with the standard going from strength to strength. They have enjoyed several very impressive wins in both boys and mixed fixtures. The Senior girls have been led by Lydia this season and like the boys have nad a number of pleasing wins. Unfortunately, we will be osing a few our first team at the end of the year, however strength is coming through as Daisy from Year 9 has made her first team debut this season. The U14 and U15 girls have also had a lovely, sunny season of tennis with a fair few matches, and many victories. The girls' skills have all improved, particularly with the serve and volley at the net, which they used to fear. Likewise, the U12 and U13 girls have been growing in confidence and providing plenty of potential for future years. Well done all involved. **Mr Hope**

Surf Ski

It is Surfski season! Our kayakers have been enjoying time on Exmouth Beach. Nothing better than a healthy dose of Vitamin Sea to balance their revision commitments mind, body & the ocean in harmony!

Equestrian

Blundell's were very well represented in the 80 Team ODE qualifier at Moreton in Dorset on Sunday 15th May, being placed 2nd overall and invited to the Championships in September again at Moreton. The team of Jemima, Scarlett, Izzy and Tess did really well after completing a judged dressage test they continued over a competitive course of show jumps and cross country fences. Tess came 9th individually in a large field of competitors. Daisy was our only rider in the 90 class but managed a nice double clear to finish 10th individually. Our thanks go to all the amazing parents who supported the competitors by getting them and the ponies to the competition in Dorset. A special mention to Mr Simon Joyner who managed the individuals and Team on the day.

- Mrs Charlesworth

Mountain Bike Race

Congratulations to Ollie who competed at the UK stage of the Enduro World Series mountain bike race in Innerleithen, Scotland in June. He was competing against the best mountain bike racers in the world and despite being one of the youngest competitors, finished in a very credible 31st place! Well done Ollie!

Swimming

It has been so good to be back in the pool and taking part in galas - both home and away - this term! The pool is sparkling and warm and we have been glad to enjoy mixed training sessions again too, with Squad swimmers being able to train together - free from the restrictions of Covid - and other swimmers having the chance to improve at their pace. Rose (Year 9) and Lewis (Year 8) have had notable successes at the galas but it has been great to see the team working hard as a team to improve and achieve. Eva and James have been great examples for the team as Captains for this year. We were pleased to welcome students from Tiverton High School for an afternoor of fun and an opportunity to meet up before some of our pupils worked with them to support the Tiverton Primary Schools Gala organised by Mrs Sue Fallon who works in the Music and Sports Departments at Blundell's.

This was a very enjoyable afternoon for all concerned and our pupils are already looking forward to assisting with the gala again next year! Water Polo has proved to be especially popular, and we've also been practising our personal survival skills. Now we're very much looking forward to our last gala of the season vs Exeter School and, of course, the school galas! - Ms Youngs

The roungs

Water Polo

Well done to Daniel for his Water Polo tournament. Exeter U15 won the tournament after some tough matches winning 4 drawing one. Level pegging Watford but won overall on goal difference.

Boys Cricket

Once again the boys cricket have had an excellent term. The 1st XI have recorded memorable victories over the MCC, King's College Taunton and Taunton School. Ben achieved a fantastic five wicket haul against the MCC, with Tom Hatton scoring a match winning 91 not out in the same game. I would like to thank Sammy, the 1st XI skipper, who has led the team brilliantly this year and throughout the winter months, ensuring that the hard work was put in before the season had even started. The other senior sides were very well supported by the pupils, with well over 70 pupils available for selection for fixtures. The **3rd XI** amazingly had two tied games, while the 4th XI recorded a tight one run victory over Taunton School. The U15's had a memorable cup run, eventually losing to Forest School in the semi final of the national cup. It was an amazing achievement that started in April 2021. On the way to the semi final they defeated Bryanston, Marlborough College and Millfield. Throughout the competition Seb has performed exceptionally, averaging over 65. Skipper Freddie has performed well with both ball and the bat, playing through injury in the last two games. The future of Blundell's cricket certainly looks bright with this talented group of Year 9 & 10 players. In addition, the

U15 B team have had a hugely successful season, having only lost one game all year. Ed had a memorable season having performed the coveted hat trick! Kit, Sam and Harry all performed consistently with the bat.

At the time of writing, the **U14's** have reached the Devon Cup final (if they win, this will put

them through to the national rounds next year.) They have

had a successful year having played 7 matches and won 5, with some stand out performances from Pippa and Henry, who both recorded half centuries.

The School House teams have had a successful season having consistently fielded 4 teams for the first time for quite some time. The **1st XI** had a strong cup run, defeating Exeter School thanks to an exceptional innings from Arte. Rory also had an excellent season with the bat, recording a century and two fifties.

Girls Cricket

Girls cricket, which only two years ago had around 2 part time, causal players now has around 50 girls regularly training and competing in matches. **U18** girls have done exceptionally well this year and were very unlucky to lose two game sin the early season tournament. Since then they have gone unbeaten. A strong Year 12 cohort and a home festival at Blundell's means an exciting summer in 2023 for the **1st XI**. Special mention must go to Emily who has led Girls cricket throughout her time at Blundell's. Regularly coaching the juniors girls and always fighting and believing in the progress of girls cricket. It is fitting that she is here to see Girls cricket flourishing this year!

U15 girls have been exceptional, with many county representatives and an unbeaten season including being county champions.

Year 10 Girls Millie, Lucy and Jemima have been outstanding and represented Devon and it was good to see Poppy making huge improvements and being invited into the county set up this summer. Year 9 pupil Pippa has also excelled being heavily involved with the Hampshire side and the Southern Vipers academy. Pippa has a bright future ahead of her!

U13's played in the Devon county cricket tournament on Tuesday and came third overall. A brilliant early win saw wickets fall to bowlers Daisy and Emma. The girls had a close match against Plymouth College with many girls facing very fast bowlers. In final match against Exeter, the girls had a tough start out batting but fielded incredibly well. Scarlet had some brilliant boundaries with the bat and players player went to Bella as wicket keeper who took a spectacular diving one-handed catch in the final game. A great day overall and many of the girls will look forward to the tournament next year.

Clay Pigeon

Mr Hayward and Mrs Taylor have certainly raised the profile of the Blundell's Clay Pigeon Shooting Team this year. They had an excellent time competing in the Independent School's Challenge at the Oxford Gun Company earlier this term. The boys did brilliantly and

were thrilled to have placed 2nd against strong competition. A big well done to Year 7 Arabella who placed 2nd junior girl overall. They also visited Lings Shooting Ground for their Schools Competition. Blundell's scored a very strong second place, seeing off competition from many other schools. Well done to our Captain, Ted and his team, Oscar, Tom, Charlie & Oliver on an incredibly strong performance. Ted also joined nearly 800 other competitors to shoot the Beretta World Series in June, held at E J Churchill Shooting Ground. Scoring a whopping 98/120 targets, he got the 5th highest score out of 188 in his senior men's category and 2nd place in the Colts. A big thank you to Ladds Guns for our fabulous branded Gilets! Our Clay Pigeon Shooting Team have had a successful year and will enjoy wearing these for many more shoots to come.

ATHLETICS WINNERS:

County Champions:

Will H – Minor Boys Javelin Matilda R – Junior Girls Long Jump Will S – Senior Boys Shot Putt Meg HS – Senior Girls Shot Putt Dan HS- Senior Boys 100m

At the Southwest Schools:

Matilda - 4th in the Junior Girls LJ Bella - 3rd in the Inter Girls Shot Meg - 2nd in the Senior Girls Shot Will - 3rd in the Senior Boys Shot

Will and Dan have been selected for the English Schools Championships in Manchester in July.

Athletics

It has been a busy term of athletics with meetings at Castle School, Millfield and Exeter Arena, in addition to the Prep Schools Match for U13s that we hosted at Blundell's. The Castle School meetings provided a range of events, both traditional and original and we were very successful at the mixed relays both sprint and medley. The opportunity to try Pole Vaulting was also much appreciated by pupils. At the Devon Schools Championships a range of pupils qualified across a number of events, with some excellent performances. In the Junior Boys age group Zinzan finished 5th in the 800m; Ed also finished 5th in the 200m and 7th in the 100m (in personal best times) and Reuben was 5th in the 300m. Taylor was 4th in the Inter Girls Long Jump, whilst Lizzie was 4th in the Senior Girls 100m, with Shea 5th and then Shea was also 4th in the Senior Girls Triple Jump. Nyasha was 3rd in the Inter Girls HJ and Louis was 2nd in the Senior Boys Discus. Molly was 2nd in the Junior Girls Hurdles. Noah was 5th in the Senior Boys 100m and 3rd in the 200m - both in personal best times. On the day though we finished with 5 County Champions. Bella has also been selected for the English Schools Combined Events Championships in September, as part of the Devon team who won the South West Schools Championships at the end of June.



Netball

A massive congratulations to Miss Manley, who has been nominated in 2 categories for the South West Netball One Awards. The nominations are for Coach of the Year - Children & Young People and Teacher of the Year. We are immensely proud of her for these incredible achievements - good luck Miss Manley!

Disneyland Paris Netball Report

Over the Easter Holiday 27 Year 7s to 9s went to Paris for the International junior netball festival held at Disneyland Paris each year with this being the first one since Covid. It included netball in the mornings followed by an afternoon exploring the Disneyland theme park. The girls were fearless in the face of rapid rollercoasters and interactive rides at the park. The final results were U14As - 6th out of 18 (Top school), U14Bs - 13th out of 18 (Runners up in Plate comp), U12s - 4th out of 8. The girls never gave up in any of the games they played, fighting right to the end, they had a great team spirit playing in new teams and with people they hadn't before. They also had to show their versatility with them playing in lots of different positions. It was a fabulous trip and the girls were a credit to themselves and the school, they had a great attitude and was such an amazing experience for all of them.

Sports Days

Due to rain, all Sports Days were held on Monday 27th June. The morning saw Year 7 and 8 doing battle. There were some really good performances, with a number of records narrowly being missed. Notable performances came from Rory, Patrick, Will, Iris, Sophia and Edie. The Victor Ludorum was Rory, and Victrix Ludorum, Sophia and the winning house was Amory.



In the afternoon the Year 9 to 13 event took place. In the Junior event (9s and 10s) there were some strong performances with the following recording multiple wins or very strong performance Ed, Reuben, Ethan, Emily, Daisy and Myrtle. However Victor Ludorum was Zinzan (OH) and Victrix Ludorum was Molly (GH). Old House won the boys competition by 1 point and Gorton House won the girls by just 6 points.











In the Year 11 to 13 competition there were strong performances from Ben, Rueben and Dan. Will was named Victor Ludorum, after winning the javelin and getting a new record in the shot. Honourable mentions for performance on the girls side to Lizzie and Bella but the Victrix Ludorum for winning the 100m, Long Jump, Hurdles (equalling the record) and Shot (breaking the record by 1.5m) was Meg. Petergate won the boys competition and the overall title, with Gorton House winning the girls by 8 points and the overall competition too.

Ms Gill

On Friday 20th May - 20 of our Year 10 sports leaders welcomed 9 primary schools to Blundell's for the first primary school sports festival with this one being Netball. The sports leaders ran well thought out sessions and all the visiting teachers had a lot of positive feedback on the students interactions with their younger children. Each of our sports leaders was attached to a specific primary school where they planned and led a warm up and then 45 minute skills development session for the girls. After this the sports leaders were in charge of one of their primary schools teams and they all played in 5 short matches, some schools for the first time ever playing in a netball match. The sports leaders were in charge of the teams, rotations and also umpiring the games. After that we played our semi finals and had some very exciting matches. Our sports leaders did a fantastic job in a sport some of them were not as familiar with but gave all the girls a hugely positive experience of netball and Blundell's. We will be looking to host more sports festivals in the next year and for a variety of sports as our partnerships with local primary schools grows through the sports leadership course. 19

Outdoor Pursuits



Devizes to Westminster Report 2022

This Easter, three crews from the Blundell's Kayak Racing Squad were able to take part in the world famous Devizes to Westminster canoe race. The end of the race is normally under the iconic Westminster Bridge but this year had to finish after 108 miles, as St Thomas' hospital was closed for covid patients. At the end of five warm up races we had four crews qualified to race but we sadly had to withdraw Grace and Dom after Grace had a close encounter with a snow board. This was hugely disappointing for the whole team and of course for Grace herself.

The race this year was blessed with dry weather and sunshine, which makes everything easier apart from the paddling as when the crews arrived on the Thames the usual additional two miles an hour added to boat speed was missing due to lack of flow in the river. Starting in Devizes on Good Friday the crews set off for a mind bending fourteen mile stretch with no portages, paddling at an average of 6mph. After that portages come thick and fast with 77 to be negotiated over the next three days totalling the equivalent distance of a half marathon carrying the boat and running. The boats are awkward, fragile and relatively heavy, full of the compulsory safety equipment, the river banks are slippery, steep and full of spectators and other obstacles to cross including roads, fences and gates. Competition on the water was fierce, as this was the first time back after two years. Schools were excited to be racing although numbers were lower, with very few entrants from Junior Clubs. Lack of corporate knowledge between the paddlers and their parents in the vital support role meant it could at times be stressful to get to portages in time to resupply the paddlers without losing a place, not too dissimilar to

> a F1 pitstop. At the end of each day paddlers have to put up their own tents, cook their food, tend to their blisters and prepare boats for the next day.

The three Blundell's crews surpassed all expectations and hopes. Isabel and Jack overcame a damaged rudder, requiring a new fitting, but still finished in the top half of all of 62 finishing junior crews, and 10th in the mixed schools class. Lilinka and James finished 5th in the mixed schools class, 16th junior crew overall. And Connie and Barnaby

finished in an incredible third place out of all of the junior crews, beaten only by two very experienced club boats. They were the 1st Schools Boat. And the 1st mixed School boat. This is a seriously impressive set of results which is the culmination of 6 months of long hours on and off the water and a lot of preparation out of school time, and dedication by

the parent and friends making up the support crews, without which the racing could not happen. A huge thanks to Mrs Taylor-Ross and all the parents who supported this event.

Kayak Racing Squad

The kayak racing squad attended a race at Exmouth Beach last weekend. All teams involved gave it 100% as they paddled a 16km course in choppy waves. Lots of fun was had by all!

Year 8 Journey

Year 8 conducted a journey-based programme on Dartmoor which included ridge scrambling, gorge walking, rock climbing, navigation, and camping. Which involved working in small groups cooking for themselves, sleeping under tarps, and journeying across Dartmoor developing teamwork, leadership and personal skills as well as having some fun and lots of adventures along the way! It was action-packed where they put on wetsuits make their way up through the rapids, scrambled their way along ridges, abseiled down rocky outcrops and navigate to their next campsite. Their final School House adventurous activity together which was designed to provide some independence along with embracing new ideas and working in teams. This journey is designed to be adventurous and fun, providing lasting memories of School House whilst developing their confidence to take on new challenges. They can now take these new skills forward into Year 9. - Mr Dawe

Bronze, Silver and Gold DofE

During the last two weeks of term the DofE groups have been extremely busy, with 60 pupils completing their Bronze award on Exmoor, along the SouthWest Coastal path. The Silvers group (those who missed the half term expedition) completing their expedition on Dartmoor and the Gold groups on the Brecon Beacons where they walked to the summit of Pen y Fan the highest point in South Wales.

CCF Camp

20 cadets attended Summer Camp this year at Yoxter Training Area in Somerset. They spent four days conducting a variety of military training, including, shooting, signal training, archery, laser tag, climbing wall, patroling, ambushes and section attacks. The training was excellent and though a very wet night in tents they all enjoyed the experience and are looking forward to CCF next year.

Community



Adventure Playground Barbecue

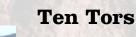
A big well done to a group of Year 12 pupils who raised £100 for the Tiverton Adventure Playground, alongside the help of our wonderful catering team, they hosted a BBQ selling burgers, hot dogs, salads and drinks in the sunshine, to raise funds for the local organisation.

Surf Trip

Some of our Year 9s got to enjoy a surfing trip to Woolacombe with surf lessons from Hunter The Surf School in May as a part of their 'In Weekend' - they all had a great time and gave it their best efforts!

Barbecue with Tiverton High

We thoroughly enjoyed having Tiverton High School visit for a BBQ in our garden this term. New friends were made, and yummy food was most definitely enjoyed!



Though the weather was generally good, the heat and pressure of reaching the checkpoints on time, ensured the teams were tested to their limits. We are proud to say they all rose to these challenges, some enduring excruciating pain from sore ankles from previous injuries to deep blisters. The easy option would be to fall out, term used by Ten Tors organisers for those wishing to stop. We are very lucky at Blundell's to have such a strong Esprit de Corps, the teams main aim was to complete the challenge as a team,

and the fortitude shown was an absolute credit to them all. They can all be extremely proud of their achievements. A huge thank you to the amount of commitment by staff who give up their time to support and orchestrate the event, Mr Dawe, Mr Mycock and Miss Johnson and Mr Morrison, without their commitment we would not have had the success we had. Well done to everyone who took part in the Ten Tors. Well done to our 45 Mile challenge team on receiving their Silver Medals: 45 A - Wilf, Alex, Sam, Reuben & Grace

45 B - Archie, Oscar, Jacob, Beth & Issy Well done to our 35 Mile challenge team on receiving their Bronze Medals:

35 A - Freddie, Sam, Elliot, Amelie, Bella, Natalia 35 B - Charlie, Will, Matthew, Mandy, Rosa, Jenny 35 C - Edie, Ed, Oliver, Sophie, Nate, Finley

Year 6 Activity Day:

It was great to welcome Heathcoat Primary School back to Blundell's this term for a Biology and Sport based Activity Day. Following a visit to the School House Play and the Blundell's in Space Music Concert last term they asked if we could run some biology-based activities to support and



summaries the scheme of work they have been covering this year. 57 Year 6 jumped off the coach with great excitement and energy. They were split into four groups to rotate around different activities led by our A Level biologists. These were:

Activity 1: Microscopy – The Year 6s used light microscopes to look at microbes in pond water. It's hard not to be fascinated by the amazing range of protozoa and algae that can be seen in a single drop of water and this certainly got things off to an exciting start for them.

Activity 2: Plants – based in the Blundell's Garden they looked at different groups of plants, learnt about the reasons for crop rotation and used ID keys to identify a range of grasses and hedgerow flowers.

Activity 3: Animals – one of our labs was filled with an amazing display of fossils and bones, preserved and live invertebrates. The focus in this activity was on adaptations, classification and evolution.

Activity 4: Humans – their final activity looked at skeletons of both human and other

vertebrates before moving on to the digestive system and the importance of a balanced diet as part of a healthy lifestyle. Lunch followed in the main dining hall which I think was the highlight of the day for some as they tucked into roast beef, chicken, or a tasty salad and then pudding! With their huge appetites satisfied they visited

a boarding house before moving onto Big Field for cricket. Our Sports Leaders arranged various warmups and skill based sessions before each group played a short game. The day ended with an ice lolly before heading back to Heathcoat Primary School. The Year 6s were outstanding throughout the day and real credit to their school. They engaged fully all day and made the most of every opportunity. We look forward to them returning next term. Following visits from Tidcombe and Wilcombe earlier this academic year we would like to form partnerships with all local schools and if you are interested please contact, Charlie Olive, Director of Community Partnerships at Blundell's School, community@blundells.org

Michala Firth, KS2 Leader/Assistant Head, Heathcoat Primary School: Thank you so much for an absolutely fantastic day! The children thoroughly enjoyed the different Biology sessions, which were really hands-on and practical. The cricket was great too. On top of that, we were treated to refreshments and a fantastic lunch. It was amazing for the children to have the opportunity to experience eating in the dining room. The children didn't want to leave! A huge thank you to you and your staff and sixth formers who helped out. Everyone was extremely welcoming. We would definitely look to go back another time in the future and would recommend the day to other schools.

Louisa Courtenay, Year 6 Teacher, Heathcoat Primary School: Just to say a big thank you from the Year 6 teachers and all the children at Heathcoat Primary School for such a great day at your fantastic school! The school staff and students were so helpful and polite and really made our year 6s feel fully welcome and comfortable for the day. Please pass on to the teachers who showed us round and led the Science and PE sessions. We really look forward to visiting and working with you again soon.

Community



Goldsmiths Awards:

On Tuesday 28th June a team

of five pupils set off early in the morning for London to attend the National Finals of the Goldsmiths' Company Community Engagement Awards. Following our virtual presentation to the judges at the Regional Finals in March, Blundell's was selected as one of eight national finalists from an initial 147 schools from both the private and state sector. The finals were held at the magnificent Goldsmiths' Hall in London where we spent the day in rooms used to double up as Buckingham Palace in The Crown and various scenes from Bridgeton. Once initial venue amazement had subsided Bea, Isla, James, Dan, and Sophie set up our display and prepared for the presentation in front of the other finalists and an audience of around 100 guests.

The Team gave a brilliant presentation and did a fantastic job answering the judges' questions in between each of the school presentations. It was a positive and rewarding process which really allowed our pupils to show themselves, the school and our Community Partnerships programme off at its best.



pupils has played a key role this year in making the many



Community Partnerships events so successful. Between the team they have been involved with; the Christmas Fair in the Tiverton Pannier Market, the Blundell's Garden and Hospiscare, working at and then running a fundraising BBQ for the Tiverton Adventure Playground, leading physics sessions for visiting Primary School, liaising with and hosting Tiverton High School at various events this years and leading sports events for primary Schools as well as contributing to the newly established and successful Community Action Teams. Unfortunately, we did not win but the pupils were outstanding throughout the day and it is fantastic that the work of all Blundellians and everything they have contributed to this year's Community Partnerships programme has been recognised at such an event.

Charity



Fast Fashion Our North Close girls had a focus this year on stopping fast fashion – they have sold second hand cricket kit and a preloved clothes sale in house this term.

Salver Prize

The Blundell's Lodge Salver prize at Speech Day was awarded to Shea and Lucie (Year 12) for their continued efforts and dedication to charity at school (they have co-chaired charity committee at school this year to great effect. They have chosen that the **£250** charity donation that goes with this prize should be awarded to Wills Woods.





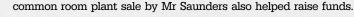
It's been a busy term for Charity events:

At the end of last term we hosted the **Homeless4aNight** – sleepout in aid of CHAT and raised £740.

Our ongoing **RagBag** collection in collaboration with parents, school matrons and CHAT Mid Devon has helped to provide clothes for asylum seekers.

We continue to support the **Bhambayi Project** through our Year 7s performing the '**Woza join us**' dance.

Jenny and Rosa in Year 10 organised their own raffle at the inaugural Blundell's Festival to raise money for **Ukraine**. This was inspired by Jenny who has Ukrainains living with them who want to raise money for trucks to transport goods and people in the Ukraine. 'Guess the number of balloons in the mini' at the festival also raised funds for Ukraine – organised by Mrs Armstrong Williams. Our Annual





£700 was also raised for Ukraine by selling the hedgehog boxes made by School House pupils in Design Technology – organised and masterminded by Ms Francis - (see page 6)

Care in the Community, Margaret Allen Care Home

Nine of our Year 8s have been taking part in an activity this term called 'Care Home Connections' with the aim of connecting with and bringing cheer to the residents of Margaret Allen Care Home in Tiverton. The students decided upon an Activity calendar for the month of August, with an envelope for the residents to open every day, containing a joke and riddle, then either some puzzle pieces to put together, a terrific news item, an activity, word search, or spot the image challenge. The students thought carefully about a user friendly and colourful design and worked hard completing all of the individual items, bringing the content together as a team. This is the beautiful result and we will be presenting it to the residents in the care home on Tuesday. I'm extremely proud of the student's creativity and resourcefulness in creating this beautiful piece of work for the enjoyment of others. Well done to Owain, Daisy, Mimi G, Annabel, Illy, Mimi M, Vivienne, Heidi and Sophie, who have all been awarded with a Head's merit.

Mrs Bucknell

Blundell's Garden Summer Term Open Day, 19th May.

We were incredibly lucky to have a fantastic day of sunshine for this year's Summer Term Garden Open Day, held on Thursday 19th May. Over 100 children from neighbouring schools visited the garden for a wide range of activities as well our own Blundellians who helped run the various events and came to enjoy the garden and the tasty menu on offer from the Garden Café. The day started with a Year 1 visit from Blundell's Prep School who joined us for three activities. They made newspaper pots into which they sowed sunflowers, used spotter guides to identify common flowering weeds and vegetables and played a giant version of noughts and crosses. It was also lovely to welcome back a group from ACE Tiverton who were able to build on the nature Wellbeing activities that they completed in the spring term. Sarah Jellard, who used to teach at Blundell's now runs Environmental Education Consultancy and said they used words such as 'calm, happy, relaxed, excited and at ease' to describe how they felt in the garden. Both groups finished off with an ice cream before the Garden Café opened for morning breaktime. The pupils ran the café selling a great range of tasty treats that had been made by our catering team. There were delicious cakes, milkshakes, fruit juices, a selection of lollies and ice creams, all of which sold out quickly on such a glorious day. After break we had Year 3 from Blundell's Prep school who visited and learnt about our new beehives. These have been kindly loaned to us and are being looked after by Baruch Livneh from the Mid Devon Beekeepers who did a great job telling them about the bees, honey and answer the endless questions that they had for him. Year 3 also completed a bee and pollinator quiz and an activity called 'Slugs and Bugs'. This involved them hunting through the garden for slugs and bugs which they

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National Garden Scheme, 21st - 22nd May.

This weekend saw the Blundell's Garden (run by the pupils) and Blundell House Garden (the Head's garden) open to the public as part of the National Garden Scheme. This is the first year that we have taken part in this so it was wonderful to welcome over 100 visitors over the weekend to tour the garden and enjoy a cream tea. Pupils were on hand to show visitors round and talk about the work that they have been doing over the last few months.

Huge thanks to Head Gardener Mr Flower and Miss Smith who work so hard to ensure the school gardens look so beautiful all year round and to Mr Tony Rudd who was on hand to chat to visitors about his amazing collection of succulents in the Biology Department Greenhouse. Many thanks also to all who visited and contributed to the significant amount of money raised for the various charities the National Garden Scheme supports. did with great enthusiasm before learning about the creepy crawlies they had found. The Garden Café was open again over lunch with a traditional Miners Pasty added to the menu. Thanks to the kitchens they had produced delicious pasties

with beef and veg on one end and spiced apple and sultanas at the other. They also sold out very quickly! Over lunch our Community Action Teams ran a number of activities which each focused on their particular area. So there was a Garden quiz from the Academic and Creative Arts Team, Positivity Rocks! from Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity and garden games from Sport and Outdoor Pursuits. As part of the RHS Campaign for School Gardening, the Environment and Sustainability Team promoted their 'Grow Well' initiative by sowing calendula seeds for visitors to take away. There was also a plant sale over lunchtime and the opportunity to suit up and meet the bees up close. In the afternoon Wilcombe Primary School were back with us with Year 5 to sow calendula, meet the bees and do a nature wellbeing activity which involved a bare foot walk round the garden and then using just their ears to try and work out where they were in the garden. Of course, we had to finish with an ice cream on such a lovely day before they headed back to Wilcombe. A Cream Tea followed to thank all those members of the Blundell's Community who have supported us and contributed towards our Bursary Fund. Over £500.00 was raised for local charities and the plans for the Autumn Garden Open Day are now well underway. The Blundell's Garden has truly blossomed over the last few years and plays an important role at Blundell's. Gardens and green outdoor spaces have such a positive impact on our mental health and wellbeing as well as teaching us about healthy food production and a proper understanding of nature and the world around us.

OVER

500.00 raised for local charities

Year 10 Music Concert, 20th May.

The Garden Open Day was the first in a series of events which followed on Friday with the Year 10 Music Concert in the Blundell House Garden. On another sunny evening the beautiful garden was the perfect venue to showcase our talented Year 10 musicians who treated us to a wide range of musical genre. A delicious BBQ was also served to start off a great evening.

What a beautiful day it has been for our Summer Garden Open Day today. From some of our littlest Blundellian's on mini beast hunts, to our older pupils painting, singing and enjoying ice creams, smoothies and miners pasties in the sunshine! Thank you to Ace Tiverton and Wilcombe Primary for joining us on this glorious day.

2 4 A A A

PRO PATRIA Speech Day 2022































POPULOQUE Leavers Ball 2022





























Blundells Community

Intro & Giving Day

"Once again, our Blundell's Community has shown great community spirit in supporting transformational bursaries during the Giving Day on 22 and 23 June. The donations mean we can support more bursary places than ever before, giving children the gift of a holistic education. Thank you for helping more children access the life-changing education that Blundell's has to offer."

- Ben Boswell (FH 2000-02), Director of Development

Giving Day Success!

You did it! You helped us raise over £121,245 (plus gift aid) to support transformational bursaries at Blundell's School. A big thank you to every single one of our 311 incredible donors and 15 Giving Day Ambassadors who made Blundell's Giving Day, in aid of transformational bursaries, such an amazing success. A particular thank you must also go to the following supporters who gave prior to the Giving Day to help match donations, pound for pound.

Murray Aust (SH 1970-72), Simon Benito (FH 1959-63) Christian Busch (SH 1988-89), Edward Cumberlege (P 2007-2009) Anonymous (P 1947-53), Anonymous (W 1958-63), Adrian Lewis (M 1975-79) John Mattingly (P 1950-54) & Richard Shore (P 1954-59)

Because of all of you, we can open our doors to more extraordinary and deserving children to receive the life-changing gift of a Blundell's education. If you missed our Giving Day, you can still support a life-changing bursary for an exceptional pupil in need, details below.

Donate via the website

Cheques Payable: 'Blundell's Foundation' Address: Blundell's School, Blundell's Road, Tiverton, Devon EX15 3RY



OVER

£121,245

RAISED!

15

AMBASSADORS

Save the Date:

Please can all donors and ambassadors save the date for a reception on Saturday 15 October from 2pm onwards.



Bursary Recipient Returns to Speak to Pupils about his Experiences

As part of our Giving Day activities, we welcomed Luke Simpson (OH 2015-19) back to speak at Latin Prayer. Luke spoke to the school about his experiences at Blundell's and especially, as a Bursary holder, how his time at Blundell's affected his life. Luke's core message was that the gratitude he felt for the opportunity he had at Blundell's, drove him to making the most of every minute of his time here. He spoke very eloquently about how sincere gratitude demands a proactive response. Working hard is a natural response to gratitude.

"I didn't know at the time, just how much this change [bursary place] was going to affect my life, but it [Blundell's] would prove to be the best opportunity ever given to me. My first year at Blundell's allowed me to capitalise on my talents and develop new ones. I engaged with activities I never previously had time for. The

change in culture I experienced through attending Blundell's towards academics was instrumental in allowing me to eventually achieve good grades at both GCSE and A-level and get into my university of choice. I could go on indefinitely about the opportunities Blundell's gave me, supporting my academics but the well-rounded holistic education I received is by far the most valuable gift I've ever received." – **Luke Simpson (OH 2015-19)**



Annual Fund Success!

Thank you to the 50 Old Blundellians, Parents and Supporters who got behind our Annual Fund House projects. We are delighted to announce, that thanks to you, we have been able to support the following projects:

School House - Outdoor wooden planter (made by the pupils) and flowers Francis House - Pool table to enhance communal area Gorton House - Enhanced outside area including shade sail and outside seating Old House - Additional gym equipment North Close - Refurbishment to the NC garden including storage shed and netball hoop Petergate - Tables and benches to enhance outdoor communal area Westlake - Pizza oven to enhance outdoor area with pizza oven

Old Blundellian Day 2022

It was a delight to see the return of our much-anticipated OB Day, with its reassuringly traditional format. The OB Club welcomed 90

members of the Blundell's community, some of whom had not returned to Blundell's since they left, one 64 years ago and others only 2!

The whole day was wonderful, from the Chapel Service with its spectacular music; the address given by The Rt Revd Nick McKinnel (Governor); Treasures of the Archive Exhibition; the superb lunch; to President Leigh Menheneott's speech, where he fondly and amusingly said farewell to Blundell's. To cap it off, the OB Magpies v pupils, Magpies got the highest score in shooting that morning and won the coveted cup, which has not been in their possession for over 20 years! All in all, it was a fitting celebration and reconnection since the last OB Day in 2019.

Please look out for next year's date, so you can also enjoy this splendid day, catching up with friends or meeting new.

OB Current Parent and Grandparent Speech Day Lunch

The OB Club's now much anticipated Current OB Parent and Grandparent Speech Day Lunch, was once again enjoyed by all who attended. These lunches are hosted by the OB Club committee as recognition of the continued loyalty by Old Blundellians, who choose to send their children or grandchildren to Blundell's.

It was a delight to welcome new parents and grandparents as they embark on their journey with the School, whilst there is an inevitable sadness when we say fond farewell to those whose journey has come to an end. Their relationship with Blundell's, however is not over, and will always be welcome as a member of the Blundell's community.



London Drinks

Our annual London Drinks were back once again! We are delighted to confirm, this event will again be running annually every year (bar another pandemic!)

We welcomed over 35 Old Blundellians to the event held at the Upstairs at the Department Store, thanks to Michael Squire (W 1959-63). It was lovely seeing so many OBs especially from such a wide range of years, over 5 decades. A special shout out to Michael Moorhouse (W 1950-54) who was in attendance from France!







Garden Open Day for Blundell's Supporters and Close Friends

The Blundell's Garden is looking its absolute best during our Spring and Summer terms and we felt the need to open up this special place to some of our very special supporters.

We wanted to invite our friends, which included donors and volunteers, to a Fizz & Afternoon Cream Tea (jam on top of course). We started the event in Bart & Lara Wielenga's private garden and then made our way to the Blundell's Garden for a private tour from Charlie Olive (TH 1985-90 & Head of Community Partnerships).



Charity Golf Day at Tiverton Golf Club

A mixture of Old Blundellians and current parents gathered at Tiverton Golf Club for coffee and bacon rolls on the morning of 12th May to participate in the Blundell's Community charity Golf Day.

A team event, using the Texas Scramble format, proceeded. Following some very competitive golf on a lovely spring day, on a very well prepared new course layout, prizegiving for the winners of longest drive, closest to pin, and a myriad of others, took place during an early evening meal. Proud winners, who took home the Blundell's Shield, were Tom Cowle, Steve Goodwin, Will Atkinson, Matt Parker. Well played!

A great day was had by all with money being raised for

Blundell's bursary fund. Many thanks to the Pro and catering team at Tiverton Golf Club for superbly hosting us.

Overseas Virtual Reception

We hosted our first International Virtual Receptions in May. On these calls we had Old Blundellians from 6 different decades, 7 different countries and spanning 8 different time zones. It's certainly our hope to get out to visit our Old Blundellians and Parents aboard soon. However, our virtual receptions help bridge this gap until we can get out to visit.

It is our hope to hold a reception in Germany this Winter.



10 Year Alumni Reunion (Class of 2011 & 2012)

It was terrific to welcome back the Class of 2011 and 2012 to a 10 Year Blundell's reunion. We welcomed 22 Old Blundellians back to school to reconnect with old friends and former teacher.

It was really lovely hearing about all the great things our OBs have been up to since leaving Blundell's 10 years ago. It was clear that so many are doing great things with their careers and charitable endeavours.

1604 Legacy Lunch in London

1604

IET

It was lovely to welcome 10 legators for a lunch at the Victory Services Club in London. It was Bart's chance to give members of our 1604 Legacy Society an insight into the future plans for Blundell's.

We have recently welcomed two additional members into the 1604 Legacy Society. If you have plans to leave a gift to Blundell's, in your Will, please do let us know so we can offer you an invitation to our 1604 Legacy Society which includes a pin for all legators.

OB Winter Lunches

These will resume on Wednesday 12th October, with Michael Wade (W 1960-63) speaking on 'The Rise and Fall of Our Extraordinary Language'.

Further details and the full programme can be found on the OB Club website events page.

2020 Leavers Reception

It may have been two years late, but we were delighted to welcome back the Class of 2020 to take part in a leaving party.

It always felt disappointing that our Class of 2020 missed out on so much, including Speech Day and the Leaver's Ball. This event was our way of welcoming them back to say goodbye to teachers and classmates.

Wishing the Class of 2020 the best of luck in all of their future endeavours.



UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY 2022

23rd JULY - Mid Devon Show

SEPTEMBER 2022

17th SEP - Thames Hare & Hounds Alumni Race. Contact: Development Office.

18th SEP - Blundell's Community Rugby Trophy Tournament and Family Day. Contact: OB Club Book online

24th SEP - (NEW DATE) 1950's to 1960's Alumni Reunion. Contact: Development Office Book online

25th SEP – One Day Equestrian Event and Taunton Reception. Pontispool Equine Sports Centre nr Norton Fitzwarren. Contact: Development Office.

OCTOBER 2022

2nd OCT - Reichwald Fives Trophy Tournament. Contact: OB Club https://www.trybooking.co.uk/BTCX

12th OCT - Winter Lunch - Michael Wade (W 1960-63). Topic: 'The Rise and Fall of Our Extraordinary Language.' Contact: OB Club. Book online

15th OCT - Giving Day Donor and Ambassador reception Contact: Development Office

NOVEMBER 2022

9th NOV - Winter Lunch - Richard Peirce (NC 1962-65). Topic: 'Lions: 'Bones & Bullets', supported by the showing of an award-winning film about lion farming. Contact: OB Club. Book online

19th NOV – Charity Gala Dinner Contact: Development Office.

DECEMBER 2022

7th DEC - Winter Lunch - Kate Lord-Brown (Nee Lord GH 1987-89). Topic: 'Literary Blundell's -150 years after the publication of Lorna Doone.' Contact: OB Club. Book online

DEC - Germany Reception. Contact: Development Office.

JANUARY 2023

11th JAN – Winter Lunch – Annabel Venning. Topic: 'To War with the Walkers: One Family's Extraordinary Story of the Second World War'. Contact: OB Club. Book online

Alumni Race in London

Are you a runner living in London? Join our Blundell's Team on Saturday 17 September and complete once again for Blundell's! The race is held at Wimbledon Common at 2.30pm and is 5 miles. Please contact the Development Office to join the team!

SOUTH WEST SCHOOLS ONE DAY EVENT

Sunday 25th September 2022

Inc SEG Qualifier

At Pontispool Equine Sports Centre, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton, Somerset, <u>TA4 1BG</u>

> Organiser: Blundell's School Email: equestrian@blundells.org

> CLASS 1: 70 cm (approx. height) PC70 Eventing Test 2022

CLASS 2: 80 cm (approx. height) The Pony Club Grassroots Dressage Test 2018

CLASS 3: 90 cm (approx. height) The Pony Club Grassroots Dressage Test 2018

Open to all aged 21 and under

Class 2 & 3 are qualifiers for Schools Equestrian Games Eventing Championships at Calmsden 1st & 2nd October 2022

This is a team and individual event in all the above classes.

Sponsorship Opportunity for Businesses

Give your business a boost and become a Blundell's Sponsor. We are delighted to once again be hosting our One Day Equestrian Event at Pontispool Equine Sports Centre on 25 September.

This event is one of the biggest riding events in a competitor's schedule as it covers all three of the major events; dressage, show jumping and cross-country over three different height classes. For some this was their first ODE while others it was one of the steppingstones to the upcoming Championships later in the year. This year we are introducing a 70cm height class in addition to the 80cm and 90cm. The day traditionally welcomes over 200 riders plus 100 volunteers and many many spectators.

Sponsorship Packages range from £150 to £1000 worth of advertising to our Blundell's Community (~8,000 members).

Please email **devoffice@blundells.org** or **click here** for more details.

Announcements

Freya Lily Knights

Freya Lily Knights arrived on Saturday 5th March at 20:12 weighing 8lbs 4oz. Sara Knights (Marketing Assistant), Ollie and Big Brother Josh are smitten.



Teddy (Edward) Andrew White

Teddy (Edward) Andrew White was born on Thursday 28th April at 6lb 3oz to Charlotte Mercer (Head of English) and Nicholas White.

Alan John Furse (1971-2001)

As you may have heard, former Blundell's member of staff and Petergate House Master Alan Furse (Blundell's Staff 1971-2001) sadly passed away last month. Alan John Furse arrived as Head of Chemistry in 1971 and subsequently took over as Head of Science and became Housemater of Petergate in 1984. After a further 11 years he was appointed Director of Studies, a role in which the meticulous care and attention to detail he showed in his teaching put him in good stead to excel in the role. He succeeded in steering Blundell's through the various academic challenges introduced during his tenure of the office: a period which saw examination grades at the School improve dramatically. Alan departed Blundells in 2001 after 30 years at the school. Alan lived in Teignmouth, a deliberate choice for a keen sailor with his wife, Gill.

Funeral Details: Celebration of Alan's Life is taking place at St Michaels Church, Teignmouth on Tuesday 26th July at noon. The family have requested that no black is to be worn for the service and there will be light refreshments after the service.

OLD BLUNDELLIAN DEATH NOTIFICATIONS

- (03.02.22) Norris, Richard Paterson (OH 1957-62)
 (06.02.22) Imbert, Capt. Michael Anthony Guy (FH 1946-48)
 (13.04.22) Ffinch, Thomas Ian Maule ("Tim") (W 1953-58)
 (15.04.22) McIntyre, Robert James (M 1957-62)
 (19.04.22) Jones, Conrad (P 1947-51)
 (18.05.22) Furse, Alan John, Former staff, (1971-2001)
- (2004) Anthony Simon Molesworth (FH 1968-72)



Russell French (OH 1997-02)

Russell French passed away in April 2020 from a genetic condition, Schwannomatosis. Russell was a surf instructor from Loddiswell (South Hams, Devon). In January 2021 a fundraiser campaign run by his family and friends raised over £20,000 for St Luke's Hospice, Plymouth who cared for Russell so wonderfully in the few weeks before he was called away. Russell would have been 38 in January that year and the fund raiser was called "Raise for Russ" - run/walk 38 miles in the month of January in memory of Russell. It was a very remarkable amount to achieve and testament to how loved he was by so many people whose lives he touched. He leaves behind a wife and 3 young daughters. See the Just Giving page

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Hugh Hamilton-Green (ОН 2010-17)

As a child, Blundell's supported my full education, starting at St Aubyn's, and moving on to the senior school up until 18. Here, I was incredibly fortunate to be able to be Head of School in my final year.

After leaving Blundell's, I obtained a degree in Economics and Management at University of Bristol before moving disciplines to study a master's in Computer Science. While at University, I continued my sporting passion that began at Blundell's playing 1st XV rugby for Bristol University over the four years that I studied there. In my master's year, alongside a fellow Bristol student, we identified an opportunity for a healthy cereal product in the UK market. The focus of such a product would aim to increase protein and fibre in the diet but reduce sugar.

Together, we have recently launched ELEAT - a new kind of breakfast cereal to better your everyday. We're reinventing cereal with no compromise on nutrition, taste and convenience. Our nutritionally balanced cereal is high in protein, high in fibre and low in sugar, as well as being vegan friendly and gluten-free. We are launching with 4 flavours: Chocolate Triumph, Cinnamon Sensation, Strawberry Blitz and Vanilla Thriller.

We have undergone an extensive product development stage over the past 18 months to formulate our plant powered cereal recipe. There have been a huge number of ups and downs along the way.

🕅 🛪 walbusch

Christian Busch (SH 1988-89)

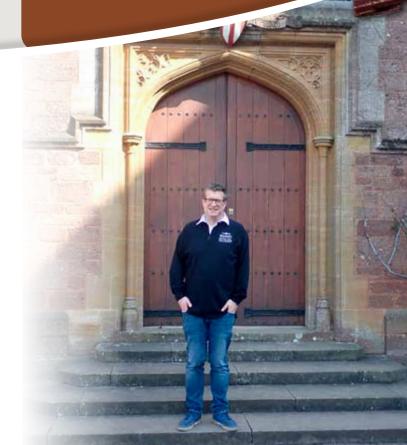
It was lovely to welcome Christian Busch back to Blundell's for a visit from his hometown of Haan, Germany. Christian has been very busy both in his personal and business life. His clothing business, Walbusch Walter Busch GmbH & Co, has recently expanded. Meanwhile he is currently building a home for him and his three boys.

It was a delight to welcome Christian back to Blundell's and we are looking to host a reception in Germany thanks to Christian's help. The main ups include winning university grant funding, endless road trips to product trials and developing our brand. Inevitable bumps, however, have been often caused by the unforeseen circumstances COVID 19 has presented, as well as the ongoing economic strains associated with the situation in Ukraine. Nonetheless, we are very proud to have reached this stage in our journey.

We are initially launching via our own website before pursuing retail and wholesale opportunities in the health & wellness and quick-commerce space. We will be undergoing extensive sampling campaigns across the health & sport world and corporate offices. We are currently in talks to raise further capital via a Seedrs crowdfund and angel/VC investors in early 2023 to pursue retail opportunities and expand into international markets.



We would love for you to check out ELEAT, our cereal and story at: www.eleatcereal.com



Rupert Batting (ОН 2006-2013)

HIGH PROTEIN - HIGH FIBRE - LOW SUGAR

ELEAT

IGTEIN - HIGH FIBRE - LOW SUGAR

REALIREINVEN

Choco Trium

After leaving Blundell's I took one planned year out before University, plus a second unplanned one! The first year I spent as a working pupil for Olympian William Fox-Pitt, an invaluable experience that I use as a basis for everything I do now, before spending a year as a riding pupil for New Zealand rider Lizzie Brown. I was fortunate to receive a Scholarship to Bath University, where I continued eventing alongside completing my studies. After selection for the Great British University squad I got the opportunity to compete around Europe, the big highlight becoming World Champion in 2017, as well as National champion in 2019. Once final year was over I setup professionally with business partner, John Hardy, just outside Tiverton. We have an exciting string of horses competing up to 4* level, the aim of our business is to produce quality young horses to sell or compete at the highest level; we also have a breeding programme to provide the future stock for our business. Recently we have started taking on the training of horses for clients, to help them achieve their equine aspirations. I'm extremely lucky to pursue my passion and call it my career!

Forthcoming Events

Events in purple: Prep School Events

Events in red: Senior School Events

Academic

- Social Event
- on 🐺 Sports
- Coffee Mornings
 - **Religious Service**

Music

Public Speaking

🏹 Theatre

Events in green: Blundell's Community/Association

September 2022



October 2022



November 2022

1st TUE		16+ Academic, Art, Drama & STEM Scholarships. Senior School/All day/TBC Scholarships School School/All day/TBC
3rd	İţİ	'FOBP Bonfire Party - Fireworks at 6.30pm Prep School / 5:30pm / All welcome
7th MON	tįt	Blundell's Association Parents' Drinks and Quiz. Beale Centre /7pm/All welcome Senior School / 7.15 - 8pm / All welcome
8th TUE	İţİ	School House Dinner Party for Parents Beale Centre / 6:30-8:30pm / Parents welcome from specific SH tutor groups
13th	ŤţŤ	Remembrance Day School Service Chapel / 10:30am / Years 11 - 13
14th MON		School House Teatime Concert Reynolds Recital Room / 4:30pm / School House parents
15th TUES	İţİ	School House Dinner Party for Parents Beale Centre / 6:30-8:30pm / Parents welcome from specific SH tutor groups
16th WED	İţİ	'You're not in this alone' Beale Centre /7pm / Parents' Discussion Evening
17th тно		Pre-Prep Coffee Morning & Assembly Blundell's Garden Open Day Prep Hall / 8.30am / Parents welcome Blundell's Garden / All day / All welcome
21st MON	ŤţŤ	Blundell's Association Parents' Social Squash/Racketball Evening Squash Courts / 6:30-8:30pm / All welcome
24th THU	† ††	Charity Wine Tasting with the Jolly Vintner in aid of school charities Senior School /7pm / All welcome
26th SAT	ŤţŤ	FOBP Christmas Market Prep / 10am / All welcome

December 2022





FOUNDED 1604

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